

**OPERATIONALLY CLOSED**

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund**

**Project #: A5 - 16**

**Date and Quarter Updated: 05 July 2010 (April-June 2010, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter)**

**Participating UN Organisation: FAO** **Sector: Agriculture and Food Security**

**Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)**

<b>Title</b>	Rehabilitation and Development of the National Seed Industry in Iraq				
<b>Geographic Location</b>	Nationwide coverage for the strategy and technical assistance. Seed policy and legislation. Physical rehabilitation in North, Centre and South.				
<b>Project Cost</b>	USD 5,383,460				
<b>Duration</b>	12 months				
<b>Approval Date (SC)</b>	20/4/2006	<b>Starting Date</b>	18/05/2006	<b>Completion Date</b>	Original: 18/05/2008 Extension: 30/06/2010
<b>Project Description</b>	This project aims to increase domestic food production thus improving food security and nutrition for the Iraqi people. This will be done through the formulation of a national seed policy; revision and updating of existing seed legislation; improvement of coordination and oversight arrangements; rehabilitation of damaged seed production infrastructure in government research centres and the State Board for Seed Testing and Certification; training of selected personnel in key seed industry disciplines.				

**Development Goal and Immediate Objectives**

The development goal of the project is to improve food security and nutrition in Iraq through the rehabilitation and improvement of the national seed programme. This will promote the availability and use of high quality seeds of adapted varieties to farmers and provide the foundation of a sustainable seed industry.

The immediate objectives are to:

1. Enhance the performance of the national seed industry through formulation of a national seed policy, review and up-grade of the seed legislation in place and improvement of coordination and oversight of arrangement.
2. Increase the capacity of the national seed industry through rehabilitation of the damaged infrastructure for variety development and evaluation, variety maintenance, initial seed multiplication and seed quality control.
3. Improve the quality of key human resources in the national seed industry through training.

**Outputs, Key activities and Procurement**

<b>Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A national seed policy formulated, existing seed legislation reviewed and recommendations provided for further improvement</li> <li>- A functional seed programme coordination and oversight body, the National Seed Council, put in place</li> <li>- Existing database for seed quality control operations improved and strengthened</li> <li>- Transportation and communication system in SBSTC for field inspection</li> <li>- Seed processing plants and other seed quality control operations improved with procurement of essential equipment</li> <li>- Essential buildings for seed testing laboratories constructed</li> <li>- Adapted varieties characterized and breeder seeds produced in the research stations</li> <li>- Variety maintenance techniques and procedures for the targeted crops developed</li> <li>- Foundation seed production undertaken for wheat, barley, maize and rice using breeder seeds from the research stations</li> <li>- Exposure of 2 senior Iraqi staff and 32 scientists to the latest international technologies and development in improving national seed industry</li> <li>- In-service training of 115 Iraqi technical staff in different areas of seed technology</li> </ul>
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<b>Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organize a national seed workshop followed by a national seed policy forum and draft a national seed policy</li> <li>- Prepare full TOR, structure and mandate of a National Seed Council</li> <li>- Undertake review of existing seed legislation</li> <li>- Undertake laboratory building construction works as well as install equipment and machines in seed laboratories and research stations</li> <li>- Seeds production and quality control: assist research stations in the production of breeder seeds; assist in production of foundation seed production in the centres</li> <li>- Develop required techniques and procedures for variety maintenance;</li> <li>- Capacity building: arrange study tour overseas for 2 senior staff; organize fellowships abroad on seed technology of targeted crops for 32 participants; conduct in-service training on variety maintenance, variety development and evaluation, seed production and marketing system, and seed quality control; organize in-service training for 115 technical personnel in area of seed technology including use and management of improved database.</li> </ul>
<b>Procurement (major items)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green houses</li> <li>• Seed processing plant</li> <li>• Seed testing equipment</li> </ul>

#### Situation as of 30/06/10

<b>Funds Committed</b>	USD \$5,117,477	<b>% of approved</b>	95.06%
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	USD \$4,686,070	<b>% of approved</b>	87.05%
<b>Forecast final date</b>	Operationally closed as of 30/06/2010	<b>Delay (months)</b>	N/A

<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>	<b>% of planned (current status)</b>
Men	155	100%
Women	18	100%
Children		
IDPs		
Others		
Indirect beneficiaries		
Employment generation (men/women)		

<b>Quantitative achievements against objectives and results</b>			
Formulation of National Seed Policy document	National Seed Policy document formulated following the national seed policy forum. The document has been adopted by the Government of Iraq	<b>% of planned</b>	100%
Preparation of Seed Law draft	Final draft of the Seed Law prepared by seed industry stakeholders during the final seed legislative review.	<b>% of planned</b>	100%
Installation of mobile seed processing plants.	8 units installed including the vertical bucket elevators are now fully operational	<b>% of planned</b>	100%
Procurement of additional office automation equipment	Additional unit of laptop, printer and scanner needed for the use of project coordinator at the MoA was undertaken.	<b>% of planned</b>	100%
Procurement of farm machinery, seed testing equipment and laboratory commodities	The procurement of the small remaining four wheel drive tractor was done.	<b>% of planned</b>	100%
Procurement of laboratory commodities	Upon bid evaluation and technical clearance for procurement of 700,000 seed certification tags as result of re-tendering, the purchase order was issued to the supplier.	<b>% of planned</b>	100%
Construction of greenhouses	Four units of greenhouses with climate control facilities were delivered and installed.	<b>% of planned</b>	100%

Construction of Seed quality control labs	The construction of seed testing laboratories being undertaken.	<b>% of planned</b>	100%
Procurement of rice seed lab equipments	Purchase order issued for supply of rice seed laboratory equipment issued as endorsed by the bid evaluation of the re-tender process based on revised technical specifications. Delivery underway.	<b>% of planned</b>	80%
International Training of Trainers (ToT) programme	Training programme on corn dryer installation, maintenance and operation to occur.	<b>% of planned</b>	100%
Seed technology in-service training	In-service training course on variety verification and database management completed for 30 technical personnel belonging to SBSTC, SBAR of the MoA	<b>% of planned</b>	100%
Seed growers farmers training	Programme for the training and visit of 20 seed growers farmers finalized	<b>% of planned</b>	100%

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

FAO has constructed seed testing laboratories which are extremely important in improving quality control of seeds and to increase crop and vegetable production of Iraq.

Greenhouses with climate control facilities were also installed in this project which enables for higher production of vegetables under unfavourable local climate of Iraq in certain locations.

FAO has published the Iraq Seed Law draft and distributed the copies in order to create wider awareness among the seed industry stakeholders. The MoA is currently taking appropriate action on advance of the Seed law through the parliamentary process for adaptation and enactment.

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

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