

Press Release

INVESTMENT CONSULTING ASSOCIATES (ICA) & THE CRAGUS GROUP (CRAGUS) COMPLETE INVESTMENT PROMOTION TRAINING PROJECT IN IRAQ

9TH JULY 2010: ICA & Cragus have completed their work to strengthen the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) capacities of both the Provincial Investment Commissions (PICs) and the National Investment Commission (NIC) of Iraq. Following over one year's work, the project included course design and delivery through a series of workshops in Baghdad and Amman.

Despite the spate of attacks on several government ministries last year, the training gained the full support and attendance of the Iraqi government and the PICs throughout.

Trainers in Baghdad included Douglas Van Den Berghe & Matthijs Weeink of ICA, Dominic Treays of Cragus, Caroline Roufosse (formerly with US AID and DFID) and Henri Masson (formerly working with World Bank and EC).

"Through this extensive training project we hope we have contributed to building a more stable, and conducive, business environment in Iraq that attracts new investors and generates economic growth for the population" said Douglas van den Berghe - project leader - after the project. Dominic Treays also stated: "We very much hope that our efforts to assist in the rebuilding of Iraq will have long term benefits". ICA and Cragus would like to thank both the PICs and Iraq's NIC for their hospitality, support and efforts. We were also most grateful to OPSD and Ms. June Reed in particular and CIPE for their passionate dedication and support throughout the project, and of course Four Points and Edinburgh International for making sure things went smoothly.

The project was funded by the US State Department's Office of Private Sector Development (OPSD), and coordinated by CIPE (Centre for International Private Enterprise).

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