



**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP
IRAQ TRUST FUND
PROJECT COVER PAGE**

Participating UN Organisation(s):
UNICEF

Sector Outcome Team(s):
Health and Nutrition

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Programme Title:
Support to the Government of Iraq's Multiple Cluster Survey -4 (MICS4)

Programme Number:
D2-32

Programme Description (limit 1,000 characters):

UNICEF assists countries in collecting and analyzing data in order to fill data gaps for monitoring the situation of children and women through its international household survey initiative the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS). MICS is one of the key tools used to monitor ongoing progress in the realization of children's and women's rights as enunciated by Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The survey is conducted globally on a three year (previously five year) cycle. To date, there have been three MICS surveys conducted in Iraq; the most recent one (MICS3) was carried out at governorate level in 2006. The majority of the indicators measured are related to health and nutrition but the data collected also include information on education, water and sanitation, demographics, child protection, HIV/AIDS, and gender.

The project intends to expand on the measurement of disparities across Iraq and improve planning at the local level. MICS4 will provide data that will be statistically relevant at the district level covering 36,580 households. The information gathered through MICS4 is expected to support national capacities of the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation (MoPDC) and concerned line ministries, and to update monitoring of their national Millennium Development Goals. Furthermore, MICS4 data will set the stage for trend data and updated information for policy formulation, better planning, and prioritized and targeted efforts to protect and promote the wellbeing of children and women in Iraq.

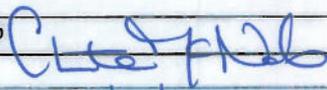
Programme Costs:		Programme Location:	
UNDG ITF:	US\$ 1,480,000	Governorate(s):	nationwide
Govt. Contribution:		District(s):	All districts
Agency Core:		Town(s)	To be determined
UNICEF	US \$ 698,300		
Other:			
TOTAL:	US\$ 2,178,300		

Govt of Iraq Line Ministry Responsible:
Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation/ COSIT and KRSO.

Programme Duration:
Total # of months: 21 months
Expected Start date: 01 April 2010
Expected End date: 31 December 2011

Review & Approval Dates	
Line Ministry Endorsement Date:	15 July 2009
Concept Note Approval Date:	27 October 2009
SOT Approval Date:	07 March 2010
Peer Group Review Date:	23 March 2010
ISRB Approval Date:	1 April 2010
Steering Committee Approval Date:	26 April 2010

Signatures of Agencies and Steering Committee Chair

I.	Name of Representative	Sikander Khan
	Signature	
	Name of Agency	UNICEF
	Date	27.4.2010
II.	Name of Steering Committee Chair	Christine McNab
	Signature	
	Date	27/4/10

National priority or goals (NDS 2007- 2010 and ICI):

NDS 2007- 2010:

- Goal 3: Enhancing Gender Equity and Strengthening Women Issues
- Goal 5: Reduce maternal deaths
- Goal 6: Full access to water and health services

ICI (as per the Joint Monitoring Matrix 2008):

- 4.2: Strengthening Institutions and Improving Governance.
- 4.4.1.4: Improving Health and Nutrition of all Iraqis as a cornerstone of welfare and economic development.
- 4.4.1.6: Reduce gender Discrimination, increase participation of women in public life and labour market.

Sector Team Outcome(s):

Health and nutrition policy makers and service providers at all levels have developed, reviewed and implemented policies, strategies, plans and projects.

Project Outcome(s):

Health and nutrition policy makers and service providers at all levels have developed, reviewed and implemented policies, strategies, plans and projects.

**Detailed Breakdown of Budget by Source of Funds and
Distribution of Project Budget by Participating UN Organisation**

Participating UN Organisation	Portion from ITF Budget (US \$)
UNICEF	\$ 1,480,000
Total ITF Budget (US \$)	\$ 1,480,000

Total budget (in US \$):	\$ 2,178,300
Sources:	
• Government	\$ _____
• ITF (earmarked) Korea	\$ 1,480,000
• ITF (unearmarked)	\$ _____
• <u>UN Core/non-core sources</u>	
• UN Org (specify: UNICEF)	\$ 698,300
• UN Org (specify:)	\$ _____
• UN Org (specify:)	\$ _____
• UN Org(specify:)	\$ _____
• UN Org(specify:)	\$ _____

1. Executive Summary

The Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) is a household survey designed to fill data gaps on human development, particularly in relation to children and women, and to measure progress on the MDGs and the World Fit for Children Goals. The majority of the indicators measured are related to health and nutrition but the data collected also includes information on education, water and sanitation, demographics, child protection, HIV/AIDS, and gender.

To date, there have been three MICS surveys conducted in Iraq. The results of the 2006 MICS3 provided much needed updating on the situation of women and children across Iraq at the governorate level. Valid and coherent data across Iraq are essential to ensure evidence-based planning, as well as to track progress against ongoing programs, strategies, national priorities, such as the National Development Strategy (NDS) and the MDGs. The fourth MICS (MICS4) for Iraq will help validate and update the information currently available from MICS3 and other surveys, providing accurate updated data, disaggregated by sex and rural/urban areas, for improved area-based programming targeting the most vulnerable groups of children and women. The survey will also be extremely timely to support the Government of Iraq (GoI), the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), and other development partners to measure progress against the current National Development Strategy (NDS) and to provide a baseline for the National Development Plan (NDP 2010-2014), the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS 2010-2014) and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2011-2014).

To expand on the measurement of disparities across Iraq and improve planning at the local level, it is proposed that MICS4 will conduct data collection that will be statistically relevant at the district level and the governorate level. This district level survey expects to cover 36,580 households, doubling the size of MICS3 (18,144 households). MICS data have been an important data source for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals with 20 MDG indicators collected through MICS3. MICS4 is expected to generate the same type of data to update the country situation for evidence based planning and monitoring. A trend analysis would provide a snapshot of the changes in the country situation and capture changes in key indicators, particularly the MDGs.

The project will be launched in three main phases: planning, implementation, and dissemination and advocacy. The implementing partners are the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation's Central Organization Statistical and Information Technology (COSIT) and the Kurdistan Regional Statistics Office (KRSO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Education (MOE), and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MOLSA). Based on the experience and the capacity built within the GoI, an exit strategy will be developed by COSIT and KRSO to undertake MICS5, which will take place around 2014/2015 as a fully government led and owned initiative.

2. Situational Analysis

Years of conflict, continuing violence, insecurity and political upheavals have affected every aspect of life in Iraq; the most affected are women and children. The crisis in Iraq has weakened and, in some cases, destroyed institutions and systems for physical, social and legal protection; thus contributing to the erosion of the protective environment for children and young people and exposing them to a variety of risks. Livelihoods and infrastructure have been deeply damaged. Availability of water, sanitation, and health care is far below national averages in some of the areas inside Iraq.

Data are essential for determining the situation and the needs of women and children across Iraq. Fortunately COSIT and KRSO have conducted a number of large scale national surveys over the past five years that provide the GoI, the UN, and other development actors in Iraq with a large variety of important data. These surveys include but are not limited to: the Iraq Living Conditions Survey (ILCS) in 2004, MICS3 in 2006, the Iraq Family Health Survey (IFHS) in 2006/7, the Food Security and Vulnerability Survey (FSVS) in 2004 and 2007, and the Iraq Household Social and Economic Survey (IHSES) in 2007.

With the exception of the Food Security and Vulnerability Survey (FSVS), all of these surveys were representative at the governorate level and used the same sample frame, making the data comparable between these surveys. The FSVS was the only survey that was representative at the district level. The GoI and partners agree that more data at the district level are essential in order to determine the situation and disparities across the country and to make that data useful for strategic planning at the local level. It will also help target interventions in those districts selected by UNICEF and other partners for support.

Achievement of nearly all Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is at risk, as are World Fit for Children (WFFC) and Education For All (EFA) targets. The enabling policy environment is weak since many policies are outdated and there is insufficient attention to vulnerable groups and rural areas. Civil society's role is underdeveloped and significant disparities exist between regions. The GoI has decided to prepare a second report to establish a baseline for monitoring the Convention on the Rights of Children (CRC); it also ratified both CRC Optional Protocols in September 2007. No measures are yet in place to implement relevant provisions.

During the Country Programme of Cooperation (CPC) 2007-2010, UNICEF programming in Iraq has built on Mid-Term Review (MTR) recommendations. It has shifted its focus to address important social policy and institutional capacity gaps through evidence-based research and analysis in the context of CRC, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and the MDGs. An important lesson highlighted in the MTR is that opportunities for achievement of the MDGs across 18 governorates vary widely. It is increasingly clear that achievement of the MDGs is possible if support systems evolve, with targeted area based programming, complemented by proportionate budgetary allocations for children and women. The area-based programming approach - employed since 2008 in selected governorates - is a useful foundation upon which to build downstream programming. MICS4 district level data will fill the existing data gaps and contribute to downstream policy planning.

As this is the last opportunity to measure progress of MDG attainment before the final assessment in 2015, MICS4 implementation is timely to fill the gaps with updated data. Furthermore, these data would be useful in UNICEF's focus on support to the development of a National Policy for Children, and strengthening of evidence-gathering and analysis at all levels.

Iraq is planning to undertake a national census in 2010 which will provide information necessary for the National Statistics Office to redraw the sample frame for future surveys over the next few years. IraqInfo, MICS and other parts of the national statistical system would be strengthened to create a robust child-centred knowledge bank and ensure effective development and application of tools for evidence-based decision making, planning, monitoring and evaluation. Data collected through MICS4 are expected to support national capacities of the MoPDC, and concerned line ministries, to update monitoring of their national MDGs and provide baseline information for policy formulation, better planning and prioritized efforts to protect and promote the wellbeing of children and women in Iraq.

The primary implementers of MICS4 are COSIT and KRSO, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, with support from UNICEF.

3. Lessons Learned, NDS and ICI Relevance, Cross-Cutting Issues, and Agency Experience in Iraq/in the Sector

Background/context:

The survey will provide key social indicators related to the situation of children and women in Iraq at the governorate and district levels. The statistics that will be generated will support GoI to report on the MDGs at the governorate level and provide them with informational tool to fulfil Iraq's commitment in regard to the CRC, CEDAW and MDG monitoring. This quantitative measurement will also contribute to identifying the gaps and the needed interventions to fulfil the commitments identified in the NDS and the ICI benchmarking. The survey will also support the GoI, the UNCT, and other development partners to measure progress against the current NDS and to provide a baseline for the NDP (2010-2014) process, the PRS (2010-2014) and the UNDAF (2011-2014) as well as the GoI/UNICEF Country Programme.

NDS and ICI Relevance

This activity is relevant to the NDS and the ICI benchmarking, in particular the findings of the survey which will enlighten policy makers concerning the gender gaps and provide information tool to enhance improving the quality of life of children and women in Iraq in general and gender equity, reduction of child deaths and full access to health services in particular. The project will support the GoI's implementation of NDS Pillar Two and Three (improving the quality of life) and the related ICI goals in regards to the activities for data collection and Monitoring and Evaluation. The baseline indicators provided by MICS will contribute to support the MoH strategic decision making process.

Lessons Learned

Past experiences in the implementation of MICS in Iraq have yielded the following lessons learned:

- It is essential to maintain the same indicators and the same metadata from one MICS survey to the next as much as possible in order to ensure availability of data that can be subject to trends analysis.
- It will be useful to have data down to the district level in order to support program planning, identify disparities, and vulnerable communities across the country.
- Review, translation of materials, layout and printing and distribution of all these materials take time and must be adequately factored into the timeline.
- The household questionnaire is long and taxing on both the interviewers and interviewees. The number of questions must be minimal while maintaining its integrity and covering all needed information.
- The Steering Committee and technical committees should be composed of a small group of technical experts in order to ensure high quality and efficient work.
- Once the results are checked and finalized, a preliminary report should be released for quick utilization of data (just-in-time data) without waiting for a print-ready version of the report for public distribution.
- Capacity building component should be built in to every stage of the survey to ensure increased capacity in carrying out such surveys in the future without external support.
- The need to develop an exit strategy as a part of the survey plan for full government ownership for sustainability.

Assessment of Cross-cutting Issues

Human rights: The human rights based approach to programming requires the use of disaggregated data by sex, age, and geographical area in programming and policy making, and thus shifting focus to vulnerable, excluded or hard to reach groups. MICS4 will be the platform for which to achieve such data. The results of the survey will identify the situation in regard to the rights of children and women, at governorate and district levels, including those in rural and urban areas, and thus ultimately will enable the GoI to identify the interventions needed to enjoy their relevant rights.

Gender equality: Gender inequality has resulted in various forms of discrimination in women's health and social status. A meaningful gender assessment cannot be done in the absence of sex disaggregated data. MICS provides data on girls and boys in key areas such as health, nutrition, education, protection, and disability. These data could form the basis for gender analysis which would provide evidence for intervention for gender equality. Similarly, the data on reproductive health, fertility, HIV/AIDS, and environment would provide important information on the health and social status of women in Iraq and consequently improve the enabling environment for better gender equality. The majority of the indicators measured will be disaggregated by sex.

Key environmental issues: The survey does not have any direct impact on key environmental issues, only indirectly on revealing their potential impact on children and women. The survey does however measure information related to water and sanitation issues in Iraq.

Employment generation: While this project is not directly concerned about employment generation, there will be an increase in temporary employment during the survey. However, the survey would provide opportunities for government employees, national surveyors and professionals to upgrade their capacity in

the field of data collection, fieldwork skills, data analysis and processing as well as research methodology. Capacity building in this area will be built in to the various stages of the survey plan.

Agency Experience in Iraq/in the Sector

UNICEF has been active in Iraq since 1983 and continues to assist the government to support and uphold the rights of children and women. In this regard UNICEF provides technical assistance to the GoI specifically in the areas of health and nutrition, water and sanitation, child protection education, policy development and planning. UNICEF is currently supporting the Ministry of Health by contributing to the GoI/NDS goals aiming to reduce the gaps in infant mortality rate (IMR), under five mortality rate (U5MR) and the maternal mortality ratio (MMR). This will be achieved through joint health and nutrition evidence based interventions contributing to the achievement of MDGs. Drawing on the synergy between health and nutrition, UNICEF in collaboration with other partners and sectors (Education: Water, Environment Sanitation and Hygiene, Child Protection, Strategic Communication etc.) will focus on supporting three interrelated, strategic results in the area of maternal, newborn and child health and nutrition; and evidence based analysis for policy and action; development of enabling institutional frameworks and accelerated national and sub national effective coverage of health and nutrition interventions.

4. The Proposed Project

The purpose of conducting MICS4 is to augment the ability of the GoI, UNCT, donors, and other development partners to strategically plan interventions towards reaching the MDGs, the NDP, the ICI, the PRS, and the UNDAF, ultimately benefiting women and children across Iraq. The project will be launched in three main phases:

1. Planning: This phase is a preparatory stage. Chaired by COSIT, a technical steering committee for MICS4 has already been established in Baghdad, with the first round of questionnaire review being accomplished. Also, the first regional MICS 4 planning workshop was held in October 2009, attended by officials from COSIT and KRSO, as well as the Ministries of Health, Education, Labour and Social Affairs, and the Mayorality of Baghdad. The Steering Committees and Technical Committees are charged with agreeing upon the scope of the survey, mobilising the necessary resources for its completion and agreeing upon the detailed work plan.

COSIT will establish and chair an expanded steering committee which will advise and oversee the coordination and implementation of the project to ensure smooth and successful implementation. Logistical preparation will also be initiated. From the GoI side, this committee will comprise of representatives/experts from MoH, MoE, MoLSA, MoMPW, Mayorality of Baghdad, the KRSO, and other relevant stakeholders that COSIT considers necessary.

After completing the first round of questionnaire review based on the country specific needs, the technical committee comprised of UN agencies, (i.e. WHO, UNFPA, WFP and other relevant agencies) with the government counterparts will review the questions for specific indicators that are needed for monitoring the status of children and women, especially in the context of MDG indicators. This is crucial given the number of surveys that are planned to be coordinated and implemented by COSIT and KRSO in the near future. Close coordination with other agencies implementing large surveys, such as the Women's Health Survey by UNFPA and Micronutrient Deficiency Survey by WHO, will ensure complementarity of data while avoiding data duplication.

2. Implementation: Implementation of MICS4 will be coordinated and conducted by COSIT, in coordination with KRSO, and in collaboration with other key government ministries – MoH and other line ministries. UNICEF Iraq is the focal UN agency, with WHO UNFPA and WFP as partners on technical aspects. The implementation of the survey activities is to be carried out according to the UNICEF guidelines on MICS, agreed work plan and budget. During this stage the following activities will be conducted:

- Pre-test of questionnaire
- TOT training of supervisors, interviewers and pilot survey
- Training of mappers and household listers

- Training of editors, data entry clerks
- Data collection from all sampled units in all districts in Iraq
- Field editing for all Questionnaires and monitoring
- Data entry and cleaning
- Data processing Data analysis and tabulation

3. Dissemination and advocacy: This phase, which will take place in the second year (2011), aims to inform policy makers at both national and governorate level, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and civil society on the findings of the survey and to advocate for national and international intervention to take action on the survey findings. This phase includes production of both preliminary and final MICS4 reports in English, Arabic and Kurdish. A workshop will be organized with the key stakeholders to discuss findings and advocate for the utilization of these findings at the governorate and district level planning.

Anticipated Outputs and Results:

The information generated from the MICS is expected to influence resource allocation and improved planning for the social sector and assist in monitoring social sector delivery to improve the well-being of children and women. The data will be disseminated widely and used by development agencies in monitoring country development indicators. UNICEF conducts this survey globally every three years in order to have comparative data on the situation of women and children across regions and continents. As such, the tools are developed and tested by UNICEF's Headquarters and are globally recognized. The survey will furnish data needed for monitoring progress toward goals established by the MDGs and the goals set by World Fit for Children as a basis for future action and to contribute to the improvement of data and monitoring systems in Iraq and to strengthen technical expertise in the design, implementation and analysis of such systems.

Output 1: COSIT, KRSO and relevant partners have increased capacity to develop, design, implement and supervise large surveys, such as MICS4, to obtain quality household data.

Main activities under Output 1

Planning and preparation, sample frame development, questionnaire development, translation and pre-testing, logistics preparation, piloting survey, training of trainers (TOT) for field work and training of interviewers, conducting and monitoring the field work, and data processing include the activities under the output 1. Each step of these activities was discussed in depth with the MICS focal points (COSIT and KRSO) and line ministry participants during the one week training held in Amman during October 2009. GoI participation in the second regional workshop and technical assistance (TA) support will contribute to building the capacity of national statistical agencies on survey planning, data collection, data entry, cleaning.

Output 2: Policy makers and planners, at national and governorate levels, are better informed on the status and needs of the children and women.

Main activities under Output 2

Data analysis and tabulation, preparation of preliminary report, conducting workshops for feedback on the report, finalizing preliminary report, producing final report in English and Arabic and Kurdish, printing and disseminating findings. Analytical survey report, including all indicator tables, in English and Arabic and Kurdish, will be finalized, disseminated and advocated.

Expected Impact:

(The results of the impact to be measured at least one year after the completion of the project)

The project is expected to improve the ability of the GoI, UNCT, donors, and other development partners to strategically plan and monitor interventions against the MDGs, the NDP, the PRS, and the UNDAF, ultimately benefiting women and children across Iraq contributing to the health and nutrition sector outcome.

Together with data from MICS1-3, MICS4 data will provide the opportunity for trend analysis which will contribute to monitoring and evaluation of interventions in the health and nutrition field. The updated data base will contribute to evidence-based results management leading to improved planning for delivery of social services for women and children.

This project addresses several UNDAF outcomes which are directly related to the Iraqi National Development Plan. The data gaps will be addressed by the new round of MICS4. GoI will have established an evidence base that will be available to key development partners for planning and decision making.

A major expansion and better utilization of data, including MICS4, national census, youth surveys and the IraqInfo system, would guide upstream policy work as well as enhance reporting on progress towards MDGs and national priorities. In addition, MICS4 district level data will fill the exiting data gaps and contribute to downstream policy planning. In order to achieve these expected results, the dissemination of findings and advocacy will need to go beyond the project period and UNICEF will collaborate with COSIT and KRSO to ensure that line ministries are updated with the latest MICS findings for decision making in improved service delivery for women and children in Iraq.

5. Results Framework

Table 1: Results Framework and Indicators

Project Title:		Support to Government of Iraq's Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey – 4					
NDS/ICI priority/ goal(s):		<p>National priority or goals (NDS2007-2010)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pillar Three: Improving The quality of life 2. Goal (3): Enhancing Gender Equity and Strengthening Women Issues (page 61 of the NDS) 3. Goal (5): Reduce maternity deaths_ (page 62 of the NDS) 4. Goal (6): Full access to water and health services <p>ICI:</p> <p>4.2: Strengthening Institutions and Improving Governance.</p> <p>4.4: Human Development and Human Security:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.4.1.4: Improving Health and Nutrition of all Iraqis as a cornerstone of welfare and economic development. 4.4.1.6: Reduce gender Discrimination, increase participation of women in public life and labour market. 					
Sector Outcome		Health and nutrition policy makers and service providers at all levels have developed, reviewed and implemented policies, strategies, plans and projects					
JP Outcome 1		Health and nutrition policy makers and service providers at all levels have developed, reviewed and implemented policies, strategies, plans and projects					
JP Outputs	UN Agency Specific Output	UN Agency	Partner	Indicators	Source of Data	Baseline Data	Indicator Target
National statistical agencies (COSIT, KRISO) and relevant partners have increased capacity to develop, design, and implement large surveys such as MICS4, to obtain quality household data	National statistical agencies (COSIT, KRISO) and relevant partners have increased capacity to develop, design, and implement large surveys such as MICS4, to obtain quality household data	UNICEF	COSIT, KRISO, Line Ministries (MOH, MOE, MOLSA, MMPW, MOM), WHO and UNFPA	<p>Number of supervisors, field workers trained on data collection (disaggregated by sex)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. on survey design, b. data processing, c. data analysis, and d. reporting (disaggregated by sex). <p>Percentage of staff satisfied with quality of training in terms of relevance and usefulness</p> <p>Iraq customized MICS4 questionnaires in English, Arabic & Kurdish completed</p>	<p>Training reports</p> <p>Post training participants assessment</p> <p>English, Arabic &</p>	<p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>NA</p>	<p>600</p> <p>15</p> <p>8 TOTs and 60 in-country staff trained in data processing, analysis and reporting</p> <p>80%</p>

				Percentage of data entry operators and supervisors trained on CSPro who rated satisfaction, relevance and utility aspects “high”	Kurdish MICS questionnaires Training report Post training participants assessment	No NA	Yes 80%
Output 2: Policy makers and planners at both national and governorate levels are better informed on the status and needs of children and women	Policy makers and planners at both national and governorate levels are better informed on the status and needs of children and women	UNICEF	COSIT, KRISO, Line Ministries (MOH, MOE, MOLSA, MMPW), WHO, UNFPA, WFP, IAU (representing UN agency members) Universities, line ministries and researchers	MICS4 report finalized in English, Arabic and Kurdish Number of Iraq government and Civil Society Organization (CSO) representatives participating at the MENA regional workshop on disseminating survey main findings % of workshop participants who find MICS4 informative and useful. Number of final MICS4 reports disseminated Number of advocacy interventions at governorate and national level (international level as well)	Final MICS4 report Workshop report Workshop report Project report Project report	No 0 0 0 0	Yes 40 100% 2,500 25

6. Management and Coordination

This survey will be carried out by COSIT and KRISO with support and guidance from UNICEF. As such UNICEF will assume overall responsibility and accountability for the management and implementation of the project. UNICEF will work closely with GoI counterparts in the day-to-day management of the project, and will be responsible for the production of outputs, achievement of objectives and for the use of UN resources. The management and implementation structure for the project will consist of a Project Steering Committee and Project Management Unit.

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be set up comprising representatives from COSIT, KRISO, relevant line ministries including MoH, MoE, MoMPW, MoLSA, Mayoralty of Baghdad. The PSC will be chaired by COSIT and will ensure that the project remains on track and is completed; determine priorities, review the project's progress, and ensure that funds are allocated accordingly; and set in motion the process of implementing of this project. It will also be responsible for overseeing the project's action plan, agreeing on the survey scope, methodology, the questionnaire, and the modality for analysis of the data. The PSC will also be responsible for resolving any emerging conflicts or problems and bottlenecks that could negatively impact the project's implementation. Since the project will also be implemented in Kurdistan, it is envisaged a Regional Steering Committee (RSC), which mirrors the overall project committee with similar functions, is established in Kurdistan. The RSC will identify its mechanisms of work and frequency of the meetings. The UN will work together with COSIT and KRISO to ensure as much as possible that the survey is well coordinated and the survey plans are harmonized to ensure consistency and uniformity of methodology is adopted across the whole country. RSC committee chair also participates in the PSC headed by COSIT. In addition to this, there is interaction between the heads of COSIT and KRISO on technical issues in the survey implementation. Both, COSIT and KRISO have assigned focal points for MICS for coordination between the two steering committees as well as UNICEF country office.

The Project Management Team will be comprised of staff within the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (PME Unit) of UNICEF Iraq while UNICEF Regional Office and Headquarters M&E Section will provide technical support. The project management unit will be in charge of the day-to-day management of the project, including the work plan, budget planning and oversight, drafting terms of reference for the acquisition of services and supplies and the oversight of operations in the field. Activities will be further developed with clear outputs and timelines and in accordance with results-based management structures and any deviation to the agreed plan will be dealt with in a timely and transparent manner. The Unit (PME section) will also be responsible for producing financial and progress reports as required. This Unit will have monthly meetings and will review the progress of the project, plan ahead and/or resolve problems and bottlenecks. The PME Unit will appoint a National Officer to follow up activities related to the survey planning, implementation, monitoring and maintaining documentation. All financial monitoring will be coordinated through this person. In addition to this, a National Consultant will manage the technical aspects of the survey and coordination between UNICEF Iraq Country Office, Regional Office, New York Head Quarters, COSIT and KRISO. This person will be responsible for ensuring that the technical quality standards of the survey is maintained, coordination of regional workshops and reporting to ICO,RO and NYHQ.

Implementation modalities:

UNICEF as the lead agency is ultimately responsible for the coordination of the Project, while the Steering Committee members are responsible for overall guidance to the process and the results. COSIT and KRISO are specifically responsible for the data collection and data entry, with support from UNICEF. UNICEF will maintain close collaboration with all Steering Committee members to engage them in each step from program proposal formulation till final execution of the program components. The implementation plan will include time frames and milestones to be achieved during the implementation period, including assessment of current situation identification of gaps, undertaking capacity building activities, of the sample frame, the questionnaire, and the data analysis. This plan will be used as the basis for future review of progress by the Project Steering Committee.

As stated above, the project management team in the PME unit will closely follow up the implementation of the survey. COSIT and KRISO will lead the implementation with close coordination on the timing of field operations. The regional workshops provide the overall guidance to maintain the standards as well as the global aspect of the MICS. The field teams, who are GOI staff, will be trained and deployed by COSIT and KRISO according to the survey plan as done in other MICS surveys. Three MICS surveys were implemented by GOI successfully and similar implementation modalities followed in the most recent survey (MICS3) will be followed in this round as well. An international consultant will be engaged in providing technical expertise in data processing, analyses, data interpretation, reporting and other needy areas as part of capacity enhancement that is in-built in this project.

7. Feasibility, Risk Management and sustainability of results:

Although the security situation in Iraq is improving it still remains unpredictable. As a result adequate caution will be exercised in the movement of national and international staff during data collection. The recent national elections and possible changes in senior GoI staff also might impact the project implementation since the project is headed by GOI staff. However, the core duties of the statistical offices (COSIT and KRISO) will not be affected and there are personnel with experience in conducting large surveys. To counterbalance any impact these factors may have, UNICEF will rely on its network of local Facilitators, staff from zonal field offices, and technical experts who will work in tandem with COSIT and KRISO data collection and analysis teams. UNICEF national and international staff in Baghdad, Erbil and Amman will provide regular oversight and guidance. Trained staff in COSIT and KRISO will be engaged in the survey that will provide continuity in the project implementation regardless of any political changes in the country.

Irregular electricity supply (cutting power) in the country poses another challenge that could delay planned activities. Back up plans (supply of generators, planning around the times power is not available) especially in the cluster room/data rooms could minimize the risks. UNICEF core funding under this project will be utilized to provide such backup plans in order not to hamper the work of data processing units.

The extensive field work with the increase in number of households in the sample could pose threats to reliability issues as the number of field teams is large, contributing to possible variation in survey responses. Well trained supervisors at the local level and smaller number of well trained field teams with close supervision could overcome the possible challenges. Training of trainers and field teams according to the guidelines, with clear field manuals as planned in the regional training would counterbalance this risk.

Finally, the project will be run as a joint project with the GoI, which will be required to take charge of some of the support provided and gradually assume total responsibility for the survey results. Unlike in the previous MIC surveys, this round of survey will have an element of in-built capacity development at every stage of the survey to prepare the institutional ownership for the next round.

7.2. Project Sustainability

This survey represents the fourth round of MICS surveys in Iraq, which, in all its stages, primarily engages the government at central and local levels as the main implementing partner responsible for its implementation and analysis, thus ensuring local ownership from the start. As part of the global effort to increase the availability of high quality data for MDG monitoring and beyond, the frequency of data collection through the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) will be conducted every 3 years. Several training workshops will be held to upgrade the capacity of the Iraq national team and provide them with best practices, up-to-date methodological techniques as well as exposing them to regional and international experiences. A well designed capacity development strategy and exit strategy built into the survey will contribute to the sustainability of MICS as well as other similar projects.

8. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting:

UNICEF's existing monitoring structures in Iraq such as the UNICEF's Field Offices in North, South and central zones, the Governorate-based facilitator network and field staff wherever they exist will monitor the implementation of the project on the ground with oversight from the PME Unit and the technical expert on board.

The Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation is the major partner and coordinator of the project. Progress will be monitored against expected outputs and indicators as detailed in the results framework in this project document. The regular meetings of Project Steering Committee and periodic reports from the technical expert hired, COSIT and KRSO will provide regular update on the progress of activities according to the MOU.

8.1 Reporting

Financial reporting will be done in accordance with the MoU signed with the UNDG ITF Administrative Agent (AA) for the amount received. UNICEF's financial management procedures for disbursement and liquidation of funds will be used and UNICEF finance team will regularly check on proper utilization of funds by partners and the ministries.

Quarterly reporting: UNICEF will submit quarterly progress reports and a monitoring schedule plan. The reports will be collated and finalized by the UNICEF PME Unit and submitted to the MDTF and shared with the Project Steering Committee.

Annual reporting: Narrative progress and financial report will be done in accordance with the MoU signed with the UNDG ITF Multi Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) office.

Annual Review Report: In the fourth quarter of the year, participating agencies will hold an Annual Review and the report of the review will be prepared by the UNICEF Project Officer and shared with the Project Steering Committee. This report will include a summary of results achieved against the pre-defined annual targets at the output level.

9. Work plans and budget

Work Plan for: Support to the Government of Iraq's Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey - 4

Period Covered by the Work Plan 01 April 2010 – 31 December 2011

Sector Outcome (s): Health and nutrition policy makers and service providers at all levels have developed, reviewed and implemented policies, strategies, plans and projects											
JP Outcome(s): Health and nutrition policy makers and service providers at all levels have developed, reviewed and implemented policies, strategies, plans and projects											
UN Organization-specific Annual targets	Major Activities	Time Frame (by activity)							Implementing Partner	Planned Budget (by output)	
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7			
JP Output 1: National statistical agencies (COSIT, KRISO) and relevant partners have increased capacity to develop, design, and implement large surveys such as MICS4, to obtain quality household data											
Planning and preparation completed	Technical steering committee established. Review of preliminary survey plan preparation completed.	X								COSIT, KRISO, MOH & relevant line ministries	-
Sample frame developed and finalised	Prepare sampling design and size; Technical consultant/coordinator review of sampling design and size; Selection of sample & listing of households; Review of sample selection; Creation of new PSUs; Training on mapping and household listing; Update PSUs and prepare household listing	X								COSIT, KRISO, MOH & relevant line ministries	156,325
Design of Iraq specific questionnaires finalized	Identify questionnaire modules & indicators; Translate questionnaire into Arabic language; COSIT review of Arabic translation, back translation of questionnaire; Translate questionnaire into Kurdish language; Back translation of questionnaire (Kurdish); Finalize preliminary questionnaire.	X	X							COSIT, KRISO, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, WFP (any other identified partners)	33,500
Logistics preparation completed	Prepare supply requirements; Prepare logistics requirements; Distribute supply requirements; Print supervisors and Interviewers' guide; Print questionnaires.	X	X							COSIT, KRISO, UNICEF	67,975
Pre-test of Questionnaires and Pilot Survey conducted	Prepare pre-test plan; Prepare supervisors & interviewers guide in Arabic; Train interviewers & supervisors for pre-testing; Selection of mini sample units for pre-	X	X							COSIT, KRISO, UNICEF, and relevant line ministries	47,800

	test/pilot survey; Carry out pre-test/pilot survey; Adapt software for data entry & analysis (simultaneous to regional data processing workshop); Data entry of pre-test/pilot survey and make simple analysis.										
Capacity building activities conducted	Prepare training plan; COSIT/KRSO participation in 2nd regional workshop on data processing; Carry out TOT (for trainers of interviewers); Central training for local editors; Central training for data entry; Governorate training courses for field staff.	X	X	X	X					COSIT, KRSO, UNICEF	156,400
Data Collection, Entry & data cleaning completed	Carry out data collection (field work); Data entry (simultaneously with data collection); Data processing & filtering.	X	X	X	X					COSIT, KRSO, MOH	997,000
IP Output 2: Policy makers and planners at both national and governorate levels are better informed on the status and needs of children and women											
Analytical survey report finalized & disseminated. Advocacy interventions completed	Participate in 3rd regional training on dissemination and data archiving. Data analysis and tabulation. Prepare preliminary report & share for comments; Collect feedback on preliminary report (workshop); Finalize preliminary report (English & Arabic); Produce final report (English & Arabic); Collect feedback on final report (workshop); Print report; Prepare dissemination plan; Distribute/disseminate report. Carry out advocacy interventions.				X	X	X			COSIT, KRSO, UNICEF, MOH, WHO, UNFPA and any other identified partners	21,000
Total UNICEF Budget											1,480,000
Total Project Budget											1,480,000

PROGRAMME BUDGET

PROGRAMME BUDGET		ESTIMATED UTILIZATION OF RESOURCES (US\$)	
CATEGORY	AMOUNT (US\$)	2010	2011
1. Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport	40,380	40,380	0
2. Personnel (staff, consultants and travel)	178,500	122,000	56,500
3. Training of counterparts	135,000	120,000	15,000
4. Contracts	973,000	853,000	120,000
5. Other direct costs	66,065	56,760	9,305
Total Programme Costs	1,392,945	1,192,140	200,805
Indirect Support Costs	87,055	74,505	12,550
TOTAL	1,480,000	1,266,645	213,355

- Note: The UNICEF core funding will be used for holding consultative workshops in Amman with counterparts; inviting additional participants for training at the two regional workshops; international consultant travel; international project staff time; and additional allocation for extension of field work due to the increase in sample size.

Budget Narrative:

Budget Category	Unit	Unit Cost	Qty	Duration	TOTAL BUDGET US\$	UNICEF BUDGET	ESTIMATED UTILIZATION OF ITF RESOURCES US\$	
							2010	2011
							Budget	Budget
1. PERSONNEL								
1.1 National Project/Project Personnel								
1.1.1 National Officer (for follow up ,activities related to the survey planning, implementation, monitoring and maintaining documentation)	month	3750	1	12	45,000		22,500	22,500
1.2 International Project/Project Personnel								
1.3 National Consultants								
1.3.1 National Consultant for coordination of MICS activities technical aspects and field coordination (ICO, RO, HQ, COSIT and KRSO), review technical aspects of the survey, preparation for regional training workshops, reporting to CO,RO and NYHQ.	month	4000	1	6	24,000		24,000	0
1.4 International Consultants								
1.4.1 International Consultant to work with COSIT and KRSO on pilot survey, training for local editors, adapting software for data entry, data cleaning, processing and filtering. Training COSIT and KRSO staff on the job (as part of capacity building)	month	8000	1	7	56,000		32,000	24,000
2. CONTRACTS								
2.1.1 Field work (120 teams of 5 working for 30 days at average \$ 35 DSA) includes pilot survey	LS	630,000	1		630,000		630,000	0
2.1.2 Transport (field transportation of the 120 teams – rental vehicles) includes pilot survey and preparation work, distribution of supplies, and supervision.	LS	180,000	1		180,000		180,000	0
2.1.3 Communication (phones/sim cards and IT connections)	LS	13,000	1		13,000		13,000	0
2.1.4 Print questionnaires and workshop materials and translations. 36,000 questionnaires	LS	30,000	1		30,000		30,000	0
2.1.5 Preparation of preliminary report and print final reports and dissemination	LS	60,000	1		60,000		0	60,000
2.1.6 Capacity building (data processing and analysis stages)	LS	60,000	1		60,000			60,000

3. TRAINING								
3.1.1 Three Regional Workshop and TOTs ,	training	15,000	3		45,000		30,000	15,000
3.1.2 Field worker training (TOTs will train field workers at each governorate)	training	5,000	18		90,000		90,000	0
4. EQUIPMENT								
Equipment be specific (120 measuring scales for height, 120 measuring scales for weight; salt test kits, chlorine (lab) testing for 36, 000 households,	Lump sum	40,380	1		40,380		40,380	0
5. SUPPLIES & COMMODITIES								
6. TRANSPORT								
7. TRAVEL								
7.1.1 coordination, review meetings and monitoring field visits	Lump sum				53,500		43,500	10,000
8. PROJECT/PROJECT SUB-TOTAL					1,326,880		1,135,380	191,500
9. MISCELLANEOUS (Should Not Exceed 3% of BL 8)					39,762		34,032	5,730
10. SECURITY (Should Not Exceed 2% of BL 8+ BL9)					26,303		22,728	3,575
11. AGENCY MANAGEMENT SUPPORT COST (Including Monitoring & Reporting) at 6.25% of Items (BL 8, 9 & 10)					87,055		74,505	12,550
12. PROJECT/PROJECT BUDGET TOTAL					1,480,000		1,266,645	213,355

Annex A: Agency Project Status Profile

We are in March – what is the current status?

Sl. #	Project ID #	Project Title	Total Budget (US\$)	Implementation Rate (% complete)	Commitments (% as of 17 March 2010)	Disbursements (% as of 17 March 2010)	Remarks
1	D2-25	Strengthening Primary Health Care System-Phase II	\$5,987,632 (for UNICEF)	30%	44%	2%	Out of 15 PHCCs to be constructed only 6 PHCCs contracts awarded in late 2009/early 2010. Implementation rate of awarded contracts are about 30% - varied from 10% to 55%. Remaining contracts are still under bidding and expected be awarded in March/April 2010.
		TOTALS	\$5,987,632	30%	44%	2%	