



**UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF**

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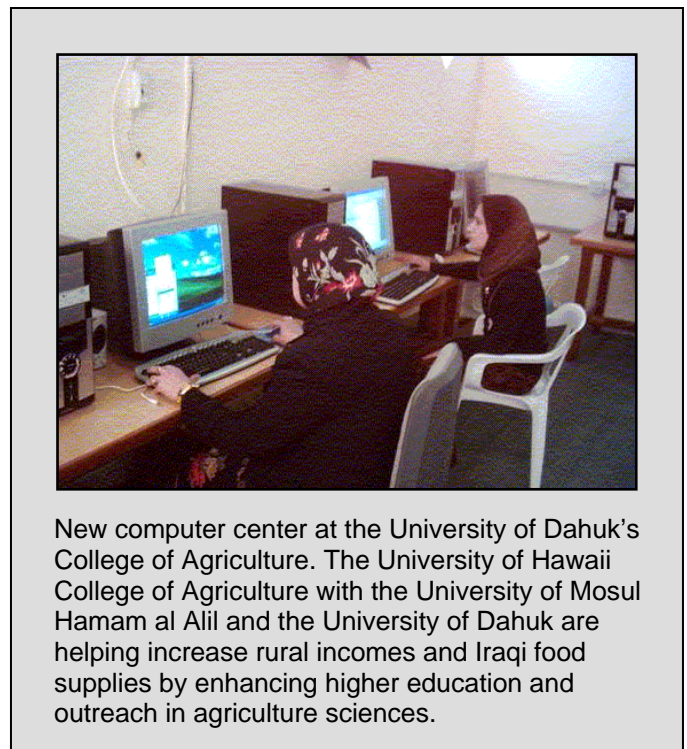
*This fact sheet highlights overall accomplishments and some weekly activities from USAID's reconstruction efforts in Iraq. For more information on USAID's programs in Iraq please see: [www.usaid.gov/iraq](http://www.usaid.gov/iraq)*

**Program Overview:**

USAID assists Iraqis in reconstructing their country by working within the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA). 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, local 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



**Table of Contents**

Program Overview	1	Economic Growth	8
Electricity	2	Food Security	9
Airports	2	Agriculture	9
Bridges, Roads, and Railroads	3	Marshlands	10
Umm Qasr Seaport	3	Local Governance	11
Telecommunications	4	Transition Initiatives	13
Water and Sanitation	4	Community Action Program	14
Health	6	Financial Summary	16
Education	7		

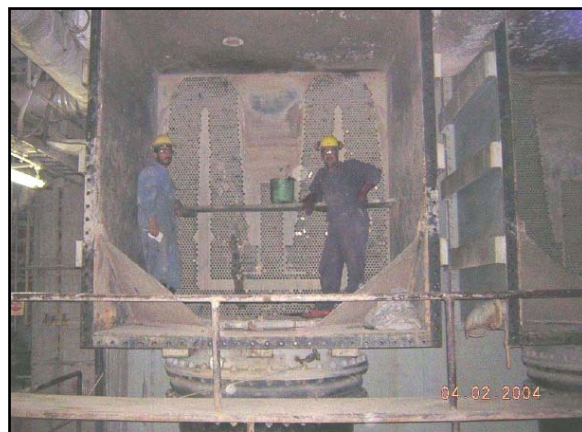
## Program Descriptions and Accomplishments

### 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 to restore capacity to Iraq's power system, which was dilapidated from decades of neglect, mismanagement, and looting.

#### Accomplishments to Date:

- Generated 4,518 MW on October 6—surpassing the pre-war level of 4,400 MW. Average production over the last seven days was 3,751 MW.
- Generated 98,917 MW hours on February 14—the highest since reconstruction began.
- Installed independent sources of power at Baghdad International Airport and Umm Qasr seaport.
- Collaborating with Bechtel, CPA, and Task Force 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 2,152 MW of incremental capacity.
  - USAID is adding 827 MW of capacity through maintenance, rehabilitation, and new generation projects.
  - USAID's portion of the work includes:
    - Rehabilitating units 5 and 6 at Doura thermal power plant.
    - Rehabilitating units 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 at Bayji thermal power plant.
    - Continuing reconstruction of the country's 400-kv transmission network by rebuilding 220 kilometers of Khor Az Zubayr-Nasiriyah 400-kv line.
    - Installing new generating capacity at Kirkuk and South Baghdad power plants.



**Work on Bayji Unit 3's main condenser**

#### Highlights this Week:

- The rehabilitation of the Bayji thermal power plant is progressing. Unit 3 is expected to be on-line by the end of the month. USAID partner Bechtel is rehabilitating units 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 at the Bayji plant. The power generated at the plant will contribute to Baghdad's supply of electricity during the peak summer season.

**Airports** -- 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.

#### Accomplishments to Date:

- Processing an average of 20 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 infrastructure work to prepare Baghdad International Airport for commercial air operations.

- Repaired Terminal C and administration offices.
- Installed three X-ray machines.
- Installed very small aperture terminal (VSAT) communications systems and new diesel powered generators, allowing Iraqi airport control centers to communicate.
- Rehabilitated Iraqi customs office in the arrival hall.
- Rehabilitated Baghdad International Airport's East Fire Station; airport fire protection training for a team of more than 80 Iraqis is ongoing.
- Preparing Al Basrah International Airport for commercial operations. Ongoing projects include:
  - Repairing runway, taxiway, and apron striping.
  - Installing two baggage X-ray units.
  - Repairing passenger support facilities.
  - Installing VSAT satellite communications.
  - Installed security fence.
  - Repairing airport water and sewage treatment plants.
- Completed evaluation of reconstruction requirements at Mosul Airport.

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

#### **Bridges:**

- Demolished irreparable sections of three key bridges (Khazir, Tikrit, and Al Mat) and started reconstruction.
  - *Al Mat Bridge*: A key link on Highway 10 that carries over 3,000 trucks daily on the main route between Baghdad and Jordan.
    - Work was completed, and the four-lane bridge was reopened to two-way traffic on March 3.
  - *Khazir Bridge*: Critical to the flow of fuel and agricultural products to the north.
    - Repairs to this bridge were completed on May 1 2004.
  - *Tikrit Bridge*: An important link for passengers and commerce over the Tigris River between Tikrit and Tuz Khurmatu.
    - On the upstream side of Pier 7, steel beams have been erected and dowels are installed. Work is expected to finish in May 2004.
- Repaired a floating bridge on the Tigris River in Al Kut, improving traffic for approximately 50,000 travelers a day.

#### **Railroads:**

- Iraqi Republican Railways (IRR) contributes equipment and labor, while USAID contributes project management, material, and parts. Work on the railways includes:
  - Repairing 16 km of track at the port of Umm Qasr and 56 km of track between the port and Shuiaba Junction near Basrah to facilitate cargo shipments, including foodstocks, from the seaport to main rail line.
  - Completed explosive ordinance disposal at all 53 sites of the rail line project near Shuiaba Junction (Al Basrah Governorate) in preparation for installation of new track.

**Umm Qasr Seaport** -- *Objectives include: managing port administration, coordinating transport from the seaport, and facilitating cargo-handling services such as warehousing, shipment tracking, and storage.*

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

- Reopened to commercial traffic June 2003; completed first passenger vessel test in July 2003.
- Offloading cargo from more than 40 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.

- An Iraqi dredger, which has been rehabilitated by USAID, is assisting with maintenance dredging.
- Renovated grain-receiving facility, which can process up to 600 metric tons of grain an hour.
- Instituted interim port tariffs, which provide a revenue stream for financially sustainable port operations.
- Installed generators, energizing all three 11-kv ring mains which distribute electricity throughout the port.
- Completed security fencing at the old and new ports and grain facility.
- Completed the renovation of the administration building, passenger terminal and customs hall building and continuing the renovation of the electrical substations.

**Telecommunications** -- *Objectives include: installing switches to restore service to 240,000 telephone lines in Baghdad area, and repairing 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.
  - Repairing the national fiber optic network from Mosul to Umm Qasr, connecting 20 cities to Baghdad.
- Reconstituted Baghdad area phone service by installing switches with 240,000 lines of capacity. Installed new switches and main distribution frames at 12 sites.
  - Baghdad's largest exchange, Al Mamoun, opened in December 2003. More than 140,000 individual subscriber lines are now active; work to allow final activation for all subscribers is underway.
  - Completed installation of a satellite gateway system at Al Mamoun and restored international calling service to Iraq on December 30, 2003.
  - Al Mamoun was handed over to the Ministry of Communications on February 26, 2004.
- Training Iraqi Telephone and Postal Company operators and engineers at Al Mamoun on telecommunications site operations, maintenance, and repairs.

**Highlights this Week:**

- The rehabilitation of the national fiber optic network between the northernmost governorate of Dahuk and Umm Qasr Port, in the southeast, is on schedule for completion by July. The Iraqi Telephone and Postal Commission (ITPC) Transmission group is completing facilities work at 24 telecom sites between Baghdad to Basrah in preparation for installation of broadband digital signal transmission equipment.
  - The rehabilitation of the national fiber optic network is being implemented by ITPC with assistance from USAID partner Bechtel. This work will result in a complete upgrade of the critical 2,000 kilometer backbone, which connects major cities throughout the country.

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

**Accomplishments to Date:**

- *Nationwide:* Rehabilitating sewage and water treatment plants that are currently by-passing 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.
- *Baghdad:* Expanding one water plant and rehabilitating three sewage plants.

- Rehabilitating and adding 45 percent capacity to Baghdad’s Sharkh Dijlah water plant (previously named Saba Nissan water plant), adding an additional 225,000 cubic meters a day to the water supply by July 2004, mostly in the overpopulated eastern sections.
- Installing back-up electrical generators at 41 Baghdad water facilities and pumping stations to ensure continuous water supply.
- Rehabilitating Baghdad’s sewage treatment plants—Rustimiyah North, Rustimiyah South, and Kerkh to benefit 3.8 million people by October 2004.
- Rehabilitated 70 of Baghdad’s non-functioning waste lift and pumping stations.
- *South Central:* Rehabilitating two water plants and four sewage plants.
  - Rehabilitating An Najaf and Karbala’ water treatment plants. The projects will be complete in August and November 2004, respectively.
  - Rehabilitating Ad Diwaniyah and Karbala’ sewage treatment plants, which serve 200,000 residents and currently discharge untreated waste into the Euphrates River. These projects are expected to be complete by August 2004 and October 2004, respectively.
  - Rehabilitating An Najaf and Al Hillah sewage treatment plants to serve 194,000 residents. These projects are expected to be completed by December 2004 and August 2004, respectively.
- *South:* Rehabilitating the entire Sweet Water Canal system, including the canal and its reservoir, 14 water treatment plants and pumping stations, and the Safwan water system
  - The system provides drinking water to 1.75 million residents of Basrah City. It had been operating at less than half capacity.
  - Rehabilitated both the east and west reservoirs of the canal in early April, allowing it to be re-filled with clean water.
  - Began work on Basrah’s 14 water treatment plants in January. By summer 2004, water quality and volume will surpass prewar levels.
  - Completed the restoration of the Safwan water system. All 40,000 residents now have access to potable drinking water.
- *North:* Rehabilitating two water plants and one sewage plant.
  - Rehabilitating Kirkuk, Mosul and Al Dujayl water treatment facilities and Al Dujayl sewage plant.
  - Procuring reconstruction materials for the Ninawa’ Sewer and Water Directorate. This Directorate will repair projects in Mosul and the surrounding areas.
  - Constructing potable water sources for towns and villages of less than 1,000 residents.

**Highlights this Week:**

- The rehabilitation of Ad Diwaniyah wastewater treatment plant is progressing on schedule for completion by August 2004. The Ad Diwaniyah wastewater treatment plant is being rehabilitated by USAID partner Bechtel and will serve 80,000 people when it is complete.
- At Rustimiyah North wastewater treatment plant in Baghdad, rehabilitation work is progressing. The accumulated sludge of years past has been removed from the aeration tanks and two settling tanks. This treatment plant is expected to be complete by October.
- The rehabilitation of Rustimiyah South wastewater treatment plant is also continuing. The concrete foundation for the generators was placed this week and generator building foundations were formed along with the installation of rebar. This project is expected to be complete by July.



A clarifier at Ad Diwaniyah wastewater treatment plant.



## 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, establishing a rapid referral and response system for the most serious cases, 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:**

- Procured more than 30 million doses of vaccines since July 2003 with support from the Ministry of Health and UNICEF.
- Vaccinated three million children under the age of five through the Expanded Immunization Program since June 2003. USAID will provide vaccines for a total of 4.2 million children under five and 700,000 pregnant women.
- Continuing a monthly catch-up immunization campaign with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health with 4,000 health workers and 124 supervisors.
- Awarded \$1.3 million in small grants to support Iraqi NGO healthcare efforts throughout Iraq.
- Developed a hospital and clinic facility database for the Ministry of Health on facility type, location, service distribution, cost information, and building condition.
- Renovating 52 primary health care clinics and re-equipping over 600 to provide essential primary healthcare services.
- Trained 340 master trainers in 18 governorates who are training more than 2,000 primary healthcare providers to treat and prevent acute respiratory infections and diarrheal diseases.
- Distributed high-protein supplementary food rations to more than 240,000 pregnant and nursing mothers and malnourished children.
- Evaluated 18 national and regional public health laboratories for equipment needs.
- Rehabilitated the National Polio Laboratory.
- Training more than 1,000 health workers and volunteers to identify, treat and monitor the growth of acutely malnourished children.
- Working with the Iraqi Ministry of Health to develop a strategic plan to reduce child mortality and increase the level of preventative care available to the Iraqi people through assistance to their nine working groups which address: public health, health care delivery, health information systems, pharmaceuticals, medical supplies and equipment, health care finance, education and training, human resources, legislation and regulation, and licensing and accreditation.
- Distributing 1.4 million liters of clean water each day to people in the cities of Al Basrah, Al Muthanna', Kirkuk, and Mosul.

### **Highlights this Week:**

- A program to equip birthing centers and train attendants at primary health care facilities in the rural areas of Diyala', Anbar, Babil and Najaf Governorates will benefit more than 440,000 people. The program will provide birthing kits to 45 birthing attendants at 11 primary health care centers. The kits contain basic medical equipment for 10,000 births. In addition, the birthing attendants will receive refresher training courses on delivery and maternal healthcare, the identification of risk factors for early referrals to health centers and information on the use of birthing kit supplies. This program, which is expected to be complete by the end of June, is being implemented by USAID partner, CARE.

**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 Ministry 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 equipment, and other supplies.
    - 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 textbooks throughout Iraq.
- *Institutional Strengthening*
  - Trained 860 secondary school Master Trainers during September 2003 to January 2004 nationwide.
  - Trained 31,772 secondary school teachers and administration staff.
  - Conducting an accelerated learning program in Baghdad, Nasiriyah, Ad Diwaniyah, Karbala', and Arbil. More than 600 students are participating in the program. In February 2004, the students completed mid-term exams.
- *Higher Education*
  - USAID participated in the bi-national Fulbright scholarship review committee set up by the CPA. The Fulbright Scholarship Program returned to Iraq after a 14-year absence. The program awarded at least 25 scholarships for Iraqis to study in the United States in 2004.
  - Launched the Higher Education and Development Program. Awarded five grants worth an estimated \$20.7 million for U.S.-Iraqi university partnerships:
    - A consortium led by Research Foundation of the State University of New York at Stony Brook is partnering with Baghdad University, Al Mustansiriyah University/Baghdad, Basrah University, and Mosul University in archeology and environmental health.
    - The University of Hawaii College of Agriculture and Human Resources is partnering with the University of Mosul Hamam Al-Alil and University of Dahuk for strengthening academic, research, and extension programs.
    - The Human Rights Institute at DePaul University College of Law and the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (Italy) is partnering with Universities of Baghdad, Basrah, and Sulaimanyah on legal education reform.
    - Jackson State University/MCID is partnering with University of Mosul, University of Dahuk, and the Nursing Institute (Dahuk) for public health and sanitation.
    - The University of Oklahoma and consortia is partnering with the Technology University/Baghdad, Al Anbar University, Basrah University, University of Babil, and the University of Salah ad Din in higher education initiatives.

### **Highlights this week:**

- The University of Hawaii College of Agriculture with the University of Mosul Hamam al Alil and the University of Dahuk are helping increase rural incomes and Iraqi food supplies by enhancing higher education and outreach in agriculture sciences. The joint program focuses on applied and basic science disciplines, which include: soil science, agronomy, animal husbandry, horticulture, plant protection, food technology and human nutrition, agricultural engineering, agricultural economics, extension education, forestry, and physical and biological sciences. The program will establish a Center of Excellence in agricultural research and extension, train administrators, faculty, students, and stakeholders at the University of Mosul, and develop human capacity in agricultural sciences at the University of Dahuk.



New computer center at the University of Dahuk's College of Agriculture.

## **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 CPA 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 treasury offices and 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:**

- At the Ministry of Electricity, a total of 129 financial professionals have been trained in International Accounting Standards (IAS) and internal control procedures. This training program began on March 18 and included financial professionals representing accounting, billing, budget and IT departments. This training provided financial staff with the ability to prepare a chart of accounts and financial statements that are in compliance with IAS. It also prepared the staff for a planned increase in billing for electricity throughout the country. This was the first phase of training on IAS; a second session will begin in early June.

**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) and Coalition Forces to re-establish Iraq's Public Distribution System (PDS) 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 United States the foremost contributor to WFP emergency operations in Iraq.
- Placed food specialists in Baghdad, Al Basrah, Al Hillah, and Arbil to support food operations immediately after the conflict.
- 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. Special attention was given to the transition phase in the northern governorates of Dahuk, As Sulaymaniyah, and Arbil. The initial handover of responsibilities occurred on November 21 without significant problems.
- 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 assist with supporting the public distribution system through June 2004 and will begin work immediately to assure continuation of food deliveries.
- Currently providing food aid expertise to CPA and Ministry of Trade in Baghdad and assisting with the CPA OFF Coordination Center as WFP and CPA and the Ministry 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 partner DAI 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.
- *Kirkuk Veterinary Hospital Renovation:* The renovation of this hospital was completed in early April 2003 under a \$96,000 ARDI grant; the hospital serves more than 100,000 livestock in the area.

- *Taza and Rashad 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 Baghdad University School of Agriculture 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.

**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.*

### **Program Goals:**

- The \$4-million Marshland Restoration and Management Program will support wetlands restoration and provide social and economic assistance to marsh dwellers. Initiatives include:
  - Creating a hydraulic model of the marshes to improve water management.
  - Equipping a soil and water quality lab at the new Center for Iraq Marshlands Restoration.
  - Implementing pilot projects to improve treatment of waste and drinking water.
  - Providing social-economic assistance through job- and income-generating activities in fisheries, aquaculture, livestock production, and date-palm reproduction.
  - Monitoring water quality in reflooded sites.
  - Extending healthcare services to marsh dwellers.
  - Building local capacity by partnering with Iraqi institutions such as the Ministry of Water Resources, the Ministry of the Environment, the University of Basrah College of Agriculture, the AMAR Charitable Trust, and the Iraq Foundation, and the governments of Canada, Italy, the United Kingdom, and Australia.



Marshland date palm offshoots -- Iraq is one of the largest world producers and exporters of dates. Date palm cultivation can provide long-term stable income for the marshland population

### **Highlights this Week:**

- A date palm nursery has been established with support from the Marshlands initiative in Al Mabar village in Hammar marsh, one of three main areas of the marshlands. By the end of April, more than 1,000 date palms are expected to be planted. In one year's time, 1,000 date palms can be expected to produce 10,000

offshoots, with a 70 percent survival rate. Once the offshoots are ready, they will be distributed throughout the marshes. This nursery is one of two planned under this project for the marshlands area; a second will be established in Hawizeh marsh. Additional date palm nurseries are also being established elsewhere in Iraq by the Ministry of Agriculture with support from USAID.

- An alfalfa demonstration crop has been planted in a rural area north of Hammar marsh and west of al Medina as part of USAID's Iraq Marshlands Restoration Program. The crop will provide forage for cattle, donkeys, and goats for approximately five years before it must be re-seeded. The development of this crop is part of an effort by the Marshlands program to improve livestock nutrition and dairy production. Throughout the marshes, Iraqi animal herders uniformly identified inadequate food supply as their leading problem. This program increase food for animals as part of agricultural production, and will complement private investment in farmer production of fodder.
- The development of a constructed wetlands site is underway to treat wastewater in Al Chebayish, the largest town in the marshlands area. Constructed wetlands are engineered systems that use the processes of wetland vegetation, soils, and associated microbial assemblages to treat wastewater within a more controlled environment. These systems have proven effective in improving water quality all over the world. The project will improve wastewater treatment for approximately 5,000 people. An agreement on the site location was developed in consultation with the Ministry of Water Resources, the Ministry of Public Works and tribal leaders and signed by community leaders and USAID's Marshlands Program.

#### 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. More than 20 million Iraqis engage 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 16 governorate councils, 90 district councils, 194 city or subdistrict councils, and 445 neighborhood councils.
- Awarded \$16 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.
- Supporting preparation of 2004 city council budgets in Mosul, Al Hillah, Babil, and An Najaf.
- Recruited more than 500 democracy dialogue facilitators and staff to help Iraqis prepare for the transition.
- More than 1,400 domestic dialogue activities were conducted by the end of March.

## **Highlights this Week:**

- On April 22, two ribbon cutting ceremonies were held in As Sulaymaniyah Governorate for the opening of the newly renovated and expanded municipal building in Chamchamal district and the opening of two artesian well pump houses in Takiya sub-district. These projects will improve the ability of both local government units to deliver municipal and water services to the residents of Chamchamal district and Takiya sub-district. Both projects were supported by USAID's Local Governance Program in cooperation with the local NGO Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC) and made possible through the cooperation of the Kurdistan Regional Government Ministry of Municipalities and Tourism.
- USAID's Democracy Dialogue Activity Facilitators in the city of Amarah in Maysan Governorate distributed copies of the Transitional Administrative Law and other material on representative government to five secondary schools. The education teams, composed of Iraqi staff, discussed the law and the concepts of democracy, and distributed democracy booklets. In addition to the booklets, the team also distributed kits including explanatory materials geared toward adolescents, a notebook, and a pen set.
- The Al Basrah Supreme Audit Board will visit their Egyptian counterparts to learn about government integrity and public procurement. This opportunity continues efforts to strengthen the Supreme Audit Board, which is responsible for auditing government entities in Basrah, Dhi Qar and Maysan Governorates.
- On April 18, the Baghdad City Council elected a new *Amin*, or mayor, with clear responsibility for management of city services, payroll, and funds. The election of the *Amin* is a step towards a home rule charter that would make the city government independent of the national ministry structure.
- On April 24, 40 senior Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) managers in the KRG Ministries of Public Works and Housing, and Municipalities and Tourism worked with USAID's Local Governance Program to review their training needs in preparation for a two-day workshop to be held in Shaqlawa (Arbil Governorate) in May. The assessment identified a number of critical areas to enhance their capacity including basic management skills—such as employee empowerment, decision-making, risk-taking, and conflict resolution—communication skills such as presentation and report writing—and planning and time management skills.
- On April 22, more than 120 women attended a conference in Al-Refaae'e at the Am Obaida primary school in Maysan Governorate to discuss their public and private legal rights. Conference topics included the Transitional Administrative Law and its mandate for 25 percent female participation in the legislative body; legal rights provided to women, families and children; and local societal problems including the status of health services, public (municipal) services, and marriage problems. The conference was organized by the school administration with support from USAID's Local Governance Program.
- For the past year, USAID's Local Governance Program has worked with leaders at the village, town and provincial levels to develop interim government bodies and civil society organizations to quickly address the immediate needs of Iraqi citizens, including restoring essential utilities. These organizations supported public dialogue on Iraq's democratic system and engaged Iraqi citizens in the government process after decades of autocratic rule. USAID will build on that foundation with four new programs that will continue to improve democratic systems in Iraq through the June 30 transition.
- On April 25, the Kurdish Institute for Elections conducted a seminar titled "The Role of Media in Civil Society" attended by 20 men and 12 women students from the College of Media at As Sulaymaniyah University. After the completion of presentations, the participants were given the opportunity to engage in debate on the media's role in civil society. The Kurdish Institute for Elections is a local civil society organization working in As Sulaymaniyah for promoting civil society and monitoring local elections. This seminar was the first of a series of 12 to be held at the university and was supported by USAID's Local Governance Program. The second seminar will be arranged with the participation of students from the Sociology Department.

**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 735 small grants totaling more than \$48.5 million for quick impact activities that support good governance, civil society, conflict management and mitigation, and 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 55 grants totaling \$3 million that focus on women's issues, including the establishment of 14 women's centers in Iraq. Rehabilitated over 130 Iraqi national ministries, schools, clinics and other municipal buildings. Supporting 23 Iraqi groups in documenting human rights abuses of the Ba'athist regime and promoting peace, tolerance, and reconciliation.

### **Highlights this Week:**

- The Assyrian Women's Union (AWU) has received two grants from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative program to expand their programs. The first grant of \$4,400 will furnish and equip a new AWU office in Karkh district of Baghdad. The second grant, valued at \$37,875, will establish five computer centers at AWU offices across the country. Through these offices, AWU provides local women, many of whom are widows, with the training and assistance they need to be self-sufficient providers for their families and active partners in the building of the new Iraq. The AWU was originally established after the uprising of March 3, 1992 in Dahuk. Since then, it has opened offices throughout the country.
- The Kurdistan Children's Nest (KCN) in Kalar, Sulaymaniyah has received a \$9,200 grant from the Iraq Transition Initiative program to hold a series of activities to benefit the children of this community. The grant will provide equipment and supplies for computer, English, art and music classes open for children nine years of age and older. There will also be weekly viewings of educational films with follow up activities, and mobile workshops conducted by teams of artists and educators.
- Four Iraqi NGOs will begin distributing leaflets and posters throughout Iraq illustrating the basic tenets of federalism within a democratic system with the support of grants ranging from \$2,000-\$3,000 under USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative program. The NGOs—The Iraqi Athletes' Rights Association, the Al-Salam Association for the Development of Youth, the Free Prisoners Association, and the Just Read Organization will distribute 170,000 leaflets and 10,000 posters as part of the Coalition Provisional Authority's (CPA) Transition to Sovereignty Civic Education Plan that encourages democratic dialogue and informs Iraqis about the progress to a free Iraq.



Participants of a health workshop by Al Amal Association



- The Salah ad Din Women's Committee will soon have a temporary office. The committee was started by fifty Tikrit women who have been working together since attending a CPA sponsored Civic Dialogue forum. Currently located at the Tikrit Teaching Hospital, this new NGO will use a \$5,000 grant from USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative to purchase office furniture and equipment to begin operations. Members will focus on developing their organization and writing proposals to enable them to offer services to women in the Salah ad Din Governorate. During initial organizing sessions, participants expressed an interest in activities such as driving lessons, media projects, working with disabled children, language and computer classes and the establishment of a fitness center for women.
- The Babil Governorate Council will equip its offices with the assistance of a \$35,000 award. The Governorate Council has representatives from all major cities and towns in the Babil Governorate. This legislative body is working to represent constituent needs and gain legitimacy among Iraqi citizens. The Council will purchase a communications system to improve connections between Council members and improve operations. This project is funded through USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative.
- The Ministry of Science and Technology has received grants to install satellite internet systems at 12 ministries in Baghdad. The award provides materials, equipment and technical assistance for the installation. This project will improve communication by the ministries with governorate authorities and will provide for more efficient management of resources. This project is funded through USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative.
- Al Amal Association, an Iraqi NGO, presented a series of workshops for women from the town of Kasnazan, located outside of Arbil. The presentations included health and hygiene, child development, nutrition, and other relevant topics. Al Amal Association reports that the workshops have been filled to capacity and many other women are eager to participate in these kinds of programs. At a recent workshop on first aid, more than fifty women learned basic first aid techniques and the availability of resources in emergency situations. The workshops are supported by USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative program.

**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 concentrates on one region in Iraq: ACDI/VOCA (North), International Relief and Development--IRD (Baghdad), Cooperative Housing Foundation International--CHF (Southwest Central), Mercy Corps (Southeast Central), and Save the Children (South).*

#### **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 \$48.4 million for 1,397 community projects across Iraq; 845 projects have already been completed.
- Iraqi communities have contributed \$15.3 million to community projects. Contributions have included labor, land, buildings, and other in-kind assistance.
- ACDI/VOCA focuses on the conflict prone areas of the Sunni Triangle, Mosul, Kirkuk and the Iran-Iraq border. Their work uniting communities has resulted in 149 completed projects and another 241 in development. These include establishing a youth center in Hawija and developing a new local water supply in Tikrit.
- CHF has established a strong presence in the communities of the Shi'i 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 105 projects.

- *IRD* has completed 218 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.
- *Mercy Corps* has completed 95 projects and 91 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.
- *Save the Children* has completed 298 projects through 138 community action groups which average 40 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:**

- Community members of Baghdad's Rasheed district have completed the renovation of the Mustafa Kindergarten to provide children with clean and safe education facilities. Pockmarked walls were plastered, wiring and light fixtures were repaired and swing sets and other equipment were installed. The school's toilets and blocked sewer pipes were replaced or repaired, and piped water provided to the school. After completion of the \$41,333 project, the kindergarten now looks brand-new and is safe for students. This project was identified as a priority by community members in the Rasheed district with support from USAID Community Action Program partner International Relief and Development.



New kindergarten playground equipment in a Baghdad school. Repairs at the school will provide children with clean and safe education facilities

## USAID Iraq Reconstruction Financial Summary

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>FY 2003-2004*</b>				
<b>RECONSTRUCTION</b>				
<b>USAID/ANE .....</b>			<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$2,634,819,155</b>
	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	\$62,800,000
	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	\$809,521,939
	Community Action Program	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$114,500,000
	DAI	Marshlands	Dhi Qar Al Basrah Maysan	\$4,000,000
	DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$8,397,156
	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
	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
<b>EMERGENCY RELIEF</b>				
<b>USAID/DCHA/OFDA .....</b>				<b>\$100,699,384</b>
	Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$7,294,561
	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	\$1,284,972
	InterAction	Coordination	Kuwait City	\$92,860
	IOM	IDP programs	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	Logistics	Commodities and DART support	Countrywide	\$20,902,534
	UNICEF	Health, nutrition, water/sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
	UN OCHA	Coordination and Information	Countrywide	\$1,450,000
	USAID Amman	Support for emergency water activities	Countrywide	\$500,000
	WFP	Logistics and pre-positioning of food	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	IMC	Food Security, Health, Nutrition, Water/Sanitation, Capacity building	Countrywide	\$13,702,900
	IRC	Health, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$6,198,685
	Mercy Corps	Health, Non-Food Items, Shelter, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$7,000,000
	SCF/US	Food Security, Health, Shelter, Nutrition, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation, NGO Consortium	Countrywide	\$6,883,131
	World Vision	Health, Logistics, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,993,959
	CARE	Quick-impact projects, Water/Sanitation, Health, Blankets	Countrywide	\$9,000,000
<b>USAID/DCHA/FFP .....</b>				<b>\$425,571,000</b>
	WFP	Operations	Countrywide	\$45,000,000
	WFP	Emerson Trust – 81,500 MT	Countrywide	\$40,337,000
	WFP	P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities – 163,820 MT	Countrywide	\$140,234,000

	WFP	Regional Purchase – 330,000 MT	Countrywide	\$200,000,000
<b>USAID/DCHA/OTI.....</b>				<b>\$161,385,476</b>
	Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$3,402,968
	IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$7,087,595
	DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$139,900,000
	Internews	Media	Countrywide	\$160,359
	Radio SAWA	Media	Countrywide	\$400,000
	NDI/IRI	National Governance	Countrywide	\$650,000
	IFES	National Governance	Countrywide	\$1,042,315
	ICNL	Civil Society	Countrywide	\$39,238
	Spa War**	Inter-Ministry Communications	Countrywide	\$8,703,001
<b>TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2003/2004 .....</b>				<b>\$3,322,975,005</b>

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

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