

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund
Project #:C9-20
Date and Quarter Updated: April - June, 2nd Quarter 2010

Participating UN Organisation: UNOPS, UNAMI-OCS **Sector:** Governance

Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Iraqi Constitutional Review Committee (CRC) (part of Council of Representatives)

Title	Facilitating Reconciliation in Iraq through Constitutional Review and National Dialogue				
Geographic Location	Nationwide with bulk of activities in Baghdad.				
Project Cost	US\$ 6,033,807				
Duration	47 months				
Approval Date (SC)	19 th October 2006	Starting Date	1 st November 2006	Completion Date	30 th September 2010
Project Description	UNOPS is implementing this project with UNAMI Office of Constitutional Support to allow the continuation of UNAMI-OCS support to the constitutional review process in order to finalise a constitution that can truly be considered a social contract between the peoples of Iraq, and that in today's environment might double as a peace agreement in so far as a truly consensual document should see resolution of the key divisive issues in Iraq. The project includes activities in direct support of the CRC (infrastructural, organisation of Multi Party Dialogues, Study Tours, provision of constitutional) as well as assistance to the Iraqi civil society initiatives supporting process of constitutional review and national reconciliation.				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

Development Goal

To ensure transparent, inclusive, consensus-based resolution of divisive constitutional issues in Iraq through constitution-making processes, focusing in particular on the rule of law, federalism, governance and identity-based issues, by supporting Iraqi institutions through the review of the Constitution and through the implementation of constitutional mandated laws and by engaging key actors of the Iraqi society into reconciliation initiatives.

The project contributed to the following development goals set out for Iraq:

UN Assistance Strategy for Iraq

This project directly contributes to achieving the fourth goal of the UNCT Assistance Strategy matrix: *“To promote good governance and democratic processes, assist to uphold the rule of law and establish a human rights regime”*.

UN Millennium Development Goals

MDG: 8

“Develop a global partnership for Development”, point 1, which “...includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction— nationally and internationally.”

Iraqi National Development Strategy

The Programme contributes to the following Iraq National Development Goals:

“Strengthening good governance and security”

International Compact with Iraq

Benchmarks/Indicators: 4.2.1. (Engaging with Civil Society)

Immediate Objectives:

1. Provide support to key Iraqi governmental institutions, and in particular the Constitutional Review Committee, to manage the constitutional amendment process and implement constitutional mandated laws.
2. Nurture a consensus-based constitution-review and implementation process by raising the awareness of the key issues in such a way that they are prioritised, internationalised and technicised.

3. Increase inclusiveness and transparency of the constitutional review and implementation process and foster national reconciliation through public outreach and support to civil society initiatives.

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement	
Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved management of the constitutional review process and implementation of constitutional mandated laws, and enhanced capacity, both operational and technical, of the Constitutional Review Committee in order to ensure optimal discharge of its responsibilities 2. Enhanced dialogue between political actors, based on improved understanding, of options for resolution of issues, for consensus-based constitution making process.. 3. Multi-stakeholders working towards the resolution of divisive constitutional issues, the contribution to cessation of violence to provide an environment for constructive dialogue 4. Empowerment of civil society to advocate constitutional and national reconciliation concerns.
Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide knowledge-based support to key Iraqi institutions, and develop panel of experts to contribute to elaboration of papers/present options on <i>ad hoc</i> workshops, on relevant topics to Constitution process when proposed by Iraqis counterparts. 2. Provide infrastructure support to the CRC, including Secretariat, and establish and support a Public Outreach Unit 3. Organise study tours relevant to the Constitutional process, and organise second-generation multiparty thematic dialogues on relevant topics. 4. Raise capacity of CRC and other negotiators through expert advice on negotiation and training workshops. 5. Engage on constitutionally-related reconciliation and transitional justice issues with HRO, Human Rights NGOs, UN agencies, Ministry of State for National Reconciliation, and others. 6. Receive proposals from NGOs, CSOs and academic institutions interested in carrying out initiatives of National Reconciliation, and support technically / financially selected proposals.
Procurement (major items)	Request for proposal - for Dialogue Fund in Kirkuk, Bagdad and Erbil governorates. Following competitive selection process, four grants were awarded to four NGOs, two in Erbil and two in Kirkuk.

Funds Committed	\$ 5,440,724.47	% of approved	90%
Funds Disbursed	\$ 5,357,246.58	% of approved	89%
Forecast final date	30 th September 2010	Delay (months)	

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men		
Women		
Children		
IDPs		
Others		
Indirect beneficiaries		
Employment generation (men/women)		

This project focuses on the support to the political processes, which can benefit the entire state of Iraq. Therefore it is not possible to distinguish particular categories and number of beneficiaries.

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results			
1. Provide support to key Iraqi governmental institutions, and in particular the Constitutional Review Committee, to manage the	Senior Reconciliation Expert continued (until the end of May) to support UNAMI in Baghdad on the issues related to reconciliation and constitution in Iraq.	% of planned	It is an ongoing process which following extension of the project will be continued

constitutional amendment process and implement constitutional mandated laws.			for a longer period of time than originally envisioned.
2. Nurture a consensus-based constitution-review and implementation process by raising the awareness of the key issues in such a way that they are prioritised, internationalised and technicised.	No activities could take place due to the Parliamentary elections in Iraq held in March. And following process of forming of the Government, which has not been completed by the end of the reporting period.	% of planned	Achievements against the extended implementation period – 93% of planned, which reflects 44 months of implementation against the planned 47 months of the overall (extended) implementation period.
3. Increase inclusiveness and transparency of the constitutional review and implementation process and foster national reconciliation through public outreach and support to civil society initiatives.	The four selected NGOs implementing the Dialogue Fund have succeeded to engage various stakeholders at a local, grass roots level and to establish effective dialogue and debate activities to collect the views and recommendations on minority, hydrocarbons and water management issues. IHRE, one of the four selected NGOs completed the project which included conducting workshops in different districts in Kirkuk and submitted the final report. The other 3 NGOs are at the final stage of implementation. Activities such as community meetings gathering people from different ethnicities, focus groups, research studies, seminars, debates with youth, handouts, radio programs, reportage on debate sessions printed in local newspaper have been successfully prepared and completed,		

Qualitative achievements against objectives and results

Objective 3: In the two governorates where the Dialogue Grant Fund is implemented, communities at the grass root level have been mobilized to participate in the different activities and empowered. In some cases, local authorities have been engaged in the initiatives which provided space for interaction and hence fostered their relationship, despite the difficult topics tackled. The four projects with their own strategies have managed to find suggestions and recommendations on the three main topics under discussion, in July these will be compiled and shared with the authorities as a contribution to the ongoing debate.

Main implementation constrains & challenges (2-3 sentences)

1. Overall security situation in Iraq and limited access to beneficiaries;
2. Difficulties in planning of the project related to political situation in Iraq (in particular the parliamentary elections period and expected changes within the CoR and GoI);
3. Given restrictions imposed by security concerns, ensuring proper monitoring of grants remains a challenge. However, great efforts are made to weigh up for the limited access to Iraq and to follow up that all activities are properly monitored.