



RECONSTRUCTION WEEKLY UPDATE

June 23, 2005



Combustion turbine and exhaust stack at the Taza substation in Kirkuk. Work at the substation will add 325MW to the national grid upon completion.

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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—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 855 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 792 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

Work continues on the installation of the V-94 combustion gas turbine at the Taza Substation in Kirkuk. The turbine's enclosure and air intake structure have been installed and workers are currently assembling the generator's various piping systems (coolant, oil flow, etc.). Power, communications cables and the fire detection system have been installed. A V-64 combustion gas turbine has already been installed and continues to generate at its base load to the national grid.



Combustion turbine and exhaust stack at the Taza substation in Kirkuk

The project's Scope of Work includes the design, manufacture, delivery, installation, testing, and commissioning of one V-64 Combustion Gas Turbine (65MW nominal rating) and one V-94 Combustion Gas Turbine (260MW). Combined, these will supply 325MW to the national grid. The plant's gas pipeline has also been extended by 15 kilometers to connect to a fuel source. Finally, plant operation and maintenance staff will receive training. The Taza Substation site, south of Kirkuk, is an ideal location because: it is at a major hub of 132 kV and 400kV grids; and, with a direct connection to an existing gas pipeline, gas supply to the plant is direct. The work is expected to be complete in October 2005.

Work is continuing on the rehabilitation of two units at the Doura power plant in southern Baghdad. Although its four steam boilers and turbines are each rated at 160MW, all have been poorly maintained for many years, largely due to spare parts shortages. Its cooling systems are now severely damaged so its turbines can no longer be operated at full-load without risk of further damage from overheating. As a result, the plant has operated far below its full-load rating of 640MW. Recent average total plant electrical generation, with the other two units operating, has been in the range of 160-170MW (the two units are operating at only 50% of rated MW).

Recently, work continued on reconnecting the Unit 6 cold reheat piping to the turbine. Workers are also progressing with generator and exciter alignment. On Unit 5, cold reheat piping reconnections have been completed and loop checks are continuing on turbine instrumentation.

This project covers steam turbine generator units #5 and #6 at Doura. Both turbines require extensive work before they can operate reliably at their design output. Upon completion, an estimated 320 MW will be available for Iraq's national electrical grid. Overall work on this project is now 94 complete, and is expected to be finished in the Fall of this year.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- **Nationwide:** Repaired various sewage lift stations and water treatment units.
- **Baghdad:** Expanding and rehabilitating one water treatment plant and constructing another to increase capacity by approximately 90 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 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:** 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:** 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

Workers continued to install equipment and run tests as work moves forward on the refurbishment of a water treatment plant in Karbala.



Compact water treatment units at the Karbala water treatment plant

The plant is located in the city's center, near one of Shia Islam's holiest shrines. In addition to providing water to city residents, potable water is supplied seasonally to an estimated three million pilgrims. The plant's original clarifiers were replaced with four undersized clarifiers that did not treat water to standards needed

for efficient downstream treatment. Some of the plant's processes were becoming overloaded by sediment. Marginal disinfection was effective with most bacteria, but was less effective with pathogens that cause amoebic dysentery, a public health risk exacerbated by the seasonal influx of millions of pilgrims.

Because it was in such a dire state of disrepair, the design originally called for replacement of the clarifiers rather than repair, but local governing authorities disagreed. A compromise was reached to install compact clarifier units adjacent to the existing clarifiers, allowing for future rehabilitation of the existing plant. This project will install 10 compact water treatment plants, with a total capacity of 25 million gallons per day. The project will also enlarge the existing inlet works and associated pump station.

Recently, workers completed installation of the cable tray at the intake structure and the low lift pumping station. Sand media is being placed in the compact treatment unit filters. Main generator testing has begun at the low lift station. Four of the compact units could be ready to receive flow as early as July 1 if the plant provides adequate operating personnel. The project is now 54 percent finished and will be complete in September 2005.

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 five 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 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

The PSD program recently provided financial analysis training in Amman, Jordan to 26 middle- and senior-level managers from two organizations in Iraq's emerging non-bank microfinance industry. By the end of the one-week course, attendees improved their skills in conducting financial analyses, preparing financial performance reports, and making recommendations to improve the financial performance of their organizations.

The course was one of a series of training modules designed to move the organizations toward becoming sustainable non-bank credit, or microfinance, institutions that lend money to small businesses and farmers.

A stronger, non-bank microfinance industry in Iraq will help empower thousands of poor families to better realize their potential through savings and credit programs for small enterprises.

To assist the Government of Iraq (GoI) to meet generally accepted standards in budget execution, USAID is working through partners under the Economic Governance II program to implement a state-of-the-art Financial Management Information System (FMIS) that will provide tools for federal financial management. Under Phase I of the project, 57 FMIS sites will be established at Ministries, spending agencies, and governorate treasuries by the end of June 2005. Under Phase II, a further 128 FMIS sites will be put in place.

FMIS orientation and computer skills training courses have been completed at 55 out of 57 of the Phase I sites while hardware has been installed at 44 out of 57 sites. By June 30, it is anticipated that all equipment will be installed and tested at Phase I sites.

From July through December, staff will conduct further tests using live data in parallel with the current pen-and-paper legacy system. During this time the system will also be extended to all 128 Phase II agencies that will progressively join the live testing as they come on line.

Currently, the GoI is planning to go "live" with the automated FMIS system by 1 January 2006. Until that time, the parallel legacy system will remain in place to verify and confirm data.

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 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

The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development for Iraq (ARDI) program will repair two culverts in Babil Governorate that carry water underneath roadways to irrigate farmland. The efficient use of water and functioning irrigation systems are especially important in southern and central Iraq, where there is less rainfall.

The project will be implemented through local partners working with MOA/ARDI specialists. MOA/ARDI will fund the procurement of materials and the civil works for the culvert repair. Specialists will advise on work progress. With the greater flow of water, the 250 Iraqi families who work and live on the surrounding farmland will directly benefit. The families include approximately 1,520 individuals who depend on the land as their main source of income.

Two media centers in northern Iraq are producing agricultural publications with funding from MOA and ARDI. Support for this activity is intended to increase the government's capacity to produce high-quality publications that keep farmers apprised of best practices and issues in farming.

As the production capacity of Iraqi agriculture develops, adequate communication is vital to farmers. Previously, the government's two media centers did not have the proper equipment to produce materials for extension staff or farmers. Two media centers were established with MOA/ARDI support earlier this year. The funding purchased video cameras, mixers, television monitors, digital cameras and projectors. MOA/ARDI also provided new computers, software and printers, which are used in the production of the publications.

At a workshop in central Iraq, the MOA and ARDI recently launched a summer rice demonstration activity which could benefit thousand of farmers. During the event, specialists outlined challenges faced by Iraq's rice farmers and explained how the new project will address these needs.

Rice farming is the primary source of income for thousands of Iraqi farmers. The project uses several approaches to improve rice production. First, MOA/ARDI will increase rice production through a package of improved agricultural practices on demonstration fields throughout the country. Next, a training program for farmers and extension agents will provide support for the broad-scale adoption of these improved methods. Finally, a seed multiplication program will ensure that farmers are using high quality seed.

MOA/ARDI staff are also working to support apple farmers. An apple demonstration program, similar to the rice program, has designated several orchards around the country to demonstrate improved cultivation techniques. By using improved methods and apple varieties, productivity is expected to rise from 7,000 kg/donum (one donum = 1/3 acre) to 12,000 kg/donum. Through the increased skill base, larger incomes, and greater productivity, this project will impact the lives of more than 200 Iraqis. The benefits will continue to accrue as the apples are harvested and brought to market, and as farmers in the areas around the demonstration sites implement the benefits of the improved methods.

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 (TAL)
- Assist the Executive Authority, the Presidency Council, and the Council of Ministers and its presiding Prime Minister to 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 recently met with the Chairman of the Iraqi National Assembly's (INA) Constitutional Committee to review assistance programs. Other topics of discussion included new venues for the Committee, security issues, and USAID's revised work plan and seminar schedule. A tour of the Committee's potential site of operation was also organized to examine its condition and identify equipment needs.

On May 31, a conference was organized for 29 Sheiks from Basra and surrounding areas on methods of communication for Iraqis living in the south regarding the constitutional drafting process. Discussions addressed issues of concerns and methods of raising those concerns to the Constitutional Committee. The conference ended by identifying various advocacy strategies. USAID will remain in close contact with the sheikhs who expressed interest in furthering their collaboration.

In late May, USAID's partner providing support to the transitional Iraqi government organized a seminar for 12 senior INA staff members from all major departments to review their human resources policies and procedures. Three days prior to the seminar, each participant was provided a copy of a proposed Human Resources Manual to give enough time to individually review and comment on the content of the draft manual. Each component and topical area was then individually discussed in the seminar aimed to garner feedback and fine tune human resources policies and priorities.

In late May, USAID held an Engendering of the Constitution workshop for 17 women, including two members of the INA and 15 NGO representatives from Baghdad, Hilla, Diwaniya, Semawa and Wasit, to review the results of focus group research conducted by the implementing partner's Political Party Program. USAID's Director on Constitutional programs presented a problem-solving exercise to craft an advocacy platform and legislative program surrounding women's rights and social policy. She stressed the importance of the use of qualitative research such as focus group and participatory research methods.

USAID recently held a series of meetings with senior members of the Iraqi Transitional Executive Authority. Representative meetings include:

On May 31, with the Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister, to discuss the current structure and functions of the Office of the Prime Minister.

On May 31, with the Minister of Finance to discuss USAID assistance to the Ministry, including advisory and training assistance on policy coordination and staff skills training.

On June 1, with Dr. Khudair Abbas, the Secretary General of the Council of Ministers. After reviewing USAID's programs and proposed plan of activities, Dr. Abbas specified his interest in training modules addressing the staff development and policy coordination needs of ministers.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- 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 municipal 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

With the help of staff and training from USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP), the As Sulaymaniyah Provincial Council has been very active in performing its functions to the fullest extent possible under the existing circumstances. For instance, Provincial Council committees have been active in monitoring the market price of basic food items and in recommending actions to address increasing automobile traffic problems in the governorate.

On June 2nd, the LGP Regional Training Director met with the As Sulaymaniyah Provincial Council chair and members of the Law Committee. The purpose of the meeting was to train committee members on items to be considered in developing ground rules and council by-laws that will make council meetings more productive and effective and to address various questions such as council and committee authority; roles and responsibilities; and the Provincial Council's relationship with local councils, governors, and other ministry directories.

The Mosul Provincial Council convened its twelfth regular meeting on June 6th. Thirty-two Council members, LGP staff, the Deputy Governor, Mosul security, police representatives, and the General Directors of Education and Health attended the session which addressed the issue of the Provincial Council's responsiveness to citizen's demands. The Council's Committee on Human Rights also presented a report on detainees' rights violations and mistreatment. Councilors discussed with the General Director of Education the issue of continued Kurdish, Turkmen, Assyrian languages in School curriculum.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- USAID has committed over \$131 million to 3,120 projects while Iraqi communities have committed more than 25% 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, south-west 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 Action Group (CAG) in a village 100 kilometers outside of Baghdad to improve the local potable water source. The village is located in a largely agricultural area along a connector road of the Baghdad-Karbala highway, and has a population of 1,100. The area is dependent upon a network of irrigation canals for its agricultural activities; however, the village lacked a supply of potable drinking water. The project involved the installation of water pipe, a water pump and a generator, as well as the completion of needed repairs to the station's electricity network.



Villagers in a rural community outside of Baghdad prepare pipe installations to rehabilitate the village potable water station.

CAP is constructing a sport and recreation center in Wasit Governorate. The center will consist of a gymnasium, locker room, smaller activity rooms, offices, basketball and volleyball courts, and a playground. The center's staff will offer trainings on language, computers, and music. The project will also fund agricultural experts to conduct lectures for intermediate school students on plant and tree care. Students will be involved in the design of gardens for the school and other public buildings. The total cost of the project is \$219,000 and will create and estimated 30 short-term jobs and 20 long-term employment opportunities.

A community outside of Mosul is working with CAP to repair three kilometers of local road. No repairs have been done in the area for over twenty years and the neighborhood roads are impassable. Cars have difficulty reaching the hospital, schools, and the main market. Local children fall into the mud on their way to and from school. Repairing the road will make it easier and safer for people to travel home, and for children to walk to school with ease. The work will improve public safety and health and has potential for improving the local economy.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- 2,510 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.
- Nearly 33,000 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 50,000 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 ten Iraqi universities. Through these partnerships, more than 1,400 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

A total of 504,458 Secondary School Student Kits have been distributed to students in 2,244 secondary schools in Iraq. This initiative is being coordinated through Iraq's Ministry of Education (MOE) which will coordinate distribution of the remaining 20,542 kits. Each kit contains 10 Arabic exercise books, one English exercise book, one drawing set, one lab notebook, 12 pencils, four pencil sharpeners, four erasers, a ruler, and a calculator.

Health faculty members at Jackson State University (JSU) are developing curriculum and course materials that will be shared with two major Iraqi universities participating in USAID's Higher Education and Development (HEAD) program. The materials include a Comparative Health Systems course and comparative analyses of health systems in the U.S., UK, Canada, Iraq, Oman, and Egypt. Lectures, suggested reading lists, assignments and sample examinations are also included with course materials.

Also under the JSU and the Mississippi Consortium for International Development partnership, seven faculty members - primarily doctors and engineers - from several major Iraqi medical education institutes received minigrants for the development of public health outreach projects.

Several laboratories and libraries are being refurbished and reequipped under the HEAD partnership with the University of Oklahoma (UO).

Biology laboratory equipment was recently delivered to a Basrah university. A UO staff member will set up the equipment and train Iraqis on its use in June.

Soil science, veterinary medicine and global mapping laboratories will be established at the five universities participating in the HEAD/UO partnership.

UO recently established an advanced geography lab at a major Iraqi technical university which is being utilized by over 400 students, 100 of whom are women. At the new lab, students use modern GIS/GPS technologies to process satellite imagery to analyze changes in Iraq's environment, climate and infrastructure. UO staff will be conducting workshops and instructing lab staff in the maintenance and use of the equipment and laboratories.

UO has also refurbished university libraries including the internet computer center and library at the University of Babil which officially opened in May.

Ten thousand out of school Iraqi youth aged 12-18 will attend Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) schools beginning in the fall that will allow them to make up for two missed years of primary school in one year.

ALP schools will be identified by each Department of Education and will receive special kits for classrooms, teachers and students. The program is being implemented by UNICEF with USAID support.

Fifteen ALP resource persons are being trained this month in Amman; each will go on to train 17 trainers in each of the participating governorates. A total of 2,000 teachers country-wide will be trained to teach in the ALP schools, and 1,000 students will be enrolled in each participating governorate.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Awarded 3,765 small grants totaling \$277 million for quick impact activities that support good governance, civil society, conflict management and mitigation, human rights and transitional justice.
- Funded 107 grants totaling over \$7.2 million that focus on women's issues, including supporting the establishment of 24 women's centers in Iraq. Rehabilitated over 264 Iraqi national ministries, schools, clinics and other municipal buildings. Supporting 65 Iraqi groups in documenting human rights abuses of the Ba'athist regime and promoting peace, tolerance, and reconciliation.
- Met critical needs during and immediately after the conflict by providing short-term employment, restoring basic government and community services, increasing Iraqi access to information and communication and encouraging protection of human rights.

USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) supports the transition to a participatory, stable, and democratic country. OTI provides quick-dispensing, high-impact grants meeting critical needs—providing short-term employment, restoring basic government and community services, increasing access to information and communication, and encouraging protection of human rights.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

The Agricultural Directorate of a district in northern Iraq renovated their offices and received furniture and equipment under an Iraq Transition Initiative (ITI) grant. This directorate currently has 46 employees working throughout nine separate departments in the district. The Agricultural Directorate provides basic agricultural and horticultural services to all five sub-districts in the area that cover more than 1.63 million acres of fertile farming land. Services include the supply of seed, fertilizers and logistical support to farmers in 284 villages. Through this assistance, ITI has enhanced local government's capacity to provide agricultural services to farmers and their families and improve production capacity for thousands of farmers in the area, thereby increasing their standard of living and improving confidence in local government.

A sub-district sport and youth department in northern Iraq renovated a stadium through an ITI grant. The stadium, located in the center of town, was built in 1989 and, prior to this grant, did not receive any structural maintenance due to neglect and a lack of funds. By renovating a public facility that can be used for sporting and cultural events, ITI has promoted civic participation and provided tangible improvement in the lives of many community members. Through this assistance, ITI has given young people opportunities to engage in healthy activities.

Since the cessation of the 2003 conflict, USAID has completed their planned work at Umm Qasr Seaport, restored 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 the management and distribution of food rations for all 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.
- 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 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 for the movement of 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 facilitates the shipment 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 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

June 23, 2005

FY 2003-2005*			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
Reconstruction USAID/ANE			Subtotal: 4,090,878,068
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	\$30,842,037
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	\$1,386,809,782
CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000
CAII	Education II	Countrywide	\$51,809,000
CEPPS	Iraq Governing Council	Countrywide	\$675,000
CEPPS	Transitional Government	Countrywide	\$20,700,000
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
Fed Source	Personnel Support	Countrywide	\$300,000
IRG	Reconstruction Support	Countrywide	\$52,171,260
Logenix	Health	North/Central	\$108,506
Louis Berger	Vocational Education	Countrywide	\$75,016,115
Louis Berger	Private Sector Development II	Countrywide	\$95,000,000
MSI	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$5,284,781
Partnership for Child Healthcare	Health	Countrywide	\$2,000,000

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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	15,000,000
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	\$1,273,894
World Bank	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
Yankee Group	Telecoms Planning	Countrywide	\$58,150
Emergency Relief USAID/DCHA/OFDA.....			Subtotal: \$180,657,106
ACTED	Water and sanitation, health/hygiene, education	Eastern Iraq	\$2,995,793
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$8,034,839
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

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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	\$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 , 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: \$382,283,322
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$10,325,866
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.....			\$5,079,389,496

* 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.