



[UNDG Iraq Trust Fund]

ANNUAL PROGRAMME¹ NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2009

Submitted by:

UNOPS
Adam Styp-Rekowski (adams@unops.org)

Country and Thematic Area²

Iraq, Governance

Programme No: C9-20
MDTF Office Atlas No: 66950

Programme Title: Facilitating Reconciliation in Iraq through Constitutional Review and National Dialogue

Participating Organization(s):

UNOPS, UNAMI/OPCA

Implementing Partners:

- National counterparts (government, private, NGOs & others)
- Council of Representatives
- Iraqi Constitutional Review Committee (part of Council of Representatives)
- 2 Iraqi CSOs (in the reporting period)
- International Organizations, including NGOs
- None in the reporting period.

Programme Budget (from the Fund):

USD 6,033,807

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

² E.g. Priority Area for the Peacebuilding Fund; Thematic Window for the Millennium Development Goals Fund (MDG-F); etc.

Programme Duration (in months):

Start date³: 25th October 2006

End date: original: 25th October 2007; revised:
30th September 2010.

Budget Revisions/Extensions:

No cost time extension and budget revisions approved on: (i) 18th December 2007 (till 31st December 2008); (ii) 17th November 2008 (till 31st March 2009); (iii) 2nd February 2009 (till 31st December 2009); (iv) 17th November 2009 (till 30th September 2010).

³ The start date is the date of the first transfer of funds from the MDTF Office as Administrative Agent.

Introduction:

The Narrative Progress Report template is in line with the UNDG Standard Progress Report.

Building on continued efforts made in the UN system to produce results-based reports, the progress report should describe how the activities (inputs) contributed to the achievement of specific short-term outputs during the twelve month reporting period, and to demonstrate how the short-term outputs achieved in the reporting period collectively contributed to the achievement of the agreed upon outcomes of the Strategic (UN) Planning Framework guiding the operations of the Fund⁴.

In support of the individual programme reports, please attach any additional relevant information and photographs, assessments, evaluations and studies undertaken or published.

The information contained in the Programme Summaries and Quarterly Updates prepared by the Participating Organizations may be useful in the preparation of the Annual Narrative Progress Report. These Summaries and Updates, where applicable, are available in the respective Fund sections of the MDTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mdtf.undp.org/>).

Formatting Instructions:

- The report should not exceed 10-15 pages.
- The report should be submitted in one single Word or PDF file.
- Annexes can be added to the report but need to be clearly referenced, using footnotes or endnotes within the body of the narrative.
- Do not change the Names and Numbers of the Sections below.

NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

I. Purpose

- **Provide the main outputs and outcomes/objectives of the programme.**

The main objectives of the programme/project are to:

1. Provide support to key Iraqi governmental institutions, parliamentarians and politicians, and in particular the Constitutional Review Committee, to manage the constitutional amendment process and implement constitutional mandated laws.

⁴ E.g. in the case of the MDG-F, it is important to show how the programme relates to the UNDAF and how it aims to support national development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. The causal links and rationale between the joint programme, the thematic window of the MDG-F and the MDGs should be clearly stated. In the case of the Peacebuilding Fund's Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF), show how the programme relates to the PBF Priority Plan's objectives. For the UNDG Iraq Trust Fund, explain how the programme relates to the UN Assistance Strategy for Iraq, UN MDGs, ICI, NDS, etc.

2. Nurture a consensus-based constitution-review and implementation process by raising the awareness of the key issues in such a way that they are prioritised, internationalised and technicised and by providing neutral environment for and facilitation of dialogue between political actors.
3. Reach out to the wider Iraqi society to increase inclusiveness and transparency of the constitutional review and implementation process and foster national reconciliation through public outreach and support to civil society initiatives

The outcomes of the programme/ project are:

1. Technical and logistical Support to the Constitutional Review Committee

- 1.1 Iraqi governmental institutions involved in the Constitutional process are presented with an array of viable best practice options to guide the constitutional review and implementation process.
- 1.2 Improved management of the constitutional review process and implementation of constitutional mandated laws.
- 1.3 Enhanced capacity, both operational and technical, of the Constitutional Review Committee in order to ensure optimal discharge of its responsibilities

2. Consensus-driven Constitution Review through the facilitation of a neutral environment for dialogue

- 2.1 Enhanced process of dialogue between political actors, based on an improved understanding, in and out of Parliament, of options available for the resolution of divisive issues, leads to real consensus-based constitution making process.
- 2.2 Secure the support of influential Iraqi and international actors towards the constitutional process through intense coordination, awareness raising and dialogue.

3. Iraqi society aware and involved in the review process and efforts towards national reconciliation

- 3.1. Greater visibility of the efforts carried out by the Iraqi Government to conduct a transparent, inclusive and consensus-based constitutional review process.
- 3.2. Multi-stakeholder and other initiatives working towards the resolution of divisive constitutional issues, the contribution to cessation of violence in order to provide an environment for constructive dialogue and the support to the national reconciliation plan.
- 3.3. Empowerment of civil society to advocate their constitutional and national reconciliation concerns.

The expected outputs of the programme/project are:

- 1.1.1. Submissions to CRC for constitutional amendments and knowledge-based support on constitutional principles and practices to Iraqi institutions.
- 1.1.2. Improved management of the Constitutional Review Process.
- 1.1.3. Direct support to CRC for logistics and outreach.
- 2.1.1. Inter-party Dialogues and Study Tours.
- 2.1.2. Intensive and ongoing coordination with other international actors involved in the Constitutional Review Process.
- 3.1.1. Publications and Media events.
- 3.1.2. NGO Grant Fund.
- 3.1.3. Civil Society consultation and participation in the Constitutional Review Process.

- **Explain how the Programme relates to the Strategic (UN) Planning Framework guiding the operations of the Fund.**

UN Assistance Strategy for Iraq

This project directly contributes to achieving the fourth goal of the UNCT Assistance Strategy matrix: “To promote good governance and democratic processes, assist to uphold the rule of law and establish a human rights regime”.

UN Millennium Development Goals

MDG: 8

“Develop a global partnership for Development”, point 1, which “...includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction— nationally and internationally.”

Iraqi National Development Strategy

The Programme contributes to the following Iraq National Development Goals:

“Strengthening good governance and security”

International Compact with Iraq

Benchmarks/Indicators: 4.2.1. (Engaging with Civil Society)

II. Resources

Financial Resources:

- **Provide information on other funding resources available to the project, if applicable.**

Not applicable.

- **Provide details on any budget revisions approved by the appropriate decision-making body, if applicable.**

The following no cost extension budget revisions/time extensions were approved during the reporting period adding additional activities to the project.

(i) 2nd February 2009 (till 31st December 2009)

- Series of coordinated events that were to address the themes of federalism, hydrocarbon management and civil service reform ([April 2009 Roundtable in Erbil](#), [May/June 2009 Constitutional Conference in Baghdad](#), [Roundtable Discussion on Minority Rights Protection](#), [Roundtable Discussion on Water Sharing](#))
- [Study Tour of Constitutional Review Committee to India to examine Indian federal system](#)
- activities on support to peacebuilding community based projects in Baghdad and Kirkuk

(ii) 17th November 2009 (till 30th September 2010).

- activities prompting dialogue over sensitive political issues among various groups by the way of organising three High-level Conferences and two complementary roundtable meetings on Hydrocarbon and Water Resources Management;
- activities promoting civil society participation in discussion on Hydrocarbon and Water resources management in Iraq via Dialogue Grant Fund.

- **Provide information on good practices and constraints in the mechanics of the financial process, times to get transfers, identification of potential bottlenecks, need for better coordination, etc.**

In general, the financial process with the UNDG-ITF is very well managed as funds for newly approved projects are transferred in a few days after the official signature of the Project Document. There are no real bottlenecks and currently budget revisions are processed quickly. Moreover, the financial reporting on an annual basis facilitated the process compared to the previous practice of semiannual financial reporting. The on line reporting portal used for financial reporting of all the Multi Donor Trust Fund projects also helped improve the quality of reporting.

Human Resources:

- **National Staff: Provide details on the number and type (operation/programme).**

Programme staff:

- 1 National Project Officer (50%) – Amman
- 1 Field Associate (50%) – Kirkuk
- 1 Administrative Assistant (50%) – Amman

Consultants (programme):

- 8 Constitutional experts (support to round-tables)

Operation staff:

- 1 Field Coordinator (50%) – Baghdad

- **International Staff: Provide details on the number and type (operation/programme)**

Programme staff:

- Program Manager (50%) – Amman
- Governance Specialist (50%) - Amman

Consultants (programme):

- 8 Constitutional/reconciliation experts (retainer contracts)

III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

- **Summarize the implementation mechanisms primarily utilized and how they are adapted to achieve maximum impact given the operating context.**

UNOPS as the executing partner of UNAMI-OCS works by making the necessary financial, logistical and project management arrangements. The roles of UNAMI-OCS and UNOPS in the implementation process were clearly defined in the Exchange of Letters (EoL) document signed by the two agencies. The work plan of the UNAMI OCS three components: Continued advice and assistance with respect to the Constitutional Review itself; advice and assistance in the development of constitutionally mandated (or other, relevant) legislation; and advice and assistance in the design, formulation and development of Iraqi institutions that will support the constitutional framework, including, among numerous others, the Federal Constitutional Court and the Federation Council. The UNAMI budget supports regular OCS staff, while the project supports international consultants and experts to provide complementary advice as necessary. Implementation and administrative support to the project is provided by UNOPS, under the leadership of an international Programme Manager, based in Amman with frequent visits to Iraq. The Programme Manager coordinates not only operational and administrative support to the OCS team and activities, but also coordinates the implementation of activities directly under the responsibility of UNOPS. This comprises of the civil society component of the project. Under this component UNOPS works with NGOs partners operating in Iraq. Monitoring of

the grant project implemented by NGO partners working in Iraq is carried out through UNOPS field staff and (depending on the needs) additionally by external monitoring agent. The coordination and remote monitoring is carried out from Amman office. The Project Manager is supported by staff based in Amman and Project Associates in Iraq. Substantive and financial reporting is the responsibility of the Project Manager.

- **Provide details on the procurement procedures utilized and explain variances in standard procedures.**

UNOPS utilizes standard procurement process, including:

- a) Request for Quotations
- b) Invitation to Bid
- c) Request for Proposal

UNOPS procures goods and services in close collaboration with the Clients, Iraqi authorities, and the Beneficiaries. While the individual arrangements vary depending on the Client and the specific project requirements, the general modalities are:

Requirements

- Upon request of Client, and together with the Iraqi counterparts, identify the goods and services for UNOPS to provide or contract.
- Preparation of detailed specifications of equipment and services and work plan by UNOPS, based on inputs from and with the support of the Client, the Iraqi authorities and the beneficiaries.

Short-listing

- UNOPS has developed and maintains a database of known suppliers and service providers in Iraq (incl. performance assessment, capacity, registration in Iraq, etc.) and a roster of registered experts.
- Qualified and potentially interested vendors in the area can also be drawn from the local authority's relevant company registration offices.
- Alternatively, interested companies can be requested to submit their profiles in response to an Expression of Interest ad published in the Iraqi and/or international media (incl. internet).
- Where necessary and relevant, information on companies/vendors can also be drawn from other UN agencies and entities operating in Iraq.
- The short-list of companies selected to be included in the procurement exercise requires approval by the Regional Director, confirming that all relevant sources of information have been utilized for compiling the list.

Tendering Process

- UNOPS issues an Invitation to Bid/Request for Proposal to all short-listed companies, requesting them to submit an Offer/Proposal in line with the specific requirements. The document also stipulates the exact process of submission, receipt, opening, and evaluation of bids and it informs on the nature of the contract/purchase order the selected bid could result in.
- Requests for clarification received from potential bidders are responded to by UNOPS, if necessary upon consultation with the Client, relevant Iraqi authorities, and/or Beneficiaries.
- After expiration of the submission deadline, all Bids received are opened by a UNOPS Bid Opening Committee. The opening ceremony is open to observers from the Client, relevant Iraqi authorities, the Beneficiaries, as well as for companies participating in the tender.
- The evaluation follows UNOPS standard procedure, varying on procurement type and value, and should result in a recommendation for award of contract to the lowest, compliant bid. This recommendation requires approval by the relevant authority within UNOPS.

Any NGO applying for grants offered by UNOPS is required to register in UNOPS NGO data base. The registering entity has to feed in various data on the NGO history, composition, profile and registration in Iraq.

The registration, when finalized, is validated by UNOPS staff in charge of the DB. The DB is also used for disseminating Requests for Proposals with grant projects offered to NGOs.

- **Provide details on the monitoring system(s) that are being used and how you identify and incorporate lessons learned into the ongoing project.**

The overall monitoring and reporting of the projects' achievements is the responsibility of UNAMI-OCS. UNOPS shares responsibilities for the monitoring on components that are under its direct implementation responsibility: (i) support to the CRC (infrastructure, secretariat, public outreach), (ii) Grant Funds, (iii) for all of the project's components, operational, administrative and financial monitoring and reporting is under UNOPS responsibility.

Management and oversight of the project is governed by the normal procedures laid out in the programming manual of UNAMI-OCS and other reporting requirements agreed between UNOPS and the Governance SOT. UNAMI-OCS and UNOPS prepare periodic joint progress and final reports. UNOPS is responsible for preparation of the project's Final Financial Statement.

UNAMI-OCS and UNOPS monitor and refine the project implementation strategy through feedback from the CRC, parliamentarians, project partners, stakeholders and other concerned parties.

With regards to particular monitoring arrangements for the NGO grant fund projects, it was conducted, during the reporting period, as follows:

- UNOPS staff in Erbil, Baghdad and Amman
- UNOPS staff in Amman monitoring and evaluating activities based on the feedback from the field.

UNOPS is continuously evaluating the monitoring modalities and improving them on an ongoing basis. In the reporting period, UNOPS finalized "Guidelines for Grants Management" and "Guidelines for Civil Society and NGO Partners". The documents are addressed to UNOPS staff working on grants (former) and to NGO partners working with UNOPS grants (later document). They contain provisions on M&E and explain the modalities of UNOPS work in this field.

- **Report on any assessments, evaluations or studies undertaken.**

Not undertaken.

IV. Results

- **Provide a summary of Programme progress in relation to planned outcomes and outputs; explain any variance in achieved versus planned outputs during the reporting period.**
- **Report on the key outputs achieved in the reporting period including # and nature of the activities (inputs), % of completion and beneficiaries.**

Outcome 1 - Technical and logistical Support to the Constitution Review Committee

Output 1.1.1 - Submissions to CRC for constitutional amendments and knowledge-based support to Iraqi institutions

Completion: 81% *This is an ongoing process. The rate of completion reflects the achievement during 39 months of implementation, proportional to an extended 48-month project duration. However, the trajectory of progress is unlikely to be linear. The Constitutional Review Committee (CRC) of the Iraqi Council of Representatives concluded its work in January 2010, and its mandate officially lapses on 15 March 2010, together with that of the remainder of the Council of Representatives. The third CRC*

report was informally submitted to the Presidency of Iraq in July 2009, but as of the time of writing (13 March 2010), the report has not been formally received by the Iraqi Council of Representatives. This, in effect, means that the work-to-date of the outgoing Constitutional Review Committee will not need to be taken into account by the incoming Council of Representatives. The July 2009 Report acknowledges that a number of key constitutional issues, including the management of hydrocarbon resources, the Paramountcy Clause (Art. 115), the formation of the Federation Council, the status of Article 140 and Kirkuk, and the respective powers of the Presidency, governorates and regions within the Iraqi federation remain unresolved. It is unclear whether the incoming Council of Representatives will be able to muster sufficient political will to continue with the Constitutional Review Process in the short or intermediate term. The extent of political fragmentation of the parliament, to be verified by the official election results, will be determinative in answering this question. It can be said, in very general terms, that both ISCI and the Kurdistan Alliance will continue to favor the status quo of politically decentralized government, with perhaps an interest in marginal further decentralization, while the SLC, Iraqiya, the Sadrists and most Sunni nationalist elements favor a re-centralization of political powers. Consequently, it can be anticipated that the key issues identified by the CRC in the July 2009 report will remain deeply contested.

Progress/Results in the reporting period:

- a) OCS (now UNAMI OPCA) has closely monitored the discussions and, where relevant, provided inputs into the discussions aimed at facilitating a political agreement on the constitutional amendments under the Article 142 Constitutional Review Process. It should be noted that, in July 2008, the Constitutional Review Committee presented a second report in which it outlined a set of politically divisive issues on which a consensus had not been reached and which are identified as still-unresolved in the July 2009 report. These include the powers of the Iraqi presidency; the respective powers of governorates and regions vis-à-vis the center, the constitutional dimensions of hydrocarbon management, and the status of Kirkuk. In response, UNAMI OPCA and UNOPS launched a series of four roundtable discussions on the topic of federalism/hydrocarbon management (July 2008; November 2008; April 2009; June 2009), which were intended to provide key Iraqi stakeholders with an opportunity to debate and refine their respective positions in this area and to move toward a consensus-based resolution (also see below).
- b) UNAMI OPCA has also continued to offer technical assistance and one-off commentary on constitutionally-mandated legislation to be passed by the CoR, including the Law on Governorates not organized into a Region.
- c) Eight external international experts as well as one UN-internal expert (UNDP) have been engaged by UNOPS to support work of UNAMI in the areas of comparative constitutionalism/federalism; hydrocarbon regulation; water management; and reconciliation. The experts delivered papers on issues of federalism, comparative constitutional theory, hydrocarbon regulations, regional economic perspectives as well as reconciliation and disputed internal boundaries. Some of the experts supported roundtable meetings organized in 2009.

Output - 1.2.1 Improved management of the Constitutional Review Process

Completion: 81% This is an ongoing process. The rate of completion reflects the achievement during 39 months of implementation proportional to the extended 48-month project duration. Again, it should be noted that progress on this file is unlikely to evolve in a linear fashion. Major activities planned for the initial project under its 12-month duration were accomplished. The CRC's current mandate is valid until 15 March 2010, as mentioned above. However, it remains unclear whether the incoming Council of Representatives will form a successor to the Constitutional Review Committee in the short term and, even if it does, whether this Committee will have sufficient political strength to advance the key issues listed above. It should also be noted that the CRC itself has indicated the need for higher-

level political leaders, including the Presidency Council and the Office of the Prime Minister, to become involved in this process.

Progress/Results in the reporting period:

UNAMI OPCA continued to meet bilaterally with various elected political leaders and officials, including the Chairs of various CoR committees (such as the CRC, Oil and Gas Committee and Regions Committee), related to the Constitutional Review Process.

The Constitutional Review Committee of the Iraqi Council of Representatives submitted its Second Report to the “3+1” (President, Vice-Presidents and the Prime Minister) in July 2008 and its Third Report (final report) in July 2009, on which it then consulted with the Iraqi Presidency and heads of political blocs. However, as outlined above, this report has not been formally received by the Iraqi Council of Representatives as of the time of reporting (13 March 2010) The Third Report outlines a set of questions or challenges within the Constitutional Review Process on which the CRC has been unable to reach a political consensus. These relate to the very core of the design of the Iraqi state and include Article 140/the status of Kirkuk; the formation of the Federation Council or upper house of parliament; the paramouncy clause (Art. 115); the management of hydrocarbons; as well as the respective powers of the Presidency, federal government, provinces and regions.

Output 1.3.1 - Direct support to CRC for logistics and outreach

Completion: 100% in the previous reporting period.

Outcome 2 - Consensual constitution review through providing neutral environment for dialogue

Output 2.1.1 – Multi Party Dialogues (MPD) and Study Tours

Completion: 100% of the number of dialogues and study tours planned at the time of drafting the proposal. Additional activities were implemented in the reporting period.

Progress/Results in the reporting period:

- a) The roundtable multi-party dialogue on “Hydrocarbon Resource Management in the Context of a Federal System” was organised in Erbil on 7th and 8th of April 2009. The event was attended by app 140 participants representing GoI, CoR, KRG, KA and experts. During the course of the roundtable meeting participants discussed federalism and hydrocarbon resource management. Broad agreement was achieved among participants on Iraq’s future as an asymmetrical federal system, comprising the KRG and the various governorates. While outlining their perspectives, both sides emphasized their flexibility and willingness to compromise.
- b) The conference on the ‘Future of Iraq’. Was organized in Baghdad on 14th and 15th of June 2009. The conference was attended by app. 100 participants representing GoI, CoR, KRG, KA and experts. The participants of the conference discussed hydrocarbon revenue and water sharing. The participants stressed the existing broad agreement between the GoI and the KRG on the principle of revenue sharing, including automatic transfers. They also agreed that among the major outstanding issues that need to be resolved are definitive allocations of revenue to the GoI and the KRG, as well as the financing of strategic national projects by the central government. They underlined the need for establishing a national council for water resources to promote coordination in water regulation and management, and launching a coherent national water strategy and legislation that would effectively address environmental needs, agricultural needs, and electricity and oil production demands.
- c) UNAMI OPCA has held the lead in the Mission’s work on the Disputed Internal Boundaries (DIBs) and the development of options for the status of Kirkuk, which remains one of the key

outstanding issues under the Iraqi Constitution. It is currently anticipated that UNAMI's constitutional team will remain involved in this file, particularly as far as advice on constitutional and legal issues are concerned, in support of the Mission's work with the High Level Task Force and its potential successor institution under the new Government of Iraq.

- d) For the reasons described below in the section covering delays in implementation the following activities under this output could not be delivered or had to be modified: Roundtable on Minority Rights could not be delivered; Instead of a four-day Constitutional Conference, a Conference on the Future of Iraq (2-day) was organized focusing on issues of hydrocarbon revenue and water sharing; Separate roundtable on Water Sharing was not organized (it was incorporated in the conference on Future of Iraq); Study tour of CRC and Article 23 Committee was not organized (in May 2009, UNOPS and UNAMI organized a separate Study Tour of Article 23 under another project funded by the Federal Republic of Germany "Support to Reconciliation Strategies for Iraq").

Output 2.2.1 – Intensive and ongoing coordination with other international actors involved in the Constitutional Review Process.

Completion: 81% *This is an ongoing process. The rate of completion reflects the achievement during 39 months of implementation proportional to the extended 48-month project duration.*

Progress/Results in the reporting period:

- a) The UNAMI OPCA constitutional team acted as the Co-Chair of the International Legislative Roundtable together with the US and UK Embassies, until June 2009. The International Legislative Roundtable is a multilateral, monthly forum through which the international community in Baghdad shares information and coordinates advice to the CoR, as appropriate, on both legislative and constitutional matters. In light of the pending transition, no meetings have been held since June 2009.
- b) Coordination in Amman takes place through the Governance Sector Outcome Team, led by UNDP and where UNOPS is a member.

Outcome 3 - Iraqi society aware and involved in the review process and efforts towards national reconciliation

Output 3.1.1 - Publications and Media events.

Completion: 35%

Progress/Results in the reporting period:

- a) Publication on Northern Ireland experience for Iraq was printed in 500 copies. The publication was then distributed widely among Iraqi MPs, members of the Government, donor community in Baghdad. Official launch of the publication took place in the Northern Ireland Assembly in Belfast under auspices of NI Assembly speaker. The event was broadcasted by various media.- *See the publication (En and Ar) and the press release on the launch attached with this report.*

Output 3.2.1 - NGO Grant Fund

Completion: 100%

Progress/Results in the reporting period:

Activities planned under this output in the initial 12-month project implementation period were completed during previous reporting period. A report on additional activities implemented is provided below.

- a) A grant fund project on Peacebuilding in the Baghdad districts Nariya'a and Gayara was to be implemented via Iraqi NGO Culture for All. The implementation process started in 2008 but was put on hold by UNOPS at the end of 2008 based on suspicions that the NGO forged some of the invoices submitted to UNOPS with the midterm financial report. An investigation on the forged invoices was carried out in 2009 and resulted in the identification of financial irregularities in the NGO's accounting, including forgery of invoices. The project was terminated and the NGO was not reimbursed for the expense in question. More information can be obtained from UNOPS upon request from ITF or a donor.
- b) Phase II (co-funded by project C9-21e) built upon a participatory rapid appraisal organized by the NGO Insan Iraqi Society in 2008 with support of UNOPS. The 2009 intervention allowed to target some of the needs identified during the 2008 PRA process. The aim is to sustain peaceful coexistence and community cohesion in Rapareen through alleviating sufferings of community members and promoting peace-building. Two main objectives highlighted are: i) To increase cohesion between groups around a common vision for the development of their neighborhood through community participation and advocacy to local authorities and ii) To create an environment propitious to long term peace building by supporting quick impact initiatives directed towards youth and women.

Among the different activities implemented, below are the main achievements: 18 beneficiaries completed a business management training; 30 youth enrolled in mobile phone fixing training; 30 youth enrolled in computer maintenance training; 9 youth enrolled in a theatre training activity, where 3 theater presentation have been conducted; 53 women enrolled in decorative sewing activity and received training; 2 advocacy trainings and meetings with local authorities to present the reasons of the frustrations of the inhabitants of Rapareen subjects raised included the problem of garbage in the area and lack of garbage containers, the problem of sewage in the roads which are not paved where the water is accumulating, the lack of green areas among others.

Output 3.3.1 Civil Society consultation and participation to constitutional review

Completion: 100%.

Progress/Results in the reporting period:

Activities planned under this output in the initial 12-month project implementation period were completed during previous reporting period. Additional activities implemented are provided below.

- a) During the course of 2008, the NGO Al Yaqeen implemented a project on consolidation of the recommendations on constitutional review produced by Iraqi CSOs under the National Reconciliation Grant Fund. In the process of verifying financial reports from the NGO, financial irregularities including suspicion on forgery of invoices were found. The investigation process was carried on through mid 2009. The invoices submitted by the NGO were not reimbursed as a result. It is also suspected that the NGO has disintegrated in the meantime and no longer exist. More information can be provided by UNOPS upon request from ITF or a donor.
- b) A Request for Proposals for a Dialogue Grant Fund was launched in December 2009. The selected projects will be implemented by Iraqi NGOs in Baghdad, Erbil and Kirkuk. The grantees will work towards establishing effective dialogue and debate among various

stakeholders at a local, grass roots level, in order to sustain and support a broader, national dialogue over vital issues such as water resource and hydrocarbon management.

- **Explain, if relevant, delays in programme implementation, the nature of the constraints, actions taken to mitigate future delays and lessons learned in the process.**

The activities in this project were planned (requested by) in close cooperation with the principal Iraqi client under the Project, the Constitutional Review Committee of the Iraqi Council of Representatives. Hence, the design of activities within this project depends on full participation of the Iraqi CRC/CoR and GOI counterparts, including key ministries such as the Ministries of Oil, Water Resources, Finance, Planning, Electricity and others. They therefore cannot be implemented without their consent and active engagement. It appeared that in some cases of the planned 2009 activities the Iraqi counterparts were either not ready to engage in particular actions or were preoccupied by other political (elections) and security issues taking priority in their agendas. Therefore not all the planned activities could be delivered.

Another constraint and the reasons for not delivering all the planned 2009 activities was the very slow Constitutional Review Process run by Iraqi Constitutional Review Committee. The lack of progress was a direct consequence of the continuing political stand-off between the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional government. In addition, at critical times between 2006 and 2009, the country still suffered from open military hostilities. These factors resulted in partial shift of political attention, on the side of the Iraqi Government, to areas other than the Constitutional Review Process.

In late 2008, Prime Minister Maliki entered the constitutional debate with a demand for greater centralization, i.e. the opposite position taken by the KRG, which is seeking to preserve the *status quo* of the 2005 Constitution. In addition, the referendum effort in Basra, which, had it been successful, would also have increased demand for political decentralization, has stalled. This failure has led to a stronger focus on the constitutional dispute between the Maliki Administration and the KRG. It is unlikely that the Constitutional Review Process, as a whole, will make significant progress unless/until the challenges surrounding the status of Kirkuk and the hydrocarbon framework are resolved (see below). This, in turn, is not expected to happen prior to the formation of the next Parliament/Government, which is currently projected for the second quarter of 2010.

Consequently, not all the planned 2009 activities were completed. UNAMI and UNOPS have attempted to mitigate the implementation constraints by retaining, to the extent possible, flexibility in accommodating particular dates for key events. In order to maximize the participation, support and ownership of various political groups, detailed consultations were held with major stakeholders in the course of organising these events.

- **List the key partnerships and collaborations, and explain how such relationships impact on the achievement of results.**

The key partnership for this project is between UNAMI-OCS and UNOPS. Task division is clear and complementarities evident. While OCS is mostly engaged on the political and planning level and the provision of substantive and technical advice to the CRC, UNOPS has focused on setting the operational framework of the project, as well as preparing logistical support to the CRC and leading its civil society component.

- **Other highlights and cross-cutting issues pertinent to the results being reported on.**

Security: The security situation in Baghdad with regards to UN operational capacities was generally stable. However, it continues to pose immense challenges for the work of OCS, UNOPS as well as NGOs implementing grants on the ground. It has also created difficulties in the monitoring process.

Gender: Some of the projects implemented under NRGF contained specific references to women's rights and Article 41. In the course of the peacebuilding project implemented by the NGO Insan, the income generation activities were particularly focused on vulnerable women living in female headed households. The NGO also organized special social activities for women: An average of 60 women met regularly to take part in manual activities including ceramic painting and clothes and jewel designing. The activities were an opportunity for women to engage in dialogue during diverse sessions organized on diverse sources of conflicts identified in the community

Human Rights: During the course of NRGF implementation, most of the partners targeted issues related to human rights through discussions on the Iraqi Constitution (ex. art 46).

Employment: This project does not have a job creation impact, except on a very marginal basis. Notably based on the MoA signed between UNOPS and the CoR, the CoR was granted financial assistance to employ 27 temporary staff as well as a certain number of short-term staff (12 persons per month). Based on the MoA, the CRC can also hire 5 Arab constitutional experts who will advise the CRC from their home bases via videoconferences.

Environment: The project has no direct impact or link with the environment.

V. Future Work Plan (if applicable)

- **Summarize the projected activities and expenditures for the following reporting period (1 January-31 December 2010), using the lessons learned during the previous reporting period.**

The planned workplan for 2010 includes events targeting issues of hydrocarbon management and revenue sharing in the context of a federal state as well as distribution of water resources. This will include

1. May 2010 – 2-day conference in Baghdad;
2. June 2010 – complementary roundtable meeting in Baghdad;
3. July 2010 – 2-day conference in Erbil;
4. October 2010 – complementary roundtable meeting in Erbil;
5. November 2010 – 2-day conference in Baghdad.
6. In addition to that the Dialogue Grant fund will be implemented from March through September 2010.

- **Indicate any major adjustments in strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs planned.**

The above plan was drafted on the assumption that the elections would take place in January 2010. In reality the General elections were delayed and eventually held on 7th of March.

This situation added to the possible other delays that will be caused by formation of the new government. Any planned activities may not be feasible to implement until the government and parliament are formed. This will likely take several months. Consequently, it implies that only after the process of consolidation of parliament and formation of Government is completed it will be clear who are decision makers, hence the stakeholders to whom the activities should be addressed.

UNOPS and UNAMI are currently (at the time of writing this report) in the process of planning alternative activities that could be proposed if the planned interventions (listed from 1 to 5 above) are

not feasible to be delivered in the project timeframe. The SCSO will be approached with proposals once the planning process is completed.

VI. Performance Indicators (optional)⁵

- **Fill the table in this section to report on the indicators set at the output level as per the approved results framework in the programme document.**

VII. Abbreviations and Acronyms

- **List the main abbreviations and acronyms that are used in the report.**

OCS = Office of Constitutional Support

CFA = Culture for All

CRC = Constitutional Review Committee

CoR = Council of Representatives

CSO = Civic Society Organisation

MoA = Memorandum of Agreement

NRGF = National Reconciliation Grant Fund

GOI = Government of Iraq

PRA = Participatory Rapid Appraisal

SCSO = Steering Committee Support Office

I. Performance Indicators assessment

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baselines	Planned Indicator Targets	Achieved Indicator Targets	Means of Verification	Comments (if any)
<p>IP Outcome 1 (objective as per project document) Provide support to key Iraqi governmental institutions, parliamentarians and politicians, and in particular the Constitutional Review Committee, to manage the constitutional amendment process and implement constitutional mandated laws.</p>						
IP Output 1.1 Iraqi governmental institutions involved in the Constitutional process are presented with an array of viable best practice options to guide the constitutional	Indicator 1.1.1 Actual support provided to key Iraqi governmental institutions in managing the constitutional amendment and relevant legislative process (number and	0	N/A	8 international experts on constitutional and reconciliation issues hired during the reporting period. Around 30 days retainer contract each. 8 national experts.	UNOPS documentation.	There is no Planned Indicator Target for the reporting period.

⁵ E.g. for the UNDG Iraq Trust Fund and the MDG-F.

review and implementation process.	kind of experts, duration of assignments).					
IP Output 1.2 Improved management of the constitutional review process and implementation of constitutional mandated laws.	Indicator 1.2.1 Legal texts, policy papers, working papers, and other documents produced by project team and expert consultants to advise key players and institutions.	0	N/A	App. 10 working papers prepared by OCS and experts.	OCS, UNOPS documentation.	There is no Planned Indicator Target for the reporting period.
IP Output 1.3 Enhanced capacity, both operational and technical, of the Constitutional Review Committee in order to ensure optimal discharge of its responsibilities	Indicator 1.3.1 Direct support provided to CRC and other relevant parliamentary committees / structures, in terms of equipment, staffing, capacity-building.	0	N/A	100% of planned equipment/support delivered in the previous reporting period.	UNOPS documentation/reports, handover documents, MoA between UNOPS and CoR.	There is no Planned Indicator Target for the reporting period.
<p>IP Outcome 2 (objective as per project document) Nurture a consensus-based constitution-review and implementation process by raising the awareness of the key issues in such a way that they are prioritised, internationalised and technicized and by providing neutral environments for and facilitation of dialogue between political actors.</p>						
IP Output 2.1 Enhanced process of dialogue between political actors, based on an improved understanding,	Indicator 2.1.1 Level of participation (number, seniority, representation) from politicians, governmental representatives	0	N/A	1 Roundtable organized in Erbil; 1 conference organized in Baghdad. 240 participants in total, senior representatives of CoR, GoI, KRG and KP	OCS, UNOPS reports.	There is no Planned Indicator Target for the reporting period.

in and out of Parliament, of options available for the resolution of divisive issues, leads to real consensus-based constitution making process.	and independent experts, to seminars, workshops, conferences and study tours.					
IP Output 2.2 Secure the support of influential Iraqi and international actors towards the constitutional process through intense coordination, awareness raising and dialogue.	Indicator 2.2.1 Level of participation in coordination meetings, task group meetings, presentations by project team, from influential Iraqi and international actors.	N/A	N/A	UNAMI OPCA continued to act as the Co-Chair of the International Legislative Roundtable.	OCS reports.	Roundtables were held until June 2009, when the process was suspended There is no Planned Indicator Target for the reporting period and no baseline indicator obtainable.
<p>IP Outcome 3 (objective as per project document) Reach out to the wider Iraqi society to increase inclusiveness and transparency of the constitutional review and implementation process and foster national reconciliation through public outreach and support to civil society initiatives</p>						
IP Output 3.1 Greater visibility of the efforts carried out by the Iraqi Government to conduct a transparent, inclusive and consensus-based constitutional review process.	Indicator 3.1.1 Media reports and inserts on project-supported dialogue and reconciliation initiatives.	0	N/A	Publication on Northern Ireland experience for Iraq printed in 500 copies. Distributed widely among Iraqi MPs, members of the Government, donor community in Baghdad. Official launch of the publication in the Northern Ireland Assembly in Belfast under auspices of NI Assembly speaker. The event broadcasted by various media	UNOPS and media reports.	There is no Planned Indicator Target for the reporting period and no baseline indicator obtainable
IP Output 3.2 Multi-stakeholder and other	Indicator 3.2.1 Number and type of civil society	N/A	N/A	1 Peacebuilding peacebuilding/reconciliation civil society initiative supported in Kirkuk.	NGO reports. UNOPS monitoring	There is no Planned Indicator

initiatives working towards the resolution of divisive constitutional issues, the contribution to cessation of violence in order to provide an environment for constructive dialogue and the support to the national reconciliation plan.	initiatives supported through grants, and their impact on public's attitude and perceptions of the importance of the constitutional review and national reconciliation.			1 RFP for Dialogue grant fund launched (planned 3-4 grants in Erbil, Kirkuk and Baghdad)	report. TA provider reports.	Target for the reporting period and no baseline indicator obtainable .
IP Output 3.3 Empowerment of civil society to advocate their constitutional and national reconciliation concerns.	Indicator 3.3.1 Level of inclusion of civil society proposals in the final draft of the amended constitution.	N/A	N/A	.		There is no Planned Indicator Target for the reporting period and no baseline indicator obtainable .