

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund**

**Project #:A5-30**

**Date and Quarter Updated: 1 October- 31 December 2010 (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter)**

**Participating UN Organisation:** FAO & UNIDO

**Sector:** Agriculture and Food Security

**Government of Iraq- Responsible Line Ministry:** Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation (MoPDC)

<b>Title</b>	Developing Iraqi Agricultural and Agro-Industrial Data, Information Systems and Analytical Capacities				
<b>Geo. Location</b>	National				
<b>Project Cost</b>	US \$1,340,000				
<b>Duration</b>	18 months				
<b>Approval Date</b>	24.05.2010	<b>Starting Date</b>	27.05.2010	<b>Completion Date</b>	27.11.2011
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The project's main objective is to conduct a substantial agriculture survey and to strengthen the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation's Central Office for Statistics and Information Technology's (COSIT) agricultural and agro-industry information services, through the provision of capacity building activities, to produce comprehensive, reliable, and timely information.</p> <p>Training will be conducted in data collection, analysis, and technical reporting. This will include use of PDA and updated technology in exposure to new agricultural indicators.</p> <p>An agriculture and agro-industry survey will be conducted using updated technology and evidence based strategy will be proposed based on the results in final report. Another report will built on the linkages of other FAO, UNIDO, and other UN agencies reports.</p> <p>The sustainability of the project will be enhanced by interaction between COSIT and users of information (Government, Industry, Retailers, Private Investors), thus developing a product and process that meets the needs of a broad range of information consumers in the field of agricultural and agro-industrial planning.</p> <p>This project plays a critical role in addressing the priority of GoI in providing accurate data collection, analysis, and reporting for Agriculture, Agro-industry, Environment and Natural Resources Management. In addition, the project results will eventually accommodate the government in developing agriculture and industry policies related to pricing, tariffs, import/export agro-products balance, and subsidies.</p>				

**Development Goal and Immediate Objectives**

**Development Goal:**

1. Enhanced production and productivity in the agricultural sector.
2. Evidence based studies developed in use for developmental planning for food security and poverty reduction.

**Immediate Objectives:**

1. Strengthen agricultural and agro-industry information services through capacity building of Government officials in data collection and analysis
2. Conduct a substantive agriculture survey with new technology, indicators, and methodology.
3. Develop GoI Agriculture and Agro-Industry Development and Investment Strategy Proposal.

**Outputs, Key activities and Procurement**

<b>Outputs</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. GoI is better able to collect and analyze agriculture data for effective planning in agriculture sector</li> <li>2. Capacity of COSIT/KRSO in the field of agro-industry data collection and analysis and dissemination strengthened</li> <li>3. Current agriculture agro-industry production levels and potential identified from survey results</li> <li>4. Strategy to promote and develop the Iraqi agro-industry sector and developing guidelines for investment in the sector developed</li> </ol>
<b>Activities</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Identification of information needs and information gaps in consultation with key stakeholder groups, namely the major information users and policy makers</li> <li>1.2 Building the technical capacity of COSIT/KRSO and the MoA in the field of agricultural data collection and</li> </ol>

	<p>analysis in the identified areas of need</p> <p>2.1 Ministry of Planning/COSIT staff trained in agricultural data collection and analysis using new technology</p> <p>2.2 Training on technical reporting for Ministry of Planning/COSIT staff</p> <p>3.1 COSIT will conduct data collection, analysis and reporting with support from FAO/UNIDO</p> <p>3.2 COSIT will analyze data with expertise support from FAO/UNIDO</p> <p>3.3 Build the capacity of COSIT/to produce agriculture and industrial statistics reports and publications</p> <p>3.4 COSIT trained in analysis of agriculture and agro-industry data with technical reporting abilities improved.</p> <p>4.1 Investment Guidelines and proposal produced in report.</p> <p>4.2 Proposed agriculture strategy produced in report.</p> <p>4.3 Links to other studies and analysis work reported.</p> <p>4.4 Dissemination of results and reports to all stakeholders, using website, workshop, and final report.</p>
<b>Procurement</b>	<p>1. GIS/GPS PDA</p> <p>2. Laptops</p>

## FAO

<b>Funds Committed</b>	US\$ 70,000	<b>% of approved</b>	8.33%
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	US\$ 14,341	<b>% of approved</b>	1.71%
<b>Forecast final date</b>	30-11-2011	<b>Delay (months)</b>	0

## UNIDO

<b>Funds Committed</b>	US\$ 215,074	<b>% of approved</b>	25.6%
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	US\$ 127,756	<b>% of approved</b>	15.2%
<b>Forecast final date</b>	30-11-2011	<b>Delay (months)</b>	0

<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>	<b>% of planned (current status)</b>
Men	90	0%
Women	40	0%
Children	0	0%
IDPs	0	0%
Others		
Indirect beneficiaries	50,000	0%
Employment generation (men/women)	150	0%

<b>Quantitative achievements against objectives and results</b>		<b>% of planned</b>
GoI is better able to collect and analyze agriculture and agro-industry data for effective planning in agriculture sector	Identification of information needs and information gaps in consultation with key stakeholder groups, namely the major information users and policy makers.	100 %
	Building the technical capacity of COSIT/KRSO and the MoA in the field of agricultural data collection and analysis in the identified areas of need. Training starting in February 2011.	25 %
Data Collection Methodology Agreement, Coding, and Business Rules	The final questionnaire design and questions completed and signed off on, methodology for survey and project agreed on along with timeline of activities. Business Rules and Coding for PDA programming are also completed.	100 %
Specifications and Procurement of training and PDA/computers for data collection and reporting	Specifications have been agreed on for the PDA, computers, and the training programme (to be held in Amman). Procurement almost complete and delivery of PDA and laptops in February 2011. 60 PDA and 5 Laptops.	75 %
Current agriculture production levels and potential identified from survey results	COSIT will conduct data collection, analysis and reporting with support from FAO/UNIDO	0%
	COSIT will analyze data with expertise support from FAO/UNIDO	0%
	Build the capacity of COSIT/to produce agriculture and industrial statistics reports and publications	0%
	COSIT trained in analysis of agriculture and agro-industry data with technical	0%

	reporting abilities improved.	
Strategy to promote and develop the Iraqi agro-industry sector and developing guidelines for investment in the sector developed	Investment Guidelines and proposal produced in report.	0%
	Proposed agriculture strategy produced in report.	0%
	Links to other studies and analysis work reported.	0%
	Dissemination of results and reports to all stakeholders, using website, workshop, and final report.	0%

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

This project plays an important role in developing analytical and information capacity of government counterparts in Iraq, which accommodates evidence based approach to developing agricultural and agro-industry strategy.

The final questionnaire design, methodology, and coding required for PDA programming are completed. Also, the training manual is completed that is used for training for multipliers and supervisors from MoA in collecting and analyzing data.

Training and PDA procurement proposals have been agreed by government counterparts. Project Workplan timeline and activities also agreed upon by government.

Training for MoA and COSIT will commence in February 2011. After the training has been completed, the survey implementation will start.

Completion of Identification of information needs and information gaps in consultation with key stakeholder groups, namely the major information users and policy makers.

Training gaps identified and ToR for training finalized in statistics, oracle database, data analysis, reporting, pda use, java survey programming, and field training.

Technology gaps identified and procurement specifications agreed on for PDA and Laptops which are needed to complete evidence based work in this project and future workplan of COSIT. Procurement of training and PDA/computers for data collection and reporting will start soon.

Data Collection Methodology Agreement, Coding, and Business Rules- The final questionnaire design and questions are in the process of completion, methodology for survey and project agreed on along with timeline of activities.

Business Rules and Coding for PDA programming will be completed once final questionnaire is available.

The Final Survey Results Reports developed by FAO/UNIDO/MoA will use the training and the survey results from this project as the final project output.

A program change of scope was approved recently on this project. There was a scope change due to rejection of the idea of standalone agriculture survey with the newly planned Agriculture Census 2011 by COSIT in 2011. Based on the newly committed Census by COSIT, it was decided with COSIT that the most beneficial route would be to avoid duplication and to instead support the much more comprehensive Agriculture Census 2011 through this project. Although, the UNIDO piece of doing the weekly agro-industry production mapping will remain the same, and the training component of the project stays the same for both agencies, the main change is the switch from Survey to Census design.

Keeping in mind the distinct impact of this project through support of the Agriculture Census 2011, through training and procurement, and avoiding repetition of efforts, the scope change was requested. The request from GoI on this change of project aim is to make sure of a more important impact of the project by supporting a full official agriculture survey questionnaire, instead of a customized small scaled FAO agriculture survey. The different between the census and survey being the sample size and the number of indicators and questions used in census being much higher, giving a much more realistic picture of the agriculture sector in Iraq. Therefore, with the scope change, FAO can contribute more to the work of GoI through the training, questionnaire design, and procurement that will be covered under this project in doing the sample testing within 4-5 governorates as phase I of the full census that COSIT will conduct in 2011.

#### **Main implementation constrains & challenges (2-3 sentences)**

Scope Change.

It was recommended by Ministry of Planning/COSIT that the project cannot be continue as a standalone Agriculture Survey due to its danger of repetition of already planned Agriculture Census 2011 to be conducted by COSIT. Therefore, based on the rejection letter of the Agriculture Survey idea (attached) and the recommendation in the

technical meeting from COSIT of a Agriculture Census 2011 support instead, the project scope was modified. Keeping in mind the distinct impact of this project through support of the Agriculture Census 2011, through training and procurement, and avoiding repetition of efforts, the scope change was requested and approved.