

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund**  
**Project # 66956:C9-27**  
**Date and Quarter Updated: 1 October 2011 – 31 December 2011**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2011**

**Participating UN Organisation: UNDP**                      **Sector: Governance**

**Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Iraqi High Judicial Council (HJC), Ministry of Justice (Baghdad and KRG)**

<b>Title</b>	Support to the Development of Justice and the Rule of Law				
<b>Geographic Location</b>	Nationwide (All Iraq)				
<b>Project Cost</b>	USD 5,909,994				
<b>Duration</b>	36 months				
<b>Approval Date (SC)</b>	4 December 2008	<b>Starting Date</b>	8 December 2008	<b>Completion Date</b>	8 December 2010. Extended to 30 June 2012
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The ‘Support to the Development of Justice and the Rule of Law’ Project is providing the Iraqi Government with technical support and training necessary for the improvement of key components of the judicial system, specifically the functioning of courts and the penitentiary system. UNDP Iraq is supporting the establishment of a model court in Baghdad, which will address the limitations of the current court system, including issues of court management, court reporting and recording, and access for all Iraqis to the judicial system. UNDP Iraq will also provide assistance to the Iraqi Judicial Training Institute (JTI) through the provision of training and other support to ensure that Iraq’s new generation of judges, prosecutors and judicial staff benefit from the latest international best practices. The penitentiary system reform component of the project will support the development of a legal and institutional framework, and will support building the capacity of prison management in line with international human rights standards. In addition, the project is finishing the final phase of the Iraqi Legislative Database (ILD) and will hand it over to the Iraqi stakeholders.</p> <p>This project forms part of a consolidated framework in support of the rule of law and justice in Iraq, together with the EU funded project “Support to the Rule of Law and Justice” and the German funded project “Support to the Development of the Judicial Development Institute”.</p>				
<b>Development Goal and Immediate Objectives</b>					

**National Development Plan:** Enhance social protection and availability of basic services; Commitment to sustainable human development.

**UNDAF Priority 1:** Improved Governance, including the protection of human rights. **Outcome 1.3:** Rule of Law: Iraq has an improved legal and operational rule of law framework for administration and access to justice.

**Sector Team Outcome(s):** Outcome 3: Enhanced rule of law and respect and protection for human rights in line with international standards.

**UNDP Country Programme:** Project sits within Outcome 2: Enhanced rule of law, protection and respect for human rights in line with international standards.

**Project Outcome(s):**

Outcome 1: Strengthened administration of justice system.

Outcome 2: Strengthened capacity of key government and non-government institutions to protect and promote human rights.

<b>Outputs, Key activities and Procurement</b>	
<b>Outputs</b>	1- A Pilot model court is established in Baghdad; 2- Improved curriculum of the Judicial Training Institute, incorporating human rights, gender equity, family code, GBV and juvenile justice; 3- Completing the Iraqi Legal Database; 4- Increased capacity of GoI to reform the penitentiary system, including its management and treatment of women and juveniles.
<b>Activities</b>	1.1 Materials on corruption aimed at the Iraqi judicial system and court users produced and disseminated 1.2 Key judiciary staff trained in court and case management and reporting and case management system institutionalised 1.3 Pilot court functional with training and legal resource and research facilities and core judicial training provided 1.4 Help desk and hotline established and operational to handle corruption complaints and provide assistance to women court users  2.1 Training curriculum reform program of the Judicial Training Institute, incorporating gender equity, family code, GBV and juvenile justice, designed and preparations for implementation in place  3.1 Completing the Iraqi Legal Database  4.1 A thorough analysis of the Iraqi penitentiary system conducted and needs assessment reported. 4.2 Prison personnel and ministry staff trained in modern management and prison management methods and Iraqi CSOs supported in advocacy and monitoring 4.3 Capacity building within the Iraqi government for laws and institutions responsible for the penitentiary system provided.
<b>Procurement (major items)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hiring Prison Advisor on SSA contract</li> <li>• Hiring ILD Supervisor on SSA contract</li> <li>• IT equipment procured for Baghdad Pilot Court.</li> </ul>

<b>Funds Committed for activities</b>	USD 2,849,055.45	<b>% of approved</b>	48%
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	USD 5,088,437	<b>% of approved</b>	86%
<b>Forecast final date</b>	30 June 2012 (a request for extension of the project life span for an additional 6 months has been approved)	<b>Delay (months)</b>	18

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men	n/a	n/a
Women	40,000	2%
Children	n/a	n/a
IDPs	n/a	n/a
Others	n/a	n/a
Indirect beneficiaries	n/a	n/a
Employment generation (men/women)	This Project is not directly concerned with employment generation.	n/a

The project will improve access to justice for vulnerable groups, including women and juveniles. The Penitentiary Reform component will improve the conditions of women and juvenile inmates and will promote the respect of their human and civil rights within the penitentiary system.

Iraqi women are among the most vulnerable in society. The lack of application of rule of law is rendering women more vulnerable to social, tribal and religious rulings and practices. Examples include increases in early marriages, crimes in the name of honour, and vulnerability to variances in application of court rulings. By developing the capacity of the judges, and prisons' administrators this project seeks to contribute to the improvement in the conditions of women. Gender equality will be pursued through:

- Selection of an equal number of men and women for all capacity-building activities;
- Pro-actively addressing the rights of women during incarceration and ensuring their participation in all components of penitentiary reform activities.

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results		
The implementation of the activities in support of the Baghdad Pilot Court	% of delivery	95% complete
The implementation of the activities in support of the Judicial Training Institute	% of delivery	100% complete
Iraqi Legal Database activities	% of delivery	100% complete
Activities in support of reform of the penitentiary system	% of delivery	85% completed
Qualitative achievements against objectives and results		
<u>Output 1. A Pilot Model Court is established in Baghdad</u>		
During this quarter the following key activities were undertaken:		
a. The procurement of legal reference books for the Legal Research Unit has been finalized, and an Egyptian library has been contracted. The books delivered timeline is January 2012.		
b. VSAT equipment has been fully installed in the Rusafa Court House, and CISCO equipment has been procured and will be installed in January 2012.		
c. The public awareness campaign started on 15 <sup>th</sup> November and was officially launched a month later by the Iraqi Higher Judicial Council and UNDP in Baghdad via a press release. The campaign lasted until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2011 with the goal to encourage Iraqis to find out more about their legal rights and to inform them how to access additional information and what assistance is presently available. The campaign was		

carried out through different channels, following a survey conducted in Baghdad, Basrah and Erbil.

Output 2: Improved curriculum of the Judicial Training Institute, incorporating human rights, gender equity, family code, GBV and juvenile justice

This output has already been successfully completed.

Output3: Completing the Iraqi Legal Database

The implementation of the activities in support of the Iraqi Legal Database (ILD) is 100% completed with the ILD handed over to Iraqi stakeholders. The official handover took place in Beirut 8th December 2011 in a ceremony attended by Iraqi officials from Iraqi Higher Judicial Council (HJC), Shura Council, Ministry of Justice, the Iraqi Ambassador to Lebanon, Parliament member, representatives from Kurdistan Regional Government, experts who worked on developing the database as well as local and international media. A special department has been created within the HJC and budget allocated to manage the ILD by the Chief Justice of Iraq. The ILD is freely accessible online and now contains a total of 27,433 legal texts, including 7,136 laws, 4,265 ministerial instructions, 3,268 regulations, 5,029 declarations, and 18,000 court decisions, which is every single Iraqi legal text that has been passed since 1917.

Output 4: Increased capacity of GoI to reform the penitentiary system, including its management and treatment of women and juveniles

During this quarter the following key activities were undertaken:

- a. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Pilot Project on admission and reception procedures at Sulaymaniyah Prison in KRG has been successfully completed during 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. The purpose of the project was to assist the prison to improve procedures for admission and reception of inmates which was successfully achieved through the development of Standards Operating Procedures and training for implementation.
- b. As part of the project a workshop was held on 14-15 December in Sulaymaniyah. Eighteen (18) prison staff members from Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah participated in the workshop, of which 8 were women. Content subjects discussed during the workshop included the types of rules and regulations that are required to have a proper prison system. The new SOPS developed under the project were presented and discussed in order to replicate them in other prisons in the KRG.

The project was granted an extension of 6 months until 30 June 30 2012.

**Main implementation constraints & challenges**

It has been quite challenging for our contractor (DMI) to find an appropriate expert to support the implementation of the second pilot project given its very specific nature and technicality. This was resolved by using different expert networks which resulted in recruitment.

The third and final pilot under Output 4 was to have been implemented during 4th quarter 2011 but experienced delay in the selection of the pilot site and the respective required approval by the Iraqi Ministry of Justice. The official approval was obtained in December 2011 thus the project is anticipated to be implemented during 1st Quarter 2012.