



RECONSTRUCTION WEEKLY UPDATE

June 16, 2005



USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative provided employment and equipment to 485 local laborers over 60 days to repair roads in Southern Iraq, a region which suffers from 70% unemployment rates .

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

This report highlights USAID's overall accomplishments and recent reconstruction efforts in Iraq. For more information, please visit www.usaid.gov/iraq.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- By October, 2003, rehabilitated electric power capacity to produce peak capacity greater than the pre-war level of 4,400 MW. Production reached 5,365 MW on August 18, 2004.
- Since achieving record power production in Summer '04, the Ministry of Electricity—with assistance from USAID—has begun the standard Fall maintenance process which will necessarily reduce the amount of power available for consumption. USAID worked with the MOE to conduct last Fall's maintenance program.
- Repairing thermal units, replacing turbines, rehabilitating the power distribution network, and installing and restoring generators.
- USAID has added 855 MW of capacity through maintenance and rehabilitation work, and also repaired a 400 KV transmission line.
- USAID and the Ministry of Electricity are working with partners to place an additional 792 MW in the national grid by December 2005 through maintenance, rehabilitation, and new generation projects.
- USAID completed a project to convert two units that produce 80 MW each to operate on crude/heavy fuel oil instead of diesel which is in short supply.
- USAID initiated a project to rehabilitate 13 existing substations and construct 24 new substations in Baghdad. These 37 substations will improve the distribution and reliability of electricity for more than two million Baghdad residents. USAID recently handed over work on 12 of these substations to the Ministry of Electricity.

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

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Since the 2003 conflict ended, USAID has committed approximately \$1.5 billion in electricity infrastructure projects. As of June 1, 2005, these projects have added 855 megawatts (MW) of capacity to the national grid. The current electrical output is roughly 5,000 MW, above pre-war levels of 4,400 MW. Supply problems have arisen from the insecurity in the region and an underestimation of the scope of the reconstruction challenges. Increasing demand across an existing supply base is also a significant contributor to the current shortage. Iraq's Ministry of Electricity (MoE) and USAID are facing the complexities of repairing a dilapidated system in a hostile environment with rising energy demand.

The fact that Baghdad received relatively consistent power prior to the 2003 conflict masked the tremendous disrepair and negligence throughout Iraq's power grid. In reality, Saddam Hussein's regime neglected routine power station maintenance and spare parts replacement and primarily transmitted electricity away from other regions to sustain Baghdad's electricity needs. After the conflict, engineers found a system of power plants generally 15-30 years old with no spare parts. In some cases, USAID had to order custom made parts, delaying standard repair projects by months.

With trade sanctions lifted and increased cash flow entering Iraq's economy, new computers, air conditioners and refrigerators were purchased, causing a drastic increase in the demand for electricity. The estimated peak demand for the summer of 2005 is 800 MW higher than that last summer.

To help ensure that current repairs and new parts will be maintained, USAID is training 239 Ministry of Electricity officials and staff in the proper operations and maintenance of power plants. The training caters to different management tiers. Senior staff members learn leadership skills and good business practices. Middle managers are taught plant operations, and staff members learn the nuts and bolts of plant repairs, safety, and operations. In addition, at every new or rehabilitated plant, the staff is trained on the site to learn how to operate and care for the new equipment. This operation and maintenance training will help to ensure that power plants do not fall back into decay and disrepair.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- **Nationwide:** Repaired various sewage lift stations and water treatment units.
- **Baghdad:** Expanding and rehabilitating one water treatment plant and constructing another to increase capacity by approximately 90 million gallons per day; rehabilitating sewage treatment plants.
 - A major wastewater treatment plant in Baghdad began operating in June of 2004; this is the first major sewage plant in the country to operate in over 12 years.
 - The sewage treatment system in Baghdad, barely functioning for years before the conflict, will be restored to almost 100 percent capacity, serving 80 percent of Baghdad's population.
 - Standby generators are being installed at 41 Baghdad water facilities.
- **South:** Rehabilitated parts of the Sweet Water Canal system, including repairing breaches, cleaning the main reservoirs, and refurbished 14 water treatment plants around Basrah serving 1.75 million people.
- **South Central:** Rehabilitating two water plants and four sewage plants.
 - Completed the rehabilitation of a sewage plant in Babil Governorate.
 - Sewage plants in An Najaf, Al Qadisiyah, Karbala, and Babil Governorates will serve 440,000 upon completion.
 - Water treatment in Najaf and Babil will serve residents and visitors at Iraq's holiest shrines.
- **North:** Completed rehabilitation of Kirkuk water plant and continuing refurbishment of sewage plant near Mosul.

USAID's goal is to improve the efficiency and reliability of existing water and wastewater treatment facilities, especially those in the south where water quantity and quality are particularly low. An anticipated 11.8 million Iraqis will benefit from USAID's \$600 million in water and sanitation projects.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

To ameliorate water shortages in Sadr City, Baghdad, a modern water treatment plant will be constructed to increase the quantity and quality of potable water to the neighborhood. Structural designs for the plant's Operations, Chlorination, and Sedimentation buildings are 98% complete and sub-contractors have begun excavation for the exterior security wall. There is also an array of preparatory work in progress including dewatering operations and the modification of piles to a suitable elevation in order to expose the rebar needed for embedment into foundation slabs.

Sadr City is one of the most densely-populated (2.5 million residents) and poorest districts of Baghdad, with high unemployment, high levels of violence and crime, and pot-holed streets frequently flooded with sewage. Due to a lack of preventative maintenance, and damage from conflicts and post-conflict looting, local water treatment plants cannot meet potable water demand.

The goal of this project is to increase the quantity and quality of potable water to Sadr City and surrounding areas of Baghdad. Extensive Operations and Maintenance (O&M) training will be provided to the plant's O&M staff as a part of this project.

Work is 92 percent complete on the rehabilitation of water and sewage treatment facilities serving rural Diyala Governorate. The plants require rehabilitation and expansion to better serve the 60,000 residents of the region. Currently, the water treatment plant was operating well below capacity and provided 33 percent of the potable water needed for the region. As a result, many residents relied on untreated well water (contaminated by canal water) during summer months. The water treatment plant is operating and final repairs and projects will enable the plant to meet the community's demand for potable water. Rehabilitation is expected to be completed by the end of this month.

USAID is currently augmenting the sewage trunk lines serving Zafaraniyah, a district in southeastern Baghdad. The line in its present condition is inadequate for the district's present needs; it is undersized and unreliable, primarily due to collapsed, damaged, or deteriorated pipes which leak and block the flow. Frequent overflows cause raw sewage to back up into homes and to flood the streets of the neighborhood.

The work calls for assessment, design, installation and training to improve the sewer lines and ensure their proper future maintenance. Specifically, the Scope of Work calls for the repair of two of the system's pump stations and the main sewer pipe lines. More than nine kilometers of line will be repaired or installed as necessary. Also, diesel generators will be added to sustain reliable pump operation independent of the local electrical grid. Finally, O&M training will be provided for Baghdad Mayorality staff. The work is expected to be complete by December 2005.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

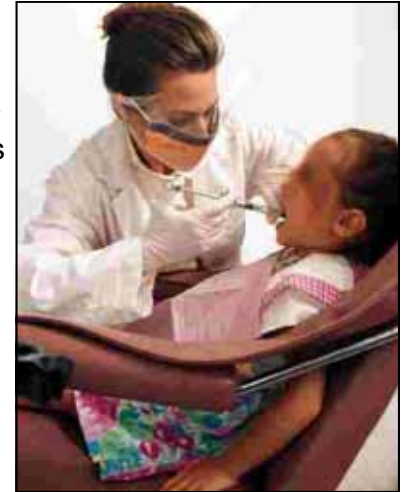
- Developed WTO Accession Roadmap in cooperation with Iraqi officials.
- Provided technical assistance as well as information on contracting opportunities for Iraqi businesses and entrepreneurs through business centers.
- Worked with the Ministry of Finance to introduce the new Iraqi dinar.
- Created more than 77,000 public works jobs through the National Employment Program.
- Provided technical assistance on accounting, budgeting and lending activities at Iraq's commercial banks. Trained 116 bankers from the Rafidain and Rasheed banks in six training courses.
- Assisted in management of \$21 million micro-credit program.
- Improved statistical analysis, monetary policymaking, and bank supervision procedures at Iraq's Central Bank; offered a two-week banking course to Central Bank staff with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.
- Evaluated and updated commercial laws on private sector and foreign investment.
- Assisted in developing the five percent reconstruction levy on imports; built capacity of customs officials to implement levy.
- Developed a government-wide IT strategy to support the automation of planning, budgeting and reporting processes across ministries.
- Provided technical support for the re-opening of the Iraq Stock Exchange after it was closed down for more than 15 months; 3.6 billion Iraqi dinars (\$2.4 million USD) in shares were traded in the first day.

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

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

New diagnostic equipment at a dental clinic in central Iraq will provide improved dental care for area children. The clinic has been operating without access to updated equipment for more than a decade. The clinic is in the process of acquiring a state-of-the-art machine that will help diagnose dental care needs in young patients who may require specialized treatment. The equipment will enable the clinic to offer the latest in diagnostic techniques so that kids can receive the proper care for their teeth.

The purchase of the equipment was made possible by a \$70,000 local bank loan, using credit analysis procedures and a loan package developed by USAID's Private Sector Development (PSD) program. The loan for the equipment is the bank's first using its new credit procedures, which are designed to expand its pool of potential borrowers by focusing on a creditor's ability to repay rather than basing all loans solely on the borrower's pledged assets, or collateral. The overall goal of the program is to create sustainable employment opportunities for Iraqis and to help the country transition from a public sector, state-led economy to a private sector-led, demand driven economy.



A dentist anesthetizes an Iraqi girl at a dental clinic which recently purchased upgraded equipment through USAID.

Iraq is currently working to achieve accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO). Membership would grant access to the markets of other member countries, resulting in increased exports for its domestic products and more jobs at home. Iraq's new Minister of Trade continued the country's progress toward membership in the WTO by submitting a draft Memorandum on Iraq's Foreign Trade Regime to the Inter-ministerial Commission on the WTO at a recent meeting in Baghdad. Technical assistance in drafting the memorandum was provided by staff from the PSD program.

Twenty-eight officers from the Central Bank of Iraq's Supervision Department took part in a recent USAID workshop on risk-based supervision of lending in Iraq. Traditionally, Iraqi loans have been available to individuals and ventures with capital to use as collateral. This limits potential borrowers to those who already have extensive resources and may expose the banks to greater risk if additional credit analysis is not performed. Risk-based lending provides loans based on the likelihood that borrowers will repay, as established through a credit risk analysis and the borrower's credit history. This type of lending extends credit to more borrowers while reducing the banks' potential exposure to bad loans.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

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

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

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and USAID's Agriculture Reconstruction and Development for Iraq (ARDI) program are introducing an innovative process that will decrease the environmental impact of chemicals used in sheep dip tanks. The improved method will be demonstrated at facilities sponsored by MOA/ARDI and, if successful, will be encouraged at other sites throughout the country. MOA/ARDI has funded the construction and enhancement of more than a dozen dip tanks to support sheep production, an important source of income for many Iraqis.

In some parts of Iraq, approximately 75% of the population is dependent on raising sheep. Though some sheep are sold for meat, income is primarily generated through selling wool. Higher quality wool will increase incomes for these families.

Sheep dipping enhances wool quality. Dipping may improve the diameter, uniformity, strength, crimp, handle, color, amount of contaminants and character purity of the wool. Dipping also helps keep animals clean of parasites.

MOA/ARDI is now testing an important innovation in the sheep dip process. Traditionally, after the animals have been treated the contents of the tank were not carefully disposed. In some cases the chemicals were simply discarded into nearby streams. New procedures will encourage the proper disposal of these chemicals and ensure this waste does not become runoff and a contaminant. In the future, MOA/ARDI will launch demonstrations of the new method. MOA/ARDI also plans to introduce mobile sheep dip tanks that will provide Iraqi farmers residing in remote villages access to this technology.

Renovations are set to begin on the headquarters of an agricultural organization in northern Iraq. The improved facilities will enable the organization to provide better services to local farmers.

The organization already provides many benefits to farmers through training programs. Currently, farmers receive instruction in the use of hybrid seeds, insecticides, improved livestock rearing, and computer and internet skills. Additionally, the organization offers training for non-traditional farmers and breeders who work with ostriches, mushrooms, grapefruit, or other produce and livestock.

The training programs are part of the organization's mission to increase agricultural development by connecting farmers with expertise and research. There will be hundreds of beneficiaries from this project. The organization will double its staff, creating new jobs for Iraqis. The 800 farmers who currently use the center will receive better support, and others will be attracted to the new facilities. The training will stimulate increased output, and help raise incomes in rural villages. Iraqi consumers will also benefit from higher quality agricultural production.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Strengthen the capacity of the legislative branch of the Iraqi interim and transitional governments and its staff during the interim and transition period to include lawmaking, representation, executive oversight, and other responsibilities as provided by the Transitional Administrative Law (TAL)
- Assist the Executive Authority, the Presidency Council, and the Council of Ministers and its presiding Prime Minister to develop governing processes, rules of procedure, regulations and directives necessary to enforce the laws, and to implement government programs and policies
- Support the process for adoption of an Iraqi constitution that promotes democratic principles and values through the provision of technical assistance that includes, but is not limited to, providing comparative constitutional expertise; organizing constitutional conferences and conventions; facilitating public awareness, education, and participation; and assisting in the conduct of a national referendum or other ratifying mechanism.

In the post-election period, USAID will continue to plan and implement a variety of programs, undertaken in full partnership with Iraqi counterparts, matching the needs of the evolving Iraqi democracy. In particular, USAID is accelerating support to the Iraq National Assembly and the Constitutional Drafting Commission.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

In late May USAID's partner supporting the Iraqi National Assembly (INA) conducted a fifth general orientation session for 31 INA members. Participants included members of the United Iraqi Alliance (List 169: including the al-Dawa, the National Independent Bloc, al-Fadheela Islamic Party, Islamic Turkoman Union) representatives of the Kurdistan Coalition (List 130), the Iraqi List (List 285) and independent members of the INA.

The training focused on the development of an efficient legislative process in a transitional society. Participants discussed the role and importance of rule of law in times of social change and the need to make use of theory when drafting new laws. Through the example of a Romanian law-making model, members examined detailed procedures required to enact legislation and the different stages a bill must undergo before it becomes law.

USAID conducted its sixth INA training session on May 30. The attendees represented the two largest party blocs in the INA; the Kurdish Alliance and the United Iraqi Alliance. The session began with a presentation of focus group research conducted by USAID's implementing partners which explored the attitudes of Iraqis after the January elections, their satisfaction with the electoral system, and their expectations for the upcoming constitutional process.

INA members shared their opinions on the findings and issues related to the results. They also expressed a desire for future workshops examining comparative constitutional models with a focus on federalism, nationalism, minority rights, majority-minority relations, the role of religion, women's rights, the role of armed forces in a federal state and the role of international treaties in the political process.

In late May, a USAID-funded Civil Society Team sponsored a ten-day NGO Capacity Building Training Seminar for civil society activists from Babil, Baghdad, Basra, Karbala, and Najaf. Thirty civil society activists participated in the program which focused on NGO-government relations; advocacy and lobbying; media issues and communication skills; the politics, accountability, and transparency of NGOs; reporting; and monitoring and evaluation. Two of the training days specifically focused on developing skills related to the media, such as message development, media relations, how to give an interview and press conference, and how to write a press release. Throughout the seminar participants stated their appreciation for all that they had learned as well as their desire to get involved in the constitutional process.

On the last day of the training, participants discussed the potential involvement of NGOs in USAID's Constitutional Dialogue program. Starting in June, hundreds of facilitators will start reaching out to hundreds of thousands of Iraqis, encouraging them to discuss topics linked to the constitutional process while seeking their input for the National Assembly's Constitutional Committee in charge of drafting the Constitution.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- USAID has committed over \$131 million to 3,120 projects while Iraqi communities have committed more than 25% of total funding. CAP has established over 600 community action groups (CAGs) in 17 governorates. Five U.S. NGOs each concentrate on a region: north, Baghdad, south-west central, southeast central, and south.
- The northern program focuses on the conflict prone areas of the Sunni Triangle, Mosul, Kirkuk and the Iran-Iraq border. The partner NGO has completed 433 projects with over \$29 million in project commitments including improving the Tikrit water supply, and developing income generation projects in the north.
- In the southwest central region, the partner NGO has established a strong presence in Hillah and the Shi'a holy cities Najaf and Karbala. Emphasis on critical infrastructure needs has improved community water/sanitation services and schools, and repaired vital social infrastructure. They have completed 322 projects and have over \$21.5 million in project commitments.
- Income generation is an important emphasis in the Baghdad program where 522 projects have been completed through CAGs. A marketplace for over 700 vendors is being constructed, and crews are cleaning up medical waste dumps. Total project commitments are \$22.3 million.
- In the southeast central region, 179 projects are complete with a total of \$16.7 million in commitments. In the Shi'i heartland, these projects address needs resulting from decades of government neglect and focus on water, sewerage, community clean-up, and school rehabilitation.
- The southern program has completed 625 projects with total commitments of \$21.9 million. Projects have focused on immediate community needs such as sewage clean up, water treatment and distribution, public health, and girls' access to education.

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

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

USAID's Community Action Program (CAP) is working with a Cluster Community Association in Babil governorate to rehabilitate a primary health clinic in Al-Hindiyah, a city of 17,000 near Al Hillah. The clinic is the only primary care provider in the area. The project will repair the clinic building and provide needed medical equipment, supplies, and office furnishings. Clinic staff will also receive training that is funded by CAP and supported by the local Community Action Groups.

Wasit University worked with CAP to design a project to construct a two-storied building that will house library facilities and the university's Student Body Association (SBA). The building's first floor will house a computer center, an exhibition hall, the newsletter office, and the student association office. The library and a large reading hall will be on the second floor.

When CAP's community mobilizers met with representatives of the university community, they indicated that the existing library facilities were insufficient and expressed an interest in establishing a more substantial library. The Ministry of Higher Education provided the land for the project, and committed its own engineer to monitor the project during implementation. The local Community Association will provide curtains and carpeting for the building, landscape the yard, and supply the library with a phone line and books. In addition, they will supply furniture for most of the building. This project will directly benefit an estimated 8,500 individuals and create 26 long-term jobs.

A community near Kirkuk worked with CAP to construct two additional classrooms for their school. The town used to be a multi ethnic sub-district and was systematically emptied by the Iraqi army under the former regime. Now the displaced people are returning to rebuild their village and restart their lives. The quick return of so many families meant there was not enough room for all the children at the local school. The local Community Action Group prepared the site, fixed the desks, and contributed two laborers and a guard during the construction period. School truancy has declined.

A small village on the outskirts of Mosul is working with CAP to install a water tank for residents. Prior to 2003, the Iraqi military maintained an emergency water tank about five kilometers from this poor village of about 2,000 people. Although the village lacked water, the military prohibited residents from using it. USAID is enabling the villagers to dismantle the water tank, move it to their community, and re-install it on a new three-meter platform. The water tank will then be connected to a network of new pipes traversing the village. Soon, the whole village will have easy access to water.

In order to improve security in the area, CAP supported a street light repair project in the Taiji District of Baghdad. The work involved replacing the light sockets, bulbs, transformers, and metal arms atop the lampposts. The project will significantly improve security for the area's 3,887 residents.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- 2,457 schools have been rehabilitated through direct contracting and grants to communities.
- Hundreds of thousands of desks, chairs, cabinets, chalkboards, and kits for primary and secondary schools have been distributed countrywide.
- Nearly 33,000 secondary school teachers and administrators, including 860 master trainers, have been trained nationwide. Over the next year, up to 100,000 additional teachers will receive in-service training.
- Eighty-four primary and secondary schools (four in each governorate) are being established to serve as “centers of excellence.” Teachers will receive six weeks of training, and schools will be equipped with computer and science laboratories.
- More than 550 out-of-school youth completed a pilot accelerated learning program. An expanded program, targeting 50,000 out-of-school youth, will be implemented during the 2005–06 school year.
- Satellite Internet access and computers installed at the Ministry of Education and in all 21 Directorates of Education. To improve resource management, an Education Management Information System is being developed.
- More than 8.7 million math and science textbooks have been edited, printed, and distributed throughout Iraq.
- Partnerships have been established between five American and ten Iraqi universities. Through these partnerships, more than 1,400 Iraqi faculty and students have participated in workshops, trainings, conferences, and courses in Iraq, the Middle East, Europe, and the United States.
- University facilities, such as libraries, computer and science laboratories, lecture halls, and buildings, have been rehabilitated at colleges of law, engineering, medicine, archeology, and agriculture. In addition, books and electronic resources have been provided to university libraries.

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

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

The Ministry of Education is working with USAID to renovate four teacher training centers that have a combined capacity of 1500 participants. Each center has four to nine large lecture halls, most of which require extensive repair.

USAID is planning to train 100,000 Primary and Secondary School Teachers throughout Iraq. The in-service program will train teachers in child-centered teaching techniques, and train headmasters and administrators in leadership and administrative skills. The training will also introduce modern instructional methods in science, math, English as a Second Language, and computer training.

Renovations began in May. Currently contractors are replacing broken tiles, fixing walls damaged by moisture and termites, repairing electricity networks and renovating restroom facilities. New equipment is being supplied to support the training programs, including chairs, tables, air conditioners, video/CD-audiovisual devices, overhead projectors, flip charts, computers, and stationery. Renovations at one training hall are finished and all are expected to be completed by the end of June.

The five Iraqi students currently studying at The University of Hawaii under the USAID funded Higher Education and Development (HEAD) program are studying agricultural-related subjects and intensive English. The students demonstrated substantial progress since the beginning of the year on their most recent English exams. In addition to their class work, the students are conducting independent research experiments and visiting private sector organizations to study new agricultural practices. For example, in recent weeks, the students visited a local seed company’s facility in order to learn about efforts to improve food production through biotechnology and genetic manipulation. Forty percent of the Iraqi workforce is employed in agriculture, which also produces 30% of Iraq’s GDP. Supporting agricultural education in Iraq is critical to Iraq’s stability and economic growth.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Awarded 3,759 small grants totaling \$276.9 million for quick impact activities that support good governance, civil society, conflict management and mitigation, human rights and transitional justice.
- Funded 105 grants totaling over \$4 million that focus on women's issues, including supporting the establishment of 24 women's centers in Iraq. Rehabilitated over 264 Iraqi national ministries, schools, clinics and other municipal buildings. Supporting 65 Iraqi groups in documenting human rights abuses of the Ba'athist regime and promoting peace, tolerance, and reconciliation.
- Met critical needs during and immediately after the conflict by providing short-term employment, restoring basic government and community services, increasing Iraqi access to information and communication and encouraging protection of human rights.

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

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Assistance to a Government Department Improves Property Record-keeping. In a city in central Iraq, the Real Estate Regulations Department, responsible for maintaining records of all government and private property within the city and its sub-districts, received necessary furniture and equipment for their offices through an Iraq Transition Initiative (ITI) grant. As thousands of families continue to file compensation claims with the government for property damaged in the fighting, the Real Estate Regulations Department will increasingly be responsible for ensuring the proper distribution of compensation to those who are eligible. By enabling this government office to resume operations, the ITI has created incentives for Iraqi officials to return to the city and help facilitate the return of citizens to their homes.

The Iraqi Ministry of Municipalities (MoM) received safety equipment under an ITI grant. The 1,000 pairs of safety shoes and work helmets will be used by utility workers in a city in central Iraq. By providing proper safety equipment, the MoM improves the ability of municipal workers to conduct their work, resulting in more reliable water and sewage treatment services. General improvements in municipal services will bolster public health, increase the public's confidence in their local government, and encourage citizens who fled intense fighting to return to their homes.

An ITI grant enabled an extensive cleanup of area irrigation channels in cooperation with an agricultural directorate in northern Iraq. Community infrastructure in this region was destroyed by conflict and degraded by years of neglect. By providing labor and equipment for the cleanup, ITI created temporary employment for 200 unskilled workers from the local community. In supplying the means for Iraqi farmers to increase crop production in the 25 villages served by the irrigation channels, ITI funded activities improve long-term economic development of the region and the standard of living for the local population.

A teacher's college in southern Iraq rehabilitated their library with the assistance of an ITI grant. The college has 1,750 students—60% of whom are women—and is the only higher education institution in the governorate. Prior to the 2003 conflict, the college had been neglected and was already in poor condition. Following Operation Iraqi Freedom, the college was looted, leaving the library unusable. Through this assistance, ITI has enhanced the learning environment for the students, thereby contributing to an improvement in the delivery of education throughout the governorate.

A district Governing Council in southern Iraq repaired and cleaned roads in their area through a series of ITI grants. By providing labor and equipment to clear away trash, fill in holes and re-grade the roads, USAID provided short-term employment opportunities to 485 local laborers over 60 days. In a town with an unemployment rate of almost 70% and facing an increase in crime and inter-tribal tension, this assistance has improved the quality of life and mitigated tensions, increasing confidence in the future.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

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

In the first year of programming, USAID's humanitarian assistance focused on emergency interventions to prevent food and water shortages and provide adequate shelter and medical supplies throughout Iraq. USAID is now directing humanitarian assistance efforts through the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) to specifically target Iraq's internally displaced people (IDP), primarily in northern Iraq, but also in two southern governorates.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Four new Mobile Medical Units (MMU) have been established in Al Anbar Governorate by a USAID/OFDA implementing partner. Each MMU includes a doctor and a vaccinator. MMU operations in Al Anbar officially started on May 29, and will include medical check-ups of children and pregnant women and vaccinations for tuberculosis, diphtheria, tetanus, rubella, and hepatitis. A USAID/OFDA implementing partner is also conducting health activities through an MMU in eastern Kirkuk Governorate. There, the MMU accompanies needs assessment teams to assess the health situation and to directly provide necessary services. Since the Kirkuk Governorate MMU began activities, it has visited 38 areas and 959 families, benefiting a total of 1,449 people. The MMU has also delivered 265 health cards and vaccinated 761 persons.

OFDA has provided more than \$157 million to support humanitarian needs in Iraq, including delivering essential medicines to healthcare facilities, providing emergency health services, and rehabilitating water treatment and sewage plants, clinics, hospitals, and schools. OFDA and its partners are also providing emergency assistance to thousands of Iraqis rendered homeless by conflict and to those returning to their villages destroyed by the former Iraqi government.

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

SEAPORTS

- The \$45 million program to rehabilitate and improve management at Umm Qasr seaport was completed in June 2004.
- Port reopened to commercial traffic on June 17, 2003; completed first passenger vessel test July 16.
- Up to 50 ships offload at the port every month.
- Completed dredging to open all 21 berths to deep-draft ships; maintenance dredging is ongoing.
- Applied port tariffs on June 20, 2003.
- Renovated the grain-receiving facility to process 600 MT of grain an hour.
- Renovated the administration building, passenger terminal, customs hall, and electrical substations.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

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

BRIDGES AND ROADS

- Rebuilt three major bridges—Khazir, Tikrit and Al Mat bridges—critical for the movement of people and commercial products throughout the country.
- Rebuilt a substantial portion of the Iraqi Republican Railway line connecting Basrah with the port of Umm Qasr including physical track construction, installing culverts, and repairing gatehouses. The remainder of the work has been handed over to the Ministry of Transportation. This work facilitates the shipment of bulk cargo from the port to Baghdad and throughout the country.

FOOD SECURITY

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

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

June 16, 2005

FY 2003-2005*			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
Reconstruction USAID/ANE			Subtotal: 4,093, 839,296
Abt Associates	Health	Countrywide	\$23,031,886
AFCAP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$91,500,000
America's Development Foundation	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$42,880,157
Army Corps of Eng.	Architecture and Engineering Services	Countrywide	\$30,842,037
BearingPoint	Economic Governance	Countrywide	\$79,583,885
BearingPoint	Economic Governance II	Countrywide	\$103,500,000
Bechtel	Airports, buildings, power, railroads, roads, bridges, port, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,029,833,259
Bechtel	Infrastructure II: Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation, Basra Hospital	Countrywide	\$1,386,809,782
CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000
CAII	Education II	Countrywide	\$51,809,000
CEPPS	Iraq Governing Council	Countrywide	\$675,000
CEPPS	Transitional Government	Countrywide	\$20,700,000
CEPPS	Voter Education, Domestic Observation and Conflict Resolution	Countrywide	\$49,275,000
CEPPS	Elections Administration Support	Countrywide	\$40,000,000
CHF	Reconstruction Support	Countrywide	\$2,961,228
Comm. Action Pgm.	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$258,820,000
DAI	Marshlands	South	\$4,000,000
DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$101,352,912
Fed Source	Personnel Support	Countrywide	\$300,000
IRG	Reconstruction Support	Countrywide	\$52,171,260
Logenix	Health	North/Central	\$108,506
Louis Berger	Vocational Education	Countrywide	\$75,016,115
Louis Berger	Private Sector Development II	Countrywide	\$95,000,000
MSI	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$5,284,781

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

June 16, 2005

FY 2003-2004			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
Partnership for Child Healthcare	Health	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$241,910,757
RTI	Local Governance II	Countrywide	\$70,000,000
RTI	Health Training	Countrywide	15,000,000
SkyLink	Airport Management	Bag., Bas., Mos.	\$27,200,000
SSA	Port Management	Umm Qasr	\$14,318,985
UNDP	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
UNESCO	Textbook Printing & Distribution: Math & Science	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$36,700,000
UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$19,600,000
University Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Research Foundation of the State University of New York/Stony Brook and the Universities of Chicago, Boston and Oxford The Human Rights Institute, DePaul University College of Law and Italy's International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences University of Hawaii, the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas, University of Jordan and the American University in Beirut Jackson State University, Tougaloo College, Alcorn State University, Mississippi Valley State University, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Benetech, US-Iraq Business Resources University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, Cameron University and Langston University 	Countrywide	\$20,730,000
VEGA	Business Skills Training	Countrywide	\$12,089,702
VFH	Elections Support	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
WHO	Strengthen Health System	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$1,273,894
World Bank	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
Yankee Group	Telecoms Planning	Countrywide	\$58,150
Emergency Relief USAID/DCHA/OFDA.....			Subtotal: \$170,729,996
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$8,034,839
AirServ	Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,309,876
ARC	Capacity Building	Al Basrah	\$537,746
CARE	IDP Assistance, Quick-impact projects, Water and Sanitation, Health, Emergency Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$9,043,148
The Cuny Center	Research Studies	Countrywide	\$40,260
GOAL	Coordination, Nutrition	Al Muthanna	\$1,507,900
InterAction	Coordination	Kuwait City	\$92,860
IDA	Health	Countrywide	\$1,318,437

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

June 16, 2005

FY 2003-2004			
Implementing Partner	Sector	Regions	Obligation
IMC	Health, IDP Assistance, Food Security, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Capacity Building	Countrywide	\$30,952,898
IOM	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$18,392,470
IRC	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$8,000,411
IRD	IDP Assistance, Health, Water and Sanitation	Northern Iraq	\$17,076,190
Logistics	Emergency Relief Commodities and USAID/DART Support	Countrywide	\$22,771,653
Mercy Corps	IDP Assistance, Health, Emergency Relief Commodities, Shelter, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$22,199,786
SCF/US	Food Security, Health, IDP Assistance, Shelter, Nutrition, Emergency Relief Commodities, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$7,957,783
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
OCHA	Coordination and Information	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
USAID/Jordan	Support for Emergency Water Activities	Countrywide	\$500,000
WFP	Food Security, Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
World Vision	Health, Logistics, Emergency Relief , Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$6,793,739
USAID/DCHA/FFP.....			Subtotal: \$425,571,000
WFP	Operations	Countrywide	\$45,000,000
WFP	Emerson Trust—81,500 MT	Countrywide	\$40,337,000
WFP	P.L. 48– Title II emergency food commodities—163,820 MT	Countrywide	\$140,234,000
WFP	Regional Purchase—330,000MT	Countrywide	\$200,000,000
USAID/DCHA/OTI.....			Subtotal: \$382,283,331
Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$10,325,866
IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$6,462,167
DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$354,500,376
Internews	Media	Countrywide	\$160,359
Radio SAWA	Media	Countrywide	\$400,000
NDI/IRI	National Governance	Countrywide	\$650,000
IFES	National Governance	Countrywide	\$1,042,315
ICNL	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$39,238
Spa War**	Inter-Ministry Communications	Countrywide	\$8,703,001
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ FROM 2003-2005.....			\$5,072,423,623

* 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.