



**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP  
IRAQ TRUST FUND**

**To:** Jacqueline Badcock [Redacted] **Date:** 23 December 2012  
 Chairperson of UN [Redacted] e.

**Through:** Usman Akram [Redacted] **Ref:** SC/BR  
 Head, UNDG-ITF [Redacted] mittee Support Office a.i

**From:** Bashar [Redacted]  
 Program [Redacted] eering Committee  
 Support Office

**APPROVAL OF PROGRAMME REVISION (B)**

<b>Programme Number:</b>	F8-11
<b>Programme Title:</b>	Combating Violence Against Women in Iraq
<b>Participating Agency:</b>	UNFPA (Lead), WHO, UN-Women
<b>Programme Start Date:</b>	7 December 2009
<b>Programme End Date:</b>	7 December 2011
<b>First Revision</b>	Time extension until 7 December 2012 , movement of funds for UN Women

**Type of budget revision requested:**

- Increase in programme budget
- Extension of programme duration **31 March 2013**
- Movement of funds between programme budget components
- Change of programme scope

**SCSO Comments:**

The budget for this programme is US\$ 4,500,000 of which US\$4,029,066 has been committed (90%) and US\$3,519,505 has been disbursed (78%). Programme is around 85% complete.

Agency	Budget(US\$)	Commitments		Disbursements	
		US\$	%	US\$	%
UNFPA	2,278,000	2,061,114	90	1,943,659	85
UN-Women	1,500,000	1,264,644	84	960,929	64
WHO	722,000	703,308	97	614,917	85
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,500,000</b>	<b>4,029,066</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>3,519,505</b>	<b>78%</b>

Note: UN Women and WHO will reach 100% commitments by 31 December 2012. As for UNFPA, all funds will be committed by 31 January 2013.





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**Background**

The goal of this programme is to enhance Iraqi women's rights by facilitating the development of national partnerships to combat Violence Against Women (VAW). The programme is establishing partnerships with government ministries, civil society, religious and community leaders, the media and local communities in order to encourage the development and implementation of a national policy framework and multi-sectoral instruments aimed at combating VAW in Iraq. The programme is implemented at the national level (with a focus on three governorates: Baghdad, Erbil and Basra).

**A. Request for Time Extension**

**Justification**

The programme encountered several constraints that resulted in delaying its implementation as explained below:

- Political agenda and the government priorities (Poverty, Un-employment, Oil production and power) took priority over violence against women (VAW) which highlights the need for working on the capacities of the political decision makers in the area of eradication of violence against women and addressing it at the highest levels. For Example, the VAW strategy ratification took more than three months which resulted in delaying the implementation of the sectoral plans. Another example is that UNFPA has been trying to convince the Ministry of Interior (MOI) to nominate the trainers to deliver the service providers training in the governorates, and this has been an ongoing request for the past 3 months.
- The high turnover of national staff at UNFPA and UN Women and difficulties in recruiting international staff to supervise the programme in Baghdad has resulted in delaying its implementation.
- Concentrating efforts around the 16 days of combating violence against women had some benefits but changing attitudes at a national level requires a more consistent campaigning approach. Therefore, UN Women have launched a substantial campaign in cooperation with nine NGOs in October 2012 which was planned to be completed by 31 December 2012. However, for this campaign to be effective, it should be extended till March 2013. In addition, UN Women is seeking to commence a training programme for radio stations in order to improve the image of women in media. The current time frame of the programme makes this impossible to complete this activity by the end of December 2012.
- UNFPA implementation was overburdened due to the influx of Syrian refugees in north and west of Iraq, as the agency was responding to the urgent unmet needs of Syrian refugees of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and Reproductive health commodities; until the recruitment of emergency officers took place.

**Activities to be completed during the requested extension period**

UNFPA (the below activities will be completed by March 2013)

- Implementation of the service providers training for MoI and NGOs (in Baghdad) and for MoH and MoLSA (in both Baghdad and Erbil).
- Establish and/or support a referral hotline in three governorates ( has been started through the ToT that took place )
- Conduct an independent evaluation of the programme.





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UN-Women (the below activities will be completed by March 2013)

- Establishment of the network among NGOs and government to obtain information on the situation of women.
- Mapping the violation of women's rights.
- Training of NGOs on reporting (data extraction to the final reports).
- Organizing forums to disseminate the findings stakeholders.

WHO

- Completion of two training courses for nurses and doctors (working at the primary health care centers) on the user friendly data collection tool, by February 2013.

The requested extension is to allow completion of committed activities only. Therefore UNFPA, WHO and UN-Women are requesting an exceptional time extension of three months (until 31 March 2013) in order to complete all remaining (committed) activities. The three Participating Organizations are committed to complete financial closure by 31 December 2013.

Mitigation strategy in place to ensure compliance with timeline extension requested

UN-Women have signed all contracts for implementing the remaining activities. All financial transactions are aimed to be completed by 15 March 2013.

Finalizing the agreements with implementing partners (NGOs) by end of December 2012 to be implemented in Q1, 2013.

**NOTE:** As UNDG ITF is closing, extension requests for projects are reviewed and considered to be the final. Participating Organizations have to take all measures to assure that the project will be operationally closed within the approved extension period.

**SCSO Recommendations:**

SCSO recommends approval of an exceptional time extension until **31 March 2013** to complete all committed activities provided that financial closure is completed by 31 December 2013.

Approval of the DSRSG /  
Chairman of the UNDG ITF  
Steering Committee:

- Requires approval
- Does not require approval, for record only

