

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund
Project #:B1-36
Date and Quarter Updated: May - July 2012 (2nd Quarter)

Participating UN Organisation: UNESCO	Sector: Education
Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry:	
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MOHESR)	
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MOLSA)	
Ministry of Education (MoE) at the Kurdistan region (KRG)	

Title	Improving Quality of Technical and Vocational Education and Training in Kurdistan Region				
Geo. Location	Erbil, Sulaymaniah and Dohuk				
Project Cost	US\$ 1,000,000				
Duration	18 months +12 months extension				
SC Approval Date	24.05.2010	Starting Date	26.05.2010	Completion Date	26.11.2011 extended to 26.11.2012
Project Description	<p>The project aims at supporting the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Sector (TVET) in Kurdistan Region through developing and strengthening the institutional capacity to operate a demand driven training system of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research -Foundation of Technical Education and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs -Vocational Training Centers and by Ministry of Education – Vocational Training Preparatory Schools by addressing aspects of the current and future TVET system needs to deliver quality education.</p> <p>The Project seeks to enhance the capacity of human resources towards achieving quality education. It will capitalize on the achievements of UNESCO and its UN partners previous TVET projects in Iraq such as the TVET “Improving Quality and Relevance of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (B1-28)” project that was implemented in partnership with ILO and UN-HABITAT aiming at improving the skills of the labour force through developing improved programmes and services that will enhance their employment and productivity potential and create supportive environment for the growing private sector.</p>				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives
Strengthened institutional and human capacity of the education sector to deliver quality education

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement	
Outputs	<p>Output 1: GoI/KRG better able to institutionalize a market-driven, entrepreneurial, responsive and flexible TVET system</p> <p>Output 2: KRG technical and vocational education teachers better able to apply modern teaching methodology, concept of measurement and evaluation</p> <p>Output 3: MOHESR and MOLSA better able to develop/ renew technical and vocational programmes based on Learning Outcomes of Knowledge, Skills and Attitude and Learning Steps</p> <p>Output 4: MOLSA KRG able to develop vocational programmes responsive to labor market requirements</p> <p>Output 5: Improved capacity of MOHESR and MOLSA staff to offer market-responsive employability skills to Kurdish youth</p> <p>Output 6: Key KRG stakeholders better aware of the importance of technical and vocational education for youth and their role in country’s development</p>
Activities	<p>1.1 Establishment of agreements of collaborations with the private sector in selected TVET careers.</p> <p>1.2. Pilot training of selected private sector’s employees to be mentors</p> <p>2.1 Training of teachers to improve their capacity to adopt interactive and motivating teaching methodology, and concept of measurement and evaluation in schools.</p> <p>3.1 Training of teachers to adopt learning outcomes and steps approaches to foster the</p>

	<p>flexibility of the learning process.</p> <p>4.1 Integration of the activities foreseen in the agreements of collaboration with the private sector (output1) in the selected TVET career programmes; and implementation of the same during the first semester of the 2012-2013 academic year.</p> <p>5.1 Revision and Development of training material in employability and entrepreneurship skills.</p> <p>5.2 Piloting the training material developed for training graduating students and unemployed youth</p> <p>6.1 Designing and implementing an awareness raising media campaign</p>
Procurement (major items)	<p>IRQ/RFP/12/07 "Training Material development and training of TVET teachers and trainers" USD 53,750</p> <p>IRQ/RFP/12/10 " Strengthening the partnership between TVET and private sector in Kurdistan" USD 139,600</p>

Funds Committed	USD 612,821	% of approved	61.28
Funds Disbursed	USD 445,898	% of approved	44.59
Forecast final date	26th November 2012 a no cost extension has been submitted. However another 3 months no cost extension will be requested to allow the conclusion of the activities and to implement the final evaluation.	Delay (months)	12

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men	80	28.75%
Women	25	8%
Children	-	
IDPs	-	
Others	-	
Indirect beneficiaries	Technical and Vocational students Education, and community at large	
Employment generation (men/women)	30 men and 30 women	0%

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results		% of planned
Output 1: GoI/KRG better able to institutionalize a market-driven, entrepreneurial, responsive and flexible TVET system	<p>The contract related to the RFP "Strengthening the partnership between TVET and private sector in Kurdistan" has been signed with ICON Institut and the contract signed on the 17th of April 2012. The contract length is until the end of the project 26th November 2012.</p> <p>As part of the results foreseen by the contract the following activities have been so far implemented:</p> <p><u>Result 1:</u> the assessment of the private sector has been finalized, collecting 200 questionnaires among companies in Kurdistan. The results and recommendation of the assessment have been presented during a workshop organized in Erbil on the 19th of July, attended by key public and private stakeholders. A first draft of the final report has been already submitted, while the final one to be distributed will be finalized by end of August. Give the lack of baseline and data in Iraq and KRG, the assessment report and the data collected will constitute a valuable source of information for TVET decision makers at government level.</p> <p>To be noted that while the participation of the private companies in the collection of questionnaires has been high, their attendance to the workshop of the 19th has been limited, and nevertheless they confirmed their attendance. Follow up calls and visits will be implemented to find out the reason behind the low attendance and to make sure that the results of the assessment will be in any case distributed to them.</p>	35%

	<p><u>Result 2:</u> The basic concepts that will be part of Standardized template of contract of collaboration with private sector representatives have been developed and presented during a workshop organized on the 19th of July 2012 in Erbil. Representatives of the private and public sector attended the event, even if the participation of the private stakeholders was weak. To be note that no one from the Chamber of Commerce, Board of Investors of Ministry of Trade and Industry attended the events, to demonstrate the weakness also of the institutions that might represent the private sector interests in KRG. To overcome this challenge a change in the project implementation strategy for this result has been discussed. The idea is to start to work with technical and small working groups formed by representative of public and private sector with a key role in the decision making process. A final draft of the model of collaboration will be ready by end of August, analyzed and discussed during technical meetings that will be organized at the beginning of September with key stakeholders</p> <p><u>Result 3:</u> The two sectors for which contracts of agreement should be signed and piloted have been selected during a project steering committee. The MoHESR/FTE selected the telecommunication sector; while the MoE the auto mechanics sector.</p> <p><u>Result 5:</u> Given the low participation of private sector representatives and in order to increase the probability that some of them will accept to sing contracts of collaboration, it is under evaluation the idea to provide them immediate incentives and to change the content of the training offered under result 5 to make it more attractive.</p>		
<p>Output 2: KRG technical and vocational education teachers better able to apply modern teaching methodology, concept of measurement and evaluation</p>	<p>The results included in the contract related to the RFP "Training Material development and training of TVET teachers and trainers" have been achieved. The 25 teachers training has been concluded and an official ceremony for distributing the certificates has been organized on the 22nd of July 2012 in Erbil.</p>	100%	
<p>Output 3: MOHESR and MOLSA better able to develop/ renew technical and vocational programmes based on Learning Outcomes of Knowledge, Skills and Attitude and Learning Steps</p>			<p>Output 4: MOLSA KRG able to develop vocational programmes responsive to labor market requirements</p>
<p>Output 4: MOLSA KRG able to develop vocational programmes responsive to labor market requirements</p>	<p>The activities related to this output follow the implementation of those under output 1. However the RFP described under output 1 covers also the implementation of the activities under output 4.</p>	0%	

<p>Output 5: Improved capacity of MOHESR and MOLSA staff to offer market-responsive employability skills to Kurdish youth</p>	<p>UNFPA has developed a Life Skills Manual which includes an employability module. Extensive Training of Trainers and trainers of teachers working in the vocation training schools under MoE have been implemented and the manual will be adopted as part of the official didactic starting from the academic year 2012-2013, in all the schools of KRG. It follows that there is no need to develop an additional Employability Manual by UNESCO.</p> <p>For what concern the entrepreneurship component of this result, a UN Agency to UN Agency agreement will be signed at the beginning of August between UNESCO Iraq Office and ILO Beirut Regional Office, as outcome of the past months work, which leads to the development of a technical proposal for collaborating in the sector of Entrepreneurship to expand the adoption of the Knowledge about Business (KAB) curriculum in KRG. MoE, and FTE have already nominated 12 teachers (six each one) that will be part of the capacity development process starting from the end of August. The curriculum should be piloted during the first semester of the 2012-2013 academic year in 6 FTE colleges and institutes. MoE is still discussing the feasibility for this possibility in particular for what concern the organizational aspects. 14 teachers working in MoLSA vocational centers have been also appointed, but the cost for their capacity developed will be covered by the project Fighting Youth Unemployed through education, always managed by UNESCO Iraq Office.</p>	<p>20%</p>
<p>Output 6: Key KRG stakeholders better aware of the importance of technical and vocational education for youth and their role in country's development</p>	<p>During the second quarter a company, having a long term agreement with UNESCO Iraq office, was contacted for developing an awareness campaign in line with what described in the project document. However, given the unsatisfactory technical proposal received, no final decision or official appointment has been finalized. Others companies will be contacted in the next future.</p>	<p>20%</p>

<p>Qualitative achievements against objectives and results</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Result 2 and 3 have been achieved and concluded. • Four missions in Erbil to meet stakeholders and to implement activities have been organized on the following period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5-10 May 2012 - 29 to 31 May 2012 - 24-28 June 2012 - 17-20 July 2012 • One project steering committee has been organized on the 25th of June, while individual meeting with project counterparts have been implemented during the four missions • As part of Result 3, the last one week face to face training of the Training of TVET teachers on modern teachers methodology has been organized in Erbil from the 6th to the 10th of May 2012. • As part of Result 1 and 4, one workshop have been organized on the 9th of May 2012 in Erbil at ETTC to launch the project component “Strengthening the partnership between TVET and Private sector in the Kurdistan Region”

Main implementation constrains & challenges (2-3 sentences)

The main challenge is represented by the limited time for the implementation of the project activities and the limited capacity of the main partner to answer quickly to the project needs in term of appointment of personnel or technical and logistical support for the implementation of some activities. Furthermore, during the second quarter cause of concern is the weakness of the Federation of Chamber of Commerce of Kurdistan who doesn't participate to most of the activities organized. This factor undermines principally the achievement of Result 1 and 4 for which the active participation of private sector Institutional representatives and representatives more in general is crucial for achieving the foreseen outputs.

Concern exists about the capacity and willingness of MoE to implement the KAB during the first semester of 2012-2013, even if this was discussed since the beginning of the planning of this activity. Infact, during the last project steering committee has emerged the weak organization capacity and flexibility of MoE in organizing the extra curricula activity. Follow up and extra effort will be invested by UNESCO Iraq to help MoE to overcome the mentioned difficulties.