



**2009 Annual (Tenth) Progress Report on Activities Implemented  
Under the United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund  
(UNDG ITF) of the International Reconstruction Fund Facility for  
Iraq (IRFFI)**

**Governance Sector Report**

Multi-Donor Trust Fund Office  
Bureau of Management  
United Nations Development Programme  
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## 1.1 Governance

### 1.1.1 Sector Outcomes and Outputs

<b>Governance</b>	
<b>Outcome 1</b>	<b><i>Strengthened electoral processes in Iraq</i></b>
Output 1.1	Increased institutional capacity of the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) to independently carry out elections
Output 1.2	Increased electoral awareness and citizen engagement in electoral processes
Output 1.3	Select electoral operations supported
Output 1.4	Capacity of electoral and media observers strengthened
<b>Outcome 2</b>	<b><i>Strengthened national dialogue and civil society for governance and reconciliation</i></b>
Output 2.1	Reconciliation promoted through constitutional review
Output 2.2	National dialogue and transitional justice initiatives strengthened
Output 2.3	Independent civil society and media enabled through legal and regulatory frameworks, professional development, and strengthened training institutions
Output 2.4	Capacity of women and women's institutions increased to enable them to take an active role in the governance process
<b>Outcome 3</b>	<b><i>Enhanced rule of law and respect for human rights in line with international standards</i></b>
Output 3.1	Strengthened capacity of key Government of Iraq and nongovernment institutions to protect and promote human rights
Output 3.2	Strengthened institutions for the rule of law and administration of justice
<b>Outcome 4</b>	<b><i>Strengthened regulatory frameworks, institutions, and processes of national and local governance</i></b>
Output 4.1	Council of Representatives capacity developed for integrity, inclusive governance, gender and human rights
Output 4.2	Enhanced Iraqi capacities to plan, coordinate, implement and monitor public sector reforms and international assistance
Output 4.3	E-governance strategy drafted and Government of Iraq equipped with pilot e-governance systems
Output 4.4	Strengthened regulatory and institutional framework for anti-corruption and accountability

### 1.1.2 Operating Context During Reporting Period

In 2009, the United Nations was still working under the UN Assistance Strategy for Iraq 2008–2010, which was signed on 13 August 2008 by the Government of Iraq (GoI) and the UN. Under this Strategy, the focus is on mobilizing Iraq's own resources and building its capacity for good governance. It is closely aligned with the GoI's National Development Strategy (NDS) and the International Compact with Iraq and supports adherence to the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, to which Iraq is now a signatory.

During the reporting period the UN completed a UN Common Country Assessment (CCA), which served as the basis of a future UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for the period 2011–2014. "Governance" was one of three Thematic Working Groups for the CCA/UNDAF, enabling substantial

linkages between the governance priorities of the UN Assistance Strategy and the UNDAF, due to supersede it in 2011. In parallel, the GoI progressed in formulating its five-year National Development Plan (NDP) 2010–2014, which will replace the NDS. The CCA/UNDAF and NDP processes offered a valuable opportunity for open consultation between the GoI and non-state Iraqi stakeholders, the UN and the rest of the international community and should ensure even further rapprochement in the developmental priorities of national counterparts and international partners.

This reporting period was also an election year with provincial elections in January 2009 and the preparation of parliamentary elections for the first quarter of 2010. The provincial elections, held in 14 governorates, transpired with no serious security incidents before, during or immediately after polling; there was increased participation of most political groups; the quota of at least 25 percent women elected to governorate councils was achieved; and the performance of the Independent High Electoral Commission was widely acclaimed. Generally, the ongoing violence in the country continued a downward trend with the exception of mixed-population governorates such as Diyala, Ninewa and to a lesser extent Kirkuk. Multi-National Force troops withdrew from towns and cities in Iraq in June. The intensive military operations of the GoI came to closure, particularly in Basrah and southern areas and in Baghdad. Public statements by the GoI and by many Iraqis running for elected office in the governorates began emphasizing the need for service delivery and for employment for all Iraqis. Oil prices fell in January 2009 but picked up and leveled out during the course of the year. This market volatility underscored the need to press on with this window of opportunity for reforming the public sector in the hope of less onerous and more efficient central and local service delivery.

### **1.1.3 Implementation Constraints and Challenges**

The primary challenge for programme implementation in Iraq during 2009 was security. Due to the security situation, the largely remote management of the Governance Sector Outcome Team (SOT) from Amman continued as in the previous period—similarly for all SOTs. This modality hinders the flow of assistance, communication with counterparts, logistical preparation and information sharing between the UN, counterparts and Iraq-based partners. It also makes for more expensive project implementation as events often have to be held outside Iraq (such as Amman), with participants requiring travel and daily allowance coverage. UN security measures limit the number of international staff present at one time in Iraq and limit free movement outside the International Zone in Baghdad. Fielding international staff in the newly established governorate offices is also limited by logistics and accommodation.

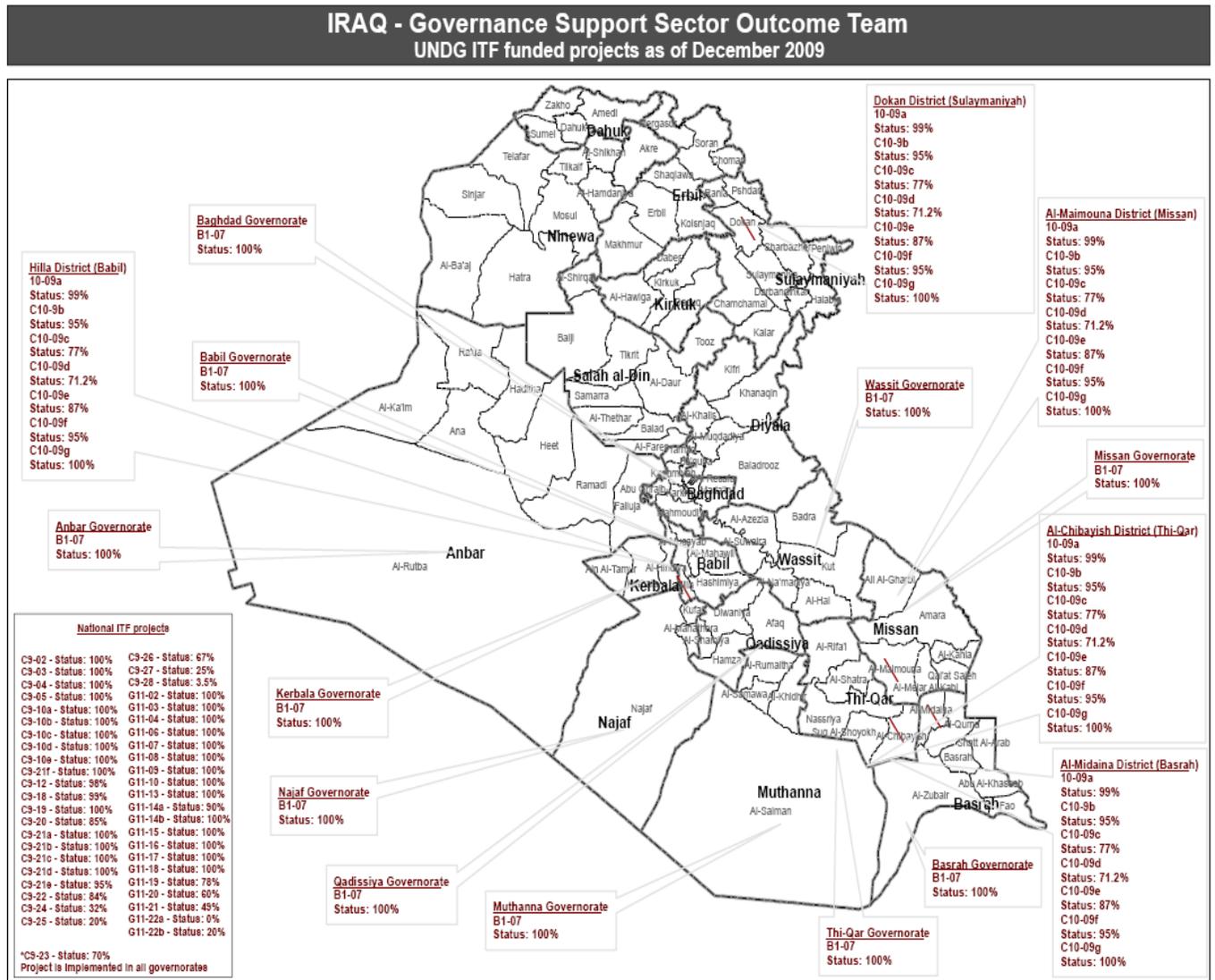
### **1.1.4 Coverage and Counterparts**

During the reporting period, the Governance sector focused primarily on supporting the Iraqi national government and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG). Some selected governorates such as Suleimaniyah (Sayed Sadeq and New Halabja), Babil (Hillah City), and the marshlands areas of Thi-Qar, Missan and Basrah governorates (Mdaina, Chibayesh and Maymouna districts) participated in activities of the Local Area Development Programme (LADP). Nationwide support to nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) continued through partnerships with the NGO Coordination Committee in Iraq (NCCI) and its 80 member organizations.

Prominent implementing partners of the Governance sector include: Albany Associates, IREX Europe, BBC World Service Trust, Aswat Al-Iraq, Reuters Thomson Foundation, Index on Censorship, International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung (FES), Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies (ACHRS), Synergy, Geopolicity, ATS, Nashita, Audit Bureau of Egypt, Audit

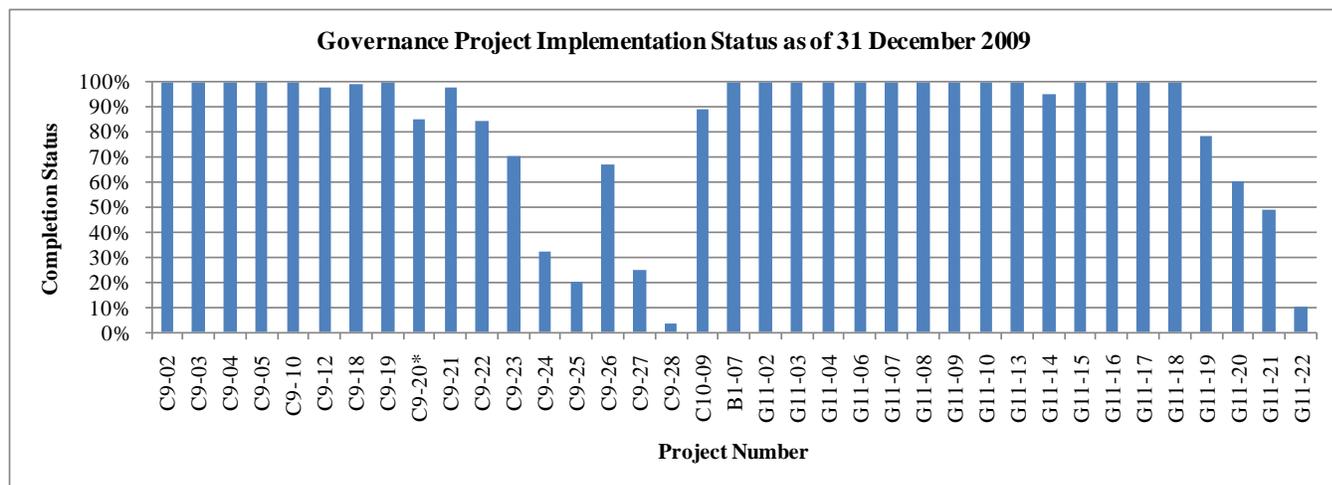
Bureau of Jordan, Court of Accounts of Tunisia, National Audit Office of the United Kingdom, Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, World Bank, NGO Coordination Committee in Iraq (NCCI), Canadian International Development Agency, Insan Iraqi Society, AIDMA International Development, Juvenile Justice Coordination Committee, Save the Children UK, International Medical Corps, Norwegian Church Aid, Norwegian People's Aid, Child Rights Network, and the Arab Institute for Human Rights Tunisia, Sheik Khalifa Foundation.

Figure Error! No text of specified style in document.–1 District Level Map for Governance Sector



### 1.1.5 Results

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### 1.1.6 Narrative Explanatory Summary of Results

During the reporting period, progress was made across all four Governance SOT Outcomes, with particular highlights in Outcomes 1 and 4. Activities were led by six UN Agencies (UNDP, UNOPS, UNIFEM, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNESCO), with inter-agency cooperation of UN Centre for Human Settlements (UN-HABITAT), World Health Organization (WHO) and International Labour Organization (ILO), and participation of UN Assistance Mission for Iraq–Electoral Assistance Division (UNAMI-EAD) and UNAMI–Human Rights Office (UNAMI-HRO), UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA) and International Organization for Migration (IOM), the latter not being a UN Agency but part of the wider UN family. This shows a high level of partnership across the UN family. In turn, these UN Agencies and Offices worked closely with no fewer than 32 major implementing partners.

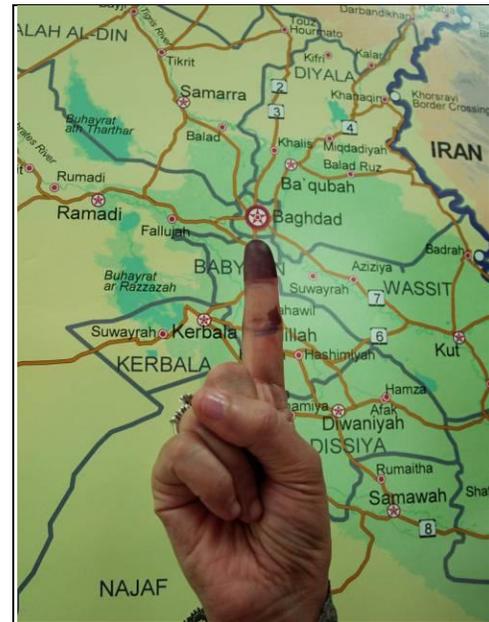
In addition to meeting their respective development mandates, the UN Agencies, as members of the SOT, contributed significantly to the achievement of the goals of the UN Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), particularly to the work of the Elections, Constitution and Legal Affairs, Political Affairs, and Human Rights units. Although not structured as an integrated mission, the UN Country Team and UNAMI “delivered as one” during the reporting period.

#### Outcome 1: Strengthened electoral processes in Iraq

Elections were a central activity for the Governance SOT in 2009, mainly by supporting the Iraq High Electoral Commission (IHEC) in the successful undertaking of provincial elections on 31 January 2009 and then with preparation for the 2010 parliamentary elections. The UN was mandated (under UN Security Council Resolution 1770) to provide assistance to IHEC, and this has been divided into two types of support. The first was immediate electoral operational support. Consequently, under UNAMI-EAD, UNOPS and UNDP partnership and in alliance with Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung (FES) and Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies (ACHRS), IHEC was provided with essential and urgent technical assistance. This was done by securing enough international electoral experts and advisors to provide IHEC with the required technical inputs during the 2009–2010 electoral events as well as supporting the training of 50,500 independent national electoral observers and the mobilization of 56,900 independent

national electoral observers to cover provincial elections, the Kurdistan elections and the voter registration update.

The second type of support was longer term institution building of IHEC and its use of media. Activities here were delivered by UNDP, UNOPS, UNESCO, UNIFEM and International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) and included improving IHEC Board and Public Outreach Department skills through the development of strategic management tools relating to public outreach, supporting and hosting a dedicated IHEC website and monitoring political party media access. Strengthening the electoral process in Iraq through strategic media engagement was an important area of activity, and resources were shifted away from general IHEC management support to improving IHEC media engagement competences, focusing on utilizing social media outlets. Through monitoring agents and NGO reports it is estimated that 75 national NGO partners managed to reach out to over 260,000 citizens and nearly 10,000 opinion leaders in all governorates on electoral awareness and civic engagement issues. In terms of heightening the quality of media coverage, UNDP assisted 150 media professionals in sharpening their election reporting skills.



The 2009 polls were the first elections held in Iraq to have been fully observed, as all 712 constituencies were covered. Indeed, in January 2009, IHEC demonstrated its ability to mobilize a nationwide voter registration update during a six-week period without serious security or logistical problems. This augurs well for the 2010 parliamentary elections.

Altogether, in 2009, 460 IHEC staff members were trained in specialized areas it had identified in its own workplan. An electoral education campaign was conducted, engaging more than 75 national NGOs.

Additionally, UN partners worked on other, concrete logistical measures for both election processes such as certifying political parties and candidates; developing strategies and processes for polling and counting; and procuring materials for voter lists and ballots.

During this reporting period, the necessary enabling legal framework was put in place through the enactment of the parliamentary election law. The parliamentary election law had a difficult approval process with a veto from one of the Vice-Presidents of Iraq regarding provisions for increased refugee representation in the future Parliament. This was eventually resolved and a second draft of the election law was passed on 6 December 2009 paving the way for national elections on 7 March 2010.

It is widely recognized that success of the 2010 parliamentary elections will depend on factors that go beyond the institutional competency of IHEC, the professionalism of which was demonstrated and acknowledged by the general public, political entities and international partners during 2009. This in itself is a significant contribution by the Governance sector to Outcome 1, “strengthened electoral processes in Iraq.”

### **Outcome 2: Strengthened national dialogue and civil society for governance and reconciliation**

Support for this outcome came about from several Governance SOT initiatives. The Constitutional Review Committee (CRC) of the Iraqi Council of Representatives concluded its work in January 2010, and its mandate officially ends on 15 March 2010, together with that of the remainder of the Council of Representatives. The third CRC report was informally submitted to the Presidency of Iraq in July 2009, but as of the time of writing the report has not been formally received by the Iraqi Council of Representatives. The July 2009 report acknowledges that a number of key constitutional issues, including the management of hydrocarbon resources, the Paramountcy Clause (Article 115), the formation of the Federation Council, the status of Article 140 and Kirkuk, and the respective powers of the Presidency, governorates and regions within the Iraqi federation remain unresolved. It is unclear whether the incoming Council of Representatives will continue with the Constitutional Review Process in the short or intermediate term. The extent of political fragmentation of the Parliament, after negotiations to form a government, will be determinative in answering this question. It can be anticipated that the key issues identified by the CRC in the July 2009 report will remain deeply contested.



*Iraqi women participating in elections*

UNOPS continued to support the CRC in 2009 by: mobilizing eight thematic experts to support the work of UNAMI in the areas of comparative constitutionalism/federalism, hydrocarbon regulations, water management and regional economic perspectives; arranging a study tour to India to examine Indian Federal systems; organizing four multi-party roundtables on the thematic areas previously mentioned; organizing three national-scale media campaigns (in-country and for diasporas) on the importance of working together on issues of reconciliation; and putting together a third media package for civil society organizations (CSOs), media bodies and national institutions on reconciliation and civic responsibilities.

UNDP’s support for reconciliation focused on supporting the National Center for Consultation and Management Development (NCCMD) and its important work on increased national dialogue, cross-community collaboration and enhanced reconstruction and development. This included facilitating its membership in regional networks such as the Governance Institute Forum for Training for Middle East and North Africa; e-governance training for NCCMD senior staff; business planning and financial management workshops; and an ILO study tour in Italy for 21 NCCMD staff members.

The NCCMD used its own newfound capacities to support the institution building of the Ministry of Councils of Representative Affairs (MoCRA) by undertaking a series of customized trainings and workshops and the installation of archiving equipment provided by UNOPS. Traineeships were also organized for four MoCRA staff members to the Lebanese Council of Ministries Secretariat (CoMSec), focusing on the relationship between the Government and the Parliament as well as the procedures governing that relationship. This type of study tour has since led to excellent relationships between the MoCRA and the Lebanese CoMSec, with the result of enhancing the MoCRA's standing as an equal partner in the Council of Ministers.

Through UNDP, UNAMI and UNESCO's media work, significant progress has been made in promoting debate on laws relating to freedom of expression and the right to information. The World Press Freedom Day, which highlighted the role of the media in fostering dialogue and reconciliation (as set by UNESCO) saw events coordinated by UNDP. A report was commissioned on the legal framework for media, internet and mobile telephony in Iraq that was used as a basis for discussions with stakeholders from the Ministry of Communication in Baghdad and Erbil, the Communication and Media Commission and private sector operators. Capacity-building measures were provided by UNDP to the Al-Aswat Independent News Agency, which became a registered NGO. By the end of 2009, the Aswat Foundation had won contracts worth over US\$1 million for media development activities with the European Commission/Internews, US Institute of Peace and UNESCO and was nominated for a Special Award for Media Development by the One World Broadcasting Trust. UNOPS trained 45 media professionals in specific ethics and internal governance issues so as to enhance the nationwide reporting of such issues, and UNIFEM trained 200 female Members of Parliament (MPs), government officials and media professionals on gender and other matters in relation to UN SCR 1325.

Peace-building initiatives were also critical for Outcome 2 in this period. UNDP and UNOPS provided academics, civil society leaders, women activists, youth, media professionals and cultural mediators with workshops on supporting conflict resolution and peace building. These workshops were accompanied by the establishment of two national networks specializing in national dialogue and conflict resolution; it is estimated that 5,000 people were reached through these measures. Religious and community leaders were sent on a study tour to South Africa to see how reconciliation issues were being dealt with in that country.

UNDP launched the National Dialogue Project. By working with civil society, this project aims to promote national dialogue among key constituencies, to diffuse tension and to promote cross-community collaboration. Phase II of the National Dialogue Project was concluded by March 2009.

Peace and reconciliation is evidenced in the recovery of cultural heritage. UNESCO continued its work in restoring the Samarra shrine, which had fallen victim to terrorist attacks in 2006 and 2007. Phase 1 of the project began with urgent preventative, preservation and safety activities in preparation for restoration of the shrine. Subsequent activities will include small restoration activities at other historical and cultural sites. It is anticipated that the Samarra shrine restoration will be completed in 2010.

The bulk of work for supporting civil society and its role in the governance process was in reviewing relevant legislation. UNOPS continued support to the drafting process for a new enabling Iraqi NGO law. Following extensive consultations and a participatory process involving broad representation from NGOs and CSOs, a draft law was approved by the Council of Ministers and submitted for final endorsement to the Council of Representatives. Consultations between State Ministry for Civil Society Affairs, the Council of Ministers' Civil Society Committee and NGO representatives had aimed to improve the law's

adherence to international standards. Of note, legal provisions to ease registration and ensure freedom of association are being addressed. The new NGO law was finally approved in early 2010 and addresses such issues as the minimum number of NGO founders; ability to appeal registration denial; reporting requirements; audit and fund confiscation; restrictions on foreign affiliations; and punishment for law infringement. UNOPS facilitated the establishment of an NGO network for Emergency Preparedness and Response and ensured that two NGOs were capable of providing capacity-building measures to other NGOs.

### **Outcome 3: Enhanced rule of law and respect for human rights in line with international standards**

Some important developments occurred under this Outcome in 2009. In terms of Rule of Law activities, UNDP progressed on establishing a pilot model court in Baghdad. Information technology (IT) equipment for the court has been delivered and received by counterparts, and capacity development on pilot courts and case management systems has been undertaken. This is considered the starting point for establishment of automated case management in the selected pilot courts. Work has also started on supporting the Iraq Judicial Training Institute with contracts awarded for reforming the curriculum and providing staff training whilst the Ministry of Justice strategic plan was adopted and began to be rolled out.

Under the leadership of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, a review of the Juvenile Care Law was undertaken. An action agenda was also adopted for: a) community-based actions to prevent children-at-risk from violating the law and to protect vulnerable children from recruitment by armed groups; b) reduction of pre-trial detention time and measures to defer detention to a last resort; and, c) introduction of alternative options that will reduce the numbers of children going through the formal justice system. Implementation of the agenda will benefit 8,500 children, young people and care givers, disaggregated as 7,200 at-risk-children and young people on prevention, 750 children and young people in detention and reformatories and 550 care-givers. Furthermore, UNICEF supported four laws relating to children (reviewed to international standards and presented to the Council of Representatives) as well as ensuring training of 100 members of the Iraq legal system on international standards of juvenile justice.



With assistance from UNAMI-HRO and UNDP, progress was made on human rights with the Ministry of Human Rights (MoHR) having its Strategic Plan finally activated. Concretely, four workshops (two business planning, one financial management and one training of trainers) were conducted for senior employees of the MoHR. UNDP supported the participation of Directors General from MoHR in an ESCWA training course in proposal writing and project management.

The National Institute of Human Rights (NIHR) also had its management plan supported and implemented. A final training workshop was organized by UNDP from 31 May to 9 June 2009 that targeted 15 NIHR trainers. This workshop was a key component of UNDP's support to the NIHR, which was established by the MoHR to disseminate the culture of human rights, as well as to raise awareness about human rights principles to the wider public. Around 120 GoI officials and 100 CSO activists and media professionals received training on monitoring and reporting on human rights. UNAMI-HRO, UNDP and UN-ESCWA provided specific training to 30 GoI officials on human rights reporting as per its obligations under international human rights law. Additionally, 5,000 Iraqis (50 percent women) received free legal services in 2009.

Finally, IOM trained 300 migration and border officers on new migration policies and approaches.

#### **Outcome 4: Strengthened regulatory frameworks, institutions, and processes of national and local governance**

The UN provided senior expertise to support the MoP in drafting the National Development Plan (NDP) and the subsequent November conference in Erbil on this subject. The UN's Common Country Assessment (CCA) work also fed directly into the efforts of the GoI in putting together the NDP, especially the sectoral analyses. The draft NDP will include a special chapter on "Governance" as a result of the contributions of the UN to the NDP, through the CCA process. Support was provided to central Government by the UN to reinforce the work of the International Compact with Iraq (ICI) Secretariat, particularly on agriculture and water.

The GoI continued to strengthen its aid management capabilities with UNDP assistance. For example, Donor Assistance Database (DAD) Management Units were established in the Baghdad and KRG Ministries of Planning, and 25 capacity-building courses were delivered including a final workshop on DAD and aid management in December 2009. Capacity-development support for the line Ministries, including Ministry of Health, Ministry of Electricity, and Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works was equally provided. The National Budget Capital investment projects have begun to be incorporated into the DAD, increasing its utility. Development and installation of interactive web portals of the designated Ministries for publishing key data and reports on international assistance, at national and ministerial/sector/community levels, represent the first steps in introducing a transparent and accountable e-government framework for Iraq. The following line Ministries now have operational web portals: Planning, Municipalities and Public Works, Planning (KRG), and Electricity (web portal is developed and will be launched in the first half of 2010).

Work on decentralised and local governance commenced in earnest in 2009. UNDP undertook a situation analysis on local governance, a governorates profile, and e-readiness assessments in Iraq through contracts with national institutions, namely the Beit Al-Hikma, NCCMD, the Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology (COSIT), and the Statistical Office in KRG. The situation analysis will provide a comprehensive and common understanding of existing legal frameworks, institutional

structures, human capacities, assets, processes, service delivery mechanisms and constraints in 18 governorates in Iraq. The data will be disaggregated by gender. The e-readiness assessment component of all governorates aims to strengthen opportunities for regional integration with national e-government.

The Local Area Development Programme (LADP) continued its implementation, led by UNDP, with six other UN partner agencies each taking responsibility for activities in their area of competence. These are ILO, UN-HABITAT, WHO, UNESCO, UNIFEM and UNOPS.

LADP achieved significant progress in 2009 in the objective of strengthening the capabilities of local authorities in three selected geographic areas. Six socio-economic district plans reached the final stage of preparation in five governorates, with the participation and capacity development of numerous local stakeholders. Under the leadership of UNDP, all LADP agencies have collaborated in the joint development of a comprehensive, gender-sensitive, multi-sectoral, inclusive and participatory planning approach for economic recovery and development. Local planning tools and formats have been produced, including a local planning handbook, training guidebook on gender mainstreaming in planning, spatial analysis framework, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework. To stimulate local economic development and generate employment, key economic stakeholders (public, private, CSO) at the governorate level in Sulymaniyah have been organized within the Sulymaniyah Economic Group and sensitized on key approaches to economic recovery and development (ILO/UNOPS).

Moreover, access to training, counseling and other business development services in the three areas is being improved through the establishment of three Business Information Centers in partnership with the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sulymaniyah, Hillah and Basrah (ILO/UNOPS). Access to credit for local micro and small entrepreneurs has been enhanced in the three areas, and 113 new and 602 existing businesses have benefited, including 156 women-owned businesses (ILO/UNOPS). Short-term employment of more than 135,000 person-days has been generated by fast-track infrastructure projects (UNDP, UN-HABITAT, WHO). Three vocational training centers (VTCs) have been established in the North, Centre and South, with equipment being provided for sewing, carpentry, computing, welding and automobiles. VTCs are expected to start holding training courses by mid May 2010 (UNESCO).

To improve social and physical infrastructure with labour-intensive approaches, implementation has continued on 112 UNDP-supported fast-track sub-projects in five governorates, which give a greater role to GoI technical departments for sub-project implementation with a focus on agriculture, electricity, water and sanitation, and culture and traditions. Implementation has also continued on 16 UN-HABITAT-supported fast-track projects that include rehabilitation and extension of primary and secondary schools, vocational training and crafting schools, youth centres, resurfacing of roads/pathways and construction of parks. Five major WHO-supported rehabilitation projects have also been completed in the five districts, where biomedical equipment and vehicles have been procured to increase the capacity of the local primary health care system to increase access and outreach to the local population.

In terms of enhancing local government planning, policy-making and delivery capacities, UNDP and UNIFEM assisted five local governance units to establish participatory, gender-sensitive, local area development plans, and equipped them with decentralized databases to facilitate local service delivery. Two of these units started e-services. On a larger scale, 60 urban planners were provided with advanced training in their field as well as on data management.

Regarding nationwide progress on implementing the Iraq strategy on e-governance, a high level conference took place in Baghdad in December 2009 entitled 'Building e-Iraq.' Chaired by the Ministry of Science and Technology with support from UNDP, the conference built support for e-governance policies and initiatives that are still emerging in Iraq, provided a forum to discuss concrete and innovative approaches and solutions to public administration challenges, and enabled South-South cooperation from India.

UNFPA continued to support the capacities of COSIT, at national and governorate levels, to plan and implement high-quality and internationally recognized population and housing censuses and other large-scale surveys. Training of trainers (TOT) workshops for COSIT and related national partners were provided, covering areas such as data capture software applications, design of census questionnaires, and so on. Moreover, COSIT's systems for ensuring compliance with established scientific international standards were strengthened, including quality assurance, independent observation, and monitoring and evaluation capabilities. Over 200 census documents and guidelines and manuals were reviewed, translated and printed to serve the census Iraqi national teams and other institutions in line with international standards.

UNDP continued to work with the GoI to promote good governance, honesty, transparency and accountability in the use and management of public resources by strengthening the capacity of the Board of Supreme Audit (BSA). Capacity-building work included providing a four-week training course on the Oracle Developer enterprise system and an eight-week translation course for 23 translators delivered in cooperation with London Metropolitan University. A three-day study tour to Rome was organized for seven BSA members to learn methods used in Italy for intercepting and investigating suspect money-laundering activities and to explore the legal framework systems and procedures for safeguarding, auditing and control of public expenditure. The activities were implemented in cooperation with the ILO.

Finally, a five-day meeting was organized between BSA and the contractor to discuss and plan for the implementation of Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) at the BSA offices in Iraq. This was followed by a four-month training session on the actual EDMS, which was concluded at the end of November 2009 in Amman.

Under this SOT Outcome, including gender sensitization in the governance machinery of Iraq was a priority cross-cutting issue, translated not only at local level but also in the Council of Representatives. To this end, a code of conduct for MPs was implemented and actively monitored. UNDP and UNIFEM put together a major workshop targeting 100 Iraqi counterparts participating in capacity-building activities on integrity, inclusive governance, gender and human rights subjects. It was noted that in 2009 women-oriented issues were on the CoR agenda eight times.

### **1.1.7 Other SOT Major Contributions and Implementing Partners**

**Anti-corruption:** The GoI ratified the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) on 17 March 2008, following the first international conference on anti-corruption, held in Baghdad. Support for compliance with the UNCAC started in May 2008, and led to a comprehensive, five-year joint programme on anti-corruption, supported by UNDP and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). During 2009, the legal framework was reviewed for compliance with the UNCAC, including analysis of existing laws, Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) Orders and the criminal code. A series of trainings were conducted to equip a core group of Iraqi trainers from the BSA, Commission on Integrity, MoPDC/COSIT, the

Council on Integrity (COR), the Central Bank and Office of the Inspector General to conduct assessments of the legal, operational and capacity constraints in various public institutions as inputs to a national anti-corruption strategy. Under the leadership of the Joint Anti-Corruption Council (JACC), the government prepared a draft Anti-Corruption Strategy and Anti-Corruption Law, which will be shared broadly at national and governorate levels and with the public.

**Local Area Development Plan (LADP):** Thanks to additional Swedish funding, six additional districts in the Marshlands have prepared plans, allowing the consolidation of district plans for the entire Marshland area under the auspices of the Ministry of State for the Marshlands (MoSM). As a result, all requested rural projects were incorporated in the MoSM five-year plan, which has been submitted to the MoPDC.

**Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):** Under the title of ‘Capacity Development on MDG Monitoring, Reporting and Planning at the National and Local Level in Iraq,’ UNDP launched the Iraq Info database ([www.iraqinfo-online.org](http://www.iraqinfo-online.org)).

**Rule of law and justice:** With bilateral assistance from the European Commission (EC), model courts were advanced in Erbil and Basrah. The first dedicated meeting and training workshop for women judges took place in May 2009, with the participation of the Chief Judges. A questionnaire collected information and professional development needs from the judges to guide efforts to increase the number of women in judiciary service. Extensive assistance was provided for the protection and promotion of the rights of detainees by UNOPS, under the EC-funded ‘Rule of Law and Justice’ project. Full reporting is available from UNDP and UNOPS.

