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Cultural Organization  
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للتربية والعلم والثقافة

مكتب العراق  
Iraq Office

# UNESCO

## COUNTRY PROGRAMMING DOCUMENT FOR THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ 2011 – 2014



السلام في أيدينا  
PEACE IN OUR HANDS

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## ABBREVIATIONS &amp; ACRONYMS

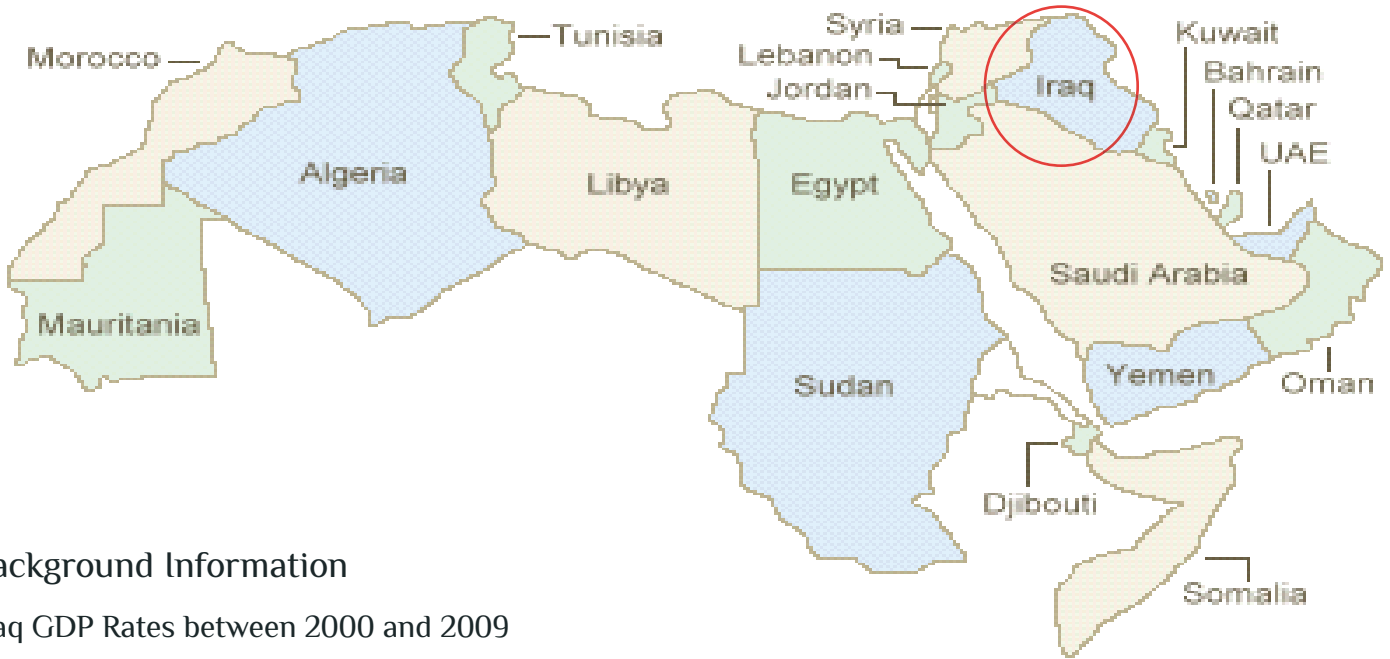
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ALECSO	Arab League Education Cultural and Scientific Organization
CAP	Consolidated Appeals Process
CARA	Council for Assisting Refugee Academics
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CLC	Community Learning Centre
CMC	Communication and Media Commission
COSIT	Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology
DoE	Directorate of Education
EFA	Education for All
EMIS	Education Management Information System
EU	European Union
GIPRI	Geneva International Peace Research Institute
GIS	Geographical information System
GoI	Government of Iraq
GPS	Global Positioning System
HCECR	Higher Commission for Erbil Citadel Rehabilitation
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICC	Coordination Committee for the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of Iraq
ICCROM	International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property
IAU	Inter-Agency Information and Analysis Unit Iraq
ICI	International Compact for Iraq
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IGCP	International Geosciences Programme
IIEP	International Institute for Educational Planning (UNESCO)
IHEC	Independent High Electoral Commission
IHP	International Hydrological Programme
IFJ	International Federation of Journalists
IJNET	International Centre for Journalist Network
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMN	Iraqi Media Network
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
IPDC	International Programme for the development of Communication
IRFFI	International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq
ISESCO	Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization
ITF	Iraq Trust Fund
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
JBIC	Japan Bank for International Cooperation
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency

KRG	Kurdish Regional Government
MAB	Man and Biosphere
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MNF-I	Multinational Forces – Iraq
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoHESR	Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
MoLSA	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
MoP	Ministry of Planning
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWR	Ministry of Water Resources
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NDP	National Development Plan
NDS	National Development Strategy
NFE	Non-Formal Education
SBAH	State Board of Antiquities and Heritage
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
STI	Science, Technology and Innovation
TOT	Training of Trainers
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UCPD	UNESCO Country Programming Document
UNAMI	United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq
UNAMI – HRO	United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq – Human Rights Office
UNAS	United Nations Assistance Strategy for Iraq
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia
UNESS	UNESCO National Education Support Strategy
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Settlements Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNU-ILI	United Nations University International Leadership Institute
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAM	WFP Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis in Iraq
WATSAN	Water and Sanitation
WB	World Bank
WFP	United Nations World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization



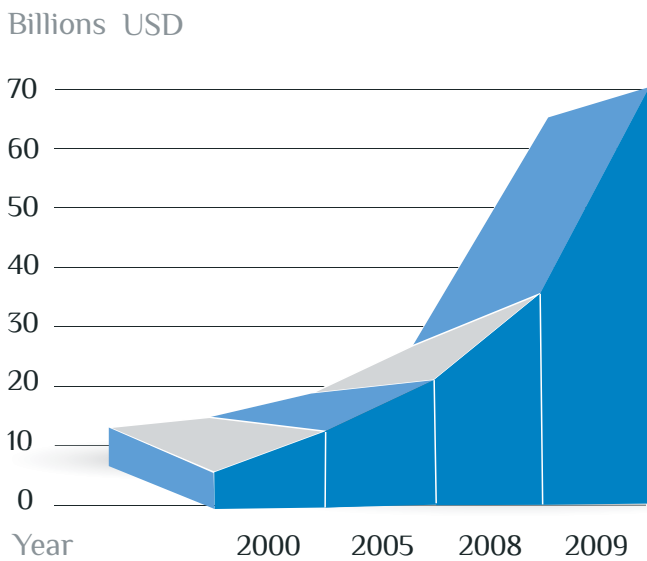


EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Iraq: Country Profile



Background Information

Iraq GDP Rates between 2000 and 2009

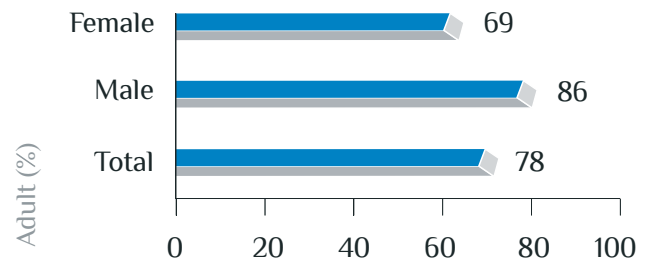


Total Population, 2009 (Millions)	31. 895
Total population below the age of 15, 2009 (%)	42.9
Population annual growth rate, 2005-2010 (%)	2.2
Life expectancy at birth, 2005-2010 (years)	67.4
Infant mortality rate, 2005-2010(%)	33.2
GDP per Capita, 2009 (current USD)	2, 090
Total population living under poverty line , 2007 (%)	22.9

Water and Sanitation

Amount of water available per person and per year (cubic metre)	1977	5,900
	2009	2,400
Access to safe drinking water, 2006 (%)	No access	21
	Daily problems	16
	Weekly	7
	Reliable	41

Adult Literacy Rates



Iraq Household Socio-Economic Survey (IHSES), 2007  
 United Nations Data Retrieval System; World Bank  
 United Nations Country Team <<http://iq.one.un.org/Facts-and-Figures>>  
 UNICEF/COSIT/KRSO/MOH Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2006

## Introduction

With a view to the ongoing UN reform aiming at achieving greater coherence and effectiveness among agencies through the adoption of more holistic joint programming, UNESCO has adopted a strategic country-based planning approach, intended to increase both the efficiency and impact of its activities in support of Member States.

The Iraq UNESCO Country Programming Document (Iraq-UCPD) represents the framework for the Organization's overall cooperation strategy with the Republic of Iraq, in coherence and alignment with the national and sector priorities of the country as elaborated by national strategies, international frameworks and UNESCO's own priorities.

Specifically, the Iraq-UCPD takes as its starting point the strategies and objectives of the Government of Iraq (GoI) as presented in the Iraq National Development Plan 2010-2014 (NDP) and the International Compact with Iraq (ICI). These documents form the basis of national planning for social reconciliation and rehabilitation of Iraqi political, social and economic infrastructure. The Iraq-UCPD also outlines UNESCO's programmatic approach in Iraq for the period 2011-2014. The Organization draws the main lines for its future strategy from the national priorities identified and from UNESCO's mandate, and proposes a cooperation framework with the GoI and in partnership with the UN sister agencies within the UNDAF 2011-2014. The proposed country-based cooperation framework is in line with the strategic direction in which UNESCO engages towards the implementation of its Medium-term Strategy for 2008-2013. Results achieved at the country level will contribute, through UNESCO's results chain, to the achievement of the expected outcomes at the global level.

## Part I - Situation Analysis

The first section of the Iraq-UCPD begins with a brief situational analysis of Iraq.

Since the war in 2003 and continuing to late 2007, circumstances in Iraq were marked by horrific

violence as the new Iraqi Government and Coalition Forces struggled to control security within Iraq against a widespread insurgency and extremist violence. The resulting chaos further crippled social services and infrastructure, which were already damaged from the effects of the invasion. However, the situation, especially in terms of security, improved incrementally from 2008 onwards.

## Political Context

Iraq is a parliamentary democracy with a federal system of government as established in the 2005 Iraqi constitution. The President and Vice Presidents are elected by the Council of Representatives (the Iraqi Parliament). The President nominates the Prime Minister normally from the majority in the Council of Representatives (CoR). On 7 March 2010, Iraq held national parliamentary elections based on an open list system. The post-election period of alliance formation lasted several months, as no clear majority emerged from the elections, and the CoR approved the new government in December 2010. It is hoped that the new government can further restore confidence in the country over the coming few years. The political context however remains fragile, especially in relation to the disputed internal boundaries in Northern Iraq. The difficulties of common understanding between Arabs and Kurds concerning administrative jurisdictions over these territories will be a challenge for the stability of the country.

## Economic Context

Iraq's economy has been characterized by a heavy dependence on oil exports. Aside from petroleum production, Iraq also relies on agricultural production, which employs a third of the workforce, but is not sufficient to meet the country's food requirements. Food, medicine, and manufactured goods are the main imports. Unemployment remains a significant challenge, with government estimates of the unemployment rate reaching 15 percent. Additionally, the proportion of the population living under the national poverty line is high, reaching 23 percent of the population as of 2007<sup>1</sup>. Controlling inflation, reducing corruption, and implementing such reforms as bank restructuring and private

1. Common Country Assessment 2009 Indicators, 83

sector development will be essential to Iraq's economic growth. Due to a significant internally displaced portion of the population, there is severe pressure on the delivery of essential services in certain areas of the country.

## Needs and Challenges

There are numerous needs and challenges present under each of the sectors relevant to UNESCO's mandate:

In Education, years of sanctions and violence have led to a deterioration of infrastructure at all levels of education, which has had a negative impact in terms of access to and quality of education in Iraq. Iraq has witnessed a worrying trend concerning illiteracy in the country, particularly amongst females: while the illiteracy rate is 11 percent for the male population, it amounts to 24 percent of the female population<sup>2</sup>.

In addition, years of isolation have resulted in the use of outdated curricula and teaching methodologies, poor use of Information and Communication Technologies in education and insufficient institutional capacity in terms of data collection, planning and evidence-based policy-making.

In the Sciences, water scarcity linked to recurring droughts, poor natural resource management and ecosystem deterioration has become an issue of utmost concern in Iraq. The development of the Science, Technology and Innovation sector will be crucial to the future of the country, particularly regarding the use of new technologies and the diversification of the economy beyond oil dependence.

As for Culture, Iraq's diverse cultural heritage has been threatened due to conflict and insecurity. Archaeological sites have been continuously looted, and there has been a lack of proper monitoring of more remote sites rich in cultural resources. These sites have also often been the targets of conflict, and as in the case of the Al-Askari Shrine in Samarra, have been substantially damaged. Security concerns have also impeded the supplying of equipment to these sites for their restoration. There

remains a need to engage the Iraqi authorities in long-term strategic planning and in the application of international standards for cultural resources protection and management.

Finally, the blossoming media environment in Iraq has witnessed the appearance of a myriad of satellite channels, newspapers and alternative media. However, media professionals have often been the target of violent attacks, curtailing their independence.

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2. Figures as of 2007. See CCA 2009, 72

## Part II - Past and Present Cooperation, Lessons Learned \_\_\_\_\_

The second section details UNESCO's past interventions that have assisted Iraqi institutions in responding to the wide range of challenges facing the country. This section highlights UNESCO's achievements across all sectors.

In Education, this includes the delivery of 18 million textbooks, the establishment of an Education Television Channel allowing Iraqi children increased access to education, the training of hundreds of teachers, improvements in the field of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and an emphasis on combating illiteracy and enhancing the livelihood of many families through the establishment of Community Learning Centres (CLC).

UNESCO's expertise in the field of Water Resources Management has proven valuable in the Iraqi context, where the threat of drought and limited access to water supplies poses a considerable challenge to the future of the country. Thus, the rehabilitation of an ancient sustainable system that conducts water in the north of the country, the Karez, symbolizes UNESCO's commitment to improving the living conditions of the people of Iraq. The Organization has also assisted in the reintegration of Iraq into international and regional forums dealing with transboundary water issues.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and relevant Iraqi institutions and stakeholders, UNESCO has played a leading role in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural property and the protection of Iraqi cultural sites. UNESCO-Iraq endeavours to raise awareness on the rich cultural heritage of Iraq and protect it while striving to create the conditions necessary for the development of cultural industries. Such efforts not only strengthen the protection of Iraqi cultural heritage, but also foster reconciliation within communities, as demonstrated by the successful intervention to restore the Al-Askari Shrine in Samarra.

Finally, a healthy media environment and access to information are necessary for a truly democratic society to thrive. UNESCO actions have therefore focused on the development of the media sector through the provision of institutional support, contributing to the development of legislation and upgrading of journalists' professional standards.

## Part III - Proposed Interventions: Areas, Partnerships and Funding Strategies \_\_\_\_\_

The third section outlines the proposed cooperation framework addressing priority areas identified by the GoI in partnership with sister agencies within the UN Development Assistance Framework for Iraq 2011-2014 (UNDAF). The Iraq-UCPD identifies key objectives for each sector, supporting both the UNDAF and the Iraqi National Development Plan (NDP) 2010-2014.

### The Education Programme will focus on:

1. Strengthened Educational Planning, Policy, Management, Monitoring and Evaluation;
2. Increased Access to Quality Education;
3. Enhanced provision of distance learning options for Iraqi students/Improved Literacy and Life Skills Development Programmes.

To achieve these objectives and support the country in attaining the MDGs and EFA Goals, UNESCO will carry out its programme activities both at the community level as well as the central level and with the directorates of education.

### Main results expected by the Culture Programme include: \_\_\_\_\_

1. National capacities developed for the protection, restoration and conservation of Iraqi cultural property, archaeological sites and historical buildings;
2. An institutional framework to develop cultural policies put in place leading to sustainable development.

The Culture sector will thus focus its efforts on the

protection of the rich Iraqi cultural heritage and the fight against illicit traffic, while recognizing that Iraqi cultural resources have an untapped potential to contribute to the sustainable development of the country.

In the Natural Sciences, the Office has identified two main objectives: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Improved conservation and management of the environment and natural resources;
2. Strengthened national capacities in Science, Technology and Innovation.

This will involve capacity development of national institutions in the field of water resources management, seeking the best solutions available to solve the issue of water scarcity in the country. UNESCO will also support the Science and Technology sector starting with the development of a much-needed Science and Technology Policy.

In Communication and Information: \_\_\_\_\_

UNESCO will continue supporting the media sector with a view to achieving an independent, pluralistic, and professional media environment that enables access to information for all Iraqis. Providing technical assistance to governmental and independent institutions will be essential to ensuring their sustainability, delivery of high quality content and professionalism.

The estimated financial resources necessary to attaining the objectives set out in the UCPD are about USD 112 million. The financial contribution of the Office, based on the priorities set by the GoI as well as UNESCO's mandate, will be divided as follows: 66 percent of these resources will be devoted to Education while Culture, Communication and Information and Sciences will receive 26 percent, 6 percent and 2 percent of the funds respectively. Although 60 percent of the financial resources necessary to attain the objectives are already secured, the Office will adopt a fundraising strategy based on regular consultations with the GoI, international donors and the private sector to ensure the mobilization of the remaining 40 percent.

While the GoI continues as the Office's main partner through the Iraqi National Commission for UNESCO (NATCOM) and many institutions at different levels of administration, UNESCO-Iraq will also strengthen its partnerships with civil society and NGOs. It will continue its full commitment to the UN Country Team and will continue developing joint programmes with other UN agencies and international institutions. Furthermore, UNESCO-Iraq will seek greater engagement with the private sector in future programmes and strategies.

As security improves, UNESCO-Iraq will strive to expand its presence inside Iraq, with the Office relocating to Baghdad as soon as security conditions allow. Currently, the obstacles arising from remote operations are mitigated by the presence of a Programme Coordinator based in Baghdad. This focal point for Iraqi authorities, together with the network of contacts created since 2003, enables UNESCO-Iraq to strengthen its partnerships.

The UCPD presents proposals for concrete action within the cooperation framework. The rationale behind these large-scale comprehensive projects is to ensure sustainability, increased effectiveness and larger impact in line with the UNDAF and the NDP, as well as to allow space, both in the lifespan of the project and resources required, for other partners to join in its implementation.

The Iraq-UCPD is a programming and advocacy tool for UNESCO to clarify and assert its role and concrete contribution within the UNCT, and to succeed in mobilizing sufficient financial support for the execution of the proposed programmes and projects.





PARALLEL

# Situation Analysis







A country with 8,000 years of recorded history that was once a leader among Arab states in the quality of its social programmes, Iraq has faced in recent years a series of conflicts that led to a rapid deterioration of infrastructure and basic social services. Iraqi civilians have been suffering since 1980 with the start of the Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988), resulting not only in an enormous loss of life but also in the amassing of billions of dollars in debt. The ensuing first Gulf War (1990-1991) led to the establishment of sanctions that had a devastating impact on the country. In 1996, a UN "Oil for Food" program was established to ease the effects of sanctions. From 1991 until 2003, the consequences of government policy and the sanctions regime led to hyperinflation, widespread poverty and malnutrition.

Since the start of the war in 2003 and continuing to late 2007, horrific violence prevailed in the country as the new Iraqi Government and Coalition Forces struggled to control security against a widespread insurgency and extremist violence. The resulting chaos further crippled social services and infrastructure that was already suffering from the effect of the invasion. Since 2008, however, the situation has continued to improve incrementally, especially regarding security.

## 1.1 Political Context

Iraq is a parliamentary democracy with a federal system of government as established in the 2005 Iraqi constitution. The President is the head of state, protecting the constitution and representing the sovereignty and unity of the state, while the Prime Minister is the direct executive authority and commander in chief. The Prime Minister is nominated by the President, normally from the largest bloc in the COR, and the executive branch serves a four-year term concurrent with that of the COR.

On 7 March 2010, Iraq held national parliamentary elections based on an open list system, with an expanded COR now consisting of 325 members, an increase from its previous size of 275 to reflect the growing Iraqi population. One-quarter of the members of the COR are female, as per the

minimum quota set by the new electoral law<sup>3</sup>. The responsibilities of the Council include enacting federal laws, monitoring the executive branch, and electing the President of the Republic. As no party had won a clear majority from the elections, there was a post-election period of alliance formation, which ended in December 2010 when the new government was announced, with Nouri Al-Maliki re-elected as Prime Minister.

The political context however remains fragile. The new government will be responsible for tackling the status of Kirkuk and surrounding disputed territories. Currently, a High Level Task Force composed of senior advisers to the Prime Minister of Iraq and the President of the KRG meets regularly under UNAMI auspices to discuss confidence-building measures; however, the issue remains extremely sensitive, with plans for a census of the area being repeatedly postponed so as not to escalate tensions. Despite the presence of a security plan for the area based on joint coordination between the Iraqi Army, Police and the KRG Peshmerga<sup>4</sup>, the common understanding between Arabs and Kurds concerning administrative jurisdictions over these territories will continue to challenge the stability of the country.

## 1.2 Economy

Iraq's economy has historically been characterized by a heavy dependence on oil exports, traditionally accounting for nearly 95 percent of the country's revenues. Oil export levels, which decreased during the Iran-Iraq War, improved during the late 1980s only to stop under international sanctions. In 1996, a UN agreement allowed Iraq to export oil for the first time since 1990; by 2002, oil production reached approximately 70 percent of what it was in the 1970s. Following the U.S. invasion in 2003, oil production slowly returned to between 80 percent and 95 percent of what it had been in 2002<sup>5</sup>.

Aside from petroleum production and refining, Iraq has a small, diversified industrial sector that

3. <http://www.undp-pogar.org/publications/elections/coverage/legislative/iraq-2010-e.pdf>

4. Secretary General Report to the SC, 14/05/2010.

5. World Resources Institute <http://earthtrends.wri.org> Economic Indicators Iraq.

includes food processing and the production of chemicals, textiles, leather goods, construction materials, metals and agricultural production, which employs about a third of the workforce alone. Food, medicine, and manufactured goods are the country's main imports, and the United States, Turkey, and Syria constitute its chief trading partners.

Unemployment remains a significant problem, with government estimates placing the rate at 15 percent. This is even higher among young people aged 15-24 where the unemployment rate reaches 25 percent<sup>6</sup>. In addition, while the 14 percent unemployment among males is slightly lower than the national average, it reaches 19 percent for women<sup>7</sup>. Furthermore, the proportion of the population living under the national poverty line reached 23 percent of the population as of 2007<sup>8</sup> (see figure 1-1). The GoI endeavours to encourage development of the hydrocarbon sector and the Cabinet approved in 2007 a revenue sharing law to divide oil revenues equitably within the nation in line with the Iraqi constitution, in order to strengthen the economy. It is also writing regulations to implement a new foreign investment law. Controlling inflation, reducing corruption, and implementing structural reforms such as restructuring the banking system and private sector development will be essential to Iraq's economic growth.

Whereas standards of education and health care were high during the 1980s, years of sanctions and violence are reflected in the current average life expectancy of 61 years<sup>9</sup>, which is still relatively low in comparison with the other Middle Eastern countries. A significant segment of the population has been internally displaced, putting severe pressure on the delivery of essential services in certain areas of the country<sup>10</sup>. Further information as well as a compilation of reports of the current situation in Iraq regarding security, economy, the political environment and the humanitarian situation can be found at the Iraq Inter-Agency

6. Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology, 2008

7. Common Country Assessment 2009 Indicators, pg. 84.

8. Common Country Assessment 2009 Indicators, pg. 85

9. See UNDP Iraq website <http://www.iq.undp.org> Human Development Report 2009.

10. A complete analysis of the social environment and the challenges that Iraq faces can be found within the Common Country Assessment of 2009.

Information and Analysis Unit website<sup>11</sup>.

### 1.3 Pertinent Development Frameworks

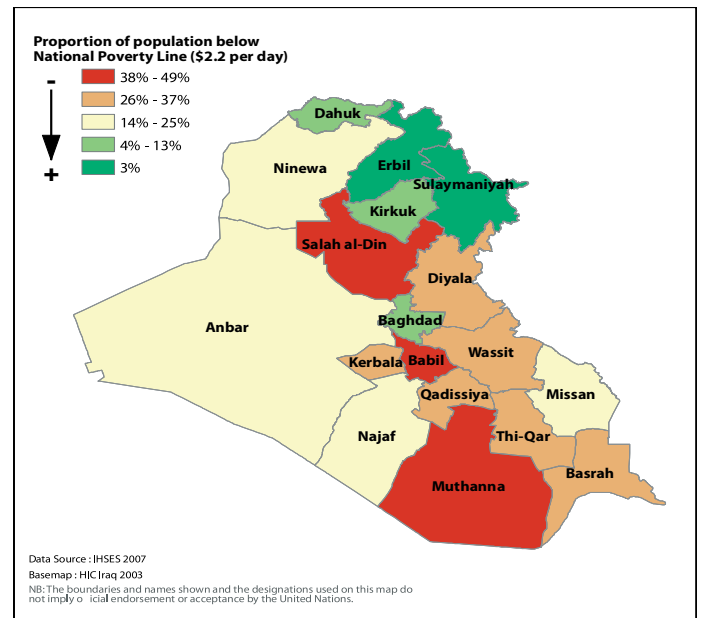


Figure 1-1: Proportion of the population below the national poverty line

In addition to formulating Agency Outcomes according to the recommendations for the priority reconstruction and rehabilitation needs per sector<sup>12</sup>, UNESCO must also orient its programming to the following key frameworks that outline international and national priorities for humanitarian and development initiatives in Iraq:

**1. The International Compact with Iraq (ICI)** is an initiative of the Government of Iraq for a new partnership with the international community. As the recognized guideline that shapes priority tasks and required actions on various sectors up to 2011, its main objective is to establish a framework for Iraq to realize its national vision through support to

11. See Iraq Inter-Agency Information and Analysis Unit (IAU) website <http://www.iauiraq.org/>; the recently published Iraq National Report on the Status of Human Development also offers a very comprehensive assessment of the main challenges the country faces.

12. The sectors include: education; health; employment creation; water and sanitation; transport and telecommunications; electricity; housing and land management; urban management; agriculture, water resources, and food security; finance; state-owned enterprises; investment climate; mine action; and government institutions. Crosscutting issues include human rights, gender, and the environment. Other sectors not covered in the Needs Assessment include drugs, crime, and cultural heritage, which were the subjects of individual assessments and will be made available as references to the current document.

three main pillars: Security, Politics and Economic Reform.

2. National Development Plan 2010-2014 (NDP) is a five-year national government-owned document identifying national priorities. The NDP is intended to serve as the overarching framework for government reconstruction and development policy, as a reference by which civil society can hold the government accountable, and as a basis for donor coordination and harmonization. The NDP is founded on the important objectives of strengthening the foundations of economic growth, revitalizing the private sector, improving the quality of life and strengthening good governance and security.

3. The Common Country Assessment (CCA) and United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Iraq (UNDAF): Coordinated through the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), the UNCT has so far employed a sectoral approach to its reconstruction and development programmes. With common planning, funding, coordinated implementation and reporting arrangements, this arrangement has assisted key Iraqi ministries to work with UNDG as one entity within the framework of the ICI and the NDP, facilitating coordinated, collaborative joint programming. The mechanism was based on the identification of priority areas, pipeline projects, activities and expected outcomes in each thematic area at the project level and the calculation of funding needed. Building on this common framework and taking into consideration the Government's newly developed NDP, the UN has pledged to assist the Government in this undertaking while, in line with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, deciding to draw on the collective strengths of all agencies, funds and programs to pursue a harmonized assistance program for Iraq. To this effect, the UN has moved from the existing UN Assistance Strategy 2008-2010 for Iraq to a more comprehensive and coherent approach based on the UN guidelines on common country programming. The CCA and the UNDAF for Iraq will ensure the strategic alignment and effective contribution of the UN system to Iraq's national development priorities. This has allowed the UNCT to align its new programme framework, the UNDAF 2011-2014 with the Iraqi NDP 2010-2014,

leading to enhanced harmonization and alignment within the UN system as well as between the UN and the Government of Iraq. As part of the UNCT, UNESCO has played an active role in that process which sets the strategic priorities for the future interventions of the UN in Iraq.

4. The Millennium Development Goals: As part of the UNCT, UNESCO is dedicated to helping Iraq achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. Its projects contribute towards achieving Goal 1: *Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger*, Goal 2: *Achieve Universal Primary Education*, Goal 3: *Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women*, Goal 6: *Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases*, Goal 7: *Ensure Environmental Sustainability* and Goal 8: *Develop a Global Partnership for Development*.

#### 1.4 Education

Education is a basic human right linked directly to economic growth and poverty reduction. When delivered through curricula encompassing human rights, civic, and gender equality values, education can contribute significantly to social cohesion, conflict prevention and inclusion. Given that youth comprise a large percentage of Iraq's population, adequate investment in education will be crucial to providing the country with qualified human resources necessary for long-term development.

The Government of Iraq (GoI) and the international community have established a series of benchmarks through the International Compact with Iraq (ICI) and specific indicative actions concerning education<sup>13</sup>. However, the existence of a dual education system has to be considered when assessing the data available. The Federal Ministry of Education (MoE) administers 15 governorates in Iraq, whereas the KRG Ministry of Education (KRG MoE) is responsible for the northern governorates of Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah. This dichotomy establishes two independently operating education systems that rarely, other than through the Constitution and the national budget, converge into a centralized, consolidated national education system. Planning, resources, and data are kept separate; thus, in order to achieve any educational reform, both MoEs must be involved.

13. See ICI Annual Review, May 2007-April 2008, Annexes Showing Progress Against Benchmarks

The Iraqi education system has been struggling to overcome significant challenges for decades. To ensure access to and quality of education, the education system requires the strengthening of physical infrastructure, materials and professional educators at national, governorate and local levels. In addition, shortages of school buildings and classrooms have led to the running of two or three shifts in schools, allowing some pupils only a couple of hours' daily contact with teachers, and negatively affecting their access to education. Net primary school enrolment rate is estimated at 87

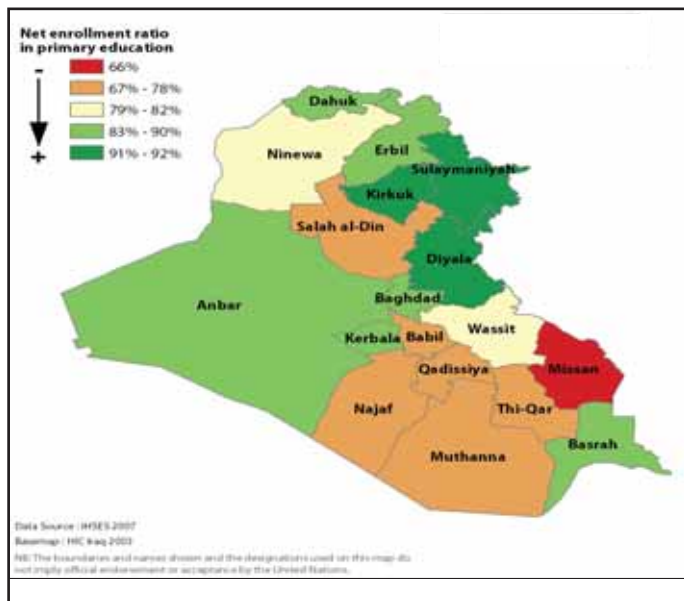


Figure 1-2: Net enrolment ratio in primary education

percent overall, 91 percent for boys and 82 percent for girls (MoE 2007/2008). This difference in enrolment rates can be explained by a prioritization of boys' education over that of girls, in terms of allocation of school capacity, and attention to hygiene and security in schools (see Figure 1-2 for enrolment ratios broken down by governorate). The net enrolment ratio in intermediate schools is significantly lower than that for primary education, estimated at 40.5 percent (MoE 2007/2008) and with an even wider gender gap, as girls continue to face the abovementioned obstacles to continuing their education, and are more likely to pursue culturally encouraged and perceived alternatives such as marriage. The estimated net enrolment ratio for preparatory/upper secondary schools is 27 percent. Technical and vocational education (TVE) has also undergone a sharp decline in the last 15 years, leading to an urgent need for vocational graduates. The education system, across

all sectors, is also plagued by a highly centralized administrative structure that often times results in a failure to meet student needs.

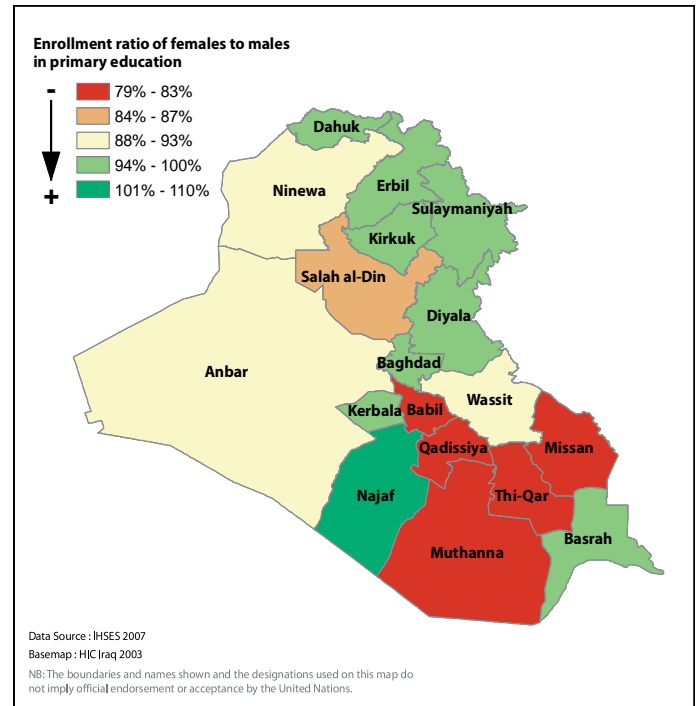


Figure 1-3: Enrolment ratio of females to males in primary education

Large enrolment disparities exist across the country; rural areas and the Marshlands in particular show lower enrolment rates than urban areas such as Baghdad and Basra. Meanwhile, anecdotal reports imply that school attendance rates have certainly fallen far below the 2006 UNICEF MICS3 indicator of 85.8 percent<sup>14</sup>. Survival rates across the educational ladder reveal a sharp decrease in enrolment at upper levels of schools, as well as a large percentage of school dropouts and repetition in upper grades.

Illiteracy remains a major concern, with the 2007 Employment Survey conducted by the Iraqi Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology (COSIT)<sup>15</sup> noting that between 18 and 20 percent of adults are functionally illiterate. There are significant disparities between males (11.6 percent) and females (26.4 percent)<sup>16</sup>. Illiteracy is more prevalent in rural populations than urban ones, especially among women: over 50 percent of

14. UNICEF, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey.

15. See Literacy Needs Assessment Report 2010-2015.

16. See World Food Programme Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis in Iraq, 2008.



women living in rural areas are illiterate, whereas in urban areas these figures are much lower, ranging from 20-28 percent.

Poor quality of education has resulted from deficiencies in teacher education, paired with large disparities in distribution of supplies and facilities such as libraries or laboratories within schools. In particular, the data obtained through the MoE for the 2007-2008 academic year reflect overcrowded classrooms and poor teaching capacities, while increasing repetition rates and late school entry have been forcing students with as high as a six-year age difference to remain in the same classroom. An outdated curriculum is not meeting current learning needs of students. The serious shortage of skilled educators and administrators as well as inefficiencies in the field of management and strategic planning further undermine the system's capacity to produce educated Iraqis able to compete in the labour market. Iraq is still far from achieving many of the international objectives in education.

The rehabilitation of the Iraqi higher education system, damaged by almost two decades of under-investment and isolation, is also hampered by insufficient infrastructure and limited capacity in the planning, policy and management of higher education programmes. Eighty-four percent of Iraq's higher education infrastructure was burned, looted, or severely damaged following the 2003 invasion of Iraq<sup>17</sup>, gravely depleting stocks of laboratory equipment and books for libraries. Despite these shortages, the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MoHESR) managed to rebuild higher education institutions in a short time. Amidst violence targeting academics and students, the MoHESR has striven to improve the security conditions of academics and foster the return of those who had fled. Fellowship programmes targeting faculty staff who had limited access to fellow teachers and researchers outside Iraq have been established.

Within the context of the Iraqi TVET system, reforms are required to integrate workplace-based learning and training into the vocational education programmes, to link the supply of skilled workers to

private sector demand. There is an urgent need for the Iraqi TVET system to be open and all-inclusive in order to ensure access to learning and training for all, including the most underprivileged.

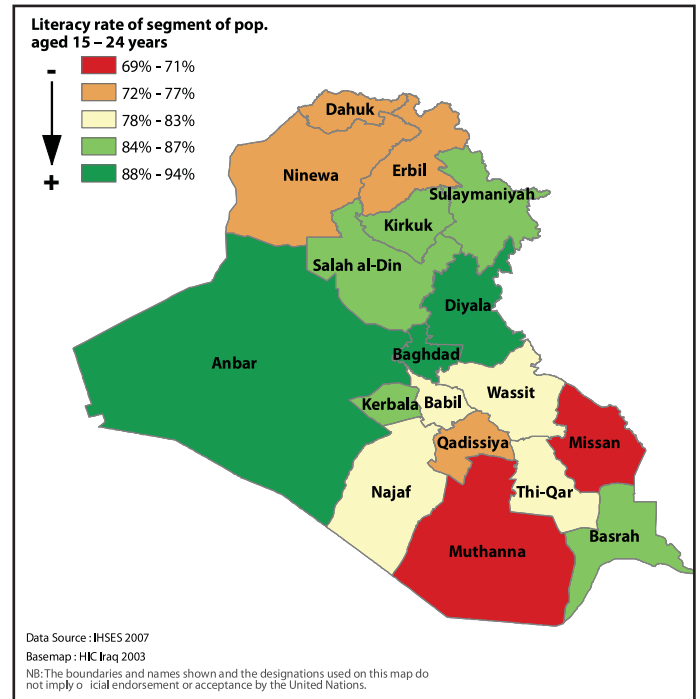


Figure 1-4: Literacy rate among 15-24 year olds

Although Iraq is a country of low HIV prevalence with the total number of reported cases reaching 269 to date<sup>18</sup>, this situation was expected to change as a result of the 2003 war and the disruption of the healthcare system since then. The HIV awareness level is also very low among women and youth, those populations most vulnerable, with a high level of stigma and discrimination directed against people living with HIV<sup>19</sup>; this necessitates integrating awareness through school curricula and non-formal education programs, to mitigate a higher rate of spread of the disease in the future.

## Challenges

Despite some improvements in recent years, enormous efforts will be needed to realize the education-related EFA Goals and MDGs (see Figure 1-5 on page 23).

Citing limited progress made in reconstructing the education system since 2004, the Gol conveyed its

17. According to the United Nations University International Leadership Institute report on Higher Education in Iraq

18. According to the 2008 "Iraq HIV/AIDS Country Profile" compiled by the Joint UN Team on AIDS

19. 2010 Iraq National Youth Survey (NYS)

most pressing concerns in the National Development Plan 2010-2014 (NDP). Among them was the concern that the disparity between urban and rural areas and between the participation of boys and girls has impeded expansion of educational development. Furthermore, it was observed that many school-aged students were not participating in compulsory education due to the poor security and physical conditions of schools<sup>20</sup>, with girls more likely to stay home than boys were. The Government of Iraq (GoI) also cited modernizing the curricula and teaching methods as challenges, as they are outdated and not in line with the needs of the country; for example, ICT as a teaching tool have not been utilized. In addition, when efforts to modernize curricula and teaching methods have been made, the GoI expressed concern that many students, both boys and girls, were unable to adapt to them. Meanwhile, the Government reported a serious shortage of skilled educators and administrators, a vocational training system unresponsive to the needs of the labour market and inefficient management and strategic planning within ministries. Furthermore, the lack of consistency and absence of reliable and valid data hampers the implementation of evidence-based programmes.

The CCA has also identified key challenges in terms of access, availability and quality of services in education. The deficient physical infrastructure, curriculum and institutional capacity to plan, execute and manage education programmes are only a few of the factors leading to quality essential services. Thus, UNDAF Priority Area 4: *Increased access to quality basic, vocational, higher and non-formal education for children and youth* will be one of the main objectives of UNESCO in Iraq.

In the framework of the Government's public sector modernization and decentralization process, comprehensive and extensive education reform is a key task necessary to earnestly address illiteracy and disparities in access to education. Strengthening school communities, enhancing parents' engagement in school management and ensuring community participation are critical to the development of a decentralized and more effective school system. The comparative advantage in Educational Planning, Policy, Management and

Evaluation that UNESCO possesses can play a useful role in strengthening the institutional and human capacity of the education sector to deliver basic educational and training services to all levels and across all geographical areas.

#### Literacy

The Ministry of Education (MoE) has requested the Organization to expand its programme in illiteracy reduction relying on community learning centres (CLCs). UNESCO is best positioned to undertake capacity-building initiatives at managerial levels within the MoE and Directorates of Education (DoE), as well as teacher training. A further challenge is to enhance access to quality education across all levels with special emphasis on vulnerable groups, particularly girls, given the recurrent gender gap at all levels of education.








#### Higher Education

UNESCO has been called on to support both the Central and Kurdistan Regional Governments in developing secondary and higher education strategies. In higher education, main challenges consist of enhancing the MOHESR's capacity in policy, planning and management of the higher education system, supporting Iraqi teachers and researchers to re-establish contact with the world academic community and providing technical assistance to activate quality research programmes necessary for knowledge-based development. Technical support and capacity building are needed to assist the GoI in its efforts to reconstruct and revitalize the Iraqi higher education system as well as to effectively ensure quality of and access to higher education programmes in Iraq.

#### Technical and Vocational Education (TVE)

Gaps remain in the TVE field, namely the need for improved access to TVET, the necessary renewal of curriculum, textbooks and teaching learning materials, as well as the lack of many instructors' capacity to implement up-to-date learning programmes that equip students to meet the requirements of the labour market.

Figure 1-5: Iraq Millennium Development Goals

Indicator	IRAQ MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS										2015 Target Achievement				
	Baseline Year Total	Source	Current			Year	Source	National Target 2015	Total Achieved (%)	Target Achieved (%)	Status	Average Goal Target Achieved (%)			
			Total	Urban	Rural								Male	Female	
 ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION	Net enrollment ratio in intermediate education (%)	890	-	36.7	43.5	22.8	40.1	33.3	2007	I-SES	100.0	62.3	37%	X	
	Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	890	-	21.2	25.5	16.9	22.5	19.3	2007	I-SES	100.0	78.8	28%	X	
 PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN	Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach 5th grade (%)	75.6	MDGR 2007 COSIT	95.2	95.9	95.5	96.2	94.8	2006	MCS-7	100.0	4.9	90%	✓	
	Literacy rate of the segment of the population aged between 15 - 24 years (%)	76.6	MDGR 2007 COSIT	83.9	88.3	73.3	87.7	86.4	2007	I-SES	100.0	16.1	25%	X	
 PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN	Female to male literacy rate of the segment of the population aged between 15 - 24 years (%)	75.6	MDGR 2007 COSIT	91.4	96.2	78.2	-	-	2007	I-SES	100.0	8.6	65%	!	
	Enrollment ratio of females to males in primary education (%)	79.0	Directorate of social and Educational Statistics	94.2	99.2	84.2	-	-	2007	I-SES	100.0	5.9	72%	!	
 PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN	Enrollment ratio of females to males in Secondary education (%)	64.1	Directorate of social and Educational Statistics	76.9	97.3	69.7	-	-	2007	I-SES	100.0	23.1	36%	X	
	Enrollment ratio of females to males in University education (%)	60.9	Directorate of social and Educational Statistics	66.6	92.1	50.9	-	-	2007	I-SES	100.0	11.4	7%	!	
 PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN	Enrollment ratio of females to males in Higher education (%)	25.0	Directorate of social and Educational Statistics	61.6	-	-	-	-	2007	I-SES	100.0	31.4	43%	X	
	Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector (%)	81.6	Employment & Unemployment Survey	7.4	9.8	2.3	-	-	2008	COSIT Labour Force Survey (1st)	96.0	42.6	6%	X	
 PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (%)	11.2	Documentary Reports	27.3	-	-	-	-	2006	MDGR 2007 COSIT	96.0	22.7	36%	X	

Source: Iraq Inter-Agency Information and Analysis Unit (IAU)

## 1.5 Sciences

Available data indicates that Iraq's natural resources and ecological support systems have been in serious decline for decades and require urgent intervention. The stress induced by resource scarcity, particularly that of water and agricultural land, and the power struggle to gain control over such resources in a context of poor governance is also a contributing factor to tension both at the community and regional levels. In fact, improving the management of natural resources and the protection of the environment is recognized by the ICI as a priority for reconstruction and support for the economic recovery and peace consolidation process.

Iraq's current natural environment is increasingly challenged by a number of critical long-term vulnerabilities and risks particularly associated with:

- Water resources and the widening water crisis;
- Ecosystem degradation, including desertification and the loss of biodiversity;
- Increasing carbon emissions.

Evidence shows that Iraq faces numerous challenges standing in the way of meeting MDG Goal 7: *Ensuring Environmental Sustainability*<sup>21</sup>. Key ecosystems and habitats (e.g. the Marshlands) are in decline largely due to the overuse and mismanagement of Iraq's water systems. There is little evidence of progress in integrating principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes (Target 9), since the Government's priority has been on reconstruction and on returning basic services.

Up until 1991, safe potable water was accessible to 95 percent of urban and 75 percent of rural inhabitants<sup>22</sup>. Since that time, the country has paid a heavy toll as a result years of sanctions and conflict, which have led to a drastic deterioration of water and sanitation services. Iraq is not on track to achieving Target 10, *Reducing half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water by 2015*. By 2006, the proportion of Iraq's population with an improved source of water increased by only 0.1 percent from 2000, with

nearly 16 percent of the population still without access to clean water. It is important to note that 57 percent of Iraq's rural population has access to potable water, while 40 percent of Iraq's water supply is neither safe nor stable.

Iraq is still far from achieving ICI objective 4.4.1.5 *Environment, Water & Sanitation, Housing*, which amongst others includes two major goals: 1) to preserve Iraq's environment and ensure careful exploitation of its natural resources for the benefit of all citizens; 2) to improve access to water and sanitation by one third.

The current drought in Iraq – a significant concern – has received top priority status for interventions by the Government and the international community in order to mitigate its impact and promote resilience among the farming, and other vulnerable communities. The high rate of degradation of the Marshlands is also an issue, requiring urgent interventions to mitigate the rapid changes occurring there.

The National Development Plan (NDP) 2010-2014 focuses on upgrading the water and sanitation networks and aims at ensuring that more Iraqi citizens in all areas have better access to them<sup>23</sup>. This necessitates the maintenance and rehabilitation of existing potable water projects in line with environment standards, as well as improving and protecting the environment by observing air, water and soil pollution rates.

Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) initiatives are now universally recognized as the drivers of national economic development and key contributors to poverty reduction, disease prevention, and environmental conservation. Once among the strongest in the region in STI, Iraq has suffered substantial setbacks in its intellectual infrastructure following years of isolation, diminishing resources, and infrastructure damage; furthermore, a large number of Iraqi scientists and academics have left the country<sup>24</sup>. Priority has been placed on revitalizing this intellectual infrastructure

23. National Development Plan (2010-2014) p. 114.

24. UNESCO, "UNESCO Director-General condemns campaign of violence against Iraqi academics," 05 April 2006. <[http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=32531&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=32531&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)>

21. See CCA for Iraq MDG Indicators

22. National Development Plan (2010 – 2014) p. 111.



and network in Iraq. Technology across most economic sectors, including the oil sector, is outdated. While the updating of technology has been a national priority, the transfer of scientific knowledge and technology has been hampered, negatively affecting the quality of life in almost every sphere, and deterring the country from harnessing the fruits of its scientific achievements.

## Challenges

Challenges to achieving progress in the Sciences sector can be related to security, the political situation and the climate. The rapidly changing political scene in Iraq, the substantial lack of institutional capacity within the Government and the difficulty of managing interventions primarily from outside Iraq all pose implementation challenges. Difficult climatic conditions (e.g. drought), and the urgency to react quickly to environmental degradation and humanitarian needs are additional important factors.

Science and technology have not been highlighted among the main priorities for the UNCT as evidenced by the absence of mentions of either “science” or “technology” in the International Compact for Iraq (ICI). Nevertheless, strengthening national capacity in science and technology will be necessary for building a knowledge-based society that creates an environment favourable for sustainable development, eradicating poverty and securing long-term peace.

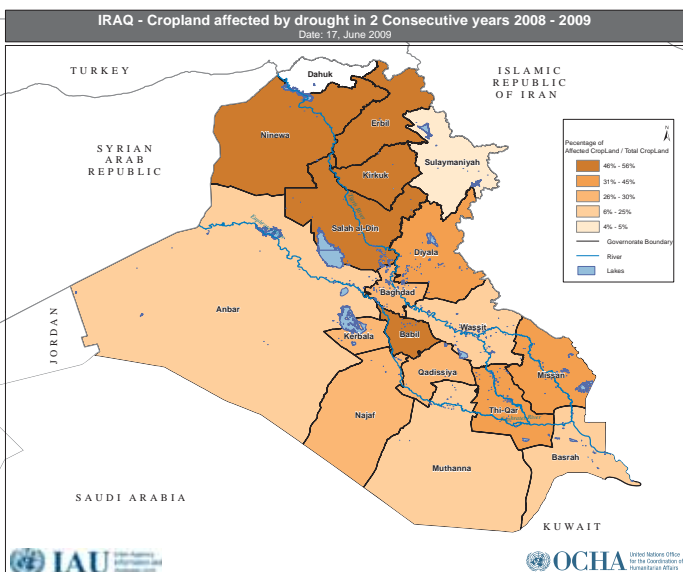


Figure 1-6: Cropland affected by drought in two consecutive years 2008-2009

## 1.6 Culture

The Coordination Committee for the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of Iraq (ICC Iraq) manages Iraq's achievement of international cultural heritage objectives. Established under the joint auspices of the Iraqi authorities and UNESCO in 2004, ICC Iraq aims to review national, international and/or multinational activities and initiatives supporting cultural heritage rehabilitation efforts in line with the priorities set by Iraqi authorities. The recommendations stemming from the Fourth Plenary Session held in January 2010 and the Fifth Plenary Session held in April 2011 constitute the main current guidelines for the Iraqi Culture Sector<sup>25</sup>. In line with these recommendations, the GoI has made significant progress in the field of stolen cultural property. More than 5,000 Iraqi artefacts have been recovered in cooperation with the authorities of neighbouring countries such as Jordan and Syria and with the assistance of the international community. Additionally, Iraq has adopted a wide range of measures to protect its rich archaeological heritage, including the creation of the Force for the Protection of Sites (FPS), an entity responsible for archaeological sites protection under the umbrella of the Ministry of Interior, as well as the establishment of a special branch of Iraqi police devoted to site surveillance and protection. An important step towards the protection of Iraqi cultural heritage has been the ratification of UNESCO's Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2010. Furthermore, Iraqi Maqam was added to the representative list of intangible heritage in 2008.

The precarious security situation has favoured continuous looting of archaeological sites and impeded proper monitoring of remote ones. This has often been in areas rich in cultural resources such as Nineveh Governorate, hosting the World Heritage Site of Hatra, Mosul Museum - the second most important heritage museum of Iraq

25. "The 4<sup>th</sup> plenary session of the international coordination committee for the safeguarding of Iraqi cultural heritage". UNESCO Iraq, 17-02-2010. [http://www.unesco.org/en/iraq-office/dynamic-content-single-view/news/the\\_4th\\_plenary\\_session\\_of\\_the\\_international\\_coordination\\_committee\\_for\\_the\\_safeguarding\\_of\\_iraqi\\_cultural\\_heritage\\_icc\\_iraq/browse/7/back/23142/cHash/c926f13ed1/?tx\\_ttnews%5Bca%5Dt%5D=132%2C135%2C466%2C133%2C134%2C459%2C460&tx\\_ttnews%5Byear%5D=2010](http://www.unesco.org/en/iraq-office/dynamic-content-single-view/news/the_4th_plenary_session_of_the_international_coordination_committee_for_the_safeguarding_of_iraqi_cultural_heritage_icc_iraq/browse/7/back/23142/cHash/c926f13ed1/?tx_ttnews%5Bca%5Dt%5D=132%2C135%2C466%2C133%2C134%2C459%2C460&tx_ttnews%5Byear%5D=2010)

– and several important sites included in the Iraqi Tentative List for World Heritage (Nimrud and Nineveh). Sites of cultural heritage have often served as military targets or flashpoints of political, ethnic or religious conflict. The archaeological site of Babylon was used as a base by coalition forces from 2003 to 2004, causing substantial damage, the extent of which resulted in the Gol requesting UNESCO's assistance in damage assessment. In February 2006, unidentified assailants bombed the Askari Shrine in Samarra containing the mausoleums of the tenth and eleventh Shia Imams, as well as the shrine of Muhammad al-Mahdi, the twelfth and final Imam of the Shia's. The Shrine was attacked again on 13 June 2007, resulting in the destruction of its minarets.

The Iraqi National Development Plan's (NDP) cultural focus is mainly on the revitalization of the tourism sector; this is due to its positive effects on the economy in terms of job creation, the expansion of related sectors in the service industry, and the modernisation and development of the rural areas. Part of the NDP's vision is thus the development of an Iraqi tourism industry on par with that of other countries in the region. Although religious tourism has been steadily on the rise since 2003<sup>26</sup>, the security situation has hampered the overall influx of tourists. As part of this goal, the NDP's objectives are the protection and restoration of the country's historical and heritage sites, which are the main attractions for a significant number of tourists to the country. It also emphasizes the positive effects of inter-cultural dialogue that emerges with the promotion of the cultural heritage of Iraq<sup>27</sup>.

Therefore, the NDP cites the restoration of heritage sites that were destroyed since 2003, and the return of the cultural artefacts stolen since then among the actions required to achieve its development goals in the area of culture and tourism. It aims as well to place an effective monitoring system to protect these sites. Stability in the KRG has helped internal tourism compared to the rest of the country; however, a national tourism strategy to ensure a cohesive, structured approach to the promotion of tourism has yet to be formulated for the country.

26. The Government of Iraq, National Development Plan 2010-2014. P. 133 (Arabic)

27. National Development Plan 2010-2014, p. 132.

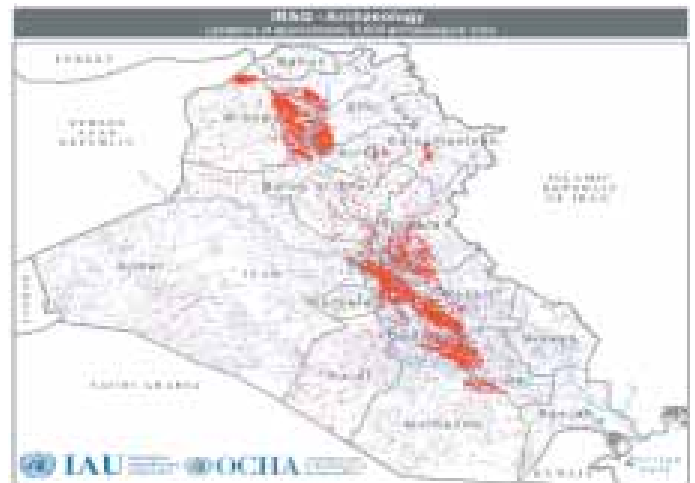


Figure 1-7: Archaeological Sites in Iraq

Despite the volatility of security in the country and the damage inflicted since 2003, the Iraqi authorities have made impressive efforts to reopen Iraqi cultural institutions such as the Iraqi National Museum of Baghdad and the National Library and Archives. These institutions are slowly rebuilding not only their inventories and collections, but also their academic and professional reputations. The restoration of several exhibition rooms of the Iraqi National Museum in Baghdad constitutes a landmark achievement bringing some hope for future developments in the field of culture in the country. Unfortunately, the revitalization of Baghdad-based cultural institutions has yet to extend to the rest of the country. The situation remains dire in archaeological sites, namely Nineveh, Ur and Babylon, and in other cultural institutions, particularly in regional and local museums.

## Challenges

The priorities of the Gol in culture have shifted from the first National Development Strategy (NDS) from 2005-2007 through the updated version for 2007-2010 to the recently published National Development Plan (NDP) 2010-2014. Such an evolution reflects the changing political situation in Iraq and the reorientation of certain priorities. While the NDS for 2005-2007 focused on strengthening the protection, conservation and rehabilitation of tangible and intangible heritage through its safeguarding and promotion, the more recent NDS and NDP placed greater emphasis on establishing an Iraqi culture tourism policy allowing private sector involvement and investment.

In view of the shortages and needs that Iraq

faces in other fields of human development such as basic education, health, shelter, housing and food security, it will continue to be a challenge to place culture as a priority on the agenda of the Government and the international community, despite the enormous potential of Iraqi cultural resources for the development of the country.

## 1.7 Communication and Information

Journalism has flourished since the opening of the media sector in Iraq from 2003 onwards. However, in a country with little experience with an independent media sector, eight years is hardly enough time to have achieved transformational change. Journalism training efforts were greatly hampered by deteriorated security.

The establishment of self-regulatory mechanisms providing the means for addressing shortcomings within the media community is an important facet of a thriving media environment. To this end, UNESCO supported the development of a Broadcast Code of Conduct that was released in 2008. Further, the development of an acceptable self-regulatory framework for Iraqi media would be a worthwhile step to take and should include the Communication and Media Commission (CMC).

The determination to allow the Iraqi Media Network (IMN) to emerge as a true independent public broadcaster also requires greater political support. To date, the IMN continues to be viewed as the official channel of the government and not quite independent. This was the case under the Coalition Provisional Authority and has remained so since. The IMN's mandate was laid out in the earliest stages of development of the media regulatory frameworks for Iraq, beginning with the Athens Framework in 2003 that became the basis of current media law in the country.

In May 2009, the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) held a landmark conference in Baghdad on the state of Iraqi media. Building on the global Ethical Journalism Initiative launched by IFJ, the Iraqi Journalists' Syndicate called for a revival of a commitment to public service values in media and quality journalism, including the following principles outlined in the Baghdad Declaration:

- Insistence that protective regulation to strengthen the social and professional status of media staff is a guarantor of quality journalism and, therefore, there is a need for investment in jobs and editorial work and the elimination of precarious social and working conditions.
- Commitment to programs of education and training and capacity building within journalism to promote a more ethical, transparent, pluralistic and competent media community.

While the National Development Plan 2010-2014 (NDP) makes no mention of the media sector, the National Development Strategy 2007-2010 (NDS) referred to media as linked to the achievement of a sovereign, unified, federal, and democratic Iraq integrated into the region and world community. In particular, the NDS states, "the Government will create a legislative framework allowing a free and independent media, recognising its role in strengthening individual freedoms and an open society". The role of the media as a watchdog is also addressed in relation to governance and civil society. The development of a comprehensive approach to transparency including freedom of information legislation and policies on public disclosure mandatory for public officials and institutions is one of the objectives listed. Rights of media, watchdogs and other information sharing institutions should be guaranteed accordingly. A similar provision was included in section 4.2.1 of the ICI concerning engagement with civil society and transparency.

Thus, the main areas identified by the Gol in the NDS for the media to play a major role are: improving the electoral process; improving security; strengthening Human Rights; monitoring institutional performance and improving governance; monitoring the Judiciary and contributing to the eradication of corruption. In this process, the need to revitalize the telecommunications sector has also been highlighted a priority.

## Challenges

Freedom of the press is protected under Article 38 of the Iraqi Constitution. Nevertheless, there are

concerns about the future freedom of expression and the independence of the media sector in Iraq, especially in the areas of broadcasting and the internet. A draft communications law would ban websites that advocate violence or contain material on drugs, sexual content, gambling, terrorism, and negative remarks about religion. Furthermore, the Ministry of Culture requested that all book publishers submit a list of their titles; it is also disseminating a document to be signed by publishers in which they will pledge not to publish any material the Government deems offensive.

Despite government pledges to support the independent regulator, the CMC, there are other indications that the regulator could be stripped of its authority. In addition to issuing broadcast licenses, the CMC is responsible for issuing tenders for mobile telecommunications licenses. These licenses, which help support the CMC and allow it to be independent of the government, have become an issue for other government ministries that feel the management of sizeable public funds should not be in the hands of an independent regulator. Proposed legislation would pull all aspects of communications regulation back under government jurisdiction with the creation of a Ministry of Telecommunications and Informatics, allowing it to monopolize key parts of the communications infrastructure.

Although security in Iraq appears to be improving, it remains one of the deadliest places for reporters. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, 140 journalists were killed on duty between 2003 and 2009 alone\*. Most reporters and media workers have not died while covering the conflict, but rather reporters have been targeted, threatened and killed because of the stories that they were, or were perceived to be, pursuing.

The fact that journalism is still taught with the same textbooks used during the previous regime is further evidence of the remaining challenges to the sector; in many cases, faculties also lack the knowledge and materials to teach modern journalism.

## 1.8 General Challenges Facing UN Agencies in Iraq

Having emerged from a tumultuous couple of decades and still in the process of recovery, reconstruction and development, Iraq poses many challenges for UN agencies operating within. These include general challenges facing all agencies, encompassing security concerns, a dual-governance structure, and the lack of capacity of Iraqi NGOs and civil society. They also include the more sector-specific ones that UNESCO faces in the areas of Education, the Sciences, Culture and the Media.

### Security and UNESCO Presence in Iraq

Since 2003, security has posed a considerable constraint to the UN's in-country operations. UN agencies have been forced to keep their staff in Iraq to a minimum until the security situation stabilizes. Thus, UNESCO continues to operate from its office in Amman, Jordan, with an international Programme Coordinator based in Baghdad acting as a focal point for the Office with senior Government officials, line Ministries, donor representatives, diplomatic missions, UNAMI and UN counterparts. An increasing number of national staff are also present in Baghdad, Erbil, Hilla, Sulaymaniyah and the Marshlands to assist in the implementation of UNESCO's programmes. However, travel to locations outside of Baghdad and Erbil remains restricted, thus hindering the mobility of UN staff and their ability to monitor activities implemented inside Iraq directly. Furthermore, the gradual withdrawal of United States Forces for Iraq adds further uncertainty as to the future provider of security for UN staff on the ground.

### Central Government and Governorates

The current governance situation in Iraq, characterized by the Central Government of Iraq in Baghdad and the semi-autonomous Kurdish Regional Government in Erbil, means that UNESCO and other international partners must address the needs and priorities of both, which sometimes diverge at the ministry level.

### Alignment to National Development Goals

UNESCO also faces the challenge of aligning its programme priorities with national development goals. Due to the wide-ranging scope of the

\* <http://www.cpj.org/reports/2008/07/journalists-killed-in-iraq.php>



Organization's mandate, some programme areas such as basic and engineering sciences, communication, information and culture are not reflected prominently in the NDP or ICL. UNESCO will thus strive to identify relevant development goals, often with line-ministry input, for which the potential of culture, the sciences and communication as effective tools for development can be harnessed, and whose achievement can be influenced by UNESCO's programmes in the those sectors.

### 1.9 Capacity of Iraqi NGOs and Civil Society

The participatory approach to programme design and implementation adopted by UNESCO fosters the engagement of civil society in the activities conducted in Iraq. However, the consequences of years of strict government control, conflict and economic decline are still felt amongst Iraqi civil society. Organizations often lack the capacity necessary to undertake long-term strategic planning, mobilize resources or expand the scope of their activities, which depend heavily on funding priorities established by donors. UNESCO together with other UN Agencies aims at working closely with Iraqi non-governmental organizations as representatives of Iraqi civil society while assisting them in their effort to provide a meaningful contribution to the future development of the country.





United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
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للثقافة والعلم والتربية

مكتب العراق  
Iraq Office

# Past And Present Cooperation, Lessons Learned







## 2.1 Key UNESCO Achievements

The UNESCO Iraq Office was established in Amman, Jordan in February 2004 following the bombing of the UN Headquarters in Iraq in August 2003. Since its establishment, UNESCO-Iraq has tailored its programmes to address the needs of a post-conflict situation; support to peace building and reconciliation in the country underlies the Organization's mandate for education, science, culture, communication and information. Within these areas, UNESCO interventions were designed to:

- 1) support national capacity to manage the urgent sectoral needs;
- 2) strengthen and support Iraqi civil society, human rights;
- 3) assist vulnerable groups, including women, and targeted professionals such as journalists and academics.

From 2008 to the present, following an improvement in the security situation in Iraq, staff missions to Iraq in support of programme implementation have been frequent. At present, UNESCO-Iraq maintains an international programme coordinator in Baghdad, national staff in Baghdad and Erbil and associated monitors elsewhere in Iraq who report on implementation and evaluation through regular site visits throughout the country. The Office now also holds a significant number of workshops and events in Iraq within the framework of its projects.

UNESCO's activities to date have marked the response necessary to address the needs that years of sanctions, the invasion and the ensuing looting and violence have produced. Thus, the larger sums spent during the first three biennia reflect the contribution of the UN Development Group Iraq Trust Fund (UNDG-ITF) and of bilateral donors such as Japan, Germany, the European Union (EU) and Qatar Foundation, for the provision of basic equipment and the reconstruction of damaged infrastructure. Extra-budgetary funds for the 2010-2011 biennium have been earmarked more for capacity development initiatives in line with the shift of UN agencies to a longer term development strategy. UNESCO Regular Programme funds have implemented capacity-building activities essential to fulfilling UNESCO's functions and mission; these

interventions have allowed the Government of Iraq (GoI) to adopt international standards in many areas under UNESCO's mandate that may not have been a main priority for donors, but that have led to the ratification of basic international conventions. Regular Programme resources have also been used as seed money to conduct studies and gather baseline data that lay the foundations of large-scale projects subsequently funded by extra-budgetary resources.

## 2.2 Education

### Reinforcing National Educational Planning, Management and Evaluation

- **Direct Emergency Assistance:** In the aftermath of the 2003 invasion, UNESCO began its assistance to Iraq's educational system, procuring basic communication equipment, video-conferencing facilities, ICT training for key ministry staff and installing a comprehensive website by late 2004.
- **Needs Assessment:** In 2004, UNESCO conducted a comprehensive needs assessment of Iraq's education system. The status and needs were identified for secondary and higher education, vocational education, teacher training institutes and capacity building for educational policy formulation, planning and management.
- **Education Management Information System:** UNESCO in partnership with UNICEF created an Education Management Information System (EMIS). The EMIS established basic infrastructure for data entry, analysis and preparation of statistical reports for the Ministry of Education and 23 Directorates of Education in 18 governorates. The establishment of the EMIS is an important development within the overall efforts of the government to decentralize.
- **ICTs in Education:** Also implemented in partnership with UNESCWA, this project developed the literacy and skills of MOE staff, teachers and students in the use of Information and Communication Technologies.
- **National Education Strategy:** In 2009, UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank took

up the initiative with Iraqi counterparts to develop a National Education Strategy (NES). A comprehensive capacity-building programme was designed in cooperation and partnership with the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP).

### Textbooks for Basic Education

- **Textbooks Quality Improvement Programme:** provided immediate textbook assistance and strengthened in-country capacities for textbook development and delivery. The programme printed 18 million primary and secondary textbooks benefitting 11 million schoolchildren in Iraq.

### Rebuilding Secondary Education and Teacher Training

- **In-Service Training of Secondary School Teachers of Science, Mathematics and English Language:** Trained officials from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and Scientific Research to formulate a National Teacher Education Strategy, as well as 62 master teacher trainers on the development of instructional materials and methods. The project also equipped 18 teacher-training institutes and the Institute of Educational Training and Development in Baghdad with film, projection and editing material for classroom observation.
- **Strengthening Secondary Education:** Rehabilitated 165 science laboratories and refurbished 55 libraries in secondary schools across Iraq. It also provided science experiment manuals, low-cost science equipment, and laboratory training to science teachers.
- **Training of Trainers in Teacher Education for Sustained Quality Education:** Established a Teacher Training Network for Iraq (TTNI); conducted capacity-building activities for 308 lecturers on the English language, computer skills and new teaching methodologies; conducted a multiplier effect training covering 10 subjects for lecturers in the universities of Basra, Salahaddin, Baghdad, and Al-Anbar.

### Higher Education

- **Qatar Foundation's Higher Education Fund (\$15 million):** Provided laboratory equipment, library reference materials and student textbooks to universities; granted 300 short-term fellowships to university professors and students to study abroad; 32 Iraqi university lecturers participated in training workshops at foreign institutions; 78 university professors from the Colleges of Science and Education were provided with professional training at international universities
- **Iraqi Virtual Campus:** Identified 3 main universities BAGHDAD, Basra and Salahaddin in Kurdistan to establish a Virtual Campus offering e-learning opportunities to Iraqis; 3 Avicenna Centers has been then constituted and basic training on developing online courses have been initiated with the above mentioned universities. Further capacity building and development has been entrusted to Rehabilitation of the Iraqi Higher Education System Project.

### Revitalizing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

- **Revitalizing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (Phases I & II):** Equipped 11 TVET institutions with the most up-to-date vocational training equipment; trained MOE staff on installation and networking of the equipment; procured workshop and IT equipment for 37 schools in 13 governorates and provided manuals and training; established a TVET Staff Development Unit at the Ministry of Education
- **Improving Quality & Relevance of TVET:** Established Contract Training Centres in three technical colleges in Baghdad, Mosul and Basra; developed a Governance Model for the TVET sector in Iraq; produced an Apprenticeship Guide and textbooks for the textiles, carpentry and printing disciplines; delivered workshop and lab equipment to the Ministry of Education,

Foundations of Technical Education and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs with a value of over USD 2 million in total

- **Local Area Development Programme:** This joint programme helped improve living conditions and contribute to sustainable poverty reduction in the Governorates of Sulaymaniyah, Babylon, Basra, Thi-Qar and Missan. UNESCO's achievements included five capacity-building workshops held in Amman, training 107 managers, teachers and trainers in total; generators, workshop and lab equipment delivered to three Vocational Training Centres; lab equipment and furniture procured for eight schools in Sulaymaniyah, Hilla and Missan.

### Non-Formal Education (NFE): Improving Literacy and Developing Life Skills

- **Literacy and Life Skills (LLD):** This project supported the MOE in providing non-formal education, literacy and life skills interventions for adults, particularly women and youth in urgent need.

### Other achievements:

- Established, furnished and equipped a National Literacy Resource Centre (NLRC) in Baghdad and four Community Learning Centres (CLC) in Baghdad, Al-Muthanna and Dyala.
- Obtained completion of Primary Education Certificates for 1,800 illiterate and semi-literate individuals after taking peace education and literacy classes in the Southern Marshlands in partnership with the AMAR International Charitable Foundation.
- Established a Youth Centre in Basra providing children with literacy and skill-development classes.
- Completed a needs assessment survey in the field of literacy at national level.
- Conducted a critical review of new literacy textbooks; revised and developed Arabic Language, Mathematics and General Culture textbooks.
- Assisted the Government of Iraq in finalizing a national literacy action plan within the framework of the Literacy Initiative for Iraq.
- Established three new community learning centres in the governorate of Salahaddin, Thi-Qar and Sulaymaniyah.

### Regular Programme

UNESCO receives core funding through Headquarters from the different sectors' budgets, which are approved every two years by the General Conference. Key achievements for regular programme projects in Education between 2004 and 2009 include:

- \* A Needs Assessment Survey on Literacy and NFE status in Iraq organized in collaboration with both the Ministries of Education and Planning, and international NGOs.
- \* The Textbooks On-Line website was established in 2007 and contains electronic versions of all Iraqi school textbooks. While accessible to all, this is of special benefit to the out-of-school population, IDPs and refugees, as well as teachers and NGOs.
- \* Celebrations of International Literacy Day and Education for All Global Action Week conducted by the MoE and UNESCO in Iraq.
- \* A workshop on the National Education Strategy organized in collaboration with the World Bank and UNICEF in February 2008 gathering MOE and MOHESR officials with international partners and UN agencies to identify the vision and mission of the strategy and to identify capacity-building needs in the education sector.
- \* Seven Iraqi MOE officials attended a training workshop in Rabat in October 2008 on the Planning and Management of NFE and Literacy Programmes in the Arab States concerned with Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE).
- \* Forum on strengthening the role of NGOs in EFA held in Cairo, attended by two Iraqi NGOs

## 2.3 Science and Environment

### Ecological and Earth Sciences

UNESCO-Iraq assisted the GoI in reviving the Iraqi National Committee of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP). The Iraqi National (Man and Biosphere) MAB committee and the World Heritage National Sub-Committee for Natural Heritages have also been restructured and reactivated after being dormant since the 1990s. UNESCO cooperated with the Ministry of Environment to provide technical advice and reference materials.

Furthermore, due to UNESCO's efforts in conducting a workshop for 31 Iraqis on World

Heritage and Biodiversity conventions in 2008, Iraq became the 192<sup>nd</sup> party to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

## Water Sciences

Water issues are of the utmost importance for Iraq's future. Therefore, the primary results of UNESCO's interventions from the Natural Sciences programme are focused on hydrological sciences and more specifically on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the water-planning sector, an important priority of the Iraqi Government.

Thus, the project Capacity Building of Water Institutions in Iraq, which started in 2004, dealt with the development of local research and training capacities, technical capacity building, and the initiation of a National Water Resources Assessment Programme as the basis for a National Water Policy and Strategy. The project involved the participation of 300 Iraqi water experts in these activities. Key achievements include capacity development and policy dialogue in the field of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) as well as:

- Organized eighteen training courses and six workshops on various aspects of IWRM.
- Targeted all water-related ministries (9 in Baghdad and 1 in KRG) to mobilize government membership for the World Water Council (Secretariat for the World Water Forum).
- Produced IWRM Guidelines at River Basin Level in coordination with Japanese partners.
- Released the book "Water and Peace for the People" through UNESCO Publishing in collaboration with the wide coherence and increase coordination among ministries.
- The National Iraq International Hydrological Programme (IHP) committee was re-established and the membership for the World Water Council (Secretariat for the World Water Forum) was facilitated.

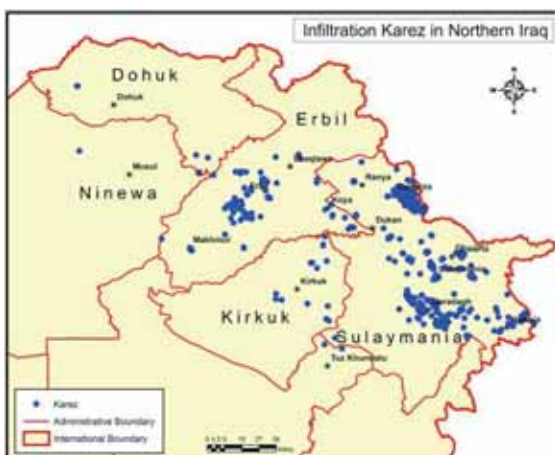


Figure 2-1: Infiltration Karez of Northern Iraq

"Karez" is the local name of the ancient underground water conveyance system that has had an important role in supplying drinking and irrigation water throughout history. Negligence of the karez in recent decades has left the historical structures damaged and disrupted their sustainability. Thus, the *Rehabilitation and Conservation of Karez systems in Northern Governorates Project*, which began in the spring of 2007 and will conclude in early 2011, contributed to restoring and preserving these systems, benefitting local communities and especially women, being the main water providers for the household. Ease of access to water allows them more time to engage in other economic and educational activities. Key achievements of this project include:

- Restored 20 karez across Northern Iraq.
- Trained 20 engineers from the KRG Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) on the use of restoration and maintenance equipment
- Trained 15 experts from MoWR Baghdad/KRG on physical rehabilitation and maintenance of Karez
- Created a Karez restoration manual to be used as reference for policymakers and engineers in the field.

## 2.4 Culture

UNESCO activities for culture were planned in accordance to the recommendations stemming from two UNESCO Assessment missions in 2003, and the aforementioned Fourth ICC Iraq Plenary Session. Pursuant to the core mission of UNESCO, the Organization's efforts have focused on strengthening national capacities in the culture sector in line with international standards, and aiming to update Iraqi experts' knowledge on state of the art techniques, technologies and best practices in the field of conservation of cultural heritage such as archaeological sites, historical buildings, artefacts and architectural features.

Three flagship projects in the field of heritage protection should be noted:

1. *Babylon*. UNESCO provided an exhaustive technical evaluation of present conditions at the archaeological site of Babylon following the damages caused to the site during the occupation



of the site by the MNF-I from April 2003 to December 2004: UNESCO's "Final Report on Damage Assessment in Babylon" was presented at a press conference in Paris on 9 July 2009. Produced by the Sub-Committee on Babylon of UNESCO's ICC Iraq, it provides an exhaustive technical evaluation of present conditions at the renowned archaeological site.

2. *Al-Askari Shrine in Samarra*. Following the bombing of the Al-Askari Shrine in Samarra, one of the most sacred Shia'a sites, UNESCO has committed to work with the government of Iraq to protect and restore the historical, spiritual and cultural heritage of the Samarra Shrine as a "cornerstone of the rebuilding of the country and a decisive step on the road towards national reconciliation."
  - At the request of the Gol and Iraqi civil society, UNESCO Iraq undertook urgent intervention works and preparation for the restoration of the Al-Askari Shrine, generating much needed employment by employing nearly six hundred workers from Samarra City.
3. *Revitalization of the Erbil Citadel*. Funded by the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), this project's achievements include:
  - Enhanced capacity of the High Commission for the Erbil Citadel Revitalization (HCECR) to manage the Erbil Citadel through the participation of 18 experts in capacity building workshops in the field of conservation and restoration techniques.
  - Establishment of the Conservation and Master Plan for Erbil Citadel as a step towards its eventual nomination as a World Heritage Site.
  - Preparation of documentation for the rehabilitation of 10 pilot heritage buildings at Erbil Citadel and supervision of restoration works.

## Heritage Protection

UNESCO-Iraq has strengthened national capacities for implementing heritage protection international conventions. This included providing training on the application of Intangible Heritage conventions, conservation and restoration techniques, and protection of archaeological sites (such as Nineveh).

## Fight against the Looting and Illicit Trafficking of Iraqi Cultural Property

The Office's interventions have led to an enhanced national capacity to protect Iraqi cultural property. Projects combating the looting of archaeological sites include:

- *Fight against the Looting of Archaeological Sites*. Started in 2004, it successfully supplied equipment for site protection to archaeological sites around the country;
- *Training of Border Patrol and Site Guards to Stop Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Artefacts*. Trained guards and policemen between 2004 and 2005 on the detection and tracing of illegal excavations and trafficking;
- *Object Identification Training*. Held a workshop to train 20 Iraqi participants on the Standards of Archaeological Objects Identification codes and techniques.

## Rehabilitating Cultural Institutions

Past UNESCO projects have helped rehabilitate and equip the National Heritage Institute in Baghdad, the National Library and Archives, the Iraqi National Museum in Baghdad, the Regional Centre for Conservation, the Child Museum (part of the Iraqi National Museum), the Melodic Institute and the Music and Ballet School between 2004 and 2008.

## Mapping of Archaeological Sites for their Protection and Conservation

Achievements in this area include:

- Support provided to set up a database on archaeological sites and to train 16 State Board of Antiquities and Heritage (SBAH) staff to use Geographical information System (GIS) and Global Position System (GPS) in 2005 and 2006;
- Creation of an Iraqi Stolen Cultural Property Database for the National Museum in Baghdad;
- Training in the Documentation of Iraqi Cultural Heritage using Photogrammetry.

## Protection of Cultural Property

Capacity building projects led to the following results:

- Printed and distributed museum manual for Iraqi museum management in Arabic and English, and museum management training conducted for

- museum specialists and international experts;
- 10 Iraqi experts were trained on establishing a legal framework to combat illicit traffic of that property in a series of workshops. The comprehensive approach included the assessment of operational aspects as well as a course on technical inventory and Object Identification;
- Within the framework of a training workshop for heritage protection held in November 2008, the national and international legal frameworks for heritage protection were discussed with ministry policymakers, to work towards the revision of the Heritage Law.

#### Regular Programme Main Achievements:

- In the 2004-2005 biennium, the training of 14 Iraqis in excavation, preservation and management of archaeological sites as well as intangible heritage and mud brick conservation;
- The inscription of Samarra Archaeological City on the World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger in the 2006-2007 biennium. Also, the projects worked towards the promotion of creativity by sending talented students in the Music and Ballet School in Baghdad to Amman for summer and winter sessions.

## 2.5 Communication and Information \_\_\_\_\_

UNESCO's Communication and Information Programme for Iraq has focused on institutional and operational capacity building. The Organization undertakes its planning and implementation in accordance with the commitments and guidance given in the ICI and NDP in close collaboration with sister agencies within the coordinating mechanisms of UN Agencies in Iraq. Projects have addressed the priority areas of media and elections, constitutional development and the promotion of freedom of expression and human rights.

In 2005, UNESCO contributed to enhancing the election coverage through the project *Support for Fair, Safe and Professional Media Election Coverage: Election Reporting Guide and Advocacy Campaigns*, which promoted transparency, accountability and full access to information. Main achievements include:

- Disseminated election reporting handbooks and guides on human rights, international law and elections, freedom of information in workshops and on the internet, in Arabic and English.
- Held two safety-training workshops for journalists.
- Held workshops on media's rights, role and obligations during elections.
- Organized an event for World Press Freedom Day on 3 May of every year.

In 2006, UNESCO contributed to the joint project *Strengthening Good Governance through Support for Independent, Pluralistic, Sustainable and Professional Media*. Its main achievements were:

- Assisted the Communications and Media Commission (CMC) in media legislation reform to guarantee freedom of expression and promote diversity of opinion;
- Supported building sustainable organizations supporting an independent media;
- Raised awareness within public bodies about the fundamental rights of freedom of expression and access to information, thus enhancing dialogue at national level.

To support a broad spectrum of sustainable defence of freedom of expression and human rights in general, there is a need for advocacy and capacity building. To this end, *Promotion of Freedom of Expression and Human Rights in Iraq* was implemented between 2005 and 2006 as part of a joint program with other UN agencies to assist the Iraqi Constitution Committee in developing a constitution for Iraq and of engaging the wider Iraqi public in an "informed and constructive dialogue" about the constitutional process. UNESCO Iraq contributed to promoting human rights principles and developing a media development strategy. The main results of these interventions were:

- Submitted to the Constitution Drafting Committee a proposed draft of constitutional clauses, outlining principles of freedom of expression including right of access to information and an explicit statement on media freedom.
- Launched an interactive website stimulating debate and discussion on constitutional issues, resulting in enhanced participation in the constitution-building process.
- Supported a national Iraqi media and communication policy at government level



Fostering an independent civil society and media is important for any democracy to thrive. Thus, the purpose of the joint project *Support the Media in its Role of Fostering Peace and Democracy*, launched in late 2008, was to enable professional development and strengthened institutions through legal and regulatory frameworks. Achievements of this project included:

- Conducted a baseline survey of the sector in collaboration with national authorities, universities, NGOs, media professional associations and the Media Law Working Group (MLWG);
- Targeted training and capacity building to enhance professionalism at editorial, technical and policy levels;
- Reviewed journalism curricula in Iraqi universities to modernize them.

Achievements from projects implemented through Regular Programme funds include:

- In the 2006-2007 biennium, support given to an existing women's radio station; journalists trained on conflict resolution.
- In the 2008-2009 "Biennium", a guide on Best Practices of new media addressing peace and dialogue developed; training provided to 20 researchers on oral history and interview techniques.

UNESCO has implemented these interventions taking into account that female Iraqi journalists are specifically targeted by militia groups and conservatives and also may face domestic abuse as result of their perceived 'intrusion' into the male-dominated public sphere. Extensive consultations have and will continue to be conducted with women media professionals to determine how to ensure that they can both exercise their right to work and their right to life and security. Current projects ensure that women are represented fairly in training groups and discussion forums, and strive to guarantee that safety guides and training take account of the particular problems faced by media workers.

## 2.6 Lessons Learned

In the framework of the abovementioned

programmes, several hundred police officers, government officials and schoolteachers have been trained in Iraq, Jordan and Egypt resulting in a multiplier effect in knowledge sharing. These programmes have contributed to diminishing the initial distrust attached to all UN agencies in Iraq and have helped UNESCO establish and expand good networks in the country.

Adapting to the Iraqi context has been challenging considering that the Office's programme and activities have been managed from Amman due to security concerns; the Office has been constantly forced to update its own operational methods. Based on the experience of UN agencies and international NGOs in project implementation in Iraq, early planning and coordination with partner ministries, NGOs and educational institutions were taken into consideration when designing programmes and implementing timeframes for projects. Nevertheless, during the past five years working through remote operational modalities, it is evident that for a tangible change to take place, implementing partners must be more present on the ground to participate effectively and communicate directly with the beneficiaries through both design and implementation phases of the projects. Therefore, UNESCO has worked to strengthen its field presence with regular missions of international staff to engage communities and authorities at different levels of projects implementation. If conditions would allow for a more permanent presence on the ground, all sector activities and operations will benefit, in particular regarding the implementation of more effective monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

Another relevant lesson learnt relates to sustainability. UNESCO training activities started after 2003 targeted very technical and urgent topics such as physical protection and conservation of cultural heritage at the level of technicians and experts. However, to ensure the sustainability of acquired knowledge and skills and its application in an orderly manner, capacity building should also be oriented to target both intermediate level stakeholders and decision makers. Otherwise, the Organization may witness discrepancies between very knowledgeable experts on one side, and decision makers who show a very low level of awareness

on these issues of concern on the other. This can eventually have a negative impact on the outcome of UNESCO's interventions, particularly if a certain area is considered less important and is thus erased from the political agenda. The Office increasingly involves medium-level and, when possible, upper-level decision makers in its training programmes and activities. The constant information sharing and updates in coordination with Iraqi experts has proved a useful tool to advocate for the adoption of international standards in line with national priorities.

The progressive shift of focus from physical reconstruction and short-term provision of aid to long-term development and capacity building oriented programmes has been, and will continue to be, a challenge for project implementation. The Government of Iraq has progressively increased the financial resources available to fund its service delivery programmes, but often lacks the expertise to make them responsive to the needs of the Iraqi people.

Political instability during the last five years has often had an impact on the participation of Iraqis in UNESCO-led capacity building programmes. This has meant that a number of the beneficiaries of the trainings organised have been forced to leave their position within a certain institution as a result of the changing socio-political environment, which in turn has sometimes prevented them from putting their acquired knowledge and skills into practice or conveying such knowledge within the institutions they worked for.

The increasing relevance of regional and local authorities in line with the principle of decentralization enshrined in the Iraqi constitution will necessarily have an impact on the communication channels opened by UNESCO Iraq with Iraqi institutions, which so far have focused on the central government and the KRG. Strengthening the linkages with regional and local authorities and strengthening civil society will therefore be important issues to address in the near future.

UNESCO-Iraq has found itself challenged to demonstrate that it is making tangible, relevant contributions nation-wide in a highly politicized

environment under the spotlight of the international press. The demands for information and analysis by the media are constant, and do represent an important opportunity for the Organization to highlight its work. UNESCO clearly needs to establish a Public Information and Advocacy Strategy for Iraq that will allow the Organization to capitalize on this opportunity and overcome what has been until now an ad hoc approach.

Where possible, relying on UNESCO's global network and experience in planning and implementing its interventions has been an asset, thus strengthening the Office's responses to Iraq's needs. Though much was done in its fields of competence, the Office has at times lacked a strategic approach, failing to capitalize on opportunities to advocate for its sectors and to build on initial successes, and has focused too much on individual projects when a rather programmatic view would have better served to build synergy and maximize impact. The next few years will be critical for Iraq; the Office must ensure that it strengthens both the relevance and quality of its programmes, in large part by adopting a more stringent results-based management approach.

## Proposed Interventions: Areas And Strategies





Through the Iraq-UCPD, UNESCO seeks to build on the results achieved thus far in its cooperation with Iraq while incorporating the lessons learned during this period. Within its overarching objective to contribute to peace building, poverty reduction and sustainable development in Iraq in line with UNESCO's mission, the Office's competencies in supporting educational, cultural and scientific development are well suited for Iraq's post-humanitarian phase of reconstruction and transitional development. In response to the new situation, UNESCO-Iraq will continue to address national priorities and assist the Government in attaining internationally agreed upon development goals, including the MDGs. However, there will be a shift in its focus: future interventions will increasingly emphasize capacity development of Iraqi institutions and civil society, rather than equipment and supplies provision in a post-conflict context. The success of past UNESCO efforts to support Iraqi institutions will allow the Office to build existing strong bonds with a wide range of governmental and non-governmental entities and thus rely increasingly on national partners such as universities, institutes and civil society organizations, among others, to implement UNESCO's programme at national, local and community levels. UNESCO's work in reconciliation and reconstruction fosters national dialogue and strengthened capacities in achieving the development goals of the country, thus contributing to a culture of peace.

### 3.1 Areas of Intervention

UNESCO's proposed interventions are part of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2011-14, which will provide a strong platform for aid harmonization, development sustainability and effectiveness in line with the Paris Principles and the MDGs. Most importantly, the UNDAF has been developed in parallel with the Iraq Five Year National Development Plan (NDP) 2010 – 2014, thus providing a comprehensive programme to support the Government's institutional development more effectively and enable improved budget execution and transparency. UNESCO-Iraq will contribute to the five UNDAF development priority areas identified in the first Common Country Assessment for Iraq, and according to the national development priorities stipulated in the Iraq Five Year National Development Plan.

#### The five priority areas of the UNDAF

1. Improved governance, and protection of human rights;
2. Inclusive, equitable and socially responsible economic growth;
3. Environmental conservation, mitigation, control and compliance with ratified international environmental treaties and obligations;
4. Increased access to quality essential services;
5. Investment in human capital, and empowerment of women, youth and children.

UNESCO's contribution to all these areas will be reflected across all the programmes that the Organization implements in Iraq as a specialized UN Agency<sup>28</sup>. The substantive financial contribution of the Organization will take into consideration the priorities set by the Government of Iraq as well as UNESCO's mandate. To achieve the goals laid out in this document, it will be necessary to attain the objectives listed below. Education will receive 66 percent of these resources, while Culture, Communication and Information and Natural Sciences will receive 26 percent, 6 percent and 2 percent of the funds respectively.

28. See Annex 1: UCPD Results Matrix clearly identifying the UNDAF priority areas to which UNESCO programmes in Iraq will contribute.

Table 3-1: UNESCO-Iraq 2010-2014 Planned Budget

	UNESCO-Iraq 2010-2014 Planned Budget*				Proportion of Total (%)
	Secured	To be Mobilized	RB † (2010-2011)	Total	
ED	42,460,736	31,180,617	285,900	73,927,253	65.9%
SC	1,667,000	1,000,000	63,000	2,730,000	2.4%
CLT	17,859,879	11,096,834	132,950	29,089,663	25.9%
CI	4,881,862	1,500,000	80,000	6,461,862	5.8%
	66,869,477	44,777,451	561,850	112,208,778	100

\*This table does not include the budget of ongoing projects

†Figures do not include the regular budget of the next two biennia

## 3.2 Education

The guiding principle of UNESCO's interventions in Education will be to accompany and assist the national education authorities in achieving the EFA goals, respecting international norms and standards regarding the preparation of young people to assume their role as responsible citizens in a democratic society. The Organization will emphasise national coherence and a sector-wide approach to education, both formal and non-formal, so that it can contribute to consolidating national unity and the reconciliation process. Intersectoral programming will constitute a key ingredient in addressing education sector issues holistically, taking fully into consideration important dimensions such as the rich Iraqi cultural, historical and scientific heritage.

The immediate aim of the UNESCO strategy will be to restore the confidence of the Iraqi population in their education system, thereby creating a sense of normality and hope in the future of their country.

UNESCO strategy will respond to immediate educational needs while preparing for the reframing of the education activities to meet the new requirements of Iraqi society with due consideration to their sustainability. This will entail a range of capacity-building activities during the various phases of the rehabilitation and reconstruction process, as well as the mobilization of resources and partnerships for this purpose.

UNESCO will position itself to continue playing the role of the lead UN agency for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the education system working in close cooperation with the national authorities and their partners.

The strategy will contribute to achieving the education sector-oriented goals of the National Development Plan (2010-2014) and the International Compact with Iraq (ICI), while also helping achieve the MDGs and tackling emerging needs. Furthermore, the education strategy outlines UNESCO's contribution to the fulfilment of education-related priority areas included in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2011-2014.

### *(1) Educational Policy, Planning, Management, Monitoring and Evaluation*

This overall objective will be achieved through interventions resulting in strengthened institutional and human capacity of the education sector to deliver quality educational and training services to all levels and across all geographical areas.

A key overarching task will be to assist national authorities in the development of a national education strategy for 2012-2020; this is a joint effort in which UNESCO is working with both UNICEF and the World Bank. This task will provide assistance in planning and implementing comprehensive reform of the education sector. Other activities under this first area include a wide range of sub-components including



curriculum review and development of a new modern curriculum; raising awareness on the “Right to Education”, and increasing capacities of the MOE/MOHESR to have a smooth transition into a new decentralized administration. Among other priority areas is the enhancement of educational planning to deal with refugee students and threatened academics as well as a focus on the psychosocial needs of children in schools and communities. In parallel, UNESCO will focus on improving overall coordination and decision-making capacities of the MOE and expanding the scope of the Education Management Information System (EMIS) to include other education sub-sectors such as Higher Education and Non-Formal Education. The reintegration of Iraq into the EFA Monitoring Network will also be a key task.

## *(2) Access to Quality Education*

This focal area will lead to enhanced access to all levels of quality education with particular emphasis on girls and other vulnerable groups. First, UNESCO will build on recent progress in the rehabilitation of the institutional and human capacity of Iraq’s education system across all areas and will support efforts to improve the quality of teaching, teaching materials and pedagogy while focusing on teachers’ capacity development through numerous trainings. As threatened academics have fled from Iraq, the education system has suffered further losses in teachers. Thus, UNESCO will be engaged in the following:

1. UNESCO will assist MOE in the recruitment and training of new educators and will try to reintegrate academics who left the country and are either displaced or refugees.
2. UNESCO will aim to decrease youth unemployment rates. Given that currently vocational training centres do not meet labour market needs by enhancing technical trainings, UNESCO can review training material, introduce new modules and upgrade equipment infrastructure at vocational centres.
3. UNESCO will increase awareness of the educational opportunities and facilitate re-engagement of IDP and refugee students. This would involve working with the ministries in

Iraq and those of the host countries where refugee students are present. This would lead to an increase of enrolment of IDP and refugee students in formal and non-formal education.

4. UNESCO will conduct teacher and NGO trainings on how to address the psychosocial needs of students and rehabilitate or build NGO classrooms in both IDPs and refugee communities. Another emerging issue is the use of televised educational programmes using Iraqi curricula to reach especially vulnerable groups, such as IDPs, refugees, out-of-school youth, and girls.
5. UNESCO will introduce quality assurance mechanisms in Iraqi higher education system. A Quality Assurance Pilot Program has been initiated with 12 Iraqi universities, including eight in the federal government (Universities of Baghdad, Technology, Mustansiriyah, Basra, Mosul, Wassit, Kufa, and Al-Anbar), and four in Kurdistan (Universities of Salahaddin, Sulaymaniyah, Koya, and Dohuk). Capacity building on quality assurance process, standards and techniques as well as in quality management and control will enable curricula and teaching methods development.

## *(3) Enhanced provision of distance learning options for Iraqi students*

The use of technology in education has become a standard component in many countries. With the challenges hampering access of Iraqi students to universities, the choice of developing e-learning emerged and an Avicenna Project for Iraq has been developed. Avicenna Virtual Campus for Science and Technology is an e-learning knowledge network in the Mediterranean which has become a model for quality online student education and teacher training. Participating universities may share, adapt and translate teaching modules via the open virtual library. Although it is a ‘campus’, Avicenna does not actually award degrees itself. That remains the prerogative of the universities concerned. In addition to producing courses, Avicenna helps to establish local infrastructure and to transfer best practices and professional know-how within the participating universities.

Substantial progress has been made in the establishment of Avicenna Virtual Campus in Iraq (AVCI). Firstly, an agreement was reached to extend the network of e-learning centers from three, to nine universities (Bagdad, Basra, Salahaddin, Kufa, Mousel, Al-Anbar, Wassit, Muthanna and Sulaymaniyah). An MoU was signed with an established Avicenna hub, Philadelphia University in Jordan, to support this process, and a hosting server for the Iraq Avicenna center was installed at the university. Four e-learning centers have been developed, and their equipment process is underway (Bagdad, Basra, Salahaddin, and Kufa). To support the instructional side of distance learning, 87 Iraqi professors were trained as trainers on on-line course development through a total of five technical workshops. In addition to increasing the capacity of the trained professors, this process also supported the development of a total of 34 online modules which have been produced in three of the e-learning centers (Bagdad, Basra and Salahaddin), and a scientific board for the evaluation of developed courses was formed based on the Avicenna Network recognized experts. As an additional means to coordinate and share information and resources between teaching staff and students, an Iraqi Avicenna Virtual Campus Portal and Virtual Library have been launched in 2011. As a final achievement in this area, an additional 151 teachers/tutors were trained inside Iraq, through a multiplier effect training programme, and a total of 29 seminars were organized in the newly-developed AVCI inside Iraq (Baghdad, Salahaddin and Basra). Specific activities in this area included the following:

- Development and Launch of an Avicenna Portal and Virtual Library
- Production of 34 online courseware in the 3 centers established in Baghdad, Basrah and Salahaddin universities
- Training of 78 professors and MOHE representatives
- Training of 151 university teaching staff/tutors trained inside Iraq in a multiplier-effect training program
- Organisation of 29 seminars/workshops for the newly established AVCI

#### (4) Literacy and Life Skills Development

Improving access to quality literacy programmes for all will be achieved through interventions resulting in the reduction of illiteracy and the development of life skills, particularly for out-of-school children, youth, and women.

With gracious donations from the Office of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, UNESCO special envoy for Basic and Secondary Education, UNESCO is implementing the project “Literacy Initiative for Empowerment” (LIFE) in Iraq. Within the framework of the United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD 2003-2012) and in order to ensure Iraq’s progress towards the achievement of MDGs 329 and EFA goal 430, UNESCO is working to reduce illiteracy by 50 percent by 2015. To this end, a National Literacy Strategy is being developed in close cooperation with national stakeholders including national and international organizations, civil society organizations, NGOs and local community leaders. Main areas of intervention will include the following outcomes:

- National Capacity built by supporting the Gol and MOE to formulate policies, design national strategies and create synergies between central level and governorates for the effective implementation of the National Literacy Campaign
- New national curricula and programs for literacy, post literacy and equivalency programs between formal and non-formal education developed including guidelines for literacy for citizenship programmes and life skills
- Human resources developed including administrative staff, teachers of literacy and non-formal education programmes both at national and local levels
- Monitoring and evaluation system established including data collection system and NFE Management Information System at central level and governorate levels
- Effective advocacy, communication and partnership mechanisms established for the successful implementation of national literacy campaign including NGOs, private sector and relevant stakeholders

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29. Promote gender equality and empower women

30. Achieve a 50 per cent improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015, especially for women, and equitable access to basic and continuing education for all adults

### 3.3 Natural Sciences

The Sciences' proposed interventions contribute to UNDAF Priority Areas 2: *Inclusive, equitable and socially responsible economic growth*, 3: *Environmental conservation, mitigation, control and compliance with ratified international environmental treaties and obligations* and 4: *Increased access to quality essential services*. The key expected results by 2014 include:

1. Improved conservation and management of the environment and natural resources;
2. Strengthened national capacities in Science, Technology and Innovation.

In line with 34 C/4 Overarching Objective 2: "Mobilizing science knowledge and policy for sustainable development" and in accordance with the relevance of water and agriculture-related goals in the NDP and the ICL, priority areas for Iraq include: increased access to renewable water resources; incorporation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) principles into planning; development of new capacities and assessments, and provision of services. Geographically, UNESCO will continue to focus on all regions of the country and strive to expand its coverage to the disputed territories and the Marshlands. The drought of recent years will make these focal areas all the more crucial. As such, support to improving drought preparedness and mitigation will be pursued.

As the international authority on hydrology and water resources management in Iraq, UNESCO is expected by the government to lend its expertise and resources to help rebuild water capacities. Rehabilitation of hydrology and water resources management is urgently needed, particularly within the framework of the agriculture and food security sector where the Organization has already played a key role. UNESCO's specialized mandate for building the capacities of member states in integrated water resources management (IWRM) and disaster preparedness corresponds with Iraq's urgent needs. UNESCO has the potential to play a vital role in assisting Iraq to mitigate the impact of future drought and other related natural disasters.

For example, through a survey of Iraq's hydro-geological resources, UNESCO aims to produce an inventory of maps and databases on the country's subsurface water resources, build capacity and enhance coordination between the Government

and the private sector on their management.

Additional areas of intervention include support to science, technology and innovation, and Marshlands assessment and conservation. UNESCO will assist the Government of Iraq in developing a medium-term, results-based *Master Plan for Science, Technology and Innovation* (MP-STI) for the period of 2011-2015. Once launched, the policy will serve to guide government, business, and public organizations' efforts toward intensive and comprehensive development of science, technology and innovation, which will strengthen the foundations of economic growth in Iraq.

The right to live in a safe environment is enshrined in the Iraqi Constitution. As expressed to UNESCO, biodiversity and conservation of the Marshlands are key government concerns. The fate of the Iraqi Marshlands will largely depend on whether specialized agencies with an expertise in conservation, such as UNESCO, can help the government mobilize urgent interventions to protect biodiversity and achieve improved management of upstream water resources. UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) and World Heritage programmes can be utilized in this regard. Additionally, the Organization's capacity to promote the use of renewable energies could be applied in Iraq to address the need for improved access to electricity for basic social services, such as schools and hospitals.

Thus, with financial support of the Government of Italy, UNESCO is collaborating with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) to implement the project *Natural and Cultural Management of the Iraqi Marshlands as a World Heritage*. This example of inter-sectoral cooperation with the Culture programme will strengthen regulatory frameworks, institutions and processes of national and local governance towards improved conservation and management of sensitive ecosystems. Key government partners are the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Culture, and State Ministry for the Marshlands. By the project's conclusion in 2011, the Government of Iraq should have the tools and capacities to present its instrument of inscription to the World Heritage List nomination process. If successful, the inscription of the Marshlands would be the country's first "mixed" cultural and natural World Heritage site.

### 3.4 Culture

Taking into consideration the enormous challenge that addressing the rich Iraqi cultural sector entails, UNESCO-Iraq will focus its interventions on two main objectives:

1. National capacities development of the protection, restoration and conservation of Iraqi cultural property, archaeological sites and historical buildings;
2. National framework to develop cultural policies leading to sustainable development in place.

The interventions will contribute directly to the achievement of UNDAF Priority Areas *1: Improved governance, and protection of human rights* and *2: Inclusive, equitable and socially responsible economic growth*.

The latest recommendations of the International Coordination Committee for the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of Iraq (ICC Iraq) focused on 1) Historic Cities and Urban Development; 2) the Museum Sector in Iraq; 3) Fighting against looting and illicit trafficking of Cultural Property; 4) Intangible Heritage of Iraq.

National priorities in culture currently reflect the move from a reconstruction and rehabilitation agenda to a development agenda. In this regard, the Culture Sector is moving as well toward capacity building interventions supporting conservation, enhancement and development of the Iraqi cultural resources that are now broader than just cultural heritage. In this context, the Iraqi Authorities and the Iraqi people have resorted to UNESCO, seen as the key guarantor of cultural heritage worldwide; hence, main expectations in this field concern the following priorities:

- Assistance regarding the return and restitution of stolen cultural property, in particular assistance to the withdrawal of Iraqi artefacts from international auctions and antiquity shops;
- Capacity building of human resources in the culture sector at large;
- Assistance to the museum sector rehabilitation;
- Assistance for the nomination of World Heritage sites;
- Provision of technical assistance for restoration and conservation projects of archaeological sites and historical buildings;
- Awareness raising for the protection of World Heritage, archaeological sites and historical

buildings;

- Development of new jobs in the culture sector, in particular related to conservation activities and to the cultural and religious tourism development.

The Ministry of Culture is increasingly seeking overarching UNESCO institutional support to develop a short, medium and long-term cultural policy for Iraq, covering different aspects of cultural development and ensuring sustainability of undertaken actions. It is also seeking UNESCO's assistance in formulating a national tourism strategy for the country, to capitalize on this growing industry with enormous potential. Furthermore, the Regional Government of Kurdistan (KRG) has appealed to UNESCO to strengthen cooperation in the field of culture, namely for capacity building and World Heritage nomination of its flagship site, the Erbil Citadel.

Activities in the Culture Sector will focus primarily on the protection of cultural heritage in Iraq and efforts to halt the illicit trade in cultural antiquities, both interventions that fall under the umbrella of UNESCO Strategic programme Objective 11 of the 34 C/4: *Sustainably protecting and enhancing cultural heritage*. UNESCO's programmes will hence strive to strengthen the capacity of national institutions in heritage preservation and museum management among others. UNESCO's long-term commitment to preserve and restore Iraqi heritage will be reflected in the continuity of its programmes focusing on the Erbil Citadel and Al-Askari Shrine World Heritage Site.

Recognizing the importance of culture as both a tool and a platform for sustainable development and reconciliation, UNESCO-Iraq will also assist the Government in assessing the full potential of its cultural resources, which, if managed appropriately, can become an important vector for development and social cohesion. Training sessions for government officials from different levels of the administration will constitute the bulk of UNESCO's activities in this area, which will be essential to ensuring the development of efficient cultural policies.

Moreover, UNESCO's role in the protection of the Iraqi cultural property will require further advocacy efforts to ensure Iraq's adherence to the international legal framework, including the Second Protocol of the 1954 Hague Convention on Protection of Cultural Property in the Event



of Armed Conflict (1999), which offers a greater level of protection of cultural property, and the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or illegally exported cultural objects. The Organization also expects to work closely with the GoI on the adoption of other key UNESCO conventions such as the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

### 3.5 Communication and Information \_\_\_\_\_

In recognition of the key role that media can play in the construction of democratic and pluralistic norms in Iraq, positively influencing the reconciliation process, UNESCO will address UNDAF Priority Area 1: *Improved governance, and protection of human rights* through its Communication and Information programme. The expected outcome by the end of 2014 is the “Achievement of an independent, pluralistic and professional media environment that enables access to information for all Iraqis”.

The Organization will build on previous programmes implemented jointly with other UN agencies such as UNDP to continue promoting the development of an independent, pluralistic and professional media. This goal is specifically addressed in Strategic Programme 13 of the 34 C/4 UNESCO strategy, particularly in relation to post-conflict areas. Programme activities will centre around both the strengthening of legal norms and standards governing media participation in a free society and training to help media understand the nature of its role as watchdog to support the achievement of a democratic and transparent society based on the rule of law.

The UNESCO Communication and Information sector will be active in various projects, the common theme of which is media support and the electoral process in Iraq. The project entitled *Support for Enhanced Media Coverage and Monitoring for Electoral Processes* focuses on building the capacity of three key institutions in Iraq: the Communications and Media Commission (CMC), the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) and the professional media. The goal of these capacity-building exercises will be to enable the three institutions to play their respective and complementary roles in providing stakeholders with timely, accurate and impartial information. The activities implemented through this project include building public confidence in and facilitating

dialogue among the above-mentioned three institutions, strengthening regulatory frameworks and ensuring evidence-based public outreach and advocacy for the IHEC and the CMC.

In light of the existing challenges, UNESCO is expected to play a key role in strengthening an independent, pluralistic and professional media environment through capacity development activities. Such initiatives should lead to the articulation and/or enactment of sustainable regulatory and legislative frameworks to protect fundamental human rights including the rights to freedom of expression, access to information and data protection. The Organization will also be called upon to support key institutions – e.g. training institutions, regulatory bodies and professional entities – for targeted training and capacity building to enhance professionalism at editorial, technical and policy levels. UNESCO also has the experience to assist in the development of local content to support national dialogue and reconciliation through targeted training on issues ranging from women’s rights to HIV/AIDS and disability; small grants for independent media; as well as study tours and scholarships. The Organization is already working on raising awareness among Iraqi media on electoral issues, and improving media capacity to analyse and report on electoral events, processes and results in a professional manner. It has contributed to the promotion of dialogue and partnerships between the electoral institutions, and it fosters appropriate and equitable public access to information on electoral processes.

Finally, the safety of both Iraqi and international journalists must be given the highest priority. The situation in Iraq is an appalling illustration of the grim reality for journalists; continuing war instability demands continuous safety training and provision of equipment in accordance with international standards. That is why protection of media professionals will be at the forefront of UNESCO's programmes in Iraq. In line with UNESCO's mandate, the Organization has been requested to provide journalists and academics, often targeted for assassination, with the skills and methodologies necessary to enhance their personal safety as well as to raise awareness of the dangers journalists face within the greater objective of ending impunity for those responsible for the killing of journalists. Efforts will be made to raise awareness on the dangers and threats suffered by Human

Rights Defenders (HRDs), media professionals and members of the academic community. UNESCO will collaborate closely with other UN agencies and civil society organizations towards a safer environment for media professionals in Iraq. Particular attention will be given to the situation and specific threats undermining the daily working conditions of women.

### 3.6 UNESCO within the UNCT Gender Task Force

In addition to the mainstreaming of gender across all Sector programming at UNESCO Iraq, the office also participates in the Gender Task Force (GTF) for Iraq. The overall purpose of the GTF is to advise and develop United Nations Country Team (UNCT) shared approaches towards the achievement of gender equality through relevant MDGs and other national priorities, and to support monitoring of progress towards their achievement. It also aims to provide advocacy and support to the UNCT to meet its obligations and reporting requirements for gender. One of the GTF responsibilities is to ensure common gender messages and coordinated advocacy through the UN programmatic processes, such as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and the Iraqi Trust Fund (ITF). The GTF ultimately aims to advise the Resident Coordinator (RC) and the UNCT on how best to support the Government of Iraq in achieving gender equality and women's empowerment. It does this by focusing on facilitating an understanding of gender issues in Iraq, including the existing challenges, potential opportunities and priority areas, and advocating for the mainstreaming of gender in all Sector programming, within all Agencies.

Each Agency participating in the GTF, including UNESCO, has nominated a Gender Focal Point who will represent it at all GTF monthly meetings and other activities. This Focal Point is responsible for sharing information with the GTF, as well as within his or her Agency, on upcoming projects related to gender and for assisting his or her Agency in ensuring that gender is mainstreamed through all programmatic interventions. Thus, the GTF allows for more coordination, synergy and the exchange of knowledge and expertise. Previously, the Focal Points from UNESCO Iraq have come from the Education Sector; however, there is currently a full

time Gender Focal Point placed within the office.

Each year, the GTF develops a work plan for its activities over the coming twelve months, which is approved by the UNCT. In 2009, the GTF undertook a review of all Sector matrices to ensure that they were gender sensitive. Four Sectors were reviewed: Governance; Economic Reform and Diversification, Protection and Education. For 2010, the GTF engaged in several activities, including an analysis of the gender strategies of all Agencies participating in the GTF, in which common goals, outputs and indicators, as well as gaps, were identified. The result of this analysis will be used to start a broad based discussion for the drafting of a UNCT Gender Strategy, which should be in line with the UNDAF and Iraq National Women Strategy currently being developed. Planned activities for 2011 include: positioning Gender Focal Points in the UNDAF Priority Working Groups and sub-groups, which do not traditionally focus on gender issues; organizing additional capacity building for Gender Focal Points to allow them to better assist their Agencies with gender mainstreaming; holding thematic discussions on the results of key research in Iraq from a gender perspective, identifying relevant points and occasions for advocacy. In April 2011, the Division of Gender Equality from UNESCO Headquarters provided capacity building for both Agency Focal Points sitting on the GTF as well as a separate training for UNESCO Iraq office staff. The training focused on skills related to gender mainstreaming, so that it will be more broadly and effectively done in programmatic responses in the future. With the recent release of the 2011-2014 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for Iraq, the work of the GTF and the Agency Gender Focal Points will be that much more important, as the GTF will be asked to support the five UNDAF Priority Working Groups that will coordinate and oversee the implementation of the UNDAF.

UNESCO's Gender Focal Point has been leading the analysis of GTF Agency gender strategies, which will provide input to the broad based discussion for the drafting of the UNCT Gender Strategy. UNESCO Iraq will also be represented in all events, celebrations and thematic discussions coordinated by the GTF through its Gender Focal Point, in addition to its own events, celebrations and thematic discussions which incorporate gender, such as a planned event on women and literacy in



commemoration of International Literacy Day in September 2011.

### 3.7 Partnerships

UNESCO-Iraq has been cooperating with multiple government, non-government and international counterparts over the past years as well as institutions and civil society organizations within Iraq. Collaboration with Iraqi partners has proved to be not only cost effective, but also very positive due to their greater understanding of the country that allows them to respond more readily to the peculiar circumstances of Iraq. The choice of implementing partners in Iraq will consider their abilities, local and political contacts and security conditions to minimize any possible risks. The main partners are as follows:

1. The Government of Iraq, particularly through the Iraqi National Commission for UNESCO, as well as other Iraqi institutions;
2. Other UN Agencies;
3. International institutions;
4. Non-Governmental Organizations both from inside and outside Iraq;
5. The private sector and civil society;

Since 2003, UNESCO and its UN partners have committed to supporting the Government of Iraq (GoI) through the coordination of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT). Under these auspices, the UN in consultation with the GoI, the donor community and NGOs, issued the United Nations Assistance Strategy 2008-2010 to define how the UN partners will support the Government in addressing its priority needs as defined in the NDP and the ICI. Synergy and collaboration amongst all UN agencies operating in Iraq has been fostered through the UN Development Group's Iraq Trust Fund, which has provided substantial financial support to specialized agencies like UNESCO. Joint programmes funded by the ITF have led to close direct collaboration between UNESCO-Iraq and ten of the sixteen UN Agencies that are a part of the UN Family in Iraq: the UNAMI, UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCWA, UN-HABITAT, UNIFEM, UNFPA, IOM, UNOPS and ILO.

Although the ITF closed to new funding in June 2010, the CCA and the UNDAF 2011-2014, based upon and prepared in parallel with the Iraq Five Year National Development Plan (NDP) 2010 – 2014, will pave the

way for further collaboration amongst all concerned stakeholders under a coherent and coordinated strategy. UNESCO will benefit from the partnerships already established with development partners in this framework, including the Government. The Iraq Office will strive to strengthen the contacts and relationships already established in Iraq while implementing these projects and creating new ones with member UN Agencies and other international partners operating in Iraq, such as the World Bank, to undertake streamlined comprehensive interventions and to engage effectively in any future endeavours. Given the wide mandate of the Organization, the main partners listed above will vary according to the area of intervention:

### Education

The scope of UNESCO's programme in different areas of education is reflected in the wide range of entities that have worked with UNESCO-Iraq. The Office plans to increase its joint programming with other UN agencies or multilateral institutions while simultaneously increasing its implementing partners, such as local universities, institutes, NGOs, civil society organizations, etc. By involving not only the Iraqi government but also the local community, Iraqis will increase their ownership of the development process:

- Counterparts within the GoI and the KRG: Ministries of Education, Ministries of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Ministries of Labour and Social Affairs, as well as the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Prime Minister Adviser Council.
- International Partners:
  - UNESCO institutes and centres for Education such as the International Bureau of Education (IBE) on issues related to curriculum development and text books;
  - the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) will continue to collaborate with UNESCO-Iraq and the World Bank in the development of the national education strategy;
  - the International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (UNEVOC) will contribute to future actions in the field of TVET;
  - the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) and UNESCO Institute for Statistics

(UIS) will provide much needed assistance to address the challenges posed by high illiteracy rates and by the deficit of reliable data in Iraq respectively.

- Coordination will be fostered with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO).
- See Annex 3 for a list of our main non-governmental partners
- Other institutions inside and outside Iraq: UNESCO-Iraq has been collaborating with Iraqi universities and a number of international universities in Europe, the Middle East and Northern America in order to reconnect Iraqi professors, particularly doctors, women and academics facing threats and risks with the international academic community. The Office is continuing to enable them to update their knowledge in their respective fields and conduct research activities at host universities abroad within the framework of a short-term fellowship programme. This programme is facilitated by strong cooperation with Iraqi universities, namely Baghdad University, Basrah University, Al-Anbar University and Salahaddin University, as well as universities outside Iraq such as the University of Alberta, Foggia University, University College Dublin, Cairo University, University of Jordan, Philadelphia University, University of Buckingham and the University of Bangor. Special emphasis will be given to doctors, women and academics facing threats and risks.
- Private sector: As the security situation improves, UNESCO will seek to intensify its contacts with private sector companies already operating in Iraq or that have already established links with UNESCO such as Hewlett-Packard, with a view to expanding the range of implementing partners.

## Sciences

UNESCO plans to engage with an increased number of partners to provide much needed assistance to Iraq in the field of sciences and the environment.

- Key national partners, particularly on water resources management, protection of biodiversity and STI, include both the Federal and KRG Ministries of Water and Irrigation and Ministries of Environment, Ministry of Planning

and Development Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, and Ministry of Science and Technology.

- Further cooperation with International partners such as ISESCO will be explored; UNESCO-Iraq will rely as well on in-house expertise strengthening previous collaboration with the UNESCO International Centre for Qanats and Historical Hydraulic Structures and the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education.
- NGOs and other grassroots partners can provide hands-on services to UNESCO projects. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Nature Iraq and the Arab Science and Technology Foundation will be part of the strategy for the natural sciences sector, which also envisages engaging with the NGO Coordination Committee in Iraq (NCCI) to identify NGOs for implementation whose mandates and capacities match the needs of the science programmes.
- Private sector involvement will be promoted in the field of water resources targeting companies specialized in delivering high-tech solutions to implement planned activities.

## Culture

UNESCO's collaboration with the GoI and civil society has been, and will continue to be, oriented to the provision of institutional support in order to build up a network of reliable partners as well as to foster the establishment of locally based NGOs working in the field of culture. The list of partners comprises:

- Institutional counterparts at the federal level, namely the Ministry of Culture, the State Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage and the National Library and Archives in Baghdad. Main partners in the KRG include the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Tourism and the High Commission for Erbil Citadel Revitalization; national as well as Samara local authorities and chiefs of tribes played a key role to stop the wave of sectarian violence following the bombing of the Samarra Shrine;
- International institutions and other entities devoted to heritage protection including IGO- ICCROM, World Custom Organization, World Tourism Organization, the German

Archaeological Institute, Getty Conservation Institute, Aga Khan Foundation and the Galouste Gulbenkian Foundation;

- International NGOs, particularly the International Council for Site and Monuments (ICOMOS), the International Council for Museums (ICOM), the International Council for Archives (ICA); the International Federation for Libraries Associations (IFLA); World Monument Fund (WMF) and Visiting Arts;
- National NGOs, namely the Iraq Association to Support Culture and Culture for All.

### Communication and Information

The overriding priority for UNESCO is to enable Iraqi institutions to play their respective and complementary roles in providing stakeholders with timely, accurate and impartial information. UNESCO's commitment is embodied in the long list of partners for the Communication and Information Programme in Iraq:

- Main Institutional partners: The Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) and the Communications and Media Commission (CMC), Iraqi Journalists Union
- Institutions outside Iraq such as the American University Cairo, Lebanese American University, American University of Beirut, Birzeit University, and Al Jazeera Training Centre in Qatar.
- See Annex 3 for a list of our main non-governmental partners.

### 3.8 Risks and Constraints

Iraq presents one of the most challenging operating environments of any UN operation due primarily to security constraints on the ground. Therefore, accomplishing the objectives of UNESCO's programmes in Iraq remains contingent on overcoming a number of risks and operational constraints. The summary listed below primarily relates to four main factors: (i) continuing physical insecurity (ii) government stability (iii) the lack of reliable data and information, and (iv) ministry and government beneficiaries retention after trainings.

- High turnover of Ministers and ministry officials resulting in change of work plans and priorities with each new administration, and of staff, many of whom have already undertaken trainings, leading to difficulties in making progress;

- Delayed implementation by counterparts of their assigned duties which in some cases are a prerequisite for UNESCO to implement its components and activities;
- Obstacles for in-country monitoring of the actual delivery and utilization of the inputs procured (supplies, equipment, meetings);
- Security risks and concerns impeding timely delivery of supplies and equipment and hindering access to project sites;
- Difficulty for some participants to attend meetings, conferences, and workshops due to their inability to reach the airport, cancelled flights or curfews. In many instances, events had to be deferred or cancelled;
- Logistically, entry ports present difficulties and often complicate delivery of supplies and goods;
- Personnel concerns include the restriction in movements of both international and national staff. Having national staff work from their residences increases difficulties of implementation. International staff's movements are even more restricted.

### 3.9 Resources Mobilization

Globally, the emphasis on country level delivery and the implications of United Nations reform in a growing number of countries necessitates a simplification and harmonization of cooperation procedures and recourse to a diversified funding base, including emerging funding sources such as South-South and triangular cooperation, sector-wide approaches to country programming, direct budget support and joint assistance strategies. These modalities provide both challenges and opportunities for UNESCO: as an organization it seeks to attract extra-budgetary funds for activities outside the common United Nations country programming framework.

Support provided by donors has been essential to enabling UNESCO's programmes in Iraq. The main extra budgetary sources to date have been the International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq (IRFFI), specifically the UNDG Trust Fund and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser's Office. Main donors in the framework of the Trust Fund include the European Union (EU), the Government of Japan and the German Government. However, this multilateral fund has come to its end; while plans are underway for a new Multi-donor Trust Fund

(MDTF), more and more UN agencies are targeting bilateral funding mechanisms as well as funds from private donors. In this regard, UNESCO-Iraq has sought to diversify the sources of funding for its future programmes and has strengthened its partnerships with donors in the Arab region, such as the Qatar Foundation and Her Highness's Office. Until 2014, UNESCO's estimation of future interventions in all sectors is USD 112 million (see Figure 3-1: UNESCO-Iraq 2010-2014 Planned Budget on page 44), of which the Organization has secured USD 67 million to date. However, there are projects still pending funds with a total of approximately USD 45 million.

The UNESCO Iraq Office is now in the process of raising funds for the implementation of these projects. Notably, the Iraqi Government has committed itself to co-financing projects; for 2011, USD 210 million are allocated for this purpose.

In managing the resources entrusted to it, UNESCO-Iraq will continue to strive for a high degree of transparency and accountability at all levels of planning and decision-making as well as effective implementation and monitoring of approved programme and project activities. The Organization's adoption in 2010 of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) promises to improve further the management culture of the Organization.

### 3.10 Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation —

UNESCO-Iraq will continually assess the effectiveness of the proposed interventions through monitoring and evaluation, and through close collaboration with the GoI, solicit feedback on needs and priorities. This will entail identifying shortfalls and possible adjustments and improvement to interventions as conditions and priorities change. These steps are critical both for accountability and for maintaining the impact and relevance of the UCPD to Iraq. Though prevailing conditions in Iraq make it difficult to articulate realistic outcomes into the extended future, it is intended that the periodic review of progress made in achieving UCPD objectives should enable the Iraq Office to adapt more realistic medium- to long-term objectives. Ultimately, the UCPD must be measured by its impact on Iraqi education development and improvement.

The United Nations Development Group's – Iraq

Trust Fund (UNDG-ITF) Steering Committee assumes an oversight role over the projects funded by the UNDG ITF that has encouraged UN Agencies operating in Iraq to set comprehensive M&E programmes in place. Each project includes a list of outputs, indicators, benchmarks, deadlines and responsibilities outlined in the project document towards the achievement of project goals. Projects also benefit from the oversight of the Administrative Officer and the Headquarters' Internal Oversight Service (IOS), which conducts internal audits every two years. Tracking the progress of project activities is therefore part of the standard operations of UNESCO. The Office uses UNDG-ITF and UNESCO rules for procurement and has a procurement tracking system in place.

Since the reporting load has been excessive for programme staff in the past, a Results-Based Management (RBM) focal point has been designated. Having been trained in advanced RBM, the focal point will be cooperating closely with UNAMI's Monitoring and Evaluation Unit. The office is also represented at the UN Monitoring and Evaluation Group. Given the negative impact that instability and the changing security situation have exerted on programme implementation, the Office usually conducts mid-term reviews and evaluation with a view to adjusting UNESCO's interventions to the changing context. Budgetary provisions have been envisaged for final evaluations of all new projects and thus adequately measure the impact. In previous years external evaluations have been commissioned to assess the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability and impact of the UNESCO-Iraq programmes. The results of such external evaluations have been widely shared with UNAMI and donors, a practice that will continue in the future. Lessons drawn will continue to be used to improve the planning and implementation of future projects.

### Monitoring

With a view to the security situation and the restriction on movement in Iraq, which does not allow UNESCO staff to directly monitor all project activities taking place in all areas of the country, UNESCO has arranged for an internal and external system monitoring the progress of its projects and programmes.



### Internal Monitoring Mechanisms

UNESCO uses a Results Based Management (RBM) approach for its internal monitoring, whereby project officers are responsible for monitoring project implementation. This is done with the aid of UNESCO national staff based in Iraq known as Monitoring Officers, whose primary concern is to follow-up on many tasks and to ensure the project is progressing smoothly. As well, the appointment of an International Programme Coordinator based in Baghdad, together with the presence of national staff that is envisaged in new projects, will allow UNESCO-Iraq to further carry out thorough monitoring of new and ongoing interventions on the ground.

### External Monitoring Mechanisms

UNESCO-Iraq's external monitoring system has three stages. The first stage comes from our governmental partners, such as the MOE, MOHESR or in some cases MOLSA. UNESCO relies on them as our ministerial counterparts to provide information regarding project implementation, or any imminent risks or impending threats to the projects' success. The second stage includes our implementing partners, such as NGOs or contractors, who are in constant communication with UNESCO regarding the project's progress, reporting any unforeseen impediments or timeline adjustments. The final third level of monitoring is reported by our cooperating UN agencies, such as UNOPS and UNICEF, who provide additional information from the ground. Having three different sources of information allows UNESCO to cross-check the information provided, freeing it from relying solely on one source.

### Reporting

Like other UN agencies, UNESCO has reporting procedures for every project, be it funded bilaterally or through UNDG-ITF, where it follows UNDG reporting protocols. UNESCO has reporting responsibilities to the donors and UNDG headquarters. Every project requires a six-month progress report as well as a final report upon the project's completion. Reporting is widely shared, allowing partners to monitor progress as well as important implementation issues or constraints. UNESCO-Iraq also submits regular financial reports to its headquarters in Paris detailing all of

the Office's financial activities, both from Regular Programme and from extra-budgetary funding.

### Evaluations

While monitoring is conducted during the implementation phase of any given project, evaluations come after the project is completed. Important benefits of evaluations include the lessons learned and recommendations which are taken into consideration and avoided in future projects. All projects implemented by UNESCO are evaluated at their completion by external experts recruited by the Organization.

ITF donors occasionally themselves have commissioned external audits and evaluations, which are undertaken on randomly selected projects. As well, UNESCO headquarters carries out internal audits on a biannual basis ensuring compliance to MOUs and other agreements and financial transparency.

### 3.11 Conclusion

Although the many challenges associated with effectively implementing projects in Iraq remain present, UNESCO has been able to contribute effectively to the modernisation and reform of the education system, to management of Iraq's water and ecological resources, to the protection and restoration of its important cultural sites, as well as the nurturing of its growing media sector.

As the security situation improved and the country stabilized, UNESCO's focus shifted gradually from technical assistance and procurement of equipment, towards capacity building and strengthening of the relevant ministries and partners to ensure sustainability of growth and development. Increasingly as well, UNESCO's projects have promoted inter-sectoral collaboration and joint projects with other UN agencies in order to synergise the Office's activities. Ultimately, UNESCO's activities all contribute to the development framework set out by the UN in collaboration with the Government of Iraq, in order to help Iraq grow and achieve its development goals most effectively.

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**ANNEX 1: UCPD-IRAQ RESULTS MATRIX – outcomes/ results included in the National Development Plan (NDP), International Compact for Iraq (ICI) and United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2011 – 2014 (UNDAF)**

**EDUCATION**

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 2: Inclusive, more equitable and sustainable economic growth	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<p><b>Quality and Relevance TVET in Kurdistan Improved</b></p> <p>NDP 8.1.6; #8. Strengthening links between education and labour markets</p> <p>ICI: Undertake specific measures to promote continuous education for competitive skills and equal opportunities in the labour market</p>	<p>Technical and Vocational Skills Training Programmes (TVET) offered by the MoHESR and the MoLSA of the KRG assessed and renewed to meet the needs of the labour market;</p> <p>Education providers at TVET centres trained to deliver employability skills to students at the centres;</p> <p>Involvement of private sector in TVET programmes offered by MoHESR and MoLSA fostered;</p> <p>TVET centres' equipment and infrastructure improved and modernized based on assessment findings;</p> <p>Awareness increased amongst institutions and general public about the importance of TVET.</p>	<p>Assessment of TVET programmes conducted;</p> <p>Number of centres adopting and delivering entrepreneurial end employability skills curricula;</p> <p>Contract Training Centres and Apprenticeship system established linking business and companies to TVET centres and number of centres implementing the programmes ;</p> <p>Number of TVET centres provided with IT equipment and updated infrastructure;</p> <p>Increase in the number of young males /females enrolled in TVET programmes provided by MoHESR and MoLSA.</p>	<p>1,000,000 Germany</p>	
<p><b>Revitalization of Vocational Education at the MoE (Phase III)</b></p>	<p>In order to meet the demand for vocational education, the project would rehabilitate school facilities and to increase employability rates for vocational education graduates which would enhance economic development in Iraq.</p>			<p>10,000,000</p>

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 4: Increased access to quality essential services	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<p><b>Iraq Public Sector (MoE and MoHESR) Modernized</b></p> <p>NDP: Decentralization as a key element of the NDP and part of educational policy.</p>	<p>Capacity of MOE, MOHESR and DoEs strengthened for improved coordination and decision-making especially with a new decentralized administration.</p>	<p>Number of mechanisms established to coordinate and facilitate the decentralization process;</p> <p>Number of DOEs/MOEs/MOHESRs staff trained in decentralized educational and financial planning.</p>	<p>6,000,000 Iraq Trust Fund -EU</p>	
<p><b>Literacy Initiative for Empowerment LIFE Project</b></p> <p>ICI: Achieve significant progress towards: iii) Improve adult literacy by 25%</p>	<p>Institutional capacity of MoE/DoEs and Government of Iraq strengthened to draw policies, design national strategies and create synergies between central level and governorates for the effective implementation of a national literacy campaign especially targeting females, who are proportionally affected;</p> <p>New national curricula and programs for literacy, post literacy and equivalency programs between formal and non-formal (NFE) education developed including guidelines for literacy for citizenship programs and life-skills;</p> <p>Enhanced capacity of administrative staff and teachers to deliver quality literacy and NFE programmes at national and local level;</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation system established, including data collection system and NFE Management Information System at central and governorate level;</p>	<p>National/sub-national literacy networks established among stakeholders including Ministries of Education in Baghdad and Kurdistan, DoEs, civil society organizations, NGOs and local community leaders at large;</p> <p>150 staff members of MoE/DoEs trained to design literacy policy/projects and to manage literacy programmes as well as to develop curricula in line with state of the art instructional methods;</p> <p>2,500,000 literacy materials developed, printed and distributed, including training package for community facilitators and one set of teaching/learning materials on literacy and life skills training;</p> <p>1,000 literacy facilitators/supervisors trained on school based family literacy and life skills programmes, including both psycho-social and livelihood skills.</p> <p>National advocacy campaign conducted on the importance of literacy for well-being of</p>	<p>6,388,679 Office of Her Highness Sheikha Moza</p>	

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 4: Increased access to quality essential services	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
	<p>Effective advocacy, communication and partnership mechanisms established for the successful implementation of national literacy campaign including NGOs, private sector and relevant stakeholders.</p>	<p>individuals, communities and nation.</p>		
<p><b>New Iraqi Curricula Developed</b></p> <p>NDP 8.1.6.#9: Reform curricula at all levels to provide students with skills in demand and lead to an internationally competitive education system</p> <p>ICI: Carry out specific activities to promote gender responsive adult literacy and skills training, early childhood development and life skills training</p>	<p>Status and needs of the Iraqi curricula and textbooks in key disciplines identified;</p> <p>Curricula Framework based on Iraqi Educational Philosophy developed;</p> <p>Enhanced institutional capacity of Iraqi experts/curriculum developers;</p> <p>New curricula and blueprints for textbooks in the key disciplines developed and implemented materials in selected pilot schools in all parts of Iraq, including Kurdistan.</p>	<p>Situational analysis of Iraqi curricula and textbooks conducted;</p> <p>80 MOE educational experts (members of the authoring and revision committees) trained to implement modern teaching methodologies and techniques, write and design textbooks and evaluation methods as well as to promote globally agreed human, social and national values such as: democracy, peace building, gender equality, accepting others as well as the concept of national identity</p> <p>Education Resource &amp; Training Centre established.</p>	<p>4,926,632 Office of Her Highness Sheikha Moza</p>	
<p><b>Teacher Training in Basic and Secondary Education</b></p> <p>NDP 8.1.6.#7: Subsector policies on gender and social equality, and ICT use in schools.</p> <p>ICI: Achieve universal access to basic education</p>	<p>In-service and pre-service training programmes for secondary school teachers assessed;</p> <p>Strategic framework for in-service and pre-service training of secondary school teachers developed;</p> <p>Instructional and training material reviewed; additional training manuals produced based on assessment;</p> <p>Capacity of 30,000 secondary teachers</p>	<p>Diagnosis studies of in-service and pre-service teacher training at the secondary level conducted, including availability, functionality and needs of IT equipment in Teacher Training Centres;</p> <p>Number of MOE and MOHESR staff trained to develop a strategic framework for in-service and pre-service teacher training at the secondary level;</p> <p>Number of instructional materials developed and reviewed with the involvement of</p>	<p>4,043,174 Office of Her Highness Sheikha Moza</p>	

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 4: Increased access to quality essential services	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<p><b>Iraq Education Sector Analysis - Needs Assessment</b></p> <p>NDP 8.1.6 #6: Strengthen education management information systems. ICT: Achieve universal access to basic education</p>	<p>enhanced in the 3 subject areas, teaching methods and IT;</p> <p>Teacher training centres re-equipped with ICT facilities based on assessment of their functionality.</p>	<p>international experts;</p> <p>Number of trainers and mentors trained on teaching methodologies and the use of ICT in collaboration with Qatari universities under the agreed delivering scheme;</p> <p>Number of school inspectors trained on how to evaluate performance of teachers in using new teaching methods and tools;</p> <p>Number of computer labs equipped with necessary IT equipment in the Institute for Educational Training and Development and Teacher Training Centres.</p>		
	<p>Data collected on the status of education sector in Iraq including disaggregated data to identify quality and disparity components as well as issues affecting access to and quality of education sector;</p> <p>A database for education statistics established covering Non-Formal, technical, vocational, and higher education;</p> <p>A sector analysis study completed with key findings from obtained data; the study will constitute an in-depth analysis of current situation of the education sector in Iraq with review of current trends in education;</p> <p>Recommendations formulated on</p>	<p>No. of statistical reports produced concerning non-formal, technical, vocational and higher education;</p> <p>No. of analytical studies including issues affecting quality of and access to vocational and higher education developed;</p> <p>No. of databases established to keep track of developments of national education data concerning technical, vocational and higher education.</p>	881,801 Germany	

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 4: Increased access to quality essential services	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<p><b>Rehabilitation of the Iraqi Higher Education System</b></p> <p>NDP 8.1.6 #1: Conduct Studies assessing the effectiveness of higher education in Iraq.</p> <p>NDP 8.1.6 #10: Place emphasis on making connections with universities abroad.</p>	<p>immediate follow-up activities to address gaps hindering access to education in Iraq.</p> <p>Institutional and Human Capacity of MOHESR and Universities strengthened in Higher Education Institutions' on Management, Good governance, Leadership and in the promotion of Fellowship programmes</p> <p>Principles of a National system for Quality Assurance in Higher Education designed and a National Body for Quality Assurance created</p> <p>Dynamics of scientific research in Iraq analyzed and Needs Assessment for a better integration of scientific research in the knowledge economy achieved</p> <p>Increased access to scientific knowledge;</p> <p>Provision of E-Learning opportunities in Iraqi Higher Education Institutions enhanced</p> <p>Research networks between Iraqi universities and Iraqi academics living outside Iraq enhanced</p>	<p>Number of training workshops in policy planning , management , governance and promoting fellowships in higher education programs targeting both staff at MOHESR and Universities</p> <p>Number of professors and managers trained in QA, management, leadership</p> <p>Establishment of National Agency for Quality Assurance</p> <p>Data on status of scientific research in Iraq collected and analysis completed. Report on status of Scientific Research activity in Iraq completed</p> <p>Needs and priorities identified and a Roadmap for Science Technology and Innovation completed.</p> <p>Information resource centres in selected universities established;</p> <p>Number of UNITWIN Programmes established linking Iraqi Universities' linkages to internationally recognized foreign universities and research centres</p> <p>Across-border universities to be linked with Iraqi Universities identified and number of Iraqi academics and scientists of the "Diaspora" associated in HE project implementation and in HEIs assistance</p>	<p>8,531,671</p> <p>Office of Her Highness Sheikha Moza</p>	



Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 4: Increased access to quality essential services	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<p><b>Strengthening Secondary Education in Iraq (Phase II)</b></p> <p>ICI: Achieve universal access to basic education</p>	<p>Increased quality of secondary education in Iraq.</p>	<p>Number of educational specialists from KRG trained on designing, writing and presenting Educational TV programs.</p> <p>186 science laboratories and 62 libraries in the selected schools rehabilitated;</p> <p>Furniture, laboratory apparatus, tools, glasses, ICT equipment, books, maps, and other educational resources made available to for use by approximately 38,000 students and 2,400 teachers;</p> <p>At least 900 staff members from the selected schools trained;</p> <p>Laboratory Experiment Manuals updated and sufficient copies distributed to 62 schools.</p>	<p>4,800,000</p>	
<p><b>Increasing access to Iraqi IDPs students to education</b></p> <p>ICI: Achieve universal access to basic education</p>	<p>Capacity of MOE and local NGOs developed on dealing with the psychosocial needs of IDPs students;</p> <p>Learning/teaching spaces and facilities increased giving priority to areas/governorates with the highest numbers of IDPs' students and the least available teaching spaces;</p> <p>Accelerated Learning Programmes and non-formal education courses, with emphasis on girls' education, conducted in cooperation with NGOs;</p> <p>National Media Campaign raising</p>	<p>Number and quality of MOE psychosocial activities/developed material performed;</p> <p>Number and quality of additional learning/teaching spaces;</p> <p>Number and gender of beneficiaries;</p> <p>Number, type and quality of conducted courses;</p> <p>Number of launched campaigns;</p> <p>% of increase in enrolment after the campaign (1st month).</p>	<p>5,380,617</p>	

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 4: Increased access to quality essential services	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<p><b>Information &amp; Communication Technologies in Education for Iraq (Phase II)</b></p> <p>NDP 8.1.6 #7: Institutionalize sub-sector policies on gender and social equality, developing early childhood education, and ICT use in schools.</p>	<p>awareness on educational opportunities and re-engagement of students in their studies launched.</p> <p>Educational policy objectives and strategies in places to maximize use and effectiveness of ICTs in education</p> <p>Strengthened capacity of MoE to develop ICT based instruction, learning and assessment</p>	<p>ICT policy paper developed;</p> <p>ICT Strategy finalized,</p> <p>ICT based curriculum, learning assessment framework and action plan completed;</p>	<p>3,000,000</p>	
<p><b>Support Iraqi Academics, Teachers and Students</b></p>	<p>Safety of professors, teachers, students and learning institutions' staff members ensured;</p> <p>Threatened students, teachers and academics in Iraq supported;</p> <p>Consideration of educational institutions as a neutral ground fostered;</p> <p>Return of Iraqi academics and intellectuals who have left facilitated.</p>	<p>Study on the violations of human rights infringed upon staff members and students at educational institutions completed.</p> <p>Academic hubs targeting Iraqi academics and intellectuals established in countries hosting large numbers of Iraqi refugees</p> <p>Number of line ministries staff trained on Iraq's human rights obligations concerning the right to education and the international legal standards of protection of teachers;</p> <p>Mechanisms to monitor, report and respond to violations of the right to education and attacks against educators and students established;</p> <p>Number of joint research and visiting professor initiatives inside Iraq targeting Iraqi academics abroad established.</p>		<p>3,739,348</p>

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 5: Investment in human capital and empowerment of women, youth and children	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<p><b>Civic values and life skills for adolescents promoted through education</b></p> <p>NDP 9.2.3: Enable youth to overcome social obstacles, and enable them to actively participate in the building of a free Iraq governed by the rule of law</p> <p>ICI: Carry out specific activities to promote adult literacy and skills training, early childhood development and life skills training</p>	<p>GOI, and civil society have the capacity at the relevant policy, managerial, and operational levels to design and implement civic values/life skills education programmes;</p> <p>Adolescents have strengthened capacities to promote civic values/life skills among their peers.</p>	<p>Guidelines for teachers and education providers on civic values/life skills developed;</p> <p>Number of male/female school managers, teachers and education providers trained on implementing /delivering civic values and life skills programmes ;</p> <p>Number of male/ female civil society activists and student peer educators trained on promoting civic values/life skills.</p>	<p>1,227,205 EU</p>	

## NATURAL SCIENCES

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 2: Inclusive, more equitable and sustainable economic growth	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<b>Science, Technology and Innovation Capacities Developed</b> NDP 1.3 # 1: Strengthening the foundations of economic growth ICI : Improve institutional capacity to administer environment and natural resources conservation programmes	Capacities built in science policy formulation, Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) policy.	Number of experts trained in STI statistical analysis and indicators development Number GoI and KRG staff trained in STI policy formulation National STI plan launched	113,000 Japanese Fund in Trust – GoI – KRG	100,000 Japanese Fund in Trust – GoI – KRG
Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 3. Environmental management and compliance with ratified international environmental treaties and obligations	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<b>Technical Capacity developed on Groundwater identification</b> ICI: Undertake specific measures to ensure universal access to services (water) UNAS WATSAN Outcome 3: Capacities for effective management of WATSAN enhanced	Enhanced access to water.	Number of m <sup>3</sup> of groundwater identified and surveyed.		7,500,000 GoI – KRG

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 3. Environmental management and compliance with ratified international environmental treaties and obligations	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<p><b>World Heritage Nomination process: Natural and Cultural Management of the Iraqi Marshlands as World Heritage strengthened</b></p> <p>ICI: Same as above</p>	<p>Improved conservation and management of sensitive ecosystems.</p>	<p>Experts trained on WH inscription process;  Expert trained on conservation and ecosystem valuation and assessment techniques;  Assessment of Marshlands biodiversity completed;  Feasibility study of a MAB Biosphere Reserve for the Marshlands completed.</p>	<p>140,000 Italian Funds</p>	<p>1,700,000 Italian Funds</p>



## CULTURE

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 1: Improved Governance, including the protection of human rights	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<b>Capacity Building of Museum Sector - KRG</b>	Enhanced capacity of KRG on museum management.	Overall action detailed action plan for Kurdistan with work plan developed and accepted; Sulaymanyah Museum Master Plan developed and its implementations launched.	20,000 KRG – Japanese Funds in Trust	1,500,000 KRG – Japanese Funds in Trust
<b>Revitalization of Erbil Citadel (Phase II)</b>	Strengthened institutional capacity of KRG to conserve heritage sites and historical buildings	Erbil Citadel Conservation Master Plan completed and Development Master Plan launched; Pilot Erbil citadel conservation programme and stabilisation documentation finalised and actual works supervised.	12,902,340 KRG	
<b>Erbil Citadel Buffer Zone Established</b>	Institutional framework in place for managing the Erbil Citadel Buffer Zone/Urban Context	Inventory of heritage buildings within buffer zone completed; City centre study reviewed; Buffer zone delimited and rules, guidelines and regulations for its management approved.	340,000 KRG	
<b>Preparation of Master Plan for the Samara Historical City Centre</b>	Enhanced institutional capacity to restore and preserve Samara Historical City Centre	Data on the historical city centre collected and assessments completed; Master design and management plan finalized; Regulations and guidelines concerning conservation of existing buildings and new developments established.		1,796,834 GoI
<b>Conservation of Babylon site</b>	Enhanced capacity of the State Board of Antiquities to conserve and restore the Babylon site	Surveys completed on Nimnakh Temple, Nabu-sha-Khare, Ishtar Temple and the Inner City Wall;		5,000,000 GoI

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 1: Improved Governance, including the protection of human rights	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<b>Fighting against looting and illicit trafficking of Iraqi Cultural Property</b>	Protection of cultural sites in its operational and legal aspects strengthened.	Detailed conditions assessment and recording of the state of conservation of the site conducted; Study on original materials used finalized; Intervention measures implemented. No. of site guards for FPS and Heritage Police trained; Legal framework for the Heritage Police serviced; Heritage Law revised.	60,000 Czech Fund	600,000 Extra Budgetary
<b>Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 2: Inclusive, more equitable and sustainable economic growth</b>  <b>Development of a National Tourism Strategy</b>	GoI has improved capacities to develop the tourism sector	Assessment of the capacity and operational needs of the Iraqi Tourism Board completed; No. of government experts trained on strategic planning; A tourism strategy is drafted; No of Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Religious Affairs staff trained in data collection of religious and eco-tourism sites.	1,050,000 RB – UNDG Iraq Trust Fund	

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 2: Inclusive, more equitable and sustainable economic growth	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
	<p>GoI is better able to promote cultural, religious and eco-tourism</p>	<p>No. Of young architects, archaeologists and web designers trained on virtual tour design</p> <p>No. Of sample virtual tours on archaeological sites, religious shrines and eco-tourism sites developed;</p> <p>Criteria for tourism guide licensing established;</p> <p>Number of training centres identified for tourism guides in cultural, religious and eco-tourism identified.</p>		
<p><b>Conservation of al-Qaysari Bazaar in Erbil</b></p>	<p>Strengthened institutional capacity of KRG to preserve heritage and harness its potential for sustainable development</p>	<p>Data collected on the whole market area and old parts demarcated;</p> <p>Condition assessment on the state of conservations completed;</p> <p>Conservation plan and guidelines developed;</p> <p>Pilot conservation actions of selected sections of the bazaar implemented</p>		<p>2,500,000 KRG</p>

## COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 1: Improved Governance, including the protection of human rights	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<p><b>Protection of Media Professionals, Human Rights Defenders and Members of the Academic Community in Iraq</b></p> <p>Human Rights 9.3 Goal: Uphold and protect human rights, establish the rule of law, and overcome the legacy of the recent and distant past</p> <p>ICI: 3.3 Uphold and protect Human rights, establish rule of law and overcome legacy and recent and distant past</p> <p>4.2 Strengthening Institutions and improving governance</p> <p>UNAS Protection Outcome 1: Enhanced protection for Iraqis</p>	<p>Media professionals, Human Rights defenders and members of the academic community work in a safer environment.</p>	<p>No. of awareness activities organised;</p> <p>No. of officials, professionals, media, HRD training courses;</p> <p>HRO roundtables involving a gender balanced group of HRD, journalists, academics and government officials (on protection issues and confidentiality organized;</p> <p>Increase in the number of participants in media organization network;</p> <p>Increase in NGO's and human rights advocacy campaigns;</p> <p>No. of male/females equipped with instant alert devices &amp; field work security manuals.</p>	<p>1,000,000 UNDG Iraq Trust Fund EU</p>	
<p><b>Support to the Media in its Role of Fostering Peace and Democracy</b></p> <p>NDP 12. Good Governance</p> <p>ICI: Adopt and implement comprehensive transparency policies and legislation</p> <p>UNAS Governance Outcome 2: Strengthened national dialogue and civil society for governance and reconciliation</p>	<p>Independent civil society and media enabled through legal and regulatory frameworks professional development and strengthened institutions</p>	<p>No. of Media law group meetings held;</p> <p>No. of applicants that completed successfully the study tours /scholarships funded by 7 small grants;</p> <p>No. of self regulatory mechanisms adopted by the media;</p> <p>Availability of a strategic plan for Communications and Media Commission based on a survey and review of CMC;</p> <p>Availability of an assessment report of the Iraqi Media Network, which is mandated as</p>	<p>1,300,000 Spanish MDG Fund</p>	

Results contributing to UNDAF Priority 1: Improved Governance, including the protection of human rights	Expected result of UNESCO activity	Performance indicators and benchmarks	Available resources in USD	Mobilization target in USD
<p><b>Media &amp; Elections</b></p> <p>NDP Vision: A sovereign, unified, federal, democratic Iraq integrated into the region and world community</p> <p>ICI: Adopt and implement comprehensive transparency policies and legislation</p> <p>UNAS Governance Outcome 1: Strengthened electoral processes in Iraq</p>	<p>Institutional capacity of IHEC to engage with the CMC and professional media and to engage in effective public outreach is improved</p> <p>Institutional capacity of CMC to engage in effective regulation of the media during elections and public outreach is improved</p> <p>Capacity of media professionals and institutions to report on media coverage of electoral processes and institutions is improved</p>	<p>national Public Service Broadcaster;</p> <p>No. of quality media curricula reviewed.</p> <p>Number of Independent High Electoral Commission [IHEC] officials and media professionals trained in media engagement policy;</p> <p>Freedom of Information Policy developed and practiced by IHEC;</p> <p>Number of IHEC officials and media professionals trained in Freedom of Information issues;</p> <p>Communications and Media Commission (CMC) Code of Conduct for the Media during Elections revised;</p> <p>Number of media professionals, institutions trained on rights, policies, regulations.</p> <p>Fifty Iraqi information sharers provided with the capacity to create quality web content (including basic writing skills, conflict-sensitive storytelling, fact-based information gathering, FOIs, ethical norms for bloggers and websites, and web convergence);</p> <p>At least 5 operational alternative media platforms making innovative use of ICTs, providing Iraqi citizens with timely and accurate information, allowing them to react to content and debate events and issues concerning the country.</p>	<p>3,000,000 UNDG Iraq Trust Fund</p>	<p>1,500,000</p>
<p><b>Alternative Media</b></p> <p>NDP Vision: A sovereign, unified, federal, democratic Iraq integrated into the region and world community</p> <p>ICI: Adopt and implement comprehensive transparency policies and legislation</p> <p>UNAS Governance Outcome 1: Strengthened electoral processes in Iraq</p>	<p>Strengthen freedom of expression through increased use of the power of information communication technologies amongst a new generation of information sharers including women and youth.</p> <p>Iraqi citizen journalism promotes democratization, transparency, and values of peace.</p>	<p>At least 5 operational alternative media platforms making innovative use of ICTs, providing Iraqi citizens with timely and accurate information, allowing them to react to content and debate events and issues concerning the country.</p>		<p>1,500,000</p>



## Annex 2: UNESCO-Iraq Projects (2010-2014) by Sector

### Table 0-1: Projects in Education

Title	Ongoing Projects	Funding Source	End Date	Funds for 2010 - 2011 (USD)
<b>Support for Revitalizing Higher ED</b>	Fellowships and visiting programs for Iraqi academics	Qatar Foundation	Jun. 2010	1,126,899
<b>Training of Trainers for Sustained Quality Education</b>	Provide quality teacher education to improve the quality of secondary education.	UNDG – ITF, EU	Mar. 2011	627,806
<b>LADP<sup>37</sup></b>	Reinforce TVET capacity in selected areas through the rehabilitation and equipping of VTC <sup>38</sup> s and training for staff.	UNDG – ITF, EU	Mar. 2011	1,547,945
<b>ICTs in Education</b>	Improve ICT literacy of MoE staff, teachers, and students.	UNDG – ITF, EU	Mar. 2011	126,173
<b>Distance Learning ED TV</b>	Provide students with access to lessons covering all primary and secondary levels and subjects through TV programs.	UNDG – ITF, EU	Mar. 2011	2,037,396
<b>Improving Quality and Relevance of TVET</b>	Re-orient and improve the TVET system to prepare young people effectively for employment in the industrial, construction and service sectors.	UNDG – ITF, Germany	Mar. 2011	2,635,669
<b>Enhancing Learning Environments<sup>39</sup></b>	Develop institutional capacity for MoE in policy formulation, strategic planning, service delivery, project design and management.	UNDG – ITF, EU	Oct. 2011	1,106,053
<b>Support to Decentralization and Local Governance</b>	Conduct a rapid assessment to have a baseline understanding of current systems in MoE and MOHESR	UNDP	Mar. 2011	133,331
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>9,341,272</b>
	Projects Starting in 2010 with Secured Funding	Funding Source	End Date	Total Budget (USD)
<b>Developing New Iraqi Curricula</b>	Contribute to modernization and reconciliation in Iraq society through reformulating the Iraqi school curriculum and textbooks.	OHHSM <sup>40</sup>	Dec. 2014	4,926,632
<b>Rehabilitation of the Iraqi Higher ED System</b>	Reinforce capacity of MOHESR and universities in planning, designing and managing higher education programmes of sustainable quality.	OHHSM	Dec. 2014	8,531,671
<b>Teacher Training Program</b>	Train ministry and IETD <sup>41</sup> staff to enhance their planning, managing, and monitoring teacher education skills at the secondary level to produce high quality instructional material	OHHSM	Dec. 2014	4,043,174
<b>Literacy Initiative for Empowerment</b>	Strengthen the capacity of MOEs and DOEs to deliver sustainable and empowering NFE and literacy programs.	OHHSM	Dec. 2014	6,388,679
<b>Promoting Civic Values and Life Skills for Adolescents</b>	Promote civic values and life skills among education providers, public sector managers/legislators and young people.	UNDG – ITF, EU	Dec. 2012	1,227,205
<b>Public Sector Modernization</b>	Assist MoE and MOHESR towards implementing decentralized service delivery with enhanced citizen participation.	UNDG – ITF, EU	Dec. 2014	6,000,000
<b>Improving Quality and Relevance of TVET in Kurdistan</b>	Re-orient and improve the TVET system in both to prepare young people effectively for employment in the industrial, construction and service sectors of the economy.	UNDG – ITF, Germany	Dec. 2011	1,000,000
<b>Education Sector Needs Assessment</b>	Complete an ED sector assessment for the development of the <i>National Education Strategy</i> and sub-sector policies.	UNDG – ITF, Germany	May 2012	881,801
<b>Increasing HIV/AIDS Awareness of Iraqi Youth; HIV/AIDS Policy Support and Capacity-Building Programme</b>	Encourage policymakers to examine formal and non-formal approaches to HIV awareness and integrate them into the literacy curriculum.	UNDG – ITF	Dec. 2011	120,302
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>33,119,464</b>
<b>Total Secured Funds (2010-2014)</b>				<b>42,460,736</b>

<sup>37</sup> Local Area Development Program

<sup>38</sup> Vocational Technical Centres

<sup>39</sup> Support to Enhancing the Learning Environment in Vulnerable Areas in Iraq for Meeting the EFA Goals

<sup>40</sup> Office of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser

<sup>41</sup> Institute for Educational Training and Development

	Pipeline Projects	Potential Funding Source	Funding Status	Total Budget
<b>Establishing the KRG ED TV Station</b>	Produce and broadcast educational programs to students covering all subjects at primary and secondary levels.	KRG	Under discussion	5,000,000
<b>Strengthening Secondary Education in Iraq-Phase II</b>	Provide scientific laboratories and libraries to secondary schools; conduct training sessions for the teachers and librarians in the targeted schools.		Pending	4,800,000
<b>Increasing Access Of IDP Students to Education</b>	Increase the enrolment of IDPs in formal and non-formal education.	CAP <sup>42</sup>	Pending	5,380,617
<b>ICTs in Education -Phase II</b>	Build sustainable capacity in the MOEs for continuing to improve ICT literacy for instructors.		Pending	3,000,000
<b>Re-vitalization of Vocational Education at MOE – Phase III</b>	Rehabilitate school facilities and increase employability rates for vocational graduates, enhancing economic development in Iraq.	IDB <sup>43</sup>	Pending	10,000,000
<b>Establishing an Integrated E-Library to Support the Higher Education System</b>	Support the development of an open educational platform facilitating access to information and encouraging cooperation between science, education, business and industry.	Qatar Foundation	Under discussion	3,000,000
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>31,180,617</b>
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION EXTRA-BUDGETARY PORTFOLIO (2010-2014)</b>				<b>73,641,353</b>

**Table 0-2: Regular Programme Allocation for Education 2010-2011 Biennium**

Regular Programme Resource Allocation for Education 2010-2011		
<b>MLA 1 Building blocks for EFA: literacy, teachers and skills</b>	Literacy within the framework of the UNLD, with special emphasis on LIFE	USD 50,000
	Teachers, with special emphasis on Teacher Training Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa	USD 50,000
	TVET and skills development	USD 50,000
<b>MLA 2 From early childhood to the adult years: building effective education systems</b>	Higher Education	USD 50,000
<b>MLA 3 Sector-wide framework: helping governments to plan and manage the education sector</b>	Education Sector policy analysis, planning and management	USD 85,900
<b>Total Budget</b>		<b>USD 285,900</b>

<sup>42</sup>Consolidated Appeals Process

<sup>43</sup>Islamic Development Bank

**Table 0-3: Projects in Science**

Title	Ongoing Projects	Funding Source	End Date	Funds for 2010 - 2011 (USD)
Rehabilitation and Conservation of Karez systems in Northern Governorates	Empower local communities to rehabilitate selected 20 traditional "Karez" (well systems) in Northern Iraq.	UNDG ITF - EU	Mar. 2011	749,999
Subtotal				749,999
Secured Funding for Projects starting in 2010		Funding Source	End Date	Amount Secured (USD)
Advanced hydro-geological survey for rapid response to drought and water scarcity	Undertake an advanced survey of hydro-geological resources in Iraq in order to locate safe, clean and renewable groundwater resources for immediate humanitarian response and sustainable agricultural development.	UNDG ITF - EU (Phase I)	Aug. 2011	675,000
Nomination process: Natural and Cultural Management of the Iraqi Marshlands as World Heritage	Establish a longer-term preservation and management plan of the cultural and natural heritage in the Iraqi Marshlands in accordance with the World Heritage Site Programme.	Italy	Jun. 2012	Phase I 140,000
Development of a Master Plan for Science, Technology and Innovation	Assess the status of existing science, technology and innovation system and policies, conduct a participatory policy formulation process, and seek validation for a comprehensive national science, technology and innovation policy	Japanese Fund in Trust/GoI/KRG	Oct. 2011	113,000
Subtotal				928,000
<b>Total Secured Funds (2010-2014)</b>				<b>1,677,000</b>
Pending Funding for Projects Started in 2010		Potential Funding Source	Funding Status	Amount Pending
Nomination process: Natural and Cultural Management of the Iraqi Marshlands as World Heritage	Establish a longer-term preservation and management plan of the cultural and natural heritage in the Iraqi Marshlands in accordance with the World Heritage Site Programme.	Italy	Pending	Phase II 400,000 Phase III 500,000
Development of a Master Plan for Science, Technology and Innovation	Assess the status of existing science, technology and innovation policies, conduct a participatory policy formulation process, and seek validation for a comprehensive national science, technology and innovation policy for the country.	Japanese Fund in Trust/GoI/KRG	Pending	100,000
Subtotal				1,000,000
<b>TOTAL SCIENCE EXTRA-BUDGETARY PORTFOLIO (2010-2014)</b>				<b>3,426,999</b>

**Table 0-4: Regular Programme Allocation for Natural Sciences 2010-2011 Biennium**

Regular Programme Resource Allocation for Natural Sciences 2010-2011		
MLA 2 Strengthening science education and capacity-building in the sciences	Building capacities in renewable energies for local development and climate change adaptation in Iraq	USD 20,000
MLA 3 Promoting the sustainable management and conservation of freshwater, terrestrial resources and biodiversity as well as disaster resilience	Managing groundwater systems' response to global changes in Iraq	USD 23,000
	Integrated management of biological and natural resources in Iraq	USD 20,000
Total Budget		USD 63,000

Table 0-5: Projects in Culture

Title	Ongoing Projects	Funding Source	End Date	Funds for 2010 - 2011 (USD)
<b>Rehabilitation of Al-Askari Shrine (I)</b>	This is a pre-restoration programme focusing on urgent preliminary works. The restoration of the Al-Askary Holy Shrine after its bombing is an important step towards national reconciliation.	UNDG-ITF GOI	Jun. 2011	2,500,000
<b>Revitalization of the Erbil Citadel (I)</b>	In partnership with the KRG undertake urgent remedial works while supporting the development of a Conservation Master Plan and training to build local capacity in conservation and restoration.	KRG	Mar. 2011	351,545
<b>Restoration Iraq National Museum Laboratories</b>	Restore Iraqi capacity to manage the return and emergency conservation of artefacts looted after the fall of the previous regime.	Japan	Feb. 2011	122,786
Subtotal				2,974,331
	Secured Funding for Projects starting in 2010	Funding Source	End Date	Total Budget (USD)
<b>Development of a National Tourism Strategy</b>	Assist GOI to develop a National Tourism Strategy; to contribute to proper management of cultural resources. The mapping will built bases for the promotion of cultural religious and eco-tourism in the country.	UNDG ITF - EU	Apr. 2012	1,000,000
<b>Modernizing Sulaymaniyah Museum</b>	Development of museums and museology in Kurdistan region through comprehensive Master Plan of Sulaymaniyah museum, and redesign of museum premises and exhibition.	UNDG ITF EU/Interest Funds/KRG	Aug. 2011	650,000
<b>Revitalization of Erbil Citadel (II)</b>	Establish clear management and operational procedures and focus on the conservation and rehabilitation of designated parts according to international norms and standards.	KRG	Mar. 2013	12,902,340
<b>Erbil Citadel Buffer Zone</b>	Establish clear guidelines and regulations for managing the Erbil Citadel Buffer Zone to ensure the preservation and context of the Citadel	KRG	Jan. 2012	333,208
Subtotal				14,885,548
<b>Total Secured Funds (2010-2014)</b>				<b>17,859,879</b>
	Projects with Pending Funding	Potential Funding Source	Funding Status	Amount
<b>Fighting Against Looting and Illicit Trafficking of Iraqi Cultural Property</b>	Mitigating the consequences of wide scale looting of cultural property in Iraq through strengthening of national capacities at legal and operational levels and through enhancement of inventory work.	Czech Funds	Partly Secured	114,000 Secured 486,000 Pending
<b>Capacity Building of the Museum Sector</b>	Based on the exhaustive survey of the Museum Sector in KRG, the project will devise an Action Plan for the strengthening of the Museum Sector in Kurdistan with integrated capacity building programme for human resources and establishment of three Museum Development Master Plans (Erbil, Dahuk and Sulaymaniyah).	KRG/Japanese Funds in Trust/ITF	Partly Secured	300,000 Secured 900,000 Pending
<b>Conservation of al-Qaysari Bazaar in Erbil</b>	Assist KRG to adopt a holistic conservation approach to the al-Qaysari market area.	KRG	Pending	2,500,000
<b>Preparation of Master Plan for the Samara Historical City Centre</b>	Establish a conservation management plan of the historic urban centre of Samara.	GoI	Pending	1,796,834
<b>Conservation of Babylon Site</b>	Implement emergency interventions targeting Ninmakh Temple, Nabu-Sha-Khare Temple and Ishtar Temple in line with the recommendations of the UNESCO Babylon Damage Assessment Report.	GoI	Pending	5,000,000
Subtotal				11,096,834
<b>TOTAL CULTURE EXTRA-BUDGETARY PORTFOLIO (2010-2014)</b>				<b>28,956,713</b>

**Table 0-6: Regular Programme Resource Allocation for Culture 2010-2011 Biennium**

<b>Regular Programme Resource Allocation for Culture 2010-2011</b>		
<b>MLA 1 Protecting and conserving immovable, cultural and natural properties, in particular through the effective implementation of the World Heritage Convention</b>	Conservation for sustainable development strengthened, notably through capacity-building and training activities	USD 40,000
<b>MLA 2 Safeguarding living heritage, particularly through the promotion and implementation of the 2003 Convention</b>	Member States' capacities to safeguard intangible cultural heritage for the development of the concerned communities strengthened	USD 18,000
<b>MLA 3 Enhancing the protection of cultural objects and the fight against their illicit traffic, notably through the promotion and the implementation of the 1970 and 2001 Conventions, as well as the development of museums</b>	Reconciliation, social cohesion and international cooperation promoted through the effective implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention and its two Protocols, and of the 1970 Convention.	USD 20,000
<b>MLA 4 Protecting and promoting the diversity of cultural expressions through the implementation of the 2005 Convention and the development of cultural and creative industries</b>	The 2005 Convention and the Copyright Convention implemented and related operational mechanisms strengthened	USD 17,500
	The contribution of cultural and creative industries to development strengthened and highlighted	USD 17,500
<b>MLA 5 Integrating intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity into national policies</b>	Culture mainstreamed in national development policy frameworks and common country programming exercises in the context of UNCTs	USD 19,950
<b>Total Budget</b>		<b>USD 132,950</b>

Table 0-7: Projects in Communication and Information

Title	Ongoing Projects	Funding Source	End Date	Funds for 2010 - 2011 (USD)
<b>Support the Media in its Role of Fostering Peace and Democracy</b>	Promoting the development of an independent, pluralistic, and professional media as a fundamental infrastructure to contribute to the achievement of good governance, and appropriate legislative and regulatory frameworks to enable this.	Gov. of Spain through UNDP	Dec. 2011	1,230,410
<b>Support for Enhanced Media Coverage and Monitoring of Electoral Processes</b>	Supports the electoral process in Iraq by building capacity of the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC), the Communications and Media Commission (CMC) and the professional media – to play their roles in providing stakeholders with timely, accurate and impartial information.	UNDG - ITF	Nov. 2011	3,000,000
<b>Project to support the “Arab New Media Summit for Peace and Dialogue”</b>	UNESCO-Iraq Office is partnering with UNESCO-Catalonia to create a “Network of Media Professionals on Peace, Dialogue and Conflict Prevention” and a “Guide of Best Practices” to address peace and dialogue in the region through new media.	UNESCO Iraq	May 2010	62,000
		UNESCO Catalonia		
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>4,292,410</b>
<b>Projects Starting in 2010 with Secured Funding</b>				
		Funding Source	End Date	Total Budget (USD)
<b>Protection of Media Professionals, Human Rights Defenders and Members of the Academic Community</b>	Supporting media professionals, Human Rights Defenders and members of the academic community in Iraq that have been the targets of violence aimed at preventing them from doing their jobs.	UNDG ITF - EU	Jul. 2012	589,452
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>589,452</b>
<b>Total Secured Funds (2010-2014)</b>				<b>4,881,862</b>
<b>Projects with Pending Funding</b>				
		Potential Funding Source	Funding Status	Amount
<b>Alternative Media</b>	Ensure Iraqi citizen journalism will be shaped in a way that promotes democratization, gender equality, transparency, and values of peace.	-	Pending	1,500,000
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>1,500,000</b>
<b>TOTAL COMMUNICATION EXTRA-BUDGETARY PORTFOLIO (2010-2014)</b>				<b>6,381,862</b>

Table 0-8: Regular Programme Resource Allocation for Communication &amp; Information 2010-2011 Biennium

Regular Programme Resource Allocation for Communication and Information 2010-2011			
<b>MLA 1 Promoting freedom of expression and information fostering and enabling environment for freedom of expression and access to information</b>	Awareness raising, monitoring and advocacy for freedom of expression and access to information		USD 20,000
	Role of communication and information in fostering mutual understanding, peace and reconciliation, particularly in situations of open and post-conflict solutions		USD 20,000
<b>MLA 2 Strengthening free independent and pluralistic media and communication for sustainable development</b>	Development of free, pluralistic and independent media in line with IPDC endorsed Media Development indicators		USD 20,000
<b>MLA 3 Fostering universal access to information and knowledge and the development of infrastructures</b>	Documentary heritage and infrastructure for sustainable development		USD 20,000
<b>Total Budget</b>			<b>USD 80,000</b>





### Annex 3: UNESCO-Iraq's Main Non-Governmental Partners

#### EDUCATION

- The AMAR International Charitable Foundation, a not-for-profit professional health and education provider, contributed to the implementation of a Literacy and Peace Education programme in the Iraqi Marshlands;
- Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) assisted in the Establishment of a Youth Centre in Basra;
- Iraqi Al-Amal Association, an Iraqi non-political, non-sectarian and non-profit association of volunteers that was established in 1992 is a key partner in the field of literacy;
- Council for Assisting Refugee Academics (CARA), focuses on capacity building amongst Iraqi academics living in exile after 2003 and on facilitating exchange between Iraqi and UK academics, it collaborates with UNESCO-Iraq in the organization of short-term fellowships for Iraqi faculty members;
- Geneva International Peace Research Institute (GIPRI), which has been involved in the network of solidarity with Iraqi researchers;
- Scholar Rescue Fund (SRF), which aims to assist Iraq's most senior and most threatened academics through temporary academic positions at universities, colleges and other institutions of higher learning in the Middle East and North African regions, also collaborates in the short time fellowships programme;
- The Literacy Network for Iraq, composed of 280 National NGOs, is supporting the national literacy campaign;
- The NGO Coordination Committee for Iraq (NCCI) is assisting UNESCO office for Iraq in assessing NGOs capacity in delivering literacy and non-formal education programs in Iraq as well as in building rules and registrations for NGO accreditation at MoE.
- Relief International is partner in launching awareness campaign targeting vulnerable young and out-of-school children.
- Avicenna network: The established Avicenna Virtual Campus for Iraq had three partner members. In 2011, the network was expanded to include nine member institutions. The six new institutions are the Universities of Kufa, Mousel,

Al-Anbar, Wassit, Muthanna, and Sulaymaniyah. Project activities extend also beyond Iraq to other Avicenna centers, thereby enhancing the vitality of the whole network.

- DAAD: Scholarships granted to three Iraqi fellows to join a short study and research program in Science, Education and Engineering fields at German universities in partnership with DAAD for duration of three to six months.
- Hamad Medical Center: Arrangements and coordination with Hamad Medical Center-Doha to host medical fellows for -3month program
- IBE: A Letter of Understanding has been signed with the International Bureau of Education to support the implementation of the New Iraqi Curricula Project.
- IIEP: Partnership formed with UNESCO's International Institute for Educational Planning, for the training of decision-makers from MoHESR and major universities on management/governance and leadership, under the Higher Education Project
- NISA: A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the Network of Iraqi Scientists Abroad ,to develop partnerships and collaborations between Iraqi scientists and universities inside Iraq, and Iraqi scientists in the diaspora.
- Philadelphia University - Jordan: A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Philadelphia University in Jordan, to support the efforts of the Higher Education Project in expanding the AVCI, thereby facilitating linkages with the Mediterranean Avicenna Network and transfer of experience.

#### NATURAL SCIENCES

- Nature Iraq, an Iraqi NGO created to protect, restore and preserve Iraq's natural environment, is a key partner on water research and development in the Marshlands;
- Intergovernmental Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), a democratic membership union with more than 1,000 governments and NGO member organizations, collaborates to develop a management system for the Marshlands as a natural and cultural heritage site.

## CULTURE

- Iraqi Cultural Support Association (ICSA) collaborates with UNESCO Iraq in the field of Culture Development in Iraq. It contributed to the organization of a roundtable for Iraqi cultural diversity and the redaction of the Basrah Declaration, as well as the production of booklets.

## COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

- Aswat Al-Iraq, an Iraqi Independent News Agency, is a key partner in the field of support to media development in Iraq.
- Canal France International (CFI), a France Télévision subsidiary funded by the French Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs to lead a network of partners in the media sector, is a key partner in the activities of the Office's regular budget. It collaborated in implementing a media capacity building in environment and sustainable development;
- International Media Support (IMS), an international non-profit organization based in Copenhagen to support local media countries affected by armed conflict, human insecurity and political transition, also collaborates with UNESCO Office for Iraq in the implementation of regular budget activities;
- Article 19, a UK registered charity providing expertise for legislation that protects freedoms of expression and information, drafted the Journalists Protection Law in the framework of the World Press Freedom Day;
- The Iraqi Institute for Economic Reform (IIER), an independent research institute whose mission is to assist Iraq in the transition to a modern market economy, assists in monitoring media coverage of the oil industry.
- The Independent Media Centre in Kurdistan collaborated with UNESCO Office for Iraq in the organization of a bloggers workshop – "Blogging for the future" – which was organized in Erbil from June 30th to July 5th 2011;
- The British Council also contributed to the organization of a bloggers' workshop.
- Regional and international NGOs will also lend their experience and contacts to carry out UNESCO's projects; chief amongst them are:
- BBC World Service Trust, Canadian Journalists for Free Expression (CJFE), Index on Censorship,

- IFES, Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR), International Federation of Journalists, International Media Support (IMS), Internews Europe (both Paris, and Washington), IREX (also both Washington and Europe), Media in Cooperation and Transition (MICT), Global Partners and Associates, Open Society Foundation-Network Media Program; Search for common Ground, World Association of Newspapers (WAN), Albany Associates, IFEX, IJNET, and International IDEA, all in the field of media capacity development and elections.
- Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), Human Rights Watch (HRW), International News Safety Institute (INSI), International Press Institute (IPI), Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), Centre for Defending Freedom of Journalists (CDFJ) and Reporters sans Frontières (RSF) are some of the NGOs that could play a relevant role to increase safety of journalists in Iraq.
- Efforts will be made to explore ways of collaboration with private companies such as Nokia, Google, Twitter and Apple.

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1. Iraq Household Socio-Economic Survey (IHSES), 2007
  2. United Nations Country Team <<http://iq.one.un.org/Facts-and-Figures>>
  3. UNICEF/COSIT/KRSO/MOH Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2006
  4. Local Area Development Program
  5. Vocational Technical Centres
  6. Support to Enhancing the Learning Environment in Vulnerable Areas in Iraq for Meeting the EFA Goals
  7. Office of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser
  8. Institute for Educational Training and Development
  9. Consolidated Appeals Process
  10. Islamic Development Bank