



RECONSTRUCTION WEEKLY UPDATE

July 28, 2005



In early July, a group of 25 physicians from the Iraqi Ministry of Health received training to increase their skills in a range of training methodologies including on the job training, coaching and the use of training demonstrations.

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USAID assists Iraqis in reconstructing their country by working with Iraq's Interim Government. Programs are implemented in coordination with the United Nations, country partners, nongovernmental organizations and private sector partners.

This report highlights USAID's overall accomplishments and recent reconstruction efforts in Iraq. For more information, please visit www.usaid.gov/iraq.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- By October 2003, rehabilitated electric power capacity to produce peak capacity greater than the pre-war level of 4,400 MW. Production reached 5,365 MW on August 18, 2004.
- Since achieving record power production in summer '04, the Ministry of Electricity—with assistance from USAID—initiated the standard fall maintenance process which necessarily reduced the amount of power available for consumption. USAID worked with the MOE to conduct last fall's maintenance program.
- Repairing thermal units, replacing turbines, rehabilitating the power distribution network, and installing and restoring generators.
- USAID has added 978 MW of capacity through maintenance and rehabilitation work, and also repaired a 400 KV transmission line.
- USAID and the Ministry of Electricity are working with partners to place an additional 598 MW in the national grid by December 2005 through maintenance, rehabilitation, and new generation projects.
- USAID completed a project to convert two units that produce 80 MW each to operate on crude/heavy fuel oil instead of diesel which is in short supply.
- USAID initiated a project to rehabilitate 13 existing substations and construct 24 new substations in Baghdad. These 37 substations will improve the distribution and reliability of electricity for more than two million Baghdad residents. USAID recently handed over work on 12 of these substations to the Ministry of Electricity.

USAID's goals include the emergency repair or rehabilitation of power generation facilities and electrical grids. Teams of engineers from the Ministry of Electricity, USAID and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have been working since May 2003 to restore the capacity of Iraq's power system.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

At the Kirkuk substation, work on the V94 generator is being finalized. The Iraqi contractor is currently finishing the installation of the fuel gas supply, air compressor and electrical switches. Work also continues on erecting the generator's permanent gantry crane is used for access and maintenance.

The Kirkuk facility is located north of Baghdad at a major hub for the 132-kV and 400-kV grids. This area is near an existing natural gas pipeline, which was tapped to provide fuel to the new gas turbines which are being installed at the Kirkuk site. Gas turbines can be installed with a minimal amount of external infrastructure and are capable of burning a variety of fuels, including heavy oils.

USAID's work at the site will ultimately bring two new generators online, adding 325 MW of electrical generation capacity to the electrical grid. The recently completed V64 unit has added 65 MW to the national grid. Initial start-up and synchronization of the V64 was achieved on January 3. The V94 generator, which will add 260 MW, is expected to be complete in the third quarter of 2005. The overall project is now 83 percent finished.



Two new power generators at the Kirkuk substation will add 325 MW of power .

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- **Nationwide:** Repaired various sewage lift stations and water treatment units.
- **Baghdad:** Completed expansion and rehabilitation of one water treatment plant and continues constructing another to increase capacity by approximately 110 million gallons per day; rehabilitating sewage treatment plants.
 - A major wastewater treatment plant in Baghdad began operating in June 2004; this is the first major sewage plant in the country to operate in over 12 years.
 - The sewage treatment system in Baghdad, barely functioning for years before the conflict, will be restored to almost 100 percent capacity, serving 80 percent of Baghdad's population.
 - Standby generators are being installed at 41 Baghdad water facilities.
- **South:** Rehabilitated parts of the Sweet Water Canal system, including repairing breaches, cleaning the main reservoirs, and refurbished 14 water treatment plants around Basrah serving 1.75 million people.
- **South Central:** Completed two water plants and four sewage plants.
 - Completed the rehabilitation of a sewage plant in Babil Governorate.
 - Sewage plants in An Najaf, Al Qadisiyah, and Babil Governorates will serve 440,000 upon completion.
 - Water treatment in Najaf and Babil will serve residents and visitors at Iraq's holiest shrines.
- **North:** Completed rehabilitation of Kirkuk water plant and continuing refurbishment of sewage plant near Mosul.

USAID's goal is to improve the efficiency and reliability of existing water and wastewater treatment facilities, especially those in the south where water quantity and quality are particularly low. An anticipated 11.8 million Iraqis will benefit from USAID's \$600 million in water and sanitation projects.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Seven new raw water pumps have arrived at the Sharq-Dijlah water treatment plant for installation and the refurbishment of the Administration Building has been completed. USAID accepted responsibility to complete the expansion of the plant, which was begun under the Oil for Food Program. To further reduce anticipated water shortages in Baghdad, USAID is restoring the existing water treatment plant to its original capacity and providing the design for a second expansion at this site. Combined, the initial expansion and the plant restoration are expected to increase the supply of treated water by approximately 90 MGD.



USAID's refurbished water treatment plants will treat approximately 90 million gallons of water per day.

Iraqi subcontractors are also completing work on the plant's clarifiers and filter sluice gates. Sheet pilings for the new raw water intake cofferdam have been installed and excavation for replacement of the service water line from the treated water distribution tank to the chlorination header is in progress.

Work on the existing plant refurbishment is expected to be completed in June 2006.

The Iraqi subcontractor implementing the Baghdad Water Mains Rehabilitation project has laid 16.1 km of asphalt paving and 87.7 km of main line pipe to date which surpasses the original contract amount of 74 km. The current goal is to install 98km of mainline pipe. A total of 7,498 additional homes have been connected to the water mains. USAID is also developing a disconnection procedure to safely eliminate old asbestos concrete distribution pipes and is conducting site visits to witness hydrostatic testing and disinfection processes.

After years of neglect and inconsistent repair under the previous regime, the municipal water system in Sadr City was badly deteriorated. The system lost about 60 percent of its water due to leaks, illegal connections, and un-metered water uses. Failing water mains in densely-populated districts, such as Sadr City, caused low water pressure and allowed contaminated water to leak into water mains, resulting in frequent outbreaks of waterborne diseases.

The Water Distributions Mains project involves modeling the distribution system and repairing, replacing and installing new water pipes in Sadr City. This work has been expanded, by request of the Baghdad Mayorality, to include assistance in connecting houses to the water mains. The modeling task will

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Developed WTO Accession Roadmap in cooperation with Iraqi officials.
- Provided technical assistance as well as information on contracting opportunities for Iraqi businesses and entrepreneurs through business centers.
- Worked with the Ministry of Finance to introduce the new Iraqi dinar.
- Created more than 77,000 public works jobs through the National Employment Program.
- Provided technical assistance on accounting, budgeting and lending activities at Iraq's commercial banks. Trained 116 bankers from the Rafidain and Rasheed banks in six training courses.
- Assisted in management of \$21 million micro-credit program.
- Improved statistical analysis, monetary policymaking, and bank supervision procedures at Iraq's Central Bank; offered a two-week banking course to Central Bank staff with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.
- Evaluated and updated commercial laws on private sector and foreign investment.
- Assisted in developing the 5 percent reconstruction levy on imports; built capacity of customs officials to implement levy.
- Developed a government-wide IT strategy to support the automation of planning, budgeting and reporting processes across ministries.
- Provided technical support for the re-opening of the Iraq Stock Exchange after it was closed down for more than 15 months; 3.6 billion Iraqi dinars (\$2.4 million USD) in shares were traded in the first day.

USAID supports economic reforms in Iraq which will strengthen the Central Bank and the Ministries of Finance, Trade, Commerce and Industry. Experts examine laws, regulations, and institutions for reform within Iraq. The projects USAID implements provide a framework for private sector trade, commerce, and investment throughout Iraq.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

In a critical milestone for Iraqi debt renegotiation, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) accepted Iraq's Monetary Survey. This survey is the culmination of two months of work with Central Bank of Iraq Research and Statistics staff and will be used to support negotiations relating to the IMF Standby Facility for Iraq. The survey now includes data from all 26 banks under the direct supervision of the Central Bank of Iraq. The completion of the Monetary Survey is a Structural Indicative Benchmark of the EPCA. In September 2004, the IMF approved a \$436 million Emergency Post Conflict Assistance (EPCA) program for Iraq. The EPCA is the precursor to the Stand By Agreement (SBA).

USAID representatives completed a two-part course for tax officials from northern Iraq on providing training on the new Corporate Income Tax Return. The course was given in the Headquarters of the General Commission for Taxes in Baghdad. Attendees expressed their interest in additional training. USAID also conducted a two day presentation on tax policy and the legal aspects of the Value Added Tax (VAT) for the staff of the General Commission for Taxes. Attendees included deputy director generals, branch managers and department managers. The presentation was intended to educate the decision makers on the intricacies of introducing the VAT in Iraq.

Sixteen Ministry of Planning and Development staff completed an Advanced Capital Budgeting Workshop. The workshop exposed attendees to modern decision-making techniques, project identification principles, capital definitions and stakeholder involvement. The attendees found the workshop to be very useful, particularly given their lack of previous experience with this type of capital budgeting.

To harmonize banking standards throughout Iraq, USAID is working with bank officials to develop guidelines for credit policies and procedures for commercial banks on lending activities and credit files. The policies list the financial statements that should be collected from the borrower. The procedures detail statistics to be analyzed by the loan officer while reviewing a prospective borrower. These bank officials are also developing credit classification instructions for the banks and minimum loan loss provision requirements, based on these classifications. The primary source material for these documents is the training and materials the bank officials received during the Credit Risk Workshop, held in Amman in April 2005.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- **Summer and Winter Crop Technology Demonstrations:** These demonstrations are introducing farmers to new technologies and techniques through extension field days.
- **Animal Health:** Several veterinary clinics in Kirkuk, Fallujah, and other cities are being renovated and a grant has been made for dipping tanks to improve sheep health and wool.
- **Technology Support:** The Ministry of Agriculture and a major university's schools of Agriculture and Veterinary Science have been awarded grants to furnish and equip computer centers, improving research capabilities and consulting capacity.
- **Date Palm Propagation:** In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, 40,000 elite date palm offshoots are being used to establish mother orchards in 13 governorates as part of a multiplication program and the establishment of a national register of elite varieties.
- **Agriculture Sector Transition Plan:** This plan, completed in April 2004, addresses the short-term recovery of agricultural infrastructure as well as medium- and long-term implementation of policies to develop a market-based agricultural economy.

USAID's goals are to work in conjunction with Iraqi ministries, the private sector, and higher education institutions to revitalize agricultural production, stimulate income and employment generation, nurture rural initiatives, and rehabilitate the natural resource base.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

A survey conducted by USAID and the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) of 160 poultry farms in Arbil, Dahuk, and Sulaymaniyah found that the poultry industry in these three governorates is internationally competitive. The farms are privately-owned, receive no subsidies and subject to few government interventions. However, they are performing at only 46 percent of their production capacity because they lack the equipment and electricity to maintain climate controlled facilities during the summer and winter months. A separate survey is currently underway in Baghdad.

The MOA and USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development for Iraq (ARDI) program recently began a crop survey in Erbil governorate that will measure pasture, fallow and planting areas and the production of the main winter crops, wheat, barley and winter vegetables. In addition to informing policy decisions, this survey will improve the MOA's procedures for deriving area and production estimates. In the past, the MOA conducted crop surveys based on full coverage of every village in the governorate, an expensive and inefficient method. The new, more efficient method uses a representative sample of villages and farmers that are selected using existing data on expected production.

The winter crop and poultry surveys are part of a series of agricultural surveys that the ARDI program is supporting to improve the quality of statistics available to the MOA. Through practical experiences in the field, and a large scale training program, the MOA will have the capacity to conduct a national agriculture survey by 2007. Results will inform policy and business decisions.

USAID's ARDI program funded the construction of water storage basins in five Iraqi villages to improve irrigation. Each of the five 96 m³ basins will collect runoff from mountain springs for use during the summer season. This will sustain fruit orchards and vegetable crops, a main source of food and income for villagers, and will allow farmers to increase the amount of vegetable crops and orchards planted. Village committees will determine distribution of the stored water and will be responsible for maintenance of the basins. Eighty-one families will directly benefit from the work.

Six USAID-supported agriculture outreach teams, that will include a veterinarian and an agronomist/animal production specialist, will visit 240 villages to conduct workshops on diseases that are transmitted from animals to people. The workshops will target women who have the most contact with animals. Field team members were provided with equipment and training for three common diseases, their modes of transmission, signs of infection, symptoms and control measures.

Fourteen Iraqi government officials participated in a training in Amman, Jordan on the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) for the MOA/ARDI national Agro-Ecological Zoning (AEZ) program. AEZ technology combines raw data and satellite imagery to create land-use and crop suitability maps. The AEZ program will apply technology and training to increase agricultural production, improve food security, and preserve natural resources. The program is an inter-ministerial effort; officials from the MOA, Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Transportation will participate in the GIS training. The AEZ program is geared towards improving agricultural policy, and is therefore housed in the Ministry of Agriculture. The Ministry of Water Resources will be involved because agriculture in Iraq depends heavily on irrigation, which will be included in the AEZ mapping. The Ministry of Transportation manages meteorological data, which will be incorporated into the AEZ maps.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Strengthen the capacity of the legislative branch of the Iraqi interim and transitional governments and its staff during the interim and transition period to include lawmaking, representation, executive oversight, and other responsibilities as provided by the Transitional Administrative Law.
- Assist the Executive Authority, the Presidency Council, and the Council of Ministers and its presiding Prime Minister develop governing processes, rules of procedure, regulations and directives necessary to enforce the laws, and to implement government programs and policies
- Support the process for adoption of an Iraqi constitution that promotes democratic principles and values through the provision of technical assistance that includes, but is not limited to, providing comparative constitutional expertise; organizing constitutional conferences and conventions; facilitating public awareness, education, and participation; and assisting in the conduct of a national referendum or other ratifying mechanism.

In the post-election period, USAID will continue to plan and implement a variety of programs, undertaken in full partnership with Iraqi counterparts, matching the needs of the evolving Iraqi democracy. In particular, USAID is accelerating support to the Iraq National Assembly and the Constitutional Drafting Commission.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

USAID trained an additional 38 facilitators to conduct constitutional dialogues in Kirkuk, As Sulaymaniyah, Baghdad, Hilla, Karbala, Anbar, Qadisiyah and Basra. The 329 facilitators trained to date are members of the 150 NGOs participating in USAID's Constitutional Dialogue Program designed to facilitate constituent involvement in the constitutional process through civic education and public input. USAID also organized a meeting with three Tikrit-based NGOs expected to become new implementers. Meanwhile, USAID was approached by five Basra-based NGOs wishing to participate in the constitutional dialogue program.

The Iraqi National Assembly's (INA) Women's Caucus came to an agreement on a list of basic statements they wish to incorporate in the new Iraqi constitution. In the last couple of weeks, the caucus group's draft statement was discussed with the leaders of each party represented in the group. The months of extensive discussions and trainings on advocacy work were designed to help women at this critical stage to lobby and convincingly argue for their parties to incorporate the caucus' statement in their own platform.

In early July, USAID held consultation sessions for the INA's Constitutional Committee with a variety of international experts. Between July 4 and 7, Iraqi members of the Constitutional Committee met with two constitutional law professors who have worked for the governments of China, Nepal, South Africa, Indonesia and other countries; the special advisor on constitutional reform to Ontario, Canada; a Spanish university professor of tax and finance law who is a specialist on fiscal federalism and the distribution of taxation powers among different tiers of government; a lawyer in the Supreme Court and other courts in India.

During a July 3 workshop on "Message Development" that was led by USAID representatives, 36 INA members were introduced to ways of developing an effective message to either pass a piece of legislation or promote a public policy. The training identified methods to create an effective message by considering goals, audiences, strategies and potential impact. Members of Parliament also joined in practical exercises on designing a message.

On July 4, USAID representatives organized a conference on federalism for 34 INA members so members of parliament could benefit from the expertise of two visiting experts members of the *Forum of Federation*; a world-known network specializing in issues related to federalism. The lecture offered an overview of basic principals and characteristics, models and arguments for and against federal systems. Questions were principally targeted at the Spanish and Canadian models, strategies in dealing with terrorism in Spain, movements for separation through referendum in Canada, allocation of resources, the status of minorities and the jurisdiction of federal armies and police.

In early July, the Secretary General of the INA made a request to USAID representatives to procure equipment to produce a web-casting of National Assembly and Constitutional Committee sessions. The Constitutional Committee's Outreach Unit also requested advice on a nation-wide public outreach poster-campaign on the constitutional process. USAID representatives made recommendations and provided four experienced Iraqi graphic designers.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- More than \$2.5 million was committed to the nationwide Civic Education Campaign, which educated Iraqis on democracy and political transition in Iraq. Over 550 democratic dialogue facilitators were recruited to help Iraqis participate in political processes. More than 29,000 local democracy dialogues events were conducted by election day, in which well over 789,700 Iraqis participated.
- Established regional offices in Al Basrah, Al Hillah, Baghdad, and Erbil, with resident expat and Iraqi professional staff operating in all 18 governorates.
- Awarded \$15.5 million in rapid-response grants in the first program year to strengthen the capacity of authorities to deliver core municipal services. The grants were used to restore services in agriculture, education, health, electricity, sanitation, and water. In the second year, a similar grants program worth \$1.5 million has been implemented.
- Facilitated the establishment or refreshment of 16 governorate councils, 90 district councils, 194 city or sub-district councils, and 445 neighborhood councils.
- Supported preparation of 2004 and 2005 budgets in Baghdad, Mosul, Hillah, Babil, and Najaf.
- Organized and carried out numerous selection processes for governors and mayors, as well as local council elections, throughout Iraq.
- Supported a series of National Agenda Dialogue Conferences, which engaged stakeholders such as academics, journalists, women, lawyers, health professionals, tribal leaders, the disabled and civil society organizations in discussions on their roles in Iraq's developing democracy.

USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP) goals include promoting representative citizen participation in governance; strengthening the management skills of city and provincial administrations and civic institutions; promoting advocacy and participation of civil society organizations; enhancing leadership skills; and serving as a recruiting tool for future leaders.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

In late June, USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP) coordinated a joint meeting between 68 Provincial Council (PC) members from As Sulaymaniyah and Ninawa to strengthen the relationship and exchange views and experiences between the two institutions. The As Sulaymaniyah and Ninawa PCs have been very active in performing their functions to the best of their abilities under the existing circumstances. Council committees have been active in monitoring the market prices of basic food items and in recommending actions to address traffic issues. Reconstruction committees are discussing road paving, park building and city beautifications.

The LGP recently delivered a comprehensive workshop on "Developing and Monitoring Budgets" for members of the Najaf P.C. All PC members were in attendance as well as managers representing the Health, Treasury, Municipality and Road departments. The major topics of discussion included:

- The PC's role in the preparation and monitoring of budgets;
- Requirements to following policies and regulations set by the legislative body;
- Prioritizing community needs;
- The use of statistical information in resource allocation decisions; and
- A step by step presentation of the budgeting process.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- USAID has committed over \$131 million to 3,120 projects while Iraqi communities have committed more than 25 percent of total funding. CAP has established over 600 community action groups (CAGs) in 17 governorates. Five U.S. NGOs each concentrate on a region: north, Baghdad, southwest central, southeast central, and south.
- The northern program focuses on the conflict prone areas of the Sunni Triangle, Mosul, Kirkuk and the Iran-Iraq border. The partner NGO has completed 433 projects with over \$29 million in project commitments including improving the Tikrit water supply, and developing income generation projects in the north.
- In the southwest central region, the partner NGO has established a strong presence in Hillah and the Shi'a holy cities Najaf and Karbala. Emphasis on critical infrastructure needs has improved community water/sanitation services and schools, and repaired vital social infrastructure. They have completed 322 projects and have over \$21.5 million in project commitments.
- Income generation is an important emphasis in the Baghdad program where 522 projects have been completed through CAGs. A marketplace for over 700 vendors is being constructed, and crews are cleaning up medical waste dumps. Total project commitments are \$22.3 million.
- In the southeast central region, 179 projects are complete with a total of \$16.7 million in commitments. In the Shi'i heartland, these projects address needs resulting from decades of government neglect and focus on water, sewerage, community clean-up, and school rehabilitation.
- The southern program has completed 625 projects with total commitments of \$21.9 million. Projects have focused on immediate community needs such as sewage clean up, water treatment and distribution, public health, and girls' access to education.

The Community Action Program works in rural and urban communities to promote democracy and prevent and mitigate conflict. Working directly through partner NGOs and in consultation with local government representatives, USAID is creating representative participatory community groups to identify critical priorities and implement programs to address those needs.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

USAID's Community Action Program (CAP) worked with a community in northern Iraq to rebuild the sports facilities at a rehabilitation center for the disabled. The rehabilitation center was established in 1986 to assist men newly disabled from the Iran/Iraq war, but now offers services to all people with disabilities in At Tamim and As Sulaymaniyah governorates. Sports activities in this area are dependent on the weather. It is too cold and rainy in winter, and too hot in summer for an all year program. CAP helped the community build a center for year round sports that will attract new people with disabilities to activities, increasing their self-esteem and physical conditioning. The rehabilitation center is donating the land and the staff to run the center and the community will donate volunteers to run the sports teams. Seventeen full time jobs will be created to run the center and provide specialized advice and treatment.

At the request of the local community association, CAP is improving the telephone network of a town in southern Diyala Governorate. The town had many damaged lines which impeded service, and was without servicing or updating for many years. The community requested the project to improve communication among the local population—especially during emergencies—and to increase local incomes by enhancing business opportunities. CAP supplied the community with telephone fittings, connections and service equipment. The community association, with the cooperation of the telephone network office, provided the professional staff, a loading truck and telephone cables. The new working telephone network improves daily lives and comforts local people who lack many other services.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- 2,564 schools have been rehabilitated through direct contracting and grants to communities.
- Hundreds of thousands of desks, chairs, cabinets, chalkboards, and kits for primary and secondary schools have been distributed countrywide.
- 32,700 secondary school teachers and administrators, including 928 master trainers, have been trained nationwide. Over the next year, up to 100,000 additional teachers will receive in-service training.
- Eighty-four primary and secondary schools (four in each governorate) are being established to serve as “centers of excellence.” Teachers will receive six weeks of training, and schools will be equipped with computer and science laboratories.
- More than 550 out-of-school youth completed a pilot accelerated learning program. An expanded program, targeting 10,000 out-of-school youth, will be implemented during the 2005–06 school year.
- Satellite Internet access and computers installed at the Ministry of Education and in all 21 Directorates of Education. To improve resource management, an Education Management Information System is being developed.
- More than 8.7 million math and science textbooks have been edited, printed, and distributed throughout Iraq.
- Partnerships have been established between five American and 10 Iraqi universities. Through these partnerships, more than 1,500 Iraqi faculty and students have participated in workshops, trainings, conferences, and courses in Iraq, the Middle East, Europe, and the United States.
- University facilities, such as libraries, computer and science laboratories, lecture halls, and buildings, have been rehabilitated at colleges of law, engineering, medicine, archeology, and agriculture. In addition, books and electronic resources have been provided to university libraries.

USAID’s goals are to increase enrollment, improve primary and secondary education, ensure classrooms have sufficient supplies, facilitate community involvement, train teachers, implement accelerated learning programs, and establish partnerships between U.S. and Iraqi colleges and universities.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

USAID is supporting the Ministry of Education (MOE) in its development of an Education Management Information System (EMIS). USAID’s sub-contracting partner PRIMUS recently completed the EMIS prototype version 1.2.0 and began the prototype of the financial system. EMIS’ System Overview Document (SOD) and System Requirements Specifications (SRS) draft have been completed and USAID representatives provided training to four developers from the Iraqi MOE on Microsoft SQL Server and Microsoft .NET technologies. Several discussions were held with Ghassan Jamil, the director general of the MOE’s Information Technology Center, on the prototype. EMIS will assist the MOE in nationwide monitoring and planning related to facilities, human resources, enrollment, student performance, and other information.

A web-based distance learning program was provided to representatives from the five Iraqi universities that are participating in the *Al Sharaka* partnership with several American universities under USAID’s Higher Education and Development program. The Iraqi information technology professionals received training during three-week courses on Instructional Systems Design, Web Communication and Design, Web Based Educational Systems, and Educational Courseware via *Flash*.

Also under the *Al Sharaka* program, an internet center was recently inaugurated at a southern university by the University president. This was the fourth computer center established by *Al Sharaka* (in addition to computer installations made under other program activities, such as GIS/GPS, etc.). The center is equipped with 20 PCs, peripherals, Internet connectivity, and access to the EBSCO on-line “library.” Staff for the center were selected and trained.

Several training courses were held in the northern governorates for hospital staff and pregnant mothers on the benefits and issues related to breastfeeding. The courses shaped hospital policy and behavior, and covered some of the problems associated with breastfeeding. Ten training sessions were also held in Dahuk governorate Primary Health Clinics and with local religious leaders to encourage them to advocate breast feeding within their communities. A training course was held for 25 teachers working in Community Child Care Units to prepare them to disseminate breastfeeding information to primary and secondary school girls. Two weekly TV spots on good breastfeeding techniques are being broadcast while 200 cards and leaflets have been produced to hand out in labor rooms and prenatal care units on good breast feeding technique.

The breastfeeding courses were part of the Community Sustainable Health Outreach Program being conducted by a northern Iraqi university to develop academic programs in sanitation preventive health and educational awareness. The program is sponsored by the HEAD program’s partnership between Jackson State University, the Mississippi Consortium for International Development and several Iraqi universities to improve the quality of instruction in institutions of higher learning on public health.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Vaccinated over 3 million children under age 5 and 700,000 pregnant women with vaccination campaigns that included monthly immunization days.
- Provided supplementary doses of vitamin A for more than 600,000 children under age 2 and 1.5 million lactating mothers.
- Provided iron folate supplements for over 1.6 million women of childbearing age.
- Screened more than 1.3 million children under age 5 for malnutrition.
- Distributed high protein biscuits to more than 450,000 children and 200,000 pregnant women and nursing mothers.
- Provided potable water for 400,000 people each day in Basrah city and 170,000 people in Kirkuk and Mosul.
- Provided skills training for 2,500 primary health care providers and 700 physicians.
- Trained 2,000 health educators, teachers, religious leaders and youth to mobilize communities on hygiene, diarrhea, breastfeeding, nutrition and immunization issues.
- Disseminated information on essential health messages to families around the country.
- Renovated 110 primary health care centers.
- Provided vaccines and cold chain equipment to selected health centers.
- Developed a national plan to fortify wheat flour with iron and folic acid.

USAID is supporting the Iraqi Ministry of Health to strengthen essential health services, improve the capacity of health personnel, and respond to the specific health needs of vulnerable populations such as women and children.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

In early July, a group of 25 physicians from the Iraqi Ministry of Health graduated from a six-day Training of Trainers' workshop (TOT). Participants were representatives of various departments of the Ministry of Health and Primary Health Care Centers from across the country. The competency-based workshop was designed to increase physician trainer skills in a range of training methodologies and enable them to practice different types of training approaches including on-the-job training, coaching and the use of training demonstrations. All 25 participants had to pass pre/post tests and design training materials for micro-teaching presentations.



Workshops for physician trainers to increase their skills in a range of training methodologies.

USAID's Training Model Primary Providers (TMPP) program aims to support the Ministry of Health in training primary health care providers and other staff for 150 model primary health care centers currently under construction around the country. The training program will upgrade the technical knowledge, clinical and management skills and performance of center directors, physicians, nurses, medical assistants and other staff assigned to model centers. Successful implementation of this activity will increase access to quality primary health care services effective in reducing infant, child and maternal morbidity and mortality.

This training program will provide approximately 1,400 physicians, 1,000 nurses, 2,100 medical assistants, and 150 center directors with improved knowledge and enhanced clinical and management skills, and an additional 5,000 center staff with strengthened team work and problem-solving skills. Improving staff skills will lead to enhanced services at model primary health care centers, with potential benefits for approximately 32,500 people per primary health care center, for a total of 4,875,000 beneficiaries at 150 primary health care sites around the country.

COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

July 28, 2005

Since the cessation of the 2003 conflict, USAID has completed its planned work at Umm Qasr Seaport, re-stored significant portions of Iraq's telecommunications network, rebuilt three major bridges and restored the rail line connecting Umm Qasr with Basra city and points north. USAID also helped avert a humanitarian crisis during the conflict by providing assistance to the United Nations World Food Program. USAID advisors continue to assist with management and distribution of food rations to Iraqi citizens.

SEAPORTS

- The \$45 million program to rehabilitate and improve management at Umm Qasr seaport was completed in June 2004.
- Port reopened to commercial traffic on June 17, 2003; completed first passenger vessel test July 16, 2003.
- Up to 50 ships offload at the port every month.
- Completed dredging to open all 21 berths to deep-draft ships; maintenance dredging is ongoing.
- Applied port tariffs on June 20, 2003.
- Renovated the grain-receiving facility to process 600 MT of grain an hour.
- Renovated the administration building, passenger terminal, customs hall, and electrical substations.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- Audited more than 1,200 km of the fiber optic backbone network and performed emergency repairs, reconnecting 20 cities and 70 percent of the population.
- Reconstituted Baghdad area phone service by installing switches with 240,000 lines at 12 sites.
- Installed and fully integrated 13 new switches with 14 existing switches.
- Worked with the Ministry of Communications to reactivate more than 215,000 subscriber lines.
- Installed a satellite gateway system at Baghdad's largest telecom exchange and restored international service.
- Trained telecom engineers and technicians in the operation and maintenance of the satellite gateway system and the new switches.

BRIDGES AND ROADS

- Rebuilt three major bridges—Khazir, Tikrit and Al Mat bridges—critical to moving people and commercial products throughout the country.
- Rebuilt a substantial portion of the Iraqi Republican Railway line connecting Basrah with the port of Umm Qasr including physical track construction, installing culverts, and repairing gatehouses. The remainder of the work has been handed over to the Ministry of Transportation. This work allows shipments of bulk cargo from the port to Baghdad and throughout the country.

FOOD SECURITY

- Worked directly with the World Food Program (WFP) and Coalition Forces to re-establish the Public Distribution System (PDS) in less than 30 days, avoiding a humanitarian food crisis and providing food security throughout the country.
- With Iraqi food distributors, Food for Peace, the WFP, and Coalition Forces maintained deliveries from June through December 2003 in all 18 governorates.
- Played a key role in an agreement between the WFP, CPA, and the MoT that provided the WFP with the resources and authority to continue to support the PDS through June 2004.
- In partnership with the U.S. Embassy in Iraq, providing on-going support to the Public Distribution System Working Group to assist the Ministry of Trade with improving PDS management.

PROGRAM FINANCIAL SUMMARY July 28, 2005

FY 2003-2005*			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
Reconstruction USAID/ANE			Subtotal: \$3,988,903,243
Abt Associates	Health	Countrywide	\$23,031,886
AFCAP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$91,500,000
America's Development Foundation	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$42,880,157
Army Corps of Eng.	Architecture and Engineering Services	Countrywide	\$38,086,393
BearingPoint	Economic Governance	Countrywide	\$79,583,885
BearingPoint	Economic Governance II	Countrywide	\$103,500,000
Bechtel	Airports, buildings, power, railroads, roads, bridges, port, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,029,833,259
Bechtel	Infrastructure II: Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation, Basra Hospital	Countrywide	\$1,309,811,678
CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000
CAII	Education II	Countrywide	\$51,809,000
CEPPS	Iraq Governing Council	Countrywide	\$675,000
CEPPS	Transitional Government	Countrywide	\$35,700,000
CEPPS	Voter Education, Domestic Observation and Conflict Resolution	Countrywide	\$49,275,000
CEPPS	Elections Administration Support	Countrywide	\$40,000,000
Community Action Program	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$258,820,000
DAI	Marshlands	South	\$4,000,000
DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$101,352,912
Logenix	Health	North/Central	\$108,506
Louis Berger	Vocational Education	Countrywide	\$75,016,115
Louis Berger	Private Sector Development II	Countrywide	\$95,000,000
Partnership for Child Healthcare	Health	Countrywide	\$2,000,000

PROGRAM FINANCIAL SUMMARY

July 28, 2005

FY 2003-2004			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$241,910,757
RTI	Local Governance II	Countrywide	\$70,000,000
RTI	Health Training	Countrywide	\$22,000,000
SkyLink	Airport Management	Bag., Bas., Mos.	\$27,200,000
SSA	Port Management	Umm Qasr	\$14,318,985
UNDP	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
UNESCO	Textbook Printing & Distribution: Math & Science	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$36,700,000
UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$19,600,000
University Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Research Foundation of the State University of New York/Stony Brook and the Universities of Chicago, Boston and Oxford The Human Rights Institute, DePaul University College of Law and Italy's International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences University of Hawaii, the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas, University of Jordan and the American University in Beirut Jackson State University, Tougaloo College, Alcorn State University, Mississippi Valley State University, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Benetech, US-Iraq Business Resources University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, Cameron University and Langston University 	Countrywide	\$20,730,000
VEGA	Business Skills Training	Countrywide	\$12,089,702
VFH	Elections Support	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
WHO	Strengthen Health System	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$4,808,858
World Bank	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
Yankee Group	Telecoms Planning	Countrywide	\$58,150
Emergency Relief USAID/DCHA/OFDA.....			Subtotal: \$181,352,975
ACTED	Water and sanitation, health/hygiene, education	Eastern Iraq	\$2,995,793
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$8,049,839
AirServ	Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,309,876
ARC	Capacity Building	Al Basrah	\$537,746
CARE	IDP Assistance, Quick-impact projects, Water and Sanitation, Health, Emergency Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$9,043,148
The Cuny Center	Research Studies	Countrywide	\$40,260
GOAL	Coordination, Nutrition	Al Muthanna	\$1,507,900
InterAction	Coordination	Kuwait City	\$92,860
IDA	Health	Countrywide	\$1,318,437

PROGRAM FINANCIAL SUMMARY July 28, 2005

FY 2003-2004			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
IMC	Health, IDP Assistance, Food Security, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Capacity Building	Countrywide	\$34,832,887
IOM	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$18,392,470
IRC	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,000,411
IRD	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Northern Iraq	\$17,076,190
Logistics	Emergency Relief Commodities and USAID/DART Support	Countrywide	\$22,771,653
Mercy Corps	IDP Assistance, Health, Emergency Relief Commodities, Shelter, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$25,251,114
SCF/US	Food Security, Health, IDP Assistance, Shelter, Nutrition, Emergency Relief Commodities, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,638,652
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
OCHA	Coordination and Information	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
USAID/Jordan	Support for Emergency Water Activities	Countrywide	\$500,000
WFP	Food Security, Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
World Vision	Health, Logistics, Emergency Relief , Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$6,793,739
USAID/DCHA/FFP.....			Subtotal: \$425,571,000
WFP	Operations	Countrywide	\$45,000,000
WFP	Emerson Trust—81,500 MT	Countrywide	\$40,337,000
WFP	P.L. 48– Title II emergency food commodities—163,820 MT	Countrywide	\$140,234,000
WFP	Regional Purchase—330,000MT	Countrywide	\$200,000,000
USAID/DCHA/OTI.....			Subtotal: \$382,401,891
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$10,444,426
IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$6,462,167
DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$354,500,376
Internews	Media	Countrywide	\$160,359
Radio SAWA	Media	Countrywide	\$400,000
NDI/IRI	National Governance	Countrywide	\$650,000
IFES	National Governance	Countrywide	\$1,042,315
ICNL	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$39,238
Spa War**	Inter-Ministry Communications	Countrywide	\$8,703,001
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ FROM 2003-2005			\$4,978,229,109

* Figures in funding sheet are subject to change and do not represent a final official accounting of USG obligations.

** For accounting purposes, funding for this activity has been obligated by OFDA under an existing interagency agreement.