

**Iraq UNDAF Fund**  
**Joint Programme/Project: 79817/P3-01**  
**Date and Quarter Updated:**  
**1<sup>st</sup> April 2013–June 2013 (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2013)**

**Participating UN Organization:** UNDP (lead) UNESCO, UNEP and **Priority Area:** Environment  
 FAO

**Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry:** PMAC and Ministry of Environment

<b>Title of JP/ Project</b>	Development of National Framework for Integrated Drought Risk Management (DRM) in Iraq				
<b>Geo. Location</b>	Nationwide				
<b>JP/Project Cost</b>	UNDAF Trust Fund USD 759,884 UNDP USD 264,883 UNESCO USD 215,001 UNEP: USD 40,000 FAO: USD 140,000 GoI USD 0 USD 150,000 In kind ‘personnel’ costs from UNDP, UNESCO, FAO and UNEP  <b>Total: USD 909,884</b>				
<b>Duration</b>	9 months extended to 31.12.2013 (UNDAF Steering Committee approved a no cost extension on 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012) for an additional 7 months.				
<b>SC Approval Date</b>	14 June 2011	<b>Starting Date</b>	30 August 2011	<b>Completion Date</b>	30 May 2012, extended to 31 July 2013 UNESCO and UNDP - 31 December 2013 UNEP and FAO
<b>JP/Project Description</b>	<p>Recent severe drought has far-reaching impacts on Iraq’s economy, social and environmental conditions. Given its frequent occurrence in Iraq and its negative impact thus far, it is viewed as a slow-onset disaster that requires short, mid and long-term strategic interventions. Recognizing the urgency of this situation, the Government has called on the United Nations to provide support in formulating a framework for national drought risk management.</p> <p>UNDP and UNESCO are jointly implementing this programme in close consultation with other UN partners. It supports the Government of Iraq (GoI) to conduct a series of technical assessments of existing Disaster Risk Management (DRM) capacities and vulnerabilities, and carry out a series of consultations and consensus-building activities to build a common understanding of drought impacts and risk management measures. Activities include exposing the GoI to international good DRM practices and mapping exercises.</p> <p>Because of the strong linkages between drought, desertification and dust storms, the need for coherent-integrated approaches were proposed. In June 2012 the Prime Minister Court, the National High-Level Committee for Dust Storms (National DDS Committee) had intensified dialogue with neighboring countries (Iran and Kuwait in particular). In September 2012, the Ministry of Environment and UNEP and FAO came to the conclusion that two additional outputs to develop a national programme to combat sand and dust storms should be integrated into the current DRM programme.</p> <p>These activities will form the foundation of the national framework for integrated Drought Risk Management (DRM) and national programme to combat sand and dust storms in Iraq. This will enable the GoI and its partners to launch a coordinated multidisciplinary, multi-</p>				

	<p>sectoral, and multi-level response to drought, desertification and dust storms.</p> <p>The proposed national DRM framework will be reviewed and discussed by all key stakeholders through 3-day validation workshop scheduled in January 2014 to secure programmatic support for drought risk management in Iraq.</p>
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<b>UNDAF Priority Area Outcome:</b>	
<p>Environmental management and compliance with actions taken on ratified international environmental treaties and obligations</p> <p>Relevant NDP Goal(s): Section 10.2.5.          Goal 2: Monitoring the Environmental Status          Goal 6: Environmental Awareness          Goal 8: Developing and Building Environmental Capacities</p> <p>Relevant UNDP Country Programme and CPAP Outcome</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GoI has the institutional framework to develop and implement MDG-based pro-poor, equitable and inclusive socio-economic and environmental policies and strategies.</li> <li>Comprehensive strategic frameworks at national and sub-national levels for disaster risk reduction developed.</li> </ol>	

<b>Outputs, Key activities and Procurement</b>	
<p><b>Outputs</b> (JP outputs and/ or UN Organization specific)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government of Iraq and relevant stakeholders have improved knowledge and common understanding on Drought Risk Management.</li> <li>Iraq has a participatory, comprehensive, and inclusive national framework for Drought Risk Management in line with international good practice.</li> <li>National partners have enhanced understanding and knowledge on the causes and trends of sand/dust storm affecting Iraq</li> <li>Development of national programme to monitor, combat and mitigate dust/sand storms and enhance regional cooperation.</li> </ol> <p>UNEP and FAO will implement part of outputs 3 and 4 through Q3 and Q4.</p>
<p><b>Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Output 1</b> –<i>Government of Iraq and relevant stakeholders have improved knowledge and common understanding in Drought Risk Management</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1.1. Research/Study</b>–Mapping of relevant stakeholders and their respective mandates and initiatives; existing laws, policies, and programmes; review of Iraq’s progress and status with regard to relevant international and cross border DRM agreements; identifying DRM tools and mechanisms in place; identifying the specific impacts of drought by agricultural, environmental and water sectors.</li> <li><b>1.2. Consultation and Consensus-Building</b>–Continuous efforts to support the development of a consensus on the definition and causal and cross-sectoral linkages of drought, and on appropriate approaches to DRM.</li> </ol> <p><b>Output 2</b>–<i>Iraq has a participatory, comprehensive and inclusive national framework for Drought Risk Management in line with international good practice.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2.1. Technical Assessment and Consultation</b>–Conducting vulnerability assessment of drought impacts on agriculture, environmental and water sectors, with a focus on gender sensitivity aspects. Plus identifying appropriate risk reduction approaches to DRM by various GoI institutions and bodies, and of the importance and relevance of a DRM</li> </ol>

	<p>framework to many development issues in Iraq.</p> <p><b>2.2. Technical Planning Assistance</b> – Provision of guidance by technical specialists on different aspects of DRM framework formulation, including exposing Iraqi partners to international DRM frameworks, tools, and techniques.</p> <p><b>Output 3-</b><i>National partners have enhanced understanding and knowledge on the causes and trends of sand and dust storm affecting Iraq.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing a compendium of land use and agriculture practices</li> <li>• Mapping of areas of highest potential sources for dust/sand storms (hot spots and sensitive areas)</li> <li>• Identify data/information and capacity gaps and recommend appropriate measures</li> <li>• Analyse trends of dust/sand storms based on historical observational data to the extent possible</li> <li>• Cross-reference results of the above in terms of frequency, intensity and transportation paths with results of output</li> <li>• To the extent possible, develop climate models to predict future frequency and intensity of the dust/sand storms</li> <li>• Suggest elements of national early warning system on dust storm, procure small sample of measurement instruments</li> </ul> <p><b>Output 4-</b><i>Development of national programme to monitor, combat and mitigate dust and sand storms and enhance regional cooperation.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholder analysis and institutional mapping</li> <li>• Suggest institutional mechanism to address dust/sand storms</li> <li>• Develop the logical framework for the action plan highlighting causes, impacts and responses</li> <li>• Describe the major components of the programme and their ultimate results</li> <li>• Suggest implementation arrangement for the programme with estimation of capacities and resources needed</li> </ul> <p><b>UNEP and FAO will implement Outputs 3 and 4 through Q3 &amp; Q4</b></p>
<b>Procurement</b>	<p>UNDP: (1) TOR/RFP advertised and awarded ELARD as a Services Provider to conduct;(2) Vulnerability assessment study;(3) Development of draft DRM framework.</p> <p>UNESCO: (1) Contract for preparing a document on international and regional best practices in drought management (prediction, preparedness and mitigation); (2) Desk review and Mapping of agricultural, meteorological, environmental, and economical data.</p> <p>UNEP: 1) Contract with international and national consultants to undertake the mapping and programme development, 2) contract with collaborating centre to assist with the identification of hot spots and integration of ecosystem-based design of mitigation interventions.</p> <p>FAO: FAO will contract two national consultants to assist with mapping and programme development.</p> <p>NB: no procurement of equipment will take place since GoI will purchase monitoring instruments from its own resources based on WMO-UNEP advice on specifications and standards.</p>

<b>Funds Committed</b>	UNDP: USD 208,466 UNESCO: USD 134, 505 UNEP: \$70,000 FAO:\$140,000	<b>% of approved</b>	UNDP: 81.2% UNESCO: 62.56% UNEP: 50% FAO: 0%
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	UNDP: USD 65,087 UNESCO: USD 119,006 UNEP: \$40,000 FAO: \$4,000	<b>% of approved</b>	UNDP: 31.2% UNESCO: 55.35% UNEP: 28% FAO: 2.8%
<b>Forecast final date</b>	January, 2014	<b>Delay (months)</b>	22 months

<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>	<b>% of planned (current status)</b>
Men	Total population	
Women	Total population	
Children	Total population	
IDPs	Total population	
Others	Total population	
Indirect beneficiaries	Total population	
Employment generation (men/women)	n/a	

<b>Quantitative achievements against JP outputs/ UN Organization outputs</b>	
UNDAF Environmental management and compliance with actions taken on ratified international environmental treaties and obligations	
Output 1. Government of Iraq and relevant stakeholders has improved knowledge and common understanding on Drought Risk Management.	UNDP: 70% UNESCO: 60%
Output 2. Iraq has a participatory, comprehensive, and inclusive national framework for Drought Risk Management in line with international good practice.	UNDP: 40% UNESCO: 40%
Output 3. National partners have enhanced understanding and knowledge on the causes and trends of sand/dust storm affecting Iraq.	FAO: 10% UNEP: 10%
Output 4-Development of national programme to monitor, combat and mitigate dust/sand storms and enhance regional cooperation.	FAO: 0% UNEP: 10%

<b>Qualitative achievements against JP outputs/ UN Organization outputs</b>	
Output 1. Government of Iraq and relevant stakeholders have improved knowledge and common understanding on Drought Risk Management.	
1.1 <b>Research / Study</b> – Mapping of relevant stakeholders and their respective mandates and initiatives; taking stock of existing laws, policies, and programmes; review of Iraq’s progress and status with regard to relevant international and cross border DRM agreements; identifying DRM tools and mechanisms in place; identifying the specific impacts drought has had on multiple sectors in Iraq.	<p>UNESCO has managed to overcome inherent difficulties which have been continuously faced while extracting sector data from the respective GoI institutions, and successfully completed the data collection process. All relevant output derived from UNESCO’s involvement in this joint undertaking with GoI was then directed towards the final compilation of product of the desk review and mapping exercise (to be implemented by JAPU). Subsequent in-depth screening and verification of data however, exceeded the anticipated time required to achieve a solid and sound basis for the analysis report, and ended slightly delayed by June 2013, since a huge proportion of data officially received from GoI was found inconsistent and in a number of cases insufficiently documented (e.g. missing meta data descriptions et cetera). Apart from that, GoI procedures to administer and provide the respective data were not in all cases conducive to stay in the time-line reported previously.</p> <p>JAPU provided UNESCO with a first draft of the final analysis report by the end of the reporting period, upon which UNESCO has started the review process.</p>

<p><b>1.2 Consultation and Consensus-Building</b> Continuous efforts to support the development of a consensus on the definition and causal and cross-sectoral linkages of drought, and on appropriate approaches to DRM.</p>	<p>The capacity assessment study was completed and finalized in May 2013. Outcomes of the report identified the gaps in the existing institutional and technical capacities in response to drought risk reduction measures. The report recommends that drought risk can be mitigated through (1) Rationalization of crops that consume big amount of water and identifying proper cropping patterns, (2) Adoption of alternative farming, and (3) Rationalization of water use and limit it to basic uses (human and agriculture).</p> <p>Several legislative reforms are also recommended in order to support institutional and technical capacities to be effectively implemented. Those include issuance of: 1) the Federal Water Law, 2) the Modern Irrigation Law, and 3) Rangelands Law.</p>
<p>Output 2. Iraq has a participatory, comprehensive, and inclusive national framework for Drought Risk Management in line with international good practice.</p>	
<p><b>2.1 Technical Assessment and Consultation</b>– Conducting vulnerability assessment of drought impacts by agriculture, environmental and water sectors with a focus on gender sensitivity aspects and identifying appropriate risk reduction approaches to DRM by various GoI institutions and bodies, and of the importance of a DRM framework to many development issues in Iraq.</p>	<p>All proposals from service providers submitted by mid-April. UNDP initiated technical and financial evaluations in accordance of the procurement rules. UNDP selected Earth Link and Advanced Resource Development (ELARD) as a service provider to conduct vulnerability assessment and support the development of the drought risk management framework. The CAP meeting was held in late May. UNDP with other agencies initiated the preparatory workshop for the DRM framework development scheduled from July 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 2013.</p>
<p><b>2.2. Technical Planning Assistance</b> – Provision of guidance by technical specialists on different aspects of DRM framework formulation, including exposing Iraqi partners to international DRM frameworks, tools, and techniques.</p>	<p>UN agencies discussed the revised work plan and proposed schedule outlined. Below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparatory Meeting with Task force members, July 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013</li> <li>• Drought Vulnerability Assessment completed, September 30, 2013</li> <li>• Workshop in Amman, Jordan (three days), October 6-8, 2013</li> <li>• Foundation of the national DRM framework developed, December 13, 2013</li> <li>• Final Validation Workshop in Amman, Jordan, January 17-19, 2014</li> <li>• Submission of the final report, February ,2014</li> </ul> <p>. Outcomes of the preparatory workshop meeting aim to discuss to how UNDP, ELARD and GOI proceed the vulnerability assessment with specific focus areas and the framework development including 1) governance structure for the DRM; (2) Drought risk identification, impact assessment and early warning; (3) Drought awareness and knowledge management with a focus on gender sensitivity and mainstreaming tools; (4) Effective drought mitigation and preparedness measures.</p> <p>A list of participants from relevant counterparts such as Ministry of Environment, Water Resources and Science and Technology, Agriculture and research/institute was identified.</p>

	The workshop's agenda developed and the venue in Amman confirmed with UNESCO, UNEP and FAO
Output 3. National partners have enhanced understanding and knowledge on the causes and trends of sand/dust storm affecting Iraq	
<b>Output 3.1:</b> National partners are able to map-out sources and locations of dust and sand storms based on assessment of land degradation, drought and associated practices.	FAO: FAO identified 2 national experts and is in the recruiting process in order to develop the indices required to start the mapping of land degradation in Iraq. These experts will also assist in the programme development process.
<b>Output 3.2:</b> National partners able to undertake assessment of dust and sand storms transportation paths and dynamics within Iraq.	UNEP: identified international consultant to conduct the climate modelling. UNEP also assisted the engagement of Iraq in the technical meeting on the regional SDS programme held in Abu Dhabi in May which lead to better understanding of scope of the assessment for Iraqi within the broader regional dimension.
Output 4-Development of national programme to monitor, combat and mitigate dust/sand storms and enhance regional cooperation.	
<b>Output 4.1:</b> National partners are able to undertake institutional and stakeholder mapping on the integrated approaches to monitoring and combatingsandstorms.	Collation of background studies and research material was conducted. The DRM institutional mapping the WMO-UNEP questionnaire on SDS monitoring and early warning gave preliminary idea to roles and responsibilities as well as gaps in capacities. The regional assessment conducted by WMO and UNEP gave inputs to the scoping of the Iraqi programme. Background
<b>Output 4.2:</b>  Iraq able to develop national programme (with medium and long-term plan of action) to combat sand storms including prevention, monitoring, mitigation and early warning system.	UNEP recruited international consultant to support the drafting of the programme. The consultant proposed a programme document outline for consideration in the inception workshop to be held in July.

<b>Key implementation constraints and challenges (2-3 sentences)</b>
1. It is expected that data collection process may delay the progress of vulnerability assessment due to data and information needed is fragmented among ministries. In addition, responsibilities were found to be fragmented and inconsistently administered. This applies to almost all sectors under consideration for UNDP DRM-assessment