

News from the Iraq Foundation



February and March 2010 Activities, Issue 43 / 44

Dear Friends,

During February and March, IF has been working on many exciting projects to improve the lives of Iraqis. We are pleased to report that as part of our Widows Empowerment Project (WEP), we conducted numerous activities to support the participation of women and widows in Iraq's election, holding trainings and producing democracy manuals. IF has conducted 9 workshops throughout Iraq targeting members of the provincial government and provincial councils as well as local civic leaders as part of our efforts to promote good governance in the provinces and fight corruption. Supporting our efforts to promote human rights, IF's Human Rights Advocacy Initiative (HRAI) coalition released four human rights reports as part of the project's March newsletter, covering prison reform, domestic violence, water shortages, and violence against religious minorities.

IF is also pleased to announce that we are taking applications for a youth camp program, which aims to bolster Iraqi youth's understanding of civic and democratic processes and develop the students' leadership capacity to resolve community and national level disputes peacefully across sectarian lines. This 5-day camp will be held at American University of Iraq, Suleymanieh.

In addition to all these exciting activities, IF's HRAI team also produced its 14th and 15th newsletters during this period, which reports on HRAI coalition activities and the human rights situation in Iraq.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions about our projects or activities!

Sincerely,

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IF Holds Anti-corruption Meetings throughout Iraq's Provinces



As part of the Iraq Foundation's Provincial Accountability and Governance Project (PAG), which aims to fight corruption and promote good governance and transparency in Iraq's provinces, IF has conducted 9 workshops throughout Iraq targeting

members of the provincial government and provincial councils as well as local civic leaders.

These workshops target two different groups: civic leaders and provincial government official. Each workshop targets 30 participants. Civic leaders participate in the two-day workshop on the Iraqi anti-corruption legal and regulatory framework. Provincial council members and provincial government officials receive a one-day training. A total of 30 workshops will be delivered in 15 provinces throughout Iraq. In March provincial council workshops and civic leader workshops were held in Baghdad, Babil, Wassit, Kurkuk, and Salah Al-Din.

[Learn more about the Provincial Council Workshops...](#)

[Learn more about the Civic Leaders Workshops...](#)

IF's Human Rights Coalition Releases 4 Reports on Human Rights in Iraq!

برعاية المعهد العراقي
منظمات تحالف مشروع دعم حقوق الإنسان (HRAI) جمعت المعلومات والإحصائيات وبشرت بكتابة تقارير الظل حول إنفاذية حقوق الطفل والعهد الدولي الخاص بالحقوق المدنية والسياسية

منظمة حقوق الإنسان/ المثني

أعدت المنظمة تقريرا يسلط الضوء على واقع سجن المثني الإصلاحى المركزي على الرغم من محاولة المؤسسات الحكومية ومحاولة تحسين واقع حقوق الإنسان في العراق إلا إن هناك عدد من الانتهاكات التي ما زالت تحصل في أغلب المعتقلات والسجون العراقية (٥٠٥).

مركز الرصد لحقوق الإنسان/ النجف
أعدت المنظمة تقريرا يسلط الضوء على الواقع

الجمعية الوطنية العراقية لحقوق الإنسان/ ميسان

أعدت الجمعية الوطنية العراقية لحقوق الإنسان في ميسان تقريرا عن إنتهاك حق المرأة في العيش بكرامة، يسلط الضوء على ظاهرة العنف المنزلي الموجه ضد المرأة من قبل الرجل سواء كان الأب أو الأخ أو الزوج في ظل غياب تعميل حقيقي للاربع القانوني لهذه الحالات (٥٠٣).

رابطة التنخى والتضامن الأيزيدية/ الموصل
أعدت المنظمة تقريرا يسلط الضوء على وجود

IF is pleased to announce that its Human Rights Advocacy Initiative (HRAI) coalition has released four human rights reports as part of the project's March newsletter. The four reports focused on the following topics: prison reform, domestic violence, water shortages, and violence against religious minorities. Available in Arabic for download, these reports highlight the human

The Human Rights Advocacy Initiative (HRAI) published its fourteenth and fifteenth newsletter in February and March 2010. The newsletter combines the reports of three to four coalition members on various types of human rights violations across Iraq. It also reports on the HRAI and the coalition's networking and advocacy activities. Published in Arabic, HRAI's monthly newsletters are available on our website.

[Read Newsletter
\(February 2010\)](#)

[Read Newsletter
\(March 2010\)](#)

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IF Empowers Iraqi Widows during the Iraq's National Election!



As part of IF's Widows Empowerment Project (WEP), IF conducted numerous activities to support the participation of women and widows in Iraq's election. IF incorporated election training into our coursework for the fourth and final WEP training cycle in Baghdad. In addition, we published six hundred

copies of our democracy education manuals for distribution throughout Iraq. In Basra, where IF has already completed our democracy education training for Iraqi widows, a mentoring workshops on democracy and voting rights was held in addition to several workshops on sewing and patterning techniques.

We are proud to report that 43 of the surveyed 52 participants from the WEP training program in Basra participated in the election. Based on initial surveys prior to the program's start, this is a vast improvement for the political empowerment of widows from these rural communities.

[Learn more about IF's activities during the election!](#)

IF Takes Applications for Youth Camp!



As part of IF's Post Election Democracy Project (PEDP), IF aims to bolster Iraqi youth's understanding of civic and democratic processes, and their leadership across sectarian lines to resolve community and national level disputes peacefully. To achieve this goal, we are partnering with the American University of Iraq, Suleymanieh, to create an intensive 5-day youth camp for talented, civic minded students from universities

throughout Iraq. In total, IF will train 100 students each year in four groups of 25. We are currently accepting applications for this exciting opportunity. If you or someone you know is interested, please follow the link below to apply.

[Apply for Post Election Democracy Project Youth Camp!](#)

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