

DEVELOPMENT IRAQ

"A safe and free Iraq with prosperity and peace for all."

ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

MAY 2012

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VISION:

A safe and free Iraq with prosperity and peace for all.

MISSION:

Development Iraq seeks to advocate for national efforts in economic, social and political development through the enhancement of the private and public sectors, promotion of good governance and strengthened rule of law throughout Iraq.

AREAS OF WORK:

Business & Investment, Society, Banking & Finance, Agriculture and Education & ICT

DEVELOPMENT IRAQ

BUSINESS & INVESTMENT

- Producing multiple studies and strategic plans for the Anbar Provincial Investment Council (APIC), from evaluating the province's current strategies, developing a human resource management strategy and training needs assessment for delivering a comprehensive and inclusive provincial competitiveness report including information on the health sector, education, infrastructure, and housing indicators (2011-2012).
- Compiling a guide to "Doing Business in Iraq" with the World Justice Project (WJP). The aim of this project is to help Iraqi entrepreneurs familiarize themselves with the required procedures and steps to incorporate and register their businesses, including information on the associated timescales and costs for each step. The current laws are complex, not clearly stated and difficult to access, meaning that business owners struggle to understand their rights. This publication assists entrepreneurs in realising and achieving their rights (2011 - 2012).
- Implementing a project with USAID-Tijara to develop the capacity, and improve the performance of, sixteen Small Business Development Centres throughout Iraq. DI assessed the training needs of the centres, prepared customized materials and delivered training and technical assistance to centre staff (2009-2011).
- Assisting in the development of the Provincial Investment Commissions (PIC) and National Investment Commissions (NIC) with CIPE through hosting and delivering conferences and training sessions in Erbil and Baghdad with representatives from throughout Iraq (2008-2009).
- Having an agreement with League Training and Consulting to offer the Project Management Institute's Project Management Professional (PMP)[®] credential, when we get the license. This is the most important industry-recognized certification for project managers. This globally recognized qualification demonstrates the experience, education and competency to successfully lead and direct projects.
- Working with UNOPS to estimate the size of the informal sector in Iraq, to find out the reasons for its large size and to define specific solutions. A mass survey was conducted throughout five governorates, further focus groups and roundtables were held with key stakeholders. Finally a meeting with the government was held to present the findings (2007-2008).

DEVELOPMENT IRAQ

- Working with the Kurdistan Hotels and Restaurants Association (KHRA) on a training course for the owners and managers of restaurants and hotels throughout the Kurdistan region. The purpose of the project was to build capacity for hotel and restaurant employees and managers and adopting new techniques and applications in their work. Additionally, it sought to improve governance and raise membership numbers for these associations and diversify their membership pool. Working with stakeholders CIPE, KRG Ministry of Tourism, and member companies, Development Iraq completed a successful training course (2008).
- Providing a series of training programs with USAID-Izdihar in Baghdad to address critical areas affecting the banking and finance sector. The training programs were developed in cooperation with the Louis Berger Group. A three-stage Corporate Governance Program was implemented. Training included marketing, code of ethics and negotiation (2005-2006).

SOCIETY

- Completing a feasibility study for the UNFPA regarding the establishment of demographic studies institute in Iraq. This project involved coordinating with the Ministries of Planning and Higher Education in both the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government as well as professors in universities throughout the country. DI considered the multitudes of perspectives received, determining an ideal outcome that would allow for the establishment of a demographic studies institute in Iraq in consideration of the perspectives of all parties (2011 – 2012).
- Implementing a youth peace-building project with the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) in order to mitigate conflict and improve the relationship between the main four ethnic groups in Northern Iraq. Arabs, Christians, Kurds and Christians youth came together for training of trainers (ToT) and delivered peer-training in their communities. Roundtables took place to discuss the main issues of sensitivities with academics, politicians, community leaders and religious figures. The final event was a festival; bringing all the ethnic groups together to celebrate through dance, costume, food and music (2010-2012).

DEVELOPMENT IRAQ

- Compiling the national report for the Revenue Watch Institute (RWI) to assess the mineral, oil, and gas revenue management systems in Iraq. This is the first report of its kind in Iraq, and merges perspectives from the Kurdistan region and the Government of Iraq to build potential scenarios and future revenue management schemes (2011-2012).
- Working with Publish What You Pay (PWYP) in order to advocate for the mandatory disclosure of payments made by extractive industry companies, both multinational and state owned enterprises, to all national governments on a disaggregated and country-by-country basis (2012).
- Providing a study for Relief International (RI) in order to raise awareness of the issue of child labour in the Kurdistan region, and to put it on the government agenda. This project aimed to ensure professionals working in the field had adequate knowledge and training and further, to share knowledge on the issue of rule of law and child labour. A questionnaire was designed and working children in the north and south industrial zone of Erbil were interviewed. The results were analysed and presented to academics, lawyers, NGOs, the media and the government via focus groups. Development Iraq produced a paper of findings and recommendations (2010).
- Partnering with ESCWA and NCCDM to survey 86 public and private sector representatives and conduct 14 focus groups with local citizens to discuss public services. This was part of UNESCWA's "Iraq's Public Sector Modernisation Program" which was implemented with the GoI and KRG in 2011-2012.

BANKING & FINANCE

- Working with a team of seven experts in regulatory reform and finance in order to develop comprehensive amendments to the first and second Iraqi stock market law draft to be discussed by the Iraqi parliament during the legislative session in 2011. Development Iraq played the lead in establishing the Erbil Stock Exchange, which was formalized in February 2010. Development Iraq worked on the final bylaws and blueprint for the market (2010-2011).

DEVELOPMENT IRAQ

- Hosting eight banking roundtables to discuss establishing banking associations and a Credit Information Centre in Kurdistan. Further, to train and build the capacity of bank employees and discuss USAID's project "The Iraqi Financial Sector Development". Participants included USAID, RRT, and various private banks in Kurdistan and representatives from the Central Bank of Iraq (2010).
- Sponsoring and hosting one banking roundtable with the Iraq Hope Centre for Economic Development in the Mohmodia district. Seven private banks attended the roundtable and a representative from the Central Bank of Iraq to discuss the role of private banks in supporting small and medium businesses (2010).
- Surveying the banking sector at a Public Private Partnership meeting of USAID's Erbil RRT in order to find the focus areas for this proposal key in a list of priorities (2009).
- Engaging in a 6 month-long iterative process with USAID RRT staff in Erbil to develop concepts to reform the financial sector in Iraq, some of which were influential in the development of the current RFP (2009).
- Organising and hosting a series of meetings for the anti-terrorist office, State of the department, and FBI delegates with the private banks representatives and wire transfer – (Hawalat) informal sector in Iraq to discuss the money laundering issues and Basil-II standards applications (2009).
- Advising the Kurdistan Regional Government on the establishment of the Erbil Stock Exchange. A feasibility study was completed to assess opportunities and threats, the costs of establishing the market, as well as the plan for implementation. Development Iraq also assisted the committee in charge of preparing the final documents required for the process of incorporation (2007).
- Providing a specialized training program in Baghdad for the Iraqi Businessmen's Union, funded by the Centre for International Private Enterprise (CIPE). The program focused on mechanisms for reform and development of the banking sector (2006).

DEVELOPMENT IRAQ

AGRICULTURE

- Providing training and technical assistance to greenhouse growers and orchard growers in the governorates of Erbil, Duhok and Sulaimanya. Funded by USAID-Inma (2010).
- Conducting 96 roundtables throughout Iraq on topics including greenhouses, irrigation, poultry, horticulture, feed production, and red meat with USAID-Inma. This is the first time Iraq had such large scale discussions, providing farmers to meet, discuss common problems, share ideas and advocate for change (2010)
- Implementing training and technical assistance in 14 governorates and providing 12 sessions of two-day on animal production and management practices. Funded by USAID-Inma (2010).
- Delivering training and technical assistance in 12 governorates and providing twelve sessions of two-day long on animal nutrition for Inma grantees (2010).
- Delivering 150 days of technical assistance on financial management, operation management, business management and analysis assistance and business development assistance to twelve agribusinesses in the northern Iraq as part of USAID-Inma's Agribusiness Management Technical Assistance project (2009-2010).

EDUCATION & ICT

- Training 32 employees of the Iraqi Ministry of Immigration on legal protection issues concerning internally displaced persons. The course covered emergency planning including crisis management, and contingency plans. Within this, medical doctors provided training on health and safety issues regarding displaced persons (2012).
- Training 266 employees of the Ministry of Science and Technology. The course covered legal standards in budgeting, protocols, human resource strategy, auditing and monitoring, contracting and e-contracts, strategic planning, training of trainers, and modern management applications. Development Iraq completed fourteen training programmes, each for six days, to build capacity and capabilities of the Ministry and its employees (2011).

DEVELOPMENT IRAQ

- Facilitating a number of training courses in partnership with the Life Support Team (LST). The LST is a group of medical professionals who provide medical services to organizations and companies based in Erbil. With Development Iraq, the LST are providing life support training courses over a period of one year, to companies, NGOs and schools in order to fulfil safety protocols. The training includes basic life support, advanced trauma life support and first aid (2012).
- Developed training services for the development of computer skills of the staff at the two stated owned commercial banks (Rasheed and Rafidain) of Iraq. The course covered: CCNA, CCNP, SQL, PM, MPM, software testing, UNIX operating system, Microsoft Exchange Server, CISSP, ITIL and Oracle (2010).