

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund

Project #:C10-10

Date and Quarter Updated: 31st December 2010 (4th Quarter)

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

Title	Local Government Association and Urban Development Capacity Building Project				
Geo. Location	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.				
Project Cost	\$1,985,256				
Duration	15 months and 24 months delay				
Approval Date	17.03.2008	Starting Date	26.03.2008	Completion Date	26.06 2009 extended to 30.06.2011
Project Description	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

Outputs	<p>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.</p> <p>1.2 Ministry planners effectively managing the preparation of master plans for Iraqi cities and towns.</p> <p>2.1 A fully established Iraqi municipal association with a constitution, board of directors, budget and work plan.</p> <p>2.2 A municipal association policy statement regarding decentralization and local government reform.</p>
Activities	<p>1.1.1 Prepare a training needs assessment and a capacity development and training plan for the Ministry's planners.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1.1.3 Train Iraqi academic staff to deliver the basic training course for MMPW planners in Iraq.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 practices in other countries.</p>

	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>2.1.1 Engage international and Iraqi consultants to prepare an information and discussion paper on local governance and planning for elected representatives. .</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>
Procurement	N/A

Situation as of 31/12/2010

Funds Committed	\$ 1,443,649	% of approved	73 %
Funds Disbursed	\$ 902,749	% of approved	45 %
Forecast final date	30 June 2011	Delay (months)	24

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
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.	

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results	% of planned	
<p>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.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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. 2. Training delivered to 50 staff from MMPW and Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation during a 10 day training course held between 11th-22nd April 2010. Costs and expenses for the venue, training materials, and participants travel were shared with MMPW (USD \$50,000). 3. The training module content and options for improving the 'learning process' were reviewed at a workshop (5th-9th 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) and with UN-HABITAT training experts from Headquarters, Baghdad, Erbil and Amman with representatives from professional training institutes in India and Malaysia. Participants undertook a review of the training courses, the delivery and impact; prepared an action plan and nominated an informal steering committee to oversee steps towards long term capacity building. UN-HABITAT's National Coordinator in Baghdad will provide secretariat support to this group. 4. UN-HABITAT contributed with USD \$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. The campaign was held on 25 November and lasted till 12 December 2010. 5. A new agreement of cooperation (AOC) was signed with General Organisation for Physical Planning (GOPP) The AOC is expected to benefit 80 members including urban planning trainers and trainees; support the steering committee; create an e-learning website and plan a study tour to an urban planning institute in a country with a profile from which Iraqi planners can benefit. 	75%
<p>1.2 Ministry planners effectively managing the preparation of master plans for Iraqi cities and towns.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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 UN-HABITAT local team and consultants on proposed process b) urban district needs and priorities exercise and c) consultation exercise in urban areas. 2. 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. 3. Sample survey was conducted and drafted covering links between consultation recommendations and implementation of Basra City Master Plan. 	70%
<p>2.1 A fully established Iraqi municipal association with a constitution, board of directors, budget and work plan.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The AOC with Amman Institute (AI) will train 63 members of the existing Iraq Local Government Association from 6 of Iraq's governorates in two courses; One is for elected representatives on governance aspects of urban management; The second course will include one technical training for politicians and planners at the level of governorate on 'smart growth' for cities. The AI is a Think-and-Do Tank that is well positioned to undertake this Capacity development program due to its vast experience in municipal systems and issues and its deep understanding of both the operational, executive, and legislative functions of city councils and other similar bodies. AI arranged a study visit to its premises during a workshop held in August 2010 and briefed Iraqi participants of their work in Jordan, based on which Iraqi participants requested a partnership with AI. 2. 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. 	30%

2.2 A municipal association policy statement regarding decentralization and local government reform.	1. Local Governance and Decentralisation consultant has been hired to oversee output 2.1, 2.2 and work under other decentralisation and local governance programmes underway. A municipal association policy statement is likely to follow from the government and urban management course.	20%
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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 held in Amman from 5th-9th 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 were signed with GOPP, and a new partnership was formed with the Amman Institute.

An informal Steering Committee was formed to coordinate with GOPP on activities related to the AOC. UN-HABITAT will offer secretariat support to the SC.

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.

Local Governance and Decentralisation consultant has been hired to oversee output 2.1, 2.2 and work under other decentralisation and local governance programmes underway.

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.

There have been delays in deciding the most appropriate mechanism for supporting the Association. 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. Decisions were made to deliver the programme with a key urban institute in Amman.