



Free Iraq Foundation  
المعهد العراقي

1012 14<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Suite 1110  
Washington, DC 20005  
Tel: (202) 347-4662  
Fax: (202) 347-7897  
Email: [iraq@iraqFoundation.org](mailto:iraq@iraqFoundation.org)  
Web: <http://www.iraqFoundation.org>

**The Post Elections Democracy Project (PEDP)  
Progress Report  
(October-December 2012)**

**Executive Summary:**

During this reporting period IF successfully held the Incoming Women Parliamentarians' (IWPs) 10<sup>th</sup> Peer Networking Meeting (PNM) in Baghdad. The PNM was held on November 11, attended by 19 Women MPs, and discussed the draft law of the Federal Council. IF received answers from IWPs on a survey that measures the impact of the PEDP Website. During an IF-organized meeting between *British MP* Ms. Meg Munn and some Iraqi Women MPs in Baghdad, IWPs pointed out to the positive impact that the Iraq Foundation work has had on them, specifically greater cooperation across blocks and more confidence in engaging in the media. IF completed the small grants activity of this project and broadcasted the 2 best youth-produced short videos on Al-Fayhaa TV on November 28 and 29. IF participated in an exhibition at the Art Gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts and in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Feminist Art Festival in Baghdad by exhibiting small grants-produced portraits that aim at national unity. The civic leaders completed drafting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Democratization Report in Iraq. The report was reviewed by Freedom House's (FH) editor in December. The report is expected to be launched at a press conference in February. Finally, DRL granted IF a no-cost extension for the PEDP Project until December 31, 2013.

**Addendums and links include:**

- IWPs' 10<sup>th</sup> Peer Network Meeting's pictures  
[http://www.iraqfoundation.org/projects\\_new/pedp/IWP-Peer-Meeting-11Nov2012.html](http://www.iraqfoundation.org/projects_new/pedp/IWP-Peer-Meeting-11Nov2012.html)
- Small Grants' pictures  
[http://www.iraqfoundation.org/projects\\_new/pedp/small-grant/pedp-youth-small-grants-OctNov2012.html](http://www.iraqfoundation.org/projects_new/pedp/small-grant/pedp-youth-small-grants-OctNov2012.html)
- IF participation in Art Festival & Art Gallery-Institute of Fine Arts' pictures  
[http://www.iraqfoundation.org/projects\\_new/pedp/small-grant/pedp-youth-small-grants-Art\\_Festival\\_Dec2012.html](http://www.iraqfoundation.org/projects_new/pedp/small-grant/pedp-youth-small-grants-Art_Festival_Dec2012.html)
- Thank you letter from Ms. Meg Munn, *British MP* to IF
- List of officials met during the consultative meetings -2nd Report
- Al-Khaima "the Tent" video  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S-cs0qmIeBw&list=UUDiQHVIK6qqwoRrmDKCFUHQ&index=2>

- Awdat Watan “The Return of the Homeland” video  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oWus2VXhukw&list=UUDiQHVIK6qqwoRmDKCFUHQ&index=1>
- SF-PPR form
- SF-PPR-B-PEDP
- FRR-425-PEDPQ1 2013 12-31-12

**Number of IF Staff (based in Iraq) working on PEDP Project: 4 Staff.**

**I. Activities and evaluation of progress on goals/objectives**

**Long term goal # 1: Strengthening the national parliament and its credibility in resolving national disputes, particularly through building the capacity of incoming women parliamentarians (IWPs) as effective negotiators and legislators**

1. **Short-term goal # 1:** Welcome packet and resources in Arabic for IWPs

***Welcome packet: Completed***

*The welcome packet was finalized in March 2010 and disseminated at the IWPs workshop in Beirut.*

2. **Short-term goal # 2:** IWPs capacity building

***Capacity Building Training: Completed***

*IF held the first IWPs workshop in Beirut-Lebanon in July 2010.*

***First regional meeting: Completed***

*The second regional meeting is scheduled to take place in May 2013 in Beirut.*

3. **Short-term goal # 3:** Website creation

During this reporting period, IF provided updates to the PEDP Website on November 11 and December 16. Documents provided include IF news on the IWPs' 10<sup>th</sup> Peer Network Meeting (PNM) report, and news on Women MPs from the MENA Region

4. **Short-term goal # 4:** Lessons learned and case studies report

During this time, The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS) continued working on the final lessons learned and case studies report. WWICS and IF had a conference call on October 12 to discuss the final report outline. IF agreed to the proposed outline for the final report on December 19. WWICS began drafting a new questionnaire for Iraqi parliamentarians (male and female) and regional parliamentarians, which follows the agreed upon outline. In addition, WWICS began drafting interview questions for the case studies section of the report.

On November 15, WWICS and IF agreed to additional collaboration on the PEDP project for a 12-month period, during which time the lessons learned and case studies report will be completed.

WWICS also continued to compile news on women in MENA parliaments and general news on women in the MENA region for the Iraq Foundation to include on their PEDP website. WWICS submitted updated news to IF on October 31.

5. Short-term goal # 5: Peer Networking meetings

On November 11, PEDP IWP's held their 10<sup>th</sup> Peer Networking Meeting at the Council of Representatives (CoR) building. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Inaam Al-Sultani, *Project Manager in IF-Baghdad*. Number of guests attended the meeting: 4 MPs from the Regions Committee of the CoR, another 5 guests included: 1MP from the Development and Research Directory of CoR; 1MP from the displaced and Immigrants Committee of CoR; 1 MP from the Services Committee of CoR; 1 former CoR member; 1 guest from the office of the State Minister's Office for CoR issues. 19 Iraqi women MPs participated in the meeting. (Pictures attached). The meeting discussed the Federal Council draft law.

The PNM consisted of 2 items:

- The 1<sup>st</sup> item was presented by Dr. Laith Al-Zubaidi, *Political Science Professor* and discussed the general concepts and international practices of the Federal Councils around the world, and discussed the draft proposal of the Iraqi Federal Council Law. Mr. Al-Zubaidi discussed the role of the legislative chambers and the states' practices in regards to: the representation method, the given authorities to the Federal Council in many countries such as the United States, Canada, Germany, and Switzerland. Dr. Al-Zubaidi indicated that there should be a legislative equality between the CoR and the Federal Council. He indicated that Article no. 65 of the Constitution should be amended to make the Constitutional Amendment Committee responsible for drafting the authorities, representation, and dissolving the Federal Council. Participants also discussed the representation at the Federal Council, the principal of quotas idea, and the rights and privileges of the Federal Council's member.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> item was presented by Ms. Suhair Al-Jubouri, *Baghdad Provincial Council Member* and covered the importance of the Federal Council's law for regions and provinces that don't have a regional status. Ms. Al-Jubouri said that the issuance of this law will support the authorities of the provincial councils, especially in Baghdad, where the provincial councils don't currently enjoy legislative authorities. She emphasized the importance of avoiding quotas which will impede the Federal Council's chances to succeed. Ms. Al-Jubouri also mentioned that decisions should be made with absolute majority and not with simple majority and talked about the importance of involving the provincial councils in the legislative process as provincial councils don't enjoy at the current time any legislative power.

After that, the participants wrapped up the meeting by exchanging views about the importance of enriching the legislative process due. The discussions included: The necessity of including important figures from the Iraqi opposition pre-2003 in the Federal Council and the importance of establishing the Federal Council on time as delaying the formation of the Federal Council represents a legislative gap.

### **IWPs' answers to the questionnaire about the impact of the PEDP Website:**

During August, 2012, *last reporting period*, IF received answers from IWPs on the above questionnaire. IF missed reporting on that during the last reporting period.

26 out of 32 IWPs answered this questionnaire. The rest 6 couldn't answer it due to their high volume of obligations. IF is still following up with these 6 MPs to receive their answers on the questionnaire.

65% of the surveyed IWPs ranked the PEDP-Website as good. 27% indicated that the website is very good, while 3.8% said it is excellent and 3.8% indicated it is moderate. 96% of the IWPs said that the PEDP Website has richer educational materials than other websites, while 3.8% indicated the opposite. IWPs who indicated that the PEDP Website has provided them with richer information than other websites were asked to indicate how much the website benefited their work as MPs. Their responses were as follows: 69.3% have benefited with a percentage of 25-50% from the website, while 23.1% benefited with a percentage of 75% from the website; 3.8% said it was beneficial with a percentage of 75%; and 3.8% of IWPs indicated that the PEDP Website benefited them with only 25%. IF asked the IWPs, if the Website's available resources and information on legislating law, conflict resolution, and monitoring were beneficial. 100% said yes. Those IWPs who answered yes to the previous question were asked them if they participated in legislating a law or participated in resolving a conflict, or participated in a monitoring process and asked if their participation in these activities was strengthened through obtaining information from the PEDP Website. 100% of the IWPs answered yes. Some of the notes included: "Yes, we participated in legislating laws. When we legislated the law of preventing smoking, PEDP Website was one of the sources we depended on... we participated in legislating laws at the Education Committee of the CoR in order to submit a proposed law for Social Security during the coming legislative charter." 57.7% of the IWPs agreed that their experiences and skills were increased through reading the Women in MENA parliament's news, which is available on the Website, while 42.3% didn't agree on that. The IWPs were also asked in this questionnaire if they think that the IWPs Program and its website will play a role in enriching the IWPs' information later. 100% said yes, through: presenting premier information and continue training, adding new information, conveying ideas correctly, and focusing on important legislations, learning about the experiences and other women MPs; learning about experiences and expertise of previous women MPs and gain from their experiences; and the IWPs said: "Yes, the website has important and effective role in granting new information to IWPs", they also emphasized that the website will enrich the knowledge of Women MPs through viewing it and by benefiting from previous experiences and expertise; finally, the IWPs indicated that the PEDP Website will provide more benefit to IWPs, because we expect that IF will seek more development to the IWPs Program and the Website. Also 100% of surveyed IWPs think that the PEDP website will have a role in enriching other women with information, and will encourage them to occupy political and leadership position through learning through the website about experiences of other women MPs participants in the program. 100% of surveyed

IWPs think that the website helped in achieving the IWPs' program goal. The surveyed IWPs presented the following suggestions to develop the PEDP Website: facilitating the monitoring role of women parliamentarians, having a special Facebook page with the website, including field experiences of Women MPs, and providing more information about Women MPs' activities from the MENA Region.

**Long-term goal # 2: Improving government accountability by enhancing the ability of Iraqi civil society leaders to monitor and report on the government's protection of civil and political liberties, as well as its overall transparency.**

1. Short-term goal # 1: Training and periodic meetings

***1<sup>st</sup> workshop: Completed***

*The 1<sup>st</sup> PEDP civic leaders' workshop was held in June 2010 in Beirut, Lebanon. During the workshop, the participants were divided into 3 groups, each group working on one of the following topics: Parliament, political parties and media. It was decided that each group would nominate a coordinator and rapporteur.*

***2<sup>nd</sup> workshop: Completed***

*The 2<sup>nd</sup> civic leaders' workshop was successfully completed in Beirut from December 4-6. The workshop was implemented in collaboration with Freedom House (FH) and discussed the democracy monitoring draft reports that the civic leaders are working on. The sessions included working groups during which participants commented on their own draft reports on monitoring Iraqi media, Parliament, and political parties' performance and transparency. FH incorporated these comments to their own comments on the reports and sent a consolidated version to the participants with track changes so that they can revise the first draft accordingly.*

2. Short-term goal # 2: Website creation

*No updates were provided during this reporting period*

3. Short-term goal # 3: Report writing

During this reporting period, IF and FH agreed on the following timeline to finalize the editing and reviewing process of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Democratization Report in Iraq.

Timeline	
Date	Activity
Oct. 8 2012	IF sends reports revised by FH to Civic leaders
Oct. 10-14 2012	Phone conversation between FH and rapporteurs to go over the revisions
Nov. 4 2012	Rapporteurs send back the revised reports to FH
Nov. 14 2012	FH sends reports back to rapporteurs (with feedback)
Nov. 14-16 2012	Phone conversation between FH and rapporteurs to go over the revisions
Nov. 17-30 2012	Rapporteurs finalize the reports

IF followed up very closely with FH to ensure compliance with the timeline. On December 5, IF sent to FH all the 4 sub-reports: report on political parties, media report, report on the freedom of assembly and demonstration, and report on the CoR with 4 reports of consultative meetings with officials, in order to have final editing by their editor, Mr. Sameer Jarah in Jordan. On December 17, IF received the 4 sub-reports from FH reviewed and edited by Mr. Jarah. On December 27, IF asked Dr. Ahmed Al-Alaaq, rapporteur of the political parties report to write the introduction of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Democratization Report in Iraq. On December 20, IF-DC compiled the 4 sub-reports, and sent them to IF-Baghdad for review for review and formatting.

4. Short-term goal # 4: Consultative meetings with stakeholders

During early November 2012, the civic leaders held consultative meetings with the relevant officials for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Democratization Report in Iraq. Civic leaders edited their reports according to the meetings comments/suggestions.

5. Short-term goal # 5: Press conferences

***1<sup>st</sup> conference: Completed***

*The first press conference took place on July 20 2011 at the Nadi Al-Sayd (Baghdad) to launch the Democratization in Iraq report.*

*Two more conferences will launch the second and third editions of the “Democratization in Iraq” report.*

6. Short-term goal # 6: TV programs

*In October 2011 IF broadcast 3 TV programs to discuss the first Democratization in Iraq report on Al-Furat TV station. Al-Furat broadcast one program per month. The goal of the TV programs was to inform audience about the content of each of the 3 chapters of the report.*

*IF will broadcast 6 more TV programs to discuss the second and third reports*

**Long-term goal # 3: Bolstering Iraqi youth understanding of civic and democratic processes, and their leadership across sectarian lines to resolve community and national level disputes peacefully**

1. Short-term goal # 1: Youth Civics Camp

*The first, second, and third youth summer camps were held during the summers of 2010, 2011, and 2012 at the American University of Iraq in Sulaimaniya (AUI/S).*

**Youth volunteering activities:** Upon completion of the Youth Civic Camps, and as a result of their participation in the camps, young participants showed motivation to

implement volunteer activities to practice what they learned in their provinces. On October 7, three young volunteers in the Youth Civic Camps (YCC) of 2012 presented an information session at the Media College-Baghdad to 22 students about their experience at the YCC.

1. Short-term goal # 2: Democracy web translation and adaptation

***Democracy Web translation and Adaptation: Completed***

*Please find below a link to the website.*

<http://demokratiaweb.org/>

*IF is planning to present the website to the Iraqi Ministry for Higher Education with recommendations on how to integrate it into the 'general requirements' curriculum for all Iraqi university students.*

2. Short-term goal # 3: Project website

*During this reporting period IF uploaded the following documents to PEDP Website: On October 4, uploading the schedule of work internship for students selected from Youth Civic Camps of 2012. On November 20, IF uploaded the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> sociological analytical reports of youth program, 2011 and 2012.*

3. Short-term goal # 4: Paid fellowships

*IF provided paid fellowships to 19 students after the first and second youth civics camps. After the completion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> youth civics camp in July, and during this reporting period IF selected 5 new students for work fellowships in relevant Civic Leaders organizations.*

*Details of students' fellowships:*

- 1- Mr. Ahmed Emad Riza – internship in Iraq Foundations' Office in Baghdad. From September 16 to December 31, 2012 (Baghdad).*
- 2- Ms. Wasan Ali Hatif-Internship in Babil National Human Rights Organization. From September 30 to December 31, 2012 (Babil).*
- 3- Mr. Mustafa Elik Abdulhusein – Internship in The Iraqi Center for Human Rights Studies. From September 25 to December 31, 2012(Baghdad).*
- 4- Mr. Maher Abbass Ahmed – internship in the Iraq Foundations' Office in Basrah. From October 2 to December 31, 2012.*
- 5- Mr. Sufyan Turki Al-Janabi – Internship in the Iraqi Women Journalists Forum in Baghdad. From October 11 to December 31, 2012.*

4. Short-term goal # 5: Video short competition

After receiving a total of 9 short videos, IF reviewed and selected the best two short video productions to be broadcast on October 23. These 2 videos are:

1- Al-Khaima “the *Tent*” by Mr. Ali Al-Ka’bi, *student participant in IF’s implemented Interfaith Cooperation Project. The participant is from Al-Muthana Province.*

2- Awdat Watan “*The Return of the Homeland*” by Mr. Ahmed Imad and Mr. Tariq Sadiq, and Ms. Ban Sadiq, *student participants in the Youth Civic Camps of 2012. The students are from Baghdad Province.*

The Iraq Foundation (IF) broadcasted these two short videos on the theme of overcoming sectarianism on Al-Fayhaa Satellite Channel. Videos are less than ten minutes long.

These videos were produced as part of a video competition on peaceful coexistence within our Post Election Democracy Promotion Project (PEDP).

Broadcast dates:

- 1- Al-Khaima “the *Tent*”: Wednesday, November 28 at 5:15 PM, *Baghdad time, and rebroadcasted on Thursday, November 29 at 11:15 AM, Baghdad time.*
- 2- Awdat Watan “*The Return of the Homeland*”: Thursday, November 29 at 5:15 PM (Baghdad time).
- IF paid by end of November, a prize of \$1,000.00 to each of the short video makers, a total of \$2,000.00 to both films’ makers.
- On December, 21, IF discussed with Al-Iraqia Satellite Channel to freely broadcast the 2 winning short videos. Al-Iraqia TV will come back to IF with an answer.
- 5. Short-term goal # 6: Small grants

**Small Grants**

During this reporting period, IF completed its small grants program

**Small grants– Cycle 3:**

1. **Ms. Iman Mizher** (*Baghdad*)

**Project title:** *Women Mediation in Iraqi Society Project*

**Project goal:** **Conflict resolution through women-led mediation aimed at giving women a bigger role in peace promotion.**

During this reporting period, Ms. Iman Mizher, has held nine awareness sessions to women on conflict resolution and mediation skills and as following:

Seq.	Awareness session #	Number of women participants	Location in Baghdad	Date
2	Session # 2	14	Aswar Baghdad Organization-Sader City	10/ 13

3	Session # 3	23	Aminat Alsader High School for girls	10/ 15
4	Session # 4	35	Al-Fatha'el High School for girls-Al-Rashad Area	10/ 22
5	Session # 5	16	Aba Al-Ahrar Association	10/ 22
6	Session # 6	31	Al-Tahira Middle School for girls-Sader City	11/ 7
7	Session # 7	31	Aminat Alsader High School for girls	11/ 7
8	Session # 8	6	At one of the trainee's house in Al-Obaidi area	11/ 7
9	Session # 9	13	Aswar Baghdad Organization-Sader City	11/ 13
10	Session # 10	29	Khawla Bint Al-Azwar High School for girls	11/ 13
11	Session # 11	18	Shabab Al-Salam Organization – Al-Nasir District	11/ 13
12	Session # 12	15	At the house of trainer, Ms. Samah Saad	11/ 15
13	Session # 13	15	At the house of trainer, Ms. Yusra Salem	11/ 15
14	Session # 14	15	At the house of trainer, Hajer Tariq	11/ 15

The grantee concluded her project on November 15, without completing 6 remaining awareness sessions due to obstacle explained in the challenges below.

#### **Small Grants – Cycle 4:** Grantees concluded and continued implementing their projects

##### **1- Raneen A'aed Rasheed. (Dahouk)**

**Project title:** Hygiene Awareness Campaign for Tourism Sites and Environmental Protection.

**Project goal: Enhance coherence, cooperation between youth from different sects and religions and hygiene awareness and environment protection.**

On October 10 and 18, grantee Ms. Raneen A'aed Rasheed from Dahouk-Hygiene Awareness Campaign for Tourism Sites and Environmental Protection Project, implemented the 4<sup>th</sup> educational session on ways to develop cooperation among people of different ethnicities and religions in order to strengthen their relations. The session also discussed the importance of preserving the environment and tourism locations. During these two days, Ms. Raneen held two sessions of planting trees. The 10 young participants planted 100 different types of trees in the Bandowa tourist area. The second

session of planting trees was in Dear Boon Tourism Area where 7 young participants including teachers, planted another 100 trees.

2- **Ahmed Hassan Dakhil.** (*Baghdad*)

**Project title:** Al-Rafidain Colors Art Gallery

**Project goal:** Rising up national awareness among university's students, highlighting the national identity regardless of affiliations, creating a spirit of communications among university students, emphasizing on group work among painters.

This project consisted of holding two art exhibitions of 18 portraits, painted by 9 painters. Each painter draws 2 portraits that aim at spreading the goals of the project, and as follows:

From November 26 to 28, the grantee held his 1<sup>st</sup> exhibition at the College of Administration and Economics, *Al-Mustansirya University in Baghdad*. The average number of visitors ranged between 250 to 300 students and professors. The portraits were exhibited on the college's corridor walls. Visitors which included the Head of the Artistic activity of the College and some of the university's professors were very impressed by the work displayed. The Media Committee of the university also attended the exhibition and covered the event. The goals of the project were explained to the visitors through the ideas of the portraits. An introductory brochure that explains the goals of the exhibition was distributed to visitors.

On November 29, and December 2 to 3, the grantee held his 2<sup>nd</sup> exhibition at the Media College, *Baghdad University*. The number of visitors ranged between 250 to 300 students and professors. The portraits were exhibited at the gardens of Media College. The Dean of Media College and college professors expressed their admiration and praised the Iraq Foundation for its support to youth. The goals of the project were explained by the painters.

## **II. Impact:**

➤ Youth:

- Al-Rafidain Colors Art Exhibition-Small Grants Project-Cycle 4 had a clear impact on visitors of the exhibition was noticed. E.g.: The Dean of Media College at Baghdad University and college's professors expressed their admiration on the exhibition held in their college on November 29; they praised the Iraq Foundation for its support to youth. It was noticed that some students called their friends to have a look on the portraits. Many of the students expressed their wish to cooperate with IF to draw portraits for similar future activities.

- IF has achieved a great impact through exhibiting the small grants-produced portraits in the Second Feminist Art Festival held in Baghdad on December 27, 2012. The attendees were amazed with these portraits and many of them expressed their high admiration on these portraits, and praised IF for its impressive achievements. E.g.: Dr. Ibtihal Al-Zaidi, *Minister of Women Affairs*, expressed her admiration and asked about the meaning of each portrait. IF Staff explained to her that the goal of these portraits which are part of our PEDP-SG, aim at strengthening unity, love, and brotherhood among Iraqi people. The Minister said to the accompanying staff of the Ministry of Women Affairs around her: “IF is proactive in its creativity and its distinctive presence through its equitable projects for women in particular, and that the Ministry of State for Women's Affairs commends IF’s role in supporting Iraqi women's rights in all fields”. Ms. Eman Al-Barazanchi, *Head of Women’s Rights in Baghdad Provincial Council* praised IF, similar as the expression of Ms. Al-Zaidi, *Minister of State for Women Affairs*. Interestingly, many attendees, youth human rights activists and youth from CSOs, asked if they can buy these portraits of IF. Many attendees asked a lot of questions about the Project and about IF when they saw the 4 portraits, and took a lot of photos with the portraits. (Link of pictures is available under the addendums item in page 1 of this report).

➤ IWPs

- On November 8, Ms. Meg Munn, *British MP*, expressed in an e-mail to IF, her thanks to IF’s help in organizing a meeting between her and some of the Iraqi Women MPs, *participants in IWPs Program-PEDP Project*. In her e-mail to IF, Ms. Munn said: “MPs were all positive about the impact that the Iraq Foundation work has had naming specifically greater cooperation across blocks and more confidence in engaging in the media.” Ms. Munn met primarily with these Women MPs during the latest Regional Meeting for Women MPs from the MENA Region in Amman during June 2012.
- Our survey questionnaire indicated that IWPs found the PEDP Website very beneficial and that its materials helped them while legislating a number of laws.

## II. Deliverables

1. Held the IWPs’ 10<sup>th</sup> PNM in Baghdad
2. Small grants paintings were exhibited at the Second Feminine Art Festival held in Baghdad and the Institute of Arts for Girls in Baghdad
3. Selected best two short videos for overcoming sectarianism, and broadcasted them in Al-Fayhaa Satellite Channel
4. Completed the 4<sup>th</sup> and last small grant in the third cycle
5. Completed the last 2 small grants (out of 4) in the fourth cycle
6. Provided 5 fellowship opportunities to 5 YCC participants

7. Completed reviewing and editing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Democratization Report in Iraq by FH

### III. Other

- On December 25, 2012, IF exhibited 18 portraits, product of Al-Rafidain Colors Project of small grants projects-cycle 4, at The Institute of Fine Arts for Girls in Baghdad. These 18 portraits were exhibited with other portraits painted by the students of the Institute. During the exhibition a discussion took place between IF Staff and the Institute's students about the topics of the portraits. IF-Staff, *Faiq Yaseen, Ahmed Al-Rubai'ee, Falah Al-Alousi, and Ahmed Imad* presented an orientation about IF, its work, goals, and the exhibition goal. Many students expressed on the importance of exchanging ideas, and have coordination to implement similar future activities.
- On December 27, 2012, IF participated in the Second Feminist Art Festival held in Baghdad, through exhibiting 4 portraits. These portraits are products of the accomplished Al-Rafidain Colors Project-one of the 4<sup>th</sup> cycle Small Grants projects. Mr. Faiq Yaseen, *IF-Project Coordinator* and Mr. Ahmed Hameed, *Project Assistant* represented IF in this Art Festival. *Link of pictures is available under the addendums item in page 1 of this report.*
- On November 30, IF extended its LOA with FH by 1 month from until December 31, 2012
- The PEDP Project was approved by DRL for a no-cost extension until December 31, 2013. During this extension duration, IF will:
  1. Publish the second and produce and publish the third *Democratization in Iraq* reports.
  2. Hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> press conferences and the remaining TV programs
  3. Complete the Incoming Women Parliamentarians' (IWPs) case-studies report
  4. Hold a second regional meeting for the Arab Women Parliamentarian Network
  5. Hold a summer camp at AUIS for 50 students and train on the upgraded Democracy Web program
  6. Hold a training for 25 university teachers from across Iraq on the revised Arabic version of the Democracy Web at AUIS

### IV. Challenges and remedial actions

- Mr. Marwan Maalouf-FH was delayed many times in his mentoring follow up with the Rapporteurs. IF followed up very closely with Mr. Maalouf and FH to make sure he contacts all the rapporteurs to go over his revisions with them, and this is what happened.
- Ms. Iman Mizher, grantee for the *Women Mediation in Iraqi Society Project/ 3rd Cycle of Small Grants*, failed to complete 6 remaining awareness sessions in her project due to conflict of time between implementing the 6 sessions and the

examinations of students as well as because of the religious occasions. Ms. Mizher apologized from implementing the unimplemented 6 sessions. For that reason IF decided to deduct an amount of \$450.00, *cost of the unimplemented 6 educational sessions* out of \$2,500.00, *the total grant budget*.