

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund  
Project #: F8-10 (a+b)**

**Date and Quarter Updated: January to March 2010 (1st Quarter)**

<b>Participating UN Organisation:</b> UNICEF (Lead Agency) and UNFPA	<b>Sector: Protection</b>
<b>Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry:</b> Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) - Baghdad and Erbil	

<b>Title</b>	Strengthening Protection and Justice for Children and Young People in Iraq				
<b>Geographic Location</b>	Governorates: Baghdad, Basra, Nineveh, Erbil, Suleimaniyah and Dohuk (information on specific towns and villages to be provided later)				
<b>Project Cost</b>	US\$ 3,000,000 (UNICEF US\$ 2,000,000 - UNFPA US\$ 1,000,000)				
<b>Duration</b>	24 months				
<b>Approval Date (SC)</b>	04 June 2009	<b>Starting Date</b>	01 Oct 2009	<b>Completion Date</b>	30 Sep 2011
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>This project is designed to provide technical support to the Government of Iraq (GoI) to strengthen the Juvenile Justice system and increase children and young people's access to justice and protection. The project will use a three pronged approach which will help alleviate the plight of children currently caught up in the judicial system, promote restorative justice, and develop strategic direction for juvenile justice in Iraq. First, at the national level the project will work with the High Judicial Council and Government ministries involved in the administration of juvenile justice on: advocacy for legislative reform; reduction of pre-trial detention; introduction of diversion and alternative measures; and on improvement of systems for data collection, monitoring and tracking of children who are in contact with the law. Secondly, at community level the project will focus on actions that prevent children from coming into contact with the law; diversion projects; and will provide reintegration assistance to children released from detention centres and reformatories. Lastly, the project will also invest heavily in developing the capacities of key duty bearers in the juvenile justice system in Iraq.</p>				

**Development Goal and Immediate Objectives**

The developmental goal is to strengthen the GoI's capacity to improve the Juvenile Justice system and increase children and young people's access to justice and protection.

Key immediate objectives are:

- Improved functioning of the juvenile justice system in Iraq.
- Increased capacities of key duty bearers to provide legal, judicial and reintegration services to children and young people in contact with the law.
- Increased capacities of families and communities in six governorates to protect and prevent children from getting into contact with the law.

**Outputs, Key activities and Procurement**

<b>Outputs</b>	<p>1.1. GoI has reliable information to address needs and gaps in the Juvenile Justice system.</p> <p>1.2. Capacities of families and communities in six governorates increased to protect and prevent children from getting into contact with the law.</p> <p>1.3. Improved capacities of 100 key duty bearers in managing and monitoring detention facilities and reformatories.</p> <p>1.4. Increased capacities of families and communities to provide care, protection and diversion services</p> <p>1.5. Enhanced capacity of 400 duty bearers to provide better legal, judicial, rehabilitation and reintegration services to children and young people.</p> <p>1.6. 300 Reformatory staff have an enhanced capacity to provide follow up services and reintegration assistance to children and adolescents.</p>
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<b>Activities</b>	<p>1.1.1. Assessment of the Juvenile Justice System in Iraq.</p> <p>1.1.2. Review of the Juvenile Care Law and another three laws related to children.</p> <p>1.2.1. Identification of factors that push children at risk into contact with the law.</p> <p>1.2.2. Awareness raising activities in communities, schools and religious institutions focusing on guidance to children, young people and their families.</p> <p>1.2.3. Educational support for out of school children and young people.</p> <p>1.2.4. Media campaigns and advocacy for awareness-raising of care providers and families on prevention, care, and protection for children.</p> <p>1.3.1. Setting up systems for providing quality care services including arrangements for case management.</p> <p>1.3.2. Setting up of information management systems and training of MoLSA and detention centres' staff.</p> <p>1.3.3. Setting up of five multi-disciplinary teams and training.</p> <p>1.3.4. Legal assistance to children and young people in detention.</p> <p>1.3.5. Life skills training to children and young people in detention.</p> <p>1.3.6. Protection and basic services to children and young people in detention</p> <p>1.3.7. Regular monitoring of detention centres.</p> <p>1.3.8. Setting up complaint systems in the detention centres and reformatories.</p> <p>1.4.1. Setting up of community-based aftercare services for protection and diversion services in selected project governorates.</p> <p>1.4.2. Training to community members and care providers on provision of diversion services in six governorates.</p> <p>1.5.1. Training of duty bearers (juvenile judges, legal prosecutors, JTI instructors, juvenile police, staff of detention and reformatory centres, social workers, and care providers) on international standards, juvenile justice, psychosocial support etc.</p> <p>1.5.2. Module development for integration of juvenile justice in judges training curriculum.</p> <p>1.5.3. Training of reformatory managers and staff on rehabilitation and reintegration services.</p> <p>1.5.4. Provision of psychosocial, medical, educational, and basic services in reformatories.</p> <p>1.5.5. Improvement of vocational training provision with capacity development and equipment support.</p> <p>1.6.1. Setting up follow-up services and reintegration assistance to children and young people released from reformatories.</p> <p>1.6.2. Post-release counselling to children and young people released from reformatories.</p> <p>1.6.3. Referral and advisory support to work and educational opportunities.</p> <p>1.6.4. Post-release family visits and monitoring by social workers.</p>
<b>Procurement (major items)</b>	<p>Psychosocial and recreational kits for use in the detentions centres and reformatories. Based on the assessment of the existing centres, equipments and furniture will be bought to be used in the Multidimensional Day Care Centres i.e. chairs, tables, computers, TVs, DVD players, LCDs etc.</p>

#### UNICEF

<b>Funds Committed</b>	0	<b>% of approved</b>	0
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	0	<b>% of approved</b>	0
<b>Forecast final date</b>	30 Sep 2011	<b>Delay (months)</b>	N/A

#### UNFPA

<b>Funds Committed</b>	0	<b>% of approved</b>	0
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	0	<b>% of approved</b>	0
<b>Forecast final date</b>	30 Sep 2011	<b>Delay (months)</b>	N/A

<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>	<b>% of planned (current status)</b>
Men		
Women		
Children and young people	4,000	
IDPs		

Others		
Indirect beneficiaries	2,300	
Employment generation (men/women)		

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results			
Improved functioning of the juvenile justice system in Iraq	<p>TOR for assessment of Juvenile Justice information systems in KRG was agreed by the government and advertised by UNICEF and shared with KRG. It is expected that work will commence by 01 May 2010.</p> <p>TOR for comprehensive assessment of Juvenile Justice system in Iraq agreed and advertisement for a request to proposals to be issued in April with work commencing in June 2010.</p> <p>UNICEF agreed to support MOLSA in the development of the KRG 10-year Rule of Law Strategy and the post was advertised at the end of February with matrix of candidates shared with MOLSA in March. It is expected the post will be filled in April 2010.</p> <p>UNICEF supported the government to hold two coordination meetings in relation to the establishment of the Project Steering Committee.</p> <p>UNICEF held a coordination meeting of bilateral, INGO and UN ROL Agencies on Justice for Children where information was shared and overlaps identified between the ITF project and existing projects. Next meeting will be 15 May 2010.</p>	% of planned	7.5%
Increased capacities of key duty bearers to provide legal, judicial and reintegration services to children and young people in contact with the law	<p>UNICEF has identified International Medical Corps (UK) and Heartland Alliance to implement project activities from 20June2010 in the Centre/South and North respectively.</p> <p>UNFPA is planning to conduct a 3 day-meeting by the end of April that aims at bringing together national counterparts to agree on the assessment process and the 2 year- action plan.</p> <p>UNFPA has identified an independent research who will lead the assessment of the Iraqi reformatories. The assessment will take place between May and July 2010.</p>	% of planned	
Increased capacities of families and communities in six governorates increased to protect and prevent children from getting into contact with the law	<p>UNICEF has identified International Medical Corps (UK) and Heartland Alliance to implement project activities from 20June2010 in the Centre/South and North respectively.</p>	% of planned	

### **Qualitative achievements against objectives and results**

This project is designed to strengthen the juvenile justice system in Iraq and to enhance the protection of children who come into contact with the law and of those at risk. The project will have a three pronged approach to help alleviate the plight of children currently caught up in the judicial system, promote restorative justice, and develop a strategic direction for juvenile justice in Iraq.

First, at the national level the project will work with the High Judicial Council and with various government ministries involved in the administration of juvenile justice on: advocacy for legislative reform; reduction of pre-trial detention, introduction of diversion and alternative measures and on improving the systems for data collection, monitoring and tracking of children who are in contact with the law.

Secondly, at the community level the project will focus on actions that prevent children from coming into contact with the law and will also assist those children who have been released from detention centres and reformatories to reintegrate in their families and communities. Community level actions will also include support, care and protection of those children diverted from the formal justice system.

Thirdly, the project will invest in capacity building for key duty bearers in the juvenile justice system including authorities and staff in detention centres and reformatories to improve care and protection services in these facilities; to prevent abuse and exploitation of children who are in contact with the law, and to enhance the capacity of community members, leaders, and peers to protect children and young people from coming into contact with the law.

The project is expected to improve the protection of children and young people in contact with the law and those at risk, and to increase their access to quality legal and judicial services. The project will also contribute to the improvement of the functioning of the juvenile justice system in Iraq.

The introduction and implementation of the diversion programmes and alternative measures is expected to reduce the number of children and young people in pre-trial detention while the provision of legal assistance will facilitate due process and this will help to reduce the time children and young people spend in pre-trial detention.

Establishment of standards of care and protection services, training of the detention centre and corrections staff in the reformatories, strengthening of mechanisms for monitoring the detention centres and reformatories and the provision of rehabilitative and reintegration services will help to improve care and conditions in these facilities. The implementation of the community-based preventive actions will enhance the capacities and abilities of parents/families to better protect their children and will assist in the prevention of juvenile offences and crimes. The empowerment programmes for children and young people will help them to protect themselves from getting into contact with the law while provision of social and economic support to vulnerable families will improve their capacity and ability to care, protect and provide for their children.

### **Main implementation constrains & challenges (2-3 sentences)**

Although the security situation in Iraq is improving, it remains unpredictable. This will limit movement of national and international staff to the project sites.

The promotion of restorative justice and the introduction of alternative measures and diversion from formal justice will be a challenge as Iraq is used to punitive justice and therefore it will be difficult to ensure the acceptance of these relatively new concepts in Iraq. The limited understanding of modern concepts of juvenile justice and the territorial attitude of the key line ministries may constitute bottlenecks for the project and will need extensive coordination among these actors.

Sustainability of the project is a concern. To address this, the project will ensure the involvement of the lead ministry in every aspect of the project – from planning to implementation to monitoring and evaluation. The concerned ministries will also be assisted in budgeting for the juvenile justice system.