

Re-equipping Iraq's Schools

Materials Distribution Program

May 2004

Over the past two decades, Iraqi schools and education administrative offices suffered significantly from neglect and deficient resource allocation. The majority of school facilities in Iraq suffered from lack of maintenance, diminished supplies of furniture and learning/teaching materials. After the conflict, schools in general suffered very little looting. However, most of the education administrative offices throughout the country however were severely looted.

USAID's year one education program focused on emergency actions to support the resumption of schools while laying the foundations for critical reforms to ensure that the role of the education sector be brought to the fore front as a vital player in the rebuilding of Iraq. Through the program for re-equipping Iraq's schools, education administrative offices and schools were re-equipped and student and teacher received learning materials for the new school year.



Recipient of USAID school supplies at Al Eman Secondary School. (USAID Photo)

Providing Primary School Materials

At the primary school level, USAID supported UNICEF in the distribution of student and teacher kits to schools throughout Iraq. The total number of kits distributed included:

808,000 primary school student kits containing a ruler, notebooks, pens, pencils, and erasers.

81,735 primary teacher kits containing pencils, pens and notebooks

According to the new MOE Iraqi statistics of 2003, Iraq has approximately 11,066 primary schools and an estimated enrollment of 4.3 million primary students.

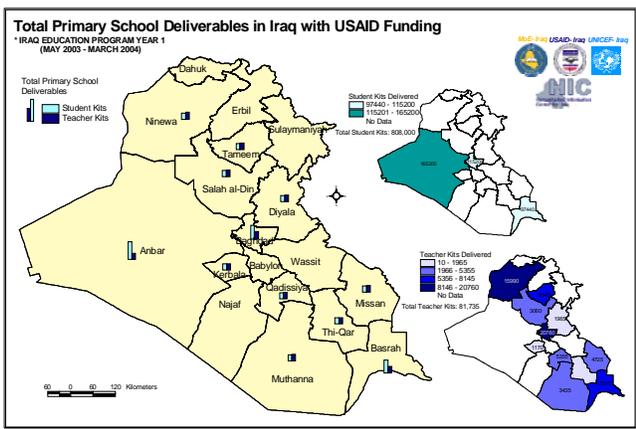
The Purpose

In support of the Iraqi Ministry of Education (MOE), USAID procured and distributed essential equipment for Governorate education offices, schools, teachers and children throughout Iraq to provide them with the necessary tools to resume classes. This included distributing teacher and student supplies; equipping classrooms with desks, chairs, cabinets and blackboards; revising, printing and distributing math and science textbooks and equipping MOE education offices. Most of the materials were purchased, assembled and/or manufactured locally.

Refurbishing Ministry Offices

In an effort to support the MOE to bring students back into Iraq's schools, USAID supported the re-equipping of all 21 Ministry of Education Director General Offices. The offices received new furniture, computers and equipment to support their operations. Director General Offices are located in each of Iraq's governorates with four in Baghdad. The offices are responsible for schools and education programming in each governorate.

[Click here for detailed maps of USAID's activities distributing school supplies in Iraq](#)



Providing the Materials for Learning

Emergency Interventions: Re-equipping Schools



A USAID Secondary School Student Kit (USAID Photo)

Secondary School Materials

At the secondary school level, through USAID's Education contractor Creative Associates, USAID provided essential supplies for secondary schools throughout Iraq. The distribution began in October 2003 and included three main categories of supplies:

Student kits: 1,494,513 school kits with notebooks, pens, pencils, a calculator, and rulers were distributed to each of Iraq's secondary school students. Kit distribution was completed in November 2003.

School kits: USAID provided all 3,900 of Iraq's secondary schools with a kit of essential classroom furniture. The total distribution included 159,005 student desks, 26,437 teacher desks, 59,940 teacher chairs, 26,050 metal cabinets and 61,500 chalkboards.

Teacher kits: 58,500 teacher kits were delivered to secondary school teachers in November 2003. According to the new MOE statistics of 2003, Iraq has approximately 2,968 primary schools and an estimated enrollment of 1.5 million primary students.



New desks provided by USAID at a rehabilitated secondary school. (USAID Photo)



Printing of new revised math and science textbooks. (USAID Photo)

Textbooks

More than 8.7 million textbooks were printed and distributed through USAID's Education Program in collaboration with UNESCO. Through this effort, a review advisory board was constituted by the MOE with both Iraqi and international participation and the 48 primary and secondary math and science text books were reviewed and edited. During the program's first phase, 5,597,260 textbooks of a planned 5 million textbooks were printed and distributed to schools throughout Iraq. In the second and final phase, 3,162,000 additional books were printed and distributed. Of the 8.7 million textbooks, 70 percent were printed in Iraq and 30 percent in Amman.

Textbooks Distributed by Governorate

Baghdad	2,868,015	Karbala'	323,457
Ninawa'	804,194	Al Muthanna'	150,302
Basrah	804,995	At' Tamim	300,664
Diyala	519,423	Dhi Qar	537,181
Maysan	233,141	Salah ad Din	372,207
An Najaf	277,441	Al Qadisiyah	261,203
Al Anbar	459,904	Wasit	280,930
Babil	537,703	Arbil	28,500
Total			8,759,260