

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund**

**Project #:A5-32**

**Date and Quarter Updated: 1 July- 30 September 2010 (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter)**

**Participating UN Organisation:** FAO **Sector:** Agriculture and Food Security  
**Government of Iraq- Responsible Line Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)  
 Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation (MoPDC)

<b>Title</b>	Iraq Agricultural Growth and Employment Support (I-AGES) Program				
<b>Geographic Location</b>	National				
<b>Project Cost</b>	US \$5,000,000				
<b>Duration</b>	36 months				
<b>Approval Date (SC)</b>	6/27/2010	<b>Starting Date</b>	7 /02/2010	<b>Completion Date</b>	7/1/2013
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The purpose of the I-AGES program is to create an enabling environment that maximizes agricultural growth/diversification and employment generation in support of poverty reduction and food security. This will be achieved by removing binding constraints to growth at the policy, institutional and agrarian systems level through the strengthening of public sector investment, and by providing greater space for the private sector in this most important economic area.</p> <p>The proposed Iraq Agricultural Growth and Employment Generation Support (I-AGES) program has been designed as a nationally led priority investment program, aimed at undertaking urgent analytical and diagnostic work in Phase I (surveys and studies), to then develop for the first time a National Agricultural Policy and National Agricultural Investment Strategy in Phase 2, supported by the implementation of National Priority Programmes implemented through the national budget – as the primary tool of policy.</p> <p>I-AGES addresses two primary national investment priorities (i) the need for an evidence-based national agricultural policy and investment strategy to promote rapid economic diversification and (ii) sustained non-public sector employment generation.</p>				

<b>Development Goal and Immediate Objectives</b>	
<b>Development Goal:</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enabling environment created for sustaining agriculture development and food security.</li> <li>2. Enhanced production and productivity in the agricultural sector.</li> <li>3. Creation of efficient agricultural sector for poverty reduction and employment generation.</li> </ol>	
<b>Immediate Objectives:</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Collaborate with Government partners in completion of evidence based studies and surveys.</li> <li>2. Enable and support the government in completion of an Agriculture Strategy.</li> <li>3. Enable and support the government in completion of an Agriculture Policy.</li> <li>4. Use of the Strategy and Policy to formulate National Projects.</li> </ol>	

<b>Outputs, Key activities and Procurement</b>	
<b>Outputs</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. GoI and partners have improved knowledge and evidence base for the development of national agricultural policy and strategy</li> <li>2. GOI better able to formulate and implement the National Agriculture Policy</li> <li>3. GoI better able to develop and implement the agriculture sector investment strategy in line with national priorities</li> </ol>
<b>Activities</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 MOA /COSIT/NAPWG/ University staff trained and completed growth diagnostic design, identification and analysis of agriculture growth indicators, investment climate survey, labor market survey, value chain study, trade volume analysis.</li> <li>2.1 MoA trained on developing a National Agriculture Policy and writing the final version.</li> <li>3.1 MoA trained on developing a National Agriculture Sector Investment Strategy and writing the final</li> </ol>

	version.
<b>Procurement</b>	1. Computers and Monitors 2. Servers 3. Consultant staffing for the training and studies/surveys

<b>Funds Committed</b>	US\$ 0	<b>% of approved</b>	%0
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	US\$ 0		%0
<b>Forecast final date</b>	30-11-2011	<b>Delay (months)</b>	

\* New project. Figures not available yet. Baby budget not available.

<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>	<b>% of planned (current status)</b>
Men	250	0%
Women	50	0%
Children	0	0%
IDPs	0	0%
Others		
Indirect beneficiaries	15,000	0%
Employment generation (men/women)	300	0%

<b>Quantitative achievements against objectives and results</b>			
GoI and partners have improved knowledge and evidence base for the development of national agricultural policy and strategy	MOA /COSIT/NAPWG/ University staff trained and completed growth diagnostic design.	% of planned	0 %
	MOA /COSIT/NAPWG/ University staff trained and complete identification and analysis of agriculture growth indicators.	% of planned	0 %
	MOA /COSIT/NAPWG/ University staff trained and complete investment climate survey.	% of planned	0 %
	MOA /COSIT/NAPWG/ University staff trained and complete labor market survey.	% of planned	0 %
	MOA /COSIT/NAPWG/ University staff trained and complete value chain study.	% of planned	0 %
	MOA /COSIT/NAPWG/ University staff trained and complete trade volume analysis.	% of planned	0 %
GOI better able to formulate and implement the National Agriculture Policy	MoA trained on developing a National Agriculture Policy and writing the final version.	% of planned	0 %
GoI better able to develop and implement the agriculture sector investment strategy in line with national priorities	MoA trained on developing a National Agriculture Sector Investment Strategy and writing the final version.	% of planned	0 %

<b>Qualitative achievements against objectives and results</b>
<p>The project has started approximately 3 months ago and therefore few achievements are currently in place. The project is currently in inception phase with planning and procurement starting.</p> <p>Activities achieved and progressed:</p> <p>1) August 23/24 I-AGES Inception Technical Meeting was held to discuss the project with government counterparts. Evidence based studies in phase I have been discussed and procurement will start soon for it. Once the procurement is completed, the studies and surveys will commence.</p> <p>This project contributes to capacity building of Government of Iraq in conducting evidence based studies and surveys and using the results in formulation of Agricultural Strategy and Policy. This process is new to certain sectors within Iraq, including Agriculture; therefore it makes this project extremely important.</p>

<b>Main implementation constrains &amp; challenges (2-3 sentences)</b>
None.