



# IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION WEEKLY UPDATE

## September 29, 2004

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

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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. The USAID mission in Iraq carries out programs in education, health care, food security, infrastructure reconstruction, airport management, economic growth, community development, democracy and governance, and transition initiatives.*



# USAID

Grain silos at Umm Qasr port, rehabilitated by USAID in 2003

# Electricity

*USAID's goals include the emergency repair or rehabilitation of power generation facilities and electrical grids. Teams of engineers from the Ministry of Electricity, USAID, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have been working since May of 2003 to restore capacity to Iraq's power system.*

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- By October, rehabilitated electric power capacity to produce peak capacity greater than the pre-war level of 4,400 MW. Now producing daily peaks in excess of 5,000 MW. Hit 5,365 MW on August 18, 2004.
- In summer 2004, after months of power reduction for generation unit maintenance, generation began steadily increasing.
- Repairing thermal units, replacing turbines, rehabilitating the power distribution network, and installing and restoring generators.
- USAID has added 340 MW of capacity through maintenance and rehabilitation work, and also repaired a 400 KV transmission line.
- USAID and the Ministry of Electricity are working with partners to add a total of more than 2,000 MW to the national grid by December 2005 through maintenance, rehabilitation, and new generation projects.
- Most recently, USAID has initiated a project to rehabilitate 13 existing substations and construct 24 new substations in Baghdad. These 37 substations will improve the distribution and reliability of electricity for more than two million Baghdad residents.
- USAID has also begun an operations and maintenance program to improve the output and reliability of 114 power plant units at 19 thermal and combustion gas turbine generation sites throughout Iraq.

### Highlights this week:

- Construction at a new generation project in At' Tamim Governorate which will add 325 MW to Iraq's national grid is more than two-thirds complete; the first 65 MW are scheduled to come online in November 2004. Workers are making steady progress installing systems such as gas and electrical pipelines in preparation for the installation of the site's two generators. This is one of two new generation projects being implemented by USAID in Iraq. Through a combination of maintenance upgrades, rehabilitation work, and new generation projects in numerous sites around Iraq, USAID is expecting to add more than 2,000 MW to the grid by December 2005.
- The first environmental assessment (EA) on a USAID/Iraq reconstruction project has been completed. The EA was performed by USAID Mission staff on a \$214.5 million generation project at a Baghdad power station and examined a diverse set of factors in the project, including the impact on soil and erosion; local land use; water resources; biological resources; air quality and noise; cultural resources; socio-economics; traffic; and hazardous waste. The assessment also included a number of recommendations to minimize adverse environmental impacts, and recommended environmental awareness training for all project personnel. Performing such an assessment in developing countries often presents a major challenge due to the lack of basic information and the high number of variables in a dynamic environment; these challenges have made the completion of this assessment a significant accomplishment for USAID.



*Iso-phase duct inspections at a USAID generation project in At' Tamim*



*Truck wetting soil at the power plant site; dust was identified as a threat to worker's health during an environmental assessment conducted at this site*



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# Water and Sanitation

*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:

- USAID's project to rehabilitate a water and wastewater plant in Salah ad Din Governorate is continuing. These projects were initiated in spring 2004 to serve a rural town of 60,000 residents in this governorate. The wastewater rehabilitation plant is approximately 30 percent complete – current work is focused on the mechanical equipment at the plant. These repairs will restore the plant to its full capacity after years without maintenance and replacement parts. Work at the water treatment plant is about 14 percent complete. This past week, a compact unit for one of the plant's three trains was delivered and the unit is being installed. Once all work at the plant is complete, the plant will produce approximately 3.8 million gallons per day of potable drinking water. Work is expected to be complete by the end of the year.
- A local council in Babil Governorate is working with Local Governance Program advisors to conduct an assessment of water supply systems in three Babil districts. Currently, the 3,000 residents of this area have no clean or safe drinking water but instead are dependent for household needs on water heavily polluted with raw sewage. As a result, villagers, particularly children and the elderly, are succumbing to a variety of waterborne diseases. LGP is working with local council members to develop a plan of action to provide access to safe and clean drinking water for local residents.
- Half of a \$36.7 million USAID grant to UNICEF for health and water and sanitation programs is being used to support water supply and sanitation improvement projects throughout Iraq. As a result of these programs, vulnerable populations are gaining access to potable water and improved sanitation is helping to decrease the incidence of waterborne diseases, thus improving public health throughout the country. Recent activities in water and sanitation have included providing emergency water supplies to areas in conflict such as Najaf, providing water to vulnerable populations, and contributing to the restoration of water treatment facilities.



Foundation for water treatment plant alum and chlorine building

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- **Nationwide:** Repaired various lift stations and treatment units.
- **Baghdad:** Expanding one water treatment plant to increase capacity by more than 50 million gallons per day and rehabilitating sewage treatment plants.
  - ◊ A major wastewater treatment plant in Baghdad began operating in June of 2004; this is the first major 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:** Rehabilitating parts of the Sweet Water Canal system, including repairing breaches, cleaning the main reservoir, and refurbishing 14 water treatment plants around Basrah serving 2 million people.
- **South Central:** Rehabilitating two water plants and four sewage plants.
  - ◊ Sewage plants in An Najaf, Al Qadisiyah, Karbala', and Babil Governorates will serve 440,000.
  - ◊ Water treatment in Najaf and Babil will serve residents and visitors at Iraq's holiest shrines.
- **North:** Rehabilitating two water plants and one sewage plant near Mosul and Kirkuk.



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# Airports

*USAID's goal is to provide material and personnel for the repair of airport facilities, rehabilitate airport terminals, facilitate humanitarian and commercial flights, and assist the Iraqi Airport Commission Authority.*



*The Oshkosh TI-3000 fire truck. Three trucks were provided to Baghdad International Airport in July along with firefighting equipment including boots, helmets, work gloves, uniforms, and various tools. 83 firefighters also received extensive training on the TI-3000 and on firefighting techniques.*

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- Flights have been arriving and departing Baghdad International Airport since July 2003. BIAP is processing an average of 45 non-military arrivals and departures daily.
- Completed emergency infrastructure work at BIAP for civil air operations, including repairing Terminal C and administration offices and installing VSAT communications systems and 6.5 megawatt power generators.
- Completed work which is preparing Al Basrah International Airport for commercial operations, including installing VSAT and radio communications; runway, taxiway, and apron striping; and installing baggage x-ray units and a perimeter fence.

# Seaports

*USAID's goal was to rehabilitate and improve management at the port, manage port administration, coordinate transport from the seaport, and facilitate cargo-handling services such as warehousing, shipment tracking, and storage.*



*Grain silos at Umm Qasr port. In ruins after years of neglect and misuse, the grain-receiving facility at the port was rehabilitated by USAID in 2003 and is now fully operational and managed and maintained by staff of the Iraqi Grain Board. After major work was completed, USAID provided training in operations and maintenance, including hands-on experience in unloading the first grain shipment, which arrived November 14, 2003. As important components of Iraq's economic infrastructure, the Umm Qasr Seaport is a critical focal point for receiving goods, including humanitarian assistance.*

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- USAID's \$45 million programs to rehabilitate and improve management at the port were completed in June 2004.
- Port reopened to commercial traffic on June 17 2003; completed first passenger vessel test July 16.
- Up to 50 ships offload cargo 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.



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# Bridges and Roads

*USAID's goal is to rebuild major transportation routes that were damaged or neglected in order to restore the flow of goods and services.*

## Highlights this week:

- The Tikrit Bridge re-opened to vehicular traffic on September 15. The four-lane concrete bridge crosses the Tigris River between Tikrit and Kirkuk and is an important part of the highway system for moving commerce and aid from major supply hubs. This is the third and final bridge to be reconstructed under USAID's \$27.8 million transportation program. Repairs to the bridge began in August 2003. The Iraqi sub-contractor removed damaged sections, retrieved debris from the riverbed and placed two temporary bridges to permit limited one-way traffic during reconstruction. Other work included repairs to damaged beams, installation of the bridge deck, and replacement of guard rails. The approximately \$5.4 million project presented a unique challenge because the bridge had been distinctly designed and the original plans were unavailable.



Tikrit Bridge after reconstruction

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- Completed 36 detailed bridge assessments and demolished irreparable sections in preparation for the rehabilitation of three major bridges in Iraq. All three bridges have now been repaired and re-opened to traffic.
- Repaired a floating bridge over the Tigris River improving traffic in the region for 50,000 travelers a day.
- Completed an assessment of over one hundred 1,100 km lengths of track and associated facilities throughout the country to identify priority projects.
- Constructing 72 kilometers of new track and facilities between the Port of Umm Qasr and Shuaiba Junction, located west of Basrah.

# Telecommunications

*As part of USAID's effort to restore critical infrastructure, USAID is working with the Iraqi Telecommunications and Postal Commission (ITPC) to restore the nation's fiber optic network, repair the phone switching system in Baghdad and restore international telecommunications capability.*

USAID worked with the Iraqi Telephone and Postal Commission (ITPC) to rehabilitate the national fiber optic network between the northernmost governorate Dahuk and Umm Qasr in the southeast. The work resulted in a complete upgrade of the critical 2,000 kilometer backbone, which connects major cities throughout the country. Connectivity between Iraqi cities will deliver the voice and data communications Iraq needs both for its immediate requirements and for future economic development.



## Major Accomplishments to Date

- Audited more than 1,200 km of the fiber optic backbone network and performed emergency repairs, reconnecting 20 cities and 70% of the population.
- Reconstituted Baghdad area phone service by installing switches with 240,000 lines at 12 sites.
- Installed 13 new switches, and fully integrated them with the 14 existing switches.
- Ministry of Communications reactivated more than 213,000 subscriber lines.
- Installed a satellite gateway system at Baghdad's largest telecom exchange and restored international service.
- Trained ITPC engineers and technicians in the operation and maintenance of the satellite gateway system and the new switches.



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# Education

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

## Highlights this week:

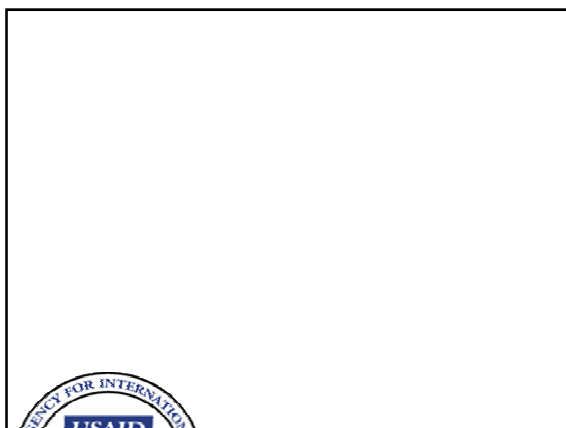
- Under USAID's higher education program, a workshop on child nutritional status was conducted in Jordan for faculty representatives from four Iraqi colleges of medicine. USAID's grant to UNICEF supported the attendance of three scientists from Iraq's national Nutrition Research Institute to encourage collaboration



*Workshop for Iraqi medical college professors on child nutrition*

between this institute and the medical colleges. The conference addressed the child nutrition issues identified as most critical by the World Health Organization, including protein-energy malnutrition and deficiencies of vitamin A, iodine, iron and zinc. At the request of the participants, sessions on vitamin D, folic acid and selenium were also added to the program. Participants in the workshop brought data about the community health programs in Iraq and about research they had conducted during the past few years.

- Fourteen nursing faculty members have begun a refresher course to improve their English language skills at a technical institute in northern Iraq. This course will include thirty hours of instruction and will last for one month. The goal of the program is to improve faculty members' skills in English conversation to allow them to participate in international workshops, seminars and conferences and benefit from English-language research and teaching materials. This initiative is part of USAID's higher education program which is working to improve public health and sanitation education to support the development of Iraq's health care system.



English language workshop for nursing faculty at a technical institute

*English language workshop for nursing faculty at a technical institute*

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- **Facilities**
  - ◇ Awarded 627 grants worth more than \$6 million to rehabilitate schools and equip Directorates General.
  - ◇ Rehabilitated 2,405 schools countrywide.
- **Supplies**
  - ◇ Distributed desks, chairs, cabinets, chalkboards, and kits for primary and secondary schools countrywide.
  - ◇ Printed and distributed 8.7 million revised math and science textbooks to grades 1-12 by mid-February 2004.
- **Institutional Strengthening**
  - ◇ Completed a major initiative that trained nearly 33,000 secondary school teachers and administrators, including 860 master trainers, nationwide.
  - ◇ Conducted a pilot accelerated learning program in five Iraqi cities to allow out-of-school children to complete two school years in one year. More than 550 students participated.
  - ◇ Assisted the Ministry in establishing official baseline education data for Iraq.
- **Higher Education**
  - ◇ Awarded five grants worth \$20.7 million to create partnerships between U.S. and Iraqi universities. Through these partnerships, Iraqi universities are rebuilding infrastructure; re-equipping university facilities; participating in international conferences; attending workshops and refresher courses; and reforming curriculum.



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# Health

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

## Highlights this week:

- On September 4, the Ministry of Health (MoH) launched a polio immunization campaign throughout Iraq. During the first three days of the five-day campaign, the MoH reported that 70% of the 4.7 million children to be immunized had been vaccinated. These results were also confirmed by Iraq Red Crescent Society monitoring teams. The campaign was accomplished through door to door visits by local volunteers and supported by a media education campaign. This is a major success for the MoH, who successfully mobilized teams across Iraq, even in the face of instability. The campaign was vital given the continuing insecurity in the country, which increases the risk of the virus entering from other countries. While surveillance systems used to detect polio cases have been restored throughout Iraq, routine immunization coverage is still insufficient; accordingly, vaccination campaigns will need to continue for the time being. The campaign was supported by the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the European Union, and funded in part by an \$18 million USAID grant to UNICEF for health initiatives in Iraq.
- During the past month, UNICEF has helped to deliver supplies for improved nutrition and is also supporting nutrition training for medical staff. Supplies have included the delivery of 543 metric tons of high protein biscuits throughout Iraq and the procurement of 215 grain feeders to support wheat flour fortification. Using USAID funds, UNICEF is also planning a national micronutrient assessment in Iraq.
- An organization in south-central Iraq has received an \$11,000 grant from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative to continue publishing a health journal which provides Iraqi citizens with up-to-date medical information. The first of three editions under this grant is currently being distributed. The journal includes articles about diet, exercise and proper nutrition, as well as stories that set straight common misconceptions about various illnesses and some traditional medical practices. The group has been working with a medical college, the local health directorate and medical professionals to develop their message and has received a positive response from readers. This initiative is enhancing the capacity of an emerging civil society organization and is encouraging honest dissemination of information and dialogue among citizens about issues critical to their well-being.

## Major Accomplishments to Date

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



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# Economic Governance

*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:

- The Iraq Customs Commission is establishing a new Exemption Control Unit to allow for timely and efficient processing of tax exemptions from Iraq’s reconstruction levy. This levy, which was implemented on April 15, is a 5% tariff on all goods imported into Iraq. Food, medicine, clothing, books, humanitarian goods, and goods imported by the US Embassy and coalition forces are exempt from the levy. The establishment of this new unit is part of USAID’s Economic Growth, Recovery, and Reform Program. USAID partner advisors designed the new unit and are facilitating collaboration between the Customs Commission and the Project and Contracts Office (PCO), which is responsible for administering many US Government reconstruction contracts in Iraq. PCO has agreed to provide the Customs office with Internet capability, which will allow the Exemption Unit to begin operations. Once this is completed all importers will be able to submit their documentation directly to the Customs Office. This will streamline the exemptions process and improve the efficiency of reconstruction levy processing.

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- Worked with the Ministry of Finance to introduce the new Iraqi dinar.
- Created more than 77,000 public works jobs through the National Employment Program.
- Provided technical assistance on accounting, budgeting and lending activities at Iraq’s commercial banks.
- Improved statistical analysis, monetary policymaking, and bank supervision procedures at Iraq’s Central Bank.
- Provided technical assistance for CPA’s \$21 million microcredit program.
- Provided technical assistance for the Oil for Food transition to prepare Iraqi ministries to assume responsibility for OFF contracts.
- Evaluated and updated commercial laws on private sector and foreign investment.
- Assisted in developing the reconstruction levy in collaboration with the CPA and the UK Customs Service; this levy imposes a five percent tariff on imports to Iraq.
- Developed a government-wide IT strategy to support the automation of planning, budgeting and reporting processes across ministries.
- Provided technical assistance as well as information on contracting opportunities for Iraqi businesses through business centers.
- Provided technical support for the re-opening of the Iraq Stock Exchange after it was closed down for more than 15 months; 3.6 billion Iraqi dinars (\$2.4 million USD) in shares were traded in the first day.



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# Agriculture

*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:

- The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) conducted a maize production workshop for agricultural researchers and extensionists to share recent field results from all over the country. The workshop discussed the physiology of maize, results from research station trials, agricultural extension, and maize breeding. This workshop received support from USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development program for Iraq (ARDI).
- The MOA and USAID conducted the final workshop on the results of the Winter Crop Technology Demonstrations from the 2003-2004 season. This was one of nine workshops held to show farmers the results of improved crop technologies. Six field days were also held as part of the program. These workshops and field days were very successful in introducing the farmers to ways for improving crop productivity. This program was initiated in 2003 to increase crop production by using improved farm technologies; develop the capacity of the MOA to provide extension services; and provide materials for a national seed multiplication and certification program.
- The MOA's rice demonstration program is showing excellent results. The crops are growing rapidly and are experiencing little weed growth, which is often a significant problem in Iraq. This program is supported by USAID and is part of a larger summer crop demonstration program, which also includes maize and vegetables. The rice program is being conducted by fourteen farmers in four governorates in central and south-central Iraq. The demonstrations consist of an integrated package of technologies including an improved fertilizer regime, weed control, and in some cases improved irrigation in the form of overhead sprinklers.
- Radish farmers in northern Iraq who are participating in an MOA vegetable research and extension project have planted their fields. Prior to planting, they prepared their land and constructed plots. For planting, farmers broadcasted seeds, covered them with soil, tamped down the soil, and then flood-irrigated the plots. Signs giving information on date of planting, varieties planted, and seeding rate, will be posted on participating farmers' land to inform neighboring farmers of assessment details. A second component of this demonstration project is swiss chard planting, in which farmers are assessing the value of planting, irrigation, weeding and harvesting practices.

## Major Accomplishments to Date

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



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# Marshlands

*USAID's marshland restoration initiative works with local residents in support of marshland restoration and the social and economic development of marsh communities.*

## Highlights this week:

- Community members in southern Iraq have come together through USAID's Community Action Program to purchase water buffalos for several marshland families. Water buffalo herding is a vital part of life in the marshland areas of southern Iraq and a significant source of income. This project also supported the construction of a water canal in the village that will support the growth of local vegetation and provide a place for the water buffalos to graze.



Buffalo supplied to families in Iraq's marshlands

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- Marshland restoration activities have included surveys, pilot sites, flow and marsh hydrology modeling, and infrastructure needs assessments.
- Produced a technical assessment in June 2003 in collaboration with the Ministry of Water Resources and the a major university.
- Implementing a strategy for marsh restoration, which includes ecosystem monitoring, wetland reconstruction, hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, agribusiness, fishing and aquaculture, livestock and dairy production, and primary healthcare.
- Improving capacity through laboratory and GIS development, study tours, training, and formulation of a strategy for international donor assistance and participation.

# Food Security

*As part of the U.S. Government's assistance plan, USAID played a leading role in helping to avert a humanitarian crisis in Iraq by providing assistance to the United Nations' World Food Program through USAID's Office of Food for Peace. Having averted a food crisis immediately following the conflict, USAID advisors continue to assist with the management and distribution of food rations for all Iraqi citizens.*



Workers load food supplies from a World Food Program warehouse in Umm Qasr, for distribution through local neighborhood agents. USAID supports the program which provides basic food rations to a large number of needy families in Southern Iraq.

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- 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.
- Providing support to the Ministry of Trade for ongoing PDS operations. Currently, more than 480,000 metric tons of food is being delivered each month.
- 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.



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# Local Governance

*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:

- The Baghdad Mayoralty has been chosen as the focus of an effort to determine how geographic information systems (GIS) can support local government functions and decision making. On September 10, Mayoralty staff participated in a USAID supported seminar on GIS use. A working group was also formed from representatives of 11 Mayoralty departments to increase the use of GIS. These initiatives are part of a larger LGP effort to advance GIS technology to improve the efficiency of city planning operations.
- During the week of September 15, eighteen civic dialogue conferences were held in the conflictive area of Salah ad Din Governorate. These programs generally include 75-250 people and—depending on the specific needs of the area—facilitators prepare, organize, invite speakers, and include community leaders to participate in discussions and facilitate dialogue. The conferences use an Iraqi staff which is trained to encourage participation in the forums and answer questions about the democratic process. This week, participants discussed human rights, the Transitional Administrative Law (TAL), elections, Islam and democracy, and federalism.
- Currently, LGP staff is conducting institutional and technical assessments of service delivery departments in south central Iraq to improve the management of essential services in the region. Once surveys in all governorates of the south central region are complete, a database will be developed to analyze the results and prepare a public service assessment on policy recommendations for the region. LGP will conduct the surveys of institutional assessment over the next few weeks.
- In collaboration with the US Department of Justice, LGP is improving information technology capabilities in Iraq through the development of a training course for courthouse staff in management techniques, word processing, and Internet navigation. The chief judge, district judges, and 5-10 staff members from each courthouse will receive training. Each district will appoint an information technology manager and—if necessary based on courthouse staff size (ranging from 10-70)—an assistant manager to coordinate the new technology infrastructure and assist courthouse staff. In addition, a USAID grant will provide computer hardware to district courthouses in Salah ad Din Governorate to ensure that they are properly equipped.

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- Established regional offices in Al Basrah, Al Hillah, Baghdad, and Mosul with local offices established in 17 out of 18 governorates and operations in all governorates.
- Awarded \$15.5 million in rapid-response grants in the first program year to strengthen the capacity of municipal authorities to deliver core municipal services. The grants were used to restore services in agriculture, education, health, electricity, sanitation, and water. In the second year, a similar grants program worth \$13 million is being implemented.
- Facilitated the establishment or refreshment of 16 governorate councils, 90 district councils, 194 city or sub-district councils, and 445 neighborhood councils.
- Organized and carried out numerous selection processes for governors and mayors, as well as local council elections, throughout Iraq.
- Committed \$2.4 million for the nationwide Civic Education Campaign, which educated Iraqis on democracy and Iraq's political situation. Rehabilitated and refurbished government facilities.
- Supported preparation of 2004 city council budgets in Baghdad, Mosul, Al Hillah, Babil, and An Najaf.
- More than 26,400 democracy dialogues have been conducted to date.
- Supporting a series of National Agenda Dialogue Conferences, which engage stakeholders such as academics, journalists, women, tribal leaders, and local government officials in discussions on their roles in Iraq's democracy.



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# Community Action Program

*The Community Action Program (CAP) works in rural and urban communities across Iraq to promote democracy and prevent and mitigate conflict. Working directly through partner NGOs and in consultation with local government representatives, USAID is creating representative, participatory community groups to identify critical priorities and implement programs to address those needs.*

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- USAID has committed over \$92 million to 1,966 projects while Iraqi communities have committed more than 25% of total funding. CAP has established over 670 community associations in 17 governorates. Five U.S. NGOs each concentrate on a region: north, Baghdad, southwest central, south-east central, and south.

### Highlights this week:

- Community members in a Ninawa' Governorate village have completed a project to install an electrical system in their neighborhood. This village has never had electricity, and community members identified the provision of this service as an immediate priority for the area. The project supplied the village with electrical cables, connectors, and transformers to connect the village with the main power system. This project was supported by USAID's Community Action Program and is benefiting approximately 2,500 individuals.



*New electrical system installed by community members in Ninawa' Governorate*

- ◊ The northern program focuses on the conflict prone areas of the Sunni Triangle, Mosul, Kirkuk and the Iran-Iraq border. The partner NGO has completed 271 projects with over \$11 million in total project commitments including establishing a youth center in Hawija, 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 the Shi'i holy cities of Najaf and Karbala, as well as Hillah through active community associations. A strong emphasis on critical infrastructure needs has provided these communities with sewage and water services, improved schools, and repaired vital social infrastructure. They have completed 219 projects and have over \$13.5 million in project commitments.

- ◊ Income generation is an important emphasis in the Baghdad program where 289 projects have been completed through community action groups. A marketplace for over 700 vendors is being constructed, and crews are cleaning up medical waste dumps and educating medical personnel on proper disposal methods. Total project commitments are \$16.2 million.

- ◊ In the southeast central region, 125 projects are complete with a total of \$13.7 million in commitments. In the Shi'i heartland, these projects address needs resulting from decades of government neglect and focus on water, sewerage, community clean-up, and school rehabilitation.

- ◊ The southern program has completed 378 projects through 138 community action groups which average 40% women's participation. Projects have focused primarily on immediate community needs such as sewage clean up, water treatment and distribution, public health, and girls' access to education. Total project commitments are \$15.9 million.



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# Transition Initiatives

*USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) supports the transition to a participatory, stable, and democratic country. OTI provides quick-dispensing, high-impact grants. OTI's fast-paced assistance meets critical needs—providing short-term employment, restoring basic government and community services, increasing Iraqi access to information and communication, and encouraging protection of human rights.*

## Highlights this week:

- USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative is supporting temporary employment and cleanup projects that are helping to rejuvenate communities and put people to work. Recently, people in south-central Iraq have been working to clean up trash and debris littering their neighborhoods. These activities are improving blighted neighborhoods and reducing unemployment, which have contributed to discontent across the country. They are contributing to a peaceful transition by offering an alternative to those who might otherwise be pressured to join radical movements.
- A youth association in northern Iraq recently completed an internship program for 600 high school and college students. The organization arranged with 50 businesses to provide unpaid internships for the students so they could gain valuable work experience and leadership skills. During the program, young people interned with car mechanics, electric companies, carpenters, theaters, photography studios, and computer companies, among others. The program also provided youth with a healthy alternative during the summer months in a region prone to conflict. A \$20,000 USAID Iraq Transition Initiative grant supported the program by providing funds to cover transportation expenses of the participants.
- An organization in northern Iraq that serves people with handicaps recently presented a computer training class for 24 of its members. The workshop was supported by an \$18,000 grant from the Iraq Transition Initiative that also provided computers and funded stipends for the trainers. The curriculum covered word-processing, spreadsheet analysis, and database management. In addition to teaching marketable skills, the classes increased the confidence of the participants and encouraged them to take a more active role in Iraqi society.
- A library in south-central Iraq was recently renovated with the assistance of an \$81,558 grant from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative. The renovation work increased book space and added rooms for community events and computers, as well as a children's reading room. The project will also purchase new books for the library's collection. A refurbished library will improve the quality of people's lives and better access to information will help people participate more effectively in decision-making.

## Major Accomplishments to Date

- Awarded more than 1,820 small grants totaling more than \$136.5 million for quick impact activities that support good governance, civil society, conflict management and mitigation, human rights and transitional justice.
- Supporting initiatives crucial to the democratic transition, including civic education, civil society and media development, increased women's participation, conflict mitigation and transitional justice. Groups targeted for assistance include women's and youth groups, professional associations and human rights organizations.
- 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.
- Funded over 60 grants totaling \$3 million that focus on women's issues, including supporting the establishment of 14 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.



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# Financial Summary

*FY 2003-2004\**

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Obligation</i>
<b>RECONSTRUCTION</b>			
<b>USAID/ANE .....</b>			<b>Subtotal: \$3,488,457,110</b>
Abt Associates	Health	Countrywide	\$22,624,704
AFCAP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$91,500,000
Army Corps of Engineers	Architecture and Engineering services	Countrywide	\$31,328,264
BearingPoint	Economic Governance	Countrywide	\$79,583,885
BearingPoint	Economic Governance II	Countrywide	\$20,000,000
Bechtel National	Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,029,833,259
Bechtel National	Infrastructure II: Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation, Basra Hospital	Countrywide	\$1,443,359,782
Community Action Program	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$120,080,000
DAI	Marshlands	Dhi Qar Al Basrah Maysan	\$4,000,000
DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$11,352,912
Fed Source	Personnel Support	Countrywide	\$300,000
IRG	Reconstruction Support	Countrywide	\$51,698,152
RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$236,911,000
America's Development Foundation	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$42,880,157
CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000
CAII II	Education II	Countrywide	\$51,809,000
CEPPS	Education Activities in Support of Electoral Processes	Countrywide	\$18,725,000
CEPPS	Iraq Governing Council	Countrywide	\$675,000
CEPPS	Transitional Government	Countrywide	\$20,700,000
CEPPS	Election Observers	Countrywide	\$5,500,000
UNICEF	Health, Water, and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$36,700,000
UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$19,600,000
UNESCO	Textbook Printing and Distribution: Math and Science	Countrywide	\$10,000,000



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*FY 2003-2004\**

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Obligation</i>
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	\$5,038,772
University Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Research Foundation of the State University of New York/Stony Brook and the Universities of Chicago, Boston, and Oxford</li> <li>• The Human Rights Institute, DePaul University College of Law, and Italy's International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences</li> <li>• University of Hawaii, the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas, University of Jordan and the American University in Beirut</li> <li>• Jackson State University, Tougaloo College, Alcorn State University, Mississippi Valley State University, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Benetech, US-Iraq Business Resources</li> <li>• University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, Cameron University, and Langston University</li> </ul>	Various universities countrywide	\$20,730,000
Yankee Group	Telecoms Planning	Countrywide	\$58,150
VEGA	Business Skills Training	Countrywide	\$4,800,000
UNDP	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
World Bank	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
<b>EMERGENCY RELIEF</b>			
<b>USAID/DCHA/OFDA.....</b>			<b>\$97,521,781</b>
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
IDA	Health	Countrywide	\$1,318,437
InterAction	Coordination	Kuwait City	\$92,860
IOM	IDP programs	Countrywide	\$6,545,780
Logistics	Commodities and DART support	Countrywide	\$22,553,653
UNICEF	Health, nutrition, water/sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
UN OCHA	Coordination and Information	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
USAID/Jordan	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	\$16,252,898



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*FY 2003-2004\**

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Obligation</i>
IRC	Health, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$7,800,411
Mercy Corps	Health, Non-Food Items, Shelter, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,499,786
SCF/US	Food Security, Health, Shelter, Nutrition, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation, NGO Consortium	Countrywide	\$7,957,783
World Vision	Health, Logistics, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$6,793,739
CARE	Quick-impact projects, Water/Sanitation, Health, Blankets	Countrywide	\$9,000,000
<b>USAID/DCHA/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>USAID/DCHA/OTI.....</b>			<b>\$214,027,012</b>
IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$7,087,595
DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$195,944,504
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 IN FY 2003/2004 .....</b>			<b>4,212,375,582</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.



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