

Operationally Closed

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund

Project # 66955 (C9-26)

Date and Quarter Updated: 1 April - 30 June 2012 2nd Quarter 2012

Participating UN Organisations: UNDP

Sector: Governance

Government of Iraq – Responsible Authority: Communication and Media Commission

Title	Support the Media in its Role of Fostering Peace and Democracy				
Location	Baghdad, Erbil, Sulaymaniyah and Basrah				
Project Cost	Total USD 6,131,285				
Duration	24 months + 18 months Extension				
SC Approval Date	04.12.2008	Starting Date	08.12.2008	Completion Date	08.12.2010 extended to 31.05.2012
Project Description	This Project promotes the development of an independent, pluralist and professional media. The project has three broad areas of intervention: (1) to develop or strengthen participatory processes leading to sustainable media self/co-regulatory mechanisms and legislative frameworks; (2) to support the development of local content; and (3) to identify the key institutions (e.g. training institutions, regulatory bodies and professional entities) for targeted capacity building to enhance professionalism.				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

Project Outcome:

Independent civil society and media enabled through legal and regulatory frameworks, professional development and strengthened institutions.

Objective 1: Support regulatory frameworks to build capacity of an independent, pluralist and professional media leading to the articulation and/or enhancement of sustainable media self/co-regulatory mechanisms and legislative frameworks to protect fundamental human rights including the rights to freedom of expression, access to information and data protection.

Objective 2: Support to key institutions – e.g. training institutions, regulatory bodies and professional entities for targeted training and capacity building to enhance professionalism.

Objective 3: Development of local content to support national dialogue and reconciliation through targeted training.

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement

Outputs	<p>1.1 Increased dialogue and advocacy related to A38 legislation and A19 freedoms through establishment of a media law working group.</p> <p>1.2 Increased understanding by government and media on right to know, data protection, and freedom of expression.</p> <p>1.3 Increased dialogue and reconciliation at community level through the provision of six small grants to community-based media.</p> <p>1.4 Increased exposure of media professionals to global media development through the provision of seven small grants for scholarships and study tours.</p>
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	<p>1.5 Availability of self-regulatory monitoring mechanisms at CSOs and media institutions.</p> <p>1.6 Availability of quality media curricula at four media institutes and mass communication faculties.</p> <p>1.7 Availability of media data setting the baseline for the media sector – UNESCO lead.</p> <p>1.8 Increased capacity of independent news agency as a model for media in Iraq towards self-sufficiency.</p> <p>1.9 CMC functions within a strategic plan.</p> <p>1.10 Identified gaps and opportunities related to performance of Iraq Media Network (IMN).</p>
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Quantitative achievements against objectives and results		% of planned
<p>Objective 2: Support to key institutions – e.g. training institutions, regulatory bodies and professionals entities – for targeted training and capacity building to enhance professionalism at editorial, technical and policy level. (Output 1.6)</p>	-Preparatory meetings (workshops) conducted with Iraqi universities/academic institutions to build capacity for the development of updated journalism curricula.	100%
	-Developed a distance learning tools framework to be included in the updated curriculum.	100%
<p>Objective 3: Development of local content to support national dialogue and reconciliation through targeted training on issues ranging from women’s right to HIV/AIDS and disability; small grants for independent media; and study tours and scholarships. (Output 1.4)</p>	- Grant Committee established.	100%
	-Institutional capacity grant to Aswat al Iraq: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A grant (US\$ 295,950) on strengthening Aswat’s donor outreach capacity and enrich its editorial content. 	100%
	-Posting of awards notifications and awards given to three grantees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A grant (US\$ 30,000) on business management (Granted before signing the 2010 LoA). 	100%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IIER - Monitoring media coverage of the oil industry in Iraq. 	100%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Iraqi NGO (Bustan Association) – Media Education for Sustainable Development grant. 	100%
-Monitoring	100	

Funds Committed	USD 6,131,285	% of approved	100%
Funds Disbursed	USD 5,801,030.54	% of approved	94.6%
Forecast final date	31 st March 2012	Delay (months)	18

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results		% of planned
Output 1.1		100%
Output 1.2	- Training to government officials on developing advocacy and PR tools	100%
Output 1.4	- Further development of baseline survey of oil sector - Support to Aswat al Iraq - Support to key institutions	100% 100% 100%
Output 1.6	- Development of local content to support national dialogue and reconciliation	100%
Output 1.8	- Complete	100%
Output 1.9	- Initiation of change management within CMC	100%
Output 1.10	- IMN change management review truly underway and a new draft law submitted	100%

Qualitative achievements against objectives and results
<p>The project during 2nd Quarter 2012 entered into operational closure and initiated the final narrative report.</p> <p>Objective 1:</p> <p>The majority of outputs were completed by UNDP during 2010 which will be reflected in the final narrative report.</p> <p>Objective 2:</p> <p>In the occasion of the UNESCO World Press Freedom Day held in the Council of Representative (Parliament) in Baghdad and in the presence of His Excellency the Minister of Higher Education, the Iraqi Journalism Curriculum Framework was launched. This activity led to the closure of a project with the collaboration of 24 Iraqi journalism educators, students, ministry officials and 4 international experts. The Minister's speech stressed that this is the first step of many others to improve Iraqi education system and create human development that might lead to the consolidation of freedom of expression and press freedom in the country.</p> <p>UNESCO is currently undertaking an external evaluation with completed anticipated August 2012.</p>

Main implementation constraints & challenges
The project is in operational closure as of 2 nd Quarter 2012.