

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund

Project: 66937: F8-07

Date and Quarter Updated: 1 October –31 December 2009 / 4th Quarter 2009

Participating UN Organisation: UNDP **Sector: Protection and Emergency Response**
Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry:
Relevant Iraqi Local Authorities who support NGO and INGO in realising projects.

Title	Support to the Expanded Humanitarian Response Fund (ERF)				
Geo. Location	Iraq–Countrywide				
Project Cost	USD\$15,000,000				
Duration	24 months				
Approval Date	13/11/2008	Starting Date	19/11/2008	Completion Date	19/11/2010 extended to 31.10.2011
Project Description	<p>The Expanded Humanitarian Response Fund has the aim to help fill critical humanitarian gaps within different sectors through readily available flexible funding for emergency response to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Save lives or protect threatened livelihoods; 2) Meet critical short-term humanitarian needs; 3) Respond to sudden onset complex humanitarian emergencies. <p>The ERF quickly responds to undertake urgent humanitarian activities in Iraq reflecting a flexible and localized approach to humanitarian action. Specifically, the Programme provides a useful channel to better target funds for unmet/urgent needs as a result of geographic, sectoral and funding gaps in humanitarian response and/or government capacity.</p>				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

Outcome 1: Improved support to vulnerable Iraqis through timely delivery of humanitarian assistance and protection.

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement

Outputs	<p>Output 1.1: Protection needs and gaps in essential services for vulnerable communities affected by crisis in Iraq are met (OCHA lead, UNDP).</p> <p>Output 1.2: Improved capacity, coverage, coordination and impact of humanitarian action (OCHA lead, UNDP).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Enhanced capacity of NGOs at the field level through support of projects responding to key gaps. b) ERF projects respond to identified needs based on updated data analysis (information). <p>Output 1.3: Strengthened links between immediate action for families in crisis and support for early recovery (OCHA lead, UNDP).</p> <p>Output 1.4: Enhanced emergency preparedness to respond to crises in Iraq (OCHA).</p>
Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1.1 Actively invite, process, and select projects responding rapidly to humanitarian key gaps, and disburse funds accordingly. 1.1.2 Monitor and evaluate impact of funded projects. 1.1.3 Administer the processing of funds directly to implementing partners. 1.1.4 Consult with SOTs and relevant partners to invite projects targeting key humanitarian gaps. 1.2.1 Actively invite, process, and select Iraq NGO projects responding rapidly to humanitarian key gaps. 1.2.2 Monitor and evaluate impact of funded projects. 1.2.3 Provide TRC with regular updates on current humanitarian trends. 1.3.1 Prioritize projects that have the potential for creating an enabling environment/compliment recovery activities already taking place. 1.4.1 Consult with relevant partners inviting projects for pre-positioning of essential items for sudden onset crises. 1.4.2 Pre-position by relevant agencies both within Iraq and Jordan of essential items to facilitate rapid response capacity.
Procurement	<p>The modality of programme execution is through grants/MOUs to implementing partner NGOs. Therefore, implementing partners are responsible for procurement of project inputs in accordance with the programme’s guidelines, which is monitored by OCHA/ERF Team staff.</p>

Funds Committed	USD 4,405,187	% of approved	29%
Funds Disbursed	USD 3,293,116	% of approved	22%
Forecast final date	19/11/2010	Delay (months)	0

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men	30,380	N/A
Women	32,802	N/A
Children	84,831	N/A
IDPs	32,757	N/A
Others	115,256	N/A
Indirect beneficiaries	8,425	N/A
Employment generation (men/women)	286	N/A

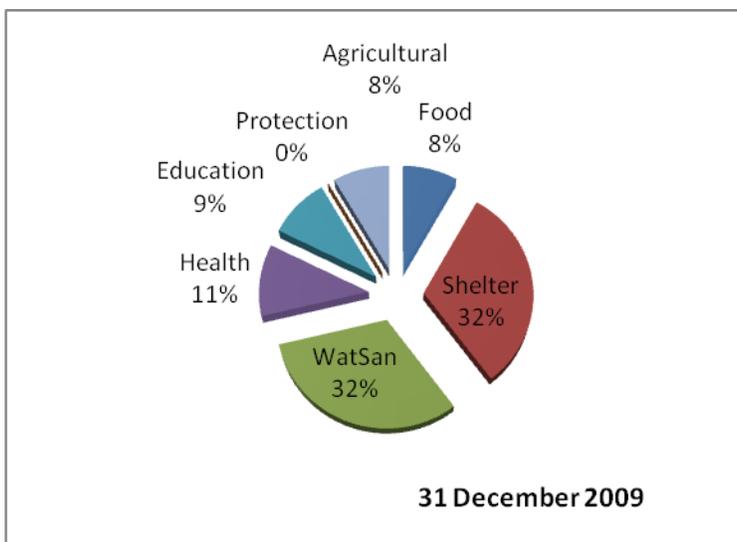
Quantitative achievements against objectives and results		% of planned
1.1 Protection needs and gaps in essential services for vulnerable communities affected by crises in Iraq are met.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 38 projects were funded by 31 December 2009 totaling USD 6,270,375. During the reported quarter, nine (9) new projects were funded for about two (2) million USD. Three projects were under WatSan Sector, two under Shelter, one under Food, and two projects with shared activities under Food, Health and Shelter sectors. Sectors most frequently funded to date are Shelter and WatSan 32% each. Other sectors' rate of funded projects are: Health 11%, Education 9%, Agriculture 8% and Food 8%. Nine (9) projects are completed with operational and financial closure based on final reports submitted by recipients. The funded projects served or will be serving an estimated 210,158 beneficiaries under all sectors. The served beneficiaries are 41% under WatSan, 20% under Shelter, 16% under Health, 12% under Food, 7% under Agriculture and 4% under Education. 	<p>92% of the total dedicated budget for projects in 2009 is committed.</p> <p>46% of total dedicated budget under the programme for this output is committed.</p>
1.2 Improved capacity, coverage, coordination and impact of humanitarian action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seventeen (17) Iraq Field Coordinators (IFCs) covering all Governorates nationwide except for Ninawa. The IFCs strengthened the monitoring and follow-up on execution in the field. Sector Outcome Teams are groups of UN agencies and international partners who have technical expertise in specific areas, such as health, shelter, water and sanitation. The SOTs confirmed the need and priorities of their relevant sectors based on statistics and information, including known gaps and approved by the Humanitarian Coordinator. Nine projects were approved during Q4 2009. All projects (100%) reviewed by SOTs and TRC before the approval of funding. Eighty five percent (85%) of funded non-governmental organizations (NGO's) under the programme were national Iraqi NGOs. The Programme up to 31 December 2009 partnered with 28 Iraqi NGOs and 5 International NGOs. Please refer to list of implementing partners at the end of this report. The programme covered almost all of Iraq, conducting fifty seven (57) activities in 17 out of the 18 Governorates. 	<p>94% of the planned progress was accomplished based on indicators and taking into consideration the geographic coverage.</p>
1.3 Strengthened links between immediate	All ERF projects prioritized by the SOTs and TRC Committee to support projects with potential early recovery activities and critical shortfalls in the	100%

action for families in crisis and support for early recovery.	MDGs.	
1.4 Enhanced emergency preparedness to respond to crises in Iraq.	The Programme funded one grant to supply life-saving medical items to Public Emergency Departments in Iraq, covering fifteen (15) Central and Southern Governorates, targeting an estimated 21,000 crisis-affected individuals accessing emergency rooms. Estimated gender ratios of beneficiaries: 25% men, 40% children and 35% women. Items are available at the Ministry of Health Emergency Departments, which make the medical supplies easily accessible to those in need.	83% of planned activities taking in consideration the geographic coverage and period of project.

Qualitative Achievements against Objectives and Results

- The ERF Charter was improved and finalized by OCHA in March 2009, providing a detailed description of the requirements and procedures of ERF as a funding mechanism. The Charter enhanced and detailed most of the guidelines and procedures indicated in the ITF Programme Document.
- Several procedures and forms were reviewed and created for a better execution of projects.
- A new structure was established with additional analysis and formality to determine eligibility of applicants, to avoid wasting the efforts and time of SOTs and TRC in reviewing proposals from ineligible organizations.
- Established the position of Iraq Field Coordinators in Iraq: Seventeen (17) IFCs were hired by OCHA covering Iraq's Governorates, with recruitment in process for the IFC Ninewa. The IFCs strengthened the programme's abilities in monitoring and follow-up on the executed projects in the field.
- Analysis of funded projects up to Q4 2009 by Sector:

Sector	Funded Projects *	%
Food	\$ 514,858.93	8%
Shelter	\$ 1,975,298.66	32%
WatSan	\$ 1,981,307.96	32%
Health	\$ 687,838.40	11%
Education	\$ 580,359.00	9%
Protection	-	0%
Agriculture	\$ 530,712.50	8%
Total	\$ 6,270,375.45	100%



* Amount of funded projects reflect the approved budgeted amounts for on going projects, and the actual disbursed amounts for closed projects.

Main Implementation Constraints and Challenges

- There are an insufficient number of slots in Iraq for UN staff and limited opportunities for movement into the Red Zone. This makes it more challenging to follow-up and monitor the executed projects in the field.
- To mitigate the impact of risk, OCHA is increasing its coverage inside Iraq, establishing a field coordination structure in each Governorate.
- NGOs are requested to send a signed vendor form that includes all the necessary required banking information. Sometimes the received information is not accurate; as a result, the internal vendor approval process becomes delayed affecting the authorization of payments and transfer of funds.
- The poor banking system inside Iraq delays the process of fund transfers.

List of Implementing Partners up to 4th Quarter 2009

Iraqi and International NGOs

No	Partner NGO
Iraqi National NGOs	
1	Afkar Society for Development
2	The Iraqi Democratic Women Group
3	Dhi Qar Forum for Civil Society Development
4	Humanity Al Zahra Association for Human Rights
5	Al GHAD League for Woman and Child
6	The United Foundation for Relief and Abiding Development (FUAD)
7	Darya Center for Developing Women and Community
8	Iraqi Civil Society Institute
9	New Iraqi Woman Organization
10	Iraq Relief Organization (IRO)
11	PANA Center for Combating Violence Against Women
12	Love and Peace Society
13	Iraqi Salvation Humanitarian Organization (ISHO)
14	Harikar NGO
15	Disabled Children's Care Organization
16	Haraa Humanitarian Organization
17	Iraqi Youth League
18	Brotherhood Association Humanity of Human Rights and Defending the Rights of Deportees and Effected
19	Mamoura Humanitarian Establishment
20	The Development Foundation for Culture, Media and Economy (DFCME)
21	Charitable Association for Taking Care of Widows and Orphans / Al Anbar / Al Ramady
22	Smile Organization for Relief and Development
23	Iraqi Health and Social Care Organization (IHSCO)
24	Kurdistan Reconstruction and Development Society Organization (KURDS)
25	Iraqi Al-Firdaws Association
26	Youth Activity Organization
27	Al Erada Organization of Aids and Development
28	Kurdish Human Rights Watch, Inc. (KHRW)
International NGOs	
1	Peace Winds Japan
2	Premiere Urgence (PU)
3	Islamic Relief Worldwide
4	Millennium Relief & Development
5	Norwegian Church Aid