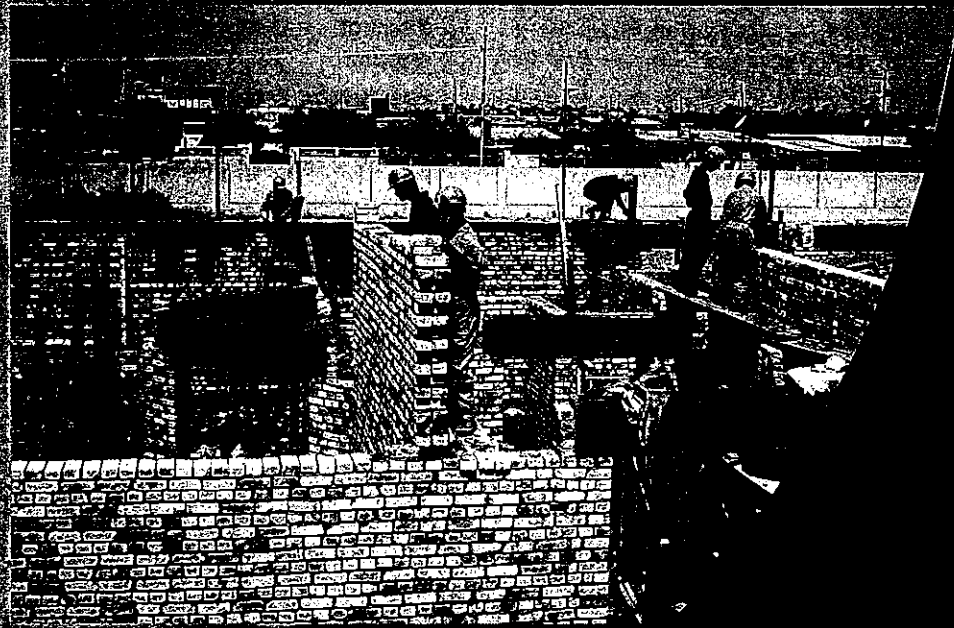




Briefing Package



UN



Overview

Since programme inception in 2003, as of today, UNDP Iraq has received resources to the value of US\$504M. It is currently implementing 66 projects with funding of \$185M available for 2007 and beyond and has completed 40. These projects fall under four main themes: i) governance, ii) poverty alleviation and human development, iii) recovery and reconstruction and, iv) mine action.

By end of May 2007, UNDP had delivered an estimated \$354M of humanitarian and development assistance to Iraq.

The delivery outlook for 2007 is dependent on several external factors beyond the control of the CO such as the deteriorating security situation, political will and engagement with the programme and - in the longer term the government's ability to handle NEX. In the short term, the major challenge remains UNDP's DEX capacity to deliver in this conflict zone in a speedy and efficient manner.

With rapid changes in both the political and security situation in Iraq, UNDP Iraq has focused on cultivating a sense of direction and purpose that factors in the realities on the ground, dynamics of the international community, values of the UN, and most importantly, the needs of the Iraq people.

Apart from a shared commitment to support Iraq, UNDP's comparative advantages include: a track record for delivering results, impartiality and professionalism as a partner, development expertise and focus on capacity-building as well as in-depth knowledge of Iraq. The office is aware that any shortcoming in its performance on the ground will first and foremost deprive the Iraqi people of sorely needed services and facilities, and hamper rehabilitation efforts.

Achievements

Over the period 2004-2007, through implementation of its comprehensive portfolio, UNDP Iraq has:

- Gained trust and credibility with key ministries, government counterparts including Prime Minister's office,
- Become the partner-of-choice relative to other development agencies
- Maintained a presence in Baghdad as well as opening and staffing an office in Erbil where the first training workshops have taken place
- Built capacity at various levels to improve machinery of government and technical competence of line ministries
- Gained trust of donors as evidenced by increasing levels of funding
- Been requested to support the establishment of a high profile ICI secretariat and infrastructure based on its previous track record in elections and constitution.
- Cooperated with a broad cross-section of local administration/civil society: media, academia, community based organisations, municipalities with on-going contacts at all levels.
- Took the first small steps at community level to promote dialogue and national reconciliation
- Expanded its local implementing network in-country through use of local contractors, NGOs, CSOs, using UN rules and procedures
- Injected cash into local economies with associated multiplier effect
- Reinforced relations with neighbouring countries through collaboration in workshops, training, support
- Helped to enhance the perception of the UN both in Iraq and in the region

Governance	22	22.8
Poverty Alleviation	9	22.6
Elections	1	3.7
Mine Action	6	6.9
Recovery and Reconstruction: Electricity	15	52.4
Recovery and Reconstruction: Water and Sanitation	4	3.7
Recovery and Reconstruction: Health	6	70.1
Recovery and Reconstruction: Civil Aviation	1	0.05
Recovery and Reconstruction: Community Infrastructure Rehabilitation	2	3.1
Total	66	185.35



Expanding the CO Partnership Base and Resources Mobilization

Over the years, UNDP Iraq has built solid partnerships in-country as well as with UN agencies and the international donor community. It enjoys constructive relationships with multi-lateral and bilateral organizations, civil society, NGOs and private sector organizations.

UNDP achievements have been made possible in part because of its well-established relationship with relevant Iraqi authorities which have served in turn to attract a steadily-increasing volume of donor resources. Apart from substantial commitments from the UNDG ITF, generous funding has been received from 16 bilateral partners for implementation of programmes particularly in the areas of governance and infrastructure rehabilitation notably in the electricity and health sectors.

Recent contributions such as those from the Governments of Japan (US\$60M), Spain (US\$ 18.5 M), Sweden (\$2M) and up to US\$8M earmarked by Canada for governance, led to more than US\$210M in non-core contributions being received (or moved into the firm pipeline) during the first four months of 2007. Presently, UNDP is in discussion with EU for a \$15 million bilateral contribution.

Positioning UNDP in the UN Reforms

UNDP's programme activities takes into account the degree to which they complement other UN agency activities in the context of overall UN reform and support an integrated mission approach, 'Delivering as One' with initiatives well coordinated with UNAMI and UNCT counterparts. Specific inter-agency projects to reinforce inter-agency collaboration are being developed.

For example, in the area of mine action, jointly with the World Health Organization (WHO), UNDP will provide comprehensive victims assistance support in the Kurdistan region. In addition, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNDP and WHO are currently working on a nation-wide mine victim surveillance programme. Joint restoration of religious shrines, schools and historical sites is being undertaken with UNESCO. Another area for joint work to be explored is that of HIV/AIDS especially in light of the prospect for Iraq to receive funding for an HIV/AIDS campaign from the Global Fund for Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Other UN agencies and multilateral bodies with which UNDP has worked in close collaboration include UNIFEM, UNOPS, UNESCWA, UNDESA, UNDP-POLGAR, ILO and World Bank.

New initiatives

International compact for Iraq (ICI): The International Compact for Iraq is an initiative co-chaired by the UN and the Govt. of Iraq. UNDP provided operational support for the UN co-chair through the provision of high calibre international experts and national staff to strengthen the capacity of the office of the Deputy Prime Minister. UNDP also provided/funded international expertise to support the capacity of the UN country team in contributing to the ICI as well as in setting up the social sector working group.

The UN is not only supporting the Compact secretariat but also the Deputy Prime Minister's Office, and seven key ministries (MoPDC, MOF, MoO, MMPW, MoTrade, MoFA, MoAgr) - the





principal drivers of the Compact. The Compact was launched on 3 May in Egypt. The Government considers the Compact the main, if not the only framework for engagement with the international community. UNDP will support implementation of the Compact through UNAMI/UNCT, the Special Adviser for the Compact and the Compact Secretariat, to be funded by the EC. In addition, it will co-ordinate and manage with other international actors such as WB and DFID, the new ICI secretariat and infrastructure required to implement, monitor and report on Gol progress.

Local Area Development Planning (LAPD): The LAPD programme is a pioneering initiative bringing together several UN agencies namely, UNDP, ILO, UNHABITAT, UNESCO, UNOPS, WHO, UNIFEM, to work on local development in three geographic regions in Iraq. LAPD aims at 'strengthening the abilities of local authorities in three areas in the north, center, and south to lead and facilitate local development. It will work with local partners to a) prepare and implement human rights based, gender sensitive, local area development plans; b) to stimulate local economic development and generate short and sustainable long term employment, and c) to improve social and physical infrastructure using labor intensive approaches and to improve their service delivery capabilities'. The programme also aims at strengthening coordination mechanisms between central government and local authorities through an management information system and a solid communication strategy.

The programme foresees an inter-UN agency structure where certain agencies take the lead role in each of the three areas, while all other agencies get involved in varying degrees of intensity - under the leadership and guidance of the lead agency in that particular area with the overall leadership of UNDP

Inclusive Local Recovery and Development Programme (ILRDI): The ILRDI initiative focuses on the local level, governorates and municipalities/districts, to ensure impact on the ground, in application of the Government of Iraq's decentralization policies and is geared to become a major element of UNDP's new strategic direction in Iraq, offering a common framework for strong inter-agency cooperation with developmental, environmental and humanitarian agencies of the UN System.

The initiative is inclusive and non-discriminatory in its approach and combines response to immediate recovery needs with longer-term development agendas and plans to ensure impact on the ground and sustainability. It helps the central, governorate and district/municipal level authorities to formulate their own recovery and development plans and channel national and international investment for their execution.

The identification of priorities by Iraqi governmental and non-governmental institutions, at various levels, from community to central government, will by nature require multi-disciplinary support. Therefore, this initiative is being conceived as an inter-agency effort,





harnessing the support and capacities of interested UN entities, with UNDP acting mostly as a facilitator.

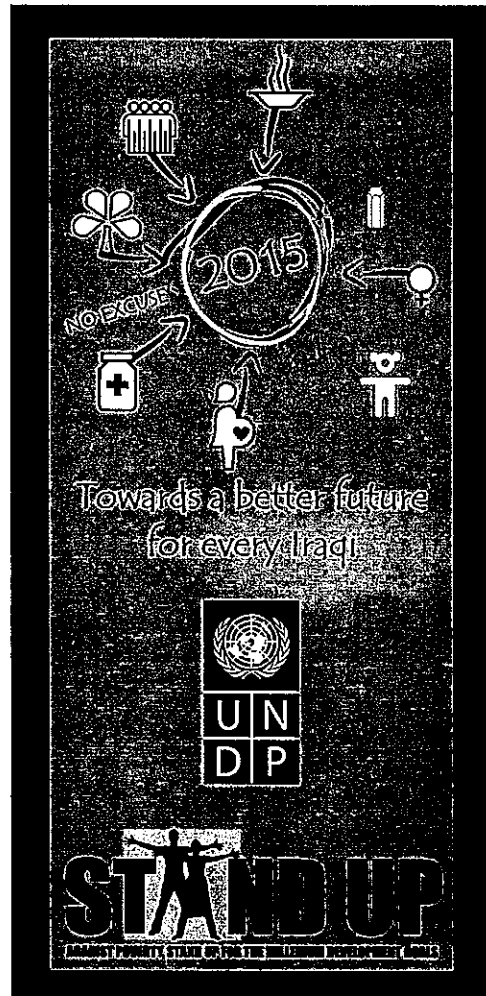
New Canadian business model: To assist the Government in its efforts at reforming the public sector along with its launching of the International Compact with Iraq, UNDP in partnership with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) initiated in November 2005 a unique project to provide technical expertise in public sector reform and accountability. Facilitated by an Amman-based team leader, a range of Canadian consultants have been carrying out capacity building for senior government officials in a number of critical areas such as strategic planning, results based management, business planning and performance management. The Canadian Government and UNDP have committed to this business model until December 2008.



Current and future priorities

The UN Country Team overall is placing increasing emphasis on the alignment of UN support activities to the Government's priorities as outlined in the National Development Strategy and the International Compact. Continuing to position UNDP as the Government's natural counterpart and partner of choice, current priorities include:

- Supporting capacity building of Iraqi institutions for the implementation of the international compact and of the national development strategy



- Maintaining UNDP's in-country presence in Baghdad by accessing the limited number of slots available for the country team and elsewhere through the gradual opening of sub offices (Erbil already in place);
- With UNAMI, supporting the Constitutional Review process
- Establishing a National Water Resources Council
- Launching the second NHDR for Iraq
- Promoting the concept of area based development in all future activities encompassing quick impact initiatives and support to IDPs.
- Strengthening national and local institutions to enable improved delivery of public services
- Support to security sectors including reform of the judiciary and police and possibly DDR
- Continuation in rehabilitation of key infrastructure as well as upstream policy framework development in key sectors such as transport and electricity
- Supporting aid coordination efforts

- Supporting civil society organizations (women's groups, HR, media, youth)
- Supporting GOI emerging partnership with the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria
- Working with BCPR to explore CPR programme opportunities

Outlook

The uncertainty surrounding the operational context in Iraq particularly security, remains a key challenge to any planning efforts to be undertaken by the country office. Notwithstanding, UNDP Iraq has embarked on a programme strategy formulation exercise to guide the work of the office for the coming two year period. The strategy will be informed by several key strategic policy documents/inputs notably, Iraq's National Development Strategy (NDS) 2007-2010, the International Compact with Iraq (ICI), incorporating past success and lessons learned from programme implementation, UNDP's strategic plan for 2008-2011, and once approved, the UN Joint Priority Action Plan (JPAP) as well as the Strategic Framework for the UN's humanitarian response.



Seq.	Donor	Donation (\$) 2003 - Present
A. TFs, TTFs & Cost-sharing		
Funding through TFs & TTFs		
1	UNDG ITF	304,495,332
2	DfiD	19,918,424
3	EC	18,600,522
4	Japan	14,475,256
5	Italy	6,027,026
6	Sweden (SIDA)	5,370,102
7	ECHO	4,761,001
8	Denmark	3,354,068
9	Norway (NORAD)	1,308,901
10	Turkey	100,000
TFs & TTFs		378,410,631
Project level Cost-Sharing		
1	Japan	101,513,687
2	DfiD	7,552,254
3	Belgium	2,487,562
4	Sweden	2,223,594
5	Norway (NORAD)	1,963,351
6	Spain	1,577,753
7	Netherlands	1,500,000
8	Japan (JBIC)	816,700
9	Germany	807,660
10	WB	240,000
11	France	23,000
Project level cost-sharing		120,705,562
Total Donors		499,116,193
B. UNDP CORE Development Resources		
1	TRAC 1.1.1 & 2	1,718,000
2	TRAC 1.1.3	3,100,035
3	Country Co-Financing (CO Interest Income-11888)	15,000
4	DGTF	100,000
UNDP CORE Resources		4,933,035
Donors + CORE Resources		504,049,228

Annex 1

UNDP Iraq Projects

GOVERNANCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY

The overall aim of governance activities in Iraq is to strengthen the democratic process and assist public institutions to become efficient and accountable, to promote the principles of good governance and human rights, gender equality and the rule of law, thus contributing to an environment where Iraqi people and institutions can interact in a vibrant, participatory and transparent manner. The focus of UNDP's activities have been in the areas of:

- Institution and capacity building
- Strengthening regional capacity
- Aid management and coordination
- Reform of the public sector
- Support to the elections
- Support to the constitution
- Support to civil society
- Media development

INSTITUTION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

- **Support to the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation (MoPDC)**

UNDP is initiating significant support to the Ministry in the areas of national consultation on the implementation of the National Development Strategy, the International Compact for Iraq implementation, and programme evaluation and business planning for the Ministry.

UNDP support will primarily target: i) Regionalization of the MoPDC by establishment of regional outposts in the governorates, ii) Support to the development of a private sector support unit within the MoPDC, iii) Support for national consultation with regional actors including civil society, and outreach on the National Development Strategy and the International Compact, iv) Establishment of a Compact Secretariat that will assist the MoPDC to implement the Compact, v) Introduction of e-government processes with related capacity building, and vi) Support to building the capacity of the management cadre in modern management tools and techniques by providing customized training. Through MoPDC, UNDP will also help the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister on the implementation of the ICI.

An impact assessment would at this stage be premature as the targeted UNDP support is just being initiated.

- **Support to Justice and the Rule of Law**

UNDP's support to justice and the rule of law in Iraq draws on international and Iraqi expertise to provide technical assistance and equipment to the court system, the Judicial Training Institute (JTI) and the Ministry of Justice. UNDP supports the training of court reporters and the purchase of a printing press to assist the Supreme Court in publishing its decisions. UNDP is also working with the Iraqi Ministry of Justice, the Higher Judicial Council, the Prime Minister's Office, and Bar Associations, among others, to help develop a comprehensive strategic plan for criminal justice system reform in Iraq.

In 2007-2008, support will draw on international and Iraqi expertise to provide technical assistance and equipment to the court system, the Public Prosecutors Offices and the Ministries of Justice in Baghdad and Erbil.

Impact: By implementing a number of targeted key activities, overall performance of the judicial sector is being developed and improved to the benefit of the Iraqi population. By publishing the decisions of the Supreme Court, courts throughout the country will be able to consult and apply its judgments.

- **Support to Parliamentary Reform**

To date, UNDP has worked with the MPs and the Secretariat to design targeted support for the Parliament. During 2007, UNDP intends to enhance the capacity of Parliamentarians to undertake their legislative and representative responsibilities by providing training in budget analysis and assisting with the development of an outreach and communications plan, as well as a Code of Conduct for MPs. UNDP will also provide assistance to the Secretariat's Research Directorate and Clerk's Office in the form of equipment and capacity building.

Impact: Given that this project has recently been initiated, an impact assessment will take place once concrete results have been achieved.

STRENGTHENING REGIONAL CAPACITY

- **Support in aid management and coordination**

A pilot regional Donor Assistance Database is being established in Erbil, Kurdistan, with capacity building in donor aid information management and analysis.. The first workshop to identify the specific needs and features of DAD-KRG was held in Amman, in March 2007. 11 employees of KRG have been trained in financial and economic analysis, effective communications and decision-making in Amman, January 2007. ICT systems and capacity building in the area of e-governance and support in formation of information society have been undertaken.

Impact: As the decentralization of government functions, particularly capital investment and donor aid planning activities intensifies, the capacity of the regional government in budget and aid planning, implementation, tracking and analysis will be strengthened. Consolidation of capital investment budget with the database and improved business skills will support informed decision making in planning, prioritizing and increase efficiency of investments into the development and reconstruction of the region.

- **Investment Board of Kurdistan**

The three governorates of Kurdistan provide the best conditions and opportunities currently inside Iraq for the encouragement of foreign and domestic investment. The Kurdish authorities have decided to pursue investment as a key point in the regional development strategy. At the request of the Kurdish authorities, UNDP has provided support to the recently created Investment Board of Kurdistan, initially through study tour of Jordan. Additional support is foreseen in terms of IT systems development, training and capacity building and advisory services.

Impact: Links and potential for further cooperation with Jordanian institutions such as the Jordanian Investment Board and the Chamber of Commerce have been explored. The Investment Board of Kurdistan has been exposed to a fully functioning entity of a similar nature on which it can base its future role and activities.

▪ **Rehabilitation and Governance Support to the Erbil Citadel**

The Citadel in Erbil is reputedly the world's longest continually inhabited settlement, and is a significant symbol of heritage and pride. At the request of the Kurdish authorities, UNDP conducted an assessment mission, along with the Mediterranean Institute based in Rome, to advise the regional authorities on essential next steps and determine any future possible support to the emergency rehabilitation works and/or governance of the Citadel. UNESCO joined the mission.

Impact: A national heritage will have been rehabilitated and preserved for posterity. A healthy, sustainable and economically viable city centre will have been created to the benefit of the population of Erbil.

AID MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION

▪ **Donor Assistance Database of Iraq (DAD)**

Hosted and operated by the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation (MoPDC), DAD records approximately US\$ 22.65 billion of donor pledges for grant assistance made in the period of 2003-2006. Of this, approximately 15 billion USD, or 65 per cent of total grants rendered, are currently available in DAD, making it the largest database of this kind in the world. Extensive training has been undertaken:

- Five DAD training and workshops in Amman for a total of 58 Government specialist ,
- Two DAD advanced training in Armenia for 7 experts,
- One training workshop in Erbil for 15 officials from various ministries of KRG,
- Two IT training sessions in Amman for 20 participants on windows networking and security and Oracle 10g database administration,
- Four training sessions for a total of 49 participants on Financial and Economic Analysis in Amman,
- Four training sessions for a total of 49 participants on Effective Communications
- Four training workshops for a total of 49 participants on making and taking decisions.
- One training session for 6 participants on e-governance

Grand total: 253 people for one week each from the following institutions:

- MoPDC, MoF, MoEI, MoMPW, MoH, MoEd of Baghdad
- Council of Ministers, MoP, MoM, MoEI, MoJ, Boards of Audit and Investment of Kurdistan
- Governorates of Basrah, Missan, Thi Qar and Muthanna, Staff of Southern Humanitarian Information Center

Impact: DAD-Iraq being a unique source of overall development assistance rendered to Iraq through both bilateral and multilateral channels, provides for an enhanced platform for analysis and informed decision making on planning, prioritizing and better follow up of development projects. MoPDC and UNDP continue to collaborate in refining and improving the results achieved so far in data gathering and presentation in DAD. In addition, work has been completed to enhance the functionality of DAD-Iraq by incorporating capital investment programmes financed by the National Budget and integrating loans thus consolidating the information on overall development activities in a single, Government owned system, which is unrestrictedly accessible to all development partners and stakeholders.

▪ **International Cooperation Directorate and Aid Management**

With support from the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the UNDP is assisting the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation (MoPDC) to improve the compilation, allocation, monitoring, and evaluation of donor assistance through the establishment of an International

Cooperation Directorate (ICD) within the MoPDC, under the overall guidance of the Government. Currently, UNDP has supported the Ministry compile a lessons learnt report containing a set of aid management experiences from other countries; a draft Mission Statement for the ICD, a draft organizational structure of the ICD, as well as a set of ToRs, for the recruitment of staff to the ICD. Initial consultations with the Ministry of Planning Jordan, and the State Planning Commission, Syria have revealed a strong interest in establishing regional cooperation in the field of aid management. This is in the process of being formalized through memoranda of understanding between several countries in the region.

Impact: It is anticipated that the UNDP support to the establishment of a well functioning ICD will strengthen the Government's ability to attract external financial and technical assistance, improve the alignment of development resources with the national budget, improve collaboration between the Government and Governorate authorities in identifying and addressing local level development needs; establishing transparent, accountable and effective processes for the management of development resources, and improving cooperation between the Government and the multilateral and bilateral donor communities.

REFORM OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR/PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

▪ Support to Board of Supreme Audit of Iraq (BSA)

Five out of twelve courses have been conducted in Egypt and Jordan in the areas of financial auditing and fraud detection, computer auditing and performance audit. There has also been training of staff from the Office of Financial Monitoring in Erbil serving the Kurdish governorates, alongside those of the BSA. To date, 121 out of a total of 448 participants have been trained. Women have comprised more than 50 per cent. UNDP-Iraq is now putting in place a long-term institutional development and capacity building programme for the BSA for the period of 2007-2010.

Impact: Although the auditing skills of over 100 experts have been improved, because of the unstable security situation in Baghdad, government departments are scarcely functioning and audits cannot be undertaken.

▪ Capacity building of Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works

This project aims to promote coordination and partnership between the centre and local government through the training of 150 senior managers representing municipalities, local councils, governors and ministry staff. Non-traditional training sessions have focused on management skills and service delivery in the context of local governance and decentralization. The provision of computer equipment to 50 officials has been completed. The training of 90 mid level managers in the Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works is ongoing as is the training of 270 local administrators.

Based on a training needs assessment of the MMPW, UNDP entered a \$1.2 million project partnership with UNITAR and 18 Iraqi governorates to provide training in Italy and Spain. To date, 35 MMPW staff have been trained. Twinning arrangements between Iraqi municipalities and international counterparts are being established.

Impact: A proper impact assessment can only fruitfully be conducted once the training sessions have progressed further.

- **Strengthening institutional capacity of the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq (IECI)**

This project focuses on building the institutional capacity of the IECI and individual capacity of its personnel by utilising modern and effective management training tools. It will work with its partners and regional institutions to help the IECI/IHEC develop the managerial skills, organisational know-how and strategic planning abilities.

Impact: On project completion, the IECI will have become an independent institution with the appropriate institutional policies, personnel, and knowledge base to fulfil the aspirations of the people of Iraq to live in a democratic society.

MEDIA DEVELOPMENT

- **The establishment and consolidation of an independent news agency for Iraq, *Aswat al-Iraq***

This project, implemented by Reuters Foundation, has established an independent news agency in Iraq, *Aswat al-Iraq* www.aswataliraq.info (Voices of Iraq), run by, and primarily for, Iraqis from all sectors of society. 21 intensive training workshops have been held for a total of 159 journalists. In 2006, *Aswat al-Iraq* expanded its editorial network to cover all of Iraq's 18 governorates and doubled its output of news items in Arabic, English and Kurdish to nearly 2,000 news items a month covering politics, business, sports and culture. *Aswat's* service can be viewed at www.aswataliraq.info. A training component gave journalists' intensive on-the-job news desk experience, training in news reporting and photography. *Aswat al-Iraq* will launch a much-needed Photo Service in 2007.

Impact: *Aswat al-Iraq* has become a recognized, credible and important part of the national media of Iraq; its news reports in Arabic, English and Kurdish, are now widely published and credited in the Iraqi and Arab regional media. Relationships have opened with some 50 Iraqi newspapers, 14 TV channels and 13 radio stations. The public now has access to credible and assured sources of information, can follow all important national and regional developments; reflecting the viewpoints of all main ethnic communities of the country.

- **Open Shutters: Voicing Women Experience through Participatory Photography**

This programme of photojournalism/reportage training and support for Iraqi women, aims to foster a broad contribution of women from various backgrounds and experiences. The project will document the lives and experiences of women living in post-conflict Iraq. Their contribution will be crucial to the understanding of ordinary everyday lives of Iraqis and in particular those of ordinary Iraqi women – providing them with the opportunity to describe their hopes and fears through the visual image. The project builds on the success of a recent initiative, which involved six women from varied backgrounds in Syria. These women will be involved in the development of activities and act as trainers and mentors for the Iraqi participants.

Impact: The development of an open, fully inclusive Iraqi society must depend on the equal involvement of women – this project will provide all actors in the development of this fledgling democracy with a deeper understanding of the lives of ordinary Iraqis, and the role women should play in this development process.

- **Support for the Legal Development of an Independent, Pluralistic and Diverse Media in Iraq**

A broad-based Media Law Working Group (MLWG) has been established to review existing freedom of expression and media-related legislation and provide the impetus that is currently lacking towards adoption of legislation that meets international standards. The MLWG will bring together Iraqi parliamentarians, government representatives, senior civil servants, media and human rights law experts, media representatives, representatives from the CMC and IMN and other stakeholders,

Impact: After completing a plan of action, the project will work pragmatically and cooperatively towards the formulation of draft legislation with a view to having it introduced into parliament.

- **Journalists in Dialogue: Radio Programmes contributing to Dialogue and Reconciliation in Iraq**

With MICT's network of thirty journalists located in all parts of Iraq and its further strong partnership with 16 different Iraqi radio stations in all major cities, MICT is to produce radio programs in different formats. The radio production will include facts, interviews, views, and opinions of politicians, civil society and those of the common Iraqi citizens on the most crucial topics and debates to shape the country's future.

Impact: The project's main target is to encourage tolerance and promote a general national reconciliation process via Iraqi local media (radio and internet).

- **Iraqi Newspaper Development Programme – Phase 1**

This project being implemented by World Association of Newspapers (WAN) is to support and strengthen independent Iraqi newspapers through capacity building in all required areas of their operations, such as distribution and advertising sales, financial and business planning, editorial management, etc.

Impact: On completion, the programme will have fostered and promote the importance of cooperation between Iraqi newspaper executives and their colleagues throughout the Arab world.

SUPPORT TO CIVIL SOCIETY

- **National dialogue and reconciliation**

A total of 13 workshops are planned to take place in a course of 2007 gathering together a broad cross section from various constituents of Iraqi civil society for the purpose of dialogue for conflict transformation. Participants represent CSOs working in different regions of Iraq, some are also tribal or religious leaders. The first two workshops focused on national dialogue itself. In the upcoming workshops, additional areas of dialogue will focus on issues such as rule of law and the role of the media. NCCI was selected as UNDP's implementing partner for this initiative.

Impact: Through these workshops, UNDP has contributed to stimulating constructive dialogue about contentious political, economic, social and religious issues among a broad spread of representatives from Iraqi civil society including religious and tribal leaders. The final workshop will build on the outcome of the previous ones and aims to capture key findings with the ambition of translating those into a set of practical recommendations and agenda for future action.

- **Small grants support to Iraqi civil society organisations**

As the majority of Iraqi civil society organizations (CSO) are in the early stages of development, there is a great need for capacity building and funding. UNDP seeks to provide the necessary training for CSO leaders as well as funding for the implementation of CSO-developed projects. 39 grants to a total value of \$1M were allocated to 40 NGOs.

Impact: Giving new organizations the support and resources necessary to design and execute projects has provided practical experience in developing programme objectives, writing proposals, project implementation, and reporting. As CSOs gain experience working in the civil society sector, they increasingly gain the trust of the local population and international community which multiplies their capacity to run sustainable and vibrant programmes.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

- **Support to the drafting of the Constitution**

In close partnership with UNAMI, UNDP provided technical assistance to the Constitution Drafting Committee; provided training and coaching to the drafting committee as well as the Secretariat staff and assisted in the execution of a broad media campaign to educate the Iraqis on the constitutional process and issues being discussed; helped the Committee print and distribute copies of the draft constitution, promoted the involvement of Iraqi journalists and media to strengthen media coverage of the political process; supported public opinion polls, NGOs and public policy institutes to help promote research, public surveys and discussions at the grass root level; worked with women and young parliamentarians.

UNDP has now moved towards the implementation of the constitution in areas where there is full agreement for the establishment of new institutions such as the Commissions for Human Rights, Media and Communications and Public Service.

Impact: Through the broad media campaign, Iraqis were educated on the constitutional process and issues being discussed; 5m copies of the draft constitution were distributed to the population, strengthening the skills of Iraqi journalists promoted broader media coverage of the political process; supported public opinion polls, NGOs and public policy institutes to help promote research, public surveys and discussions at the grass root level; worked with women and young parliamentarians.

- **Public outreach during the constitution drafting process**

During 2005, one of the focuses of UNDP Iraq's Governance Programme was on supporting Iraq's constitutional drafting process, which involved public outreach campaigns prior to the 15 October 2005 Referendum and the 15 December 2005 General Elections. Under this overall programme, UNDP Iraq issued two Call for Proposals (CFP) from Iraqi CSOs. The first CFP aimed at supporting civic awareness building prior to the constitutional referendum. The second aimed at public awareness building primarily on the election, with a wider perspective of civic education activities on democratic values. Up to \$30,000 were granted per project. Proposals were selected and funded according to their quality, geographical coverage, target groups and experiences.

Impact: It is estimated that some 450,000 people were directly impacted by these activities.

- **Involving Iraqi Media and Journalists in Covering the Constitutional Process**

This project, implemented by Reuters Foundation sought to strengthen media reportage of the current Iraqi political process, in particular of the draft constitution in the run-up to a national

referendum and a general election in December 2005. The project counted on the correspondents/contributors from the thriving news agency, *Aswat al-Iraq* (see above-mentioned project)

Impact: Through intensive capacity building and honing of journalists' skills, the project was able to collect and disseminate throughout the country reliable, impartial reports so that all Iraqi communities had equal access to the information they needed in order to make their voting decisions and to take part in national, regional and local politics and civil society.

- **Involving the Iraqi Media and Journalists in organising Public Debates; and support for a New Democracies film festival**

This project promoted debates among the Iraqis on wide-interest issues that they would like to address through the Constitution, involving the local communities through the media in the drafting of the new Iraqi Constitution. Activities included workshops for journalists, local public debates, a series of weekly television programs, and a 'New Democracies' TV film festival.

Impact: The project provided independent information, expertise and social knowledge about democracy and its problems, which were experienced in twenty other countries after dictatorship or similar circumstances. Public debate on the constitution provoked increased awareness among the Iraqi population.

- **Support to the elections**

UNDP provided operational support to the UN Electoral Assistance Division in the nomination and selection of the Electoral Commissioners; organized capacity building for the newly established Independent Electoral Commission for Iraq; assisted in the establishment of national and regional electoral offices; provided advisory and security services to the IECI; generated the electoral roll for the January 2005 elections; supported IECI's monitoring the out of country voting operation in 14 countries and throughout 2004 and 2005, UNDP has provided operational support for some 55 electoral experts, half of whom are in Baghdad. With EAD, UNDP is now moving towards assisting the governorate and local elections in 2007.

Impact: Democratic elections were held with the full support of the Iraqi population.

- **Promotion of Human Rights**

UNDP has promoted human rights through purchasing legal and human rights texts for the libraries in the Ministries of Human Rights and Justice; printing 20,000 pocket books for police and prison officials on international human rights standards, specifically relating to treatment of detainees; supporting policy dialogue for development of Human Rights Programme in consultation with Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Human Rights; holding 7 seminars for 175 Iraqi lawyers on their role in promoting human rights during the constitutional drafting process; and providing management and public administration training for 40 senior and middle managers in the Ministry of Human Rights and the Ministry of Human Rights. Three training seminars for 50 law enforcement officials in the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Interior increased awareness of human rights and international humanitarian law.

Impact: Human rights organizations, many of them newly established, looked to the creation of institutions of human rights and the rule of law, to advocate for accountability in place of impunity, to educate their compatriots in the rights and duties of humanity, and to lay a rights-based foundation for development, peace and reconciliation in Iraq.

POVERTY REDUCTION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

UNDP is providing baseline poverty and human development assessments to identify gaps as a basis for upstream policy advice while at the same time launching targeted poverty reduction programmes including employment/income generation, capacity building with emphasis on local area development planning and small-scale business development.

▪ Iraq 2004 Living Conditions Survey/ Unidentified Basic Needs Index

The completion and release of the Iraq 2004 Living Conditions Survey, This was followed up with the Unidentified Basic Needs Index, an analytic tool that measures poverty in terms of access to services rather than income or expenditure, which best describes Iraq now. The findings of this study were launched on 18 February 2007.

Impact: Iraq 2004 Living Conditions Survey was the first of its kind to provide a comprehensive overview of living conditions in Iraq in the post conflict environment and a precursor to the Household Budget Survey. It made a substantial impact on the international community, and the data has been broadly used by many universities/research institutions. Exceptionally, the Minister of MOPDC has proposed basing budgetary allocations according to the results of the UBN rather than on per capita as has traditionally been the case.

▪ National Human Development Report

UNDP and MoPDC have worked closely together to set the theme and structure of the report, and management arrangements to implement the preparation process. An independent Iraqi think tank, Bayt alhikma was selected to implement the project.. The core of the project is to produce the report in 2007, and to implement support and follow-up activities in a more extended period. Bayt alhikma has commissioned 29 Iraqi experts to work on 23 background papers for the report.

Impact: The focus of this NHDR will be on the deteriorating security environment, its taunting effect on development and the challenges of reconciliation as a fundamental pre-requisite for the country to emerge from the current tragic circumstances

▪ Iraq Reconstruction and Employment Programme (IREP)

Implementation: Completion of phase one (\$33 million) of IREP, a nation-wide programme that created short-term employment opportunities through small infrastructure rehabilitation projects, enhancing the capacities and skills of civil servants, women and youth to efficiently deliver services, improving livelihood and access to basic services in towns and villages across the country.

Impact: This programme was considered as one of the largest generators of employment. During its first phase, 981 small scale projects were created in water and sanitation, electricity, agriculture, environment and public works, capacity building, education and health sectors. It provided better access to clean water to about 500,000 Iraqis (connecting 270 communities to the main water supply), reclaimed 6,000 hectares of agricultural land in some 360 villages, provided access to clean surroundings in 132 towns and villages and provided vocational training to over 5,500 Iraqis, mostly women and youth. By the end of phase one, 4,657,897 working days had been generated.

The success of the first phase resulted in the office mobilizing an additional \$8 million from the Government of Japan to fund a second phase where some 50 projects were implemented. IREP partnered with CSOs including research institutions as well as international NGOs and established programme advisory committees in three governorates, supported the establishment of the first CSO consortium at the level of governorate in Muthanna, and established local planning committees for the Marshlands. IREP conducted an international conference on

employment in Iraq as well as planning meeting for the restoration and rehabilitation of the marshlands.

Local Area Development Planning: initiated and led the formulation and approval of the first UN joint programme bringing together eight UN agencies and five ministries of the Local Area Development Programme with total funding of \$30 million. The programme was approved in February 2007 by both the EU and the GOI.

Iraqis Rebuilding Iraq programme

Implementation: In partnership with IOM and through the **Iraqis Rebuilding Iraq programme**, (www.iraq-iri.org) UNDP is assisting the Iraqi government in identifying, recruiting and placing qualified expatriate nationals to enhance the recovery and rehabilitation efforts of the country. The application and posting of vacancies is fully automated through a dedicated website and data base.

Impact: To date, 51 experts in various fields have been deployed throughout Iraq supporting the rehabilitation efforts in various areas of expertise.

▪ **Supporting Water Resources Management**

The Government of Iraq sought assistance from UNDP in an effort to address local institutional and policy issues to optimize the management and use of its water resources. For this purpose, UNDP has developed a concept paper entitled "The Road to 2050 - Iraq Waters". Towards that end, UNDP with the support of other UN agencies and specialized water institutions will organize an international water conference to better understand the current situation of water resources in Iraq, to share regional and international experiences and lessons learnt in integrated water resources management (IWRM). The high-level conference organized by UNDP and attended by several Iraqi Ministers took place in Amman, Jordan from 15-17 May 2007.

Impact: The outcome of the conference lead to the formulation of a vision and the foundation for a sustainable strategy framework for water resources planning and development.

RECOVERY AND CRISIS PREVENTION

UNDP is supporting key emergency physical rehabilitation strengthened by high-impact policy interventions including Master Plan development in sectors such as energy, transport and basic services delivery. UNDP is targeting the most urgent and major infrastructure needs in the areas of:

- i) Critical humanitarian infrastructure and basic services,
- ii) Electricity and
- iii) Transportation. Many of these projects are by nature, large-scale, high-value and longer-term initiatives extending over of 2-3 years.

Simultaneously, UNDP is helping strengthen the institutions and build the capacity of Iraqi authorities in charge of the management of basic services through training, planning support, exposure to international expertise and new technologies.

CRITICAL HUMANITARIAN INFRASTRUCTURE AND BASIC SERVICES

Using a multi-sectoral approach, to date some \$15 million worth of assistance has been delivered in activities related to **water and sanitation rehabilitation, hospital reconstruction** and building community markets. Over 160 generators were installed to provide emergency power back-up to critical humanitarian facilities such as hospitals, schools and water pumping stations. At present, \$24 million is being delivered in the area of water and sanitation as well as health facilities, schools and mosques rehabilitation. \$5 million has been pledged for UNDP support to UNESCO-bannered reconstruction of Samarra shrine and other religious sites.

Multi-sectoral planning and budget execution support at the governorate level is being explored intensively with international partners and existing structures such as Governors' offices, provincial councils and Provincial Reconstruction Teams as part an **area-based approach** to recovery and trust-building proven in many post conflict situations.

Health, Water and Sanitation

▪ **Emergency Rehabilitation of Karama Water Treatment Plant**

Started in November 2005, this project aims at restoring the Karama Water Treatment Plant production capacity to 10 MGD. Design services for the rehabilitation works required have been completed and selection of a contractor is underway. Project commissioning is expected in September 2007.

Impact: On completion, the plant will provide a safe potable water supply to a large segment of the population in the area - some 1,000,000 inhabitants.

▪ **Emergency Water, Sanitation and Health Support for Southern Iraq**

Long-lead project equipment such as reverse osmosis (RO) plants, elevated tanks, water tankers, sewage tankers, solid waste containers and solid waste trucks have been delivered. Expected completion date is April 2007.

Impact: Targeting four localities in the governorate of Basrah in southern Iraq, the project will provide urgently needed potable water and improved sanitation, thus contributing to improve living conditions and a reduction in water-borne diseases. Water distribution networks have been installed in three towns and employment opportunities were generated for 1,646 labourers. This resulted in the creation of 48,690 work days. Approximately 200,000 members of the

communities targeted (Umm Qasr, Safwan, Khor Zubeir, Shuaiba and Zubair) will benefit from the program.

- **Addressing Short and Long Term Water and Sanitation Needs for Southern Iraq**

An assessment of the water and sanitation situation including sewerage and solid waste disposal is now being finalized and the RO unit together with solid waste collection equipment have been delivered on site. This project is expected to be completed in April 2007.

Impact: By providing water and sanitation supplies, works and services for Umm Qasr, the population of the port city will have improved access to potable water and should experience a reduced incidence of water-borne diseases such as diarrhea. Furthermore, the watsan assessment will enable local authorities to better plan and deliver basic services such as solid waste disposal, likewise, improving the health and living conditions of the local population estimated to 54,000 people .

- **Emergency Rehabilitation of Kadhamiya Teaching Hospital**

Several key facilities of Baghdad's Al-Kadhamiya hospital such as the sewage system have been rehabilitated and essential equipment such as medical gas and hand washing units installed. In addition, dialysis machines have been delivered and training in operation and maintenance has been provided to technical and administrative staff. At the hospital's request, additional hospital mortuary units have been procured and installed. The project was substantially completed in January 2007 and awaits financial closure.

Impact: Al-Kadhamiya teaching hospital was one of thirteen hospitals built in the early 1980s by Japanese contractors under Japanese assistance, to ensure quality health services and health education to the population of Baghdad. The hospital serves the Kadhamiya district of 600,000 inhabitants, one of the neglected areas of Baghdad, the population being mostly Shia'a. With 642 beds, in 2003, the hospital treated 32,000 in-patients and 131,000 out-patients and handled 4,000 deliveries. It also served as a teaching hospital of the region. In 2003, there were 297 students enrolled, 108 of which were female (36 per cent). Overall, it provided permanent employment for 1,054 people. Because of the current insecurity, more recent figures are not available. The rehabilitation works undertaken by the project also provided short term temporary employment for skilled and unskilled workers.

- **Basrah childrens' hospital**

UNDP received funds from the Government of Spain for the purpose of completing the 94 bed Basrah childrens' hospital. This project started in early 2004, with several international organizations participating in partnership to build and equip the hospital and train staff. UNDP will be implementing unfunded portions of the project, including some construction, specialized hospital equipment and staff capacity building. Expected completion date 2008. UNDP is partnering with IRMO to complete the rehabilitation of the hospital.

Impact: On completion, the hospital will serve the needs of the larger Basrah area with a focus on oncology services for children.

- **Water and health community support**

This project focused on the rehabilitation of Umm Qasr hospital. Works included refurbishing its water supply and generators, and supplying essential life saving medical equipment. Works on the hospital building included the construction of six new wards and two operating theatres, as well as extending the laboratory and X-ray departments. The project was substantially completed in January 2007 and awaits financial closure.

Impact: Rehabilitation of Umm Qasr hospital has been acknowledged by the Director of this hospital serving over 54,000 people. *"We – Iraqi people from the south – will always remember UNDP's efforts and contributions. In spite of the current dangerous situation in the country, particularly in this region, it has continued to bring us the resources and projects we need to assist our population. For a long time, this has been the only aid"*.

Japanese contribution to IREP

Started in early 2004, this project comprised three components: employment activities, investment in key economic infrastructure and rehabilitation of Qadasiya water treatment plant. Rehabilitation of the water treatment plant was completed in February 2005. A convention centre and children's theatre were rehabilitated in Baghdad, and in Babylon governorate, two community markets were completed. With the inauguration of the two community markets in June 2006, all activities under this project have now been completed.

Impact: With a production capacity of 30 MGD (135,000 m³/d), the water treatment plant serves a population of about one million inhabitants in five districts with potable water, thus contributing to improved health of the population and a reduction in water borne diseases. The rehabilitated conference centre has provided a venue for many important conferences especially during the pre-election period and meetings related to the drafting of the constitution.

▪ **Emergency Assistance to essential Services Iraq**

This project was undertaken in early 2004 in response to the urgent humanitarian need for drinking water for war-affected areas of Kirkuk and Mosul. Taking into account the lead time required to purchase and install large-scale electricity supply facilities, UNDP procured small to medium-size diesel generators to meet immediate needs until permanent rehabilitation takes place. All substantive activities were completed and the project awaits financial closure.

Impact: Since the equipment procured could be easily moved to other locations as required, it enhanced responsiveness and flexibility and ensured that major water pumping/treatment stations and large hospitals were not affected by lack of power. The nine generators and ancillary equipment provided to seven water pumping stations, delivered drinking water to approximately 500,000 people.

ELECTRICITY REHABILITATION

Since 2003, UNDP has delivered over \$100 million worth of assistance in terms of electrical generation, distribution and transmission projects as well as building the capacity of the Ministry of Electricity by training more than 200 engineers. At the request of the Ministry, in November 2006, UNDP organized an inter-ministerial conference launching the Electricity Master Plan. This was attended at the highest level by six ministries and the international donor community. Follow-up to this event is currently being planned between MoE, WB, JBIC and UNDP.

▪ **Rehabilitation of the National Dispatch Centre, Baghdad**

The National Dispatch Center, which monitors and controls the nationwide electricity grid, was completely looted during and after the recent conflict. The ability to maintain network stability is vital, especially considering the low generation and poor conditions of the transmission and distribution network. Since the start of the project in 2004, the building has been entirely rehabilitated to the highest standard. All equipment has been delivered and most installed, although final connections have been delayed due to the unavailability of a communication link which was to be provided by another implementing partner. This is now being circumvented by a change in project design.

Impact: Seventeen maintenance engineers and technicians from the Ministry of Electricity have been trained in Germany, Sweden and USA. The impact of a rehabilitated National Dispatch Center is tremendous since the center is responsible for balancing power flows across the whole country, a critical exercise when demand exceeds supply.

▪ **Rehabilitation of Taji Gas Power Station – Units 1, 4 & 6 (3X20MW)**

Though the design output of Taji Gas Power Station is 175 MW, the current output varies from 30 to 90 MW. A contract of US\$ 22.3 million was signed in May 2005 for the rehabilitation of gas turbine units 1,4 and 6, and for the provision of spare parts necessary for two to three years of plant operation. Rehabilitation of Unit 4 has been completed, including performance tests, Unit 6 is under re-assembly and works have started on Unit 1.

Impact: Twelve engineers have received extensive training at the manufacturer's facility in Japan. Once the project is completed in June 2007, it is expected to contribute an additional 30-40 MW power output to the national grid. In addition to stabilizing the existing output of the power station, this represents serving an additional 300,000 Iraqi with continuous electricity.

Rehabilitation of Mosul Gas Power Station – Unit 2 & 4

The entire population of Mosul, exceeding one million people depends on power supply from Mosul Gas Power Station (design station output is 300 MW; current output varies from 90 to 150 MW). A contract is under implementation for the rehabilitation of selected gas turbine units 2 & 4 and provision of specific spare parts necessary for at least two to three years of trouble-free plant operation. Rehabilitation of Unit No. 4 was completed as scheduled and Unit 2 has been fully disassembled.

Impact: 8 Mosul site engineers have undergone extensive training at the manufacturer's facility in Japan. Upon completion of the works, scheduled for April 2007, the rehabilitation is expected to add up to 10 – 20 MW to the grid. In addition to stabilizing the existing output of the power station, this represents serving an additional 300,000 Iraqi with continuous electricity.

▪ **Rehabilitation of Hartha Power Station – Units 1 & 4 (2 x 200 MW)**

The project commenced in early 2005 to provide emergency assistance to two of the four units. The last shipment of equipment was delivered on site in May 2006, marking the substantial completion of this project.

Impact: Six (6) site engineers were trained in Japan in industry best practices to guarantee the sustainable operation of the plant. Both units have been running without unscheduled interruption since they are more stable, and now capable of producing up to 330 MW with fewer interruptions and reduced outage times since spare parts are readily available in case of breakdown. This represents regular service for approximately 3,000,000 Iraqi.

▪ **Rehabilitation of Mussayib Power Station – 300MW - stage 1 and 2**

Mussaib Unit 1 is responsible for providing 4.5 per cent of the available electricity generating capacity in Iraq. Thus, its rehabilitation is vital for returning electricity to the population. Mussaib has four identical units with similar problems; therefore correcting problems in Unit 1 may have an impact on over 18 per cent of Iraq's power generation. Since the Unit 1 project—budgeted at \$11 million—started in July 2004, urgently needed parts and equipment were identified, procured and delivered. To date, over 85 tons of electrical equipment for Unit 1 rehabilitation have been delivered.

Stage 2 of this crucial electricity generation project was approved in mid-2005 with a budget of \$33 million. Additional parts and equipment have been selected based on the assessment results

and detailed discussions with Mussaib plant management and engineers. Erection work for Mussaib rehabilitation is expected to start in October 2007 with completion in time for the 2008 peak demand season. In addition, the satellite-linked communications system provided under phase I is being expanded to include the general directorate for electricity production in central Iraq.

Impact: Twenty-one power plant engineers were trained at equipment manufacturing facilities in Japan and Korea in skills related to the maintenance and hot and cold assessment of thermal power stations. Additionally, state-of-the art satellite-linked video communications have been deployed at Mussaib Station and in MoE offices locally, and are being used for monitoring work in the field. Training in satellite-linked communications was given to seven engineers from Mussaib, Taji, Mosul and MoE headquarters. With the completion of stage 2, an estimated 60MW of electrical power will be restored to the grid and blueprints for rehabilitation of the other units at the power station will be developed. In addition to stabilizing the existing output of the power station, this represents serving an additional 600,000 Iraqi with continuous electricity.

▪ **Al-Muthanna Governorate Electricity Network Reinforcement Programme**

This project aims to reinforce the transmission and distribution system by rehabilitating a 132/33/11 kV substation; providing urgently needed equipment and spares for the rehabilitation and extension of the distribution system in the area; and providing additional plant equipment as requested by local electrical officials. The procurement of distribution equipment has been completed with most of the equipment delivered on site. For the planning component, data has been gathered and modeled by MoE distribution planning staff who will shadow UNDP experts for a short period. Light equipment has already been delivered in Muthanna, while the heavier equipment is in transit after inspection at the manufacturer's. This project is expected to reach completion in May 2007.

Impact: On completion, this project will improve the supply of electricity to approximately 200,000 people in Muthanna governorate. Training the distribution staff in planning, operation and maintenance of the system will ensure suitability of provided assets

▪ **Emergency Supply of Equipment to Electricity Sector in Iraq and Support to Essential Humanitarian Services**

The project provides emergency electricity supply and increased Ministry of Electricity capability through targeted rehabilitation works and equipment delivery to facilitate reliable access of local municipalities to the national grid. The last shipments of transformers was received and accepted in Baghdad. Installation of over 150 small diesel generators in critical humanitarian facilities have been completed countrywide, with a focus on the South. In Umm Qasr, major enhancements in the electricity distribution network have been realized. Hand-over activities are under way and the project will be financially closed by the summer of 2007.

Impact: Emergency power supplies for critical water, health, education and port facilities have been provided across the whole country, benefiting hundred of thousands of Iraqis. Training for Ministry of Electricity engineers and technicians have taken place, enabling them to rehabilitate the distribution network: Ten electrical engineers from six distribution directorates of the Ministry of Electricity were trained in Jordan. Training courses in Jordan and Egypt for more than 60 engineers of the Ministry of Electricity took place in July and August 2006

TRANSPORTATION

UNDP Infrastructure Unit has completed interventions in the transport sector to the value of US\$30 million. These largely focused on port and waterways management including **opening the access channel** from the Persian Gulf to Umm Qasr Port, **dredging, wreck removal** and **rehabilitating dredgers** owned by the Iraqi port authorities and providing training.

In February 2006, UNDP organized a conference in Amman to present its **Iraq Ports Study** written in cooperation with the Gol Port Authorities. Attended by MoFA, JBIC, WB, embassies and donors, key investment needs of the Iraqi Port Sector were highlighted. The Government of Denmark has agreed to fund a UNDP NEX project to restore navigational aids and build capacity.

In December 2006, UNDP undertook a **joint assessment mission with ICAO** to assess the Iraqi civil aviation infrastructure with a view to upgrading facilities to international aviation standards and develop this key sector - vital for recovery and economic development. A briefing was conducted at the request of the Office of the Prime Minister on the findings and recommendations of the assessment.

Recently Completed Projects

▪ **Dredging of Umm Qasr Port Approach Channel**

The project was completed in August 2005. Approximately 8M cubic meters of material was removed from the approach channel and disposed of in prescribed spoil areas. The project was completed within the set time frame and budget. A final report, with maps and data, was shared with the Ministry of Transport and the General Company for the Ports of Iraq.

Impact: With dredging and removal of priority wrecks, a larger flow of port traffic was observed in 2005 over 2004. The increased traffic to Umm Qasr port facilities resulted in estimated savings to the Iraqi economy of USD 69M per annum. Considering that these improvements were achieved with a relatively modest budget and will bring benefit for years, the cost-benefit ratio of this investment in the channel is regarded as high. The admiralty charts, updated by UK hydrographic office in July 2006, certifies to the shipping world the improved capacity and safety of the channel. Shipping and insurance rates for vessels calling at Umm Qasr are likely to decrease as a consequence.

▪ **Introduction of Effective Dredge Fleet Management**

This project was largely completed in August 2005 with last deliveries in May 2006. The dredging department has been provided with a complete set of specifications and scope of work enabling it to proceed a major refit of one or two dredgers. An upgraded dredge repair workshop with tools and dredger spare parts can maintain the current fleet of dredgers.

Impact: A well-equipped and well-trained survey office is now capable of carrying out hydrographic surveys in the port and approach channel. Trained dredging operations officers are now able to carry out effective dredging. Through training and institution building, the project has provided solid ground for sustained independent dredging operations. This is indispensable for continued safe operations of the port whose shallow basins have been a significant bottleneck so far. Improved access to Umm Qasr, Iraq's main seaport is crucial for the large-scale delivery of supplies needed for reconstruction efforts.

▪ **Emergency Assistance for the Electricity Sector**

The project started in 2003 with a focus on key facilities such as water treatment plants, hospitals, schools and universities. In spite of difficult implementation conditions, the project succeeded in delivering 163 generators at critical social and humanitarian facilities; rehabilitation of 18 transmission lines including the provision of 700km of conductor, 3 mobile substations as well as 4 cable test vans and other tools; rehabilitation of electrical systems at 9 major hospitals, 109 distribution transformers of 4000 kg of SF6 gas and 100,000 liters of transformer oil and 200km of low-voltage cable.

With the view to support the capacity of MoE to ensure sustainability of repairs, the project also provided equipment for MoE Baghdad.

Impact: Such emergency measures brought focused relief to key facilities ensuring their continuous operation.

▪ **Supply of essential maintenance parts to Hartha Thermal Power Station**

This project started early in 2004 and aimed at keeping Hartha Thermal Power Station running by supplying emergency maintenance parts. The parts provided were complemented by as-built drawings and training. Deliveries were completed in January 2005 as per schedule. The spare parts supplied have already been largely utilized for preventive maintenance works for unit No.1 and 4.

Impact: Hartha is a critical baseline generation unit of the Iraqi electricity grid and these works help maintain this power station in good working order, although, by 2003, most of its components were far beyond their design life and none of the critical spare parts were available at the end of conflict in 2003. By early 2007, Hartha TPS was contributing slightly less than 10 per cent of the electricity network

▪ **Technical assistance and the provision of Tools to Iraq**

Starting early in 2004, this project aimed at enhancing the capacity of the Ministry of Electricity by improving the protection of electrical equipment and its reliability, and increasing the safety of maintenance personnel in the Ministry.

Impact: New capability was built within the Ministry and essential toolsets partially replenished in specific departments.

MINE ACTION

After decades of war and internal conflict, Iraq is heavily contaminated with explosive remnants of war such as landmines, unexploded ordnance, explosive ordnance, and depleted uranium munitions. This potent threat which is scattered throughout major cities and villages impacts the daily lives of individuals and communities, and impedes delivery of humanitarian assistance. It is also a barrier to development, and reconstruction projects at the local and national levels.

The major areas of intervention of UNDP Mine Action are:

- (1) support to the institutional development of the National Mine Action Authority (NMAA) especially for policy coordination as well as for the development and the monitoring of a National Mine Action Strategy;
- (2) creating an enabling environment for rehabilitation and local development supported through mine clearance by strengthening operational capacity in the field;
- (3) provision of a comprehensive victim assistance support with vocational training and self-employment opportunities.

▪ **Institution and capacity building of National Mine Action Authority**

The UNDP Mine Action Team is working in close cooperation with the National Mine Action authority NMAA, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation, and other concerned stakeholders to develop and coordinate a mine action support strategy in Iraq. Although the NMAA was established in mid 2003, it still requires significant support and advice to improve its ability to effectively manage mine action operations in Iraq. UNDP is therefore assisting NMAA to build institutional and operational capacity, to align priorities with those of the Iraqi National Development Strategy, develop national management capacities and skills and establish an indigenous and sustainable operational mine action capacity.

In November 2006, the Iraqi Presidential council issued a law to accede to the Mine Ban Treaty (Ottawa Treaty). In support of this UNDP has been working on raising awareness on the issues of mines at a political level so that the Government will accede to the Treaty. Concurrently, UNDP has been providing technical support related to the requirements of a State Party under the Mine Ban Treaty, such as for the development of the required mine action policies and legislation.

Impact: UNDP has been providing training on results-based programming and operational management as well as supporting the use of the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA). On completion of the project, NMAA will be enabled to effectively deal with the humanitarian and developmental problems related to explosive remnants of war, previously contaminated land will be put to productive use and mine-related incidents reduced considerably. Iraq will accede to the Ottawa Treaty.

▪ **Institutional support to the Iraq Kurdistan Mine Action Centre (IKMAC) and GDMA**

UNDP supports the institutional development and operational capacity development of the Iraq Kurdistan Mine Action Center. This project builds on strengthening the existing local capacity and aims to increase the managerial and operational capacity development of the employees.

Impact: UNDP has been providing training on results – based programming and operational management as well as supporting the use of the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA). On completion of the project, IKMAC and GDMA will be enabled to effectively deal with the humanitarian and developmental problems related to explosive remnants of war, previously contaminated land in the North will be put to productive use and mine-related incidents reduced considerably.

▪ **Establishment of National Mine Action NGO for local development in Basra**

Under the supervision of UNDP and through the field operations of Danish Demining Group (DDG), national operators have been trained and equipped to work on humanitarian mine/UXO clearance in Basra with a special focus on agricultural and pasture land to revive the local economy. UNDP has been providing overall support to strategize the plans for "localizing" the management capacity to establish a full-fledged national NGO that will be working closely with the Regional Mine Action Center in Basra.

Impact: In 2006, some 33 million square meters of agricultural land have been cleared and more than 65,000 items removed. The results of the NGO's efforts contributed to local development, over 100 jobs created for Iraqi clearance operators, in addition to the estimated 1,000 farmers who were able to increase their income generation activities through the expansion of cultivated areas and producing more crops.

▪ **Technical support to Iraq Landmine Impact Survey (ILIS)**

The US DoS funded ILIS has received technical support from UNDP since June 2004 until March 2006. The ILIS illustrates the distribution of contamination and impact among Iraqi communities, especially in the thirteen governorates that have been comprehensively surveyed. Of these, 2,054 communities have been identified as contaminated. Much remains unknown about the situation in the remaining five governorates where survey activities were suspended in June 2006 due to the deteriorating security situation. A sample of findings from Basra governorate is indicated below:

- 3 per cent of Basra is suspected hazardous area of which 90 per cent is agricultural land.
- 30 per cent of ERW victims are primary bread winners.
- 60 per cent of contaminated communities do not have access to piped water.

- 90 per cent of impacted communities have no government health facilities.
- Over 50 per cent of communities do not have telephone connections.
- 20 per cent of communities have no electricity

Impact: The survey has provided the government with a picture of the extent of contamination and its socioeconomic impact on communities. It will assist the government in its prioritizations of demining efforts.

