



UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

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

Program Overview:

USAID assists Iraqis in reconstructing their country by working with Iraq's Interim Government. USAID programs are implemented in coordination with the United Nations, coalition country partners, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and private sector partners. The USAID Mission in Iraq carries out programs in education, health care, food security, infrastructure reconstruction, airport and seaport management, economic growth, community development, democracy and governance, and transition initiatives.

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

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



English language training for faculty at a northern Iraqi university will improve faculty members' ability to engage with their peers internationally and benefit from English-language scientific journals

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Program Descriptions and Accomplishments

1. Restore Essential Infrastructure

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

Accomplishments to Date:

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

Highlights this Week:

- A new job order is being issued to augment maintenance upgrades performed by USAID at a thermal power plant in northern Iraq. The new work will add a fifteen year lifespan to two of the plant's units and increase their output to between 185 and 209 MW each. Rehabilitation of the first unit, which has been out of service since March 2003, will begin immediately, and work on the second unit, currently producing about 90 MW, will begin after the summer peak. This work will continue through 2005 and will increase plant generation to between 800 and 900 MW--a significant increase from its original production, which was approximately 450 MW.
 - Work at this six unit plant began in January 2004. Each unit has a nameplate rating of 220 MW, but the plant's five functioning units were producing only about 90 MW each in March 2003. Scheduled maintenance work on three of the plant's units was completed as part of the spring 2004 maintenance program and has increased each unit's generation and reliability to approximately 125 MW for the high demand season of summer 2004. Only two weeks of work were possible on a fourth unit before summer loads arrived, and some work was done on the final functioning unit in the spring 2004 program, but additional work on these units has been postponed until after the summer 2004 peak.

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

Accomplishments to Date:

Airport

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

- Preparing Al Basrah International Airport for commercial operations.

Seaport

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

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

Accomplishments to Date:

Bridges

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

Railroads

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

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

Accomplishments to Date:

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

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

Accomplishments to Date:

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

Highlights this Week:

- A new collaborative effort between USAID and the U.S. Military is implementing community development and infrastructure projects in some of Baghdad's poorest and most volatile areas in an effort to improve the quality of life for the city's residents. Because evidence directly links security to the provision of essential services (particularly electricity, water and sanitation), USAID and the military's joint efforts targeted immediate assistance to unstable neighborhoods. The positive results underline the success of a new approach for civil-military collaboration in post conflict countries. These new projects include both quick-impact labor intensive community improvement projects as well as long-term infrastructure development projects.

2. Support Essential Health and Education

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

Accomplishments to Date:

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

Highlights this Week:

- A community hygiene campaign and small-scale infrastructure projects are improving the sanitary conditions and the provision of potable water in four collective towns in Arbil Governorate. The towns are made up of more than 160,000 internally displaced persons, forced to relocate as a result of displacement campaigns under the former regime. Four hygiene promotion teams, distributing leaflets and posters through the Departments of Health and Education. Infrastructure improvement includes

extensions to the water pipe networks, repair of existing networks, drilling of deep wells, laying sewerage pipes and the construction of latrines.

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

Accomplishments to Date:

- *Immediately After the Conflict*
 - Provided technical assistance for the resumption of education functions and salaries.
 - Funded 5.5 million examinations for transitional grades, which ensured the smooth continuation of education.
- *Facilities and Supplies*
 - Awarded 627 grants worth more than \$6 million to rehabilitate schools and equip Directorates General.
 - Rehabilitated 2,358 schools countrywide for the first term of the 2003/04 school year.
 - Provided materials, equipment and supplies:
 - Distributed nearly 1.5 million secondary school kits that include pens, pencils, paper, math supplies, and other essentials.
 - Distributed 159,005 student desks, 26,437 teacher desks, 59,940 teacher chairs, 26,050 metal cabinets, 61,500 chalkboards, and 58,500 teacher kits.
 - Delivered 808,000 primary student kits.
 - Delivered 81,735 primary teacher kits.
 - In consultation with the Iraqi Ministry of Education, reviewed 48 math and science textbooks for grades 1 through 12.
 - Printed and distributed 8,759,260 math and science textbooks throughout Iraq.
- *Institutional Strengthening*
 - Trained 860 secondary school Teacher Trainers during September 2003 to January 2004 nationwide.
 - Trained 31,772 secondary school teachers and administration staff.
 - Conducted a pilot accelerated learning program in five Iraqi cities to allow out-of-school children to complete two school years in one year. More than 550 students participated in the program.
 - Approximately 87 percent of the students passed the year end exams and will now be integrated into the main school system.
- *Higher Education*
 - Supporting the Higher Education and Development Program. Awarded five grants worth an estimated \$20.7 million for U.S.-Iraqi university partnerships. The program supports rehabilitation of research laboratories, rebuilding library resources and establishing internet centers; invigorating academic human resources and university administration leadership through workshops, seminars, conferences, research grants and one year graduate studies in the U.S.; stimulating curriculum development through introduction of supplementary new materials.
 - In collaboration with Iraqi university partners, research laboratory needs assessments have been completed and procurement is underway; library facilities and internet centers have been rehabilitated



English language training at a northern Iraqi university

and prepared for receiving materials and equipment; workshops, seminars and conferences are underway allowing senior Iraqi faculty to present papers in an international forum.

Highlights this Week:

- Twenty faculty members are participating in a one month English language course at a northern Iraqi university's college of agriculture to improve their English language comprehension at conferences and lectures to allow them to benefit from international journals.

3. Expand Economic Opportunity

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

Accomplishments to Date:

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

Highlights this Week:

- In an effort to reactivate some forms of tax collection, the Ministry of Finance's Tax Commission is developing a hotel and restaurant tax that will apply to establishments operating in the catering industry categorized as deluxe hotels or first class restaurants. With support from USAID, educational materials for hotels and restaurants on the new registration and payment procedures have been developed, translated and delivered to local tax administrators. An initial training session was also conducted with tax inspectors.
- A new business registration process will streamline and improve transparency in procedures for registering domestic and foreign companies in Iraq. The information technology-based system will automate the registry process and forms and instructions are being designed for the registration of foreign

and domestic companies, commercial agencies, and state companies. Project goals include developing procedures for the business registry office to provide businesses with a unified business registration number, taxpayer identification number and Central Statistics Organization reporting number; developing a comprehensive public education campaign and outreach program that informs businesses of the benefits of registration; implementing the registration application pilot program in the Registrar's office, and procuring the computer hardware necessary for the system.

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

Accomplishments to Date:

- Worked with the UN World Food Program (WFP) to re-establish the Public Distribution System in less than 30 days, avoiding a humanitarian food crisis and maintaining food security.
- Contributed cash and food aid totaling \$425 million to WFP's emergency operations immediately following the conflict, making the U.S. the foremost contributor to WFP emergency operations in Iraq.
- Provided ongoing support and technical assistance to WFP and local Iraqi authorities in the Ministry of Trade and the Kurdish Food Departments to ensure the smooth transition of PDS management tasks to the Iraqi government.
- Played a role in negotiating a memorandum of understanding between the CPA, the Ministry of Trade, and the WFP that details areas of responsibility including: capacity building and training, procurement of food commodities, renegotiation of food contracts, shipment and overland transport of food commodities, and pipeline management. The WFP will continue to support the public distribution system through June 2004 and will begin work immediately to assure continuation of food deliveries.
- Currently providing food aid expertise to the Ministry of Trade and assisting WFP, CPA and the Ministry to continue to distribute food to all Iraqis.

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

Accomplishments to Date:

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

- *Winter Crop Technology Demonstrations:* On 334 hectares in 15 governorates, 128 farm families are establishing plots with new crop varieties for extension field days. Planning for the Summer Crop Technology Demonstrations is underway.
- *Veterinary Hospital Renovation:* The renovation of a hospital in At' Tamim Governorate was completed in early April 2003 under a \$96,000 ARDI grant; the hospital serves more than 100,000 livestock in the area.
- *Veterinary Clinic Rehabilitation:* This project was completed in early April 2003 through a \$50,000 grant which was matched by supplies and equipment from the Ministry of Agriculture. These rural clinics are the two principal sources of vaccines and medicines for animals in 125 local communities.

- *Internet Connectivity and Repairs to a Student Union Building:* The School of Agriculture at an Iraqi university will receive a \$75,000 grant that will benefit 4,509 students.
- Seven grants, totaling \$394,000, were approved in February 2004 to build the capacity of Iraq's agriculture sector. The grants' emphasis on veterinary programs allows an immediate, highly visible response to the challenges that face herders and farmers in the North and Central regions.
- The Ministry of Agriculture is establishing 18 date palm nurseries throughout Iraq in support of its goal to reestablish Iraq's dominant position in the international date market, a position it lost under the former regime. Dates are a national treasure for Iraq with both symbolic and economic significance. This project, which receives support and technical assistance from USAID, will ensure the preservation of Iraq's 621 varieties of date palm.
- Developed a transition plan for the Iraq Ministry of Agriculture to move the agricultural sector from a command and control production and marketing system to one which is market-driven.
- Initiated a program supporting agricultural extension services for farmers in late May. Eight extension agents are working with farmers to teach agricultural best practices. The agents encourage farmers to analyze their own problems and independently develop solutions. In collaboration with USAID, the Ministry of Agriculture expects to replicate the program in other villages, as extension services have been successful in increasing agricultural productivity in developing countries around the world.

Highlights this Week:

- Plans for the Summer Crop Technology Demonstrations have been developed and the rice crop to be used for the demonstrations has been planted. The program is a follow-on to the Winter Crop Technology Demonstration that established 334 hectares of plots in 15 governorates to showcase new technologies and techniques for growing bread wheat, durum wheat, barley, lentils, chick peas, and vetch (a legume used for feeding livestock). The summer program will focus on rice, maize, and vegetables.
- New collaborative projects between the Ministry of Agriculture, a northern Iraqi College of Agriculture, Civil Affairs, and USAID are increasing opportunities for agricultural development. Efforts between USAID and the College of Agriculture are currently focused on extension services. The university is unable to establish an extension department at this time, but graduate students will benefit from participation in extension field visits organized by USAID. Students and faculty may also participate in USAID's crop technology demonstrations.

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

Accomplishments to Date:

- Operating at both national and regional levels, the Marshlands Restoration Program developed an integrated strategy for wetland restoration and management and is providing social and economic assistance to Marsh Arabs.
- The first date palm nursery was established with 1,000 mother trees of different varieties. The trees will produce 10,000 off-shoots, of which about 7,000 will survive.
- The Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Public Works have selected a first site to build a constructed wetlands for treating domestic wastewater. The service area is the largest settlement in the marshlands, and will serve roughly 5,000 people.
- Demonstrations of alfalfa cultivation to improve livestock nutrition and dairy production in five locations are ongoing.

- The program will re-establish a water and soil laboratory in the Ministry of Water Resources headquarters in Baghdad. A proposed list of equipment has been developed and is being reviewed by the Ministry staff for immediate procurement and training in their use.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Ministry of Water Resources are jointly developing a hydrologic model of the Tigris and Euphrates basin.
- Work began on setting up demonstration plots for field crops and horticulture in eight locations in the marshlands. Plans are underway to do soil and water analyses at possible demonstration sites. The program is recruiting staff to implement the establishment of date palm nurseries for growing and distributing off-shoots.

4. Improve Efficiency and Accountability of Government

Local Governance -- *Objectives include: promoting diverse and representative citizen participation in provincial, municipal and local councils; strengthening the management skills of city and provincial administrations, local interim representative bodies, and civic institutions to improve the delivery of essential municipal services; promoting effective advocacy and participation of civil society organizations; enhancing leadership skills; and serving as a recruiting tool for future leaders.*

Accomplishments to Date:

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

Highlights this Week:

- Under a recently awarded grant to a US-based NGO, USAID has begun providing technical assistance to support the work of the new Government of Iraq. This past week, advisors from the NGO attended the first meeting of the Supreme Commission which is organizing the National Conference, scheduled to be held in July. The National Conference will be an assembly of a thousand people convened by the GOI who will select a National Council of 100 members to oversee the government and the cabinet council of ministers. NGO advisors are providing the Commission with the results of a public opinion poll to ensure that the thoughts of the public are incorporated into Conference development. In addition, information materials and advice are being provided for the development of rules for committee meetings. The Commission's six key committees will each include at least one Iraqi technical advisor, selected from a pool of candidates that included suggestions made by NGO advisors.
- Iraqi local government representatives are developing water supply projects to provide potable water for constituents. USAID's Local Governance Program (LGP) is providing technical assistance to local

councils and contractors to support these projects. In Babil Governorate, LGP staff is facilitating coordination between the contractor of two water supply projects and the local Water Directorate and is working with the local government to ensure the projects' proper implementation. In a separate Babil Governorate project, LGP staff met with representatives from the Water Directorate to develop a supply system project for local villages. LGP has been working with the community to ensure that the concerns of community members are incorporated into project construction. This work supports LGP's goal of encouraging local government to be responsive to the needs of their constituents.

- The June 19-20 National Agenda Conference for Academics brought together nearly 150 academic leaders to identify the strategic social and political issues they view as important in a democratic Iraq. Over the two-day event, participants addressed the following themes: democracy and social coexistence; the role of academia in the creation of a modern Iraqi state; civil society organizations in support of Iraq; countering "Brain Drain"; and the role of academics in solving social problems.

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

Accomplishments to Date:

- Awarded 1,130 small grants totaling more than \$74 million for quick impact activities that support good governance, civil society, conflict management and mitigation, human rights and transitional justice.
- Supporting initiatives crucial to the democratic transition, including civic education, civil society and media development, increased women's participation, conflict mitigation and transitional justice. Groups targeted for assistance include women's and youth groups, professional associations and human rights organizations.
- Met critical needs during and immediately after the conflict by providing short-term employment, restoring basic government and community services, increasing Iraqi access to information and communication and encouraging protection of human rights.
- Funded over 60 grants totaling \$3 million that focus on women's issues, including supporting the establishment of 14 women's centers in Iraq. Rehabilitated over 264 Iraqi national ministries, schools, clinics and other municipal buildings. Supporting 65 Iraqi groups in documenting human rights abuses of the Ba'athist regime and promoting peace, tolerance, and reconciliation.

Highlights this Week:

- Recent Iraq Transition Initiative programs to support civil society organizations include:
 - An organization which provides social service resources in an ethnically diverse town in northern Iraq is looking for ways for members of the Arab, Kurd, Turkmen, and Assyrian communities to interact positively and overcome tensions. Educational, cultural and social activities, including civic dialogues to build common ground, will help meet their goals. A grant from USAID will provide essential furniture and supplies to help begin their activities.
 - A civil society organization in northern Iraq has received a grant to furnish and equip its offices. The organization is working to ease tensions among various ethnic groups in the region and help solve property disputes. The NGO is involving members of the Kurd, Arab, and Turkmen communities in conflict resolution activities in order to help them resolve their differences.
- A government agency in southern Iraq will present a 90-day vocational training program for youth. The agency's goals are two-fold: alleviating unemployment among residents and supplying qualified agricultural workers. It will offer an agricultural training course focusing on fertilizer use, and correct

operation and maintenance of farm machinery--skills that are lacking in the current labor force. As an additional benefit, the program will constructively engage youth that might otherwise be susceptible to join radical elements. As the country progresses in its sovereignty, it is essential to support efforts to ease tensions and demonstrate the benefits of the transition. A USAID grant will fund the training course and provide computers and other technical equipment.

- A government agency in southern Iraq will present a vocational training program on Information Technology to youth. The agency has received a grant to fund five separate courses for 200 participants, and provide computer equipment, internet access and office furniture to the institute where the courses will take place. A lack of workers with proper technical skills has exacerbated the unemployment problem in this region. The local government, private employers and educational institutions agree that providing young people with suitable skills will enhance their employability and give them a more positive outlook.
- An agricultural organization in Salah Ad Din Governorate has received a grant to furnish and supply eight district and village offices. The organization provides outreach services to farmers, distributes fertilizer, is establishing a geo-technical soil lab and publishes a newsletter with its goals and activities. This organization is a valuable resource for local farmers and providing this assistance will be a sign of positive cooperation in the new Iraq.
- A small village in an ethnically and culturally diverse area of Iraq renovated their community cultural center with the assistance of a grant from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative. The area experienced a great deal of conflict under the former regime and residents have stated that they would like to overcome these differences by finding positive ways to interact. USAID is supporting this by rehabilitating the cultural center that was seriously damaged when it was occupied by the former Iraqi army. This will allow the town to have a facility in which to host many cultural, civic education and other events. The grant will also provide furniture and equipment for the center.
- An Iraqi NGO that provides services to women throughout Iraq will introduce a new program to make vocational education opportunities available to women in remote areas. A grant will allow the organization to transport women to the center who would not ordinarily have access to its resources and will cover teachers' stipends and classroom rental. The program will offer courses in foreign languages, sewing, first aid, and cosmetology to enhance women's job skills so they can have more opportunities for employment and be better able to compete in an area of society normally dominated by men.

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

Accomplishments to Date:

- Established more than 650 Community Action Groups in 17 governorates. The projects undertaken by these groups are part of a campaign targeting grassroots democratic development.
- CAP has committed \$57 million for 1,485 projects across Iraq; 1,118 projects have been completed.
- Iraqi communities have contributed more than 25 percent of the value of the community projects. Contributions have included labor, land, buildings, and other in-kind assistance.
- The north program focuses on areas of Mosul, Kirkuk and the Iran-Iraq border. Their work has resulted in 251 completed projects and another 34 in development. These include establishing a youth center in At' Tamim Governorate and developing a new local water supply in Salah ad Din Governorate.
- The southwest central program has established a strong presence in the Shi'ia holy cities of Najaf and Karbala, as well as Hillah by facilitating very active community associations. A strong emphasis on

critical infrastructure needs has provided these communities with results such as sewage and water rehabilitation, school repairs, swamp clean-up and repairs to vital social infrastructure. They have completed 118 projects.

- The Baghdad program has completed 278 projects in working with 142 community action groups. Income generation is an important emphasis. A marketplace for over 700 vendors is being constructed, and crews are cleaning up medical waste dumps and educating medical personnel on proper disposal methods.
- The southeast central program has completed 122 projects and 88 more are in development. In the Shi'i heartland, these projects are addressing needs resulting from decades of governmental neglect and focus on water, sewerage, community clean-up and school rehabilitation.
- The south program has completed 349 projects through 138 community action groups which average 33 percent women's participation. Projects have focused primarily on immediate community needs such as sewage clean up, water treatment and distribution, public health, and girls' access to education.



Highlights this Week:

- A major outdoor market in At' Tamim Governorate has been renovated, creating a sanitary environment for local residents and vendors. Prior to rehabilitation, the market area was a threat to public health, as filthy water collected around the market stalls, allowing mosquitoes and rodents to breed in a market that sells fresh produce, meat, and other food items. The road through the market was also in poor condition. With support from USAID, community members paved the market road, put in fresh sidewalks, and dug a small drainage canal to drain excess water. This project benefits more than 10,000 people.
- Communities participating in CAP in Maysan Governorate are not only supporting improvements in their own communities, but are helping to improve neighborhoods outside their communities.



An At' Tamim Governorate market before (above) and after (below) rehabilitation supported by USAID

Community Action Groups are working with three Maysan Governorate technical schools to re-equip them with modern tools and technology. To participate in the CAP program, communities must contribute money, labor, or other resources to the development projects. As part of their contributions, the communities around these schools are volunteering time and resources to help other local communities.

- Students will contribute to their respective projects by providing free technical training in welding, carpentry, and electrical work to 30-40 local youth; free computer training and electronics training for approximately 20 individuals with disabilities; free wheelchair maintenance for the disabled; free electric maintenance work in 10 local schools; and mechanical and carpentry assistance to local schools. These contributions, valued at \$25,000, have the added benefit of providing a training ground for the students of these schools to practice the skills they acquire over the course of their studies.



Street paving in a city in An Najaf Governorate

- Residents of a Najaf Governorate community have completed the rehabilitation of a road to improve access to local commercial centers, schools, and neighboring villages. This neighborhood, which is home to 7,200 residents, was subjected to decades of state-sanctioned neglect that led to the crumble of infrastructure, rendering the living conditions of the residents harsh and extreme. Unemployment reached 40% and criminal activities became rampant. Project implementation to pave the neighborhood's main roads and connect the area with the nearby main access road began in December 2003.
- A contest was recently held in Wasit Governorate allowing students to compete in creative writing, drawing, and community service activities. The creative writing and drawing components allowed students to develop their creative skills and encouraged them to generate new ideas. In the third component of the contest, students designed and implemented volunteer activities to benefit the community. Activities included: cleaning schools; visiting poor neighborhoods and hospitals; implementing health and hygiene campaigns; and planting flowers. These projects are engaging young people in their communities and increasing their awareness of what is going on in their town to emphasize the importance of their participation for the future of their community.
- The renovation of a fruit tree nursery in Diyala' Governorate is helping rejuvenate the local agricultural industry. The central Iraqi governorate of Diyala' is well-known for its fruit trees—date palms, pomegranates, and citrus trees. This nursery had been a long-time supplier of seedlings and fruit trees but had fallen into neglect and disuse over the years. Community residents worked with USAID's Community Action Program to renovate the nursery, building nearly one donum or 2,500 square meters of plastic houses. The nursery will now sell good quality, disease-free trees and seedlings to local farmers at an affordable price.



Students cleaning an orphanage in Wasit Governorate



Renovated house for growing fruit trees and seedlings

USAID Iraq Reconstruction Financial Summary

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Amount</i>
FY 2003-2004*				
RECONSTRUCTION				
USAID/ANE			Subtotal:	\$3,159,534,339
	Abt Associates	Health	Countrywide	\$20,995,000
	AFCAP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$91,500,000
	Army Corps of Engineers	Architecture and Engineering services	Countrywide	\$17,000,000
	BearingPoint	Economic Governance	Countrywide	\$76,050,000
	Bechtel National	Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,029,833,259
	Bechtel National	Infrastructure II: Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,313,276,367
	Community Action Program	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$120,080,000
	DAI	Marshlands	Dhi Qar Al Basrah Maysan	\$4,000,000
	DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$9,352,912
	Fed Source	Personnel Support	Countrywide	\$163,572
	IRG	Reconstruction Support	Countrywide	\$29,087,094
	RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$236,911,000
	CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000
	CEPPS	Iraq Governing Council	Countrywide	\$675,000
	UNICEF	Health, Water, and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$36,700,000
	UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$19,600,000
	UNESCO	Textbook Printing and Distribution: Math and Science	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	WHO	Strengthen Health System	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	SSA	Port Management	Umm Qasr	\$14,318,985
	SkyLink	Airport Management	Baghdad Al Basrah Mosul	\$27,200,000
	MSI	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$5,500,000
	University Partners	Consortium led by the Research Foundation of the State University of	Baghdad University, Al Mustansiriyah	\$20,730,000

		New York (SUNY) at Stony Brook which includes Columbia University, Boston University and Oxford University (England), University of Hawaii, DePaul University College of Law and the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences in Siracusa, Italy; and Jackson State University and the Mississippi Consortium for International Development; and Oklahoma State University.	University in Baghdad, Mosul University, Mosul University's College of Agriculture and Forestry in Hamam al-Alil, Basrah University, Al-Anbar University, and University of Salahaddin.	
	Yankee Group	Telecoms Planning	Countrywide	\$58,150
	UNDP	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	World Bank	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
EMERGENCY RELIEF				
USAID/DCHA/OFDA				\$101,122,485
	Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$7,389,004
	AirServ	Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,309,876
	ARC	Capacity building, Disaster support	Al Basrah	\$537,746
	The Cuny Center	Research studies	Countrywide	\$40,260
	GOAL	Coordination, Nutrition	Al Muthanna'	\$1,507,900
	International Dispensary Association	Health	Countrywide	\$1,318,437
	InterAction	Coordination	Kuwait City	\$92,860
	IOM	IDP programs	Countrywide	\$5,545,780
	Logistics	Commodities and DART support	Countrywide	\$20,901,947
	UNICEF	Health, nutrition, water/sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
	UN OCHA	Coordination and Information	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
	USAID Amman	Support for emergency water activities	Countrywide	\$500,000
	WFP	Logistics and pre-positioning of food	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	IMC	Food Security, Health, Nutrition, Water/Sanitation, Capacity building	Countrywide	\$13,702,900
	IRC	Health, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$6,198,685
	Mercy Corps	Health, Non-Food Items, Shelter, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$7,000,000
	SCF/US	Food Security, Health, Shelter, Nutrition, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation, NGO Consortium	Countrywide	\$6,883,131
	World Vision	Health, Logistics, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,993,959
	CARE	Quick-impact projects, Water/Sanitation, Health, Blankets	Countrywide	\$9,000,000
USAID/DCHA/FFP				\$425,571,000
	WFP	Operations	Countrywide	\$45,000,000
	WFP	Emerson Trust – 81,500 MT	Countrywide	\$40,337,000
	WFP	P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities – 163,820 MT	Countrywide	\$140,234,000
	WFP	Regional Purchase – 330,000 MT	Countrywide	\$200,000,000
USAID/DCHA/OTI.....				\$165,024,634

	Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$7,042,126
	IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$7,087,595
	DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$139,900,000
	Internews	Media	Countrywide	\$160,359
	Radio SAWA	Media	Countrywide	\$400,000
	NDI/IRI	National Governance	Countrywide	\$650,000
	IFES	National Governance	Countrywide	\$1,042,315
	ICNL	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$39,238
	Spa War**	Inter-Ministry Communications	Countrywide	\$8,703,001
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2003/2004				\$3,847,741,515

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

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