



**FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT
IRFFI/UNDG IRAQ TRUST FUND (UNDG ITF)**

<p align="center">Participating UN Organization(s)</p> <p><i>World Food Programme</i></p>	<p align="center">Sector(s)/Area(s)/Theme(s)</p> <p><i>Health and Nutrition</i></p>
<p align="center">Programme/Project Title</p> <p>D2-14 (WFP project EMOP 10360.0)</p> <p>Assistance to Primary School Children and Vulnerable Groups.</p>	<p align="center">Programme/Project Number</p> <p>D2-14</p>
<p align="center">Programme/Project Budget</p> <p>UNDG ITF: 4,999,050 USD</p> <p>Govt. Contribution: USD</p> <p>Agency Core:</p> <p>Other:</p> <p>TOTAL: USD</p>	<p align="center">Programme/Project Location</p> <p>Region (s): <i>Iraq</i></p> <p>Governorate(s): Anbar, Babel, Basra, Diyala, Thiqr, Wassit, Missan, Qadissiya, Muthanna, Salah Al Din, Baghdad, Kerbala, Kirkuk, and Sulaimaniyah</p> <p>District(s)</p>
<p align="center">Final Programme/ Project Evaluation</p> <p>Evaluation Done Yes</p> <p>Evaluation Report Attached Yes – it can be accessed at:</p> <p>http://www.iraqcosit.org/english/activities_reports.shtm</p>	<p align="center">Programme/Project Timeline/Duration</p> <p>Overall Duration <i>Jul 2006 – Dec 2007</i></p> <p>Original Duration <i>Jul 2006 – Dec 2006 (the project was planned to begin in Jan 2006, but only received Steering Committee approval in July 2006)</i></p> <p>Programme/ Project Extensions <i>Extension No.1 – to June 30, 3007</i></p>

Report Formatting Instructions:

- Number all sections and paragraphs as indicated below.
- Format the entire document using the following font: 12point _ Times New Roman & do not use colours.

FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT

I. PURPOSE

- a. Provide a brief introduction to the programme/ project (*one paragraph*)

Development Goal

Development of Iraqi Government capacity for the implementation of social safety nets, developing and managing safety net and food security programmes; Support to improved nutrition and health status of vulnerable groups; Improve access to primary education in particular for girls

- b. List programme/project outcomes and associated outputs as per the approved Project Document.

Immediate objectives

- Assist MOPDC/COSIT and Food Security Unit in improving Iraq institutional capacity in monitoring and analyzing poverty/food security;
- Support in establishing nationwide school feeding programme;
- Support MOE in increasing enrolment and regular attendance of children, in particular girls, in primary schools;
- Assist MOH in improving knowledge of mothers and caretakers of young children on appropriate feeding practices and improving the nutritional status of malnourished children and pregnant and lactating mothers;
- Assist MOH in increasing attendance of the vulnerable at local health care facilities.

Outputs and Outcomes:

- Assist in the establishment of food security unit within MOPDC/COSIT and strengthen the capacity of the Government for continued monitoring and analysis of food security and in developing cost effective and targeted safety net strategies;
- Support MOE/MOH in establishing inter ministerial project implementation capacity, training of trainers and advocacy/awareness raising on food security and need for education;
- Train staff and implementing partners in the implementation of targeted assistance programmes;
- Enhance learning capacity and attendance of children particularly girls in WFP assisted primary schools.

- c. List the UN Assistance Strategy Outcomes, MDGs, Iraq NDS Priorities, ICI benchmarks relevant to the programme/ project

The National Development Strategy (NDS) is established on 4 major pillars, the third of which is "Improving the quality of life". This requires actions "to reduce drop-out rates at the primary (school) level" and the enactment of "a social safety net program for the poor and vulnerable".

This WFP assistance to Iraq specifically addresses these requirements of the NDS through the provision of targeted food aid to those identified in WFP's 2004 Baseline Food Security Analysis as being extremely food insecure and to school children to encourage attendance and reduce drop-out rates.

Through the provision of food assistance and by undertaking capacity building activities, mainly based on a training programme, the Operation is addressing the following Millennium Development Goals:

- MDG 1: “Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger” by distributing food to vulnerable groups and school children.
 - MDG 2: “Achieve universal primary education” by working towards increasing enrolment and improving the attendance rates of Iraqi primary school level children.
 - MDG 3: “Promote gender equality and empower women” by contributing to the elimination of gender disparity in primary education, through provision of incentives to female school children.
 - MDG 4 “Reduce child mortality” and 5 “improve maternal health” are addressed through provision of food aid to pregnant women and nursing mothers and malnourished children, and through education aiming to improve knowledge of appropriate feeding practices.
- d. List primary implementing partners and stakeholders including key beneficiaries.

WFP’s partners are the Ministries of Health (MOH), Education (MOE) and Planning and Development Cooperation (MoPDC) who manage and implement the EMOP activities through the central Project Management Committee (PMC). Each of the Ministries (MOH & MOE) is represented by two senior staff at policy and decision making levels who are delegated responsibility for the overall implementation of the project with WFP playing an advisory role. The PMC coordinates monitors and reports on the implementation progress.

At the governorate level, a Project Management Unit (PMU) composed of representatives from the Ministries of Health and Education as well as WFP (in an advisory capacity) carries out the day-to-day implementation and oversight activities.

These activities comprise responsibility for receiving and storing of food commodities arriving from neighbouring countries, secondary transport of commodities, distribution, monitoring and reporting. Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) are responsible for supervision of food storage and stocks and the organization and supervision of the food distribution process to the beneficiaries.

II. ASSESSMENT OF PROGRAMME/ PROJECT RESULTS

- a. Report on the key outputs achieved and explain any variance in achieved versus planned results. Who have been the primary beneficiaries and how they were engaged in the programme/ project implementation?
- The US \$ 4,999,050 donation from IRRFI was used in the procurement, transportation and distribution of 3,714 mt of vegetable oil in Iraq in addition to other related direct support costs to support staffing for the activities. This food was dispatched to Iraq and distributed to a total of 626,721 vulnerable groups, (131,966 pregnant and lactating women, 150,709 malnourished children under 5 years old, 300 tuberculosis patients and 343,746 families’ members). WFP distributed this food through 394 health facilities - Primary Health Care Centres (PHCs) and Community Child Care Centres (CCCUs).
- b. Report on how achieved outputs have contributed to the achievement of the outcomes and explain any variance in actual versus planned contributions to the outcomes. Highlight any institutional and/ or behavioural changes amongst beneficiaries at the outcome level
- Increase attendance of malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women at local healthcare facilities; - achieved during food distributions.

- Improve the nutritional status of malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women; achieved, recovery rate of malnourished children receiving WFP food is over 90%
- Secure regular attendance of tuberculosis patients enrolled in the National Programme at local healthcare facilities; - achieved. TB patients receiving WFP food.
- Improve the knowledge and daily practices of mothers and caretakers of young children on appropriate feeding practices; - achieved. Mothers receiving WFP food also receive information on good feeding practices.
- The Data collected by project implementation staff revealed that this project has contributed to the decrease of the malnutrition rates for the children under 5 years old by up to 36 percent in the 36 assisted districts.

c. Explain the overall contribution of the programme/ project/ to the ICI, NDS, MDGs and Iraq UN Assistance Strategy.

This project supports the Government of Iraq in its NDS, ICA and MDG of combating hunger, achieving access to education, empowering women, and improving maternal and child health through supporting access to Primary Health Centres and Primary Schools in the most vulnerable areas of Iraq.

d. Explain the contribution of key partnerships including national, international, inter-UN agency, CSO or others towards achievement of programme/ project results.

WFP worked closely with UNICEF in supporting nutrition and health education training to 153 staff in the PHCs and CCCUs in Basrah province. This coordination between WFP and UNICEF ensured that the same staff who handle WFP food could impart good advice to beneficiaries on feeding practices, health and hygiene.

e. Highlight the contribution of the programme/ project on cross-cutting issues:

- Were the needs of particularly vulnerable or marginalised groups addressed?

Yes, this project was targeted to the most vulnerable districts of Iraq and vulnerable people within those districts, i.e, pregnant/lactating women, malnourished children, and TB patients.

- How did men and women benefit from the programme/project? How were gender inequalities handled?

This project focused on women and children. More than 60 percent of WFP's beneficiaries in 2007 were women.

- Were environmental concerns addressed including environmental impact/risk assessment where relevant?

Not applicable.

- Were there any specific issues in relation to the security situation?

Food was transported across the country and reached beneficiaries in all corners of Iraq in spite of the security situation. WFP food was transported in unmarked trucks for security purposes.

- Did the project contribute to employment generation (gender disaggregated)?

Direct employment opportunities

The secondary transport and local handling of 12,353 mt of food commodities generates approximately 9,000 employment opportunities within the 36 poorest districts. These jobs are organized by the implementing partner MOH, covering professions such as:

- casual labor
- local transporters
- storekeepers
- security staff
- record keepers
- financial controllers
- dataclerks

Indirect employment opportunities

The programme has assisted the MOH in the rehabilitation of 36 main warehouse facilities and will continue to provide assistance to MOH to rehabilitate warehouses and stores at PHCs / CCCUs.

In addition to the PMU members in the governorate and administrative staff at DOH, MOH approximately 1,571 CCCU – health volunteers are being trained by the programme.

- f. Provide an assessment of the programme/ project based on performance indicators as per approved project document using the template in Section IV

III. EVALUATION & LESSONS LEARNED

- a. Report on any assessments, evaluations or studies undertaken relating to the programme/ project and how they were used during implementation. Has there been a final project evaluation and what are the key findings? Provide reasons if no evaluation of the programme/ project have been done yet?

WFP has been working closely with the Ministry of Planning's Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology (COSIT) since 2003 in building their capacity in food security monitoring and analysis. WFP has helped set up a Food Security Unit within COSIT dealing specifically with this issue. Two comprehensive food security and vulnerability surveys have been completed with this unit, one published in 2004 and the second in 2006.

The latest survey found that just over 4 million people – or, 15.4% of the surveyed population – were food insecure and in need of humanitarian assistance, including food. It found that a further 8.3 million people (31.8% of the population) would be rendered food insecure if not provided a food ration through the Public Distribution System (PDS)¹. The full report can be accessed on COSIT's website at the following link: http://www.iraqcosit.org/english/activities_reports.shtm. Iraq's PDS experienced significant shortfalls during 2006 and 2007. This, coupled with the mass movement of people since the previous survey, would have a major impact on the food security situation of the population. Thus, it was decided to conduct a follow-up survey to assess current levels of food security and malnutrition. For the first time, this survey involves the Kurdistan Regional Government and covers all 18 governorates of Iraq. Data collection went ahead in November-December 2007 and was published in November 2008.

- b. Indicate key constraints including delays (if any) during programme/ project implementation

¹ 2006, WFP/COSIT, *Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis in Iraq*

One of the principal constraints resulting in the small amount of food reaching people in need was the administrative delay in funds transfer from Baghdad to the provincial levels for internal transport, storage and handling. As such, the MoH requested that WFP stop dispatching food to Iraq after July 2007. Food already in-country was distributed as planned.

- c. Report key lessons learned that would facilitate future programme design and implementation.

The Ministry of Health was equipped to handle large quantities of food and found that the logistics of food distributions cumbersome. As a lesson learnt, WFP can contract the distributions to NGO cooperating partners so as not to burden the line ministries with the logistics of food distribution.

IV. INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baselines	Planned Indicator Targets	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance (if any)	Source of Verification	Comments (if any)
IP Outcome 1							
Improving the nutritional status of malnourished children and pregnant and lactating mothers in vulnerable areas of Iraq							
IP Output 1.1 Food delivered to most vulnerable	Indicator 1.1.1 Mt of food distributed	0	5,588	3,714	Original plan was to procure mixed commodities, but decided to procure only vegetable oil as this was facing a shortfall and other commodities in the food basket were supported by other donors.	Distribution reports	
	Indicator 1.1.2 Number of beneficiaries reached	0	626,721	626,721			
IP Output 1.2 Improved nutritional status of beneficiaries	Indicator 1.2.1 Recovery rate of malnourished children receiving WFP food		100%	Over 90%		Reports from the MoH	

	Indicator 1.2.2 Decrease in malnutrition rates in target areas		Any decrease in malnutrition rates	Decrease of the malnutrition rates for the children under 5 years old by up to 36%		Reports from the MoH	
IP Outcome 2							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assist MOH in improving knowledge of mothers and caretakers of young children on appropriate feeding practices and improving the nutritional status of malnourished children and pregnant and lactating mothers; ➤ Assist MOH in increasing attendance of the vulnerable at local health care facilities. 							
IP Output 2.1	Indicator 2.1.1	0	394	394		Distribution reports	
Support to Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Community Child Care Units (CCUs)	Number of PHCs and CCCUs reached						
	Indicator 2.1.2	0	100%	100%		Reports from the MoH and WFP field staff	
	% of Mothers receiving WFP food also receiving information on good feeding practices.						