

**UNDG IRAQ TRUST FUND F8-10
FINAL PROGRAMME¹ NARRATIVE REPORT**

REPORTING PERIOD: 12 AUGUST 2009 – 31 DECEMBER 2012

Programme Title & Project Number
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme Title: Strengthening Protection and Justice for Children and Young People Programme Number (if applicable): No F8-10 MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 57669/71349 F8-10

Country, Locality(s), Thematic Area(s) ²
<i>Country/Region: Iraq</i>
<i>Thematic/Priority: Child Protection</i>

Participating Organization(s)
Organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme <i>UNICEF (lead), UNFPA</i> . <i>UNAMI Human Rights Office (no funding but strategic partner)</i>

Implementing Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government: Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, High Judicial Council, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Human Rights, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health International Medical Corps, Heartland Alliance, Penal Reform International, ILO, University of Beirut

Programme/Project Cost (US\$)
MPTF/JP Fund Contribution: \$ 3,000,000
UNICEF \$2,000,000
UNFPA \$1,000,000
<i>Agency Contribution</i>
UNICEF \$95,000
UNFPA \$100,000
Government Contribution <i>(if applicable)</i>
Other Contributions (donors) <i>(if applicable)</i>
TOTAL: US\$ 3,195,000

Programme Duration (months)	
Overall Duration <i>(months)</i>	14 Aug. 2009 – 31 Dec. 2012 (41 months)
Start Date ³ <i>(dd.mm.yyyy)</i>	14 Aug. 2009
Original End Date	14 Aug. 2012 (extended to 31 Dec 2012)
Revised End Date ⁴	
Expected Financial Closure Date	30/06/2013

Final Programme/ Project Evaluation
Evaluation Completed Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date:
Evaluation Report - Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

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¹ The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.

² Priority Area for the Peacebuilding Fund; Sector for the UNDG ITF.

³ The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).

⁴ As per approval by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

DoE:	Department of Education
DoH:	Department of Health
DoHE:	Department of Higher Education
DoHR:	Department of Human Rights
DoI:	Department of Interior
DoJ:	Department of Justice
DoLSA:	Department of Labor and Social Affairs
DoYS:	Department of Youth and Sports
GoI:	Government of Iraq
HJC:	High Judicial Council
KRG:	Kurdistan Regional Government
IMC:	International Medical Corps
ITF:	Iraqi Trust Fund
JCC:	Juvenile Care Council
MDGs:	Millennium Development Goals
JTI:	Judicial Training Institute
MoE:	Ministry of Education
MoH:	Ministry of Human Rights
MoI:	Ministry of Interior
MoJ:	Ministry of Justice
MoLSA:	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
MoYS:	Ministry of Youth and Sports
NGO:	Non Governmental Organisation
PCA:	Project Contract Agreement
PSAs:	Public Service Announcements
PRI:	Penal Reform International
UNAMI HRO	UNAMI Human Rights Office
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNDG:	United Nations Development Group
UNFPA:	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF:	United Nations Children's Fund

FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT for F8 10 Programme

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project made significant achievements in the area of Rule of Law, especially concerning children. The first National Conference on Justice for Children contributed to build strategic partnerships with various stakeholders and to address the emerging issues related to the children in contact with the law. The conference called for the importance of the federal Juvenile Care Council which was then re-activated in July 2012. As for the regional level, UNICEF continued to technically support the Juvenile Care Council throughout the project cycle. Children in 27 detention centres have been visited by UNICEF and its implementing partners, and a total of 12 detention centres under the authority of Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Justice (MoJ) and Interior (MoI) received direct support through this project. 1,777 children have been provided with legal assistance and reintegration services after their release. 2,002 children gained knowledge on their rights and life skills to prevent children in coming into contact with the law. A total of 737 government official equipped with the knowledge on child rights and juvenile justice system.

I. PURPOSE

a. Brief introduction to the programme/ project

This project is designed to provide technical support to the Government of Iraq to strengthen the Juvenile Justice system and increase children and young people's access to justice and protection. The project used a three pronged approach which helped alleviate the plight of children currently caught up in the judicial system, promoted restorative justice, and developed strategic direction for juvenile justice in Iraq. First, at the national level the project worked with the government ministries involved in the administration of juvenile justice on: advocacy for legislative reform; reduction of pre-trial detention; introduction of diversion and alternative measures; and on improvement of systems for data collection, monitoring and tracking of children who are in contact with the law. Secondly, at community level the project focused on actions that prevent children from coming into contact with the law; diversion projects; and provided reintegration assistance to children released from detention centres and reformatories. Lastly, the project also invested in developing the capacities of key duty bearers in the juvenile justice system in Iraq. The developmental goal is to strengthen the Government of Iraq's (GoI) capacity to improve the Juvenile Justice system and to increase children and young people's access to justice and protection.

b. The expected Outputs are:

1. GoI has reliable information to address needs and gaps in the Juvenile Justice system.
2. Capacities of families and communities in six governorates increased to protect and prevent children from getting into contact with the law.
3. Improved capacities of 100 key duty bearers in managing and monitoring detention facilities and reformatories.

4. Increased capacities of families and communities to provide care, protection and diversion services
5. Enhanced capacity of 400 duty bearers to provide better legal, judicial, rehabilitation and reintegration services to children and young people.
6. 300 reformatory staff have an enhanced capacity to provide follow up services and reintegration assistance to children and adolescents.

c. *The Programme as it related to the Strategic (UN) Planning Framework*

UN Assistance Strategy for Iraq: The project is fully in line with the 2005-2007 UN Strategy for Assistance to Iraq and conforms closely to the priorities expressed by the Iraqi Authorities during consultations and meetings with them.

UN Millennium Development Goals: The project contributes towards attaining the reduction of violence against children. The establishment of a Child rights network and the revision of Juvenile Justice reform to prevent and reduce violence against children is a necessary aspect for the achievement of any and all of the MDGs in Iraq.

Joint Needs Assessment: A preliminary assessment was completed by UNICEF as part of the Country Programme Document development process (for 2007-2010).

Iraqi National Development Strategy: The project is designed based on the priorities articulated in the National Development Strategy of Iraq, with enhanced capacity of civil society organizations and their strengthened participation in the implementation of the National Development Strategy..

II. ASSESSMENT OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

- a. Report on the key outputs achieved and explain any variance in achieved versus planned results.

Output 1. GoI has reliable information to address needs and gaps in the Juvenile Justice system

With the support of UNICEF, MoLSA organized a first National Conference on Justice for Children on 10 December 2011 in Erbil, gathering 60 representatives of nine federal and regional governmental ministries, developmental partners, and civil society organizations. The outcome of the conference led to the re-activation of the federal Juvenile Care Council (JCC) in July 2012. An agreement was reached with the JCC to have international experts to provide technical support to strengthen the capacity of the Councils at the federal and regional level. The development of a regional Child Law was technically supported by UNICEF; the law has been refined through a number of consultations, including with children. In December, the MoLSA identified another Child Law developed by the Parliament; thus, the finalization of the Child Law was further postponed to the early 2013. The revision of the Juvenile Care Law (1983) had faced a number of challenges as many actors have proposed changes, yet no consolidated efforts were made. UNICEF supported to consolidate two recommendations, and requested support from the Committee on Family, Women and Children to the Parliament to present the revision of the law; however, due to conflicting priorities of this Committee, the proposed revision has not been reviewed.

Output 2. Capacities of families and communities in six governorates increased to protect and prevent children from getting into contact with the law.

UNICEF in partnership with International Medical Corps (IMC) supported the implementation of life skill education in schools and communities to increase understanding of conflict mediation and peace building as well as to prevent children from coming into contact with the law. A total of 2,536 were reached through activities of prevention and protection.

In schools, 94 teachers were trained to deliver life skills education to children while in youth centres, 1,380 youth were trained on life skills in Baghdad, Basra and Ninewa. 526 children and families increased their understanding in roles and responsibilities of community police and 536 children gained knowledge on their basic rights within the juvenile justice system, focusing on legal rights provided in the Juvenile Care Law of 1983 and the Penal Code of 1969 in the Kurdistan region.

In terms of raising public awareness, TV, radio and newspaper have been used to reach out different audiences especially in the Kurdistan region.



National Conference on Justice for Children (Dec 2011) in Erbil - opening speech by the Deputy Minister of MoLSA, taken by UNICEF

Output 3. Improved capacities of 100 key duty bearers in managing and monitoring detention facilities and reformatories.

Regular visits to juveniles in detention centres under the authority of MoLSA, MoI and MoJ had been conducted by UNICEF and its partners in Baghdad, Basra, Najaf, Karbala, Babil, Wasit, Missan, Muthana, Thi Qar, Diyala, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Erbil, Dohuk and Suleymaniya – reaching a total of 27 facilities (two of them are currently unused). A total of 263 persons - children (223) and detention centre staff (40) – benefitted from training on child rights and a total of 672 persons - children (603) and detention centre staff (69) - participated in life skills training conducted in detention centres in Baghdad, Basra Ninewa, and the Kurdistan region.

To increase protection and support fair access to the formal judicial system, 443 children (31 girls and 412 boys) were provided with legal assistance by UNICEF's partner organization in Baghdad, Basra, Ninewa, Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaimaniyah. A coordinated effort by trained police officers, social workers and lawyers led to dropping charges of 59 cases, resulting in preventing children from going through the formal justice system.



Training on "Know your rights" in a school in the Kurdistan region,

Output 4. Increased capacities of families and communities to provide care, protection and diversion services

At the national level, UNICEF and partner organizations have engaged with the University of Baghdad and the College of Law to establish a Restorative Justice Research and Training Unit in order to introduce and institutionalize restorative justice for children in contact with the law. The room for the Unit was set up with equipment within the College of Law; however, the formal establishment of the Unit had faced a challenge as the University did not agree to establish a new unit. The College is seeking possibility in establishing the Unit under the Legal Clinic.

UNICEF and its implementing partner, IMC and Heartland Alliance reached a total of 3,398 community members who participated in training and/ or awareness workshops on conflict mediation and restorative justice. The training aimed to 1) develop a cadre of mediators responsible for mediating conflicts and small crimes involving juveniles, and 2) build the knowledge and skills of trainees on basic conflict mediation, children's rights, and the Iraqi Juvenile Care Law. UNICEF promoted the development of a mediation system which has been set up in 45 targeted schools of Ninewa, Baghdad and Basra; a total of 1,740 students were elected as mediators and are actively engaged in the prevention and the resolution of conflicts in the classrooms.

UNICEF and its implementing partners provided reintegration assistance to 493 persons (482 children; as well as 11 parents (two fathers and nine mothers) in Baghdad, Basra, Ninewa, Erbil Suleymaniya and Dohuk in order for them not to re-offend and be in contact with the law.



Output 5. Enhanced capacity of 400 duty bearers to provide better legal, judicial, rehabilitation and reintegration services to children and young people

UNICEF supported a five-day training of trainers for duty bearers on Justice for Children that took place in December 2011, facilitated by Penal Reform International (PRI) and included 20 federal and regional governmental technical experts (from the Ministries of Labor and Social Affairs, Youth and Sports, Education, Human Rights, Justice, Health), INGOs and members of the Higher Judicial Council. The master trainers continued to train other 394 government officials from MoLSA, MoYA, MoHR, MoE, MoH, DoI, DoJ, DoYS, DoHR, DoE, DoHE, DoH, HJC, DoLSA, and governorate council from Basra, Ninewa, Baghdad, Erbil, Dohuk and Sulaimaniya.

Output 6. 300 reformatory staff have an enhanced capacity to provide follow up services and reintegration assistance to children and adolescents.

UNFPA conducted an assessment study of the reformatories in Iraq which is a reference document for strengthening, developing plans and future studies and assessments of the reformatories. This was followed by the development by the American University in Beirut (AUB) of a multi-dimensional package on psycho-social and health support to youth in detention which included a detailed training programme. This was done in consultation with MoLSA staff from federal and regional government.

A total of 80 reformatory staff benefitted from a series of training which included: Protocols, Procedures and Auditing in Juvenile Reformatories in Iraq in Nov 2012; Life Skills and community participation in rehabilitation process for the Social workers; Screening Risky Behaviour and Motivational Interviewing.

UNFPA conducted a vocational training needs' assessment for the youth detained in Erbil and Baghdad. Based on the results, a vocational training programme for 26 youth in the detention centres started in Erbil and may be replicated in other detention centres. Participants received a certificate from the Directorate of Labour (and not from the detention centres) to facilitate their smooth entry into the labour market and will further benefit from MoLSA's own scheme of micro loans. Following the good practice of including the psycho-social dimension of the rehabilitation into the vocational training, MoLSA has integrated the Life Skills education into all its vocational training courses.

All the medical staff of the Erbil Juvenile Reformatory clinic (25 staff) has been trained on the adolescent and youth friendly services with special focus on mental health and healthy life style.

b. Qualitative Assessment of the level of overall achievement of the Programme

The re-activation of the Juvenile Care Council was a major achievement to address the emerging issues on the juvenile justice at the inter-ministerial level discussion by high ranking officials at the federal and regional levels. The project also attracted other donors to further strengthen the government capacity in providing care and protection to children in contact with the law. Even though much efforts are still required, the project has built partnerships with different ministries and departments to get together to discuss issues surrounding children in contact with the law.

The project also attracted other donors to further strengthen the government capacity in providing care and protection to children in contact with the law. Even though much efforts are still required, the project has built partnerships with different ministries and departments to get together to discuss issues surrounding children in contact with the law. Co-funding with the government was proposed, built upon the results and progresses made through this project. Moreover, UNFPA successfully co-funded a part of this project with the Provincial Council of Baghdad.

III. INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance (if any)	Source of Verification
Outcome 1 Children and young people are better protected with improved access to justice and reintegration services Indicator: N/A Baseline: N/A Planned Target: N/			
Output 1.1: GoI has reliable information to address needs and gaps in JJ system of Juvenile Justice system			
Indicator 1.1.1: A Comprehensive assessment report on Juvenile justice system is produced Baseline: No Planned Target: One Report	Preliminary findings available	Delays in conducting the assessment as well as completion of the results	Preliminary Report
Indicator 1.1.2: Report on the review of Juvenile care law produced Baseline: No Planned Target: Periodic reports	Two reports available	Delays in conducting the assessment as well as completion of the results	Reports
Indicator 1.1.3: Recommendations on the amendments of the Juvenile justice law submitted to decision makers Baseline: No Planned Target:	One Report with gaps and recommendations	Same as above	Report
Output 1.2			
Indicator 1.2.1: No. of children and young people in pre-trial detention Baseline: 368 currently in pre-trial detention Planned Target: 50% reduction (184 children and young people in pre-trial)	Currently 504 children (477 boys and 27 girls) are in pre-trial detention	Through monitoring, the n. of detention centres where children are kept increased from 17 to 27 centres..	MoLSA, MoJ, and MoI database on children in detention Centres prisons and police station
Indicator 1.2.2: No of community members reached through activities of prevention and protection Baseline: 0 (zero) Planned Target: 100 people per community, 1,800 people in three communities per governorate in 6 governorates	A total of 2,536 reached through activities		The partner reports
Indicator 1.2.3: No. of community based activities implemented per targeted community (by type) Baseline: 0 (zero)	More than five different activities are conducted at youth centres		The partner reports

	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance (if any)	Source of Verification
Planned Target: At least two activities per targeted community			
Indicator 1.2.4: No of times awareness messages are published in the news papers Baseline: 0 (zero) Planned Target: At least two awareness messages in newspapers every two months	Ten newspaper awareness messages published		Mainly Kurdish newspaper. E.g. Cawder, Kurdistani New, Hawlati
Indicator 1.2.5: No of times awareness messages aired on TV/Radios Baseline: 0 (zero) Planned Target: At least one message a month aired on TV and radio	Eight radio PSAs developed and broadcasted (four in another language) Three TV PSAs developed and broadcasted, 1 week media campaign		Mainly Kurdish stations, e.g. Azady, Nawkho , other 12 radio stations and KurdSat, Kurdistan TV and other 10 TV stations
Output 1.3: Improved capacities of 100 key duty bearers in managing and monitoring detention facilities and reformatories			
Indicator 1.3.1: No of children and young people provided with legal assistance Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: 1,500 boys, girls and young people	443 children (31 girls and 412 boys) provided with legal assistance (reported number is only from UNICEF direct intervention)	Consolidated data from GoI on the number of children receiving legal aid through the government system was not provided;	Partner's reports
Indicator 1.3.2: No. of children and young people trained on life skills Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: 500 children	A total of 603 children (112 girls and 491 boys) trained		Partner's Reports
Indicator 1.3.3: No of children and young people provide with care and protection services in detention centres Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: 1,500 boys and girls	Same as Indicator 1.3.1		
Indicator 1.3.4: Percentage of children and young people satisfied with the quality of services in detention Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: 80%	Roughly 80%	A draft report is available though some of the activities were completed after the evaluation	UNICEF evaluation
Indicator 1.3.5: Number of multi-disciplinary mobile teams put in place and trained Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: five	Four in Basra, Baghdad, Erbil and Mosul		Partner's reports
Indicator 1.3.6: Number of mobile team member trained on JJ procedures, standards, and diversion mechanism Baseline: 0 (zero)	37 people trained		Partners' reports

	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance (if any)	Source of Verification
Target: 35			
Indicator 1.3.7: No. of cases diverted to informal and alternative systems Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: At least 10 cases diverted	59 cases were dropped charge at the police stations		Partners' reports
Indicator 1.3.8: regular independent monitoring and reporting mechanism on detention facilities and reformatories exist Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: One visit every 2 months	One visit every two months		
Indicator 1.3.9: Existence of an operational complaint system in place of detention Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: Number of complaints received/ response provided every 2mths	Yes: Ministry of Human Rights has set up complaint boxes at the MoLSA detention facilities.		Partners' and UNICEF direct monitoring
Output 1.4: Increased capacity of families and communities to provide care, protection and diversion services			
Indicator 1.4.1: No. of community care providers trained on provision of diversion services in 6 governorates Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: 1,800 community members in 6 governorates have knowledge and are providing diversion services	A total of 3,398 community care providers trained		Partners' reports
Indicator 1.4.2: No. of community members providing after care and diversion services in 6 governorates Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: As above	Same as above		Same as above
Indicator 1.4.3: No of children and young people provided with after care/ diversion services in governorates Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: 200 children and young people	493 persons (482 children and 11 parents - two fathers and nine mothers) are currently receiving or have received aftercare services		Partners' reports
Indicator 1.4.4: No of children and young people satisfied with after care/ diversion services in 6 governorates Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: N/A	Evaluation will be conducted as this part of the programme implemented late.		Partners' reports
Output 5: Enhanced capacity of 400 duty bearers to provide better legal, judicial, rehabilitation and reintegration services to children and young people			

	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance (if any)	Source of Verification
Indicator 1.5.1: No. of key duty bearers trained on international standards of Juvenile justice and providing legal and judicial services to children and young people Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: 400 (Juvenile judges, lawyers, prosecutors, JTI instructors, juvenile police, MOLSA staff, police, social workers and care providers)	414 key duty bearers trained (142 female and 272 males)		Partners' reports
Indicator 1.5.2: Module for JJ integration in JTI curriculum developed and submitted to HJC Baseline: 0 (zero) Target: Indicator 1.5.3 curriculum developed and submitted to HJC	As indicated in the quarterly report, this has been canceled due to slow progress.		
Indicator 1.5.3: No. of children and young people provided with care and rehabilitation services in four reformatories Baseline: 0 Target: 100% of the children and young people	Erbil: 100% Baghdad: 65%	Due to lack of resources in Baghdad	MOLSA reports
Indicator 1.5.4: % of children and young people satisfied with care and rehabilitation services provided in four reformatories Baseline: 0 Target: At least 70%	A satisfaction survey will be conducted during the second quarter of 2013 to collect this data		
Indicator 1.5.5: No of children and young people in contact with law provided with medical services Baseline: 0 Target Indicator: 100% of the concerned children and young people	100% in Baghdad and Erbil		MOLSA and MOH reports
Indicator 1.5.6: % of children satisfied with the quality of provided medical services Baseline: 0 Target: At least 70%	A satisfaction survey will be conducted during the second quarter of 2013 to collect this data		
Indicator 1.5.7: No. of children provided with psychosocial services Baseline: 0 Target: 100% of children and young people are receiving psychosocial services		The limited number of social workers do administrative work instead of doing their actual jobs due to lack of capacity building and staff	MOLSA reports
Indicator 1.5.8: No. of children provided with educational facilities Baseline: 0 Target: 100% of children and young people are receiving educational	90% Erbil 20% in Baghdad	The few teachers willing to work in the reformatories; Juveniles preference for vocational training over education. The limited number of educational classes in the Baghdad reformatories.	
Indicator 1.5.9: % if children and young people satisfied with the quality of provided educational activities	A satisfaction survey will be conducted during the second quarter of 2013 to		

	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance (if any)	Source of Verification
Baseline: 0 Target: At least 70%	collect this data		
Indicator 1.5.10: No. of children provided with vocational training Baseline: 0 Target: 100% of children and young people are receiving vocational training	90% in Erbil 15% in Baghdad	The limited number of workshops. Security constraints in Baghdad prevent enrollment in workshops/ courses outside the reformatories	MOLSA Reports
Indicator 1.5.11: % of children satisfied with the quality of vocational training Baseline: 0 Target: At least 70% of children in the four targeted reformatories.	A satisfaction survey will be conducted during the second quarter of 2013 to collect this data		
Indicator 1.5.12: No. of visits per family to reformatories Baseline: 0 Target: At least one visit to reformatories per family per month	In Erbil 100% In Baghdad 30%	Security constraints; juveniles in Baghdad difficult for families from other Governorates to visit regularly	MOLSA Reports
Indicator 1.5.13: No. of family visits by social workers Baseline: 0 Target: At least three visits by social workers per family	Erbil 100% Baghdad : adhoc basis	Due to the limited number of social workers in Baghdad and the long distances; security.	MOLSA
Output 6: Enhanced capacity of 400 duty bearers to provide better legal, judicial, rehabilitation and reintegration services to children and young people			
Indicator 1.6.1: % and number of children and adolescents released from reformatories provided with follow up services and reintegration assistance Baseline: 0 Target Indicator: 70% of the concerned children and adolescents	50%	Security constraints in Baghdad The long distances in Baghdad The limited number of the social workers in Baghdad and Erbil	MOLSA reports
Indicator 1.6.2: # of children and young people counseled and oriented to work related and or educational Baseline: 0 Target Indicator: 70% of the children and young people	50%	As above.	As above
Indicator 1.6.3: # of children receiving post release counseling during the first year after release Baseline: 0 Target: 70% of the concerned children	40%	Security constraints in Baghdad; limited number of the social workers in Baghdad and Erbil	MOLSA Reports
Indicator 1.6.4: Number of children integrated with families Baseline: 0 Target: 70% of children well neglected or unwilling to join them are integrated with their families	60%	The limited number of the social workers in Baghdad and Erbil to support the families and the juveniles to facilitate this	MOLSA Reports

III. EVALUATION & LESSONS LEARNED

- a. Report on any assessments, evaluations or studies undertaken relating to the programme and how they were used during implementation. yet?

An evaluation of the programme, concerning output 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 was conducted in June 2012. The evaluation revealed that the interventions that focused on the prevention for children coming into contact with the law, could be shifted to areas where more children were at risk of coming into contact with the law, and confirmed that some of the activities in the detention centres were appreciated by children. The review of the programme was conducted together with the government in November 2012. It was also suggested to assess the reintegration practice, and support the aftercare department to ensure successful reintegration of children formally in contact with the law, and to have more capacity building for community and parents who are the first to deal with children in contact with the law. The lessons learned and recommendations will be incorporated into UNICEF's next two years work plan with the GoI.

- b. Explain challenges such as delays in programme implementation, and the nature of the constraints such as management arrangements, human resources etc.

The delay in setting up an inter-ministerial Steering Committee on this programme to oversight the programme implementation caused a subsequent delay in the starting the project. Moreover, at the beginning of 2012, MoLSA did not permit UNICEF, UNFPA and its partners to implement any activities within its detention facilities and did not allow its staff to conduct cascade training on Justice for Children. This was caused by the misunderstanding of the ITF mechanism by the MoLSA, which demanded an internal audit on the ITF by the Ministry of Finance. Despite the joint advocacy efforts and numerous meetings by UNICEF and UNFAP to resume activities, the suspension lasted for four months, and caused significant delays in the implementation of the programme.

- c. Report key lessons learned that would facilitate future programme design and implementation, including issues related to management arrangements, human resources, resources, etc.,

A pilot project to create a model and to demonstrate a good result was key to influence a national level policy. UNICEF supported the Basra Central Prison to establish a school for juveniles in prison – the first its kind in Iraq which was a collective demand from the stakeholders in Basra concerning children in contact with the law as there was no such service available to children even though education is a basic right for children. After this initiative, the Ministry of Education and Justice has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to ensure education for all prisoners.

A SPECIFIC STORY

A young man now aged 18 years was arrested at age 17 years and accused of killing another boy. Upon his arrest he was taken into custody by the security forces, and received ill-treatment and told to confess to the crime which he allegedly committed. He told the judge the story he was told to tell by the security forces: that he was raped by the victim and so he killed him. UNICEF's implementing partner, Heartland Alliance took the case, and asked for a medical check to prove the rape. The results came back negative and the NGOs requested the judge to take his statement once more. The judge agreed and the boy explained that he was threatened and was forced to confess. Further, the accused also had a witness which was tracked down to prove that at the time of the murder, this boy was at home.

The case was dismissed as the boy's innocence was proven by the legal assistance provided by UNICEF's implementing partners. However, the victim's family has taken the case to the Appeals Court stating that as he confessed to the crime in the first place, he is guilty. Reconciliation efforts with the family have thus far been unsuccessful as they are demanding \$100,000, which the family does not have. UNICEF's implementing partners continue to work with this case to prove his innocence.