



SudgestAid's commitment in Thi Qar (Iraq)

A model for assisting the "good governance"



Who we are

SudgestAid is an Italian non-profit consortium, with State participation, involved in promoting and managing local sustainable development projects, by giving assistance to public administrations and civilian populations in troubled regions in Italy and all over the world.

We operate, above all, in areas hit by crisis and in communities where development is a particular challenge.

Our activities include maximising human resource potential; socioeconomic and regional planning; evaluating and defending natural resources, whether water, soil, or subsoil; developing and supporting new technologies; restoring the rule of law and social cohesion; fostering the respect and appreciation of cultural differences and equal opportunity.

SudgestAid's Projects in Thi Qar



Financed by MAE - Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - DGMM - Task Force Iraq



With the collaboration of Thi Qar Provincial Council

A. Training and assistance for local government

Supporting the Provincial Council and other local Authorities	<i>Assistance and training of Directors and Officers of the Provincial Departments, with regard to planning and local development</i>
Strengthening of the Governance in Thi Qar	<i>Basic training for 650 officers and employees of Thi Qar Public Administration, concerning accounting, financial administration and organization of the activities and procedures of PA; course for PA officers on strategic planning.</i>
Local Governance, micro projects for development and international partnership	<i>Training activities for 150 representatives of the City Councils, concerning Department's planning and principles of administrative decentralization. Training of trainers activities</i>
Strengthening the Governance in the Province of Thi Qar - Continuous training for Public Administration	<i>Strengthening of the capacity of Public Administrators of Thi Qar. It raised up as a complementary activity of a first phase of training and is part of the implementation of the programme "Strengthening of the Governance of the Province of Thi Qar".</i>
Supporting economic development in the Province of Thi Qar	<i>Strengthening of the operational capabilities and tools of the Province of Thi Qar for economic development and employment.</i>

B. Training of unemployed people

Empowerment of a Vocational Training Centre in Nassiriyah	<i>Rehabilitation of the building; delivery of facilities for 4 laboratories; management support;</i>
Vocational training	<i>Training activities for 370 unemployed people; 5 different professional figures: masons; technicians for computers, generators, cars, cooling. Training of trainers activities. "Placement" activity in order to support the unemployed after the training, giving them useful tools to gain access to the job market.</i>

C. Assistance, studies, building project management

Feasibility Study for a rural, sustainable Village in the Marshland (Al Jubair)	<i>Technical and socio-economical studies in order to realize a Village for 200 families, according to sustainability criteria and respect for local traditions</i>
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Realization of a Sub Health Centre in Al Jubair	<i>Designing and building of a SHC as first facility of the future village, already available for settled inhabitants</i>
Local Governance, micro-projects for development and international partnership	<i>Assistance for the realization of 5 Districts development Plans; realization of a Data Bank of small scale projects</i>
Supporting women's entrepreneurship in the Province of Thi Qar	<i>Assistance and training activities in order to support the creation of micro enterprises with a microcredit system.</i>

Programme goals

- Strengthening the technical ability of Institutions and Officers in Thi-Qar, targeting local sustainable development
- Supporting Provincial and local Institutions in the decentralization process and in the reorganization of the local government
- Developing local capacities by promoting citizens' participation in public affairs management and good governance
- Enhancing social-economic and infrastructural projects

Our method

- The method of “accompanying” progressively allows to make administrators and technical structures able to do everything ‘on their own’.
- The method of “accompanying” is not “turnkey” , because the aim is **not to replace but to support** public structures.
- We should not give answers but seek answers together.
- The question is not “what we can do *for* you”, but “what we can do *with* you”

Our organization

- SuggestAid is a consortium whose members share their respective knowledge by promoting the transfer of abilities and know-how and by fostering integrated and multidisciplinary working strategies.
- The internal structure is agile and flexible and is based on the continuous interaction and participation of all members of the team.
- SuggestAid involves local partners and experts in its activities with the aim to consolidate their abilities and relationships for future collaboration.
- **In Thi Qar SuggestAid makes use of a permanent Staff of local experts and it is going to open its own operating office in Nassiriyah.**



A brief presentation of our Projects (Files)



Project name

Supporting Civil and Provincial Councils and other local authorities as key actors in the reconstruction and in the democratic transition in Thi Qar Province

Sector	Province	Financed by	Contact details
Training and Assistance	Thi Qar	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - DGMM	SudgestAid Maurizio Zandri zandri@sudgestaid.it Ph: +39 06 982641 Ali Jawad Al Dujailly alibalzac1@sudgestaid.it 00964 780 1092762



Project Description

The project stems from the interventions of the Italian Ministry of Home Affairs and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to support the democratic process of Iraq and provide elected representatives and/or officers and technical assistants of the City Councils and Provincial Councils with Training and Technical Assistance.

The project was aimed at strengthening the capacity of Local Administrations in order to meet, in an effective and efficient way, the population's needs.

Project Goal

The general goal is to contribute to the undergoing democratization process in Iraq with reference to the processes of decentralization of administrative and governmental functions and to the transparency in the management of the administrative machine and in the relationships with citizens.

Project Objectives

- To increase the competences of the City and Provincial Councils and of the departments of the Thi Qar Province in the organization and government of social services (water, school, wastes, transport, ...)
- To assist the City Councils and other Institution in the readjustment of the organizational and administrative system;
- To strengthen the ability of programming and planning the territory and the environment in order to design local development projects.

Activities

- Technical Assistance
- Training
- Exchange of experiences in Italy

The training courses carried out concerned:

- Administration and bureaucratic organization of the Institutions;
- Relationships among public Institutions;
- Management of local public services;
- Territorial planning and local development
- English and Information technology courses

The training courses also included a Project Work concerning a Practical working out of a project about: 1 - the topic of the governance *Elaboration of detailed operation plan for the participants' local Administrations*; 2 - the topic of local development *Elaboration of an integrated project*.

Beneficiaries

- Elected representatives and/or officers and technical assistants of the City and Provincial Councils,
- Executive boards and assistants of the departments.

Project name

Strengthening the Governance in Thi Qar Province

Sector	Province	Financed by	Contact details
Governance - Training of PA	Thi Qar	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	SudgestAid Valentina Caferri caferri@sudgestaid.it Ph: + 39 06 982641 Sarmad Lufti Asmail sarmad_asmal@sudgestaid.it 00964 780 1028864



Project Description

The project stems from the assessments on the needs of Thi Qar Province's Public Administrations. The activities of the project are focused on the basic training for the civil servants concerning the "internal governance" concerning the systems of programming, planning, management, evaluation and control of the activities of public administrations.

Project Goal

Strengthening of Local Governance System in the Province of Thi Qar through the improvement of knowledge and abilities of Local Public Administration employees.

Project Objectives

- Improvement of the administrative-bureaucratic functioning of the departments of the Provinces;
- Strengthening of planning capacity on local development and management Local Public Services;
- Adjustment of relationship systems among the Administration.

Activities

Training and TOTs activities:

- specific courses on internal governance matters: accounting, financial administration and organization of the activities and the procedures of PA; course for PA officers about strategic planning;
- horizontal courses of English and Computer science.

Beneficiaries

- Officers of the Provincial Administration;
- Representatives of the Provincial Central Departments;
- Representatives of the Department structures working in the five districts;
- Some representatives of the Central Ministries;
- The elected people of the Provincial Council;
- Stakeholders (professional associations; representatives of tribes; etc.).

For more details see the tables below

<i>Beneficiaries</i>	<i>Courses carried out</i>	
	<i>No. of courses</i>	<i>No. of trainees</i>
Nassiriya	37	610
Al Chabaish	2	46
Al Refai	2	44
Al Shatra	2	38
Suq Ashieukh	4	70
TOTAL	27	808

<i>Courses carried out</i>						
<i>Contents</i>	<i>First Phase</i>			<i>Second Phase</i>		
	<i>No. of courses</i>	<i>No. of trainees</i>	<i>Hours per course</i>	<i>No. of courses</i>	<i>No. of trainees</i>	<i>Hours per course</i>
English	10	255	72	10	276	72
Computer	9	210	63	8	194	63
Organization of PA	3	61	42	-	-	-
Accounting	3	55	42	-	-	-
Project management	1	39	42	1	40	42
Strategic planning	1	28	42	1	40	42
TOTAL	27	648		23	610	-

1 course regarding Training of Trainers (TOT) for 35 people for 10 days: 5 days related to tools and methodology for adults training, 5 days related to the specific training matters in different working groups

Project name
Local Governance, micro-projects for development and International partnership

Sector	Province	Financed by	Contact details
Governance - Training/Technical Assistance	THI QAR	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	SudgestAid Elisabetta Trenta trenta@sudgestaid.it Ph: +39 06 982641 Ali Kadhum Al Mashhady aliabdkadhum@sudgestaid.it 00964 780 1122312



Project Description

The Project envisages two main interventions:

- a) To support the technical administrative organization of local administrations with regard to project planning and management.
- b) To create a “project bank”, a bulk of micro-projects, viable and quickly achievable, whose funding will be proposed to the Italian Regions and to International Organizations

Project Goal

The project aims at strengthening local governance systems supporting the capacity of the City Council to foster local development and plan integrated interventions district development plans, in the framework of the strategic directives chosen by the Provincial Council and indicated in the Thi Qar strategic plan.

Project Objectives

- To give the City Councils a leading role;
- To reinforce the systems of the institutional relations between the City Councils and the Provincial Council;
- To reinforce the systems of the institutional relations among the Provincial Departments, the Local Departments and the City Councils;

- To start partnerships among the City Councils in order to strengthen their ability to work together on a district level with the aim to promote local development;
- To qualify local development and improve international donors and Italian Regions partnership.

Activities

Action 1:

- Analysis of the existing functional system and of the needs;
- Training of Trainers on: Strategic Plans, Local Development, Decentralization, Public Administration Organization;
- Training of City Council representatives;
- Technical assistance for the realization of Districts Development Plans.

Action 2:

- Training on PCM;
- Selection, assessment and presentation in the right format of about 20 small scale development projects proposed by the City Councils and approved by the Provincial Council;
- Promotion and start up of partnership with the Italian Regions.

Beneficiaries

Officers and employees of Public Administration (150 beneficiaries/1 year)

Project name
**Strengthening the Governance in Thi Qar Province -
 Continuous Training for PAs' officers**
 (on going)

Sector	Province	Financed by	Contact details
Local Development	Thi Qar	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	SudgestAid Valentina Caferri caferri@sudgestaid.it Ali Jawad Al Dujailly alibalzac1@sudgestaid.it 00964 780 1092762h: + 39 06 982641

Project Description

The project started as general support action to strengthen the capacity of local government public administrators of Thi Qar. The broad level of involvement, interest and motivation found in the first phase have shown not only the pragmatic necessity of training and support that will increase levels of knowledge and skills of public operators, but also their awareness in wanting to improve their activities. In fact, the same participants and the local authorities of the Province, made the request to continue operations and stabilization of a training system of Public Administration.

The object of this proposal are complementary activities of the first phase of the training and necessary for the start of the second phase of the program to strengthen governance in the Thi Qar Province, which will be characterized by the definition of infrastructure, organization and permanent training programs.

Project Goal

Implementation of the principle of lifelong learning under which adult, after the conclusion of the first phase of training at school, college or at work, develop skills, enrich their abilities, improve technical and professional qualifications and / or redirect them to the needs of their job.

Project Objectives

- To complete "administrative" skills related to the internal organization and processes of the offices of the PA ("internal governance") acquired during the first phase;
- To implement abilities and capacities for local development (institutional governance);
- To prepare a system of continuing training through the design of a "Permanent School for Provincial Public Administration"
- To ensure, through complementary activities, the continuity of the action made.

Activities

The project includes two different lines of action:

- Training activities;
- Technical assistance activities aimed at startup of a " Provincial School for Public Administration"

The training activities foresee in this complementary phase of the "Programme for strengthening governance in the province of Thi Qar" will be related to:

- Updating and / or in-depth on some topics specific to the internal governance already done in the first phase;
- Training on issues of institutional governance, not included in the first phase.

The training activities will be implemented in the five districts of the province and the training programme is composed of 4 different course, namely:

- Strategic Planning;
- Project Cycle Management;
- Development Plan;
- Monitoring and Evaluation of Projects

The technical assistance activity is aimed at accompany the establishment of a "Provincial School of Public Administration" which will be managed by local authorities and allow the systematization and management of training activities in the long term according to the principle of continuing education. The School's mission is to improve the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of the local Pa through constant coaching and accompanying action to public bodies and individual employees, carried out by local authorities themselves.

Beneficiaries

400 beneficiaries selected among officers of the 5 districts of the Province of Thi Qar.

Project name
Supporting Economic Development in the Province of Thi Qar
 (on going)

Sector	Province	Financed by	Contact details
Local Development	Thi Qar	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	SudgestAid Valentina Caferrri caferri@sudgestaid.it Ali Jawad Al Dujailly alibalzac1@sudgestaid.it 00964 780 1092762h: + 39 06 982641

Project Description

The proposed action is aimed at strengthening the operational capabilities and tools of the Province of Thi Qar for economic development and employment.

In order to achieve this overall objective is important to operate on two fronts strongly connected, corresponding to two different actions of the project:

- the facilitation of the meeting between demand and supply of labor, through the involvement of local institutions, business associations, universities, vocational training centers, aim to improve and their relations and increase quality of supply and transparency of demand;
- the improvement of local support to small and medium enterprises, which constitute the core of the local production, and foreign investors in order to strengthen the local economy and consequently the labor market.

Project Goal

Supporting economic development in the Province of Thi Qar trough the improvement of local capacities to promote investments and employment.

Project Objectives

- To constitute a public service of excellence for the accompaniment, orientation, formation and job that contributes to increasing the competitiveness of the Province of Thi Qar joining the market labor and the training activity.
- To strengthen the capacities of the Provincial Investment Commission and of the Provincial Council's Investment Committee in stimulating Private Sector Growth, attracting outside investors, negotiating investment transaction and securing signed contracts.

Activities

For the first action:

- Analysis of the demand and offer of the labor market in collaboration with enterprises, institutions and local Chamber of Commerce;

- Orientation action for the young people and for unemployed aimed to define the best training activity for the entry and the reintegration in the labor market:
 - Orientation action for the professional growth of employees;
 - Information activity for young people, employed and unemployed;
 - Promotion of job placement for the young people.

For the second action:

- To improve relationship among PIC, businesses and private sector in order to allow the PIC to effectively support provincial development and increase competitiveness of the private sector in the Province of Thi Qar at international, national and regional level;
- To assist the PIC in the promotion of basic forms of investment in partnership with local entrepreneurs in order to reduce risks arising from a difficult environment;
- To support the PIC in the promotion of investment and industrial cooperation agreements, also to small and medium enterprises benefit of the province of Thi Qar, facilitating relations with Italy;
- To Support coordination with the Iraqi Government to facilitate Thi Qar investors' access to financial facilities and services available at national level;
- To support the network of PIC with other national and international agencies, local entrepreneurial institutions and business consulting, in order to improve the effectiveness of investment promotion;
- To start a process leading to a partial self-sustainability of PIC possibly through the payment of services by their beneficiaries and by increasing resources through international donors funds.

Beneficiaries

For the first action:

- Young people, for the accompaniment in the critical phases of the University studies and prepare the access to the labor market;
- Unemployed, to increment and direct the professional skills, to explore new job opportunities and facilitate an independent and complete monitoring of vacancies;
- Employees, to update and adapt the professional skills at the requests of the productive system in the area;
- Enterprises, to exploit the opportunities offered by the Province and the other public institutions.

For the second action:

The direct beneficiary is the Provincial Investment Commission of Thi Qar.

Other beneficiaries are:

- Business Associations;
- Small-Medium Enterprises .

Project name
Vocational Training Centre

Sector	Province	Financed by	Contact details
Training	Thi Qar	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	SudgestAid Giorgio D'Arrigo darrigo@sudgestaid.it Ph: +39 06982641 Rahman Jassim M. Al Gizi rjm_59@sudgestaid.it 00964 780 1774630



Project description

Unemployment rate in the area of the Thi Qar Province is one of the highest in Iraq; young people searching for a job, often do not have specific professional skills and this makes the search for a job even harder. In order to meet the most evident and immediate needs of the local context and on the basis of the raised needs, we suggest the carrying out and the start-up of a permanent Vocational Training Centre representing not only a tool for young people's professional growth, but also a relevant element of the local tissue, a bench mark for the stimulus and the meeting between demand and offer of local professional figures and a tool for the support of the activities of the Thi Qar University for the link between the training and the job, through the active involvement of all locals people.

Project goal

The main goal of the project is to enhance the base-professional capacities and employment opportunities in the Thi Qar area, in the framework of local development programmes, implementing a Vocational Training Centre as a permanent organization.

Project objectives

- To organise a permanent Centre for vocational training activities, with training facilities (including equipment);
- To train local trainers as permanent resources in Thi Qar Province.
- To organise training activities, theoretical and practical, for 340 people, during the first year.

Activities

The project envisaged the following activities:

- Assessment of the needs;
- Rehabilitation of the building and planning facilities for laboratories
- Delivery of facilities
- Training of Trainers
- Recruitment of students
- Training activities (the programs of the courses are agreed upon in accordance with the Iraqi Labour Ministry)
- Supporting the creation of micro enterprises by the trainees with microloans.

Beneficiaries

380 beneficiaries chosen by the Iraqi Labour Ministry (unemployment office) in the first year.

For more details see the tables below

Courses carried out				
Contents	First Phase		Second Phase	
	No. of courses	No. of trainees	No. of courses	No. of trainees
Mason	3	60	-	-
Computer Tech.	2	40	2	40
Generator Tech.	2	40	-	-
Car Tech.	2	40	-	-
Cooling Tech.	2	40	-	-
Mobile Ph. Tech.	-	-	1	20
Management small enterprise	-	-	2	40
English	-	-	1	20
TOTAL	11	220	8	160
1 course regarding Training of Trainers (TOT) for 10 people for 10 days: 5 days related to tools and methodology for adults training, 5 days related to the specific training matters in different working groups				
Duration of courses for trainees: 6 hours per day, 5 days per week for 4 months; total 500 hours per course.				

Project name
Feasibility Study for a rural, sustainable village in the Marshland (Al Jubair)

Sector	Province	Financed by	Contact details
Training and Assistance	Thi Qar	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	SudgestAid Maurizio Zandri zandri@sudgestaid.it Ph: +39 06 982641 Ali Jawad Al Dujailly alibalzac1@sudgestaid.it 00964 780 1092762



Project description

Al Jubair Green village is a pilot-initiative supporting the sustainable socio-economic development of a Marsh-land area in the governorate of Thi-Qar. It is a multi-sectorial project aimed at the construction of a village in Al Jubair area (Suk Ash Shuyukh district), which represents a participatory approach to the identification of community needs and integrated planning procedures meant to empower the role of provincial governance structures.

This document contains the assessments and the analyses regarding the most important territorial and environmental issues, aimed at defining a first planning hypothesis of a Village with: 200 houses; Public infrastructures including water (desalination plant and pipeline network), sewage (waste management plant and pipeline network), electricity, roads; Social Services including School, Health Clinic, Sport-Centre, Gardens; Police Station; Religious building; Telecommunication Centre; Promoting Socio-Economic Activities (Agriculture, fishing, handcraft, micro and small enterprises, etc.).

The examined items deal with, in particular, the following:

- assessments on the hydraulic risk of the project area, main feature in order to single out the most appropriate location for the new settlement;
- estimates of requirements of drinkable water and of technological solutions aimed at the abduction and distribution of drinkable water and of the prerequisites for health safety;
- estimates of energy supply requirements and technological and plant engineering solutions;
- proposal of arrangement of the new Village and its sizing;

- building criteria of environment friendly premises and infrastructures according to bio-architectural requirements;
- supply of common services and their localization;
- economic development potential of the area.

Project goal

The project goal is to strengthen the capacity of Iraqi Local Governance structures to effectively address the needs of the constituencies they are responsible for and to contribute to the socio-economic revitalization of the Marsh-land region in the Thi-Qar Governorate.

Project objectives

To build the capacity of Thi-Qar technical directorates to design and implement environmentally sustainable, multi-sectorial development projects aimed at promoting human security, access to basic social services and economic growth.

To design and coordinate the construction of a village in the Marsh-area of Thi-Qar, by means of a participatory approach which includes beneficiaries, local governance structures and civil society.

To support the sustainable return of IDP Arab Marsh to the reconstructed village where broad and indiscriminate access to basic social service along with sustainable livelihood opportunities are guaranteed.

Activities

The project envisaged the following activities:

- Workshops
- Study activities
- Training on the job
- Feasibility Study

Beneficiaries

- Elected representatives and/or officers and technical assistants of the City and Provincial Councils;
- Executive boards and assistants of the departments

Namely: Heads of Department in the fields of Planning, Environment, Watering, Municipal Services, Buildings, Agriculture.

- Competent Ministry Representatives (Water, Environment, Planning).

Final Beneficiaries

- Marshlands Dwellers: 200 families of IDP ; 4.000 inhabitants actually living in the area (for new services and public utilities and new employment opportunities)

Project name
Design and realization of a Sub Health Centre

Sector	Province	Financed by	Contact details
Realization and Assistance	Thi Qar	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	SudgestAid Maurizio Zandri zandri@sudgestaid.it Ph: +39 06 982641 Ali Jawad Al Dujailly alibalzac1@sudgestaid.it 00964 780 1092762



Project description

The construction of a Sub Health Centre, useful to improve primary health care, is an action in support of local population already settled and of the population who will be living in the New Village of Al Jubair.

The SHC was built in a barycentric area between the new village and the actual rural settlement.

The total surface of the SHC is about 1.600 sq, the built surface is 260 sq, but two enlargements of about 200 sq. are expected.

There will be common facilities:

- Pipeline of raw water supply from the river;
- Underground tank for untreated water;
- Water treatment compact unit;
- 5 tanks for treated water (1000 l each);
- Power Unit generator (15-25 Kva);
- 3 septic tanks;
- Mass burner for organic wastes.

Project goal

The project goal is to improve the health condition of the Iraqi population living in the rural area of Marshlands, through the creation of new infrastructures and facilities.

Project objectives

To plan and complete, through a local bidding procedure, a rural sub health centre with two lodgings for nurses and doctors in Al Jubair (Thi Qar).

Activities

The project envisaged the following activities:

- Demand assessment; local agreements
- Designing activities (with local departments)
- Building activities
- Delivery of facilities
- “Placement” activity in order to support the unemployed after the training, giving them useful tools to gain access to the job market.

Beneficiaries

- 4.000 inhabitants actually living in the area

Project name
**Supporting women's entrepreneurship
in Thi Qar Province**

Sector	Province	Financed by	Contact details
Local Development	Thi Qar	Apulia Region (according to Regional law No.20/2003)	SudgestAid Valentina Caferra caferri@sudgestaid.it Ali Jawad Al Dujailly alibalzac1@sudgestaid.it 00964 780 1092762h: + 39 06 982641



Project Description

The project is set in the field of the "Small Scale Project Bank" created by SudgestAid in collaboration with Thi Qar local authorities.

One of the core aspects of development is that one related to a proper acknowledgement of women's active role in the different aspects of economic and social life. This not only has direct effects on their wellbeing, but also on the development processes of a specific social context. About 56% of Iraqi people is represented by women, who often do not have anyway the opportunity to access the labour world and socio-economic life.

The project is aimed at building actual empowerment opportunities that can support Thi Qar women's introduction and integration in their social, economic and political context.

The project will be carried out together with the local partner, the NGO Al Tadamun, which is involved in supporting women's activities in the Province of Thi Qar.

Project Goal

Improving life quality and women's role in the Province of Thi Qar, supporting the creation of micro enterprises with a microcredit system.

Project Objectives

- To foster entrepreneurs as a tool specifically designed to allow women to access the labour market;
- To foster women's participation in the labour market and in the local society;
- To support women's personal and professional development in Thi Qar;
- To foster and spread women's access to the credit in Thi Qar;

- To encourage the beginning and the development of “women’s networks”.

Activities

- Awareness-raising of local organizations, institutions and civil society on female entrepreneurship and on microcredit as tools for development;
- Training of “entrepreneurs women” in the dress-making sector;
- Assistance for the creation of business plans and for feasibility assessment;
- Disbursement of loans and management of a local microcredit;
- Assistance to the start-up and monitoring of microenterprises.

Beneficiaries

- 50 literate women in the Province of Thi Qar.