**United Nations Development Group UNDAF Trust Fund**

**Project: 81968: P1-02**

**Date and Quarter Updated: 1 Oct to 31 Dec 2014 – Q4 2014**

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| **Participating UN Organisation**: UNDP, UNICEF | **PWG: Governance and Human Rights** |
| **Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Ministry of Interior, Committee Number 80 leads., Ministry of Human Rights, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Women’s Affairs, High Committee of Women in KRG. Child Welfare Commission, Family Protection Directorates, Judiciary and Civil Society.**  |

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| **Title** | Family Protection, Support, Justice and Security for Survivors of Domestic and Gender Based Violence  |
| **Geographic Location** | Iraq in Baghdad, Erbil and Basrah  |
| **Project Cost** | USD 3,967,880 |
| **Duration** | 36 Months |
| **Approval Date (SC)** | 18 Jan. 2012 | **Starting Date** | 12 March 2012 | **Completion Date**  | 12 March 2015 |
| **Project Description** | UNDP in conjunction with Iraqi stakeholders finalised the development of the Family Protection, Support, Justice and Security Programme to support the Government of Iraq’s efforts in creating a strategy to ensure that victims of domestic and gender based violence are offered refuge, reintegration and access to justice. Over the past two years UNDP has utilised core funds to increase understanding of the issues and implement limited activities to vulnerable women and children. This project will build on these initial activities and provide comprehensive technical and advisory support combined with extensive capacity development interventions for known key stakeholders, enhance capacity of formal and informal institutions to establish family protection systems and facilitate law enforcement and access to justice for the victims of violence. The project additionally looks towards mechanisms to empower victims, target groups and communities and establish mechanisms that assist reintegration back into their communities. This project will cooperate and build synergy with other UN Country Team agencies based on their respective mandates. |

**Development Goal and Immediate Objectives**

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| **Relevant NDP Goal(s):**9.1.4 Reform the economic and legal institutions to ensure equality in rights and opportunities for men and women (family laws, protection from violence, property ownership, employment, political rights and inheritance). **Relevant UNDAF Priority Area Outcome:**  **Priority Area 1:** Improved governance, including protection of human rights.Outcome 1.3: Iraq has an improved legal and operational Rule of Law framework for administration and access to justice.**Priority Area 5**: Investment in human capital and empowerment of women, youth and children.Outcome 5.1: The Iraqi state has improved knowledge, attitude and practices regarding the roles and rights of women, youth and children in line with international conventions, the Iraqi Constitution and legislation.Outcome 5.5: The Iraqi state has institutionalized preventive and protective mechanisms to combat gender-based violence.UNDP Country Programme Outcome 2: Enhanced rule of law, protection and respect for human rights in line with international standards. |

**Outputs, Key Activities and Procurement**

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| **Outputs** | Output 1: Policy and legislative reform supported for improved access to justice for gender based violence (GBV) survivors.Output 2: Enhanced law enforcement response to combating GBV and supporting GBV survivors and victims of trafficking. Output 3: National institutions strengthened to undertake social and economic empowerment and protection of GBV survivors. |
| **Activities** | Output 1: Policy and legislative reform supported for improved access to justice for GBV survivors.1.1 Central Government and Kurdistan Regional Government are provided with legislative and policy support for improved family protection and law enforcement. 1.1.1 Specific advice and training for the core working group on how to address violence against women and children and victims of trafficking provided.1.1.2 Support the promotion and activities of committee 80 to ensure their impact on the legislative reform in moving forward the agenda of family support, justice and security.1.1.3 Support the core working group in the development of action plans and annual work and budget plans to further strategy on family support, justice and security.1.1.4 Support awareness raising activities to promote the KRG strategy and to ensure their impact and moving forward the agenda of family support, justice and security.1.2 Child Welfare Commission is supported with the development of Child Protection Policy.Output 2 Enhanced law enforcement response to combating GBV and supporting GBV survivors and victims of trafficking.2.1 Central Government and Kurdistan Regional government are supported with the referral mechanism for the new Family Protection Directorates, police support units and CSOs .2.1.1 Targeted training for Police from the Central Government and the Kurdistan Region. Training focuses on SOPs on how to run Family Protection Units (including study tours).2.1.2 Empowerment of female police officers working in the newly established Directorates through targeted training courses and increased awareness.2.1.3 Support the establishment of victim support units in police stations (Baghdad) to act as referral centres for the established Family Protection Directorates.2.1.4 Develop/adapt training material on combating violence against women and children for police officers and social workers working in Directorates to ensure continuous training and sustainability.2.1.5 Linkages developed between the Directorates and the criminal courts in their areas to ensure chain of evidence, i.e. testimony, preservation of physical evidence, necessary for successful prosecution - work with Criminal Court and the Social Research Department staff for capacity building in following up and handling cases.2.1.6 Develop advocacy strategy highlighting the role of family support, justice and security.2.1.7 Assess performance and impact of Directorates.2.1.8 Organize multi-stakeholder workshops to disseminate lessons.2.1.9 Support the development of an effective data base for newly established Directorates (design and training).2.2 Relevant service providers have an enhanced capacity to deal with GBV cases. 2.2.1 Training for police, in particular female police officers, in interview techniques, investigations, forensics, chain of evidence, and how specifically to process cases of violence against women and children.2.2.2 Trainings and advocacy for Ministry staff, Parliamentary staff, judges, lawyers and judicial staff on gender sensitive/human rights based approach methodology to addressing violence against women and children in relation to the workings of the Family Protection Directorates.2.2.3 Organize awareness raising workshops on combating violence against women and children and the link with human rights and the rule of law. Encourage target groups to participate in policy reviews and improved legislative frameworks.2.2.4 Trainings for health care workers, i.e. medical staff, counsellors, psychologists, on dealing with victims of violence. This includes developing of referrals protocols that will support the implementation of the CVAW programme and link up with the Directorates.2.2.7 Organize trainings on the revised JTI and Police Academy curricula and train ToTs in the respective rule of law institutions on GBV and role of FPDs.2.3 NGOs working on providing legal aid have an enhanced capacity on family protection and violence prevention. 2.3.1 Initial mapping and capacity assessment of NGOs providing legal aid nationwide to victims of violence. This includes the Iraqi Bar Association.2.3.2. Support establishment of an effective referral system linking NGOs with Directorates and prosecution services which includes provision of financial and logistical support to NGOs offering legal aid to victims of all forms of GBV.2.4. Relevant NGOs have an enhanced capacity on child protection issuesOutput 3: National institutions strengthened to undertake social and economic empowerment and protection of GBV survivors.3.1 Development of shelter policy to the development of shelter policy at central and KRG level supported, participation of civil society ensured.3.1.1 Policy advice and technical support given on shelter policy in both Central Level and the Kurdistan Region and the development of plan of action.3.1.2 Develop a policy framework based on a situational analysis to facilitate the reintegration of shelter clients back into the community.3.2 Female shelters and safe houses supported through institutional strengthening and capacity development.3.2.1 Mapping of NGOs providing shelter or refuges to victims of violence, including advocacy and workshops.3.2.2 Support to existing NGO managed shelters for victims of violence including a national conference for lessons learned.3.2.3 Capacity building provided to shelter staff on management, budgets, resource mobilization, etc.3.2.4 Develop/adapt training material on working with victims of violence for shelter staff (also to GoI).3.2.5 Specialized training provided to shelter staff on dealing with victims of violence.3.3 NGOs offering shelter support to women strengthened to provide referral support.3.3.1 Provision of capacity building, financial and logistical support to NGOs providing support to women and women victim of violence that can act as referral centres.3.3.2 Develop linkages with on-going UNCT economic empowerment/private sector development programs. |
| **Procurement** | Too early in the life cycle of the project. |

**Tranche funding for the project through the UNDAF Trust Fund**

**UNDP**

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| **Funds Committed**  | USD $2,225,856.72 | % of approved | 90.19% |
| **Funds Disbursed** | USD$ 2,335,321.69 | **% of approved** | 95% |
| **Forecast final date**  | 12 March 2015 | **Delay (months)** | 0 |

 **UNICEF**

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| **Funds Utilized** | USD$ 515,812.00 | **% of approved** | 78% |
| **Forecast final date**  | 12 March 2015 | **Delay (months)** | 0 |

**Quantitative achievements against objectives and results**

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| Output 1Policy and legislative reform supported for improved access to justice for GBV survivors | **UNDP**:* At federal level, the GBV database program was finalized and officially launched on 4 December 2015. At the regional level, after identifying the gaps of GBV database to be modified by JAU, the modified version received from JAU and shared with DCVAW. It is currently waiting to be uploaded and used by all offices as a pilot process.
* At the federal level, and with UNDP support, MoLSA has agreed to establish the first shelters for the survivors of GBV in both Baghdad and Basra governorates. An MoU has been drafted by UNDP and shared with MoLSA that provides a framework for cooperation between both entities and identifies the support needed from UNDP regarding the shelter work. At the regional level, UNDP conducted a meeting with minister of MoLSA and his team, to discuss the shelter policy and decide about an action plan to move forward with the policy. The minister decided to consider the shelter policy and a committee has been established from relevant institutions including the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and the Higher Council of Women, chaired by both MoLSA and UNDP to follow up on the adoption of the policy. The committee conducted its first meeting to identify the shelter needs and discuss the action plan for the adoption of the policy
* To institutionalize the legal aid in KR-I, an international consultant has been hired by UNDP to discuss the idea with the relevant institutions and draft a legal aid law in KR-I. The consultant conducted his first mission in December and met with relevant institutions and entities. After the agreement about this initiative, the first draft of the law has been developed by the consultant and shared with all institutions and entities for review, to be discussed and finalized in January 2015.

**UNICEF (1.2.1):*** UNICEF extended its technical support during the consultation process for the first draft of the law on Child Rights which was initiated by federal and regional governments.
* At federal level, UNICEF together with Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA) reviewed the draft Child Rights law through an international consultant and submitted to Child Welfare Commission (CWC) and Shura council for review. The same draft was submitted at the regional level.
* The draft of the Regional Child Rights Law was submitted to the Child Rights Promotion and Protection Committee (CRPPC) and Shura council for review.
* The draft of the Child Rights law awaits the feedback by the Council of Ministers both at the regional and federal levels.
* Both federal and Regional Laws are expected to be finalized in 2015.

**Child Protection Policy*** UNICEF in coordination with the MoLSA amd in partnership with American University of Beirut, drafted the Child Protection Policy. The policy requires further consultations with head of communities, children, and local council in order to be finalized.
* Additionally, the American University of Beirut and MoLSA have reviewed the child protection situation analysis in the country last November 2014 in order to generate a more accurate and updated analysis of the child protection Situation Analysis following the recent political development in the country due to increased atrocities by ISIL since June 2014.
* During the first quarter of 2015, county wide national consultations on draft child protection policy will take place, and the draft Policy will be reviewed and revised in line with the Situation Analysis.
* Both federal and regional level laws on Child Rights are expected to be finalised in 2015.
 | UNDP98 %UNICEF 67.5% |
| Output 2Enhanced law enforcement response to combating GBV and supporting GBV survivors and victims of trafficking. | **UNDP*** UNDP provided continuous technical advisory support through daily exposure visits of UNDP project staff to work in close consultation with the staff of the FPUs and DCVAW to strengthen their capacity at central and regional level.
* A total of 3367 cases have been received by FPUs during Q4 and up until December, a total of 1150 cases were received by DCVAW in KR-I up until November. At the federal level, 1119 cases were processed by the court, 1606 cases were resolved by FPU, and 642 cases are currently still on-going.
* A total of 399 persons received free legal assistance during Q4 in both KR-I and Basra. 301 persons received legal consultation (183 female and 118 male). 98 persons received free legal representation (74 female and 24 male).
 | UNDP 90 % |
| Output 3National institutions strengthened to undertake social and economic empowerment and protection of GBV survivors. | **UNDP*** UNDP supported the on-going provision of free legal assistance and legal awareness-raising, in partnership with the Bar Association and local implementing NGO in KR-I and Basra, with special focus on GBV and DV cases. UNDP also provided continuous follow up with the Bar Association, DCVAW and FPU on the implementation of the MoUs for the provision of legal assistance targeting the survivors of GBV and DV, as well as institutionalizing the provision of legal assistance.

 * Regular follow up on progress of the work of both FPU and DCVAW.
 | 85% |

**Qualitative achievements against objectives and results**

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| The summary below outlines the key achievements during the reporting period: UNDP* At the federal level, the first national database for tracking cases of domestic and gender-based violence in central and southern Iraq was launched in Baghdad by the Ministry of Interior (MoI), the State Ministry of Women Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).The database is a milestone in Iraq’s efforts to tackle violence against women. Evidence-based information is pivotal to bringing changes at policy and community levels. The national database will constitute the single detailed source of information on domestic and gender-based violence to inform law enforcement, regional statistics and policy-making. The program of GBV database will be implemented in January 2015 at all 16 FPUs in Iraq at the federal level. At the regional level, after identifying the gaps of GBV database, required modifications were made by JAU on the database, the modified version was received from JAU and shared with DCVAW to be uploaded and used by all offices as a pilot process.
* At federal level, and with UNDP support, MoLSA has agreed to establish the first shelters for the survivors of GBV in both Baghdad and Basra governorates, An MoU has been drafted by UNDP and shared with MoLSA that provide a framework for cooperation between both entities and identify the supports needed from UNDP regarding the shelter initiative such as developing the operation guidelines and referral system and capacity development support. At regional level, a meeting was conducted with a minister of Labour and Social Affairs and his staff to brief them and discuss the shelter policy that was drafted with UNDP support. It has been decided by the minister that the shelter policy be considered and start the process of adopting it, for that purpose a committee has been established from relevant institutions which are ministry of education, ministry of health and higher council of women, chairing by both MoLSA and UNDP to follow up on the adoption of the policy. The committee conducted its first meeting to identify the shelter needs and discuss the action plan for the adoption of the policy.
* After adopting the idea of drafting a legal aid law in KR-I and establishment of an independent legal aid board mandated with providing legal assistance to vulnerable groups, UNDP hired an international consultant to start discussing the initiative with different relevant institutions and support with drafting the law. The consultant conducted his first mission in December, during which he met and discussed the idea with KJC, MOJ, Judge Union, Bar Association, IBHR, legal committee at Kurdistan Parliament and several local NGOs, after the agreement from and support shown to the process of drafting legal aid law, the first draft of the law has been finalized by the consultant and shared with all relevant institutions for review, so as the draft be discussed and finalized by end of January.
* The provision of free legal assistance and legal awareness-raising, in partnership with the Bar Association and local implementing NGO in KR-I and Basra was ongoing, with special focus on GBV and DV cases, as well as continuous follow up with the Bar Association, DCVAW and FPU on the implementation of the MoUs for the provision of legal assistance targeting the victim of GBV and DV, as well as institutionalizing the provision of legal assistance. Total of 399 persons received free legal assistance during Q4 in both KR-I and Basra. 301 persons received legal consultation (183 female and 118 male). 98 persons received free legal representation (74 female and 24 male).

UNICEF* UNICEF extended its technical support during the consultation process for the first draft of the law on Child Rights which was initiated by federal and regional governments. At federal level, UNICEF together with Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA), reviewed the draft Child Rights law through an international consultant and submitted to Child Welfare Commission (CWC) and Shura council for review. The same draft was submitted at the regional level.
* The draft of the Regional Child Rights Law was submitted to the Child Rights Promotion and Protection Committee (CRPPC) and Shura council for review. The draft of the Child Rights law awaits the feedback by the Council of Ministers both at the regional and federal levels. Both federal and Regional Laws are expected to be finalized in 2015.
* With regards to Child Protection Policy UNICEF, in coordination with the MoLSA and in partnership with American University of Beirut, drafted the Child Protection Policy. The policy requires further consultations with head of communities, children, and local council in order to be finalized. Additionally, the American University of Beirut and MoLSA have reviewed the child protection situation analysis in the country last November 2014 in order to generate a more accurate and updated analysis of the child protection Situation Analysis following the recent political development in the country due to increased atrocities by ISIL since June 2014.
* During the first quarter of 2015, county wide national consultations on draft child protection policy will take place, and the draft Policy will be reviewed and revised in line with the Situation Analysis. Both federal and regional level laws on Child Rights are expected to be finalised in 2015.
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| Main implementation constraints & challenges  |
| The current political and security situation resulted in the ISIS war imposed serious limitations and delay in the implementation of some. The project team will continue to implement the activities as planned, however delay of some activities, namely, those are related to establishment of shelter policies and adoption of legal framework is anticipated.   |
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