

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund
Project #: F8-10 (a+b)
Date and Quarter Updated: April to June 2011 (2nd Quarter)

Participating UN Organisation: UNICEF (Lead Agency) and UNFPA	Sector: Protection
Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) - Baghdad and Erbil	

Title	Strengthening Protection and Justice for Children and Young People in Iraq				
Geo. Location	Governorates: Baghdad, Basra, Nineveh, Erbil, Suleimaniyah and Dohuk (information on specific towns and villages to be provided later)				
Project Cost	US\$ 3,000,000 (UNICEF US\$ 2,000,000 - UNFPA US\$ 1,000,000)				
Duration	24 months				
Approval Date	04 June 2009	Starting Date	14 June 2009	Completion Date	14 Aug 2011
Project Description	<p>This project is designed to provide technical support to the Government of Iraq (GoI) to strengthen the Juvenile Justice system and increase children and young people’s access to justice and protection. The project use a three pronged approach to help alleviate the plight of children currently caught up in the judicial system, promote restorative justice, and develop strategic direction for juvenile justice in Iraq. First, at the national level the project work with the High Judicial Council and Government ministries involved in the administration of juvenile justice on: advocacy for legislative reform; reduction of pre-trial detention; introduction of diversion and alternative measures; and on improvement of systems for data collection, monitoring and tracking of children who are in contact with the law. Secondly, at community level the project focus on actions that prevent children from coming into contact with the law; diversion projects; and provide reintegration assistance to children released from detention centres and reformatories. Lastly, the project also invests heavily in developing the capacities of key duty bearers in the juvenile justice system in Iraq.</p>				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives
<p>The developmental goal is to strengthen the GoI’s capacity to improve the Juvenile Justice system and increase children and young people’s access to justice and protection.</p> <p>Key immediate objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved functioning of the juvenile justice system in Iraq • Increased capacities of key duty bearers to provide legal, judicial and reintegration services to children and young people in contact with the law. • Increased capacities of families and communities in six governorates to protect and prevent children from getting into contact with the law.

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement	
Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. GoI has reliable information to address needs and gaps in the Juvenile Justice system. 1.2. Capacities of families and communities in six governorates increased to protect and prevent children from getting into contact with the law. 1.3. Improved capacities of 100 key duty bearers in managing and monitoring detention facilities and reformatories. 1.4. Increased capacities of families and communities to provide care, protection and diversion services 1.5. Enhanced capacity of 400 duty bearers to provide better legal, judicial, rehabilitation and reintegration services to children and young people. 1.6. 300 Reformatory staff have an enhanced capacity to provide follow up services and reintegration assistance to children and adolescents.

Activities	<p>1.1.1. Assessment of the Juvenile Justice System in Iraq</p> <p>1.1.2. Review of the Juvenile Care Law and another three laws related to children</p> <p>1.2.1. Identification of factors that push children at risk into contact with the law</p> <p>1.2.2. Awareness raising activities in communities, schools and religious institutions focusing on guidance to children, young people and their families</p> <p>1.2.3. Educational support for out of school children and young people</p> <p>1.2.4. Media campaigns and advocacy for awareness-raising of care providers and families on prevention, care, and protection for children.</p> <p>1.3.1. Setting up systems for providing quality care services including arrangements for case management</p> <p>1.3.2. Setting up of information management systems and training of MoLSA and detention centres' staff</p> <p>1.3.3. Setting up of five multi-disciplinary teams and training</p> <p>1.3.4. Legal assistance to children and young people in detention</p> <p>1.3.5. Life skills training to children and young people in detention</p> <p>1.3.6. Protection and basic services to children and young people in detention</p> <p>1.3.7. Regular monitoring of detention centres</p> <p>1.3.8. Setting up complaint systems in the detention centres and reformatories</p> <p>1.4.1. Setting up of community-based aftercare services for protection and diversion services in selected project governorates</p> <p>1.4.2. Training to community members and care providers on provision of diversion services in six governorates</p> <p>1.5.1. Training of duty bearers (juvenile judges, legal prosecutors, JTI instructors, juvenile police, staff of detention and reformatory centres, social workers, and care providers) on international standards, juvenile justice, psychosocial support etc</p> <p>1.5.2. Module development for integration of juvenile justice in judges training curriculum</p> <p>1.5.3. Training of reformatory managers and staff on rehabilitation and reintegration services</p> <p>1.5.4. Provision of psychosocial, medical, educational, and basic services in reformatories</p> <p>1.5.5. Improvement of vocational training provision with capacity development and equipment support</p> <p>1.6.1. Setting up follow-up services and reintegration assistance to children and young people released from reformatories</p> <p>1.6.2. Post-release counselling to children and young people released from reformatories</p> <p>1.6.3. Referral and advisory support to work and educational opportunities</p> <p>1.6.4. Post-release family visits and monitoring by social workers</p>
Procurement (major items)	<p>Psychosocial and recreational kits for use in the detentions centres and reformatories. Based on the assessment of the existing centres, equipments and furniture will be bought to be used in the Multidimensional Day Care centres i.e. chairs, tables, computers, TVs, DVD players, LCDs etc.</p>

UNICEF

Funds Committed	1,882,400.00	% of approved	94%
Funds Disbursed	1,502,436.42	% of approved	75%
Forecast final date	30 Sep 2011	Delay (months)	N/A

UNFPA

Funds Committed	UNFPA: 176,861	% of approved	17.7%
Funds Disbursed	UNFPA: 179,833	% of approved	18%
Forecast final date		Delay (months)	

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men		
Women		
Children and young people	4000	
IDPs		
Others		
Indirect beneficiaries	2300	
Employment generation (men/women)		

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results		% of planned
Improved functioning of the juvenile justice system in Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract issued for Juvenile Justice Assessment to DMI and desk review commenced in Dec.2010. Field researchers are identified and networks mobilized. The accreditations were obtained from MoLSA in June 2011. In agreement with MoLSA, the field assessment will start after Ramadan. MoLSA has endorsed the Terms of Reference of the project Steering Committee in June and the first meeting will take place in July with representatives of the Federal and Regional governments. UNFPA has conducted eight consultative meetings in Baghdad and Erbil to discuss the challenges faced by the reformatories; issues related to health care, education, psychosocial support and vocational programs were discussed. UNFPA conducted two consultative meetings with Baghdad Governorate Council to jointly support interventions in the reformatories. UNFPA is planning to conduct a workshop on 27 and the 28 July to review and discuss the outcomes of the consultative meetings. 	65%
Increased capacities of key duty bearers to provide legal, judicial and reintegration services to children and young people in contact with the law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While MoLSA has granted UNICEF implementing partner, IMC, with the necessary approval to access three juvenile post-trial detention centers in Mosul and Baghdad, the MoU between IMC and MoLSA has still to be endorsed by the Prime Minister's office delaying the project implementation. Negotiations between UNICEF and Heartland Alliance are finalized to cover activities in the Kurdish region. Field work is expected to start end July 2011. Training of reformatory managers and staff on rehabilitation and reintegration services started in 2011. The planned Justice for Children Training of Trainers aiming at increasing the capacity of 400 duty-bearers is on-hold due to the lack of MoU between UNICEF implementing partner and MoLSA. Regular monitoring in Al-Karada Detention Centers and Al-Adhamiya State Home for girls, Shalchiya Post-Trial Detention, Al-Karkh Post trial detention center (Baghdad), Al-Ma'qal Prison (Basra). Psychosocial support is provided to children in need in the above 	70%

	<p>mentioned facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In May, a <i>life-skills and children's rights</i> training was organized for 20 boys and two social workers at the Shalchiya Post-Trial Detention Center and a <i>Children's Rights Awareness Workshop</i> for 25 boys in detention, as well as three detention center guards in Basra. In June, life skills trainings for children took place in three centers: Al-Karada (23 girls), Shalchiya (27 boys), Al-Karkh (20 boys). ● UNFPA has contracted the AUB to develop a Life Skills toolkit to be used with children in detention ● In Basra, the rehabilitation work in the Al-Ma'qal Prison was completed to allow for the establishment of a computer laboratory. Twelve computers were donated in-kind to the MoI to provide IT vocational training to the juveniles and staff. Members of the Basra JFC Technical Working Group (MOI, DOE, Governorate Council Members, DOYS, DOHR, and DOH) contributed with additional materials to establish a fully functioning educational classroom. The DoE committed four teachers to conduct classes four days per week. Successful advocacy with the DOE allowed 16 juveniles to complete their final exams in June to minimize interruptions and delays to their studies. In June, a four-day computer training was conducted for 19 juveniles and four staff at the Al-Maq'al. ● Child Protection training for business managers of apprenticeship programs has been initiated in Basra; Community Case Managers met with eight business owners to explore vocational training and work placement opportunities. ● Meetings were held with the Educational Studies and Psychological Research Center at the University of Baghdad to increase the capacity of the social workers involved in the project; training is anticipated to take place in July 2011 on early child development, trauma, coping techniques for children and families, and responding to victims of child abuse. 	
<p>Increased capacities of families and communities in six governorates increased to protect and prevent children from getting into contact with the law</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In cooperation with the Ministry of Women, the community case managers disseminated information on micro-enterprise/income generation grants for single mothers and widows through five local NGOs. More than 160 women were provided with application forms and coached on how to complete them. The completed forms were forwarded to the MoW by the NGO partners. ● In April, four girls in Baghdad were placed in a four-week vocational training program on sewing; the training was conducted by a local NGO partner called Heya. ● Community Case Managers provided psychosocial follow up support to children released from detention and to their families during home visits. The interventions targeted 12 girls and 25 boys during the reporting period. ● In Basra, reintegration kits containing NFIs and hygiene items were 	<p>70%</p>

	<p>provided to 12 boys who were released from detention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two youths will be placed in a work scheme in July 2011. 	
Legal assistance to children and young people in detention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children in need of assistance are being provided with legal assistance. Children without family support also benefit from the presence of community case managers when their cases are presented in court, four girls during the reporting period. 	65%
Awareness raising activities in communities, schools and religious institutions focusing on guidance to children, young people and their families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Case Managers conducted a series of FGDs with 81 girls and young women on four related topics: hopes and dreams; girls and women's rights, education, and marriage. These FGDs aimed to empower girls to discuss issues important to them by providing a safe forum. Seven FGDs were conducted with girls and women in schools, detention centers, and university. Preparation to conduct the same series of FGDs in Basra and Mosul with girls and young women is in progress. • In Baghdad, Community Case Managers conducted together with the JFC Legal Advisor, a legal rights awareness workshop for 23 girls in April on general child rights and on the Iraqi legal system, rights and procedures during and after arrest. 	45%

Qualitative achievements against objectives and results

This project is designed to strengthen the juvenile justice system in Iraq and to enhance the protection of children who come into contact with the law and of those at risk. The project has a three pronged approach to help alleviate the plight of children currently caught up in the judicial system, promote restorative justice, and develop a strategic direction for juvenile justice in Iraq.

First, at the national level the project work with the High Judicial Council and with various government ministries involved in the administration of juvenile justice on: advocacy for legislative reform; reduction of pre-trial detention, introduction of diversion and alternative measures and on improving the systems for data collection, monitoring and tracking of children who are in contact with the law.

Secondly, at the community level the project focus on actions that prevents children from coming into contact with the law and also assist those children who have been released from detention centres and reformatories to reintegrate in their families and communities. Community level actions will also include support, care and protection of those children diverted from the formal justice system.

Thirdly, the project invests in capacity building for key duty bearers in the juvenile justice system including authorities and staff in detention centres and reformatories to improve care and protection services in these facilities; to prevent abuse and exploitation of children who are in contact with the law, and to enhance the capacity of community members, leaders, and peers to protect children and young people from coming into contact with the law.

The project is improving the protection of children and young people in contact with the law and those at risk, and to increase their access to quality legal and judicial services. The project also contributes to the improvement of the functioning of the juvenile justice system in Iraq.

The introduction and implementation of the diversion programmes and alternative measures aims at reducing the number of children and young people in pre-trial detention while the provision of legal assistance will facilitate due process and this will help to reduce the time children and young people spend in pre-trial detention.

Establishment of standards of care and protection services, training of the detention centre and corrections staff in the reformatories, strengthening of mechanisms for monitoring the detention centres and reformatories and the provision of rehabilitative and reintegration services will help to improve care and conditions in these facilities. The implementation of community-based preventive actions enhances the capacities and abilities of parents/families to better protect their children and will assist in the prevention of juvenile offences and crimes. The empowerment programmes for children and young people helps them to protect themselves from getting into contact with the law while provision of social and economic support to vulnerable families will improve their capacity and ability to care, protect and provide for their children.

Main implementation constraints and challenges (2-3 sentences)

Although the security situation in Iraq is improving, it remains unpredictable. This will limit movement of national and international staff to the project sites. The change in government has necessitated holding numerous meetings with government officials, including the Child Welfare Commission to reintroduce the project including the signing of a new MoU between UNICEF implementing partner and MoLSA. While the MoU was finally signed in June, the document has still to be endorsed by the Prime Minister's office. Protection and reintegration activities are therefore delayed in Baghdad and Mosul. The implementation plan will be revised in July.