

## News from the Iraq Foundation



### January 2010 Activities, Issue 42

Dear Friends,

January was a productive month for the Iraq Foundation. We are pleased to report that as part of our Human Rights Advocacy Initiative (HRAI) project, IF and HRAI coalition members began work on two shadow reports, which will be submitted to UN agencies. These reports cover the status of the rights of children in Iraq as well as the status of political and civil rights. As part of our transparency and accountability efforts, IF has selected 15 NGOs from 15 Iraqi provinces to participate in our newly-launched Provincial Accountability and Governance Project (PAG). PAG staff have also completed delivery of supplies and technology to the Iraqi Commission on Integrity and has nearly finalized training materials for an upcoming workshop in March. As part of our work to better the lives of Iraqi widows, completed the third training cycle in both training locations in Baghdad and began the fourth and final training cycle in these locations. We are very pleased to report that IF staff was able to secure employment for four widows in Baghdad and IF's Al-Qurna training center received a generous donation of sewing materials to support the widows' sewing training.

In addition to all these exciting activities, IF's HRAI team also produced its 13th newsletter during January, 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!

#### In This Issue

[IF Forms Governance and Accountability NGO Group from Iraq's Provinces](#)

[IF Writes Shadow Reports to the United Nations on Children's Rights and Political and Civil Rights](#)

[IF Empowers Iraqi Widows by Providing Skills and Democracy Training, Job Placement Assistance](#)

[IF Publishes 13th Human Rights Newsletter](#)

Sincerely,

Joseph Sandor  
Communication Officer  
Iraq Foundation

## IF Forms Governance and Accountability NGO Group from Iraq's Provinces



During the month of January, Iraq Foundation staff completed the selection of 15 participating NGOs as part of the Provincial Accountability and Governance (PAG) project. Each NGO represents one of 15 Iraqi provinces. The selected 15 NGOs will form an independent network of NGOs that will participate in upcoming trainings, work with local government officials to implement concrete, practical solutions for transparency on issues as varied as access to information, transparent procurement practices, fair hiring practices, budgetary

disclosures, whistleblower policies, responsive complaints mechanisms, and monitor the provincial governments' adherence to principles of accountability and good governance as well as anti-corruption practices. In addition to the selection of these NGOs, IF PAG staff have also begun selecting trainers for upcoming workshops, finalizing training materials and coordinating with the Iraqi Commission on Integrity.

[Learn More about the Provincial Accountability and Governance Project...](#)

## IF Writes Shadow Reports to the United Nations on Children's Rights and Political and Civil Rights

### Quick Links

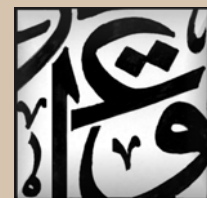


### IF Publishes 13th Human Rights Newsletter!

The Human Rights Advocacy Initiative (HRAI) published its thirteenth newsletter in January 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 \(January 2010\)](#)

### Quick Links:



[Register Now](#)



IF is pleased to announce that its Human Rights Advocacy Initiative (HRAI) coalition began work on two shadow reports, which will be submitted to the United Nations. Shadow reports are a method for NGOs to supplement or present alternative information to the periodic government reports that State parties are required to submit under UN treaties. Working with Dr. Mattar, Executive Director of the Protection Project at John's Hopkins University, the Iraq Foundation is currently working on two shadow reports on the UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as the International Convention on Political and Civil Rights. These reports will play an essential role in providing both reliable and independent information to UN committees.

[Learn More about the HRAI Project...](#)

## IF Empowers Iraqi Widows by Providing Skills and Democracy Training, Job Placement Assistance, and Mentoring



As part of IF's Widows Empowerment Project (WEP), IF celebrated the successful graduation of 50 Iraqi widows from IF's two training centers in Baghdad during January as part of the third training cycle. The fourth and final training cycle in Baghdad began on January 20th. As part of our job assistance efforts, we are pleased to report that IF

staff secured employment opportunities for Four widows in the Baghdad area.

As part of our mentoring services, IF held follow-on sewing trainings in Basra, aimed to further develop participating widows sewing skills. The training sessions focused on patterning. Thanks to a generous donation, IF was able to provide participants in Basra with donated fabric and additional sewing supplies, which will aid the widows in selling their sown goods in local markets throughout Basra.

[View Pictures of the Sewing Mentoring Session](#)

- [About Us](#)
- [Projects](#)
- [Donate](#)
- [Previous Newsletters](#)

[Forward email](#)

✉ [SafeUnsubscribe®](#)

This email was sent to joseph@iraqfoundation.org by [irag@iraqfoundation.org](mailto:irag@iraqfoundation.org).  
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Iraq Foundation | 1012 14th Street, NW | Suite 1110 | Washington | DC | 20012

Email Marketing by

