

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund
Project #: ITF F8-12
Date and Quarter Updated: 3rd quarter: 15 October 2010

Participating UN Organisation: UNHCR, IOM **Sector:** PROTECTION
Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: **Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM)**

Title	Capacitating and Strengthening Protection Networks with the Government of Iraq				
Geographic Location	Baghdad, Iraq and 16 Branches of the Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM)				
Project Cost	2,308,885 USD				
Duration	One year				
Approval Date (SC)	27 June 2010	Starting Date	July 2, 2010	Completion Date	June 30, 2011
Project Description	<p>This project contributes to Protection Outcome Team Outcome 1, “An environment for improved protection of civilians based on human rights standards in place throughout Iraq” and it is designed to strengthen the capacity of Ministry of Displacement and Migration, with support from UNHCR’s protection outreach and assistance networks to address returnees and IDPs’ needs including access to basic services and documentation and enjoyment of rights. The project builds upon the Government of Iraq (GoI) Order 101 stipulating the establishment of Return Assistance Centres (RACs) to manage returns and assist to those returning from displacement to achieve sustainable return and reintegration, and to recover property. UNHCR’s Protection Assistance Centres (PAC) and Return Integration and Community Centres (RICC) expand the reach of Government of Iraq initiatives for returnees, by providing legal assistance to IDPs and returnees, monitoring the protection environment and assessing the social, assistance and information needs of returnees. The project is also designed to capacitate MoDM Branch Office operations through training and technical support in IDP/returnee registration and monitoring, project design and monitoring/evaluation, referral and reporting, information dissemination, as well as advocacy and coordination at the national and local levels.</p>				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

The development goal and immediate objective is sustainable return and reintegration for displaced Iraqis, to be achieved by enhancing the capacity of the MoDM and protection networks to support fair and efficient return and reintegration. Partners in the project will jointly identify record and address the needs of those still displaced internally in Iraq, as well as returnees and communities affected by displacement, to support long term and sustainable return and reintegration. UNHCR will continue monitoring and assisting internally displaced and returnees highlighting to concerned partners and to the line ministry where procedural or other obstacles delay the reintegration process. UNHCR and IOM together will provide technical support and training to staff in the MoDM and RACs so that national capacity to meet the needs of displaced Iraqis is strengthened through systematic management of data. Elements of sustainable reintegration will include civil documentation, particularly issuance of birth certificates, access to or restitution of property, and access to education for children. RICCs will support refer returnees and internally displaced for essential interventions in housing, education and other social needs, while the MoDM will increasingly assess and record levels of return and reintegration, identifying obstacles and working with partners to overcome these obstacles through use of applicable legislation UNHCR will ensure that legal interventions conducted by the PACs will also facilitate access to documentation, legal support and advice which are essential to ensuring the returnees and IDPs’ basic rights are protected, while sharing information on identified needs with the MoDM in order to seek and implement sustainable solutions in a coordinated manner.

UNHCR will collaborate with MoDM in continued mass information activities and continue to develop up to date information regarding conditions and access to rights and services upon return. In addition, information

regarding conceptions and the protection environment will be shared with the country of origin information consultant in order to assure that the eligibility guidelines contribute to fair and efficient refugee status determination. IOM training is designed to strengthen registration, data management and analysis, reporting, monitoring and referral expertise and will target staff at the 16 MoDM Branch Offices as well as selected staff from the headquarters and staff of the two RACs. Through the practical training sessions to be complemented by on-the-job training in their daily work, all 16 Branch Offices will have at least a couple of staff with advanced skills and knowledge to monitor and assess the needs of the internally displaced, returnees and others of concern in displacement affected communities. MoDM Branch Offices and RACs staffed with trained officials to be also supported by the network of PACs and RICCs and contribute to the reinforcement MoDM's role as a lead agency for coordination of required assistance and to provide more accessible protection services and other types of support.

The Development Goal and immediate objectives include:

- 1) goals identified in **National Development Strategy** goals for 2007 – 2010: **Pillar 3** of the Strategy, *Improving the Quality of Life* and **Pillar 4: Strengthening Good Governance and Improving Security**.
- 2) the goal and objectives consistent with ICI Benchmarks (as per the Joint Monitoring Matrix 2008): 3.3, 3.3.Upholding and protecting human rights, and 4.2 Strengthening institutions and improving governance,
- 3) and with **Protection Sector Team Outcome(s): An environment for improved protection of civilians based on human rights standards** in place throughout Iraq
- 4) and is aimed at supporting the **Joint Programme/Project Outcome(s) of** : An environment for improved protection of civilians based on human rights standards in place throughout Iraq

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement	
Outputs	
Outputs:	1.1. MODM, Protection Assistance Centres, and Returnees Integration Centres have strengthened coordination mechanisms to facilitate returnees access to services 1.2 MoDM have improved capacities to undertake data collection, analysis, and information management related to returnees and IDPs
Activities	1.1.1. PAC-process legal claims, protection monitoring 1.1.2. RAC registration, processing 1.1.3. Trainings, database, COI, mass information 1.2.1. Organization of 14 trainings
Procurement (major items)	During the reporting period, 2,000 leaflets printed

Funds Committed	1,554,980	% of approved	67%
Funds Disbursed	500,785	% of approved	22%
Forecast final date	N/A	Delay (months)	

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men	0	
Women	0	
Children	0	
IDPs	0	
Others (Returnees and IDPs)	243,000 (breakdown by gender not available)	44%
Indirect beneficiaries	0	
Employment generation (men/women)	0	

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results			
1.1. MODM, Protection Assistance Centres, and Returnees Integration Centres have strengthened coordination mechanisms to facilitate returnees access to services	1.1.7: Number of returnees reached through MoDM campaign on returnees conditions in areas of return: Returnee leaflet with essential legal information published after review of the substance and agreement by MoDM and distributed to some 20,250 returnees and potential returnees inside and outside Iraq 20,250:	% of planned	44%

Qualitative achievements against objectives and results
<p>1.1. MODM, Protection Assistance Centres, and Returnees Integration Centres have strengthened coordination mechanisms to facilitate returnees access to services</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.5: A functional coordination mechanism between PACs and RICCs is in place, as RICCs refer protection cases to PAC legal staff. PAC legal teams have regular presence in RICCs, conduct joint activities and will receive further training designed to expand their understanding of Iraqi law and regulations related to return, registration, reintegration, restitution of property and access to services, in addition to the identification and appropriate referral of persons with special needs</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.6: Research ongoing in preparation for update to Eligibility Guidelines 3 papers based on information gathered by PAC, RICCs and UNHCR staff shared with COI Consultant for review in Eligibility Guidelines update process.</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.7: Publication of the returnee leaflet has extended outreach and information dissemination to returnees and potential returnees and is used both within Iraq and in other countries to provide counselling significantly improving the level of information available to Iraqis abroad considering return as well as those within Iraq in need of support in return and reintegration. Further development of database for use by PAC and RICCs staff in support of returnee/IDP monitoring means that UNHCR has comprehensive overview of needs and challenges on which to base policy, plans and ongoing collaboration with the MoDM in the support and protection of internally displaced, returnees and displacement affected communities.</p> <p>1.2 MoDM have improved capacities to undertake data collection, analysis, and information management related to returnees and IDPs</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.b: Preparations ongoing for the Reports Writing training that will target up to 20 MoDM staff. Terms of Reference were drafted and a trainer was selected for the training. Taught by a professor from the Mustansariya University in Baghdad, the training is scheduled to take place in October in Baghdad with in-kind contributions from MoDM (venue and refreshments). Up to 20 persons will participate in the training, including staff members from 3 MoDM branches, the Headquarters and 2 Returnee Assistance Centers (RACs).</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.c: Preparations ongoing for the Financial Management training (part of the Programme Design and Implementation Component) that will target up to 10 MoDM staff. Using a different funding source, IOM analyzed the MoDM financial system and compiled a manual of best financial and accounting practices. The ITF funding will be used to train up to 10 key staff in MoDM Headquarters on the compiled financial management manual. The terms of reference were drafted and the trainer was selected. The training is scheduled to take place in November.</p>

Main implementation constraints & challenges (2-3 sentences)
<p>The main constraints and challenges to implementation continue to be related to the security situation and limited number of slots for international staff, that make it difficult to conduct planning meeting and training. The current political vacuum and uncertainty also has a negative impact in official government decision-making mechanisms.</p>