

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund

Project #:C10-10

Date and Quarter Updated: 30th June 2010 (2nd Quarter)

Participating UN Organisation: UN-HABITAT	Sector: Governance and Human Development
Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works	

Title	Local Government Association and Urban Development Capacity Building Project				
Geographic Location	The project will be implemented in collaboration with staff from the headquarters office of the Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works. Project activities will involve Ministry staff working in local offices and municipal officials throughout Iraq.				
Project Cost	\$1,985,256				
Duration	[15 months] and 18 months delay				
Approval Date (SC)	17 March 2008	Starting Date	26 March 2008	Completion Date	26 June 2009 Extension approved till 26/06/2010. Extension approved till 31 December 2010
Project Description	The project will provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works for the preparation of city master plans and for enhancing the skills of the professional planning staff in the Ministry’s Physical Planning and Municipalities Directorates involved in reconstruction, urban planning and local economic development activities. It will also assist the Ministry with the establishment of an Iraq Municipal Association				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives
Better planned municipalities playing an effective role in managing reconstruction and future development and contributing to an enhanced quality of life for Iraqi citizens. Immediate Objective 1. To improve the capabilities of 250 urban, regional and rural development planners within the Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works’ Physical Planning Directorate and Municipalities Directorate in the areas of urban planning and reconstruction, development control and local economic development planning. Immediate Objective 2. To establish an Iraqi Municipal Association which will enable municipalities to share information and experiences, voice their concerns and priorities to regional and central governments, play a role in future deliberations regarding decentralization and local government reform and sponsor future conferences and training programmes.

Outputs Key activities and Procurement	
Outputs	1.1 Two hundred and fifty planners from the Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works trained in the areas of urban planning and reconstruction, development control and local economic development planning. 1.2 Ministry planners effectively managing the preparation of master plans for Iraqi cities and towns. 2.1 A fully established Iraqi municipal association with a constitution, board of directors, budget and work plan. 2.2 A municipal association policy statement regarding decentralization and local government reform.
Activities	1.1.1 Prepare a training needs assessment and a capacity development and training plan for the Ministry’s planners. 1.1.2 Engage international and Iraqi institutions/consultants to design a training course in urban planning and reconstruction, the preparation of master plans, development control and local economic development planning for MMPW planners. 1.1.3 Train Iraqi academic staff to deliver the basic training course for MMPW planners in Iraq. 1.1.4 Deliver the basic training course and distribute supporting materials to up to 250 MMPW planners in Baghdad and at selected regional locations. 1.1.5 Engage international and Iraqi institutions/consultants to design and deliver an advanced training

	<p>course for up to 50 Ministry planners in specialized priority areas.</p> <p>1.1.6 Organize a study tour(s) and attendance at an international planning and economic development conference for up to 15 Ministry planners to learn about urban planning, reconstruction and local economic development practises in other countries.</p> <p>1.2.1 Prepare generic terms of reference and a project management manual for use by MMPW planners in the preparation of future city and town master plans.</p> <p>1.2.2 Provide project management and technical advice to MMPW planning staff regarding the completion of the city master plan projects in at least three selected cities.</p> <p>2.1.1 Engage international and Iraqi consultants to prepare an information and discussion paper that: identifies the issues of common concern to municipalities; describes international best practises of relevance to Iraq in the establishment and operation of a national municipal association; and recommends the nature, scope and benefits of a national municipal association for Iraq.</p> <p>2.1.2 Make arrangements for up to 15 municipal mayors, councillors and senior Ministry staff to attend an international municipal association conference and visit municipal association in other countries.</p> <p>2.1.3 Organize a series of regional meetings with municipal stakeholders throughout the country to review the information and discussion paper and develop understanding and support for the idea of a municipal association.</p> <p>2.1.4 Prepare a report that recommends a vision, mission and constitution for an Iraq Municipal Association and a work plan, staffing arrangements and budget for its first three years of operation.</p> <p>2.1.5 Organize a second series of regional meetings with municipal stakeholders in the 15 governorates to review the report and further promote the idea of a municipal association.</p> <p>2.1.6 Organize a founding conference for up to 500 participants from municipalities across the country to establish an Iraq Municipal Association</p> <p>2.2.1 Assist the newly formed municipal association with the formulation of a policy paper on decentralization and local government reform.</p>
Procurement (major items)	N/A

Situation as of 30/6/2010

Funds Committed	\$ 675,210.34	% of approved	34%
Funds Disbursed	\$ 504,072.23	% of approved	25%
Forecast final date	31 December 2010	Delay (months)	18

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men	Upto 250 planners (gender breakdown, not yet known)	
Women	N/A	
Children	N/A	
IDPs	N/A	
Others	N/A	
Indirect beneficiaries	Residents of towns and cities in Iraq up to 20 million people. Private sector investors able to make investment decisions based on clear public policies and programmes	
Employment generation (men/women)	The project aims to improve municipal performance in planning, service delivery and local economic development. Beneficiary numbers not known but should accompany increase in any resultant public private partnerships in municipal service delivery and enterprise growth and development.	

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results			
1.1 Two hundred and fifty planners from the Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works (MMPW) trained in the areas of urban planning and reconstruction, development control and local economic development planning.	Ten senior Iraqi officials, academics and consultants trained as Trainers of Trainers and the material for 14 modules on various aspects of urban planning and economic development were delivered to 50 staff from MMPW and Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation during a 10 day training course held between 11 th and 22 nd April. Expenses for the venue, training materials and participants travel and expenses were covered by MMPW (@USD50,000). Plans in place for review workshop and further investigation of various initiatives to support longer term capacity building discussed (e.g Institute of Planners, E-based resource package) in early August.	% of planned	45%
1.2 Ministry planners effectively managing the preparation of master plans for Iraqi cities and towns.	Basra adopted as a case study for review, international consultant holds meetings with consultants for the Basra City Master Plan to assess approach, progress in implementation. Key consultation questions included in participatory consultation exercise. Scope and contents for guidance note on management prepared and draft due in September 2010.	% of planned	20%
2.1 A fully established Iraqi municipal association with a constitution, board of directors, budget and work plan.	Meeting with Chair and Vice Chair of Iraq Local Government Association was held to discuss strategic plan and HABITAT support. Preparation of scope of work for targeted support on urban services. Support to the Association placed on hold while the current institutional set up is investigated by the major donor to ensure transparency and accountability of operations. Further discussion on plans to support Association underway.	% of planned	15%
2.2 A municipal association policy statement regarding decentralization and local government reform.	Shortlisting and recruitment of Local Governance and Decentralisation consultant to oversee activity 2.1, 2.2 and work under other decentralisation and local governance programmes underway. Meetings held with the Iraq Local Government Association.	% of planned	10%

Qualitative achievements against objectives and results
Successful completion of the training of trainers course by the Government Organisation of Physical Planning in Egypt. The 10 senior Iraqi consultant ToT's reviewed and approved the training materials and prepared a plan for piloting the training in Baghdad and Erbil with MMPW and MoPDC staff. International Consultant meets with consultants for the Basra City Master Plan prior to assess approach and progress in implementation.

Main implementation constrains & challenges (2-3 sentences)
Two specific challenges in implementing this project have been highlighted. (i) scheduling visits, missions and proposed workshops to accommodate the programmes of senior government and university staff in Iraq and (ii) ensuring support to the ILGA which is designed in such a way so as not to undermine efforts by the organisation and other donors to ensure the organisation is established on a sustainable footing. Issues related to the latter point have been particularly important this quarter. The major donor (USAID) for the ILGA has commissioned a third party review of the organisation and its support to fast track the move towards institutional arrangements that provide for transparent financial expenditure and will create the basis for sustainable financial set up in the future.