

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund**

**Project #:C10-10**

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

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

<b>Title</b>	Local Government Association and Urban Development Capacity Building Project				
<b>Geographic Location</b>	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.				
<b>Project Cost</b>	\$1,985,256				
<b>Duration</b>	[15 months and 18 months delay]				
<b>Approval Date (SC)</b>	17 Mar 2008	<b>Starting Date</b>	26 Mar 2008	<b>Completion Date</b>	26 June 2009 Extension approved till 26 Jun 2010. Extension approved till 31 Dec 2010
<b>Project Description</b>	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**

<b>Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>1.2 Ministry planners effectively managing the preparation of master plans for Iraqi cities and towns.</li> <li>2.1 A fully established Iraqi municipal association with a constitution, board of directors, budget &amp; workplan.</li> <li>2.2 A municipal association policy statement regarding decentralization and local government reform.</li> </ul>
<b>Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1.1 Prepare a training needs assessment &amp; a capacity development &amp; training plan for the Ministry’s planners.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>1.1.3 Train Iraqi academic staff to deliver the basic training course for MMPW planners in Iraq.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>1.1.5 Engage international and Iraqi institutions/consultants to design and deliver an advanced training course for up to 50 Ministry planners in specialized priority areas.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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</li> </ul>

	<p>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>
<b>Procurement</b>	N/A

**Situation as of 30/9/2010**

<b>Funds Committed</b>	\$ 1,007,403.78	<b>% of approved</b>	51 %
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	\$ 815,603.66	<b>% of approved</b>	41 %
<b>Forecast final date</b>	31 December 2010	<b>Delay (months)</b>	18

<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>	<b>% of planned (current status)</b>
Men	Up to 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.	

<b>Quantitative achievements against objectives and results</b>			
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 at 10 day training course held between 11 <sup>th</sup> and 22 <sup>nd</sup> April. Expenses for the venue , training materials and participants travel and expenses was 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. A workshop was held between 5 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2010 in Amman for 30 participants including MMPW, MOP Baghdad University, the Iraqi Local Government Association (ILGA), the General Organization for Physical Planning (GOPP), UN-HABITAT training experts from Baghdad, Erbil and Amman in addition to urban planners from planning institutes in India and Malaysia. During the workshop, the participants undertook a review of the training courses which were delivered earlier by 10 trainers to 50 trainees from MMPW and MoP. Trainings were assessed and an action plan for a way forward was drafted and shared with participants. The workshop resulted in two Agreements of Cooperation currently underway including a new AOC with GOPP and a new partnership with the Amman Institute to carry out a number of capacity building activities with the ILGA, MoP, MMPW and	<b>% of planned</b>	50

	<p>other counterparts.</p> <p>UN-HABITAT contributed with US \$ 30,000 to support a joint UN media campaign to eradicate violence against women. UN-HABITAT shared its key messages and guidelines on the importance of safe housing and its role in protecting women.</p>		
1.2 Ministry planners effectively managing the preparation of master plans for Iraqi cities and towns.	<p>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. Urban Consultation Findings Report was finalized including A) a briefing for UNHABITAT local team and consultants on proposed process B) urban district needs and priorities exercise and C) consultation exercise in urban areas.</p> <p>Guidance note on preparation of Provincial Development Strategy (PDS) in Basra produced, including reference to priority urban issues and proposed consultation processes.</p> <p>Draft technical note produced on aspects, challenges and operations of the development of City Master Plans with specific reference to aspects of sustainable development including economic development, housing and the informal sector.</p> <p>Sample survey was conducted &amp; drafted covering links between consultation recommendations &amp; implementation of Basra City MasterPlan.</p>	<b>% of planned</b>	70
2.1 A fully established Iraqi municipal association with a constitution, board of directors, budget and work plan.	<p>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.</p>	<b>% of planned</b>	15
2.2 A municipal association policy statement regarding decentralization and local government reform.	<p>Shortlisting and recruitment of Local Governance and Decentralisation consultant to oversee output 2.1, 2.2 and work under other decentralisation and local governance programmes underway.</p>	<b>% of planned</b>	10

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

Successful completion of the training for 50 staff members from the MMPW and the MoPDC on 14 modules covering various aspects of strategic planning, urban management and economic development. The training was conducted by 10 senior Iraqi government officers, consultants and academic prepared as ToT's under a programme with the Government Organisation of Physical Planning in Egypt.

As a result of the workshop which was held in Amman during the period 5 and 9 August 2010 for Iraqi participants, the General Organization for Physical Planning (GOPP), UN-HABITAT training experts from Baghdad, Erbil and Amman in addition to urban planners from planning institutes in India and Malaysia, two Agreements of Cooperation are currently underway with GOPP and a new partnership with the Amman Institute.

Review meeting on the Basra City Master Plan prior to the recruitment of an International Consultant to examine the options for linking the city master plan to other governorate level planning processes and effectively managing implementation and review meeting with the Iraq Local Government Association

Urban Consultation Findings Report finalized and a guidance note on preparation of Provincial Development Strategy (PDS) in Basra produced.

#### **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 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 remain important and following the review by the main donor, UNHABITAT is now in discussion again on the potential areas for complementary support to the ILGA.