

## World Bank Assistance Strategy

The Interim Strategy Note (ISN) for Iraq covering the period of FY09-11 was presented to the World Bank Board of Directors in March 2009. The development of the strategy was informed by broad consultations with the Government, civil society, private sector, and donors. The Bank's program under this ISN will focus on three thematic areas: (i) continuing to support ongoing reconstruction and socio-economic recovery; (ii) improving the management of public resources, including human, natural and financial; and (iii) supporting policies and institutions that promote broad-based, private-sector-led growth, with the goal of revitalizing the private sector and facilitating job creation. IFC and MIGA will play a key role particularly (but not exclusively) with respect to the third objective.

## The International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq

In 2003, the World Bank, United Nations, and representatives of Iraq established the International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq (IRFFI). IRFFI aims to help donors channel resources and coordinate support for reconstruction and development in Iraq through two trust funds: the World Bank Iraq Trust Fund (ITF), and the UNDG Iraq Trust Fund. The ITF finances reconstruction/rehabilitation and capacity building projects. The ITF will terminate on December 31, 2013.

## Recent Developments

Three recently approved World Bank ITF-financed projects became effective in January 2010 - the Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building for the Education Sector Project; the Integrated Energy Strategy Technical Assistance Project; and the Pension Reform Implementation Support Technical Assistance Project. The First Programmatic Fiscal Sustainability Development Policy Loan financed by IBRD was approved by the World Bank on February 25, 2010.

Project Portfolio						Sectoral Distribution	
Iraq Trust Fund Projects	Approval Date	Closing Date	Grant (US\$m)	Undisb. (US\$m)	Implementing Agency		
<b>Completed Projects</b>							
Capacity Building I	Feb-04	Aug-04	2.5	-	World Bank		
Textbook Provision	May-04	Dec-06	38.8	-	Ministry of Education		
Community Infrastructure	Dec-04	Dec-08	19.0	-	Ministry of Water Resources		
Marshlands School Construction	Oct-06	Jun-09	5.2	-	Ministry of Education		
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>65.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>			
<b>Active Projects</b>							
School Reconstruction & Rehabilitation	Oct-04	Dec-10	60.0	21.0	Ministry of Education		
Capacity Building II	Nov-04	Dec-10	7.0	0.9	World Bank		
Health Rehabilitation	Nov-04	Feb-10	25.0	3.3	Ministry of Health		
Private Sector Development	Nov-04	Mar-10	65.0	10.8	Ministry of Planning & Dev. Coop.		
Baghdad Water Supply & Sanitation	Dec-04	Jun-10	65.0	26.1	Mayorality of Baghdad		
Water Supply, Sanitation & Urban Recon.	Dec-04	Dec-11	110.0	50.3	Ministry of Munic. & Public Works		
Disabilities	Nov-05	Jun-10	16.8	4.1	Ministry of Health		
Social Protection	Jun-06	Feb-11	8.0	3.8	Ministry of Labor & Social Affairs		
Household Survey & Policies TA	May-06	Jun-10	3.6	0.1	World Bank		
Household Survey & Policies Grant	Jul-06	Jun-10	5.5	0.2	Ministry of Planning & Dev. Coop.		
Environmental Management	Dec-06	Aug-10	5.0	3.3	Ministry of Environment		
Electricity Reconstruction	Mar-07	Sep-10	6.0	5.5	Ministry of Electricity		
Community Infrastructure (Supplement)	Apr-08	Jun-10	25.5	12.5	Ministry of Water Resources		
Regional Health Emergency Response	Jun-08	Jun-10	8.7	5.8	KRG Ministry of Health		
Banking Sector Reform	Apr-09	Oct-10	10.0	9.8	Central Bank of Iraq		
Public Finance Management	Jun-09	Jun-13	16.0	16.0	Ministry of Finance		
Public Finance Management TA	Jun-09	Jun-13	2.0	2.0	World Bank		
Pension Reform TA	Dec-09	Apr-13	5.8	5.7	World Bank		
Education Sector TA	Dec-09	Sep-11	2.7	2.7	World Bank		
Integrated Energy Strategy TA	Dec-09	Jun-12	5.0	5.0	Prime Minister's Advisory Comm.		
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>452.6</b>	<b>188.9</b>			
<b>Total Iraq Trust Fund Grants</b>	<b>24</b>		<b>518.1</b>	<b>188.9</b>			
<b>IDA Credits <sup>1/</sup></b>							
	Approval Date	Closing Date	Credit (US\$m)	Undisb. (US\$m)	Implementing Agency		
Third Emergency Education	Nov-05	Jun-13	100.0	105.1	Ministry of Education		
Emergency Road Reconstruction	Jun-06	Jun-12	135.0	92.9	Ministry of Construction & Housing		
Dokan & Derbandikhan Hydropower	Dec-06	Dec-10	40.0	37.2	KRG Ministry of Electricity		
Emergency Electricity Reconstruction	Mar-07	Jun-11	124.0	119.7	Ministry of Electricity		
Emergency Water Supply	Jun-08	Dec-13	109.5	88.4	Ministry of Munic. & Public Works		
<b>Total IDA Credits</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>508.5</b>	<b>443.3</b>			
<b>IBRD Loan</b>							
	Approval Date	Closing Date	Loan (US\$m)	Undisb. (US\$m)	Implementing Agency		
First Prog. Fiscal Sust. Devt. Policy Loan	Feb-10	Mar-11	250.0	0.0	Ministry of Finance		
<b>Total IBRD Loan</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>250.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>			
<b>Post Conflict Fund Grants</b>							
			Approval Date	Closing Date	Grant (US\$)	Undisb. (US\$)	
Emergency Health Assistance to Burn Unit at Karama Hospital in Baghdad			Jul-05	Sep-07	707,242	-	
CSA - Launch of a Social Development Knowledge Network			Aug-06	Aug-07	96,054	-	
CSA II - Management of Social Development Knowledge Network			Feb-07	Feb-08	212,360	-	
Consultative Service Delivery Initiative in Suleimaniyah			Dec-07	Jun-09	1,047,388	-	
Emergency Primary Health Care assistance to Southern Marshlands area			Oct-07	Nov-10	630,248	159,616	
Consultative Service Delivery Program (Phase II)			Sep-09	Feb-11	4,985,000	4,798,165	
<b>Total Post Conflict Fund Grants</b>			<b>7</b>		<b>7,678,292</b>	<b>4,957,781</b>	

1/ IDA Credits are denominated in Special Drawing Rights (SDR) while disbursements are expressed in the US Dollar equivalent using the actual SDR/USD exchange rate at the time. Therefore, the sum of the disbursed and undisbursed amounts for the IDA Credits do not total the Credit amount expressed in US Dollars.

Donor Deposits to Iraq Trust Fund	US\$ million
Australia	16.1
Canada	26.7
European Commission	179.7
Finland	2.6
Iceland	1.0
India	5.0
Japan	130.6
Korea	9.0
Kuwait	5.0
Netherlands	6.2
Norway	6.7
Qatar	2.5
Spain	20.0
Sweden	5.8
Turkey	1.0
United Kingdom	71.4
United States	5.0
<b>Total Iraq Trust Funds</b>	<b>494.4</b>

Economic Data	2008 p
GDP (US\$ million)	91,193
Real GDP Growth (annual %)	10.4
GDP per capita (current US\$)	2,999
Consumer Price Index (% change)	6.8
Exchange Rate (ID/US\$) (annual average)	1,193
Crude Oil Production ('000 barrels/day)	2,286
Crude Oil Exports ('000 barrels/day)	1,786
Labor Force Participation (% of Working Age Pop.)	n/a
Note: (p) preliminary	
Sources:	
1) Iraqi Authorities (Central Bank of Iraq), WB, IMF Staff Est.	
2) Draft Iraq Poverty Assessment, Volumes I and II	

Human Development Indicators (2000 - 2007 est.)	
Population, mid-2007	29 million
Population Growth (%)	1.8
Life Expectancy at Birth	59 years
Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	37
Child Malnutrition (% of children under 5)	7
Adult Literacy, male (% of ages 15 and above)	84
Adult Literacy, female (% of ages 15 and above)	64
Access to an improved water source (% of population)	77
Access to an improved sanitation facilities (% of populat	76

**ITF-Financed Projects (Active) - Project Status as of February 2010**

**Second Capacity Building Project (US\$7 million)** - Builds on the First Capacity Building Project to help authorities introduce medium-term policies, focusing on economic and public sector management, and social safety nets.

**Status:** The Second Capacity Building Project has financed about 60 activities, reaching about 1,360 participants from various private and public sector entities. Activities planned for 2010 include: (i) a Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity Building Workshop for strengthening the capacity of Iraqi ministries in M&E of public projects and programs; (ii) an Access to Public Lands for Housing and Private Sector Development workshop; (iii) a workshop on Enhancing Economic Participation of Iraqi Women; (iv) an Access to Justice workshop, which will help to build on community-level operations to enable the poor to influence systematic changes on the mechanisms of justice service delivery; and (v) a workshop for Kurdish Regional Government officials on Consultative Development.

**Household Survey and Policies Project (US\$5.5 million grant / US\$3.6 million TA)** - Finances a comprehensive household income and expenditure survey, data analysis and development of a Poverty Reduction Strategy.

**Status:** On November 24, 2009, the Council of Ministers formally adopted a Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) based on the analysis of the Iraq Household Socio-Economic Survey (IHSES) data. Many of the recommendations and priorities of the PRS have been incorporated into the 2010 Budget and the draft Five Year National Dev't. Plan.

**Social Protection Project (US\$8 million)** - Aims to strengthen the capacity of the Iraqi agencies to develop, manage and monitor pension and social safety net reform programs.

**Status:** While most procurement and installation of equipment is well underway, two key activities have been delayed: (i) the SSN Beneficiary Assessment; and (ii) the Pension Survey. In addition, deployment of the SSN Information System roll-out, financed by USAID, started in Feb. 2010, and the national roll-out will continue through Oct.

**Pension Reform Implementation Support Technical Assistance (PRISTA) (US\$5.8 million)** - Aims to support (i) in the short-term, the GOI in implementing the provisions of the new Pensions Law; (ii) in the medium-term, the unification of the public and private pension schemes; and (iii) in the long-term, the development of long-term old-age income strategy for Iraq.

**Status:** PRISTA was formally launched through a workshop from February 15-20, 2010 to discuss each component of the project. The workshop served as a platform for knowledge sharing and capacity building organized around the five main components of PRISTA with a focus on short- and medium-term objectives. Operational plans for the first year of PRISTA were developed jointly with the Iraqi delegation during the launch.

**School Construction and Rehabilitation Project (US\$60 million)** - Aims to alleviate hazards and overcrowding in schools nationwide through major rehabilitation of 133 existing schools and the construction of 50 new schools, benefiting over 50,000 families with school age children (about 95,000 students).

**Status:** Major rehabilitation of 133 schools is complete, at an average cost of US\$181 per student, benefiting 45,000 pupils and creating 3,000 construction jobs. Thirty-one new schools have been constructed, and 19 schools are currently under construction. Project restructuring options are being discussed by the World Bank and the Ministry of Education in order to (i) update targets; and (ii) finance additional activities.

**Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building for the Education Sector Technical Assistance (US\$2.7 million)** - Aims to support the Government's effort to develop a sector strategy for education and higher education in Iraq.

**Status:** The TA was formally launched through a workshop from February 11-12, 2010 to discuss the terms of reference for the capacity building activities and to reach an agreement on the next steps and arrangements for the preparation of the Iraq education strategy. Government officials and representatives from UNESCO and UNICEF and the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) participated in the workshop. Following the launch workshop, the World Bank team contributed to the workshop on the preparation of the National Education Strategy for Iraq (NESI).

**Environmental Management Project (US\$5 million)** - Aims to strengthen key functions of the Ministry of Environment (MOEn) to enable it to undertake policy analysis, formulate laws and regulations, monitor environmental quality, promote environmental awareness, and conduct technical studies.

**Status:** Disbursement is currently at 34% of project fund. During the last mission, the World Bank and the MOEn agreed on the implementation of a remedial plan to address and overcome key project bottlenecks, including the lack of sufficient time and PMT staff dedicated to work on the project, and insufficient tools to monitor and follow-up on the implementation of contracts. The MOEn has submitted a request for an extension of the project closing date from August 31, 2010 to June 30, 2012 to allow for the complete achievement of the project development objectives, and the disbursement of the remaining amount in the grant allocation.

**Health Rehabilitation Project (US\$25 million)** - Aims to improve access to quality emergency services in selected health facilities to serve the urgent needs of the Iraqi population. The project finances the rehabilitation of ten hospital emergency units, and provides medical and laboratory equipment and essential drugs to 12 hospital emergency units throughout the country.

**Status:** The project closed on February 28, 2010. Total amount disbursed to date is about \$21.6m. Civil work activities at all nine planned hospital emergency units have been completed, and eight of the nine units are fully operational. Civil works on the ninth and last emergency unit site, Suleimaniyah Maternity Hospital, was completed by the project closing date, and most of the equipment has been installed. Pharmaceuticals valued at \$1.7m have been procured. All training under the project has been completed. Of the \$3.4m undisbursed funds, \$2.4m will be disbursed against existing contracts, and the remaining \$1.0m will be cancelled from the project.

**Disabilities Project (US\$16.8 million)** - Aims to improve rehabilitation and prosthetic services to the disabled to reduce the burden of physical disability by upgrading the infrastructure of selected rehabilitation or prosthetic centers and the skills of the staff to provide services. The project supports upgrading the infrastructure and equipment of six selected rehabilitation centers and prosthetic workshops throughout Iraq.

**Status:** The project was restructured and scaled back in March 2009 from 14 sites to six sites. Construction is now completed at all six sites, and these sites have now been handed over to the MOH. The medical aids have been delivered to the Directorate level stores; however, distribution of these aids to the disabled is not completed. The World Bank has repeatedly requested the MOH to take action on this issue, and this will be followed-up during the forthcoming supervision mission in April 2010. All originally planned training for rehabilitation physicians, physiotherapists and workshop technicians has been completed, and additional training is being carried out under the restructured project. This project is scheduled to close on June 30, 2010.

**Regional Emergency Health Response (US\$8.7 million)** - Aims to assist the Kurdistan Regional Government to establish rapid, coordinated and effective response services to health emergencies.

**Status:** All contracts for the three Emergency Communications Centers (ECCs) and the three Blood Banks have been signed, and construction is underway in all sites. The contract to procure 12 ambulances is expected to be signed imminently. The project is hiring a consultant to plan and carry out the emergency response training program for medical and paramedical staff. Given the delays in implementation earlier in the project, the KRG MOH is considering a request for an extension of project closing date from June 30, 2010 to December 31, 2011. The recent Mid-term Review concluded that the project is in need of additional time and funding of US\$4.5m to cover the cost of establishing an up-to-date emergency telecommunications system and expanding the technical training of emergency medical and paramedical staff to maximize efficiency and yield of the emergency medical system.

**Private Sector Development Project (US\$65 million)** - Aims to help strengthen the private/financial sectors by: (i) installing a national high capacity telecommunications network; (ii) linking the Central Bank to commercial banks to improve the payment system; and (iii) addressing selected priorities in institution building.

**Status:** The feasibility studies and development plans for Basra and Erbil Industrial Zones are on schedule. Both Iraqi Inter-Banking Network and Microwave Network have been installed and are operational. The Ministry of Communications has requested an extension of project closing date from March 31, 2010 to March 31, 2012, and a reallocation of grant proceeds to support urgently needed reforms in the communications sector, promote private sector participation, and provide additional capacity building to the Economic Development Fund (EDF), one of the project's beneficiary institutions.

**Banking Sector Reform Project: (US\$10 million)** - Aims to support Iraq's implementation of its Banking Reform Strategy and Action Plan, focusing on the institutional, operational and financial restructuring of the 2 state-owned commercial banks, and strengthening of the regulatory and supervisory functions of the Central Bank of Iraq (CBI).

**Status:** Good progress has been made to date towards the objectives laid out by the Government in its Banking Reform Strategy. Recent progress in the institutional and operational restructuring of the two state-owned commercial banks includes the improvement of the business organization and the upgrading of the information technology infrastructure to connect bank branches with CBI. On the financial restructuring of the two state-owned banks, the Ministry of Finance in coordination with CBI have reduced the level of non-performing loans (NPLs) by 20 percent compared to the June 2007 levels. In addition, CBI is strengthening its supervisory and regulatory authority.

**ITF-Financed Projects (Active) - Project Status as of February 2010**

**Public Finance Management Project (US\$16 million grant / US\$2 million TA)** - Aims to support the Ministry of Finance (MOF) to develop a more effective, accountable and transparent public financial management.

**Status:** The project is the core instrument to provide ongoing technical assistance for the GoI to carry out its longer-term vision for reform of the PFM system. The first formal World Bank supervision mission took place in mid-February 2010, and progress is being made on all components (Strengthening Budget Formulation and Implementation; Strengthening Public Sector Procurement; Strengthening Budget Execution and Implementation; and Capacity Development and Project Management). Contracts for emergency equipment to assist MOF to restore operations after the August 2009 attacks have been signed, and equipment is to be delivered by end-March 2010.

**Electricity Reconstruction Project (US\$6 million)** - Aims to upgrade technical skills in the operations and maintenance of power utilities at the Ministry of Electricity (MOEI), in conjunction with the US\$124 million IDA credit that aims to restore the base load generation capacity of the Hartha power station.

**Status:** About US\$3m has been committed for services related to the Hartha plant rehabilitation. After a number of years of procrastination, the MOEI requested that remaining funds be used for technical assistance to support the development of power generation and is in the process of procuring consultants for this work.

**Integrated Energy Strategy TA Project (US\$5 million)** - Aims to improve the capacity of the Government to develop an energy strategy that is designed to increase the contribution of the sector to sustainable development.

**Status:** The PMT has moved quickly with procurement of a Consultant and is in the midst of negotiating a contract with the highest ranked bidder. However, the costs of the consultant have turned out to be substantially higher than the projected US\$5m. The Government Steering Committee has agreed to co-finance about US\$2.5m of the required additional funding, with the ITF providing an additional US\$2m.

**Baghdad Water Supply and Sanitation Project (US\$65 million)** - Aims to help restore basic water supply and sanitation services for Baghdad through rehabilitating existing facilities, and to provide technical assistance and institutional support.

**Status:** Physical implementation is at about 65%. However, the recent attacks in Baghdad have affected the pace of implementation of some civil works. An emergency plan to complete the remaining works is being prepared by the Mayorality of Baghdad (MOB). The project restructuring proposal, including a request to extend the project closing date to December 31, 2010, is being finalized.

**Water Supply, Sanitation and Urban Development Project (US\$110 million)** - Aims to upgrade and rehabilitate water supply and sanitation in eight cities, and conduct urban reconstruction in the poorest areas of two cities, benefiting about one million people. The project also provides technical assistance and institutional support.

**Status:** In June 2009, the Al-Majar Water Supply System in Missan Governorate was the first component of the project to be operational. In October 2009, the Al Samawa Water Supply System was the second component to be completed, and was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on January 11, 2010. Both components are operational, and serve about 300,000 people.

**Community Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project Additional Financing (US\$25.5 million)** - Aims to undertake labor-intensive civil works to restore rural water infrastructure, create local employment, enhance community participation, and increase institutional capacity.

**Status:** Out of 16 civil works contracts, nine are completed 100%; four are ongoing with progress rate of 44%; and three contracts are currently being prepared. Equipment procured through one of the two major equipment contracts is currently being delivered to Iraq. The Ministry of Water Resources has submitted a request to extend the project closing date by 18 months to allow for executing three additional subprojects, using uncommitted US\$5.5m.

**ITF-Financed Projects (Completed)**

**First Capacity Building Project (US\$2.5 million)** - Aimed to build the capacity of the Iraqi authorities to enable them to define, prioritize and implement international programs of support and to play a leading role in the reconstruction process.

**Status:** Project activities were completed and the grant closed in August 2004. Various representatives from the Central Bank of Iraq, Mayorality of Baghdad, Board of Supreme Audit, universities, private banks, Chambers of Commerce and Business Associations participated in workshops and training which enabled them to design and implement projects and start developing sector strategies towards longer-term development. Iraqi officials developed professional networks with counterparts in other ministries and neighboring countries.

**Textbook Provision (US\$38.8 million)** - Aimed to provide urgently needed textbooks in order to keep schools open and to improve learning conditions in primary and secondary schools.

**Status:** The project was designed to maximize local employment and contracted local printers as much as possible. Project activities were completed and the grant closed in December 2006. Cost savings of US\$9m allowed the project to exceed its development objective and deliver 82m textbooks against a target of 69m.

**Community Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project (US\$19 million)** - Aimed to rehabilitate rural infrastructure by financing labor-intensive, small-scale civil works programs, and create local employment.

**Status:** Project activities were completed in December 2008 and the grant closed in April 2009. The project financed 22 subprojects, which improved 89,000 hectares of irrigated land, benefited over 150,000 farmers, and created over 172,000 days of employment.

**Marshlands School Construction Project (US\$6 million)** - Provided additional financing for the Emergency Schools Construction and Rehabilitation Project to finance new school construction of 30 small schools (reduced from 33) in the Southern Marshlands area of Iraq.

**Status:** Thirty schools have been constructed under the project. At the local community level, committees were constituted and were involved in site improvement works done by local NGOs. The project was completed in June 2009 and the grant closed in November 2009. A beneficiary survey has been carried out and shows that 27 schools are operating, benefitting 3,500 male and female students.

**IDA Credits - Project Status as of February 2010**

**Third Emergency Education Project (US\$100 million)** - Aims to assist the Ministry of Education to reduce school overcrowding and strengthen its capacity to improve quality of teaching and curricula in 15 governorates.

**Status:** Project restructuring was approved by the World Bank's Board on June 30, 2009 and the project now supports: (i) improved educational infrastructure through school construction, equipment and furnishing, strengthened school planning, management, and design; and (ii) institutional capacity building to improve curriculum development and teacher training. The procurement process has been launched for the construction of schools under Phase I, and for curriculum development and teacher training.

**Dokan and Derbandikhan Emergency Hydropower Project (US\$40 million)** - Aims to upgrade electricity supply primarily in the Kurdistan region, but also nationally through its connection to the national grid. About 490,000 households will benefit directly, as well as a number of industries.

**Status:** The project is progressing well with nearly all contracts finalized. Total commitments have increased from US\$6.5m in June 2009 to about US\$32m, and it is expected that change orders to existing contracts now under discussion will consume the remainder of available financing. The draft Environmental Management Plan for the project has been completed and is under review. Terms of reference have been completed for the development of Dam Emergency Preparedness Plans for the two hydro power plants. Finally, the supervision and implementation consultant completed the rehabilitation assessment, and recommends three rehabilitation projects be considered for additional financing.

**Emergency Electricity Project (US\$124 million)** - Aims to restore the base load generating capacity of the Hartha power plant and build capacity at the Ministry of Electricity (MOEI).

**Status:** After significant delays (2 years), the Hartha Rehabilitation contract was finally signed in April 2009, fully committing the IDA credit. The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) has been completed by the consultant and the MOEI is now considering implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). However, until the consultation and disclosure of the ESIA are completed, no installation works under the Hartha Rehabilitation contract will be allowed as also confirmed by the MOEI.

### IDA Credits - Project Status as of February 2010

**Emergency Road Rehabilitation Project (US\$135 million)** - Finances the rehabilitation of highways and village access roads in Central, Southern and Northern Governorates of Iraq. Three floating bridges will also be replaced with permanent structures.

**Status:** The component in the Northern governorates is underway, fully committed and disbursing. The pace of implementation in the Central and Southern components is expected to improve due to a large highway contract which is being tendered. The pre-qualification process for the Um Qasr-Az Zubair road has already been launched. Construction is estimated to cost at US\$40m. A request from the State Commission for Roads and Bridges (SCRB) to extend the project closing date to June 30, 2012 in order to complete the Um Qasr-Az Zubair road and other contracts has been approved by the World Bank.

**Emergency Water Supply Project (US\$109.5 million)** - Aims to improve the quantity and quality of water in four high priority governorates through the rehabilitation and upgrade of the water supply systems, and engage the government to develop a sustainable water sector policy.

**Status:** Since the project became effective in September 2009, contracts (three civil works and one consultancy service) for about US\$75m have been signed. In addition, contracts valued at about US\$25m are at the bidding stage.

### IBRD Loan - Project Status as of February 2010

**First Programmatic Fiscal Sustainability Development Policy Loan (US\$250 million)** - Aims to mitigate the impact of the current fiscal crisis on Iraq's economy and to support its medium-term economic reform program, thereby helping the country improve fiscal sustainability and reducing its fiscal and socio-economic vulnerability to sudden drops in oil revenues.

**Status:** The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved the project on February 25, 2010. The Loan Agreement will be signed in March 2010.

### Publicly Available Economic and Sector Reports

1. Iraq Household Socio-Economic Survey IHSES (2007)
2. Rebuilding Iraq: Economic Reform and Transition (2006)
3. Country Water Resource Assistance Strategy - Addressing Major Threats to People's Livelihoods (2006)