



The focus of Germany's efforts is on support for the political process, civilian reconstruction, providing equipment for and assistance in training the Iraqi security forces, both police and military, as well as substantial debt relief within the framework of the Paris Club. Germany has agreed with the Iraqi government to expand the German training program for Iraqi police and military in the United Arab Emirates. Altogether, Germany has pledged some 200 million euros in aid for the stabilization and reconstruction of Iraq. This includes Germany's contribution to European Union aid and to Germany's multilateral commitments (i.e. the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund), and 4 million euros for protecting the UN mission in Iraq.

Support for the Political Process

- Germany has provided 5 million euros to promote the political process towards full Iraqi sovereignty and the build up of democratic institutions, 1 million euros of which was earmarked for supporting the elections held in January 2005.
- From the end of September through mid-December 2004, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation conducted seminars in Amman for election observers from independent Iraqi organizations (120 participants). The seminars were funded by the Federal Foreign Office.
- Germany has offered assistance for the upcoming constitutional process in Iraq, with an emphasis on Iraqi ownership of the process. The drafting of a constitution is a field in which Germany has most recently provided expertise in Afghanistan. German political foundations (for example, Friedrich Naumann Foundation and Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung) are ready to support the constitutional debate.
- German projects in supporting the constitutional process in Iraq will offer advice on how a constitution could deal with issues like the role of the media, women's rights, the role of religion, the relationship between state and civil society, and federalism.
- The successful [election radio](#) program produced by Iraqi journalists in Iraq and Berlin is to be continued with a new format covering the constitutional process. Surrounding the recent elections, Deutsche Welle and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation conducted advanced training courses in Germany and Jordan for a total of 25 Iraqi journalists who went on to participate in the election radio program.
- Germany is supporting the rule of law mission of the European Union that plans to train officers in the Iraqi judiciary, law enforcement and civilian administration.

Police Training

In March 2004, Germany in cooperation with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) [began training Iraqi police officers in the UAE](#).

- From March 20 to November 11, 2004, 12 experts from the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) trained 421 Iraqi criminal police officers. The first course, which comprised 129 Iraqi participants, was successfully completed in April 2004, the second, with 92 participants, in May 2004. Two more four-week courses with 100 participants each were carried out in September/October and October/November 2004. The program is scheduled to continue in 2005.
- Ten BKA experts began training 30 Iraqi bodyguards in January in the UAE.

Training and Equipping the Iraqi Armed Forces

By way of implementing the conclusions of the June 2004 NATO Summit in Istanbul, the German Armed Forces are providing assistance for training and equipping Iraqi forces. Germany has agreed with the Iraqi government to expand the German training program for Iraqi security forces in the United Arab Emirates. The assistance includes:

- Under a three-way agreement signed in the UAE capital Abu Dhabi, Germany will train a new battalion-strength group of around 250 Iraqi combat engineers, for tasks like quickly repairing roads, beginning in April. Germany will send around 70 military trainers to the UAE for the new round of training. The unit will be equipped with engineering equipment from the German Armed Forces worth 2 million euros, including 10 heavy-duty trucks.
- Germany has pledged 500,000 euros for NATO's trust fund for Iraqi forces training.
- It is already agreed upon that the German Armed Forces will pass on to Iraqi forces a medical care unit and 30 ambulances, as well as provide training on the medical equipment. Also agreed upon is the training of military leadership personnel in the field of explosive ordnance disposal. The training will take place in Germany, where facilities are available.
- In November/December 2004, approximately 120 [Iraqi soldiers from a logistics unit received training](#) in the UAE. Training, initially for the operation and maintenance of vehicles, was provided at facilities of the UAE Armed Forces. The UAE made available the infrastructure required for the training and provided accommodations for the 32 German instructors and the Iraqi trainees.
- The Federal Government provided the Iraqi military with 100 five-ton trucks.

Civilian Reconstruction

German efforts to support civilian reconstruction in Iraq concentrate on rebuilding the country's infrastructure, institutions and education sector.

- Due to the still tense security situation, implementation has been delayed for many national and international projects; German projects have also been affected by these delays. For example, due to a lack of security, a project for water and wastewater treatment in the northern Iraqi cities Dohuk, Irbil and Sulaymaniyah – which the Reconstruction Loan Corporation (KfW) is charged with implementing – has been put on hold for the time being. This 3-million-euro project aims to provide tools and equipment (water meters and repair materials, for example); it also includes a training component.
- With respect to the rebuilding of institutions, GTZ, a government corporation specializing in international technical cooperation, and InWEnt, or Capacity Building International, German, are organizing training visits and carrying out vocational training programs. In July 2004, InWEnt organized a first study trip to Germany for representatives of the Iraqi Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, as well as a two-week training visit for 25 Iraqi diplomats. In November 2004, a second course took place involving 17 Iraqi diplomats.
- With a view to modernizing vocational training in Iraq, Iraqi university teachers came to Germany in 2003, where they were introduced to the institutions that make up Germany's "dual system" of vocational training. Beginning in Spring 2005, 170 employees from various Iraqi ministries will attend vocational training courses in Egypt.

- From 2004 to 2006, some 350 Iraqi students and academics will make study visits to Germany lasting up to 24 months as part of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) [special scholarship program](#).
- Already in January and February 2004, some 60 Iraqi university representatives and young academics participated in a further-training program in various fields related to development policy. The program will be continued in February 2005 with 60 further participants.

Cultural Cooperation

Germany is also supporting Iraq in its effort to rebuild its cultural life and maintain its cultural heritage. During the past year, Germany has markedly increased its commitment:

- The “Books for Iraq” campaign collected some 11,000 books for the German Department's library at the University of Baghdad and other libraries, all of which have also been refurbished. The Federal Government provided more than 200,000 euros in funding for the project.
- Germany helped to provide equipment to protect archaeological excavation sites and the holdings of the Iraqi national museum. Germany also provided more than 100,000 euro in funding to help refurbish buildings in the historical city centre of Baghdad that now house a German-Iraqi cultural centre, which is to include a miniature library or so-called German Point of Dialogue of the Goethe-Institut.
- A radio program for young people, the “Telephone FM” radio project, is produced in Berlin with Iraqi presenters, for which Germany is providing a total of 83,000 euros in funding. “Underexposure,” the first Iraqi film to be produced since the end of the Saddam regime, is being completed in Berlin.
- Germany is also supporting Iraqi sport. Iraqi soccer players and Olympic athletes (track and field athletes and archers) were given the opportunity to train in Germany. Equipment was donated to the Iraqi soccer association, and training camps were placed at their disposal.

Debt Relief

Already at a very early stage, the Federal Government declared that it was in favor of substantial debt relief in order to give Iraq a chance to develop into a free and economically sound state. Iraq's foreign debt amounts to approximately US\$ 115 billion. Of this amount, approximately US\$ 39 billion are owed to members of the Paris Club (approximately US\$ 6.2 billion of which, i.e. 5.9 billion euro, including interest to Germany).

- On November 21, 2004, [the Paris Club agreed to write off](#) a total of 80% of Iraq's foreign debt in three stages, the first of which was to begin on January 1, 2005. Germany's claims of 5.9 billion euro are comprised of Federal Government claims amounting to approximately 3.9 billion euro and claims of German exporters (primarily in the construction industry) of approximately 2 billion euro. The Federal Government's share of debt relief therefore amounts to approximately 3.1 billion euro, and German exporters' share to approximately 1.6 billion euro. Altogether, the Federal Government and German exporters will forgive a total of 4.7 billion euro in debt.

- Now that the Paris Club has reached an agreement on debt relief for Iraq, the country has a greater prospect of obtaining Hermes guarantees as part of the Official Export Guarantee Scheme of the Federal Republic of Germany, which is currently not yet possible. Regardless, German companies are already involved in reconstruction efforts in Iraq. Besides having resumed work on pre-war projects (rehabilitation), they have also contracted new work (cement, power generation, mobile phone networks).

Humanitarian Assistance

- The German Foreign Office is contributing 674,000 euros to the German relief organization HELP in support of a de-mining program focusing on the greater Baghdad area. With this most recent contribution, the support by the German Foreign Office for humanitarian de-mining in Iraq has thus increased to 4 million euros over the last two years. Uncleared mines and ordnance constitute a menace to the population and are impeding economic reconstruction in Iraq. This de-mining program is already underway, and by September 2004, 1 million square meters of land had been cleared and 14 tons of mine, unexploded ordnance and munitions had been destroyed.
- Currently, Germany is supporting two projects that provide medical care in northeastern and northwestern Iraq. Most of the coordination work for these projects is being done in Amman.
- In 2003 alone, German humanitarian aid amounted to approximately 24 million euros.
- Directly following the end of the Iraq war, Germany provided a considerable amount of food, emergency and refugee aid, as well as general humanitarian aid, to the Iraqi population that had suffered the effects of the war.
- The best known project was that run by the Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW), which helped to repair water treatment facilities and to restore the Baghdad Central Water Authority; this project was successfully completed at the end of February 2004.

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