



**UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

**IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF**

February 3, 2004  
Weekly Update #17, Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

*This fact sheet highlights overall accomplishments and some weekly activities from USAID’s reconstruction efforts in Iraq. For more information on USAID’s programs in Iraq please see: [www.usaid.gov/iraq](http://www.usaid.gov/iraq)*

USAID assists the people of Iraq in reconstructing their country by working within the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA). USAID programs are implemented in coordination with the United Nations, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and private sector partners. The USAID Mission in Iraq carries out programs in education, health care, food security, infrastructure reconstruction, airport and seaport management, economic growth, community development, local governance, and transition initiatives.

The USAID Mission in Iraq carries out programs along the lines of four Strategic Objectives:

1. Restoring Essential Infrastructure
2. Supporting Essential Health and Education
3. Expanding Economic Opportunity
4. Improving Efficiency and Accountability of Government



Food ration agents receiving goods through Iraq’s Public Distribution System. The Ministry of Trade distributes 485,000 metric tons of food each month through a ration card system. Photo: USAID

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# Program Descriptions and Updates

## 1. Restore Essential Infrastructure

**Electricity** -- Objectives include the emergency repair or rehabilitation of power generation facilities and electrical grids. Teams of engineers from the Ministry of Electricity, USAID, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the CPA have been working since May to restore capacity to Iraq's power system, which was dilapidated from decades of neglect and mismanagement and had been looted.

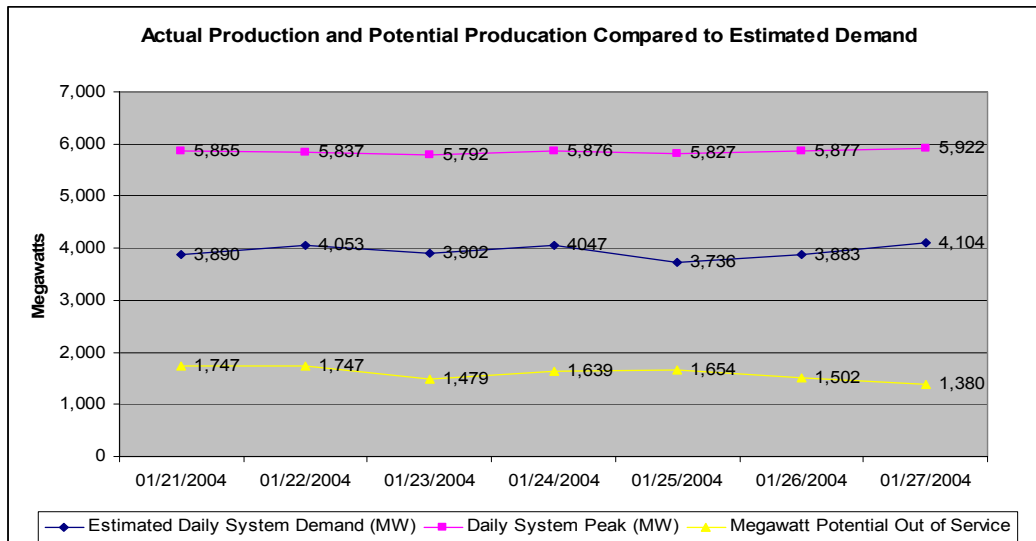
### Accomplishments to date:

- Generated 4,518 MW on October 6—surpassing the pre-war level of 4,400 MW. Average daily production has steadily increased to 4000 MW as generators in scheduled maintenance come on-line.
- Installed independent sources of power (e.g., diesel generators) at Baghdad airport and Umm Qasr seaport.
- Conducting necessary long-term repairs and scheduled maintenance at plants throughout the country to build a sustainable power grid.
- Repairing thermal and gas turbine units—essential components required of stable power generation.
- Rehabilitating units 5 and 6 at Doura Thermal Power plant.
- Rehabilitating units 1,2,3,4, and 6 of Baiji Thermal Power Plant.
- Continuing reconstruction of the country's 400kv transmission network by rebuilding 205 kilometers of Khor Az Zubayr - Nasiriyah 400kv line and the Baghdad East/South Ring.
- Installing new generating capacity at Kirkuk and South Baghdad Power Plants.



Baghdad's South Power Plant Photo: USAID

### Highlights this week:



- As of January 28, 42 generation units with the capacity to produce 1,652 MW of power were offline for service. Twenty-four units with the capacity to produce 798 MW were out for unscheduled service. Seven thermal and eleven gas turbine units with the capacity to produce 854 MW of power were out for scheduled service.

**Airports** -- Objectives include: providing material and personnel for the timely repair of damaged airport facilities, rehabilitating airport terminals; facilitating humanitarian and commercial flights, and preparing the eventual handover of airport operations to the Iraqi Airport Commission Authority.

**Accomplishments to Date:**

- Processing non-military arrivals and departures at Baghdad International Airport.
  - More than 400 military and NGO flights processing 4,500 passengers have arrived and departed at Baghdad International Airport since July.
- Completed infrastructure work to prepare Baghdad International Airport for commercial air operations.
  - Repaired Terminal C and administration offices.
  - Installed three X-ray machines.
  - Installed Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) communications systems and 6.5-megawatt power generators.
  - Rehabilitated Iraqi customs office in the arrival hall.
- Substantially prepared Al Basrah International Airport for commercial operations. Ongoing projects include:
  - Repairing runway, taxiway, and apron striping.
  - Installing two baggage x-ray units.
  - Repairing passenger support facilities.
  - Installing VSAT satellite communications.
  - Installing security fence
  - Repairing airport water and sewage treatment plants
- Completed evaluation of reconstruction requirements at Mosul Airport.



Baghdad International Airport has been refurbished and repaired with assistance from USAID and CPA.  
Photo: Thomas Hartwell

**Bridges, Roads, and Railroads** -- Objectives include: rehabilitating and repairing damaged transportation systems, especially the most economically critical networks.

**Accomplishments to Date:**

**Bridges:**

- Demolished irreparable sections of three key bridges (Khazir, Tikrit, and Al Mat) and begun reconstruction.
  - Al Mat Bridge: A key link on Highway 10 that carries over 3,000 trucks daily on the main route between Baghdad and Jordan.
    - Constructed a 1.5-km, four-lane bypass around the damaged bridge.
  - Khazir Bridge: Critical to the flow of fuel and agricultural products to the north.
    - Repaired the south span of the bridge and reopened it for two-way traffic on January 16, allowing the military to remove its temporary bridge. Complete repairs are expected by March 2004.
  - Tikrit Bridge: An important link for passengers and commerce over the Tigris River between Tikrit and Tuz Khurmatu.
    - On the upstream side of Pier 7, steel beams have been erected and dowels are installed. Work is expected to finish in May 2004.
- Repaired a floating bridge on the Tigris River in Al Kut, improving traffic for approximately 50,000 travelers a day.

**Railroads:**

- Integrated work between U.S. and Iraqi teams. The Iraqi Railway Administration contributes equipment and labor, while USAID contributes project management, material, and parts. Work on the railways includes:

- Repairing 16 km of track in the port of Umm Qasr and 56 km of track between the port and Shuiaba Junction near Basrah to facilitate grain shipments from the seaport to mills.
- Continuing disposal of explosive ordinance materials on the rail line near Shuiaba Junction (Al Basrah Governorate) in preparation for intallation of new track.

**Highlights this week:**

- USAID will conduct a final inspection this week of the Marbad Station Building outside Al Basrah and turn it over to Iraqi Republican Railways (IRR). Rehabilitation work on the building, which will house IRR workers, began in December on patching holes, replacing the roof and windows, installing lighting and fans, and painting the interior and exterior.

**Umm Qasr Seaport** -- *Objectives include: managing port administration, coordinating onward transport from the seaport, and facilitating cargo-handling services such as warehousing, shipment tracking, and storage.*

**Accomplishments to Date:**

- Reopened to commercial traffic June 17; completed first passenger vessel on July 16.
- Between May 23 and November 30, 2003, offloaded 638,000 metric tons of cargo at the port.
- Over 40 ships per month are offloading.
- Dredged the port to an average depth of 12.5 meters. Previously, the port was 9-10 meters deep, and limited cargo could arrive only during high tide. All 21 berths are now open to deep-draft ships.
  - An Iraqi dredger, which is being rehabilitated, will assist in maintaining the harbor.
- Renovated grain-receiving facility, which can process up to 600 metric tons of grain an hour.
  - Over 200,000 tons of grain has been unloaded since the first bulk grain ship arrived in mid-November.
- Interim port tariffs provide a revenue stream for financially sustainable port operations.
- Installed generators, energizing all three ring mains and restoring power to most parts of the port.
- Completed security fencing at the old and new ports and grain facility.
- Employing 500 Iraqi staff, the majority of which are in the Marine Department of the Port Authority.



A ship offloads goods at Umm Qasr Port, Iraq's only deep water port.  
Photo: USAID

**Telecommunications** -- *Objectives include: installing switches to restore service to 230,000 telephone lines in Baghdad area; repairing the nation's fiber optic network from north of Mosul through Baghdad and Nasiriyah to Umm Qasr by March 2004.*

**Accomplishments to Date:**

- Purchased tools, equipment, and parts to enable Iraqi engineers to restore the network.
- Audited over 1200 km of the fiber optic backbone network.
- Repairing the national fiber optic network from Mosul to Umm Qasr, connecting 20 cities to Baghdad.
- Reconstituting Baghdad area phone service by installing switches with 240,000 lines capacity. Installation is expected to be complete by March 2004. Installed switches and main distribution frames at 12 sites and fully integrated them with the 14 existing switches.
  - Opened Baghdad's largest exchange, Al Mamoun, on December 13. To date, 15,500 subscriber lines have been connected to the Al Mamoun switch.
  - The Ministry of Communications is bringing in additional workers from outside Baghdad to expand the line-splicing workforce and accelerate progress.
- Installed a satellite gateway system at Al Mamoun and restored international calling service to Iraq on December 30.

- Training Iraqi Telephone and Postal Company operators and engineers at Al Mamoun continues on telecommunications site operations, maintenance, and repairs.

**Water and Sanitation** -- *Objectives include: rehabilitating and repairing essential water infrastructure to provide potable water and sanitation to communities and improve irrigation.*

**Accomplishments to Date:**

- *Nationwide:* Repaired hundreds of critical breaks in Iraq’s water network immediately after the war, significantly increasing water flow.
  - Repairing and rehabilitating water systems throughout central and southern Iraq increasing access to clean water for rural populations, with a special focus on providing clean water to rural schools and rural health centers.
  - Untreated sewage of over 4 million people bypasses non-functional treatment plants and flows into the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.
- *Baghdad:* Expanding one water plant and rehabilitating three sewage plants.
  - Rehabilitating and adding capacity to Baghdad’s Sharkh Dijlah water plant (previously named Saba Nissan water plant) to add 225,000 cubic meters a day to the water supply by May 2004—a 45 percent increase in water supply to Baghdad residents, mostly in the overpopulated eastern sections.
  - Installing back-up electrical generators at 39 Baghdad water facilities and pumping stations to ensure continuous water supply.
  - Rehabilitating Baghdad’s sewage treatment plants—Old Rustimiyah, Rustimiyah 3, and Kerkh. The plants will be able to treat nearly 800 million liters of wastewater a day, benefiting 3.5 million people by October 2004.
  - Rehabilitated 70 of Baghdad’s non-functioning waste pumping stations.
- *South Central:* Rehabilitating one water plant and four sewage plants.
  - Rehabilitated 48 compact village water treatment plants in An Najaf and Karbala, providing potable water to 100,000 people.
  - Rehabilitating An Najaf municipal water treatment plant. The project will be completed by June 2004.
  - Rehabilitating Ad Diwaniyah and Karbala’ sewage treatment plants, which serve 200,000 residents and are currently discharging untreated waste into the Euphrates River. These projects are expected to be completed by May 2004 and October 2004, respectively.
  - Rehabilitating An Najaf and Al Hillah sewage treatment plants to serve 194,000 residents. These projects are expected to be completed December 2004 and the end of February 2004, respectively.
- *South:* Rehabilitating the entire Sweet Water Canal system, including the canal, its reservoirs, and 14 water treatment plants and pumping stations
  - The system provides drinking water to 1.75 million residents of Basrah City. It had been operating at less than half capacity.
  - Completed the restoration of the Safwan water system. All 40,000 residents now have access to potable drinking water.
  - Rehabilitated and removed 34,000 cubic meters of sand and silt from the west settling-reservoir of the Canal, allowing it to be refilled with clean water. The east settling-reservoir has been drained and is being prepared for cleaning.



*Four pile drivers at the Sharkh Dijlah water treatment plant.*

- Beginning work on Basrah's 14 water treatment plants in January. By summer 2004, water quality and volume will surpass prewar levels.
- *North:* Rehabilitating two water plants and one solid waste collection system.
  - Constructing 400 solid waste collection points in Kirkuk (At Tamim Governorate) to improve sanitation.
  - Rehabilitating Mosul and Kirkuk Water Treatment facilities.

**Highlights this week:**

- At Sharkh Dijlah water treatment plant, pile driving is complete for the six clarifier tanks and two mixing chambers, and the earth work has been completed. To date, 2,318 piles have been driven, and 68 of the 24-meter piles remain. The piles are an integral part of the foundation as they support the large water clarifier tanks, which remove the sediment from the water once it is piped in from the river.

**2. Support Essential Health and Education**

**Health -- Objectives include:** *supporting a reformed Iraqi Ministry of Health; delivering essential health services; funding medicines and supplemental nutrients; establishing a rapid referral and response system for the most serious cases; providing medical equipment and supplies; training and recruiting health staff; providing health education and information; and determining the specific needs of the health sector and of vulnerable populations such as women and children.*

**Accomplishments to Date:**

- Procured more than 30 million doses of vaccines since July with support from the Ministry of Health and UNICEF.
- Vaccinated three million children under the age of five through the Expanded Immunization Program since June. USAID will provide vaccines for 4.2 million children under five and 700,000 pregnant women.
- Continuing a monthly immunization campaign with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health with 4,000 health workers and 124 supervisors.
- Preparing to print 5,000 registry books for immunization recording under a grant to UNICEF. The registry books will be distributed to 1,000 health centers in Iraq.
- Rehabilitated 20 delivery rooms serving more than 300,000 residents of Basrah.
- Awarded 35 small grants worth almost \$2 million to support Iraqi NGO healthcare efforts throughout Iraq.
- Developed a hospital and clinic facility database for the Ministry of Health on facility type, location, service distribution, cost information, and building condition.
- Renovated 52 primary health clinics and re-equipping over 600 to provide essential primary health care services including training of staff in essential primary health care service delivery.
- Distributed high-protein supplementary food rations to more than 240,000 pregnant and nursing mothers and malnourished children under five.
- Evaluated 18 national and regional public health laboratories for equipment needs.
- Rehabilitated the National Polio Laboratory.
- Training more than 8,000 health workers to identify and treat acutely malnourished children.
- Working with the Iraqi Ministry of Health to develop a Master Plan that will reduce child mortality and increase the level of preventative care available to the Iraqi people through assistance to their nine working groups which address: public health, health care delivery, health information systems, pharmaceuticals, medical supplies and equipment, health care finance, education and training, human resources, legislation and regulation, licensing and accreditation.
- Conducted the first master training of medical professionals in public health, community medicine, and health care delivery. The master trainers have trained an additional 140 health professionals; the exercise will ultimately branch out to 2,500 medical staff.
- Working with the Ministry of Health to assist in the delegation of functions to other entities in the health sector such as NGOs, professional associations, community organizations, and businesses.

**Education -- Objectives include: increasing enrollment and improving the quality of primary and secondary education, ensuring that classrooms have sufficient materials, facilitating community involvement, training teachers, implementing accelerated learning programs, and establishing partnerships between U.S. and Iraqi colleges and universities.**

**Accomplishments to Date:**

- *Immediate Aftermath of the Conflict*
  - Provided technical assistance for the resumption of the Ministry of Education functions.
  - Provided assistance for resumption of Ministry salaries.
  - Funded 5.5 million examinations for transitional grades, which ensured the smooth continuation of school.
  - Conducted a survey of secondary schools in all permissive areas in the country (3,300 schools total).
- *Facilities and Supplies*
  - Rehabilitated 2,299 schools during the first term of school year 2003-04.
  - Awarded 503 grants worth \$5,649,659 to rehabilitate schools and education Directorate General Offices countrywide.
  - Provided materials, equipment and supplies:
    - Distributed 1,493,923 secondary school kits that include pens, pencils, paper, math equipment, and other supplies.
    - Distributed 156,068 student desks, 26,347 teacher desks, 56,466 teacher chairs, 24,802 metal cabinets and 61,500 chalkboards.
    - Delivered 808,000 primary student kits.
    - Delivered 81,735 primary teacher kits.
  - Reviewed 48 math and science textbooks for grades 1-12.
  - Printed 5.6 million math and science textbooks which have been distributed to schools countrywide. Second phase printing has commenced.
- *Institutional Strengthening*
  - Trained 899 secondary school Master Trainers during September 2003-January 2004 nation wide.
  - Training for approximately 33,000 secondary school teachers and administration staff will continue during February mid-term holidays. Remaining staff will be trained during the summer holidays.
  - Began accelerated learning program in Baghdad, Nasiriyah, Ad Diwaniyah, and Karbala' on November 15 and in Arbil on November 22. Of the 699 students registered, 616 are attending the program. Fifty-two percent are boys and 48 percent are girls.
- *Higher Education*
  - After a 14-year absence, the Fulbright Scholarship Program has returned to Iraq. The program will award at least 25 scholarships for Iraqis to study in the United States in 2004. USAID participated in the bi-national review committee for Iraq.
  - Launched Higher Education and Development (HEAD) Program. Awarded five grants worth an estimated \$20 million for U.S.-Iraqi university partnerships:
    - 1) A consortium led by Research Foundation of the State University of New York at Stony Brook partnering with Baghdad University, Al Mustansiriyah University/Baghdad, and Mosul University in archeology and environmental research.
    - 2) The University of Hawaii College of Agriculture and Human Resources partnering with the University of Mosul Hamam Al-Alil for strengthening academic, research, and extension programs.



Mohammad Idan Mohammad giving the thumbs-up after his mid-year examinations. Photo: USAID

- 3) The Human Rights Institute at DePaul University College of Law and the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (Italy) partnering with University of Baghdad to reform legal education.
  - 4) Jackson State University partnering with University of Mosul for public health and sanitation.
  - 5) The University of Oklahoma partnering with Al Anbar University, Basrah University, and the University of Salah ad Din in higher education initiatives.
- o The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research will purchase 8,000 student desks for classrooms in three universities in southern Iraq. The desks will be assembled and delivered by February 2004. The \$200,000 grant to the Ministry complements five partnership grants made by USAID to U.S. universities to help Iraqi universities re-establish their academic programs and to strengthen partnerships between American and Iraqi universities.

### **Highlights this week:**

- Students in the Accelerated Learning Program finished their week-long mid-year examinations on January 24. In all regions, attendance numbers were much higher during the exam period.
- The Department of Mathematics at the University of Tikrit has been awarded a grant to purchase updated textbooks. The textbooks presently being used for research and coursework are in poor condition, lack numbers, and are outdated. Many of them were published more than 30 years ago.

### **3. Expand Economic Opportunity**

**Economic Growth** -- *Objectives include: currency conversion and monetary data, small businesses credits, commercial legislation, a national employment program, micro-finance programs, a bank-to-bank payment system, a financial management information system, tax policy and administration, budget planning, insurance, and electricity reform.*

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

- Began facilitating the Central Bank program to exchange new dinars for old on October 15, 2003, at a rate of 2,000 Iraqi dinars per dollar. The program was completed on January 15, 2004, unifying and strengthening Iraq's currency, a critical component of sustained economic growth.
  - o 100% of the 6.36 trillion new Iraqi dinars are now in country and 4.62 trillion Iraqi dinars are in circulation--106 percent of the original demand estimate of 4.36 trillion. To date, 3,410 tons of old currency—more than a third of the 9,000 tons that exist—have been destroyed.
  - o The overall management plan for the currency exchange operation was developed by BearingPoint, including security and logistics.
  - o Monetary authorities influence the exchange rate by conducting a daily auction in which banks exchange Iraqi dinars and U.S. dollars.
- Assisted the Central Bank in procuring and managing a bank-to-bank payment system that allows banks to conduct transactions and other business. Eighty branches were part of the system by late October. Basic training was also provided to bank staff.
- Assisting CPA in strengthening bank credit underwriting capacity to increase lending to small and medium-sized enterprises. Two state-owned banks and seven private sector banks have been recommended for the program.
- Assisting CPA in expanding Iraqi employment. More than 80,000 jobs have been created through the CPA-funded National Employment Program, a pilot public works program that intends eventually to generate at least 100,000 temporary jobs.
- Supporting CPA's Oil for Food (OFF) Program in planning, program management, logistics, database applications, and communications to support the CPA OFF Coordination Center in the north and south.
- Reforming and updating commercial laws that will encourage private sector participation, including foreign investment.
- Supporting the development of a new accounting and reporting system called the Financial Information Management System (FIMS) to be used by the Ministry of Finance.



### **Highlights this week:**

- The new Iraqi dinar (NID) stabilized this week after CPA met with currency traders at the request of the Acting Governor of the Central Bank of Iraq (CBI), to discuss reasons behind foreign exchange price movements and prospective policy responses of the CBI. At the currency auction on January 22, the settlement price was 1,400 NID per dollar, the same as the previous two days.
- USAID is helping establish new business registrations systems for foreign and Iraqi companies. The Iraqi Business Center Guide database that is managed by the current Ministry of Trade Information Center offers a starting point for developing a new, automated registration system. Implementation of this new system would include supervising the activities of a local Iraqi firm contracted to develop the online registration system and a homepage for the Ministry of Trade Web site. This system will facilitate local and foreign participation in the growth of Iraq's private sector economy.

**Food Security** -- *Objectives include: providing oversight support for the countrywide public distribution system, which provides basic food and non-food commodities to 25 million Iraqis; participating in the design of a monetary assistance program to replace the commodity-based distribution system in order to support local production and free-market infrastructure; and promoting comprehensive agriculture reform to optimize private participation in production and wholesale markets.*



Iraqi food agents record food deliveries and distribute rations to Iraq's 25 million people. Photo: USAID

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

- Worked with the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and Coalition Forces to re-establish Iraq's public distribution system in less than 30 days, avoiding a humanitarian food crisis and maintaining food security.
- Contributed cash and food aid in the amount of \$425 million to WFP's emergency operations immediately following the conflict, making the U.S. the foremost contributor to WFP emergency operations in Iraq.
- Placed food specialists in Baghdad, Basrah, Al Hillah, and Arbil to support food operations immediately after the conflict.
- Provided ongoing support and technical assistance to WFP and local Iraqi authorities in the Ministry of Trade and the Kurdish Food Departments to ensure the smooth transition of public distribution system management tasks to the Iraqi government. Special attention was given to the transition phase in the northern governorates of Dahuk, Sulaymanyah, and Arbil. The initial handover of responsibilities occurred on November 21 without significant problems.
- Played a key role in negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding that has been signed by the CPA, the MOT of Iraq and the World Food Program that details WFP's new areas or responsibility to include: capacity building and training, procurement of food commodities, the renegotiation of certain food contracts, shipment and overland transport of food commodities, and pipeline management. The World Food program will now continue to assist with supporting the PDS through June 2004 and will begin work immediately to help assure food deliveries continue.
- Currently providing food aid expertise to CPA and MOT in Baghdad and assisting with the CPA OFF Coordination Center as WFP and CPA/MOT continue to distribute food to all Iraqis.

**Agriculture** – *Objectives include: expanding agricultural productivity, restoring the capacity of agroenterprises to produce, process and market agricultural goods and services, nurturing access to rural financial services and improving land and water resource management.*

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

Since October, USAID partner DAI has been implementing the Agriculture Reconstruction and Development Program for Iraq (ARDI) to formulate a long-term vision for the sector, while designing activities for quick impact, including:

- *Winter Crop Technology Demonstrations:* On 334 hectares in 15 governorates, 128 farm families are establishing plots with new varieties for extension field days.
- *Kirkuk Veterinary Hospital Renovation:* Fifty communities will benefit from a \$96,000 grant to renovate the hospital that serves more than 100,000 livestock in the area.
- *Taza and Rashad Veterinary Clinic Rehabilitation:* A \$50,000 grant will be matched by supplies and equipment from the Ministry of Agriculture. These rural clinics are the two principal sources of vaccines and medicines for animals in 125 local communities.
- *Internet Connectivity and Repairs to a Student Union Building:* The Baghdad University School of Agriculture will receive a \$75,000 grant that will benefit 4,509 students.

### **Highlights this week:**

- The Ministry of Agriculture held the first technical workshop for its crop technology and management demonstrations program in Mosul. Twenty scientists attended the workshop, which aims to revitalize agricultural production and increase farmers' access to key agricultural inputs.

**Marshlands** – *Objectives include: construct environmental, social and economic baselines for the remaining and former marshlands; assist marsh dwellers by creating economic opportunities and viable social institutions; improve the management of marshlands and expand restoration activities*

### **Initiatives to Date:**

- The \$4-million Marshland Restoration and Management Program will promote wetlands restoration and provide social and economic assistance to marsh dwellers. Initiatives include:
  - Creating a hydraulic model of the marshes to improve water management.
  - Equipping a soil and water quality lab at the new Center for Iraq Marshlands Restoration.
  - Implementing pilot projects to improve treatment of waste and drinking water.
  - Providing social economic assistance through job- and income-generating activities in fisheries, aquaculture, livestock production, and date-palm reproduction.
  - Monitoring water quality in reflooded sites.
  - Extending healthcare services to marsh dwellers.
  - Building local capacity by partnering with Iraqi institutions such as the Ministry of Water Resources, the Ministry of the Environment, the University of Basrah College of Agriculture, the AMAR Charitable Trust, and the Iraq Foundation, and the governments of Canada, Italy, the United Kingdom, and Australia.



Marsh Arabs in Southern Iraq will benefit from the Marshlands Restoration and Management Program. Photo: USAID

## **4. Improve Efficiency and Accountability of Government**

**Local Governance** -- *Objectives include: promoting diverse and representative citizen participation in provincial, municipal and local councils; strengthening the management skills of city and provincial administrations, local interim representative bodies, and civic institutions to improve the delivery of essential*

*municipal services; promoting effective advocacy and participation of civil society organizations; enhancing leadership skills; and serving as a recruiting tool for future leaders.*

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

- Implementing local governance activities in 18 governorates. More than 19 million people are engaging in local policy discourse through local government entities and civil society organizations to:
  - Enhance transparency and participation in local decision-making processes.
  - Restore basic services.
  - Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of local service delivery,
  - Establish, develop, and expand the number of civil society organizations that can interact with local government entities.
- Assisted in establishing interim governorate councils, representing citizens in 18 governorates, including Baghdad. Additional local councils that have been established include 78 city councils, 54 district councils, 48 sub-district councils, and 138 neighborhood councils.
- Awarded more than 139 grants to local government agencies and civil society organizations totaling \$10.6 million strengthen the capacity of municipal authorities to deliver core municipal services.
- Established the Iraqi Women in Local Governance Group in response to the challenge of women’s gross under-representation in political processes across Iraq. The group will develop and guide program activities in order to expand women’s participation at all levels.
- Awarded two grants worth \$475,000 to the Ministry of Human Rights for the rehabilitation of buildings to house the National Evidence Storage Facility (NESF). The NESF will serve as a venue to analyze recovered documents and store forensic evidence of mass graves and human rights abuses of the Ba’ath government. The facility is part of a larger effort to help build Iraq’s capacity to investigate complex crimes and implement international law enforcement best practices.
- By working with local governance service departments to plan, budget, and manage their resources, and providing training on transparency and accountability in the use of those resources, the local governance team’s assistance to officials in Dhi Qar resulted in more efficient delivery of public services to over 390,000 residents.
- Employed 868 Iraqi workers, of which more than half are senior and mid-level professionals.
- A civic education task force is implementing a nationwide campaign to educate Iraqis on democracy. The Civic Education Campaign conducts a range of activities including convening focus groups and town hall meetings and assisting in distribution of hand bills and posters.

### **Highlights this week:**

- The Al Basrah neighborhood of Sabkhat al Arab has organized a public sanitation campaign to improve the quality of life for its 10,000 residents. The project cleaned up and closed twenty sewage collection lagoons, created 1,650 meters of primary roadways and sewage drains and hauled away heaps of accumulated garbage.
- On January 24, a workshop was held in the newly inaugurated Women and Children Center in Ad Diwaniyah (Al Qadisiyah Governorate). Covered by CBS, Reuters, and BBC Radio, forty people (10 men and 30 women) attended the workshop, which focused on the universal principles of citizen advocacy and the various advocacy tools such as petitions and coalitions.
- The Iraq Public Affairs Advisory Group and the LGP convened a meeting in Al Muthanna’ on January 25 to discuss methods of educating the rural governorate’s citizens on the transition to democracy. The meeting was attended by tribal sheikhs, governorate council members, community leaders, representatives from local civil society organizations and media outlets.



Attendees of the “Constitutional Democracy: Rebuilding Society in a Democratic Age” workshop

They proposed the use of networking and open meetings to discuss democracy rather than relying on satellite television, as in urban areas.

- The first in a series of LGP workshops on development and democracy was held on January 25<sup>th</sup> in An Najaf. Thirty-five representatives from local human rights associations attended the workshop titled “Constitutional Democracy: Rebuilding Society in a Democratic Age.” The participants were interested in learning about different types of government, especially those in the United States and United Kingdom, and in possible political alternatives for Iraq.
- Over 100 women gathered on January 27 for a discussion entitled, “Iraqi Women: The Law and Constitution,” which featured three female scholars talking about the impact of law on women’s lives in Iraq. The discussions centered around the idea of using civilian courts for personal issues such as marriage and divorce, rather than relying only on religious institutions.

**Community Action Program** -- Objectives include promoting diverse, representative citizen participation in and among communities to identify, prioritize, and satisfy critical community needs, while utilizing local resources. CAP is implemented by five U.S. NGOs with offices in nine major Iraqi cities. Each concentrates on one region in Iraq: ACDI/VOCA (North), International Relief and Development--IRD (Baghdad), Cooperative Housing Foundation International--CHF (Southwest Central), Mercy Corps (Southeast Central), and Save the Children (South).

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

- Established over 600 Community Action Groups in 16 governorates. The projects undertaken by the Community Action Groups are part of a campaign targeting grassroots democratic development.
- CAP has committed \$44 million for 1,317 community projects across Iraq; 666 projects have already been completed.
- Iraqi communities have contributed more than \$11 million— a quarter of the total project funding—to community projects. Contributions have included labor, land, buildings, and other in-kind assistance.
- Five U.S. NGOs each concentrate on a region: ACDI/VOCA (North), IRD (Baghdad), CHF (Southwest Central), Mercy Corps (Southeast Central), and Save the Children (South).
  - ACDI/VOCA focuses on the conflict prone areas of Mosul, Kirkuk, the area northwest of Baghdad, and the Iran-Iraq border. Their work bringing communities together has resulted in 122 completed projects and another 140 are in development. These include establishing a youth center in Huwija and establishing a new local water supply in Tikrit.
  - CHF has established a strong presence in the communities of the Shi’a holy cities of Najaf and Karbala’, as well as Hillah by establishing very active community associations. An emphasis on critical infrastructure has provided these communities with results such as access roads, sewage and water rehabilitation, school repairs, and swamp clean-up in addition to vital social infrastructure such as community centers and sports clubs. They have completed 73 projects which have contributed more than \$3.12 million to local economies.
  - IRD has completed 183 projects and established 142 community action groups with a special emphasis on income generation. A marketplace that will serve 250,000 residents is being constructed, and crews are cleaning up medical waste dumps and educating medical personnel on proper disposal methods.
  - Mercy Corps has completed 49 projects and has 72 more in development. These projects focus on water, sewage, community clean-up, and school rehabilitation.



Abu Hanifa Forum before and after renovation

- Save the Children has completed 239 projects through 138 community action groups in the south, which include about 40 percent female membership. Projects have focused primarily on immediate community needs such as sewage clean up, water treatment and distribution, public health, and girls' access to education.

**Highlights this week:**

- Renovations to the Abu Hanifa Forum Located in Baghdad's Adhamiyah district are complete. The forum has served as a community meeting place for the last 50 years but had fallen into a state of serious disrepair. As a result of the project, the forum was returned to the community to be once again a home for lectures, meetings, and a library.
- Rehabilitation of the telephone exchange office in Karada district, Rikhaita neighborhood was completed, which was badly damaged in the war. IRD rehabilitated the building and supplied them with computers, table and chairs and benefit 250 people.
- Planning has begun this week for the implementation of the first round of new CAP cluster projects in Al Kut. Meetings are being held with local authorities to determine the feasibility of projects which were prioritized by the twelve urban cluster Community Development Groups. The projects which were prioritized most frequently were: 1) construction of new neighborhood health centers or schools, 2) resurfacing or lighting of neighborhood streets, 3) provision of computers & equipment for schools, 4) provision of garbage containers & improved waste handling services, 5) creation of parks and green areas.

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b><u>FY 2003-2004*</u></b>				
<b>RECONSTRUCTION</b>				
<b>USAID/ANE .....</b>			<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$1,660,250,660</b>
	Abt Associates	Health	Countrywide	\$20,995,000
	AFCAP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$91,500,000
	Army Corps of Engineers	Architecture and Engineering services	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	BearingPoint	Economic Governance	Countrywide	\$47,500,000
	Bechtel National	Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,029,833,859
	Bechtel National	Infrastructure II: Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$18,000,000
	Community Action Program	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$70,000,000
	DAI	Marshlands	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
	DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	Fed Source	Personnel Support	Countrywide	\$163,572
	IRG	Reconstruction Support	Countrywide	\$29,087,094
	RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$155,611,000
	CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$47,053,000
	UNICEF	Health, Water, and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$36,700,000

	UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$7,000,000
	UNESCO	Textbook Printing and Distribution: Math and Science	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	WHO	Strengthen Health System	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	SSA	Port Management	Umm Qasr	\$14,318,985
	SkyLink	Airport Management	Baghdad Al Basrah Mosul	\$27,200,000
	MSI	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$5,500,000
	University Partners	Consortium led by the Research Foundation of the State University of New York (SUNY) at Stony Brook which includes Columbia University, Boston University and Oxford University (England), University of Hawaii, DePaul University College of Law and the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences in Siracusa, Italy; and Jackson State University and the Mississippi Consortium for International Development; and Oklahoma State University.	Baghdad University, Al Mustansiriyah University in Baghdad, Mosul University, Mosul University's College of Agriculture and Forestry in Hamam al-Alil, Basrah University, Al-Anbar University, and University of Salahaddin.	\$20,730,000
	Yankee Group	Telecoms Planning	Countrywide	\$58,150
<b>EMERGENCY RELIEF</b>				
<b>USAID/OFDA .....</b>				<b>\$86,898,040</b>
	Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$6,838,947
	AirServ	Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,309,876
	ARC	Capacity building, Disaster support	Al Basrah	\$537,746
	The Cuny Center	Research studies	Countrywide	\$40,260
	GOAL	Coordination, Nutrition	Al Muthanna'	\$1,507,900
	International Dispensary Association	Health	Countrywide	\$1,284,972
	InterAction	Coordination	Kuwait City	\$92,860
	IOM	IDP programs	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	Logistics	Commodities and DART support	Countrywide	\$12,005,804
	UNICEF	Health, nutrition, water/sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
	UN OCHA	Coordination and Information	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
	USAID Amman	Support for emergency water activities	Countrywide	\$500,000
	WFP	Logistics and pre-positioning of food	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	IMC	Food Security, Health, Nutrition, Water/Sanitation, Capacity building	Countrywide	\$10,702,900
	IRC	Health, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,998,685
	Mercy Corps	Health, Non-Food Items, Shelter, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$7,000,000
	SCF/US	Food Security, Health, Shelter, Nutrition, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation, NGO Consortium	Countrywide	\$6,883,131

	World Vision	Health, Logistics, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,994,959
	CARE	Quick-impact projects, Water/Sanitation, Health, Blankets	Countrywide	\$9,000,000
<b>USAID/FFP .....</b>				<b>\$425,571,000</b>
	WFP	Operations	Countrywide	\$45,000,000
	WFP	Emerson Trust – 81,500 MT	Countrywide	\$40,337,000
	WFP	P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities – 163,820 MT	Countrywide	\$140,234,000
	WFP	Regional Purchase – 330,000 MT	Countrywide	\$200,000,000
<b>STATE/PRM .....</b>				<b>\$38,935,691</b>
	UNHCR	Emergency assistance	Countrywide	\$21,000,000
	ICRC	Emergency assistance	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	IFRC	Emergency assistance	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
	IOM	TCN – transportation assistance	Countrywide	\$3,630,000
	International Catholic Migration Commission	Humanitarian assistance to Iraqi refugees	Lebanon and Jordan	\$1,305,691
<b>USAID/OTI.....</b>				<b>\$72,205,318</b>
	Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$2,912,048
	IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$10,587,595
	DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$48,000,000
	Internews	Media	Countrywide	\$160,359
	Radio SAWA	Media	Countrywide	\$400,000
	NDI/IRI	National Governance	Countrywide	\$400,000
	IFES	National Governance	Countrywide	\$1,042,315
	Spa War	Inter-Ministry Communications	Countrywide	\$8,703,001**
<b>TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2003/2004 .....</b>				<b>\$2,244,925,018</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2003 .....</b>				<b>\$38,935,691</b>
<b>Total STATE/USAID Assistance to Iraq in FY 2003/2004 .....</b>				<b>\$2,283,860,709</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.