

**World Bank Iraq Trust Fund
Textbook Provision Project (TF051095/P088945)
December 2009**

Project Summary Sheet

Title	Textbook Provision Project (Completed)				
Implementing Agency	Ministry of Education (MOE)				
Location	Nationwide (all 18 Governorates)				
Sector code (OECD DAC)	11120 Education facilities and training				
Compact Priority	4.4.2.3.1 Achieve universal access to basic education				
Project Cost	US\$40 million				
Duration	31 months				
Approval Date	May 2004	Effective Date	May 2004	Closing Date	December 2006
Project Description	The project aimed to provide urgently needed textbooks in order to keep schools open, and to improve learning conditions in primary and secondary schools.				
Beneficiaries	The project benefited all 6 million primary and secondary school pupils, who received 11 books each on average.				
Near Term Employment Creation	The project was designed to maximize local content and employment by contracting local printers to the maximum extent possible, taking into consideration the quantity of paper available in Iraq. Contracts to Iraqi printers amounted to US\$14 million; and an estimated US\$7.5 million was spent on local labor costs.				

Strategic Context and Donor Coordination

The US and UN (UNESCO and UNICEF) undertook emergency efforts to provide textbooks for the 2003/2004 school year, typically contracting the printing and distribution of textbooks with primarily international firms. For the 2004/2005 school year, the MOE requested the World Bank to help it undertake the printing and distribution of textbooks. Since 2006, MOE has used its own resources to finance textbook provision. The project provided a platform for the World Bank to support the Ministry in developing a strategic framework and a donor coordination strategy for education in Iraq.

Project Development Objective

Provide textbooks to Iraqi school children on an urgent basis to ensure continued and improved education service delivery

Outputs, Key Activities and Procurement

Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook supplies to students and schools functioning
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook Provision Project Management
Procurement	<p>Goods (Textbooks): US\$37.3 million</p> <p>Other goods: US\$ 0.2 million</p> <p>Consulting services: US\$ 0.4 million</p> <p>Operating costs: US\$ 0.1 million</p> <p>Unallocated: US\$ 2.0 million</p>

Financial Data

Funds Committed	US\$38.8 million	% approved	97
Funds Disbursed	US\$38.8 million	% approved	97
Closing Date	December 2006	Delay (months)	

Progress against indicators

Percentage of textbooks delivered to schools	82 million textbooks were delivered, against a target of 69 million textbooks	% of planned	119
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Qualitative Assessment of Project Performance

The project closed on December 31, 2006. Competitive bidding procedures led to cost savings of about US\$9 million which were used to print and distribute an additional 13.5 million textbooks for the 2005/2006 school year, exceeding its main development objective.

Major Implementation Obstacles

N/A – The project is completed and closed.