

**United Nations Development Programme Iraq**

**[**Project Preparation Grant Process forCatalysing the Use of Solar PV Energyand 84871**]**

 **Annual Progress Report 2013**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Title:** | Project Preparation Grant Process for Catalysing the Use of Solar PV |
| **UNDP Project #:** | 84871 |
| **Project Duration:** | Oct 2012-Mar 2014 |
| **Project Resources:** | 60000 |
| **UNDP Iraq Focal Point:** | Seiichi Sasaki, Climate Change Specialist |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **UNDAF Outcome(s)** | People in Iraq have improved access to safe water, sanitation, electricity and municipal services; and the Iraqi state has institutionalized policy and operational framework for the sustainable management and conservation of natural resources. |
| **CP Outcome(s):** | Outcome 4: The Government of Iraq has the institutional framework to develop and implement MDG-based pro-poor, equitable and inclusive socio-economic and environmental policies and strategies. |
| **Output(s):** | Capacities of national and sub-national authorities and communities for effective governance, natural and renewable resources management and climate change. |
| **Implementing Partner:** | UNDP Iraq |
| **Responsible Partner:** | Ministry of Environment |
| **Project Location(s):** | Baghdad, Iraq |

**[Project] DONORS**



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Global Environmental Facility |  |  |

Table of Contents

[Executive summary 4](#_Toc411360931)

[I. Context 5](#_Toc411360932)

[II. Performance review 6](#_Toc411360933)

[1. Overall progress towards the CPD outcome and output(s) 7](#_Toc411360934)

[2. Capacity development 7](#_Toc411360935)

[3. Impact on direct and indirect beneficiaries 7](#_Toc411360936)

[Implementation strategy review 7](#_Toc411360937)

[1. Participatory/consultative processes 7](#_Toc411360938)

[2. Quality of partnerships 8](#_Toc411360939)

[3. National ownership 8](#_Toc411360940)

[4. Sustainability 8](#_Toc411360941)

[Management effectiveness review 8](#_Toc411360942)

[1. Quality of monitoring 8](#_Toc411360943)

[2. Timely delivery of outputs 9](#_Toc411360944)

[3. Resources allocation 9](#_Toc411360945)

[4. Cost-effective use of inputs 9](#_Toc411360946)

[III. Project results summary 10](#_Toc411360947)

[IV. Implementation challenges 11](#_Toc411360948)

[Project risks and actions 11](#_Toc411360949)

[Project issues and actions 12](#_Toc411360950)

[V. Lessons learnt and next steps 12](#_Toc411360951)

[Recommendations 12](#_Toc411360952)

[VI. Financial Section 13](#_Toc411360953)

[Table 1: Funding Overview 13](#_Toc411360954)

[Table 2: Expenditure Status (by activity) 14](#_Toc411360955)

[Table 3: Expenditure Status (by donor) 15](#_Toc411360956)

# Executive summary

This project preparatory grant (PPG) was meant to develop the full PIF project document titled *Catalysing Use of Solar Photovoltaic Energy* and CEO endorsement letters. Specific project preparation activities during this project cycle in 2013 were to conduct a detailed assessment of the current institutional arrangement and technical capacities to be built on the Project.

UNDP CO recruited international and national consultants to conduct an initial assessment to update the market for the decentralised PV units and utility-scale PV electricity generation (R&D for configuration of PV AC/water heating units for Iraqi climate conditions, retail, production, O&M, regulatory and technological potentials and barriers for large-scale PV generation) and GHG baseline/reduction potential in Iraq.

In November 2013, UNDP organized the first meeting held in Baghdad and representatives from the Ministry of Environment, Electricity, Science and Technology, Industry and Minerals, PMAC and Alshafey (a private company which will install the root top PV modules) were informed about the Project preparation process. The stakeholders gradually recognized their interests in Renewable (RE) technology transfers as well as RE regulations to distinguish the existing IPPs as current institutional and legal framework do not support RE technologies. In particular, Ministry of Electricity and Science and Technology expressed their interests with renewable energy codes, feed-in tariff, credit and subsidies to be integrated into policy reform. UNDP CO also learned that solar air conditioning is costly in Iraq so that Al Shafei (private company in Iraq) decided not to utilize its application from cost-benefit point of view, which was initially proposed in the PPG document and it required the modifications to be incorporated into the final Prodoc. In the meeting, the stakeholders brought back with the questionnaires prepared by the consultants and UNDP concluded to hold additional meeting on 12th of December 2013 to collect them.

Considering the inaccessibility to data and information required, UNDP CO and RCO were only able to conduct the desk review analysis within this project cycle. UNDP and stakeholders agreed to hold additional consultation meetings in 2014 in order to finalize the PIF documents by the end of March 2014.

# Context

The proposed project focuses on catalyzing the development and use of solar photovoltaic energy in Iraq, taking advantage of an extremely high level of irradiance throughout most of the country, most of the year, and addressing the fact that the country is not yet organized for accelerated growth in solar power service delivery. Although some solar technology development and piloting has been done in various locations in Iraq, a coherent strategy and widespread application of the most beneficial solar power options are now required.

The objective of the Project is to catalyze private sector investments in solar PV power technology, stimulate consumer demand for such technologies, and create an adequate and growing demand-side that will continue to encourage solar PV technology investment. The key principle is to fill the electricity supply gap in areas not connected to the grid and support the climate finance through Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA).

The overall goal of the Project is to promote global environmental benefits (enhanced climate change mitigation) and make coherent and targeted investments through sounded policy reforms for renewable energy applications.

|  |
| --- |
| UNDAF Outcome(s): People in Iraq have improved access to safe water, sanitation, electricity and municipal services; and the Iraqi state has institutionalized policy and operational framework for the sustainable management and conservation of natural resources. UNDP Strategic Plan Primary Outcome: Countries have strengthened institutions to progressively deliver universal access to basic services. UNDP Strategic Plan Secondary Outcome: Countries are able to reduce the likelihood of conflict, and lower the risk of natural disasters, including from climate changeExpected CP Outcome(s): Outcome 4: The Government of Iraq has the institutional framework to develop and implement MDG-based pro-poor, equitable and inclusive socio-economic and environmental policies and strategies.Expected CPAP Output (s) Capacities of national and sub-national authorities and communities for effective governance, natural and renewable resources management and climate change.Implementing Entity/Responsible Partners: Ministry of EnvironmentMinistry of ElectricityMinistry of Industry and MiningMinistry of Science & TechnologyAlShafy GroupAnbar University |

# II. Performance review

Mr. Omar Roushdy and Dr. Abbas Balasem were contracted respectively as an International and National consultants for preparation of the GEF CEO Endorsement Request and support for the submission of the Project Document.

Within the given budgetary constraints under the PPG project, UNDP CO was not able to deploy the international consultant in Baghdad, Iraq. Instead, the national consultant played a critical role in facilitating the information gathering process with stakeholders. However, communication through phone or teleconference did not apparently encourage them to be involved in the development process of the Project document.

This called for a more elaborate representation in the planned consultation workshop which would bring all the stakeholders and actors (UN and Iraqi Institutions) together to discuss all relevant issues pertaining to the said requirements above. UNDP organized the consultation meeting to be held on 28-29 October, in Amman, Jordan in order to conduct interviews/hearings and bridge the gaps amongst the stakeholders. The invitation letter was sent out to the focal point of the Project and stakeholders were ready to take part in, but the meeting was suddenly cancelled by the Ministry of Environment due to unavailability of the concerned person to join the meeting in Amman.

UNDP CO requested the procurement unit to extend the contracts of both consultants for another four months (ending no later than 20th of March 2014) with additional working days for their attendance to the meetings and the remaining days to review and submit the final draft of the ProDoc.

On 10-12 November 2013, UNV staff and the national consultant held the first consultation meeting in Baghdad at Prime Minister’s Advisory Commission premises. All the participants updated their current situation in Iraq and raised issues pertaining to the development of the PV applications in Iraq and clarified a few points which were unclear for them. They eventually began to understand the context of the proposed activities.

In the meeting held on December 8th, UNDP CO received comments from the same stakeholders and identified current status of the institutions. As result, the CO and RCO were able to draft the desk review analysis by the end of December 2013 and requested them to continue to develop the Project Document and endorsement letters by the end of March 2014.

### **Overall progress towards the CPD outcome and output(s)**

Iraq’s National Energy Strategy addresses RE applications including, hydro, wind and solar energy to boost up 3-5% of the total contribution to energy production in Iraq by 2035.

Promotion of solar PV applications is not only intended to enhance Iraq’s climate change mitigation, but also expand labor opportunities through introducing such technologies in the market.

In order to fulfill the mandates of the UNDAF outcomes and CPAP outputs, targeted investments can be achieved through sound policy reforms and appropriate applications to meet the context of Iraq environment. .This project preparation process was the first step to facilitate their understanding of internationally practiced approaches to be adapted by Iraq in future. Following points could be noted here:

* Iraq has so far been engaged in the preparation of first National Communication to the UNFCCC so that they have no experience in Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA);
* Development of guidelines to establish national NAMA eligibility and design criteria will be an important step to promote climate resilient investment in the country; and
* Development of technical capacity for effective measurement and monitoring of emission reductions will be critical to contribute to the achievement of the project outcome..

### **Capacity development**

As demonstrated in the two consultation meetings held in Baghdad in Iraq, stakeholders realized the needs of capacities to be strengthened in Iraq.

Particular interests were given to the identification of the most suitable configuration of the small and utility scale applications of the PV modules, considering the climatic and geographical conditions and addressing applicability of the technologies.

In this preparatory phase, no particular capacity building activities were provided, but stakeholders began to own the project and clearly addressed their area of interests. However, the preparatory phase has undertaken the training needs assessment for the national capacity building for promotion and dissemination of solar PV in Iraq. Accordingly, targeted training programmes will be imparted during the implementation of the four years long GEF full size project in Iraq. The project will also include the provision of acquiring important lessons from the region, specifically from the countries like Egypt, Morocco and Sudan.

### **Impact on direct and indirect beneficiaries**

Before UNDP organized the first meeting held in Baghdad, Iraq, the MoE was not aware of the Bytti project, which planned to install 5 MW rooftop solar PV systems in Najaf. Through this intervention, the project has contributed to facilitate public-private coordination efforts between the MoE and Alshafei Company—result in strengthening the partnership. Ministry of Industry and Mineral and Al Shafei Company also exchanged technical views. MoI&M’s representatives actually visited Najaf soon after the first meeting and conducted an assessment of the PV systems to build integrated efforts among the stakeholders.

## Implementation strategy review

### **Participatory/consultative processes**

Under the leadership by the Project Manager, technical consultation meetings were organized to obtain the required data and information to conduct the desk review. In those two meetings, UNDP encouraged participants to read out proposed activities to carefully examine how the proposed project supports the promotion of targeted private sector investment in the solar PV applications in Iraq. This effort was a time consuming process, but greatly contributed to the enhancement of stakeholder understanding of the project components and the ownership of the project.

### Quality of partnerships

As result of these exchanges, UNDP CO developed a strong trust relationship with the stakeholders through two consultation meetings. When UNDP sent out the invitation letters to the concerned stakeholders, the Project Manager clearly addressed the needs of the dedicated experts who have technical knowledge and experience in solar applications. The GoI responded to it accordingly, while the preparation process required diligently listening to their needs, articulating and developing countermeasures as appropriate.

### National ownership

The project is implemented directly (DIM) by UNDP on behalf of the Government of Iraq. UNDP, in close cooperation with the Ministry of Environment, took overall responsibility for the project implementation, and verifiable attainment of project objectives and outcomes.

Through consultations with the stakeholders, UNDP CO witnessed that there is strong commitment among them to lead the project in support of international and national experts.

### **Sustainability**

PV system prices have been fallen almost one third in six years in most global markets, while module prices have dropped by 80%. Since 2010, there is an emerging trend that the costs of electricity from PV in different parts of the world will converge as markets develop, with an average cost reduction of 25% by 2020, 45% by 2030, and 65% by 2050.

Rooftop solar has so far benefited from the rapid decline in price of both panels and system components, although more efficient installation techniques, lower costs of capital and improved supply chains will contribute to lower rooftop solar applications.

In Iraq, the cost of electricity (conventional approach) is in range between $0.08-0.12/kwh, which is almost equivalent of the cost of the electricity produced by the solar PV systems.

This potentially facilitates private sector investment in such applications in Iraq through introducing RE policies, incentives and technical support.

The National Energy Strategy (NES) also addresses diversification of energy resources and utilization of RE application is expected to contribute to supply electricity to the national grid. The project can be built on the existing activities supported by the said strategies.

## Management effectiveness review

### Quality of monitoring

Under the PPG process, the progress of the project was closely monitored by UNDP CO and RCO through periodical consultation meetings/teleconferences to discuss measures against delay of the implementation of the activities. Within UNDP CO, none of staff was familiar with the complexity of the technical configuration on the solar PV modules and systems, so that UNDP CO asked RCO’s guidance to facilitate the process together. As the team found out, while a series of data and information was collected from the concerned entities although most were fragmented. Data was then stored on Drop Box to sort out and to be classified according to its appropriate specifications.

### Timely delivery of outputs

Due to the inaccessibility to data and information, the project team experienced delays in planned project progress (approx. three months) as the team was only able to complete the desk review during the project cycle in 2013. In normal GEF preparation practice, UNDP CO is expected to complete this activity in 18 months, but unfortunately, due to the delays mentioned above it took 14 months for Iraq to conduct the initial baseline study.

### Resources allocation

Under the Project Preparatory Grant (PPG), the total allocated resource to develop the PIF and endorsement letters was $80,000. UNDP CO recruited international and national consultants to prepare the said documents. UNDP set aside the budget ($16,000) for travel and stakeholders consultation and workshop to be held in Baghdad, Iraq. The Budget revision was approved by UDNP RCO in October 2013.

### Cost-effective use of inputs

The preparation of such documents in consultation with the stakeholders also required enormous inputs and supports of UNDP CO and RCO. UNV staff managed the process as Project Manager under the delegation of authority and played a key role in facilitating the process with the concerned stakeholders as well as adding value for money through minimizing the management costs.

# III. Project results summary

Specific project preparation activities during this project cycle in 2013 were to conduct a more detailed assessment of the current institutional arrangement and technical capacities to be built on the Project. International and national consultants were recruited to: (1) conduct analytical work, draft situation analysis and draft project log-frame, (2) draft request for CEO approval and UNDP/GEF FSP Project Document and (3) final request for CEO approval and UNDP/GEF FSP Project Document.

During the project cycle in 2013, UNDP CO only completed the first deliverable, which was to collect data and information and review the current status of RE applications in Iraq. Findings of the desk review analysis were summarized as follows:

Ministry of Environment (MoEN)

* Iraq is only undertaking its first National Communication to the UNFCCC so that they have a little experience in Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA);
* Development of guidelines to establish national NAMA eligibility and design criteria; and
* Development of technical capacity for calculating emission reductions from RE.

Ministry of Electricity (MoE)

* Department of the Renewable Energy Studies was newly established within the Ministry and their roles and its mandates had yet to be defined;
* RE regulations (including tariff, procurement and policies) distinguished among the existing IPPs as current regulations did not support promotion of RE technologies;
* Renewable energy codes, spec, feed-in tariff, credit and subsidies had yet to be clearly integrated;
* Connecting between off and on grid networks had yet to be established as they have a little experience in such applications. In particular connecting off grid (solar) with on grid (conventional) networks as there was a lack of any regulations to support such arrangement; and
* Cooperation was needed with other GEF projects, namely, Egypt: $4m Grid-connected PV systems and Jordan:$1m Energy efficiency labeling. Study tours were proposed to learn from their applications which will be of their help and lessons can be learned.

Al Shafey

* The generation cost for the root top PV system is almost the same as the cost of the conventional, which is about $0.10 kWh. The cost of IPP supply (diesel) is roughly $0.30 kWh. According to Al Shafei, Solar air conditioning is costly, so they don’t utilize its application from cost-benefit point of view;
* Installation of the Solar PV units 2-6kWh capacity for 1030 houses including hospitals, police stations and schools to be planned while this application is yet to be utilized for emergency purpose;
* Lack of technical skills to optimize the usage of the applications although they have already installed several PV systems in place as a form of testing. MoE agreed to provide technical support in term of configuration/angle/material/parts to fit the environment;
* Needing of technical capacity support in operation and maintenance while they expect to receive short term training from the Italian firm; and
* Transmission line is one way in Iraq as opposed to two-way (parallel) system utilized in Japan and other countries. They are interested in configurations of on-off grid connection.

Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST)

* MoST has been working on R&D for solar mapping in Iraq while its application is not enough to conduct on the national scale; and
* Lack of technical skills projecting availability of solar resources available.
* More detailed assessment of solar resources is needed.

Ministry of Industry and Minerals (MoI&M)

* MoI&M is a producer of small scale PV panels in Iraq. Their market potential in Iraq is limited; and
* Development of the marketing strategy to promote its applications is needed.

The progress of the preparatory process is shown below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Deliverables | Output | Results |
| 1. Analytical work, draft situation analysis and draft project log-frame | Consolidation Report | Report submitted to the CO |
| 2. Draft Request for CEO Approval and UNDP/GEF FSP Project Document | Draft project document  | Not achieved |
| 3. Final Request for CEO Approval and UNDP/GEF FSP Project Document | Draft final request: finalization of Project Document following the consultation meetings  | Not achieved |

Table 1. Deliverable status of the assignments

# IV. Implementation challenges

## Project risks and actions

Under the proposed contract period for both the international and national consultants, UNDP CO expected to finalize the PIF by the end of September 2013. However, Project team faced several constraints addressed below:

* Delay in the recruitment process (approx. three months) as well as counterpart’s inaccessibility to obtain the required information and difficulties in identifying an entry point, especially Ministry of Environment, a focal point of the project;
* Mr. Omar Roushdy and Abbas Balasem drafted the desk review report based on information obtained and realized that information was fragmented among Ministries;
* This called for a more elaborate representation in the planned consultation workshop which would bring all the stakeholders and actors (UN and Iraqi Institutions) together to discuss all relevant issues pertaining to the drafting of the ProDoc;
* UNDP CO and RCO organized a meeting to be held in Amman in October 2013, however the MoEN, focal point of the PPG, cancelled the meeting due to the unexpected circumstance.
* Due to the reasons mentioned above, consultants were not able to complete the assignment 2 and 3 within the contract period; and
* Project team approved extension of their contract by the end of March 2014 to finalize the PIF along with endorsement letters required.

## Project issues and actions

UNDP experienced difficulties in bringing the Ministry of Environment to engage in the PPG process as they have undergone its organizational restructuring. A countermeasure was taken to organize the meetings in Baghdad, Iraq as it was not originally planned.

# V. Lessons learnt and next steps

Due to the security and budgetary constraints under the PPG process, the international consultant, who was most knowledgeable in the subject, was not able to be in Baghdad to communicate directly with stakeholders. Instead, the national consultant was asked to convey the list of necessary data and information required from the concerned stakeholders. However, due to security reasons, the national consultant has to communicate through emails and phone calls, however , this approach was not successful in achieving the purpose. .

UNDP CO and RCO in Bratislava held a teleconference to discuss alternative course of action that was decided to call for the consultation meetings to be held in Baghdad. All of stakeholders took part in the meetings and brought back with the questionnaires developed by the international consultant. At this time the UNV staff and national consultant were successful in obtaining such information enough to complete the desk review study.

UNDP CO concluded organizing additional meetings in Baghdad 2014 in order to finalize the PIF documents required for the submission to the GEF Secretariat.

## Recommendations

Through this PPG, the project team learned that direct engagement with the stakeholders is vital even in the preparation process. Communication through phone or teleconference did not encourage stakeholders to be involved in the development of the project. For Iraq, security costs are one of the financial constraints especially to deploy international consults being in Baghdad, Iraq. If possible, the UNDP/GEF shall consider securing additional budgets to facilitate the process in a more effective manner.

# VI. Financial Section

*[Note: All financial data presented in this report are provisional. From* UNDP Bureau of Management/Office of Finance and Administration, an annual certified financial statement as of 31 December will be submitted every year no later than 30 June of the following year.]

## Table 1: Funding Overview

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Donor** | **Commitment****(Currency of the Agreement)** | **Received****(Currency of the Agreement)** | **Received (USD)** | **UNORE** | **Balance (Currency of the Agreement)** |
| **GEF** | $80,000 | $80,000 | $80,000 |  | $80,000 |
|  |  |  |
| **Total** | $80,000 | $80,000 | $80,000 |  | $80,000 |

The table on funding overview will cover funding since inception of the project, and will include only those contributions for which legal basis i.e. agreement/ letters exchange, exist. Column 1: will include the name of the donor, with a new adjacent cell created for every different agreement signed with the same donor. Column 2, commitment, will include the amount of the commitment as stated in the agreement in the same currency as in the agreement. Column 3: shows the amount of the money received against every commitment. If the currency in the agreement is denominated in USD, this slot can be left blank. Column 4: provides for the US equivalent of the received amount of the local currency, with Column 5: providing the United Nations Operational Rate of Exchange at the date of the receipt of funds. Column 6: provides for the balance of the contribution expected to be received from the donor. This is arrived at through subtraction of total received amount from the commitments.

## Table 2: Expenditure Status (by activity)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Budget** **2013****(A)** | **Donor** | **Cumulative Expenditure Status at[Date,i.e. end of preceding year]** | **Expenditure in Reporting Year** | **Yearly Total Expenditure****(F=D+E)** | **Total Expenditure****(G=B+C+F)** | **Budget****Balance****(H=A-G)** | **Delivery****Rate****(% I =G/A)** |
| Commitment(B) | -Expenses + full asset cost(C) | Commitment(D) | Expenses + full asset cost(E) |
| **Activity 1** | $58,943.75 | 62000 | 0.00 | 0.00 | $4,291.00 | $54,363.37 | $ 58,654.37 | $ 58,654.37 | $289.38 | 99.51% |
| **GMS** | 0.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0% |
| **Total** | $58,943.75 |  | 0.00 | 0.00 | $4,291.00 | $54,363.37 | $ 58,654.37 | $ 58,654.37 | $289.38 | 99.51% |

## Table 3: Expenditure Status (by donor)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Donor** | **Budget** | **Activity** | **Expenditure Status at[Date]** | **Expenditure in ReportingYear**  | **Yearly Expenditure** | **Total Expenditure** | **Balance** | **Delivery** |
|  | Commitment | Disbursement | Commitment | Disbursement |
| **62000** | $ 58,943.75 | 1 | $0.00 | 0.00 | $4,291.00 | $54,363.37 | $ 58,654.37 | $ 58,654.37 | $289.38 | 99.51% |
| **GMS** | $0.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0% |
| **Total** | $ 58,943.75 |  | $0.00 | $0.00 | $4,291.00 | $54,363.37 | $ 58,654.37 | $ 58,654.37 | $289.38 | 99.51% |

NB: A simplified table is added below to reflect the cost break of the total budget of USD 80,000

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Preparation Activities Implemented** | **GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Amount ($)** |
| **Budgeted Amount in AWP**  | **Amount Spent To date Commitments /Actual Expense**  | **Amount Committed** |
| International Consultant | $26,943.75  | 23,866.00 |   |
| *National Consultant* | $22,000  | 26,425.00 |   |
| Travel | $6,000  | 5,942.17 |   |
| Misc. | 4000 | 2,710.38 |   |
|
| Training | $16,806.45  | 0 | 16,806.45 |
| Workshop | $3,334.15  | 0 | 3,334.15 |
| Contribution | $203.48  | 0 | 203.48 |
| Communication & Audio Visual | $712.17  | 0 | 712.17 |
| **Total** | **$80,000**  | **$58,943.55**  | **21,056.25** |

**Annexes**

**ANNEX 1 MoEN endorsement letter**

**ANNEX 2 Co-finance letters**

**ANNEX 3 LPAC**

**ANNEX4 Initiation Plan for GEF PPG**

**ANNEX 5 Group meeting notes and agendas**

**ANNEX 5**

**UNDP/GEF Preparatory Project:**

**Catalyzing the Use of Solar Photovoltaic Energy**

**Stakeholder Group Meetings**

**The PMAC Office, Green Zone, 10-12 November, 2013, Baghdad, Iraq**

**Group Meetings and Agendas**

**Objective, Rationale and Methodology:**

Iraqis have increased their demand for electricity, but the reliability of its supply is quite inadequate. Many households and businesses rely on diesel-powered generators to fill the demand-supply gap, which further increases the cost of electricity. Given the persistent gap between electricity demand and supply, the Government of Iraq recognizes the need to activate renewable energy options. In response to a request from the Ministry of Environment, a UNDP-GEF preparatory project was initiated in early 2013 to investigate the potential uses of solar photovoltaic energy in Iraq and options for policy/regulatory support to the Government.

The project will advance the solar power sector in Iraq in three ways:

* By designing, piloting and monitoring selected solar photovoltaic technologies for distributed generation applications;
* By stimulating investments in solar power technology and increasing consumer uptake of such technologies through new policies, tools and financial incentives;
* By facilitating private sector capacity for solar technology development and servicing, through awareness-raising, training and dissemination sessions on the Independent Power Producer (IPP) concept.

Stakeholder consultations are being held, with three objectives: 1) to introduce the UNDP-GEF Solar PV Energy project to Iraqi counterparts, 2) to report on the project preparations conducted by UNDP consultants in order to obtain feedback, and 3) to ensure that key stakeholders have a shared understanding of the UNDP-GEF project objectives and activities.

On Sunday, 10 November and Monday, 11 November, meetings will be held with small groups of stakeholders in order to obtain an in-depth understanding of these stakeholders’ current and planned activities, and their potential roles in the GEF project. On Tuesday, 12 November, a larger meeting involving all of the stakeholders will be held to provide a forum for discussion between stakeholders and to develop a common vision for the GEF project and its policy and investment support activities.

**Participants**

UNDP has identified qualified experts from relevant Ministries, scientific institutions and the private sectors who are responsible for/involved in renewable energy projects in Iraq. See the associated Participants List for a full listing.

**AGENDA**

**UNDP-GEF: Catalyzing the Use of Solar Photovoltaic Energy**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| **Sunday, 10 November 2013 Small Group Meeting** |
| Time | Topic/Subject | Presenter/Facilitator(s) |
| 9:00 | Coffee  | Meeting @ PMAC office |
| 9:15 | Project Overview | MoEn Rep. and Mr. Seiichi Sasaki  |
| 9:30 | Iraq Energy Overview -Ministry of Electricity | **Mr. Salah N. Hason Azzah**Mr. Mahdi Dahham Jasim |
| 10:00 | Q &A  | Dr. Abbas Balasem |
| 10:30 | Wrap up |  |
| 10:45 | Coffee |  |
| 11:00 | Project Overview | MoEn Rep. and Mr. Seiichi Sasaki  |
| 11:15 | Al Mansour's activities - Ministry of Industry and Minerals | Ms. Rajaa Ismae Ibrahim |
| 11:45 | Q &A  | Dr. Abbas Balasem |
| 12:15 | Wrap up |  |
| 12:30 | Coffee |  |
| 12:45 | Project Overview | MoEn Rep. and Mr. Seiichi Sasaki |
| 13:00 | Trends in solar photovoltaic and solar technology research - Ministry of Science and Technology | **Mr. Ali Abdul Ali Aziz** |
| 13:45 | Q &A  | Dr. Abbas Balasem |
| 14:30 | Wrap up |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Monday, 11 November 2013 Small Group Meeting** |
| 9:00 | Coffee | Meeting @ PMAC office |
| 9:15 | Project Overview | MoEn Rep. and Mr. Seiichi Sasaki |
| 9:30 | Incentives, subsidies and budgets for energy sector - Ministry of Planning | Mr. Shakir Mahmood Abress |
| 10:00 | Q &A  | Dr. Abbas Balasem |
| 10:15 | Wrap up |  |
| 10:30 | Coffee |  |
| 10:45 | Project Overview | MoEn Rep. and Mr. Seiichi Sasaki |
| 11:00 | Overview of energy sector - PMAC | **Mr. Akram Abdul Raheem Istevaan** |
| 11:45 | Q &A  | Dr. Abbas Balasem |
| 12:15 | Wrap up |  |
| 12:30 | Coffee |  |
| 12:45 | Project Overview | MoEn Rep. and Mr. Seiichi Sasaki |
| 13:00 | Overview of the current status of the energy and solar energy research and project- Anbar University, Al Shafei Group, Najaf Investment Board and National Investment Commission | **Dr. Yousif Ismail Mohammed**Mr. Hameed Abdul Ameer HameedMr. Hayder Abdulfattah HatoorMr. Ahmed Neema Hassan**Mr. Sinan Salam Kadhim** Mr. Saeed Abas Muhamd Ali |
| 14:30 | Q &A  | Dr. Abbas Balasem |
| 14:45 | Wrap up |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Tuesday, 12 November 2013 The Whole Group Meeting** |
| 9:00 | Coffee | Meeting @ PMAC office |
| 9:15 | Opening Remarks | MoEn Rep. and Mr. Seiichi Sasaki |
| 9:30 | Project Overview—UNDP/GEF Project  | Mr. Seiichi Sasaki |
| 10:15 | Overview of existing energy strategy, policy, laws and coordination mechanisms / existing solar projects, specifications, etc. | All Participants |
| 10:45 | Technical Consultation/Discussion  | Dr. Abbas Balasem / Mr. Seiichi Sasaki |
| 12:45 | Lunch Break |  |
| 13:45 | Task Force member / Project Board Step forward | MoEn/UNDP |
| 14:45 | Wrap up |  |

**Solar Energy PV Stakeholder Group Meetings,**

**November 10th to 12th, PMAC office, Green Zone, Baghdad, Iraq**

**Dear Participants,**

On Sunday, 10 November and Monday, 11 November, meetings will be held with small groups of stakeholders in order to obtain an in-depth understanding of these stakeholders’ current and planned activities, and their potential roles in the GEF project. On Tuesday, 12 November, a larger meeting involving all of the stakeholders will be held to provide a forum for discussion between stakeholders and to develop a common vision for the GEF project and its policy and investment support activities. For the entrance to the venue, PMAC representative will pick up and escort you through the entrance gate of the IZ in the east Karaka, crossing hinged bridge. All participants require to present their national ID card or G, A, or equivalent type passport at the IZ gate for admission to the area. Prior to your departure, please provide your cell phone number to seiichi.sasaki@undp.org in case we need to contact you.

Please find attached the Agenda for each group meeting schedule .

**November 10th: Small Group Meeting, 9:00 AM -2:30 PM**

1. Mr. Salah N. Hason Azzah, Ministry of Electricity
2. Mr. Mahdi Dahham Jasim, Ministry of Electricity
3. Ms. Rajaa Ismae Ibrahim, Ministry of Industry /Minerals Al Mansour
4. Mr. Ali Abdul Ali Aziz, Ministry of Science And Technology
5. Mr. Akram Abdul Raheem Istevaan, PMAC
6. Dr. Abbas Balasem, UNDP Iraq
7. Mr. Seiichi Sasaki, UNDP Iraq
8. MoEn Representative

**November 11th: Small Group Meeting, 9:00 AM -2:30 PM**

1. Mr. Shakir Mahmood Abress, Ministry of Planning
2. Mr. Akram Abdul Raheem Istevaan, PMAC
3. Dr. Yousif Ismail Mohammed, Anbar University
4. Mr. Saad Jaddoa Abed, Al Shafei Group
5. Mr. Sinan Salam Kadhim , National Investment Commission
6. Mr. Saeed Abas Muhamd Ali, Najaf Investment Board
7. Dr. Abbas Balasem, UNDP Iraq
8. Mr. Seiichi Sasaki, UNDP Iraq