



**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP
IRAQ UNDAF FUND**

To: Lise Grande, DSRSG/RC/HC
Co-Chair – Iraq UNDAF Fund Steering Committee **Date:** 10/03/2015

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

Through: Nuhad Al-Alfi
Head of RCO and UNDAF Fund Steering Committee **Ref:** SC/BR
Support Office a.i.

From: Valentina Orrù
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Support Office

APPROVAL OF PROJECT REVISION REQUEST (A)

Project Number:	P1-02
Project Title:	Family protection, support, justice and security for survivors of domestic and gender based violence in Iraq
Participating Agency:	UNDP and UNICEF
Project Start Date:	12 March 2012
Project End Date:	12 March 2015
First Revision:	None

Type of Programme /project variation requested

- Extension of project duration *30 September 2015*
- Movement of funds between project budget components
- Change of project scope

SCSO Comments:

The Iraq UNDAF Fund budget for this programme is USD 3,967,880 of which USD 3,732,829 (95% of total received) committed, and USD 2,984,574 (93% of total received) disbursed to date. Major progress has been made in the institutional development of the Family Protection Units and the draft of a National Child Protection Policy at both federal and regional level. Long-term capacity building programmes are ongoing. However, the precarious security situation and the connected humanitarian crisis have affected the implementation of the programme activities. A time extension is therefore necessary to complete the activities planned. The request submitted is in line with the UNDAF TF Rules of Procedure taking into account the extension of the TF until 31 December 2016.



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Background

UNDP and UNICEF, in conjunction with Iraqi stakeholders, are supporting 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. This project provides comprehensive technical and advisory support combined with extensive capacity development interventions of key stakeholders in Iraq including the Ministry of Interior (MoI), Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) as well as NGOs and CSOs and international support missions.

The project enhances capacity of these formal and informal institutions for the establishment of family protection systems, and facilitates law enforcement and access to justice for the victims of violence. It additionally looks towards mechanisms to empower victims, targets groups and communities, and establishes mechanisms that assist reintegration of victims into their communities.

A. Request for Time Extension

Justification for requesting a time extension of 6 months (until 12 September 2015)

The project is currently in partial implementation. Major progress has been made in the development of shelter policy and draft policy and Child Law. However variables beyond UNDP and UNICEF control affected the achievement of the outputs in timely manner.

Changes in the political situation, escalation of violence, movements' restrictions and relocation of staff from Baghdad have delayed stakeholder consultation and validation of a shelter policy and on the establishment of shelter for women survivors of GBV and DV (UNDP), and of the National Child Protection Policy (UNICEF) draft policy. In the case of UNICEF, delays are also ascribed to the late receiving of the first tranche of the project funds (on May 2012) which postponed the starting date of the project. In addition, the massive displacements connected with the escalation of violence forced UNICEF to move its focus to the L3 Humanitarian Response to IDP and Refugee children, therefore putting on hold the continuation of regular programme activities.

Remaining activities to be completed during the extension period are as follows:

UNDP

- Development of shelter policy at central government level and KRG level;
- Develop capacity of institutions to support female shelters and safe houses;
- Build capacity of shelter staff on management, budget, and resource mobilization;
- Develop or adapt training material for the staff working with victims of violence for shelter staff and for the GoI;
- Training to shelter staff on how to work with victims of violence.

UNICEF

- Support to the Child Welfare Commission for the development of Child Protection Policy;
- Establish linkages between the Family Protection Directorate (FPD) & existing MRM



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referral mechanism.

Mitigation Strategy in place to ensure compliance with timeline extension requested:

UNDP:

To ensure the endorsement of the shelter policy UNDP reached an agreement with the Gol for the establishment of the first shelters for GBV survivors in the governorates of Baghdad and Basra. In addition, a MoU has been signed with MOWA to commit both parties to the completion of the programmes. In addition, agreement has been reached with the MoLSA to establish a committee - co-chaired by MoLSA and UNDP and with membership of the ministries of education, health, and the higher council of women - responsible for monitoring the steps toward the adoption of the policy and ensure its endorsement.

UNICEF:

An International Child Protection Specialist has been recruited. UNICEF, with The Gol and the American University of Beirut, has identified Al Rafdaeen University of Baghdad as the institution to carry out the consultations with children, community and stakeholders at different levels. The American University of Beirut will work together with Al Rafdaeen University to provide technical guidance, training and analyse the result of the consultation. This process will lead to the finalisation of the Child Protection Policy in 2015.

SCSO Recommendations:

SCSO recommends approval of a time extension until **30 September 2015** to allow the completion of the project and the fulfilment of all planned results.

Approval of Co-Chair – Iraq
UNDAF Fund Steering
Committee – DSRSG Lise
Grande

Approval of Co-Chair – Iraq
UNDAF Fund Steering
Committee – Government of
Iraq – Thamer Ghadban