



# RECONSTRUCTION WEEKLY UPDATE

January 12, 2005



Above: Workers spread pipe bedding material as part of a project that is installing a new sewage trunk line in Baghdad.

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USAID assists Iraqis in reconstructing their country by working with Iraq’s Interim Government. Programs are implemented in coordination with the United Nations, country partners, nongovernmental organizations and private sector partners.

This report highlights USAID’s overall accomplishments and recent reconstruction efforts in Iraq. For more information, please visit [www.usaid.gov/iraq](http://www.usaid.gov/iraq).

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- By October, 2003, rehabilitated electric power capacity to produce peak capacity greater than the pre-war level of 4,400 MW. By October, 2003, rehabilitated electric power capacity to produce peak capacity greater than the pre-war level of 4,400 MW. Hit 5,365 MW on August 18, 2004.
- Since achieving record power production in Summer '04, the Ministry of Electricity—with assistance from USAID—has begun the standard Fall maintenance process which will necessarily reduce the amount of power available for consumption. USAID worked with the MOE to conduct last Fall's maintenance program.
- Repairing thermal units, replacing turbines, rehabilitating the power distribution network, and installing and restoring generators.
- USAID has added 535 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 1,281 MW to the national grid by December 2005 through maintenance, rehabilitation, and new generation projects.
- USAID completed a project to convert two units that produce 80 MW each to operate on crude/heavy fuel oil instead of diesel which is in short supply.
- Most recently, USAID has initiated a project to rehabilitate 13 existing substations and construct 24 new substations in Baghdad. These 37 substations will improve the distribution and reliability of electricity for more than two million Baghdad residents.

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

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**A new V64 power generation unit at a Kirkuk power facility has come online.** The Kirkuk facility is a large substation located north of Baghdad at the site of a major hub for the 132-kV and 400-kV grids. This area is near an existing natural gas pipeline, which was tapped to provide fuel gas to the new gas turbines which are being installed at the Kirkuk site. Gas turbines can be installed with a minimal amount of external infrastructure and are capable of burning a variety of fuels, including heavy oils.

USAID's work at the site will bring two new generators online, adding 325 MW of electrical generation capacity to the electrical grid. The recently completed V64 unit has added 65 MW to the national grid. The V94 generator, which will add 260 MW, is expected to be complete in the third quarter of 2005.

Initial start-up and synchronization of the V64 was achieved on January 3. Work is being temporarily slowed down on the V94 unit while workers await the arrival of parts in-country. The overall project is now 83% finished, with completion anticipated by mid-2005.

**The renovation of water treatment facilities for four power plants in the Basrah region is 82 percent complete.** Two of these power plants utilize steam turbines that require ultra clean water. The other two facilities operate gas turbines and use water to prevent overheating.

All work is finished at two of the plants. At a third plant, the filtered water tank is complete and work has started on the third clarified water tank. Installation of new pumps, concrete foundations, electrical cables and the operators building is also under way. At the fourth facility, sidewalls for the desalinated water tank and intermediate storage water tank were completed. Electrical and instrumentation cabling and reverse osmosis skids are being installed, and instruments calibrated.

Without adequate water treatment, sustained and reliable operation of power plants is unlikely. Continued operation with poor quality water results in long term damage requiring extensive and costly repairs and possible power outages. The plants being rehabilitated under this project are essential for the Basrah region and the national power supply.



**A desalinated water tank at a power plant.**

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- **Nationwide:** Repaired various sewage lift stations and water treatment units.
- **Baghdad:** Expanding one water treatment plant and constructing another to increase capacity by approximately 70 million gallons per day; rehabilitating sewage treatment plants.
  - A major wastewater treatment plant in Baghdad began operating in June of 2004; this is the first major sewage plant in the country to operate in over 12 years.
  - The sewage treatment system in Baghdad, barely functioning for years before the conflict, will be restored to almost 100-percent capacity, serving 80 percent of Baghdad's population.
  - Standby generators are being installed at 41 Baghdad water facilities.
- **South:** Rehabilitating parts of the Sweet Water Canal system, including repairing breaches, cleaning the main reservoir, and refurbishing 14 water treatment plants around Basrah serving 1.75 million people.
- **South Central:** Rehabilitating two water plants and four sewage plants.
  - Completed the rehabilitation of a sewage plant in Babil Governorate.
  - Sewage plants in An Najaf, Al Qadisiyah, Karbala, and Babil Governorates will serve 440,000 upon completion.
  - Water treatment in Najaf and Babil will serve residents and visitors at Iraq's holiest shrines.
- **North:** Rehabilitating two water plants and one sewage plant near Mosul and Kirkuk.

*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 projects to rehabilitate water and wastewater plants in Salah al Din Governorate are approximately 60 percent complete.** Once finished, the wastewater treatment plant will serve a rural town of 60,000 residents and the water plant will produce approximately 3.8 million gallons per day of potable drinking water.

Recently, a chemical engineer was added to the plant staff to help commission and operate the plant. A trouble-shooting guide on plant treatment processes was completed. Wastewater plant startup and testing is anticipated next week. Work on the water treatment plant component of the project has been temporarily halted due to security-related issues, and is expected to resume next week. The water treatment plant is scheduled for completion in the second quarter of 2005.

**Construction work is moving forward on a sewage trunk line in large, poor districts of eastern Baghdad.** The trunk line will extend service to some areas that were not served by sewage lines before, and in other areas will replace an old system that was prone to leaks and blockages.

When complete, this project will divert sewage that now often collects in the street to a functioning sewage system. The new trunk line will convey sewage to a nearby wastewater treatment plant. Where there were preexisting sewer lines in the area, they were primarily "gravity" lines that are prone to blockages if flow rates slow down. The rehabilitated system will include both gravity and pressure lines to improve drainage. Without this work, the district would continue to be blighted by pooling of sewage that floods local streets and poses serious health risks.

Recently, workers continued to install the gravity line, with approximately 110 meters installed in the last week. USAID and its partners are cooperating closely with Baghdad municipal authorities to address issues related to the transfer of ownership of a site for a sewage pumping facility. The project currently employs 85 Iraqis and is expected to be complete by the end of 2005.



Workers install a new sewage line in Baghdad.



## 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 adding power generators.
- Completed work to prepare 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. Work to rehabilitate the water and wastewater treatment facilities are almost complete.

*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.*

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**Work is now approximately 72 percent complete to enhance the permanent generator capacity at Baghdad International Airport (BIAP).** The airport facility will be 100 percent electricity self-sufficient when this work is completed in February 2005. Additionally, electricity will be freed up for the Baghdad power grid.

This project includes the refurbishment of an 11kV distribution system to facilitate management and control of electrical generation and load at BIAP. The system is designed to produce a minimum of 18 MW. Under this project, USAID is adding 14 generators and replacing three generators. The BIAP power generation breakdown has 3 components: 1) three diesel generators, which will produce 3 MW each for a total of 9 MW at full load, will be the primary source of the 11kV distribution breakers; 2) seven generators, which will produce approximately 0.95 MW each for a total of 6.65 MW at full load, are primarily for BIAP emergency power; and 3) seven generators, which will produce approximately 0.95 MW each for a total of 6.65 MW, have been commissioned and are currently running.

USAID's work at Baghdad International Airport began in May 2003. Initial work focused on emergency repairs, such as the installation of a 5MW generator, to allow the immediate re-opening of the airport by July 2003. USAID also repaired the airport terminal and administration offices; installed communication systems; rehabilitated the customs offices; and repaired passenger support facilities.

2005.

**Four students from an airport in northern Iraq completed a three-month "Basic Air Traffic Control" training program with the assistance of USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP).** Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) officials, through weekly steering committee meetings with LGP staff, had described the need for a functional regional airport with trained staff to promote tourism and economic development.

Air traffic control training is essential to safe airport operations, and Iraqi officials determined the training to be a priority step toward restoring services at the regional airport. The trainees must attend a course at Baghdad International Airport and complete 60 hours of additional supervised training before they



Air traffic controller students.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

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

*USAID supports sustainable economic reforms in Iraq including examining and reforming laws, regulations, and institutions and providing a framework for private sector trade, commerce, and investment. The reforms will strengthen the Central Bank and the Ministries of Finance, Trade, Commerce and Industry—among others.*

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**USAID's Iraq Economic Governance II (IEG II) staff are continuing to work closely with the Iraqi government to reform commercial laws and institutions.** IEG II and Iraqi counterparts have made progress in developing commercial legislation, and are now focusing on analyzing the current state of commercial law and identifying strategies for moving forward with reforms.

Recently, IEG II advisors met with the senior legal advisor to Prime Minister Ayad Allawi to discuss the Iraqi Interim Government's priorities for commercial law reform. IEG II staff also completed an initial diagnostic assessment of the current status of key commercial laws in the country. At a meeting with the Director General of the Land Registry, real estate registry laws were discussed, and both sides agreed on the need for reforms. In recent weeks, background research was initiated on Iraqi law schools and the law school accreditation system and on current conditions for registering NGOs.

IEG II staff also completed development of a curriculum for information technology training courses that will be held in northern Iraq for Business Registry staff. Advisors are continuing work on the computer application for the registry. The development of a new Business Registry is a critical element of a modern economy. The registry will improve transparency in procedures for registering companies in Iraq and will provide a valuable resource for companies that need information on other businesses, as well as government entities with responsibilities for licensing and taxing. Registered businesses will be assigned a unified business registration number, taxpayer identification number and Central Statistics Organization reporting number. When complete, the business registry will be fully automated, including web-based applications for registering companies and retrieving information.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

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

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

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**Efforts continue on building the capacity of Iraq's agriculture sector, a vital part of Iraq's economy.** Current activities include:

### *Agricultural Statistics*

In the three northern governorates of Dahuk, Arbil and Sulaymaniyah, Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) officials are participating in a program to strengthen their capability to maintain accurate and timely agricultural data. USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development Program for Iraq (ARDI) is organizing the training, which will also help policy makers, researchers, national agencies and farmers access agricultural information.

### *Government Services*

MOA officials from Arbil governorate participated in focus groups to identify priority areas for improving service provision to farmers. Priority areas identified included: skill-building in soil chemistry analysis to assist farmers in the strategic use of fertilizer for specific crops; farm equipment maintenance and repair; improved livestock and poultry feed systems; and skill-building in testing and diagnosis of animal diseases.

### *Farm mechanization*

The MOA issued press releases through several major Iraqi newspapers to inform the public about a USAID-supported program to repair Case New Holland tractors and combines. Farmers will be asked to register their tractors or combines at MOA governorate offices, after which a team of engineers will inspect the machines to determine repair needs. The engineering teams will work through the MOA offices in each governorate. It is anticipated that actual repairs will begin in mid-January.

### *Veterinary clinic grants*

Twenty grant proposals have received final approval; the funded activities will rehabilitate 14 veterinary clinics across the country. These clinics were selected in conjunction with the MOA, and are among 24 selected by an ARDI working group. To date, ARDI has rehabilitated 13 veterinary clinics in Iraq.

### *Poultry sector survey*

The initial stage of a poultry sector survey opened in the last week of December with the training of a team of enumerators to interview commercial poultry producers in three northern governorates. Two separate training workshops were held in Sulaymaniyah and Arbil at MOA training facilities. Ten teams of enumerators were trained to administer a questionnaire to obtain information on the production performance of poultry farms, including animal health and mortality, composition of feed diets, and feed conversion efficiency.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

### • Facilities

- Awarded 627 grants worth more than \$6 million to rehabilitate schools and equip Directorates General.
- Rehabilitated 2,405 schools country-wide.

### • 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

- Printed and distributed 8.7 million revised math and science textbooks to grades 1-12 by mid-February 2004.
- Completed a major initiative that trained nearly 33,000 secondary school teachers and administrators, including 860 master trainers, nationwide.
- Conducted a pilot accelerated learning program in five Iraqi cities to allow out-of-school children to complete two school years in one year. More than 550 students participated.
- Assisted the Ministry in establishing official baseline education data for Iraq.

### • Higher Education

- Awarded five grants worth \$20.7 million to create partnerships between U.S. and Iraqi universities. Through these partnerships, Iraqi universities are rebuilding infrastructure; re-equipping university facilities; participating in international conferences; attending workshops and refresher courses; and reforming curriculum.

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

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**USAID's Higher Education and Development (HEAD) program is continuing to help Iraq's higher education institutions attain standards of excellence and integrate with the international academic community.** One of five partnerships under the program is a cooperative effort between three Iraqi universities and the Mississippi Consortium for International Development, led by Jackson State University (JSU/MCID). Recent JSU/MCID project activities have included:

- MCID staff are working with counterparts at a northern Iraqi university' to prepare its chemistry department for the installation of a state-of-the-art nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) system for use in research activities. NMR is used in chemical research, biochemistry, pharmaceutical chemistry, polymer science, petroleum research, agricultural chemistry and medicine to identify and study molecules.
- Two lists of journals were provided for one university to enhance its library collections and research materials.
- Two engineers contracted by MCID to inspect an IT infrastructure project at a northern Iraqi university submitted their final reports. A second phase of the project will include the installation of network equipment (modems, servers, etc.).
- Four faculty members from the Colleges of Electronics Engineering and Computer Science and Mathematics at an Iraqi University have confirmed travel plans to participate in the International Conference on Computer Science, Software Engineering, Information Technology, e-Business, and Applications (CSITeA'04) in Amman, Jordan, and the 1<sup>st</sup> International Computer Engineering Conference (ICENCO'04), in Cairo, Egypt.
- A large Iraqi university recently launched a website for the first time, incorporating information on its colleges, affiliated institutions, and academic programs.

**A separate HEAD partnership led by the State University of New York at Stony Brook continues to support research libraries at two major Iraqi universities.** More than 1,500 archaeology books were previously catalogued and prepared for shipment to the two Iraqi universities. However, due to the Tsunami in the Indian Ocean, shipment of these texts will be delayed. HEAD partners will continue to meet to determine how to proceed with online catalog training and logistics issues to reequip the research libraries.



## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

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

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

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**Work is continuing on the development of a new children's hospital in southern Iraq.** A joint effort with the U.S. private sector, the Basrah Children's Hospital is designed to be a referral center for acute care and to serve the health care needs of Iraqi children in the southern region of the country. The hospital will also serve as a model pediatric facility and is designed to accommodate the Ministry of Health's (MOH) plans for future expansion.

USAID is financing the construction of the new hospital and private sector contributors, coordinated by Project Hope, will provide equipment for the hospital and provide needed training to Iraqi staff. Initially, the hospital design provides for a building of about 15,400 square meters and will accommodate 50 in-patient beds, although this may be expanded to 200 beds in the future. To accommodate the hospital's role as a training site for other Iraqi health professionals, the building's design provides for classrooms, conference rooms, offices, and student dormitories.

Construction activities currently are focused on the preparation of the building site and work on the preparing the foundation. Site fill operations continue at a pace of about 2,000 cubic meters per day. The Basrah University Materials Testing Lab (refurbished with USAID assistance) is performing soils tests. Of the 130,000 cubic meters required to finish site preparation, 52,000 have been placed and tested. Site preparations are expected to be completed by the end of January, 2005. Architectural and building designs are being finalized and hospital services specified through a dialogue with representatives of the Iraqi Ministry of Health (MOH). Planning for equipping the hospital and training staff is underway with representatives of the MOH, USAID, Project Hope and Bechtel (the firm that is managing and implementing the construction effort).



Ground being prepared for the children's hospital.



## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Established regional offices in Al Basrah, Al Hillah, Baghdad, and Mosul and operations in all governorates.
- Awarded \$15.5 million in rapid-response grants in the first program year to strengthen the capacity of municipal authorities to deliver core municipal services. The grants were used to restore services in agriculture, education, health, electricity, sanitation, and water.
- Facilitated the establishment 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 members, throughout Iraq.
- Committed more than \$2.4 million for the nationwide Civic Education Campaign, which educated Iraqis on democracy and Iraq's political situation. More than 28,500 democracy dialogues have been conducted to date.
- Supported preparation of 2004 city council budgets in Baghdad, Mosul, Al Hillah, Babil, and An Najaf.
- Supporting a series of National Agenda Dialogue Conferences, which engage stakeholders such as academics, journalists, women, tribal leaders, and local government officials in discussions on their roles in Iraq's emerging democracy.

*USAID's goals in the Democracy and Governance sector include promoting representative citizen participation in governance at the national and subnational level; supporting the administration of transparent and credible electoral processes; strengthening the management skills of national, city, and provincial administrations and civic institutions; promoting advocacy and participation of civil society organizations; enhancing leadership skills; and serving as a recruiting tool for future leaders.*

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**Trainings are continuing for local officials and staff in Babil and Wasit governorates with the support of USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP).** Recent workshops have included:

### *Irrigation Workshop in Babil Governorate*

Water Resource Department officials from cities in Babil Governorate participated in a workshop on irrigation led by LGP specialists. The workshop examined current irrigation strategies, and each participant received a detailed irrigation reference booklet in Arabic.

### *Technology Workshop Encourages Transparency in Wasit Governorate*

A three-week computer training workshop has begun for municipal and governorate employees in Wasit. In applied training activities, participants will post public information, increasing government transparency.

### **Surveyors and engineers from the Wasit Directorates of Water and Sewage completed a week-long workshop on construction quality control.**

The workshop was organized by LGP staff at the request of the Deputy Governor of Wasit. The training examined the technical specifications of construction materials and focused on the importance of supervisory skills and monitoring work quality. Quality control training is just one example of how USAID's LGP staff persons are helping local governments across Iraq become more effective and efficient.

## OUT-OF-COUNTRY VOTING REGULATIONS

**Why is out-of-country voting important to Iraq?** After more than two decades of Ba'ath Party oppression, conflict, and sanctions, several million Iraqis currently live outside Iraq. Their participation in the Jan 30 elections is wanted by the vast majority of resident Iraqis, and is therefore an essential part of making the elections credible to the Iraqi people.

**Who will be eligible to vote outside of Iraq?** The Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq (IECI), in negotiation with the host countries, will determine the exact countries outside of Iraq where eligible voters will be able to register and vote. Currently 14 countries have agreed to implement out-of-country voting. Voters outside the country must be an Iraqi citizen born before December 31, 1986 and registered according to the procedures issued by the IECI.

**In which elections will out of country voters be able to participate?** Out-of-country voters will be eligible to vote for the National Assembly but not the governorate councils or the Kurdistan national assembly.

**Who will manage the out-of-country voting?** The out-of-country voting will be managed by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), headquartered in Amman, Jordan. Country offices will be established in each host country and sub-offices may be established in countries with large Iraqi populations.

**How will polling be conducted?** The voter register will be displayed at the registration center in each country during a two-day period immediately after the voter registration period, and voters may check to confirm that they are correctly registered. The IECI will determine both the procedures and the timeline allowed for voting. Following the closure of polling, the ballots will be returned to a central location where they will be counted. The results will be amalgamated with those from inside Iraq in order to determine the seat allocations for the National Assembly.

*Consistent with USAID's policy with regard to supporting elections, USAID activities in Iraq make a good faith effort to assist all political organizations with equitable levels of assistance, do not seek to determine election outcomes, and support representative multiparty systems.*

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**The Board of Directors of the Iraqi Election Information Network (EIN) participated in a three-day training seminar to help them prepare to observe the upcoming Iraqi elections.** EIN is the Iraqi NGO responsible for supervising the information and financial flows between the 5,000-8,000 members of the nation-wide Coalition of Non-Partisan Election Monitors (CINEM).

The training session was organized by a USAID partner NGO that has worked extensively with EIN in recent months. The seminar featured two renowned leaders of election monitoring organizations from Peru and the Philippines who shared their experiences managing and monitoring elections in difficult political and security environments. During training, EIN leadership designed an election monitoring plan involving committee development, media strategy, crisis management, election-day activities, and a deployment schedule for election monitors. The last day of training was led by facilitators with the European Union, which has worked closely with the USAID partner NGO as well as the United Nations in supporting EIN's election preparations.

In recent months USAID supported three election monitoring training academies for 100 CINEM trainers, and has shifted its training focus to building the financial and administrative skills of EIN.

**Forty-five members of the Coalition of Non-Partisan Election Monitors (CINEM) from southern and south-central Iraq participated in the second tier of elections monitoring training in late December.** The second tier offered instruction on logistical details on how to recruit independent monitors; ensure transparency in administrative and financial oversight; guarantee monitors' adherence to codes of conduct; and report training and monitoring results. The third tier training also began in early January and focuses on regulations recently released by the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq (IECI).

**An international NGO is continuing its efforts to strengthen governance and support Iraqi elections, in partnership with USAID.** Recent activities have included:

### *Media and Public Awareness*

A media consulting team arrived from the US and new equipment was installed in an interim media center facility. The NGO staff developed 10 scenarios and scripts to be used in issue-based spots on Iraqi television.

### *Free Elections Campaign*

The Civic Coalition for Free Elections (CCFE), a non-partisan movement of 76 civic organizations from across Iraq, continued its media campaign this week with a press conference to build awareness of the coalition and the campaign.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Awarded more than 2,058 small grants totaling more than \$156.8 million for quick impact activities that support good governance, civil society, conflict management and mitigation, human rights and transitional justice.
- 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.
- Met critical needs during and immediately after the conflict by providing short-term employment, restoring basic government and community services, increasing Iraqi access to information and communication and encouraging protection of human rights.

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

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

**USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/OTI) works closely with the U.S. Army First Cavalry Division (1<sup>st</sup> CAV) to support stabilization activities in Baghdad.** USAID/OTI projects mitigate conflict in key Baghdad neighborhoods by generating short-term employment opportunities for underemployed Iraqi citizens.

In turn, these projects build hope in communities by improving the delivery of essential services such as garbage pick-up and surface sewage removal. In addition, USAID/OTI grants have supported the rehabilitation of schools, primary health care clinics and local markets.

In collaboration with the 1st CAV, OTI has approved more than 690 grants, valued at nearly \$80 million. Grants focus on labor-intensive projects intended to engage as many local residents as possible in activities that improve the quality of life in these districts. Since May 2004, OTI grants have created employment opportunities for an average of 24,000 local residents per month. Projects have been conducted throughout the city, with most grants reaching poor and conflict-prone districts such as Thawra (Sadr City).

*Since the cessation of the 2003 conflict, USAID has completed planned work at Umm Qasr Seaport and re-stored significant portions of Iraq's telecommunications network. USAID also helped avert a humanitarian crisis during the conflict by providing assistance to the United Nations' World Food Program. USAID advisors continue to assist with the management and distribution of food rations for all Iraqi citizens.*

## SEAPORT

- 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 at the port every month.
- Completed dredging to open all 21 berths to deep-draft ships; maintenance dredging is ongoing.
- Applied port tariffs on June 20, 2003.
- Renovated the grain-receiving facility to process 600 MT of grain an hour.
- Renovated the administration building, passenger terminal, customs hall, and electrical substations.

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- Audited more than 1,200 km of the fiber optic backbone network and performed emergency repairs, re-connecting 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 215,000 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.

## FOOD SECURITY

- Worked directly with the World Food Program (WFP) and Coalition Forces to re-establish the Public Distribution System (PDS) in less than 30 days, avoiding a humanitarian food crisis and providing food security throughout the country.
- With Iraqi food distributors, Food for Peace, the WFP, and Coalition Forces maintained deliveries from June through December 2003 in all 18 governorates.
- Played a key role in an agreement between the WFP, CPA, and the MoT that provided the WFP with the resources and authority to continue to support the PDS through June 2004.
- In partnership with the United States Embassy in Iraq, providing on-going support to the Public Distribution System Working Group to assist the Ministry of Trade with improving PDS management.



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

JANUARY 12, 2005

FY 2003-2005*			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
<b>Reconstruction USAID/ANE</b>			<b>Subtotal: \$3,763,488,000</b>
Abt Associates	Health	Countrywide	\$23,031,886
AFCAP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$91,500,000
Army Corps of Engineers	Architecture and Engineering Services	Countrywide	\$31,328,264
BearingPoint	Economic Governance	Countrywide	\$79,583,885
BearingPoint	Economic Governance II	Countrywide	\$103,500,000
Louis Berger Group	Vocational Education	Countrywide	\$27,200,000
Louis Berger Group	Private Sector Development II	Countrywide	\$60,000,000
Bechtel National	Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,029,833,259
Bechtel National	Infrastructure II: Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation, Basra Hospital	Countrywide	\$1,386,809,782
Community Action Program	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$165,830,000
DAI	Marshlands	Dhi Qar Al Basr Maysan	\$4,000,000
DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$71,934,921
Fed Source	Personnel Support	Countrywide	\$300,000
IRG	Reconstruction Support	Countrywide	\$51,698,152
RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$236,911,000
America's Development Foundation	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$42,880,157
CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000
CAII	Education II	Countrywide	\$51,809,000
CEPPS	Iraq Governing Council	Countrywide	\$675,000

\* 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.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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FY 2003-2004			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
CEPPS	Transitional Government	Countrywide	\$20,700,000
CEPPS	Voter Education, Domestic Observation and Conflict Resolution	Countrywide	\$47,175,000
CEPPS	Elections Administration Support	Countrywide	\$40,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$36,700,000
UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$19,600,000
UNESCO	Textbook Printing & Distribution: Math & Science	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
WHO	Strengthen Health System	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
SSA	Port Management	Um Qasr	\$14,318,985
SkyLink	Airport Management	Baghdad, Al Basrah, Mosul	\$27,200,000
MSI	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$5,038,772
CHF International	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$461,228
University Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Research Foundation of the State University of New York/Stony Brook and the Universities of Chicago, Boston and Oxford</li> <li>• The Human Rights Institute, DePaul University College of Law and Italy's International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences</li> <li>• University of Hawaii, the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas, University of Jordan and the American University in Beirut</li> <li>• Jackson State University, Tougaloo College, Alcorn State University, Mississippi Valley State University, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Benetech, US-Iraq Business Resources</li> <li>• University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, Cameron University and Langston University</li> </ul>	Countrywide	\$20,730,000
Yankee Group	Telecoms Planning	Countrywide	\$58,150
VEGA	Business Skills Training	Countrywide	\$12,089,702
UNDP	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
World Bank	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
<b>Emergency Relief USAID/DCHA/OFDA.....</b>			<b>Subtotal: \$124,938,229</b>
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$7,633,952
AirServ	Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,309,876
ARC	Capacity Building	Al Basrah	\$537,746
CARE	IDP Assistance, Quick-impact projects, Water and Sanitation, Health, Emergency Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$9,043,148
The Cuny Center	Research Studies	Countrywide	\$40,260
GOAL	Coordination, Nutrition	Al Muthanna	\$1,507,900

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

JANUARY 12, 2005

FY 2003-2004			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
InterAction	Coordination	Kuwait City	\$92,860
IDA	Health	Countrywide	\$1,318,437
IMC	Health, IDP Assistance, Food Security, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Capacity Building	Countrywide	\$17,952,898
IOM	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$6,545,780
IRC	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,000,411
Logistics	Emergency Relief Commodities and USAID/DART Support	Countrywide	\$22,553,653
Mercy Corps	IDP Assistance, Health, Emergency Relief Commodities, Shelter, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,699,786
SCF/US	Food Security, Health, IDP Assistance, Shelter, Nutrition, Emergency Relief Commodities, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$7,957,783
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
OCHA	Coordination and Information	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
USAID/Jordan	Support for Emergency Water Activities	Countrywide	\$500,000
WFP	Food Security, Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
World Vision	Health, Logistics, Emergency Relief Commodities, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$6,793,739
<b>USAID/DCHA/FFP.....</b>			<b>Subtotal: \$425,571,000</b>
WFP	Operations	Countrywide	\$45,000,000
WFP	Emerson Trust—81,500 MT	Countrywide	\$40,337,000
WFP	P.L. 48– Title II emergency food commodities—163,820 MT	Countrywide	\$140,234,000
WFP	Regional Purchase—330,000MT	Countrywide	\$200,000,000
<b>USAID/DCHA/OTI.....</b>			<b>Subtotal: \$318,169,128</b>
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$9,901,515
IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$6,462,167
DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$290,810,533
Internews	Media	Countrywide	\$160,359
Radio SAWA	Media	Countrywide	\$400,000
NDI/IRI	National Governance	Countrywide	\$650,000
IFES	National Governance	Countrywide	\$1,042,315
ICNL	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$39,238
Spa War**	Inter-Ministry Communications	Countrywide	\$8,703,001
<b>TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ FROM 2003-2005.....</b>			<b>\$4,611,666,357</b>