



**UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF**

July 21, 2004  
 Weekly Update #41, Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

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

**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



*Laying track in southern Iraq. USAID’s rail reconstruction project in southern Iraq is continuing, with the production of ballast increasing 90 percent in the first week of July.*

**Table of Contents**

Program Overview	2	Economic Growth	7
Electricity	2	Food Security	8
Airports	2	Agriculture	9
Umm Qasr Seaport	2	Marshlands	10
Bridges, Roads, and Railroads	3	Democracy and Governance	11
Telecommunications	3	Transition Initiatives	13
Water and Sanitation	4	Community Action Program	15
Health	5	Financial Summary	17
Education	5		

## 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.

**Accomplishments this Week:**

- USAID's rail reconstruction project is continuing, with the production of ballast increasing 90 percent in the first week of July. Ballast is the stone material which is extracted from the quarry, crushed, and laid under the track to support the rails. Total ballast crushed to date is approximately 74,150 m<sup>3</sup>, which is more than half of the total. Another three culverts were constructed to allow drainage of water under the track, were completed in early July. Currently, the construction of only two additional culverts remains to be completed. In addition, the delivery, spreading, compaction, and grading of sub-ballast materials is continuing on the track at a completion rate of approximately one km per day.



Laying track in southern Iraq

**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 rehabilitation of a water treatment plant in a poor area of Baghdad governorate is complete, and nearly 1 million residents are now benefiting from the provision of potable water in their area. The plant was operating at 55-60% of its 3000 m<sup>3</sup>/day capacity before the rehabilitation, as one of plant’s three clarifiers was no longer working. This decrease in the quality and amount of water impacted two local hospitals, five primary health centers, 120 schools, and approximately 600,000 household beneficiaries. Through this project, the plant’s clarifier tank pumps, chlorinators, alum dosing pumps, flash mixer, intake structure, and electronic control boards were repaired. The water treatment plant is now operating at full capacity. This project was supported by USAID’s Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA).
- The rehabilitation of three water and sewage treatment sites in central Iraq is complete, improving services for more than 50,000 people. These initiatives were supported by USAID’s Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) in an effort to quickly improve public health through the provision of potable water and the proper treatment of sewage.
- On June 22, the rehabilitation of a Babil Governorate water treatment plant was completed. Prior to the rehabilitation, the plant had only been operating at about 60 percent of its capacity of 10,000m<sup>3</sup>/day. The town and surrounding villages of 30,000 people were receiving inadequate water quantity and unclean, unfiltered water. USAID supported emergency repairs to the plant’s lifts, pumps, clarifiers, and alum system to ensure the plant operates to capacity and provides an adequate quantity of potable water.
- On June 18, the rehabilitation of three compact water treatment units in Wasit Governorate was completed. Two of these units were not functioning entirely, meaning that 5,200 residents were using raw water and grey channels as their means of water for drinking and washing. The third unit was functioning very inefficiently because of a non–functioning clarifier/purification system that was pumping untreated water to a village of 4,000. These three rehabilitated units are now providing 9,500 people with clean, potable water.
- On June 28, two sewage pumping stations in the Wasit Governorate began treating sewage after the completion of USAID’s rehabilitation work. Flooding of residential areas with sewage water and grey water was causing a health hazard for 11,000 local residents. Water was seeping into the water network, which was polluting the drinking water and causing sewage to overflow into the streets. USAID undertook and completed emergency repairs which included replacing the two pumps, providing maintenance of screens, and replacing two automatic electric float valves. Repairs to these two sewage-pumping stations



*Tank for collecting water before treatment at a USAID water treatment plant rehabilitation project*

stopped the flow of grey water that was polluting the water supply and eliminated the flow of sewage in the streets for all 11,000 residents.

- The rehabilitation of a water treatment plant in northern Iraq is now underway with two Iraqi sub-contractors mobilized to the site. The rehabilitation of this plant began in June 2004; the major goal of this project is to repair leaks and mechanical and electrical equipment in the plant's structure which are preventing the distribution of potable water to the area. The plant has been in operation for about 10 years and has experienced noticeable settlement in a number of its structural features, which are causing the leaks from pipes and tanks. This project will determine the cause and remedy the situation. Most recently, hydro-testing of the plant's first four clarifiers was completed. Piping, mechanical, and electrical repairs are all underway. The rehabilitation of this plant is expected to be complete in November 2004.

## 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.

**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.



*Library of an Iraqi law college; the renovation of this library is now underway*

### **Highlights this Week:**

- Improvements to the infrastructure—as well as to the academic programs of the law colleges—of Iraqi universities are improving standards in Iraq’s legal education system. The renovation of three Iraqi university law libraries is underway. The renovation of the libraries is the first step in improving the research capabilities of these universities. Iraqi library staff will also be trained in research techniques and library administration. In addition to these library improvements, a clinical training program, scheduled to begin in mid-August, has been developed to give third year law students more practical experience in law. During this six week program, students will be meeting one to two times per week. The first session will discuss the goals of the program as well as the ethics involved in practicing law. The next few sessions will be courtroom visitations where students and faculty will visit the court, observe proceedings, and

discuss their observations. Final sessions will be held in a moot court, where mock sessions will be held along with Iraqi judges, prosecutors, and attorneys.

- USAID has awarded the Iraq Basic Education contract, also referred to as the Education II contract. The contract award provides funding up to \$56.4 million over the next 24 months. This contract is a continuation of USAID's commitment to develop the Iraqi education system and build on the foundation of the Rehabilitation of Iraqi Schools and Stabilization of Education (RISE) Program, which began in April 2003. The Education II contract will provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Education and improve the quality of Iraqi education by strengthening a decentralized education structure which will contribute to a more open-minded and democratic society. The contract will also focus on institutional capacity building of the Ministry of Education; creation of model schools in each of the 81 sub-districts; training of primary and secondary school teachers; procurement of supplies and equipment for Iraqi schools; and promotion of community participation in the quality of early childhood education. The Education II contract is part of the U.S. government's reconstruction assistance to the Iraqi people. To view the Education II request for proposal, please visit <http://www.usaid.gov/iraq/activities.html>.



*New textbooks for Iraqi universities*

- Iraqi university colleges of nursing and dentistry are receiving new books and equipment to improve the college facilities and support research and education initiatives. Currently, medical books and reference materials are being distributed to three Iraqi universities and fifteen photocopy machines are being delivered. In addition, lists of necessary equipment at the Iraqi universities have been developed with the input of faculty and administrators. The equipment is now being purchased. A majority of the new tools will be lab equipment, which will help the universities to continue critical health research. This initiative is part of USAID's Higher Education and Development (HEAD) program, which is supporting partnerships between American and Iraqi universities. This partnership focuses on the improvement of health education in Iraq.

### 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:**

##### *Financial*

- Strengthening accounting, budgeting and lending activities at Iraq's commercial banks.
- Evaluating and updating commercial laws pertaining to private sector and foreign investment; assisted in the development of the new company law.
- Recommended reforms for insurance regulations and trained Iraqi insurance staff.
- Improved statistical analysis, monetary policymaking, and bank supervision procedures at Iraq's Central Bank

### *Fiscal*

- Assisting in developing, installing and training staff to use the Financial Management Information System (FMIS), a new accounting and reporting system for all Iraqi ministries.
- 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.

### *Private sector development*

- Providing technical assistance as well as information on contracting opportunities for Iraqi businesses through business centers.
- Assisting Iraqi companies to prepare applications for loans ranging from \$2 to 5 million through the firm-level assistance program.
- Created more than 77,000 public works jobs through the National Employment Program.
- Assisted CPA in managing a \$21-million micro-credit program.
- Provided technical assistance 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.

### *Utilities and Regulation*

- Developed an Electricity Master Plan and a Telecommunications Master Plan as a basis for reforms in these two sectors.

### *Special projects*

- 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.
  - 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.
- Provided technical assistance for the Oil for Food transition to prepare Iraqi ministries to assume responsibility for OFF contracts.
- Developed a government-wide IT strategy to support the automation of planning, budgeting and reporting processes across ministries.

### **Highlights this Week:**

- Training on the new Financial Management Information System (FMIS) has been completed for 17 staff members of Iraq's Ministry of Finance. Nine staff members were trained in functional operation of the system and another eight were trained in technical maintenance. This two day training provided a basis to allow the staff members to independently operate the FMIS and will be followed up with computer-based training as necessary. The training was supported by USAID's Economic Recovery, Reform, and Sustained Growth Project, and is part of a larger initiative by USAID to support improved budget planning and implementation in the Iraqi government.

**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 an agricultural extension services program for farmers in late May. Extension agents are working with farmers to teach agricultural best practices by encouraging 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:**

- Grants for the rehabilitation of five additional veterinary clinics in Iraq's central and southern regions have been approved under USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development program for Iraq (ARDI). These new clinics will be supported by ARDI as well as Iraqi state-owned agricultural organizations. This is the fourth set of clinics being supported by ARDI. In addition, final planning is underway for an initiative which will provide "Vet Clinics in a Box." Approximately \$2,000 worth of veterinary equipment and supplies will be procured to re-equip each of the newly rehabilitated veterinary clinics throughout the country. In past clinic rehabilitation projects, clinics often remained non-functioning for a period after the rehabilitation was completed due to an inability to procure basic veterinary items. This new initiative would provide the startup tools and supplies to allow the clinic to begin working immediately.
- Iraq's Ministry of Agriculture has established working groups to develop and initiate changes in the agricultural sector to move toward a market-based rural economy. These working groups are a recommendation of the agricultural transition plan developed by the Ministry and ARDI. The rapid establishment of these groups demonstrates the Ministry's commitment to initiating reforms in the agricultural sector. The first two working groups to be established were the Market Liberalization Policy and the Input Subsidies Policy Working Groups. Over the next two weeks, these groups, which include both Ministry and ARDI staff, will meet to define the necessary steps for increasing liberalization in the local economy. In August, the groups will hold workshops to solicit the advice of private sector representatives, other ministries, and additional Ministry representatives to ensure that any proposed new policies represent a diversity of opinions.
- The winter crop technology demonstrations are complete and the wheat seed has been harvested and stored for future use. In the north, 28 hectares of wheat were planted, with an average yield of 3.5 tons of wheat from each hectare. This improved seed is expected to be used next year and will be enough to plant nearly 1,000 hectares of wheat. In the southern irrigated areas, the 21 hectares of wheat demonstrations on saline soils averaged approximately 4 tons per hectare, which is a remarkable achievement given that little had been produced on these lands for many years. All the seed, 84,000 kg, from these locations is in storage for next year and will be sufficient to plant 840 hectares of saline land. The Ministry of Agriculture worked with USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development Program for Iraq (ARDI) to ensure that the seed from these demonstrations was stored, as this is the only bulk source of these two very promising salt tolerant Iraqi varieties.

**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.

### **Highlights this week:**

- A new hatchery facility has been installed at a university marine science center (MSC) in southern Iraq with the support of USAID's Iraq Marshlands Restoration Program. Accelerated breeding of Bunni fish has now begun with 16 Bunni broodstock using hormones supplied through the Marshlands Program. The Bunni fish are indigenous to Iraq's marshland areas and are very highly valued for their taste. They were once plentiful year-round, but as a result of environmental damage in the marshlands area, the catch is now greatly reduced. The fish are typically small in size, and are only found in large numbers from March to July. A new generation of Bunni has already been hatched. Staff of the MSC is also being trained in hatchery skills as part of this initiative. The training will help bring the staff up to date in advanced fish culture, broodstock management, and spawning activities. Once the fish have grown to 10-15 centimeters, they will be used to restock the marshlands.



*Hatchery at a university Marine Science Center in southern Iraq*

- The first alfalfa forage crop demonstration in Iraq's marshland area has been completed. This first planting totaled 35,000 square meters of alfalfa distributed across five local farms. In preparation for the next farming season in September, the agricultural team has identified new crop locations within the marshes. Soil and water samples have been taken from the locations in preparation for the second round of planting. The development of this crop is part of an effort by the Marshlands program to improve livestock nutrition and dairy production. Throughout the marshes, Iraqi animal herders uniformly identified inadequate food supply as their leading problem. Normally cut between six and ten times per year, the alfalfa crop can be continuously harvested for up to five years before it needs to be re-seeded and the hay provides a sustainable source of high protein nutritious feed for Marsh Arab livestock.

## **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:**

- Local government representatives are participating in training courses to develop skills which will improve service delivery for Iraqi citizens throughout the country. These courses are being supported by USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP) and are part of the program's goal of empowering sub-national government to develop a decentralized governance structure in Iraq which is responsive to the needs of constituents. On July 5, a training course in management techniques for public administration began for twenty-five women managers in Babil Governorate. The women represented nine government departments, including: Municipality, Environment, Treasury, Electricity, Agriculture, Work and Social Affairs, Telecommunications, Irrigation, and Health. On July 7, 45 technical staff members from an At' Tamim Governorate city government completed an English language training seminar. The staff members, half of whom were women, represented the Departments of Municipality, Physical Planning, Water, Sewage, and Roads and Bridges.



*English language training course for local government technical staff in At' Tamim Governorate*

- USAID has awarded a cooperative agreement to a consortium of three US non-governmental organizations to support civil society involvement in the National Assembly Elections scheduled for January 2005. This award will form part of USAID/Iraq's overall Democracy and Governance Program, which is promoting effective, transparent, and representative governance in Iraq that constructively interacts with a vibrant and informed civil society. This new program will support the elections in three ways:
  - Educating voters on broad issues of democracy, participation, and elections.
  - Building capacity within local civil society organizations to monitor the electoral process and field domestic election observers.
  - Monitoring and mitigating conflicts that arise around the elections.
- On June 8, 11 executive staff members from the Electricity Departments of An Najaf, Karbala', Babil and Al Qadisiyah Governorates participated in two training workshops, which were part of a series of lectures designed to improve the ability of sub-national institutions to deliver and expand essential services. The workshops were titled Organization Restructuring: Project Structures, and Principles of Management: Employee Empowerment. In addition to this session, 68 local government employees from Babil Governorate also participated in a six day computer training. The workshop instructed employees on basic computer literacy in Microsoft Windows, Word, and Internet Explorer. This basic instruction is an important first step for future efforts to automate processes in local government and improve service delivery. These training sessions were supported by USAID's Local Governance Program.
- Representatives from USAID's Local Governance Program are working with representatives from Babil Governorate's local finance staff to apply for funding for the construction of four kindergartens in the governorate. This technical assistance is a training opportunity for the finance staff and will also help to

improve the local educational system. The applications are being submitted to the Local Governance Fund.

- A city government in Al Qadisiyah Governorate is supporting a water network renovation project which is improving the provision of potable water in the area. This initiative is demonstrating the responsiveness of local government to the needs of constituents as well as local government improvements in service delivery, not only through the improvement of management techniques, but through physical improvements in infrastructure. This project is being funded by a rapid response grant from USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP) and will benefit more than 300,000 people. LGP rapid response grants support initiatives which are designed and implemented by local governments.
- USAID's Local Governance Program is continuing to conduct Democracy Dialogue events throughout Iraq to promote the discussion of democratic ideals and ensure that Iraqis are aware of the political transformation taking place in Iraq. On June 11, more than 600 Iraqis participated in discussions at 25 events held in Wasit Governorate. Another 600 participants attended discussion sessions in Babil Governorate at 24 separate events.
- More than 1,800 Iraqis participated in democracy dialogues on June 12 at locations throughout Iraq. In Wasit Governorate, 27 sessions were held for a total of 719 participants, 154 of whom were women. In Babil Governorate, 23 events were held for more than 500 participants and in Karbala' Governorate 17 events were held for 600 participants, 250 of whom were women. Democracy dialogue sessions cover a range of topics which include: the economy, elections, minority rights, universal human rights, the constitution, conflict resolution, transparency, gender equality, democracy and youth, national reconciliation, and transparency. These sessions are educating Iraqis on democratic issues and are giving citizens a forum for expressing their opinions.

**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 1,363 small grants totaling more than \$96 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:**

- An NGO that serves the healthcare profession will offer English language and computer training courses to healthcare practitioners in northern Iraq with the assistance of a grant from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative. Most medical and scientific literature is written in English and available over the Internet, but

many Iraqi health practitioners lack the language and other skills necessary to take advantage of this resource. The NGO is offering the courses to assist doctors and other healthcare professionals to access information and provide better care for their patients. The award from ITI will fund the purchase of computers and office furniture, as well as other logistics to make these courses possible.

- A local municipality in northern Iraq will renovate a community sports stadium that had been built in 1990 but had received no maintenance or upgrading in years. Ethnic tension and other conflict led to instability in the area after the fall of the former regime. Once the facility is rehabilitated, the local government will provide activities to engage young people and teach them leadership and teamwork while they improve their athletic skills and take part in competitions. The project will make the stadium an important part of the community's infrastructure, serve as an example of how the local government can respond to citizens' needs, and provide a positive outlet for residents. Support for the project comes from a grant from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative.
- An association in northern Iraq received a grant from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative (ITI) to produce a booklet entitled *How to Establish a Nongovernmental Organization*. Since the fall of the old regime, many groups that represent formerly marginalized populations are now starting-up. These groups aim to act in the best interest of their members but lack basic information, resources and knowledge on how to be effective. This booklet will be a comprehensive tool, written in Arabic, which will guide groups to establish successful NGOs.
- An organization serving women in a northern Iraqi city has completed activities under a grant from ITI. The grant provided furniture and equipment for the NGO's resource center and the expansion of the center's services. The center will present a program of workshops on health, family, business, and politics; provide child care services; and offer a sewing center for vocational training and employment.
- An association that provides human rights services in northern Iraq has received a grant that will enhance its ability to meet the needs of the people in the community. The NGO submits human rights claims to the authorities on behalf of citizens, offers monitoring, consulting and training services and in general, works to increase people's awareness of human rights values and principles. The grant from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative (ITI) will purchase office furniture and equipment that will allow the organization to be more productive.
- A newly established NGO in northern Iraq received equipment and furniture under an ITI grant that will help expand the services it provides to the community. The organization is working to overcome differences among four cultural groups living the region. These groups had experienced many abuses under the former regime and ethnic tension remains a problem. The NGO offers a program of workshops and other presentations on human rights, democracy, and conflict resolution that will promote peace and stability within the community.
- To help ease a drinking water crisis in southern Iraq ITI provided a grant and worked with local government to develop a project to provide water upon the recommendation of the town council. The grant will help develop local government capacity to implement community development projects and demonstrate how it can be responsive to citizen needs in Iraq.

**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 670 Community Action Groups in 17 governorates. The projects undertaken by these groups are part of a campaign targeting grassroots democratic development.
- CAP has committed \$78 million for 1,485 projects across Iraq; 1,145 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 259 completed projects and another 44 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 125 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 361 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:**

- Construction of a secondary school in an At' Tamim Governorate village has been completed, and is now serving more than 200 students in the area. Of the 3,000 residents of this village, more than 400 were under the age of 12, showing the great demand for educational facilities for the area's youth. Unfortunately, there was only one school in the area, which was very crowded. The school ran on two shifts with more than 50 students in each classroom. The village had begun to build a new school but ran out of money. Many teachers ready to teach at the new school remained unemployed. Through USAID's Community Action Program, the project was completed by finishing the building's roof, plastering, tiling, building washrooms, and installing electrical equipment.
- A project to rehabilitate a channel and irrigation system in a Karbala' Governorate village has begun, and will impact more than 2,800 local residents. This project will improve irrigation for more than 300 acres of farmland in the area. This area suffered from heavy bombing during the 2003 conflict, as much of their farmland was burned. The residents of these villages are farmers who depend primarily on their farms and livestock as the main sources of income and livelihood. With their limited resources, the farmers have not been able to rehabilitate their farms and resolve the irrigation issue. To address their problems, representatives from USAID's Community Action Program began working with community members to identify the best means of alleviating the suffering in the area. Community residents have expressed great satisfaction with the initiative and are optimistic about the future of their farms. This project is expected to be complete by the end of July 2004.

## USAID Iraq Reconstruction Financial Summary

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>FY 2003-2004*</b>				
<b>RECONSTRUCTION</b>				
<b>USAID/ANE .....</b>			<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$3,268,738,224</b>
	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
<b>EMERGENCY RELIEF</b>				
<b>USAID/DCHA/OFDA .....</b>				<b>\$101,122,485</b>
	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
<b>USAID/DCHA/FFP .....</b>				<b>\$425,571,000</b>
	WFP	Operations	Countrywide	\$45,000,000
	WFP	Emerson Trust – 81,500 MT	Countrywide	\$40,337,000
	WFP	P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities – 163,820 MT	Countrywide	\$140,234,000
	WFP	Regional Purchase – 330,000 MT	Countrywide	\$200,000,000

<b>USAID/DCHA/OTI.....</b>				<b>\$165,024,634</b>
	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
<b>TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2003/2004 .....</b>				<b>\$3,960,456,343</b>

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

\*\* For accounting purposes, funding for this activity has been obligated by OFDA under an existing interagency agreement.