

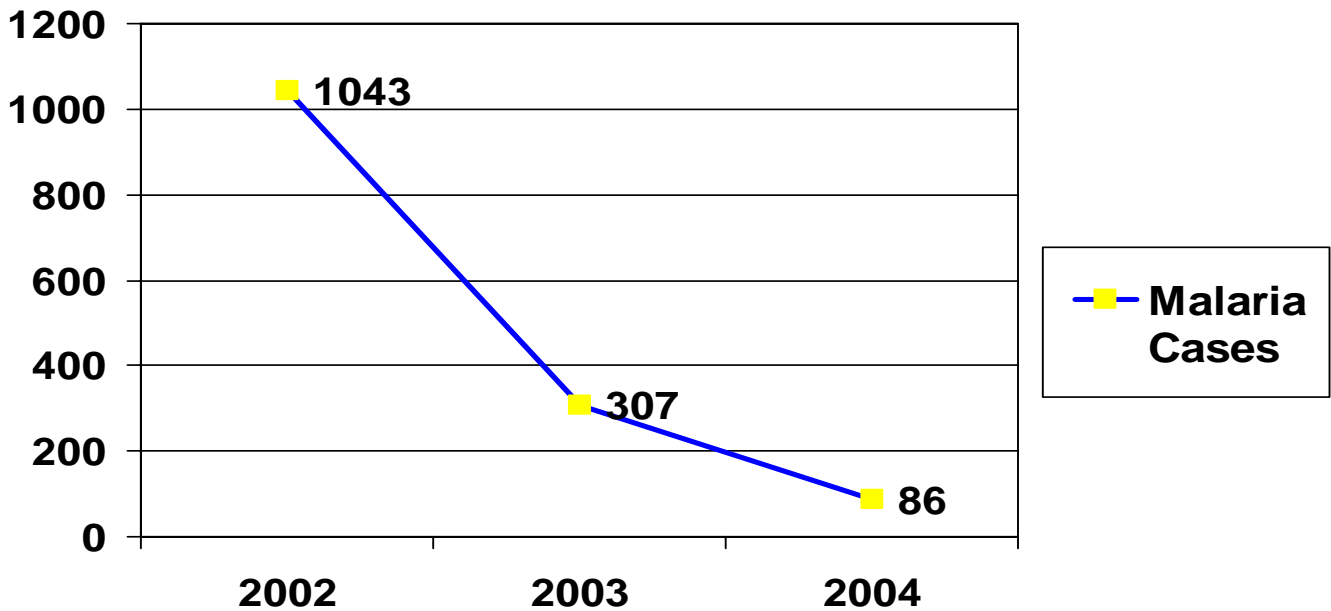


# RECONSTRUCTION WEEKLY UPDATE

July 21, 2005

## Total Number of Confirmed Cases of Malaria in Iraq by Year

Source: Iraq Ministry of Health Statistics



*Cases of Malaria and Cholera in Iraq have decreased dramatically. USAID supported the Iraqi Ministry of Health's effort to combat these diseases.*

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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](http://www.usaid.gov/iraq).

## 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

**Work at Karbala's Water Treatment Plant continues. Contractors are currently installing chlorine piping and ground systems for all five clarifier units.** USAID anticipates that half the units will be operational and producing drinking water by mid-July. USAID continues to train Iraqis who operate the clarifier units and the low lift station. The project is 78 percent finished and is expected to be complete in September 2005.

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 replacing the clarifiers rather than repairing them. However, 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. Workers will install 10 compact clarifier units, with a total capacity of 25 million gallons per day. The project will also enlarge the existing inlet works and associated pump station.

**USAID contractors are rehabilitating a sewage trunkline in a poor, southeastern Baghdad neighborhood.** The current system does not meet the growing needs of the community; it is undersized and unreliable due to collapsed, damaged, and deteriorated pipes which leak and block the flow. Neighborhood residents endure frequent overflows of raw sewage in their homes and streets. Exposed pools of raw sewage can contribute to the spread of communicable diseases.

The project consists of four phases to augment the existing sewer lines. The first phase will include the installation of a forced-main sewer, consisting of a 900mm diameter pipe that will run 5.5 km to a sewage treatment plant in Rustimiyah. The second phase will install 3.7 km of 1400 mm gravity-flow sewer line, including manholes. The last two phases involve the installation of two different pump stations, each requiring a total of 10 pumps and supporting electrical systems. Standby diesel generators will sustain reliable pump operation independent of the local electrical grid at these two stations.

Gravity sewer subcontractors continued installing the 1400mm pipe and constructing manholes. Contractors are excavating and placing the 900mm force main pipe and the construction of valve vaults at the overflow bypass and at the force main discharge to the existing trunk sewer upstream of the Rustimiyah Waste Water Treatment Plant. Crews continue to work anchorage points for the pipe bridge over the Army Canal. Subcontractors are relocating a pump station three meters to the south of the original site.

The project is expected to be completed by December 2005. Operations and maintenance training will be provided for Baghdad Mayoralty staff to ensure the system is properly managed after it is turned over to the city government.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

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

**Representatives from USAID, the USAID-funded Private Sector Growth (PSG) project and the Iraq Securities Commission (ISC) recently met in Baghdad with Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister, Dr. Ahmed Chalabi, to discuss timely issues related to the development of the country's capital market and the government's support for the privatization of state-owned enterprises.** The chairman of the Iraq Securities Commission introduced four commissioners to Dr. Chalabi at the meeting, during which issues specific to the ISC were covered. PSG team leaders were introduced as advisors to the private sector in addressing key capital markets development issues in Iraq.

During the meeting, ISC representatives raised the possibility of Iraq's capital markets assisting the government in the privatization of state-owned enterprises, particularly concerning the potential role of utilizing Iraq's private sector stock market as a transparent vehicle to ensure equitable availability of shares of stock in privatized companies to the public. In addition, various obstacles to foreign investment in Iraq were discussed. The Deputy Prime Minister noted the importance of foreign investment as a source of capital and technology to stimulate private sector growth. Dr. Chalabi expressed his support for efforts to remove barriers to investment in order to strengthen the private sector and create more long-term jobs in Iraq.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

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

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

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**USAID is providing a grant to four Iraqi villages to clean irrigation canals that had not been maintained in three years. This resulted in a buildup of grass and silt and reduced water flows forcing local farmers to purchase water or suffer crop losses.** The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development for Iraq (ARDI) program will provide the farmers with canal cleaning training, equipment, and wages in return for their work. The farmers will clean 9,500 meters of canal serving 625 hectares of land and benefiting 150 families living in the four villages.

**The results of a USAID-sponsored survey in 14 Iraqi governorates will determine the training needs of pesticide dealers as part of the MOA's Integrated Pest Management Strategy.** To conduct the survey, staff members from the MOA and ARDI are meeting with groups of pesticide dealers to assess their knowledge of local crops and pests, and the suitability of pesticides. Dealers complete a questionnaire asking for information such as crops grown by area farmers; the insects, diseases, and weeds that affect these crops; and the types of pesticides available to combat and control those pests. MOA/ARDI staff members also observe the dealers to see how they interact with farmers buying pesticides.

**The Kurdistan Agronomist Syndicate (KAS) is renovating its building through a grant from MOA/ARDI.** The KAS has a membership of over 2,000 agriculturists and conducts activities promoting agricultural production, including computer courses for agricultural engineers, and supervision for agriculture projects in the private sector. The grant will repair walls, roofs, floors, doors, windows, the electrical system, plumbing system and necessary hardware.

**ARDI is sponsoring a geneticist from the Ministry of Science and Technology to obtain training in genetics relevant to Iraqi agriculture.** The MOA will utilize the research to implement livestock improvement projects. The training will be carried out at the National Research Center and the Agriculture Research Center in Cairo, Egypt, and will include studies on the effects of pesticides, drugs and food additives on DNA; the effects of drugs on animal tissue; and abnormal genetic effects leading to death of animal embryos.

**Construction began this week for a flower nursery to be managed by a prominent women's union. This effort will provide business opportunities to women-headed households.** Twenty-three women will also receive management training and training on potted plant production. MOA/ARDI will provide a generator, a peat moss processing machine, seeds and tubers, loamy soil, fertilizers, and vases. The expected output for the first year is estimated to be 38,000 flowering plants, 2,700 shade plants, 4,000 flower bouquets, and 8,000 kg of peat moss. This production is expected to increase in later years.

**Twenty-nine water buffalo producers in Baghdad, Al Qadisiyah, Al Muthanna', and Dhi Qar are participating in a program to improve pregnancy and calving rates using hormonal treatment and improved nutrition.** Seventy-five buffalo were injected with hormones and are being fed a high protein feed concentrate. ARDI staff met with Baghdad buffalo breeders who confirm that the main problems they face are low reproductive rates and infertility. The program hopes to improve buffalo productivity.

**MOA/ARDI has initiated a program to introduce sorghum as a less expensive feed grain for the poultry industry.** Over the past year, MOA/ARDI have worked to increase options for poultry farmers who rely on domestic wheat sources and expensive maize imports. ARDI will procure hybrid varieties of sorghum from environments similar to those of Iraq to be planted in demonstration plots in 10 governorates, thus testing the productivity of the varieties in all regions. Field days will be organized at each demonstration site for the MOA research staff, and students of nearby agriculture colleges and technical institutes.

## 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 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—that match 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 representatives trained an additional 127 facilitators from 63 NGOs to conduct the Constitutional Dialogue program**, which will facilitate constituent involvement in the constitutional drafting through civic education and public input. Approximately 300 facilitators from 150 NGOs have been trained to date. The dialogues will have an average audience of 25 people from civil society groups and community associations. The 300 facilitators will each conduct three sessions a week for a total of 900 sessions and 22,500 individuals. Participating NGOs will later gather in regional conferences to examine feedback, before meeting at a national conference in early August.

**USAID is also helping the Iraqi National Assembly's (INA's) Constitutional Committee adopt systems to enable public input on the constitution.** In June, a USAID-sponsored Civil Society team and a few Iraqi NGOs participating in the Constitutional Dialogue Program met with the Constitution Committee's Outreach Unit to design a work plan to receive public input. It was agreed that USAID would train the Outreach Unit to design a database and to enter and analyze data that will be presented to the Committee and the public.

Data entry training was conducted on June 27 for 16 members of the five regional NGOs that will be coordinating activities with the 150 implementing NGOs. The regional coordinating NGOs will be responsible for entering all the data and questionnaire responses collected from each civil dialogue.

**USAID provided training to 42 INA members on the legislative drafting process.** Training topics included creating and introducing a bill; its reading stages; the supporting role played by the legal staff; the form and content of a law; legislative reviews; the role and use of amendments; and reasons why public input is important to the overall legislative process.

**USAID also provided training to 37 INA members on advocacy and lobbying for legislators working in a democratic system.** USAID civil society representatives led discussions examining advocacy and lobbying at the family, community, regional, national, and international level—but more specifically at the governmental level. Discussions focused on ways advocacy campaigns work, who they involve, and methods that may be used to achieve specific results.

**Sixteen women representatives of the INA and several NGOs visited South Africa to meet with key women and activists who played a vital role in crafting the South African constitution.** Several recurring themes emerged from their discussions including the need to ensure women's rights in the initial constitution rather than waiting for amendments, and the need for a women's coalition that cuts across political, ethnic, and socio-economic lines. Upon their return, delegates will lead advocacy efforts throughout Iraq to guarantee the inclusion of women's rights in the constitution.

## 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 authorities to deliver core municipal services. The grants were used to restore services in agriculture, education, health, electricity, sanitation, and water. In the second year, a similar grants program worth \$1.5 million has been implemented.
- Facilitated the establishment or refreshment of 16 governorate councils, 90 district councils, 194 city or sub-district councils, and 445 neighborhood councils.
- Supported preparation of 2004 and 2005 budgets in Baghdad, Mosul, Hillah, Babil, and Najaf.
- Organized and carried out numerous selection processes for governors and mayors, as well as local council elections, throughout Iraq.
- Supported a series of National Agenda Dialogue Conferences, which engaged stakeholders such as academics, journalists, women, lawyers, health professionals, tribal leaders, the disabled and civil society organizations in discussions on their roles in Iraq's developing democracy.

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

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**In late June, an Iraqi attorney working in conjunction with the USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP) completed the first draft of the booklet "Iraqi Potential Constitution—Facts, Opinions, and Suggestions" which was developed to disseminate information on the Iraqi constitution, decentralization, and federalism. The booklet includes issues of interest to local and national government institutions as well as NGOs. The attorney who coauthored the booklet has authored seven books on democracy and local governance organizations. He intends to distribute the final draft to government officials who will then participate in LGP round table discussions on constitution writing.**

**The LGP assisted the Babil Provincial Council (PC) in brokering a deal to make a location available for the satellite based Al-Iraqia TV to house its regional activities.** In return for access, Al-Iraqia TV will merge its operations with Babil TV including hiring its nine staff members. The PC is hoping this agreement will encourage Al-Iraqia TV to cover their local government activities more extensively.

**The Babil PC chairperson, a lawyer by profession, requested that the LGP develop and conduct a training session on "the Precedent of Law in Interpreting the Legal Authority of Local Government" for five PC members and 28 department representatives working in finance and law.** LGP's earlier work educating the PC on aspects of local revenue generation led to the appointment of a sub-committee within the PC that was tasked with conducting a preliminary study on how sources of local revenue might be created from the attraction of the ancient ruins of Babylon. Separately, LGP is assisting the Babil PC in putting together a feasibility study on local sources of revenue in their province.

**LGP is working with local government officials and civic institutions to form local government associations (LGA) that will act as lobbying and advocacy organizations that represent the interests of the local government to other government officials and the public. The associations do not have any authority to direct the activities of their members.**

Babil LGA members, in coordination with LGP, held a conference on "How to Improve the Security Situation in Babil" for Provincial Council members, local council members, department heads and representatives from police, unions, nongovernmental organizations, and political and religious parties. In Karbala, LGP presented training sessions on the Constitution and on Federalism to 23 Karbala LGA members. LGP offered a presentation to 22 Wasit LGA members on case studies citing both the Association of Palestinian Local Authorities (APLA) and other local government associations.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- USAID has committed over \$131 million to 3,120 projects while Iraqi communities have committed more than 25 percent of total funding. CAP has established over 600 community action groups (CAGs) in 17 governorates. Five U.S. NGOs each concentrate on a region: north, Baghdad, southwest central, southeast central, and south.
- The northern program focuses on the conflict prone areas of the Sunni Triangle, Mosul, Kirkuk and the Iran-Iraq border. The partner NGO has completed 433 projects with over \$29 million in project commitments including improving the Tikrit water supply, and developing income generation projects in the north.
- In the southwest central region, the partner NGO has established a strong presence in Hillah and the Shi'a holy cities Najaf and Karbala. Emphasis on critical infrastructure needs has improved community water/sanitation services and schools, and repaired vital social infrastructure. It has 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

**The Community Action Program (CAP) completed two projects in the Marshlands areas near Basrah. Both projects targeted basic sources of livelihood in the area – fish and wheat production.** Through one of the projects, CAP provided wheat seeds, fertilizer and diesel fuel for a wheat production farm. A second project established a small fish farm. In late spring the communities collected their first harvest of wheat and fish.

**CAP helped an Arbil Governorate community build four new classrooms and a soccer field at its primary school.** The school struggled with overcrowding because it had six classrooms for 706 students. Students were divided into morning and afternoon sessions, but there were still 55 students per classroom. There was also no outside area for school recreational activities.

The local municipality donated land for a soccer field and materials for four new classrooms while the Ministry of Education supplied the new school furniture—four blackboards and 72 desks and chairs. The students will soon have enough space to learn comfortably and space for recreational activities.

**CAP supplied medical equipment and renovated facilities for a Diyala governorate community's health clinic.** The program renovated the center's bathrooms and laboratory, and supplied equipment such as microscopes, a centrifuge, an oven, auto claves, thermometers, and wheelchairs.

The clinic serves tens of thousands of people in the area but lacked modern medical equipment and was in a general state of disrepair. Many local residents were compelled to rely on the health center because the next closest facility was too far away. With the improvements, the community can now depend upon a well-stocked and functioning health center.

**CAP worked with a Baghdad community association to remove trash from a public garden.** With no supervision or guidelines in some Baghdad municipalities, residents and garbage trucks dumped their garbage in the public space. The field soon became a mess and health hazard.

USAID funded a local contractor to remove the garbage, plant trees and install bathrooms and waste bins. The municipality agreed to conduct daily trash pickups in the area. The health risk has been eliminated and the community is now enjoying the beautified area.



*The garden before and after being cleaned and planted.*

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

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

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**USAID’s Higher Education and Development (HEAD) program in partnership with the University of Hawaii established a forage facility to assist agriculture students study animal nutrition at a university in Iraq.** Three PhD students are utilizing the new equipment in studies that will improve technique, output and efficiency in Iraq’s agricultural field. The facility consists of a grinder for grinding grain and mixer for mixing the forage. The machinery enables students to add supplements and medication to livestock forage.

The new equipment will enable Iraqi students to study animal nutrition and improve both the quantity and quality of livestock in Iraq. The equipment will allow students to add medications and supplements to animal feed and monitor the results. Three doctoral students are already utilizing the laboratory to study physiology among goats and meat production of lambs and ewes.

**The Mississippi Consortium for International Development (MCID) continued preparations for a second round of the Community Sustainable Outreach Workshop (CSHOP), which includes the award of mini-grant funds for several outreach projects on public health.** MCID works with three Iraqi universities in northern Iraq to build capacity in public health and sanitation, with support from HEAD.

The CSHOP program is essential in establishing community ties to develop sustainable public health outreach programs that will improve the health status of the general public. In the past, CSHOP mini-grants have funded such projects as “Soybean as Diet Therapy for Diabetics”, “Tuberculosis an Endemic Disease in Dohuk; Prevention and Control”, and “Promotion of Exclusive Breast Feeding in Dohuk Governorate.”

**Training recently began for the Master Trainers under the teacher training initiative of the Basic Education program.** Twenty-five Iraqi Master Trainers are currently participating in a five-week training in Amman, Jordan conducted by Hashemite University experts and international/regional consultants. The training will help the Master Trainers develop teacher training strategies, methodologies, and resource materials. When finished, they will return to Iraq to train a core group of 440 teacher trainers in the 21 Directorates of Education in Iraq. These teacher trainers will then begin the process of training 50,000 teachers for grades 1 to 3. The goal of the program is to improve the quality of teachers across Iraq. USAID has also renovated training facilities to support this program.

**USAID’s Basic Education program is rebuilding water and sanitation facilities in 800 schools.** In May, work began on 132 schools bringing the total number of schools under rehabilitation to 355. Facilities in 11 Maysan governorate schools have already been completed. The Basic Education program is also leading efforts to reconstruct 70 schools throughout the country.



## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

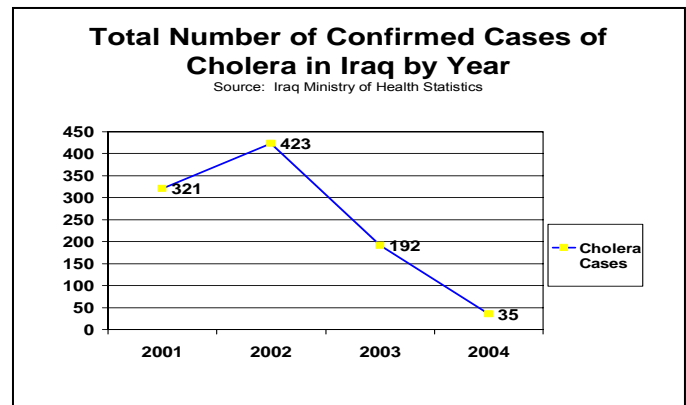
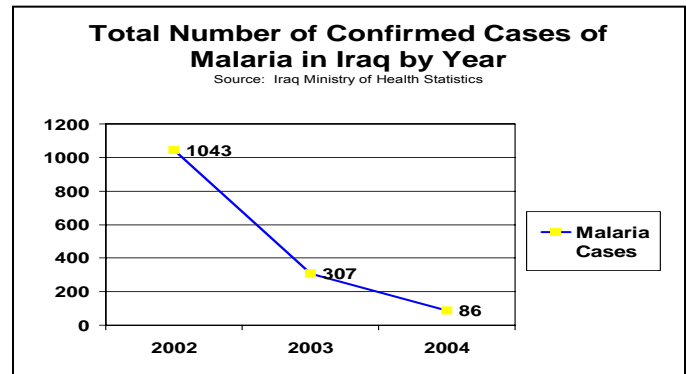
- Vaccinated over 3 million children under 5 and 700,000 pregnant women with vaccination campaigns that included monthly immunization days.
- Provided supplementary doses of vitamin A for more than 600,000 children under 2 and 1.5 million lactating mothers.
- Provided iron folate supplements for over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

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

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

### Cases of Malaria and Cholera in Iraq have decreased dramatically.

Malaria and cholera have been public health problems in Iraq over the last 10 years. For example, Malaria has been endemic, particularly in the North. During a 1996 outbreak about 40,000 Malaria cases were reported. Since 1998, the incidence of malaria has been declining, according to the Iraq Ministry of Health Statistics. In 2002, 1,043 malaria cases were reported, dropping to 307 during 2003 and only 86 cases in 2004. To fight malaria and other mosquito borne diseases, USAID supported the Iraqi Ministry of Health's (MOH) effort to make impregnated bed nets more widely available in the country.



Cases of cholera in Iraq have also decreased dramatically. During outbreaks from 1997 to 2000, cholera cases peaked at over 20,000 in a single year. A serious diarrheal disease, cholera has been declining since 1999, but still remained a health issue in the southern part of Iraq. In 2002, the total number of cholera cases reported was 423. This figure fell to 192 during 2003 and only 35 in 2004. USAID supported the Government of Iraq's and UNICEF's efforts to improve water and sanitation conditions for Iraqi households and assisted the MOH in expanding health education efforts while improving diarrheal diseases services. However, the rate of other diarrheal diseases in children under the age of 5 still remains high in Iraq.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Awarded 3,926 small grants totaling \$284 million for quick impact activities that support good governance, civil society, conflict management and mitigation, human rights and transitional justice.
- Funded 113 grants totaling over \$4.26 million that focus on women's issues, including supporting the rehabilitation of 47 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

**A nongovernmental organization (NGO) serving the blind in southern Iraq conducted a two month train-the-trainer course for Braille instruction through an Iraq Transition Initiative (ITI) grant that provided computers, electrical equipment, stipends and transportation.** The majority of the blind community in southern Iraq cannot read Braille, which hinders their participation in society, further marginalizing an already underserved population. Equipment included in this grant assisted the NGO in providing a public service for the approximately 8,000 blind people in the lower south region. Assistance allows the NGO to develop other activities for the community it serves and to advocate issues of concern to local authorities.

**A district governing council in southern Iraq rehabilitated three kilometers of roads through a series of ITI grants.** In collaboration with the Municipalities Department, ITI provided resources to rehabilitate the roads while the Municipalities Department committed to repave the roads once ITI activities are completed. Governorate officials also identified road repair as a priority, as many roads are impassable due to accumulated trash and sewage from clogged and inadequate sewage systems. Through this grant, ITI provided short-term employment to 371 unemployed laborers to clear trash, fill holes and re-grade roads. Activities helped mitigate tensions in the crime-ridden area, which has a nearly 65 percent unemployment rate, and improve the local environment. By providing labor and equipment to meet the local need, ITI assisted the community to visibly improve community infrastructure and strengthen support for local authorities during Iraq's political transition.

# COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

July 21, 2005

*Since the cessation of the 2003 conflict, USAID has completed its planned work at Umm Qasr Seaport, re-stored significant portions of Iraq's telecommunications network, rebuilt three major bridges and restored the rail line connecting Umm Qasr with Basra city and points north. USAID also helped avert a humanitarian crisis during the conflict by providing assistance to the United Nations' World Food Program. USAID advisors continue to assist with 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, 2003.
- Up to 50 ships offload at the port every month.
- Completed dredging to open all 21 berths to deep-draft ships; maintenance dredging is ongoing.
- Applied port tariffs on June 20, 2003.
- Renovated the grain-receiving facility to process 600 MT of grain an hour.
- Renovated the administration building, passenger terminal, customs hall, and electrical substations.

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

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

## BRIDGES AND ROADS

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

July 21, 2005

FY 2003-2005*			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
<b>Reconstruction USAID/ANE .....</b>			<b>Subtotal: \$4,113,122,424</b>
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	\$1,386,809,782
CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000
CAII	Education II	Countrywide	\$51,809,000
CEPPS	Iraq Governing Council	Countrywide	\$675,000
CEPPS	Transitional Government	Countrywide	\$35,700,000
CEPPS	Voter Education, Domestic Observation and Conflict Resolution	Countrywide	\$49,275,000
CEPPS	Elections Administration Support	Countrywide	\$40,000,000
Community Action Program	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$258,820,000
DAI	Marshlands	South	\$4,000,000
DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$101,352,912
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

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

July 21, 2005

FY 2003-2004			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$241,910,757
RTI	Local Governance II	Countrywide	\$70,000,000
RTI	Health Training	Countrywide	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"> <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
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
<b>Emergency Relief USAID/DCHA/OFDA.....</b>			<b>Subtotal: \$181,352,975</b>
ACTED	Water and sanitation, health/hygiene, education	Eastern Iraq	\$2,995,793
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$8,049,839
AirServ	Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,309,876
ARC	Capacity Building	Al Basrah	\$537,746
CARE	IDP Assistance, Quick-impact projects, Water and Sanitation, Health, Emergency Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$9,043,148
The Cuny Center	Research Studies	Countrywide	\$40,260
GOAL	Coordination, Nutrition	Al Muthanna	\$1,507,900
InterAction	Coordination	Kuwait City	\$92,860
IDA	Health	Countrywide	\$1,318,437

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

July 21, 2005

FY 2003-2004			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
IMC	Health, IDP Assistance, Food Security, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Capacity Building	Countrywide	\$34,832,887
IOM	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$18,392,470
IRC	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,000,411
IRD	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Northern Iraq	\$17,076,190
Logistics	Emergency Relief Commodities and USAID/DART Support	Countrywide	\$22,771,653
Mercy Corps	IDP Assistance, Health, Emergency Relief Commodities, Shelter, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$25,251,114
SCF/US	Food Security, Health, IDP Assistance, Shelter, Nutrition, Emergency Relief Commodities, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,638,652
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
OCHA	Coordination and Information	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
USAID/Jordan	Support for Emergency Water Activities	Countrywide	\$500,000
WFP	Food Security, Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
World Vision	Health, Logistics, Emergency Relief , Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$6,793,739
<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: \$382,451,936</b>
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$10,494,480
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
<b>TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ FROM 2003-2005 .....</b>			<b>\$5,102,498,335</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.