



Iraq



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**IRFFI/UNDG IRAQ TRUST FUND (UNDG ITF)
ANNUAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2009**

Submitted by:

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Country and Thematic Area

Iraq

Governance

Programme No: C9-26

Atlas Award No: 54955

MDTF Office Atlas No: 66955

Programme Title: Support the Media in its Role of Fostering Peace and Democracy

Participating Organizations:

UNDP, UNESCO, UNAMI

Implementing Partners:

- *National counterparts (government, private, NGOs & others)*
 - Communication and Media Commission
 - Aswat al Iraq News Agency;
- *International Organizations, including NGOs*
 - Albany Associates;
 - IREX

Programme Budget (from the Fund):

UNDP: \$ 6,131,285

Of which:

UNDP outputs: \$ 4, 831,285

UNESCO outputs: \$ 1,300,000 under inter-agency agreement

Programme Duration (in months): 24

Start date: 26 November 2008

End date: 7 December 2010

Budget Revisions/Extensions:

One budget revision in progress

NARRATIVE REPORT

I. Purpose

The project promotes the development of an independent, pluralistic and professional media as a fundamental infrastructure to contribute to the achievement of good governance, and appropriate legislative and regulatory frameworks to enable this.

The project has three broad areas of intervention: to develop or strengthen participatory processes leading to sustainable media self/co-regulatory mechanisms and legislative frameworks enabling independent and professional media; to support the development of local content; and to identify key institutions – eg training institutions, regulatory bodies and professional entities – for targeted capacity building to enhance professionalism at editorial, technical and policy levels. A critical intervention was to have a baseline survey identifying audience trends and ownership/funding in the media sector, but this was not carried out as scheduled in 2009 and the need for this intervention was superseded in 2010 by the publication of such a baseline by the US media development NGO, IREX Iraq.

The project is located within the Governance Sector and the focus is Sector Outcome 3 (Strengthened Regulatory Frameworks, Institutions and Processes of National and Local Governance). It also supports efforts to strengthen national dialogue for reconciliation through constitutional review and enabling national dialogue. The Project is also in line with priorities identified within the ICI and NDS; the relevant ICI benchmark is ‘Engaging with Civil Society, with regulatory benchmarks including freedom of information legislation and legal support for media watchdogs. There are no media-specific MDGs but media development and relevant content support and respond to all of the Goals while the media itself has a central role to play in advocacy and citizen education.

II. Resources

Financial Resources:

The project has been funded through USD 6,131,285.00 earmarked for media development by the Government of Spain; following discussions at the Iraq Trust Fund, UNESCO was allocated USD 1,300,000.00 to lead the implementation of Outputs 1.3, 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7, under an inter-agency agreement.

At the end of 2009 UNESCO had delivered USD 69,589.75 and the two agencies are currently negotiating a re-phasing of the 2009 budget to 2010 and a reallocation of resources and budget lines. A first draft budget revision is expected to be presented to the ITF in late March 2010.

In early 2009 the project manager identified several potential bottlenecks and quickly implemented risk mitigation measures:

1. Limited access to stakeholders –

- Iraq’s non-permissive security environment means that access to project sites is limited and the UNDP-Iraq office is still located in Jordan, with slots in Iraq limited and often reserved for iconic events such as elections. In May 2008 to early 2009 the project manager was in Baghdad managing the UNDP election project in the run up to the Governorate Council elections and used the opportunity to access media project stakeholders.

- Empowerment of national staff - two national project officers have been recruited in Erbil (NOB) and Baghdad (NOC), joining a national project associate in Amman. The planned recruitment of a national project officer in Basra (NOB) was postponed until the security situation in Basra stabilized. The national staff members were selected because of their capacity to engage with new subject areas and their proven experience as self-starters and innovators in their careers. They are given autonomy to develop new project ideas and contacts, and the management style of the media project is horizontal, allowing for sharing of ideas and experiences. The project has been noted for its strategy of encouraging national staff to play a leading role in developing initiatives and following them through.
- Strategic partnership with national and international NGOs – in 2009 Aswat al Iraq achieved the status of a UNDP implementing partner, a milestone in the development of the country’s first editorially independent news agency. The project has capitalized on Aswat’s access to media professionals in Iraq to extend its networks across the country and in diaspora. The project has also teamed up with the US NGO IREX, which has an active media law working group and more freedom of movement, to jointly implement activities such as the twin events to mark May 3 (International World Press Freedom Day) in Erbil and Baghdad.
- Exposure of stakeholders to international trends in freedom of expression and convergent media – both cyber law and media development are predominantly Anglophone sciences and the Arabic speaking region lacks a critical mass of knowledge in this area. When lawmakers do not understand the converged relationship among ‘traditional’ and ‘social’ media, and the multiplicity of platforms that are being developed that enable Article 19 freedoms, they are prone to consider them as structurally, and therefore legally, separate. Such a perspective, when translated into law, has profound consequences for both governance and economic development. The media project therefore implemented several activities relating to convergent media, telecoms and cyber regulation, has initiated cross-sectoral debates on freedom of expression in the digital age, internet regulation, and creative commons; and has brought delegations from media, the judiciary, parliament, regulatory agencies and the private sector to specialist international conferences to introduce them to emerging trends in their professional areas and to encourage networking.

2. Media development is a relatively new area of intervention in transitional states – media infrastructure (human and institutional capacity) has traditionally been viewed as of less significance to humanitarian or development interventions than content. For this reason, many communications strategies or outreach efforts give priority to the message and the format rather than seeking to engage with media practitioners and institutions. The Media Project has worked with a variety of other projects – from Private Sector Development to Rule of Law – and other agencies through the UN Advocacy Working Group to develop interventions that build the capacity of Iraqi media professionals to engage with the various specialist subject areas covered by these projects.

3. Lack of business management capacity among independent media entities and freelancers – until 2003 media institutions were controlled by the government and the notion of editorial or financial independence was alien to the sector. From 2004 onwards, different international organizations, including UNDP, established media institutions and other civil society organizations with a view to encouraging a pluralistic and diverse civil society. The focus of these interventions was the content rather than the institutional capacity for sustainability. The media project has been working intensively with Aswat al Iraq, a news agency established in 2004, to build its management capacity to diversify its

revenue base. It has used the experience of mentoring Aswat to develop strategies for broader training of freelance journalists in small business development and management.

Human Resources:

The project team is made up of four national and international staff:

- One international project manager (P4) from January 2009 to December 2010, duty station Amman
- One national project associate (G6) from January 2009 to December 2010, duty station Amman
- One national project officer (NOC) from August 2009 to December 2010, duty station Baghdad
- One national project officer (NOB) from June 2009 to December 2010, duty station Erbil

According to its delivery report of December 2009, UNESCO fielded the following staff during the reporting period:

- One national consultant from August 2009 to December 2009, based in Erbil
- One international consultant from June 2009 to September 2009, based in Amman
- One international consultant from August 2009 to October 2009, based in Baghdad
- One national consultant from September 2009 to December 2009, based in Amman

III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

A significant amount of time and money was allocated to strengthening the management capacity of Aswat al Iraq news agency. It was established in 2004 and supported by UNDP through a contribution from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, the European Commission, and with capacity development provided by the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

The project manager is in regular contact with Aswat al Iraq and has visited the project site on several occasions. In early 2009 three legal identities were established for Aswat – Aswat al Iraq News Agency (registered as a news agency with the Kurdistan Journalism Syndicate and the Iraqi Journalism Syndicate), Aswat al Iraq for Media Development NGO (registered with the Government of Iraq) and Aswat al Iraq public limited company (registered in Cyprus). The reason for this was that UNDP has different modalities for engaging implementing partners from civil society (NGO) and the private sector (plc and news agency). An institutional relationship was established between UNDP and Aswat al Iraq NGO, with the NGO acting as the implementing partner but providing support to the news agency. The plc was established in 2008 by Thomson Reuters Foundation but it has been maintained as a safeguard for the constitutional independence of Aswat al Iraq news agency.

UNDP has also sought to introduce Aswat to new sources of funding and to broaden UN involvement with the organization. In May 2009, under UNDP supervision, Aswat al Iraq hosted a seminar on the relationship between media independence and the legitimacy of the electoral process to mark World Press Freedom Day. UNESCO and UNAMI were invited to participate in this event, which gave rise to a commitment by the Kurdish Government to support press freedoms in the run up to the Kurdish regional elections in July 2009. The Erbil World Press Freedom Day event coincided with an event in Baghdad, which was organized by IREX in collaboration with UNDP; UNDP ensured that the logos of UNAMI, UNESCO and UNDP were displayed at the Baghdad event and that copies of speeches by the UNESCO Director General were available at both venues (in Erbil and Baghdad).

From January 2008 UNDP has been supporting Aswat to develop a business plan and marketing strategy, providing in-house mentoring services and specialist business management consultancies. The organizational capacity improved to such an extent that the organization was approved as a UNDP implementing partner in January 2009. In June that year the agency came runner-up in an international media development award organized by the One World Broadcasting Trust and the Chair of the Board of Directors and the Managing Editor being invited to London to meet with OWBT.

In July 2009 UNDP organized a business development management consultancy funded by UNESCO to further develop a business plan and institutional development strategy and to support Aswat NGO in managing over USD1 million in grants for media development from the US Institute of Peace (USIP), UNESCO and the European Union. A review of stakeholder perceptions of Aswat al Iraq is being planned for April 2010.

Up to June 2009 the media project team was made up of the project manager and project associate, both based in Amman, although the project manager spent most of the first quarter of 2009 in Iraq and the second quarter (May – July) on a SURGE assignment in Gaza. Most of the project activity was focused on capacity development for Aswat al Iraq, although this changed in the second half of 2009 following the recruitment of the two national officers in Erbil and Baghdad (in June and August respectively) and the appointment of a new CEO of the Communications and Media Commission (CMC) in September 2009.

From the end of July until December, the project manager was in Iraq for 52% of the time, liaising directly with counterparts. UNDP played a leading role in coordinating a UN position on a draft journalism protection law and in ensuring that KRG delegates were invited to the USIP Conference on Incitement in the Media in Istanbul in September and the Iraq Telecoms 2009 conference in London in November. In August, UNDP was asked by the head of the Media and Culture Committee of the Council of Representatives to coordinate a UN delegation to a debate on media freedoms in Iraq and was personally thanked for its proactive role in facilitating dialogue among stakeholders.

The media project visited the CMC (the first UN Red Zone mission to the premises) to welcome the new CEO; three follow-up missions to the CMC were undertaken; an office has been set aside for the project; and the media NPO has established regular communication with Board Members. The project also visited the Ministry of Communication twice in Baghdad and was one of the first UN delegations to greet the new Kurdish Minister of Communication in September.

The Erbil NPO has established excellent relationships with the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Communication, and the Minister's Office wrote to the media project to thank them for ensuring that the Kurdistan Ministry of Communications was represented at the annual Iraq Telecoms 2009 meeting in London, a key venue for international telecoms investment.

Other letters thanking the media project for its role in promoting dialogue among stakeholders have come from the organizers of Iraq Telecoms 2009 and the Associate Vice President of USIP. Telecoms operators have also recognized the leading role that the project has played in bringing regulators, government and the private sector together to discuss telecoms regulation, while the CEO of the CMC has acknowledged the media project's role in facilitating dialogue between it and the Kurdish government to resolve issues ranging from licencing to spectrum management and interoperability among telecoms operators.

The media project has followed UNDP procurement procedures in all activities and there have been no variances in standard procedures.

IV. Results

UNDP Planned Outcome 1: Independent civil society and media enabled through legal and regulatory frameworks, professional development and strengthened indicators

Output 1.1: Increased dialogue and advocacy related to A38 legislation and A19 freedoms through the establishment of a media law working group – UNDP lead
Physical progress: 100% achieved

- Significant progress has been made in promoting debate on laws relating to freedom of expression and the right to information.
- The NPO Baghdad participated in a media law working group established by IREX in Baghdad and UNDP helped to coordinate an inter-agency response to a draft Journalism Protection Law. This included bringing representatives from Kurdistan to Baghdad. The event was cancelled by the CMC at the last minute, but it generated significant debate in the media.
- The right to information promoted by UN events on World Press Freedom Day whereby, in the run-up to the Governorate elections in Kurdistan, UNDP coordinated the UN activities and supported Aswat al Iraq to organize a seminar in Erbil focusing on the right to information as a precondition of free and fair elections.
- Follow up discussions have been held with the new Minister of Culture in Erbil and the media project is working on TORs for support to the drafting of right to know legislation in Kurdistan and Baghdad with the Media and Culture Committee and the Ministry of Culture in Erbil.

Output 1.2: Increased understanding by government and media on right to know, data protection, freedom of expression – UNDP lead
Physical progress: 100% achieved

- UNDP led the coordination of an event in Erbil in collaboration with Aswat al Iraq, UNAMI and UNESCO to mark World Press Freedom Day 2009. The global theme of WPF 2009, which is set by UNESCO, was the role of media in fostering dialogue and reconciliation and on UNDP's advice the seminar in Erbil focused on the importance of free and fair elections, validated through an independent media, as significant indicators of dialogue.
- Building on this, UNDP coordinated a UN and international agency response to the draft Journalism Protection Law, liaising with UN agencies UNAMI and UNESCO as well as the International Federation of Journalists, Article 19, Index on Censorship, IREX and BBC World Service Trust. A workshop was planned in Baghdad for 23 August with

invitations going out from the CMC to the international organizations and Iraqi stakeholders, including the Iraqi Journalism Syndicate, the Parliamentary Committee on Media and Culture, the IMN and dozens of Iraqi news entities and media professionals.

- A report was commissioned on the legal framework for media, internet and mobile telephony in Iraq, which was used as a basis for discussions with stakeholders from the Ministry of Communication in Baghdad and Erbil, the CMC and private sector operators.
- In June, the media project brought these stakeholders to Amman to attend a regional conference on convergent media and an expert seminar on mobile telephony. In November UNDP facilitated the representation of the CMC and the KRG at the annual Iraq Telecoms conference organized by the Ministry of Communication in London.

Output 1.3: Increased dialogue and reconciliation at community level through the provision of six small grants to community based media - UNESCO lead (no inputs provided)

- One grant to Aswat al Iraq has been made to support ongoing efforts to develop a business plan; budget revision requested.

***Output 1.4: Increased exposure of media professionals to global media development through the provision of seven small grants for scholarships and study tours – UNDP lead
Physical progress: 80% achieved***

- UNDP supported the participation of Iraqi and project delegation in the following events:
 - Arab Advisors Media and Telecommunications Convergence, Amman, June 2009
 - Albany Associates, Strategic Communications in Post Conflict Environments, London, June 2009
 - One World Broadcasting Trust Prize Ceremony, London, June 2009
 - University of London seminar on media development in post conflict environments, London, June 2009
 - USIP Preventing Media Incitement in Iraq, Istanbul, September 2009
 - IKNOW Women in Media, Amman, October 2009
 - Iraq Telecoms 09, London, November 2009
 - ARIJ Annual Conference on Investigative Reporting, Amman, November 2009
 - Copyright Reform in the Arab World, Amman, November 2009
 - Global Voices Arab Bloggers Forum, Beirut, December 2009
 - Article 19, Access to Information Laws in the Arab World, Amman, December 2009
- With regard to scholarships, UNDP has initiated discussions with academic institutions and the British Council to facilitate scholarships or research grants to media professionals and academics. Progress has been hindered by lack of access to academic institutions and increasingly stringent visa requirements.

Output 1.5: Availability of self-regulatory monitoring mechanisms at CSOs and media institutions – UNESCO lead (no inputs provided)

No activity reported; budget revision to be requested.

Output 1.6: Availability of quality media curricula at four media institutes and mass communication faculties –UNESCO lead (no inputs provided)

No activity reported in 2009; budget revision has been requested.

Output 1.7: Availability of media data setting the baseline for the media sector – UNESCO lead (no inputs provided)

No activity reported in 2009 and line item will be cancelled as IREX has a comprehensive baseline survey coming out in the first quarter of 2010 (initially planned for February, but now April 2010).

***Output 1.8: Increased capacity of independent news agency as a model for media in Iraq towards self-sufficiency – UNDP lead
Physical progress: 100% achieved***

- In January 2009, Aswat al Iraq achieved the status of implementing partner of UNDP and was registered as an Iraqi NGO.
- By the end of 2009, the Aswat Foundation had won contracts worth over USD 1 million for media development activities with the European Commission/Internews, US Institute of Peace and UNESCO.
- The Foundation has hired two project managers while some of the activities of the Foundation require some human resources from the news agency,
- Aswat al Iraq news agency has restructured its management and stringer base, using the RBM framework as a tool.
- The organization has developed a business strategy for 2010, including modules for communications and marketing and human resources development.
- In the course of 2009 Aswat al Iraq news agency cut its running costs to around USD 750,000, an almost 50 percent reduction from 2008. While between 2004 and 2008 Aswat was entirely dependent on UNDP support, in 2009 the news agency generated approximately USD 65,000 from multiple sources.
- Subscriptions for the news services reached 40 (national and international), generating over USD 80,000 in early 2010.
- In June 2009, Aswat al Iraq news agency was nominated for a Special Award for Media Development by the One World Broadcasting Trust and was runner up in this prestigious event after the Israeli Palestinian media NGO, Betselem (House of Peace).
- In September 2009, Aswat al Iraq was one of three Iraqi institutions recognized by the IHEC for its excellent, timely and impartial coverage of the regional elections in Iraqi Kurdistan. The agency was praised for its efforts in supporting democracy at a press conference organized by the Iraqi Journalists' Syndicate and the IHEC in Baghdad.
- The news agency has its own Facebook and YouTube sites, and wiki, and is developing strategies to incorporate social media, including Twitter, into its outreach and advocacy work plans. The agency is currently developing a business model that would enable it to

reduce its dependence on international funding by capitalizing on potential web-based revenue and is negotiating contracts with telecoms operators for headline services. In May 2009 Aswat al Iraq was selected by Yale School of Management as a case study.¹

Output 1.9: CMC functions within a strategic plan – UNDP lead
Physical progress: 50% achieved

- The appointment of the new CEO of the CMC in August gave added impetus to the project; a good relationship had already been developed with the CMC through the facilitation of dialogue between the CMC and IHEC over the monitoring of broadcast media during elections.
- This relationship was further strengthened when the project manager organized several red zone missions to the CMC HQ in Baghdad, the first undertaken by a UN mission, and invited the CEO of the CMC to a high level meeting with the SRSG Ad Melkert, the DG of the IMN and the CEO of the IHEC in October 2009 to discuss the regulation of media during elections. The NPO Baghdad maintains regular communication with the CMC and the project has been allocated an office in the CMC HQ. A formal letter to this effect has been requested to institutionalize the relationship between the UN and CMC.
- In November, UNDP facilitated a discussion between the CMC and the Ministry of Communications that is now leading to regular meetings between the two institutions on licensing of mobile telephony. The project has also initiated discussions with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and is facilitating the registration of the CMC to the ITU, which will open the way for direct cooperation between ITU and CMC.
- In November the project began discussions with CMC on a TOR for a change management review as the first step to develop a strategic plan. The TOR was finalized in January, bids have been evaluated and implementation is expected to begin after the elections.

Output 1.10: Identified gaps and opportunities related to performance of IMN – UNDP lead
Physical progress: 50% achieved

- Relations with the IMN have been slower to develop, partly because a Security Risk Assessment carried out by DSS concluded that missions to the IMN premises were not permissible and access to the Green Zone is a lengthy process for Iraqis. However a good relationship has now been established and the project is currently developing the TOR for the strategic review.
- The media project staff developed outreach material in the form of a brochure, participated as active members of the Advocacy Working Group and facilitated access to stakeholders from media and telecoms for other projects and agencies. UNDP was the lead agency in the drafting of the media sector background paper for the CCA UNDAF.

¹ <http://cases.som.yale.edu/voi/index.php?page=1&subMenu=>

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

UNESCO was the key project partner, but there was almost no delivery reported in 2009 and communication was difficult despite repeated efforts on the part of the UNDP project manager to receive updates. This had a negative impact on results, because the baseline survey was a critical strategic input that should have guided activities in 2009 and the lack of activity with the media faculties hampered developments with the media law working group. To offset this the PM was able to mobilize contacts within media partners to compile some baseline information about the media sector and commissioned a small survey on the use of mobile phones and internet in Iraq, which has helped to shape interventions in the UN Advocacy Working Group.

The CMC was the main national counterpart and efforts to initiate collaboration were slow until August 2009, when a new CEO was appointed. The UNDP project manager organized the security risk assessment (SRA) of the CMC and carried out the first mission by a UN agency to the CMC HQ in the Red Zone in September; this was followed by one more RZ mission in 2009 (others were cancelled following several mass casualty attacks in Baghdad), and excellent communications were established and maintained by the media project team. UNDP facilitated dialogue with between the CMC and the telecoms operators; between the CMC and the Ministry of Communication in Kurdistan; between the CMC and the IHEC; and between the CMC and the IMN.

In Kurdistan, the project had two key stakeholders - the Ministry of Communications and the Ministry of Culture. Following the elections in July, the UNDP PM met the new Minister of Culture; a planned meeting with the new Minister of Culture in December was cancelled because he was urgently called to the Prime Minister's office in the aftermath of a mass casualty bombing in Baghdad. However the UNDP project team received letters from his office thanking us for the work undertaken to facilitate dialogue with the CMC and other stakeholders in the area of telecoms and convergent media. The media project has established and built on excellent relations with the authorities in Kurdistan.

Aswat al Iraq is another stakeholder and implementing partner. The agency is on track with the development of a new business model and has successfully reduced its reliance on UNDP funding. In 2009 the agency cut its running costs from USD 1,355,000 to USD 750,000 in 2009, a reduction of 50% instead of 25% as pledged to the Board Meeting in 2008. Savings were achieved without any negative impact on the agency's work either in terms of quantity and quality. The agency also managed to generate USD 65,000 in 2009 through subscriptions and other services.

In 2009, UNDP was the main coordinating agency for media-related initiatives and an active participant in the UN Advocacy Working Group. Technical support and assistance was provided to AWG members by the media project team; for example to UNICEF for data on mobile telephony, UNESCO for the organization of an Arabic Bloggers meeting in Amman, to UNAMI for analysis of the media, and to UNESCO for the organization of World Press Freedom Day events in Erbil and Baghdad.

IREX, the US NGO, has been an active partner in UNDP-organized activities. IREX international staff have greater access to stakeholders and undertook most of the logistical organization of the World Press Freedom Day event in Baghdad. They were also involved in the organization of the planned conference on the Journalism Protection Law, which was cancelled because of political pressure on the CMC. IREX has established a Media Law Working Group and the UNDP national staff member regularly attends Red Zone meetings of this organization.

The Media and Culture Committee of the Council of Representatives is been strongly supportive of the media project, and invited UNDP to a special session at the COR on the Journalism Protection Law. UNDP is currently discussing with the Legal Committee of the COR to provide training on Freedom of Information.

V. Future Work Plan

UNESCO and UNDP are currently discussing a revised workplan for 2010 and this will be presented to the ITF in late March. This covers both the unspent funds from 2009 and the funds allocated for 2010. This report will therefore not cover outputs 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7 as these are currently under discussion.

Output 1.1: Increased dialogue and advocacy related to A38 legislation and A19 freedoms through the establishment of a media law working group

Activities under this output will focus on embedding Article 19 freedoms in activities carried out in collaboration with other projects, for example: Training in reporting on the extractive industries to support Iraq's application for compliance with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative; training in court reporting to support right to information as integral to access to justice; and training for women in multi-media production.

Output 1.2: Increased understanding by government and media on right to know, data protection, freedom of expression – UNDP lead

A workshop is planned for April bringing together the parliamentary committees responsible for media and legal drafting in Baghdad and Erbil. This will complement ongoing activities carried out in collaboration with IREX and the Media Law Working Group. Discussions are also ongoing with the Kurdistan Ministry of Culture on training for media professionals and with minority status groups for training in media production.

Output 1.4: Increased exposure of media professionals to global media development through the provision of seven small grants for scholarships and study tours – UNDP lead

Planned events are: Media and Telecommunications Convergence Conference, June 2010; and Iraq Telecoms 2010. Discussions are underway with the Ministry of Communication and the Private Sector Development Project for participants and agenda items.

Output 1.8: Increased capacity of independent news agency as a model for media in Iraq towards self-sufficiency – UNDP lead

The contract between Aswat al Iraq and UNDP has been extended to December 2010 to enable Aswat to spend the funds remaining in the budget line. Aswat has begun discussions with UNESCO to re-allocate some of its unspent funds to activities to support the news agency and this is also on the agenda for the budget revision discussions.

Output 1.9: CMC functions within a strategic plan – UNDP lead

Implementation of the six-month change management contract is expected to begin in April 2010.

Output 1.10: Identified gaps and opportunities related to performance of IMN – UNDP lead

The TORs for a strategic review of the IMN will be finalized by the end of March and implementation of a four-month contract is expected to begin in May.

VI. Performance Indicators

See Appendix 1

VII. Abbreviations and Acronyms

- CMC – Communications and Media Commission
- IHEC - Independent High Election Commission
- IMN – Iraqi Media Network
- MLWG – Media Law Working Group
- Plc – private limited company
- ITF – Iraq Trust Fund
- ITU – International Telecommunications Union
- UNAMI – United Nations Assistance Mission to Iraq
- UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
- USIP – US Institute of Peace
- WPFDF- World Press Freedom Day

Additional Information

- Media Project brochure: <http://www.iq.undp.org/UploadedFiles/HomePage/186c73a4-b0a0-47a1-a29a-41a0e09b6878.pdf>

Performance Indicators

Programme Title:	Support to the Media in its Role of Fostering Peace and Democracy						
NDS/ICI priority/ goal(s):	Engaging with civil society						
Sector Outcome	Strengthened national dialogue and civil society for reconciliation						
Project Outcome 1	Independent civil society and media enabled through legal and regulatory frameworks, professional development and strengthened indicators			NDS / ICI Priorities: By 2008 pass FOI legislation and policies on public disclosure mandatory for public officials and institutions; By 2008 pass media law to guarantee and protect the rights of media, watchdogs and other information sharing institutions			
IP Outputs	UN Agency Specific Output	Lead UN Agency	Partner	Indicators	Source of Data	Baseline Data	Indicator Target
IP Output 1.1: Increased dialogue and advocacy related to A38 legislation and A19 freedoms through the establishment of Media Law Working Group	Increased dialogue and advocacy related to A38 legislation and A19 freedoms through the establishment of Media Law Working Group	UNDP	INGO/Universities	Number of meetings; recommendations on policy and regulation	Article 19 and UNESCO publications on Iraqi media law and regulation	A19 Iraqi media law reviews	Four meetings; At least one draft policy or law submitted to regulatory or legislative bodies
IP Output 1.2: Increased understanding by government and media on 'right to know', data protection, FEX (KRG as a pilot)	Increased understanding by government and media on 'right to know', data protection, FEX (KRG as a pilot)	UNDP	KRG Ministry of Culture Media Institutions and NGOs promoting FOI	Availability of draft RTI policy circulated to stakeholders in KRG. A seminar is held on RTI principles for KRG authorities	A19 and UNESCO publications on Iraqi media law and regulation	A19 Iraqi media law reviews	Three-day seminar held by working groups to develop RTI principles for KRG authorities

Performance Indicators

IP Output 1.3: Increased dialogue and reconciliation at community level through the provision of 6 small grants to community-based media	Increased dialogue and reconciliation at community level through the provision of 6 small grants to community-based media	UNESCO	NGOs and CSOs	Number of CB media initiatives developed by grantees	UNDP project files; UNESCO's community radio and community multi-media centre documentation	NA	Six grants disbursed and implemented in the project cycle
IP Output 1.4: Increased exposure of media professionals to global media development through the provision of 7 small grants for scholarships, study tours	Increased exposure of media professionals to global media development through the provision of 7 small grants for scholarships, study tours	UNDP	Media and academic institutions	Number of applications that successfully complete study tours/scholarships	UNDP project files	NA	Seven grants for scholarships, study tours in the project cycle
IP Output 1.5: Availability of self-regulatory monitoring mechanisms at CSOs and media institutions	Availability of self-regulatory monitoring mechanisms at CSOs and media institutions	UNESCO	INGOs, CMC	Number self-regulatory mechanisms adopted	A19, BBC WST and UNESCO publications on Iraqi media law and regulations	A19 and BBC WST Iraqi media law reviews	Number of self-regulatory mechanisms adopted and monitored
IP Output 1.6: Availability of quality media curricula at 4 media institutes and mass communication	Availability of quality media curricula at 4 media institutes and mass communication facilities	UNESCO	Universities of Salaheddin, Suleymanieh, Basra, Baghdad	Number of media curricula reviewed / established	Visits to media institutions/available survey data; UNESCO journalism training curriculum	NA	Pilot model university curriculum developed and adopted by Salaheddin, Suleymanieh, Basra, Baghdad universities

Performance Indicators

facilities							
IP Output 1.7: Availability of media data setting the baseline for the media sector	Availability of media data setting the baseline for the media sector	UNESCO	Commercial organization/CMC	Baseline survey completed	UNESCO/IPDC media indicators	NA	Comprehensive baseline data is available
IP Output 1.8: Increased capacity of an independent news agency as a model for media in Iraq	Increased capacity of an independent news agency as a model for media in Iraq	UNDP	Aswat al Iraq	New business model for Aswat is available; reduction percentage of UNDP support to Aswat	Project records	Project reports	50 percent reduction of UNDP support to Aswat
IP Output 1.9: CMC functions within a strategic plan	CMC functions within a strategic plan	UNDP	INGO	Availability of strategic plan	CMC records	NA	CMC strategic plan is being used
IP Output 1.10: Identified gaps and opportunities related to Iraqi Media Network (IMN)	Identified gaps and opportunities related to Iraqi Media Network (IMN)	UNDP	IMN and INGO	Availability of assessment report (PSB performance of IMN)	CPA 66 plus reviews of IMN archives	CPA 66 plus IMN records	An assessment of PSB performance of IMN is carried out