

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund

Project Summary Sheet

Project #: A5 - 01

Date and Quarter Updated: May 2008

Participating UN Organisation: FAO	Sector: Agriculture and Food Security
Govt of Iraq Line Ministry Responsible: Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR)	

Programme/Project Number: A5-01

Title	Improvement of Drainage Conditions in Major Agricultural Areas – Hilla Hashimiya Drain				
Location	Babylon Governorate				
Project Cost	US\$ 5,126,600				
Duration	3 Years				
Approval Date (SC)	22/7/2004	Starting Date	01/07/2004	Completion Date	31/12/2007
Project Description	Improvement of the drainage system enabling sufficient water to be drained away from the project area to reduce the water table to an acceptable level to permit resumption of productive agriculture. The total area to be reclaimed is 62,000 hectares and more than 50,000 farming families will benefit from this project.				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

Improve food security and rural livelihoods through restoration of essential irrigation/drainage infrastructure thereby preventing water logging and salinisation and assuring proper drainage of polluted water. Bring presently unproductive land into cultivation, increase crop yields and create an institutional environment that will provide the means for sustainable operation and maintenance of created infrastructure.

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement

Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The different Hilla Hashimia irrigated perimeters connected to the main drainage canal through operational field drains and entrance canals. The main Hilla Hashimia drainage canal improved and reconstructed to sufficient capacity allowing the discharge of the drainage waters into the Main Outfall Drain, without over spilling in the Thartar outlet canal or other river or canal systems used for drinking water supply. Network of piezometers installed for monitoring water table and salinity - Water User Associations created and trained to contribute to the improved operation, maintenance and management of their fields' irrigation and drainage networks, in collaboration with the technical institutions and farmers having received additional training in cropping technology to take maximum advantage of the improved drainage conditions. - Local technical institutions strengthened through training and the provision of essential equipments for the operation and maintenance of the rehabilitated infrastructure (main drains), as well as for the proper monitoring of both water table and soil / water salinity issues.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excavation of Hilla Hashimia main drain. - Training Programme: four major courses.