

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund**  
**Project #: C9-21e**  
**Date and Quarter Updated: January - March, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2010**

**Participating UN Organisation:** UNOPS, **Sector:** Governance  
**Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry:** State Ministry of Council of Representatives Affairs

<b>Title</b>	Support to Parliamentary Affairs and Constitutional Outreach				
<b>Geographic Location</b>	Nationwide with bulk of activities in Baghdad.				
<b>Project Cost</b>	US\$ 1,067,388				
<b>Duration</b>	33 months				
<b>Approval Date (SC)</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> February 2007	<b>Starting Date</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> March 2007	<b>Completion Date</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2010
<b>Project Description</b>	This project aims at supporting the process of strengthening the capacities of Ministry of Council of Representatives Affairs to fulfil its mandate in supporting legislative processes in Iraq. The project also includes a component on support for the process of peacebuilding on community/grass-root level. The project is part of an umbrella programme developed by Cluster C, titled <i>Support to the National Dialogue and Reconciliation process, Institutional Development and Capacity Building, Reconstruction and Stabilization efforts and Promotion of Civil Society and Media Strengthening</i> (UNDP, UNOPS, UNIFEM, UNICEF, UNESCO).				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives	
<b>Development Goal</b>	
<p>To contribute to the constitutional and legislative processes in Iraq by strengthening the capacity of the Iraq State Ministry of Council of Representatives Affairs (MoCRA) to fulfil its law-drafting support mandate as well as by supporting civic education activities initiated by Civil Society and Academia on the review process and on parliamentary affairs.</p> <p>This project directly contributes to achieving the fourth goal of the UNCT Assistance Strategy matrix: <i>“To promote good governance and democratic processes, assist to uphold the rule of law and establish a human rights regime”</i>.</p>	
<b>Immediate Objectives:</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Build capacities of the Ministry of Council of Representatives Affairs to provide assistance to other line ministries in the preparation of draft laws, in particular for the implementation of constitution-mandated laws.</li> <li>2. Encourage participation of the public in the constitutional and parliamentary development process by supporting the civil society and academic world to produce educational resources and carrying out civic education initiatives.</li> </ol>	

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement	
<b>Outputs</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1. Capacity-building plan devised and implemented for MoCRA, to strengthen its administrative and legal capacity.</li> <li>1.2. Increased cooperation of MoCRA with regional parliaments and parliamentary support institutions</li> <li>1.3. Role of MoCRA in supporting the drafting of bills in relation to constitutional-mandated legislation and institutions is more prominent.</li> <li>2.1. Supported civil society and academic networks to work on civic education programs on the revised constitution and on parliamentary affairs.</li> <li>2.2. Educational resources made available for awareness campaigns, forums, and conferences through small grants provided to NGOs and CSOs</li> </ol>
<b>Activities</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1.1. Assess capacity-building needs of the MoCRA staff in relation to its mandate and current constitutional process and prepare capacity-building plan</li> </ol>

	<p>(parliamentary affairs expert).</p> <p>1.1.2. Develop training curriculum for MoCRA and identify local / regional training resource persons</p> <p>1.1.3. Carry out internal training programme based on assessed needs.</p> <p>1.1.4. Provide administrative development support.</p> <p>1.1.5. Equip MoCRA with relevant learning resources</p> <p>1.2.1. Establish twinning agreement with the Arab International Parliamentary Union and the Egyptian's Ministry for Parliamentary Affairs.</p> <p>1.2.2. Send selected MoCRA staff for short internships in the counterpart organizations.</p> <p>1.2.3. Support interaction of MoCRA with the International Parliamentary Union and the POGAR (UNDP/UNOPS).</p> <p>1.3.1. Facilitate participation of MoCRA staff in various constitution-related activities organized under the programme of the Office for Constitutional Support, in particular multi-party dialogues and study tours.</p> <p>1.3.2. Support collaborative efforts between MoCRA and the Secretariat of Constitutional Review Committee with regards to providing it legal drafting support.</p> <p>1.3.3. Promote joint capacity-building activities between MoCRA and the Parliament's Research Directorate.</p> <p>2.1.1. Identify network of CSOs and Academic Institutions (AIs) with good track record in the field of civic education.</p> <p>2.1.2. Receive, select and support proposals to implement innovative civic education projects in relation to the revised constitution and parliamentary affairs, including delivery of school / university classes, focus group sessions, open conferences and forums, and targeting in particular youth and women.</p> <p>2.1.3. Provide networking support for selected CSOs / AIs before and during the implementation of their small projects.</p> <p>2.2.1. Production of educational and promotional materials (posters, fliers, brochures, calendars, etc.) by selected CSOs / Academic institutions to support their civic education initiatives.</p> <p>2.2.2. Facilitate constant communication stream between CSOs / AIs and the Constitutional Review Committee, as well as MoCRA, on the revised constitution and parliamentary affairs.</p>
<b>Procurement (major items)</b>	

<b>Funds Committed</b>	US \$ 1,030,851.65	<b>% of approved</b>	97%
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	US \$ 1,025,975.32	<b>% of approved</b>	96%
<b>Forecast final date</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2010	<b>Delay (months)</b>	

<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>	<b>% of planned (current status)</b>
Men	64 MoCRA staff members	
Women		
Children		
IDPs		
Others		
Indirect beneficiaries	Government of Iraq/Council of Representatives	
Employment generation (men/women)	2 men	

<b>Quantitative achievements against objectives and results</b>			
1. Build capacities of the Ministry of Council of Representatives Affairs to provide assistance to other	1. Phase 2 of the English course for 11 MoCRA staff was completed.	<b>% of planned</b>	100%

line ministries in the preparation of draft laws, in particular for the implementation of constitution-mandated laws.			
2. Encourage participation of the public in the constitutional and parliamentary development process by supporting the civil society and academic world to produce educational resources and carrying out civic education initiatives.	During the reporting period, the NGO “Insan” completed the implementation of Phase II of the Peace-building project in Kirkuk at the end of February (co-funded by C9-20). The garbage collection campaign was completed and garbage bins distributed, the last theatre performance was conducted and small grants successfully implemented. More than 180 people have benefited directly from the different activities and grants and the community has actively participated in all the activities.	<b>% of planned</b>	100% (of originally planned activities)  + 100% of additional activities

<b>Qualitative achievements against objectives and results</b>
<p><b>Objective 1</b> The English course allowed to further ameliorate MoCRA staff’s language skills, providing them with a tool for self education and continuous exposure to information and contacts with other similar institutions abroad.</p> <p><b>Objective 2</b> At the community level the Peace-building project in Rapareen, during the two phases, produced an important impact and recognition at the community level with their capacities and commitment to deliver different trainings and social activities to bring people together. The base is solid for further interventions as the community was mobilized around the different activities implemented with this initiative.</p>

<b>Main implementation constrains &amp; challenges (2-3 sentences)</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Given restrictions imposed by security concerns, ensuring proper monitoring of grants and activities remains a challenge. However, great efforts are made to weigh up for the limited access to Iraq and to follow up that all activities are properly monitored. External monitoring agents have been hired to follow up closely on activities and ad hoc visits are organized, security permitting.</li> <li>2. Security remained a concern in the case of peace-building due to threats to the beneficiaries and attacks in the vicinity of the center from where the project is operating. Additional security measures were set in place.</li> </ol>