

UN PARTICIPATING ORGANISATION

United Nations Development Programme

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund



COMPLETION REPORT FOR PROJECT: B1- 01: REVITALIZATION OF TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Summary

Participating UN Organisation:

UNESCO

Cluster:

Cluster B: Education and Culture

Project No. and Project Title:

**C1-01:
Revitalization of Technical and Vocational
Education and Training in Iraq (Phase I)**

Project Location/Region/Province:

Baghdad, Mosul and Samawah

Reporting Period:

1st of January 2006 to 31 December 2006

Report Number:

3-Final

Counterpart organisations / implementing
partners:

Ministry of Education (MoE)

Project cost:

US \$ 2,758,274

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Abbreviations and acronyms:

- **MOE: Ministry of Education.**
- **TVET: Technical and Vocational Education and Training.**
- **EFA: Education for All.**
- **MDGs: Millennium Development Goals.**
- **ILO: International Labour Organization**
- **NDS: National Development Strategy**

Project Duration:

June 2004 – December 2006

I. Purpose

Main objectives and outcomes expected as per approved Project/Programme/project document

The Ministry of Education in Iraq is fully committed to speeding-up the process of recovery, reconstruction and revitalisation of technical and vocational education institutions to provide quality education and training. The project originated after several consultations and discussions held with the Ministry of Education as well as on the basis of UNAMI Strategic Plan.

The specific objectives of the project are the following:

1. Provide essential and basic workshop equipment, computers and training materials for high priority disciplines;
2. Provide computers for improving IT skills for teaching staff;
3. Prepare the recipient institutions for future networking with the proposed national internet link as well as the international links.

Outcomes:

The provision of essential vocational workshop equipment and IT infrastructure to the MOE schools in Baghdad, Mosul and Samawah had important beneficial outcomes for both students and staff and had positive impact on the enhancement of quality of vocational training and education and the achievement of the objectives of the overall national education development policy. Among 256 schools in Iraq under vocational education directorate at Ministry of Education, 11 schools have benefited from the project in upgrading workshops in seven vocational disciplines, which were identified by MOE as of high priority for repair and upgrading due to the identified relevance to labour market requirements.

The schools which were successfully upgraded exemplified to Iraqi Ministry of Education the need to replicate this kind of investment in a larger scope. This investment has raised an important question for the Ministry to start shifting its focus toward globalization in the provision of vocational education. MOE realized that in order to be successful in providing quality and relevant education, it has to, as a first step towards a realistic Iraqi contextualized approach, upgrade infrastructure, skills of instructors and program content. In addition to overall governing policies related to vocational education and its vision and mandate in Iraq. The project was one of the first investments in the TVET sector. This has attracted and encouraged other TVET stakeholders (Foundation of Technical Education (FTE) and Ministry of labour (MOLSA)) to inquire and starts assess their TVET needs for a global upgrading approach in TVET.

Outputs:

- 11 technical and vocational institutions in Baghdad, Mosul and Samawah fully equipped with workshops and a network of computer centres;
- Improved quality of teaching and training for students in the 11 institutions in Baghdad, Mosul and Samawah through the acquisition of IT skills; and
- Improved IT facilities for the teaching staff at the 11 institutions in Baghdad, Mosul and Samawah.

Reference to how the programme/project related to the UN Assistance Strategy to Iraq and how it aimed to support Iraq national development goals and the Millennium Development Goals

In order to meet the strong and pressing demand for TVET Institutions and to contribute to the achievement of national EFA and MDGs through the partnerships of civil society and various sectors, the project aims at providing quality education through the provision of basic workshop equipment, computers and training materials to a selected number of TVET institutions as well as IT facilities and networking. This project fits well within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals as well as within the UN strategy for assistance to Iraq and the National Development Strategy as follows:

- EFA Goals: Progress towards better quality in education
- NDS: (a) Providing adequate supplies of material, equipment and furniture to schools; and (b) Modernize the outdated education system including linking between vocational, technical education, higher education and labour markets.
- UN Assistance Strategy for Iraq (2005-2007): Strengthening service delivery.

Project Management arrangements

UNESCO was the implementing agency for the project. The Ministry of Education is primarily responsible for planning and supervision. During the implementation process, an inter-agency (ILO, UNHABITAT, UNIDO, etc.), local experts and UNESCO staff co-operation and co-ordination has been assured and maintained. The Ministry of Education co-ordinates with all the TVET institutions to prepare their respective inventories of both the existing and required facilities and the computer centres in the recipient institutions. MOE assumes the responsibility for custom clearance, delivery and installation of equipment, monitoring the operation of computer laboratories and for the training of TVET staff to ensure the effective and efficient use of equipment. UNESCO Monitors in Baghdad and MOE coordinated in the Monitoring of the effective implementation of the different activities of the project, specifically the Monitoring of the delivery of equipment to final destinations at designated schools and ensuring proper installation and training on installation. Reports for MOE and Monitors were received on the effectiveness of these processes during the implementation process.

II. Resources

Total approved budget and summary of resources used for the programme/project from the UNDG Iraq Trust Fund (and non-Trust Fund resources where applicable)

UNDG ITF funds received.

Total Approved Budget =	US \$ 2,758,274
Total Commitment (December 2006) =	US \$ 2,757,198
Total Disbursement (December 2006) =	US \$ 2,757,198

Amount still available to the project as of Dec. 2006 is US \$ 1,076

Human Resources

The explanation on the use of funds is as follows:

1. Staff Travel = 100% (of allocated budget for this item)
2. Personnel = 100% (of allocated budget for this item)
3. Equipment = 100% (of allocated budget for this item)

4. Miscellaneous = 100% (of allocated budget for this item)
5. Agency Management Support = 100 % (of allocated budget for this item)

Project Assets

Workshop equipment for vocational education at MOE-Iraq.

IT computer labs for MOE, Vocational Education Directorate.

III. Results

An assessment of the extent to which the programme/project component / programme /project has achieved the outcomes and outputs expected

The project has been successfully implemented in line with the planned strategy. Delivery of equipment is completed to the selected 11 TVET schools.

11 TVET schools are fully equipped with the most up to date vocational training equipment which will enhance the training delivery process. MOE capacity of IT staff is enhanced through the training of 28 IT persons on installation and networking which was undertaken in Amman during 11 – 30 March 2006. The provided new IT Labs and IT workshop equipment during the academic year (2005-2006) is contributing to the improvement of quality IT education within these 11 TVET schools. Equipment is fully operational with high rate of utilization by MOE staff and students.

The direct impact of the project is that 11 technical and vocational institutions in Baghdad, Mosul and Samawah have started the scholastic year 2005-2006 with newly equipped workshops and computer labs for electrical and mechanical engineering as well as for carpentry and commerce programmes. This will enable those institutions to improve the quality of education delivered with a higher emphasis on practical training.

Main activities undertaken and achievements/ impacts

Procurement of IT and vocational workshop equipment to 11 TVET schools in Baghdad, Mosul and Samawah. Installation of all equipment in the 11 TVET schools.

Implementation constraints, lessons learned from addressing these and knowledge gained from assessments, evaluations and studies that have taken place during the project

Implementation constraints:

- Some shipments have been held up on the borders due to delays in obtaining approvals from Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ministry of Education assisted to overcome this issue. However, the project was, in general, smoothly implemented.
- The security restrictions on UNESCO staff (internationals outside the country, nationals largely confined to home) and over half-a-million dollars to spend/manage. This resulted in a need for a new dimension in monitoring of programme inputs/effectiveness. This had to be achieved without compromising either UNESCO own rules or regulations or the safety of those (non-staff) employed to do the monitoring.

All ongoing programme implementation work has been monitored, to a greater or lesser degree, despite the extremely difficult programme environment. Certification of work completed has enabled prompt payments and timely completion. Ideally this should be done on a sample basis by UNESCO staff. Whilst this is still not possible in Iraq, UNESCO is considering options to hire local audit companies to do this. Similarly, security and communications support to the monitors is being refined, to ease their work and lessen their risks.

Key partnerships and inter-agency collaboration, impact on results

UNESCO Iraq Office continues to work closely with other stakeholders, as meetings are held on a regular basis. The stakeholders (MOE, TVET teachers and principals in Baghdad, Samawah, and Mosul, the community members and the civil society, etc.) offer all their support in pushing forward the implementation process in order to achieve concrete and rapid results. UNESCO implemented the project in consultation with UNIDO for identifying suitable specifications of equipment and furniture which correspond to the size of the buildings and to the project budget.

Highlights and cross cutting issues pertinent to the results e.g. Gender disaggregation, policy engagement and participation of the public

Although, the target beneficiaries of this project are the students of the selected 11 technical and vocational institutions, a particular emphasis is put for establishing vocational and technical skills for girls. The main objective of this project is to enhance the capacities and skills of TVET students in order to provide them with quality education which enables them have marketable skills that they can utilize in life as real profession and career. The project through helping youth to enter to the labour market with high skills, will contribute to alleviate poverty related issues. The contribution in this project will not be so big and directly measurable, it will have an impact on enhancing the potentials and options for students to select, compare and choose their career path in a way that matches their own capacities and will have a labour market existence and relevance in the world of work. Since this phase of the project relies primarily on the provision of basic equipment to a selected number of TVET centres, the TVET reform and policy issues do not form the current thrust of the project. However, the project recognizes these issues as pertinent and suggests including them during its second phase of implementation.

IV. Follow up actions and sustainability

Priority actions that should be supported/implemented following completion of project to build on achievements and partnerships rectify shortcomings encountered and use the lessons learned during the project with strong emphasis on achieving sustainability of the outcomes

A follow up on the training on installation and operation of the IT and the workshop equipment should be taken into consideration as a priority action and lesson learned. MOE should incorporate budget allocations for Training trainers on the new equipment inside and outside Iraq so that it can make the best use of it in the delivery of training to TVET students.

More focus should be exercised in next planned projects on the capacity building of the Ministry of Education in the fields of Training of trainers on pedagogy and technical training in selected high priority market relevant in demand occupations, content design and delivery and program review and renewal policy.

The need for post conflict strategic planning process in TVET emerges to be an important subject with regard to sustainability of the TVET system in Iraq. The current situation implies and requires a need to seriously think of the levels and areas of investments in TVET which will need to create a larger impact. A carefully analytical approach to this situation should be discussed in order to ensure that the national and international investments are in place and expected to achieve the impact planned.

Indication of major adjustments in the strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs

The project objective was to speed-up the process of recovery, reconstruction and revitalisation of technical education schools and institutions in Iraq in order to provide quality TVET education and training through the provision of essential vocational workshop equipment and IT Infrastructure to The institutions in Baghdad, Mosul and Samawah. The project has been successfully implemented Line with the planned strategy and delivery of all vocational and IT equipment was all completed end of December 2006.

The project tangible outcomes were mainly represented by the fully equipped 11 technical and vocational institutions with workshops and a network of computer centres, Improved quality of teaching and training for students in the 11 institutions through the acquisition of IT skills; and Improved IT Facilities for the teaching staff at the 11 institutions.

It is expected that the impact of the project will be more clear within the scholastic year 2006-2007 with the availability of the newly equipped workshops and computer labs for electrical and Mechanical engineering as well as for carpentry and commerce programmes.

This will enable those institutions to improve the quality of education delivered with a higher Emphasis on practical training. In addition, important beneficial consequences for students, teachers and instructors are expected from this project through the improvement of quality of training and education, which will contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the overall National education development policy, particularly in the TVET sub-sector. The project was smoothly implemented and it was not necessary to make any adjustment in its implementation strategy.

Estimated Budget required

The budgetary requirements have been sufficient to meet all the activities outlined in the project document.

Annex 1: Key Performance Indicators – Log Frame Matrix

Objectives	Measurable indicators	Means of verification	Outcomes
<p>Development Objective</p> <p>Contribute to the empowerment of young people to engage in productive and satisfying livelihoods.</p>	<p>The numbers of young people enrolled in the concerned institutions.</p>	<p>Partners in Ministry of Education will have the ability to monitor project implementation and the quantitative attainment of the specified indicators.</p>	<p>Partially Achieved, The project will impact the quality and number of students enrolled and graduated from TVET system, it will contribute to the empowerment of the young people enrolled in MOE VET Programs.</p>
<p>Immediate Objectives:</p> <p>Restored and improved functioning of 11 technical and vocational institutions in and around Samawah.</p>	<p>The number of technical and vocational institutions in and around Samawah that are equipped to prepare young people for the world of work.</p>	<p>Partners in Ministry of Education will be able to monitor the attainment of the indicators.</p>	<p>Fully Achieved, The project restored and improved functioning of 11 Vocational Education labs at MOE.</p>
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>11 Technical and vocational education institutions in and around Samawah re-equipped with workshop equipment and ICT infrastructure.</p>	<p>Institutions with equipped workshops and functioning ICT infrastructure.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Education will be able to monitor the attainment of these indicators.</p>	<p>Fully achieved, The project delivered 11 schools at MOE fully functional and up-to-date vocational workshops and IT labs.</p>

Annex 2: PROJECT COSTS

CATEGORY	UNDG ITF approved budget	Actual COST	Percentage of Approved	Budget Revision approved (give date)	Percentage of revision
1. Personnel • including staff and consultants	49,881	49,881	100		-
2. Contracts • including companies, professional services, grants	208,013	207,000	100	18.7.06	100
3. Training	0	0	-	-	-
4. Transport	0	0	-	-	-
5. Supplies and commodities	0	0	-	-	-
6. Equipment	2,336,923	2,336,923	100	18.7.06	-
7. Travel	4,748	4,748	100	-	-
8. Security and 9. Miscellaneous	127	126	100	-	-
10. Agency Management Support	158,582	158,582	100	-	-
Total Expenditure	2,758,274	2,757,198			

Annex 3: List of contract awards under TVE-I (B1-01)

Vocational Discipline	Contract number	Supplier	Currency	Amount
Computers	FR3240056051.4-C1-01-Computers	New Horizons	USD	251,212.50
Welding	FR3240057376-C1-01-TVET-Welding	Eagle Scientific LTD.	GPB	113,102.55
Mechanical	FR3240057375-C1-01-TVET-Mechanical	Eagle Scientific LTD.	GPB	239,424.32
Automobile	FR3240057374-C1-01-TVET-Automobile	Boss Pro-Tec GmbH	EUR	289,430.40
Electronic	FR3240057373-C1-01-TVET-Electronic	Edibon. S.A.	EUR	101,361.63
Electrical	FR3240057371-C1-01-TVET-Electrical	DE Lorenzo S.R.L	EUR	503,714.44
Carpentry	FR3240056198.4-C1-01-TVET-Carpentry	Devotra BV	EUR	217,911.70

Note: Bidding was in Paris, on an International bidding Basis, contract were issued in Amman.