



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP

To: Jacqueline Badcock  
Chairperson of UNDG-ITF Steering Committee. [Redacted]  
Date: 13 November 2012

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

From: Bashar Al-A [Redacted]  
Programme Specialist, UNDG-ITF Steering Committee  
Support Office

APPROVAL OF PROJECT REVISION (B)

Programme Number:	B1-36
Programme Title	Improving Quality of Technical and Vocational Education and Training in Kurdistan Region.
Participating Agency	UNESCO
Programme Start Date	26 May 2010
Programme End Date	26 November 2011
First Revision	Time Extension until 26 November 2011

Type of budget revision requested

- Increase in programme budget
- Extension of programme duration **31 December 2012**
- Movement of funds between programme budget components
- Change of programme scope

SCSO Comments:

The UNDG ITF budget for this project is US\$1,000,000 of which US\$811,965 (81%) is committed, and US\$658,137 (66%) is disbursed. Project is around (80%) complete.

Background

The project is supporting the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Sector (TVET) in Kurdistan region through developing and strengthening the institutional capacity to operate a demand driven training system of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research -Foundation of Technical Education and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs -Vocational Training Centers by addressing aspects of the current and future TVET system needs to deliver quality education.

A. Request for time extension

The project has been revitalized in the past eight months compared to its first year. However, the project encountered several constraints that resulted in delaying the



**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP  
IRAQ TRUST FUND**



implementation. Accordingly, additional time is needed to complete the project's remaining activities as explained below:

- Additional time is needed to complete output 1 and 4 which are strongly interconnected - as the establishment of contacts and relationships with private sector employers have taken longer time than originally envisaged. This delay is due to the lack of support of the Chamber of Commerce in performing this task, as initially planned.
- Additional time is needed to complete "the adoption of the entrepreneurship curriculum in the official didactic of Kurdistan" activity under output 5. To achieve this, the curriculum should be implemented in pilot schools (10 have been selected from Ministry of Education and Foundation of Technical Education). However, this activity was not implemented during the second semester of last school year as the updated material was not yet finalized. The new curriculum will be implemented during the first semester of this academic year (starting from October), under the supervision and monitoring of ILO experts and Know about Business (KAB) supervisors within the Ministries.

Finally, a project's evaluation will be conducted once all the activities are completed.

**Main activities to be completed during the extension period**

1. Conducting one-week capacity development workshop, as part of output 1 and 4 (by November 2012).
2. Finalization of one pilot agreement of collaboration between employers and one vocational training school under MoE, as part of output 1 and 4 (by December 2012).
3. Organize the final follow-up workshops to finalize the entrepreneurship TOT, as part of output 5 (by December 2012).
4. Conduct the project final evaluation (by December 2012).

Therefore, UNESCO is requesting a time extension of one month (until 31 December 2012) in order to complete all project activities.

**Mitigation strategy in place to ensure compliance with timeline extension requested**

UNESCO is holding bilateral meetings with all counterparts to expedite implementation of all remaining activities.

In case of an aggravation of the security situation, an alternative plan has been produced for conducting part of the activities in Amman or making use of ITC technology.

UNESCO Iraq office has already secured additional funding which will guarantee the sustainability of the results -achieved under this project- and tackle other TVET priorities in permitting a more holistic intervention.



**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP  
IRAQ TRUST FUND**

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

**SCSO Recommendations:**

**SCSO recommends approval of a time extension until 31 December 2012.**

**Approval of the DSRSG /  
Chairperson of the UNDG  
ITF Steering Committee:**

**A P P R O V E D**  
13 NOV 2012