

IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION WEEKLY UPDATE

January 5, 2005



Above: A power plant turbine rotor in line to be rebuilt.

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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.

ELECTRICITY

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. By October, 2003, rehabilitated electric power capacity to produce peak capacity greater than the pre-war level of 4,400 MW. Hit 5,365 MW on August 18, 2004.
- Since achieving record power production in Summer '04, the Ministry of Electricity—with assistance from USAID—has begun the standard Fall maintenance process which will necessarily reduce 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 535 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 add a total of more than 1,281 MW to 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.
- Most recently, USAID has 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'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 of 2003 to restore the capacity to Irag's power system.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Work is 82 percent complete at a power generation facility north of Baghdad. This project will increase electrical generation capacity by 325 megawatts through the addition of two combustion turbines to the existing substation site. The first unit started generating electricity on January 3, 2005, and the overall project is scheduled to be complete by June 2005.

At one unit, gas lines have been purged and the generator heat exchanger pipes were prepared for painting. Gear box and generator bearing oil pipes were welded and instrumentation was installed. Fire alarm panels, emergency lights, smoke detectors, heat detectors, and gas detectors were all wired. At a second unit, work continues to progress. The exhaust stack and air intake system are being assembled. Transformers were wired and the oil/water separator system was piped and wired.

USAID is expanding a thermal power plant in southern Baghdad with a 132 kV connection to the national grid. This project will add 216 MW of generation capacity. Recently, manpower at the site increased to 537 Iraqi employees, with another projected increase over the coming weeks to 600 employees. The project is now 30 percent finished, and is scheduled for completion by late spring of 2005.

USAID's project to increase generation at a major power plant in Babil Governorate is now 40 precent complete. USAID is providing technical and management assistance to Ministry of Electricity plant managers responsible for implementing the rehabilitation. This is a different model from projects where USAID contractors perform the majority of maintenance work, and it has proved to be a successful one. The plant was built in the early 1980s and was generating about 435 MW a day when USAID began rehabilitation work in spring 2004. To date, USAID's rehabilitation efforts at the power plant have increased net capacity by 355 MW. At project completion in May 2005, the total capacity increase will be

Work is 79 percent complete in the restoration of heat exchangers at four generating stations in southern Iraq. Replacement or refurbishment of

500 MW.

the heat exchangers will assist in allowing these stations to regain their full nameplate generating capability. One plant's restoration is now complete, and the entire project will be finished by May 15, 2005, adding 20 MW of generating capacity to the Iraqi grid.



A power plant turbine rotor in line to be rebuilt.

WATER AND SANITATION

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Nationwide: Repaired various sewage lift stations and water treatment units.
- Baghdad: Expanding one water treatment plant and constructing another to increase capacity by approximately 70 million gallons per day; rehabilitating sewage treatment plants.
- A major wastewater treatment plant in Baghdad began operating in June of 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 100percent capacity, serving 80 percent of Baghdad's population.
- Standby generators are being installed at 41 Baghdad water facilities.
- South: Rehabilitating parts of the Sweet Water Canal system, including repairing breaches, cleaning the main reservoir, and refurbishing 14 water treatment plants around Basrah serving 1.75 million people.
- South Central: Rehabilitating two water plants and four sewage plants.
- Completed the rehabilitation of a sewage plant in Babil Governorate.
- Sewage plants in An Najaf, Al Qadisiyah, Karbala, 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: Rehabilitating two water plants and one sewage plant near Mosul and Kirkuk.

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

The Mosul water and sewer project is 96 percent complete. This activity includes the provision of an independent power supply to allow 24-hour availability of water, and the restoration of water towers, the city storm drain and the sewer system. Personnel have been trained in maintenance and operations, and nearly all centrifugal pumps have been installed.

 Inadequate water supply has been one of the primary quality of life issues in Mosul, with most households receiving only a few hours of water per day. Since the city lacks a fully integrated sewer system, seasonal flooding is also a major problem, as many homes are inundated during the winter months when rainfall is high. The Mosul water and sewer project will greatly contribute to resolving these problems.

A new water treatment plant will increase the potable water supply in the Sadr City district of Baghdad. Improving employment and infrastructure in this area is critical both for economic development and improving security. The new plant will include a potable water treatment system with a capacity of 3,000 m3/hour, a potable water storage facility, and a pumping station to move treated water from storage to the existing distribution system. The plant will be designed to accommodate a future expansion to 6,000 m3/hour. The plant is now eight percent finished and is scheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2006.

The renovation and expansion of a water treatment plant in Baghdad is 86 percent complete. The project will add 50 million gallons per day (MGD) to the current 120 MGD nameplate capacity at the plant. Current activity at the site involves improving the backwash system and pump house where pipes are being connected. The existing raw water inlet pumps are being repaired and replaced, and additional pumps are being constructed. This project includes training for plant personnel in the operation and maintenance of the expanded facility, and work is expected to be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2005.



Expanding a water treatment plant in Baghdad.

ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- 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.
- Improved statistical analysis, monetary policymaking, and bank supervision procedures at Iraq's Central Bank.
- Provided technical assistance for CPA's \$21 million microcredit program.
- Provided technical assistance for the Oil for Food transition to prepare Iraqi ministries to assume responsibility for OFF contracts.
- Evaluated and updated commercial laws on private sector and foreign investment.
- Assisted in developing the reconstruction levy in collaboration with the CPA and the UK Customs Service; this levy imposes a five percent tariff on imports to Iraq.
- Developed a government-wide IT strategy to support the automation of planning, budgeting and reporting processes across ministries.
- Provided technical assistance as well as information on contracting opportunities for Iraqi businesses through business centers.
- 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 sustainable economic reforms in Iraq including examining and reforming laws, regulations, and institutions and providing a framework for private sector trade, commerce, and investment. The reforms will strengthen the Central Bank and the Ministries of Finance, Trade, Commerce and Industry—among others.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Under USAID's Iraq Economic Governance II (IEGII) program, advisors are continuing to work with the Central Bank of Iraq (CBI) to improve its ability to conduct sound monetary policy and build the technical capacity of its staff. Recent activities have included:

- Inter-bank Payments IEG II advisors are outlining the next steps in the process of automating payment of water and sewer bills for approximately 550,000 households and 100,000 business accounts, and automating rental payments for 17,438 households.
- Bank Supervision IEG II advisors delivered a set of recommendations to the CBI on assessing risks and designing enforcement actions for Iraqi lending institutions. A set of definitions was developed for asset categories and risk weighting; these definitions will be used to create regulations for the Banking Law.
- Macroeconomic Policy IEG II advisors made recommendations to the CBI on complying with International Monetary Fund (IMF) standards for reporting currency reserves.
- Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology (COSIT)
 IEG II and COSIT developed plans to set up a new IT system to track
 key macroeconomic indicators.

USAID's Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance is designed to promote the expansion of a competitive and efficient private sector in post-war Iraq through the delivery of training, technical assistance, consulting, and business entrepreneurship services.

Recent activities have included:

Basrah Business Center VEGA advisors undertook a five-day mission to Basrah to begin cooperating with an area business center. VEGA's plans call for collaborating with business centers around Iraq to provide training and business incubation services.

Women's Entrepreneur Workshop and New Association. At a conference on women's entrepreneurship held at a business center in Arbil, 65 Iraqi women participants agreed to establish a business women's association, the first of its kind in the country.

Handicapped Training Workshop Seventeen people with disabilities participated in a workshop on designing business plans, with support from VEGA and an Iraqi NGO. The three-day workshop gave participants information on starting new businesses, including creating business plans and marketing strategies.

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AGRICULTURE

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Summer and Winter Crop **Technology Demonstra**tions: 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 mid-April, 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

USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development Program for Iraq (ARDI) helped organize a recent conference of 175 beekeepers to establish the Dahuk Beekeeping Association. The Association will help the beekeepers increase production of honey and other products through education, training and the application of new beekeeping technologies.

In early December the ARDI Winter Crop Technology Demonstration Program launched 24 new demonstration sites in the three northern governorates of As Sulaymaniyah, Arbil, and Dahuk. Targeted crops for these demonstrations are bread wheat, durum wheat, and barley. These 24 demonstration sites are among the 160 demonstrations nationwide in the Winter Crop Technology Demonstration Program. It is expected that up to 16,000 farmers will attend field days organized throughout the growing season at the 160 demonstration sites.

ARDI is continuing to rehabilitate veterinary clinics across the country. A grant was recently approved to equip an Arbil veterinary clinic that was rehabilitated with USAID support in November 2004. To date, ARDI has rehabilitated thirteen veterinary clinics, and grants to an additional ten clinics are being finalized.

Two ARDI grants were approved to provide equipment to the Ministry of Agriculture for the creation agro-ecological zone maps. The Program will prepare crop suitability maps for 20 major crops including wheat, barley, triticale, rice, corn, sorghum, chickpea, lentil, mung bean, broad bean, clover, cotton, sunflower, rape, soybean, sugar cane, sugar beet, tomato, potato and onions.

ARDI signed a grant agreement with the Kurdistan Agricultural and Development Reconstruction Organization (KARDO) to carryout stone removal activities to increase the land available for farming by more than 300 acres in Ninawa Governorate. Expanding land available will encourage farming families to remain in their villages and contribute to economic growth. To generate employment in the area, KARDO hired 220 villagers to clear the fields (186 men and 34 women).

EDUCATION

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

Facilities

- Awarded 627 grants worth more than \$6 million to rehabilitate schools and equip Directorates General.
- Rehabilitated 2,405 schools countrywide.

Supplies

- Distributed desks, chairs, cabinets, chalkboards, and kits for primary and secondary schools countrywide.
- Printed and distributed 8.7 million revised math and science textbooks to grades 1-12 by mid-February 2004.

Institutional Strengthening

- Printed and distributed 8.7 million revised math and science textbooks to grades 1-12 by mid-February 2004.
- Completed a major initiative that trained nearly 33,000 secondary school teachers and administrators, including 860 master trainers, nation-
- Conducted a pilot accelerated learning program in five Iraqi cities to allow out-of-school children to complete two school years in one year. More than 550 students participated.
- Assisted the Ministry in establishing official baseline education data for

Higher Education

 Awarded five grants worth \$20.7 million to create partnerships between U.S. and Iragi universities. Through these partnerships, Iraqi universities are rebuilding infrastructure; reequipping university facilities; participating in international conferences; attending workshops and refresher courses; and reforming curriculum.

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

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

USAID's Higher Education and Development (HEAD) program is continuing to help Iraq's higher education institutions attain standards of excellence and integrate with the international academic community. In partnership with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, USAID is supporting five university partnerships with U.S.-led consortia, each with a unique focus.

One of the five partnerships is a cooperative effort between five Iraqi Universities and the State University of New York (SUNY/Stony Brook). The consortium is working to improve faculty training, curriculum and facilities for the study of Archaeology, Assyriology and Environmental Health. Recent activities of this partnership have included:

- Plans for 35 participants to attend an upcoming training session for environmental health specialists in Amman, Jordan have been established. Applications are currently being reviewed, and women are strongly encouraged to apply.
- The first shipment of environmental books to Iraq has been completed. Nearly 300 medical and scientific environmental books will be distributed to each of three universities.
- Laboratory rehabilitation work has been completed at three Iragi universities. The facilities are now ready to be furnished and equipped.

DEMOCRACY & GOVERNANCE

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Established regional offices in Al Basrah, Al Hillah, Baghdad, and Mosul and operations in all governorates.
- Awarded \$15.5 million in rapid-response grants in the first program year to strengthen the capacity of municipal authorities to deliver core municipal services. The grants were used to restore services in agriculture, education, health, electricity, sanitation, and water.
- Facilitated the establishment or refreshment of 16 governorate councils, 90 district councils, 194 city or subdistrict councils, and 445 neighborhood councils.
- Organized and carried out numerous selection processes for governors and mayors, as well as local council members, throughout Iraq.
- Committed more than \$2.4 million for the nationwide Civic Education Campaign. which educated Iragis on democracy and Iraq's political situation. More than 28,500 democracy dialogues have been conducted to date.
- Supported preparation of 2004 city council budgets in Baghdad, Mosul, Al Hillah, Babil, and An Najaf.
- Supporting a series of National Agenda Dialogue Conferences, which engage stakeholders such as academics, journalists, women, tribal leaders, and local government officials in discussions on their roles in Iraq's emerging democracy.

USAID's goals in the Democracy and Governance sector include promoting representative citizen participation in governance at the national and subnational level; supporting the administration of transparent and credible electoral processes; strengthening the management skills of national, 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

A USAID partner NGO supported a three-day conference for 22 of the 25 women members of the Interim National Council. The conference focused on the issues that women face as members of the INC and the future Transitional National Assembly. The experienced team of women trainers (including international political activists and Members of Parliament from Europe, Central America and North Africa) led a variety of sessions covering topics such as legislative procedures, networking, and media outreach.

Fifty-one members of the Interim National Council and senior political party representatives participated in a conference on federalism in Baghdad. The conference was organized by a USAID partner NGO and focused on examining various models of federalism and critical issues such as the control over state-owned resources (such as oil) and the protection of minority rights. In writing Iraq's constitution, the Transitional National Assembly will have to consider whether to adopt a federal system, and if so, in what form.

Local Governance Program (LGP) specialists supervised the rehabilitation of three water discharge regulators in Al Qadisiyah governorate. The discharge regulators will irrigate a total of 75,000 acres, benefiting more than 30,000 farmers and 5,000 families in local villages relying on the water system.

The Amanat (city hall) in Baghdad is conducting a comprehensive review of its use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). LGP specialists helped assess the Amanat's GIS needs related to city planning, cost control, and fee collection.

Thirteen members of the Interim National Council and six members of the Council's staff completed a one-day media training organized by a USAID partner NGO. Each participant developed and presented a 30-second media statement, which was then collectively reviewed to identify strengths and weaknesses. Participants also practiced 'bridging techniques' in a mock press conference, learning how to stay on message even when faced with difficult guestions.

The Ministry of Construction and Housing and the Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works in Arbil Governorate have completed the second of four stages in their strategic audits. The Audit Committees in each ministry receive technical assistance from LGP. The first stage of the audits involved questionnaires for local government directors. In the second stage, general staff at both ministries completed assessment forms which focused on performance, training needs, cooperation with other ministries, and the general work plan.

ELECTIONS UPDATE

OUT-OF-COUNTRY VOTING REGULATIONS

Why is out-of-country voting important to Iraq? After more than two decades of Ba'ath Party oppression, conflict, and sanctions, several million Iraqis currently live outside Iraq. Their participation in the Jan 30 elections is wanted by the vast majority of resident Iraqis, and is therefore an essential part of making the elections credible to the Iraqi people.

Who will be eligible to vote outside of Iraq? The Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq (IECI), in negotiation with the host countries, will determine the exact countries outside of Iraq where eligible voters will be able to register and vote. Currently 14 countries have agreed to implement out-of-country voting. Voters outside the country must be an Iraqi citizen born before December 31, 1986 and registered according to the procedures issued by the IECI.

In which elections will out of country voters be able to participate? Out-of-country voters will be eligible to vote for the National Assembly but not the governorate councils or the Kurdistan national assembly.

Who will manage the out-ofcountry voting? The out-of-country voting will be managed by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), headquartered in Amman, Jordan. Country offices will be established in each host country and suboffices may be established in countries with large Iraqi populations.

How will polling be conducted?

The voter register will be displayed at the registration center in each country during a two-day period immediately after the voter registration period, and voters may check to confirm that they are correctly registered. The IECI will determine both the procedures and the timeline allowed for voting. Following the closure of polling, the ballots will be returned to a central location where they will be counted. The results will be amalgamated with those from inside Iraq in order to determine the seat allocations for the National Assembly.

Consistent with USAID's policy with regard to supporting elections. USAID activities in Iraq make a good faith effort to assist all political organizations with equitable levels of assistance, do not seek to determine election outcomes, and support representative multiparty systems.

USAID has awarded a cooperative agreement to the Consortium for Election and Political Processes Strengthening (CEPPS) which includes three US NGOs. This agreement has a \$50 million ceiling, of which \$23 million has been obligated to date. Within this electoral processes grant USAID seeks to achieve the following:

- Educate voters and promote participation in the electoral process;
- · Build the capacity of Iraqi election monitoring organizations; and
- Support efforts to monitor and mitigate electoral conflict.

USAID also awarded a \$40 million cooperative agreement to an NGO to support the Independent Electoral Commission of Irag's (IECI) administration of the transitional election cycle, which includes the January 2005 elections, the October 2005 Constitutional Referendum, and the December 2005 National Assembly Elections. This program is being implemented at the request of the IECI and in direct coordination with UN activities.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

A final training session was held for members of the Coalition of Non-partisan Elections Monitors (CINEM) from northern Iraq. Fortyone representatives from 24 NGOs attended the three-day train-thetrainer sessions. One hundred trained election monitors will now recruit and train an average of 100 additional domestic monitors each.

Thirty Iraqi journalists from print and broadcast media attended a three-day seminar on "The Media and Elections" in Al Basrah governorate. USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP) staff organized the event to increase awareness about procedures and media strategies for the January 30th elections.

Sixteen women activists participated an all-day training session organized by an Iraqi human rights NGO in coordination with a **USAID partner NGO.** Sessions provided detailed information on the elections procedures and the roles of candidates, parties, voters, and the IECI, as well as an overview of democratic processes abroad. The training also included leadership role-playing in formal and informal settings and dialogue on how women can work as leaders in the voter education process.

Five USAID-partner international NGOs focusing on democracy, capacity-building, and election-related programs in Iraq met recently to share information on programs, political insights and security issues. The three NGO members of the Consortium for Election and Political Processes Strengthening (CEPPS) and USAID have also decided to meet regularly to discuss the coordination of initiatives supporting the development of Iraqi civil society.

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- USAID has committed over \$104 million to 2,183 projects while Iraqi communities have committed more than 25% of total funding. CAP has established over 670 community associations 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 271 projects with over \$11 million in total project commitments including establishing a youth center in Hawija, 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 the Shi'i holy cities of Najaf and Karbala, as well as Hillah through active community associations. A strong emphasis on critical infrastructure needs has provided these communities with sewage and water services, improved schools, and repaired vital social infrastructure. They have completed 219 projects and have over \$13.5 million in project commit-
- Income generation is an important emphasis in the Baghdad program where 289 projects have been completed through community action groups. A marketplace for over 700 vendors is being constructed, and crews are cleaning up medical waste dumps and educating medical personnel on proper disposal methods. Total project commitments are \$16.2 million.
- In the southeast central region, 125 projects are complete with a total of \$13.7 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 378 projects through 138 community action groups which average 40% women's participation. Projects have focused primarily on immediate community needs such as sewage clean up, water treatment and distribution, public health, and girls' access to education. Total project commitments are \$15.9 million.

The Community Action Program (CAP) works in rural and urban communities across Iraq 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

A rehabilitated youth center in a northern Iraqi community will provide a positive place for area youths to gather. CAP identified at-risk youths in the ethnically mixed town on the border between Arbil and Ninawa Governorates. CAP worked in collaboration with USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) to address the needs of these youths and provided them with a safe place to gather and engage in constructive activities. OTI rehabilitated the large central youth center and equipped it with sports, art, music, and computer equipment. About 1,300 community youth are directly benefiting from this program. The CAP contribution to this activity was \$37,697 and the local contribution was \$25,710.

In As Sulaymaniyah governorate, a transportation garage is nearly complete at a major highway transportation hub. The new transportation pick-up zone and garage features a cafeteria. restaurant and small office and will benefit 3,450 Iraqis directly and 4,000 Iragis indirectly.

In An Najaf governorate, a community action group is constructing two pedestrian bridges over heavily traveled roads. At a cost of \$120,000 these projects will benefit the 63,000 residents.

CAP agriculture teams in northern Iraq are working with community action groups to strengthen local agriculture cooperatives. In Salad ad Din Governorate, a market center is being developed to sell farming products from the 20 USAID-sponsored cooperatives around north central Iraq. A poultry cooperative was also re-established in At' Tamim governorate.

Twenty families recently resettled to a village in Wasit Governorate that restored its basic services over the past year. The community, with CAP assistance, constructed a school, paved a seven-kilometer road linking the village to the district capital, and set up a compact unit for purifying water. Twenty additional families are expected to return in the coming months.

CAP is supporting a series of contests and distributing art supplies to 32 intermediate schools in Wasit Governorate. The students showed great interest in the sponsored activities, and the Directorate of Education and local teachers expressed their appreciation.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Rehabilitated 105 water treatment units and 396 kilometers of water networks to ensure the provision of potable water in critical areas.
- Rehabilitated 72 health facilities and re-equipped 238 to improve the quality of health care.
- Vaccinated over 3,000 women and children against measles.
- Registered internally displaced persons and provided them with water, blankets, medical kits, and hygiene kits.
- Rehabilitated a water treatment plant in a poor area of Baghdad. The rehab is benefiting 1 million residents.

In the first year of programming, USAID's humanitarian assistance focused on emergency interventions to prevent food and water shortages and provide adequate shelter and medical supplies throughout Iraq. USAID is now directing humanitarian assistance efforts through the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) to specifically target Iraq's internally displaced people (IDP), primarily in northern Iraq, but also in two southern governorates.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

OFDA is supporting the provision of needed winter items such as blankets, kerosene heaters, plastic sheeting and clothing to displaced persons and other vulnerable populations in Ninawa, Salah Ad Din, Diyala and At' Tamim Governorates.

- Ninawa Governorate: More than 3,400 families have received winter items. Distributions began December 23 and will be completed by mid-January.
- Salah Ad Din Governorate: 1,000 families have received winter packages. The distribution began on December 7 and distributions will continue through January benefiting more than 3,300 families.
- Diyala Governorate: More than 18,000 IDPs and returnees received emergency supplies including 840 barrels used for the delivery and storage of kerosene. A total of 1,500 barrels valued at USD \$30,000 have been procured for the region.
- At' Tamim Governorate: distributions began on November 28 for more than 6,000 families. Some 2,000 families have received the winter packages to date. All distributions are expected to be completed by mid-January.

OFDA has supported the distribution of 100 Livelihood Assets Packages (LAPs) to IDP families in Diyala Governorate. In total, more than 100 families received the packages valued at \$31,000. A second distribution by OFDA's implementing partner distributed 20 additional LAPs valued at \$6,200 to remote villages in Diyala Governorate. The content of supply kits provided to IDPs varies according to their needs, but may include items such as blankets, towels, cooking equipment, a radio, containers for water, a kerosene heater, soap and detergent, or a small stove.

According to the U.S. Military, approximately 7,000 to 8,000 residents returned to several districts of Fallujah since December 24, marking the first wave of scheduled returns. The re-entry of civilians is scheduled to occur in several stages over the next two to three weeks. To support the returnees in integrating into the community, each returning family will receive a heater, fuel rations, and an immediate payment of 150,000 Iraqi Dinars (\$100), provided by the Iraqi government.

OFDA projects in northern Iraq increased access to potable water for an estimated 1,975 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and vulnerable persons in Arbil Governorate, and 1,785 IDPs and vulnerable persons in Ninawa Governorate.

OFDA has completed seven shallow wells and installed water pumps in schools in one region of Diyala Governorate, benefiting approximately 700 students. In another village in the governorate, a deep water well has been completed and a water tank was installed. Construction of the pump house is still in progress. Following completion of the water system, 350 residents will have access to clean water.

COMPLETED ACTIVITES

Since the cessation of the 2003 conflict, USAID has completed planned work at Umm Qasr Seaport and restored significant portions of Iraq's telecommunications network. 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 the management and distribution of food rations for all Iraqi citizens.

SEAPORT

- USAID's \$45 million programs to rehabilitate and improve management at the port were completed in June 2004.
- Port reopened to commercial traffic on June 17 2003; completed first passenger vessel test July 16.
- 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% of the population.
- Reconstituted Baghdad area phone service by installing switches with 240,000 lines at 12 sites.
- Installed 13 new switches, and fully integrated them with the 14 existing switches.
- Ministry of Communications reactivated more than 215,000 subscriber lines.
- Installed a satellite gateway system at Baghdad's largest telecom exchange and restored international service.
- Trained ITPC engineers and technicians in the operation and maintenance of the satellite gateway system and the new switches.

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 United States Embassy in Iraq, providing on-going support to the Public Distribution System Working Group to assist the Ministry of Trade with improving PDS management.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY__

FY 2003-2005*				
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation	
Reconstruction USAID/ANE Subtotal: \$3,753,238,0				
Abt Associates	Health	Countrywide	\$23,031,886	
AFCAP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$91,500,000	
Army Corps of Engineers	Architecture and Engineering Services	Countrywide	\$31,328,264	
BearingPoint	Economic Governance	Countrywide	\$79,583,885	
BearingPoint	Economic Governance II	Countrywide	\$103,500,000	
Louis Berger Group	Vocational Education	Countrywide	\$27,200,000	
Louis Berger Group	Private Sector Development II	Countrywide	\$60,000,000	
Bechtel National	Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,029,833,259	
Bechtel National	Infrastructure II: Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation, Basra Hospital	Countrywide	\$1,386,809,782	
Community Action Program	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$155,580,000	
DAI	Marshlands	Dhi Qar Al Basr Maysan	\$4,000,000	
DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$71,934,921	
Fed Source	Personnel Support	Countrywide	\$300,000	
IRG	Reconstruction Support	Countrywide	\$51,698,152	
RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$236,911,000	
America's Develop- ment Foundation	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$42,880,157	
CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000	
CAII	Education II	Countrywide	\$51,809,000	
CEPPS	Iraq Governing Council	Countrywide	\$675,000	

^{*} 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.

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FY 2003-2004			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
CEPPS	Transitional Government	Countrywide	\$20,700,000
CEPPS	Voter Education, Domestic Observation and Conflict Resolution	Countrywide	\$23,000,000
CEPPS	Elections Administration Support	Countrywide	\$64,175,000
UNICEF	Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$36,700,000
UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$19,600,000
UNESCO	Textbook Printing & Distribution: Math & Science	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
WHO	Strengthen Health System	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
SSA	Port Management	Um Qasr	\$14,318,985
SkyLink	Airport Management	Baghdad, Al Basrah, Mosul	\$27,200,000
MSI	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$5,038,772
CHF Interna- tional	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$461,228
University Partners	 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
Yankee Group	Telecoms Planning	Countrywide	\$58,150
VEGA	Business Skills Training	Countrywide	\$12,089,702
UNDP	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
World Bank	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
Emergency Rel		Subto	tal: \$114,688,229
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$7,633,952
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

FINANCIAL SUMMARY____

Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
InterAction	Coordination	Kuwait City	\$92,860
IDA	Health	Countrywide	\$1,318,437
IMC	Health, IDP Assistance, Food Security, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Capacity Building	Countrywide	\$17,952,898
IOM	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$6,545,780
IRC	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,000,411
Logistics	Emergency Relief Commodities and USAID/DART Support	Countrywide	\$22,553,653
Mercy Corps	IDP Assistance, Health, Emergency Relief Commodities, Shelter, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,699,786
SCF/US	Food Security, Health, IDP Assistance, Shelter, Nutrition, Emergency Relief Commodities, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$7,957,783
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 Commodities, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$6,793,739
USAID/DCHA/F	FP	Sub	total: \$425,571,00
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/C)TI	Sub	total: \$318,169,12
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$9,901,515
IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$6,462,167
DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$290,810,533
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	\$8,703,00