Iraq UNDAF Fund
Joint Programme/ Project Revision Request Form

To: Jacqueline Badcock , DSRSG
Co-Chair – Iraq UNDAF Fund Steering Committee

Date: 26 March 2014

Thamir Ghadban , Government of Iraq
Co-Chair – Iraq UNDAF Fund Steering Committee

Requesting UN Organization/s: UNDP

Through: Titon Mitra
    Head of Steering Committee Support Office

From: Adam Abdelmoula *AdamMAbdeLL*
UNDP Iraq Country Director

JP/ Project Title:	Institutional Development of the Iraqi Anti-Corruption Academy		.
JP/ Project Number:	P1-03	**Original Budget:**	Total USD 2,727,273 1st Tranche received for the amount of USD1,279,585
Participating UN Organizations(s)	UNDP		
JP/ Project Start Date[1]:	9 March 2012	**Original JP/ Project End Date:**	September 2014
Previous Requests:	none		
JP/ Project Location:	Baghdad		

Type of Programme /project variation requested *(Please check as required and provide details under Justification)*:

☒   Extension of JP/ project duration *New end date* **30 December 2015**

☐   Movement of funds between budget components

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[1] The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MDTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the MDTF Office GATEWAY (http://mdtf.undp.org).

☐ Change of JP/ project scope

1. Progress of Project:

Outputs (JP outputs and/ or UN Organization specific) expected as per approved programme/ project document	Status of Achievement				
	Fully achieved	Partially achieved	%	Not achieved	Explanation
Output 1: Anti-Corruption Academy has sustainable organizational arrangements.	1.1 Needs assessment carried out which determined the Academy's administrative, operational, financial and sustainable requirements. 1.2 The Academy's organizational structure put in place. The Academy has become an official Directorate the Federal Commission of Integrity in line with Article 10 Law 30 (2011).		100%		
Output 2: Relevant resources in place for the Anti-Corruption Academy.	2.1 Working sessions completed which determined each faculty and centre's requirements and staffing levels.	2.3 Setting up and equipping the various centres is underway with negotiations and linkage with international counterparts	15%	2.2 Setting up and equipping the various faculties.	Due to change of management there have been overall delays within the project and has been compounded with increased insecurity and elections which has impacted all activities and caused implementation slippage. UNDP and the counterparts are

		established.			in the process of identifying the requirements for the various faculties and the procurement of needed equipment and materials at this time.
Output 3: Anti-Corruption Academy ability and capacity to deliver training established	3.1 Experienced national staff employed. 3.2 Developed programme and courses curricula with 20 textbooks published.	3.3 Planning underway to establish respective training courses. 3.6 Online training courses development is underway with an IT company conducting a needs assessment to determine the requirements for online training courses and IT applications. 3.5 Conduct training session for staff and/ 3.4 Conduct training session based on training courses and curricula. Discussions underway to procure expertise to provide training of trainers. Several options are being considered including LTA with Universities with relevant expertise.	40%	.	

2. JP/ Project Expenditure to Date:

❑ Total Commitments end of (20 March,2014), 1,844,669 USD 144.16%
❑ Total Disbursements end of (20 March2014), 605,925 USD 47.35%

3. Justification / Explanation of Revision Requested:

A. Background

UNDP in close consultations with national counterparts is undertaking a series of interlinked and complementary interventions within a framework that aims to enable capacity and knowledge development for the country's anti-corruption oversight agencies.

This is framed within the recently established legal and institutional anti-corruption structure in which the Commission of Integrity as the lead anti-corruption agency. The newly established Anti-Corruption Academy structure defined as Output 1 of this project has become an official Directorate of the Federal Commission of Integrity in compliance with Article 10 of Law No 30 / 2011.

Legislative reform on its own is not sufficient to combat corruption in Iraq, particularly if the personnel that are responsible for enforcing the law are not equipped with up-to-date knowledge and skills. This project is to provide technical support to the newly established Anti-Corruption Academy and cascade skills and technical ability to staff in all the anti-corruption oversight agencies.

To achieve this aim of capacity and knowledge development for the anti-corruption agencies this project has three outputs which together will lead to increased skills through training of relevant anti-corruption agency staff utilizing a cadre of trained personnel inside of Iraq with an up-to-date curricula. This aim and actions within this project are promoting sustainability and ownership.

Output 1: Anti-Corruption Academy has sustainable organizational arrangements.
    A needs assessment has been carried out which looked at the Anti-Corruption Academy's administrative, operational, financial and sustainable requirements. The Anti-Corruption Academy's organizational structure and bi-law are defined.

Output 2: Relevant resources in place for the Anti-Corruption Academy.
    Multiple sessions have been held to determine resource requirements of the Anti-Corruption Academy. Negotiations and linkage with international counterparts are underway to establish centres of excellence in Iraq.

Output 3: Anti-Corruption Academy ability and capacity to deliver training established.
    This output has a series of activities which are linked or cascade off of each other. Experienced national staff is in place and training courses have been established at the Anti-Corruption Academy. Good gains have been made regarding the development of the twenty curricula which serve as the baseline in the respective disciplines needed within this project. The twenty curricula have been approved by the Commission of Integrity as the lead anti-corruption agency in Iraq and have been developed into textbooks.
    Twenty textbooks are approved and delivered within this project.

B. Request for Time Extension

B1. Justification

Sustainability of this project has been key in the development of all three Output of this project. This has included the organisational structure and compliance with Article 10 Law 30 (2011). Efforts to procure within Iraq for spare parts and the ability to maintain equipment in the setting up and equipping of the faculties and centres of the Anti-Corruption Academy has added additional burden but essential for sustainability. Time has been lost due to the change of management within the Commission of Integrity and delays due to insecurity including both increased violence and upcoming elections.

Each of the three Outputs have moved steadily ahead.

Twenty new curricula have been successfully delivered and approved by the Commission of Integrity Senior Officials which provides a comprehensive and holistic approach. This surpasses the initial project indicator of nine curricula.

The delivery of the twenty respective textbooks will cascade into a series of training of trainers (TOT) at the Anti-Corruption Academy for staff members who will teach the respective courses. Once the TOT is completed, courses for staff at the anti-corruption oversight organisations will initiate at the Anti-Corruption Academy. Due to the number of employees at the different oversight agencies and the depth of course content, training will take some time and cannot be completed within the present lifecycle of the project. In addition, the online courses will need to become available, once the curricula are piloted.

B2. Activities to be completed during the requested extension period

The Training of Trainers is anticipated to initiate before the end of the present completion date of September 2014. Due to the number of curricula which require training of trainers it is anticipated that this training will be phased in over a period of three quarters.

Upon the successful completion of the phased training for staff, the Anti-Corruption Academy will initiate nomination and offer phased-in curricula training on a rolling training schedule for the anti-corruption oversight agencies. Phase-one training is anticipated to initiate shortly after Ramadan 2014. The training of staff from the respective anti-corruption oversight agencies will take some time; as work within each of the oversight agencies will need to go on. Thus, staff will be identified to attend the phased and rolling courses at the Anti-Corruption Academy from the respective anti-corruption agencies. Training within the twenty curriculum areas will be offered until satiated and based on the assumption that provision can be made for identified staff to be allowed into the international zone where the Anti-Corruption Academy is located.

The arrival of procured items for the faculty and centres may arrive before the initial completion date of the project. However, present procurement trends and schedules from other projects are flagging late arrival and delays for procured goods in Iraq.

The needs assessment is underway to determine the requirements and IT applications for the online training courses. Once the needs assessment is completed then the application for the online training and the respective IT applications will need to be realized. The courses to be offered on line will be part of early phased in courses to monitor quality and satisfaction of those taking the course from the anti-corruption oversight agencies. Staff at the Anti-Corruption Academy in these respective areas will require further training regarding online courses, as this is a new concept.

The underlying concept of this extension request is that together the three outputs will lead to increased capacity within the relevant anti-corruption agency staff on up-to-date information in twenty relevant topic areas, which is more comprehensive and holistic then originally anticipated in the project design. It is considered essential to pilot the curricula, train the trainers, monitor the phased-in training and provide oversight and quality control regarding the rolling process. Presently the Anti-Corruption Academy is in Baghdad.

In addition, this project proposes to decentralise and offer on-line courses with emphasis on regions and governorates which is very much in line with the *National Development Plan*. The emphasis on transparency within the basic principles and assumptions and the identification of priority 4-34 on *Integrity, Transparency, Accountability and Fighting Corruption* within the *National Development Plan* further supports the need for on-line courses to reach out on anti-corruption issues. The on-line component of the project is considered particularly critical to build a cadre of experienced Iraqi trainers as this capacity is presently not in place at a time when decentralisation is a priority in the National Plan, the UNDAF and the UNDP Country Programme. The consideration of an extension of the lifecycle of this project for the development of the on-line component of the project is considered highly essential.

C. Request for Change of scope N/A
　　C.1
　　C.2 Justification

D. Request for Budget Revision N/A
　　D1. Movement of funds requested: (increase or decrease in budget line by %)
　　D 2 Request for Tranche II release
　　D.3 Justification

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4. Mitigation strategy in place to ensure compliance with timeline extension requested:

UNDP has a risk management system which includes mitigation. Through this process UNDP within this project will make every effort to reduce the severity, intensification of issues as well as attempt to lessen the negative effects of something in which UNDP cannot entirely prevent.

Within the mitigation strategy 1) UNDP will organize the resources to work-plans and deliverables; 2) UNDP will conduct ongoing risk assessment; 3) UNDP will routinely update mitigation planning each quarter or sooner as needed/required; 4) Implement and plan on a quarterly basis and 5) Conduct ongoing monitoring of progress in relation to the agreed deliverables.

It is noted that UNDP expresses concern regarding the completion of the training of trainers as there is a risk especially on some of the complex and sensitive areas that this will not be completed unless oversight is provided by the project.

Additionally, the initiation of training within the different curricula topics and the securing of the role of the Anti-Corruption Academy to train staff from the other anti-corruption oversight agencies could go at risk unless the extension of the project is secured.

The project extension period till the end of 2015 is required due to the cascading effect of the training of the trainers and initiation of the training of anti-corruption personnel on specific curriculum as well as the on-line training for decentralisation.

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5. Documents Attached:

Revised budget sheet
Revised programme/project work plan
Other supporting documents

Head of Coordinating UN Organization:	Signature:	Date:

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6. Approval requirements:

❑ Request requires approval by Co-Chairs of the Iraq UNDAF Fund Steering Committee
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