



# RECONSTRUCTION WEEKLY UPDATE

February 24, 2005



USAID provided sewage pump trucks to support the US Army's rehabilitation of Mosul water treatment plants and sewage pump stations.

**Contents:**

Electricity .....	2	Local Governance .....	8
Water and Sanitation .....	3	National Governance .....	9
Economic Governance .....	4	Community Action Program .....	10
Agriculture .....	5	Completed Activities .....	11
Education .....	6	Financial Summary .....	12
Health .....	7		

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](http://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 600 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 942 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 of Iraq's power system.*

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**USAID is working to provide new generation capacity at the site of an existing mid-sized thermal power plant in southern Baghdad** that is serviced by a heavy fuel pipeline and can accommodate expansion. This project is scheduled to be complete in July 2005.

The expansion project included the purchase of two combustion turbines rated at 120 MW each and the supply of auxiliary equipment. These turbines will begin light fuel operation in May 2005, with the first synchronization set for June 2005. It is common to use a lighter fuel for initial unit operation but since these fuels are in short supply, the turbines will be converted for heavy fuel operation in June and mid-July 2005. When completed, 215 to 240 MW of electricity will be added to Baghdad's grid.

**In early February, a class of Iraqi senior power plant staff began training at the University of Jordan in Amman on combustion plant and thermal plant operations and on training techniques so they could further impart the knowledge they are acquiring to their staff.** Several trainees at the Doura Power Plant also began on-the-job training in February. These sessions are part of an Operations and Maintenance Training initiative under USAID's Iraq Infrastructure Reconstruction (IIR) program.

USAID is administering nearly \$3 billion in infrastructure improvement projects throughout Iraq to ensure that homes and businesses are receiving services essential for the resumption of everyday life. Parallel to these projects, O&M training and institutional strengthening activities are required to ensure sustainable operation and maintenance of new and refurbished facilities. The O&M training effort provides for classroom training of 239 Ministry of Electricity (MOE) staff in tiers corresponding to their O&M management level.

**The IIR program completed rehabilitation work on water treatment plants (WTPs) at two power plants in Basrah governorate.** The scope of work on this project includes work on a total of four Basrah power plants that have been operating with damaged or jerry-rigged WTPs that have not been maintained due to lack of spare parts. The WTPs also did not have reverse osmosis (RO) units necessary to produce clean water.

Poor water quality causes metal embrittlement of boiler tubes and mineral deposits on boiler tubes; both will eventually cause these tubes to rupture. Long term use of poor quality water results in permanent damage to the plant's boiler and heat exchange system, additional outages and down-time, and costly repairs. These replacement WTPs improve the efficiency and reliability of Basrah's power plants. Because of Basrah's brackish aquifer water, RO units capable of removing salts are required for all plants.

This work will improve the efficiency, reliability and working life of boilers, turbines, and WTPs. Efficiency gains will add 20 megawatts (MW) to the national power grid. Work at the remaining two power plants will be complete in mid-March, 2005.

## 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 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 reservoir, 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

**Work continues on the rehabilitation of a major sewage treatment plant in Karbala.** The low quality of treatment at this facility made this effluent water a major public health concern. Rehabilitation will reduce public health risks from contaminated water, benefiting city and downstream residents and an estimated three million pilgrims who visit Karbala's holy sites each year.

Currently, the primary sedimentation tank is being rehabilitated and the final discharge channel is being altered to adapt to a new primary effluent screw pump station. An aeration tank is being prepared for refurbishment and water that has infiltrated is being pumped out. Finally, pile-driving continues at the site of the secondary sedimentation tanks.

When complete, this project will have cleaned the plant's aeration tanks and constructed two new 36-meter diameter secondary sedimentation tanks. The inlet pumping station will also be rehabilitated, as will the primary effluent pumping station, and return-activated pumping station. All major pumps, auxiliary mechanical equipment, and supporting electrical equipment will be replaced or repaired as required. The project is now 10% finished and is scheduled for completion in February 2006.

**USAID is working alongside the U.S. Army to rehabilitate Mosul's water treatment and sewer systems.** New pumps are required at six of the city's water treatment plants; existing pumps are inadequate due to age and lack of preventative maintenance, a problem exacerbated by an unreliable power supply. Existing elevated water tanks have been abandoned for years because pumps cannot operate long enough to fill them.



*Sewage pump trucks supplied by USAID.*

In support of the U.S. Army's efforts to install diesel generator systems and rehabilitate the six water treatment plants and eight pump stations, USAID is providing trucks and other equipment including pumps and pump control systems, valves, penstocks, pipes, spare parts, tools, and electrical equipment. USAID is also providing welding training to water treatment plant operations and maintenance staff. Mosul will have 24 hours of water available when the elevated tanks are back in service by the end of March.

USAID will also clear the city's sewer and storm-drain systems. Mosul's sewer system is poorly-designed with its sanitary sewer and stormwater drainage interconnected. As a result, raw sewage is frequently discharged into the Tigris River. In winter, when drainage flows are highest, some residential areas flood with raw sewage, creating a serious public health issue.

## 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 micro-credit 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

**Iraqi officials and private sector representatives are working with USAID's Private Sector Development II (PSD II) program to prepare for accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO).** This is important for Iraq in terms of its reintegration into the community of nations and its emergence as an open, vibrant market economy. PSD II advisors are currently working on drafting sample WTO-compliant legislation and supporting Iraqi officials in strategizing reform activities. Recent activities include:

*Intellectual property.* PSD II staff is helping Iraqi officials develop appropriate trade-related intellectual property rights (TRIPS) laws and regulations. Recently, PSD II advisors drafted model regulations on Copyright and Fair Use and on Mandatory Registration and Deposit Requirements for Iraqi Protected Works. Drafts include provisions on trade secret issues, visual arts, computer programs, databases, and online content. PSD II staff is continuing to gather data for further draft model regulations for other WTO/TRIPS-related issues.

*Accession roadmap.* The PSD II team recently presented its WTO Accession Roadmap to Iraqi officials and private sector partners. A WTO Legislative Action Plan, outlining legislative steps necessary for accession, has also been produced and distributed. The Legislative Action Plan is awaiting formal Iraqi government acceptance.

**Iraqi government officials are working with USAID's Iraq Economic Governance II (IEG II) program staff to reform commercial laws and institutions. This effort has made progress in developing commercial legislation and assessing the current state of commercial law,** and is now focused on capacity building efforts for Iraqi government entities. Recent activities have included:

*Capacity building.* IEG II advisors have defined a first phase institutional strengthening and capacity building training program for senior officials of the Ministry of Justice; the training will help these officials to guide reform efforts and implement new laws. The IEG II team recently met with representatives of Iraqi legal NGOs to identify potential areas of future support through capacity building grants and loans. Advisors also agreed with the dean of an Iraqi law school on a program of sponsorship for eligible Iraqi law students to intern at US law firms.

*Business registry.* The Iraqi Business Registrar has confirmed that more than 21,000 Iraqi companies have been registered in Baghdad as of January 2005. The Registrar attributed this success to IEG II-supported training efforts, technical improvements, and clarifications of the Company Law. A new Business Registry will improve transparency in procedures for registering companies will provide a valuable resource for companies that need information on other businesses, as well as government entities with responsibilities for licensing and taxing. When complete, the registry will be fully automated, including web-based applications for registering companies and retrieving information.

## 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

USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development Program for Iraq (ARDI) is exploring the possibility of adding an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) component to their program. Currently, ARDI staff is interviewing key actors in IPM including local agricultural input providers, plant pathologists, biologists, research directors and ministry officials to obtain background information on the current situation regarding pest management, pesticides, recommendations, and provision of relevant advice to farmers. Information about current Iraqi practices and local knowledge will be consolidated into the foundation of a larger program.



*Implementing an Integrated Pest Management training initiative includes a solid understanding of the proper use of the different products available on the market.*

Topics covered in these interviews specifically include the structure and activities of Integrated Pest Management extension services, current activities, major pest problems plus sources of crop production recommendations, staffing at field level, current research programs with particular emphasis on pest management, and the availability and quality of inputs.

The ARDI program recently held a workshop in Arbil for 13 farmers and 24 research extension specialists participating in the ARDI Wheat Production Campaign. Wheat is the principal crop in the country in terms of area planted and crop value. It is grown mainly in the northern governorates under rain-fed conditions. It is also grown to a lesser extent in central and southern Iraq during winter, using irrigation. The workshop discussed rodent and weed control and fertilization.

Workshop participants reported problems with bait used to trap field mice, rats and mole-rats; a new type of bait was recommended. Participants also decided on two herbicides to be applied to fields for weed control. The final recommendation of the group was to implement fertilizer application following herbicide treatment. Farmers participating in the workshop received protective gear for the safe application and handling of pesticides and herbicides.

Weed and pest control are related issues. Field mice, rats, and mole-rats all thrive in the ground cover provided by weeds. Mole-rats undermine root systems, while field mice and rats attack immature plants; sometimes, enough of the plant is destroyed that it cannot recuperate, leading to low crop yields. Rat infestation is also a health risk.

## 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

- Completed a major initiative that trained nearly 33,000 secondary school teachers and administrators, including 860 master trainers, nationwide.
- 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 Iraq.

### • Higher Education

- Awarded five grants worth \$20.7 million to create partnerships between U.S. and Iraqi universities. Through these partnerships, Iraqi universities are rebuilding infrastructure; re-equipping 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 partnerships between U.S. and Iraqi colleges and universities.*

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**More than 8,500 books have been delivered to five Iraqi Universities with the support of USAID's Higher Education and Development (HEAD) program.** The books include disciplines such as engineering, law, medicine, dentistry, art history, anthropology, foreign languages, biology, chemistry, physics, women's studies, and electronics. One of the largest book drives in the world, this initiative has involved book collection and cataloging by discipline, dividing books between the five participating Iraqi Universities, and finally packing and shipping the books to each school.



*A shipment of books arrives at an Iraqi university.*

The books have been donated by individuals, book stores, publishing companies, and other organizations from around the globe, ranging from the London Mathematical Society to university students in India. Most donations came from University of Oklahoma students and faculty.

**Twenty Supplies Directors from Iraq's Ministry of Education recently returned from a 10-day study tour in Cairo to learn how a similar country deals with issues related to textbook production and distribution.** Participants toured the Egyptian Ministry of Education, a textbook distribution center, a textbook printing company, and a model school. The tour was part of a UNESCO textbook program for Iraq's primary and secondary schools funded by a \$10 grant from USAID.



*A textbook printing company toured by 20 Supply Directors from the Education Ministry.*

The textbook program also involves the installation of VSAT technology in every governorate education office. VSAT--a form of satellite communication that allows the transmission of data, voice and video signals--will improve many aspects of governorate education operations, not only textbook distribution. In addition, the UNESCO project is providing 136 computers with desktop publishing software to the Education Ministry and governorate education offices.

Improving the capacity of Supplies Directors and the facilities of governorate education offices is helping the Ministry of Education reestablish excellence in Iraq's primary and secondary schools.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Vaccinated over 3 million children under five 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 two 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 five for malnutrition.
- Distributed high protein biscuits to more than 450,000 children and 200,000 pregnant and nursing mothers.
- Provided potable water for 400,000 persons each day in Basrah city and 170,000 persons 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 for the fortification of wheat flour with iron and folic acid.

*USAID's goals include supporting a reformed Iraqi Ministry of Health, delivering essential health services, funding vaccines and high protein biscuits for pregnant and nursing mothers and malnourished children, providing basic primary health care equipment and supplies, training and upgrading health staff, providing health education and information, and identify the specific needs of the health sector and of vulnerable populations such as women and children.*

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**Throughout the month of January, UNICEF distributed about 21 million liters of drinking water in Baghdad through water tankers.** Approximately 20 million liters, benefiting 180,000 people, were provided mainly in the eastern parts of Baghdad city, where water services have been almost completely disrupted for some time. UNICEF also provided water tankering services in the Western part of Baghdad for several days, after a bomb blast created a serious leak in the water main of one of the two major water treatment plants, which serves about half the population of Baghdad. This emergency response provided approximately one million liters of water to about 40,000 people. The provision of water also continued in Fallujah where about 67,000 Internally Displaced Persons were provided with 10.7 million litres of drinking water. Currently a desk review is ongoing to assess water tankering activities. The recommendations of the review will help strengthen this component.

Half of a \$36.7 million USAID grant to UNICEF for health and water and sanitation programs is being used to support water supply and sanitation improvement projects throughout Iraq. As a result of these programs, vulnerable populations are gaining access to potable water and improved sanitation is helping to decrease the incidence of waterborne diseases, thus improving public health throughout the country.

## 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 and refreshment of 16 governorate councils, 90 district councils, 194 city or sub-district councils, and 445 neighborhood councils.
- Organized and facilitated 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 educates Iraqis 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 sub-national 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

**Local Governance Program (LGP) staff and the Baghdad Mayorality continued to plan the further rehabilitation of the city's water network.** The approach proposes a comprehensive analysis of water loss, repairs and maintenance, a water network survey, a computerized Network Information System, and an enhanced water control service. Future work will be conducted based on information processed through the Mayorality's Geographic Information System (GIS).

LGP and Mayorality staff work together to collect and analyze data on water treatment units for the GIS; nearly all data has been collected for 2004. LGT specialists began data analysis and will conduct analysis training for water treatment department staff. To this end, LGP also delivered more than 200 publications to the technical training center at the Mayorality's Water and Sewage Department and installed 50 computers for the Baghdad governorate Water and Sewage offices.

**The LGP Policy Reform Team (PRT) held a seminar on Local Government Associations (LGAs) for 20 Arbil/Dahuk senior officials** including the Arbil Deputy Governor and the Representative of the Governor of Dahuk. PRT discussed how LGAs can strengthen Iraqi local government and presented the LGA Toolkit as a reference guide to determine if and how to establish LGAs.

Questionnaires were distributed to gauge support for LGAs. All attendees felt they would be useful and the majority favored having LGAs concentrate on technical rather than political issues and including representatives from the rural districts and subdistricts. A majority of attendees also felt that the initial focus should be on decentralization rather than providing services to local government. Attendees emphasized that they preferred a Federal system as the first step to decentralization to better reflect the political situation in northern Iraq.

**Basrah LGP staff are developing an accounting program for the Health Directorate** to manage financial transactions at eleven hospitals and about 50 clinics throughout the governorate. LGP is also developing a database to process and track the fleet of vehicles that belong to 15 separate Basrah municipalities.

**Baghdad's LGP finance and accounting staff conducted a one-day training session for 21 local officials throughout the governorate in basic accounting and finance concepts.** An additional training session on Excel and Word is planned in the next two weeks.

**The South Central LGP team recently completed a 3-day training course for 14 council members from the Jassan Subdistrict Council on writing by-laws.** Course topics included a brief history of Iraqi administrative systems, an introduction to legislation, a course on council structure and advice on how to organize and structure relations with local councils.



## 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.

*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.*

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**Following a strategic planning session in February with the Interim National Council's (INC) Chief of Staff and five of his senior advisors, USAID's implementing partner agreed to conduct training for 18 individuals expected to become staff members of the upcoming Transitional National Assembly (TNA).** The INC is the precursor to the TNA. The INC's support staff and secretariat will now be responsible for performing the same administrative and support functions for the TNA.

In early February, the implementing partner led a one-day seminar allowing staff members to specify their needs and interests in anticipation of further staff training sessions once the TNA is in session and its staffing is completed. Participants included members of the Department for Public Information and Media, International Relations, General Administration and Technology and Protocols.

This training session served as a complementary workshop to the week-long Parliamentary Administration workshop conducted by USAID partners in conjunction with the University of Jordan in Amman, in early February. At that workshop, General Administration topics were discussed including minute taking, accounting, translation, media relations, protocol training, and information technology and time management. The 16 participants were TNA staff members that represent a cross section of the personnel in the Secretariat of the Parliament.

**A USAID implementing partner has begun to receive grant submissions from Iraqi civil society organizations (CSOs) to support efforts to increase women's participation in the constitutional process.** More specifically, the grant programs will support CSOs that focus on women's issues in a democracy, the political awareness of women and the involvement of women in Iraqi political life. USAID anticipates providing three \$20,000 sub-grants to three organizations with qualifying proposals for projects that will develop a women's advocacy agenda for the constitutional process and support public education for women on the constitutional referendum.

The implementing partner has also begun the development of a Constitutional Tool-Kit for political parties to assist them in using the constitutional process as a public outreach mechanism and as an opportunity to engage voters directly in the public debate on the constitution. This outreach would serve the dual purpose of adding weight and legitimacy to the advocacy of the political parties in their constitutional negotiations, while at the same time providing them with an opportunity to directly engage the public about party messaging. If successful, this outreach may also help to ensure that the positions taken by political parties in the constitutional negotiations are better informed while at the same time ensuring that the public is better informed about the constitutional process and opportunities to become involved.

# COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

February 24, 2005

## 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 action groups (CAGs) in 17 governorates. Five U.S. NGOs each concentrate on a region: north, Baghdad, southwest central, southeast central, and south.
- The northern program focuses on the conflict prone areas of the Sunni Triangle, Mosul, Kirkuk and the Iran-Iraq border. The partner NGO has completed 271 projects with over \$11 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 219 projects and have over \$13.5 million in project commitments.
- Income generation is an important emphasis in the Baghdad program where 289 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 \$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 CAGs which average 40% women's participation. Projects have focused on immediate community needs such as sewage clean up, water treatment and distribution, public health, and girls' access to education. Total 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

### **USAID's Community Action Program (CAP) recently finished paving a village road outside of Al Hillah.**

The existing road was unpaved and inaccessible during the winter, isolating the village, where three-quarters of the 1,400 residents work in subsistence farming, from surrounding towns and the commercial and educational services of Al Hillah, less than 15 km away. The CAP team began



working with the community in August 2004. Residents and Community Association members agreed upon their first project, the paving of the 1.8km road connecting the village to the Hillah - Karbala highway.

Excavation and paving of the road began in November, and was completed in January 2005. Community residents and Association members worked together to implement the project, which will benefit all village residents. The farmer explained, "When the road is finished, we will be able to travel freely to other towns and to the city. Our children will be able to attend school easily, even secondary school or higher education in the city. We have always lived simple lives, but the project will give us a new role in this country."

### **Follow-up training to the CAP spring and fall conflict mitigation sessions was held in Amman in mid-December for 16 Iraqi Community Mobilizers working in northern Iraq. At the three-day workshop, Iraqi staff learned the fundamentals of conflict resolution.**

The first day established a foundation for thinking about and discussing conflict. Participants identified conflict projects that would be important in their communities. The second day deepened thinking about conflict, from personal assumptions to a review of elements that compose conflict like positions and interests. On the third day, participants learned to analyze economic, social, political and external factors that cause or exacerbate a conflict, possible conflict triggers, and different peace capacities within a conflict situation. They broke into small groups to study a made-up conflict about water resources that was roughly based on a real life situation that arose early on in CAP and then developed project ideas to address conflict within and between their communities.

Working with Iraqi staff to generate ideas for conflict resolution development projects was a solid success. Staff learned to assess the variables that make up a conflict and started to develop specific projects to address possible conflict in their communities. Two participants took on the task of providing a follow-up training in early January to all not present. Soon, all staff will have a solid foundation in conflict resolution and the mandate to look for projects that resolve conflicts in their communities.

*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 the Iraqi Republican Railway line connecting Basrah with the port of Umm Qasr including physical track construction, installing culverts, and repairing gatehouses. 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 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

February 24, 2005

FY 2003-2005*			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
<b>Reconstruction USAID/ANE</b>			<b>Subtotal: \$3,870,261,027</b>
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	\$75,016,115
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	\$168,820,000
DAI	Marshlands	Dhi Qar Al Basr Maysan	\$4,000,000
DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$101,352,912
Fed Source	Personnel Support	Countrywide	\$300,000
IRG	Reconstruction Support	Countrywide	\$51,698,152
RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$236,911,000
America's Development 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
CEPPS	Transitional Government	Countrywide	\$20,700,000
CEPPS	Voter Education, Domestic Observation and Conflict Resolution	Countrywide	\$47,175,000
CEPPS	Elections Administration Support	Countrywide	\$40,000,000

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

February 24, 2005

FY 2003-2004			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
VFH	Elections Support	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
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
Logenix	Health	North/Central	\$98,006
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
University Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Research Foundation of the State University of New York/Stony Brook and the Universities of Chicago, Boston and Oxford</li> <li>The Human Rights Institute, DePaul University College of Law and Italy's International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences</li> <li>University of Hawaii, the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas, University of Jordan and the American University in Beirut</li> <li>Jackson State University, Tougaloo College, Alcorn State University, Mississippi Valley State University, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Benetech, US-Iraq Business Resources</li> <li>University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, Cameron University and Langston University</li> </ul>	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
<b>Emergency Relief USAID/DCHA/OFDA.....</b>			<b>Subtotal: \$157,379,161</b>
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$7,978,194
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

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

February 24, 2005

<b>FY 2003-2004</b>			
<b>Implementing Partner</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Regions</b>	<b>Obligation</b>
IMC	Health, IDP Assistance, Food Security, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Capacity Building	Countrywide	\$28,952,898
IOM	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$16,392,470
IRC	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,000,411
IRD	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Northern Iraq	\$10,000,000
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	\$20,199,786
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, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$6,793,739
<b>USAID/DCHA/FFP.....</b>			<b>Subtotal: \$425,571,000</b>
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
<b>USAID/DCHA/OTI.....</b>			<b>Subtotal: \$372,029,240</b>
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$10,071,784
IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$6,462,167
DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$344,500,376
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
<b>TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ FROM 2003-2005.....</b>			<b>\$4,825,240,428</b>

\* 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.