



Quarterly Report for the Women Power in Politics Programme Iraq

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General progress		
O BEHIND SCHEDULE	✓ ON TARGET	O AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Introduction

This is the third quarterly report of the Women Power in Politics Programme Iraq. It covers the period just before, during and right after the federal parliamentary elections in Iraq – without exaggeration a very crucial moment for our programme. In fact, the WPP programme is divided in a pre-election and a post-election phase. This report covers the turning point.

The past quarter, described in this report, represents a very crucial moment in time for Iraq as a whole, as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant or Islamic State of Iraq and Syria¹ (ISIS or ISIL) managed to conquer large Sunni areas in Iraq and establish a *caliphate* there. In June, Baghdad was threatened by ISIS attacks and went into a state of high alert. These events had effect on the WPP team and the people in the conquered and conflict areas, but there was no reason to suspend activities of the WPP programme. The Women Power in Politics programme is still operational. Whether or not we will be able to realize the planned activities in Baghdad in the forthcoming months will depend on the safety situation.

Relevant developments during past 3 months

The federal Parliamentary elections in Iraq took place on Wednesday April 30th 2014. The election campaigns officially started on March 31st, so the candidates had one month for their campaigns. Many political parties have been forming coalitions, often on a sectarian basis.

Election campaigns: The volume of advertising during these elections campaigns was remarkably high. The large political blocs, as well as smaller ones with rich sponsors, paid large amounts for advertisements, for each candidate between US\$ 2,000 – 10,000 for advertisements. Smaller blocs did not pay their candidates anything. There were different amount for male and female candidates. For example, Mutahidun Lil-Eslah bloc -headed by Mr Osama Al-Nujaifi, Speaker of the former Parliament- paid its female candidates approximately US\$ 3,000 while it paid its male candidates US\$ 5,000.



Election posters in the streets, photo: AP.

¹ الدولة الاسلامية في العراق والشام

Candidates used election posters (fixed on walls, facades of buildings and on billboards in the main streets and public parks) and flyers, as well as all kind of media: TV, radio, newspapers, and social media. The choice for social media was not always modernism, as candidates with little or no budget for advertising also used social media.

In addition to advertisements, parties organized meetings with the public, often in football stadiums. Voters buying/bribing was not uncommon: some candidates distributed food, cloths, bed sheets, mobile phone scratch cards and even luxurious articles. In Najaf for example, the governor distributed tablets among university students. Some candidates even paid cash money to potential voters.

Another way to reach potential voters and be visible for a larger audience were the debates between candidates, organized and broadcasted by media.



Visibility of female candidates during elections.
Photo: AP.

Women candidates: Approximately 2600 women ran for elections (almost 29% of the total number of candidates). They took part in election debates and meetings with the public quite intensively as well. The women used posters and flyers too, some of them with their full portrait on it, others with covered face and just the eyes visible, or without portrait. Some female candidates had put their husbands' or brothers' photos on the posters and flyers.

In various places men had publicly kissed and violated posters of female election candidates. TV and social media covered the issue and condemned it, calling it humiliating. The Ministry of Women's and Family Affairs issued a statement showing that the minister was upset about this, claiming that this violated Iraqi morals for behaviour in public, calling on Iraqi society to reject such behaviour and announcing a fine for violators who harassed campaign posters.

Candidates list: Even during the election campaigns, the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) continued to skip names from the candidates list, which had a negative effect on the atmosphere and on the debates in the media. One of these eliminated candidates was Maha Al-Doori, the most significant female candidate of Al-Ahrar bloc. She was skipped from the candidates list a few days before election day. It was noted that IHEC was not impartial in skipping candidates from the list, as it skipped candidates from all Sunni and Sadrist movement lists, while the list of Prime Minister Nuri Al-Maliki's party Dawlat Al-Qanun (State of Law) remained untouched. This partiality was a clear violation from the side of IHEC.

Violations: There were also irregularities and violations during election day. It is alleged that right after the elections, Prime Minister Nuri Al-Maliki extended the curfew and sent special forces to several electoral centers in Baghdad province to collect vote boxes and bring them to an unknown place. It is unclear what has happened with these votes.

Thousands of fraud attempts were exposed in the media (TV) and in social media. When IHEC delayed the announcement of the preliminary election results for three weeks, this led to suspicion and allegations about fraud as well, expressed by media and politicians. Yet the results were announced and approved. The results in some provinces were close to what was expected, while in other provinces the votes for Prime Minister Al-Maliki's party Dawlat Al-Qanun (State of Law) exceeded the expectations by far. Again, this led to discussions and suspicions about the integrity and impartiality of IHEC.

As a result of various complaints filed, IHEC delayed the announcement of the final election results as well. The approved results were sent to the Federal Court on June 15th, 2014. The next day the results were completely approved except for four candidates who had cases in court ongoing. Out of these four,

only two candidates were approved after ten days, while the other two were not yet approved until June 30th.

Safety situation: The elections took place in an unstable security situation. As expected, many explosions and targeted attacks took place in the run-up to the elections, especially in Baghdad and the predominant Sunni areas Salah Al-Din, Anbar, Diyala, Ninewa and Kirkuk. Fortunately, none of the candidates who were supported from the WPP programme was harassed, injured or killed. None of them was specifically targeted either. But WPP trainings were affected by explosions. On the first day of our training workshop in Tikrit (Salah Al-Din governorate), a big explosion took place there and the city authorities declared a curfew. Nevertheless, most of the women candidates there joined the training workshop. In Baghdad, Anbar and Ninewa, the safety situation did not allow us to conduct the training there, so it was held on alternative, safe locations.

The violence reached its climax on April 28th, the special election day for military. The government took firm security measures for the days right before and after the elections on April 30th, including blocking the main streets by placing concrete walls and announcing a curfew during elections period. These security measures contributed in eliminating the explosions, but it also limited voters in moving around and actually prevented voters to reach the electoral centres to cast their vote. This was mainly the case in Baghdad, as well as in high risk areas such as Tikrit, Ramadi and Kirkuk.

Meanwhile, parts of Anbar province (a predominant Sunni area) had been under ISIS control since December-January, but there was armed combat between ISIS, the national security forces and tribal groups from Anbar, especially in the cities Ramadi and Faluja. This conflict further fueled sectarian differences and tensions between Shiites and Sunnis.

Election results: Prime Minister Nuri Al-Maliki's party Dawlat Al-Qanun (Rule of Law Party) won the elections. Al-Iraqiya was another major winner in the elections. The election results are shown on the website of IHEC (see for example the results in Baghdad: <http://www.ihec.iq/ftpar/baghdad.pdf>).

Women MPs: The new parliament has 83 female MPs which is exactly 25% of the 328 seats in total. So, again, no more or no less than the quota for women prescribes. Some 30 of these 83 women were MP before, so approximately 50 of them are newcomers. Some 10 of these new-coming female MPs were provincial council members or were occupying high positions in the government.

22 women² were elected into parliament based on the number of votes cast for them, so without relying on the 25% quota for female MPs. This represents 4.5 times more such cases than in 2010. Most of these 22 were MPs in the previous years as well. Some of them had the highest number of votes in their constituencies, more than any male candidate. Hanan Al-Fadlawi (Dawlat Al-Qanun, Babil) won 90,000 votes, which is the highest number of votes in Babil province. Huda Sajjad (Dawlat Al-Qanun, Qadisiya) received about 40,000 votes, which is the highest number of votes in Qadisiya province. Najiba Najeeb (Kurdish Democratic Party, Dohuk) received about 30,000 votes. Nahida Al-Dayani (Diyala Hawyetna Coalition, Diyala – a coalition very close to Mutahidun bloc) won about 29,000 votes. These four women who won during the 2014 elections, were MPs before and had therefore not participated in the WPP programme (which was for newcomers in the political arena).

17 women have entered the Iraqi parliament as first-time MPs after having received training and support through the WPP programme. One of these seventeen, Ms Suham Musa Hamud Al-Musawi, candidate of State of Law party in Qadisiya province, was elected based on the number of votes cast for her (putting her in the company of the 22 women who were elected into parliament). With only Suham Musa elected into parliament on her own merits, this means that the other 16 newcomers in parliament with WPP support obtained their positions on basis of the quota.

After the elections: According to the Iraqi constitution, the president should invite the new parliament to hold the opening session 15 days after the Federal Court has approved the election results. The opening session of the new parliament took place on July 1st, 2014. The process of appointing the three top positions (President, Prime Minister and Speaker of Parliament, all three to be appointed by Parliament)

² Hanan Al-Fadlawi (State of Law, Babil), Zeinab Kathem (State of Law, Babil), Nada Abdullah (State of Law, Baghdad), Suad Habib (State of Law, Baghdad), Nahid Habibi (State of Law, Baghdad), Alia Naseef (State of Law, Baghdad), Sabah Abdulrasul (Wataniya, Baghdad), Aisha Mahdi (Mutahidun, Baghdad), Najiba Najeeb (Kurdish Democratic Party, Dohuk), Shireen Abdulrahman (Kurdish Democratic Party, Dohuk), Nawal Jumaah (State of Law, Dhi Qar), Nahida Al-Dayani (Diyala Our Identity, Diyala), Sarwa Abdu Wahid (Goran, Erbil), Ibtisam Hashim (State of Law, Karbala), Ala Talabani (Kurdish Alliance, Kirkuk), Khawla Mankhi (State of Law, Muthanna), Suad Mohammad (State of Law, Najaf), Intisar Ali Jibouri (Mutahidun, Ninawa), Mahasin Hamad (Wataniya, Ninewa), Huda Sajjad (State of Law, Qadisiya), Suham Musa (State of Law, Qadisiya), Ashwaq Al-Jaf (Kurdish Democratic Party, Suleimania)

and of forming the cabinet of ministers has not completed until June 30th, or even until today. It is unknown how many women will get positions as ministers and vice ministers in the next government.

Expansion of ISIS: Parts of Anbar had been under ISIS control since December-January. During the past quarter, terrorist groups (in particular ISIS) intensified their activities in the other predominant Sunni areas, while the Iraqi security forces performed weakly. It is alleged that Prime Minister Al-Maliki supported some Shia militias, in particular Asaib Ahl Al-Haq³. In June 2014, ISIS conquered Ninewa province completely, as well as large areas of Salah Al-Din and Anbar, some parts of Diyala province, and the predominant Arab and Turkmen areas in Kirkuk province. ISIS established a *caliphate* there. Kurdish forces seized Kirkuk city and environment, since long a disputed territory between Kurds and Arabs. In June, Baghdad was threatened by ISIS attacks and went into a state of high alert.

The map of Iraq as per June 30th 2014 showed a country divided into three parts: (a) the Kurdish autonomous region in the North, expanded towards Kirkuk city, (b) a *caliphate* under ISIS control in the predominant Sunni areas in West and Central Iraq, as well as North-East Syria, and (c) 'federal' Iraq in the predominant Shia areas in the South and East, with the legitimate Shia dominated government under Prime Minister Al-Maliki. The governmental forces may be able to regain conquered areas in Salah Al-Din from ISIS, but this is very unlikely for Ninewa governorate, because ISIS has wide control throughout the province, especially in Mosul and the nearby areas with a predominant Muslim population. Also Kirkuk will most likely not return to federal Iraq. The Kurdish President Mas'ud Barzani has declared that the Kurds will not be relinquishing Kirkuk city. He also announced a referendum on Kurdish independence, referring to the *de facto* partitioning of Iraq.

The female MPs from the provinces under ISIS control went to safer places in Baghdad and Erbil and their return to their original cities has become impossible. The people working for the WPP programme are all safe until today. Some of them have fled and some of them have stayed in the ISIS controlled areas.

Programme successes during past 3 months

The main success of the WPP programme during the past quarter was the election result for the women we trained and supported: 17 women became new-coming MPs after having received training and support from us. One of them, Ms Suham Musa Hamud Al-Musawi, was elected into parliament on basis of the votes cast for her. The past quarter included the last month before the elections, which was reserved for the campaigns. During that campaign month, the new-coming female election candidates have received more than 200 consultations from the WPP trainers, on top of the training they had in the previous quarter. The selected group of 'high potential' candidates received more intensive training and support: during the past quarter 65 high potential candidates were trained in the last 4 workshops of a series of 13 throughout Iraq. Almost all 311 high potentials received support and advices during the election campaigns as well, but some needed more than others.

Other programme successes were the 8 stakeholder conferences with 985 participants, the 66 debate conferences, the work with 8 political parties and blocs, and the workshop with 16 media workers representing 13 different media channels. All these events took place in April. They facilitated a wider outreach of 'our' candidates to voters and decision makers, whereas they would otherwise not have the chance to present their visions and programmes this way. Many of the candidates also got coverage in the media. In addition, the first 4 success stories of women's contributions to politics have been collected. Furthermore, in May and June, we have started the first steps of the post-election phase: the preparations for the training of trainers, the advanced training workshops for new-coming female MPs in Baghdad and Erbil (or alternative locations), the exchange with MPs from the Netherlands and the continuous support to new-coming female MPs and institutions. Also the preparations for the mid-term evaluation have started. Cumulative since the launch of the WPP programme, we have capacitated 816 female candidates, of whom 311 more intensively, to become skilled and confident candidates in the parliamentary election campaign. All of them were newcomers in this area. The candidates learned to analyse their strengths and weaknesses and were trained in developing election campaigns, communication with targeted audiences and the media, and political negotiations. WPP programme courses were held throughout Iraq - sometimes at alternative locations for safety reasons.

Several women who were trained and supported in the framework of the WPP programme indeed showed to be strong and confident during debates and interviews or when they presented their visions and

³ عصائب اهل الحق

electoral programmes. 17 of them have become members of parliament, one of them on basis of the votes cast for her, the other 16 on basis of the quota. Some 800 women have been trained but not elected into parliament. They may benefit from the WPP training and support when they operate in the public domain, either in the political sphere, media or elsewhere.

In addition to the capacity development of female candidates, the WPP programme focused on how to encourage more balanced news coverage of female election candidates and getting political parties and decision-makers to consider women for serious positions. Various media have given more and more serious attention to female election candidates than they did before, thanks to our training efforts to get female candidates in front of the microphones and in the spotlights.

Another goal was to teach the women techniques for making target audiences more aware of both the existing bias against and obstacles for women in politics and the opportunities for women to participate in decision-making. The awareness work was done through 8 stakeholder conferences and 66 debate conferences throughout the country, as well as a workshop and ongoing work with media workers and journalists. Meanwhile, we also did educational work and some massage at the leadership of various parties to make them more gender sensitive and to encourage them to give space to capable women from their own circles beyond the level of the obligatory quota. Most parties involved in the WPP programme, for example in stakeholder meetings, expressed their support to increased women's political participation in Iraq, but this has not materialized yet.

Implementation of the programme during past 3 months

Schematic overview the realized activities during the past quarter. More detailed information per activity is given below the scheme.

Realization of WPP workplan according to the timeline	2014			
	Quarter:	7	8	9
Activity:	Month:	Apr	May	Jun
0. Program inception and building support				
0.0. Creating administrative basis for the program				
0.1. Hiring staff and contracting trainers				
0.2. Buying supplies	OK			
0.3. Inception meeting of the program				
1. Capacity building and assistance to female aspirants				
1.0. Preparatory meeting for Training of Trainers				
1.1. Training of trainers				
1.2. Local seminars for basic skills				
1.3. Assistance during elections	OK			
1.4. Elections (30 April) ⁴	OK			
2. Capacity building and assistance to high potentials				
2.0. Training of trainers				
2.1. Selection of high potentials	OK			
2.2. Support to trainers	OK			
2.3. Advanced trainings and networking sessions for high potentials	OK			
2.4. Practical support to high potentials ⁵	OK			
3. Long term assistance to elected female representatives				
3.1. Training of trainers				Prep
3.2. Continuous support to female MPs and institutions		-		Prep
3.3. Advanced training workshops to elected MPs in Baghdad				Prep
3.4. Advanced training workshops to elected MPs in Erbil				Prep
3.5. Visit and exchange workshop from MPs from the Netherlands	Prep	Prep		Prep

⁴ The original application had May 1st as tentative date for the elections, so the timeline in the original application showed activities in May for assistance to female candidates during their election campaigns (1.3), the support to high potential candidates (2.4) and the elections themselves (1.4). With April 30th as election date, this was no longer relevant for May.

⁵ Idem.

3.6. Meetings to create more support from civil society			
4. Engagement of political parties			
4.1. Discussion and educational meetings with Iraqi political parties	OK		
4.2. Exchange with Dutch political parties (see 3.5)			
4.3. Training and engagement of high potentials in influencing parties	OK		
5. Awareness raising and education of female voters			
5.1. Regional stakeholder conferences	OK		
5.2. Local community meetings for direct awareness raising	OK		
5.3. Engaging and informing influential media and journalists	OK		
5.4. Workshop with journalists and media professionals	OK		
6. Monitoring & evaluation			
6.1. Regular monitoring	OK	OK	OK
6.2. Planning and monitoring visits	OK	-	
6.3. Mid-term evaluation			Prep
6.4. End of term evaluation			
6.5. Conference to share results of the program incl. findings of research			
6.6. Reporting	OK		
6.7. Audit			

What follows here is more detailed information about the activities that were conducted in the period April-June 2014 (following the sequence of the activity scheme, shown above).

Activity 0.2	Buying supplies	Planning: October 2013
✓ BEHIND SCHEDULE	○ ON TARGET	○ AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

In April 2014, Al-Amal bought a laptop. This is the fourth laptop purchased in the framework of the WPP programme. This is later than originally planned, but that is not problematic and it does not affect the other activities negatively.

Activity 1.3	Assistance during elections	Planning: April 2014
○ BEHIND SCHEDULE	✓ ON TARGET	○ AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

On top of the training to the 816 female candidates in February-March 2014, the WPP trainers continued to provide consultation services to candidates until Election Day April 30th. They have put quite some effort in these consultation support. In total, more than 200 consultations were provided to the female candidates in almost all governorates. Most consultations were provided in Salah Al-Din, Qadisiya, Najaf and Karbala provinces. Consultations took usually between 15 minutes and one hour, with on average 4-5 consultations per candidate helped. The consultations were provided through mobile phone, Facebook chat, or during face-to-face meetings with their trainers during visits to the Al-Amal centres or other NGOs which had coordinated the training workshops in their governorate. Facebook and mobile phones were used most, as easy communication between the candidates and the WPP trainers, but women preferred face-to-face meetings when they asked for advice about negotiations or on starting discussions within their own political party or bloc.

The consultations mainly concerned (a) communication with the audience and with voters, (b) negotiation skills and how to lead progressive discussion with the leaders in the parties or blocs they belong to, (c) campaigning and meeting the public, and (d) dealing with media. For example, several candidates asked for consultations when they were preparing for discussions with the public on community meetings, especially when there were academics, MPs or members of the governorate councils among the audience. Other women asked for advice on how to overcome embarrassing questions (the advice in such cases was to focus on the headlines and avoid getting into lost in side discussions). Don't forget: these 816 candidates were all newcomers in the sphere of parliamentary elections. None of them had been a member of parliament before.

The feedback to the consultation services was generally very positive. It was felt that the consultations helped candidates during planning phase and during the electoral campaigns (even until the last moments before the elections) and gave them extra knowledge, skills and confidence. It also showed how useful the training workshops were for the female candidates, and the confidence and trust that candidates had in their trainers. One of the candidates said that “I had not imagined that these workshops would have such good impact on my personality and skills. I feel more confident and encouraged now, I feel stronger than before”. Another candidate said: “The trainings were very useful but sometimes I faced things I had not expected, so I went back to my trainer and asked for consultation which was very useful”.

Nahida Kreet, Kurdish Democratic Party

one of the women who had support from WPP, but did not manage to become MP:

Although the timing of the training workshops was critical and the voting campaign was about to start, I benefited a lot from the first five workshops. I strengthened my confidence by gaining experience in negotiation, media, Sainte-Lagué method and all kinds of messages. The most interesting thing for me was the theoretical and practical experience which added values to my confidence.

Activity 1.4	Elections	Planning: April 2014
O BEHIND SCHEDULE	✓ ON TARGET	O AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Election Day was an important moment in the WPP programme. April 30th divided the WPP programme into a pre-election and a post-election phase. In the pre-election stage, the emphasis was on supporting female election candidates, whereas in the post-election stage the emphasis is on elected MPs. The following overview shows what has been realized until April 30th and what is planned in the post-election phase:

State of affairs: realization of WPP program before and after the elections (April 30th 2014)					
	Before elections	After elections	Targetgroup outreach	Planned in US\$⁶	Spent in US\$⁷
Activity:					
0. Program inception and building support					
0.0. Creating administrative basis for program	OK	-		0	0
0.1. Hiring staff and contracting trainers	OK	OK		0	0
0.2. Buying supplies	OK	OK		6,000	4,610
0.3. Inception meeting of the program	OK	-		23,253	1,986
1. Capacity building and assistance to female aspirants					
1.0. Preparatory meeting for training of trainers	OK	-		0	0
1.1. Training of trainers # 1	OK	-	27 trainers	99,634	69,840
1.2. Local seminars for basic skills	OK	-	816 candidates	54,000	59,460
1.3. Assistance during elections, sharing info	OK	-	250 consult.	30,000	29,700
1.4. Elections (30 April)	OK	-		0	0
2. Capacity building and assistance to high potentials					
2.0. Training of trainers # 2	OK	-	14 trainers		
2.1. Selection of high potentials	OK	-	311 candidates	1,000	0
2.2. Support to trainers: Training of trainers # 2	OK	-	See 2.0.	9,900	23,967
2.3. Training/networking sessions high potentials	OK	-	311 candidates	134,850	49,184
2.4. Practical support to high potentials	OK	-	12 candidates	0	0
3. Long term assistance to elected female representatives					
3.1. Training of trainers # 3	-	OK		19,600	0
3.2. Support to female MPs and institutions	-	OK		15,000	0
3.3. Training workshops #1 and #2 to MPs	-	OK		7,240	0
3.4. Training workshop #3 to MPs	-	OK		76,000	0
3.5. Exchange with MPs from the Netherlands	-	OK		82,600	0
3.6. Meetings for more support from civil society	-	OK		1,500	0

⁶ Original budget, not including the revisions which were proposed in the first quarterly report

⁷ Spent until April 30th 2014

4. Engagement of political parties					
4.1. Discussion and education Iraqi parties	OK	OK	5 parties/blocs	10,000	0
4.2. Exchange with Dutch political parties (3.5)	-	OK		12,510	0
4.3. Engagement high potentials in influencing their parties	-	OK		0	0
5. Awareness raising and education of female voters					
5.1. Regional stakeholder conferences	OK	-	985 stakehold.	78,000	73,712
5.2. Local community & debate meetings	OK	OK	260 candidates	50,000	38,445
5.3. Engaging influential media and journalists	OK	OK		1,500	0
5.4. Workshop with journalists/media workers	OK	-	16 journalists	14,544	14,784
6. Monitoring & evaluation					
6.1. Regular monitoring	OK	OK		0	0
6.2. Planning and monitoring visits	OK	OK		15,240	2,001
6.3. Mid-term evaluation	-	OK		5,300	0
6.4. End of term evaluation	-	OK		12,850	0
6.5. Conference to share results of the program	-	OK		5,000	0
6.6. Reporting	OK	OK		0	0
6.7. Audit	-	OK		5,000	0
7. Program implementation					
7.1. Human resources	OK	OK		365,641	162,278
7.2. Fringe benefits	OK	OK		1,980	310
7.3. Office costs & communication in Iraq	OK	OK		25,560	9,030
7.4. Other costs	-	OK		592	0
Total amounts in US\$:				1,164,294	539,307
<i>Expenditure level in % of total budget:</i>				<i>46% of budget spent</i>	

After the elections of April 30th, 17 women have entered the Iraqi parliament after having received training and support through the WPP programme, all of them first-time MPs. See the overview in annex 1. One of the 17, Ms Suham Musa Hamud Al-Musawi, candidate of State of Law party in Qadisiya province, was elected based on the number of votes cast for her, putting her in the company of 22 women who won parliamentary seats without relying on the 25% quota for female MPs. With only Suham Musa elected into parliament on her own merits, this means that the other 16 newcomers in parliament with WPP support obtained their positions on basis of the quota.



Election poster of Suham Musa, Dawlat Al-Qanun, Qadisiya province.

The 17 women, who were trained in the WPP programme and who have become MPs represent 11 political parties and blocs: 2 from Dawlat Al-Qanun, 2 from Al-Muwatin, 2 from Kuran, 2 from the Kurdish National Union, 1 from the Kurdish Islamic Union, 2 from the Kurdish Democratic Party, 2 from Al-Ahrar Coalition, 1 from Mutahidun, 1 from the Iraq Sons Unity, 1 from Al-Arabia Coalition and 1 from Al-Watania Coalition.

The 17 women, who were trained in the WPP programme and who have become MPs represent 11 governorates: 2 from Anbar, 1 from Baghdad, 1 from Basra, 1 from Dohuk, 2 from Kirkuk, 1 from Maysan, 2 from Najaf, 1 from Ninewa, 1 from Qadisiya, 2 from Salah Al-Din, and 3 from Sulaimaniya. None of the

women we trained from Arbil, Babil, Dhi Qar, Diyala, Kerbala, Muthanna, and Wasit governorates were elected.

Six of these 17 female MPs, involved in the WPP programme, are from conquered and conflict areas, which are no longer under control of the federal government. These areas are now part of the self-declared ISIS caliphate. It concerns the women from Anbar, Ninewa, and Salah Al-Din. Another six of these 17 women are from the Kurdish region and Kirkuk, now under Kurdish control. It concerns the women from Dohuk, Suleimania and Kirkuk. So, only six of these 17 women are from governorates that are under control of the federal government: Baghdad, Basra, Maysan, Najaf and Qadisiya governorates. See annex 1 for the complete list of 17 women, who were trained in the WPP programme and who have become MPs, including their parties and governorates.

Asia Haji Salim Qadir, Kurdish Islamic Union, Dohuk Governorate, one of the 17 women who had support from WPP and became new-coming MP:
My name is Asia Haji Salim Qadir. I am one of the 13 female candidates trained in Dohuk. I am a member of the Islamic Union bloc. I benefited a lot from my participation in the WPP programme, especially the training on working with media, the training about the quota -because of which I got a seat in parliament- and the Sainte-Laguë method. In addition to the skills and experience I acquired, I gained a lot of new contacts, enhanced my communication skills and learned from the experience of other women. The most interesting topics for me were the formulating the election message and negotiation- and problem solving skills.

Activity 2.1	Selection of high potentials	Planning: February 2014
✓ BEHIND SCHEDULE	○ ON TARGET	○ AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The selection of the 311 high potential candidates took place in March and April. The number was slightly more than the 300 planned originally. The selection process was slightly behind schedule, but not alarming. In fact, it could not have been done earlier, because the lion's share of the first stage had to be realized first. In April, some 65 remaining high potential candidates were identified and invited. The selection of these 311 high potential candidates was based on the following criteria:

- Women candidates in the big political blocs who were expected to win in the elections;
- Women candidates who were active and dedicated during the training workshops;
- Women candidates with a strong desire / eagerness to participate in the advanced trainings;
- Women candidates who have leadership roles in the institutions where they work.

In total, more than these selected 311 candidates had been invited for more intensive training workshops, but some of them rejected because they had other obligations and busy schedules.

Activity 2.2	Support to trainers	Planning: April 2014
○ BEHIND SCHEDULE	✓ ON TARGET	○ AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The 14 trainers in this stage of the WPP programme received support from the WPP team. The most important and substantial support which the 14 trainers had received, was the extra Training of Trainers in March 2014, right before they would start with training and supporting the high potential candidates. In addition, they received support upon request from the WPP staff, which often happened informal, in between things, and actually ongoing.

This group of 14 trainers (almost half of the original group) were the best and most dedicated trainers from the first phase. They knew each other quite well. Besides participating in the two Trainings of Trainers, several of them had also worked together.

For an overview of the trainers, see annex.

Activity 2.3	Training/networking sessions	Planning: April 2014
<input type="radio"/> BEHIND SCHEDULE	<input checked="" type="radio"/> ON TARGET	<input type="radio"/> AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The training workshops and networking sessions for the high potential candidates started soon after the extra TOT (14-15 March) and continued until April 18th. In total these were 15 workshops in the course of approximately one month time, usually four days each, in 14 governorates of Iraq. In total 311 high potential were trained in these workshops. In four governorates the workshops did not take place, either for safety reasons (Ninewa and Diyala), or because the candidates had other commitments or were too busy to dedicate 4 days to a workshop (Maysan) or because the group of candidates was too small (Arbil). In Arbil governorate, most selected high potential candidates were too busy and had other commitments, so eventually there were only four candidates in Arbil who had accepted the invitation to attend the workshop, so they were advised to merge with the group in Suleimania. In March, 11 workshops had been held in 10 governorates, in which 246 high potential candidates were trained. Lasting four days each, several of these workshops partly took place in April as well (but because they were included in the previous quarterly report, these trainings and numbers of trained participated are counted under March).

4 workshops were held exclusively in April 2014, in four governorates, in which 65 high potential candidates were trained. The training materials used in these workshops were the same as the ones used in March.

Advanced trainings and networking sessions for high potentials exclusively in April 2014:

Governorate	# of workshops	Dates & duration	# of participants
Basra	1	2-5 April (4 days)	20
Karbala	1	6-9 April (4 days)	13
Dhi Qar	1	1-4 April (4 days)	17
Anbar	1	15-18 April (4 Days)	15
4 governorates	4 workshops	4 x 4 days of training	65 participants

For a complete overview of training to high potentials, see annex 3.

Of the 17 women who entered into parliament with support from the WPP programme, 8 had been in the group of high potentials and received more intensive training. The other nine had been considered high potentials and were invited for the second round of more intensive training, but most of them were not able to participate because of commitments elsewhere and busy schedules.

Activity 2.4	Support to high potentials	Planning: April 2014
<input type="radio"/> BEHIND SCHEDULE	<input checked="" type="radio"/> ON TARGET	<input type="radio"/> AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Besides training to 311 high potential candidates in 14 governorates, the 14 trainers provided practical support and advises to high potentials as well. Some 12 high potential candidates were supported more intensively. Such advises and support mainly took place by Facebook, mobile telephone and in face-to face meetings. See activity 1.3.

Activity 3.1	Training of trainers	Planning: June 2014
<input checked="" type="radio"/> BEHIND SCHEDULE	<input type="radio"/> ON TARGET	<input type="radio"/> AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The preparations for the training of trainers for the post-election stage started in June 2014. The purpose of this TOT is to prepare 10-12 Iraqi trainers/counselors for capacity building support to 40-50 new-coming

female members of Iraqi federal parliament. It was agreed that the TOT should focus on the counselling support to MPs, not on the various trainings for MPs (see 3.3 – 3.4).

In June, terms of reference for this TOT were worked out, on basis of which a call for trainers had been issued. In addition, the TOT has been discussed with expert organizations such as the Women's Democracy Network. In July 2014 two expert trainers will be assigned to conduct this TOT in August 2014 (in Erbil or in an alternative safe location). The TOT will be aimed at ensuring that the selected 10-12 Iraqi trainers understand the concepts and capacity building methodologies and tools of two themes (1) leadership, self-management, self-reflection, leadership evaluation tools and (2) structures, procedures, rules, and bylaws of the Iraqi parliament. Gender awareness and –sensitivity will be integrated in the TOT, but all of them have participated in the previous two TOTs in which gender awareness and –sensitivity were integrated as well. The TOT summarized:

Training of trainers , Erbil, August 2014, 3 days
Topic: Methodologies, concepts and contents of support to new-coming female MPs Training of trainers to prepare 10-12 Iraqi trainers/counselors for capacity building support to 50 new-coming female MPs, conducted by 2 trainers. Focus on 2 themes: Part 1: Leadership, self-management, self-reflection, leadership evaluation tools (2 days). Part 2: Structures, procedures, rules, and bylaws of the Iraqi parliament (1 day).
<u>Participants:</u> 10-12 trainers/counselors from WPP, WPP team members
<u>Trainers:</u> 2 trainers (from WDN network or other)

The TOR for the TOT is included as annex 13 to this report.

Activity 3.2	Ongoing support to MPs	Planning: from May 2014
✓ BEHIND SCHEDULE	○ ON TARGET	○ AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The ongoing counseling support to new-coming female members of parliament have not started yet, because this will have to wait until the federal Parliament has actually started its sessions and the new-coming MPs have started to work. In addition, the 10-12 counselors will first follow the TOT in August 2014 (see activity 3.1). The first preparatory work for this activity started in June, when the TOT was being prepared, which is meant to prepare the trainers/counselors for capacity building support to new-coming female MPs.

Activity 3.3 - 3.4	Training to MPs in Baghdad & Erbil	Planning: November 2014
○ BEHIND SCHEDULE	✓ ON TARGET	○ AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The preparations for the training to new-coming female MPs of the Iraqi federal Parliament started in May-June 2014, when the planning of the training workshops was worked out. It was agreed to organize direct training for the MPs on (1) gender equality, gender sensitivity, gender responsible budgeting, (2) women's leadership, communication skills, facilitation and conflict management, (3) structures, procedures, rules, and bylaws of the parliament (in combination with MP exchange/mentoring). Also, it was agreed that we will adopt a flexible approach concerning the exact locations of the workshops, as Baghdad may not be safe at the chosen moment, the status of Erbil in due time is unclear (will it still be Iraq or part of independent Kurdistan?) and even the safety of Beirut as alternative is fragile.

The three workshops for MPs summarized:

Training workshop 1 , Erbil or Beirut, Aug/Sep 2014, 4 days (2+2)
Topic: Gender equality, gender sensitivity, gender responsible budgeting Part 1: Training workshop for MPs on gender sensitivity and awareness, conducted by a gender trainer (2 days). Part 2: Training workshop for MPs on gender responsible budgeting, possibly conducted by trainers from UN Women network (2 days).
<u>Participants:</u> 40-50 MPs, WPP team members
<u>Trainers:</u> 1 trainer on gender, 2 trainers on budgeting (possibly from UN-Women network)

Training workshop 2 , Erbil or Beirut, Aug/Sep 2014, 6 days (4+2)
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<p>Topic: Women's leadership, communication skills, facilitation and conflict management</p> <p>Part 1: Training workshop for MPs on women's leadership, communication skills and facilitation, with introduction to conflict management, conducted by 1-2 trainers from WDN network or other networks (4 days).</p> <p>Part 2: Training workshop on conflict management, conducted by 1-2 experts on conflict management (2 days).</p> <p><u>Participants:</u> 40-50 MPs, WPP team members</p> <p><u>Trainers:</u> 1-2 trainers on leadership (WDN or other), 1-2 trainers on conflict management</p>

<p>Training workshop 3, with exchange, Baghdad, Sept/Oct 2014, 3 days (2+1)</p> <p>Topic: Structures, procedures, rules, and bylaws of the parliament – plus MP exchange/mentoring</p> <p>Part 1: Training workshop for MPs on structures, procedures, rules, and bylaws of the Iraqi parliament, including specific parliamentary commissions, conducted by 2-3 Iraqi experts, judges, MPs (2 days).</p> <p>Part 2: Exchange of experienced MPs and ex-MPs with new-coming MPs, with advice and mentorship (1 day).</p> <p><u>Participants:</u> 40-50 MPs, WPP team members</p> <p><u>Trainers:</u> 2-3 trainers (Iraqi experts, judges, MPs), 4 MPs and ex-MPs for exchange/advice</p>
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In early July 2014, two calls for trainers were issued for workshop #2: one for the trainers on women's leadership and communication, and one for the trainers on conflict management. It was announced that the training would take place in August or September 2014 in Erbil, Beirut or in an alternative safe location. The trainers will be selected and assigned in July-August 2014.

Activity 3.5	Exchange visit Dutch MPs	Planning: November 2014
O BEHIND SCHEDULE	O ON TARGET	✓ AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The first preparations for the exchange visit of Dutch MPs to Iraq had started in February 2014 and continued in the reporting period. In May 2014, three Dutch MPs from different political parties (Liberal Party VVD, Labour Party PvdA and Christian-Democratic Party CDA) were identified, who will travel to Iraq together with staff from their political foundations. The MPs reacted enthusiastically. It appeared difficult to find the most suitable planning for both sides. The exchange visit had initially been scheduled for November 2014, then pre-poned to August 2014 and then again rescheduled to October-November 2014. Also, as explained in the previous quarterly report, instead of everyone going to Erbil (i.e. the Dutch and Iraqi MPs), it was agreed to have the exchange in the Iraqi federal Parliament in the Green Zone in Baghdad. This is still the plan, but we keep in mind that the safety situation may force us to cancel the visit or organize it elsewhere, on an alternative safe location. A plan to let the Dutch MPs also visit some other Iraqi cities (like Najaf, Basra or Erbil) and meet with governorate council members and regional authorities is now under consideration.

The visit of the Dutch MP to Iraq would exist of three or four parts: (1) a peer training workshop for MPs on facilitation and networking in a caucus, building strategic partnerships, conducted by the Dutch MPs who visit Iraq, (2) an exchange between Iraqi and Dutch MPs who have successfully developed a caucus across party differences, (3) an exchange between representatives of Iraqi and Dutch political parties (various political parties) to exchange experiences on supporting female political leadership, and possibly (4) visit to other locations in Iraq (like Najaf, Basra, or Erbil) to meet with governorate council members and regional authorities.

<p>Peer training and exchange, Baghdad (or on alternative safe location), Oct/Nov 2014, 5 days (1+2+2)</p> <p>Topic: Facilitation and networking in a caucus, building strategic partnerships</p> <p>Part 1: Peer training workshop for MPs on facilitation and networking in a caucus, building strategic partnerships, conducted by Dutch MPs who visit Iraq (1 day);</p> <p>Part 2: Exchange between Iraqi and Dutch MPs who have successfully developed a caucus across party differences (2 days).</p> <p>Part 3: Exchange between representatives of Iraqi and Dutch political parties (various political parties) to exchange experiences on supporting female political leadership (2 days).</p> <p>Possibly: Visit to other locations like Najaf, Basra, Erbil.</p> <p><u>Participants:</u> 40-50 Iraqi MPs, 6 Dutch MPs and staff, reps of various political parties, WPP team members</p> <p><u>Peer trainers:</u> Dutch MPs, facilitator(s)</p>

Activity 4.1	Work with Iraqi parties	Planning: Dec-Mar 2014
<input type="radio"/> BEHIND SCHEDULE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ON TARGET	<input type="radio"/> AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Besides the initial informative meetings with a number of political parties in December 2013, the discussion and educational meetings with political parties and blocs mainly took place in March and April 2014. In almost all governorates, the WPP team established working relations with a wide variety of political parties and blocs. This was often necessary to get the names of female candidates on their party lists (as IHEC did not provide that information), but this developed in a positive way and gradually most political parties gained more confidence in the WPP programme. Many also participated in the stakeholders conferences in April. WPP developed working relations with Dawlat Al-Qanun, Al-Muwatin Bloc, Al-Ahrar Bloc, Mutahidun Lil-Eslah, the Democratic Civil Alliance, the Kurdish Democratic Party, Goran and Al-Wafaa lil-Anbar. Al-Ahrar Bloc represents the Sadrist movement. With five of them, the WPP team had more intensive meetings: Dawlat Al-Qanun, Al-Ahrar Bloc, Mutahidun Lil-Eslah, Goran and Al-Wafaa lil-Anbar. The meetings with political parties focused on the electoral process and on preparations for the election campaigns, in which we emphasized the importance to support women's participation in the political process and to empower women candidates and how this would impact positively on parties. This issue was also emphasized during the stakeholders conferences in April, in which various political parties participated.

Activity 4.3	Training potentials re parties	Planning: April 2014
<input type="radio"/> BEHIND SCHEDULE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ON TARGET	<input type="radio"/> AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The training and support to the high potential candidates focused on their self confidence and their election campaigns, but it also covered the issue of the influence they may have in their own circles, i.e. the political parties they represent.


Activity 5.1	Stakeholder meetings	Planning: December 2013
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEHIND SCHEDULE	<input type="radio"/> ON TARGET	<input type="radio"/> AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The regional stakeholder conferences took place in 8 provinces between 5 and 20 April 2014. These were large meetings, with 123 participants on average. The largest attendance was in Baghdad, with up to 160 participants in one meeting. In total 985 participants have participated in these stakeholders meetings. These included the Minister for Women's Affairs, other high rank officials from ministries, governors and vice-governors, advisors to the government, members of the federal parliament, members of the governorate councils, one ambassador (the Dutch), IHEC officials, academics, officials from political parties and blocs, and of course female candidates. On behalf of the WPP programme, Ms Hanaa Edwar attended all stakeholders conferences (except the one in Qadisiya which took place on the same day as the one in Baghdad) and delivered speeches on women's participation in Iraq. Hanaa Edwar is board member of Al-Amal and senior specialist on women's empowerment and participation. She has been awarded Arab Woman of the Year 2013 by the Takreem Initiative, for her distinctive hard work, courage and successes in the field of gender equality, women's rights and empowering women to participate in society and political life in Iraq.

The aim of the stakeholders meetings was to mobilize partners and gain support from community leaders, parties, candidates, state officials and media. All the conferences dealt with three main themes: (1) the importance of women's participation in the political process in Iraq, (2) women in decision making positions, and (3) the quota and its impact on women's participation in politics in Iraq. As mentioned, Hanaa Edwar delivered a speech in each of the conferences she attended. The participants were allowed to give brief speeches too, which many did indeed. Most of them expressed their support to a woman leading some sensitive and important decision making positions in the new cabinet, such as a woman to become Minister of Defence or Minister of Interior. The female candidates were happy to participate in the stakeholders conferences, as it gave them the opportunity to interact with and ask questions to current officials, to introduce their visions and electoral programmes, and to receive feedback concerning their participation as election candidates and as possible future MPs.

The stakeholder conferences:

Governorate	Date	Participants
Najaf	5 April 2014	140 participants, including various political parties and blocs (including the chairman of Dawlat Al-Qanun party in Najaf), members of Najaf governorate council, managers of some governmental institutions, head of IHEC in Najaf, female candidates.
Baghdad	10 April 2014	160 participants, including the Minister of State for Women's Affairs, Baghdad governor, 3 members of federal parliament, IHEC representative, Dutch ambassador, representatives of various ministries, members of Baghdad governorate council, female candidates.
Qadisiya	10 April 2014	135 participants, including one MP, members of Qadisiya governorate council, president of IHEC in Qadisiya, academics, female candidates.
Kirkuk	12 April 2014	90 participants, including the chairman and members of Kirkuk governorate council, representatives of governmental institutions, various political blocs, head of IHEC in Kirkuk, female candidates.
Karbala	14 April 2014	130 participants, including two MPs, the governor, representatives of various political blocs, managers of governmental institutions, head of IHEC in Karbala, female candidates.
Salah Al-Din	16 April 2014	80 participants, including the vice-governor, members of Salah Al-Din governorate council, governor advisor (Omaia Jibara, who was killed in June – see below), academics, IHEC media department manager, female candidates.
Babil	19 April 2014	120 participants, including a member of Babil governorate council, representative of IHEC in Babil, academics, female candidates.
Basra	20 April 2014	130 participants, including members of Basra governorate council, head of IHEC in Basra, academics, female candidates.
8 governorates		985 participants

	<p><i>Omaia Naji Jibara, Salah Al-Din, Was involved in the WPP stakeholder meeting and got killed in June:</i> <i>One of the women, who was actively involved in the stakeholders meeting in Salah Al-Din province, was killed by ISIS in June 2014. Her name was Omaia Naji Jibara, but in international circles she was also known as Omaima Jabburi or Al-Jabburi. She was a well-known person. She had done research and published about rural women in Iraq and she was advisor on women's issues to the governor of Salah Al-Din. Omaia Jibara was leading a resistance group against ISIS. In an attempt to prevent ISIS from seizing the city, she was killed in combat. A few days before, she had moved her family to Erbil. Omaia Naji Jibara had been involved in the preparations of the WPP stakeholder conference in Tikrit and had delivered an inspiring speech there.</i></p>
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The stakeholder meetings were planned earlier, so the realization of this activity was behind schedule. The reason is that it was felt that priority needed to be given to the other activities which were urgent, in particular the training of trainers and the training of and support to female candidates.

Excerpt from the speech, delivered by Ms Jeannette Seppen, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, at the stakeholder conference in Baghdad (10 April 2014):

I call on you, women of Iraq, to actively engage in politics and not sit still and wait. Iraq, like any country around the world, needs women in government and in parliament. To ensure that the rights of women are well represented. To ensure that no decisions are taken that undermine the women's rights to for example education and health care. Resolution of conflict – to which Iraq so regrettably is prone - needs women, women from all walks of life, including women in decision making position, at national and local level.

I call on the women once elected to make sure that they speak out in parliament and ensure that a substantial number of the members of government are women. Iraq was the first country in the Middle East to launch a National Action Plan for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. Why not let Iraq be the first country to have a parliament with much more than 25% female parliamentarians? Why not let Iraq be the first country in the Middle East to have a female Minister of Defence?

I very much hope that the elected members of parliament, and in particular the female members, will play the positive role that they are expected to play, at the service of all Iraqi men and women, for the advancement of peace and prosperity that the Iraqi people so much deserve.

Activity 5.2	Local community meetings	Planning: Feb-Apr 2014
✓ BEHIND SCHEDULE	O ON TARGET	O AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Between 14 and 29 April 2014, in total 66 local community meetings or debate conferences were organized in 15 governorates. On these community meetings, female candidates from that governorate presented their electoral programme and reacted to questions from the audience. The most frequently asked questions were:

1. What would you do to support media freedom in Iraq, in case you would win in the upcoming elections?
2. Would you unite as female MPs to advocate for legislation concerning women's rights, regardless to which political party you belong to?
3. Would you be prepared to take a stand against the political party you belong to for the sake of advocating women's rights?
4. What is your opinion about the Jaafari status law?
5. What are the steps you will take in case a violation of women's rights occur in some legislations or laws?

These meetings were held in close coordination with Iraqi NGOs. The participants were mostly interested voters (both sexes), members of the provincial council, media representatives and academics. On average, between 65 -72 people participated in these conferences, in total approximately 700 people. The highest attendance was in Qadisiya with 120 participants in one meeting. In total, 202 female candidates have participated in these 66 conferences.

The gatherings in Anbar and Ninewa provinces were skipped entirely because of the instable security situation and the military operations there. In Dohuk the debate conference was cancelled because the female candidates could not participate due to commitments elsewhere. In Arbil and Suleimania, press conferences were organized instead of debate conferences, because the candidates from there had indicated that they preferred press conferences to ensure outreach to a wider audience of voters.

Realization of this activity was behind schedule, but still in time, as the planning was from February to April 2014. Local community meetings on the ground had not been organized before April, because we had decided to give priority to the training of and support to female election candidates. The time pressure to get this organized in such a short time was a challenge, whereas organizing the local community meetings would increase the time pressure too much.

A detailed overview of all debate conferences is included as annex to this report, as well as an audio fragment used for the media conferences.

Activity 5.3	Meetings with journalists	Planning: December 2013
✓ BEHIND SCHEDULE	○ ON TARGET	○ AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The WPP team has been coordinating and communicating with media workers and journalists in various governorates to sensitize them about the importance of covering and promoting women candidates. The training workshops, debate conferences, and stakeholder conferences were often good opportunities for the media to meet and interview female candidates. Both state and private TV and radio channels, as well as printed newspapers and magazines, covered the training sessions and interviewed some women candidates. In addition, after training workshops, candidates conducted press conferences and did interviews as well. The interviews and other media coverage helps these women candidates to practice the trainings they received and be in direct contact with audiences through media channels. It is also believed to give the women candidates more confidence in confronting public audience and break the ice between them and the camera, so they become more and more self confident.

The collection of positive stories showing women's contributions has started in April 2014. There are many inspiring examples of positive contributions from women in Iraq. Four were collected in the past quarter. The story of Azhar Al-Tarihi, shown in the box below, is just one of them.

Success Story:

Azhar Omran Mohammad Sa'id Omran Al-Tarihi, Dawlat Al-Qanun party, Najaf Governorate, one of the 17 women who had support from WPP and became new-coming MP:

Azhar Al-Tarihi was born in Najaf in 1972. She completed her BSc in veterinary. She has been working as Secretary of Najaf Governorate Council for 9 years, since 2005. She was elected for this position twice, as she showed a great deal of dedication and commitment, as well as good leadership skills. She distinguished herself during the WPP training workshops and she was one of the women considered a 'high potential' candidate. She actively participated in the stakeholder conference where she showed significant self-confidence during discussions, and also presented a worksheet about women's participation in politics. She was very excited about the community meetings/debate conferences. She worked very hard on preparing herself well for the debates, and she eagerly participated in debates organized by partnering organization Ein Network for Monitoring Elections, where she met voters. She made a remarkable impression and she inspired voters –women and men- during these debates. Azhar stated that the WPP programme, through the skills and knowledge she gained, helped her in formulating and refining her electoral programme, in a way that enabled her to get over all the challenges and barriers (which she could not do before). This also helped her to communicate with her audience or voters and to have an open dialogue with them. She even took into consideration some of their recommendations and she said she will work hard to realize them after being elected. She claimed that the training workshops helped her to invest in drawing new strategies, especially about how to take action and meet the community, and how to prepare a speech. It also increased her capacity to do interviews with media, and taught her to use the right words and sentences in order to get access to the audience and convince them. She stated that she also learned how to target the guaranteed groups by taking into consideration the unexpected groups. Being among many female candidates, she learned to analyze the strength and weaknesses of other candidates, which she could use in her own campaign. She understood their way of thinking better and their ways in impacting on the voters, and it helped her to develop her plans and strategies. On the communication side, the stakeholder conference helped her to get in contact with a lot of media and journalists, as well as other female candidates from different political parties and blocs, who are close to her in their way of thinking or in their electoral programmes. This conference supported the success of her campaign and she feels that she has become more known to a wider public.

Azhar said: "The main impact of the WPP programme on me is my empowering to plan how to win in the elections, to organize my steps and activities, and to expand my knowledge with the community. Also, it gave me confidence on how to deal with challenges and achieve my goals, despite all challenges and barriers". She added that "the programme also strengthened my personality. I have become more confident regarding dialogue or negotiation, and even concerning debates within my own political bloc and at work". Azhar added that she had reflected her experience and knowledge within her own bloc and given some recommendations to the chairperson of her bloc, who is currently a minister,

about the importance of media and its impact on the community - if one listens carefully to the interviewer and carefully chooses with which media channels to do interviews with. Azhar also mentioned that all training topics had been helpful for her. They expanded her knowledge and experience. Asked for recommendations concerning the WPP programme, she advised to focus future training to strategic planning, leadership skills in parliament, peace-building and conflict-resolution - she considers this topic is very important, as she expects to face conflicts within the parliament- and last but not least on constitutional issues and on analyzing them with legal experts so that they can apprehend the constitution in an effective way.

Activity 5.4	Workshop with journalists	Planning: March 2014
✓ BEHIND SCHEDULE	○ ON TARGET	○ AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The training workshop for journalists and media workers took place on 17-19 April 2014 in Erbil. 16 media workers (9 women and 7 men) from 7 provinces participated (Baghdad, Babil, Karbala, Najaf, Qadisiya, Kirkuk and Salah Al-Din). Together these 16 media workers represented 13 different media channels, including TV channels, newspapers and news agencies.

The training was carried out by WPP training coordinator Nisrin Al-Amidi. The main training topics were (1) gender, (2) political participation, (3) women's empowerment in politics, and (4) the role of media in promoting women's participation in the political process. The materials used in this workshop included flip charts, power point presentations, small groups exercises, role plays, case studies and short films. One of the most significant outcomes of the training was that the participating media workers and journalists had started to realize the importance of media in enhancing voters confidence in females candidates and in increasing the chances of female candidates to win in the elections (basically by paying more attention to females candidates and their electoral messages and programmes). They also realized the importance of such training to workers in the media sector. Thirdly, they realized the importance of effective strategies to ensure women's participation in the political process. One of the main challenges was the timing of the workshop, only a few weeks before election day. Some 6-7 media covered the workshop.

The workshop was planned to take place in March, but had a slight delay, because the priority was given to the capacity development of the female candidates and also for security reasons.

Included in the annexes to this report are the programme of training for media and journalists, the power points used in this training, and the attendance sheet for this training for media and journalists.

Activity 6.1	Regular monitoring	Planning: Ongoing
○ BEHIND SCHEDULE	✓ ON TARGET	○ AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Monitoring has been taking place throughout the programme, through e-mail, Skype, telephone, and face-to-face meetings. The political developments –in particular the recent military clashes- have made it more difficult to continue the monitoring on the usual level, but we continue as best as we can. The WPP programme is still operational.

Al-Amal: Local partner Al-Amal has its main office in Baghdad and has offices and staff in various cities in Iraq, including Tikrit and Kirkuk (in the conflict areas). No one of the staff of Al-Amal has left. So far, they are all safe and come to the office on a daily basis. In fact, in June 2014 (when Baghdad came under threat of an ISIS invasion) the director and president of Al-Amal both happened to be abroad and returned to Baghdad to be present with the staff. Al-Amal still has access to the internet. There are contingency plans.

WPP team: Most of the WPP team members are working from Al-Amal's office in Baghdad, including the national programme manager, two of the national coordinators and the admin assistant. The third national coordinator is based in Suleimania. The training coordinator is based in Kerbala. They are all safe. One of the two national coordinators in Baghdad now comes to Al-Amal daily, as he normally works from another NGO (Salam Al-Rafidain Organization). He lives in Baghdad but is originally from Anbar governorate and he still has many connections with that area.

Regional coordinators and local trainers: The regional coordinators and local trainers who were active in the framework of the WPP programme are all alive and safe so far. Being based in all governorates of

Iraq, not all of them are directly affected by the recent crisis in the Sunni areas, but most of them always face the risk of the daily violence in Iraq. The people working for the WPP programme who live in the conflict areas (Anbar, Ninewa, Salah Al-Din, Diyala and Kirkuk to some extent as well) are all alive too. Some of them are still there, whereas some have fled their homes. In **Anbar** province one of the two trainers has stayed in Rawa, which is under ISIS control. The other trainer (also regional coordinator) from Ramadi has left to Erbil. In **Ninewa** province the regional coordinator and the trainer from Mosul have both left to Erbil. In **Salah Al-Din** province the regional coordinator (also trainer) has stayed in Tikrit, which is under ISIS control. Being a Shia woman from Maysan originally, she is considering to leave to Maysan via Erbil. In **Diyala** province the trainer has stayed in Baquba. In **Kirkuk** province both the regional coordinator and the trainer have stayed in Kirkuk, which is now under Kurdish control.

Trained election candidates: The female MPs from the provinces under ISIS control went to safer places in Baghdad and Erbil and their return to their original cities has become impossible. Even though they represent the conflict areas, they will be present in the Iraqi parliament in Baghdad and so they will remain involved in the WPP programme. Concerning all those other women in these governorates, who were trained in the framework of the WPP programme, we cannot guarantee that they are safe. The WPP team is in touch with several of them, but not all. The regional coordinators and local trainers in these areas are not in the position to keep in touch with all of them. We have not heard of any casualties among the women from our target group.

Other stakeholders: Also the situation and whereabouts of other stakeholders in the WPP programme is not always clear. Sometimes there is bad news. For example, Omaia Najji Jibara, one of the women who was actively involved in the WPP stakeholders meeting in Salah Al-Din province, was killed by ISIS in June 2014.

Hivos: Hivos staff, based in the Netherlands, is working as usual. The next visit to Iraq is scheduled for August 2014, to visit Erbil and possibly some other places, not yet determined. Other Hivos staff is travelling to Iraq as well.

In the meantime, as agreed with the US State Department, Hivos and Al-Amal have been working on the revised scope of work, the revised monitoring and evaluation scheme, the adapted timeline, and the revised budget. Also, on May 22nd, Hivos gave a formal reaction to the recommendations from US State Department/DRL (dated April 11th 2014) on basis of their site visit to Hivos on 28-30 January 2014. This correspondence focused on (1) personnel affairs, in particular timesheets and integral costs calculation, (2) standard operating procedures, in particular guidelines for conflict of interest, (3) financial and budget procedures, (4) procurement standards/procedures, (5) administrative procedures, and (6) safety procedures.

News from Salah Al-Din

Ms Najla'a Al-Ghazali is regional coordinator and also trainer for WPP in Salah Al-Din governorate. She is a professor at Tikrit University. She is originally from Maysan province, but currently lives in Al-Alem, which is completely under ISIS control. As a result, she can hardly travel, if at all. The WPP team keeps in contact with her via telephone to check on her. She informed us about the news that Omaia Najji Jibara had been killed by ISIS.

News from Anbar

Ms Wisam Al-Rawi is one of the two WPP trainers in Anbar governorate. She is a professor at Ramadi University. In the past, she has been a member of Anbar governorate council. She lives in Rawa, which is under ISIS control. She participated in first TOT in Erbil in January 2014, but came one day later because the main roads had been blocked and she had taken a detour. She was invited for the second TOT in March, but could not come at all, because the main roads were completely blocked by military that time. The national project manager of WPP contacts her instantly when her mobile network is available. Despite her background, she has not been subject to any attack or abuse until today.

Activity 6.2	Planning & monitoring visits	Planning: Bimonthly
<input type="radio"/> BEHIND SCHEDULE	<input checked="" type="radio"/> ON TARGET	<input type="radio"/> AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Hivos conducted one monitoring visit in April 2014. Hivos and Al-Amal discussed the various programme aspects at length. The next visit to Iraq is scheduled for August 2014, to visit Erbil and possibly some other places, not yet determined.

Activity 6.3	Mid-term evaluation	Planning: July 2014
<input type="radio"/> BEHIND SCHEDULE	<input checked="" type="radio"/> ON TARGET	<input type="radio"/> AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The preparations for the mid-term evaluation started in June 2014. The terms of reference were drafted and shared with US State Department for feedback. The terms of reference are now being revised and finalized. The evaluator will be selected and assigned in July.

The aim of this Mid Term Review is to evaluate the results of the programme in the first stage and to formulate recommendations for the follow-up stage of the programme and for improvement of specific aspects, if necessary. The evaluation and recommendations from this MTR will be for internal use only, e.g. within the framework of the WPP programme. This means that the evaluation report will be shared and discussed with stakeholders in the WPP programme, including the backdonor, to inform them and to discuss adaptations to the programme, if necessary. The report will not be published however.

As the time available is limited and quantitative data are available already, the evaluation methods must be basically qualitative. Information and opinions should be cross-checked whenever felt necessary. The evaluator's gender sensitivity and awareness is supposed to be methodologically integrated in the process.

The evaluation mission may include travelling in Iraq if the safety situation allows it, but the evaluator may also decide to do interviews by telephone, Skype, Viber, Facebook chat or whatever other means deemed appropriate.

Results of the programme during past 3 months

Main outputs of the WPP programme April-June 2014	
Activities	Outputs
1. Capacity building and assistance to female aspirants	
1.3. Assistance during elections	More than 200 consultations provided to female candidates in almost all governorates
1.4. Elections (30 April)	17 new female MPs after having received training and support through WPP programme
2. Capacity building and assistance to high potentials	
2.1. Selection of high potentials	65 high potentials selected
2.2. Support to trainers	14 WPP trainers supported by WPP team
2.3. Advanced trainings and networking sessions for high potentials	65 high potential candidates trained in 4 workshops in 4 governorates
2.4. Practical support to high potentials	12 high potentials supported more intensively
3. Long term assistance to elected female representatives	
3.1. Training of trainers	Preparations started, TOR for this TOT worked out, call for trainers issued, discussed with expert organizations
3.2. Continuous support to female MPs and institutions	

3.3 – 3.4. Advanced training workshops to elected MPs in Baghdad and Erbil	Planning of the training workshops worked out, 2 calls for trainers issued
3.5. Visit and exchange workshop from MPs from the Netherlands	Preparations started, MPs identified
4. Engagement of political parties	
4.1. Discussion and educational meetings with Iraqi political parties	Work with 8 political parties and blocs
4.3. Training and engagement of high potentials in influencing parties	See 2.3.
5. Awareness raising and education of female voters, decision makers and media workers	
5.1. Regional stakeholder conferences	8 stakeholder conferences in 8 governorates with 985 participants
5.2. Local community meetings for direct awareness raising	66 debate conferences in 15 governorates with 700 participants
5.3. Engaging and informing influential media and journalists	Work with influential media, plus first 4 success stories of women's contributions
5.4. Workshop with journalists and media professionals	1 workshop with 16 media workers from 7 governorates representing 13 different media channels
6. Monitoring & evaluation	
6.3. Mid-term evaluation	Preparations started, TOR for MTR worked out

Main outcomes of the WPP programme	
Planning	Realization
A. Female aspirants are skilled and confident candidates	We have capacitated 816 female candidates, of whom 311 of them more intensively, to become skilled and confident candidates in the parliamentary election campaign. All of them were newcomers in this area. Several women who were trained and supported in the framework of the WPP programme indeed showed to be strong and confident during debates and interviews or when they presented their visions and electoral programmes. 17 of them have become member of parliament. One of them was elected into parliament on basis of the votes cast for her. Some 800 women have been trained but not elected into parliament. They may benefit from the WPP training and support when they operate in the public domain, either in the political sphere, media or elsewhere.
B. Female representatives will be more effective leaders who can promote a legislative agenda, supportive of women's rights, and engage in grassroots outreach	This is based on the all the capacity building and support activities in the pre-election stage, but it is most directly related to the work focused on new-coming female MPs in the post-election phase.
C. Political parties show more gender sensitivity by including more women in leadership positions	It is also too early to claim that political parties and coalitions show more gender sensitivity by including more women in leadership positions. We did educational work and some massage at the leadership of various parties to make them more gender sensitive and to encourage them to give space to capable women from their own circles beyond the level of the obligatory quota. Most

	parties involved in the WPP programme (for example in stakeholder meetings) expressed their support to increased women's political participation in Iraq, but this has not materialized (yet). It may be too early for changes in the leadership of the parties, but the eventual selection of representatives to take a seat in parliament on their behalf showed that this was no more than the obliged 25% quota, which seems to show that they are not more gender sensitive and supportive than they were before.
D. Media have more attention for female candidates and their positive contribution to politics	Indeed, media gave more and more serious attention to female election candidates than they did before, thanks to our training workshops (which raised media attention) and assistance to get female candidates in front of the microphones and in the spotlights.

A revised scope of work and monitoring & evaluation scheme have been drafted and sent to US State Department for feedback. We received the feedback in July. They will be finalized in the forthcoming quarter.

Steps toward realizing the overall goals/objectives during past 3 months

We have set essential preparatory steps toward the two overall goals of the WPP programme, and the past three months were among the most crucial stages in the programme (together with the previous quarter), but time will show how successful our efforts so far have been.

Goal 1 - More women in leadership positions in parliament and government

The elections of April 30th were a crucial moment. 17 of 'our women' became new-coming members of parliament (out of 816 women, of whom 311 considered as high potential candidates). One of these 17 was elected into parliament on basis of the votes cast for her. The other 16 were invited for a seat in parliament on basis of the quota (and in total the number of women in parliament does not exceed the obligatory 25%). Some 800 women have been trained and supported by us, but not elected into parliament. They can benefit from the WPP training and support when they operate in the public domain, either in the political sphere, media or elsewhere.

The new parliament just started to become operational, so the parliamentary commissions have not been formed yet. The government still needs to be formed as well. At this moment it is unclear how many women will be appointed as parliamentary commission chairpersons, members of the cabinet of ministers or other high rank positions and leadership positions. It is also unclear whether any of 'our women' will be invited to such positions. That process will be beyond our control.

In the forthcoming months we will continue to support new-coming female members of parliament. This includes women's leadership training. The female newcomers in parliament who will be supported is a group of 40-50 women. Of course, this includes the 17 women who had training and support from us already.

Goal 2 - Legislation that is supportive of women's rights

The second overall goal (legislation that is supportive of women's rights in Iraq) is very challenging in the current political context. The Jaafari Status Law proposal showed how fragile the achievements for women are and how necessary it is to have strong women (and men) who can prevent that things get worse for women in Iraq. Recently another crucial issue became highly relevant: which law applies where? The laws of federal Iraq no longer apply to the areas of the caliphate of ISIS, and may no longer apply to Kurdish region if they claim full independence.

The WPP programme has built capacities of women to operate effectively in politics and made a serious effort to make (future) politicians –men and women- more gender aware and gender sensitive. We did this

in all provinces of Iraq. The primary context was the federal parliament, not the Kurdish regional parliament and certainly not the Sunni caliphate (which did not exist until recently). As mentioned, in the forthcoming months we will continue to support 40-50 new-coming female members of parliament. This includes training on gender equality, including gender responsible budgeting. The 800 women have been trained and supported by us, but not elected into parliament, may benefit from the WPP training and support when they operate for women's rights in the public domain.

F Framework Indicators

The past quarter showed the following data concerning the evaluation indicators from the Foreign Assistance Framework:

F Framework Indicators	Q2 2014	Cumulative
2 Governing Justly & Democratically		
2.2 Good Governance Indicator 2.2 -3: number of activities supported with USG assistance that are designed to retain women or recruit women into positions within the national or local government	286 ⁸	417
2.3.2 Elections and Political Processes Indicator 2.3.2 -12: number of individuals receiving voter and civic education through USG-assisted programs	50,000 ⁹	60,000
2.3.3 Political Parties Indicator 2.3.3 -6: number of USG-assisted political parties implementing initiatives to increase the number of candidates and/or members who are women, youth and from marginalized groups.	15 ¹⁰	20
2.4.2 Media Freedom and Freedom of Information 2.4.2 -12: number of training days provided to journalists with USG Assistance (measured by person-days of training)	48	48
Gender		
GNDR-3: proportion of females who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG supported training/programming	65-70%	65-70%
GNDR-3: proportion of target population reporting increased agreement with the concept that males and females should have equal access to social, economic, and political opportunities	No reliable data available	

Lessons learned during past 3 months

- The main lesson: the situation in Iraq is unpredictable and instable. This affects the safety situation and the possibility of people to travel – or even move around in their own cities. This relates to candidates and to WPP trainers and regional coordinators in conflict areas, but also to staff of Al-Amal in Baghdad.
- A flexible approach to avoid safety risks works well. No one has been hurt while participating in events organized in the framework of the WPP programme. Some people, who were involved, got killed, but outside the framework of the programme.

⁸ Breakdown of activities in period April-June 2014: More than 200 consultations (1.3), 1 selection activity (2.1), 1 cluster of support to trainers (2.2), 4 training workshops for high potentials (2.3), 1 cluster of preparatory activities for TOT (3.1), 1 cluster of preparatory activities for training workshops for MPs (3.3-3.4), 1 cluster of preparatory activities for exchange visit (3.5), 8 stakeholder conferences (5.1), 66 debate conferences (5.2), 1 cluster of work with media (5.3), 1 workshop with media workers (5.4), 1 cluster of preparatory activities for mid-term evaluation (6.3). Total number of activities in period April-June 2014: 286 activities.

⁹ The 816 candidates supported from the WPP programme, the almost 1000 participants in the 8 stakeholders conferences and the approximately 700 participants in the 66 debate conferences, the 16 participants in the workshop for media workers, the audience of publications/broadcasts in media on these topics. Total: 50,000 in all governorates of Iraq (roughly estimated figure).

¹⁰ None of the political parties received financial support from the WPP programme.

- Facilitating new-coming female candidates to present themselves, their visions and programmes to media, voters and decision makers is important and fruitful, in particular when this is combined with training and advisory support.
- Working with journalists and media workers is effective and essential to generate positive and serious media attention for female candidates.
- Most political parties and blocs sympathize with the idea of women's participation and express their support in bilateral and public meetings, but in reality they are not easily convinced to go beyond the obligatory 25% quota for women or to enable women to have a leadership position in the party.
- Female election candidates have not been able to influence the elections campaigns toward promoting women-friendly legislation in Iraq. Female candidates did not really use the sexual harassment of election posters for this purpose (or to their own benefit) either.

Problems/challenges in implementing the programme and corrective actions

- The safety situation remained an important challenge, as expected. In some provinces such as Anbar and Ninewa, the safety situation did not allow us to conduct trainings and events there. As a result, some activities in these provinces have been cancelled, like for example the debate conferences there. Other corrective actions were not considered realistic.
- Another challenge – also expected- was the busy schedules of the candidates during the election campaign. It was the main reason for cancelling some of the activities in specific governorates (Dohuk, Maysan) or for inviting candidates to join a workshop of event in another governorate, as alternative for cancelling it (Arbil). We knew it would be a challenge and we understand perfectly well that candidates were extremely busy during their election campaigns, but nevertheless we tried and managed to convince candidates to accept our invitations. After all, we facilitated them to have a wider outreach among voters and decision makers than they would normally have.
- A third challenge concerned the political parties. Representatives of political parties and blocs expressed their sympathy and support to women's participation, but actions count more than words. We did educational work in the leadership of various parties to make them more gender sensitive and to encourage them to give space to capable women from their own circles beyond the level of the obligatory quota. Most parties involved in the WPP programme (for example in stakeholders meetings, in debate conferences and in bilateral communications) expressed their support to increased women's political participation in Iraq, but this has not materialized yet. It may be too early for changes in the leadership of the parties, but the eventual selection of representatives to take a seat in parliament on their behalf showed that this was no more than the obliged 25% quota, which seems to show that they are not more gender sensitive and supportive than they were before. This shows that more work is needed in this field.
- A fourth challenge was the extremely high time pressure to get everything organized on time during the last month before the elections.

Proposed revisions which require prior approval

None. Discussions with the US State Department about the revision of the budget are ongoing.

Proposed revisions which do not require prior approval

None. Discussions with the US State Department about the revised scope of work and M&E scheme are ongoing.

Internal reviews during past 3 months

The WPP team did an internal evaluation exercise with the trainers and regional coordinators about the TOTs and the implemented activities. The evaluation focused on three topics: (1) how the WPP programme influenced themselves and what they would use in their future work, (2) success stories from the WPP programme, and (3) recommendations for what should be changed, added or skipped in the WPP programme.

The trainers and regional coordinators gave positive feedback on the following aspects of the implementation of the WPP programme:

- The impact that the WPP programme has on the female candidates by increasing their confidence and skills. Many candidates rewrote their electoral messages after they had participated in the WPP trainings.
- The interest and support from other NGOs to empower female candidates and support their participation in the political process.
- The importance and effectiveness of the TOTs that preceded the implementation of the activities.
- The evaluation of the 1st phase (just before the 2nd TOT in March), which was very helpful for starting the second phase, based on the actual needs and challenges on the ground.
- The writing of the blogs (which was a new experience for them) and publication on the websites of Hivos and Al-Amal.
- The training skills, techniques and materials received from the TOTs. The trainers felt that a lot of training skills were acquired (such as time management for training sessions), as well as a large variety in training techniques/methodologies (such as small groups exercises, role plays and brainstorming) and useful training materials. They felt that the diversity in training methods enabled them to communicate the information and knowledge more interactively.
- The positive interaction and fruitful cooperation among the WPP trainers in all governorates of Iraq (the TOTs they participated in together, the exchange of training materials and joint work to adapt materials for the work with the candidates, the training workshops they conducted together). The trainers felt that building relationships and communications with other trainers all over Iraq is impossible to achieve in practice in daily life.
- The communication and relationships with female candidates, as well as political parties and blocs. They felt that the WPP had a good reputation among the political parties they worked with.

They gave critical feedback and recommendations about the following aspects:

- The selection of the 816 candidates, in which the WPP trainers themselves were not involved. They recommended to be more transparent about the selection process, preferably on basis of the candidates' resumes and face-to-face interviews (which could not be done now due to time restrictions).
- The importance of enhancing more collaboration and coordination efforts of the regional coordinators.
- The training materials for the high potentials were less rich than expected on basis of the materials for the first stage.
- There is space to include more topics, such as creative leadership, teambuilding skills, decision-making and problems-solving skills.
- There is a need for intensive trainings for women within the political parties they belong to, in order to enhance their leadership skills.
- More men should be included (from political parties) in every workshop so that they can also get awareness about importance of female participation in decision-making and leadership in general.
- The importance of enhancing the capacity of Iraqi NGOs in women's political empowerment.
- The need to make use of information and experiences from other, similar projects.
- They missed the blogs during the second TOT.

Visibility of the backdonor during past 3 months

The US State Department was not visible as backdonor of the WPP programme during the past 3 months.

Evaluation work during past 3 months

The preparations for the mid-term evaluation started in June 2014 (see activity 6.3). The terms of reference were drafted and shared with US State Department for feedback. The terms of reference are now being revised and finalized. The evaluator will be selected and assigned in July.

The aim of this Mid Term Review is to evaluate the results of the programme in the first stage and to formulate recommendations for the follow-up stage of the programme and for improvement of specific

aspects, if necessary. The evaluation and recommendations from this MTR will be for internal use only, e.g. within the framework of the WPP programme. This means that the evaluation report will be shared and discussed with stakeholders in the WPP programme, including the backdonor, to inform them and to discuss adaptations to the programme, if necessary. The report will not be published however.

As the time available is limited and quantitative data are available already, the evaluation methods must be basically qualitative. Information and opinions should be cross-checked whenever felt necessary. The evaluator's gender sensitivity and awareness is supposed to be methodologically integrated in the process.

The evaluation mission may include travelling in Iraq if the safety situation allows it, but the evaluator may also decide to do interviews by telephone, Skype, Viber, Facebook chat or whatever other means deemed appropriate.

Documentation during past 3 months

The documentation of the WPP programme realization during the reporting period includes power point presentations, minutes/travel reports, internal evaluation sheets, photos, audio/video fragments. The available documentation of the considerations and decision making process concerning major decisions in the framework of this programme relate to the possible involvement of other expert organisations (such as the Women's Democracy Network), the purchase of the laptop, the selection of the local trainers/counselors and MPs for the post-election phase, the selection of the trainers of trainers for the 3rd TOT in August, and the selection of trainers for the training workshops to MPs. They are kept at Hivos and Al-Amal. This also applies to the documentation about the travel arrangements, accommodations, selection of the venues for workshops and training, as well as bids of and negotiations with interpreting companies (taken care of by an event organizer).