



USAID/IRAQ WEEKLY UPDATE

March 31, 2006



Workshop participants complete surveys in part of the recent USAID funded Civic Outreach Program. COP results have exceeded the expected goals, to date reaching over 163,000 participants, completing 150,000 surveys, and collecting over 75,000 letters written to members of Parliament. Additionally, over 185,000 booklets of the Council of Representatives, Structure and Role in the Public Life have been distributed in the 4,379 sessions held.

Contents:

Economic Growth	2	Health	6
Agriculture	3	Transition Initiatives	7
National Governance	4	Disaster Assistance	8
Education	5	Completed Programs	9
		Financial Summary	10

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,

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Assisted the Government of Iraq to develop and submit the first filing in the WTO accession process - the Memorandum of Foreign Trade Regime.
- Provided technical assistance and 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 and capacity building to three private sector banks to develop their own lending programs.
- Trained over 700 Iraqis in International Accounting Practices.
- Assisted in management of \$21 million micro-credit program. Provided over 40,000 hours of micro-finance training in 2004-2005.
- 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 automate planning, budgeting and reporting processes across ministries.

USAID works with Iraqi institutions to establish an environment for sustainable economic growth. Assistance empowers policy makers to formulate and execute decisions based on economic data, and to implement modern best practices in economic governance. USAID projects provide a framework for private sector trade, commerce, and investment throughout Iraq.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Iraqi bankers recently attended a Banking Supervision Seminar in Istanbul, Turkey. Sponsored by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Federal Reserve System (FRS), the two-week seminar drew the top students from a series of USAID week long workshops on asset/liability management and bank liquidity for staff from the Central Bank of Iraq's (CBI) Banking Supervision Department.

The Istanbul seminar caps off a two-year coordinated training program with the IMF, FRS, and USAID that focused on introducing the fundamental elements of risk-based banking supervision. Speakers included professionals from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, IMF, USAID, Central Bank of Turkey's Banking Supervision Department, and the Lebanese Banking Control Commission.

Over 389,000 families had registered to receive Social Safety Net (SSN) benefits as of late February. An additional 79,000 individuals have registered for unemployment since the rollout of the program. The implementation of the new SSN program has been given high visibility in the Iraqi media. Articles addressing the initiative and its impact have appeared in all the leading Baghdad news outlets, providing important excellent public education on the program and the applicable policy.

The initiative is aimed at lifting 850,000 families out of poverty by the end of 2006. The program provides a package of financial and other benefits and services to the unemployed, low-income families, and people with disabilities. Among the menu of services are vocational and entrepreneurial training, career guidance, and job interview preparation.

USAID is determined to build the capacity and institutional strength in the Ministry of Finance. The USAID Economic Governance II Project's Social Safety Net team is providing ongoing technical assistance and training in policy, legal strategy, public relations, and operational areas to meet this goal.

Iraqi Business Registries Update:

33,014 new Iraqi businesses have registered with the Ministry of Trade as of late February 2006, an increase of nearly 450 since the previous month. The new Business Registry, a critical element of a modern economy, will improve transparency in procedures for registering companies in Iraq and provide a valuable resource for companies that need information on other businesses, as well as government entities with responsibilities for licensing and taxing.

The electronic Baghdad Business Registry is now up online and fully operational. The web-based system – operating in Arabic, Kurdish, and English – is able to automatically register companies and retrieve information, reducing bureaucratic delays and obstacles.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

High Value Crops

Improved Date Palm Output:

Established date palm nurseries in 13 governorates that will expand Iraqi palm tree population by 410,000 new trees per year.

Provided Farm Machinery Training & Tools:

Trained 28 mechanics in farm machinery repair and supplied tools to help establish private repair businesses.

Increased Olive Tree Population:

9,000 olive trees have been planted in 16 demonstration plots throughout the country.

Rehabilitated Veterinary Clinics:

55 veterinary clinics have been rehabilitated, serving more than 108,000 animal breeders.

Crop Production

Seed Improvement:

Distributed 169 wheat seed cleaners to nine NGOs in 18 governorates. Produced over 29,000 metric tons of grade 1, treated wheat seed for 2006-07 season, which will plant 225,000 hectares of land.

Increased Training: 175 operators trained in wheat seed cleaning and treating.

Farm Machinery Repair: To date, a total of 1,600 tractors have been repaired of a planned 5,200 throughout Iraq.

Soil & Water Management

Strategy Development: Initiated a 10-ministry effort to develop the Iraq water and land use strategy.

Grant Provision - Irrigation: Provided small-scale grants that increased canal and water infrastructure improvements on 320,000 acres of land serving 445,000 Iraqis.

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 development initiatives, and rehabilitate the natural resource base.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

USAID distributes Family Drip Kit irrigation systems. Irrigation in south-central Iraq has traditionally been done through the gravity surface irrigation method. By using this method of making earth channels for water conveyance and water applications by furrows or basins, it is estimated that an average of 65% of water is wasted. To address this problem, USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development Program for Iraq (ARDI) program is distributing 240 Family Drip Kit irrigation systems to farmers throughout the governorates of Basrah, Missan, Thi-Qar, Muthanna, Babylon, Wassit, Kerbala, and Najaf. The distribution targets the most vulnerable areas in the eight governorates, that is, areas with water availability and water quality problems that are occupied by small-scale farmers.

The Family Drip Kit irrigation system is highly-efficient for small-scale agricultural production. Because the system works at very low pressure, it can be gravity-operated with no external power or electricity needed. System management is simple, requiring no specialized expertise, yet the Family Drip Kit system affords the farmer the same advantages as more sophisticated irrigation systems. Furthermore, the installation and maintenance costs are extremely low

Each farm family that receives one of the drip kits will be able to irrigate approximately 500 square meters of land. These plots will provide a source of food and income to the families, and will demonstrate to other farms the potential of the irrigation systems. Hopefully, this will encourage widespread adoption of the drip kits. The project will also encourage private sector enterprises to manufacture and sell Family Drip Kit irrigation systems, thereby increasing the availability of small-scale, irrigation equipment in Iraq.

In January 2006, ARDI held a workshop to prepare 58 staff members from the Ministry of Agriculture to assist the recipients of the Family Drip Kit irrigation systems. These workers are now providing farmers with basic training in installation and operation of the systems, and are available to answer any questions the farmers have on efficient system usage. These staff members will continue to visit the farm families regularly and monitor the systems.

ARDI's decision to install 240 Family Drip Kit irrigation systems is based on extremely positive results from 15 test plots that ARDI established in Qadis-siya in August 2004. Crop yields from these test plots increased by between 70% and 130% relative to neighboring plots. Using conservative estimates, this increased productivity translated to an internal rate of return on investment of 44% for imported kits, and 191% for kits purchased in Iraq. The Ministry of Agriculture has also monitored the progress of these 15 test plots and has provided positive feedback. All 15 systems established in August 2004 remain operational and profitable. The high rate of investment returns and operational success of the test plots demonstrate that the installation of these next 240 Family Drip Kit irrigation systems has the potential to move subsistence farmers into small agribusiness, benefiting families and communities across Iraq.

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 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 adopting an Iraqi constitution that promotes democratic principles and values through 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.

USAID continues to plan and implement a variety of programs, undertaken in partnership with Iraqi counterparts, matching the needs of the evolving Iraqi democracy. In particular, USAID provided extensive support to the Iraqi National Assembly in the lead-up to the December 2005 elections.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

USAID successfully holds orientation trainings for new members of the Iraqi Parliament. As part of an ongoing series of orientations for the new MPs, USAID partner, the National Democratic Institute (NDI) conducted a training session on March 23 for members of the Iraqi National List (INL) on the role of committees in the Iraqi legislature. The majority of the 10 participants (including three women) were re-elected members of the Council of Representatives.

They discussed the structure, management and function of committees, as well as the role of members and staff in legislative drafting, transparent decision making, and effective citizen outreach. Participants were particularly interested in how legislators, committees and the parliament can hold the Executive Branch accountable through public hearings and other oversight mechanisms. Finally, they discussed the path of legislation - including problems faced by committees in drafting and amending bills.

Participants watched a recorded public hearing of a U.S. Congress Appropriations Subcommittee, and then compared the committee procedures of the U.S. Congress to those of the Iraqi National Assembly. At the end of the training participants used the knowledge gained in practical exercises by simulating a public hearing. The simulation revealed the participants' knowledge of their counterparts' political program and arguments related to foreign policy.

Civic forums reach over 160,000 Iraqis. USAID partner, NDI and its partner NGOs have far exceeded the expected goals of the Civic Outreach Program (COP), to date reaching over 163,000 participants, completing 150,000 surveys, and collecting over 75,000 letters written to Members of Parliament. In addition, over 185,000 booklets of the *Council of Representatives, Structure and Role in the Public Life* have been distributed in the 4,379 sessions held.

One of the more encouraging outcomes of the COP was the high percentage of women participating in the program's activities, as women have comprised 47 percent of the participants in the sessions conducted thus far. In some governorates, the percentage of women reached up to 66 percent of the participants.

Women's advocacy continues in Baghdad and Basrah. During the week, advocacy training-of-trainers (TOT) and coalition-building sessions continued with three more basic advocacy trainings reaching 63 women from 12 political parties in Baghdad and Basrah. Current advocacy trainings are focused on bringing together women from independent NGOs and from parties in Parliament in order to establish cohesive coordinating bonds. Eleven of the 12 parties who participated in advocacy trainings this week currently hold seats in the Council of Representatives. In all trainings the participants were able to find ways to reach out to other women in areas of common interest. As with past trainings, issues such as domestic violence, child welfare laws, travel rights, and personal status laws were raised by women as focus points for legislative action items on which they want to focus.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- 2,962 schools have been rehabilitated in full or in part .
- Hundreds of thousands of desks, chairs, cabinets, chalkboards, and more than 3 million school kits have been distributed countrywide.
- 55,000 teachers and administrators have been trained. By the end of the 2005-06 school year more than 120,000 educators will have received in-service training supported by USAID since 2004.
- Eighty-four primary and secondary schools (four in each governorate) are being established to serve as model schools. Teachers will receive specialized training, and schools will be equipped with computer and science laboratories.
- An accelerated learning program, targeting 14,000 out-of-school youth, is being implemented during the 2005-2006 school year.
- To improve resource management, a comprehensive Education Management Information System is being developed and MOE staff are being trained.
- Satellite Internet access and computers were installed at the Ministry of Education and in all 21 Directorates of Education.
- More than 8.7 million math and science textbooks have been edited, printed, and distributed throughout Iraq.
- Partnerships were 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

Nearly 18,000 teachers have received training in modern teaching methods at 23 sites throughout Iraq. Training has recently resumed at two dozen local Directorates of Education following a two month administrative break due to the mid-year exams and school holidays. Teacher training programs are a key feature in the education program. Thousands of teachers throughout Iraq are benefiting from new education materials and instruction in modern teaching methods.

Using a cascading training program, USAID prepares master trainers through workshops and teaching materials to train Iraqi educators throughout the country. Over 300 Master Trainers will receive instruction in modern teaching methods. These instructors, trained by USAID partners, will provide pedagogy training to tens of thousands of teachers throughout Iraq.

The first full year for the Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) has reached the half-way mark. ALP students have recently returned from their mid-term vacation after the program completed the first half of the school year, covering an entire year's worth of material.

Over 14,000 students have enrolled in the 2005/06 ALP. A total of 148 schools have opened ALP classes throughout the southern and central governorates. The training of ALP school teachers in nine governorates was completed last month, bringing instruction to 730 teachers. Printing of the 52 Arabic titles of ALP textbooks has been completed; Kurdish versions are being printed with cooperation from the Department of Kurdish Studies within the Ministry of Education (MoE).

ALP schools are helping out-of-school youths ages 12-18 return to class, completing two years of primary education in one year. These schools are located in the 10 governorates with the lowest primary school net enrollment rates. Due to enthusiasm for the program, more students than anticipated are participating and additional classrooms have been opened.

Water and sanitation facilities at 482 schools have been rehabilitated. Work is continuing on an additional 193 schools, while 98 schools are still in the bidding process. USAID's partner UNICEF is working to restore bathrooms, drinking fountains, and other facilities at schools across Iraq. Improving sanitary facilities—many of which had fallen into disrepair through neglect and poor management—particularly helps improve access to school for girls, as the lack of toilet facilities is often a considerable barrier to girls' schooling.

Rehabilitation works have also been completed in all 23 planned teacher training halls in Basra, Kerbala, Thi-Qar, and Missan.

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 (MoH) 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

A total of 165 metric tons of iron and folic acid supplements have been delivered to government warehouses in Baghdad. The two shipments of Premix, an iron and folic acid supplement for enriching wheat flour, are part of USAID and UNICEF's joint Wheat Flour Fortification (WFF) project. The Iraqi Ministries of Trade and Health will be collaborating on distributing the two shipments and on acquiring future shipments of Premix to ensure sustainability of the project. In all, 215 feeders have been delivered to wheat flour mills countrywide. The feeders, key equipment procured in large part through USAID support, will allow the Iraqi mills to enrich wheat flour with the Premix additive.

National wheat flour fortification with iron and folic acid supplements will help address iron deficiency anemia in mothers and children. Anemia from inadequate iron intake, most prevalent in women and children, is a major problem in Iraq and throughout the Middle East. Childhood anemia impairs both physical and mental development; anemia in pregnancy contributes to maternal mortality and neural tube birth defects, such as spina bifida and anencephaly.

The Wheat Flour Fortification program complements other Ministry efforts to support maternal and child health, including its breast feeding and supplemental nutrition programs which target vulnerable groups such as pregnant women and malnourished children. Long term plans include convening national advocacy meetings with stakeholders and fine-tuning an oversight and evaluation framework.

The six primary health clinics (PHCs), constructed by USAID and UNICEF, have been handed over to local health officials. These six units – located in Kirkuk, Diala, Diwaniyah, and Basra – are expected to benefit over 100,000 people with health services such as immunization, antenatal care, growth monitoring, breastfeeding promotion, control of diarrheal diseases, as well as other outpatient services. UNICEF contracted monitors and engineers will follow up on the operation of these PHCs.

USAID-funded supplies for these PHCs have already been delivered through the MOH. These supplies, including vision-testing charts, floor-stand lights, examination tables, labor/delivery beds, obstetric surgical kits, and Doppler Fetal heart detectors, will allow for improved examination, diagnosis and case management.

Fully functioning PHC clinics are a key component in USAID's work to improve community health. Since the beginning of 2004, USAID has sought to help Iraq shift the focus of the health delivery system from inpatient to primary health care, and to improve performance and motivation throughout the system. Iraq's PHCs are an integral part of the health care system, providing both curative care and preventive services.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Awarded 5,030 small grants totaling \$336 million for quick impact activities that support good governance, civil society, conflict management and mitigation, human rights and transitional justice.
- Funded 147 grants totaling over \$5.5 million that focus on women's issues, including supporting the rehabilitation of 46 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

USAID works on countering the insurgency through urban rehabilitation and community cleanup in south central Iraq. This area in the heart of south central Iraq has witnessed long periods of intense fighting during the instability and though the current situation remains fragile, the local government is trying to find ways to build community trust and provide good governance. One way it has achieved this has been through a collaborative working relationship with USAID to develop a series of temporary employment projects in this area. The USAID grants have generated employment for approximately 210 young males to do labor-intensive cleanups of rubble and debris, as well as other urban rehabilitation work. Moreover, the project has bolstered the credibility of the local area councils to meet the needs of their constituencies and the broader community has benefited from a cleaner and more stable living environment.

USAID helps to set up Information and Consultation Center in south central Iraq. USAID's Iraq Transition Initiatives (ITI) awarded a grant to help set up an Information and Consultation Center at one of the Provincial Councils in south central Iraq. Without resources to serve their constituents, locally elected officials are not considered in very high regard by the public. The mistrust associated with little publicizing of government achievements is compounded by limited transparency of the structure, resources and decision-making process of the Provincial Council. Over the past year, the Provincial Councils have learned many lessons. They managed to gather enough knowledge to plan for some basic community reforms and to this end, USAID assisted in this process by providing a grant to build a new information center. The center now provides the needed resources for gathering, analyzing, processing, and disseminating information important to the functioning of the Provincial Councils such as government strategy and policymaking, as well as local government structures and processes. Nearly 200 Provincial Council members benefited from this project as did thousands of citizens by seeing a more effective local government able to better address community needs.

USAID helps to enhance a local courthouse in Central Iraq. USAID's ITI worked with the local court authorities in this central Iraqi town to define priorities and build a strategy to assist the court work more effectively in provision of its judicial services. The town's courthouse services a population of 200,000 in a mostly developing rural area in Central Iraq. The local courthouse hears and tries local court cases and archives its work, but due to a lack of resources, it did not have sufficient office equipment and supplies to properly conduct the daily court activities. Consequently, USAID awarded a grant to provide the court with a generator, desks, tables, chairs, computers, printers and office supplies. The USAID grant generated employment for 10 local residents and six skilled and professional workers, and has assisted the court to strengthen its role in providing basic public services that substantiate the rule of law and development of judiciary practices in Iraq.

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 its first year, 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 persons (IDPs).

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

USAID partners have trained 106 community health educators to work in remote villages across the Ninawa governorate. In Iraq, news of a possible avian influenza (AI) epidemic has reached people in remote villages throughout the country through media sources. One USAID partner has reported fielding numerous questions about the disease. In response to anxiety about the effects of AI, 106 community health educators in Ninawa governorate have been trained on AI awareness and preparedness as well as environmental health issues. Following the training, the health educator distributed nearly 7,000 health leaflets and traveled to 87 villages to educate communities on AI causes and prevention.

USAID projects provided 24,000 displaced Iraqis with access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities. Operating in the Ninawa and Arbil governorates, one of USAID's partners completed three projects to drill wells, construct water tanks, and install pipe networks and water outlets to supply water to thousands of displaced Iraqis in this area of northern Iraq.

In the Diyala governorate, the USAID partner also completed a project to supply eight locations with safe drinking water. Eight water trucks, each of which is equipped with a 2,000-liter tank, supply water to these points on a daily basis. By reaching out to these IDP communities with water distribution points, the project will greatly improve access to safe water and prevent further displacement of vulnerable populations.

An Iraqi delegation from 40 villages in the Diyala and Sulaymaniyah governorates recently received training in sanitation and hygiene education. In all, over 85 teachers, water sanitation caretakers, and religious leaders participated in the four 'training of trainers' workshops that will prepare them to carry out hygiene education sessions in their respective communities and schools. Accompanied by an expert hygiene promoter and a small financial incentive to support the first session, these trainers will go on to reach hundreds of Iraqis in their communities on the importance of hygiene education. A media campaign also reached out to larger communities, helping build awareness of the relation between disease and water management, personal hygiene, water contamination, and simple water treatment practices.

Training in hygiene education is part of a larger effort—including the construction of a new water system nearby—to provide displaced Iraqis with access to clean, safe water.



COMPLETED PROGRAMS

March 31, 2006

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.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- 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-sea ships.
- 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.
- 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 (MOT). This work allows shipments of bulk cargo from the port to Baghdad and throughout the country.

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.

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.
- Completed a rapid food security field assessment from 17 impoverished districts in May 2005 and presented assessment findings in the USAID food security forum in August 2005. Forum participants reviewed data to better understand food security in Iraq and recommended actions to reduce risk among Iraq's vulnerable populations.

EDUCATION

- Through the Higher Education and Development (HEAD) program five American and 10 Iraqi universities partnered to aid the reestablishment of academic excellence in Iraq's higher education system. More than 1,500 Iraqi faculty and students have participated in workshops, trainings, conferences, and courses all over the world since January 2004. Also, the HEAD program rehabilitated university facilities throughout the country and provided books and electronic resources to university libraries.

PROGRAM FINANCIAL SUMMARY

March 31, 2006

FY 2003-2006*			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
Reconstruction USAID/ANE		Subtotal: \$3,989,358,920	
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	\$1,317,911,679
CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000
CAII	Education II	Countrywide	\$51,809,000
CEPPS I	Iraq Governing Council	Countrywide	\$675,000
CEPPS II	Domestic Observation/Vote	Countrywide	\$68,595,000
CEPPS III	Voter Education	Countrywide	\$45,310,000
CEPPS IV	Elections Administration Support	Countrywide	\$41,000,000
Community Action Program	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$249,200,000
DAI	Marshlands	South	\$4,000,000
DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$101,352,912
Futures Group	Health	Countrywide	\$30,000
Logenix	Health	North/Central	\$108,506
Louis Berger	Vocational Education	Countrywide	\$30,016,115
Louis Berger	Private Sector Development II	Countrywide	\$95,000,000
MACRO Int'l.	Health	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
Partnership for Child Healthcare	Health	Countrywide	\$2,000,000

PROGRAM FINANCIAL SUMMARY

March 31, 2006

FY 2003-2006			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$241,910,757
RTI	Local Governance II	Countrywide	\$85,000,000
RTI	Health Training	Countrywide	\$22,015,750
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	\$999,926
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: \$183,506,209
ACTED	Water and sanitation, health/hygiene, education	Eastern Iraq	\$2,995,793
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$9,203,073
AirServ	Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,309,876
ARC	Capacity Building	Central and Southern Iraq	\$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' and Dhi Qar	\$1,507,900
InterAction	Coordination	Countrywide	\$92,860
IDA	Health	Countrywide	\$1,318,437

PROGRAM FINANCIAL SUMMARY

March 31, 2006

FY 2003-2006			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
IMC	Health, IDP Assistance, Food Security, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Capacity Building	Countrywide	\$35,332,887
IOM	IDP Assistance	Central and Southern Iraq	\$18,892,470
IRC	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,000,411
IRD	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation, Livelihoods, Emergency Relief Commodities	Northern and Central 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: \$419,081,664
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$12,124,208
IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$6,462,167
DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$389,500,376
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 2003-2006			\$5,017,517,793

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