



UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

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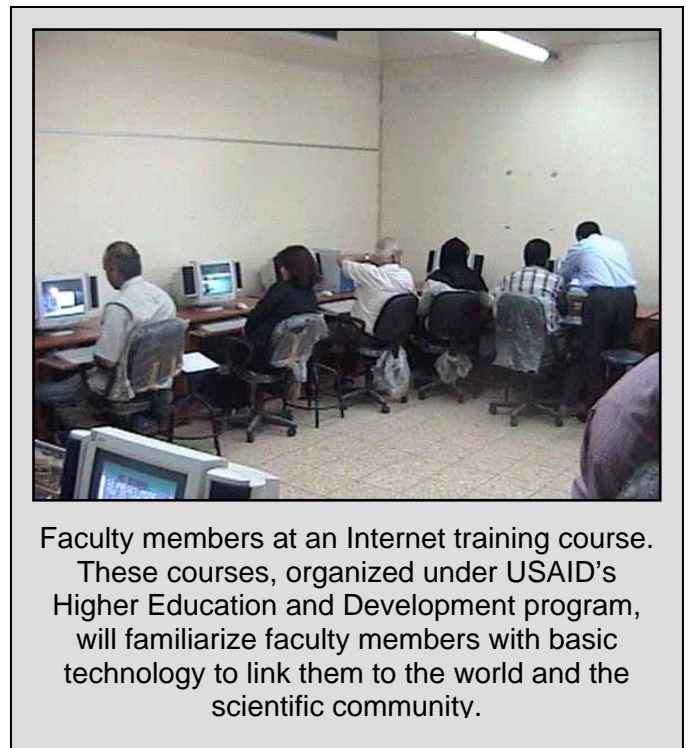
This fact sheet highlights overall accomplishments and some weekly activities from USAID’s reconstruction efforts in Iraq. For more information on USAID’s programs in Iraq please see: www.usaid.gov/iraq

Program Overview:

USAID assists Iraqis in reconstructing their country by working with Iraq’s Interim Government. USAID programs are implemented in coordination with the United Nations, coalition country partners, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), 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.

The USAID Mission in Iraq implements programs in four strategic areas:

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



Faculty members at an Internet training course. These courses, organized under USAID’s Higher Education and Development program, will familiarize faculty members with basic technology to link them to the world and the scientific community.

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Program Descriptions and Accomplishments

1. Restore Essential Infrastructure

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

Accomplishments to Date:

- By October 2003, infrastructure staff facilitated the rehabilitation of the national electric grid to produce a peak capacity greater than the pre-war level of 4,400 MW. In June, after months of power reduction for generation unit maintenance, generation began steadily increasing.
- Collaborating with Bechtel, Iraq's Interim Government, and Gulf Region Division Restore Iraqi Electricity on projects to repair thermal units, replace and repair turbines, rehabilitate the transmission network, and install and restore generators. This collaboration is expected to produce more than 2,000 MW of additional capacity.

Airports and Seaports -- *Objectives include: providing material and personnel for the timely repair of damaged airport facilities, rehabilitating airport terminals, facilitating humanitarian and commercial flights, and preparing for the eventual handover of airport operations to the Iraqi Airport Commission Authority. Also: managing port administration, coordinating transport from the seaport, and facilitating cargo-handling services such as warehousing, shipment tracking, and storage.*

Accomplishments to Date:

Airport

- Processing an average of 45 non-military arrivals and departures a day at Baghdad International Airport.
 - More than 5,000 military and NGO flights have arrived and departed at Baghdad International Airport since July 2003.
- Completed sufficient infrastructure work to prepare Baghdad International Airport for commercial air operations.
- Preparing Al Basrah International Airport for commercial operations.

Seaport

- USAID's \$14 million program for the management of the southern Iraqi port of Umm Qasr was completed on June 30.
- Reopened port to commercial traffic June 2003; completed first passenger vessel test in July 2003; Cargo, which has increased by 400% since June 2003, includes bulk grain, bagged rice, sugar, and construction materials.
- Offloading cargo from up to 50 cargo ships per month.
- Dredged the port to an average depth of 12.5 meters. Previously, the port was 9-10 meters deep, and limited cargo could arrive only during high tide.
 - Two Iraqi dredgers, which have been rehabilitated by USAID, are assisting with maintenance dredging.
- Instituted port tariffs, which provide a revenue stream for financially sustainable port operations.

Roads, Bridges and Rail -- Objectives include: Rebuilding major transportation routes that were damaged during the conflict or from two decades of neglect in order to restore the flow of goods and services, including humanitarian assistance.

Accomplishments to Date:

Bridges

- Demolished irreparable sections of three key bridges and started reconstruction.
- Repaired a floating bridge on the Tigris River, improving traffic for approximately 50,000 travelers a day.
- Completed reconstruction of and reopened two key bridges

Railroads

- Reconstructing 56 km of rail track between Umm Qasr and Shuaiba Junction near Basrah and 16 km of siding at Umm Qasr Seaport.

Telecommunications -- Objectives include: install switches to restore service to 240,000 telephone lines in Baghdad area, and repair the nation's fiber optic network from north of Mosul through Baghdad and Nasiriyah to Umm Qasr.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Handed over the Al Mamoun Telecommunications site to the Ministry of Communications in February 2004. Twelve new telephone switches and an International Satellite Gateway have been integrated with fourteen Iraqi Telephone and Postal Company (ITPC) switches.
- Purchased tools, equipment, and parts to enable Iraqi engineers to restore the network.
- Reconstituted Baghdad area phone service by installing switches with 240,000 lines of capacity. Installed new switches and main distribution frames at 12 sites.
- Training Iraqi telephone engineers to ensure continued operations and maintenance of the systems.

Water and Sanitation -- Objectives include: rehabilitate and repair essential water infrastructure to provide potable water and sanitation to communities and improve irrigation.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Rehabilitating sewage and water treatment plants that currently by-pass untreated sewage generated by millions of people into the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.
 - Repairing and rehabilitating water systems throughout Iraq.
 - Repaired hundreds of breaks in Iraq's critical and long neglected water network, significantly increasing water flow.

Highlights this Week:

- The construction of the Baghdad landfill has begun. This work is expected to be complete by the end of July, when site excavation will begin. Through this project, USAID will support the construction of a 3-5 year capacity landfill as well as a master plan for expansion of the landfill to a 20 year capacity. Also included is the design, execution, equipment, installation, training, start-up, and commissioning of the landfill facility. In addition to the landfill area, a recycling and sorting area will be built and the project will provide a planned design and space for a future landfill truck scale, office, maintenance facilities, security fencing, landfill gas management system, and three months of landfill management training. The

new landfill will be designed to meet US Environmental Protection Agency Subtitle D regulations for municipal solid waste facilities. These regulations provide for very stringent landfill design, construction, and operation procedures and they apply to landfills throughout the United States.

2. Support Essential Health and Education

Health -- Objectives 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.*

Accomplishments to Date:

- Rehabilitating 110 primary health care clinics throughout the country.
- Delivering primary healthcare kits to 600 clinics countrywide.
- Training more than 750 primary healthcare providers in maternal and child health services.
- Training health providers and communities on prevention and early intervention on causes of child mortality such as diarrhea.
- Re-establishing the country's vital disease surveillance system.
- Supporting \$1.3 million in grants for Iraqi NGO and civil society healthcare efforts.
- Distributing eight million liters of clean water a day.
- Immunized more than three million children under the age of five through routine immunization activities and five million school aged children aged 6-12 against measles, mumps and rubella.
- Administered tetanus toxoid vaccine to more than 700,000 pregnant women.
- Distributing high-protein biscuits to more than 240,000 children and pregnant and nursing mothers.
- Supporting the development of a strategic plan to guide sector development over the next several years.

Highlights this Week:

- Training is complete for 45 traditional birth attendants in 11 rural areas of Al Anbar, Diyala' and An Najaf Governorates. In addition to the training, attendants received medical supplies and equipment for the primary healthcare clinics in which they work. These clinics received enough equipment to provide for 10,000 births; this will reduce the risk of complications and infection for mothers and newborns during labor. The trainings began on June 18. An illustrated training guide on warning signs, hygiene, nutrition during and after pregnancy, and breastfeeding was used in all of the training sessions. The training guide, developed by UNICEF, proved a valuable tool for the trainers. The training initiative was supported by USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance.

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

Accomplishments to Date:

- *Immediately After the Conflict*
 - Provided technical assistance for the resumption of education functions and salaries.
 - Funded 5.5 million examinations for transitional grades, which ensured the smooth continuation of education.
- *Facilities and Supplies*

- Awarded 627 grants worth more than \$6 million to rehabilitate schools and equip Directorates General.
- Rehabilitated 2,358 schools countrywide for the first term of the 2003/04 school year.
- Provided materials, equipment and supplies:
 - Distributed nearly 1.5 million secondary school kits that included pens, pencils, paper, math supplies, and other essentials.
 - Distributed 159,005 student desks, 26,437 teacher desks, 59,940 teacher chairs, 26,050 metal cabinets, 61,500 chalkboards, and 58,500 teacher kits.
 - Delivered 808,000 primary student kits.
 - Delivered 81,735 primary teacher kits.
- In consultation with the Iraqi Ministry of Education, reviewed 48 math and science textbooks for grades 1 through 12.
- Printed and distributed 8,759,260 math and science textbooks throughout Iraq.
- *Institutional Strengthening*
 - Trained 860 secondary school Teacher Trainers during September 2003 to January 2004 nationwide.
 - Trained 31,772 secondary school teachers and administration staff.
 - 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 in the program.
 - Approximately 87 percent of the students passed the year end exams and will now be integrated into the main school system.
- *Higher Education*
 - Supporting the Higher Education and Development (HEAD) Program. Awarded five grants worth an estimated \$20.7 million for U.S.-Iraqi university partnerships. The program supports rehabilitation of research laboratories, rebuilding library resources and establishing internet centers; invigorating academic human resources and university administration leadership through workshops, seminars, conferences, research grants and one year graduate studies in the U.S.; stimulating curriculum development through introduction of supplementary new materials.
 - In collaboration with Iraqi university partners, research laboratory needs assessments have been completed and procurement is underway; library facilities and internet centers have been rehabilitated and prepared for receiving materials and equipment; workshops, seminars and conferences are underway allowing senior Iraqi faculty to present papers in an international forum.



School children at new wash basins

Highlights this Week:

- More than 67,000 Iraqi school children at 90 schools in Ninawa' Governorate will now have clean running water and functioning toilets when they return to classes in September. These schools had suffered from years without maintenance and lacked hygienic facilities, causing health risks from water borne diseases. In cooperation with the Ninawa' Directorate of Education, this project supplied new water tanks, installed new water coolers, repainted bathrooms and toilets, installed new sanitary fittings and wash basins, replaced damaged and broken doors, fixed broken windows and tiled the floors. As a result of this project, the capacity of the water and sanitary facilities increased significantly. For example, water storage capacity and functioning septic systems each increased by an average of 130 percent, and the number of drinking fountains and wash basins increased by nearly 400 percent. This rehabilitation work

was supported by USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). It was part of a larger initiative by a USAID NGO partner to rehabilitate the water and sanitation systems at 205 schools in northern Iraq. The remaining schools were supported by other coalition development agencies. The total number of beneficiaries through this project is 153,000.

- USAID's Higher Education and Development Program is continuing to implement activities to improve the quality of education at Iraqi universities through partnerships with American and European universities. Recent initiatives through HEAD's agricultural sciences partnership include:
 - Twenty-six faculty members at an Iraqi university are participating in basic computer and Internet classes. These courses will familiarize faculty members with basic technology to link them to the world and the scientific community. The classes are conducted two hours per day, six days per week and will last two weeks. A similar class will soon begin at another local university.
 - On June 30, American university representatives attended the graduation ceremony of an Iraqi agricultural college. The presence of these representatives demonstrated the close relationship between the Iraqi and American universities. The representatives presented awards to the top ranked students in the animal production, horticulture, and forestry departments. These students also received invitations to relevant agricultural workshops in the region.
- Faculty members from a nursing Iraqi university have arrived in the United States for training on research in nursing. The program is designed to increase research in the nursing field by providing both theoretical and experiential learning activities on the role of nursing in community health. For example, one of the first experiential activities outside of the classroom training included observation of open heart surgery as well as the critical roles that professional nurses played during the procedure. This course is also acquainting the faculty members with materials and techniques necessary to enter into graduate programs of nursing; this training will allow the faculty members to pass this information on to their students. In addition to the nursing course, the Iraqi faculty members are enrolled in a computer course which will train them in word processing, Internet usage, and database management applications.
- Curriculum reform at Iraqi law schools has begun as part of the Legal Education System Reform Initiative under USAID's Higher Education and Development (HEAD) program. The long-term objective of the reform program is to improve existing curricula in Iraqi law schools to international standards. To achieve this goal, the project has formed a number of specialized curriculum consultative committees to recommend changes. Curriculum reform working groups are focusing on four main areas, including international trade law, constitutional law, public international law, and international criminal law.



Faculty members at a computer skills and Internet training course

3. Expand Economic Opportunity

Economic Growth – *Substantive areas include: currency conversion, development of economic statistics, rationalizing small business credit, drafting commercial legislation, supporting a national employment program, strengthening micro-finance programs, creating a bank-to-bank payment system, implementing a computerized financial management information system, developing a tax policy and administration, budget planning, insurance reform, telecommunications reform, and electricity reform.*

Accomplishments to Date:

- With the Ministry of Finance, introduced the new national currency, the Iraqi dinar.
 - The currency exchange began on October 15, 2003, and was completed on January 15, 2004.
 - An estimated 6.36 trillion new Iraqi dinars are now in Iraq, and 4.62 trillion Iraqi dinars are circulating—106 percent of the original demand estimate of 4.36 trillion.
- Conducting regular currency auctions for banks to exchange dinars and dollars.
- Created more than 77,000 public works jobs through the National Employment Program.
- Provided technical assistance on the implementation of a bank-to-bank payment system that allows 80 banks to send and receive payment instructions.
- In support of the Iraqi Treasury's goal to improve Iraq's commercial banking system, USAID is working with the Ministry of Finance to reconcile and close the year-end 2003 financial statements of Iraq's two largest banks—the state-owned Rasheed and Rafidain—to ensure that the statements are consistent with international accounting standards.
- Assisting in developing, installing and training staff to use the Financial Management Information System, a new accounting and reporting system that will eventually be used by all Iraqi ministries.
- Assisted CPA in managing a \$21-million micro-credit program.
- Evaluating and updating commercial laws pertaining to private sector and foreign investment; assisted in the development of the new company law.
- 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.

Highlights this Week:

- On July 18, the Ministry of Finance will auction 150 billion dinars of three month treasury bills as the country's first step in the re-establishment of a domestic bond market. These bills will finance the repayment of maturing government securities, which were issued under the former regime. The bond rates will be set by market forces demonstrating the Ministry's commitment to shifting Iraq's economy to a market based-system. USAID's technical assistance to Iraq's Ministry of Finance as well as the Central Bank is part of the Economic Recovery, Reform, and Sustained Growth Program. This assistance has prepared Iraq's financial institutions to provide the necessary framework for free markets and support the development of a robust private sector.

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

Accomplishments to Date:

- Worked with the UN World Food Program (WFP) to re-establish the Public Distribution System in less than 30 days, avoiding a humanitarian food crisis and maintaining food security.
- Contributed cash and food aid totaling \$425 million to WFP's emergency operations immediately following the conflict, making the U.S. the foremost contributor to WFP emergency operations in Iraq.
- Provided ongoing support and technical assistance to WFP and local Iraqi authorities in the Ministry of Trade and the Kurdish Food Departments to ensure the smooth transition of PDS management tasks to the Iraqi government.

- Played a role in negotiating a memorandum of understanding between the CPA, the Ministry of Trade, and the WFP that details areas of responsibility including: capacity building and training, procurement of food commodities, renegotiation of food contracts, shipment and overland transport of food commodities, and pipeline management. The WFP will continue to support the public distribution system through June 2004 and will begin work immediately to assure continuation of food deliveries.
- Currently providing food aid expertise to the Ministry of Trade and assisting WFP and the Ministry to continue to distribute food to all Iraqis.

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

Accomplishments to Date:

Since October 2003, USAID has been implementing the Agricultural Reconstruction and Development Program for Iraq (ARDI) to formulate a long-term vision for the sector, while designing activities for quick impact including:

- *Summer and Winter Crop Technology Demonstrations:* On 334 hectares in 15 governorates, 128 farm families established plots with new winter crop varieties for extension field days. Under the summer demonstration program, farmers are planting vegetables, maize, and rice.
- *Veterinary Hospital Renovation:* The renovation of a hospital in At' Tamim Governorate was completed in early April 2003 under a \$96,000 ARDI grant; the hospital serves more than 100,000 livestock in the area.
- *Veterinary Clinic Rehabilitation:* This project was completed in early April 2003 through a \$50,000 grant which was matched by supplies and equipment from the Ministry of Agriculture. These rural clinics are the two principal sources of vaccines and medicines for animals in 125 local communities.
- *Internet Connectivity and Repairs to a Student Union Building:* The School of Agriculture at an Iraqi university will receive a \$75,000 grant that will benefit 4,509 students.
- Seven grants, totaling \$394,000, were approved in February 2004 to build the capacity of Iraq's agriculture sector. The grants' emphasis on veterinary programs allows an immediate, highly visible response to the challenges that face herders and farmers in the North and Central regions.
- The Ministry of Agriculture is establishing 18 date palm nurseries throughout Iraq in support of its goal to reestablish Iraq's dominant position in the international date market, a position it lost under the former regime. Dates are a national treasure for Iraq with both symbolic and economic significance. This project, which receives support and technical assistance from USAID, will ensure the preservation of Iraq's 621 varieties of date palm.
- Developed a transition plan for the Iraq Ministry of Agriculture to move the agricultural sector from a command and control production and marketing system to one which is market-driven.
- Initiated a program supporting agricultural extension services for farmers in late May. Eight extension agents are working with farmers to teach agricultural best practices. The agents encourage farmers to analyze their own problems and independently develop solutions. In collaboration with USAID, the Ministry of Agriculture expects to replicate the program in other villages, as extension services have been successful in increasing agricultural productivity in developing countries around the world.

Highlights this Week:

- Iraqi farmers are coming together to discuss their common agricultural challenges and their different techniques at open forums organized by USAID. At a recent forum, farmers discussed the problems they are facing in the production of vegetables, including tomatoes, eggplant, cucumbers and watermelon. Representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture's (MOA) extension services—as well as researchers and graduate students—also attended.
- The maize seeds for the Summer Crop Technology Demonstration program have arrived and preparations for planting are well underway. In addition to this hybrid maize, inbred lines of maize are also expected to arrive shortly.



Sorting maize seeds

- Inbred maize lines are produced by self pollinating plants for several generations. Inbred lines of maize have been unavailable in Iraq, and these eagerly awaited arrivals will serve as the basis of the new Iraqi hybrid maize seed industry. Hybrid maize production is expected to reach 5,000 hectares in the first year after the demonstration, affecting 2,500 farm families. This program is a follow-on to the Winter Crop Technology Demonstration that established 334 hectares of plots in 15 governorates to showcase new technologies and techniques for growing bread wheat, durum wheat, barley, lentils, chick peas, and vetch (a legume used for feeding livestock). The summer program is focusing on rice, maize, and vegetables. The initiative was supported by the Ministry of Agriculture, an Iraqi college of agriculture, and USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development program for Iraq.
- A drip irrigation kit demonstration program in Al Qadisiyah Governorate will help improve crop productivity. Drip irrigation provides small amounts of water on or just below the soil surface close to the growing plants, thus considerably increasing water use efficiency. This system will allow Iraqi farmers to conserve water by reducing use and decreasing evaporation; maintain continuous moisture levels in the soil improving plant productivity; and can facilitate the application of nutrients to the plant's root system directly through the drip system. This program is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Agriculture's extension department, an Iraqi extension center, USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP) and ARDI. Training on this new technology will be provided by the Department of Agriculture and LGP staff, and will include instruction on the operation and maintenance of drip irrigation systems, as well as crop production. A program will also be set up to train trainers to replicate best practices on operation and maintenance of the drip irrigation system, and crop production methods. Fifteen demonstration areas have been selected and established. An ARDI grant was used for the procurement of the drip kits, which will be installed within a week. If the pilot program is successful it will be replicated in five additional governorates.

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

Accomplishments to Date:

- Operating at both national and regional levels, the Marshlands Restoration Program developed an integrated strategy for wetland restoration and management and is providing social and economic assistance to Marsh Arabs.
- The first date palm nursery was established with 1,000 mother trees of different varieties. The trees will produce 10,000 off-shoots, of which about 7,000 will survive.

- The Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Public Works have selected a first site to build a constructed wetlands for treating domestic wastewater. The service area is the largest settlement in the marshlands, and will serve roughly 5,000 people.
- Demonstrations of alfalfa cultivation to improve livestock nutrition and dairy production in five locations are ongoing.
- The program will re-establish a water and soil laboratory in the Ministry of Water Resources headquarters in Baghdad. A proposed list of equipment has been developed and is being reviewed by the Ministry staff for immediate procurement and training in their use.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Ministry of Water Resources are jointly developing a hydrologic model of the Tigris and Euphrates basin.
- Work began on setting up demonstration plots for field crops and horticulture in eight locations in the marshlands. Plans are underway to do soil and water analyses at possible demonstration sites. The program is recruiting staff to implement the establishment of date palm nurseries for growing and distributing off-shoots.



Completed road pavement project in Al Qadisiyah Governorate

4. Improve Efficiency and Accountability of Government

Accomplishments to Date:

- Implementing local governance activities in 18 governorates, engaging Iraqis in policy discourse through local government entities and civil society organizations to:
 - Enhance transparency and participation in local decision-making processes.
 - Restore basic services.
 - Improve the effectiveness of local service delivery.
- Establish, develop and expand the number of civil society organizations that can interact with local government entities.
- Established or refreshed 16 governorate councils, 91 district councils, 194 city or subdistrict councils, and 445 neighborhood councils.
- Awarded \$15.5 million to government agencies and civil society organizations to enable municipal authorities to deliver core municipal services.
- Committed \$2.4 million to support the CPA's nationwide Civic Education Campaign, which facilitates dialogue and increases democracy awareness.
- Conducted more than 15,000 democracy dialogue activities throughout Iraq.

Highlights this Week:

- Three of six road repair projects being implemented in Al Qadisiyah Governorate are now complete. These projects, which repaved badly damaged local roads, were directed by a Qadisyah Governorate city municipality and funded by USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP). The funding came from an LGP rapid response grant and is helping to build the capacity of the local government to improve their communities and respond to the needs of their constituents.
- An Al Qadisiyah veterinary hospital is working with LGP to improve the quality and access to veterinary care for farmers in the governorate. Projects currently being developed include establishing a central lab facility; establishing two clinics; and rehabilitating a poultry disease center. LGP is working on community improvement project identification and development for 64 local departments, 40 councils,

and 29 civil society organizations in the governorate. LGP is working with these organizations to find sources of funding by helping them to complete grant applications, build organizational capacity, and advise them on how to manage projects.

- In an on-going effort to expand democracy dialogues to a wider range of Iraqis, a discussion on democracy was held with Mukhtars from the city of Mosul. This event has helped to educate Iraqis throughout Ninawa' Governorate on democratic ideals. Following the event, Mukhtars thanked the democracy dialogue facilitators and promised they would, "spread the word of democracy," to the people in their villages. They also invited the facilitators to visit their villages to reinforce the concepts and ideas discussed at the dialogue. Overall, facilitators noted that the Mukhtars viewed the dialogue as very positive and indicated that they would like to continue cooperating with the democracy dialogue facilitators.
- On June 22 and 23, more than 140 participants attended USAID's seventh National Agenda Conference, held for Iraqi journalists. The purpose of the conference was to allow the journalists to identify and discuss the strategic social and political issues they view as important in a newly emerging democratic Iraq. This conference was supported by USAID's Local Governance Program in partnership with an Iraqi NGO and is one in a series of ten conferences on democracy, which are targeting special interest groups in Iraq. In addition to the conference, the NGO will develop an advocacy plan to communicate national agenda items to national political leaders, local government officials, community councils, interest groups, and the population at large. The advocacy plan will include a public information campaign that will inform citizens throughout Iraq about the national agenda.
- A neighborhood council in Babil Governorate is initiating the development of a water supply system for its neighborhood as well as ten other local villages. This initiative is an excellent example of essential service delivery being improved at the local government level. The council is working with USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP) for advice on water network development. LGP staff encouraged the community leaders to discuss approaches for the development of the water network with other citizens. The council has now begun preparing the project financing and implementation plans in collaboration with LGP.
- Four civic dialogue conferences held over the past two weeks in Salah ad Din Governorate are engaging residents of this conflicted area in discussions on democracy and the incorporation of democratic ideals in Iraqi society. More than 240 Salah ad Din residents participated.

Transition Initiatives -- *Objectives include: building and sustaining Iraqi confidence in the transition to a participatory, stable, and democratic Iraq and working closely with the CPA, USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative assists Iraqi NGOs, national government institutions, and local governments to increase Iraqi support for the transition to sovereignty through quick-dispersing, high impact small grants.*

Accomplishments to Date:

- Awarded 1,228 small grants totaling more than \$81 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.

Highlights this Week:

- Girls and boys in a northern Iraqi city will have more opportunities to interact with other young people of different cultures at a sports club that has been recently furnished and re-equipped. This new equipment was provided through a grant from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative. The club has been operating since 1994 and is a place for all youth to learn teamwork and leadership skills while participating in different sporting activities. The organizers of the sports club are working to overcome ethnic and cultural differences by finding ways for teens from different groups to work together.
- A local government council in south central Iraq will be able to respond to citizens' needs for improved water service with the assistance of a grant to fund materials and skilled labor to rehabilitate a water system that serves three neighborhoods. This activity was developed after local governments engaged in civic dialogues to gauge citizens concerns, and this was identified as a priority. It demonstrates how communities can work together to be responsive to citizen needs in the new Iraq. Support to the local government council comes from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative.
- An organization working with children in northern Iraq has received funding from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative for outreach activities in a vulnerable community. The project will target primary and secondary school children through mobile teams. The activities will include drama, art and sports for children, distribution of magazines with poems and stories, and discussions of basic rights for children and adults. The grant will provide logistical support for the teams and fund the materials and equipment. This project is a positive step toward social change and educating young people about peace and a civil society.
- USAID is working with local governments under the Iraq Transition Initiative (ITI) to restore their facilities, which is improving their capacity to respond to and provide services for constituents. Recent initiatives funded by grants from ITI include:
 - A governorate north of Baghdad has received a grant from ITI to furnish and equip its main government building. The building and its facilities are old and in a state of disrepair. The grant will provide office equipment and furniture to allow officials and employees to be more productive and responsive to citizen concerns. This project will help the government to work efficiently and inspire confidence in its ability to act in the best interest of its citizens. The project is a priority for local officials who believe that tensions in the area will be eased by visible improvements in community infrastructure.
- The renovation of a government building in northern Iraq is being supported by a grant from ITI. The building rehabilitation and new office equipment were funded by a grant and will allow the government agency to perform its responsibilities and move towards a more self-sustaining operation. By increasing the capacity of this agency, the government will be able to provide important services and respond effectively to citizen's needs.
- A local NGO in northern Iraq has received funding from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative to implement a literacy campaign and mobile library for six low income communities. Many residents in these communities were internally displaced as a result of policies of the former regime. Typically, these families rely on their children for the household income. Illiteracy among children and adults is high and children rarely have access to appropriate books and magazines. The grant will support outreach activities and provide materials to print children's stories based on life in Iraq, which focus on themes of anti-violence, basic rights, and problem solving.
- Iraqi organizations are improving opportunities for the country's youth. A local municipality in northern Iraq has received a grant from USAID, which will allow it to expand programs to community youth. The award will support the purchase of equipment, computers and Internet service for a youth science center. The center will allow participants to access a variety of communication and information resources that

will help develop their understanding of the world. The youth science center, with a variety of resources and a commitment to opening opportunities to girls as well as boys, will help to begin a process of positive change in the community. USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative (ITI) is supporting this project.

- An organization in northern Iraq that serves children has received a grant from ITI for furniture and musical instruments. The group will use these resources to expand the program of activities available to children during the summer months. Program organizers use art and music lessons to teach children from diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds teamwork and leadership skills, as well as tolerance and conflict mitigation. The program will provide engaging activities to all young people, especially girls, and help to promote local art and cultural traditions.

Community Action Program -- Objectives include: promoting diverse, representative citizen participation in and among communities to identify, prioritize, and satisfy critical community needs, while utilizing local resources. CAP is implemented by five U.S. NGOs with offices in nine major Iraqi cities. Each NGO concentrates on one region in Iraq, which includes the north, south, southwest central, southeast central, and Baghdad regions.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Established more than 650 Community Action Groups in 17 governorates. The projects undertaken by these groups are part of a campaign targeting grassroots democratic development.
- CAP has committed \$57 million for 1,485 projects across Iraq; 1,118 projects have been completed.
- Iraqi communities have contributed more than 25 percent of the value of the community projects. Contributions have included labor, land, buildings, and other in-kind assistance.
- The north program focuses on areas of Mosul, Kirkuk and the Iran-Iraq border. Their work has resulted in 251 completed projects and another 34 in development. These include establishing a youth center in At' Tamim Governorate and developing a new local water supply in Salah ad Din Governorate.
- The southwest central program has established a strong presence in the Shi'ia holy cities of Najaf and Karbala, as well as Hillah by facilitating very active community associations. A strong emphasis on critical infrastructure needs has provided these communities with results such as sewage and water rehabilitation, school repairs, swamp clean-up and repairs to vital social infrastructure. They have completed 118 projects.
- The Baghdad program has completed 278 projects in working with 142 community action groups. Income generation is an important emphasis. 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.
- The southeast central program has completed 122 projects and 88 more are in development. In the Shi'i heartland, these projects are addressing needs resulting from decades of governmental neglect and focus on water, sewerage, community clean-up and school rehabilitation.
- The south program has completed 349 projects through 138 community action groups which average 33 percent 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.

Highlights this Week:

- Training and the provision of first aid equipment for teachers in Al Basrah Governorate is improving first aid care for students in Basrah's primary schools. This project was initiated in response to the dangers face in their neighborhoods, which include remnants of explosives from past conflicts. This initiative is being supported by USAID's Community Action Program in collaboration with an Iraqi NGO and the Education Directorate of Al Basrah. The project aims to have well qualified trainers of first aid in 45 Basrah primary schools, who have the ability to train the students and establish a team for first aid in each school as well as providing the necessary first aid equipment.

- USAID's Community Action Program is working with an Iraqi NGO to establish an institute for the disabled. The institute will teach children to read and write and enable them to better understand and communicate with each other as well as with the community. New equipment and furniture is helping to improve education for this group. Up to now, the disabled children have been taught alongside all of the other children with no adjustments made for their special needs. This project provided toys and educational equipment as well as furniture. This new institute is the first of its kind in Basrah governorate.
- Ten agricultural cooperatives in northern Iraq are increasing family incomes, teaching farming skills, improving management skills, and providing jobs. These cooperatives focus on a range of group farming activities, including cattle and sheep fattening, bee-keeping, dairy farming, and fish raising. These co-ops allow each farmer to take part ownership in a collective farming operation and instill a sense of democratic ownership and good management practices among the farmers. The co-ops are run by directly-elected boards of seven to nine members. Board members include a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Treasurer as well as a marketing committee, a production committee and a purchasing committee. The projects are supported by USAID Community Action Program facilitators who are working to improve the skills of the board members and the committees. Training covers management skills, bookkeeping and accounting, and marketing.

USAID Iraq Reconstruction Financial Summary

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Amount</i>
FY 2003-2004*				
RECONSTRUCTION				
USAID/ANE			Subtotal:	\$3,268,738,224
	Abt Associates	Health	Countrywide	\$20,995,000
	AFCAP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$91,500,000
	Army Corps of Engineers	Architecture and Engineering services	Countrywide	\$22,000,000
	BearingPoint	Economic Governance	Countrywide	\$79,583,885
	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	\$1,363,276,367
	Community Action Program	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$120,080,000
	DAI	Marshlands	Dhi Qar Al Basrah Maysan	\$4,000,000
	DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$9,352,912
	Fed Source	Personnel Support	Countrywide	\$163,572
	IRG	Reconstruction Support	Countrywide	\$29,087,094
	RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$236,911,000
	CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000
	CAII II	Education II	Countrywide	\$50,670,000
	CEPPS	Iraq Governing Council	Countrywide	\$675,000
	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
	WHO	Strengthen Health System	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	SSA	Port Management	Umm Qasr	\$14,318,985
	SkyLink	Airport Management	Baghdad Al Basrah Mosul	\$27,200,000
	MSI	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$5,500,000
	University Partners	Consortium led by the Research	Baghdad University,	\$20,730,000

		Foundation of the State University of New York (SUNY) at Stony Brook which includes Columbia University, Boston University and Oxford University (England), University of Hawaii, DePaul University College of Law and the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences in Siracusa, Italy; and Jackson State University and the Mississippi Consortium for International Development; and Oklahoma State University.	Al Mustansiriyah University in Baghdad, Mosul University, Mosul University's College of Agriculture and Forestry in Hamam al-Alil, Basrah University, Al-Anbar University, and University of Salahaddin.	
	Yankee Group	Telecoms Planning	Countrywide	\$58,150
	UNDP	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	World Bank	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
EMERGENCY RELIEF				
USAID/DCHA/OFDA				\$101,122,485
	Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$7,389,004
	AirServ	Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,309,876
	ARC	Capacity building, Disaster support	Al Basrah	\$537,746
	The Cuny Center	Research studies	Countrywide	\$40,260
	GOAL	Coordination, Nutrition	Al Muthanna'	\$1,507,900
	International Dispensary Association	Health	Countrywide	\$1,318,437
	InterAction	Coordination	Kuwait City	\$92,860
	IOM	IDP programs	Countrywide	\$5,545,780
	Logistics	Commodities and DART support	Countrywide	\$20,901,947
	UNICEF	Health, nutrition, water/sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
	UN OCHA	Coordination and Information	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
	USAID Amman	Support for emergency water activities	Countrywide	\$500,000
	WFP	Logistics and pre-positioning of food	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	IMC	Food Security, Health, Nutrition, Water/Sanitation, Capacity building	Countrywide	\$13,702,900
	IRC	Health, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$6,198,685
	Mercy Corps	Health, Non-Food Items, Shelter, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$7,000,000
	SCF/US	Food Security, Health, Shelter, Nutrition, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation, NGO Consortium	Countrywide	\$6,883,131
	World Vision	Health, Logistics, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,993,959
	CARE	Quick-impact projects, Water/Sanitation, Health, Blankets	Countrywide	\$9,000,000
USAID/DCHA/FFP				\$425,571,000
	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

USAID/DCHA/OTI.....				\$165,024,634
	Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$7,042,126
	IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$7,087,595
	DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$139,900,000
	Internews	Media	Countrywide	\$160,359
	Radio SAWA	Media	Countrywide	\$400,000
	NDI/IRI	National Governance	Countrywide	\$650,000
	IFES	National Governance	Countrywide	\$1,042,315
	ICNL	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$39,238
	Spa War**	Inter-Ministry Communications	Countrywide	\$8,703,001
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2003/2004				\$3,960,456,343

* 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.