Activity Appraisal Document ODA

€ 1.000.000 or more

I REQUESTED DECISION CONCERNS

Explanation of the policy data can be found in the ODA Policy Data Guide.

For the highlighted subjects in table below the de ODA Policy Data Guide gives further explanation .

Red --> Parts which should not be published in the open data.

Application number	4000004383
Short name application	Basrah Water Project
Long name application	Basrah Water Project. Providing safe drinking water to Basrah's population.
Description application	The project objective is to improve water and health security in Basrah. The output is to ensure that by 2024, as many as 960,000 Basrah residents have improved and sustainable access to safe water. In order to accomplish this, the following interventions will take place: 1. Improve access to safe drinking water in 100 schools in deprived areas in south Basrah by installing small-scale water desalination and disinfection units beside new water tanks and piping systems, benefiting 100,000 children (UNICEF). 2. Improve access to safe water by increasing the power supply for, and automating the operation of, the R-Zero project, benefiting 960,000 individuals (UNICEF). 3. Improve access to safe drinking water by rehabilitating existing non-functional plants and adding more plants to the water network, benefiting 50,000 individuals (UNDP). 4. Improve access to safe drinking water through the provision of specialized unaccounted-for-water equipment which will be used to reduce water leakage, benefiting 75,000 individuals (UNICEF).
Budget holder	Baghdad
Number business partner	30013107
Implementing organisation(s)	• UNICEF, Iraq Country Office • UNDP, Iraq Country office
Legal relationship	Arrangement/ contribution
Commitment in foreign currency (if applicable)	USD 6.741.573
Corporate rate	USD 0,89
Commitment in euros	EUR 6.000.000

Funds centre	1702U02020012		
Activity start date	1 December 2020		
Activity end date	31 December 2024		
Contract start date	1 December 2020		
Contract end date	30 November 2022		
Has an evaluation been planned?	Yes, mandatory (see decisiontree in 5.3.6.)		
Aid modality	Other programme aid		
Donor role	Single donor		
Technical assistance	TA<10 Less than 10% of the activity budget		
Beneficiary's country/region	Iraq		
Countries within the region (if applicable)	Iraq		
Allocation country information	Iraq: 100%		
Location within the country (be as specific as possible)	Province	**Name location(s)**	Basrah
CRS Code	14030		
Policy marker weight is 'principal' (no minimum or maximum amount)	DrwSan		
Policy marker weight is 'significant'. (no minimum or maximum amount)	GntWat; FysInfr; InsOntw; PrivSct		
Special pledges made by the Minister or State Secretary / and/ or special marks regarding sensitive information	N/A		

II. ACTIVITY APPRAISAL

2.1 Contribution made by the activity to BZ policy objectives (policy relevance)

2.1.1 Description policy relevance

- *Explain the policy markers which have been assigned to the activity in the cover sheet of the BEMO.*
- *Explain the international policy markers which have been assigned to the activity in the cover sheet of the BEMO.*

In 2015 the Netherlands pledged to sustainably provide 30 million people with clean drinking water and 50 million people with safe sanitation by 2030. This program supports this initiative and implements the Dutch WASH Strategy 2016 – 2030.

The project objective is to improve water and health security in Basrah (DrwSan). The output is to ensure that by 2024, as many as 960,000 Basrah residents have improved and sustainable access to safe water. This will be done by improving access to safe drinking water in 100 schools; improving access to safe water in Basra by improving the R-Zero water treatment plant and by rehabilitating existing non-functioning plants, as well as improve access to safe drinking water through the provision of specialized unaccounted-for-water equipment (smart water meters) to reduce water leakage (FysInfr). This also includes the training of technical staff, as well as the setting up of a multi-stakeholder Project Supervision Committee, which shall facilitate enhanced coordination and cooperation among different stakeholders in governance, thereby improving institutional capacity (InsOntw). In addition, the installation of smart water meters will enhance government capacity for water auditing (InsOntw, GntWat), but also create demand among water sector users and open the door for both public and private sector to buy in, boost consumer confidence and increase water sector revenue (PrivSct).

2.1.2 Appraisal

Appraise the policy relevance of the project, using the appraisal table. If the maximum score is not achieved, explain why. If certain criteria do not apply, please indicate this.

No.	Criteria 2.1 Policy relevance	Indicators (score 0, 1, 2)	Score	EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES
2.1.1	The proposed intervention ties in with the operational objectives in the Explanatory Memorandum and the related policy memorandum (policy theory and **intervention logic**).	The proposed intervention ties in with both the main objective and the secondary objectives .	2	The intervention supports sustainable legitimate stability in Iraq by providing safe drinking water to Basrah, a region in great turmoil.
2.1.2	The proposed intervention ties in with the ODA priorities		2	Prevent conflict and instability;reduce social inequality.

		The proposed intervention ties in with more than one of the result areas of the BH&OS priorities.		
2.1.3	The proposed intervention ties in with the annual plan and the result chain of the MIB/MASP	The intervention is specifically mentioned in the result chain of the MIB/MASP.	2	Increases regional cooperation on shared water resources.
2.1.4	The relevance of the proposed intervention to the crosscutting themes of women's rights and gender equality / climate / PSD / coherence and strengthening of civil society organisations	The proposed intervention is relevant to more than one of the crosscutting themes.	2	The intervention is relevant to climate, PSD and strengthening civil society organisations.
Total score (maximum 8 out of 8 points)			8	

2.2 Problem analysis and lessons learned

2.2.1 Description

Describe:

- *what problem the proposed activity addresses;*
- *the extent to which the activity contributes to solving the problem and (where applicable) briefly state supporting reasons.*

As Iraq is the lowest riparian country in the Tigris-Euphrates river basin and located in an arid region, it is considered one of the most vulnerable countries in the Arab region in relation to climate change. The impacts of changing weather patterns have already made themselves felt in recent years, and contributed to alarming water scarcity as well as severe droughts. For decades, Iraq's water sector and infrastructure have not received the attention they deserve. The combination of its harsh geophysical conditions, water scarcity, increasing temperatures, and extreme weather events puts pressure on basic services, undermines livelihood security and triggers forced migration and internal displacement. This may increase the threats of extremist groups gaining support in the resource-constrained communities.

Conditions in southern Iraq are particularly acute. Drinking water shortages, agro-industrial pollution and high salinity in water sources have had devastating socio-economic impacts in health, sanitation, agriculture sectors. In the southern governorates of Iraq, most of the small rivers and irrigation canals dried up in the 2018 summer. Because of the limited freshwater volume, the Ministry of Water Resources had to reduce the amount of water released from the key reservoirs of the country as a water conservation measurement.

As a result of the water-saving strategy, the southern governorates have lost the capacity to deliver safe freshwater to the population. Basrah province has been tagged as the most affected province in Iraq due to the water crisis. Not only is there a shortage of water, but its quality remains problematic too, with massive mineralisation, high concentrations of suspended solids, and high salinity.

90% of the population has lost access to safe freshwater during the summer of 2018 because of Basrah's geographical location within Iraq, as it is considered as the last point in the country reached by the Euphrates and Tigris rivers. During the period August and October 2018, 100,000 cases of water-related disease have been recorded in Basrah.

In Basrah governorate, water facilities are in ill-repair. The water supply system has degraded to the extent that the rate of water leakage is estimated at 50 percent. Illegal connections drain even more water from existing resources. As a result, the nine main water projects and 337 compact units present in the governorate fall short of covering the governorate's needs. The water supply is also unreliable, as 80 per cent of Basrah households only have access to water ten hours a day. And water is of poor quality. As a result of the lack of freshwater and the significant increase in salinity and pollution[1], nine water projects on the Shatt Al-Arab malfunctioned, and R-Zero water treatment plant is now the only functioning source of freshwater but is not able to cover enough water for all population.

In September 2018, civil unrest in Basrah over electricity curtailments and lack of drinkable water sparked weeks of violent demonstrations. The widespread unemployment experienced by the Basrah residents was also an underlying factor, which got triggered by the water and electricity shortages. These issues have the potential to pose similar threats in future and lead to destabilisation.

These challenges multiplied due to cuts in development funding by the federal government between 2014-2017 due to a diversion of resources to the fight ISIS. This led to a backlog and problems in maintenance of the water infrastructure.

Further exacerbating the situation is a lack of proper sanitation and hygiene facilities.
Health care facilities and schools often lack clean water, sanitation, and soap for handwashing, leading to infections. For instance, diarrhoea is the second largest cause of death for Iraqi children under five years old. Increasing simple hygiene practices such as handwashing with soap could decrease the diarrheal incidence by almost half. In 2018, a survey conducted by the Ministry of Education and the Central Statistical Organisation demonstrated that of the 1068 primary schools in Basrah, only 682 (64 %) had Water, Sanitation and Hygiene facilities, out of which 494 (72 %) were connected to the public sewage network and 396 (58 %) had access to public water, which is mostly not drinkable.

Project activities

In order to address the issues of the lack of drinking water as well as sanitation, this project will 1) focus on increasing the capacity of the R-Zero water treatment plant, 2) rehabilitating smaller water treatment plans which have fallen in disrepair, 3) improving water management by installing smart meters as well as 4) providing clean water and disinfection units tom 100,000 children. The project objective is to improve water and health security in Basrah. The output is to ensure that by 2024, as many as 960,000 Basrah residents have improved and sustainable access to safe water.

1) Increasing the capacity and technical management of the R-Zero water treatment plant

[1] Human Rights Watch (2019). *Basrah is Thirsty: Iraq's Failure to Manage the Water Crisis*: https://www.hrw.org/report/2019/07/22/basrah-thirsty/iraqs-failure-manage-water-crisis

Due to the decline of freshwater revenues coming from the Tigris, R-Zero is perceived as the most significant water project operating in Basrah. It is fed with fresh water through the Al-Bada'a canal. The R-Zero project has a 30,000 m^3/h capacity (pumping 22,000 m^3/h of raw water with low salinity to inner-city treatment plants and 8000 m^3/h of treated water to Basrah city and other districts)[2]. While the Government owns all water facilities, the Directorate of Water Basrah is the service provider and is responsible for R-Zero's operation and maintenance.

At the time of the water crisis and subsequent demonstrations in 2018, R-Zero was in poor condition. Old pumps only worked at fifty per cent efficiency, and significant leakage occurred. R-Zero used to receive only 16,200 m^3/h from Al-Bada'a, despite the latter's designed capacity of 75,600 m^3/h[3]. During the first weeks of the crisis, UNICEF installed six pumps and helped to rehabilitate broken mechanical parts. Other UN agencies, the private sector, and civil society organisations such as the Sistani Charity foundation helped to install new pumps and rehabilitate water treatment components as well. However, as a result of R-Zero's degraded power supply, it experienced multiple shutdowns during the summer of 2019, limiting Basrah's water supply.

Currently, the Government and its partners focus all efforts on restoring R-Zero's capacity. The head of the treatment plant has set priorities and is coordinating with all interested actors to avoid any duplication. In line with these priorities, UNICEF has already established an action plan to rehabilitate water treatment plants inside the R-Zero project, carried out through other donations, providing an additional output of 2,400 m^3/h. Despite these ongoing interventions, more work is needed. The proposed interventions in this plan will therefore complement these works by improving R-Zero's control technology.

2) Rehabilitating smaller water treatment plans which have fallen in disrepair

To provide safe drinking water to residents, the Directorate of Water Basrah maintains a relatively large network of water treatment plans with varying capacities. However, due to Basrah's vast geographic spread, the population size and the lack of resources, the Directorate is not able to extend the network to all areas in need. Vulnerable, poor and minority communities frequently appear down the priority list of the Government for water supply. For instance, in Basrah City, an estimated 338,400 residents live in informal housing excluded from formal water and sanitation networks. During the 2018 water crisis, the high cost of water hit poor residents the hardest, forcing them to consume unsafe tap water.

The chronic neglect of poor and marginalised communities in service provision, coupled with widespread unemployment, serves as a reason behind social unrest. Al-Zubair is one such district which experiences significant drinking water scarcity. It is also home to the minority African-Iraqi community. To expand access to water in neglected communities in Basrah, UNDP will rehabilitate existing non-functional water treatment plants in Al-Zubair. Furthermore, UNDP will install new plants in vulnerable communities that are not covered by the existing water supply network.

3) Installation of smart meters

This activity aims to reduce illegal connections, water loss and water contamination in two selected areas within Abo Al-Khaseeb and Al-Zubair district.

4) Providing clean water and disinfection units tom 100,000 children

Improve access to safe drinking water in 100 schools in deprived areas in south Basrah by installing small-scale water desalination and disinfection units beside new water tanks and piping systems, benefiting 100,000 children (UNICEF). UNICEF will target communities in areas severely

[2] R-Zero's technical team checks the water level within the feeding canal on a daily basis, which gives a rough estimate of the volumetric flowrate.

[3] The Al-Bada'a canal is mostly lined with concrete to reduce water permeability to soil. However, 80 kilometers of the canal pass through gypsum soil, causing loss of water. The canal therefore doesn't reach its designed capacity.

affected by water challenges. Through this intervention, 100 primary schools (with two or three shifts of 500 pupils each, leading to a conservative estimate of 100,000 pupils)

Policy coherence

The proposed project is in line with goals formulated by the government of Iraq as well as the Sustainable Development Goals:

- Under the fourth pillar of the National Development Plan (NDP): "Reducing Multidimensional Poverty in the Provinces.", it will address the following objectives of the NDP for water supply, environmental sustainability and poverty alleviation:
    - Provide drinking water according to international standards (Sectoral and Spatial Development: Water Resources).
    - Improve the quality of potable water (Sectoral and Spatial Development: Water Resources).
    - Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation services (Chapter 10: Environmental Sustainability).
    - Enhance the health situation (Objective 2: Chapter Poverty, Alleviation).

- Sustainable Development Goals indicator 1.4: "Ensure that by 2030 all men and women, particularly the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, natural resources, as well as access to basic services".
- Sustainable Development Goals indicator 6.1: "Achieve by 2030 universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all".
- United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework strategic priority 3: "Promoting Effective, Inclusive and Efficient Institutions and Services".
- United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework strategic priority 4**:** **"**Promoting Natural Resource and Disaster Risk Management, and Climate Change Resilience".
- UNICEF Strategy plan (2018-2021) and UNICEF Iraq Country Programme Document (2020-2024) WASH Outcome 2: "By 2024, more children and their families have improved access to sustainable, equitable and safely managed water, sanitation and hygiene services including in most vulnerable communities"

The reason for the Netherlands to support this project

In July 2019, Directorate of Water Basrah identified 42 priority projects in the water sector, which include rehabilitation of water plants, water supply network and or extension of the network to new localities. The Directorate of Water Basrah is working on rehabilitation of these priority projects, however, due to lack of sufficient federal funding it is unable to carry out works on all projects. Therefore the international community was asked to step in. The support of the Netherlands is crucial to help restore capacities of the existing water supply network and extend it to especially most vulnerable communities. The support by Dutch government would contribute to address the priority projects identified by the Directorate of Water Basrah in 2019.

In addition, a contribution by the Netherlands to improve the water and health situation in Basrah contributes to the policy goals formulated in the MACS.

Providing safe drinking water to Basrah's population will support the overall effort of the Netherlands to establish sustainable, legitimate stability in Iraq. Only in a stable Iraq we can fight extremism and prevent migration. An important key stability is the water sector in Basrah. In September 2018, civil unrest in Basrah over, among others, lack of drinkable water sparked weeks of violent demonstrations. By providing safe drinking water to Basrah, the intervention answers to the demands of the protesters and creates stability in the region.

The water crisis forced rural populations to relocate to urban areas so that they could find livelihood opportunities in place of income earned from agriculture and livestock. In July 2019, 5,300 families had become internally displaced in southern governorates because of lack of access to safe water. By providing safe drinking water to Basrah, the intervention prevents more rural families from becoming internally displaced. Furthermore, it has a direct impact on the agricultural output of the Basrah region, which is of importance for local food security, the decrease of food imports from Iran and the Dutch work and income agenda.
In 2019, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Assistance Mission (SRSG) for Iraq Hennis-Plasschaert requested the NL to support the Basrah Water Project. As the Netherlands has a significant profile on water and engages in multiple water-related projects in Iraq, this project fits the NL portfolio and strengthens its reputation in Iraq. In addition, by responding positively to the request of the SRSG, the NL strengthens its position within the UN framework in Iraq, in turn benefiting the NL in its other activities in the country.

Experience of UNICEF and UNDP working in Basrah

Additionally, at federal level, UNICEF is coordinating with the ministerial committee established by the former Prime Minster of Iraq to deliver quality results and add value to the ongoing interventions in Basrah. Moreover UNICEF held meetings with both the former and the current Minister of Construction, Housing and Public Municipalities, where the water scarcity in Basrah was on top of the agenda for both meeting. At Basrah level, UNICEF field staff in Basrah have daily communication with Directorate of Water and/or the new water committee, international stockholders including UNDP and in monthly bases with WASH cluster. Moreover, UNICEF Chief of WASH joined SRSG mission to Basrah including a meeting with the governor and the head of Province Council.

UNDP has been working closely with the Basrah Water Directorate since early 2019 to support upgrading of the water supply infrastructure. UNDP management have periodic consultations with the Basrah Water Directorate. UNDP Head of Office for Basrah and field engineer (Water) have regular coordination with the Basrah Water Directorate.

2.2.2 Appraisal

*Appraise the **contextual analysis** of the project proposal using the appraisal table. If the maximum score is not achieved, explain why and how this is dealt with. If certain criteria do not apply, please indicate this.*

No.	Criteria 2.2 Contextual analysis	Indicators (score 0,1,2)	Score	EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES
2.2.1	The proposal is based on a careful and thorough contextual analysis, from which a logical problem definition and objective are generated.	The proposal is based on a careful and thorough analysis and results in a logical problem definition and objective.	2	UNICEF and UNDP have executed detailed research in the region and discussed the project with specialists of the ministry. The proposal is based on several surveys that were conducted prior,

				such as the survey by the Ministry of Education (2018). See also page 6, page 7 (footnotes) and page 10 of the project proposal for reference to the surveys.
2.2.2	Based on the problem formulated, the proposal explains in a logical manner why the intervention is aimed at the specified geographical location.	The proposal gives a realistic explanation of why the intervention is aimed at the specified geographical location and substantiates this with examples.	2	UNDP and UNICEF clearly explain why they target Basrah and explain what other donors are doing in the area. NL will support UNDP and UNICEF to increase cooperation between all parties involved. See for example page 8 of the project proposal (reference to study by Directorate of Water identifying 42 projects and locations) as well as page 1 of the annex "Response to additional donor queries 150920" for selection of schools by UNICEF. Moreover, a clear argumentation is provided for the locations of the rehabilitation of the water treatment plans.
2.2.3	The proposal justifies the choice of **target group**.	The proposal clearly justifies the choice of target group.	2	For NL the target group (mainly inhabitants of the rural area of the Basrah region) is crucial in supporting local work & income, fight internal displacement and increase stability.

2.2.4	The proposal sets out which relevant actors were involved in formulating the proposal and what influence they had on the content of the proposal.	The proposal sets out the involvement of actors, both in formulating the proposal and in the proposed intervention (including its management).	2	UNICEF and UNDP are in the lead. However, the workplan has been discussed with other actors in the region, both Iraqi and international parties.
2.2.5	A **stakeholder analysis** (incl. women and youth) has been carried out and the results incorporated in the proposal.	The proposal sets out who has a stake in the programme/project and details their relative interests.	2	A stakeholder analysis has been carried out, however, no specific attention has been devoted to women and youth.
2.2.6	The proposal describes how the results of evaluations and/or studies feed into formulation of the proposal.	The proposal clearly sets out how results from evaluations and/or studies contributed to formulation of the proposal.	2	Since this is a infrastructural programme, a detailed study has been carried out focusing on the parts of the Basrah waterinfrastructure that need to be improved/rebuild.
Total score (maximum 12 out of 12 points)			12	

2.3 Objectives (outcomes), results (outputs), activities and resources, based on the SMART principle

2.3.1 Description

The project will lead to the following outputs:

1. Improve access to safe drinking water in 100 schools in deprived areas in south Basrah by installing small-scale water desalination and disinfection units beside new water tanks and piping systems, benefiting 100,000 children (UNICEF).
2. Improve access to safe water by increasing the power supply for, and automating the operation of, the R-Zero project, benefiting 960,000 individuals (UNICEF).
3. Improve access to safe drinking water by rehabilitating existing non-functional plants and adding more plants to the water network, benefiting 50,000 individuals (UNDP).
4. Improve access to safe drinking water through the provision of specialized unaccounted-for-water equipment which will be used to reduce water leakage, benefiting 75,000 individuals (UNICEF).

See also annex I – results matrix for a detailed overview of the outcomes, outputs, indicators and activities of the project.

1. Improve access to safe drinking water in 100 schools in deprived areas in south Basrah by installing small-scale water desalination and disinfection units beside new water tanks and piping systems, benefiting 100,000 children (UNICEF).

UNICEF will target communities in areas severely affected by water challenges. Through this intervention, 100 primary schools (with two or three shifts of 500 pupils each, leading to a conservative estimate of 100,000 pupils) in Abu Al Khaseeb, Shatt Al-Arab, Al Fao, Al Zubair districts will have improved access to safe water. Municipal water is available through the public network, but is not drinkable. The project will therefore include installation of saline water desalination units (with the capacity of 250 litres per hour) in each school alongside new pipes, storage tanks, bottle-filling taps and basins.

2. Improve access to safe water by increasing the power supply for, and automating the operation of, the R-Zero project, benefiting 960,000 individuals (UNICEF).

The control technology of R-Zero presents a continued source of the challenges in technical water management in Basrah. Due to the lack of flow meters, overproduction beyond design capacity occurs frequently. To sustain the optimum operation of R-Zero and reduce the risk of a shutdown, UNICEF will implement the following:

- Rehabilitation of the 11 kilo-volt-ampere power transformer station, replacing damaged sectors/panels.
- Design and installation of a new supervisory control and data acquisition system, including a full set of flow and pressure meters, control room, and computers, including training on operation for site staff. This will facilitate monitoring, reducing the number of operators needed.

3. Improve access to safe drinking water in Basrah by rehabilitating existing non-functional plants and adding more plants to the water network, benefiting 50,000 individuals (UNDP).

A list of projects has been identified for implementation in Al-Zubair's sub districts of Al-Sha'abiyah, Khour Al-Zubair and Safwan, in coordination with the Water Directorate. The intervention will benefit an estimated population of 50,000 individuals, and consists of several components:

- **Rehabilitation of Khour Al-Zubair Water Complex**
  The plant receives its water from two sources: R-Zero and Mahella station in Abo Al Khaseeb. It feeds water to the residents of areas Um Qasr, Safwan and Khor Al-Zubair.

  Required works:
  - Rehabilitation of the water treatment plant (800 m^3/h) with provision of maintenance works for the raw water distribution plants with different capacities (800 m^3/h, 600 m^3/h, and 1000 m^3/h) including injectors, alum unit, and sedimentation tanks.
  - Rehabilitation of the pumping system with a capacity of 800 m^3/h.
  - Construction of a laboratory building, including the supply of equipment and chemicals.
  - Construction of a workshop building with all required tools.

- **Rehabilitation of Safwan Water Complex and instalment of water networks in Safwan**
  The plant takes water from Khor Al-Zubair station and feeds water to the residents of Safwan district.

  Required works:
  - Rehabilitation of the pumping system with a capacity of 300 m^3/h, and a concrete basin

with a capacity of 400 m^3/h.
  - Supplying and installing new pumps.
  - Maintenance of the basin and cleaning of the sedimentation tank.
  - Construction of new piping network and rehabilitation of network parts that suffer from a lack of access to water.

- **Rehabilitation of Al-Sha'abiyah Water Complex, Division 1**
  This water complex supplies water to the residents of Al Zubair district. It consists of several components with a total capacity of 2000 m^3/h , vertical complex system, and 5 compact units of 400 m^3/h each.

  Required works:
  - Maintenance works for pumps, sedimentation tanks, and filters.
  - Supply and install equipment and rehabilitate the Alum Unit (Holding tanks and Mixers)
  - Supply and Install Equipment and rehabilitate the Chlorine Unit System (Injector pumps)

- **Rehabilitation of Al-Sha'abiyah Central Water Complex, Division 2**
  The water complex consists of several stations, 4 horizontal stations (pressure sand filter) of 200 m^3/h each. Total delivery 800 m3/hr

Required works:
  - Maintenance of filters and sedimentation tanks.
  - Supplying and repairing the Main water Pumping unit.
  - Supplying and repairing alum and chlorine injection systems.

4. Improve access to safe drinking water through the provision of specialized unaccounted-for-water equipment which will be used to reduce water leakage, benefiting 75,000 individuals (UNICEF).

This activity aims to reduce illegal connections, water loss and water contamination in two selected areas within Abo Al-Khaseeb and Al-Zubair district.

The intervention will include the provision of specialized equipment, software/GIS systems and the following:

- Digital, smart water meters for households installed and operationalised in 1500 households in two selected localities in Abo Al-khaseeb and Al-Zubair.
- Digital, smart water meters installed in 150 institutions, including governmental institutions, malls, hospitals, schools, provincial health centres, universities.
- Flow meters installed on main pipeline connections (ten per district).
- Leak detection equipment installed.
- Household water conservation tools installed in 1500 households.
- 10 unaccounted-for-water campaigns (five per district).
- Training of 100 technical staff.

2.3.2 Appraisal

Appraise the logical framework using the appraisal table. If the maximum score is not achieved, explain why and how this is dealt with. If certain criteria do not apply, please indicate this.

No.	Criteria 2.3	Explanation of score (1 point per indicator)	Score

	Outcomes, outputs, activities and resources based on the SMART principle		
2.3.1	The objectives at outcome level are clearly formulated, fall within the proposal's span of influence and are realistic. The outcomes follow logically from the problem formulated.	☑ The outcomes are specifically formulated. ☑ The objectives follow logically from the problem formulated. ☑ The objectives fall within the proposal's span of influence and are realistic (taking account of its duration and local circumstances). ☑ The objectives are acceptable to the target group and other stakeholders. ☑ The objectives formulated are realistic bearing in mind the scope of the activities and the capacity of the (local) organisation(s).	5

EXPLANATION/
REFERENCES

UNICEF and UNDP have a long experience in Iraq. UNICEF has an extensive knowledge and executing capacity in WASH.

Additional appreciation
gender indicator 3:

The objectives include an explicit reference to women/ men, girls/ boys and gender equality. Please explain.

The project does not have an explicit reference to women/men, girls/boys or gender equality. In general, however, UNICEF does pay attention to women, youth and gender equality in all of their programmes and projects.

2.3.2	Progress in achieving the outcomes can be determined objectively on the basis of measurable performance indicators.	☑ Relevant performance indicators have been formulated for each outcome. ☑ A baseline measurement and a measurable target (quantitative and/or qualitative) have been formulated for each performance indicator.	3

		☑ The verification method (the means by which data is collected and the sources of that data) is realistic and feasible.		

EXPLANATION/
REFERENCES
The outcome are concretely formulated and can be easily measured.

Additional appreciation
gender indicator 1:

For each outcome are relevant, gender specific performance indicators formulated. Please explain.

No gender specific performance indicators have been formulated.

2.3.3	The outputs formulated are concrete and fall within the proposal's span of control. The outputs follow logically from the outcomes formu-lated.	☑ The project proposal is divided into clear phases, each having concretely formulated outputs. ☑ The outputs are specific. ☑ There is a clear link between the outputs and the out-comes, i.e. the outputs can be expected to contribute to achievement of the outcomes. ☑ The outputs are acceptable to the target group and other ☑ The outputs formulated are realistic bearing in mind the scope of the activities and the capacity of the (local) organisation(s) .	5

EXPLANATION/
REFERENCES
See results matrix in annex

2.3.4	Progress in achieving the outputs can be determined objectively on the basis of measurable performance indicators.		3

		☑ Relevant performance indicators have been formulated for each output. ☑ A baseline and a measurable target (quantitative and/or qualitative) have been formulated for each performance indicator. ☑ The verification method (the means by which data is col-lected and the sources of that data) is realistic and feasible.		

EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES

See results matrix in annex

Additional appreciation
gender indicator 1 and 2:

For each output are relevant, gender specific performance indicators formulated;

Baseline, targets and verification methods are put on to collect gender specific information. Please explain.

No gender specific performance indicators have been formulated.Gender equality is however, a fundamental principle for UNICEF and as such adhered to and monitored in all programming.

2.3.5	There is a logical link between the proposed activities and the outputs formulated.	☑ The proposal sets out the nature of the activities and explains how the activities formulated will contribute to achieving the outputs.	1

EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES

2.3.6	There is a logical link between the activities and the project budget (efficiency).	☑ The budget is supported by figures on price and quantity (p x q). ☑ The budget is broken down by output and/or outcome.	2

EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES

See chapter 9 of the project proposal (page 17) for a detailed overview of the budget

2.3.7	When the activity ends, its envisaged outputs will have a lasting effect for the ulti-mate target group.	☑ The proposal contains a clear vision (with objectives) as to how the activities will be continued when the intervention comes to an end. ☑ To achieve these objectives, specific measures will be taken during implementation of the activities to ensure that the target group will help continue the activities. ☐ The proposal contains suitable criteria against which progress in continuing the activities can be ☑ The proposal includes a tran-sition plan or exit strategy, identifying the various actors.	3

EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES

UNICEF Country office is working closely with the Iraqi government at local and federal levels to strengthen capacity in water management. In addition, the project envision the training of personnel to maintain the water treatment plants so that the water treatment plans can remain functional or be repaired when needed to continue to function.

2.3.8	At the end of the activity, the envisaged outputs will have a lasting effect on the local partners.	☑ The proposal contains a clear vision (with objectives) as to how the quality of the activi-ties and/or financial inde-pendence of the local partner will be ☑ To achieve these objectives, specific measures will be taken during implementation of the activity.	4

		☑ The proposal devotes attention to the capacity of the local partner to generate income from various sources. ☑ The proposal sets out suitable criteria against which progress in regard to institutional sustainability can be measured.		

EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES

- Training will be provided to the local government agency that will be responsible for the infrastructure.
- After finishing the reconstruction work (duration: 3 years), UNICEF and UNDP continue to be involved for another year to monitor whether the local government agency is able to take responsibility.
- The government has stated to have sufficient staff and means available to take over and secure its sustainability.
- Based on the experiences of other partners in the region, it is questionable whether they will actually be able to do so. For years, they have not been able to provide sufficient drinking water to the inhabitants of Basrah. Also, lack of funds is always an issue in Iraq. De budget deficit is high (56% in 2020) and there are no government funds to invest in public projects.
- Since the current project takes care of most of the infrastructural work, the government agency is solely responsible for maintenance. Since they have sufficient trained staff the government agency should be able to perform their task.
- Important to note is that this project will target the most urgent drinking water problems in the Basrah region. It will not provide longterm solutions for endemic water management, work on desalination or enhance desertification. Other international partners in the region, in particular Japan and the UK, are working on long term infrastructural projects.

Total score (maximum score 27 points)	2

2.4 Cooperation, harmonisation and added value

In July 2019, Directorate of Water Basrah identified 42 priority projects in the water sector, which include rehabilitation of water plants, water supply network and or extension of the network to new localities. The Directorate of Water Basrah is working on rehabilitation of these priority projects, however, due to lack of sufficient federal funding it is unable to carryon works on all projects.

In this context, different bilateral and multi-lateral partners have offered support to the Basrah Water Directorate specifically and the governorate in general. United States (USAID), UK, and Japan (JICA) are the key players in the field so far.

- Basrah Water Supply Improvement Project II (JICA): The Project will provide water supply facilities, including a water treatment plan and a network to Basrah and Al-Hartha. Please see annex for details. This project has no direct connection with R-Zero plant. Upon completion, the Project will cover approx. 65% of current demand of the Central Basrah, so, the water resource allocation from R-Zero plant would be able to cover more quantity to the southern Basrah.
- Sea Water Desalination Plant: With loan from the UK government, a desalination plant on the sea in Faw district is being constructed. In the long term this project is expected to provide durable solution to water supply. This project is being implemented by a private company Bi-Water.
- USAID has provided USD 5 million to rehabilitate seven water treatment plants in different parts of Basrah governorate. The Project is being implemented by UNDP.

As is obvious from the review of ongoing interventions, the support by Japan and UK is focused on long-term solutions, including through water desalination. These interventions will take years to materialize. In the meanwhile, citizens of Basrah governorate are facing regular water shortages due to the lack of maintenance of existing infrastructure and distribution network. Regular water shortage, coupled with other factors has triggered violent protests in the recent past, and it has the potential to pose similar threats in future. In this context, the support by United States and Netherlands is crucial to help restore capacities of the existing water supply network and extend it to especially most vulnerable communities. The support by Dutch government would contribute to address the priority projects identified by the Directorate of Water Basrah in 2019.

2.5 Channel and aid modality (including alignment)

Programmatic aid gives the opportunity to design the programme according to Dutch priorities.

- The channel through which the support will be provided is multilateral. Implementing organisations are UNICEF and UNDP, who have already an extensive experience of working in the Basrah governate.
- The aid modality ('other programme aid') is chosen based on the decision tree.
- The Netherlands is the single donor for this project.
- *whether the degree of (financial and policy) alignment is substantiated; see the MASP risk analysis;*
  Please see the Multi Annual Country Strategy Risks under "Contextual risks".

V. IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Budget

5.1.1 Breakdown of costs

Budget

Programme Output	Organisation	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total cost USD
1. Improve access to safe drinking water in 100 schools in deprived areas in south Basrah by installing small-scale water desalination and disinfection units beside new water tanks and piping systems, benefiting 100,000 children	UNICEF	250,000	756,500	500,000	1506,500
2. Improve access to safe water by increasing the power supply for, and automating the operation of, the R-Zero project, benefiting 960,000 individuals	UNICEF	250,000	750,000	391,500	1,391,500
3. Improve access to safe drinking water in Basrah by rehabilitating existing non-functional plants and adding more plants to the water network, benefiting 50,000 individuals	UNDP	1,707,954	1,100,000		2,807,954
4. Improve access to safe drinking water through the provision of specialized un-accounted-for-water equipment which will be used to reduce water leakage, benefiting 75,000 individuals	UNICEF		300,000	204,737	504,737
Direct programme costs	***UNICEF***	***500,000***	***1,806,500***	***1,096,237***	***3,402,737***
Direct programme costs	***UNDP***	***1,707,954***	***1,100,000***		***2,807,954***
Total direct programme costs		**2,207,954**	**2,906,500**	**1,096,237**	**6,210,691**
Partner UN Org. recovery cost (7%)	UNICEF	**35,000**	**126,455**	**76,737**	**238,192**
	UNDP	**119,557**	**77,000**		**196,557**
Administrative agency recovery cost (1%)		**5,000**	**18,065**	**10,962**	**34,027**
Iraq Trust Fund recovery cost		**5,000**	**18,065**	**10,962**	**34,027**
Programme costs	***UNICEF***	***545,000***	***1,969,085***	***1,194,898***	***3,708,983***
Programme costs	***UNDP***	***1,844,590***	***1,188,000***		***3,032,590***

Total Programme costs		**2,389,590**	**3,157,085**	**1,194,898**	**6,741,573**

See for Detailed budget Annex 2

5.3 Monitoring

5.3.1 Narrative and financial reports

Based on the performance assessment decision tree, for the current project the following reports are required (option 5):

- *Audit opinion*
- *Report of findings*
- *Additional measures*
- *Final evaluation of efficiency and effectiveness.*

Additionally, the Dutch embassy in Bagdad will play an active role in erecting a multi-stakeholder project supervision committee. Not only to strengthen the communication between the Governor of Basrah and the Basrah Water Council, but also to involve the Ministry of Water Resources and other international donors active in the region.

5.3.2 Audit opinion

Based on the audit certificate decision tree we would suggest an audit opinion on the beneficiary's annual accounts; activity identifiably included.

According to the General Arrangement with UNICEF, paragraph 13, all programmes, projects and activities are subject to internal and external audit procedures. UNICEF's audit protocol has been approved by MFA.

5.3.3 IATI - International Aid transparency Initiative

If a contract is to be signed with one of the organisations listed below, include the following text:

AfDB	IMF	UN-Habitat
AsDB	IOM	UNHCR
EBRD	OCHA	UNICEF
FAO	OHCHR	UNODC
GAVI	UN Women	UNRWA
GFATM	UNAIDS	World Bank
IDB	UNCTAD	WFP
IDLO	UNDP	WHO
IFAD	UNEP	WTO
International Finance Corporation (IFC)	UNESCO	WTO-ITC
ILO	UNFPA	

The responsible policy departments will coordinate the policy dialogue with the aforementioned organisation to ensure that the IATI standard is implemented in accordance with the BZ/DGIS publication guidelines. These departments will also monitor progress, so the budget holder is not required to take any other action in this matter.

UNICEF will report on results in accordance with the IATI standard, as set out in the BZ publication guidelines.
The responsible policy departments in cooperation with the Embassy in Baghdad will coordinate the policy dialogue with the aforementioned organisation to ensure that the IATI standard is implemented in accordance with the BZ/DGIS publication guidelines.

5.3.4 Annual plans and other reports

Annual plan including budget for the Year 2 and Year 3. , 1 Nov 2021 until 31 Oct 2022 is required. The plan should also contain the result matrix, time frame and budget.

5.3.5 Monitoring calendar

Set out the reporting requirements in the table below, to ensure they are accurately incorporated in the decision/agreement.

Report type	Any specific requirements*	Period	Submission by
Annual plan	*Annual plan contains, result matrix , timeframe and budget*	*1 Dec 2020 – 31Dec 2021* *1 Jan 2022 – 31 Dec 2022* *1 Jan 2023 – 30 Nov 2023*	***Part of proposal*** ***30-Sept-2021*** ***30-Sept- 2022***
Narrative*	*Narrative report (max. 20 pages), including Result matrix and timeframe + Financial expenditure overview with the layout in accordance with the budget*	*1 Dec 2020 - 31 Dec 2021* *1 Jan 2022 - 31 Dec 2022* *1 Jan 2023 – 30 Nov 2023*	***31-May-2022*** ***31-May-2023*** ***31-May-2024***
Financial	*Yearly Certified Financial Statements*	*1 Dec 2020 - 31 Dec 2020* *1 Jan 2021 – 31 Dec 2021* *1 Jan 2022 – 31 Dec 2022* *1 Jan 2023 – 30 Nov 2023*	***31-May-2021*** ***31-May -2022*** ***31-May -2023*** ***31-May -2024***
Account of field visit	*Regular field visits will take place in consideration of the security situation.*	*No registration in SAP*	
Final narrative**	*Narrative report (max. 20 pages), including Result matrix and timeframe + Financial expenditure overview with the layout in accordance with the budget*	*1 Dec 2020 – 30 Nov 2023*	***30-Jun-2024***
Final financial	*Final certified financial report*	*1 Dec 2020 – 30 Nov 2023*	***30-Jun-2024***
Evaluation		*1 Dec 2020 – 30 Nov 2023*	***31-Jul-2024***

** Narrative / narrative IATI: reports on the contributions by third parties (inputs), outputs, outcome, sustainability and the spending of the Dutch contribution in accordance with the latest ap-*

proved budget. If a financial report (other than the A statement) is submitted separately, please insert a line.

In the case of IATI-compliant reporting, also refer to the additional reporting requirements specified under 5.3.3.

In this case, include the following text in the BEMO:
The organisation will report in accordance with the BZ publication guidelines on the IATI standard.

For more information about the narrative reports, please see 5.3.3.

*** See also the results given in section 5.3.1; if any additional criteria are desirable, insert them here.*

5.3.6 Evaluations

Based on the decision tree evaluations an evaluation is required for the activity. The total budget of the project is over EUR 5 million.