

**World Bank Iraq Trust Fund**  
**Project #: P088945**  
**December 2007 / 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter**  
**Project Summary Sheet**

<b>Title</b>	Emergency Textbook Provision Project (closed)				
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	Ministry of Education				
<b>Location</b>	Nationwide (all 18 Governorates)				
<b>Sector code (OECD DAC)</b>	<i>11120</i> Education facilities and training				
<b>Compact Priority</b>	<i>4.4.2.3.1</i> Achieve universal access to basic education				
<b>Project Cost</b>	US\$40 million				
<b>Duration</b>	32 months				
<b>Approval Date</b>	May 2004	<b>Effective Date</b>	May 2004	<b>Closing Date</b>	December 2006
<b>Project Description</b>	The project aimed to provide urgently needed textbooks in order to keep schools open, and to improve learning conditions in primary and secondary schools.				
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	The project benefited all 6 million primary and secondary school pupils, who received 11 books each on average.				
<b>Near Term Employment Creation</b>	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**

<b>Outputs</b>	• Textbook supplies to students and schools functioning	
<b>Activities</b>	• Textbook Provision • Project Management	
<b>Procurement</b>	<b>Goods (Textbooks):</b>	US\$37.3 million
	<b>Other goods:</b>	US\$0.2 million
	<b>Consulting services:</b>	US\$0.4 million
	<b>Operating costs:</b>	US\$0.1 million
	<b>Unallocated:</b>	US\$2.0 million

**Financial Data (as of 12/31/2007)**

<b>Funds Committed</b>	US\$38.8 million	<b>% approved</b>	97
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	US\$38.8 million	<b>% approved</b>	97
<b>Forecast Closing Date</b>	Closed – December 2006	<b>Delay (months)</b>	12

**Progress against indicators**

Percentage of textbooks delivered to schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All schools received all required textbooks</li></ul>	<b>% of planned</b>	100
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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. Therefore, the project exceeded its main development objective, financing the printing and distribution of more than 82 million textbooks (16% more than initially estimated).

**Major Implementation Obstacles**

N/A – The Project is closed