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IRAQ ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM QUARTERLY REPORT

OCTOBER 1, 2013 — DECEMBER 31, 2013

January 2014

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by ARD, Inc., through its operating unit Tetra Tech DPK.

Contract: 267-C-00-10-00006-00

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DISCLAIMER

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.



An elderly woman living in Baghdad's Sadr City brings her identity documents to the Program-supported legal clinic operated by Fatima House Charity for Women. She needs the documents to apply for a \$42 monthly state widows' benefit, which, while not enough to cover all her needs, could make the difference between being trapped in acute poverty and being able to cope. PHOTO: AWNI, USAID ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM

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ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

APS	Annual Program Statement	NGO	Non-governmental organization
BPCS	USAID Building Participation through Civil Society Program	PMAC	Prime Minister's Advisory Council
COMSEC	General Secretariat for the Council of Ministers	PMP	Performance Management Plan
CLE	Continuing Legal Education	PSA	Public service announcement
COR	Council of Representatives	PTD	Program-to-date
CRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	PWD	Person with disabilities
CSO	Civil Society Organization	SMWA	State Minister for Women's Affairs
FBA	Florida Bar Association	TOT	Training of trainers
GBV	Gender-based violence	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
GIAP	Gender Integration Action Plan	USG	United States Government
GOI	Government of Iraq		
GPA	Grade point average		
HJC	Higher Judicial Council		
IBA	Iraqi Bar Association		
IDP	Internally displaced person		
IKR	Iraqi Kurdistan Region		
ILSA	International Law Students' Association		
KBA	Kurdistan Bar Association		
KNGO-D	KRG NGO Department		
KRG	Kurdistan Regional Government		
LOE	Level of Effort		
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation		
MOHE	Federal Ministry of Higher Education		
MOF	Federal Ministry of Finance		
MOHR	Federal Ministry of Human Rights		
MOJ	Federal Ministry of Justice		
MOLSA	Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs		
MOP	Federal Ministry of Planning		



A widow and her daughter receive assistance from a Program-supported legal clinic in Baghdad's Sadr City. During the reporting period, such legal clinics provided assistance to 1,377 vulnerable Iraqis, of whom 70% were women. PHOTO: AWNI, USAID ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Iraq Access to Justice Program (“the Program”) is the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) five-year program to improve access to justice for vulnerable and disadvantaged people in Iraq. Included in this group are women, widows, orphans, persons with disabilities (PWDs), detainees, minorities (both ethnic and religious), the impoverished, and internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees.

The Program incorporates the following three components:

-  **Improve the practical knowledge** of vulnerable and disadvantaged Iraqis of their responsibilities, rights and remedies under Iraqi law;
-  **Increase the competence and availability of legal professionals** and civil society partners who assist vulnerable and disadvantaged Iraqis; and
-  **Advocate for improvements to government processes and procedures** to facilitate the access of vulnerable populations to government services and legal remedies.

This is the Program's fourth year of implementation, after beginning November 7, 2010. This report covers the first quarter of fiscal year 2014, October 1 through December 31, 2013. It presents the Program's achievements and is organized as follows: (a) executive summary; (b) results achieved under the approved work plan according to the Performance Management Plan (PMP); (c) overview of grantee activities; (d) a review of implementation challenges and the Program's planned resolutions and/or corrective actions; (e) list of upcoming Program activities; and (f) annexes, including a financial report, list of Program deliverables, and an update on monitoring and evaluation.

At the end of the quarterly reporting period the Program had 16 active grants, totaling \$1,083,760 of obligated funds. The Program also completed and closed-out 14 grants, with an additional two in the final stages of close-out.

The Program enhances the capacities of potential grantees to write applications and proposals, and provides grantees with a variety of training ranging from grants management to organizational development courses. Grantees share lessons learned and form valuable networks, partnerships and links with the Government of Iraq (GOI) and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), with the aim of sustaining the existence of our partner organizations beyond September 2015, the end of the Program.

Civil society organizations (CSOs) are key partners of the Program, extending their influence into areas of legal service delivery to vulnerable Iraqis, awareness raising at a national level, and advocacy for legal and social reform of priority areas affecting vulnerable Iraqis. For instance, our partner **Al-Ahrar Organization for Human Rights**, based in Maysan governorate, achieved significant gains through their advocacy campaign on behalf of the rights of Sabian Mandaens, an ancient ethnic and religious people (see Page 27). Also of note is partner **Al-Taqwa Association for the Rights of Women and Children**, which success-

fully lobbied the high court of Basrah on behalf of a widow with four children who had no identity documentation for her children (see Page 19). The courts had previously refused to provide documentation on the premise that, without identity documentation for the husband, he is assumed to have been foreign and therefore the children are not considered Iraqi. The Basrah court forwarded the case to the Higher Judicial Council, which ruled in favor of the widow based on constitutional requirements and Iraq's Citizenship Law.

Exploring strategies for the sustainability of priority Program initiatives was a cornerstone of this quarter's effort. The Program continued to support collaboration between civil society and government counterparts through strategic awareness campaigns that placed greater responsibility on key GOI and KRG ministries. Grants were awarded to CSOs with a plan to partner with the government on awareness-raising campaigns. These partnerships are designed to increase the relevant ministries' support and/or funding in the years ahead.

Program-supported legal assistance organizations continue to experience advances with government partners at the national and provincial levels with pledges to establish mechanisms for government funding of legal aid in the future. The Program's key government partners in these efforts continue to be the federal Ministries of Human Rights (MOHR), Planning (MOP), and Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA), as well as the General Secretariat for the Council of Ministers (COMSEC) Citizens' Affairs Directorate and the KRG Council of Ministers NGO Department (KNGO-D). Key supporters at the provincial level included the Provincial Councils of Basrah and Maysan, and the Governor of Dhi Qar.

The Program completed workshops for 17 existing legal clinics to build and ensure the delivery of quality legal services to 1,377 clients, 70% of whom were women.

This quarter, the Program successfully worked with the KNGO-D to award three grants totalling over \$300,000 to CSOs within the Iraqi Kurdistan Region (IKR) to establish new legal clinics. The KNGO-D modeled the Program's Grant's Manual procedures in awarding these grants and will follow USAID monitoring and evaluation procedures to ensure effective implementation. Plans have been established for conducting organizational development assessments for these KNGO-D partners.

The Program continued to reinforce its partnerships with the Iraqi Bar Association (IBA) and the Kurdistan Bar Association (KBA) through regular meetings and activities. At the provincial level, direct relationships have been established with local IBA leadership. Women lawyers are now planning a conference to strengthen their role within the IBA. The Legal Clinic Network has forged a better relationship with the IBA; its leadership has publicly accepted the Legal Clinic Network as a partner in providing legal services to the disadvantaged populations of Iraq.

Iraq's law schools reiterated their broad support of the Program's efforts to build the sustainability of law students by agreeing to financially support their schools' participation in the national rounds of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition in January. The winning team and first runner-up will advance to the international rounds in Washington, and pledges of funding by both the central government in Baghdad and the KRG means no U.S. Government (USG) funding is needed for the winning schools.

The decision by Anbar Law School to establish a Program-supported legal clinic this quarter was a significant achievement. This trend is also reflected by substantive changes within the IKR. Law school legal clinics will soon be self-sustaining as outside funding will no longer be required.

This quarter, the Program completed its organizational development assessment for all existing partners.

The Program continues to experience success across a broad range of initiatives and activities to provide long-lasting support to Iraq's vulnerable populations. The activities reported this quarter continue to demonstrate a sustainable foundation for enduring, positive impact in the years ahead. Through these activities, USAID's legacy of support from the American people has been protected and fortified. ■



Two young Sabian Mandaen men receive flowers from Program grantee Al-Ahrar on the occasion of their weddings. Under its grant from the USAID Iraq Access to Justice Program, Al-Ahrar has successfully advocated to protect a number of rights for Maysan's Sabian Mandaen community. PHOTO: AL-AHRAR



A cartoon produced by Program grantee *Al-Meezan* Newspaper, part of the publication's awareness effort on the rights of Iraq's vulnerable female heads of household.

CREDIT: AL-MEEZAN NEWSPAPER

COMPONENT I

PUBLIC AWARENESS

STRENGTHENING OUR PARTNERS' CAPACITIES

Training CSO partners on the effective implementation of awareness-raising campaigns (Activities 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.4)

To better connect Program-supported public awareness and advocacy efforts to legal aid activities, the USAID Iraq Access to Justice Program's civil society partners agreed in FY 2013 to restructure the four issue-based advocacy groups into an Advocacy Committee under the umbrella of the Legal Clinic Network. Now, grant-funded public awareness activities support concrete advocacy and policy reform objectives. Designed and implemented with technical support from the Program, these activities build on the individual strengths of the 20 Advocacy Committee member CSOs (e.g. radio programs are developed by those organizations with specific interest/expertise in such activities, while print materials are designed by other organizations that have shown innovation and creativity in the past).

Lessons learned by Program grantees during the first phases of grant-funded public awareness activities reflected the need for targeted trainings to strengthen their capacity to effectively implement campaigns designed to improve government procedures and policies related to vulnerable populations in Iraq. In response, the Program has designed a training package focused on lobbying skills, data collection and use, and knowledge building about relevant government processes. These skill sets were identified to complement and enhance previous trainings on message development and campaign strategies to better support the effective design and implementation of awareness-raising campaigns. A series of five such trainings was launched

during the reporting period and will continue during the Committee's monthly meetings going forward. The topics covered by the trainings include:

- Strategic planning for effective media campaigns;
- Survey design and focus group selection;
- Roles and responsibilities (legislative and governance processes);
- Volunteerism; and
- Engaging with the media to support awareness campaigns.

During the quarter, the Program trained the Iraqi Kurdistan Region (IKR) advocacy group, which focuses on the rights of persons with disabilities (PWDs), and the Legal Clinic Network Advocacy Committee on strategic planning for the implementation of public awareness and advocacy campaigns, and on conducting surveys and focus groups. The trainings on surveys and focus groups apply directly to the IKR group's work plan, which calls for members to conduct a study on PWDs in the IKR that will provide disaggregated data on the number of PWDs (e.g. types of disability, service needs). The group will use the study to better tailor their awareness-raising and media outreach activities.

Under their agreed work plan, Advocacy Committee members are applying the new skills learned from these trainings to gather qualitative and quantitative data about unregistered marriages and women with missing husbands (for more, see Component 3) and to design awareness-raising materials on unregistered marriages and barriers to accessing services. The results of the study will be publicized through media outlets.

SUPPORTING PARTNERS' AWARENESS-RAISING CAMPAIGNS

Grassroots campaigns to raise public awareness (Activity 1.1.4)

At the heart of the Program's efforts to improve vulnerable Iraqis' access to justice are campaigns to raise public awareness of their rights and entitlements. During the reporting period, 13 grantees implemented awareness-raising campaigns, resulting in the dissemination of 22,575 printed materials (e.g. posters, booklets), the broadcast of 39 radio spots and programs, and the production of a documentary film on women with missing husbands. Three hundred ninety-two (392) vulnerable Iraqis attended workshops conducted by our civil society partners. Examples of these grantee campaigns include:

- **Hiyad Organization for Legal and Media Development:** Located in Basrah, Hiyad launched an awareness campaign on the rights of persons with disabilities (PWDs), which included successfully lobbying the Governor of Basrah for free airtime on *Aswat al-Basrah* radio. Thanks to this effort, Hiyad benefits from a weekly, hour-long slot on the radio station to air informational programs on the rights of the vulnerable. Hiyad also involves other local CSOs in its programs, capitalizing on their expertise.
- **Tammuz Organization for Social Development:** Located in Baghdad, Tammuz Organization completed its "*Widows Have Rights, Too*" awareness campaign. One of the main objectives of the campaign was to improve government responsiveness to the social, economic and legal needs of widows. To that end, the organization organized a number of symposia in Anbar, Baghdad and Dhi Qar. Focusing on ways to improve the situation of Iraq's widows, the symposia resulted in a set of ten actionable recommendations for civil society and government that included: (1) a survey on the living situation and needs of widows, that would provide much-needed statistical data; and (2) increased coordination between civil society and government on these issues. Representatives from the Ministries of Human Rights (MOHR), and Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA), and the State Ministry for Women's Affairs (SMWA) were in attendance and contributed to the recommendations.

IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT, CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERS AND THE VULNERABLE

Government cost-share fund (Activity 1.1.5)

The Program's lobbying efforts resulted this quarter in the GOI's cost-share fund committee approving the allocation of \$500,000 for awareness-raising campaigns to be implemented by CSOs, under the umbrella of the Ministry of Human Rights. The Program will provide the Ministry with technical support in January and February to develop effective and transparent grant application and monitoring processes. Once the approval process (including the development of a grants manual) and cost-share mechanism have been finalized, the Ministry will disperse funds to CSOs to design and implement awareness campaigns to enhance knowledge and strengthen the protection of human rights for vulnerable populations.

The Minister of Human Rights stressed that the campaigns should focus on the legal rights protected under the Constitution of Iraq and international conventions to which Iraq is a state party. This accomplishment is the result of an earlier partnership between MOHR and four Program-supported CSOs in 2013. The Ministry successfully collaborated with these CSOs to implement awareness-campaigns in Baghdad. A joint conference launching the new partnership will be hosted by the Ministry of Human Rights and the Program next quarter. ■

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ABOVE: This poster was produced by Program grantee Model Iraqi Women for its campaign on social safety net legislation with mentoring and technical support from the Program's Outreach & Communication Team.



Lawyers at a Program-supported legal clinic in Baghdad review case files as part of an organizational capacity development assessment.

PHOTO: AWNI, USAID IRAQ ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM

COMPONENT 2

LEGAL EDUCATION & SERVICES

STRENGTHENING OUR PARTNERS' CAPACITIES

Legal Aid Delivery Assessment (Activity 2.1.1)

During the reporting period, the Program completed a legal aid delivery assessment focused on CSO-operated legal clinics, highlighting their strengths and weaknesses in the delivery of legal aid and the factors that inhibit the effective provision of legal assistance. The assessment also measured organizational experience, will and ability to incorporate the delivery of legal aid into the CSOs' strategic plans, work plans and daily operations. The aspects of the CSO legal clinics reviewed through this tool include:

- Legal clinic governance;
- Legal clinic problem analysis, design, implementation and outreach;
- Criteria for accepting cases and types of cases;
- Case review (audit) and management systems;
- Efficient and effective lawyers and the quality of legal service provision;
- Gender and minority participation; and,
- Client and lawyer satisfaction.

Much like the Program's organizational development assessment, the legal aid delivery assessment was designed to identify the specific issues that Program-supported legal clinics will need to address in order to achieve a higher probability of sustainability. The assessment provides recommendations that can be incorporated into strategic plans of the CSOs, and will provide both the Program and USAID with a technical assistance and partnership strategy for the remaining two years of operations in Iraq.

Assessment results indicate that CSO legal clinics are: (1) offering a wide variety of free legal services (types of cases) to a broad spectrum of vulnerable persons; (2) using consistent case management filing systems; and (3) following the legal clinic best practices as closely as possible. There are also indications that legal aid lawyers are in need of certain context-specific trainings, primarily focused on family law and personal status.

The Program is developing a legal aid lawyer's handbook using materials from the Iraqi Bar Association and **Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid** and will include family law and personal status and other topics in the handbook. Once the handbook is completed, a training-of-trainers (TOT) activity will take place using the handbook as the training tool. This TOT will be implemented around the country by the lawyers of the Legal Clinic Network in cooperation with the IBA.

Technical assistance (Activities 2.1.2 and 2.1.3)

During the reporting period, the Program supported 23 legal clinics (19 CSO, 4 law school) in nine governorates (see Table 1): Babil, Baghdad, Basrah, Dhi Qar, Diyala, Kirkuk, Muthanna, Najaf and Ninawa. 1,377 vulnerable Iraqis (959 women, 418 men) received free legal services through these Program-supported clinics. Beneficiaries include women (70%), IDPs and returnees, PWDs, and victims of terrorist attacks.

The Program's technical staff conducted 64 site visits to legal clinics to measure the grantees' progress against benchmarks, and to provide technical assistance training and mentoring in organizational and legal service provision to improve the Program's community-based CSO legal clinic model. A review of practical

TABLE 2. PROGRAM-SUPPORTED LEGAL CLINICS (Q1 2014)

GOVERNORATE	ORGANIZATION (DISTRICT)
Babil	Babil Law School (Hillah) Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid (Hillah)
Baghdad	Al-Rahma Humanitarian Association (Sha'ab) Fatima House Charity for Women (Sadr City) Human Rights Defenders (Karada) Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid (Karada)
Basrah	Al-Meameen (Basrah) Al-Taqwa Association (Basrah) Amal Humanitarian Association al-Basriyah (Qurna) Hadia Society for Human Rights (Qurna and Zubair) Iraq Future Association (Basrah) Sayed al-Shuhudaa Organization for Social Development (Basrah)
Dhi Qar	Anhur Foundation for Education & Human Rights (Nasriyah) Biladi Organization for Relief and Development (Nasriyah) Dhi Qar Law School (Nasriyah) Sada Center for Human Development (Nasriyah)
Diyala	Al-Aawg Development Foundation (Khalis) Diyala Law School (Baqubah)
Kirkuk	Civil Development Organization (Kirkuk) Inma Organization (Kirkuk)
Muthanna	Ther Center (Samawa)
Najaf	Islamic University Law School (Najaf)
Ninawa	Voice of Older People (Sheikhan)

issues such as client confidentiality is complemented by guidance on administrative procedures such as effective case documentation, classification, reporting and archiving.

Organizational capacity development (Activity 2.1.2)

During this quarter, the Program continued assessing the organizational capacity of its civil society partners. These assessments identify key priorities, which are then used to tailor capacity development action plans. This activity is designed and is being implemented to foster greater sustainability, autonomy, and organizational and project management skills to help civil society more effectively serve Iraq's vulnerable populations as international assistance decreases.

A total of 24 people (8 women, 16 men) from 4 civil society organizations in Baghdad, Dhi Qar, Diyala and Maysan participated in this quarter's four-hour assessment sessions. With this final round of organizational capacity assessments, the Program has, since launching the effort in Q3 2013, provided capacity building trainings to a total of 23 CSOs. Based on the Program's analysis of the assessment, the top capacity-building priorities for these CSOs were financial vulnerability, internal oversight and governance, and monitoring and evaluation.

The Program completed training workshops on the following areas of high priority: (1) introduction to strategic planning focused on addressing financial vulnerability; (2) writing vision and mission statements; (3) internal governance (focusing on separation between board and management); and (4) methods of project monitoring and evaluation. Following the workshops, the Program tracked progress on the CSO's self-identified needs with 'refresher' trainings by the Program's technical staff.

The fully implemented organizational development assessment requires a periodic reassessment of the baseline results of each CSO that reflects progress. The Program will begin conducting these reassessments during the next quarter. The USAID-funded Broadening Participation through Civil Society Program (BPCS) is also engaged in organizational capacity development for CSOs that includes some current Program grantees. The two programs will closely collaborate to minimize duplication, enhance results and allow the Access to Justice Program to focus its efforts on the sustainability of its Legal Clinic Network.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE LEGAL AID

Legal Clinic Network (Activity 2.1.3)

The Program's Legal Clinic Network, which provides a platform for lesson-learning, coordination and alliance-building among the Program's partners, expanded during the quarter to 19 civil society organizations and 4 law schools (Babil, Baghdad, Diyala and Islamic Universities). In December, the Program facilitated a three-day workshop for the Network to: (1) revisit the formation and structure of the Network; (2) review goals and work plan; (3) refine advocacy agenda; and (4) receive training on conducting surveys and focus groups (e.g. proper data collection, effective questionnaire design and focus group selection).

Registering with the NGO Directorate has proven to be more difficult than originally expected. Since submitting the application in August, the Network has revised required documents in response to several requests from the Directorate for additional docu-

mentation. Following the three-day meeting, a Network delegation met with the NGO Directorate to discuss the status of their application for registration as a legal entity. The NGO Directorate assured Network representatives that its application is now complete, and that its formal registration should be finalized in January 2014.

One of the Network's key objectives is building a working partnership with the Iraqi Bar Association to ensure the sustainability of legal assistance for vulnerable Iraqis. A draft memorandum of agreement with the IBA, which outlines their working relationship, was presented for consideration during the December workshop. The Network is working on this draft before presenting it to the IBA for their consideration.

The workshop also included break-out sessions for the Network's five committees — (1) Sustainability and GOI coordination; (2) legal service provision; (3) case referral systems; (4) *pro bono* internships; and (5) advocacy — during which each committee developed a set of tasks and an approximate timeline for completion.

Sustainability and GOI Coordination Committee reviewed feedback on proposals for legal clinic funding that had been submitted to the Basrah and Dhi Qar governorates by CSO members. The committee is addressing the comments for re-submission of the proposals. The committee also reviewed the Zain Telecommunications proposal to fund the Legal Clinic Network in its mission to raise awareness and provide legal services to vulnerable Iraqis. The agenda for the joint conference with COMSEC on institutionalized and sustainable legal aid (scheduled for January 22-23, 2014) was discussed and finalized.

Pro bono Internships Committee reviewed the objectives of an official letter to the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MOHE) to request approval to add law student internships with CSO legal clinics into the curriculum based on prior successes with interns and interest from law students. The committee is working on a draft for submission.

Referral Committee reported a newly achieved accomplishment for the Network. Cases are now being referred between the Islamic University and Fatima House, which will improve the delivery of legal aid within their geographic area and with their target beneficiaries.

Legal Aid Working Group (Activity 2.1.3)

A sustainable legal aid framework requires the engagement of government officials on issues related to the future of legal aid. During the quarter, the Program actively engaged with a number of parliamentarians and government officials to participate in the Program-supported Legal Aid Working Group to discuss issues related to the future of its CSO and law school legal clinics. The Program conducted a first round of invitational meetings with representatives from the Higher Judicial Council (HJC), COMSEC, the Federal Ministries of Human Rights (MOHR), and Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA), the State Ministry for Women's Affairs (SMWA), and several committees of the Council of Representatives (COR) to gauge their interest in establishing and participating in the Legal Aid Working Group that would conduct national and regional discussions to develop a model free legal aid law, set policy for legal aid delivery, coordinate funding, and monitor, evaluate, and promote good practice.

The meetings provided the Program with an opportunity to engage with these stakeholders in preliminary discussions about other potential partners and to define a preliminary scope of work for the working group. Due to the enthusiasm expressed during these meetings, the Program broadened its discussions to other stakeholders, including the Iraqi Bar Association, the Council of Law School Deans, the Prime Minister's Advisory Council (PMAC), and the Ministries of Finance (MOF) and Justice (MOJ). This step was welcomed by the Secretary-General of COMSEC, who issued an official letter in support of legislation that would provide for a sustainable legal aid framework for Iraq's vulnerable populations. Once the Program began the process of inviting officials to this group, more became interested in it. The first group of stakeholders wants to be as inclusive as possible, and suggested that more join the group. This has caused the process of formalizing the group to take longer than anticipated. For instance, the Human Rights Committee of the Council of Representatives has agreed to host the first meeting of the Legal Aid Working Group, which will be held in February 2014.

TRAINING THE LAWYERS OF TODAY AND TOMORROW

Curriculum reform and law school legal clinics (Activity 2.4.1)

During the reporting period, a number of key developments took place as part of the Program's work to

improve legal education. The Program completed a follow-up informational workshop in Baghdad with the representatives of four law schools — Ahel Al-Beit (Karbala), Kufa (Najaf), Anbar and Nahrain (Baghdad) — for briefing on the application process for in-kind Program grants. The Program's technical staff also introduced these law schools to the objectives of legal clinics and the important role they play in fostering real-life advocacy skills for future lawyers. Concrete achievements following this event included:

- **Ahel Al-Beit Law School** (Karbala) and the internationally renowned **Kufa University Law School** (Najaf) are both adopting the Program's international best practices and law school legal clinic curriculum as a first step before opening legal clinics in their respective law schools. Ahel Al-Beit began applying the 15-hour syllabus in November for its fourth-year students. The school will choose the top 20 students to participate in its self-funded legal clinic. Kufa also began implementing the curriculum in November and plans to cooperate closely with the IBA branch in Najaf to obtain pro bono lawyers that will train law students during the summer term as a part of an internship program.

- **Anbar Law School** began implementing the Program's law school legal clinic curriculum for third-year students in November. In preparation, the law school began advertising its legal clinic through banners and local newspapers.
- **Wasit Law School** submitted a request to the Program to provide its legal clinic curriculum and assist the school in its implementation next semester. The Program will provide technical support to the law school, which is the sixth to implement the Program-developed legal clinic curriculum.

The Program completed a training workshop for six law schools (Anbar, Dahuk, Koya, Salah ad Din, Sulaymaniyah and Tikrit). The workshop focused on a range of Program-supported best practices, such as the implementation of the 15-hour legal clinic course. Program representatives also provided training on the application process for in-kind grants to fund law school legal clinics. In Q2, the Program will review grant applications from law schools as part of its 2014 Annual Program Statement.

During the reporting period, Babil, Diyala and Islamic University (Najaf) Law Schools completed town-hall style seminars, reporting to their respective communities on the activities and achievements of their



COMMUNITY-BASED LEGAL CLINICS

Program-supported community-based legal clinics are free legal service programs run by local civil society organizations. This is distinct from the legal clinics that are affiliated with law schools, in which lecture-based learning is complemented by on-the-job experience where students handle real cases under the supervision of a lawyer.

The **Program's model for community-based legal clinics** is designed to improve the ability of partner CSOs to provide quality legal services to the vulnerable. It strengthens the functionality and services of these clinics by: (a) establishing uniform best practices to be applied by all partners providing services through the Program; (b) enhancing access to justice through legal advocacy; and (c) encouraging the delivery of services to a wider group of vulnerable persons, such as criminal detainees.

Our community-based legal clinics provide two types of assistance to Iraq's vulnerable populations:

- **Legal advice and counsel ('consultation')**, which includes a range of services up to the point of legal representation (e.g. screening a new case, providing information and advice on legal procedures and rights).
- **Legal representation**, which includes any legal action by the lawyer on behalf of the individual before a government agency (e.g. filing a petition for divorce).

A Supreme Court win for children of mixed marriage

Under Iraqi law, children born to Iraqi women and foreign men have equal rights to Iraqi citizenship and identity. In practice however, these rights were not always recognized, at least not until a USAID Iraq Access to Justice Program-supported legal clinic brought a case before Iraq's Supreme Court. The case, which was taken on by Al-Taqwa Association in Basrah, involved a widow with children who lacked official identity documents. According to the local authorities, her children could not receive Iraqi citizenship because she had married a non-Iraqi.

In his opinion, the Chief Justice of the Federal Supreme Court, Medhat al-Mahmoud, wrote that the local authorities' actions were in violation of the Constitution of Iraq and existing law, which guarantees citizenship to children with one Iraqi parent and one non-Iraqi parent. Mr. al-Mahmoud's decision also confirmed the eligibility of women married to foreigners to serve on provincial councils and in parliament.

With this Supreme Court decision, the USAID Iraq Access to Justice Program and its civil society partners have now achieved a historic victory in a high court on behalf of vulnerable Iraqis. Combined with the Program's positive results in both parliament and the executive branch of government, the rights of disenfranchised Iraqi citizens are now better protected. ■

legal clinics. Chief among their achievements are the successful provision of free legal aid to vulnerable Iraqis and improving the advocacy skills of law students trained in these legal clinics.

Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition (Activity 2.4.3)

Preparations continued during the reporting period for the 2014 Iraq National Rounds of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. The twelve registered schools include Anbar, Baghdad, Dahuk, Dhi Qar, Iraqia (Baghdad), Islamic (Najaf), Karbala, Koya (Erbil), Kufa (Najaf), Salah ad Din (Erbil), Sulaymaniyah and Wasit University Law Schools. The Program prepared and conducted two regional trainings for registered teams in Baghdad and Erbil. The trainings covered the preparation and drafting of memorials and oral arguments, and trial procedure at the national and international rounds. Although Iraqi teams have previously competed at both the national and international levels in Arabic, this year's competition will be held in English, in-line with the standards established by the International Law Students' Association (ILSA).

The national competition will be held January 22-23. The Program has started preparing the list of judges to ensure their registration with ILSA. Logistical prepara-

tions this quarter included further consultations with the American University in Iraq (Sulaymaniyah) and Salah ad Din University (Erbil), which both offered to host the competition. Salah ad Din was eventually chosen to host the competition, and will provide both in-kind and cash resources for the event. In addition, each school will fund its participation in the national competition. In total, the government contribution for this year's national rounds of the Jessup Competition represents approximately \$100,000 — a significant step towards the future sustainability of the Jessup Competition.

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF IRAQI WOMEN LAWYERS

IBA Women Lawyers' Committee (Activity 2.5.1)

During the reporting period, the Program's efforts to engage the IBA's female lawyers in legal aid efforts continued. With the engagement of the Vice-President of the Iraqi Bar Association, Ms. Ahlam al-Lami, the Program suggested future collaboration with the IBA's Women Lawyers' Committee to support and encourage women to participate in the legal aid by: (1) pairing experienced lawyers with new lawyers; (2) encouraging law student internships; and (3) conducting regular networking events in Baghdad and elsewhere. The Program is planning a large conference to promote the

participation of women lawyers in the practice of law and in legal aid specifically for this coming quarter.

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

International Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Istanbul

The Program participated in an international conference on clinical legal education held in Istanbul (September 30 – October 1). Representatives from four Middle Eastern countries (Lebanon, Iran, Iraq and Qatar) joined professors from the United States and Southeast Asia for a discussion on their experience with law school legal clinics. General discussions focused on: family law and child protection; violence against women and domestic violence; economic and community development; employment and housing; and children and women in situations of armed conflict. The following country/region-specific experiences were shared:

- **Lebanon:** Family law and corporate social responsibility
- **Iran:** Promoting legal knowledge and culture
- **Iraq:** Integrating clinic legal education throughout Iraqi law schools
- **Southeast Asia:** Responding to community needs, strategic planning and curriculum development.

While all countries in the Middle East established clinical legal education before Iraq, the conference participants noted that Iraq has implemented the most successful model. The Program, representing Iraq's experiences with clinical legal education, stressed that while the Iraqi model is based on the United States, there is still work to be done to enhance the legal aid framework to ensure the sustainability of assistance for disadvantaged and vulnerable Iraqis.

Kick-off workshop for prospective IKR legal clinic organizations, Erbil

The Program held a two-day training workshop to kick off its collaboration with the KRG NGO Department (KNGO-D). The workshop, which was attended by 16 CSO participants (9 women, 7 men), covered the fundamentals of the Program's design for legal clinics, how to draft an effective scope of work for civil society-operated legal aid activities, proposal writing and budgeting, and accurately defining the target beneficiaries and geographic focus. Representatives from KNGO-D also attended the workshop, including Director Fazel Omer, and the head of its Legal Department, Mr. Aamer Abdullah.

Mr. Fazel confirmed in a separate meeting with Program representatives that the Department will provide more than \$300,000 in financial support for regional CSOs providing legal assistance to vulnerable people as a part of a pilot program, with a promise to increase the funding substantially if the pilot is successful. A joint evaluation committee comprised of Program and Department members identified three CSOs from Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah to receive the pilot funding. This is a landmark agreement based on the Memorandum of Understanding between USAID and the KRG, which provides funding for civil society groups operating in support of joint USAID-KRG goals. ■

Young lawyer thanks Program for helping launch his promising career in service of Iraq's vulnerable

When he was a boy growing up in Baghdad,

Duraïd Waleed (23) could not have possibly known where he would be today. When his father — a former officer in the Iraqi Army — was forced to retire, his family of six had no choice but to leave their home and switch their schools. Without his father's income, Duraïd's family suddenly found themselves in poverty. In order to financially support the household, he and his older brothers quit school and began working 16 hours a day.

Realizing how defenseless his family had become in these dire circumstances, Duraïd committed himself to understanding the rights and protections of Iraqi citizens under the law. Armed with this knowledge, he felt confident that he could better defend his family and ensure their well-being.

Determined, he chose to go back to school and work on the weekends. He graduated high school with a 3.5 GPA — the top result for his class in Baghdad, and the fourth highest in Iraq — and was accepted into Iraq's most prestigious law school, Baghdad University.

It was as a law student at Baghdad University that Duraïd first came into contact with the USAID Iraq Access to Justice Program, through a legal clinic that was established at the school in 2012. At the legal clinic, he worked side-by-side with practicing lawyers from the Program's civil society partners to provide free legal assistance to vulnerable citizens. "Seeing how these people were living," Duraïd said, "reminded me of my life growing up and how I felt as if society had forgotten about me and my family. However, with competent legal advice, these people were able to access the services and benefits available to them under the law — something neither I nor my relatives could do when we needed help."

In 2013, Duraïd joined Baghdad Law School's undefeated team at the Program-supported Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, described by distinguished Iraqi Judge Rizgar Mohammed Amin as "the unbeatable team." His team went on to win the national round of competition, and competed at the international finals in Washington.

"The Jessup competition really helped me develop my abilities," Duraïd recalled. "In school, we only studied legal theory, but Jessup allowed us to experience life as real lawyers."

After returning from the international competition in Washington, Duraïd graduated first in his class with highest honors. He was offered a job by the former Governor of Baghdad, Mr. Ali al-Tamimi, where he was the youngest lawyer in his firm. He has since been recruited to work as an investigator at the Higher Judicial Council.

"My experience [at the Jessup competition] has never left my memory," Duraïd said. "One day I hope all Iraqi people will be able to access their rights. Until then, I hope will continue to work to make sure that the law protects those most in need." ■



ABOVE: As the Class of 2013 valedictorian, Duraïd Waleed leads his classmates from Baghdad Law School at their commencement ceremony.



Ms. Athraa al-Hassani of Program grantee Model Iraqi Women secures the endorsement of Maysan Governor Ali Daway (left), a Sadrist, as part of her advocacy campaign on the draft Social Safety Net legislation. PHOTO: MODEL IRAQI WOMEN

COMPONENT 3

ADVOCACY & POLICY REFORM

STRENGTHENING OUR PARTNERS' CAPACITIES

Legal Clinic Network Advocacy Committee (Activity 3.1.1)

During the reporting period, the Legal Clinic Network Advocacy Committee was formally launched in a Program-sponsored two-day meeting. The Advocacy Committee unifies the four issue-based advocacy groups — Social Security and Widows, Personal Status and Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Identity and Minority Rights, and Persons with Disabilities — to better respond to the advocacy needs of vulnerable Iraqis. The restructure was advanced during the Program's Partner Meeting in September.

The Committee defined its mission as working to strengthen the legal status of vulnerable women. Two primary goals tailored to reduce barriers to women's access to services were identified:

1. Reduce the incidence of unregistered marriages by amending Article 10 of the Personal Status Law to allow for retroactive registration of marriages conducted outside the formal justice system; and
2. Reduce the waiting period for wives with missing husbands (e.g. disappeared or absconded) to change their civil status from four to one year by amending Article 43 of the Personal Status Law.

The Committee developed a central campaign message (*My family, my home and my future*). The Program's Development Outreach & Communication team is actively mentoring members of the Advocacy Committee to develop unified awareness campaigns on both issues, which are expected to launch in January.

The Committee finalized a one-year strategy that is captured in a work plan that includes data collection, legal analysis, lobbying activities, and media and community outreach. CSO partners will engage with relevant GOI stakeholders, such as the Higher Judicial Council, the Ministries of Interior and Justice, COMSEC and provincial councils. One such partnership will be with the Ministry of Interior to collect statistical data on the situation of wives of missing husbands. The data will be used by the Committee in their advocacy activities.

Other activities include meetings and workshops to identify challenges faced by beneficiary communities and the role of legal clinics, review legal and empirical data, and build consensus on proposed reforms. To support this engagement, Committee members will work with beneficiaries and partner CSOs to develop legal research, case studies and working papers.

IKR Network (Activity 3.1.2)

The Program's dedicated advocacy group for the IKR continued its work to protect the interests of PWDs and to enhance access to their rights under KRG laws and regulations. The group is in the process of conducting a study to assess gaps in law and implementation to determine whether their activities should focus on amending the current legal framework, or whether it would be more appropriate to concentrate on improving implementation.

As part of this exercise, the group agreed to conduct a series of meetings with the Iraqi Kurdistan Parliament and agencies responsible for implementing the region's PWD law. The group will provide the results of their study to the KRG in addition to statistical data on the



PHOTO: MODEL IRAQI WOMEN

ABOVE: Grantee Model Iraqi Women address local and tribal leaders during a workshop in Nasiriyah (Dhi Qar) as part of an advocacy campaign on the draft Social Safety Net legislation.

number of PWDs in the IKR disaggregated by type of disability. The group will use this information to lobby for improvements to cash transfer amounts, services and social integration, as well as revisions to the legislative framework under the UN Convention of Rights for Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

POSITIVE LINKAGES TO SUPPORT GOVERNMENT EFFORTS

Support for an online NGO registration system (Activity 3.2.1)

During the reporting period, the Program continued support in the development of an online NGO registration system for the Kurdistan Regional Government. At the request of the KRG NGO Department, the Program replaced the system's hardware and ensured that it is functioning properly. The software was still under development at the time of reporting, with both sides having agreed on a work flow to ensure the timely completion of this task. When the systems are up and running, formal training and capacity-building activities will begin.

Support collaboration between NGO Department and CSOs (Activity 3.2.1)

KRG law ensures a budgetary provision of \$10 million per year in support of local CSOs. With Program support demonstrating how free legal clinics can support access to justice for vulnerable Iraqis in the IKR, the KRG NGO Department agreed to use these funds for

grants to CSOs providing legal assistance to vulnerable Iraqis. This agreement was formalized in a memorandum of understanding signed between USAID Iraq and the KRG NGO Department in 2013. The first action under this agreement was the Department's decision to fund three legal clinics in the IKR.

In December, the Program team facilitated a grants evaluation meeting with delegates from the Access to Justice Program's technical and grants staff and NGO Department officials. Twelve grant applications were evaluated. Three CSOs — **Gayandin Organization** (Erbil), **Harikar Organization** (Dahuk) and **Women's Legal Assistance** (Sulaymaniyah) — were awarded grants by the government. They will implement their activities to advance legal access and awareness for vulnerable Iraqis with technical assistance from the Program. This initiative supports sustainability for legal aid services in the IKR and also sets an example for the federal government to adopt the same mechanism in the future.

To facilitate this support and to develop appropriate monitoring and evaluation systems, the Program provides the Department staff with ongoing technical assistance and training on the development and use of grant evaluation committees, grant management and tracking systems, and reporting mechanisms. For the current grant cycle, Department staff is participating with the Program's grant evaluation committees as a model for future work. Also, in cooperation with the Department, the Program facilitated a workshop on the Department's grants program that was attended by 19 persons from CSOs in Dahuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninawa and Sulaymaniyah.

Sustainable government funding for CSOs (Activity 3.2.2)

The COMSEC Citizens' Affairs and Public Relations Directorate agreed to coordinate with the Program's legal clinic partners to open legal aid help desks in each governorate. The Directorate will provide free office space for the help desks, which will be staffed on a rotating basis by lawyers from partner CSOs. The joint venture will be launched with a two-day conference and workshop in Baghdad in January. Following the opening of legal aid desks in each governorate—to be organized according to a roll out plan developed jointly by COMSEC and the Program—COMSEC has confirmed that it will explore funding options for the desks in the future.

Persons with disabilities (Activity 3.2.3)

Following Program-supported technical assistance to Parliament and MOLSA, the Law on Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) entered into force on October 28, 2013, with its publication in Issue 2013-38 of the Official Gazette of Iraq (“*al-Waqa’i’ al-Iraqiyah*”). Subsequently, members of the Legal Clinic Network Advocacy Committee began formally implementing their action plan to advocate for the law’s implementation.

In December, a group of Program-supported PWD CSOs met in Baghdad to compare the 14 recommendations emerging from their conference in Erbil (April 2013) with the final version of the Law. Of the 14 recommendations, 10 were included in the final version. The CSOs noted additional achievements, including the law’s broad alignment with the CRPD and its responsiveness to the demands of PWDs, which were repeated during the multiple conferences and meetings in the build-up to the law’s passage.

During the reporting period, the Program also supported its disability advocates in the preparation of a detailed study on the Law on PWDs. The study assesses the strengths and weaknesses of the new law, and highlights potential challenges in its implementation. A number of recommendations are included to overcome these challenges. These recommendations provided a framework for the group’s work plan, which focuses on consultations between the Program’s civil society partners and various government agencies (e.g. COMSEC, MOLSA, and Ministry of Health) to advocate for the law’s swift implementation. Consultations will begin in early January.

The focus of the Program’s advocacy efforts related to PWDs going forward will be on the implementation of the law’s provision for the establishment of an autonomous PWD Commission under the auspices of MOLSA. The Commission, which is charged with monitoring national compliance with the CRPD, forms the core of the new law. The Program and its civil society partners will advocate for the transparent nomination of commissioners, and will provide technical support to the body once it has been established.

Social Safety Net (Activity 3.2.5)

Following last quarter’s Program-hosted Istanbul Forum on Social Safety Net Legal Reform, the Program was invited to participate in the Prime Minister’s Advisory Council (PMAC) Sub-committee on Social Safety Net Reform. The Program participated in the sub-committee’s September meeting, providing verbal

recommendations on specific topics, such as the sustainability of funding, cash transfer benefit amounts, conditional cash transfers and emergency relief funds. The Program also provided the sub-committee with an article-by-article analysis of the unified draft law developed in Istanbul, suggesting specific revisions and raising questions for consideration.

Following this meeting, the Program provided the sub-committee Chair and Deputy Chair with follow-up commentary on key points including: (1) clarification of the bill’s aims and objectives; (2) developing a definition of “income”; (3) establishing processes for setting and revising cash transfer benefit amounts; and (3) mitigating disincentives to work and unintended impacts on family planning. The draft was sent from the sub-committee to the Council of Ministers for its consideration, which, with the intervention of Program partners, fast-tracked the law into the approval process. In November, the Council of Ministers voted unanimously to refer the draft to Parliament for voting. At the time of reporting, the draft legislation was scheduled for a first reading in the Council of Representatives (see Figure 1).

The Program also provided technical support to CSOs to develop advocacy campaign materials based on the enhanced understanding of social safety net concepts developed in Istanbul. The materials demonstrate that cash transfers and services provide a bridge out of poverty by building the resources and capacities of vulnerable families, and advocate for the rapid enactment of the unified draft law. As part of the coordinated advocacy campaign, grantee **Model Iraqi Women** targeted five local governments, representing power centers for key political parties and figures in the process, in addition to its work in Baghdad to advocate and collect signatures from governors and provincial council members for a petition to support the draft Social Safety Net legislation.

The Program is also providing organizational and technical support to the COR Human Rights Committee to facilitate a follow-up conference with all participants from the Istanbul Forum on Social Safety Net Legal Reform. The conference will call on parliamentarians to vote on the draft legislation before the end of the current legislative period (elections scheduled for April 30, 2014).

Women with missing husbands (Activity 3.2.6)

Program grantee **Fatima House Charity for Women** launched its advocacy campaign on women with missing husbands. The campaign calls on parlia-

mentarians to amend the Personal Status Law in order to decrease the waiting period before such women can change their civil status from four years to one. The campaign, which includes activities throughout the lower 15 governorates, was launched in Wasit and Maysan governorates. In January, Fatima House will begin advocacy activities in Karbala.

As part of its advocacy effort in Maysan, Fatima House met with the President of the Maysan Court of Appeals and a number of judges, all of whom supported efforts to quickly amend the law. Given their substantive knowledge of the issue and day-to-day exposure to women in such situations, their support is a true victory. Meetings were also held with the Governor of Maysan, Mr. Ali Douai, and the President of the Maysan Provincial Council, Mr. Munther Shuai, both of whom voiced their support.

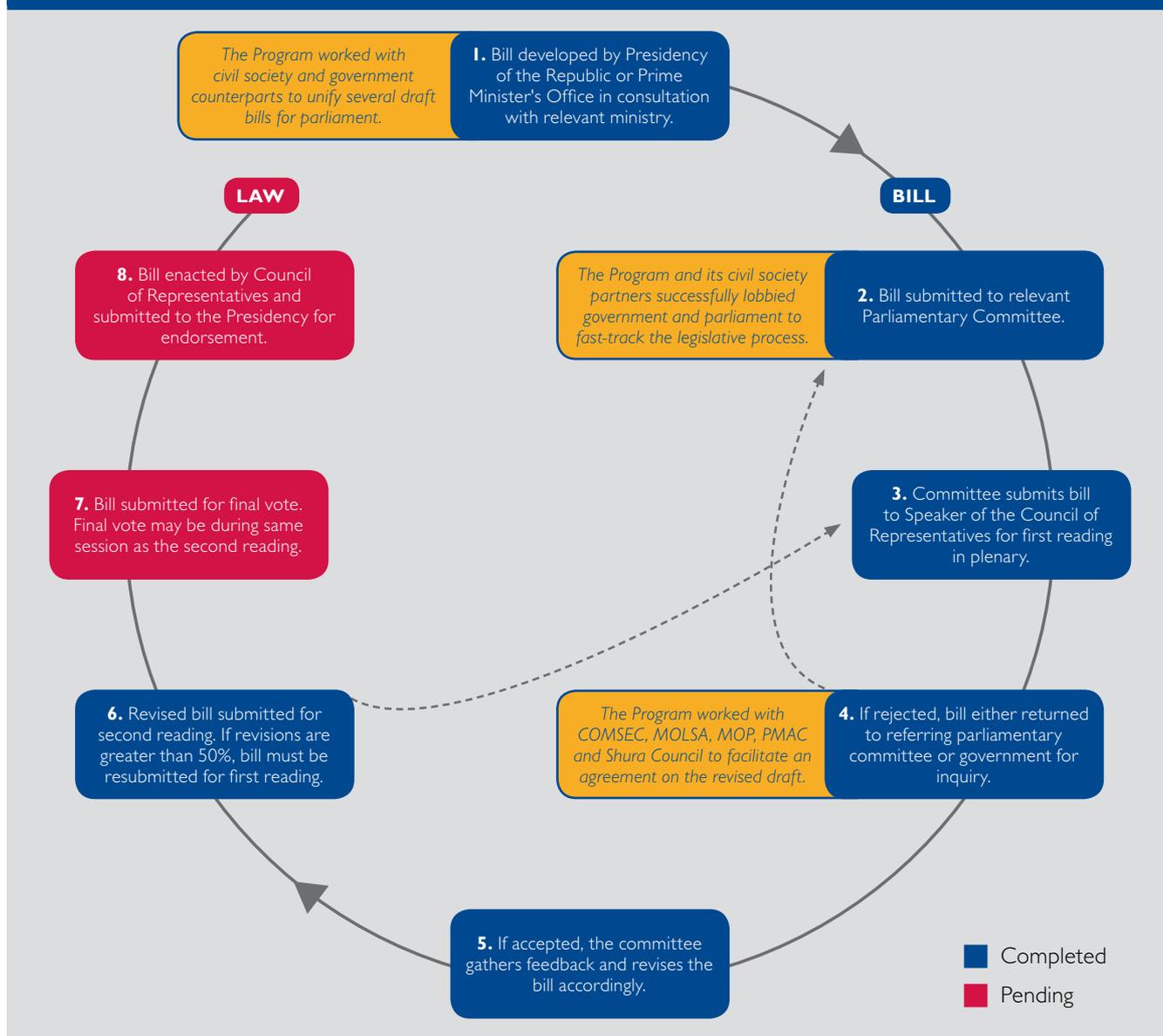
Identity issues (Activity 3.2.7)

Program partner **Fatima House** is conducting an advocacy campaign for national and local government in order to ease the procedural requirements for wives of missing husbands to obtain identity documents for their children. This will ensure that these children will be able to access to their rights in health, education, etc.

Engagement at provincial level (Activity 3.2.7)

Basrah: In November, the Basrah Provincial Council followed up on a Program request for assistance in publicizing the availability of free legal services in the governorate. The Council submitted a list of Program-supported legal clinics to its Committee for Local Councils, which is responsible for interactions with Basrah's 21 local councils. The Committee has already posted the

FIGURE I. PROGRAM SUPPORT FOR SOCIAL SAFETY NET LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



information on their Facebook page and will circulate the list to local councils in the coming weeks. During the Program's previous consultations with the Provincial Council, members agreed to fund legal clinics and sent a formal letter calling for budgetary funds to be allocated for legal aid. Finally, the Governor of Basrah secured free airtime for the Program's civil society partners to air weekly, one-hour radio programs to increase legal awareness in the governorate. The programs, which were first aired in November, will continue until May.

Dhi Qar: In response to a request from the Program, and in collaboration Program partners Baet Al-Najah, Biladi Organization and Sada Center, the Governor of Dhi Qar approved funding to air weekly legal awareness programs on the local *Al-Tathamun* radio station. The programs use an interactive call-in format, and feature legal experts to respond questions. The Program's partners in Dhi Qar are currently following up with the Office of the Governor to secure government funding for legal clinics. To this end, the governor has sent a formal letter to COMSEC in order to help define criteria for funding CSOs in the governorate. ■

OUR IMPACT

Protecting the rights of Iraq's Sabian Mandaens

Securing the rights of Sabian Mandaens, and ensuring their integration — rather than assimilation — into Iraqi society is the key goal of an advocacy initiative led by Program grantee Al-Ahrar Organization. During the reporting period, Al-Ahrar achieved a number of important victories on behalf of the Sabian Mandaens, including:

- The Maysan Provincial Council issued an official decree to all public schools in the governorate ordering them not to force their Sabian Mandaen students and teachers to wear black clothing during the Islamic month of Muharram. While Shi'a traditionally wear black clothing during Muharram, the practice has no significance to Sabian Mandaens, and is considered by Sabian leaders to be incompatible with their religious beliefs;
- The Provincial Council also established an employment quota, effective immediately, to ensure minimum representation of Sabian Mandaens in the Directorate of Education; and
- The Provincial Council established a quota to ensure a minimum representation of Sabian Mandaens in public office.

Finally, Iraq's first Sabian Mandaen Youth Center was opened in Maysan as a result of al-Ahrar's awareness campaign. High-ranking officials from the Provincial Council, the Governor's Office and local directorates, as well as parliamentarians, CSOs and religious leaders attended the event. The youth center will serve as a support center for Maysan's Sabian Mandaen community.

WHO ARE THE SABIAN MANDAENS?

The Sabian Mandaens are a religious minority confined almost exclusively to southern Iraq. They are among the oldest surviving Gnostic religions in the world, with rituals that resemble those of Zoroastrian and Nestorian worship. John the Baptist is their central prophet, and baptism plays a primary role in religious and community life. Sabian Mandaens have no centrally located geographical area in Iraq, but must live near bodies of water. They are pacifists prohibited from carrying weapons. While updated statistics on the number of Sabian Mandaens in Iraq are difficult to verify, their population continues shrink either as a result of assimilation into nominally Muslim society or due to persecution from Shi'a and Sunni militants. There were an estimated 13,000 in Iraq in 2005, while community members today estimate their numbers to be between 3,500 and 5,000. There are roughly 60,000 to 70,000 Sabian Mandaens in the world. ■

GENDER INTEGRATION

ENSURING GENDER INTEGRATION THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM

Gender integration action planning *(Activity 5.1.1)*

During the reporting period, the gender integration team continued to provide technical assistance in support of gender integration. The Gender Coordinator met with technical components to assist them in identifying ways to better support gender integration in their activities. Specifically, the gender integration team:

Tailored Gender Integration Action Plans (GIAPs) were drafted for the Program's Year 4 Work Plan and are being reviewed with each component to finalize the required steps to integrate gender throughout work plan activities.

The Gender Coordinator reviews materials produced by the Program's grantees (e.g. workshop and campaign materials, posters, brochures) to ensure inclusiveness. She also provides practical support through trainings and other sessions for CSOs, law schools and GOI officials. During the reporting period, the Program's draft Legal Aid Best Practices Manual for gender inclusiveness was reviewed.

Gender participation in Grants Evaluation Committee *(Activity 5.1.2)*

The Gender Coordinator participates in all pre-award trainings for prospective grantees to ensure that gender concerns are featured in their proposals.

Building the gender integration capacity of Program staff and partners *(Activity 5.2.1)*

The Gender Coordinator participates in new staff orientation to familiarize newly hired staff with gender concepts. She also participated in Program trainings, providing guidance to Program on the important gender aspects of legal issues.

Value chain networks *(Activity 5.3.1)*

In partnership with the IBA, the Program's Gender Integration Coordinator led a meeting with the IBA's Women's Committee on the importance of gender integration in the provision of legal aid in Iraq. The Program's intervention focused on vulnerable groups including widows, divorcees and others, and used the three value chain networks produced by the Program to highlight bottlenecks faced by vulnerable populations when accessing their legal rights. At the conclusion of the meeting, the participants agreed to take action to ensure that the value chain networks are disseminated to the IBA and law school members and students to assist them in understanding where impediments to obtaining rights for these vulnerable groups lie. ■

MONITORING & EVALUATION

INTERNAL EVALUATION

Year 3 Internal Evaluation (Activity 6.1.2)

Based on the findings of the Program's Mid-term Performance Evaluation (April 2013), a data validation check was conducted while migrating data to the newly developed Access database.

Performance Management Plan review (Activity 6.1.3)

The Program's Monitoring & Evaluation team is in the process of finalizing an update to the Program's Performance Management Plan (PMP) with targets for Program Years 4 and 5. The final, revised PMP will include a PMP Team Skills Matrix, listing members and their respective roles and areas of expertise. A revised Performance Management Task Schedule is also being added, as is a graphic illustrating the relationship between Program indicators and the Program's Results Framework.

M&E database (Activity 6.1.4)

A new M&E database structure, designed to track grantee achievements as related to Program PMP indicators, including assistance to vulnerable Iraqis, has been implemented. At the time of reporting, the database developer had submitted revised versions of the eight standard M&E reports and has received detailed comments from the M&E Department. Sample data has been transferred from the Program's spreadsheets to the database to begin testing the queries and resulting reports for debugging.

BUILDING OUR PARTNERS' CAPACITIES FOR IMPROVED M&E

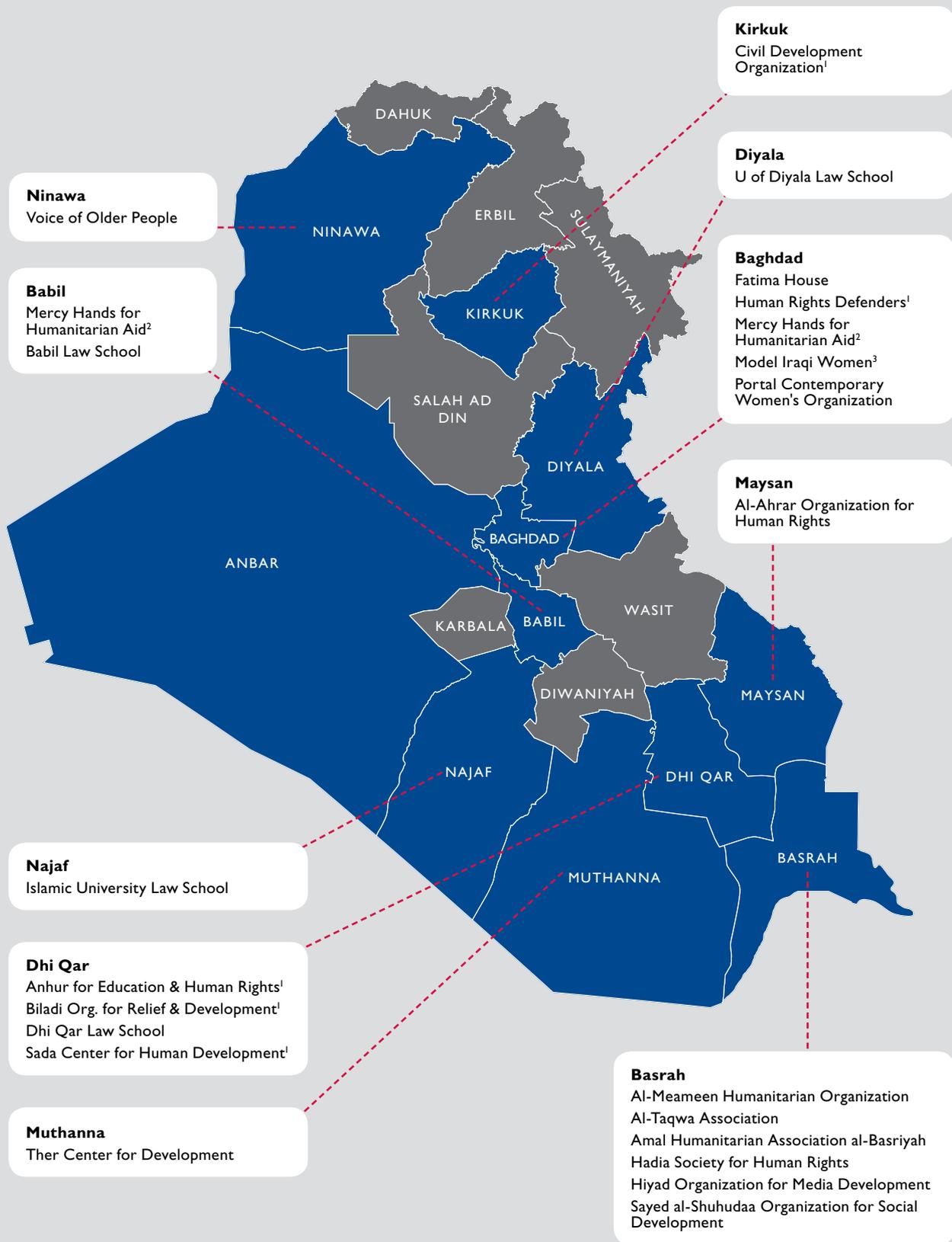
Site visits (Activity 6.1.5)

The Program's M&E team continued implementing unannounced site visits to its grantees, which provide an opportunity to review M&E practices and ensure that grantees are completing data sheets and monitoring their own activities according to USAID best practices. During these site visits, the M&E Data Specialists provided technical support on areas of recurring concern, such as missing data, incomplete forms, etc.

M&E training for partners (Activity 6.1.6)

The M&E Department has been working with the Grants Department to modify the M&E training material. As a number of grant applicants are returning partners, the material is being streamlined to focus on the critical areas of M&E reporting requirements with more time for detailed review of standard forms. ■

FIGURE 2. ACTIVE PROGRAM GRANTEES (DECEMBER 2013)



Notes: (1) Pending grant agreement with the Program; (2) Activities in multiple governorates; (3) Program-funded activities throughout Iraq.

GRANTS

GRANT AWARDS

At the end of the reporting period, the Program had 16 active grants, totaling \$1,083,760 of obligated funds. The Program also closed-out 14 grants, with an additional 2 in the final stages of close-out.

The grants team completed the development of the new Access database, which will be used to track all data related to the Grants Program, such as the status of all Program grants since inception, and all payments made under each grant.

Two Annual Program Statements (APS) were released during the reporting period, representing a total budget allocation of 800,000 to fund new grants under the Program's three technical components. The first APS was released on October 1 to fund new legal clinics in governorates with limited Program presence. Specifically, the APS calls for the establishment of 5-7 new CSO members of the Legal Clinic Network and 5-6 new law school legal clinics.

A second APS was released on December 12 to fund Program activities aimed at improving citizen participation and engagement with government through advocacy and public awareness activities. The APS will fund 7-12 new grants.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR IMPROVED GRANT MANAGEMENT

During the reporting period, the Grants Department conducted four pre-award grant application workshops in Baghdad, Maysan and Najaf. Over 120 participants attended the workshops, representing CSOs from Anbar, Baghdad, Diwaniyah, Diyala, Karbala, Kirkuk, Maysan, Najaf, Salah ad Din and Wasit governorates. The objective of the workshops was to provide guidance in developing proposals to meet the requirements of the APS and to familiarize them with the Program's grants procedures.

Another pre-award grant application workshop was conducted for 11 law schools, including:

- **Anbar:** Fallujah University, Ramadi University
- **Baghdad:** Nahrain University
- **Dahuk:** Dahuk University
- **Diwaniyah:** Qadisiya University
- **Diyala:** Yarmook University
- **Erbil:** Salah ad Din University
- **Karbala:** Ahlulbait University
- **Najaf:** Kufa University
- **Sulaymaniyah:** Koya University, Sulaymaniyah University

As a follow-up to the grant application workshops, the Program completed three group consultation sessions to provide prospective grantees with hands-on assistance to prepare their grant applications. The sessions, which were advertised to all prospective applicants via the Program's website and APS announcement, were held in Anbar, Salah ad Din and Wasit governorates.

The Program completed a three-day grant management workshop for representatives of nine grantees (22 people; 11 male, 11 female). The training focused on project implementation procedures, including:

- Financial management;
- Procurement;
- Human resources;
- Reporting and archiving procedures;
- Record-keeping and inventory control; and
- Payment disbursement mechanisms.

TABLE 2. PROGRAM GRANTEES (October 1 — December 31, 2013)

NAME	LOCATION	TARGET BENEFICIARIES	GRANT LIFE	BEGIN DATE	BUDGET	STATUS
1. AL-AAWG DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION	Diyala		12 months	Dec 2012	\$86,280	
2. AL-AHRAR ORGANIZATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS	Maysan		10 months	Apr 2013	\$80,992	
3. AL-ARQAM CULTURAL CHARITY ASSOCIATION	Basrah		12 months	Jul 2012	\$69,974	
4. AL-MEAMEEN ORGANIZATION*	Basrah		10 months	Dec 2013	\$47,000	
5. AL-RAHMA HUMANITARIAN ASSOCIATION*	Baghdad		12 months	Dec 2012	\$111,384	
6. AL-TAQWA ASSOCIATION*	Basrah		10 months	Sep 2013	\$51,900	
7. AL-ZUHOOR FEMINIST ORGANIZATION	Baghdad		12 months	Nov 2012	\$97,122	
8. AMAL HUMANITARIAN ASSOCIATION AL-BASRIYAH*	Basrah		12 months	Sept 2013	\$54,920	
9. ANHUR FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION & HUMAN RIGHTS*	Dhi Qar		8 months		\$49,200	
10. BILADI ORGANIZATION FOR RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT	Dhi Qar		8 months		\$49,400	
11. CIVIL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION*	Kirkuk		12 months		\$55,000	
12. DHI QAR LAW SCHOOL	Dhi Qar		12 months	Feb 2013	\$63,210	
13. FATIMA HOUSE CHARITY FOR WOMEN*	Baghdad		12 months	Nov 2012	\$149,962	
14. HADIA SOCIETY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS*	Basrah		10 months	Dec 2013	\$47,000	
15. HIYAD ORGANIZATION FOR LEGAL & MEDIA DEVELOPMENT*	Basrah		6 months	Oct 2013	\$30,000	
16. HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS*	Baghdad		10 months		\$63,249	
17. IRAQ FUTURE ASSOCIATION	Basrah		12 months	Dec 2012	\$99,177	

LEGEND


WOMEN



IDPs & RETURNÉES



UNDER IMPLEMENTATION



COMPLETE



CHILDREN & YOUTH



PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



RELIGIOUS & ETHNIC MINORITIES



PENDING

* Follow-on grant

** Grantee activities take place throughout Iraq

TABLE 2. PROGRAM GRANTEES (October 1 — December 31, 2013)

NAME	LOCATION	TARGET BENEFICIARIES	GRANT LIFE	BEGIN DATE	BUDGET	STATUS
18. ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW	Najaf		12 months	Feb 2013	\$54,710	
19. MERCY HANDS FOR HUMANITARIAN AID*	Baghdad Babil		12 months	Sep 2013	\$94,973	
20. MODEL IRAQI WOMEN*	Baghdad**		7 months	Aug 2013	\$89,925	
21. PORTAL CONTEMPORARY WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION	Baghdad		5 months	Apr 2013	\$21,285	
22. SADA CENTER FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT*	Dhi Qar		8 months		\$50,000	
23. SAYED AL-SHUHDA'A ORGANIZATION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT*	Basrah		10 months	Sep 2013	\$50,000	
22. THER CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT	Muthanna		12 months	Mar 2013	\$98,752	
24. UNIVERSITY OF BABIL LAW SCHOOL	Babil		12 months	Feb 2013	\$55,210	
23. UNIVERSITY OF DIYALA LAW SCHOOL	Diyala		12 months	Feb 2013	\$55,210	
24. VOICE OF OLDER PEOPLE***	Ninawa		10 months	Sep 2013	\$59,996	

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

GENERAL

- **Violence in Iraq:** Violence and a deteriorating security situation marked Q1 2014, affecting Program partners, staff and government counterparts especially in Anbar governorate. While the violence was unrelated to the implementation of the Access to Justice Program, USAID continued to allow relaxed branding and marking requirements on materials produced by Program grantees to counter any possible issues. This serves to protect Program partners from targeted retaliation and mitigates the politicization of advocacy campaigns. Besides Anbar, violence remained a major concern in the other 14 governorates as well. This violence is expected to continue through the second quarter, due in part to the worsening situation in Syria and the upcoming General Election. Many partner organizations continue to express apprehension that they will become targets of ethically and religiously motivated violence similar to what was experienced in 2005-07.
- **Elections:** Parliamentary elections have been scheduled for April 30, 2014. Though parliament continued to hold sessions at the time of reporting, coalition and party fracturing has begun in earnest. This realignment of political loyalties has the potential to significantly impact Program objectives for legislative reform. This is because newly forming coalitions may limit their support for initiatives proposed by the government in power in an attempt to discredit its effectiveness. This may impact both pending and proposed legislation, as well as ministerial decrees related to the Social Safety Net, Law on Lawyers and Free Legal Aid bills, as well as implementation of the Law on Persons with Disabilities and GOI funding for CSOs. Additionally, after elections, the new government may take several months to form. As seen in 2010, this process could delay central government initiatives into future quarters.

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND OUTREACH

- **KRG NGO Department online system:** An MOU, signed by the Department in September 2013, resulted in three funding contracts with IKR CSOs for legal education and services. However, the online system was delayed during the reporting period due to KRG security officials requiring added protections to the development and implementation.

LEGAL EDUCATION & SERVICES

- **Partnership between IBA/KBA and similar association in U.S. or another country:** The Kurdistan Bar Association and a potential partner identified by the Program (the Florida Bar Association) have been slow to respond to the Program's proposals. In addition, there are organizational issues that must be addressed with the Iraqi Bar Association before any international partnership can be established. The IBA continues to lobby for official regulatory control of all free legal services in Iraq, which has delayed the institutionalization of CSO legal clinics. Consensus-building efforts by the Program and its partners is ongoing.
- **Work with IBA Women Lawyers' Committee on training for women lawyers:** As with previously mentioned activities, the successful completion of this task is dependent on the IBA. An agreement was reached with the IBA to co-sponsor a Women Lawyers conference to coincide with International Women Day in March of 2014.

ADVOCACY AND LEGAL REFORM

- **Link legal clinics to Ministry of Health provincial outreach offices for PWDs:** Despite a number of meetings with the Ministry of Health, it has remained relatively unresponsive. The Program is seeking to identify alternative avenues to ease the burden placed on PWDs to access state benefits, such as the Council of Ministers.
- **Advocacy group for the Iraqi Kurdistan Region (IKR).** The Program's dedicated advocacy group for the IKR is in the process of planning to conduct a study to assess gaps in law and implementation to determine, whether their activities should focus on amending the current legal framework, or whether it would be more appropriate to concentrate on improving implementation. At the time of reporting, progress on this study has been minimal. Elections in the IKR delayed the naming of relevant officials, and attendance in monthly meetings has gradually diminished in the past several months. To address this challenge, the Program has been in contact with participating CSOs about attendance and work policies, and is in the process of facilitating meetings with new KRG officials under the preliminary action plan. As part of this assessment, the Program will explore the continued utility of this issue-based group and potential, alternative approaches.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- **PMP revision:** The new M&E Specialist has arrived and has begun the PMP revision.
- **Follow-up public perception survey:** The completion of the follow-on survey was delayed due to procurement issues with vendors. The Vendor has now been selected and the Program expects the survey to be completed before the end of the second quarter of fiscal year 2014.

UPCOMING PROGRAM ACTIVITIES



PUBLIC AWARENESS & OUTREACH

- Continue training and technical assistance for partner CSOs in conducting focus group discussions and conducting surveys to support awareness and advocacy messaging. Additional survey training and technical support (February/March).
- Training for Legal Clinic Network Advocacy Committee members on the design and implementation of awareness-raising campaigns (February).
- Support Advocacy Committee to finalize and produce awareness campaign materials.
- Continue to support MOHR to launch national awareness campaigns through cost-share agreement.



LEGAL EDUCATION & SERVICES

- High-level COMSEC Legal Clinic launch event officially recognizing the partnership between the federal government and CSOs to provide legal services to vulnerable Iraqis. The Program will provide technical assistance to Citizens' Affairs staff on best practices and project implementation.
- In governorates that do not currently have legal clinics, establish legal clinics to partner with COMSEC Citizens' Affairs Offices.
- Legal clinic workshop with the Ministry of Human Rights to promote cooperation between provincial Human Rights Directorates and CSO-operated legal clinics.
- Conference with the IBA's Women Lawyers' Committee to establish supportive relationships with female law students to prepare students to more effectively serve vulnerable populations.
- Conduct continuing legal education (CLE) on *pro bono* lawyering and legal aid using the Program-developed Lawyers' Handbook.
- Establish CSO-operated legal clinics in the IKR with funding from the KRG NGO Department, beginning with a pilot phase of 3-5 organizations.
- Conduct the Iraq national rounds of the Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition and engage in fund-raising effort with GOI for the national competition. Support the winning teams' participation in the international rounds in Washington.



LEGAL EDUCATION & SERVICES (CONTINUED)

- Partnership visit from a bar association to support the establishment of *pro bono* legal assistance systems with the Kurdistan Bar Association (KBA) and, possibly, the Iraqi Bar Association (IBA).
- Establish the Legal Aid Working Group at national and governorate levels.
- Conduct organizational development assessments for new grantees.
- Expand the usage of legal clinic education curricula into additional law schools throughout Iraq.
- Once the Legal Clinic Network is officially registered, focus on building the capacities of the Network's committees:
 - *Referral Committee*: Establish a formal referral mechanism;
 - *Internship Committee*: Formalize the practice of recruiting law student interns to work with CSO legal clinics, and seek official approval from the Ministry of Higher Education;
 - *Sustainability Committee*: Support the institutionalization of the relationship between the Legal Clinic Network and the IBA by formalizing agreed upon recommendations for collaboration, including the provision of licensed lawyers to act as legal aid lawyers and supporting *pro bono* lawyers in their legal aid efforts. Reach an agreement as to their respective roles in developing legal aid framework for Iraq. Support the Legal Clinic Network with proposal writing for local authorities to fund legal clinics in their governorates.



ADVOCACY & POLICY REFORM

- Continue to monitor the presentation to Parliament of the Social Safety Net legislation for a second reading, voting and passage into law.
- Pursue support from the Ministry of Planning to fund legal clinics and other civil society activities on behalf of vulnerable populations.
- Train, mentor and develop the Legal Clinic Network Advocacy Committee as a working group of civil society and law schools that will pursue government policy and procedural reform to improve the access of vulnerable Iraqi citizens to their entitlements, focusing on reducing unregistered marriage and reducing the waiting period for wives of missing husbands to change their personal status.
- Support the group of PWD advocates in Iraq's central and southern regions to develop a multi-year strategy to monitor and support the implementation of Iraq's Law on Persons with Disabilities.
- Pursue the implementation of the newly passed Law on Persons with Disabilities as well as the reform of the IKR's Law on Disabilities to bring it in line with international standards.

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ANNEX A

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Project accrued approximately \$3,017,298 in expenditures during the period October 1 to December 31, 2013. Below is a summary of quarterly expenses and project expenses to date. The total obligated amount is \$53,060,000. As of December 31, 2013 81% of the obligation has been spent.

TABLE A.1 BUDGET STATEMENT

CLIN	COST ELEMENTS	TOTAL BUDGET	EXPENSES CLAIMED Q1 2014 (OCT 1-DEC 31, 2013)	TOTAL EXPENSES THROUGH DEC 31, 2013	TOTAL REMAINING
1	Component 1: Improve Knowledge of Legal Remedies	\$2,149,246	\$106,407	\$1,354,914	\$794,332
2	Component 2: Improve Legal Education	\$7,425,525	\$445,215	\$4,434,213	\$2,991,312
3	Component 3: Improve Government Processes	\$1,854,475	\$103,007	\$1,001,928	\$852,547
4	Subcontracts	\$25,649,777	\$1,168,419	\$19,065,676	\$6,584,101
5	Participant Training	\$1,995,019	\$64,464	\$1,334,256	\$660,763
6	Grants	\$8,250,000	\$314,639	\$5,117,600	\$3,132,400
7	Other Direct Costs	\$5,574,963	\$289,571	\$4,288,961	\$1,286,002
8	Indirect Costs (Fringe, Overhead, G&A)	\$7,575,733	\$385,663	\$5,056,169	\$2,519,564
9	Total Estimated Cost	\$60,474,738	\$2,877,385	\$41,653,717	\$18,821,021
10	Fixed Fee	\$2,404,750	\$139,913	\$1,567,986	\$836,764
	Cost-Plus-Fixed Fee	\$62,879,488	\$3,017,298	\$43,221,703	\$19,657,785

* General expenses for equipment and services are included in this line item. Expenses for services provided in relation to a specific program activity are included in the Participant Training CLIN.

LOE REPORT

The project billed approximately 3,900 days of LOE during the period October 1 – December 31, 2013. Below is a summary of the LOE billed during the quarter and LOE billed to date per labor category.

TABLE A.2 LOE REPORT					
LABOR CATEGORY	TOTAL LOE	LOE CLAIMED, Q1 2014 (OCT 1, 2012 — SEPT 30, 2013)	TOTAL LOE THROUGH SEPT 30, 2013	TOTAL LOE REMAINING	TOTAL LOE REMAINING
Long-term Expatriate/TCNs	10,707	618	7,060	3,647	608
Short-term Staff	1,820	165	1,185	635	81
Local Staff / Professional	51,525	3,097	30,786	20,739	3,254
Home Office Staff	1,147	19	839	308	47
TOTAL	65,199	3,900	39,869	25,330	3,989

PROCUREMENT PLAN UPDATE

On January 16, 2011, Tt DPK submitted a Procurement Plan in its Project Implementation Plan showing its plan for purchasing commodities during implementation. The table below provides an update to that procurement plan that includes commodities purchased during the reporting period. As noted in the USAID approved Procurement Plan, the plan only includes purchase of commodities.

TABLE A.3 PROCUREMENT PLAN

ITEM	SPECIFICATIONS*	INTENDED USE	SOURCE	ORIGIN**	QTY	UNIT COST (USD)	TOTAL (USD)
Dell Sonic Wall Firewall License (software and license)	Firewall software	To protect network in Baghdad office	USA		1	\$443.62	\$443.62
Acronis Backup & Recovery Server for	WiFi Link P2P 28db	Basrah Regional Office	Iraq		1	\$750	\$750
Satellite phone with SIM card	Thuraya XT	Communication in emergency situations	UAE		2	\$789.00	\$1578.00
Scanner	Canon Lide 110	Component 3	Iraq		1	\$60.00	\$60.00
Heavy duty scanner	Canon DR-M140	Component 2	Iraq		1	\$930.00	\$930.00
External Hard Drive	Western Digital, 1TB	Data backup	Iraq		2	\$133.00	\$266.00
Laptop	HP Probook 450	New employees	Iraq		5	\$580.00	\$2900.00
OFFICE FURNITURE							
Filing cabinet	Metal cabinets "Rigid"	Grants team	Iraq		4	\$100.00	\$400.00
Tables	Plastic outdoor tables	Team meetings	Iraq		6	\$26.00	\$156.00
Chairs	Plastic outdoor chairs	Team meetings	Iraq		26	\$10.00	\$260.00
Filing cabinet	Metal filing cabinet	Basrah Regional Office	Iraq		1	\$125.00	\$125.00
Microwave	Model "Pearl"	Basrah Regional Office	Iraq		1	\$150.00	\$150.00

* The specifications are based on Tt DPK solicitation of quotes in October-December, 2013.

** The concept of origin has been removed from federal regulations; therefore, the origin is not being reported here.

ANNEX B

PROGRAM DELIVERABLES

The Access to Justice contract with USAID requires the production of specific deliverables and reports during Program implementation. The project deliverables produced for USAID by the Access to Justice Program are listed in the below table.

TABLE B.1 PROGRAM DELIVERABLES		
DELIVERABLE	DATE SUBMITTED TO USAID	DATE APPROVED BY USAID
Program Mobilization Plan	November 23, 2010	December 1, 2010
Year 1 Work Plan	December 15, 2010	February 28, 2011
Program Implementation Plan	January 16, 2011	October 31, 2011
Quarter 1 Report (Q1 2011)	January 31, 2011	<i>n/a</i>
Performance Monitoring Plan	March 25, 2011	October 30, 2011
Grants Manual	April 10, 2011	April 12, 2011
Quarter 2 Report (Q2 2011)	April 30, 2011	<i>n/a</i>
Assessment: Legal Education at Select Iraqi Law Schools	June 6, 2011	<i>n/a</i>
Quarter 3 Report (Q3 2011)	July 30, 2011	<i>n/a</i>
Year 1 Revised Work Plan	July 31, 2011	August 4, 2011
Assessment: Legal Assistance Needs of Vulnerable Populations	July 31, 2011	<i>n/a</i>
Competitive Grants RFA	August 4, 2011	August 4, 2011
Year 2 Work Plan	September 12, 2011	December 29, 2011
Year 1 Annual Report (Q4 2011)	October 30, 2011	<i>n/a</i>
Quarter 5 Report (Q1 2012)	January 30, 2012	<i>n/a</i>
Community-Based Legal Clinic Best Practices Manual	April 8, 2012	<i>n/a</i>

TABLE B.1 PROGRAM DELIVERABLES

DELIVERABLE	DATE SUBMITTED TO USAID	DATE APPROVED BY USAID
Quarter 6 Report (Q2 2012)	April 30, 2012	<i>n/a</i>
Year 2 Work Plan Revision	June 14, 2012	July 8, 2012
Performance Monitoring Plan Revision	June 29, 2012	July 9, 2012
Quarter 7 Report (Q3 2012)	July 26, 2012	<i>n/a</i>
Year 3 Work Plan	August 31, 2012	December 11, 2012
Performance Monitoring Plan Revision	October 6, 2012	October 7, 2012
Year 2 Annual Report (Q4 2012)	November 8, 2012	<i>n/a</i>
Year 2 Baseline Perception Survey Report and Data	December 14, 2012	<i>n/a</i>
Performance Monitoring Plan Revision	December 18, 2012	January 26, 2013
Quarter 9 Report (Q1 2013)	January 25, 2013	<i>n/a</i>
Revised Grants Manual	February 6, 2013	March 5, 2013
Option Years Strategy Document	April 7, 2013	<i>n/a</i>
Quarter 10 Report (Q2 2013)	April 25, 2013	<i>n/a</i>
Assessment: CRPD Harmonization Report?	February 21, 2013	<i>n/a</i>
Continuing Legal Education (CLE) course on Human Rights	May 22, 2012	<i>n/a</i>
Law School Legal Clinic Best Practices Manual	February 1, 2013	<i>n/a</i>
Law School Clinical Legal Education Course Curriculum	June 28, 2013	<i>n/a</i>
Organizational Development Assessment (ODA) Tool	June 13, 2013	<i>n/a</i>
Year 3 Work Plan Revision (revision after award of option years)	August 8, 2013	September 12, 2013
Quarter 11 Report (Q3 2013)	July 25, 2013	<i>n/a</i>
Competitive Grants APS – Law Schools, Legal Service NGOs, and Bar Associations	August 24, 2013	September 22, 2013
Year 4 Work Plan	August 29, 2013	October 14, 2013
Year 3 Annual Report (Q4 2013)	October 25, 2013	<i>n/a</i>
Weekly Reports (160 reports)	(weekly)	<i>n/a</i>

TABLE B.2 SUMMARY OF RISK ANALYSIS

RISK ANALYSIS	CATEGORY/ TYPE	ACTION TAKEN TO DATE	ACTION PLANNED FOR NEXT 6 MONTHS	SIGNIFICANCE
Political instability may have a negative effect on Program implementation, particularly on grantee activities.	Political	Grantees have been given more flexibility in terms of implementation schedules and branding and marking requirements to ensure that they are not pressured into situations that will compromise their safety.	The situation will continue to be monitored.	High
Transition from old to new management team members on the Program may create a period of unstable expectations and anxiety on the part of local staff working under new Component 3 lead and M&E Specialist.	Administrative	Senior management of the Program is conscious of the potential for anxiety and is supporting the management of new leaders at the same time remaining sensitive to the needs of the Program.	Senior management will continue to monitor and mentor the new leaders as well as existing personnel.	Med
Grants administrative processes are cumbersome for grantees to the point of frustrating grantees with the amount of reporting that is required by the Program.	Administrative	M&E forms have been streamlined; grants manual is under review to streamline grant application review processes.	Discussions will continue on what further steps can be taken to reduce burden on grantees of administrative reporting without compromising on compliance and accountability.	Med
Security situation is unstable, has continued to be unstable in part due regional political tensions.	Security	Management is relying on Sallyport (security contractor) to continue to provide coverage and intelligence on all moves as well as is engaging in following up more actively the security analyses and reports.	Will continue to monitor situation closely and adjust approaches as needed	High
Grantees slow in providing M&E data and regular financial and technical reports in a timely and accurate fashion.	Technical	A new M&E expat has arrived to the Program. In addition, grantee payments will not be processed until M&E documentation is fully complete, and grantees will be informed of this in advance.	Improvements in collection procedures are still needed and will be implemented in the coming months. Database will be implemented.	High

ANNEX C

MONITORING & EVALUATION SUMMARY

NOTE

* Results for Program Indicators 0.1 and 1.0 will be reported in the Program's Q2 2014 Report (April 2014). For a detailed explanation, see "Implementation Challenges" on Page 35.

TABLE C.1 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (THROUGH Q1 2014)

INDICATOR	FY 2011		FY 2012		FY 2013		FY 2014				PTD TOTALS	
	Target	Results	Target	Results	Target	Results	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3		Q4
0.1 % of vulnerable Iraqis who respond that they have adequate access to Iraq's legal system	5%	(not measured)	15%	12%	25%	(not measured)	30%	(not measured)	-	-	-	(pending)*
1.0 % of vulnerable Iraqis who understand their legal rights, entitlements and remedies	10%	(not measured)	20%	22%	30%	(not measured)	35%	(not measured)	-	-	-	(pending)*
1.1 # of campaigns supported to foster public awareness and respect for rule of law	1	0	20	34	40	39	40	38	-	-	-	111
1.2.1 # of vulnerable Iraqis seeking legal advice from civil society partners as a result of Program-sponsored awareness or media outreach	0	0	3 500	2 065 W: 1 662 M: 403	4 500	5 160 W: 3 549 M: 1 611	6 300	532 W: 319 M: 213	-	-	-	7 757 W: 5 530 M: 2 227
1.2.2 # of person days of education provided to vulnerable group individuals on legal rights, entitlements and remedies	-	-	5 000	9 318 W: 7 312 M: 2 006	10 000	23 661 W: 18 031 M: 5 630	8 000	1 305 W: 652 M: 653	-	-	-	34 284 W: 25 995 M: 8 289
2.0 # of civil society partners and legal assistance organizations effectively serving the legal needs of vulnerable groups	30	17	20	33	30	32	36	16	-	-	-	56
2.1.1 # of individuals/groups from low income or marginalized communities who received legal aid or victim's assistance with USG support (F-Indicator)	0	-	5 000	4 842 W: 3 868 M: 974	5 000	12 318 W: 9 134 M: 3 184	5 500	806 W: 540 M: 266	-	-	-	17 966 W: 13 542 M: 4 424
2.1.2 # of cases of legal representation to vulnerable Iraqis completed with favorable outcome	0	-	200	1 061 W: 824 M: 237	1 000	2 727 W: 2 232 M: 495	2 700	203 W: 111 M: 93	-	-	-	3 991 W: 3 167 M: 825
2.1.3 # of civil society partners, law associations, and law schools assisted with organizational development	100	225	100	631	50	50	200	23	-	-	-	-
2.2.1 # of programs instituted by law associations and law schools	2	0	2	1	3	12	7	0	-	-	-	13
2.2.2 # of person days of training provided to lawyers	210	494	1 000	1 436 W: 380 M: 886	2 190	1 038 W: 154 M: 451	400	0	-	-	-	2 968 W: 534 M: 1 337
2.3.1 # of new legal courses or curricula developed (F-Indicator)	0	1	1	1	4	0	2	0	-	-	-	2
2.3.2 # of person days of training provided to law students	0	0	1 000	2 794 W: 1 837 M: 884	4 000	5 212 W: 602 M: 1 042	5 000	813 W: 253 M: 560	-	-	-	8 819 W: 2 692 M: 2 486
3.0 # of changes made by the government to its policies, laws and regulations	0	-	0	4	3	12	5	5	-	-	-	21
3.1 # of sets of recommendations for reforms made by NGOs, CSOs and stakeholders to government officials	0	12	6	68	8	9	7	0	-	-	-	80 Individual 9 sets
3.2 # of CSO advocacy campaigns supported (F-Indicator)	0	2	2	6	7	16	25	4	-	-	-	28

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Iraq's vulnerable and disadvantaged populations

are vast and include women in special circumstances, such as widows, orphans, internally displaced people, persons with disabilities, religious and ethnic minorities, and those who lack access to state protections and services due to a lack of formal identity. Ensuring access to justice for these and other vulnerable groups is critical both for the individuals and to support the modernization of government and civil society as Iraq's financial and security environments improve. "Access to justice" describes an end state in which individuals are able to access rights and entitlements equitably through individual action or with the assistance of civil society or the government.

برنامج العدالة في متناول الجميع
ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM