

United Nations Development Group UNDAF Trust Fund
Project #:81967: P1-01
Quarter Updated: 1 July-30 September 2014
3rd Quarter 2014

Participating UN Organisation: UNDP Lead and UNOPS
PWG: Governance & Human Rights
 UNDP Project 81917
Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: CSO Committee of the Council of Representatives

Title	Empowering CSOs in Iraq				
Geographic Location	Nationwide for the capacity building of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) under UNDP. The KRG Compact work under UNOPS is only for KRG.				
Project Cost	Total Cost USD 3,237,419 USD 2,221,818 from UNDAF Trust Fund for UNDP component USD 1,015,601 from DANIDA, for UNOPS component (please refer to note below)				
Duration	18 months				
Approval Date (SC)	18 th January 2012	Starting Date	12 th March 2012	Completion Date	12 Sep 2013, extended to 31 th December 2014
Project Description	UNDP and UNOPS will support Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to effectively monitor Government's compliance with due process and transparency. UNDP through UNDAF Trust Fund will build the capacity of chosen CSOs to hold the Government accountable in the areas of Service Delivery, Corruption, Human Rights and Civil Rights. Through encouraging CSOs to form consortia the project will transfer know-how whilst working on concrete issues. The Project will contribute to opening up permanent and sustainable channels between CSOs and Government to interface and advocate that the voices of civil society are heard and taken into account in relation to public policymaking. The partnership with UNOPS will build on existing strong relationships with the KRG, Kurdistan Parliament and Kurdistan Region civil society.				

Note: This project is composed of two separate components. The UNDP component, Output 2 is funded under the UNDAF Trust Fund. The UNOPS component, Output 1 is bilaterally funded by DANIDA to UNOPS and respectively UNOPS will report directly to DANIDA. **This report therefore covers the UNDP portion Output 2 of the Project Document.**

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

UNDAF Outcome 1.1: The Iraqi state has a more inclusive and participatory political process reflecting improved national dialogue.

The Project contributes to the following **UNDAF priority areas:**

- Priority 1: Improved governance, including protection of human rights.
- Priority 4: Increased access to quality essential services.
- Priority 5: Investment in human capital and empowerment of women, youth and children.

The Project contributes to **UNDP Iraq's Country Programme Outcome 1:** Enhanced rule of law, protection and respect for human rights in line with international standards.

The project is being implemented in full alignment with work being done by other UN agencies as well as the Human Rights Office.

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement

Outputs	<p>Output 1: Government is supported to facilitate free engagement of CSOs in development and reconciliation processes. <i>UNOPS reports bilaterally to DANIDA on this component.</i></p> <p>Output 2: CSOs have an enhanced capacity to promote citizen oversight mechanisms. <i>UNDP component</i></p>
Output	Activities
Output 2: CSOs have an enhanced capacity to promote citizen oversight mechanisms	<p>UNDP Component: Output 2 which is reflected in this report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 CSO Mapping 2.2 Preparatory Workshop with CSOs on the Call for Proposals process 2.3 Drafting of Calls for Proposals Guidelines 2.4 Establishing the Evaluation Committee 2.5 Eligibility check of applicants 2.6 Evaluation of Concept notes 2.7 Discussion with successful applicants for the development of the full proposal 2.8 Evaluation of full proposals 2.9 Contract negotiation and contracting 2.10 Establish an online community of practice 2.11 Arrange for Community of practice live workshop half way through project cycle. 2.12 Monitoring and Evaluation 2.13 Programme Evaluation
Output 1: Government is supported to facilitate free engagement of CSOs in development and reconciliation processes.	<p>Bilaterally reported to DANIDA</p> <p>UNOPS Component: Output 1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Conduct awareness activities targeting representatives of public authorities and civil society 1.2 Drafting of the base policy Compact document by technical experts at the start of the programme 1.3 Planning/strategy meeting between representatives of the KRG authorities and civil society 1.4 Papers prepared and disseminated among various stakeholders on the relevant topic and how they can relate to the situation in Iraq 1.5 Study tour takes place 1.6 Conduct training of trainers for civil society activists and representatives of the KRG parliaments and subsequent cascade trainings 1.7 Consultations of the draft document among civil society organizations in the KRG Iraq carried out through meetings and media. 1.8 Conduct consultations of the draft document between representatives of Civil Society and KRG parliament 1.9 Adoption of the policy agreement between the KRG parliament and civil society 1.10 Final conference announcing adoption of the document, preferably organized at the KRG parliament
Procurement (major items)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical support entities • Trainers and facilitators • CSO grants (for non-credit related activities)

Funds Committed	USD 1,803,307.32	% of approved budget (100% of funds received)	81.1%
	<p>* The commitment calculation formula has been adjusted this quarter to reflect a better project commitment reality. This figure includes all PO expenditure incurred, all committed CSO grants paid and due, salaries of all staff paid and due, open contracts with consultancy companies paid and due, the total GMS for the funds received and other open commitments for the project covering the whole</p>		

	implementation period.		
Funds Disbursed	USD 1,927,682.38	% of approved budget (100% of funds received)	86.7%
Forecast final date	December 2014	Delay (months)	6

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results

Output 2: CSOs have an enhanced capacity to promote citizen oversight mechanisms.	2.10 Establish an online community of practice	% of planned	95%
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Qualitative achievements against objectives and results

UNDP UNDAF Trust Fund component

Output 2: CSOs have an enhanced capacity to promote citizen oversight mechanisms.

- The 8 projects were successfully completed at the end of April 2014, UNDP planned for final conference to be conducted at 18-19 June 2014 in Baghdad but due to force majeure related to the security crisis that is affecting Iraq, the management team decided to cancel the final conference as the movement between Iraqi governorates and inside Baghdad was very restricted that made NGOs' representatives travel to Baghdad unsafe. Instead of the final conference UNDP will disseminate a final conclusion report (project achievements) with the related counterparts during the next quarter reporting period as UNDP was very keen to disseminate this report after the full formulation of the new Iraqi Cabinet and the Council of Representatives so the new committees and Ministries will use and build on Project achievements and recommendations.
- During the reporting period the CSOs succeed in continuing communication between themselves to discuss Iraq's current humanitarian crises and the available options to intervene and support the IDPs. CSOs used the benefit of the launching of Linked In platform (one of the project activities) to communicate between each other and the group became expanded with additional CSOs. The CSOs found the experience of Linked In as very vital and professional.
- It is expected that the project will conclude its activities by the Q4 period. Which will entail the monitoring and evaluation as well as ensure the operational and effectiveness of the online platform established under this output.

Main implementation constraints & challenges

The security crises in northern and central of Iraq coupled with the formation of the new Iraqi Cabinet and the Council of Representatives lead to impedes the implementation of the project activities and slow the process, as most of the counterparts and NGOs concerned with the humanitarian crises. It has also been challenging in the past months for the project to maintain its close relation with the CSOs parliamentary committee as the committee formulated lately and the head of the committee assigned for temporary period.

ANNEXES**Annex 1: List of 8 CSO consortia (31 CSOs) selected for project grants and capacity development**

CSO Name	Role	CSO Code	Governorate
Insan Iraqi Society for Relief and Development	Lead	CSO1	Kirkuk
National Institute for Human Rights	Member	CSO1.1	Kirkuk
Humanitarian Relief Association for Iraqi Turkmen Women	Member	CSO1.2	Kirkuk
Iraqi Institute for Development (IID)	Lead	CSO2	Mosul
Organization of Iraqi Family	Member	CSO2.1	Tikreet
Harraa Humanitarian Organization	Member	CSO2.2	Diyala
Kurdistan Reconstruction and Development Organization (KURDO)	Lead	CSO3	Sulaymaniyah
Youth Activity Organization (YAO)	Member	CSO3.1	Sulaymaniyah
Kurdistan Economic Development Organization (KEDO)	Member	CSO3.2	Sulaymaniyah
Al Khair Organization	Lead	CSO4	Missan
Al Ahrar Organization	Member	CSO4.1	Missan
Iraqi women Foundation	Member	CSO4.2	Missan
Al Amel Association	Member	CSO4.3	Missan
Journalists Youth Organization	Member	CSO4.4	Missan

Al Rafidain Women Organization	Lead	CSO5	Muthanna
Al Huda Institution for Strategic Studies	Member	CSO5.1	Missan
Al-Ekha'a Organization for Democracy and Peace	Member	CSO5.2	Basra
Iraq Flower for Democratic Organization	Member	CSO5.3	Thi Qar
Salam Al Rafidain Organization	Lead	CSO6	Baghdad
Al Mahaba Forum	Member	CSO6.2	Anbar
Association for Woman And Children	Member	CSO6.1	Baghdad
Bunyan Foundation	Member	CSO6.3	Mosul
Ajial Association for Intelligence and Creation Development	Lead	CSO8	Diyala
Taawn Association for Consumer Protection	Member	CSO8.1	Diyala
Hawaa Organization for Relief and Development	Member	CSO8.2	Diyala
Youth Forum for Peace	Member	CSO8.3	Diyala
Al Noor Universal Foundation (NUF)	Lead	CSO9	Diyala
Shaoob for Democracy Support	Member	CSO9.1	Baghdad
Hamurabi Organization	Member	CSO9.2	Tikreet
Iraqi Civic Action Network	Member	CSO9.3	Babil
Iraqi Social Education Team	Member	CSO9.4	Baghdad

*CSO 7: As explained above, this consortium was excluded from the grant process during the grant contract negotiations.

Annex 2: Summary of 8 CSO consortia funded projects

1. Promoting adequate services in Kirkuk Province

CSOs: Insan Iraqi Society for Relief and Development, National Institute for Human Rights, and Humanitarian Relief

Association for Iraqi Turkmen Women

Governorate: Kirkuk

Summary: Will increase the capacities of key community members, enhance community cohesion, and create an environment propitious to long-term development. Project activities include training facilitators and volunteers in participatory rural appraisal (PRA) methods, conducting PRA in communities, and building capacities of community leaders in advocacy and development of a community response plan

2. Ensuring a better environment for our children

CSOs: Iraqi Institute for Development, Organization of Iraqi Family, and Haraa Humanitarian Organization

Governorates: Salah ad Din, Ninewa and Diyala

Summary: This project will raise awareness on the risks of solid waste and will advise local authorities on how to appropriately deal with solid waste. Project activities include identifying solid waste problems through questionnaires, conducting awareness-raising lectures, and producing brochures and radio episodes on solid waste.

3. Empower civil society organizations in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq

CSOs: KURDO (Kurdistan Reconstruction and Development Organization), YAO (Youth Activity Organization), and KEDO (Kurdistan Economic Development Organization)

Governorates: Sulaymaniyah, Erbil and Dahuk

Summary: This project will create a harmonized, transparent and constructive relationship between civil society organizations and local government and promote networking opportunities among civil society organizations. Project activities include training civil society members and local government officials on accountability, transparency and cooperation between civil society and local authorities, and forming a joint civil society-local government steering committee to formulate action plans.

4. Defending human rights in Missan

CSOs: Al Khair Organization, Al-Ahrar Organization for Human Rights, Iraqi Women Foundation, Al Amel Association and Journalists Youth Organization

Governorates: Missan

Summary: This project will build the capacities of member organizations and promote the principles of transparency, accountability and human rights and raise the awareness of citizens in selecting effective policies for the governorate. Project activities include delivering training courses and public educational lectures on human rights, producing TV and radio programs on human rights, and holding round table sessions attended by the government and the public

5. Partnering for development

CSOs: Al Rafidain Women Organization, Al Huda Institution for Strategic Studies, Al Ekha'a Organization for Democracy and Peace, and Iraq Flower for Democratic Organization

Governorates: Muthanna, Missan, Thi-Qar and Basra

Summary: This project will increase women's participation in public affairs and encourage new partnerships amongst civil society organizations. Project activities include forming 32 community development committees consisting of 256 women in 32 districts in the four governorates, training the committee members on the subject of humanitarian situation assessment, needs identification and monitoring, and delivering training for 32 local council officers on the subject of good governance and citizen's participation.

6. Enhancing rights of minorities in Iraq

CSOs: Salam Al Rafidain Organization, Association for Women and Children, Al Mahaba Forum, and Bunyan Foundation

Governorates: Baghdad, Salah Al-Din, Anbar, Dahuk and Ninewa

Summary: The project will enhance the role of academics in disseminating the concept of diversity and citizenship to promote minority rights in universities, raise awareness on minority rights among 6,000 university students, and publish a “Proposal of Basic Principles Paper of Minority Rights Protection Law in Iraq”. Project activities include holding workshops targeting academics on the concept of minority rights, conducting lectures for students at universities, producing a “Proposal of Basic Principles Paper of Minority Rights Protection Law in Iraq”.

7. Strengthening women's role in the society and reducing violations against them

CSOs: Ajjal Association for Intelligence and Creation Development, Taawn Association for Consumer Protection, Hawaa Organization for Relief and Development, and Youth Forum for Peace

Governorate: Diyala

This project will raise awareness about the importance of women and their role in society. It also aims to expand women’s participation in the process of development, and enhance the legal and social awareness of women who suffer from violence. Project activities include holding stakeholder meetings, organizing discussion seminars, holding training sessions for women on promoting civic values, conducting PRAs in communities, producing radio programs and conducting a legal awareness campaign for vulnerable women in marginalized communities.

8. Promoting good governance to improve essential services

CSOs: Al-Noor Universal Foundation, Shaoub for Democracy Culture Foundation, Hammurabi organization for Human Rights and Democracy Monitoring, Iraqi Civic Action Network, and the Iraqi Social Education Team

Governorates: All, except the Kurdistan Region

This project will strengthen the abilities of CSOs to determine priorities, expand local government’s acceptance of good governance, improve citizen’s participation in determining their priorities and undertake consultations with CSOs and community leaders. Project activities include holding workshops for CSO leaders on participation, accountability, priority setting and monitoring, publishing an analytical study on service and community participation, holding 30 forums to discuss the results of the study and to identify the means of advocacy, and forming pressure groups in each Governorate to call for good governance or enhanced public services.

