



MOSUL DAM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAMME

QUARTERLY REPORT (JAN-MAR 2020)

Saving Lives, Alleviate Human Suffering, and Reducing the Social and Economic Impact of Disasters

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Abbreviations

CDMC	Civil Defence Management Committee
CDSC	Civil Defence Service Committee
CI	Critical Infrastructure
CIP	Critical Infrastructure Protection
DOH	Department of Health
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
EPRP	Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan
GFPP	Governorate Flood Preparedness Plan
GIS	Geographic Information System
GoI	Government of Iraq
IRCS	Iraqi Red Crescent Society
JCMC	Joint Coordination and Monitoring Centre
KRG	Kurdistan Regional Government
MDEPP	Mosul Dam Emergency Preparedness Programme
MoHENV	Ministry of Health and Environment
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoWR	Ministry of Water Resources
PMNOC	Prime Minister's National Operation Centre
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID/OFDA	U.S. Agency for International Development /Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
WG	Working Group
WfSGI	Women for a Safe and Green Iraq initiative
WHO	World Health Organization

The MDEPP in Brief

Award Number	720FDA191000007
Project Title	Mosul Dam Emergency Preparedness Programme
Reporting Period	January 2020 – March 2020
Project Budget	US\$4,744,440
Donor	USAID/Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
Focal Point	Prime Minister's National Operations Centre (PMNOC)
Main Objective	Safeguarding the lives of vulnerable populations and major installations/facilities along the Tigris flood path by providing technical assistance to the Government of Iraq (GoI) in the design and implementation of the Mosul Dam Emergency Preparedness Programme.
Key Components	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rapid deployment of preparedness training and tools to operationalize the Governorate preparedness plans. 2. Risks advocacy at the vulnerable communities expanded and strengthened along the Mosul Dam flood path. 3. Drills/simulations conducted to ensure readiness and strengthening emergency preparedness at all levels. 4. Volunteers' network strengthened for community early warning and evacuation. 5. Emergency preparedness and safety measures of major Dams strengthened. 6. Major facilities protected along the Tigris flood plain to avoid domino impact. 7. Environmental risks of toxic and chemical pollution mitigated to reduce the impacts of Mosul Dam collapse.
Counterparts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Prime Minister's National Operations Centre (PMNOC) serves as the main counterpart of the GoI on this project. 2. Implementation is undertaken in close coordination and active engagement of a range of counterpart institutions including the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Centre (JCMC), the Civil Defence (CD) under the Ministry of Interior (MoI), Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), Ministry of Health and Environment (MoHENV), Governorates of Ninewa, Salahuddin, and Baghdad and the Joint Crisis Coordination Cell (JCCC) in the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG).
Implementing Partners and Responsible Parties	UNDP implements the project through the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM). Specific awareness and technical components are implemented through Responsible Parties (RPs); the Iraqi Red Crescent Society (IRCS), UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO).
Project Locations	Flood path along the Tigris river from the Mosul Dam; Mosul city area; and, other cities and towns in the Governorates of Ninewa, Salahuddin, all the way to Baghdad.

Introduction

The Mosul Dam Emergency Preparedness Programme (MDEPP) is a follow-on programme for UNDP's effort to respond to the real threat of Mosul Dam collapse. The Mosul Dam, one of the largest dams in the Arab region, built during the early 1980s on the Tigris River, poses a significant risk of failure due to highly soluble gypsum layers beneath the foundation. It is projected that a catastrophic failure of the dam may create a tsunami wave 45 metres high and threaten the downstream population in Mosul city within 2 to 4 hours. It is feared that over 500,000 lives could be lost and even the capital, Baghdad, may go under floodwaters of up to 8 metres high within 60 to 70 hours, thus affecting a total of 4-6 million people along the Tigris floodplain.

At the request of the GoI and the local authorities along the Tigris flood path whose communities directly face the consequences of Mosul dam collapse, the programme hopes to continue its support over two years in a targeted way to minimize the risks and vulnerabilities to an acceptable humanitarian level. As limited efforts to stabilize the structural vulnerability of the dam continue, the MDEPP is designed to prepare vulnerable populations and protect critical infrastructure along the Tigris floodplain to safeguard the lives, livelihoods and properties of the vulnerable communities along the Tigris River valley.

Situation Analysis

With funding support from USAID/OFDA, UNDP has supported the GoI to implement critical actions to prepare and alert/warn the population along the Tigris flood path in the event of dam failure. These actions included the establishment of emergency alert and communication protocols to inform officials and send tailored alert messages to threatened communities as soon as possible; training of Iraqi officials on the safe operation of the dam, supported by drills that took into account the risks faced by vulnerable populations downstream; adoption of emergency preparedness measures that include end-to-end warning system, community preparedness, and risk education and advocacy; development of Emergency Preparedness Plans; and emergency preparedness for Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) and major facilities.

During the reporting period, much of Federal Government's activity remained practically paused because of the prevailing volatile political and security situation in Iraq (since early October in Baghdad and southern governorates, though Ninewa and Salahuddin were affected to a lesser extent).

The situation, however, changed dramatically during the second half of the reporting period after the first COVID-19 case was confirmed in Iraq on 24 February. The

country entered health emergency mode, which led to the closure of borders and airports, and the implementation of a nationwide lockdown and social distancing.

These developments almost brought the public sector to a total halt, considering that the public sector does not formally support a work-from-home modality. Those offices that did not stop working continued with less than 20 percent of staff and avoided meetings to comply with social distancing guidelines.

These developments affected MDEPP implementation, preventing several activities including community risk-awareness events, workshops and training sessions, travel of international consultants as well as inter-provincial travel. Furthermore, the COVID-19 outbreak coincided with the time of year when the risk of flooding is highest.

The MDEPP team responded with several actions, including revising plans to adapt to the changing circumstances in coordination with partners and counterparts. Details of our response and progress on key achievements are described in the following section.

Progress Achieved

This report covers progress achieved during the first quarter of 2020 (January to March). During the reporting period, coordination with PMNOC continued under the approved MDEP work plan for 2020. It was also agreed to organize a Project Board meeting as soon as possible with the participation of key GoI counterparts. PMNOC also approved the request of the MoWR to include Hemrin Dam along with the other dams covered by MDEP in 2020.

During the reporting period, however, it was not possible to organize the Project Board meeting because of the COVID-19 outbreak and the mandated social distancing guidelines. UNDP is currently coordinating closely with PMNOC to explore the possibility of organizing the meeting remotely.

The MDEPP team continued the implementation of planned activities, although there were real challenges to proceed according to the plans during the second half of the reporting period. Activities implemented, challenges and responses are described in the following sections.

1. RAPID DEPLOYMENT OF PREPAREDNESS TRAINING AND PROVISION OF TOOLS TO OPERATIONALIZE THE GOVERNORATE PREPAREDNESS PLANS

During the reporting period, UNDP continued its support to operationalize the governorate flood preparedness plans (GFPP), which included supporting the creation and operationalization of the Governorate Emergency Preparedness Platform and extending technical support as detailed below.

Governorate Emergency Preparedness Response Platform

The approach adopted by the MDEP team to operationalize the Governorate Flood Preparedness Plan (GFPP) begins with a governorate-wide policy-making, planning and coordination platform. Led by the governor, these platforms bring together all relevant actors in the governorate. The platform's institutional basis is the existing Civil Defence Law (44/2013), although much of the law has yet to be implemented at federal and provincial levels.

At the governorate level, the platform consists of the Governorate Civil Defence Management Committee (CDMC), supported by Civil Defence Service Committees (CDSCs). Each CDSC is responsible for a specific, emergency-related service (*e.g.* Health, Evacuation, Communication). The official civil defence regulations in Iraq define 17 emergency services. Each service committee is chaired by a lead agency and operates under the guidance and supervision of the Governorate CDMC.

Legally, the governor may establish CDMCs at the district and sub-district levels, if deemed necessary. CDSCs may also support the CDMCs at the district and sub-district levels.

The MDEPP approach has been to establish, provide technical support and operationalize the emergency preparedness and response platform in each of the three governorates. These platforms are meant to be the owner of the GFPP plan and responsible for its implementation. It is also worth noting that the platforms are of a general nature and responsible for preparedness and response to all types of hazards, not only floods.

UNDP started establishing this framework in the three governorates as was reported in earlier progress reports and continues its efforts toward this objective as is explained below.

Progress in operationalizing the Governorate Emergency Preparedness Response platform

During the reporting period, the MDEP team continued engagement with provincial authorities in Baghdad, Salahuddin and Ninewa to follow up on the creation and operationalization of the provincial CDMCs.

To facilitate coordination with UNDP, the Governor of Baghdad issued two orders to name a focal point with UNDP as well as an officer to follow up on the creation and operationalization of CDMCs at the district and sub-district levels in Baghdad.

The Baghdad CDMC met on 27 February to discuss the operationalization of the

Baghdad Governorate Flood Preparedness Plan and the CDSCs. The meeting was chaired by the governor and attended by CDMC members and representatives of COMSEC and UNDP. The outcome of the meeting is summarised below:

- (a) Ask Baghdad CDSC to submit their respective service plans for review by CDMC. After the review, the plans will be sent to the governor for approval.
- (b) Follow up with District Managers (*Qaimmaqams*) on the creation of their respective CDSCs and service plans.
- (c) The Civil Defence Directorates of Karkh and Risafa are to follow up with all public facilities and installations in their respective area of coverage to ensure that each has updated EPRP and ready for drills/simulations.
- (d) Governorate Flood Preparedness Plan should also cover the Diyala River floodplain in the governorate.
- (e) The Civil Defence Directors in Karkh and Risafa are required to submit regular progress reports on the preparedness plan to the Office of the Governor and draft a proposed schedule of CDMC meetings for the governor's approval.
- (f) To facilitate emergency training, the governor ordered the assignment of dedicated facilities to be available for the flood preparedness plan training programme.
- (g) The governor asked UNDP to provide technical support to the CDMC and attend all its meetings, and welcomed a continued partnership to prepare for natural hazards.



Picture 1. *The first Baghdad Governorate Civil Defence Management Committee meeting in 2020 chaired by the Governor of Baghdad*

Meetings and communications with the Governor of Baghdad and his deputies continued throughout the reporting period. The next meeting of the CDMC was scheduled for 8 April.

Communications continued with the Governorates of Salahuddin and Ninewa during the reporting period via telephone and other electronic means. It was planned that an MDEP consultant would visit Salahuddin and Ninewa in March, but the mission was suspended because of the COVID-19 mitigation measures.

Technical Support

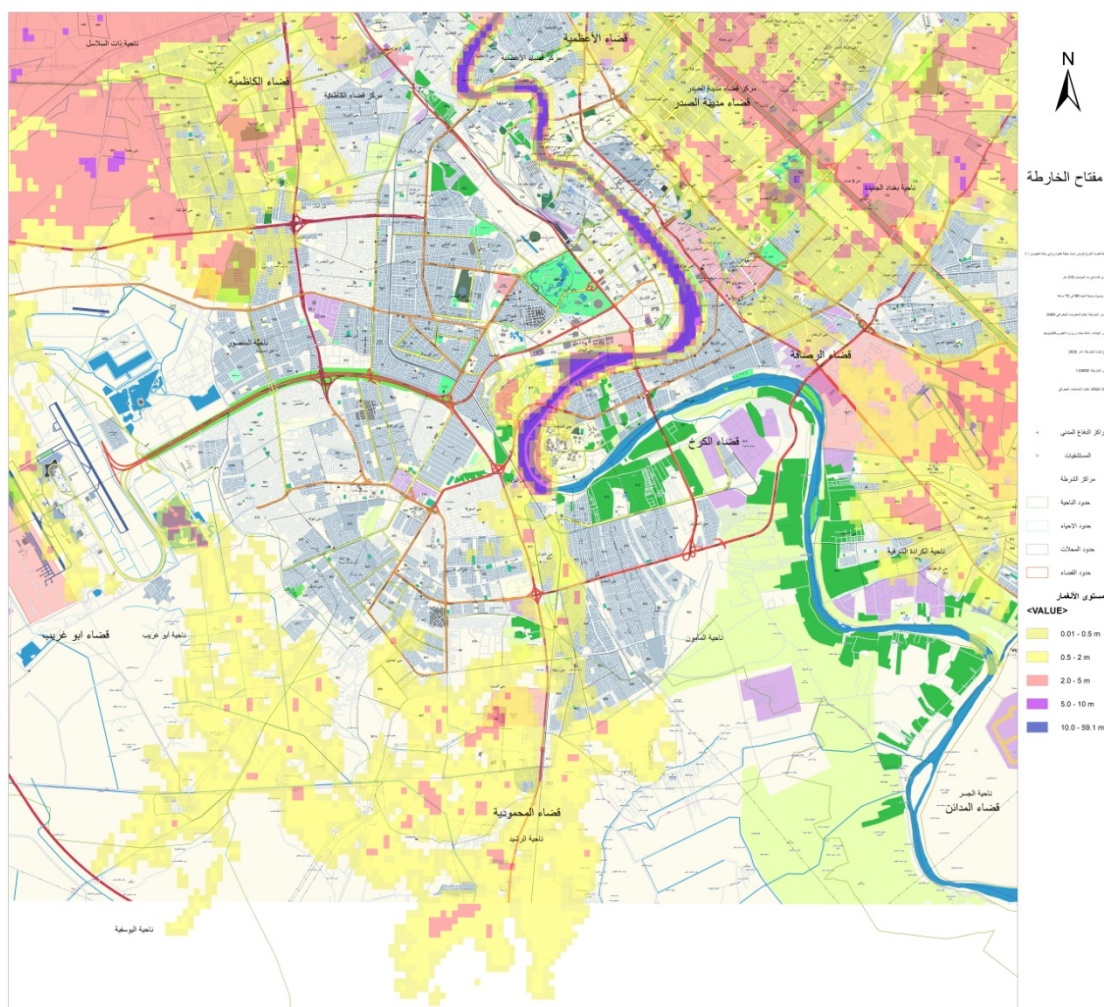
To implement the preparedness plan, UNDP is extending technical support to develop critical capacities at the provincial level. Technical support included building mapping capability to support planning and response management. In the following, a brief on the progress achieved during the reporting quarter is given.

One of the preparedness activities is to provide up-to-date maps of their respective areas at the provincial and district levels with sufficient details to support planning and response management. UNDP provided technical support to make such maps available to provincial authorities. The approach adopted was to start with Baghdad governorate to master the design of the map and information content according to requirements and then scale up to cover districts in the other two governorates. The maps included expected inundation levels in the case of Mosul Dam collapse, safe areas as well as details on locations of key facilities including first responders (e.g. hospitals, Civil Defence Centres).

Mapping training for provincial authorities is also planned to ensure the availability of sustainable capacity to produce up-to-date maps that respond to current and emerging emergency planning and response needs.

A large-scale sample map for Karkh and Mahmudiya district was printed for review by the provincial authorities, but the review meeting has not taken place because of the COVID-19 lockdown.

The map is shown below:



Picture 2. Map showing inundation of areas in Karkh district in the case of Mosul Dam collapse

2. ADVOCACY WITH VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES EXPANDED AND STRENGTHENED ALONG THE MOSUL DAM FLOOD PATH

Risk awareness campaigns were to start during the reporting period, which coincides with the beginning of the flood season in Iraq. Several flood risk awareness activities were prepared and organized by UNDP and implementing partners.

UNDP held a workshop titled “Roles of women and girls in disaster preparedness - Mosul Dam” for members of the Women for a Safe and Green Iraq initiative (WfSGI) on 29 January. Twenty-nine women from the Prime Minister’s Office, 10 federal ministries and civil society organisations attended. The workshop focused on achieving the highest possible gender balance in flood-risk awareness activities, strengthening local and community flood response capacities in vulnerable communities, and increasing awareness of the environmental risks from toxic and chemical pollution that may result from flooding.



Picture 3. Workshop on “Roles and issues of women and girls in disaster preparedness - Mosul Dam”, 29 January 2020

School-based preparedness

During the reporting period, UNICEF sent official letters to the Ninawa, Salahuddin, and Baghdad (Karkh-1 and Resafa-1) Directorates of Education (DoE) after holding meetings with them to discuss the project requirements regarding the selection of schools to be covered according to the following criteria:

- Located in the Tigris floodplain;
- Identified to be at risk of flooding;

- Not selected during the previous phase of UNDP/UNICEF-funded flood awareness activities (2017).

The DoEs shared their lists of schools (50 schools in Ninawa, 30 schools in Baghdad and 22 schools in Salahuddin), with two teachers per school and a supervisors from senior management proposed to participate in the flood preparedness awareness training. In addition, several consultative meetings were held with the Iraqi Red Crescent Society (IRCS) Chief of Awareness Department that culminated with the joint development of the teachers' training plan and curriculum. IRCS identified a team that will support the training. Key topics included in the curriculum are planning at the community level, including measures to be taken before, during and after floods, school evacuation, and practical exercises. The printing of information, education and communication (IEC) materials has also been completed.

The deterioration in security, however, led to significant periods during the first quarter when government offices (including DoEs), businesses and schools were closed and staff, families, students and the general public were encouraged to remain at home due to political unrest. Moreover, the COVID-19 outbreak has negatively affected the progress of the project. There were clear instructions from the Ministry of Education and the World Health Organization (WHO) to avoid large gatherings that can put people at risk. The academic year has also been suspended and the mid-year school holiday has been prolonged due to the increase of COVID-19 cases across the country.

Therefore, activities have been temporarily suspended and training will resume based on the evolving context. At the time of reporting, schools across the country remain closed, and the curfew imposed by the GOI and KRG to prevent the spread of COVID-19 continues.

Hospital-based preparedness flood health risks awareness:

WHO is responsible for implementing this activity and is currently pursuing two activities:

(a) Improve the capacity of healthcare service providers (40 nurses)

The project intends to improve the capacity of healthcare service providers to provide lifesaving first aid, triage and trauma care training. Emergency response training for the first cohort of nursing trainers was conducted in November. The second phase was planned for the first quarter of 2020, but this has been delayed due to COVID-19.

(b) Increase the awareness of 100,000 people in high-risk locations on flood-related communicable disease outbreaks

WHO was in the process of finalising the printing and distribution of awareness materials with standard flood-related messages. However, this has not been

completed as planned due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Once the lockdown is lifted, WHO will complete the printing and distribution of materials in target locations.

Challenges:

The project initiatives were hampered by the volatile situation in the country over the past months. The COVID-19 pandemic has also affected movement across the project locations and has delayed some decisions that are to be made by the Departments of Health. WHO will expedite the implementation of project activities once the full lockdown is lifted.

3. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND SAFETY MEASURES OF MAJOR DAMS STRENGTHENED.

During the first half of the reporting period, the work of the dam safety consultant continued, in support of MoWR. The work included organizing a workshop on dam safety in Erbil and the submission of gap analysis reports for the remaining dams.

A dam safety workshop was held on 1 and 2 January in Erbil. The workshop was attended by high-level officials and engineers from MoWR headquarters as well as the Hadith and Dibis Dams. The workshop included a two-hour presentation on dam safety issues and on-site EPRP. The presentation also covered the importance of using the HEC-DSSVue tool to effectively and efficiently archive and manipulate the information necessary for safe dam management.

Workshop participants extensively discussed the following key dam safety issues: dam safety issues in all Iraqi dams, challenges and future plans, establishing a national Dam Safety Programme, drafting a Dam Safety Act, technical support for dam safety issues and developing on-site and off-site EPRPs, support a simulation of the hypothetical breakdown, and providing technical support for comprehensive dam inspections.

In addition to this workshop, the consultant submitted the following reports during the quarter:

- Gap Assessment of Dam Safety and On-Site Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan – Haditha Dam
- Gap Assessment of Dam Safety and On-Site Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan – Hemrin Dam
- Guidelines for dam safety and on-site EPRP



Picture 4. Workshop in Erbil, 1-2 January 2020

The consultant was to organize a mission to Iraq and carry out workshops with MoWR experts and officials for further dam safety capacity building and consultations on drafting national dam safety standards. The COVID-19 outbreak, however, forced the suspension of such plans. The consultant continues to engage electronically with MoWR officials for the time being and will organize a mission to Iraq when feasible.

4. PROTECTION OF MAJOR FACILITIES ALONG THE TIGRIS FLOODPLAIN TO AVOID DOMINO EFFECT

During the reporting period, the MDEPP international consultant developed guidelines for the preparation of contingency and business continuity plans for critical infrastructure and facilities. The guidelines were to form the basis of a three-day capacity building workshop for engineers and senior staff from ministries that own and/or operate critical facilities. The workshop was scheduled to take place in March with participation of 25-30 experts from ministries represented in the CIP-WG. Preparations were underway and the supporting documentation had been translated into Arabic, but the outbreak of COVID-19 forced the postponement of the workshop.

The MDEPP international consultant was also working on contingency plans for two major facilities located on the Tigris River in Baghdad, namely Al-Doura Refinery and Al-Doura Power Station. To finalise the contingency plans, further discussions with staff at the facilities were planned during a mission to Iraq, which was scheduled in March. The mission, unfortunately, did not take place because of the outbreak of COVID-19 and restrictions on international travel.

UNDP is closely coordinating with the international consultant and Iraqi counterparts using electronic means to maintain progress in developing the contingency plans.

Considering the highly dynamic situation by the end of the first quarter in 2020, UNDP will take every opportunity to resume work once a credible outlook becomes available so adjustments can be made to originally planned activities.

5. MITIGATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS OF TOXIC AND CHEMICAL POLLUTION TO REDUCE THE IMPACTS OF MOSUL DAM COLLAPSE

During the reporting period, UNDP submitted the Situation Assessment Report to MoHEnv to guide the development of a plan to mitigate these risks. MoHEnv engaged concerned GoI ministries and agencies to formulate the mitigation plan, guided by the Situation Assessment Report that was finalized at the end of 2019. The report includes a multi-dimensional assessment of the environmental risks that may develop from the collapse of Mosul Dam, including hazards, environmental regulations and practices, response capacity, preparedness, historical incidents, etc. UNDP consultants also developed and submitted a summary of proposed mitigation activities derived from the assessment report for the MoHEnv and other Iraq agencies to consider, discuss and prioritize for inclusion in the mitigation plan.

Unfortunately, the workshop planned for March had to be postponed because of the COVID-19 outbreak. UNDP is currently coordinating with MoHEnv to organize the event remotely.

An important component of the mitigation of environmental risks is raising community awareness of those risks. For this purpose, UNDP recruited a consultant who worked to develop risk communication content and organize environmental risk awareness workshops for provincial actors and communities in Baghdad, Diyala, Salahuddin and Ninewa. These events were planned for February and March 2020, in coordination with MoHEnv and its governorate offices.



Picture 5. Workshop on environmental risks from chemical and toxic pollution in the Tigris floodplain - 29-30 February

On 29 and 30 February, a flood awareness workshop was organized for Baghdad Governorate in coordination with Women for a Safe and Green Iraq (WfSGI) initiative. Thirty women from various government offices and CSOs attended the workshop, which was focused on the role of women in the awareness of environmental risks from chemical and toxic pollution that may arise from flooding of critical infrastructure along the Tigris River. The workshop was also attended by the Deputy Minister of MoHEnv. During the two-day workshop, presentations by UNDP consultants, IRCS and the Ministry of Environment covered several awareness and preparedness issues. Plans also were discussed to institutionalize cooperation and coordination among the various government and community organizations during preparedness and response.

Although there were plans to organise similar workshops in Salahuddin, Diyala, and Ninewa in March 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak led to the postponement of these activities.

Lessons learned

The reporting period has been exceptional in the implementation of the project. In addition to the highly fragile security situation, political unrest, the flood season and the COVID-19 outbreak brought significant challenges. These challenges affected the implementation of MDEPP in every aspect, considering the measures taken by government in response to the pandemic. Measures enforced in Iraq included a ban on international travel, the closure of border crossings and ports of entry, the closure of schools and many government offices, curfews, etc.

These developments affected project implementation and provided several challenges. These challenges and the response by the MDEPP project team offer several lessons:

(a) COVID-19 brought disruption to most operations. Although this has been the case throughout the world, COVID-19 practically brought Iraq to a standstill. Iraq is unprepared for a major disaster, and the COVID-19 emergency resulted in a total curfew, paralysis of many government agencies, a ban on domestic and international travel, the closure of schools and most businesses, etc. The impact on most projects in Iraq, including the MDEPP, was enormous. Furthermore, the outlook for these measures to be suspended remains unclear, complicating planning for implementation to resume.

MDEP is closely monitoring the situation and continuously consulting with partners and counterparts on available options to ensure flexibility and agility in responding to the evolving context. Our team is considering digital alternatives for planned activities in order to maintain key project results with minimum impact on implementation time. Moreover, the team is exploring shifting the weight of awareness activities to social media and other electronic means until it becomes safe to carry out in-person community activities. However, much depends on how the situation evolves in the next quarter.

(b) Most of our partners and GoI counterparts are fully engaged with the COVID-19 emergency, affecting their engagement in the MDEP project. This applies to WHO and IRCS, as well as our Iraqi counterparts (e.g. PMNOC, MoHEnv, provincial authorities and Civil Defence).

The MDEPP project should continue to support Iraqi agencies and offer immediate value to Iraqi counterparts to continue cooperation during the COVID-19 crisis. MDEPP is looking for such opportunities and has already started offering technical support for general emergency response capacities, such as emergency coordination, capitalising on the experience of MDEP consultants in emergency response.

(c) The weak digital capacity of Iraqi government operations. This applies to most ministries and government agencies. Some exceptions exist, but those are the result of personal initiatives and limited to technically oriented agencies. Telecommuting has not been adopted by most government agencies, and operations have nearly stopped due to the national curfew. We believe this is a serious handicap and difficult to reconcile with existing social distancing guidelines.

In response, the MDEP team is exploring ways of providing technical support to encourage the use of digital means of communication in the implementation of project activities, whenever feasible. It is important to

mention that such technical support is welcomed by Iraqi authorities since this will help them also to respond to all emergencies, not only flooding or the collapse of the Mosul Dam.

- (d) **The importance of building digital capacity in the public sector.** This is related to the previous point, and refers to helping GoI agencies to build basic digital capacities, such as equipping meeting rooms with hardware to support videoconferencing, providing technical support and training to run Zoom meetings and webinars.

MDEPP is exploring such possibilities so we can resume most project activities as soon as possible. As with the previous point, this technical support is welcomed by Iraqi authorities, since it will help them to respond to other emergencies as well.

- (e) **The COVID-19 outbreak offers an opportunity to assess Iraq's disaster response capacities.** This point cannot be overstated. The COVID-19 emergency is a rare opportunity to observe the government's response and identify gaps in general emergency response governance and implementation.

Considering the weak documentation of government activities in Iraq, the MDEP team is documenting a timeline of events. Particular emphasis has been placed on issues related to gender, effective coordination, public communication, federal/provincial relations, implementation conflicts, efficient and timely response, etc. The data is being collected and documented for later use in assessments and gap analysis reports on the national response to large-scale disasters, such as COVID-19. Such a report would provide an excellent background for a national workshop that brings together all key stakeholders to review the COVID-19 response and discuss success stories, failures and areas for improvement to guide future planning and preparedness. Such information would also be invaluable to the MDEPP, which also addresses a national, large-scale disaster.

Looking Forward to the Next Quarter

Considering the COVID-19 emergency, it is expected that the protective measures taken by the GoI will be eased during the next quarter at a pace that depends upon the evolution of the pandemic. The MDEPP project team will continue flexible planning, close monitoring and consultations with counterparts and partners to

project developments and take quick adjustments when necessary, as dictated by the evolving context.

The following activities are already planned to be implemented in the next quarter:

- (a) UNDP is coordinating with PMNOC to organize the MDEPP Project Board meeting during the next quarter. The meeting will take place online, considering the prevailing social distancing measures.
- (b) The next quarter will coincide with the end of the flood season. The MDEPP team and implementing partners must use all possible means to launch a flood risk awareness campaign relying mainly on digital means during the next quarter.
- (c) The MDEPP team will revert to digital meetings, consultations and workshops. UNDP will coordinate with counterparts on organizing delayed workshops online. Those include suspended meetings with MoHENV.
- (d) The project team will continue facilitating communication between its international consultants and their Iraqi counterparts. Except for organizing missions to Iraq, which are not possible now, our international dam safety and emergency preparedness consultants will continue working remotely on their respective deliverables according to their respective work plans, based on online engagements with their Iraqi counterparts.
- (e) The MDEPP team will extend technical support and capacity building to some identified Iraqi partners in digital technology. This is necessary to enable some agencies that lack digital capabilities to engage in online meetings and training sessions (*e.g.* governors' offices and civil defence in governorates).
- (f) During the next quarter, we expect to get better clarity on the post-COVID-19 outlook. UNDP will consult with implementing partners and counterparts to revise the work plan in light of the evolving context, with more reliance on digital and online technology and without compromising the purpose and the planned outputs to minimize the impact on the overall timeframe of the MDEPP project.

Financial overview

(31 March, 2020)

#	Key Result	Total Budget	Reporting Period 1 January 2019 - 31 December 2019		Reporting Period 1 January 2020 - 31 March 2020		Total Cumulative Utilization ¹ Till 31 March 2020	Total Cumulative Expenditure Till 31 March 2020	Delivery Rate	Utilization Rate
			Expenditure Till 31 December 2019	Commitments Till 31 December 2019	Expenditure Till 31 March 2020	Commitments ² Till 31 March 2020				
1	Rapid deployment of preparedness training and tools to operationalize the Governorate preparedness plans (UNDP)	511142.43	96891.14	5362.77	10367.82	18143.69	130765.42	107258.96	20.98%	25.58%
2	Risks advocacy for the vulnerable communities expanded and strengthened along the Mosul Dam flood path (UNDP, IRCS, WHO, UNICEF)	1199866	41542.61	796418.42	147546.84	325207.48	1310715.35	189089.45	15.76%	109.24%
3	Simulations/drills conducted to ensure readiness and strengthen emergency preparedness at all levels (UNDP, WHO, UNICEF)	470871.28	23954.89	222423.45	62300.66	0	308679	86255.55	18.32%	65.55%
4	Volunteers network strengthened for community early warning and evacuation (UNDP, IRCS)	216330	7250	0	0	208500	215750	7250	3.35%	99.73%
5	Emergency preparedness and safety measures of major Dams strengthened (UNDP)	620670.89	45528.61	26927.34	34727.31	36850.53	144033.79	80255.92	12.93%	23.21%
6	Major facilities protected along the Tigris flood plain to avoid domino impacts (UNDP)	309288.74	105822.91	80011.38	45737.07	127296	358867.36	151559.98	49.00%	116.03%
7	Environmental risks of toxic and chemical pollution mitigated to reduce the impacts of Mosul dam collapse (UNDP)	146281.02	89149.1	8054.2	10367.82	18143.69	125714.81	99516.92	68.03%	85.94%
8	Project Management	951640.94	406613.91	29439.21	155693.32	30302.95	622049.39	562307.23	59.09%	65.37%
	GMS	318349.08	65340.23	0	37703.93	0	103044.16	103044.16	32.37%	32.37%
Total		4744440.4	882093.4	1168636.77	504444.77	764444.34	3319619.28	1386538.17	29.22%	69.97%

¹ Utilization comprises of total expenditure and commitments

² Includes Responsible Party Agreements signed in 2019 with IRCS, UNICEF and WHO.