

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund**  
**Project #: S D2- 27 WHO and UNICEF**  
**Date and Quarter Updated: 1 October – 31 December 2012 (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter)**

<b>Participating UN Organisation:</b> WHO (Lead Agency), UNICEF	<b>Sector:</b> Health and Nutrition
<b>Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry:</b> MOH (Lead Ministry), COSIT, KRSO	

<b>Title</b>	Addressing Micronutrient Deficiencies in Iraq: Assessment and Responses				
<b>Geographic Location</b>	All governorates				
<b>Project Cost</b>	US\$ US\$ 3,181,763				
<b>Duration</b>	18 months				
<b>Approval Date (SC)</b>	23 February 2010	<b>Starting Date</b>	02-March 2010	<b>Completion Date</b>	Original :31 July 2011 1st Extension: till 30 July 2012
<b>Project Description</b>	This programme, via its major components, is designed to build the capacity of the MoH to more effectively manage existing nutritional interventions and to adequately plan, implement and monitor new prevention programs and evaluate their impact. Tools and systems for effective management, planning, monitoring and evaluation will be developed from local to central levels of the MoH. The integration of nutritional data as a new component into the national diseases surveillance and Health Information System (HIS) will improve sustainability of national nutritional monitoring and response.				

<b>Development Goal and Immediate Objectives</b>
The joint programme aims at building capacity of the Government of Iraq (GOI) (incl. MOH, COSIT, and other Ministries) to address micronutrient deficiencies in Iraq through: 1) Undertaking a nationwide assessment of nutritional status and micronutrient deficiencies 2) Integration of Nutrition information in the national Health Information system and 3) initiation orientation and sustaining of new or ongoing nutritional responses. All these activities will be undertaken through building the capacity of the responsible health and other authorities.

<b>Outputs, Key activities and Procurement</b>	
<b>Outputs</b>	<p><b>Output 1.1</b> MoH, MoH Kurdistan (MOHK), COSIT and KRSO have improved capacity to develop and carry out a nutrition micronutrients assessment. (WHO,WFP,FAO).</p> <p><b>Output 1.2:</b> MoH and MoH Kurdistan have a strengthened Nutrition Management Information system integrated in the Health Information system(WHO,WFP,FAO)</p> <p><b>Output 1.3</b> GOI are better able to provide nutritional response especially in vulnerable areas (UNICEF).</p>
<b>Activities</b>	<p><u>Output 1:1: (WHO,WFP, FAO)</u></p> <p>1.1.1 Assessment protocols and plan of work finalised</p> <p>1.1.2 Assessment team recruited and operational</p> <p>1.1.3 Training (TOT and training at governorate levels) for assessment and response team personnel</p> <p>1.1.4 Equipment for household blood testing</p> <p>1.1.5 Equipment to support Lab in Baghdad</p> <p>1.1.6 Blood and Urine sample transport</p> <p>1.1.7 Technical assistance to PSC</p> <p>1.1.8 Technical assistance to PSC</p> <p><u>Output 1.2 : (WHO,WFP, FAO)</u></p> <p>1.2.1 Sampling of target population</p> <p>1.2.2 Data collection and management</p> <p>1.2.3 Report writing, printing and dissemination of study results</p>

	1.2.4 Integrating nutrition in national disease surveillance and Health Information System 1.2.5 Monitoring and evaluation 1.2.6 Technical assistance to PSC <u>Output 1.3: (UNICEF)</u> 1.3.1 General micronutrient activities 1.3.2 Capacity building across all levels on nutrition & monitoring 1.3.3 Social mobilisation and advocacy activities including communication media campaign, development of media health education and promotion materials etc
<b>Procurement (major items)</b>	Procurement of the following with a total cost of USD 152,781: 1 Procurement of 50 Hemocue and accessories. 2 Procurement of laboratory supplies and equipments(Deep portable freezers -70C) 3 Procurement of blood collection kits. 4 Procurement of weight and height measurement kits 5 Procurement of. temperature data logger

<b>Funds Committed</b>	WHO: \$ 1,544,954 UNICEF: \$ 916,101.06	% of approved % of approved	85% 67.6 %
<b>Funds disbursed</b>	WHO: \$ 1,243,697 UNICEF: \$ 873,542.21	% of approved % of approved	68% 64.4%
<b>Forecast final date</b>	31 July 2011	<b>Delay (months)</b>	12 months

<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>	<b>% of planned (current status)</b>
Men	All men (household head will directly benefit from the implementation of the MNAR survey that will be conducted at household level (3000 HH)	80% response after implementation
Women	1200 Non pregnant women (15-49) will directly benefit from the MNAR survey and the biological testing that will be conducted at household level (3000 HH).	75% response after implementation
Children	800 Children 6-11 months old and 2200 children (12-59 months) will directly benefit for the MNAR survey and the Biological testing	85-90% response
students	2200 School students (6-12 years) will benefit directly	90% response after implementation
IDPs	Some of the targeted groups are IDP's	NA
Others	MoH and other line ministries staff will benefit from many training activities planned under this project	30%
Indirect beneficiaries	The programme foresees the mobilization of some 200 GoI additional staff within Iraq in addition to the agency network already operating in the country. There will be 30 teams and around 150 members. Each team will consist of four members, including: one interviewer/team monitor; one lab technician; one anthropometrist; and a member from COSIT.	
Employment generation (men/women)	Employment generation is not one of the main objectives of this joint programme However, 100 vehicles and drivers will be hired for the transportation of the teams to the households	100%

<b>Quantitative achievements against objectives and results</b>			
MOH, MoHK , COSIT and KRSO have improved capacity to	1. Three training workshops on training of the teams involved in the implementation of Micronutrient Assessment and Response (MNAR) Survey ,Erbil,	<b>% of planned</b>	80 %

<p>develop and carry out a nutrition micronutrients assessment (<b>WHO</b>)</p>	<p>Iraq .The details for the workshops are as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of 38 Central and Local Supervisors from all governorates in Iraq 18-20 November 2011 on supervision of the interviewers at each governorates</li> <li>• Training of 65 interviewers and statistician from MoH and MoP/CSO and KRSO, 21- 23 November 2011on the three questionnaires (household, women and child)</li> <li>• Training of 63 laboratory technicians and phlebotomist from MoH and DoH from all governorates on collection of blood and urine from the respondents (women and children) 24-26 November 2011.</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Steering committee technical meeting for 2 days (16-17 November 2011 ) in Erbil to finalize the MNAR questionnaire and methodology for the training activities for the implementation of the MNAR survey end of December 2011.</li> <li>3. Training of the 18 central editors in Baghdad (Dec. 2011)</li> <li>4. Training of 20 health workers on the cold chain procedures (Dec. 2011)</li> <li>5. Two days refreshing course for the teams at each governorate prior to the survey.</li> <li>6. 5 days field work to update the sample prior to the survey implementation by the Statisticians from CSO and KRSO (10-14 December 2011)</li> <li>7. Implementation of the media plan by HP department with support of UNICEF with clear messages to the community about the objectives of the survey 2 weeks before the survey implementation.</li> <li>8. Implementation of MNAR survey 24<sup>th</sup> December in all governorates in Iraq for 30 working days</li> </ol>		
<p>MoH and MoHK has a strengthened Nutrition Management Information system integrated in the Health Information system (<b>WHO</b>)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Joint WHO/UNICEF meeting on reviewing and finalizing the National Nutrition Strategy and plan of action 2012-2021. The 2 days meeting (16-17 Nov.2011) was held in Erbil at WHO/Iraq office and participated by 6 members of the nutrition scientific committee from MoH in Baghdad and Kurdistan y and 5 WHO and UNCEf technical staff..</li> <li>2. Training of 16 data entry staff on CSpro data entry Programme for MNAR data entry and analysis ( 20 -23 dec.2011).</li> </ol>	<p><b>% of planned</b></p>	<p>75%</p>

<p>GOI are better able to provide nutritional response especially in vulnerable areas (UNICEF)</p>	<p><b>1- UNICEF support the following General Nutrition Activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Procurement of Retinol 100,000IU &amp; 200,000IU soft gel caps for MOH/NRI for distribution with routine immunization for children under 5 and lactating women.</li> <li>○ Procurement of 4,000 salt testing kits for the monitoring and supervision of salt iodization programme.</li> <li>○ Procurement of 14 metric tons of therapeutic spread sachets for the management of sever acute malnutrition in nutrition rehabilitation units in hospitals.</li> </ul>	% of planned	80%
	<p><b>2- UNICEF supported capacity building across all levels on nutrition &amp; monitoring</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Support the meeting of MOH senior specialist in Breast feeding promotion to finalize the Iraqi draft of International Code of breast milk substitutes.</li> <li>○ Support the training of pediatric doctors working in rehabilitation nutrition units on the management of sever acute malnutrition.</li> <li>○ Support technical assistance of MOH by hiring technical experts with part time duty to assist MOH in MNAR preparation and implementation.</li> </ul>	% of planned	75%
	<p><b>3- UNICEF supported the Social mobilization and advocacy activities including communication media campaign, development of media health education and promotion materials etc :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Several meeting done to prepare the social mobilization plan for the survey and promotion for Salt Iodization.</li> <li>○ Social Mobilization plan development with coordination of UNICEF, WHO and MOH, fund will be transferred very soon to implement it at the beginning of November.</li> <li>○ Support the consultation meeting of health education focal points from different DOHs to finalize the micro plan of social mobilization of MNAR survey.</li> <li>○ Support the social mobilization plan of MNAR survey which includes symposiums for the community at the level of DOHs and</li> </ul>	% of planned	75%

	<p>districts involved by the survey, supporting printing of IEC materials and field teams' work and incentive package for the families involved by survey.</p>		
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**Qualitative achievements against objectives and results**

The following qualitative achievements have been materialized:

- Implementation of the MNAR survey for the first time in Iraq including socio demographic data collection biological testing (blood and urine) from children 6-59 months and women 15-49 (non pregnant) successfully in all governorates
- Good training of the survey teams and proper supervision by the central and local supervisors had led to successful implementation of the survey with almost 98% response rate by families despite the security situation faced during implementation phase.

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

Currently, the implementation of the project is running according to the time line set in the project document and will be completed within the new extension end date of the project. So far no constrains or challenges to be reported.