

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund**  
**Project #: B1 – 31**  
**Date and Quarter Updated: March 2010 (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter)**

**Participating UN Organisation: UNESCO**                      **Sector: Education**

**Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Ministry of Education, Baghdad**

<b>Title</b>	Distance Learning Project				
<b>Geographic Location</b>	Baghdad – Iraq. Serving all of Iraq				
<b>Project Cost</b>	US\$ 6,505,228 (US\$ 5.7 M from UNDG - remaining is in kind GOI contribution)				
<b>Duration</b>	23 months				
<b>Approval Date (SC)</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> July 2007	<b>Starting Date</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2007	<b>Completion Date</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2010 Extended to 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2010
<b>Project Description</b>	The project aims at supporting primary and secondary levels students - all over Iraq - to overcome the deteriorating security conditions resulting in a noticeable decline in enrolment and attendance rate and closure of several schools. The effect of life-threatening attacks on students and teachers will be targeted through the provision of learning opportunities through the distance learning delivery mechanisms such as educational TV programs based on formal Iraqi school curricula. The project gives priority to serving students of grades 12, 9 and 6 (transitional grades) all over Iraq.				

**Development Goal and Immediate Objectives**

The development goal of the project is increasing the participation and involvement of primary and secondary school students in their studies, within the context of the existing security situation, through distance learning tools designed according to the Iraqi formal school curricula.

By developing and regular broadcasting of the educational programs, the project contributes to supporting primarily the Education for All (EFA) goals and other developmental goals in Iraq. The project is instrumental in supplementing the on-going efforts of the Ministry of Education toward meeting the challenges outlined in its revised National Development Strategy (NDS) and the UN Assistance Strategy for Iraq (2007-2010).

**Outputs, Key activities and Procurement**

<b>Outputs</b>	1.1 40 educational specialists from Colleges of Education and 80 TV technical specialists trained on the use of distance learning tools, specially, the design and broadcasting of curricular lessons.
	1.2 Educational TV, covering all subjects, produced and broadcasted to students all over Iraq
<b>Activities</b>	1.1.1 Capacity building of MOE technical staff on operating the TV satellite broadcasting unit through specialized training workshops.
	1.1.2 Capacity building of educational specialists from MOE and Colleges of Education on designing Educational TV programs.
	1.1.3 <u>New activity – Capacity building of directors on Scenario developing, producing and directing children / Youth TV programs.</u>
	1.1.4 <u>New activity – Capacity building of managers on “TV Management and Production / Broadcasting Planning and Coordination”.</u>
	1.1.5 <u>New activity- Capacity building of MOE technical staff on operating the TV production unit through specialized training workshops.</u>
	1.2.1 Building scenarios and designing TV educational programs covering all subjects based on the Iraqi school curricula by MOE national educational experts.
	1.2.2 Contracting private Iraqi studios in Iraq for the production of school-based educational TV programs.

	<p>1.2.3 Establishing and equipping the focal TV satellite unit at MOE for broadcasting the educational TV programs.</p> <p>1.2.4 <u>New activity – Establishing a TV production studio with editing suits</u></p> <p>1.2.5 <u>New activity – Providing the TV library with external TV programs to be used in the production of the new educational TV programs (scientific, educational...etc films and TV programs.</u></p>
<b>Procurement (major items)</b>	<p>1. Equipping the focal TV satellite unit at MOE for broadcasting the educational TV programs.</p> <p>2. Production of educational TV programmes based on the Iraqi formal curricula.</p> <p>3. Equipping the new TV production unit</p>

<b>Funds Committed</b>	US\$ 5,218,292	<b>% of approved</b>	93.10%
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	US\$ 3,515,453	<b>% of approved</b>	62.72%
<b>Forecast final date</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> of July 2010	<b>Delay (months)</b>	18

<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>	<b>% of planned (current status)</b>
Men	140 planned	30%
Women	110 planned	30%
Children	School students – grades 6,9 &12 Approx. 1.5 M students	100 %
IDPs	School students – grades 6, 9 &12 Approx. 100 Thousand Student.	100 %
Others	All School Students including IDPs and Refugees after 2 years of project completion. Approx. 7 M students	25 %
Indirect beneficiaries	The Iraqi Community at large	
Employment generation (men/women)	250 direct – 300 indirect	50% - 100%

<b>Quantitative achievements against objectives and results</b>			
1.1.1	20 MOE technical staff trained on operating the TV satellite broadcasting unit.	Completed	<b>% of planned – Phase I</b> 100%
1.1.2	40 MOE educational specialists trained on the designing, writing, developing and presenting educational TV programs.	Completed	<b>% of planned – Phase I</b> 100%
1.1.3	8 MOE directors trained on Scenario developing, producing and directing children / Youth TV programs.	Completed	<b>% of planned – Phase II</b> 100%
1.1.4	2 MOE TV managers trained on “TV Management and Production / Broadcasting Planning and Coordination”.	Completed	<b>% of planned – Phase II</b> 100%
1.1.5	20 MOE technical staff trained on operating the TV production unit.	To be completed in April 2010 after full installation of the TV production unit	<b>% of planned – Phase II</b> 40%
1.2.1&2	624 Educational TV programs, covering subjects of all 6 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> educational levels produced and broadcasted.	Completed	<b>% of planned – Phase I</b> 100%

1.2.3	Rehabilitation activities of the TV Broadcasting Unit, Library and Transmission Unit, as well as installation of all related TV broadcasting professional equipment, library system, uplink (transmission unit) and the power generators and UPS unit.	Completed	<b>% of planned – Phase I</b>	100%
1.2.4	Establishing a TV production studio (TV Studio and a control room) with editing suits	Ongoing – To be completed in April 2010	<b>% of planned – Phase II</b>	80%
1.2.5	Providing the TV library with external TV programs to be used in the production of the new educational TV programs (scientific, educational...etc films and TV programs.	Ongoing – To be completed in May 2010	<b>% of planned – Phase II</b>	20%

**Main implementation constraints & challenges (2-3 sentences)**

1. Delays in rehabilitation for two months due to the fact that the MOE - Baghdad was unable to meet the planned date to confirm the premises on time for renovation.
2. Delays for 7 months due to delay of MOE in providing the customs exemption letter for the TV production equipments. This is partially due to the attacks that took place against MOFA in August 2009.