

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund

Project #:C9-32

Date and Quarter Updated: July - September 2010- 3rd Quarter

Participating UN Organisation: UNOPS **Sector: Governance**
Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation (MOPDC)

Title	Conducting Lessons Learned and Project Evaluations for the IRFFI				
Geographic Location	National				
Project Cost	USD 990,038				
Duration	12 Months				
Approval Date	9 Jun 2010	Starting Date	14 Jun 2010	Completion Date	14 Dec 2010, Extended until 14 Jun 2011
Project Description	<p>The Seventh IRFFI Donor Committee (DC) meeting requested to commission a comprehensive lessons learned and evaluation exercise to distil accomplishments, lessons and experiences gained during the implementation of the UNDG ITF to assist Iraq to strengthen future programming and aid effectiveness while informing the UN System and the donors of the mechanism, what worked and what did not work and why. The Eighth IRFFI DC meeting in November 2009 emphasized the need to look at both development and operational effectiveness of the UNDG ITF following a participatory process involving all stakeholders including non-IRFFI donors and the Government of Iraq. Additionally, the donors reiterated their earlier request to follow up on the recommendations and findings of the ScanTeam report.</p> <p>The UNDG ITF Lessons Learned Exercise (LLE) is intended to provide lessons learned during the course of implementation of programmes and projects and their respective contributions in terms of achievements, constraints and failures, while critically reviewing the UNDG ITF processes and procedures and their role in maximizing the operational effectiveness of the UNDG ITF. To the extent possible, the LLE will gain from the ongoing independent evaluations of 37 UNDG ITF programmes/projects to objectively assess the programmatic contributions to development priorities and challenges in Iraq. The ongoing evaluations will significantly contribute to the LLE by providing a strong evidence base for the UNDG ITF contributions towards development results, while equally reflecting on the operational effectiveness of the programmes/ projects.</p> <p>The LLE will aid the GoI and donors to identify the added value of the UNDG ITF as part of broader international recovery, reconstruction and development efforts in Iraq, as well as strengths and weaknesses of the GoI's and donors' roles in the management, coordination and oversight of the UNDG ITF. The exercise will provide a basis for designing an effective Iraq-led aid coordination mechanism that builds on the effective UNDG ITF processes and mechanisms. The project will be managed by UNOPS, in close coordination with the UNDG ITF Steering Committee and its Support Office, and MoPDC.</p>				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

The outputs of this project will be in line with the UNCT GOT Outcome 4: Strengthened institutions, processes and regulatory framework of national and local governance.

Joint Programme/Project Outcome(s):

JP 1: Strengthened institutions, processes and regulatory frameworks of national and local governance

JP Output 1. GOI and UNCT supported to generate lessons on Development and operational effectiveness of the UNDG-Iraq Trust Fund

Key Activities

1. Preparatory Phase
2. Field work/ Data Collection
3. Data Analysis

4. Preparation/ finalization of the UNDG LLE document
5. Presentation of LLE document

NDS:

Indirectly contributes to Goal 6 (Improving the quality of life) and Section 10.2 (Monitoring and Evaluation)

ICI Benchmarks (as per the Joint Monitoring Matrix 2008):

Indirectly contributes to Section 4.4 (Human Development and Human Security)

The key objectives of this comprehensive lessons learned exercise are:

1. To assess the development effectiveness of the programmes and projects administered under the UNDG ITF and to showcase the contributions and results of the UNDG ITF activities towards recovery, reconstruction and development efforts vis-à-vis Iraq's national priorities stipulated in NDS, ICI and MDGs.
2. To assess the effectiveness of the UNDG ITF processes in supporting compliance with the Paris Declaration principles and the UN reform process in Iraq.
3. To understand the relevance of design, legal arrangements and governance mechanisms of the UNDG ITF as well as internal UN coordination arrangements within a two-window MDTF vis-à-vis recovery, reconstruction and development priorities and challenges.
4. To provide an evidence base for the UN System and the MDTF office for the development and refinement of new and existing MDTFs respectively.
5. To guide the GoI, donors, and the UNCT in establishing effective coordination and operational mechanisms in support of aid and development effectiveness.

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement

Outputs	1.1 GOI and UNCT supported to generate lessons on Development and operational effectiveness of the UNDG-Iraq Trust Fund		
Activities	<p>Preparatory Phase:</p> <p>1.1.1 Selection and contracting of Consulting firm.</p> <p>1.1.2 Inception/ scoping mission for the Lessons Learned Exercise.</p> <p>1.1.3 Agreement on methodology and detailed work plan.</p> <p>1.1.4 Participate at the initial stakeholder meeting to launch the LL process evaluation process.</p> <p>Field work/ Data Collection:</p> <p>1.1.5 Review of documents, reports, supporting materials.</p> <p>1.1.6 Meetings with relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>1.1.7 Finalise questionnaires for primary data collection.</p> <p>1.1.8 Field visits.</p> <p>Data Analysis:</p> <p>1.1.9 Undertake data analysis of the qualitative and quantitative data acquired from the field work and data collection processes following the LL themes and key questions.</p> <p>1.1.10 Review of the UNDG ITF programme/ project evaluations and the consolidated evaluation report as well as World Bank programme evaluations to distil lessons, case studies on operational and development effectiveness at project/ programme level.</p> <p>Preparation/ finalisation of the UNDG LLE document:</p> <p>1.1.11 Preparation of the draft Lessons Learned report.</p> <p>1.1.12 Presentation on draft findings/ report to SC and MDTF, IRFFI Donor Committee, UNDG ITF Steering Committee and GoI.</p> <p>1.1.13 Finalisation of the Report based on feedback from all relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>1.1.14 Submission of LL report to MDTF/ SCISO.</p> <p>1.1.15 Dissemination of the UNDG LLE document (a meeting will be organized in Baghdad to share the findings, key lessons learned and recommendations from the LLE).</p>		
Procurement			
Funds Committed	USD 946,788.57	% of approved	95.6 %
Funds Disbursed	USD 10,901.62	% of approved	1.1%

Forecast final date	14th June 2011	Delay (months)	6
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Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned
Men	n/a	
Women	n/a	
Children	n/a	
IDPs	n/a	
Others	n/a	
Indirect beneficiaries	By performing an LLE of the ITF arguably the population of Iraq and all beneficiaries of future MDTF will have improved mechanism for coordination of development and humanitarian needs.	
Employment generation (men/women)	n/a	

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results		
JP Outcome 1: Strengthened institutions, processes and regulatory frameworks of national and local governance	0	% of planned
Output 1.1: GOI and UNCT supported to generate lessons on Development and operational effectiveness of the UNDG-Iraq Trust Fund.	30	% of planned
1.1.1: Selection and contracting of Consulting firm.	100	% of planned
1.1.2: Inception/ scoping mission for the Lessons Learned Exercise.	100	% of planned
1.1.3: Agreement on methodology and detailed work plan.	100	% of planned
1.1.4: Participate at the initial stakeholder meeting to launch the LL process evaluation process.	100	% of planned
1.1.5: Review of documents, reports, supporting materials	75	% of planned
1.1.6: Meetings with relevant stakeholders.	50	% of planned
1.1.7: Finalise questionnaires for primary data collection.	80	% of planned
1.1.8: Field visits.	20	% of planned
1.1.9: Undertake data analysis of the qualitative and quantitative data acquired from the field work and data collection processes following the LL themes and key questions.	10	% of planned
1.1.10: Review of the UNDG ITF programme/ project evaluations and the consolidated evaluation report as well as World Bank programme evaluations to distil lessons, case studies on operational and development effectiveness at project/ programme level.	25	% of planned
1.1.11: Preparation of the draft Lessons Learned report.	30	% of planned
1.1.12: Presentation on draft findings/ report to SC and MDTF, IRFFI Donor Committee, UNDG ITF Steering Committee and GoI.	30	% of planned
1.1.13: Finalisation of the Report based on feedback from all relevant stakeholders	0	% of planned
1.1.14: Submission of LL report to MDTF/ SCSO.	0	% of planned
1.1.15: Dissemination of the UNDG LLE document (a meeting will be organized in Baghdad to share the findings, key lessons learned and recommendations from the LLE).	0	% of planned

Qualitative achievements against objectives and results
UNAMI and the UNDG MDTF Office developed an extensive set of TORs, further to the competitive tender and evaluation of offers PWC was selected as the company to perform the independent Lessons Learned Evaluation.
PWC mobilised their team in August and work has been progressing well with all UNCT and most major donors being interviewed at least once. Other stakeholders are in the process of being interviewed and field visits have begun.

Main implementation constrains & challenges (2-3 sentences)
The start of the contract with PWC coincided with the holy fasting month of Ramadan and the Council of Representatives of Iraq official holiday – key counter parts were therefore difficult to engage with until after the Eid holidays.