



**UNDG IRAQ TRUST FUND (UNDG ITF)
ANNUAL PROGRAMME¹ NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2011**

Programme Title & Number
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme Title: Protection of Media Professionals, Human Rights Defenders and Members of the Academic Community in Iraq • Programme Number (if applicable): F8-13 • MDTF Office Atlas Number: 00075766

Country, Locality(s), Thematic Area(s)²
<p>Iraq (Erbil, Baghdad, Basra)</p> <p>Sector Outcome Team: Protection</p>

Participating Organization(s)
UNESCO, UNOPS & UNAMI HRO

Implementing Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Human Rights • Communication and Media Commission

Programme/Project Cost (US\$)
<p>MDTF Fund Contribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by Agency: UNESCO 589,452 UNOPS 410,548 <p>Agency Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by Agency (if applicable) <p>Government Contribution (if applicable)</p> <p>Other Contribution (donor) (if applicable)</p> <p>TOTAL: USD 1,000,000</p>

Programme Duration (months)
Overall Duration: 12 months
Start Date ³ : 15 July 2010
End Date: 14 July 2010
<u>Budget</u>
<u>Revisions/Extensions</u> : 9 July 2012
Operational Closure Date : 9 July 2012 Expected Financial Closure Date :

¹ The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.

² Priority Area for the Peacebuilding Fund; Sector for the UNDG ITF.

³ The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MDTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MDTF Office GATEWAY](http://mdtf.undp.org) (<http://mdtf.undp.org>).

Programme Assessments/Mid-Term EvaluationAssessment Completed - if applicable *please attach* Yes No Date: _____Mid-Evaluation Report – if applicable *please attach* Yes No Date: _____**Submitted By**

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NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

I. Purpose

This project aims at supporting the following groups: media professionals, Human Rights Defenders and members of the academic community, who have been especially targeted by extremists, suffering the consequences of violence and threats inside Iraq. The project is divided into three inter-related outputs: (i) National institutions (e.i. MoJ, MoHR, CMC and IBA) and CSOs have a Federation promoting a greater understanding and increasing the capacity to react to human rights issues, including raising awareness of human rights abuses in Iraq. A series of consultative meetings to address human rights concerns will focus on the development of an official Iraq wide federation of CSOs. The federation will work to raise human rights awareness among the general public, national institutions and the target groups and monitor human rights issues; (ii) the targeted groups will each receive specialized training on human rights protection systems and monitoring human rights violations. In addition, roundtables will be held on human rights protection between the target groups, government officials and members of the Iraqi Bar Association; (iii) personal and safety training will be provided to increase their capacity to cope with threats and professionals risk; and two local experts to work within an Iraqi NGO in Baghdad and Erbil to create its capacity to serve as regional resources on safety and security issues, to monitor and report on the security situation in Iraq, coordinate the trainings, as well as serve as a regional network coordinator for beneficiaries.

While UNESCO will lead the overall project, the division of labor will be shared according to UNESCO and UNOPS mandates and expertise, and in association with NGOs and with Iraqi civil society, as well as with the beneficiary groups.

Project Outcome 1: An environment for improved protection of civilians based on Human Rights Standards in place throughout Iraq

JP Output 1: National institutions and CSOs have an active Federation promoting a greater understanding and increasing the capacity to react to human rights issues, including raising awareness of human rights abuses in Iraq.

JP Output 2: Government officials, HRDs, media organizations, members of the academic community and their respective professional unions have strengthened capacities to promote human rights protection systems and report to national and international human rights institutions.

JP Output 3: HRDs, academics and media workers have increased capacities to cope with threats and professionals risks.

The project directly supports the NDS objective to Strengthen Good Governance and Improve Security by combining awareness activities, advocacy of human rights, capacity building of both governmental and non-state actors, and a solid safety component. This will contribute to overcoming the plague of insecurity in Iraq, enhance adherence to the rule of law, and create a favorable environment for a country-wide respect of human rights.

Further, the project contributes to ICI targets 3.3.2: “establish and implement effective rule of law and policies” by working hand in hand with line ministries and members of the judicial system, providing them with capacity building on norms and standards of human rights to strengthen judicial administration and maximize the respect of the rule of law in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and end impunity.

It also includes a contribution to ICI goal 4.4.1.6: “Reduce gender discrimination, increase participation of women in public life and economic activity; increase women’s participation in politics at decision-making levels and their involvement in the democratization process; protect women from violence and mobilize their potential to promote peace.” Reducing insecurity faced by women journalist, activists and academics through specific trainings will create a propitious climate for their participation in all areas of the community and civil society.

II. Resources

Financial Resources:

The project has been funded USD 1,000,000 earmarked by the European Union (EU) through UNDG Iraq Trust Fund (ITF). UNESCO and UNOPS received the funds on 9th of July 2011.

The project was approved to a startup date of 9 July 2010 and completion date set for 9 July 2011, initial project duration being 12 months. A twelve-month extension (until 9 July 2012) and budget revision was approved on 27 July 2011.

No budget revision was required for the UNOPS budget.

Human Resources:

The **UNESCO** project management team consists of:

- International Staff:
 - 1 International Programme Manager from September 2009 to September 2011, duty station Baghdad (funded out of different projects).
 - 1 International Programme Manager from October to December 2011, duty station Amman (funded at 50%).
 - 1 International Seconded (Project Officer) from January 2010 to December 2011, duty station Amman.
- National Staff:
 - 1 National Programme Officer, from January to December 2011, duty station Amman (funded at 50%).
 - 1 National Programme Officer from February to December 2011, duty station Baghdad (funded at 50%).
 - Two National Consultants for the setting up of the Regional Safety Resource Hubs in Erbil and Baghdad.

UNOPS:

- International Staff:
 - A Project Manager is assigned to the project and budgeted at 30%

- National Staff:
 - One National Project Associate is assigned to the project and budgeted at 50%. Support is also given by UNOPS field staff in Baghdad, Basra and Erbil on a needs basis. The field staff are not funded under this project.

III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

UNESCO:

UNESCO, acting as the lead agency, and UNOPS are the executing agencies for the Project, and therefore responsible for the implementation of all project activities. UNESCO's role, as agreed upon with the line Ministries and sister UN Agencies participating in the project, focuses on developing the capacity of media professionals, human rights defenders and academics to cope with personal risks and threats. Likewise, UNESCO will provide legal awareness training for members of Iraq's judicial and law enforcement system to address human rights violations according to the government responsibility. Lastly, UNESCO, with support of UNAMI HRO and UNOPS, will pave the way for the formation of a national Federation of human rights defenders, which have as the ultimate aim of promoting a human right culture among Iraqi society.

Implementation mechanisms utilized range from the recruitment of an implementing partner -Hart Security (contract awarded on December 2011) - and national security experts to the direct involvement of Iraqi stakeholders. For instance, Hart Security is implementing the in-country trainings on safety and security, while the local experts will look out at establishing two safety resource hubs. Moreover, UNESCO and UNAMI HRO, in close collaboration with UNOPS, are leading the formation of the Federation through the establishment of a steering committee comprises of Iraqi activists from the fields of human rights, academia and media. This latter mechanism is expected to ensure a process driven by and for the beneficiaries, strengthening the sense of ownership and ensuring sustainability beyond the project end.

It is also to note that from the onset of the project, a Steering Committee has been formed to provide strategic direction to the same. The Committee is comprised by the Ministry of Human Rights, the Communication and Media Commission, and the Iraqi Bar Association, in addition to UNESCO, UNOPS and the UNAMI Human Rights Office.

All procurement activities included in this project were implemented according to UNESCO's standard rules and procedures of international competitive bidding. Within this framework, procurement for goods up to a ceiling of \$100,000 may be undertaken directly by the Amman based team. For procurement of goods above \$100,000, a committee in Headquarters reviews and authorizes the contract in question.

The project is designed to meet the requirements for monitoring, evaluation and reporting in line with the Memorandum of Understanding of the UN Development Group Iraq Trust Fund as well as by the standard policies and procedures of UNESCO. The results framework are used as the basis for monitoring and reporting progress against outputs, stipulated indicators and their contribution towards the outcome.

Monitoring and evaluation of the implementing partners of the Project is specified in the term of references of the contractual agreements. The UNESCO project team ensures that all outputs stipulated in the terms of reference are delivered in accordance with the contractual agreements without any delay. UNESCO requires from all trainers, consultants and/or contractors detailed final narrative and financial reports.

Missions to monitor project implementation and in-country training are taken by the project management team on a regular basis. Moreover, training activities evaluation are carried out and their results, lessons learned and recommendations are incorporated as necessary in the project activities.

Monitoring also occurs with the Project Steering Committee through an 'open door' policy of feedback and communication via meetings, email and telephone.

At this stage of the project no formal evaluations have been completed. UNESCO will perform a full evaluation of the project upon completion.

UNOPS:

Under this project, UNOPS has been working with an implementing partner for the majority of its activities. This method of working was decided on during the project development stage when discussions within the Protection Outcome Team suggested that UNOPS should partner with an NGO supporting human rights defenders in Iraq. The Italian NGO Un Ponte Per was indicated for this role in the project document. However, in order to select an implementing partner, UNOPS had to complete an open public bidding process (or request for proposals) in line with strict procurement criteria. UPP did not to apply for the bid and was therefore not involved in the project any further.

The implementing partner awarded a contract through the bidding process in 2010 was the International NGO People in Need (PIN) who proposed a joint working method with an Iraqi human rights focused NGO Harikar and was the most compliant offer received in the bidding process based on technical and financial evaluation. Their contract continued until September 2011 in accordance with UNOPS work plan.

UNOPS maintains overall responsibility for the design and implementation of activities and ensures that monitoring, coordination and consultation requirements are followed.

In addition to the contract with PIN, UNOPS also supports the implementation of activities via its project management team in Amman, who travel regularly to Iraq to attend project meetings, monitor activities and liaise between UNOPS, the line ministry and all other project partners as required. UNOPS field staff in Erbil, Basra and Baghdad provide inputs and support as necessary and carry out project monitoring for all activities.

UNOPS utilizes standard procurement process according to its procurement manual* and following principles

- a) Best value for money
- b) Fairness, integrity and transparency
- c) Effective competition
- d) The best interests of UNOPS and its clients

UNOPS procures goods and services in close collaboration with the Clients, Iraqi authorities, and the Beneficiaries. While the individual arrangements vary depending on the Client and the specific project requirements, the general modalities are:

Requirements

- Upon request of Client, and together with the Iraqi counterparts, identify the goods and services for UNOPS to provide or contract.
- Preparation of detailed specifications of equipment and services and work plan, by UNOPS, based on input and with the support from the Client, the Iraqi authorities and the beneficiaries.
- UNOPS utilizes standard procurement process, including; Request for Quotations (RFQ), Invitation to Bid (ITB), Request for Proposal (RFP)

Short-listing

- UNOPS has developed and maintains a database of known suppliers and service providers in Iraq (incl. performance assessment, capacity, registration in Iraq, etc.) and a roster of registered experts.
- Qualified and potentially interested vendors in the area can also be drawn from the local authority's relevant company registration offices.
- Alternatively, interested companies can be requested to submit their profiles in response to an Expression of Interest ad published in the Iraqi and/or international media (incl. internet).
- Where necessary and relevant, information on companies/vendors can also be drawn from other UN agencies and entities operating in Iraq.
- The short-list of companies selected to be included in the procurement exercise requires approval by the Procurement Authority (Director of the Operation Centre), confirming that all relevant sources of information have been utilized for compiling the list.

Tendering Process

- UNOPS issues an Invitation to Bid/Request for Proposal to all short-listed companies, requesting them to submit an Offer/Proposal in line with the specific requirements. The document also stipulates the exact process of submission, receipt, opening, and evaluation of bids and it informs on the nature of the contract/purchase order the selected bid could result in.
- Requests for clarification received from potential bidders are responded to by UNOPS, if necessary upon consultation with the Client, relevant Iraqi authorities, and/or Beneficiaries.
- By the deadline for receiving bids , all Bids received are opened by a UNOPS Bid Opening Committee. The opening ceremony is open to observers from the Client, relevant Iraqi authorities, the Beneficiaries, as well as for companies participating in the tender.
- The evaluation follows UNOPS standard procedure, varying on procurement type and value, and should result in a recommendation for award of contract to the lowest technically Responsive bids. This recommendation requires approval by the relevant authority within UNOPS.

*<http://www.unops.org/english/whatwedo/services/procurement/Pages/Procurementpolicies.aspx>

IV. Results

JP Output 1: National institutions and CSOs have an active Federation promoting a greater understanding and increasing the capacity to react to human rights issues, including raising awareness of human rights abuses in Iraq.

Consultative meetings

As part of the human rights protection training seminars conducted in Erbil, Baghdad and Basra, a total of 12 meetings were carried out by UNAMI HRO staff. The meeting topic was focused on how a federation could possible function and potential benefits of having a federation of human rights defenders in Iraq. These discussions gave the participants the opportunity to theoretically create their own federations and give ideas on the structure's breakdown needed to be.

These meetings were followed by the formation of a steering committee to set up the Federation of CSOs. The Committee is comprised of 15 Iraqi activists from within the field of human rights, academia and media, selected from the pool of participants of the human rights protection trainings. The Committee overall responsibility is to develop a federation of human rights defenders aimed to promote a human right culture among different sectors of Iraqi society. During the reporting period, the Committee has been working on (1) defining the mission and purpose of the federation; (2) drafting the Charter and Terms of Reference of the federation, and (3) promoting the concept of the federation.

In relation to this output, the variance in planned versus achieved activities lies in the decision to draw on the Conference as a platform to gauge and agree on the idea of the Federation among stakeholders. This allows the process to be completely run by and for the Iraqi stakeholders, capitalizing on local experience and supporting long-term sustainability of the Federation. UNESCO, UNOPS and UNAMI HRO are providing direction and technical assistance to the said committee in order to fulfill its responsibilities.

Project Website and newsletters

UNOPS, in cooperation with its implementing partner finalized the project website design in 2010 and launched it online in early 2011. The website is intended as an information source for human rights defenders and the general public, providing resources and information on human rights protection and the situation of human rights defenders in Iraq. Requests were sent to all project partners and beneficiaries to contribute to the website with documents, reports and human rights information and the site has been regularly updated with articles throughout the years.

In addition, UNOPS completed work on the monthly newsletter publications linked to the project website www.modafaaun.com and exceeded the planned number newsletters set in the project's expected results matrix. By the end of 2011 a total of 16 newsletters out of a planned 14 had been sent out electronically to a distribution list of human rights defenders from the three target groups of academics, media workers and human rights activists. The project website continues to be popular. For example, in the month of July alone, the website received 644 visitors.

Three focal points were selected during the first federation steering committee in September to continue to oversee the management of the project website with the assistance of the current website manager, it is

expected that this sharing of tasks and link to the federation will add to the sustainability of the site beyond the project timeframe.

JP Output 2: Government officials, HRDs, media organizations, members of the academic community and their respective professional unions have strengthened capacities to promote human rights protection systems and report to national and international human rights institutions.

Roundtables in human rights

UNAMI HRO conducted 12 roundtables on human rights as part of the consultative meeting under Output 1 to further support on the topic. Discussions focused around the role of the Human Rights Office in Iraq for the promotion and protection of human rights. The presentation was delivered directly by staff members of the UNAMI HRO to enhance the exchange of information between the participant and the trainers on a more concrete ground based on real experience.

Seminars on Human Rights Protection

Between April and July 2011, UNOPS organized 12 in country seminars on the protection of human rights, implemented in Erbil, Basra and Baghdad. Civil society members trained in the last quarter of 2010 delivered the protection seminars alongside Ministry of Human Rights trainers⁴. Each seminar benefitted participants from the fields of academia, journalism and human rights activists/organizations across Iraq. A total of 208 people from the three target groups took part in the seminars. Feedback received from the participants on the results of the seminars was generally positive. The seminars provided participants with a solid background in human rights protection mechanisms to assist them in their work as human rights defenders. The acquired knowledge of the participants was measured through written tests both prior to and after the seminars. In general there was a noted increase in the expertise of the participants following the seminars. Additionally, participants were requested to evaluate the seminars and a majority of participants stated that they had gained from the experience and found it useful to partake in the activity, noting particularly the usefulness of the seminars being jointly facilitated by civil society representatives and MoHR officials. This aspect gave beneficiaries a broader perspective on human rights protection work from both a civil society and government viewpoint, promoted fruitful dialogue and exchange between the two parties and gave both sides experience in working together to deliver human rights messages.

National Conference

From 27 to 29 September 2011, UNOPS organized a national conference on the situation of human rights defenders in Iraq in accordance with the project work plan. The event was originally planned to take place in July 2011 but was postponed for two months with the agreement of the project steering committee due to general delays faced in the overall implementation of the project, as detailed in the sections below.

The conference was held in Erbil and focused on the challenges the three target groups face in their human rights work and how to develop a framework whereby HRDs are better protected in Iraq. One of the main objectives of the conference was to also discuss the potential launching of a federation of human rights defenders in accordance with the project design and federation activities led by UNESCO and detailed above.

⁴ With the exception of 3 seminars in Baghdad where MoHR officials were unavailable due to other work commitments

The conference was attended by academics, journalists, CSO members, Ministry of Human Rights officials including the Deputy Minister as well as other government representatives from the central and KRG region. The conference was facilitated by Iraqi civil society experts and was also supported by UNESCO and UNAMI HRO. A total of 62 Iraqi stakeholders attended the event as well as 10 internationals. Keynote speeches were delivered by the Deputy Minister of Human Rights, representatives from the Council of Representatives (CoR) and from the Human Rights Office of the KRG as well as the Chief of UNAMI HRO and Civil Society representatives.

As a result of the conference, participants agreed on the establishment of an Iraqi federation of human rights defenders, expected to raise awareness of human rights issues as well as promoting on the national level the culture of human rights. A number of recommendations were given by participants on the formation of this federation. In particular the following points were officially recorded during the conference:

- (a) The goal of the federation is the creation of a union for the protection of human rights defenders and they work to promote a culture of human rights in Iraq
- (b) Activities should include capacity building and awareness raising; coordination and communication with national institutions on human rights; unification of the efforts of human rights defenders in addressing violations and human rights issues; follow up of Iraq's international obligations; reporting; outreach and the creation of a structure to help project HRD's
- (c) The federation should be registered under relevant Iraq law on syndicates and unions
- (d) An administrative base should be set up in Baghdad with membership Iraq wide
- (e) Donations will be sought to sustain the federation

General recommendations made by conference participants on the situation of HRD's in Iraq included the following:

1. Build the capacity of human rights defenders and increase their experience through training courses and experience sharing seminars/
2. Strengthen the culture of human rights awareness raising within communities.
3. Improve coordination and communication with governmental and judicial bodies, including parliamentary provincial councils as well as supporting international and regional human rights defenders.
4. Ensure wider access to informational materials on human rights.
5. Call on Parliament to enact laws that protect human rights defenders, both on legal and administrative levels.
6. Encourage the implementation of international conventions ratified by Iraq by following up on their ratification and adaptation of their contents into national law.
7. Speed up the formation of the Independent Human Rights Commission in Iraq to ensure a champion for human rights in Iraq.

JP Output 3: HRDs, academics and media workers have increased capacities to cope with threats and professionals risks.

Establishment of Regional Safety Resource Hubs

Two national consultants have been recruited during the reporting period to work as Safety and Security Coordinators. The Safety and Security Coordinators will assist UNESCO in the implementation of this output, in particular in the establishment of the regional Safety Resource Hubs of media organizations. Moreover, the Coordinators are responsible for coordinating safety and security trainings, assist in

dissemination of safety and security materials, and for a continual exchange of information on safety and security issues to the target group.

The first task to be performed by the coordinators is an assessment aimed at identifying local non-governmental organizations that are working or might work on some activity in the area of security awareness for journalists, for the purposes of identifying the appropriate NGO in which to base the regional safety resource hubs. For this, the coordinators, with support of the UNESCO Project Manager, are designing the selection criteria of these organizations. The assessment and selection of the most suitable NGO will be conducted in the first quarter of 2012.

Field Work Safety Manual

UNESCO in cooperation with Hart Security is in the process of producing a safety manual on the basic knowledge and practical skills needed to effectively address and mitigate critical security threats and risks faced by the target groups. The manual will include Iraq-specific security issues, and is accordance with UNESCO standards and guidelines for the protection of journalists, and in this case adapted to human rights defenders and academics.

- Report on the key outputs achieved in the reporting period including # and nature of the activities (inputs), % of completion and beneficiaries.

Beneficiaries: The key beneficiaries of the project are professional media workers, the academic community and Human Rights activists, In addition, government officials and members of judiciary institutions, including judges, lawyers, and law enforcement officials, will be sensitized on the government’s role as guarantor of rule of law.

Nature of activities: First, a Federation of CSOs is developed to actively advocate for human rights issues. A series of consultative meetings is implemented to discuss the idea of the Federation. Capacity building activities will be delivered for the target group to strengthen their capacity to (1) monitor and report human rights violations, and (2) enhance their responses to security threats. Lastly, two regional centers will be available and serve as networks for media organizations and other related stakeholders on safety and security matters across Iraq.

Output	Activity	% of completion	Beneficiaries
<i>JP Output 1:</i> National institutions and CSOs have an active Federation promoting a greater understanding and increasing the capacity to react to human rights issues, including raising awareness of human rights abuses in Iraq.	Consultative meetings to establish key issues within the domain of human rights in Iraq and to coordinate a unified response mechanism.	100%	208 beneficiaries (54 women; 154 men)
	Monthly news sheets and mailing list.	100%	
	National Conference in Baghdad to launch a Federation of CSOs.	70% (Conference: completed; Federation: ongoing)	72 participants (62 Iraqi stakeholders, of which 20 were women, and 10 internationals of which 4 were women)

	The development and design of the interactive website was completed during 2010 and went live in early 2011. The site continues to be updated by members of the newly created federation committee.	100%	
	Trainings of trainers in human right protection systems completed in 2010	100%	19 direct beneficiaries
<i>JP Output 2:</i>	Roundtables in human rights.	100%	208 beneficiaries (54 women; 154 men)
Government officials, HRDs, media organizations, members of the academic community and their respective professional unions have strengthened capacities to promote human rights protection systems and report to national and international human rights institutions.	Trainings in human rights protection and personal safety and security issues.	50% (protection trainings: completed; safety and security trainings: planned for 2012)	208 beneficiaries (54 women; 154 men)
	Legal awareness training to governmental officials and lawyers.	0% (Planned for 2012)	
<i>JP Output 3:</i>	Trainings of trainers in personal safety and security issues.	0% (Planned for 2012)	
HRDs, academics and media workers have increased capacities to cope with threats and professionals risks.	Establishment of two resources hubs (Baghdad and Erbil).	40% (two coordinators placed and currently working on setting up the hubs)	
	Reproducing and distributing of a Field Work Safety Manual.	15%	

- Explain, if relevant, delays in programme implementation, the nature of the constraints, actions taken to mitigate future delays and lessons learned in the process.

UNESCO has experienced some delay in the project implementation. The major challenge has been to complete the bidding process. UNESCO decided to implement elements of the project, such the recruitment of Safety and Security Coordinators, while bids were being evaluated. This action required that UNESCO reissued the tender reflecting a reduced number of activities. The issuance of a second tender slowed down the project implementation. However, UNESCO and the selected implementer (contract granted in December 2011) are actively working to complete the project within the planned period.

Another challenge faced by UNESCO and UNOPS is remote implementation. The same is mitigated by regular travel to Iraq for internationals and the use of national staff for project follow up and monitoring on the ground.

The security situation remains to be a constraint which restricts the presence of the UNESCO and UNOPS project managers to be full time available inside Iraq. Implementing partners are helping to overcome UN movement restrictions.

- List the key partnerships and collaborations, and explain how such relationships impact on the achievement of results.

UNESCO, as the UN agency with the particular mandate to defend freedom of expression and right of access to information, is responsible for the implementation of training activities related to media professionals and members of the academic community as well as build awareness, understanding and developing active coordination among these stakeholders with the government through the creation of a Federation of CSOs.

Further, UNESCO will seek support in those partnerships built with the media and the academic community to attract participants for the training activities. Stakeholders will include professionals from fields, professional associations, unions/syndicates, as well as related institutions and organizations. As many beneficiaries are reached through training seminars, the greater the project impact, the assurance of knowledge and skill transference, as well as contribute to the suppression of climate of insecurity in Iraq.

UNESCO and Hart Security are working together on the basis of a Memorandum of Agreement signed in accordance with UNESCO procurement rules. Detailed agreements on cooperation and consultation on project activities ensure a good working relationship between the two organisations and allow for UNESCO to have full oversight.

The relationship between all project partners is strengthened by regular communication, correspondence and meetings to discuss project implementation and progress. In general the project partnerships are working well and have a positive impact on the project implementation.

UNOPS is responsible for the implementation of training activities under the project linked to human rights protection as well as support to awareness activities and the implementation of the conference on human rights defenders. This work is done in collaboration with its implementing partner PIN and in close cooperation with the line ministry for the project MoHR. UNESCO as the project lead is kept informed of UNOPS activities and UNAMI HRO is also consulted on human rights issues as necessary.

UNOPS is undertaking this role because of its strengths in project and training implementation and its experience in implementing conference activities in Iraq and working with civil society organizations, including human rights activists. In particular, UNOPS has worked on the implementation of human rights training in Iraq since 2005, in coordination with MoHR and UNAMI HRO.

MoHR as the project's line ministry is regularly consulted on project activities through phone and email correspondence and regular meetings. The MoHR takes a lead role as co -chair of the project steering committee and therefore makes key inputs on the overall strategy of the project. The ministry will also participate in the implementation of project activities by providing trainers and materials on human rights in Iraq.

UNOPS and PIN work together on the basis of a Memorandum of Agreement signed in accordance with UNOPS procurement rules. Detailed agreements on cooperation and consultation on project activities ensure a god working relationship between the two organisations and allow for UNOPS to have full oversight. PIN is an observer on the Steering Committee and informed of all project requirements.

While not an implementing agency, the role of UNAMI Human Rights Office, based on its mandate, is to facilitate and assist all key stakeholders in the establishment of the Federation with the different actors and to support them through the office's technical expertise.

- Other highlights and cross-cutting issues pertinent to the results being reported on.

Human Rights: All three beneficiary groups are directly or indirectly involved in promoting human rights in Iraq. HRDs are on the frontline promoting and respecting human rights. Media workers hold officials accountable for their actions, including failure to uphold human rights and protect civil society in order to ensure its role in the country's development. Academics lay the foundation stones for tomorrow's leaders and ensure that education includes the principles of respect for human rights, mutual respect, tolerance and peace. This project promotes human rights advocacy, especially through the areas of expertise of the target group.

Gender Equality: There is a crucial need for women to participate fully in all aspects of political leadership, in defence of human rights, and in information and higher education sectors. Thus, the Project will:

- Ensure that women are represented in round tables, workshops and training groups by active recruitment of female participants: The project aimed to include as many qualified women as possible in its activities. However, achieving gender balance remains a challenge in the Iraqi context, where NGOs and professions such as journalism and academia tend to be more male dominated and male representatives are put forward as participants as a first choice by beneficiary organizations and institutions. The project partners worked hard to encourage the inclusion of female participants. However in addition to participant numbers, quality of applications and relevant qualifications also had to be considered and despite encouraging women to apply, overall numbers remained much lower than expected. A total of 54 women attended the protection seminars out of 208 participants; a total of 20 women attended the HRD conference out of 62 local (Iraqi) participants and 5 women are participating in the Federation Steering Committee out of 15 members. The percentage of female participation in 2011 was lower than expected at 27%.
- Ensure that the roundtables, workshops, and training fully take into account the particular problems faced by women: Project partners have sought to include sessions and topics that have been taken into account particular problems faced by women. For instance, during the training on human rights protection, The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and its monitoring were introduced and discussed. Also, the UNESCO Safety Manual will include a section dedicated solely to those additional measures women can take to protect their physical integrity and safety. The safety and security training will also dedicated a session to this subject.

Key environmental issues: There are no specific environmental issues being addressed by this project.

Employment generation: This project will not directly or indirectly generate any employment.

- Provide an assessment of the programme/project based on performance indicators as per approved project document using the template in Section VIII, if applicable.

See Section VIII for details.

V. Future Work Plan (if applicable)

- Summarize the projected activities and expenditures for the following reporting period (1 January-31 December 2012), using the lessons learned during the previous reporting period.

UNESCO WORK-PLAN IN 2012

Protection of Media Professionals, Human Rights Defenders and Members of the Academic Community in Iraq 2012 WORK-PLAN								
Expected Outputs	Activities	January	February	March	April	May	June	July
		<i>JP Output 1: National institutions and CSOs have an active Federation promoting a greater understanding and increasing the capacity to react to human rights issues, including raising awareness of human rights abuses in Iraq.</i>	Creation and launch of Federation (Setting up a Steering Committee; Drafting Federation Charter & ToR; Launching Federation)					
<i>JP Output 2: Government officials, HRDs, media organizations, members of the academic community and their respective professional unions have strengthened capacities to promote human rights protection systems and report to national and international human rights institutions.</i>	12 in-country training events on safety and security issues for media professionals, academics and HRDs (4 two-day training sessions in each region: Erbil, Baghdad & Basra for a total of 240 participants)							
	Legal awareness training for members of the Iraq's judicial and law enforcement system to build capacity for responding to Human Rights violations (2 three-day training sessions in Erbil and Baghdad for a total of 30 participants)							
<i>JP Output 3: HRDs, academics and media workers have increased capacities to cope with threats and professionals risks.</i>	Training of Trainers workshops focus on personal safety and security issues (1 three-day training workshop in Erbil, Baghdad & Basra for a total of 30 participants)							
	Establishment of regional training hubs							
	Production of Field Safety Manual							

UNOPS completed all of its activities in 2011, but will continue to support UNESCO and UNAMI HRO activities as necessary until the end of the project.

PROGRAMME BUDGET UNESCO		
CATEGORY	AMOUNT	2012
1. Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport	12,600	8,964.42
2. Personnel (staff, consultants and travel)	171,200	33,257.90
3. Training of counterparts	254,560	39.14
4. Contracts	90,000	51,118.80
5. Other direct costs	26,418	4,458.44
Total Programme Costs	554,778	97,838.70
Indirect Support Costs (6.25%)	34,674	27,573.10
TOTAL	589,452	125,411.80

PROGRAMME BUDGET UNOPS		
CATEGORY	AMOUNT	2011
1. Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport	12,000	9,408
2. Personnel (staff, consultants and travel)	57,000	38,523
3. Training of counterparts	0	0
4. Contracts	311,503	262,255
5. Other direct costs	5,895	2,778
Total Programme Costs	386,398	312,965
Indirect Support Costs (6.25%)	24,150	19,560
TOTAL	410,548	332,524

- Indicate any major adjustments in strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs planned.

The trainings on human rights protection and safety and security were originally scheduled to be implemented jointly. However, UNESCO and UNOPS agreed to split these trainings so as not to hold back UNOPS in its implementation, which may otherwise have led to severe budgetary constraints given the differences in implementation progress between the two agencies. The safety and security trainings will be implemented in 2012. It is expected that the beneficiaries of the 12 security seminars will be the same group that participated in the human rights training. The splitting of the trainings was agreed by the project steering committee and is not expected to have a negative impact on the overall results of the activities.

Also, the project partners decided not to launch the Federation during the National Conference held in the framework of this project. Instead, the conference served as a platform to announce the formation of a national committee responsible for establishing this federation. This in turn allows the process to be led by Iraqi stakeholders.

VIII. INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baselines	Planned Indicator Targets	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance (if any)	Source of Verification	Comments (if any)
Outcome 1							
National institutions and CSOs have an active Federation promoting a greater understanding and increasing the capacity to react to human rights issues, including raising awareness of human rights abuses in Iraq.							
Output 1.1 Output 1.1: National institutions and CSOs have an active Federation promoting a greater understanding and increasing the capacity to react to human rights issues, including raising awareness of human rights abuses in Iraq.	1.1.1 Number of key stakeholders participated in consultative meetings to establish key issues within the domain of human rights in Iraq and to coordinate a unified response mechanism	0	288	208 beneficiaries (54 women; 154 men)		Consultative meetings reports	Facilitated by UNAMI HRO staff. Federation Steering Committee members selected from the pool of participants of these meetings.
	1.1.2 Percentage of members of CSOs and government officials fully satisfied with the quality of the consultative meetings discussion in terms of relevance and usefulness.	N/A	80%	0		Post participant assistance	
	1.1.3 Number of electronic publications such as regular news sheets and mailings on human rights issues	0	12 monthly news sheet	16		Publications and distribution list	

	1.1.4 Number of members of Iraqi authorities international stakeholders, and CSOs attending the National Conference in Baghdad to launch a Federation of CSOs (disaggregate by sex)	0	70	72 (62 Iraqi stakeholders, of which 20 were women, and 10 internationals of which 4 were women)		Conference report	A Federation Steering Committee aimed at establishing a Federation of CSOs was formed during the Conference.
	1.1.5 HRDs interactive website launched	No	Yes	Yes		Programme progress report and website itself: www.modafaaun.com	
Outcome 2							
Government officials, HRDs, media organizations, members of the academic community and professional unions have strengthened capacities to promote human rights protection systems and report to national and international human rights institutions.							
Output 2.1 Output 2.1: HRDs have strengthened capacities to promote human rights protection systems, cope with professional security risks, and report to national and international human rights institutions.	2.1.1 Number of HRDs, media professionals and academics trained as trainers on human rights and related issues concerning protection. (disaggregated by sex)	0	20	19	One participant fell ill half way through the training and could not complete the ToT.	Training Reports	
	2.1.2 Percentage of HRDs, media professionals and academics fully satisfied with the quality of the training in terms of relevance and usefulness	N/A	80%	84%		Post training participants' assessment (UNOPS records)	
Output 2.2 Government officials, media organizations,	2.2.1 Number of roundtables involving HRDs, journalist,	0	12	11 roundtables conducted		Report on roundtable discussions	Facilitated by UNAMI HRO staff.

<p>members of the academic community and professional unions have strengthened capacities to promote human rights protection systems, and report to national and international human rights institutions.</p>	<p>academics and officials on protection issues organised</p>						
	<p>2.2.2 Percentage of HRDs, journalists, academics and government officials fully satisfied with the quality of the roundtable discussion in terms of relevance and usefulness.</p>	N/A	80%	0			Post-roundtable discussions' assessment
	<p>2.2.3 Number of HRDs, media professionals, and academics (both practitioners and managers) trained on human right protection and on personal safety and security issues. (disaggregated by sex)</p>	0	240	208 beneficiaries (54 women; 154 men)	In total 208 people attended the seminars from the 3 target groups. This is less than the planned number as some confirmed participants did not turn up on the first day of the seminars and the short 2.5 day timeframe of the seminars did not allow for last minute changes given travelling distances and the amount of the seminar that would be missed by any replacements.	Training reports	<p>The planned seminars on human rights protection were completed in 2011.</p> <p>Trainings on safety and security to be implemented in 2012</p>
	<p>2.2.4 Percentage of HRDs, media professionals, and academics fully satisfied with the quality of the training in terms of relevance and usefulness</p>	N/A	80%	82%			Post-training participants' assessment. UNOPS records
	<p>2.2.5. Number of government officials,</p>	0	30	0			Training report

	members of judiciary institutions and Iraqi Bar Association trained on implementing and international protection mechanism (disaggregated by sex)						
	2.2.6 Percentage of government officials, members of judiciary institutions and Iraqi Bar Association fully satisfied with the quality of the training in terms of relevance and usefulness.	N/A	80%	0		Post-training participants' assessment	To be implemented in 2012
Outcome 3							
HRDs, academics and media workers have increased capacities to cope with threats and professional risks							
Output 3.1 HRDs, academics and media workers have increased capacities to cope with threats and professional risks	3.1.1 Number of HRDs, media professionals, and academics trained as trainer on personal safety and security issues. (disaggregated by sex)	0	10	0		Training reports	To be implemented in 2012
	3.1.2 Percentage of HRDs, media professionals and academics fully satisfied with the quality of the training in terms of relevance and	N/A	80%	0		Post training participants' assessment	To be implemented in 2012

	usefulness.						
	3.1.3 Number of resource centres created within a local NGO in Erbil and Baghdad	0	2	0		Programme progress report	Two national consultants hired and currently working on setting up the hubs.
	3.1.4 Numbers of HRDs, media professionals and academics provided with Field Work Safety Manuals (disaggregated by sex).	0	240	0		Distribution list	To be implemented in 2012

Annex: Acronyms List

CoR	Council of Representatives
CSOs	Civil society organizations
GoI	Government of Iraq
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
ITF	Iraq Trust Fund
KRG	Kurdistan Region
LADP	Local Area Development Programme
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MOD	Ministry of Defence
MOHE	Ministry of Higher Education
MoHR	Ministry of Human Rights
MoI	Ministry of the Interior
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MTR	Mid-Term Review
NDP	National Development Plan
NDS	National Development Strategy
NGOs	Non-governmental organization
SOTs	Sector Outcome Teams
UN	United Nations
UNAMI	United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq
UNAMI-HRO	United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq- Human Rights Office
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nation Development Assistant Framework
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNESO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services