



**IRFFI/UNDG IRAQ TRUST FUND (UNDG ITF)  
ANNUAL PROGRAMME<sup>1</sup> NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT  
REPORTING PERIOD 1 JANUARY –31 DECEMBER 2010**

***Submitted by:***

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***Country and Thematic Area***

Agriculture, Food Security, Environment and Natural Resources Management

***Programme No:*** A5-15

***Programme Title:*** Restoration and Modernization of Fish Production in Iraq

***Participating Organization(s)***

Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN

***Implementation Partners:***

Ministry of Agriculture (MOA)

***Project Budget (from the Fund):***

US\$ 7,31,177

***Project Duration (in months):***

**Start date:** 17 May 2006

*Original End date:* 17 May 2008

*Revised End date:* 30 Sep 2010

**Budget Revision & Extension**

1<sup>st</sup>: 18 November 2008

2<sup>nd</sup>: 31 March 2009

3<sup>rd</sup>: 30 September 2009

4<sup>th</sup>: 31 March 2010

5<sup>th</sup>: 30 September 2010

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<sup>1</sup> The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.



## I. Purpose

The development goal of this project is to support fish production in Iraq by stimulating the resumption of fish farming in large and small scale enterprises through practical demonstrations of applicable fish farming techniques, supply at cost of fingerlings and on-going support of an active, applied and adaptive research programme.

The immediate objective of this project is to:

- Build or restore the productive capacity to supply fish fingerlings to the commercial fish farming industry;
- Build and restore a series of fish farming enterprises in the most needed areas of Iraq;
- Demonstrate new lake-based fish farming methods and initiate stocking of native carps in selected lakes;
- Improve local capacity to manage and develop the fishery/aquaculture sector.

Main outputs are:

- A plan specifying all the required equipment and facilities for the proposed rehabilitation of the fish sector including established priorities for replacement;
- Equipment for specific rehabilitation to establish the following
  - A- Establish pilot cages in Kut Hindia dams.
  - B- Establish closed recirculation system.
  - C- Establish Chinese Hatchery system.
  - D- Establish Huweza Hatchery Center.
  - E- Equipment for laboratories.
- Establish a baseline information at Huweza Marshlands;
- Developed extension materials to support and adopt fish farming in Iraq;
- Technicians, fish farmers, resource managers and local communities trained in improved fish farming methods, hatchery/nursery management, fish health and marketing. The direct beneficiaries are 1 500 small fish farmers (farms of 10 ha or less) and rural fishers communities.

This project was formulated within the UN Assistance Strategy framework for Iraq following the work plan outlined in the strategy to increase food security in Iraq through agriculture and food assistance. Specifically, this project contributes to outcome 1, “enhanced production and productivity in the agriculture sector” and outcome 2 “poverty reduction and sustainable employment for vulnerable groups created.” This project continues to contribute to the above by:

- Rehabilitating and reconstructing infrastructure;
- Strengthening institutional development and capacity building in the fish sector;



- Supporting legislation, policy and strategy formulation;
- Increasing employment and income-generation;
- Enhancing environmental restoration and conservation.

In addition, this project is crafted to assist and encourage the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals. In restoring the fish farming enterprises in Iraq and improving the local capacity to manage and develop the fishery/aquaculture sector, this project acts as a significant multiplier of thus contributing to MDG 1 “eradicate extreme hunger and poverty.” This project adamantly encourages the participation of women in project activities, thus contributing to MDG 3 “promote gender equality and empower women.”

## II. Resources

### Financial Resources:

Budget revisions, movement of funds between the project budget components were approved on: 18 November 2008, 31 March 2009, 30 September 2009, 31 March 2010 and 30 September 2010. The overall fund of US\$ 7,312,177 was neither decreased nor increased.

There were no constraints in the mechanism of the financial process.

### Human Resources

One **National Project Coordinator** (NPC) is stationed in Baghdad in Iraq to support the project in coordination between MoA and FAO, work plan formulation and assistance in the implementation of activities.

One **National Project Adviser** (NPA) is stationed in Baghdad to assist the International Project Manager in the activities implementation.

One **National project assistant** is stationed in Amman to assist the NPA in the follow –up with implementation of activities.

One **International Project Manager** (Chief Technical Adviser) is stationed in Amman and is assistance for overall project management.

## III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangement

The project is operated in collaboration with the Iraqi MoA in particular and in close collaboration with the GBFRD. The project is implemented through the weekly communications with the MoA and the suppliers, technical meetings and PSC meeting.



**FAO standard procurement procedures** were applied without variance. The procurement procedure followed was:

- Identification of inputs or services required undertaken jointly by FAO and the Iraqi MoA;
- Preparation of detailed specifications, BoQ, drawings, delivery time and destination undertaken by FAO and Iraqi Line Ministry and endorsed by the latter;
- List of local potential suppliers/contractors provided and endorsed by the Iraqi Line Ministry to be included by FAO in its invitations to bid;
- Tenders launched by FAO inviting local and international potential suppliers;
- Technical review of the offers received and preparation of recommendation carried out jointly by FAO/Iraqi Line Ministry and endorsed by the latter;
- Purchase Orders or Contracts issued by FAO.

In line with FAO policies and procedures, **monitoring** is being done at all crucial stages of implementation of the project based on the measurable indicators and means of verification identified in the logical framework. In order to assess the progress of project activities, **in-house financial and narrative progress reports** are used on a regular basis. One such report is a **monthly field activity report** to follow-up on the project activities in relation to the work plan. Another report is a **monthly report** provided by the financial department of the Iraq offices detailing the expenditure of project funds. A Project Management Unit (PMU) with offices in Amman, Jordan and Iraq evaluates these reports along with other reports to monitor and assess the progress of the project. To ensure that the MoA is aware of and participate in the monitoring and evaluation of the project, the above report is provided to the MoA on a regular basis.

In addition, the Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meetings incepted on 09 September 2006 and held at least once every six months, is used as a forum to bring all stakeholders together for monitoring purposes. The PSC meetings are used as opportunities to discuss project problems as well as achievements, while ensuring full transparency and accountability of activities throughout project implementation. At the end of the meeting decisions are made as how to continue the project in light of the discussions undertaken. Members of the PSC include: representative from the MOA particularly the GBFRD, the PMU staff from FAO-Head Quarters in Rome and staff in field.

**No assessment, evaluations or studies were undertaken** during this reporting period. Upon the completion of this project an external evaluation will be done and closure report progressed by FAO-HQ.



#### **IV. Results**

During the reporting period, the installation of pilot cages was completed at Kut and Hindia dams. The completion of the research centre at Huweze Marsh has enhanced the research and development capacity of the MOA, particularly the GBFRD, in fish fingerling. The construction of administrative building has provided the MOA with additional resources to boost the supply of fish fingerlings to the commercial fish farming industry. Furthermore, the construction of the Chinese style hatchery and the installation of the closed recirculation system contribute to the creation of an environment that fosters higher production of fish.

In addition, progress has been made to develop local capacity to manage and develop the fishery/aquaculture sector. To date, a contract was signed with both the NGO (Development Agriculture in Iraq) and the GBFRD to conduct training on improved fish farming methods, hatchery/nursery management among with implementation of a local workshop.

#### **Key outputs achieved in reporting period:**

1. Installation of equipment and material to set up two pilot and demonstration cage culture facilities at Kut and Hind Dams is completed 100%.
2. Installation and handover to the Iraqi MoA of equipment and material to set up a complete closed recirculation system to ensure continuous fish seed supply. This activity was completed during the reporting period. 100%
3. Construction and handover of one Chinese style hatchery at Sewera hatchery center is completed.100%
4. Construction of one Research Center at Huweza and two administrative buildings at Kut and Hindia dams is completed - 100%;
5. Procurement for equipment and material to upgrade the laboratory facility at Wasit hatchery is completed. One fish transportation vehicle has been delivered.
6. Publishing the final report of baseline study on Huweza marsh and the extension manuals completed -100%.
7. The additional local training for one technician of GBFRD on operating and installation of recirculation system, Chinese system and pilot cages was completed 100%.

#### **Key partnerships and collaborations:**

The project is operated in collaboration with the Iraqi MoA, in particular in close collaboration with the GBFRD. Due to the prevailing security situation at present which does not allow for normal field visit of the international staff to the areas of programme implementation within Iraq, the management is undertaken from the FAO-Iraq Office relocated to Amman using a remote-control mechanism. Contribution of GBFRD and MoA and also FAO office in Baghdad ensure smooth running of project activities in Iraq.



## V. Future Work Plan

The balance activities that were completed at the end of September 2010 are summarised as follows:

**Preparations for closure and evaluation reports,**

**No major adjustment in strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs is planned.**

## VI. Performance Indicators (optional)

The indicators set at the output level of project are designed to achieve:

Outputs	Measurable Indicators	Means of Verification	Achieved Indicator Targets
Output 1.1 A plan specifying all the required equipment and facilities for the proposed rehabilitation of the fish sector including established priorities for replacement	Work Plan presented for review	Final report	100%
Output 1.2 Equipment for rehabilitation specified.	Re-built Wasit hatchery, equipment installed and operating; production of carp fingerlings; operational feed mill at hatchery		100%
Output 1.3 Report and proposal submitted for funding continuation of research and extension for the fish industry in Iraq.		Report of feasibility for expanded project for village level fish farms	100%
Output 2.1 Fifteen sites selected and rehabilitated for fish farming in the most needy areas	On-site (lake) hatcheries and nurseries established and operational	Training reports & monthly Reports from MoA.	100%
Output 3.1 Established baseline information on Huweza Marsh instead of Therthar for security reasons.	Pilot farm and lake sites selected and fish farms and cage farms operating		100%



Output 3.2 Pilot fish cage farms established at Kut and Hindia dams instead of Therthar Lake		Pilot farm and lake sites selected and farms and cage farms operating	100%
Output 4.1 Five Iraqi scientists and 17 technicians trained in modern fish farming methods.	Trained scientists & technicians	Training reports Trained scientists & technicians	5 Iraqi Scientists 100% 4 technicians have been trained
Output 4.2 Extension materials developed to support the adoption of fish farming in Iraq.			100% The manuals have been prepared with the help of the HQ in English, Arabic Languages.
Output 4.3 Technicians, fish farmers, resource managers and local communities trained in improved fish farming methods, hatchery/nursery management, fish health and marketing.			100% completed

## VII. Abbreviations and Acronyms

*List the main abbreviations and acronyms that are used in the report*

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
GBFRD	General Bored of Fisheries Resources Development
GOI	Government of Iraq.
MDG	4UN Millennium Development Goals
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture in Iraq
NGO	Non Government organization.
NPC	NationalCoordinator.
PSC	The Project Steering Committee
<u>NPA</u>	<u>National project adviser</u>