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**Ninth Six-month progress report for project**

**IRFFI/UNDG IRAQ TRUST FUND (UNDG ITF)**

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| Participating UN Organization: |  | Old Cluster: Governance |
| UNOPS |  | **New Sector: Governance Sector Outcome Team** |

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| Project No. and Project Title: G11-15 Electoral Education Campaign |  | Report Number: ATLAS Project Number: 66968  ATLAS Award Number: 54968 |
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| Reporting Period: |  | Project Budget: |
| 1 July – 31st Dec 2008 |  | US$ 5,006,148 |

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| List Implementing Partners: |  | Geographic Coverage/Scope: |
| * *UNAMI / IEAT* * *Independent High Electoral Commission* * *Granted NGOs (75 NGO)* |  | *Complete national coverage* |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Abbreviations and Acronyms: |  | Project Status: Duration/ Timeline Extension/Closed Project: |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | BoC | Board of Commissioners (IHEC) | | Com. | Commissioner (IHEC) | | CSO | Civil society organizations | | DAI | Development Alternatives Inc. | | DFID | Department for International Development (UK) | | EC | European Commission | | EECP | Electoral Education Campaign Project | | EEF | Electoral Education Forum | | EEM | Electoral Education Manual | | FA | Field Associate (UNOPS) | | FCC | Forum Coordination Committee | | GEEC | Governorate Electoral Education Committee | | GEO | Governorate Electoral Office | | *IEAT* | *Internal Electoral Assistance Team* | | IFES | International Foundation for Electoral System | | IHEC | Independent High Electoral Commission | | NEEP | National Electoral Education Plan | | OLS | Opinion Leader Sessions | | POD | Public Outreach Division (IHEC) | | PRT | Provincial Reconstruction Team (US) | | SEC | Secretariat of the Forum (headquarters Baghdad) | | SEC-G | Secretariat field officers in the governorates | | UNAMI | United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq | | VRU | Voter Registration Update | | VRC | Voter Registration Center | |  | * *October 2007- September 2008.* * *Extended until June 2009* |

**Report Formatting Instructions:**

* Number all sections and paragraphs as indicated below.
* Format the entire document using the following font: 12point \_ Times New Roman & do not use colours.
* Attach any available photos relevant to the project.

# NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

# Purpose

* 1. **Provide the main objectives, outcomes, outputs of the programme/project**

The project seeks to raise public awareness of and create discussion around all aspects of electoral processes by supporting initiatives developed by the Iraqi civil society, in cooperation with the Iraqi Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC)[[1]](#footnote-2), so that Iraqi voters will be better prepared for and participate more actively in the upcoming electoral events.

Immediate Objectives are:

1. Establish and support an Electoral Education Forum around the electoral process, composed of prominent civic education-oriented networks and NGOs, the IHEC, as well as IEAT and other international representatives, in which a strategy and action plan for the Electoral Education Campaign can be negotiated, planned and monitored collegially.
2. Enhance public awareness of electoral processes and principles using grant-funded civil society projects and opportunities to link local opinion leaders with the IHEC, following policies set by the Electoral Education Forum.
3. Create close cooperation between the IHEC and Iraqi civil society as a means to increase transparency, independence and success of the electoral processes.

Main Outputs

1. A National Electoral Education Plan, developed by an Electoral Education Forum made of representatives of the Civil Society and IHEC, sets policies and implementation mechanisms for a national Electoral Education Campaign, including an overall strategy for the Campaign and detailing key messages to be delivered, roles and responsibilities of governmental and non-governmental actors, methods and materials, as well as oversight and coordination mechanisms.
2. General public is more aware of and supports the Electoral Education Campaign as a result of a promotional campaign involving media materials (publications, radio, TV).
3. The Electoral Education Forum remains a permanent coordination body between the Civil Society and the IHEC after the conclusion of the project.
4. In each governorate, a Governorate Electoral Education Committee, composed of representatives from the IHEC, civil society and the media, is able to coordinate the planning, implementation and monitoring of the Campaign at the local level.
5. At least 55,000 Iraqis have gained accrued understanding of and interest for the electoral processes, translating into higher participation rate on Election Day.
6. Policies on electoral education are reviewed regularly through feedback gathered from grassroots activities.
7. The IHEC has developed stronger ties and cooperation channels with the civil society involved in civic education.

**b.** **Explain how the programme/project is relevant to the following benchmarks:**

* UN Assistance Strategy for Iraq, MDGs, Iraq NDS and ICI

This project will directly respond to:

* UNCT Iraq Strategic Goal/Outcome Matrix Goal 3 and Outcome 3.1 UNCT Strategic Goal 3 being to: *Mobilize civil society towards national unity* and Goal 4 (*Promote good governance and democratic processes, assist to uphold the rule of law and establish a human rights regime*).
* Cluster G Goal 3: *Voters in Iraq understand and participate in Electoral Process (Electoral Awareness & Education)*. At the same time the project will provide support through training for the IHEC staff in order to improve their understanding and ability to work with Civil Society. This will help the IHEC develop a better working relationship with the CSO that will be of benefit in better understanding the electoral education needs of the general Iraqi public and obtaining the input of these organizations in developing effective electoral awareness programs.

This project will contribute tangentially to the achievement of:

* MDG 8 concerning the global partnership for development. By providing access to the most up to date media technologies for disseminating electoral education information the project will assist the IHEC in their efforts to facilitate in the creation of a stable political system in Iraq. This system is essential to enable Iraq to develop in an acceptable and positive manner for all its citizens.
* MDG 3 contributing to increase the participation of women in the political life and in elected positions.

1. **Human Resources** 
   1. **National Staff & Consultants: Provide the number and role (operation/programme)**

**Programme**

Project Officer – 1

Field Associates – 2 full time, 1 part-time

Strategic Planning Assistant – 1

Grants Assistant – 1

Admin Clerk – 1

**Operations**

Finance Assistant – 1

**b. International Staff: Provide the number and role (operation/programme)**

**Programme**

Project Manager – 1 (new project manager hired in June 2008)

**Operations**

Admin/Finance Manager – 1 (part-time)

1. **Methods of Operating**
   1. **Summarize the implementation mechanisms primarily utilized and how they are adapted to achieve maximum impact given the challenging operating context.**

Project implementation regarding support and capacity building of the Forum and GEEC has been conducted until August 2008 through a purpose set up Secretariat.

The Secretariat was established through a competitive procurement process and has offices in all governorates of Iraq.

However, in September 2008, the contract with the Secretariat selected for the above purpose was terminated for breaching major contract clauses. Another procurement selection for another Service Provider was in place again in November 2008. The new service provider started its work as per the agreed terms of reference and contract.

The contract with the new service provider is implemented with the support/supervision of UNOPS Field associates through a team of **19** Liaison Officers and another **19** Monitoring Assistants deployed across Iraq.

Since the signature of the contract, the new service provider has been working under a direct UNOPS management in conducting Opinion Leaders Sessions (OLS) all over Iraq (49 conducted until December). SOC managed also in this period to organize a statutory meeting of the Electoral Education Forum, and to develop a newsletter of the Forum , as well as a compiled National Campaign Update including all activities covering September and December.

* 1. **Provide details on the procurement procedures utilized and explain variances in standard procedures.**

Standard procurement procedures have been applied for the purchase of services and equipment under this project, as well as for the selection of the 75 grantees funded under the project grant fund (open call for proposals).

* 1. **Provide details on the monitoring system(s) that are being used and how you identify and incorporate lessons learned into the ongoing programme/project.**

Double track monitoring system / each track including a headquarter supervision and a field based expertise:

* Track 1 (integrated monitoring): UNOPS IQOC Amman - UNOPS Field Associates, covering all electoral governorates
* Track 2 (outsourced monitoring): Service Provider‘s Monitoring Agent, covering all electoral governorates.

Integration of lessons learnt: project design is based on clusters of activities (i.e.: grant fund, GEEC trainings, Opinion Leaders Sessions, etc.).

The holding of regular Forum meetings (7 meetings planed during the project) allows the project team to proceed with mid-term adaptation and integration of lessons learnt.

*In example, the first semester 2008 showed a need for a better integration of political entities; political entities became therefore one of the target groups of the Opinion Leaders Sessions organised as of November 2008.*

**d. Report on any assessments, evaluations or studies undertaken relating to the project and how they were used in support of the project(s).**

No assessments or evaluation studies were undertaken

1. **Results** 
   1. **Report on the key outputs achieved in the six month period including # and nature of the activities (inputs), % of completion and beneficiaries. Please also fill the table in section VI on six monthly performance indicators assessment.**

**Output 1 – 100% completed**

The **Electoral Education Forum** is composed of 19 representatives from various Iraqi civil society organizations and 4 members are from the IHEC. IHEC nominated its members to the Forum through a decision made by the Board of Commissioners. Civil society members on the Forum were jointly selected by UNOPS and IHEC: UNOPS submitted a draft list of NGOs to IHEC who endorsed and approved the final list.

Membership in the Forum is on a voluntary basis. All Forum members have signed a Code of Conduct that calls for respect to the role of IHEC and complete neutrality and impartiality in the conduct of their work.

A **Forum Coordination Committee** composed of one IHEC representative as well as civil society representatives was also elected during the Forum launch meeting and empowered to act as the equivalent to a ‘Steering Committee’ for the Electoral Education Forum. The committee meets on a bimonthly basis.

In 2008, until December, the Forum held **6 meetings**, to plan and follow up the Electoral Education Campaign. The Forum also revised and approved the National Electoral Education Plan in addition to a press conference. **Seven Forum newsletters** have been produced during the reporting period.

**Output 2 – 94% completed**

Members of the GEEC have the responsibility for the overall coordination of the Election Awareness Campaign, and are making sure that all OLS meetings were planned appropriately. They were also responsible to invite CSOs, the Religious Leaders and others to attend the meetings.

Since the beginning of the EECP and until December, more than 108 (out of 114 planned) GEEC were held. 50 of which were conducted during the reporting period. Around 3 GEEC meeting took place in each of the 18 governorates. There was high coordination between GEEC members and the media to insure their presence in the major events in order to get maximum media coverage.

**Output 3 – 100% completed**

UNOPS launched in December 2007 a **Call for Proposals** open for one month to all NGOs in Iraq. It was disseminated through a wide network of NGO contacts, IHEC, and other national and international partners. UNOPS did not publish the Call for Proposals in newspapers for security reasons.

UNOPS received 252 proposals. Selection criteria were: technical quality of proposal, feasibility

of project, reasonableness of budget, number of targeted beneficiaries, experience of the NGO

in similar work, attention given to gender aspects. All proposals were submitted by UNOPS to IHEC (cf. receipt signed on 22 January 08 by Commissioner Ayad, IHEC, and Mr. Nicolas Garrigue, UNOPS).

**Output 4 – 100% completed**

On 30.11.2008 all signed MOA’s with granted NGOs came to an end, except for the NGOs which signed the no cost extensions, their MOA’s expired on 30.12.2008, thus concluding the outreach activities conducted by the grantees.

Through the 75 NGOs granted under the Electoral Education Campaign Project, an average of 2000 public awareness activities a month have been implemented from July to December 2008, in the 18 governorates of Iraq, targeting minorities, women, youth, IDPs, disabled people, first time voters, etc. According to the reports obtained until December from granted NGOs have successfully reached **162,106** individuals in Iraq by implementing **11,272** activities including public debates, meetings, training workshops, conferences, cultural and theatrical shows, sports activities, and home visits.

**Output 5 – 100% completed**

After the endorsement of the NEEP by the **Electoral Education Forum,** The **National Electoral Education Plan** has been published in Arabic and English and distributed during NGO activities as well as all held OLS. In addition to the NEEP, the **Electoral Education Manual** providing concrete blue prints for electoral education sessions developed in the previous quarter of the project, was printed and disseminated during this reporting period to GEOs and granted NGOs across Iraq. Another achievement under this output, is the translation of both the NEEP and the EEM into Kurdish Language; the EECP brochure is also now available in Kurdish, thus allowing more visibility to the EECP and easier access to information to the people of Iraq at all levels.

**Output 6 – 90% completed**

In spite of the long delay on holding the OLS which affected this component in the previous project quarter, thanks to the new service provider, and the presence of LO’s, the implementation of OLS has resumed with exceptional success nationwide.

OLS for are planned for the following clusters:

1. Political Entities
2. Religious and Tribal Leaders
3. Civil Servants, Academics and Professional Associations
4. Women and Youth Associations

49 Opinion Leaders’ Sessions have been implemented in all Iraqi governorates, targeting political entities, tribal and religious leaders, civil servants and academics, youth and women associations. The opinion leaders sessions reached 3988 opinion leaders until December. Once all the opinion leaders’ sessions are implemented, more than 6000 opinion leaders will be reached.

**Output 7 – 60% completed**

A comprehensive promotional campaign has been designed and foresees the production of the

following materials:

***Printed materials***

EECP brochure: 1000 Arabic / 500 Kurdish / 500 English: **Done**

National Electoral Education Plan: 500 Arabic /500 Kurdish: **Done**

Electoral Education Manual: 1500 Arabic / 500 Kurdish: **Done**

Forum Newsletter (monthly) 1500 Arabic / 300 Kurdish: **Done**

Posters: 3000 Arabic /600 Kurdish: **Ongoing**

Pins: 5,200 bilingual: **Done**

Banners: 200 bilingual: **Done**

***Audio-visual materials***

Radio spots:

1-3 min long

Two spots: Arabic and Kurdish

Broadcast: National / Local Channels

TV Spots:

30” long

One spot: Arabic and Kurdish

Broadcast: National / Local Channels

Documentary:

10 minutes

Produced after end of Phase 1 of the Campaign.

40% of this output is still to be implemented, however, based on needs assessment in the field, other needs emerged and thus a reallocation of the funds is under consideration.

Achievement per objective:

**Objective 1 – 100%** completed. Beneficiaries: The Electoral Education Forum has become the first platform of discussion and coordination of NGOs and IHEC’s public outreach strategies. 19 Governorate Electoral Education Committees established and trained on holding opinion leader sessions.

**Objective 2 - 100%** completed. 75 NGOs have been selected to receive funding and capacity building through the Electoral Education Grant Fund. The granted NGOs have completed the implementation of their projects and reached 264,126 Iraqi citizens (against an objective of 55,000 beneficiaries).

**Objective 3 – 80%** completed. IHEC - Iraqi civil society’s cooperation enhanced through the Forum, GEEC and Opinion Leader Sessions. Usefulness of the partnership understood by both parties, and mainstreamed in preparation on a possible next phase of the project.

* 1. **Report on progress made toward the achievement of specific medium-term outcomes of the programme/project as a result of the achieved short-term outputs during this reporting period and explain any variance in achieved versus planned outputs and outcomes during the six month reporting period.**
  2. The Electoral Education Forum composed of 19 representatives from various Iraqi civil society organisation and 4 members from the IHEC, continued to hold meetings to follow up and plan for the Electoral Education Campaign. Until December the forum held 6 meetings.
  3. The forum also developed and approved the National Electoral Education Plan published in Arabic, English and Kurdish, and completed with an Electoral Education Manual. It was distributed to the national and international electoral education providers across the country.
  4. Seven Forum newsletters have been produced and issued during the reporting period through the Service Provider.
  5. 75 NGOs across 19 governorates selected to participate in the Electoral Education Grant Fund, have started their direct public outreach initiatives targeting the general public and finished the implementation of all projects by 30.11.2008 (30.12.2008 in some cases).
  6. Through the 75 NGOs granted under the Electoral Education Campaign Project, an average of 2000 public awareness activities a month have been implemented from July to December 2008, in the 19 governorates of Iraq, targeting minorities, women, youth, IDPs, disabled people, first time voters, etc. According to the reports obtained until December from granted NGOs have successfully reached **264,126** individuals in Iraq (against an objective of 55,000 beneficiaries) by implementing **20,321** activities including public debates, meetings, training workshops, conferences, cultural and theatrical shows, sports activities, and home visits.
  7. Since the beginning of the EECP and until December, more than 108 (out of 114 planned) GEEC meetings were held. 50 of which were conducted during the reporting period. An average of 3 GEEC meetings took place in each of the 18 governorates during the reporting period.
  8. (49) Opinion Leaders’ Sessions have been implemented in all Iraqi governorates, targeting political entities, tribal and religious leaders, civil servants and academics, youth and women associations, during the reporting period. The opinion leaders’ sessions reached 3988 opinion leaders until December.

3.1. Most granted NGOs reported positive continued collaboration and support from IHEC while implementing their outreach activities.

* 1. **Explain, if relevant, delays in programme/project implementation, the nature of the constraints and actions taken to mitigate future delays and lessons learned in the process.**

**Although the project is globally on track and on time, some delays occur in project implementation.**

During the previous six-month period the project has experienced some considerable delays which (as stated in previous report):

“The close involvement of the IHEC in the Project implementation means that the Project is subject to the IHEC procedures and processes, which has caused some delay. In particular, the Project has been requested twice to delay two key activities: the Launch Meeting of the Forum and the Final Selection Meeting for the Grant Fund. Further, once Project implementation had started, the IHEC has questioned certain areas/processes which have previously been agreed to.

Specifically, project implementation has experienced delays with regard to evaluation of the grant fund due to the huge translation burden, high quantity of proposals received (252 proposals) and logical arrangements of sending hard-copies of proposals to the IHEC in Iraq. However, the grant fund has been closely coordinated with the IHEC and the electoral calendar to ensure that the NGOs start implementing their activities in line with the upcoming electoral processes – in particular with the start of the voter registration update.

Deteriorating security conditions has also been an area of concern. The fighting that broke out in March in Basra, spreading to Baghdad, impacted on the Project: trainings for the NGOs were delayed, meeting/contacting NGOs has been more difficult, access by NGOs for their activities has been reduced in certain areas. Implementation of granted operations in the most instable regions (i.e. Mosul) is cumbersome.

Granted activities were frozen until 1st of July 2008, lying in wait of the Voter Registration Update.

Opinion Leader Sessions have been delayed waiting for clarifications of IHEC following overlap with other initiatives carried by IHEC”.

During the current six-month period the project has managed to counter all the delays and the project has proceeded as per the time previously set out. Through direct contact with IHEC by UNOPS staff at senior levels and through positive approach, IHEC became more involved in the project implementation and took note of UNOPS support and zest towards this project. Accordingly, many of the strained issues were worked out and the implementation started again. Another major constraint was the termination of the contract of the previous secretaries (Al Yaqeen), this was tackled by going through anther procurement process and signing a contract with a new service provider. The new service provider with the support of the newly deployed 19 monitoring officers and another 19 Liaison officers, helped in monitoring and supporting ongoing work in Iraq, in addition to the fact that direct and constant contact was established with IHEC at all levels.

* 1. **List the key partnerships and collaborations, and explain how such relationships impact on the achievement of results.**

N/A

* 1. **Summarize achievements against planned results for cross cutting issues: security, gender, human rights, employment (including # of short and/or long-term jobs created), and environment**.

Among the main key outputs achieved in the six month period:

* + Forum’s statutory meetings held
  + Strong media coverage obtained through the GEEC
  + Designed, launching and implementation of Opinion Leaders Sessions
  + NEEP and EEM produced and finalized; available in English, Arabic and Kurdish.
  + 75 granted NGOs operations were successfully achieved
  + 264,126 Iraqi citizens reached and more informed about the elections through the EECP grants and

**Cross cutting issues are well integrated into the project.**

The project is also conceived as a stabilization tool which will help to improve security situation of the country, by enlarging and diversifying the support of Iraqi citizens to the electoral process.

Gender issues are integrated in all phases of the project, by establishing minimum quota of women participants for all project components. Based on the available final reports from the granted NGO’s the grant fund has benefited 107,690 female (Total reached target 264,126) which is 40% of all grant beneficiaries.

Human rights and democratization are inherent to all aspects of the project (elections).

The project has impact in term of employment since it has allowed the creation of app. 50 full–time jobs in the service provider’s team, as well as dozens of full time and short term operational and financial positions via the 75 NGOs granted through the project.

The project has no environmental impact, either positive or negative.

1. **Future Work Plan** 
   1. Summarize the projected activities up to the end of June 2009 indicating any major adjustments in strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs planned.

* To continue reviewing reports of and issuing payment to granted NGOs
* To organize a meeting for the 75 NGOs with the Special Representative of the Secretary General in Iraq –in January on how to enhance the role of civil society in elections inIraq
* To hold at least one more Forum meeting.
* To implement a new set of activities (granted operations, Opinion Leaders Sessions, First Voter Sessions) to support the Kurdish Parliamentary elections

1. **Six monthly Performance Indicators assessment**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Performance Indicators | Indicator Baselines | | Planned Indicator Targets | | Achieved Indicator Targets | Means of Verification | Comments (if any) | |
| **IP Outcome 1**  Establish and support an Electoral Education Forum around the electoral process, composed of prominent civic education-oriented networks and NGOs, the IHEC, as well as IEAT and other international representatives, in which a strategy and action plan for the Electoral Education Campaign can be negotiated, planned and monitored collegially. | | | | | | | | | |
| **IP Output 1.1**  A National Electoral Education Plan  developed by an Electoral  Education Forum made of representatives of the Civil Society and  IHEC, sets policies and implementation mechanisms for a national Electoral Education Campaign, including an overall strategy for the Campaign and detailing key messages to be delivered, roles and responsibilities of governmental and non-governmental actors, methods and materials, as well as oversight and coordination mechanisms | **Indicator 1.1.1**  A fully operating Electoral Education Forum with the IHEC, Iraqi NGO networks and international actors | N/A | 6 meetings | | 6 meetings | | - Agendas and minutes of the Forum’s meetings.  - Structure of the Forum’s Board | |  |
| **Indicator 1.1.2**  Existence of a fully developed National Electoral Education Plan that provides a structured strategy for electoral education in Iraq | N/A | Development of the NEEP by the Election’s day | | NEEP developed and distributed in all electoral governorates, GEOs, granted NGOs and participants at the OLS. | | - Development of the National Electoral Education Plan  - Numbers of distributed NEEP copies | |  |
| **IP Output 1.2**  Increased public awareness about and support to the Electoral Education Campaign thanks to a promotional campaign involving media materials (publications, radio, TV). | **Indicator 1.2.1**  Delivered promotional campaign utilising a range of media materials – publications, radio and TV | N/A | N/A | | N/A | | - Presence of formulated media materials and evidence of their delivery together with feedback on their impact.  - Project Progress reports and feedback, both specific and general, on the development of the Electoral Education Forum.  - Reports and feedback on consultations and negotiations through the EEF | | This output was revised in light of other organizations’ work on the media component, mainly UNDP. The budget line concerning this output was thus reallocated to serve other areas of the project. |
| **IP Outcome 2**  Enhance public awareness of electoral processes and principles using grant-funded civil society projects and opportunities to link local opinion leaders with the IHEC, following policies set by the Electoral Education Forum | | | | | | | | | |
| **IP Output 2.1**  In each governorate, a Governorate Electoral Education Committee, composed of representatives from the IHEC, civil society and the media, is able to coordinate the planning, implementation and monitoring of the Campaign at the local level. | **Indicator 2.1.1**  Presence of Governorate Electoral Education Committees in each governorate | N/A | 1 GEEC per Governorate | | 1 GEEC per Governorate | | - Reports on GEEC meetings through the service provider. | |  |
| **Indicator 2.1.2**  At least 2 CSOs in each GEEC together with presence of IHEC Governorate Electoral Office | N/A | 2 CSO’s in each GEEC  114 GEEC meetings to be held | | All granted CSO’s in each governorate are represented in GEEC  108 meetings held | | - Reports from all events, conferences and other meetings organised by and through the project on the attainment of the project’s outputs. These reports will also, where possible, look at lessons learned that can be of use for future similar projects both inside and outside Iraq | |  |
| **IP Output 2.2**  At least 55,000 Iraqis have gained accrued understanding of and interest for the electoral processes, translating into higher participation rate on election day | **Indicator 2.2.1**  Activities implemented through projects directly assisting Iraqis understand the electoral process and how they can impact upon it. | N/A | 55,000 Iraqis | | 246,126 Iraqis | | - (19) Governorate Reports and 1 National Report on all activities of the Electoral Education Campaign prepared for the EEF.  - Granted NGOs submit mid-term reports and final reports on their activities to UNOPS | |  |
| **Indicator 2.2.2**  Established and fully  operative Electoral Education Grant Fund, benefiting a number of NGOs together with academic / educational institutions and media outlets in all 18 governorates | N/A | 70 NGOs in 18 Governorates | | 75 NGOs in 19 electoral Governorate | |  |
| **IP Output 2.3**  At least 2,500 opinion leaders (religious, tribal, women, youth, academics, local politicians, students, etc.) have been consulted and trained on main elements of the electoral framework and messages in a series of focus group events facilitated by the 18 Governorate Committees | **Indicator 2.3.1**  Number of opinion leaders – and their sectors (religious, youth, academic etc) – that have participated and been trained in the electoral framework and messages. | N/A | 2,500 opinion leaders attending the OLS | | 3,988 opinion leaders attending 49 OLS 49 | | Final project report that will detail the achievements of the project in terms of realising project outputs and reports of UNOPS field staff | |  |

1. The IECI was initially mandated in 2004 by CPA Order 92 to conduct election activities for the transitional period. With the approval of the Law on the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) by the Council of Representatives on 26 February 2007, as noted above, the IECI has become the permanent IHEC. The appointment of the new Board of Commissioners was completed by 30 April 2007. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)