

**Consolidated Annual Narrative  
Report of the Administrative Agent  
of  
the Kurdistan Vision 2020 Facility  
for the period 1 January to 31 December 2015**

**Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office  
Bureau of Management  
United Nations Development Programme  
[GATEWAY: http://mptf.undp.org](http://mptf.undp.org)**

## PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS



Food and Agriculture  
Organizat



International Labour  
Organisat



UNDP(MDTF/PUNO only).



United Nations Educational,  
Sc



United Nations Population  
Fund



UN Centre for Human  
Settlement



United Nations Children's  
Fund



UNWOMEN



World Food Programme



World Health Organization

## CONTRIBUTORS



Kurdistan Regional Govt Iraq

## **2015 (second) Consolidated Annual Progress Report on Activities Implemented under the Kurdistan Region-Iraq Trust Fund, Vision 2020**

### **Introduction**

The 2015 Annual (second) Progress Report on Activities Implemented under the Kurdistan Region Vision 2020 Fund is submitted to the Ministry of Planning of the Kurdistan Region Government (KRG) in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the Facility TOR and further specified in the SAA and the MOU. The information presented in this Progress Report covers the period 1 January to 31 December 2015.

On 31 October 2013 - The Kurdistan Region Government and the Integrated Coordination Office for Development and Humanitarian Affairs (ICODHA) of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) have signed of an agreement to launch a joint Trust Fund aimed at supporting the Kurdistan Region Government's development vision outlined in the Kurdistan Vision 2020 Development Strategy. The official title of the fund is "Kurdistan Vision 2020 Joint Programming Facility".

The Facility provides a mechanism for the Kurdistan Region Government to draw upon expertise of the United Nations System to support the realization of development objectives for and implementation of development programs targeting priority sectors including health and social services, education, employment, physical infrastructure, good governance and economic development. The Kurdistan Region Government is the main funder of the Facility and has pledged a total of approximately USD13.9 million of which USD4.2 million have been deposited to date. In addition, the Participating UN Organizations also provide resources for the programmes funded through the facility. The total resources provided by the Participating UN Organization for the on-going projects is estimated at approximately USD4.1 million.

The information contained in the remainder of the report is consolidated based on information and data provided in the individual progress reports prepared at regional level and financial statements submitted by Participating Organizations at headquarter level to the MPTF Office as well as information on decisions taken by the KR Vision 2020 Steering Committee throughout the course of the reporting period.

### **Summary of the Kurdistan Vision 2020**

In September 2013, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) launched the "Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) 2020: A Vision for the Future" (in short, Kurdistan Vision 2020) presenting the future vision of KR-I and its policy priorities for the next five-year period (2013-2017).

The four strategic pillars of the Kurdistan 2020 Vision are:

- **Putting people first** through focusing programming that targets the areas of health, education, inclusiveness and the labour market.
- **Building the Kurdistan's regional infrastructure** through improved transportation, water and sanitation, electricity, housing and communications.
- **Building the economic prosperity** for the region through the areas of agriculture, private sector growth and environmental protection.
- **Strengthening good governance** through continually building an effective and honest Government, budget, and civil service through needed reforms.

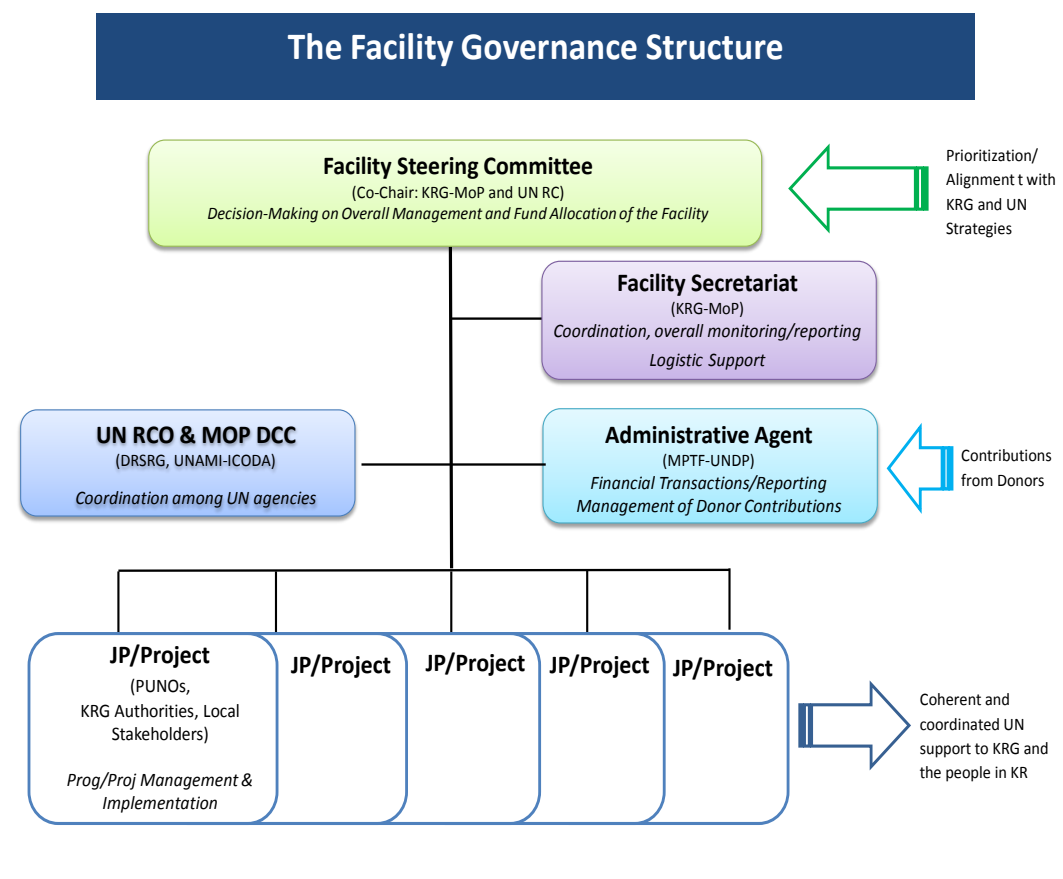
To support the achievement of its Vision, the KRG established the Kurdistan Vision 2020 Joint Programming Facility (hereafter "Facility"), to leverage UN expertise for the achievement Kurdistan Vision 2020 under the leadership of the KRG Ministry of Planning (KRG MoP).

Embodying the principals of Paris Declaration for Aid Effectiveness and Accra Agenda for Action the strategic framework for the Facility is fully aligned with the KRG Vision 2020. The 2020 Vision provides a strategic framework for the KRG to work towards common goals focusing on improving the well-being of the population of the KR-I.

The activities of supported by the Facility are equally aligned and consistent with the common priorities of the KRG and UN as outlined in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) reflecting the overall development priorities in Iraq.

The Facility will be the primary financing mechanism between KRG and the UN agencies to achieve the common strategic priorities determined by the Kurdistan Vision 2020 and UNDAF. It is the first co-financing Facility, capitalized primarily from the KRG Investment budget, with UN counterpart contributions contributing to joint programming in the KR-I.

The Facilities overall strategic framework and governance and decision making structures are outlined in the Facility Terms of Reference.



## 2020 Joint facility Fund – Projects achievements covering period January 2015 – December 2015

### 1. Pillar: Putting People First

#### Sector: Ensuring an Inclusive Society

#### 1.1 MPTF No. : 91231 : Safer city in Slemani under policy priority area : Assure equal opportunities for girls and women

One of the main project objectives is to enhance capacity of duty bearers, in the intervention areas, and to respond to and prevent Violence against Women and Gender (VAW&G) in public space, in this regard UN WOMEN has contracted a firm to conduct the survey, analyze the data, and draft the initial reports on levels of harassment in Slemani. The firm, IDRC, was selected based on a competitive bidding process following UN standard procurement guidelines. The main activity conducted was the Women's Safety Audit. Maps of the Slemani public location have been provided by the municipality with the GIS information. Civil society members assessed through the map for identifying the most sensitive routes to the female of Slemani (Women and Girls) although all the locations are considered women are not feeling comfort they face harassment every were but the selected locations are the routes women are most sensitive. Designing the questionnaire form, civil society groups have been consulted about the questions should be included. Before starting the Woman Safety Audit (WSA) training and meetings were organized with the project Board and Core groups to have their inputs and potential ideas. WSA workshop was been conducted September 8th 2015 to the civil society 16 volunteer (including various age, level of education, etc). WSA conducted by the volunteers, according to the selected routes within Slemani public market (from Mawlawi street –Kaso mall –cinema location, Qrzdya street ) 2nd Baredaka –malwai---mhkjama – Emergency hospital and Qanat street 3rd Mzgwate gawra –Kaneskan --- Jumla bazaar up to Kaneskan main street. Follow up meeting with the civil society groups and gathering filled questioners from them, which included analysis of data. Questionnaire results have been analysed by the project team according to the data collected by volunteers in preparation of producing a final audit report to share with the local authorities. Work was also started on producing the Neighbourhood Upgrading plan and consultation was conducted with local stakeholders to develop a vision statement and objectives for the area. Vision Statement developed : "Space where business and people can work in harmony, safety and a good environment". Objectives of the Vision are :

1. Culture of prevention
2. Better coordination between stakeholders
3. Legal and regulation
4. Social – community contract/responsibility
5. Built environment/physical
6. Access and mobility
7. Focus on women and girls

### **Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:**

Concerns regarding working with local authorities who are not being paid – low morale, issues with attendance. Also delay in receiving the second tranche affected the continuity of project activities.

#### **1.2 MPTF No.: 91232 : Strengthening the care, prevention and reintegration mechanisms for children and young people who are contact with the law, including increased employment opportunities for youth released from detention, under policy priority area : Assure the development and inclusion of youth**

Following the agreement with the two local implementing partners in the Kurdistan Region (KSC and Harikar) Organization, 192 children in contact with the law provided with social reintegration services. In addition to that, 150 children in contact with the law during the pre-trial are provided with legal aid services. An estimated of more than 100 children released by the juvenile judge and kept under the supervision of the behavior monitoring unit at the juvenile court.

UNICEF in close cooperation with the Swedish Prison and Probation Service organized a study tour to Sweden and attended by Chairman of the Juvenile Care Council, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) , two members, social workers, juvenile judges, and police officers from the three Governorates of the Kurdistan Region to share experiences and good practices about juvenile justice in particular alternative to detention for children in contact with the law.

As a follow up to the Sweden study tour and the recommendation of the workshop in promoting alternative to detention, UNICEF and MoLSA continue to engage strengthening Juvenile Justice Coordination in all three governorates in KRG. The Juvenile Justice Task Force (JJTF) was established in three governorates. The task force consists of social workers from observation house and reformatory centers, juvenile judges, Juvenile Magistrate, Head of Juvenile detention, Director of Social reformatories, Human Rights Commission, public prosecutors, Juvenile police officers, and representatives of MoLSA, UNICEF, and a local NGO.

UNICEF, in close collaboration with MoLSA, developed the Terms of Reference (ToR) The Juvenile Justice task force aims at providing strategic direction and leadership to ensure Child Friendly Legal Procedures for children in contact with law - whether as victims or witnesses of crime or alleged offenders and ensure bottom-up link with Juvenile Care Council. The Justice for Children task force is set out to achieve the following:

- Reduce the number of children in contact with law in detention and ensure that deprivation of the liberty of a juvenile should be a disposition of last resort and for the minimum necessary period and should be limited to exceptional cases.
- Increase various alternatives such as diversion (directing children away from juvenile proceedings and towards community solution), restorative justice (promoting reconciliation, restitution and responsibility through the involvement of child, family member, victims and community), and alternative to custodial sentencing (counselling, probation and community services).
- Improve legal and social reintegration support for children in contact with Law.
- Promote and coordinate community and school based prevention to violence against children and Juvenile delinquency.

To achieve above mentioned, the Juvenile Justice Task Force (JJTF) will carry out the following tasks:

- Undertake systematic data collection of children in contact with the law including children arrested terrorism related charges and provide monthly statistical and qualitative analysis including bottleneck and trends on the situation of children, Social Workers, Reformatory and Observation houses.
- Provide quarterly briefings to Juvenile Care Council on the situation of children in contact with law and advocacy issues require JCC attention and support by Chair of Justice for Children Task Force.
- In line with national legislation, identify practical approach to implement alternative messages such as diversion (directing children away from juvenile proceedings and towards community solution), restorative justice (promoting reconciliation, restitution and responsibility through the involvement of child, family member, victims and community), and alternative to custodial sentencing (counselling, probation and community services).
- Coordinate with relevant department, agencies and ensure all children have legal representation and access to reintegration services.
- Ensure systematic case management for children in contact with law.
- Advocate for community based prevention strategy on violence against children at school and communities including IDPs and refugees camps.

The Juvenile Justice Task Force met twice in Erbil, Slemani and Dohuk to update on the situation of children in contact with the law, challenges and achievements and advocate for issues requires urgent action for the improvement of the Juvenile Justice system, including promoting alternative to detention measures. Three major achievements being made at the regional level through the advocacy made by the group with the Ministry of Interior:

1. Assign a Police Officer to be focal point at each district police stations in different areas of the three governorates where there are no Juvenile Policy officers to accelerate the investigation and diversion of children who are in contact with the law;
2. Provide social workers to the juvenile police centers to accompany children during investigation process;
3. The juvenile Police in Slemani equipped with two more caravans to have more spaces for children's investigation while waiting.

A Foster Care Pilot Project started in Slemani. A technical consultative committee and a local implementing group established to oversee the project implementation. In addition a legal consultation meeting organized by UNICEF implementing partner STEP's international legal consultant on 5<sup>th</sup> December. The meeting was attended by 12 Participants including juvenile judges, attorney general, Head of the Juvenile Police, legal representative of MoLSA, STEP lawyers, and UNICEF. Foster Care Consultation Group meeting held in November. Linkages between Foster Care Consultation Group and Juvenile Care Council established. The Foster Care Consultation Group is expected to report the progress in each Juvenile Care Council quarterly meeting.

With regard to providing reintegration assistance to children in contact with the law, two meetings were held with a team of the General Directorate of Social Reform to discuss the implementation modality and identifying an experienced National NGO to implement the reintegration program, this entail organizing a study tour on alternative to detentions for key stakeholders, and in this regard and in consultation with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, two countries were proposed for study tour on alternative to detention for children in conflict with law. The period from September till December 2014 concluded discussions with the local counterparts as well as the involved UN agencies to draft and prepare policy paper on alternative

care options for children and young people whom are unable to return back to their parents', the policy paper is being submitted to the Council of Minister for review and endorsement.

UNFPA has prepared the rehabilitation package in terms of psycho- social services to be distributed and used during the rehabilitation process and training activities. Capacity of 22 social workers from the reformatories of Erbil, Slemani and Dohuk was enhanced in screening risky behavior through a five days' training workshop. The training focused on enhancing capacity of the social workers in screening risky behavior and it is importance in the rehabilitation process. In this connection consensus has been reached over the training program of social workers and follow-up mechanisms on the three reformatories. A one day workshop been conducted on 9/11/2014 with the management and social workers of the three reformatories in Kurdistan. It was an orientation and planning workshop.

With the regard to reproductive health vocational, employability and life skills training provided for 50 juveniles in MOLSA vocational training centers, assessment of the Juvenile's vocational training needs in Dohuk and Slemani reformatories has been conducted by UNFPA, a program on After-release support services have been introduced and developed in coordination with youth centers and local NGOs and in term of providing technical assistance an agreement has been reached with American University in Beirut (AUB) to provide technical assistance on developing after release guidelines and capacity building of staff.

#### **Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:**

The delay in receiving second tranche has delayed implementation of some activities.

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#### **1.3 MPTF No. : 91233 : Physical and Socio-Economic Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Persons with Disabilities/Mine Victims and Community Based Mine Risk Education and Victim Assistance in Kurdistan Region of Iraq, under policy priority area : Assure the development and inclusion of youth**

UNICEF, in coordination with its implementing partner Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency IKMAA, visited 35 schools in Dohuk Governorate with a two-fold scope. First, assess the teaching methodology in place for the MRE messages, which form part of the formal education curriculum. Second, provide orientation to school teachers orient on how to engage with children in schools and teach them about MRE.

About 45 religious leaders in Kura town trained on MRE/UXOs. Leaflets and posters have been distributed by IKMAA among people visiting Kuna, a tourist area. The leaflets are used to orient the religious leaders about risk mitigation and prevention measures as related to the use of mines and UXOs. IKMAA worked with religious leaders to disseminate education and raising awareness messages through the mosques. The team from IKMAA visited mosques for field monitoring, to ascertain the degree and quality of participation and support extended by the religious leaders. 25 billboards have been displayed in 25 targeted Mine/UXO contaminated villages. Communities were selected based on the following main criteria: mine contamination, and number of victims in each village as per existing data. The billboards contain information on MRE focal point of the village, particular community mapping and mine contaminated areas in the village in Erbil, Dohuk and Slemani.

Acknowledging IDPs are on the move in areas at risk of unexploded devices, UNICEF supported the training on MRE held during April and May for 18 community leaders, and 45 NGO field staff from SCI and Harikar working in IDP camps such as Domiz, Akre and Darashakran in Dohuk governorate. The training was facilitated by



IKMAA. The training focused on type and history of Mines and UXOs, key messages of prevention, how to get help while at risk of mines in the field, guidance when you reach mines or UXOs.

In February 2015, UNDP signed the Responsible Party Agreements (RPA) with the implementing partners: Kurdistan Organization for Rehabilitation of Disabled (KORD), Diana Ortho-Prosthetic Rehabilitation and Vocational Training Center (DPLC), and Dohuk Ortho-Prosthetic, Rehabilitation and Vocational Training Center (PLCD). The RPAs regulate the implementation framework of the projects identified under each sub-output in Vision 2020 among the three KRG governorates. The RPA framework is 15<sup>th</sup> February –30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

- During the period of March – May 2015; a total of 234 Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) provided with Ortho-Prosthetic devices (both upper and lower limbs).
- A total of 1,104 PwDs provided with Physiotherapy services.
- A total of 415 PwDs provided with maintenance to their prosthetic devices (artificial limbs).
- A total of 471 PwDs provided with Mobility Aids (i.e. crutches, wheelchair, walker frame etc.)

Since the re-establishment of Mine Action Working Group in early 2015, two coordination meeting organized. There has been significant improvement observed among Mine action agencies and local stakeholders in terms of better coordination and information sharing of Mine Action activities.

#### **Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:**

The project was officially launched in September 2014; however, the Memorandum of Understanding signed between KRG and UN partners required additional interactions and consultations to reach mutual agreement on the division of responsibilities and mandate among parties. As a result, the first disbursement of funds took place in December 2014; in light of this, partners launched the plan of work towards the end of the year. The overall delay is approximately one-quarter long; to minimize any further delay and/or reschedule of interventions, UNICEF and its implementing partners have requested a no cost extension until 30 June 2016, which has been generously agreed by the KRG-Ministry of Planning. However, due to the delay in receiving the second tranche from KRG - MoP, some activities and agreements with partners are on hold until further notice.

#### **1.4 MPTF No : 91235: Kurdistan Centre of Gender Studies, under policy priority area : Strengthen laws against discrimination and their enforcement**

During the reporting period, there were many achievements by all the partners working on the Kurdistan Centre for Gender Studies (KCGS) comprising of UN Women, UNDP, Soran University and the High Council of Women Affairs (HCoWA). Despite all the challenges the below activities were carried out:

- Series of meetings of the KCGS board were organized to follow up on the progress and challenges.
- The KCGS has amended the ToR and the work plan according to the new timelines set for the activities and the upcoming trends.
- Deploying a UNV to support the activities of the KCGS related to coordination with the communities, networking and mobilizing.
- Five days Training for Trainers workshop by UNDP, helped develop the capacity of 8 trainers and enable them to understand the nature, purpose and methods of coaching, it further provided an

opportunity to practice training skills and raise awareness about the topics covered in the training.

- The KCGS has re-advertised the positions of Master Trainers-MTs, because there is a need to have more qualified trainers.
- The first round of the trainings have been conducted for staff of the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.
- Six other MTs have been selected to be hired by the center who will conduct the first trainings for the targeted institutions early October.
- The official opening event of the KCGS was organized on 2.12.2015 the reporting period with attendance of the Deputy Prime Minister, president of Soran University, Governor of Erbil, Ministers, UN Women and representation from other UN agencies and NGOs.
- UNDP has facilitated a session in the one day workshop conducted in June 4th 2015 explaining the structure of the center and operating tools and techniques. The UNDP gender specialist has supported the center with lessons learned and best practices of the GSC in Baghdad.
- Supported the center in developing the annual work plan
- Another round of ToT three days course with support from UNDP to the Management Team and stakeholders to orient them about the project and its objectives.

#### **Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:**

The key challenges of this project were the turnover of staff in UN Women and Soran University as the leading implementing partner for this project. Another constraint is the delay of processing the required paperwork and financial commitments.

### **1.5 MPTF No: 91236: Harnessing evidence for community mobilization to eliminate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), under policy priority area: strengthen laws against discrimination and their enforcement**

During the reporting the Heartland Alliance International (HAI), in close collaboration with High Council Women Affairs (HCWA) and UNICEF, completed the data collection process through field research and focus group discussions and managed to input all data into a system (specially designed data base) , such as Atlas. All the collected data was evaluated on rolling basis to allow for additional correction in the field if there are errors in the data collection (e.g. survey instruments not properly filled out or surveyor input is illegible). The survey included a total of 6,259 questionnaires from all governorates of Kurdistan Region.

HAI conducted four test runs of the data system prior to launching the survey, coinciding with key milestones in preparing and finalizing the survey instrument. These include: 1) entering data from the pre-test survey instrument; 2) entering data from the pilot test; 3) testing data input from staff to monitor and verify input controls upon collection of the first set of real data from the field. It is worth mentioning that 9 communities were mobilized to promote elimination and prevent FGM and this will raised the profile of the FGM elimination in the KRI policy making agenda.

The HCWA, in a close collaboration with the UN WOMEN in Iraq and Egypt, organized a study visit to Egypt including seven key senior officials from different Ministries and Departments such as Ministry of Endowment and Religious Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Directorate of Combating Violence Against Women, the High Council of Women Affairs, Kurdistan Religious Union, and a representative from the UNWOMEN. The main goal of the visit was to exchange experiences, challenges and lessons learned on the harmful traditional practices, in particular FGM that is practiced in both countries of Egypt and Iraq and especially in KRG.

### **Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:**

The implementation of this project has faced some challenges during the inception period. To ensure the ease of access of field research team to the determined areas of research, HAI Team, needed to obtain an approval from Asayish (the KRG police force) in each governorate for conducting the FGM research, as Asayish offices throughout the KR-I do not function cohesively as one entity. In Slemani, HAI had to obtain two Asayish permits, for Slemani city and for the districts of Ranya and Kalar. Delays in receiving the approval caused resultant delays with commencing the data collection process. Obtaining the permission letter for Erbil was the biggest challenge and prescribed protocols dictated by clearances by the Minister of Interior which was finally achieved letter. However, efforts by HAI to overcome this hurdle and accelerate the research allowed the project to keep pace with the agreed timelines

Security challenges added to the constraints as areas such as Makhmur, in Southern Erbil Governorate and those in very close proximity to Mosul in Dohuk governorate, such as Gardashin, Qasrok and Shakhan Governorate, were at heightened risk due to occupation of these territories by Armed Groups. Therefore teams were not able to conduct any research there. In August, Dohuk governorate was under Turkish airstrikes and in the targeted areas, the field research was discontinued.

Accessibility was another factor, some of the randomly identified villages were too far away, 3-4 hours' drive from a city, with hardly accessible roads or desolate e.g. remote villages, where HAI had aimed to collect 10 questionnaires each, in some cases only had two occupied houses. Therefore these territories were replaced by other easily accessible and more populated in the same governorate.

Finally, similar to other projects, the delay in receiving second tranche resulted in delays in implementation of some activities.

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### **1.6 MPTF No :91237: Promote civic, social and economic participation of dis-advantaged youth in Kurdistan, under policy priority area: assure the development and inclusion of youth**

ILO implemented a training workshop on vocational curricula design using the DACUM and Competency Based Training –CBT-approach. The duration of the workshop was eight days (2-9 December). Fourteen instructors from seven MOLSA- Vocational Training centers from (Erbil, Duhok, Slemani, Soran, Germyan,

Zakho and Swedish Academy in Erbil) participated in the workshop. The participants are currently working, under the ILO consultant guidance and supervision, on developing new CBT-Curricula for six occupations (Car mechanics, electrical wiring, Air conditioning, Mobile telephone repair, Hair dressing and Iron works in construction). It is expected to complete the development of the new curricula by the end of February 2016 to be piloted in MOLSA-VTC's in March-April 2016 to equip (300-400) disadvantaged youth with the vocational skills required in the labor market.

The ILO manual "My first Business"-MFB- translated to Kurdish –Badini during the period October-December 2015. First workshop on MFB conducted in Erbil for the period 3-8/October 2015. Twenty three participants from MOLSA directorate of loans were participated. The MFB manual in Kurdish-Sorani used for training. Based on consultation with Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the directorate of Loans, the workshop programme was modified to cover two topics instead of one. The first topic was on the technical content of the MFB manual and the second topic was on the management of loans to develop MOLSA staff skills in planning, implementing and monitoring the loans to the target groups.

UNFPA conducted TOT workshop on Life skills conducted for the period 6-15 December 2015, for twenty four instructors from seven MOLSA Vocational Training Centers in (Erbil, Duhok, Slemani, Soran, Germyan and Zakho and Swedish academy in Erbil). TOT workshop on Peer Education conducted for the period 19-23 November 2015. Twenty eight instructors from the youth centers of the Ministry Of Culture and Youth (MOCY) and some youth NGO have participated in the workshop.

#### **Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:**

As the project is targeting the disadvantaged youth in Kurdistan, the project faced the language barrier problem. All the manuals were translated to both Badini and Sorani Kurdish languages which caused the delay in implementing the capacity building programme. Even in the training workshops this problem affected the duration of the workshops and increased the costs. Another main challenge is the delay in receiving the second tranche due to the financial crises the KRG is facing.

#### **1.7 : MPTF No 91238 : Socio-Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Kurdistan Region, under policy priority area : assure equal opportunities for girls and women**

##### **FAO achievements during the reporting period:**

A target need assessment survey to identify strategic investments and interventions required revision is completed. Selection of 450 rural women and girls as beneficiaries according to the special criteria is completed. FAO conduct memorandum of understanding with NCARE/ Jordan to organize training course for eighteen Iraqi extension officers working with Iraqi local communities in KRI three governorates to upgrade their capacity in the field of food processing and bee keeping. The first training course of six TOT representing Erbil, Dohuk and Slemani governorates in the field of milk processing was conducted successfully in NCARE/Jordan during the period 15-19 Feb 2015. The knowledge gained by the trainees from the training course is expected to be transferred to other extension service staff and selected beneficiaries (rural women and girls). The second training course of six TOT representing Erbil, Dohuk and

Slemani governorates in the field of fruit processing was conducted successfully in NCARE/Jordan during the period 22-26 March 2015. The knowledge gained by the trainees from the training course is expected to be transferred to other extension service staff and selected beneficiaries (rural women and girls). The third training course of six TOT representing extension services in Erbil, Dohuk and Slemani governorates in the field of Bee keeping and honey production was conducted during the period 24-28 May 2015. The knowledge gained by the trainees from the training course is planned to be transferred to other extension service staff and selected beneficiaries (rural women and girls). A targeted needs assessment to identify the interventions required to promote agro-industrial development in the selected training centers was completed.

UNESCO achievements during the reporting period:

Based on the evaluation of NGOs proposals, three NGOs were selected namely; PGN in Erbil, KSDO in Slemani and Alind in Duhok. UNESCO requested from the three NGOs to resubmit their financial proposals in line with the scope of work. On 12 July 2015 UNESCO contracted the three NGOs to open ten community learning centers (CLCs) targeting 600 women and girls as per below distribution:

Governorate	Name of NGO
Erbil	Peace Generation Network (PGN), 180 women and girls
Slemani	Kurdistan Social Development Organization (KSDO), 180 women and girls
Duhok	Alind organization for youth democratizing 240 women and girls

UNESCO agreed with the above mentioned NGOs on eight months of overall implementation period as agreed with MoE. During the reporting period, the below activities were implemented in Erbil, Slemani and Duhok governorates:

- The three NGOs continued delivered literacy and life skills classes;
- Around 95% of the learners are able to read and write with 40% learning basic mathematics (adding, subtracting, among others)
- Delivered 60 hours of literacy classes for reading, writing, mathematics, and sociology with an average of 12 hours per week in each governorate.
- Delivered at least 4 hours per week hours of psychosocial and health information per literacy class in each governorate. These orientation sessions provide the students with information about how to take good care of their health and the health of their children and thus reduce disease and pay attention to hygiene in addition to their psychosocial health in each governorate.

- Around 80% of students performed well in the literacy tests and exams based on teachers' records in each governorate.
- A budget of USD 90,000 is allocated as per the project document to provide literacy classes and life skills training in ten CLCs. As UNESCO received only USD 50,000 against the first tranche out of which USD 46,727 is allocated for providing literacy classes and life skills training in the three KRG governorates, each NGO contract was divided into two contracts of four months. The first contract was completed on 15<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2015. The second contract will be issued once the second tranche is transferred.

#### UNFPA achievements during the reporting period:

The field reports for Focus Groups Discussion (FGDs) on FP/GBV in the target areas for the project: Amedi (Dohuk), Binaslawwa (Erbil) and Raniya (Slemani) that were conducted on Aug. 15 were all sent to research leader from American University of Beirut (AUB) who will complete the final report and come up with the result at the end to inform and measure the level of accessibility, utilization and satisfaction of RH/ FP services in the above mentioned target areas. After the TOT training conducted on Sep.15 for 18 teachers nominated by MOE and Directorate of Education from Dohuk, Sleimani and Erbil. UNFPA conducted additional TOT trainings for social workers at the Vocational Training Centers in each of Erbil, Dohuk and Sleimani based on a formal letter from MOE sent to Zhian Org. who is contracted with UNFPA to implement the activities of the project. Thus 3 TOT trainings each 4 days training were conducted for the social workers in Erbil (9 participants: 6 females, 3 male) on 30 Nov. – 3 Dec., and Slemani (12 participants: 6 females & 6 male) and Dohuk (12 participants: 4 females, 8 male) both on 7-10 Dec. 15.

#### UN WOMEN achievements during the reporting period:

UN Women and High Council of Women Affairs have organized joint meetings and identified the key work plan to be implemented in the upcoming quarter. Participation in the joint managerial committee meeting to discuss the progress and the future plan. UN Women has developed a ToR and work plan for a consultancy (either through an NGO or a consulting company) to support the training the women beneficiaries on leadership skills and establishment of the 3 women associations in the three governorates in the targeted areas to facilitate social participation, acting as centers for information exchange and legal support among rural women. UN Women has made the required logistics and procurement arrangements to process with the advertisement of the consultancy and it will be processed once the targeted beneficiaries are identified by UNESCO. The local consultant hired by UN Women will start the required tasks by mid-January 2016 in coordination with the High council of Women Affairs.

#### Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:

Delay in receiving the second tranche of the fund affected the implementation of project activities as well as continuity.

### **1.8 MPTF No 01239 : UNV Capacity development and support to the Kurdistan Regional Government through volunteering, under policy priority area: assure the development and inclusion of youth**

The institutional framework for setting up a UN youth volunteering scheme has been set up. The coordinating unit is in UNDP, UNV unit, it is comprised by a Project Coordinator and a learning Officer. Over 2015, 13 Youth Volunteer assignments were opened and young people recruited to serve in 5 different agencies. Between June and October all of them started their one year of UNV service.

The project focus at the end of the year was promotion of the project among agencies and opening of new assignments. Based on these efforts 12 new requests have been made. The project includes a capacity building component based on a specially designed Learning Strategy for this volunteering scheme. The Learning strategy was drafted and the support of the Learning Centre of UNAMI was sought in order to provide learning environment and support. The Learning Centre of UNAMI, being open to volunteers, provided unconditional support to the UNVs. In order to start the capacity building component in early 2016, a consultant has been recruited to finalize the strategy and deliver a number of training courses for the volunteers.

#### **Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:**

The project start was delayed by more than half a year which had an impact on the delivery. In the second part of the year the project started and was quickly regaining the time lost especially since UNDP-UNV recruited a full time project manager to manage this project. The schedule was adjusted in order to reflect more realistic expectations, considering the delay.

Agency engagement: UN agencies were less easily persuaded to open new UNV assignment than it was anticipated. This challenge was related to the amount of time and effort allocated for this activity which was more than planned. It was implemented successfully, however it consumed close to 4 months to open 13 assignments and to secure 12 new requests. This caused delay in the implementation of the capacity building component.

As for other projects, the delay in receiving the second tranche affected the recruitment of a number of UNV.

#### **Education Sector:**

##### **MPTF no. 91234: Piloting Child Friendly Schools with School Health and School Nutrition services to improve access to quality education in Kurdistan Region, under policy priority area: ensure access to all level of K-12 education**

Due to the high influx of IDPs and refugees into Kurdistan Region recently, the four UN agencies and the Ministry of Education were mainly engaged to respond to emergency needs. Therefore, the size of interventions may not ensure concrete results. Unfortunately, WFP was not able to start the project yet and WHO could not engage a consultant to commence the work. A project Manager was recruited by WHO during the Q3- 2015. Despite all challenges, UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP and WHO made the following achievements:

### UNICEF Progress during the report period

- 30 schools have formed PTA (parents' teacher association) to enhance community participation in school management and respond to the needs of the target schools.
- 30 schools were provided with continuous guidance and technical supports to activate the formed PTA during the first quarter through better enhancement of community participation in school management and respond to the needs of the target schools.

Three UNICEF field staff have been visiting the schools continuously, meeting with PTA members and guiding them on how to support school improvement through identifying the urgent needs and lobbying to respond to the needs.

PTAs played remarkable roles in supporting the target schools through: supporting cleaning campaigns, supporting minor renovation of schools, home visiting to follow up cases of students, organizing art and social activities and provision of needed supplies.

- UNICEF supported the organization of exposure visits for 11 PTAs members in who visited schools in Erbil which are successfully applying the CFS standards. Exposure visits took place between April and May 2015. As outcome of the exposure visits, it was agreed each of the 11 PTAs will maintain direct contact with the CFS schools in Erbil, to learn from their best practices to plan and operationalize the CFS standards and requirements.
- UNICEF provided approximately 250 reading books covering different teaching disciplines in November 2015. In addition, UNICEF provided and installed 120 projectors in the 30 target schools (4 in every school) to support the teaching and learning activities. Projectors and books were procured through other donor's contributions.
- Technical capacity of 29 admin supervisors enhanced to support the target schools to improve quality of education.
- All 1,000 teachers from 30 selected schools were trained, out of whom 150 are fully qualified to apply the teaching methodologies.
- UNICEF trained 72 school principals and assistant school principals on CFS approaches including School-Based Management (SBM) through four training courses, 6 days each. School supervisors and CFS facilitators monitor the performance of trained management staff to ensure target schools reach the level of endorsed CFS standards by MoE. Details follow:
  - 23 management staff in Dohuk from 14 to 19 March 2015
  - 49 staff members in Slemani from 28 March to 2 April 2015.
- In coordination with the Ministry of Education and the Fakher Mergasory Foundation, between May and June, UNICEF supported the math test of all schools in KRG using the international standards of the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS). Findings highlighted children who attend CFS schools had higher scores than their peers in schools where no CFS programme is in place.
- To support child-centeredness principle and strengthen the application of the CFS standards, UNICEF procured and distributed 268 lockers to 4 target CFS in Erbil. Lockers are an additional element contributing to promote the CFS approach as they help increase the quality of space available for children within and outside the classrooms. As a result, approximately 1,608 will benefit from this intervention
- During the third quarter of 2015 UNICEF, in coordination with the Ministry of Health, organized 17 training courses for 353 PTA members/teachers and supervisors. The training courses covered Gender, Human Rights, Health and Hygiene Promotion at school



UNFPA progress during the report period:

- Consensus has been reached on the developing Life Skills and Civic Engagement package for teacher training through a one-day workshop with the managers, supervisors, teachers and resources persons from Ministry of Education in three governorates. In the workshop agreement was reached on the process of developing life skills and civic engagement package for teacher training with detailed timeline and validation mechanism.
- A Life Skills and Civic Engagement package for teacher training has been developed by the American University of Beirut. Training of teachers for 14 teachers in CFS in Erbil took place from 01 to 10 October 2015.
- A Life Skills and Civic Engagement package for school clubs through peer education (extra-curricula) was finalized by the American University of Beirut. A consultative workshop took place on 25 and 26 October to introduce Life Skills and Civic Engagement, to teachers from CFS, education supervisors and CFS coordinators from KRG.
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WHO progress during the report period:

- WHO has recruited a full time national officer in November 2015 to follow up the project implementation activities, in addition to the recruited short term national consultant who was assigned to review policies and guidelines used for Health promoting school initiatives by MoE and MoH relevant departments and prepare a detailed review report with recommendations on the way forward.
- A plan of action on how to move forward with the implementation of the planned activities has been prepared in collaboration with MoE and MoH. The present school health policy and regulations in Iraq were formulated in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) requirements.

WFP progress during the report period:

WFP conducted assessment visits to the schools involved in the Child Friendly Schools project where 24 out of 30 schools have been visited. WFP staff investigated into the overall situation of school infrastructures as well as the nutrition services already available in the schools. The accessibility of such services was also looked at, by understanding the economic situation of the children enrolled in each school. The following table contains detailed information on the school visits:

Governorate	Schools Visited
Erbil	Kaniaw Lavin 11 Aylul Shanaz
Dohuk	Bawari Akre Malai Jazeeri Faqe Tairan Rzgar Sarwari Dude Zhuri Dinarta Susna Baquspe

### **Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:**

#### WFP:

The Agency faced difficulties in ensuring the relevance of project activities was maintained following the security and financial crises affecting Kurdistan. The project document was prepared at a time when WFP was implementing a successful school feeding programme in Iraq, which was moving towards a sharper government capacity development focus. At the same time, the lack of flexibility in amending the work plan made it difficult for WFP to engage with partners and government counterparts to introduce new activities which would allow WFP contribution to the Vision 2020 to adhere more to the new context. As a result, WFP conducted and will conduct further assessments before preparing an effective and relevant training, which will meet stakeholders' expectations and contribute to the achievement of the Vision 2020 objectives.

#### UNICEF:

To date, no instructions have been released by the concerned authorities to confirm the modalities of coordination and share of responsibilities between the principles heading the primary and intermediate grades at the same school location.

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### **Health sector**

#### **3.1 MPTF no. 91240 : Improving availability and access of quality Primary Health Care (PHC) Services in Kurdistan Region of Iraq, under policy priority area: improve the availability and quality of clinical services**

##### WHO Progress during the reporting period:

WHO initiated the implementation of several activities which will support the implementation of planned activities at the 15 health facilities. As per the agreement with Ministry of Health (MOH) focal points and Directorate of Health (DOH) focal points, WHO conducted an orientation and planning workshop from 17-20<sup>th</sup> November for Erbil governorate. 33 Participants from the MOH KRG, DOH Erbil governorate and the health facilities staff of the five selected facilities participated in the four days' workshop. The objective of the workshop was to orient the health staff at various levels about the basic principles of family practice, the mechanism which will be adopted with regard to implementation of 12 interventions which aimed to introduce and support the implementation of family practice. Similarly, the participants were introduced to the baseline assessment tools which have been used later at the health facilities in order to gather information about the current status of health facilities and helps in the identification of shortcoming and gaps related to all aspects of care. Furthermore, an arrangement on how to implement and monitor the implementation of the 12 interventions was agreed and a team was assigned to co-ordinate and supervise the implementation.

The planning workshop was followed by a five days baseline assessment. One day was specified to make a visit to each health facility.

Likewise an orientation and planning workshop took place from 7-10 December in Slemani governorate. The workshop was attended by 31 health officials from DOH Slemani as well staff of the five health facilities where family practice will be implemented. Four days workshop was followed by a baseline assessment which took place from 11-15 December 2015. The planning workshop for Dohuk governorate took place from 21-24 December 2015 followed by a five days assessment.

A high level two days workshop took place from 26-27 January 2015 in Erbil. The workshop was attended by 28 health professionals from all the three governorates i.e. by the Directors of 15 targeted PHC facilities and high level officials from the relevant departments of the three Directorates of Health (DOH). The meeting was facilitated by the technical officer from Primary Health Care department of WHO Regional Office for Eastern Mediterranean and the Technical Officer for Health System from WHO Iraq as well as the WHO short term consultant who apart from this workshop facilitated the above mentioned orientation and planning workshops. The current situation of the targeted health facilities including obstacles and constraints at all levels of the health system were presented by the representatives of each directorate which was followed by an open discussion among the participants. Several strategies which should be followed and implemented by various levels of health system including the central level MOH in Erbil were suggested and reflected in the plan of action which has to be executed by all the three DOHs. The meeting concluded with a well-defined plan of action reflecting the implementation of various key interventions over the period of eight months i.e. until August 2015. The implementation of the eight months plan of action is under implementation by the DOHs with specific focus at the five selected health facilities. Various health facilities are at various stages of the implementation of the various interventions as defined in the agreed plan.

#### UNICEF Progress during the reporting period:

UNICEF conducted training of cold chain staff on proper vaccine storage and management including introduction of new vaccines, in addition to the activities agreed in the joint framework of action, between December 2014 and February 2015 UNICEF assessed all 15 PHCCs selected at the project design stage, in coordination with the Directorate of Health of each target governorates (Duhok, Erbil and Slemani). As a result, UNICEF identified the main gaps and needs of each PHHC; findings from the field have guided the design and roll-out of the trainings for EPI and cold chain staff. UNICEF's visits complement the on-the-job site training and monitoring conducted by the Department of Health Services (DHS) on monthly basis. Training of 45 cold chain staff from selected health districts on proper vaccine management and cold chain knowledge and skills UNICEF conducted in coordination with the KRG-MoH, UNICEF undertook a need assessment mapping the training needs of the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) staff currently working at the PHCC level in Duhok, Erbil and Slemani. A three days training on different aspects of Immunization including Vaccine and Cold Chain Management conducted. This capacity building intervention has been organized into two sessions: the first training took place in March 2015, benefitting 30 EPI staff proceeding from 15 PHCCs from the target governorates. UNICEF trained 15 technicians and engineers from the selected health districts on cold chain maintenance in May 2015

Between December 2014 and February 2015, UNICEF held several consultations with the nutrition programme staff of the MoH and DoH from Duhok, Erbil and Slemani; the main purpose was to establish a coordination mechanism between UNICEF and MoH/DoH which will enable both partners to strengthen the KRG nutrition programme capacity, from service provision to nutrition surveillance. The consultative process led to the

establishment of an ad-hoc nutrition working group in February 2015, comprising representatives from MoH and DoH, and UNICEF.

UNICEF assessed the status of the nutrition care services for the treatment of Growth Monitoring (GM) among 15 PHCCs in the three target governorates; the assessment revealed gaps and needs in terms of staff capacity, application of standards and protocols for GM, and quality of care provided to children suffering from protracted malnutrition. Based on the assessment findings, UNICEF and MoH/DoH agreed on a plan of action that was rolled-out between the second and third quarter of 2015.

UNICEF Established 10 nutrition units in Erbil and Slemani by end of April 2015 at the PHHC level (1 nutrition unit/PHCC; 5 units in each Governorate). The target PHHCs feature limited space and inadequate capacity to provide growth monitoring screening services meeting the international standards as for space and anthropometric supplies. This type of intervention will have two main benefits: it will contribute to increase access to children in need of GM, and improve the overall quality of care. It is estimated 200 children will have access to improved GM services in Erbil and Slemani every month; indirectly, 30 medical and paramedical staff will benefit from the improved working conditions and refresher trainings, conducted in May 2015. In Duhok, the DoH provides growth monitoring screening services through a network of 5 nutrition units which have sufficient space and are adequately supplied to meet GM screening standards.

In coordination with DoH from Erbil and Slemani, UNICEF has developed a supply list comprising of Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) Tape, Height Measuring Tape, child length height measuring device, growth monitoring record .

Establishment of NRCs in hospitals of the catchment area : In coordination with the DoH, UNICEF assessed the Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) treatment services in Duhok, Erbil and Slemani during 2015. UNICEF's analysis offers a wide range of findings on the operational and functional capacity and needs of the existing Nutrition Rehabilitation Centers (NRCs) and provided support to 5 NRCs enabling those centers to provide treatment to over 30 malnourished U5 children.

#### UNFPA Progress during the reporting period:

A consultancy meeting held in Erbil during 2015 for the researchers who were trained earlier. The data collected, analyzed and sent to the consultant in American University in Beirut for final desk revision on findings. These sessions were with service providers, probing the RH service determinants which affect the services delivery, the participants were managers and decision makers in the targeted areas.

14 "FOCUSED GROUP DISCUSSION" sessions / each session 5-8 participant

4 team / 2 in Erbil, 1 in Slemani , 1 in Duhok participate in conducting these researches.

Erbil team 1 = 4 session

Erbil team 2 = 4 session

Duhok team = 3 session

Sulimanyhia= 3 session

Data analysis 2 days for each session ( 8 days for Erbil each team + 6 days for Sulimanyhia & Duhok team )

### **Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:**

The process required to recruit full time project coordinator caused delay in implementing WHO activities in time, the project coordinator was recruited during Q2 -2015 .

UNICEF: The swift change of security in Iraq challenged the regular planning of each UNICEF programme, including Health and Nutrition (H&N). Following three distinct waves of massive population movement during 2014, the number of internally displaced people reached estimated 2.2 million. To limit delays, UNICEF has strengthened the Health and Nutrition team, recruiting one international nutritionist and two medical officers who have been assigned to the KRG 2020 project for approximately 50% capacity.

Financial challenge: the delay in receding second tranche affected implementation project activities.

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### **3. Pillar: Building the Region Infrastructure:**

#### **Housing Sector**

#### **3.1 MPTF no. 91241: Strengthening Urban and Regional Planning in KRG, under policy priority area : improve land use regulation**

In order to Improve substantive and administrative capacities of staff within KRG and Erbil Governorate urban planning units, UNHabitat managed to lead the project in order to achieve the planned target in staff capacity building , institutional capacity building and structure .

project progress during the reporting period :

- **Structured Technical training**

To date, a series of experts delivered 17 lectures on technical subjects relevant to urban planning. The lecturers were held on a bi-monthly basis and attended by an average of 15-20 technical staff of MOMT. Trainees were requested to prepare 5 assignments where they applied the concepts learned to the context of KRG.

- **Resilient Infrastructure & Services**

This training was delivered in February 2015 following a special request by the Minister of MoMT to help local authorities address the IDP emergency crisis in Dohuk and other governorates. It entailed a 2 full day workshop in Dohuk, attended by 30 Government staff, and a lecture in Erbil.

- **GIS Training**

UN-Habitat delivered 2 intensive GIS courses of 15 working day each for a total of 21 trainees (210% of target). Detailed technical manuals were distributed.

- **DGPS training package**

Upon the request of MOMT and its surveyors, the Total Station training course was substituted with an intensive 2 week Digital GPS course designed for 12 surveyors that has been delivered in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> week of December 2015.

- **Basic IT skills**

A series of 4 package courses, of 16 working days each, were attended by 42 admin staff (70% of target).

- **English language**

these courses, organized upon specific request of counterparts, entailed 2 months in class, followed by 4 months of online self-tutoring. Two courses have been completed, for a total of 24 trainees.

- **Human Resource Management (HRM)**

A 5-day course training package was attended by 15 admin & tech staff (150% of target).

- **Procurement & Finance**

A 5-day course training package was attended by 15 trainees from different departments (150% of target).

- **Media & Communication**

A 5-day course training package was attended by 15 trainees from different departments (150% of target).

- **Leadership and Change Management**

A 5-day course training package was attended by 12 unit leaders and supervisors (120% of target).

- **Institutional Development**

The bulk of the meetings, brainstorming sessions and workshops were held in March 2015. Reports were completed by the Consultant in late June and submitted to MOMT in November prior to the Institutional Development retreat planned that has been conducted in February 2016. These include: Institutional Capacity, Assessment, Drafting of TORs, Annual Work Plan, and Performance Appraisal System.

- **Hands-on planning & mentoring**

The TOR for the design of a Satellite City was substituted at the request of MOMT by the drafting of a Planning Framework for secondary towns and villages in KR-I. Workshops were undertaken in the first half of 2015.

- **Hands-on planning & mentoring**

The Review of Erbil Master Plan was initiated in March 2015 with a series of facilitated workshops which aimed at identifying planning gaps. Two sites in the Buffer Zone have been selected for hands-on urban planning work.

- **Planning System Study & Visioning Baseline study of the planning system**

The study was completed in June 2015, and submitted to MOMT in February 2016 after to the Institutional Development retreat conducted in February 2016.

The below section present number of trainings sessions conducted and hours:

- **Formal Planning Lectures:** 17 sessions of 3 hrs. each, attended by an average of 15-20 trainees, for a total number of 41 staff for 445 cumulative trainee days.

- **Trainees Assignments:** 5 sessions, attended by an average of 24, for 95 cumulative trainee days.
- **Resilient Infrastructure in Dohuk:** 2 full workshop days, attended by 30 staff, for 60 cumulative trainee days.
- **ArcGIS course:** 30 sessions of 4hr each, attended by 21 staff, for 312 cumulative trainee days.
- **Human Resources Management:** 5 days of 6 hrs each, attended by 15 staff, for 75 cumulative trainee days.
- **Procurement & Fin. Management:** 5 days of 6 hrs. each, attended by 15 staff, for 75 cumulative trainee days.
- **Basic IT course:** 64 sessions of 3hr each, attended by 42 staff, for 672 cumulative trainee days.
- **English language:** 38 sessions of 3 hrs. each, attended by 24 staff, for 456 cumulative trainee days.
- **Institutional Development:** 9 sessions of 3hrs each, attended by 16 staff, for 108 cumulative trainee days.
- **Urban Planning Framework:** 9 sessions of 3hrs each, attended by 8 staff, for 69 cumulative trainee days.
- **Erbil Master Plan Review:** 30 sessions of 3hrs each, attended by 22, for 360 cumulative trainee days.
- **Site visits:** 7 sessions of 2-3 hrs. Each for a total of 9 staff, for 63 cumulative trainee days.

Overall, UN-Habitat delivered **249 training sessions**, for a total of 841 hrs. Attended by 322 staff (including English sessions of the on-going course) for a total of **3020 cumulative trainee days**. **The total number of trained staff of MOMT is 135.**

**Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:**

- Staff scepticism on taking part to a training programme that does not provide them an academic title which would help them advance their career within the Ministry.
- The limited timeframe for developing projects that require longer planning processes.
- Limited engagement of the leadership of the Directorate of Urban Planning of Erbil Governorate.
- Limited confidence of urban planning staff in the “political arena” of decision-makers.
- Limited coordination of MOMT with other urban institutions who seem to work in “silos”
- Difficulties in recruiting consultants willing to travel to Erbil in these times of geo-political uncertainty

**Sector: Water and Sanitation for a growing economy**

**MPTF no. 01242: Water Conservation and Demand Management through Public Awareness and Education Program, under policy priority area: complete an integrated water resources management plan**

During the reporting period Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) survey was conducted during the reporting period. The survey was done in coordination with Kurdistan Regional Statistics Office (KRSO). The draft results of the survey were released on Feb 2015. The objective of the survey is to understand the community knowledge regarding water conservation practices and hygiene practices and provide baseline information of the knowledge. Four days training course on project management took place in Erbil with participation of group from the members of the ministerial task force and governorates' task forces, from Erbil, Duhok and Slemani in the training course to build their capacity in project management.

The Task Force teams from Erbil, Dohuk, Slemani and Gerimyan, in direct coordination with the ministerial Task Force and UNICEF, have developed the key Information, Education and Communication (IEC) messages which will inform the communication and raising awareness events and campaigns. UNICEF and the KRG Task Force teams have closely worked together to review over 62 messages, huge amount of pictures and more than 12 videos and compiled it into 16 focused key IEC messages which will be disseminated through a community-based approach, including streets, mosques and governmental departments. This will enable the highest media and awareness outreach and coverage, to maximize the desired results.

Design and print out of the IEC materials was outsourced to a local advertising company, which UNICEF has already contracted through competitive bidding process. By partnering with the private sector, UNICEF seeks to ensure high quality standards of the dissemination materials.

Also during the reporting period, UNICEF had continued its coordination with the selected company; IEC materials shall be printed out and be available for distribution towards the end of 2015. In this connection, UNICEF has also developed two video clips informing on the importance to preserve the water resources of whole Iraq for the future generations; and raising awareness about efficient water consumption, and the actual costs families face due to poor conservation and management of the water at the household level.

During the third quarter of 2015 UNICEF has established new partnerships with local organizations in KRG, further endorsed by the KRG Task Force, to carry out the training of 42 local staff from different entities to participate in 2 training session on behaviour change, 2 training session on environmental journalism, 2 training session on ToT hygiene promotion as well as 1 training session on project management, as related to rationale use of water. A one day workshop was conducted in Erbil with participation from General Directorate of Water and Sewage / Ministry of Municipalities and Tourism, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, water directorate from the three KR-I governorates and Erbil governorate office. The workshop aimed to demonstrate to the taskforces members the importance of public awareness programs in the sustainability of services. It also built the capacity of the members on development of ToRs through the discussions and brain storming which resulted in reviewing and approving the ToR of the established ministerial task force and established governorate task force units.

**Challenges and issues faced during implementation within the reporting period:**



The approval of the video clips and IEC messages required additional consultations with the KRG counterparts, postponing the start of the IEC campaigns. In light of these specific circumstances, the KRG 2020 Steering Committee, in close dialogue and coordination with the other relevant KRG counterparts and UNICEF, have concurred on extending the duration of the WASH project until end of June 2016. This extension will enable UNICEF and the KRG WASH Task Forces to fully roll out the raising awareness and IEC campaigns.

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#### **4. Pillar: Putting Government to work for the People**

Sector: effective and honest government.

**MPTFno. 91243: Capacity building and technical support for the Independent Board of Human Rights in the Kurdistan (IBHR), under policy priority area: create high level standards and ensure ethical behaviour by government**

Progress achieved by UNDP can be summarised as follows :

#### **Institutional development of the Independent Board of Human Rights through staff skill and capacity development**

Following the establishment of the IBHR in 2013 while the board was aware that it required staff capacity building it lacked information related to existing strengths and gaps related to staff expertise and skills. Resulting from the capacity needs assessment that was conducted in early 2015, the board was able to define its capacity needs and priorities with clarity. Informed by the findings of the capacity needs assessment UNDP conducted a series of trainings for IBHR staff. These include the following: One workshop to review law 4/2010 in -line with Paris principles with technical advice provided by experts from Canada, South Africa and Palestine; Basic human rights training on international human rights treaty monitoring mechanisms, the role of national human rights institutions, and the Paris Principles; One Detention monitoring training to staff of the board on monitoring, reporting and risk assessment; one day workshop on media monitoring and reporting; and study tour for 26 IBHR staff to learn from the Jordanian National Human Rights Centre that underwent similar experiences to IBHR particularly on monitoring, documentation, awareness raising and conducting effective advocacy campaigns.

#### **Development of a strategic plan**

Similarly through a rigorous consultative process with the IBHR, a two -year strategic plan was development for the board clearly defining its direction of travel for the coming two years. Expertise of an international Human Rights expert was also sought to provide strategic guidance and technical advice.

#### **Conducting a review of the IBHR law**

Recognizing that the IBHR law required a review in-line with emerging priorities and changes with a specific emphasis on the increasing significance of IBHR as the independent human rights entity representing KR-I, a review of the law was also undertaken in consultation with IBHR staff, relevant government agencies and civil society. With the assistance of an international consultant a comprehensive analysis of the current law was conducted in-line with international standards and founding legislation and policies of 23 national human

rights institutions. A group of focal points were also identified to present the revised law feedback and review. The draft of the review law is ready for a final stakeholder consultation and review.

#### **Initiative to develop collaborations with the Human Rights Commission in Baghdad**

A draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was developed to discuss joint working modalities between the IBHR and the Human Rights Commission in Baghdad including to identify agreed reporting modalities from IBHR to contribute to Iraq's annual reporting to the International Human Rights Commission.

#### **Awareness raising and advocacy to promote IBHR**

As result of series of advocacy and awareness raising activities undertaken under this joint cost- sharing project between UNDP - IBHR, IBHR is now well known and a recognised independent human rights entity representing the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. These advocacy and awareness raising activities include meetings with a range of relevant officials and agencies including judiciary, police, prosecutors and parliamentarians. Meetings were also held with the IBHR regional office and senior justice sector stakeholders from Dohuk and Erbil governorates on 19 March, 9 April and 16 August 2015 respectively.

#### **Project activity review in-line with emerging priorities and changes**

IBHR constructively utilized the interim period covering the pending 2nd tranche, to conduct series of meetings with key personnel staff from the IBHR to review the project work plan activities, following a joint agreement in October, to conduct IBHR work plan review exercise. The rational for undertaking a review of the activity plan rests on the fact that the original activity plan for this project was developed before the establishment of the IBHR and since then many changes have taken place particularly related to emerging IBHR priorities and needs in the institutional and staff capacity development areas. For the work plan activity review exercise, assistant was also sought from the UNDP international consultant to provide technical advice and guidance. The revised work activity plan has been finalised as well as approval sought from the Director General of IBHR. All meetings related to activity work plan review exercise was planned in a way that did not incur costs and the International Consultant offered her time free of charge.

#### **Efforts undertaken by UNDP during the interim period pending 2nd tranche payment to continue IBHR support to institutional development and staff capacity building by developing synergies through similar on- going projects**

During this period UNDP also promoted and supported IBHR engagement in UNDP efforts to provide legal assistance and protect refugees and IDPs living inside of camps from right violations such as SGBV. This has resulted in IBHR extending its services to displaced populations living inside of camps to assist with cases related to rights violations across six legal aid camps in Erbil, Dohuk and Slemani. Further, these efforts have provided the IBHR an opportunity to have their own representation in the camps and report information and raise concerns related to rights violations directly with relevant entities. To this end six IBHR staff members were assigned to assist with refugee and IDP rights related cases. Additionally IBHR representatives assisting inside the camps also participated in a five -day training during 29 November - 3 December 2015, aimed at strengthening their capacity and knowledge in monitoring, documentation and reporting human rights violations in the camps. Knowledge gained from this training complements proposed activities under the revised cost-sharing project activity plan / output 2. The training provided useful skills to IBHR staff to carry out their duties effectively and in -line with international standards.

**Key Challenges and issues as it relates to project implementation:**

Highly volatile political and security situation resulting from operations against the ISIS and the large-scale influx of IDP and refugees fleeing the conflict in Iraq and Syria required IBHR staff to prioritize emerging needs stemming from this crisis. This imposed limitations and delays to overall project implementation.

Indefinite pending 2nd tranche payment since April 2015, imposed severe limitations and restrictions to overall project implementation during the reporting period.