

Country Historic Profile: IRAQ

World Bank Group Archives

Profile completed: October 9, 2020

Basic Historical Information

Membership days for each affiliate

Information is taken from [World Bank Group membership page](#).

- IBRD: December 27, 1945
- IDA: December 29, 1960
- IFC: December 27, 1956
- MIGA: October 6, 2008
- ICSID: December 17, 2015

First loan(s)

Information taken from [Projects & Operations website](#).

- June 14, 1950: [Wadi Tharthar Flood Control Project](#)

Resident Mission establishment

Information taken from internal World Bank Group Archives resource.

- Approximately 2004 (interim office in Amman, Jordan)

Photo resources related to country

Hyperlink links to photos in the World Bank Group Archives' [Photo Catalog](#) for a given country. Digitization and description of archival photos are ongoing, and photos are added to the catalog regularly. In instances where the catalog contains no photos for a given country, check back frequently for additions, or contact the Archives for consultation by emailing archives@worldbank.org.

- [Historical photos related to Iraq](#)

Project profiles related to country

Link is to a list in the [Projects & Operations website](#) of all projects approved, dropped, or in the pipeline for a given country. Each project links to a project profile that includes description, financial details, and lists of reports, archival record folders, and photos, when available. This can be helpful to study the evolution of the Bank's work in the country over time, and to identify notable projects that represent important shifts or moments in the country's history. Projects are also excellent examples of case studies of how the Bank made an impact in a particular sector. The WBG Archives have original records and other information related to these projects. Email archives@worldbank.org for guidance.

- [Iraq project profiles in Projects & Operations](#)

Description of operational records in Archives Holdings

Archival records relating to Bank operations are described according to the ISAD(g) standard and are accessible in our [Archives Holdings catalog](#). Descriptions include lengthy organizational histories of the regional vice presidency responsible for operations in that region and a description of records created and transferred to the Archives by that vice presidency. The descriptions in the catalog can be helpful to understand the organizational context of Bank work, and to understand more about the content of the records in the Archives.

- [Records of the Middle East and North Africa Regional Vice Presidency](#)

Chronology events

Events have been selected from the Archivists' Chronology, an 800+ page resource compiled by Bank Group archivists over the course of the institution's history. Events chosen include important firsts, milestones and other events that evidence the country's development history and/or its relationship with the World Bank Group. The Archivists' Chronology is accessible on [this page](#). This list of events can be helpful to determine if you'd like to dig deeper into any moments in the country's history of engagement with the Bank. The WBG Archives may have original records and other information about these events. Email archives@worldbank.org for guidance.

Bretton Woods Conference; Representatives of Iraq Attend

July 1-22, 1944

IBRD Articles of Agreement Signed by Iraq

December 27, 1945

Bank Mission to Iraq

May 27, 1949

First Funding for Iraq

June 15, 1950

Black's Seven-Week Trip to Middle East Announced, Iraq Included

February 12, 1953

Dorsey Stephens Named Bank's Regional Representative in Middle East

October 20, 1953

IFC Articles of Agreement Signed by Iraq

December 27, 1956

IDA Articles of Agreement Signed by Iraq

December 29, 1960

Enhanced Security Measures Instituted at Headquarters and Field Offices Due to Gulf Crisis

August 2, 1990

Needs Assessment for Iraq

April 29, 2003

President Wolfensohn Travels to Baghdad to Assess Reconstruction Needs

July 30, 2003

Terrorist Bombing at UN Headquarters in Iraq

August 20, 2003

World Bank Employee Dies in Iraq

August 21, 2003

World Bank—United Nations Assessment of Iraq Aid Published

October 9, 2003

Aid to Iraq Discussed by World Bank Board of Executive Directors

October 14, 2003

International Reconstruction Fund for Iraq Supported by World Bank Executive Board of Directors

October 24, 2003

Resident Mission Opened

2004 (interim office in Amman, Jordan)

Iraqi Trust Fund Announced

January 29, 2004

Iraq Clears Arrears to World Bank

December 20, 2004

First World Bank Lending to Iraq in Thirty Years

November 29, 2005

MIGA Membership

October 6, 2008

ICSID Membership

December 17, 2015

World Bank Group Timeline Events

Events are selected from the [World Bank Group Timeline](#). The Timeline is an online platform created by the Archives designed to highlight the important events in the Bank Group's history and to illuminate those events through a variety of archival records, photos, video and audio clips, oral history transcripts, reports, and more.

[World Bank Group announces up to a \\$500m in IDA credits to Iraq](#)

July 18, 2005

Early Country Economic Reports

Reports have been selected from the [Documents & Reports website](#), a database of publicly available World Bank Group authored reports and publications dating to the opening of the Bank in 1946. Country economic reports selected here are, in many cases, some of the earliest economic studies ever published on Bank member countries. Reports discussing the whole economy of a country, rather than individual sectors, are prioritized in this list.

Iraq - Report on the economy	February 25, 1949
Iraq's credit worthiness	July 25, 1949
Present economic position and creditworthiness of Iraq	September 1, 1949
Additional information on the financial situation of Iraq	June 9, 1950
Recent economic development in Iraq	January 29, 1951
Iraq - Technical report on the Euphrates River flood control and irrigation projects in Iraq	February 7, 1951
Iraq - Technical report on the agricultural machinery project in Iraq	February 19, 1951
Iraq - Current economic position and prospects	September 30, 1963
Iraq - Current economic position and prospects	February 28, 1966
Iraq - Current economic position and prospects	January 31, 1969
Iraq - Current economic position and prospects	August 31, 1971
Iraq - Current economic position and prospects	October 31, 1974

Country Assistance Strategies

List is based on a similar list compiled by World Bank's Secretary's staff. Introduced in 1990 and replaced by the Country Partnership Framework (CPF) in 2014, the CAS is an overview of each borrowing country's current economic situation and contains a discussion of its development challenges, prospects, and project-planning. CASs were often initially published as part of project documents but later on were published as standalone documents.

Iraq - Interim strategy note	January 14, 2004
Iraq - Second interim strategy note	August 23, 2005
Iraq - Interim strategy note for the period mid FY09-FY11	February 19, 2009
Iraq - Country partnership strategy for the period FY13-FY16	November 13, 2012
Iraq - Performance and learning review of the country partnership strategy for the period FY13-FY16	May 1, 2015

Staff Newsletters

Resources have been selected from the World Bank Group's [Documents & Reports website](#). The World Bank has produced a staff newsletter since 1947. The publication has changed its name twice: from International Bank Notes to Bank Notes in 1971 and then to Bank's World in 1982. The newsletter moved online in 2000 and physical publication ceased. In addition to offering news relating to Bank operations and country development, the newsletters were intended to foster a sense of community among staff by highlighting social events, marriages and births, arrival of new staff, recreational events, favorite cooking recipes submitted by staff, and features on different aspects of staff's home country and culture.

International Bank Notes -- Vol. 3, Iss. 16	August 15, 1949	"Impressions of a visit to Egypt, Iraq and Iran"
International Bank Notes -- Vol. 12, Iss. 1-2	February 1, 1959	"Sojourn in Iraq"

Oral histories

Oral histories are selected from the World Bank Group Archives' [Oral History website](#). The site contains transcripts of oral history interviews with departed staff and, in lesser number, Executive Directors and other individuals affiliated with or impacted by the World Bank Group. Interviews were conducted as part of an ongoing effort by the Archives to collect the personal stories and reflections of Bank Group staff. A portion of the interviews were conducted as research for publications. Each transcript provides a valuable first-person account of Bank activities and decision-making from the very beginning of its operations.

Benjamin B. King	July 24 and 25, 1986
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Online exhibits

Online exhibits are authored by World Bank Group staff and are accessible on both the Archives' [external site](#) and as a [series of older exhibits](#) in the Documents & Reports website. Exhibits focus on notable personalities and accomplishments in the Bank Group's history.

Title: [Development in Iraq](#)

Originally published: August 2003

Executive Directors

The list is based on the World Bank Group [Board of Directors website](#). The country following the name of each ED indicates their nationality.

VARVARESSOS, K., (Greece)	May 7, 1946	October 31, 1948
ONARAN, Mekin H. (Turkey)	November 1, 1948	October 31, 1950
SHAH, Yaqub, (Pakistan)	November 15, 1950	October 31, 1952
SHOAIB, Mohamed, (Pakistan)	November 1, 1952	October 31, 1958

SHOAIB, Mohamed, (Pakistan)	November 1, 1958	October 31, 1960
SHOAIB, Mohamed, (Pakistan)	November 1, 1960	October 31, 1962
SHOAIB, Mohamed, (Pakistan)	November 1, 1962	January 28, 1963
MIRZA, Mumtaz, (Pakistan)	March 1, 1963	October 31, 1964
MIRZA, Mumtaz, (Pakistan)	November 1, 1964	October 31, 1966
AYUB, Muhammad, (Pakistan)	November 1, 1966	June 25, 1968
ALI, S. Osman (Pakistan)	September 1, 1968	October 31, 1970
ALI, S. Osman (Pakistan)	November 10, 1970	July 19, 1972
AHMAD, M. M., (Pakistan)	August 22, 1972	October 31, 1972
AHMAD, M. M., (Pakistan)	November 1, 1972	October 31, 1974
AL-ATRASH, Muhammad, (Syrian Arab Republic)	November 1, 1974	October 31, 1976
EL NAGGAR, Said E. (Egypt)	November 24, 1976	October 31, 1978
EL NAGGAR, Said E. (Egypt)	November 1, 1978	October 31, 1982
EL NAGGAR, Said E. (Egypt)	November 1, 1982	October 31, 1984
AL-SULTAN, Fawzi H. (Kuwait)	November 1, 1984	October 31, 1986
AL-SULTAN, Fawzi H. (Kuwait)	November 1, 1986	October 31, 1992
BRACHEMI, Kacim, (Algeria)	November 1, 1996	October 31, 1998
HAQUE, Inaamul, (Pakistan)	November 1, 1998	October 31, 2000
SADOUDI, Ahmed, (Algeria)	November 1, 2000	October 31, 2002
AGHA, Tanwir Ali (Pakistan)	November 1, 2002	October 31, 2004
DIB, Sid (Algeria)	November 1, 2004	October 31, 2006
DIB, Sid (Algeria)	November 1, 2008	October 31, 2010
BOUGARA, Omar, (Algeria)	November 1, 2012	October 31, 2014
BOUGARA, Omar, (Algeria)	November 1, 2016	October 31, 2018

For More Information

If you would like information or guidance on accessing more historic sources, we invite you to contact us by emailing archives@worldbank.org.