

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund Project: #:B1 - 35**  
**Date and Quarter Updated: July – Sept. 2011 (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2011)**

**Participating UN Organisation: UNESCO & UNICEF      Sector: Education**

**Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Ministry of Education (MOE) in Baghdad and KRG, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MOHESR) Baghdad and KRG**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Completion of a Comprehensive Assessment of Education Sector for Iraq</b>				
<b>Geo. Location</b>	Nation wide				
<b>Project Cost</b>	US\$ 1,132,445 (UNESCO: US\$ 881,801 / UNICEF US\$ 250,644)				
<b>Duration</b>	12 months				
<b>Approval Date</b>	24.05.2010	<b>Starting Date</b>	26.05.2010	<b>Completion Date</b>	26.05.2011 extended to 26.05.2012
<b>Project Description</b>	A comprehensive Needs Assessment of the education sector is being undertaken to assess the main causes that are hindering access to quality of education and assist the endeavours of the Government of Iraq in the reconstruction and modernization of the education sector. The results of the project will complement the ongoing efforts for supporting Sector Public Modernization for service delivery (I-PSM Program), as well as inform the development of National Education Strategy for Iraq (NESI) and provide solid basis for the operationalization of the Strategy.				

**Development Goal and Immediate Objectives**

*Development Goal:*

Strengthened institutional and human capacity of the education sector to deliver quality education

*Immediate Objectives:*

1. Government of Iraq better able to identify knowledge gaps within the framework of NESI
2. GoI and partners are able to assess internal efficiency and education production functions in the field of quality education, Technical and Vocational Education and Higher Education
3. GoI and partners are provided with knowledge and evidence for effective implementation of the NESI

**Outputs, Key activities and Procurement**

<b>Output 1</b>	<b>Key activities</b>
1. Government of Iraq better able to identify knowledge gaps within the framework of NESI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Completion of Pre-assessment report with identified knowledge gaps (UNESCO &amp; UNICEF)</li> </ol>

<p><b>Output 2</b></p> <p>GoI and partners are able to assess internal efficiency in the field of quality education, Technical and Vocational Education and Higher Education</p>	<p><b>Key activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Completion of Training on data collection and data analysis (UNESCO and UNICEF)</li> <li>ii. Training Workshop on data analysis and policy planning for the validation of pre-assessment report and establishment of relevant indicators (UNESCO &amp; UNICEF)</li> <li>iii. Completion of Multiplier training session in 18 governorates (UNESCO and UNICEF)</li> <li>iv. Formulation of Survey Questionnaires based on identified indicators (UNESCO)</li> <li>v. Completion of Training on data collection and data analysis (UNESCO and UNICEF)</li> <li>vi. Review and finalization of Survey Questionnaires (UNESCO)</li> <li>vii. Field work and data collection (UNESCO)</li> <li>viii. Completion of Data entering in the developed database (UNESCO)</li> <li>ix. Cleaning of Data Set (UNESCO)</li> <li>x. Follow up coordination meeting on validation of database and produced data (UNESCO &amp; UNICEF)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 3</b></p> <p>GoI and partners are provided with knowledge and evidence for effective implementation of the NESI</p>	<p><b>Key Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Completion of Final Needs Assessment Report with key recommendations based on collected data (UNESCO &amp; UNICEF)</li> <li>ii. National meeting to validate report and identify follow-up strategy (UNESCO &amp; UNICEF)</li> <li>iii. Final External Evaluation (UNESCO &amp; UNICEF)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Procurement (major items)</b> (UNESCO) Not Applicable</p>	

<b>Funds Committed</b>	<b>US\$ 362,071.29</b>	% of approved	41.06 %
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	<b>US\$ 238,915.75</b>	% of approved	27.09 %
<b>Forecast final date</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	Delay (months)	12

(UNICEF)

<b>Funds Committed</b>	US\$ 14,737	<b>% of approved</b>	5.8%
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	US\$ 14,737	<b>% of approved</b>	5.8%
<b>Forecast final date</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	Delay (months)	12 Month

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men	102	
Women	102	
Children	-	-
IDPs	-	-
Others (people with disabilities)	-	-
Indirect beneficiaries	Iraqi Education Sector	
Employment generation (men/women)	-	-

<b>Quantitative achievements against objectives and results</b>		
Completion of Pre-assessment report with identified knowledge gaps (UNESCO & UNICEF)	This has been completed	100%
Review and finalization of Survey Questionnaires (UNESCO)	This has been completed	100%
Field work and data collection: Survey of primary, secondary, technical, vocational schools, and universities at a national level	This has been completed	100%
Cleaning of Data Set (UNESCO)	This is ongoing	50%
Completion of Data entering in the developed database (UNESCO)	This is ongoing and will continue awaiting the completion of the remaining part of data collection	40%
Completion of Training on data collection and data analysis of MOE, MOHESR, MoP staff (UNESCO and UNICEF)	TORs for the facilitators and draft training programme have been prepared. Nomination of participants for training by the Iraqi local authorities is 80% complete. The Number of beneficiaries is expected to increase given that UNICEF will co-support the capacity building element in accordance with recent request to refocus UNICEF's component of the project to capacity building.	40%

**Qualitative achievements against objectives and results**

The participation of the Ministry of education and Ministry of Higher education and Scientific Research in the formulation and of the survey tools and inclusion of their concerns in the survey tools ensure that priority areas that require assessment were factored in the tools. Issues of gender perspectives other equity issues became evident and sensitization on these components have been factored as well in the selection of staff for training under the capacity building component of the project. The demand for more staff to participate in the training program is already evident by the ministries request to increase the number of staff to be trained.

**Main implementation constraints & challenges (2-3 sentences)**

Slow response time from MoE and MOHESR in responding to matters requiring their attention continues to pose a challenge. For instance the nominations for staff for training have yet to be completed. Although the list is now complete for MOE (Baghdad, and KRG) and MOHESR (KRG), MOHESR (Baghdad) have yet to submit their list. The recruitment of facilitators is also proving to be a challenge given that a number of identified facilitators are reluctant to do training in Iraq due to their perception of security in Iraq. It is anticipated, however, that this obstacle will be overcome. As reported in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarterly report, the main challenge will be to continue maintaining counterpart participation which is critical for project implementation.