



Bi-Weekly Update

Week of January 8, 2007



At the Centers for Excellence (CFEs) in Kut, Diwaniyah and Amarah, participants from local communities and universities take courses to enhance their computer skills. In a reflection of how much the CFE profile has grown, the president of Qadisiya University recently issued a university-level mandate requiring that teachers be CFE-certified in order to be promoted.

CONTENTS:

Success Story	2	Community Action	6
Computer Training for Census 2007		Civil Society & Media	9
Economic Growth	3	Completed Programs	11
Disaster Assistance	4	Financial Summary	12
National Capacity Development	5		

USAID assists Iraqis in reconstructing their country by working with the national government and local authorities. Programs are implemented in coordination with other USG agencies, 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.

USAID Supports CPro Microcomputer Training Program in Preparation of 2007 Census

COSIT

The Iraqi Government's Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology (COSIT) plays an important role in the development of a wide variety of important statistics and information.

Economic statistics are particularly important in that they not only provide essential information for economic, monetary and fiscal policies, but provide objective data that can be used in funding formulas to assure the open and equitable distribution of resources to re-build the economy.

As part of the USAID-funded Economic Governance II Project, to help in the economic reconstruction and policy reform in Iraq, technical assistance is being provided to assist capacity building and institutional strengthening at COSIT.

A training workshop on "Microcomputer Program (CPro) of Census and Surveys Data Processing," took place in Amman, Jordan, during Aug. 21 to Sept. 5 2006. Six qualified computer staff members attended the workshop — four from the Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology (COSIT) and two from the Kurdistan Statistical Authority. The USAID advisor provided continuous support to participants during the workshop to help them understand the importance of CPro training and the contributions expected of them in processing the upcoming 2007 Population Census data.

The training program allowed the project advisor to be able to prepare COSIT statisticians for the 2007 Census, a vital survey that will establish a baseline for the Government of Iraq to understand the condition of its citizens. The advisor demonstrated to trainees how the CPro program relates to the delivery of the 2007 Census and specifically how data validation checks and tabulation specifications can be tailored through CPro processing. The CPro program is used for census and survey data entry, editing and tabulation. It has been used in over 100 countries by national statistical agencies, academia and private companies because CPro has improved processing power and versatility more effectively than other comparable programs.

This workshop presented the main components of CPro, such as the data dictionary, data entry and CAPI (computer-assisted personal interview), batch editing and cross tabulation, including calculation of means, medians and percentiles. Participants learned how to create frequency distributions; view text, tables and maps; and link, sort, reformat, compare and export data files. In the final three days, the trainees worked on an application similar to the 2007 Iraqi Population Census to give them a realistic scenario of the issues they might encounter when administering the Census.

The major goal of the workshop was to teach these six key staff members how to design, develop and implement various data processing modules needed to create a complete system for a population census. The USAID advisor provided a pivotal role in ensuring that the trainees gained enough knowledge of CPro to be able to successfully produce quality results from the 2007 Iraqi comprehensive Population Census.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Assisted the Government of Iraq with several filings required for WTO accession.
- Provided assistance and information on contracting opportunities for Iraqi businesses and entrepreneurs through business centers.
- Worked with the Ministry of Finance to introduce the new Iraqi dinar.
- Created more than 77,000 jobs through the National Employment Program.
- Provided assistance and capacity building to three private sector banks to develop their own lending programs.
- Trained over 700 Iraqis in International Accounting Practices.
- Assisted in management of \$21 million micro-credit program. As of 2007, provided over 55,626 hours of micro-credit training.
- Improved statistical analysis, monetary policymaking, and bank supervision procedures at Iraq's Central Bank.
- Evaluated and updated commercial laws on private sector and foreign investment.
- Assisted in developing the 5 percent reconstruction levy on imports; built capacity of customs officials to implement levy.
- Developed a government-wide IT strategy to automate planning, budgeting and reporting processes.
- Developing the Iraqi Investment Promotion Agency with the Government of Iraq.

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

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Training events reach over 200 bank staff responsible for SME (small and medium-size enterprises) loan portfolios at 21 private banks. To support the loan application assessment and review process at private banks, the USAID-funded *Izdihar* program hosted 14 seminars to help credit officers and bank managers update their knowledge of techniques in such areas as managerial accounting, credit appraisal, financial analysis, capital adequacy and Basel II reporting requirements, cash flow reporting, loan documentation, security and collateral, and loan classification and reserves.

Grants awarded to support three international microfinance organizations. USAID awarded \$9.9 million in grants to establish or to continue to develop sustainable Iraqi microfinance institutions. Microfinance operations throughout the country support lending to approximately 17,000 active clients with a total portfolio of approximately \$19 million.

USAID also helped to establish three indigenous microfinance organizations in the north, west and center of the country. USAID assisted the Iraqi founders in registering with the NGO office, awarded each a start-up grant of \$250,000 in loan capital, provided staff training and individualized technical assistance, and worked with local U.S. military civilian affairs teams, which support initial operational costs.

International Accounting Standards + Ethics introduced into university curricula. Through *Izdihar*, USAID facilitated the introduction of the International Accounting Standards + Ethics course into the curriculum at eight universities throughout the country, reaching 437 students (25 percent female). USAID also provided procurement funds to two universities to renovate their facilities. Over 40,000 hours of training in the international best practices of accounting have been completed.

The Iraqi Company for Bank Guarantees (ICBG) now operational. Created through the USAID-funded *Izdihar* program, ICBG fosters an SME lending capacity among Iraqi private banks. ICBG will leverage USAID supplied funds by providing loan guarantees to bank and microfinance lenders in Iraq. The company provides technical assistance to partner banks, enabling them to shift from an asset-based to a cash-flow-based lending methodology. It also provides technical assistance through extensive training and outreach activities to introduce partner banks, *inter alia*, to modern concepts of portfolio and risk management, internal auditing and control procedures, accounting (including classification and provisioning along Basel-compliant lines), corporate governance international practices, loan administration, and profitability management.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Rehabilitated 105 water treatment units and 396 kilometers of water networks to ensure the provision of potable water in critical areas.
- Rehabilitated 72 health facilities and re-equipped 238 to improve the quality of health care.
- Vaccinated over 3,000 women and children against measles.
- Registered internally displaced persons and provided them with water, blankets, medical kits and hygiene kits.
- Rehabilitated a water treatment plant in a poor area of Baghdad. The rehab is benefiting 1 million residents.

In its first year, USAID's humanitarian assistance focused on emergency interventions to prevent food and water shortages and to provide adequate shelter and medical supplies throughout Iraq. USAID is now directing humanitarian assistance efforts through the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) to specifically target Iraq's internally displaced persons (IDPs).

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Health awareness for women in At Ta'mim Governorate. According to the UN/World Bank Joint Iraq Needs Assessment of 2003, "in the aftermath of conflict, general insecurity and gender violence have prevented women from seeking health care for themselves and their children." The assessment found health outcomes in Iraq to be among the worst in the Middle East and North Africa. These include high maternal and infant mortality and malnutrition and the reemergence of certain communicable diseases, adding to the burden of increased HIV/AIDS transmission rates.



An August 2003 reproductive health assessment by the United Nations Population Fund found that during the last decade, more Iraqi women were giving birth at home, often without any skilled help, because they lacked access to functioning medical facilities. In Iraqi Kurdistan, increasing evidence indicates that traditional female genital mutilation, and its attendant health problems, is more prevalent than previously thought.

Empowering Iraqi women is a central element of OFDA's implementing partners' approach to humanitarian relief and sustainable development. In response to the need to address women's health issues, OFDA provided a series of educational health awareness workshops on a wide range of women's health issues for 160 female kindergarten teachers of all ethnicities in At Ta'mim Governorate.



OFDA's implementing partner selected participants among many of the families in the area. OFDA anticipates that raising participants' awareness on health issues such as hygiene, breastfeeding and the early detection of breast cancer will have an important positive impact on the wider community.

OFDA provided a total of four workshops, each consisting of a four-day health awareness workshop with 40 female participants, weekly over the course of a month. Facilitators used a participatory approach and simple techniques such as brainstorming, focus groups and role-playing to educate participants.

A cash-for-training component provided participants with income while encouraging women to join the training and demonstrating their capacity to contribute to their families' economic well-being.

NATIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Week of January 8, 2007

Honest and effective public administration and improved provision of public services are essential for enhancing government legitimacy, strengthening democracy and diminishing the influence of the insurgency. As part of a broader effort to develop the Government of Iraq's administrative capacity, USAID is helping to fund the National Capacity Development (NCD) program, known by its Arabic name, Tatweer.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

In November, TATWEER launched two major program initiatives: the Training Program and the Scholarship Program.

The Training Program delivered, in partnership with the National Center for Consultation and Management Development (NCCMD), the first courses in Procurement and Budget Process.

Developed on a fast track, these courses met with considerable success in terms of the numbers, quality, attendance, and active participation of the trainees; the enthusiasm for the course material and presentations; and the establishment of a practical and positive working partnership between TATWEER and the NCCMD.

These courses provide an opportunity for trainees to express their views and describe current practices in procurement and budgeting in their ministries and departments.

In one of the first seven-day Procurement courses, held in December, participants came from Iraq's NCCMD and the ministries of oil, water, electricity, and planning. The total number of graduates was 20, of which 11 were female and nine male.

Attendees came from various departments — legal, contracts, sales, research, manufacturing, project management and training.

The Scholarship Program was publicly announced by the Ministry of Planning in the fall. Organizers used newspaper articles and ads, as well as television public-service announcements, to promote the new program, which was targeted at Iraqis with demonstrated interest and professional growth potential in the public-administration sector and who had received, at a minimum, an undergraduate degree from a recognized academic institution in a related area of study.

Multiple TOEFL exams (Test of English as Foreign Language) were then scheduled for Baghdad, Basrah, and Erbil, as arrangements were made with the American University in Cairo and the American University of Sharja to accept scholarship recipients into their post-graduate programs. AMIDEAST (America-Mideast Educational and Training Services) assisted in organizing technical support to the program.

In December, a bi-national selection committee consisting of Iraqis and Americans began reviewing files from more than 70 candidates. The committee assessed applicants according to a set of pre-defined criteria, and after a thorough review, selected six scholarship recipients.

PROGRAM IN BRIEF

CAP is working to create a sense of ownership and rebuild mutual trust within Iraqi communities.

The open and transparent process of CAP promotes improved communication within the communities and helps to mitigate the effects of long-standing conflict.

CAP communities are required to contribute between 15 to 25 percent of the value of each project.

The contribution is usually in the form of labor or in-kind materials and support.

For the first time, Iraqi communities have a direct stake in their civil and social infrastructure.

This sense of ownership is further strengthened through the CAP process as communities are responsible for needs identification, prioritization and project development.

Community action groups (CAGs) are also actively engaged in overseeing project implementation and must certify that all projects have been successfully completed before final payment is authorized.

USAID/Iraq's Community Action Program (CAP) fosters direct citizen involvement in the rehabilitation of Iraq, enabling Iraqis to address the local needs in their respective communities. CAP is a valuable tool for social mobilization and grassroots democratization. Citizens are forming local community groups to identify and prioritize the needs of their communities and develop projects that address those needs.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Pedestrian bridges in Diwaniyah City near completion. A USAID implementing partner is now constructing pedestrian bridges over two particularly dangerous and highly trafficked roads. The first bridge will be located near the Holy Shrine and the general hospital in Diwaniyah City, while the second will be near the Technical Institute and one of the Industrial Secondary Schools. The bridges are expected to benefit an estimated 500,000 people, including government workers, laborers, patients and students, while the project will provide temporary jobs to approximately 120 laborers.



Al-Neda gets own community marketplace. With a population of over 5,000 and high unemployment, Al-Neda is a low-income neighborhood whose residents once traveled seven kilometers to the closest marketplace in Amarah. To encourage economic growth in the area, a USAID partner built a marketplace in Al-Neda with 23 shops. Local authorities agreed to designate 11 shops for vulnerable women and two shops for disabled community members. Small businesses and shops such as barbers, carpenters, butchers, groceries, textiles, cafes and Internet centers now have the necessary infrastructure to operate.

Central Library in Kut rehabilitated. Built in the 1960s, the Central Library in Kut was in dire need of rehabilitation. Patrons, especially college students, were increasingly choosing to travel to Baghdad, despite the risks, rather than use its debilitated facilities. Working in conjunction with the community, a USAID partner renovated the library, which included rehabilitating the building, updating sources, supplying an 18 KV generator, repairing cooling and heating systems and providing four computer systems for the creation of a digital library.

With renovations complete, plans call for the library to be furnished with reading tables, chairs and bookcases and for a professional trainer hired by the Community Development Group to teach library staff IT skills. In addition, local authorities have committed to paying for the library's first six months of Internet service. The project will directly benefit 6,000 males and 3,471 females and will create two long-term jobs.

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HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK (CONT.)

Ibn Al-Haithem Secondary School renovated. Ibn Al-Haithem Secondary School was built in 1970 in Shafeiyah city, roughly 16 km from Diwaniyah City Center. It is the only preparatory school in its sub-district, which has a population of 50,000, and the school's state of disrepair has caused its students' education to suffer. Through the efforts of a USAID partner, 18 classrooms, six labs, 10 administrative rooms, the bathroom and a playground will be rehabilitated and furniture will be supplied to the school. The project will benefit 456 and offer short-term job opportunities to an estimated 96 laborers. Local authorities have provided an engineer to supervise and monitor the project during the period of implementation. The community has agreed to contribute to the project by planting a school garden and providing an art supervisor to monitor the transformative activity.

Construction of Maymouna Sport Center. For athletes in Maymouna, a community of 28,000, training for competition is no longer a choice between traveling to Amarah, some 30 km away, or practicing in streets, empty lots or schoolyards. Thanks to the construction of Maymouna Sport Center, a project led by a USAID partner, members of the Maymouna

Sport Club can now practice and compete locally in a facility featuring two sport halls, two administration offices, a soccer playing field surrounded by protective fencing, a storeroom and a guard room. The Sport Center has already hosted a table-tennis tournament with teams from Al-Maymouna Sport Club, Maysan Sport Club, Al-Majar Sport Club and Al-Shaheed Sport Club, as well as a soccer tournament involving eight local clubs.



Trainings for newly supplied computer centers. Through two separate projects, a USAID partner supplied computers, furniture, and other materials to the Al-Imam Jafar Al-Sadiq University Library and the Al-Maymouna Public Library, both located in Maysan. Following completion of the projects, IT seminars were held in each location to teach participants computer skills that could later be shared with colleagues. At Al-Imam Jafar Al-Sadiq University Library, two groups of 20 attended the seminar, with each group receiving two weeks of training. At Al-Maymouna Public Library, 40 participants from the local civil administration, including employees of the municipality, the Directorates of Health and Agriculture and teaching staff from local schools, attended seminars over the course of two months.

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HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK (CONT.)

Construction of kindergarten for disabled children. A USAID implementing partner in Kirkuk is working on building a kindergarten for disabled children. Construction on the classroom has been completed, with classroom supplies, furniture and other equipment to be delivered shortly. Repairs to a main entryway destroyed in an explosion are also being undertaken by a contractor who volunteered to pay for and complete the task since he has two children of his own with disabilities.

Villagers share in irrigation system maintenance. In testament to the growing strength and effectiveness of Community Action Groups (CAGs), villagers in the Al Shirqat district positively responded to local CAG efforts to raise funds for irrigation repairs. The irrigation system, which had been implemented under the supervision of the CAG, created 40 jobs and provided 14 villages with potable water. After one of the pumps broke, the water supply plummeted to only 10 hours per day. The CAG raised enough money to repair the pump and re-establish normal water flow. The CAG will continue to monitor the condition and general operations of the water-supply system to ensure uninterrupted performance.

Industrial engineering co-op provided with machinery to improve crop yields. In Al-Dawr district, local engineers established an association to produce agricultural-grade plastic, a material necessary for protecting crops from the region's cool winter weather. A USAID implementing partner provided the association with machinery required to produce the plastic material. This project makes 'winter farming' possible by extending the growing season and by allowing the farmers to plant crops earlier, enabling them to enjoy greater produce sales (with limited import competition) in local and regional markets, thus increasing income for members of the association. The association provided the building and will pay the workers and the guards.



Samarra Hospital receives laser to treat diabetes. In Samarra and the surrounding region, over 120 cases of diabetic blindness have been diagnosed. Following a request from the CAG, a USAID implementing partner provided an argon laser to treat diabetes-related blindness, providing patients with affordable and convenient treatment options. As part of the project, Samarra Hospital will contribute a microscope for examining the eyes of diabetics. This project enhances both the medical and humanitarian services available throughout the Salah Ad Din governorate.

PROGRAM IN BRIEF

Under the Iraq Civil Society and Independent Media Program (ICSP), USAID/Iraq is strengthening the capacity of more than 1,500 civil society organizations (CSOs) to play a leading role in the policy-making process through public awareness raising and advocacy.

The initiative focuses on supporting human rights and women's advocacy, civic education and anti-corruption.

Through ICSP, USAID/Iraq is helping to promote good governance and the inclusion of marginalized groups and populations, especially women and youth, in the democratic process.

The overall goal of this program is to support USG efforts to foster participatory democratic governance in Iraq by implementing a program that strengthens civil society's role in its economic, political and social development.

The USAID Iraq Civil Society and Independent Media Program (ICSP) has been active in Iraq since September 2004. The civil society component focuses on establishing civil society resource centers and building the capacity of Iraqi civil society organizations (CSOs) to be effective public actors. Special targeted assistance supports work in civic education, women's advocacy, anti-corruption and human rights.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Diwaniya CSO utilizes citizen survey to identify program needs in human rights. The Iraqi Cultural Center in Diwaniya conducted a survey of Diwaniya residents' knowledge and perceptions of key human rights concepts. The Cultural Center worked closely with the Diwaniya Education Department, building both the capacity of the organizations as well as creating strong ties and trust between the Department and the CSO.

Over a 15-day period, surveys were distributed to a sample of citizens including housewives, students and employees. Survey results led to the formation of a committee tasked with developing and broadcasting a radio program, in cooperation with the Education Department, that addresses human rights issues identified in the surveys.

Baghdad CSO responds to demand for action on women's rights.

The Iraqi Woman Association in Baghdad conducted a forum through a contract with ICSP devoted to "Women's Rights in Future Legislation and Article 41." Nearly 50 participants attended the forum, which was held in response to demands from local CSOs to advocate for a constitutional amendment that would help ensure greater protection for women's rights.



Babil CSOs benefit from workshop on human rights advocacy. The Babil Association for Quality and Qualifying of New Management presented a two-day human rights advocacy workshop with support from ICSP human rights staff. Twenty-five workshop attendees representing civil society in Hilla and the Babil Fibers factory discussed steps and principles of organizing effective advocacy campaigns especially targeted at human rights and the possibility of introducing human rights curricula to schools and universities.

Babil CSO works to improve student support of women's political participation. The Youth and Sports Directorate in Babil governorate hosted a forum entitled "Women's Role in Society." The goal of this event was to increase student awareness of the important role that women play in a just, free and peaceful Iraq. The Babil Association for Quality and Qualifying of New Management provided an ICSP-trained lecturer to address the forum.

ICSP women's advocacy staff also assisted as lecturers in the forum, which sought to improve students' – both male and female – support for women's participation in the political system. A total of 75 students, 40 female and 30 male, attended the forum and participated enthusiastically in the event.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Anti-corruption

- Supported CSOs lobbying for the addition of 13 anti-corruption provisions to the Iraqi Constitution
- Trained and provided technical assistance to 6,000 government officials—at the national, regional and local levels—in transparency and accountability
- Reached one million Iraqis through a national awareness raising campaign featuring innovative programs by Iraqi organizations

Women's Advocacy

- Supported women's rights CSOs lobbying for the adoption of 12 constitutional provisions
- Trained and provided assistance to over 600 CSOs, increasing their capacity to advocate for the advancement of women
- Led events and conferences, bringing women's CSOs together to network, organize coalitions and develop advocacy campaigns

Human Rights

- Trained and provided assistance to over 4,000 CSO and government employees on human rights
- Helped CSOs develop partnerships with police departments, human rights departments, and other government agencies to support human rights

Civic Education

- Hundreds of CSOs have participated in regional and national conferences to advocate for civil society legislation
- Supported Iraqi-driven campaigns to reform laws affecting women

Independent Media

- Helped establish and continues to support the first independent news agency and public broadcasting service in the Arab world
- Increased the knowledge and skills of over 1,000 journalists and media professionals
- Established an Iraqi media watchdog group

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK (CONT.)

ICSP media team prepares Iraqi journalists to cover issues of federalism. The Central media team conducted a workshop for journalists on "Media and Federalism" in Hilla at the ICSP meeting hall. A guest lecturer from the Akad Cultural Institute spoke to attendees about federal systems in an effort to increase their understanding and enhance their reporting on issues related to this topic.



The main topics covered by the workshop included an introduction to the concept of federalism, the media's role in explaining the principle of federalism as a political choice for a democratic Iraq, the relationship of federalism to the current Iraqi constitution, federalism and economic and social development, and the role of the private sector in a federal Iraq.

Workshop organizers conducted a pre- and post-assessment of participants to gauge how much they had learned during the session. On average, the journalists' scores improved from 7.3 to 9.1.

TOT and anti-corruption training. The Central Region anti-corruption and capacity-building teams held the first of eight Training of Trainers (TOT) sessions at the ICSP home office in Baghdad. Training consisted of three days of TOT training and two days of training on the four ICSP-approved anti-corruption modules and related INL grant subjects. Attendees included eight CSO members, Baghdad home office and Central Region staff, and the capacity building and anti-corruption teams of the South Central Region staff from Hilla.

The objectives of the TOT included building the training skills of participants in adult learning principles; improving communications and presentation skills; applying basic facilitation skills; analyzing training requirements and identifying learning objectives; selecting training methods; and developing and utilizing training aids, tools and plans.

The objectives of the anti-corruption training envisioned participants being able to apply TOT principles, methods, and skills to instruction; understanding and applying the materials in the trainer and trainee manuals of all anti-corruption modules; providing professional-level training to groups of people using PowerPoint and other trainer manual resources; training government employees on how to use their workshop knowledge to attack corruption in their agencies; training CSOs on how to implement impact-oriented anti-corruption grants; and evaluating the effectiveness of training presentations.

During a follow-up training phase, TOT trainees will work in teams to present the four anti-corruption modules to government employees.

COMPLETED PROGRAMS

Since the cessation of the 2003 conflict, USAID has completed its planned work at Umm Qasr Seaport, restored significant portions of Iraq's telecommunications network, rebuilt three major bridges and restored the rail line connecting Umm Qasr with Basra city and points north. USAID also helped avert a humanitarian crisis during the conflict by providing assistance to the United Nations World Food Program. USAID advisors continue to assist with management and distribution of food rations to Iraqi citizens.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- USAID projects have added 1,292 MWs of new or rehabilitated generation capacity to the national grid. This is a big portion of the over 2,700 MWs of new or rehabilitated capacity added in total by the USG.
- Provided out-of-country training for 240 Ministry of Electricity officials, plant managers, and engineers in how to properly operate and maintain the power plants.
- In addition to the new and rehabilitation power projects, provided over \$100 million of extra equipment and spares to the Ministry of Electricity to support the maintenance and expansion of the power system.
- Rebuilt several hundred kilometers of 400 kV electrical transmission line between Nassariya and Khor Al Zubayr in the Basrah area, re-establishing the major bulk power transfer link between Central and Southern Iraq.
- Provided 37 electrical distribution substations for the Baghdad area totaling over 1,100 Mva of new capacity.
- Restored water treatment services to 2.8 million Iraqis and provided sewage treatment to 5.1 million Iraqis.
- Improved potable water and/or sewage treatment service in six Iraqi cities and provided treated water to 70 rural communities nationwide.
- Improved the domestic telephone system and restored international calling service.
- Installed a consolidated fiber optic network, which will allow Ministry of Electricity officials to monitor and control the electric grid, greatly improving the reliability of electric power service to Iraqis.
- Repaired and refurbished Baghdad International Airport and Basrah Airport to prepare for commercial operation.
- Reopened Umm Qasr seaport to commercial operation, through dredging and clearing harbor, restoring port tariffs, and renovating buildings and infrastructure.
- Rebuilt three major highway bridges and 72 km of the Iraqi Republican Railway line from the Port of Umm Qasr to Shuayiba Junction.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

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

FOOD SECURITY

- Worked directly with the World Food Program (WFP) and Coalition Forces to re-establish the Public Distribution System (PDS) in less than 30 days, avoiding a humanitarian food crisis and providing food security throughout the country.
- With Iraqi food distributors, Food for Peace, the WFP, and Coalition Forces maintained deliveries from June through December 2003 in all 18 governorates.
- Played a key role in an agreement between the WFP, CPA, and the MoT that provided the WFP with the resources and authority to continue to support the PDS through June 2004.
- Completed a rapid food security field assessment from 17 impoverished districts in May 2005 and presented assessment findings in the USAID food security forum in August 2005. Forum participants reviewed data to better understand food security in Iraq and recommended actions to reduce risk among Iraq's vulnerable populations.

EDUCATION

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

PROGRAM FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FY 2003-2006*			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
Reconstruction USAID/ANE		Subtotal: \$4,158,792,888	
Abt Associates	Health	Countrywide	\$23,031,886
AFCAP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$85,140,758
America's Development Foundation	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$60,880,157
Army Corps of Eng.	Architecture and Engineering Services	Countrywide	\$28,644,356
BearingPoint	Economic Governance	Countrywide	\$79,583,885
BearingPoint	Economic Governance II	Countrywide	\$146,692,653
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	\$1,263,411,678
CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000
CAII	Education II	Countrywide	\$51,809,000
CEPPS I	Iraq Governing Council	Countrywide	\$675,000
CEPPS II	Domestic Observation/Vote	Countrywide	\$68,595,000
CEPPS III	Voter Education	Countrywide	\$45,310,000
CEPPS IV	Elections Administration Support	Countrywide	\$51,000,000
Community Action Program (CAP I)	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$271,370,000
CAP II	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$50,011,168
DAI	Marshlands	South	\$4,000,000
DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$101,352,912
Futures Group	Health	Countrywide	\$30,000
Logenix	Health	North/Central	\$108,506
Louis Berger	Vocational Education	Countrywide	\$25,802,342
Louis Berger	Private Sector Development II	Countrywide	\$105,127,153
MACRO Int'l.	Health	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
Partnership for Child Healthcare	Health	Countrywide	\$2,000,000

PROGRAM FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FY 2003-2006			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$241,910,757
RTI	Local Governance II	Countrywide	\$175,448,047
RTI	Health Training	Countrywide	\$22,015,750
SkyLink	Airport Management	Bag., Bas., Mos.	\$27,200,000
SSA	Port Management	Umm Qasr	\$14,318,985
UNDP	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
UNESCO	Textbook Printing & Distribution: Math & Science	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$36,700,000
UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$19,600,000
University Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Research Foundation of the State University of New York/ Stony Brook and the Universities of Chicago, Boston and Oxford • The Human Rights Institute, DePaul University College of Law and Italy's International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences • University of Hawaii, the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas, University of Jordan and the American University in Beirut • Jackson State University, Tougaloo College, Alcorn State University, Mississippi Valley State University, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Benetech, US-Iraq Business Resources • University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, Cameron University and Langston University 	Countrywide	\$20,730,000
VEGA	Business Skills Training	Countrywide	\$12,089,702
VFH	Elections Support	Countrywide	\$999,926
WHO	Strengthen Health System	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$4,808,858
World Bank	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
Yankee Group	Telecoms Planning	Countrywide	\$58,150
Emergency Relief USAID/DCHA/OFDA.....			Subtotal: \$191,709,153
ACTED	Water and sanitation, health/hygiene, education	Eastern Iraq	\$2,995,793
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$9,278,017
AirServ	Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,309,876
ARC	Capacity Building	Central and Southern Iraq	\$537,746
CARE	IDP Assistance, Quick-impact Projects, Water and Sanitation, Health, Emergency Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$9,043,148
The Cuny Center	Research Studies	Countrywide	\$40,260
GOAL	Coordination, Nutrition	Al Muthanna' and Dhi Qar	\$1,507,900
InterAction	Coordination	Countrywide	\$92,860
IDA	Health	Countrywide	\$1,318,437

PROGRAM FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FY 2003-2006			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
IMC	Health, IDP Assistance, Food Security, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Capacity Building	Countrywide	\$38,332,887
IOM	IDP Assistance	Central and Southern Iraq	\$20,642,470
IRC	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,000,411
IRD	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation, Livelihoods, Emergency Relief Commodities	Northern and Central Iraq	\$17,676,190
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	\$27,001,114
SCF/US	Food Security, Health, IDP Assistance, Shelter, Nutrition, Emergency Relief Commodities, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,638,652
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
OCHA	Coordination and Information	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
USAID/Jordan	Support for Emergency Water Activities	Countrywide	\$500,000
WFP	Food Security, Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
World Vision	Health, Logistics, Emergency Relief, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$6,793,739
USAID/DCHA/FFP.....			Subtotal: \$425,571,000
WFP	Operations	Countrywide	\$45,000,000
WFP	Emerson Trust—81,500 MT	Countrywide	\$40,337,000
WFP	P.L. 48— Title II emergency food commodities—163,820 MT	Countrywide	\$140,234,000
WFP	Regional Purchase—330,000MT	Countrywide	\$200,000,000
USAID/DCHA/OTI.....			Subtotal: \$418,587,768
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$11,630,312
IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$6,462,167
DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$389,500,376
Internews	Media	Countrywide	\$160,359
Radio SAWA	Media	Countrywide	\$400,000
NDI/IRI	National Governance	Countrywide	\$650,000
IFES	National Governance	Countrywide	\$1,042,315
ICNL	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$39,238
Spa War**	Inter-Ministry Communications	Countrywide	\$8,703,001
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ FROM 2003-2006			\$5,194,660,809

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