

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund

Project #: B1-33

Date and Quarter Updated: 1 October – 30 December 2011 (4th Quarter 2011)

Participating UN Organisation: UNICEF (Lead agency), UNESCO, UNHABITAT, WHO, UNAMI HRO, UNWOMEN	Sector: Education
Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry: Ministry of Education (Lead Ministry), Ministry of Health (Central Level and Kurdistan), State Ministry of Women Affairs (Baghdad and Kurdistan), and Ministry of Human Rights	

Title	Supporting efforts of the Government in developing the capacity of the Iraqi Education Sector/Enhancing the Learning Environment in Vulnerable Areas in Iraq for meeting Education for All (EFA) goals.				
Geo. Location	National, Salaheldin, Suleimaniyah, and Thi-Qar				
Project Cost	US\$ 12,461,062				
Duration	15 Oct 2008 – 15 Oct 2011 (36 months)				
Approval Date (SC)	7 Oct 2008	Starting Date	15 Oct 2008	Completion Date	15 Oct 2010 extended to 30 June 2012
Project Description	The joint project aims at supporting the education sector in Iraq through developing the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Education (MoE) and Directorates of Education (DoEs) in policy formulation, strategic planning, service delivery, project design and management, school health and hygiene with focus on gender and human rights approaches. The project also aims at increasing enrolment and completion rates in basic education including both formal and non-formal education via the provision of conducive learning environment at 25 primary and intermediate schools by replacing old mud school structures in most deprived rural areas in Suleimaniyah, Salaheldin and Thi-Qar, with the effective involvement of school communities to ensure local ownership.				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen Institutional capacity of MoE/DoEs on strategic planning, policy formulation, and management of the educational sector; 2. Create conducive learning and teaching environment for about 7,500 primary and intermediate level students and 2,250 out-of-school children in Suleimaniyah, Salaheldin and Thi-Qar by building 25 new schools replacing very old mud schools, and initiating school maintenance programme; 3. Improve and strengthen school health services for students in vulnerable areas including mental health services, life skills and psychosocial support interventions for teachers and students; 4. Introduce an integrated gender mainstreaming and human rights strategy at policy as well as community levels to create awareness on the importance of scaling up girls' and women's education; 5. Provide technical assistance to MoE for developing a comprehensive national policy on Non-Formal Education (NFE) and enhance service delivery of NFE (including Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP)). 	

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement	
Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Education system supported through developing the institutional and human capacities equally at all levels (MoE/DoEs) in planning, policy formulation, project design and management, information management and data analysis; 1.2 Education Management Information System (EMIS) further enhanced to address the needs in data collection, processing and analysis at all levels; 2.1 25 education facilities (primary schools) built, equipped and functional, meeting the minimum standards of child friendly schools; 2.2 Capacity of school communities, local government and DoEs enhanced to provide leadership and local ownership for future education initiatives;

	<p>2.3 Capacity of DoEs and schools strengthened on school maintenance and asset management, through effective participation in planning and implementing school maintenance programmes;</p> <p>3.1 Quality of school health improved through raising awareness among 7,500 pupils on good sanitation and hygiene practices, and providing children with psychosocial assistance and screening for visual and hearing difficulties and musculoskeletal abnormalities;</p> <p>4.1 Capacity of MoE/DoE and community stakeholders including women leaders built on gender and human rights issues;</p> <p>4.2 Advocacy campaigns on gender mainstreaming and human rights launched focusing on the importance of education especially for girls and women, as well as empowerment of local communities, with the involvement of the trained stakeholders under 4.1;</p> <p>5.1 NFE policies formulated/adopted;</p> <p>5.2 MoE and DoE staff trained in various NFE textbooks development methods to design and develop learning materials for ALP and NFE for use at the DoEs and community levels;</p> <p>5.3 3 Community Learning Centres (CLCs) renovated, furnished, equipped and functional;</p> <p>5.4 National advocacy and awareness campaign launched to promote literacy, girls education, ALP and NFE</p>
<p>Activities</p>	<p>1.1.1 Supporting the development of the National Education Sector Strategy being formulated by MoE in collaboration with the World Bank, through conducting coordination and follow up meetings (UNICEF & UNESCO)</p> <p>1.1.2 Developing training and educational material sets (package) on educational planning, policy formulation, project design and management, information management and data analysis to be used in building the capacity of MoE /DoE senior staff (UNESCO)</p> <p>1.1.3 Providing 56 Staff from Planning & Statistics Directorate at MoE/DoE (10 from MoE and 46 from DoEs) with advanced training on the utilization of EMIS data/outputs in educational planning and analysis at central and governorate levels (UNESCO & UNICEF)</p> <p>1.1.4 Developing the capacity of 43 senior staff from MoE and DoEs (3 for 6 months and 40 for 1 month) in the methods and techniques of policy formulation and strategic educational planning and management in collaboration with the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP).(UNICEF & UNESCO)</p> <p>1.2.1 Enhancing EMIS by adding additional modules to expand the scope of its coverage, supporting the annual school survey and providing equipment/tools needed (UNESCO & UNICEF)</p> <p>1.2.2 Training 8 technical staff from MoE on utilization of the developed EMIS software modules and other programming tools (UNESCO)</p> <p>2.1.1 Designing and establishing 25 new model schools to replace old mud schools in the 3 selected governorate through the active involvement of community and Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) benefiting 7,500 primary and intermediate students (UNHABITAT 12 schools & UNICEF 13 schools).</p> <p>2.1.2 Providing school furniture, teaching learning materials, recreation materials, and school sanitation kits for the same 25 schools (UNICEF 13 schools & UNHABITAT 12 schools).</p> <p>2.2.1 Building capacity of school community/PTA through involvement in the design and implementation processes to ensure participation and ownership (UNICEF & UNHABITAT)</p> <p>2.2.2 Training 36 DoE engineers on school design, asset management and maintenance and monitoring of building conditions (UNICEF & UNHABITAT)</p> <p>2.3.1 Prepare an effective plan on asset management and school maintenance programme and implement the plan for 50 schools in the selected governorates. (UNICEF & UNHABITAT)</p> <p>3.1.1 Training and school activities on (school sanitation, hygiene, health promoting schools and school health screening) (WHO)</p> <p>3.1.2 Supporting Directorate of Health (DoH) and DoE staff to conduct the environmental school assessment and school health screening (WHO)</p> <p>3.1.3 Social mobilization, production of IEC materials, and conducting advocacy meetings for community, parents, PTAs and religious leaders (WHO)</p> <p>3.1.4 Supporting health education and screening, in addition to visual hearing aids. (WHO)</p> <p>4.1.1 Building the capacity of 100 MoE and DoE staff, women leaders and community members (UNIFEM)</p> <p>4.1.2 Supporting 10 local NGOs for gender sensitive planning and integrating human rights based approaches to enhance their participation in planning and implementation processes (UNIFEM)</p>

	<p>& HRO)</p> <p>4.2.1 Launching advocacy and awareness campaigns on gender and human rights issues and on the importance of education, especially girls' education and female literacy, and developing promotional material for dissemination through various media channels (UNIFEM & HRO)</p> <p>4.2.2 Developing and disseminating teaching/learning materials on women's, children's and minorities' rights to education (UNIFEM)</p> <p>5.1.1 Formulating a national NFE Policy in cooperation with MoE including conducting a workshop (UNESCO & UNICEF).</p> <p>5.2.1 Designing, developing, and distributing 6 sets of teaching/learning materials for ALP and NFE (UNESCO & UNICEF).</p> <p>5.2.2 Conducting a training workshop for 18 MoE officials on modern methods of textbook development (UNESCO & UNICEF)</p> <p>5.3.1 Renovating, furnishing and equipping 3 CLCs (one in each selected governorate) in NFE, serving 1000 illiterate adults (during the first course) including provision of life skills training material (UNESCO)</p> <p>5.3.2 Launching a national literacy campaign, including designing and printing various advocacy material (UNESCO & UNICEF)</p>
Procurement (major items)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student and teacher desks and chairs, sanitation kits, recreational kits, first aid kits, and visual hearing aids for 25 mud schools • Furniture and IT equipment for MoE/DoEs planning departments, and project management team • Furniture and equipment for 3 CLCs. • WHO: Procurement of 50 screening audiometers

UNICEF

Funds Committed	\$ 4,442,430.70	% of approved	89.17.0%
Funds Disbursed	\$ 4,003,365.24	% of approved	80.36%
Forecast final date	30 June 2012	Delay (months)	20 months

UNESCO

Funds Committed	\$ 1,533,663	% of approved	89.5%
Funds Disbursed	\$ 1,420,432	% of approved	82.9%
Forecast final date	30 June 2012	Delay (months)	20 months

UNHABITAT

Funds Committed	\$ 3,723,193	% of approved	98.0%
Funds Disbursed	\$ 2,631,057	% of approved	68%
Forecast final date	30 June 2012	Delay (months)	20 months

WHO

Funds Committed	\$ 808,168	% of approved	99.7%
Funds Disbursed	\$ 525,753	% of approved	64.8%
Forecast final date	30 June 2012	Delay (months)	20 months

HRO & UNWomen

Funds Committed	\$ 1,048,833.64	% of approved	95.7%
Funds Disbursed	\$ 1,048,833.64	% of approved	95.7%
Forecast final date	30 June 2012	Delay (months)	20 months

	Category	Agency	Intermediate (1 year)			Final (2 years)			No. of Beneficiaries (Current Status)	
			No. of Beneficiaries			No. of Beneficiaries			No. of beneficiaries (Actual)	% of planned final
			M	F	T	M	F	T		

										beneficiaries
Direct Beneficiaries	MoE/DoEs Staff	UNESCO & UNICEF	94	20	114	150	50	200	212(M178; F40)	101.5%
	Illiterates	UNESCO				300	700	1000		
	Primary and intermediate student	UNICEF & UNHABITAT	4060	3072	7132	8300	7500	15800		
	Students	WHO	700	300	1000	2000	2000	4000		
	Teachers	UNICEF & UNHABITAT	254	202	456	310	270	580		
	Teachers	WHO	80	70	150	200	100	300		
	100 officials DoEs, MoE, DoHs , SMoWA, the directorate of human rights in addition to women activists and community leaders	UNIFEM	32	33	65	50	50	100		
	10 local NGO initiatives	UNIFEM			10			10		
	Teachers, students and parents in the selected schools in the three governorates will be direct beneficiaries of the campaign implemented by UNIFEM	UNIFEM	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD		
Health professionals	WHO	60	40	100	110	90	200	150 doctors and nurses	75%	
Sub-total (Direct)			5280	3737	9027	11420	10760	22190		
Indirect Beneficiaries	Communities for the literacy campaign - Households in Thi-Qar, Suleimaniyah and Salaheldin	UNESCO	3000	6000	9000	5000	20000	25000	30,000 Beneficiaries of Advocacy Campaign for Celebration of International Literacy Day 2009-2010	
	Employment opportunities (person/day)	UNICEF, UNHABITAT	70000	TBD	70000	110000	TBD	110000	(UN-HABITAT) Construction jobs: 1000, Local Contractor: 11, Supplier: 2, Transportation jobs: 50	
	Hired contractor for transportation	WHO	10	-	10	20	-	20	Transportation contractor: 1 Drivers: 22	100%
	The community around the schools will be targeted during the media campaigns	UNIFEM	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD		

	The beneficiaries which will be targeted by the local NGOs	UNIFEM	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD		
Sub-total (Indirect)			73010	6000	79010	115020	20000	135020		
Total Beneficiaries			78290	9737	88037	126440	30760	157210		

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results		% of planned
Strengthen Institutional capacity of MoE/DoEs on strategic planning, policy formulation, and management of the educational sector (UNESCO & UNICEF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main achievements so far are the following: UNESCO organised two consecutive workshops, one on simulation (20-22 July) and another one with member the NESI Technical Group (23-29 July, 2011) focused on the strategy document. The seven-day Technical Meeting gathered representatives of the Deputy Prime Minister's Office and the MoE and MoHESR from Baghdad and Erbil. A group of experts in education from UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank were also present to assist Iraqi participants in the process of reviewing and completing the NESI document. Based on the outcome of the Simulation Workshop organised right before the meeting, participants discussed how enrolment and cost projections of general and higher education should be integrated into the strategy analysis, particularly concerning its future financial sustainability. Review of the draft Strategy document submitted by the drafting committee prior to the meeting focused on the strategic framework and its linkage to future programmes that will be implemented in order to achieve the objectives included in the strategy, which spans from 2012 until 2020. International Experts and Agencies expressed their commitment to supporting the Government of Iraq in the review and completion of the INES document as well as the way forward and the next steps until the final draft summary document is submitted to the Higher Committee in September 2011. UNESCO and UNICEF in collaboration with the World Bank has completed the final draft summary of the National Education Strategy for Iraq (NESI) in September and submitted it to the "Supervision Committee on the preparation of the Iraqi National Education Strategy". The draft strategy was submitted to the Prime Minister Office in October 2011. The launching of the NESI will take place end of February 2012. The 2008/2009 EMIS data entry has been completed and submitted to UNESCO to produce statistical reports after merging the data of MoE Baghdad and MoE Erbil. Training on ASPNET & DOTNET was conducted by Microsoft for 10 MoE officials (6 from Baghdad & 4 from Erbil) from 2 to 10 October 2011. The workshop trained MoE officials to receive the Source Code of the EMIS software. 	90%
Create conducive learning and teaching environment for about 7,500 primary and intermediate level students and 2,250 out-of-school children in Suleimaniyah, Salaheldin and Thi-Qar by building 25 new schools replacing old mud	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three school building designs were developed together with the three target DoEs with support of UNICEF and UN-HABITAT. For the construction of 13 schools by UNICEF: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suleimaniyah: Construction of 5 new schools was completed. 2 schools in Suleimaniyah (Bardakar and Raziwana) were included in CFS initiative and the teachers of the 2 schools will be trained on CFS during the last week of January 2012. Salaheldin: Construction of 4 new schools was completed. ThiQar: The construction of 4 new schools in ThiQar has been completed and material support has been provided. Procurement of furniture for students in 13 schools as well as other school 	95%

<p>schools, and initiating school maintenance programme (UNICEF & UN-HABITAT)</p>	<p>furniture for 25 schools has been completed, and delivered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the construction of 12 schools by UN-HABITAT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suleimaniyah: Construction works for the four schools in Suleimaniyah are completed. - Salaheldin: Construction works of two schools in Salaheldin are completed, while the construction works in the other two schools was not finalized because the two contractors failed to complete the works. The contracts will be terminated and a new bidding will be conducted to award the contract to another contractor who will be responsible for the completion of the non-completed items. - Thi-Qar: The construction works for the four schools in Thi-Qar are completed. - The procurement process for the school furniture for 12 UN-HABITAT has been initiated - Four schools in Suleimaniyah had received a total of 600 desks & chairs. - While for Salaheldin, the supplier had started the production of 600 desks & chairs but there was a delay in the process due to a fire in the factory. - In Thi-Qar , the supplier had submitted a sample to MOE for approval, but the sample was rejected by the committee after 4 months from the date of submission. As a result, the contractor apologized to supply due to the expiry of the validity of his offer which was 2 months (expired on 17 September 2011). Retendering of the case is in process. • 5 MoE & DoE engineers & 3 UN HABITAT engineers participated in workshop 25-26 July in Erbil on the pilot project for the 2nd stage of School Maintenance application which is for the newly constructed 12 schools in the three governorates. • UNICEF has established partnerships with International Rescue Committee (IRC) and Danish Refugee Council (DRC) to improve the school based management, as well as strengthening of the school/community linkages. The implementing partners will activate Parents Teachers Association (PTAs), who are going to develop School Improvement Plans (SIPs) for each school. 	
<p>Improve and strengthen school health services for students in vulnerable areas including mental health services, life skills and psychosocial support intervention for teachers and students (WHO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO supported four training courses on psychosocial support and mental health first aid for teachers working in the targeted area of the selected mud schools in Thiqr and Salaheldin. The total number of teachers trained was 52 from DoH and DoE. • Procurement and distribution of 50 Audiometers for primary health centers providing school health screening services for school students • Data analysis of school health screening and the finalization of the draft results. 	92%
<p>Introduce an integrated gender mainstreaming and human rights strategy at policy and community levels to create awareness on the importance of scaling up girls' and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this reporting period UNWomen's GFP in the three governorates participated effectively in all steering committee meetings. UNWomen GFP's provided input on issues related to gender equality and provided brief about UNWomen's work at the governorates level. • UNWomen conducted a 2 two day advocacy and consultancy meeting in Thiqr and Salahuddeen in October 2011 for 60 participants from MoE, DoE, SMOWA, and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MOLSA), MoH, community leaders and civil society organizations to prepare for the launching 	90%

<p>women's education (UNWomen & HRO)</p>	<p>of the education campaigns in Thiqar and Salahuddeen. The purpose of those meetings is to agree on the main message of the campaign and to agree on the preparation and the main activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two awareness campaigns on the importance of scaling up girls' and women's education in Thiqar and Salahuddeen were launched during this reporting period. The direct beneficiaries of this campaign were 3000 students from the mud schools involved in the programme, local community and local government bodies. The implemented activities included free art sessions, a children's theatrical play, radio shows and programs, advertisements in local newspaper. UNWomen distributed printing materials (posters and banners). • UNWomen in partnership with Al-Habobi Organization supported the launching of the campaign in Thiqar. UNWomen provided Al-Habobi Organization with financial, technical and managerial assistance to be able to conduct art exhibitions in 5 schools, produce and broadcast 6 radio programs in local radio stations and print 2000 posters and leaflets . 	
<p>Provide technical assistance to MoE for developing a comprehensive national policy on NFE and enhance service delivery of NFE (UNICEF & UNESCO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Literacy Strategy has been developed, and validated by MoE, Prime Minister Office and ED Committee at Parliament in June 2011. • Finalised Request for Quotations were submitted by UNESCO in May 2011 to MoE for validation including all lists of equipment for the CLCs. Procurement Process will be finalised in July 2011. • 3 Community Learning Centers (CLCs) were established in the three target governorates in coordination with DOEs and MoE Baghdad-KRG, and 26 (14 female) MoE staff and literacy facilitators have trained on management of Community Learning Centers (CLCs) for NFE – Literacy and Community Mobilisation. • Procurement process was launched by UNESCO in May 2011, upon development and validation of the specifications for the purchase of the final equipment for life skills training. The equipment is expected to be delivered by end of October 2011 • Final equipment for the establishment of Community Learning Centers has been delivered in 2011. The established Centers will start literacy and life skills training in February- March 2012. • Within the Framework of Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE) for Iraq, national advocacy campaigns were launched in 2009, 2010 and 2011. Events targeting more that 30,000 Iraqis throughout Iraq (around 3000 in Thiqar, Salaheldin and Suleimaniyah) were organized together with the Ministry of Education and National NGOs. Teachers, families, politicians and representatives of local communities were involved in meetings, theatre representations, and sport events to express their views towards the development of a national literacy campaign in Iraq. During the events 30,000 raising awareness materials including posters and T-shirts were distributed by UNESCO. 	<p>95%</p>

<p>Qualitative achievements against objectives and results</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness campaigns on the importance of scaling up girls' and women's education in 3 governorates were launched; • Community participation through the parents teachers associations and the provision of some supplies for the class rooms and the gardens in the reconstructed schools; • The development of National Education Strategy is underway building on developed technical capacities within MoE / DoEs;

Main implementation constraints & challenges (2-3 sentences)

- The absence of UN Women representative in Iraq, led to postpone the launch of the guidelines prepared by UNWomen. It is anticipated that the assignment of the new Iraq Programme Manager on February 2011 will fasten the implementation of the project activities.
- One of UNICEF's contractor in Suleimaniyah stopped the construction, as they could not arrange enough workers. Despite repeated warnings from DoE/Suleimaniyah and UNICEF, the contractor was unable to resume their work. UNICEF issued the final warning to request the resume of work by 9 October. If this request is unmet, UNICEF will immediately terminate the contract, and award the work to another contractor to finalize the construction.
- UN-HABITAT: delays have been faced in the construction of 2 schools in Salaheldin because the contractors have failed to complete their work. Ultimately, the contracts have been terminated and new bidding will be conducted. Furthermore, the procurement process of school furniture in Salaheldin had faced delays due to a fire which occurred in the factory while delays were encountered in Thi-Qar because the committee did not respond on time to the submitted sample, thus resulting in expiration of the validity of the sample.