

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund
Project #: E3-19
Date and Quarter Updated: July 2011 (2nd Quarter)

Participating UN Organisation: UNESCO

Sector: WATSAN

Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Ministry of Water Resources

Title	Advanced Hydrogeological Survey for Sustainable Groundwater Development in Iraq (Phase I)				
Geo. Location	Nationwide				
Project Cost	US \$ 675,000				
Duration	12 months				
Approval Date	27/06/2010	Starting Date	24/08/2010	Completion Date	24/02/2011 extended to 31/08/2011
Project Description	This project will undertake a preliminary assessment of existing knowledge of hydrogeological resources in Iraq in order to enhance the government's understanding and management of subsurface water resources.				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

The overall goal of the project is to collect, collate and interpret available in-country data on the physical groundwater occurrence and related hydrogeological regimes and dynamics, which are currently dispersed throughout government institutions. The immediate objectives are: (1) GoI has an inventory of hydrogeological resources in Iraq; and (2) GoI has improved capacities for hydrogeological data collection, processing and management.

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement

Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Extraction of existing hydrogeological data from relevant sources including government and academic institutions, research centers, relevant studies, and the private sector 1.2. Creation of a centralized database containing existing hydrogeological data in Iraq 1.3. Establishment of a preliminary report featuring collected data 1.4. Analysis of current hydrogeological conditions in Iraq 1.4. Plan of implementation created for the advanced hydrogeological survey (Phase II) 2.1. Establishment of a team of hydrogeological experts 2.2. Enhanced capacity for the Government of Iraq to effectively monitor and manage national water resources 2.3. Generate connections between universities, researchers, KRG, and the Central Government of Iraq 2.4 Enhanced coordination between ministries and private sector partners
Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1.1. Compile existing knowledge of subsurface water resources through consultations and field visits 1.2.1. Produce an inventory of data, maps and database on hydrogeological resources 1.3.1. Analyze gaps in data and current knowledge of subsurface water systems 2.1.1. Establish an inter-ministerial and academic team of hydrogeological experts 2.2.1. Harmonize government coordination in the management of groundwater data systems 2.2.2. Expand government management capacity through workshops, training exercises, and coordination with academia/private sector
Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 netbooks for the training • 4 servers for the eventual installation of the data base • 23 licenses for Mapinfo v.10 software • Microsoft SharePoint licenses for hosting of geoFIA web address

Funds Committed	US \$594,048.45	% of approved	88.01%
Funds Disbursed	US \$513,001.09	% of approved	76.00%
Forecast final date	31 Aug 2011	Delay (months)	6

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men	16 (Ministry staff)	100%
Women	8 (Ministry staff)	100%
Children	-	-
IDPs	-	-
Others (people with disabilities)	-	-
Indirect beneficiaries	Iraqi population	
Employment generation (men/women)	-	-

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results		% of planned
(1) GoI has an inventory of hydrogeological resources in Iraq	<p>Approximately 30,000 files across 18,000 folders from 12 ministries were collected. Data collection was completed by the 1st quarter of 2011. Data was processed, restructured and uploaded to an online database at www.geo-fia.org. The web-portal allows the government to access all data collected by the government in a collaborative platform. An assessment of the type and quality of a data, including a geoFIA user guide, were delivered to the government by the end of the 2nd quarter. A National Validation Seminar will be held on 3 July 2011 in Baghdad to hand over the results of the project and the database.</p> <p>A geoFIA Technical Report, detailing the contents and an analysis of the database, will be developed and delivered to the government in August 2011.</p>	95%
(2) GoI has improved capacities for hydrogeological data collection, processing and management.	An inter-ministerial team of experts, known as the geoFIA team of experts, was equipped with mobile computer technology, trained in GIS software, gap analysis technique and the use of the geoFIA web-portal.	100%

Qualitative achievements against objectives and results
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A full assessment of the data collected by UNESCO was undertaken by a newly hired contractor, SGI. The assessment provided a broad, quantitative overview of the data, highlighting thematic and spatial strengths and weaknesses. The firm is responsible for the implementation of the Iraqi Master Plan for Water Resource Management, linking Phase I to a crucial initiative within the MoWR. 2. The geoFIA web portal, www.geo-fia.org, was developed and finalized by UNESCO and SGI during the 2nd quarter. The web portal houses all of the data collected by UNESCO in an accessible and easy to use structure. The web-portal also includes a web-GIS function, which allows the government to quickly visualize its hydrogeological data on a user-friendly system.

Main implementation constraints & challenges (2-3 sentences)
No major constraints or challenges hampered the implementation of Phase I during the 2 nd quarter. The deteriorating security situation in Baghdad will prevent KRG partners from attending the National Validation Seminar on 3 July. A follow-up meeting will be required to be held separately in the 3 rd quarter with KRG partners in light of this challenge.