

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund

Project #:D2 - 32

Date and Quarter Updated: July 14th 2010

Participating UN Organisation: UNICEF **Sector: Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation (PM&E)**

Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation/COSIT and KRSO

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| Title | Support to the Government of Iraq’s Multiple Cluster Survey-4 (MICS4) | | | | |
| Geographic Location | Nation wide | | | | |
| Project Cost | US\$1,480,000 | | | | |
| Duration | 21 months | | | | |
| Approval Date (SC) | 27 April 2010 | Starting Date | 1 April 2010 | Completion Date | 31 December 2011 |
| Project Description | <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> | | | | |

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

National priority or goals (NDS2007-2010)

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

ICI:

1. Strengthening Institutions and Improving Governance.
2. Human Development and Human Security:
 - 2.1: Improving Health and Nutrition of all Iraqis as a cornerstone of welfare and economic development.
 - 2.2: Reduce gender Discrimination, increase participation of women in public life and labour market.

| Outputs, Key activities and Procurement | |
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| Outputs | <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Output 2: Policy makers and planners, at national and governorate levels, are better informed on the status and needs of the children and women.</p> |
| Activities | <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> |
| Procurement (major items) | Iodized Salt Test Kits, Measuring Boards, Weighting Scales, GPS Package & Desktop Computers. In addition, printing of supervisors and Interviewers' guide and questionnaires. |

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| Funds Committed | US\$1,480,000 | % of approved | 100% |
| Funds Disbursed | 0 | % of approved | 0 |
| Forecast final date | Field work postponed till 2011 | Delay (months) | 6 months |

| Direct Beneficiaries | Number of Beneficiaries | % of planned (current status) |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Men | | |
| Women | | |
| Children | | |
| IDPs | | |
| Others | All participating institution in Iraq and organizations working with child protection and rights issues. | |
| Indirect beneficiaries | All children in Iraq through improved policies and service delivery | |
| Employment generation (men/women) | | |

| Quantitative achievements against objectives and results | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------|------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translation MICS4 Questionnaires (from Arabic to English & to Kurdish) | Funded from UNICEF Regular Resources | % of planned | 100% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIC4 partners consultation meeting (16-17 April, 2010) | Funded from UNICEF Regular Resources | % of planned | 100% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MICS4 Data Processing training (9-16 May, 2010) in Amman | Funded from UNICEF Regular Resources | % of planned | 100% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ToT training (1-10 June,2010) in Amman | Funded from UNICEF Regular Resources | % of planned | 100% |
| Field survey and data collection/entry were postponed till next year by COSIT due to the implementation of the census of Iraq by end of October 2010. | | | |

| Qualitative achievements against objectives and results |
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| <p>We have formalized the sample design of MICS4 survey.</p> <p>The trainees on ToT have not yet started their expected training sessions in each governorate of Iraq prior to the implementation of field work.</p> |

| Main implementation constrains & challenges (2-3 sentences) |
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| <p>The security situation in Iraq is still unpredictable. As a result adequate caution will be exercised in the movement of national and international staff during data collection.</p> <p>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.</p> |