UNDP Iraq

UNDP Shell Partnership

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) works with the Government of Iraq and businesses operating across the country in order to both stimulate private sector development and ensure local communities benefit from corporate investment.

In March 2012, a four-year and Basra-focused partnership agreement was signed between UNDP and Shell Iraq, consisting of two main components: the Local Area Development for Majnoon Oil Field Communities (LADP Majnoon); and the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise and Vocational Training Programme (MSME/VT).

Engagement

The LADP Majnoon component of the partnership addresses local priorities in communities surrounding the Shell-operated Majnoon Oil Field in the north of Basra Governorate. It also institutionalizes inclusive participatory processes in local area planning.

THE MSME/VT component of the partnership promotes vocational training and local business development activities. It aims to build the capacity of the local workforce and small and medium enterprises in the oil and gas sector in Basra.

Key Results

- LADP Majnoon: UNDP Shell Partnership focused on the sub-districts of Al Nashwa and Al Dair near the Majnoon Oil Field, and resulted in:
  - Identification of gender disaggregated developmental needs, and production of 48 Area Profiles for Al Dair and 21 Village Profiles for Al Nashwa, as a result of two rounds of community consultations over the periods of March to June 2012 and June 2014 to March 2015;
  - Development of two sub-district plans between October 2014 and October 2015, in order to ensure representation of community perspectives in local planning efforts;
  - Support to 13 new and existing small businesses in Al Nashwa from October 2013 to May 2015, through conducting market assessment and training on business management, development of business plans, coaching, and capital investment;
  - Rehabilitation of three primary schools, Al Ma’arifa and Ala’ Al Deen in Al Nashwa and Al Jawadain Primary School in Al Dair, in 2013 and 2015;
  - Construction of four playgrounds with children playgrounds and a football pitch during 2015;

MATTERS OF FACT

- 13 small businesses established in Basra’s oil field communities
- 3 primary schools rehabilitated and 4 playgrounds constructed to improve educational outcomes and provide a healthy environment for children in Basra
- 2 development plans prepared for Al Nashwa and Al Dair sub-districts
- 90 is the total number of oil field communities who were consulted to identify developmental needs and community profiles in the Governorate
- 219 participants from Basra received training on business and entrepreneurship topics, English language and Health, Safety and Environment training, and vocational training
- Vocational training to 30 unemployed youth from March to May 2014;

- Development of sustainable maintenance practices for infrastructure, including production of checklists and maintenance manuals and delivery of training for proper utilization;

- Assessment of women’s income generating activities in Al Dair, over the period of January to March 2014. This included analysis of types of business, and constraints to business start-up and sustainability; and

- Assessment of challenges facing date palm production, marketing and sale in Basra, over the period of January to March 2014.

• **MSME/VT**: Under the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise and Vocational Training Programme, UNDP Shell Partnership was engaged in the following:

- Capacity building workshops in 2015 for 94 staff members from the Government’s South Oil Company and contractors working for Shell Iraq, in Basra. This included elementary English language training and Health, Safety and the Environment (HSE) courses. HSE courses were accredited by the United Kingdom’s National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health (NEBOSH), and were offered at introductory and international general certificate levels; and

- Training of Trainers (ToT) courses to 95 participants from Basra in September and October 2012. This included the areas of contract management and procurement, entrepreneurship and leadership, and health, safety and the environment. Trainers were later provisioned to support the development of local businesses and workforce.

**UNDP Shell Partnership Funding**

The Partnership allocated a total of US$7,932,202* to its two components as shown in the following chart.

![Chart showing allocation of funds](chart.png)

*UNDP Figures as of July 2016

**About UNDP Iraq**

Present in Iraq since 1976, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is committed to supporting the Government and people of Iraq during their transition towards reconciliation, reform and stability. UNDP’s support ranges from promoting emergency livelihoods and community dialogue in districts impacted by the crisis, to prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) amongst Syrian refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs), to helping stabilize newly liberated areas through its Funding Facility for Immediate Stabilization (FFIS). Further support includes inclusive area-based planning, governance reforms, decentralization, rule of law, and environment and climate change.

English language training delivered to the South Oil Company and Shell contractors. Photo: UNDP Iraq/2015

UNDP is a major partner contributing to democratic process and good governance in Iraq. UNDP has provided technical assistance in support of the 2010 national Parliamentary elections and 2013 provincial elections. Its support to the Government, at both Federal and Regional levels, has been instrumental in prioritizing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and safeguarding development gains achieved. UNDP is further committed to help the country to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Well positioned with a track record in different areas, UNDP stands ready to move towards a cutting-edge resilience agenda with a gender-dimension and a specific focus on economy, social cohesion and national reconciliation, in order to help the people of Iraq recover and build a brighter future.

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