

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund**  
**Project #75169: C10-13**  
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**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2011**

**Participating UN Organisation:** UNDP (Lead), ILO, UNOPS, UN-HABITAT, **Sector:** Economic Reform and Diversification

**Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry:** Ministry of Planning (MOP)

<b>Title</b>	Bridging for Local Area Development Programme (LADP) Phase II				
<b>Geographic Location</b>	Governorate of Sulaymaniyah: Governorate of Babylon: Governorate of Basrah: Governorate of Thi-Qar: Governorate of Missan:				
<b>Project Cost</b>	ITF: USD 2,000,000 SIDA: USD 2,979,294 TRAC: USD 200,000				
<b>Duration</b>	20 Months from July 2010-March 2012				
<b>Approval Date (SC)</b>	27/06/2010	<b>Starting Date</b>	08/07/2010	<b>Completion Date</b>	08/07/2011 extended to 08/03/2012
<b>Project Description</b>	The goal of the Local Area Development Programme (LADP) is sustainable local social and economic development. This programme is proposed as a Bridging Phase linking work to date on LADP and transitioning into a Phase II. It is aiming to build on the lessons from the LADP (2007–2010) and consolidate the LADP model, thereby allowing mainstreaming and replication of the methodology in Governorates throughout Iraq in Phase II. The programme targets support to the Governorates through promoting inclusive and participatory planning practices to promote the prioritization of development programmes and annual budgeting while providing focused technical assistance to the Governorates to improve essential service delivery. In addition, two further work streams are proposed; focusing on citizen empowerment to promote an active voice in governorate affairs and engagement with ministries at a national level to institutionalize an agreed devolved framework for improved local planning and service delivery. Preparatory work is proposed around three areas anticipated in the final design of a Phase II. These are (i) inclusive local participatory planning and improved service delivery, (ii) local citizen empowerment and civic engagement and (iii) developing a national framework and institutional structure for devolved local planning is. LADP II will continue to build synergies with other relevant UN initiatives to support the Government’s plans for improved services delivery and local governance.				

**Development Goal and Immediate Objectives**

Bridging Phase will concentrate on achieving the following Sector Outcomes and the Joint Project Outcome:

The Sector Outcome: Improved policies, strategies and related institutional developments that are sensitive to MDGs, social inclusiveness, gender equality and pro-poor economic growth; and enhance key sectors of local economy in most deprived areas.

This joint project Outcome is; Improved policies, strategies and related institutional developments that are sensitive to MDGs, social inclusiveness, gender equality and pro-poor economic growth.

<b>Outputs, Key Activities and Procurement</b>	
<b>Outputs</b>	<p>Output 1.1 Governorate and district officials' have strengthened institutional capacities and plan and manage sustainable socio-economic development in Basrah, Thi-Qar and Missan. (UNDP);</p> <p>Output 1.2 Governorate and district officials' institutional capacities are strengthened to plan and manage sustainable socio-economic development in Sulaymaniyah Governorate (ILO/UNOPS);</p> <p>Output 1.3 Governorate and district officials' institutional capacities are strengthened to plan and manage sustainable socio-economic development in Babylon Governorate (UNHABITAT).</p> <p>Output 2.1 Local men and women empowered Basrah, Missan and Thi-Qar to identify and address their needs and priorities for poverty reduction (UNDP);</p> <p>Output 2.2 Local men and women empowered in Sulaymaniyah to identify and address their needs and priorities for poverty reduction (ILO/UNOPS);</p> <p>Output 2.3 Local men and women empowered to Babylon to identify and address their needs and priorities for poverty reduction (UNHABITAT).</p> <p>Output 3.1 MoP has improved capacities to facilitate and monitor local planning in relation with central planning.</p>
<b>Activities of Outputs 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3:</b> Governorate and district officials have strengthened institutional capacities to plan and manage sustainable socio-economic development	<p>The area coordinating agencies (UNDP, ILO/UNOPS and UNHABITAT) will have primary responsibility over the following activities in relation to Output 1.1 UNDP, 1.2 ILO/UNOPS, and 1.3 UNHABITAT as activities:</p> <p>1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.3.1 Stocktaking exercise of district planning work in 5 LADP Governorates conducted, essential service delivery reports developed and recommendations provided to MoP.</p> <p>1.1.2, 1.2.2, 1.2.3 Data analysis, district profiling and mapping for all remaining districts in 5 LADP Governorates prepared.</p> <p>1.1.3, 1.2.3, 1.3.3 Institutional needs assessment for local planning conducted in the 5 LADP Governorates.</p> <p>1.1.4, 1.2.4, 1.3.4 Technical assistance provided for the preparation of local socio-economic development and service delivery plans in 5 LADP Governorates coordinating with other UN Agencies.</p> <p>1.1.5, 1.2.5, 1.3.5</p>

	<p>Local Government administrative capacity strengthened for implementation of plans, identification of bottlenecks and improved effectiveness to manage, monitor, implement and evaluate the plans in each LADP Governorate. 1.1.6, 1.2.6, 1.3.6</p> <p>Feasibility studies and applied field research conducted in support of local plans and proposed strategies in 5 Governorates. 1.1.7, 1.2.7, 1.3.7</p> <p>A citizen accountability mechanism established for public spending scrutiny, public assessment of convenience and quality of essential services in LADP Governorates. 1.1.8, 1.2.8, 1.3.8</p> <p>Client satisfaction survey conducted and reviewed.</p>
<p><b>Activities of Outputs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3:</b> Local men and women empowered to identify and address their needs and priorities for poverty reduction.</p>	<p>The area coordinating agencies (UNDP, ILO/UNOPS and HABITAT) will have primary responsibility over the following activities in relation to Output 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3 as activities: 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.3.1</p> <p>Vulnerability assessment reports prepared in 5 LADP Governorates. 2.1.2, 2.2.2, 2.3.2</p> <p>Most vulnerable districts identified based on vulnerable groups and pockets of vulnerability in 5 LADP Governorates. 2.1.3, 2.2.3, 2.3.3</p> <p>Capacity of CSOs enhanced to participate in local development planning. 2.1.4, 2.2.4, 2.3.4</p> <p>Community driven initiatives for poverty reduction and livelihood enhancement identified and proposals formulated in the 5 LADP Governorates. 2.1.5, 2.2.5, 2.3.5</p> <p>Potential models of public, private and community initiatives analysed and reviewed in relation to the Iraqi context.</p>
<p><b>Activities of Output: 3.1</b> Ministry of Planning Development Cooperation has improved capacities to facilitate and monitor local planning in relation to central planning.</p>	<p>3.1.1 MoP has improved capacities to facilitate and monitor local planning in relation with central planning. UNDP as National coordinating agency will have primary responsibility over the following activities:</p> <p>3.1.2 Local Area Planning Handbook revised and available and Sub-National planning guidelines developed for use by the 5 LADP Governorates.</p> <p>3.1.3 Blueprint for MoP institutional development developed.</p> <p>3.1.4 LADP reviewed and approach and methodology adapted to the disputed internal boundaries (DIB) areas.</p> <p>3.1.5 Communication and information exchange facilitated between the 5 LADP Governorates and MoP.</p>
<p><b>Procurement (major items)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Consultancies</li> <li>○ NGO grants</li> <li>○ Surveys and feasibility/stock taking studies</li> <li>○ Procurement of services of local institutions for provision of training</li> </ul>

Bridging for Local Area Development Programme (LADP) Phase II is a joint programme involving five UN Agencies. UNDP is lead agency and the other partners include UNHABITAT, ILO, UNOPS and WHO.

During 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2011, the Swedish International Development Agency contributed US 2.9 Million to provide technical assistance which has been interfaced in the ITF Project Document. SIDA funding is to deliver specific activities under the LADP Bridging with major deliverables identified as: the technical assistance of the production of the inclusive provincial annual plans for the five governorates; participatory poverty assessment and vulnerability assessment for the five piloted governorates; production of a handbook regarding local planning based on the findings of the overall participatory process during the bridging phase. The SIDA agreement format places UNDP as lead and held responsible for all funding. The other UN Bridging partners each signed a UNDP LoA during 3rd Quarter 2011 and received a 50% cash advance from the SIDA award to deliver specific SIDA activities in their areas of specialisation. Each agency has their respective report on the following pages of the report.

## UNDP

UNDP during 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2011 diversified the funding for their component of the Bridging LADP. This included the identification of funding for a gender component to establish sub-national gender focal points to assist in local, regional and national development plans. UNDP is committed to deliver 5 gender sensitive local development plans and is the focus of the additional funding. This funding to facilitate gender inclusion will be integrated into the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter reporting. Please refer to 1.1.4 for additional information within the UNDP section.

### UNDP ITF Contribution

<b>UNDP ITF Funds Committed</b>	UNDP USD 0 All committed funds were cleared due to approaching the end of the financial year and ITF component in the program	<b>% of approved</b>	<b>0 %</b> All committed funds were cleared due to approaching the end of the financial year and ITF component in the program
<b>UNDP ITF Funds Disbursed</b>	UNDP USD 625,843.27	<b>% of approved</b>	<b>96.4 %</b>
<b>Forecast final date</b>	<b>March 2012</b>	<b>Delay (months)</b>	<b>8</b>

Additionally, the Swedish International Development Agency contributed USD 2.9 Million to provide technical assistance which has been interfaced in ITF Project Document. SIDA funding will deliver specific activities under the LADP Bridging. Major deliverables are identified as: the technical assistance of the production of the inclusive provincial annual plans for the five governorates; participatory poverty assessment and vulnerability assessment for the five piloted governorates; production of a handbook regarding local planning, based on the findings of the overall participatory process during the bridging phase.

UNDP remains lead on the ITF Component though funds are provided directly to the respective partner agencies. The agreement with SIDA is in another format in which UNDP is lead on the SIDA activities and held responsible as all funding was awarded to UNDP.

### SIDA Contributions

<b>Total Funds Committed</b>	USD 2,500,000.00	<b>% of contribution</b>	<b>84%</b>
<b>Total Funds Disbursed</b>	USD 1,035,436.26	<b>% of committed</b>	<b>41%</b>
<b>4th Quarter 2011 SIDA USD</b>			
UNDP Commitment (POs)	106,065.35	<b>% of committed</b>	<b>6%</b>
UNDP Disbursement	929,371.00	<b>% of committed</b>	<b>35%</b>
UNHABITAT	276,444.50	% of approved	
ILO	133,542.38	% of approved	50% advance based on LOA
UNOPS	119,892.00	% of approved	50% advance based on LOA
WHO	129,656.74	% of approved	50% advance based on LOA
<b>Grand Total:</b>	1,136,877.97		

UNDP thus developed and facilitated four letters of agreements with the other UN Bridging partners who are UNHABITAT, ILO, UNOPS and WHO. Upon signing the LOA each of the four bridging agencies received a 50% cash advance from the SIDA award during 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2011 to deliver specific SIDA activities in their areas of specialisation.

Beneficiaries in the Bridging Phase of LADP

<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>	<b>% of planned (current status)</b>
Men (TOT, trainings, planning processes, capacity building workshops, Business counselling training)		Please refer to the annual report
Women (TOT, trainings, planning processes, capacity building workshops)		Please refer to the annual report
Children		
IDPs		
Others		
Indirect beneficiaries		
Employment generation (men/women)		

<b>Quantitative achievements against objectives and results</b>			
<b>Output 1.1:</b>	Governorate and district officials have strengthened institutional capacities to plan and manage sustainable socio-economic development	<b>% of planned</b>	90 %
<b>Output 2.1:</b>	Local men and women empowered to identify and address their needs and priorities for poverty reduction ,	<b>% of planned</b>	50%
<b>Output 3.1:</b>	Ministry of Planning Development Cooperation has improved capacities to facilitate and monitor local planning in relation to central planning	<b>% of planned</b>	60 %

## Qualitative achievements against objectives and results

**Output 1.1:** Governorate and district officials have strengthened institutional capacities to plan and manage sustainable socio-economic development (UNDP is responsible to take the lead in the south: Missan, Basrah and Thi-Qar).

1.1.1 Stocktaking exercise of district planning work in 5 LADP Governorates conducted, essential service delivery reports developed and recommendations provided to MoP.

Stocktaking workshops organized in the three Governorates:

- Basrah 10 November 2010 attended by 36 participants;
- Thi Qar on 23 November 2010 attended by 33 participants;
- Missan on 29 November 2010 attended by 34 participants.

Those stocktaking exercises succeeded in validating and providing further comments on the prepared flowcharts of existing planning process at governorate level for regional (Governorate Councils) and capital (Technical Departments) budgets in Missan, Thi-Qar and Basrah.

This exercise enabled the joint identification of major perceived bottlenecks, shortfalls, and areas that require improvements.

In each Governorate the following areas have been identified which included:

- a. Local development and service delivery systems and processes currently in place;
- b. Local custody of multi-sectoral data collection and analysis in each governorate in a sustainable way;
- c. Community/ civil society participation in local development and service delivery;
- d. Consideration and systematic incorporation of cross-cutting issues: MDGs, poverty reduction, gender equality environment and employment into local development and service delivery.

On 20th February 2011, the stock taking findings were presented to the Ministry of Planning Deputy Minister who was very supportive of the initiative. During that meeting the Ministry of Planning approved of the revised LADP Work-Plan for 2011 to support five target governorates to improve their provincial plans for next year.

LADP in partnership with the Ministry of Planning and the Governor's Offices continues to conduct "pilot" annual provincial planning exercises aimed to improve the quality of existing plans. The pilots focus on improved processes such as participatory local planning, consensus building and content drafting and production.

Proposed improvements are expected through an array of coordinated efforts aiming at inter alia capacity development to meet quality features of the plans expected by MoP, greater alignment to NDP, improved coordination, greater responsiveness to citizen's needs and priorities. This includes:

- systematic public consultation,
- incorporation of cross-cutting issues,
- spatial analysis,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• development of Monitoring and Evaluation framework and performance measurement,</li> <li>• identification of ways to remove bottlenecks to projects implementation and delivery of services etc.</li> </ul> <p>The Ministry of Planning and its Planning Units proposed to be at the heart of Governorate-led planning efforts together with other relevant stakeholders and will be supported throughout the entire process. It is proposed that all five Governorates and MoP KRG meet every three months with the Ministry of Planning to review progress, discuss issues and challenges and agree on solutions, mitigation measures and way forward in order to improve vertical communication between the Ministry of Planning and the region and governorates.</p> <p>Not only is this process seen as an opportunity to improve systems and processes as well as to develop planning capacities in the five governorates, but it is also hoped to improve the interaction and clarify respective roles between MoP and Governorates.</p>
<p>1.1.2 Data analysis, district profiling and mapping for all remaining districts in 5 LADP Governorates prepared.</p>	<p>Reviewed data collection mechanisms to inform local planning of regional and capital budget.</p> <p>Initiated gap analysis between data collected and data required for planning to allow baseline benchmarking and performance / progress measurement.</p> <p>Inventoried national level information management systems and platforms to explore compatibility and linkages with potential systems that could be developed locally.</p>
<p>1.1.3 Institutional needs assessment for local planning conducted in the 5 LADP Governorates.</p>	<p>Representatives from Governorates (Basrah, Missan, Thi-Qar) and MoP Baghdad participated in the LADP National Coordination meeting held in Baghdad on February 20, 2011 to review learning from previous workshop, discuss further progress to date and ways forward for integrating and coordinating local development and service delivery.</p> <p>The local structure and their functions have been assessed in order to consider their relevance in providing strategic guidance and supporting the production of the Inclusive Provincial Annual Plans. This assessment contained a series of capacity development bottlenecks pertaining to planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.</p>
<p>1.1.4 Technical assistance provided for the</p>	<p>In December 2010, at the Stocktaking Exercise in Erbil the five Governorates agreed on key bottlenecks weaknesses in preparing their respective local socio economic plans, in consultation with the Ministry of Planning.</p>

<p>preparation of local socio-economic development and service delivery plans in 5 LADP Governorates coordinating with other UN Agencies. (SIDA Funded Activity)</p>	<p>In February 2011, it was agreed to support five experimental planning process through monthly workshops and weekly remote follow-ups. This aimed at improving both local and regional planning process and the substance of the plans on the basis of key underline principles and international best practices. Furthermore, it was agreed that each Governorate would manage and finance its own process and activities, including public consultation and technical meetings that were necessary to insure the expected quality.</p> <p><b><u>Erbil, 12-15 December 2010</u></b></p> <p>A three day workshop on current and potential institutional developments as well as best practices was subsequently organized on 12-15 December 2010 looking at the inclusive socio-economic planning in all 5 LADP Governorates reflected on data collected previously including flowcharts, assessments, reports etc. This workshop was attended by 38 participants comprised of representatives from the Federal Government of Iraq; Governorate Council Members; and Directors General of Technical Departments at both the Governorate and Federal levels within the areas of electricity, municipality and public works, labour and social affairs etc; The results of this successful workshop produced the following results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agreement on a framework of sound local development/service delivery systems and processes inspired from international best practices;</li> <li>- Consolidated review of existing local development/service delivery systems and processes for public investments, comprising of commonly identified bottlenecks, inconsistencies, shortfalls, issues that need to be addressed and areas that need to be improved;</li> <li>- Governorate gap analysis between existing local development service delivery systems and processes in Iraq including identification of common bottlenecks and proposed solutions suggested by international reference points;</li> <li>- Local development priorities, agreed upon by the 5 participating Governorates;</li> <li>- Mapping of plans produced at national and local levels;</li> <li>- Mapping of budget identification for the local development process;</li> <li>- Segmentation of public services as per entities involved (responsible and supporting);</li> <li>- Identification of the approach of Local Development Planning and Service Delivery in Iraq in the context of public participation (Centralized, Hybrid, De-centralized);</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Amman, 12–14 March 2011</u></b></p> <p>Following the lessons learned and analyzed in the previous workshop, representatives from five Governorates (Basrah, Missan, Thi-Qar, Babylon and Sulaymaniyah), MoP Baghdad, MoP KRG and relevant ministries participated in a workshop in Amman from 12-14 March 2011. The key outputs and purpose of the workshop was to discuss, develop and agree on the necessary structures and mechanisms for local development and service delivery; and facilitate preparation of an action plan and the steps needed for</p>
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a kick-off workshop.

Additionally, the planning teams were provided with public consultation tools and guidance. This included the level of consultation, whom to consult (list of entities and/or individuals), tools and suggested mechanisms to be used and potentially institutionalised. The teams governorate officials chose their preferred approach and respective public participation tools based on their objectives and the specifications of their governorates.

### **Erbil, 24-28 April 2011**

In April 2011, a third workshop was conducted in Erbil, KRG. The purpose of this workshop was to enhance the quality of the Planning Team Work-Plans in the five selected governorates through anchoring the concepts and skills of participatory planning to produce an enhanced version of the work plan that is more realistic and applicable for the 5 governorates.

The Workshop produced the following results:

1. Agreed on the terminology to be used for the annual development plan of 2012 "Title" and scope to be the "Inclusive Provincial Annual Plan (IPAP) for 2012"
2. Production of a guide book that includes job descriptions for the key roles in the planning team.
3. The scope of IPAP 2012 was identified per governorate (Priority themes and issues to be addressed in the 2012 plan identified based on national, regional and sectoral plans and strategies including MDG report of Iraq, Poverty Alleviation Strategy, National Development Plan, KRG strategic Plan, Provincial strategic plans)
4. Revised public participation plans were produced indicating specifically where, who and with which tools each governorate is going to involve and consult the public on the IPAP content

### **Amman, 29 May–2 June 2011**

#### *Preparations of the IPAPs for 2012:*

In May 2011, a workshop was held in Amman, to produce the IPAPs for the 5 selected Governorates.

The training produced the following results:

1. Review of thematic consultations findings;
2. Quality control tools and methodologies (spatial analysis, identification of synergies, economy of scale etc.);
3. List of projects with estimate costs to be implemented in 2012 in each governorate is produced;
4. Map of resources needed for the implementation of the IPAP for 2012 is produced per governorate;
5. Revised list of capacity building needs for the planning teams in each governorate is produced based on the new knowledge and skills gained and new areas explored.

### **Sulaymaniyah, 10–14 July 2011**

In July 2011, a fourth workshop was held in Sulaymaniyah , to enhance quality and review the draft IPAPs for the 5 selected Governorates and their contributions to the Millennium Development Goals

The training produced the following results:

Testing the quality of the draft plan, and improving its quality through 5 quality tests:

Linkage of projects to the MDGs, their integration and formulation

Relevance and Feasibility of plans for the required resources and time

Responsiveness of the plans to Iraq's obligations towards the achievement of the MDGs

Spatial analysis (equitable geographical distribution, based on needs)

Responsiveness of the plans to the challenges of planning, implementation and evaluation of the local development

Provision of tools that support decision making regarding any projects that are being implemented with limited funds and time constraints

Skills and knowledge on incorporation of the MDGs

Improving types of proposed projects to better achieve the MDGs

Basic knowledge about the contents of the follow-up and evaluation plan

#### **Amman, 11 – 15 September 2011**

In September 2011, a fifth workshop was held in Amman, to enhance quality and review the draft IPAPs for the 5 selected Governorates and their M&E frameworks. The training outcomes were as follows:

1. Review of identified major bottlenecks to project execution and root causes;
2. Review of identified solutions to major bottlenecks – (feasibility, relevance, sustainability etc.);
3. Draft list of risks and Mitigation measures for the execution of the IPAP 2012 are identified per governorate;
4. Annual Targets, Performance indicators, Means of Verifications, frequency of Measurement for indicators are all identified for the IPAPs;
5. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan per governorate for the execution of the IPAPs is produced;
6. Checklist for IPAP quality enhancement criteria is produced and agreed upon including MDGs and public consultation integration in the criteria;
7. Revised list of capacity building needs for the planning teams in each governorate is produced based on the new knowledge and skills gained and new areas explored.

Significant activities and results have been undertaken and financed by the Southern Governorates:

- Public Consultations were fully driven by the Governorates. This has emphasized the ownership and the genuine attribute of the process. The entire cost of public consultation including all logistical arrangements was completely covered by Governorates.
- Governorate Council Teams identified their capacity building projects to be included in their inclusive provincial plans for 2012.
- A better understanding of risk mitigation has been developed by the Governorate Councils, which resulted in the production of risk mitigation strategies for the IPAP. Of note, Missan Governorate allocated in the IPAP

2012 an amount of ID10 billion for risk mitigation.

### **October 2011**

During October 2011, The LADP designed and implemented a “ one-to-one” approach to capacity development. Five workshops were conducted in four different governorates in Iraq (Missan, Thi Qar, Basrah and Sulaymaniyah). The one-to-one two day workshops were designed to work with each governorate separately and provide focused technical support for review and amendment to their Inclusive Provincial Annual Plan. The workshops are part of the capacity building courses entitled “Build the Capacity for the Production of Inclusive Provincial Annual Plans (IPAP) for 2012 in Five Governorates in Iraq through Provision of Five Provincial Planning Core Team Capacity Development Courses under LADP Bridging” and were attended by 5 to 12 members from the local planning team in each governorate.

During the one-to-one workshops, an overall check of the Governorate IPAP was conducted. This quality check reviewed the IPAPS responsiveness to the following topics :

1. Provincial Development Strategy of the Governorate and the Sulaymaniyah Governorate’s responsiveness to the Regional Development Strategy of KRG in their IPAP;
2. Local priorities determined by the local government;
3. Identified public needs generated from public consultation processes in each governorate;
4. Alignment of financial allocation to needs of priority;
5. MDGs focus and priority in the respective Governorate;
6. Identification of local development challenges/bottlenecks and whether the IPAP integrated proposed solutions.

### **November 2011**

A component of the capacity building programme for the five Iraqi Governorates (Basrah, Babylon, Thi-Qar, Missan and Sulaymaniyah) resulted in 2nd draft/revised versions of the IPAPs 2012.

A training course was conducted for the local planning teams aimed to build capacity of local planners on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) for their IPAPs entitled “Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of the IPAP 2012”. This training was expanded and an additional training course was held on M&E with participants from both the regional and federal level which involved participants from Ministries of Planning Baghdad and KRG entitled “M&E for Regional and Federal Level” conducted in Amman, Jordan from 12 to 14 November 2012. This training aimed to provide federal / regional level planners and those involved in M&E processes monitoring and evaluation knowledge and skills to ensure harmony between the local teams and Federal/ Regional level members.

The M&E workshop for federal and regional planners included basic M&E concepts, model and practice and included a session on M&E at national level for national level plans. The workshop trained participants on the following topics:

1. Roles and scope of Federal and Regional Government of KRG in monitoring and evaluating national and regional level development plans
2. Introduction to M&E models, approaches and tools;
3. M&E Planning- components and development;
- 4.. Exposure to cases from countries at different levels within the development continuum;
5. Identification of bottlenecks facing entities/bodies responsible for M&E at federal and regional level;
6. Proposed solutions to identified bottlenecks/challenges facing M&E at the federal level;
7. Capacity development needs of federal level M&E officers identified.

UNDP Iraq succeeded in mobilizing USD 200,000 from its core resources (TRAC), for ***specific gender attributes*** in the 5 LADP Bridging Governorates. This pilot component will train and equip individuals already involved in planning and service delivery processes at the federal, regional and local levels on understanding gender-sensitive planning and why this is important for service delivery in local development and how local authorities can integrate gender into their planning exercises. One major deliverable will be to establish a pool of Iraqi gender specialists. In the future it is envisaged that these gender specialists will undertake advisory and monitoring roles at the Governorate level through the Planning Core Team and linkages established with the women's machinery/mechanisms at the national level.

### **December 2011**

An initial training on Gender Enhanced Planning and Service Delivery Course was conducted to assist Local Planners in the LADP Bridging Governorates to understand the basics of gender sensitive planning and to encourage the inclusion of "Gender Sensitivity" into the draft Inclusive Provincial Annual Plans. The training focused on the following:

1. Introduction of basic technical terms related to different gender topics;
2. Introduction to the most important analytical frames and how to merge a variety of different gender issues with local development;
3. Development trends that target women;
4. Introduction to understanding differences between growth and development terminology;
5. Introduction to basic human development indicators and the relationship with gender issues;
6. Introduction to analyzing gender within the planning process;
7. The importance of budgets that respond to gender;
8. Introduction to the importance of gender integration into various/different institutions.

UNDP held a **Training of Trainers** course (TOT) on Gender Enhanced

	<p>Planning and Service Delivery which aimed to qualify participants who had attended the Gender Enhanced Planning and Service Delivery Course further to become professional trainers in governmental institutions and NGO's in Iraq. This TOT had the following objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Basic technical terms related to different gender topics;</li> <li>2. Analytical frames and techniques to merge different gender issues with development;</li> <li>3. Additional development trends that target women;</li> <li>4. Difference between Growth and Development terminology;</li> <li>5. Basic humanitarian development indicators and its relation with gender;</li> <li>6. Analyzing gender within the planning process;</li> <li>7. Gender responsive budgets;</li> <li>8. The importance of gender integration in the different institutions.</li> </ol>
<p>1.1.5 Local Government administrative capacity strengthened for implementation of plans, identification of bottlenecks and improved effectiveness to manage, monitor, implement and evaluate the plans in each LADP Governorate.</p>	<p>LADP programme launched the capacity development programme for the selected governorates. The national meeting mapped the process for provincial planning and identified bottlenecks, inconsistencies, shortfalls, issues that need addressing and areas that need to be improved. The findings of the national meeting established the backbone and the baseline to assess the five governorates (Sulaymaniyah Babylon, Thi-Qar, Missan, Basrah) in developing their Provincial Development Plans based on the previously developed Provincial Development Strategies.</p> <p>It was agreed that each governorate will consider its existing structures and mechanisms so as to ensure two distinct functions:</p> <p><b><u>(1) Governorate Steering of Local Planning comprising the following sub-activities:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Provide provincial strategic advice;</li> <li>b. Establish and support the Planning Core Team;</li> <li>c. Endorse the Provincial Development Plans;</li> <li>d. Liaise with MoPs;</li> </ol> <p><b><u>(2) Preparation of the Plans:</u></b></p> <p>Coordination and quality control, enhancement of inputs from different stakeholders for the preparation of a Governorate Consolidated Plan.</p>
<p>1.1.8 Client satisfaction survey conducted and reviewed</p>	<p>Collected existing survey reports and available studies in 3 LADP Governorates on electricity services and preparation of service delivery assessment reports;</p> <p>Collected available any electricity service client satisfaction surveys that has been undertaken in the past and began compilation of results. Four governorates are completed out of the five.</p>
<p><b>Output 1.2:</b> Local men and women empowered to identify and address their needs and priorities for poverty reduction (UNDP is responsible to take the lead in the south: Missan, Basrah and Thi-Qar)</p>	
<p>1.2.1 Vulnerability assessment reports prepared in 5 LADP Governorates.</p>	<p>Collected existing assessment reports and available studies in 3 LADP Governorates on vulnerability, poverty and deprivation of services.</p>

In each Governorate, established basic profiling of all organizations, associations, syndicates, unions, cooperatives etc. – Suitable approach and methodology has been developed for second round of information collection that will aim at gathering key data that will be determinant to the identification of key potential partners for LADP II i.e. a pool of potential credible implementation partners, a pool of hubs/relay organizations that have access to extensive social network and reach out for advocacy and information dissemination, a pool of organizations that are knowledgeable on issues and challenges faced by vulnerable groups etc.

- In particular, strategies are being devised to identify registered and also non-registered/non formal organizations.

Public Consultations were fully fledged driven by the Governorates. This has emphasized the ownership and the genuine attribute of the process. The entire cost of public consultation including all logistical arrangements was completely covered by governorates.

For instance, *in Missan Governorate*, public consultation efforts have been exemplary. A brief synopsis of local efforts led by Missan Governorate as a result of commitment to participation and inclusiveness is presented below. While only Missan is reported here, it must be noted that each Governorate has undertaken similar efforts based on local choices, characteristics and commitments.

A random SMS campaign was launched as a tool for data collection; citizens of Missan received SMS from the Governor's Office requesting them to participate in the public consultation, express their needs and priorities. In addition, a number of questionnaires have been used including 2,000 questionnaires among the sectors in coordination with district, and sub-district councils, 3,256 questionnaires collected through health programme. As a result of the returned questionnaires a list of priority projects for essential services was collected. The local government gave instructions to assign the personnel to prepare projections of quantities and prices estimates regarding these priorities.

Lastly, a number of consultation workshops have been organized and undertaken by Missan Authorities including the following:

A workshop was conducted on the 8<sup>th</sup> June, which focused on women priorities in the Governorate. The workshop was attended by women from communities, two female members from the Provincial Council, in addition to Civil Society Organisations.

A second workshop was conducted by June 9<sup>th</sup> that focused on priorities of youth and the unemployed, attended by local communities, businessmen and civil society organisations

	<p>Sectoral meetings in Missan were also conducted as follows:</p> <p>Water Resources Sector: a public consultation meeting was held on 15<sup>th</sup> May, attended by farmers, CSOs, Agricultural Department, Farmers Association, and the Director for Water Resources. This meeting was held to prepare the draft plan for Agricultural and Water Resources.</p> <p>Infrastructure Sector: a public consultation meeting was held on 16<sup>th</sup> May with representation of CSOs, Local Councils, Directors of water, housing, sewages, and roads. Officials representing central infrastructure, industry and oil also attended. This meeting was held to prepare the draft plan for the infrastructure sector.</p> <p>Education Sector: a public consultation meeting was held the 17<sup>th</sup> May, with representation of CSOs, Academics, Professors, Primary and Secondary level Teachers, in addition to students. This meeting was held to prepare the draft plan for the education sector.</p> <p>Health and Environment Sector: a public consultation meeting was held on 19<sup>th</sup> May, with representation of CSOs, media, Director of Environment Missan, This meeting was held to prepare the draft plan for the health sector</p> <p>Social Development Sector: a public consultation meeting was held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011, attended by Journalists, Artists Associations, Academics, representatives from CSOs. This meeting was held to prepare the draft plan for the social sector.</p>
<p>1.2.5 Potential models of public, private and community initiatives analysed and reviewed in relation to the Iraqi context.</p>	<p>Identification of Governorate pockets of poverty and vulnerability, most vulnerable web-sites and portals.</p> <p>ToRs were developed to conducted an opinion poll/survey amongst sample group of Iraqis living abroad in order to validate the viability and feasibility of a Diaspora Exchange Programme and better understand the conditions under which Iraqis from Diaspora would be willing to engage in such programme and what they would expect from such programme in terms of benefits and services for themselves as well as for Iraqis in-country;</p> <p>The development of the Diaspora Exchange programme concept and principles as well as structure and systems and standard operating procedures Manual for the use of Iraqi Institutions and Diaspora Community explaining the benefits of the Diaspora Exchange Programme. under the LADP second phase programme, one output is dedicated into networking and promotion of linkages among institutions and Iraqi Communities in the diaspora that can have a potential impact at the local governorates.</p>
<p><b>Output 3:</b> Ministry of Planning Development Cooperation has improved capacities to facilitate and monitor local planning in relation to central planning.</p>	

<p>1.3.1 Local Area Planning Handbook revised and available and Sub-National planning guidelines developed for use by the 5 LADP Governorates.</p>	<p>A draft handbook has been compiled on the basis of (1) series of supporting training modules and sessions since march 2011 and (2) applications in each governorate of tools and methodologies;</p> <p>The handbook will be finalized during Q1 of 2012, incorporating feedback from participating governorates and the Ministries of Planning (Federal and KRG) as well as the findings from an independent evaluation of process and content of the IPAPs in 5 governorates, currently the handbook is in a draft format, as each training module constitutes a chapter, contribution from the governorates will enable the finalisation, and enrich the document.</p> <p>The handbook will contain a specific chapter on Pro –Poor, Gender, Environment and Conflict Sensitive Planning.</p>
<p>1.3.2 Blueprint for MoP institutional development developed.</p>	<p>UNDP launched the process of undertaking the institutional assessment and record feedback on IPAP development process with Governorates. Currently, the consultant is available and logistical arrangements are under progress for his trips to Iraq</p>
<p>1.3.3 LADP reviewed and approach and methodology adapted to the disputed internal boundaries (DIB) areas.</p>	<p>Preliminary assessment on the adaptation of the Area Based Development approach and methodology to particularly address vulnerability and exclusion for Disputed Internal Boundaries areas through a joint effort with UNDP Bureau of Conflict Prevention and Recovery. This action to secure additional UNDP core resources and secondment of technical support for enhancing compliance and sensitivity of the participatory and inclusive approach and methodology under LADP towards conflict prevention and recovery and peace building.</p> <p>A consultant hired to provide Technical Support to the Conflict Development Analysis and translate findings into a set of recommendations for the design of LADP 2 in areas of exclusion.</p> <p>To this end, a rapid Conflict Development Analysis is being undertaken in a pilot area of vulnerability and exclusion to guide and inform the adaptation of the LADP approach to more specific Iraqi socio-economic context and characteristics. A Project document for LADP in the DIBs and potential intervention has been produced.</p> <p>During September 2011, UNDP Iraq has been able to secure funds through the Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery, to establish the first United Nations Volunteers Programme in Iraq. This upcoming assignment for the international UNV is envisaged to cover Area Based Programme at the National Level.</p>
<p>1.3.4 Communication and information exchange</p>	<p>In July 2011, UNDP led the second National Coordination meeting for the Bridging Phase in Baghdad. The meeting reinforced the</p>

<p>facilitated between the LADP Governorates and MoP.</p> <p>5</p>	<p>partnership with the GoI (federal, regional and governorates), an initial agreement on cost sharing – within the framework of UNDP Phase - through earmarking projects fund to inserted in the government plans for 2012 has been discussed. .in-kind contributions as well as parallel financing of specific complementary activities and project associated expenses such as for instance governorates covering costs related to workshops, transport and accommodation of trainees, poverty reduction projects etc.</p> <p>The agreed recommendations of Baghdad National Coordination meeting, were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The New experiment under Bridging Phase has revealed a number of bottlenecks that need to be addressed, e.g. shortage of data to inform planning, need for increased transparency between federal, regional and local levels, need for improved coordination between councils and ministries etc.</li> <li>- The essentiality of starting LADP Two based on the proposed fundamental principles and make progress towards decentralization, being cognizant of advantages and disadvantages in order to use the former while mitigating the latter.</li> <li>- In particular, it has been agreed to set up a cost – sharing mechanism with GoI for the purpose of gaining ownership and support LADP Two nationwide expansion.</li> </ul> <p>Incorporated recommendations into LADP II Project Document – redesigning of result framework based on revised analysis of key issues to be addressed.</p> <p>Inclusion of MDGs, gender, environmental and vulnerability issues in LADP II results framework and Project Document.</p> <p>Initiated cooperation with UNDP-supported MDG project, aiming at;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Furthered the MDG agenda for Iraq by considering the localization of MDGs which could comprise the following steps: - (1) Recommendation of indicators and targets per Governorate for 2015 - based on budget, trends and feasibility; (2) Discussion with Governorates on recommended targets and indicators; (3) Validation and endorsement of localized MDGs including indicators and yearly targets that will be used by the Governorate for planning, setting objectives and measurement of progress.</li> </ol>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Discussion with GoI the possible use of MDG as framework for measuring progress of Governorates. This should possibly be linked to budget allocation and incentive system for improved performance and the corresponding required process that would ensure capacity to measure indicators of progress towards MDGs and link to GoI / Governorate reporting.</li> <li>c. Engaging with Central Statistic Office to promote its role in supporting Local Development, in particular the provision of relevant and necessary data to support Governorate planning and produce aggregated meaningful indicators of local development progress and performance.</li> <li>d. Agreement on multi-dimensional poverty measurement at Governorate levels, including local perceptions of poverty and vulnerability.</li> </ul>
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<b>Main implementation, constraints and challenges</b>
<p>New Projects within the Country Programme Document for UNDP for 2011-2014 may experience funding gaps and may not fully meet identified scope.</p> <p>Support to local governance planning, prioritization and potential cost-sharing could be undermined as the decentralisation structure is not fully in place.</p> <p>Security is an issue and red zone movements unclear with the withdrawal of the US troops in December 2011.</p> <p>The 2013 Provincial Elections are predicted to produce high pressure on the Governorate officials to implement and improve delivery at the local level. This will require additional efforts by the programme to assist the Governorates in their local delivery.</p> <p>The GoI's ability to respond to emerging citizen demands is weak and could trigger demonstrations and/or violence.</p>

ILO / UNOPS

**Total Funds Committed and Disbursed**

Agency	Budget (USD)	Committed Funds (USD)	Committed Funds (%)	Disbursed Funds (USD)	Disbursed Funds (%)
<b>UNDP</b>					
<b>ILO</b>	132,398	116,878	88%	116,878	88%
<b>UNOPS</b>	304,504	279,560	92%	279,560	92%
<b>UN-HABITAT</b>					
<b>TOTAL</b>					

**ILO/UNOPS**

**Situation as of 31 December 2011**

<b>ILO Funds Committed</b>	116,878	<b>% of approved</b>	88%
<b>ILO Funds Disbursed</b>	116,878	<b>% of approved</b>	88%
<b>UNOPS Funds Committed</b>	279,560	<b>% of approved</b>	92%
<b>UNOPS Funds Disbursed</b>	279,560	<b>% of approved</b>	92%
<b>Forecast final date</b>		<b>Delay (months)</b>	

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men	N/A	
Women	N/A	
Children	N/A	
IDPs	N/A	
Others	N/A	
Indirect beneficiaries		
Employment generation (men/women)		

**Qualitative achievements against objectives and results**

**Output 1:** Governorate and district officials “ have strengthened institutional capacities to plan and manage sustainable socio-economic development”.

(ILO/UNOPS) is responsible to take the lead in the north: (Sulaymaniyah)

**[1] Activity 1.1.3 Institutional Development for Local Development Planning (Output 1.1.3)**

- a. Provided coordination / technical support for conducting meetings among the members of Sulaymaniyah High Committee for preparing 2012 Governorate IPAP.
- b. Assisted the planning team in collecting/analyzing data and inputs from technical departments.
- c. Coordinated participation of Sulaymaniyah Economic Development Group members (four persons) in the inception meeting & Territorial Diagnosis Technical Workshop that was conducted in Beirut, Lebanon 1-3 November 2011.
- d. Coordinated participation of two Sulaymaniyah champions/focal points (one from the Governorate Office and the other from the Provincial Council) in the following workshops which were arranged by UNHABITAT in Amman:
  1. Awareness Raising Workshop on Feasibility Studies and Consultations for the production of the Feasibility Study Application; held on 11-13 Dec 2011,
  2. Urban Consultation Workshop; held on 14-15 Dec. 2011

**[2] Activity 1.1.4 Establishing and supporting Economic Development Groups (EDGs) in the four governorates of Sulaymaniah, Babil, Missan and ThiQar(N.B. Basra Economic Development Unit (EDU) was already established through Private Sector Development Programme).**

- a. Four Economic Development working Groups “EDGs” were established in Sulaymaniyah, Babil, Thi-Qar and Missan Governorates.
  - b. EDG directors and EDG Core Members were nominated by the Governors in each Governorate.
  - c. EDGs were assisted in initial familiarization with Territorial Diagnosis Tool (TDT) and preparatory work prior to participation in the first inception workshop.
  - d. The Economic Development Group Inception Meeting & Territorial Diagnosis Technical Workshop was conducted in Beirut, Lebanon from 1 – 3 November 2011. Members of the Basra Economic Development Unit (EDU) also participated in the workshop.
- The primary objective of this first workshop was to train EDGs/EDUs members on how to apply the Territorial Diagnosis tool for the production of economic profiles of the Governorates and the identification of the Compact Goal, Objectives and Outcomes.
  - The workshop gathered 37 participants, 4 from Sulaymaniyah EDG, 4 from Thi-Qar EDG , 4 from Missan EDG, 4 from Babil EDG, 5 from Basrah EDU, 5 from the Ministry of Planning, 1 from the KRG Ministry of Planning , 1 from the Prime Minister Office Advisory Committee, 6 UNOPS staff members as well as 1 from UNDP , 1 from UN-HABITAT and 1 from ILO.
  - The Technical Sessions were facilitated by ILO Local Economy Recovery experts
  - The workshop was also attended by Iraq’s Minister of Planning Dr. Ali Yousef Al-Shukri, Deputy

Minister of Planning Dr.Sami Mati Polous, the Economical Advisor to the Iraq Prime Minister Mr.Arkan Rached Maruf and the Director General of the Development Planning Unit of the KRG Ministry of Planning Mr. Nawzad Tawifik,

- Based on the feedback and comments from the participants in the Beirut workshop, the ILO Local Economy Recovery expert has revised the Territorial Diagnosis Tool (TDT) to be more in line with the Iraqi Context.
- The TDT is to be translated into Arabic and sent to EDG member to start work on territorial diagnosis.

**Output 2:** (ILO/UNOPS is responsible to take the lead in the north: Sulymaniyah)

**Output 3:** UNDP coordinated activities

**Main implementation constraints & challenges (2-3 sentences)**

**UN-HABITAT**

<b>Funds Committed</b>	258,157.41	<b>% of approved</b>	<b>67%</b>
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	120,045.69	<b>% of approved</b>	<b>31%</b>
<b>Forecast final date</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> June 2011</b>	<b>Delay (months)</b>	

<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>	<b>% of planned (current status)</b>
Men	N/A	
Women	N/A	
Children	N/A	
IDPs	N/A	
Others	N/A	
Indirect beneficiaries		
Employment generation (men/women)		

**Quantitative achievements against objectives and results**

**Output 1:** Governorate and district officials“ have strengthened institutional capacities to plan and manage sustainable socio-economic development.

UN-Habitat acts as an Area Coordinator for the Governorate of Babil and hence is responsible for providing necessary coordination and technical support to all activities and capacity development initiatives undertaken by partner LADP agencies in this region. In addition, UN-Habitat is also responsible to support governorate office to plan and manage

**% of planned** 70 %

sustainable socio-economic development in the province.

UN-Habitat also leads the provision of technical assistance to the five LADP governorates based on its mandate under LADP-Bridging phase related to urban development and management issues which includes activities in areas of urban planning and building controls, spatial analysis, urban service delivery, slum upgrading, and coordination and networking with LG association. The above activities are expected to simplify and systematize the priority identification process and hence ensure that IPAPs are inclusive provincial annual plans.

UN-HABITAT has organized the Urban Consultation Workshop in Amman dated 14-15 Dec. 2011. The workshop was coordinated and facilitated by an expert from UK who was also supported by representatives of MEDAL Consultant. The UN Habitat Consultant is a known expert of this field and hence was very effective in sharing wide range of knowledge and experiences from different parts of the world. The workshop was attended by more than 20 participants and they were mainly from the planning core teams and steering committees of five partner LADP governorates who are also in charge of preparing the IPAPs 2012. Besides, some planners from KRG and federal government also participated in this two days workshop.

The purpose of the Workshop was to train the participants in the concepts and practices of Urban Consultation, to show how Urban Consultations have been conducted in other countries, and to help them apply these ideas and experiences in their specific situations. The Workshop therefore comprised sessions for:

- Concepts and Approaches of Urban Consultation
- Experiences and Lessons of Urban Consultation (Case Studies)
- Applying New Ideas and Lessons of Experience to the Iraqi Situation.

In order to stimulate the interest of the participants and to give them a sense of “ownership” of the proceedings, the Workshop included as well:

- Presentations from each Governorate team to summarize their consultation-related activities

in 2011

- Small-group work (by Governorate) to apply new ideas about consultation and suggest how their consultation activities might be enhanced in 2012.

On 11-13 Dec 2011 in Amman, UN-HABITAT organized a Feasibility Studies Workshop I which was attended by 21 participants both from the field and also from the federal and Kurdish government. From 5-LADP governorates, the participants were mainly from planning core teams and steering committees who are also in charge of preparing the IPAPs 2012. Some selected planners and engineers from relevant ministries and departments of KRG and Federal government also participated in the workshop. The workshop was fundamentally dedicated to provide necessary technical assistance to the local planners and engineers in order to better understand the concept and forms of feasibility studies and more importantly how to choose and apply the right form of feasibility studies in case of projects identified under the inclusive provincial annual plans.

In order to test the knowledge and skills gained from the above workshop, a pilot exercise is identified whereby a team of participants will be involved and prepare a true feasibility study plan with close coordination and support of the UN-Habitat Feasibility Study Expert who was also involved in delivering the above workshop.

The sample project selected by the team is titled as the **Kublah Waste Management Project from Basrah** which is also a project proposed in the provincial Development Plan. The team assigned for the task has already started working on the project while the detailed process and the result will be discussed and validated in the next workshop planned in Feb. 2012.

**Output 2:** Local men and women empowered to identify and address their needs and priorities for poverty reduction .

UN-HABITAT kicked off the work to prepare the guidance note for quality control of the IPAPs and enhance the approach in relation to slum upgrading in Babil as a pilot project. UN-HABITAT team in Babil has prepared the ground by initiating following preparatory activities in the field:

**% of planned** 50 %

- The team held several meetings to select the slum area based on some scientific criteria

and standards. Accordingly Hay Al Afrah in Hilah district has been selected.

- The team is preparing maps of the targeted neighborhood and also conducting a situation analysis based on existing data and site visits by the UN staff and the key persons of planning core team. This exercise will ultimately produce a complete profile of the selected slum area.
- List of relevant stakeholder have been developed while few meetings have been recently conducted. In the process some notes about the slum area are also prepared.
- The team is also preparing a presentation which will be used later for large scale of consultations.
- The team is also identifying experts to be mobilized for the technical inputs. (Two consultants-civil engineers) including the members from core team, steering committee, and UN staff (UN-HABITAT, UNDP, and UNOPS) who will steer the whole process of slum improvements.

Now in order to support and consolidate the above efforts in the field, UN-Habitat is organizing an exposure visit to Amman and Cairo in the month of Feb. 2012. The exposure visit will include relevant stakeholder from Hilah and also LADP coordinators from the three regions. The main idea of this exposure visit is to allow the participants to learn from some selected best practices in the field of slum upgrading and improvement from both Amman and Cairo and later apply the relevant knowledge in a pilot governorate (in this case Hilah) in order to better deal with the improvement of slum areas in the local context and realities of Iraq.

**Output 3:** Ministry of Planning Development Cooperation has improved capacities to facilitate and monitor local planning in relation to central planning.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2011, UN HABITAT facilitated an urban planning workshop in Amman, Jordan, focusing on the use of GIS as a Spatial Analysis (S.A) tool for making healthy urban and rural planning decisions. The aim of the workshop was to introduce the Iraqi officials from the technical departments to different tools and methods of Spatial Analysis, to help them assess the new proposed projects within their region. On the other hand, provide them with a criterion that can be used to assess the Inclusive Provisional Annual Plan (IPAP).

**% of planned** 50%

The workshop was organized by UN-Habitat Iraq

programme and delivered its Expert Consultant to 16 participants representing LADP governorates. The team included GIS focal person and one member of planning committee including UN coordinators and focal persons from the above 5 LADP governorates. An independent GIS Consultant was also available to support the workshop as required.

UN-Habitat employed an experienced Consultant (Urban Planner) who is working on this project since last one month. This particular exercise is aimed at studying the urban planning process and building regulation/control practices covering historical underpinnings, present situation and future prospects and challenges in the three selected LADP governorates namely: Sulaymaniyah, Babil and Basrah. The study is based on both primary and secondary sources including a consultative workshop at later stage which will be participated by the planning department staffs of selected governorates and other relevant stakeholders.

This project aims at creating a strong and clear understanding of both urban planning and building control/regulation process in three selected LADP governorates in Iraq, through briefly reviewing the various documents, regulations and procedures.

#### **Main implementation constraints & challenges (2-3 sentences)**

The major bottlenecks and challenges faced during this quarter by the program are as follows:

- The unstable security situation as result of the wrangling between the key political blocks constitutes the real challenge for the development in Iraq and particularly in the LADP-governorates. It casts its shadow on the planning and development activities and their processes. Recent terrorist explosions have rocked Babil governorate during this last quarter of 2011.
- The increasing numbers of holidays and religious ceremonies have influenced the implementation of work-plan set up by the UN-HABITAT in Hilah. Now since Babil governorate is located on the Highway linked between Baghdad- the middle and the south governorates in Iraq, most of the religious processions pass through this region and hence demands strict precautions by the local authorities in all 5- LADP governorates. This situation ultimately has negative implications on the progress of the work on the ground.