

**World Bank Iraq Trust Fund
Disabilities Project (TF054052/P096774)
December 2009**

Project Summary Sheet

Title	Disabilities Project				
Implementing Agency	Ministry of Health (MOH)				
Location	Amara, Basra, Samawa, Karbala, Dewaniyah, Kut				
Sector code (OECD DAC)	<i>12191</i>	Medical services			
	<i>15150</i>	Strengthening civil society			
Compact Priority	<i>4.4.1.1</i>	Design and carry out specific policies including reforms and investments towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals			
	<i>4.2.1.1</i>	Adopt and carry out policies to stimulate civil society engagement in reforms			
Project Cost	US\$16.8 million (reduced from US\$19.5 million)				
Duration	51 months				
Approval Date	November 2005	Effective Date	November 2005	Closing Date	June 2010
Project Description	The project aims to improve access of the disabled population to rehabilitation and prosthetic services, in the targeted areas. Specifically, the project supports: (i) upgrading the infrastructure and equipment of selected rehabilitation and prosthetic centers throughout Iraq; and (ii) specialized training to improve the rehabilitation services.				
Beneficiaries	The project will provide (i) access to 500 disabled clients per month per facility; and (ii) medical aids to 39,500 disabled clients.				
Near Term Employment Creation	Although creating immediate employment is not a project objective, the project will generate short-term jobs through civil works undertaken by local construction companies.				

Strategic Context and Donor Coordination

Iraq has a growing population of disabled people, yet social and rehabilitation services for this group have declined. Given the country's high unemployment rates and poor community services, becoming disabled poses a serious risk that the entire family could fall into poverty. Improving services to the disabled is a government priority that requires increased attention of the government and the donor community.

Project Development Objective

Improve access of the disabled population in the targeted areas in Iraq to rehabilitation and prosthetic services

Outputs, Key Activities and Procurement

Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct and equip 6 new rehabilitation centers (4 rehabilitation centers and 2 rehabilitation plus workshops) Deliver specialized training to increase capacity of MOH and partners to provide services to the disabled
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation works to ensure delivery of services to the disabled Supply of prosthetics Training of rehabilitation center managers, physiotherapists, physicians, and prosthesis and orthosis technicians.

Procurement	Civil works:	US\$ 6.7 million
	Goods:	US\$ 6.4 million
	Consulting services:	US\$ 0.8 million
	Training:	US\$ 2.2 million
	Operating costs:	US\$ 0.25 million
	Unallocated:	US\$ 0.45 million

Financial Data

Funds Committed	US\$16.2 million	% approved	96
Funds Disbursed	US\$10.6 million	% approved	63
Forecast Closing Date	June 2010	Delay (months)	3

Progress against indicators

Number of disabled who have used the newly constructed and equipped facilities	4 of the 6 project site facilities are now operational. Data not yet available on exact number of clients currently being served.	% of planned	65
Number of disabled who have received medical aids through the project	9,000		24
Number of new basic rehabilitation centers constructed	Civil works completed		100
Number of new prosthetic workshops constructed	Civil works completed		100
Number of staff trained in the area of physical rehabilitation	66 physiotherapists and 16 physicians have been trained		100
Number of staff trained in the area of production and fitting of prostheses and orthoses	35 staff have been trained		100
Number of facility managers trained in the area of facility management	15 facility managers have been trained		100
Number of medical aids (wheelchairs, crutches, walking sticks, walking frames, walking rollators, tripods) procured	38,000 items procured		100
Number of quarterly progress monitoring reports	16 reports completed		95

Qualitative Assessment of Project Performance

The project activities are expected to be completed on schedule. Construction is now completed on all six sites, and five of the six sites have been handed over to the MOH. The sixth site is expected to be handed over by end-January 2010. Almost all the equipment and materials for the rehabilitation centers and prosthetic workshops have been procured and delivered to the sites. However, there continues to be delays in the distribution of medical aids, such as wheelchairs and crutches to the disabled population in a number of Directorates. Although the aids have been delivered to the MOH Directorate warehouses, many of them have not reached the intended beneficiaries. The distribution plan, which will serve to verify and monitor the outputs per site, has not yet been completed. All originally planned external training activities have now been completed, and additional training activities are planned to take place before the project closing date.

Major Implementation Obstacles

Overall implementation of the project has been moderately satisfactory since the project was restructured. However, the project would benefit from: (i) increased monitoring and evaluation by the MOH/PMT to effectively track the results of the project; (ii) a clear MOH distribution plan for medical aids procured under the project; and (iii) improved procedures within the Iraqi banking system to use letters of credit as a payment method for international suppliers. Project sites are still adversely affected by security incidents within the country.