

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund
Project # 66995 (C9-26)
Date and Quarter Updated: 1April - 30 June 2011
2nd Quarter 2011

Participating UN Organisations: UNDP **Sector: Governance**
Government of Iraq – Responsible Authority: Communication and Media Commission

Title	Support the Media in its Role of Fostering Peace and Democracy				
Geo. Location	Baghdad, Erbil, Suleiymanieh and Basrah				
Project Cost	Total USD 6,131,285				
Duration	24 months + 12 months extension				
Approval Date	04/12/2008	Starting Date	08/12/2008	Completion Date	8/12/2010 extended to 31/12/2011
Project Description	This Project promotes the development of an independent, pluralist and professional media. The project has three broad areas of intervention: (1) to develop or strengthen participatory processes leading to sustainable media self/co-regulatory mechanisms and legislative frameworks; (2) to support the development of local content; and (3) to identify the key institutions (e.g. training institutions, regulatory bodies and professional entities) for targeted capacity building to enhance professionalism.				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

Project Outcome:
Independent civil society and media enabled through legal and regulatory frameworks, professional development and strengthened institutions.

Objective 1: Support regulatory frameworks to build capacity of an independent, pluralist and professional media leading to the articulation and/or enhancement of sustainable media self/co-regulatory mechanisms and legislative frameworks to protect fundamental human rights including the rights to freedom of expression, access to information and data protection.

Objective 2: Support to key institutions – e.g. training institutions, regulatory bodies and professional entities - for targeted training and capacity building to enhance professionalism.

Objective 3: Development of local content to support national dialogue and reconciliation through targeted training.

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement

Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Increased dialogue and advocacy related to A38 legislation and A19 freedoms through establishment of a media law working group 1.2 Increased understanding by government and media on right to know, data protection, and freedom of expression. 1.3 Increased dialogue and reconciliation at community level through the provision of six small grants to community-based media. 1.4 Increased exposure of media professionals to global media development through the provision of seven small grants for scholarships and study tours. 1.5 Availability of self-regulatory monitoring mechanisms at CSOs and media institutions. 1.6 Availability of quality media curricula at four media institutes and mass communication faculties. 1.7 Availability of media data setting the baseline for the media sector – UNESCO lead. 1.8 Increased capacity of independent news agency as a model for media in Iraq towards self-sufficiency. 1.9 CMC functions within a strategic plan. 1.10 Identified gaps and opportunities related to performance of IMN.
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UNDP reports against below outputs:

Output 1.2: Increased understanding by government and media on right to know, data protection, and freedom of expression.	
Activities	2 nd phase of support to Iraq in the Extractive Industry Transparency International (EITI) process under way.
Output 1.8: Increased capacity of independent news agency as a model for media in Iraq towards self-sufficiency.	
Activities	A grant awarded to Aswat al Iraq to strengthen the institutional management capacity and improve Aswat's editorial content by improving its ability to provide video and still images to clients was approved and amount was advanced. 2 projects are underway from UNESCO's call for proposals on training journalists in the area of Sustainable Development.
Output 1.6: Availability of quality media curricula at four media institutes and mass communication faculties.	
Activities	The Curricula Development Steering Committee established to review and update the journalism curriculum has been working during this period, doing an assessment of the current curriculum in Iraq. Two proposals for the development of distance learning component have been submitted by two Steering Committee members from Rutgers University (virtual internship with international media outlets) and Salisbury University (e-learning tools as webinars, video lectures, and e-courses). These are underway.
Output 1.10: Identified gaps and opportunities related to performance of IMN.	
Activities	An international consultancy firm is supporting the change management requirements for the IMN and has already proposed a new law for the basis of the IMN.
Procurement	Procurement: Consultancy firm on change management and law drafting for IMAN has been awarded.

Funds Committed	USD 6,131,285	% of approved	100%
Funds Disbursed	USD 5,841,532	% of approved	95%
Forecast final date	31 st December 2011	Delay (months)	12

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results		% of planned
Output 1.2	- Training to government officials on developing advocacy and PR tools	100%
Output 1.4	- Further development of baseline survey of oil sector	75%
	- Support to Aswat al Iraq	100%
	- Support to key institutions	90 %
Output 1.6	- Development of local content to support national dialogue and reconciliation	85%
Output 1.9	- Initiation of change management within CMC	100%
Output 1.10	- IMN change management review truly underway and a new draft law submitted	95%

Qualitative achievements against objectives and results
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submission of a comprehensive EITI implementation report on Iraq; - Gender based violence workshop undertaken in Beirut for members of the Kurdish and Iraqi Directorates for the follow-up of violence against women; - Smooth implementation of two journalist curriculum training by distance learning as well as two proposals for the training of journalists in the area of sustainable development. - Technical assistance to IMN on a management strategy and a new law for its establishment is proceeding according to plan and a new draft law has been submitted for review.

Main implementation constrains and challenges
UNDP have not experienced particular challenges aside from the normal ones of access for the PM to stakeholders.