

Middle East



School children in Iraq.



Road construction on the West Bank.



Shopkeeper in Lebanon.



Basic medical training in Jordan.

International Relief & Development (IRD) began our 10 years of relief and development experience with a program to support internally displaced populations in Georgia. Since then, IRD has worked in countries in the Middle East with a multi-sectoral approach, becoming a specialist in working in conflict and post-conflict environments. We have taken on the challenge of working in some of the most complex and difficult places; our programs in Iraq are among the most effective at rebuilding the lives of Iraqis. Our

programs are aimed at improving the quality of life for vulnerable groups, including displaced persons, refugees, and others. Together with local communities in four Middle Eastern countries, we operate programs to expand clean water and sanitation systems, increase economic opportunities, rebuild infrastructure damaged by conflict or neglect, reduce sources of conflict, and improve the health of children, as well as responding to emergency needs such as the July 2006 War in Lebanon.



Iraq

Humanitarian Assistance for Iraq (HAI)

- Improves access to potable water and sanitation services.
- Increases access to primary health care services.
- Provides emergency relief commodities.

Donor USAID
 Date December 2004 – September 2010
 Amount \$42.9 million

HAI provides humanitarian assistance and relief services to internally displaced persons and returnees affected by the war in 10 governorates around the country. To date, HAI has implemented 370 projects and activities benefiting more than 2 million people, including the construction of wells, rehabilitation of health care centers, assistance in making necessary arrangements for voluntary returnees, and training of regional administration and other partner NGOs on issues relating to international protection standards, reintegration, and human rights.

Community Stabilization Program (CSP)

- Increases sustainable employment through training, job placement assistance, and business development.
- Assists Iraqi communities with conflict mitigation.
- Reaches out to Iraqi youth considered at risk for recruitment into insurgency.

Donor USAID
 Date May 2006 – October 2009
 Amount \$644 million

CSP works directly with community groups, local government officials, and provincial reconstruction teams to foster more productive and peaceful communities. IRD has placed more than 23,000 Iraqis in long-term jobs, graduated over 16,500 trainees from CSP-sponsored vocational training courses, and placed nearly 5,200 in apprenticeship programs to further their skills. To date, CSP has engaged nearly 69,000 Iraqi youth in over 100 different CSP-sponsored sports and arts programs.

Iraq Community Assistance Program (ICAP)

- Encourages community residents to join community action groups, giving them a voice to communicate with local government.
- Provides grants and training for micro, small, and medium businesses.
- Assists accidental civilian victims.

Donor USAID
 Date July 2003 – November 2010
 Amount \$107 million

ICAP fosters democratic principles at the grassroots level, encompassing civil society, economic development, and community infrastructure strategies in order to create a more capable and sustainable Iraqi civil society. Currently, IRD has 232 active Community Action Groups working throughout Baghdad. To date, IRD has completed more than 2,600 projects benefiting more than 7 million people. ICAP has also provided assistance to more than 3,000 accidental civilian victims of Coalition Forces with prosthetics, small business grants, and school and clinic repairs.

Iraq Ministry of Electricity Technical Assistance

- Expands skill levels of staff at the Iraqi Ministry of Electricity.
- Conducts a major public education campaign to assure the Iraqi public that its government can eventually produce sufficient electricity to meet future demand.

Donor U.S. State Department
 Date September 2008 – September 2010
 Amount \$8 million

Iraq's national electrical network has been shattered and is only able to provide half of the actual power needed in the country. This program includes finding qualified experts to provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Electricity in planning, project management and reporting, and contracting for the vast number of construction and rehabilitation projects to generate adequate and reliable electric power. IRD is also teaching English to Iraqi lawyers working for the Ministry of Electricity so they can understand business and legal terms and conduct professional communications with inter-



national engineering firms and facilitating exchange visits of Ministry of Electricity senior and mid-level managers to their counterparts' power facilities in the United States to learn about network technology development, operations, maintenance and sustainment procedures, and management techniques.

Iraq Mental Health Initiative

- **Increases the capacity of Iraqi service providers to meet the mental health and psycho-social needs of conflict victims**
- **Increases access of vulnerable populations to mental health services.**
- **Works across sectarian and geographic boundaries.**

Donor U.S. State Department
 Date August 2008 – January 2010
 Amount \$3 million

The Iraq Mental Health Initiative (IMHI) will work with trauma and other conflict-affected victims, including female self-immolation victims, drug users, children, internally displaced people, in six of Iraq's Governorates— Baghdad, Bassra, Dohuk, Erbil, Ninewa, and Suleymaniya. Activities will include service provider training, media, advocacy, and mobile unit service delivery, and will be implemented with and through local partners such as The American Islamic Congress, Erbil Emergency Hospital and Burn Unit, Childhood Care and Sponsorship Organization, Psycho-Social, Education, Treatment and Consulting Center, Kurdistan Institute for Political Issues, and Heartland.

Iraq Cultural Heritage Project (IChP)

- **Rehabilitates museum facilities in Baghdad.**
- **Trains museum staff in conservation and historic preservation.**

Donor US State Department
 Date October 2008 – December 2010
 Amount \$12.9 million

IRD is reconstructing the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad, including developing new collections storage facilities and improving museum gallery and conservation laboratory space. The program is also establishing a Conservation and Historic Preservation Institute in Erbil and a two-year professional

development program to build a cadre of professionals who may be employed as conservators, collection managers, registrars, and other experts necessary for an effectively functioning museum.

Iraq Returnee Emergency Shelter Rehabilitation

- **Provided housing for Iraqis returning home.**

Donor UNHCR
 Date September 2009 – December 2009
 Amount \$3 million

IRD repaired or rehabilitated hundreds of homes of vulnerable IDPs and refugees in Baghdad and Dyaila, areas with the highest numbers of returnees. The project paid particular attention to women and female-headed households.

Quick Impact Projects - Basra

- **Public-private partnership.**
- **Rehabilitates training facilities.**

Donor Royal Dutch Shell
 Date March 2009 – June 2009
 Amount \$228,492

IRD upgraded two neighborhood vocational training centers (VTCs) operated by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs in Basra. With funding from Royal Dutch Shell, IRD installed a solar lighting system upgrade to the Abu Al-Khaseeb VTC and refurbished the masonry workshop at Az-Zubair VTC.

Jordan

Community Mobilization for Partnerships in Jordanian Schools (CMP) Program

- **Develops joint parent-child learning programs.**
- **Builds national awareness for education.**
- **Develops community participation criteria for the Queen Rania Excellent in Education Award Principles Award.**

Donor USAID
 Date June 2008 – May 2010
 Amount \$591,295

To stimulate the integration of community participation into Jordan's educational system, IRD is



developing dynamic community-school partnerships to bring about positive changes in student school achievements and learning. The program is transforming “schools” into “Community Learning Centers,” which offer life-long learning opportunities and extra-curricular programs.

Outreach Services to Iraqi Refugees in Jordan

- **Builds awareness of services available to refugees.**
- **Tracks service coverage through surveys and focus group discussions.**

Donor UNHCR
 Date January 2009 – December 2010
 Amount \$2.4 million

The goal of this project is to strengthen outreach as a holistic activity encompassing protection assistance, early identification, and rapid intervention measures in Amman, Irbid, and Zarqa. IRD manages a highly qualified outreach volunteer force that will provide 43,000 home visits over the course of a year, tracks refugee service coverage and builds awareness of rights and services and encourage participation in service delivery.

Community-Based Support Program (CBSP)

- **Provides culturally appropriate vocational training to Iraqi men and women living in Jordan as refugees**
- **Works with local organizations in Jordan to ensure that programs are gender-sensitive by taking into account the different needs of fathers, mothers and children.**

Donor U.S. State Department/Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
 Date September 2008 – August 2010
 Amount \$4.9 million

IRD addresses the wide-ranging mental health and livelihood needs of Iraqi men and women living in Jordan through the provision of social inclusion, income generation, and vocational training opportunities. Working with the Ein Al-Basha Vocational Training Center, under Entity Green, IRD is providing vocational training to over 600 Iraqi men in computer hardware and software, electrical installation, plumbing, automotive maintenance,

cooking and recycling, and to over 100 women in catering, business home production, and marketing. In addition, the CBSP program is supporting 15 community-based day care organizations subsidizing the costs of child day care for vulnerable Iraqi families and linking mothers with the centers to provide day care services.

Strategic Health Support (SHS) Program for Iraqi Refugees Residing in Jordan

- **Serves over 60,000 predominately female-headed refugee households in poor neighborhoods of Amman, Jordan.**
- **Provides primary health care services through a network of mobile health units.**
- **Expands the capacity of six existing primary health clinics to deliver services.**

Donor U.S. State Department/Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
 Date July 2007 – August 2009
 Amount \$2.3 million

To address the growing problem of Iraqi refugees, IRD is increasing access to health care for the refugee population in Amman, Jordan. Access to mental health services is an area of particular concern, as many Iraqis have suffered either direct violence, witnessed violence against family members, or face abuse in the communities where they currently live.

Emergency Education Assistance for Iraqi Refugees and People of Concern in Jordan

- **Improved educational opportunities for Iraqi school children in Jordan.**
- **Trained over 275 education outreach volunteers.**
- **Provided school vouchers for Iraqi children enrolled in Jordanian schools.**

Donor UNHCR
 Date July – December 2007
 Amount \$184,085

Despite significant support from host government and local communities, many young Iraqis in Jordan are out of school and face an uncertain future. Through the large network of IRD trained community outreach volunteers, IRD increased



the awareness of the refugee population in regards to school enrollment requirements in Jordan. In addition, IRD provided over 15,000 vouchers for uniforms and school stationary for school age Iraqi children enrolled in Jordanian schools.

Community Services Program for Iraqi Refugees (ICSP)

- Operates programs to reduce the isolation, exploitation, and discrimination suffered by Iraqi refugees.
- Implemented in partnership with local NGOs.

Donor UNHCR
 Date February 2008 – December 2008
 Amount \$2 million

IRD is working with the Noor Al Hussein (NHF) Foundation and the Family Guidance and Awareness Center to provide gender, age, and diversity-oriented programs to Iraqi women, children, and youth through expanded capacity of partnering community centers, as well as NHF’s Women’s Counseling Center. The program will improve the quality of life through outreach and home visits to Iraqis in Amman, Irbid, Zarqa, Azraq, and Salt, advanced psycho-social care for children, and a child disability unit.

Lebanon

Entrepreneurship for Refugees (EFR) Program

- Provides apprenticeship with a Lebanese small business.
- Shares up to date information on changing conditions in Iraq.

Donor U.S. State Department/Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)
 Date September 2009 – September 2010
 Amount \$1.6 million

IRD is working with a network of businesses to assume bond costs for year-long residence visas for Iraqi men participating in the entrepreneurship program. The entrepreneur can then employ the Iraqi at apprentice rates, up to three months of which are subsidized by IRD. At the same time,

IRD, in partnership with the Khiam Rehabilitation Center, is training volunteers, to provide clear, thorough, and objective information to Iraqis wanting to return home, preparing them for reintegration opportunities upon return and to better manage their expectations. Returnees are also able to continue psycho-social support upon return to Iraq.

Emergency Relief and Employment Program—Lebanon

- Supplied farmers with equipment to replace that which had been lost or damaged.
- Provided small grants to businesses for structural repairs or restocking of goods.
- Conducted vocational trainings in skills such as child care, health and beauty services, and information technology.

Donor DFID
 Date September – December 2006
 Amount \$620,000

This project focused on 10 small villages in the Tyre District of southern Lebanon adversely affected by the July 2006 War. Farmers and entrepreneurs received equipment and training. The program also included cash-for-work public works projects, focusing on longer-term economic benefits for the village as well as immediate benefits for unskilled labor. More than 8,000 people benefitted.

National Campaign for Initiating, Sorting, and Recycling Municipal Solid Waste in Lebanon (NISR)

- Created new businesses around recycling.
- Worked with schools nationwide.

Donor UNICEF
 Date June 2007 – March 2008
 Amount \$394,670

Lebanon generates more than 1.5 million tons of trash every year. For a small country, finding new space for landfills is difficult, so recycling is imperative. NISR—which means vulture in Arabic—trains school teachers and students in 1,153 elementary and intermediate level public schools in recycling do’s and don’ts. IRD also installed school collection points, which are steel frames holding different



colored bins for paper, organic, and non-organic waste.

West Bank/Gaza

Infrastructure Needs Program IQC

- **Uses local NGOs and other partners to build infrastructure capacity.**
- **Improves quality of life for residents.**

Donor USAID
 Date August 2008 – August 2013
 Ceiling \$128.8 million

Under this indefinite quantity contract, a USAID funding mechanism that allows for quick awarding of task orders, IRD will be rebuilding various infrastructure projects in the West Bank and Gaza. Task orders awarded so far include schools, roads, and water supply systems.

Humanitarian Assistance Gaza

- **Addressed short-term humanitarian needs of families in the Gaza Strip.**
- **Raised awareness of hygiene and nutrition issues.**

Donor USAID
 Date July 2009 – June 2010
 Amount \$2.25 million

Under this sub-agreement with ARD, Inc., IRD, working with and through seven local NGOs, assisted 3,456 families in the Gaza Strip with food, clothing, hygiene, and children’s recreational supplies through a targeted, community-based parcel distribution. IRD also enhanced services at seven independent community-based health care clinics through the provision of IRD-donated pharmaceuticals (value of nearly \$2 million). In parallel to the distribution activities, IRD, through local partners, conducted 33 community outreach activities such as nutrition and personal hygiene promotion lectures as well as recreational days for children, benefiting more than 4,050 persons.

Improvement of Water Supply and Hygiene Systems for Gaza Schools (WASH)

- **Rehabilitated water and sanitation systems in 12 schools.**
- **Improved hygiene facilities for students.**

Donor UNICEF
 Date August 2009 – December 2009
 Amount \$62,528

IRD conducted a comprehensive school survey to prepare the detailed needs assessment, bill of quantities (BoQ), and site plans to rehabilitate school facilities. The project also prepared a complete set of tender documents consisting of the RFP, BoQ, cost estimate, specifications, and drawings.

Yemen

Grassroots Theater Initiative

- **Uses plays to promote community participation and activism.**
- **Contributes to increased stability in rural areas of Yemen.**

Donor U.S. Department of Defense
 Date September 2009 – September 2010
 Amount \$1.5 million

The Grassroots Theater Initiative (GTI) is designed to bring theater to villages as a means of community mobilization in a country where storytelling is a central part of the culture. IRD is training local actors in theater techniques in which audience members take on an active role in the production. Through theater, poetry, and dance, IRD is encouraging communities to discuss pressing issues such as tribal conflict, water rights, and food availability. “Town hall” meetings with tribal, civil, and religious leaders held after the performances reinforce the themes from the performance and provide another opportunity for community members to have their voices heard.

For more information, visit www.ird.org
