Kurdistan
Save the Children

2010
Kurdistan Children’s Fund
Charity Number 1027522
# Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC-KCF)

**2010 Annual Report**

For every child: Health, Education, and Protection

Reg. Charity number in the UK: 1027522

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Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC - KCF)

Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC) is an independent non-governmental children’s organisation, working in Iraq in general and Iraqi Kurdistan in particular.

We have been around since 1991, founded by Ms. Hero Ibrahim Ahmed and other dedicated people who believed in every child’s right to a troublefree childhood.

We are working with children in various fields of child protection, sponsorship, health and education. Our main aim is to work directly or indirectly, to ensure a better future for all children, through improving and providing their various physical, medical, social, economic and educational needs.

Our main office is in Sulaimaniya in Iraqi Kurdistan. Kurdistan Save the Children is also registered in the UK under the name of Kurdistan Children’s Fund (KCF). KCF works as the international fund-raiser in London.

KSC mainly works in Iraqi Kurdistan Region; however, we have also been extending the activities to the disputed areas, such as Kirkuk and Khanaqin, as well as to Baghdad, which has slowly become possible since the collapse of Saddam Hussein’s government in April 2003. As the security improves in Iraq, there will be more opportunities to expand the work even wider.
KSC mission

Kurdistan Save the Children is a non-profit, non-political, and non-sectarian organisation that provides assistance without regard to race, gender, traditions, political or religious affiliation.

Kurdistan Save the Children exists to support social, and educational projects all over Iraq, relieving suffering, hardship and neglect wherever they arise and to help children overcome the trauma of war.

Kurdistan Save the Children works to improve the quality of children’s lives. By working hand in hand with local communities, we create programmes that are driven and championed by local people.

Kurdistan Save the Children is committed to supporting long-term projects, helping people to help themselves.

Kurdistan Save the Children believes that children are our future. We work for their right to live in an environment which allows them to not only grow up healthy, but to realise their potentials.
Kurdistan Save the Children in 2010

In 2010, KSC continued to work on the program of ‘putting a limit to working children’, which started in 2007. The programme embraces six interrelated projects: identifying cases of child labour that violate the Iraqi Labour Laws and the Juvenile Labour Laws; providing financial assistance to the families of working children; reintegrating working children into the educational system; conducting follow up and monitoring; and raising awareness advocacy. In 2010, in cooperation with Ministry of Labour and Social affairs, a follow up survey was conducted, aimed at evaluating the efficiency of this programme. The analysis of the data collected during the survey showed that the incidence of working children in three major cities of Kurdistan Region dropped by 32%. This outcome was less than what the KSC had expected. It could have been higher if other governmental institutions were more cooperative during the programme implementation during 2007-2010.

One of the KSC prominent projects in 2010 was a Cochlear implant surgery performed on 49 children. The surgery, conducted under the supervision of doctors from the Republic of Korea (South Korea), gave local doctors a first-hand opportunity to learn more about the Cochlear implant surgery and to perform the surgery under the supervision of experienced doctors. The surgery restored the children’s hearing ability, most of whom were able to hear for the first time in their lives. For the post-implantation training, KSC invited a specialist in speech therapy to help children develop listening and speaking skills. During the training, some of the children were so excited about their newly acquired ability to hear that they cried or repeated the words that the speech therapist was teaching them so loudly that few of the KSC staff members who were watching the children’s reaction were able to refrain from crying. Because of the humanitarian value of this project, KSC made a decision to allocate a specific budget to continue it in the future.

Another health related project was equally vital. After a heart surgery clinic for adults was opened in 2010, the KSC management considered a possibility of using this clinic for performing a heart surgery on children as well. The inquiry on the issue showed that if some additional equipment were installed at the clinic, it could be used for performing a heart surgery on children. The KSC management subsequently invested $300,000 for purchasing the required equipment and, later on, invited a medical team from abroad to perform the surgery. Presently, instead of sending children abroad for heart surgery, KSC made it possible for them to have the surgery done in Kurdistan.

With regard to the KSC Distance Sponsorship Programme, the first KSC project, there are presently 1533 sponsored children on it. During the past 19 years, more than 8500 children got assistance from this programme. The sponsored children are all orphans, who lost their fathers on various occasions, and are in desperate need of financial assistance to be able to complete their education. Although presently the amount of money allocated for the assistance has doubled, the value of the Iraqi Dinar has decreased and the allocated sum is often insufficient both for the child and his/her family. Nonetheless, there are still a large number of children who are in need of financial assistance provided by this programme.

In 2010, in a move to offer more services to youths and create job opportunities for them, KSC invited teachers from the Berufspädagogisches institute (BPT) (Vocational Education and Training Institute) in Austria to open a branch of their institute in Sulaimany, as a pilot project. It was agreed to start with opening two departments for training electricians and plumbers who, after eleven months of training, would acquire the skills necessary for providing electrical, and plumbing installation services, at the highest level of professional performance. A longstanding aspiration for opening such an institute in Kurdistan has been a cherished hope of the KSC General Director, who fervently wished to provide an opportunity for the youths of Kurdistan to...
be professionally trained, attain European standards in job performance, be able to find jobs and earn their living, and, finally, open their own business that would lay foundation for their lives.

Prior to launching this project, the KSC management visited the BPI Institute in Vienna, and signed a contract for training 40 students, who would be trained to carry out electrical and water installation works with high professionalism, as well as 4 members of local teaching staff. By training teachers, the contract aimed at guaranteeing that the institute will function properly after the teachers from Austria have left Kurdistan.

In 2010, KSC was able to complete a project of constructing 3 lecture halls, a playground, and a fence for the Teachers’ Training Institute in Kalar, funded by Ms. Hero Ibrahim Ahmed, KSC General Director. Professionally implemented, the project was completed before the beginning of the academic year. At the same time, KSC built a café for the Kalar University, providing a place of relaxation for more than 200 students.

Three KSC offices in Duhok, Erbil and Kirkuk were actively engaged in implementing projects related to child protection and, particularly, in identifying cases of sending children to work in violation of the Iraqi Labour Laws. They also participated in the survey on the incidence of child labour in the major cities of Kurdistan, carried out in close cooperation with the governmental institutions, the outcome of which demonstrated the effectiveness of their work. The effectiveness of any programme depends on the extent of cooperation between the sides involved in its implementation.

In 2010, the following problems confronted KSC: (1) the delay in receiving the budget allocated by the Government to NGOs; (2) inadequate cooperation of some governmental institutions in implementation of some of the KSC projects.

With regard to the first issue, the funding of KSC projects did not start until March 2010. The delay in funding created a critical situation for most of the KSC projects. This crisis was the first of its kind in the KSC history. It should be noted that before the annual budget for the Kurdistan Region was approved by the Kurdistan Regional Parliament in March 2010, none of the Governmental institutions faced the same crisis, as the NGOs did. As the result of the crisis, KSC was unable to send a number of children abroad for surgery, as was planned, and hundreds of children were victims of this delay.

With regard to the second issue, KSC was unable to conduct the program of putting a limit to working children in Erbil as it was done on Sulaimany and Duhok because both juvenile police and Juvenile court did not offer enough cooperation, which had a negative impact on the program implementation.

Dana Hussein Qadir
Programme Director
In 2010, Kurdistan Save the Children launched a number of new projects that aimed at providing better services for children in the region. Among them, there were projects committed to identifying cases of child labour that violate the Iraqi Labour Laws; conducting a follow-up survey on the incidence of child labour in three major cities of the Kurdistan Region; providing financial support to students from low-income families; providing medical treatment, including surgery, to children with congenital heart diseases, and hearing impairments; and, finally, inviting experts in physiotherapy from India to assess, diagnose, and prescribe a plan of treatment for children with special needs.

There were some new trends in the KSC activities in 2010. One of them was a decision to separate Youth Activities Centres from the Sector of Education, to which they were affiliated. The reason underlying this move was an insight that youth related projects differ in their priorities from the projects dealing with children.

With regard to the KSC Youth Activities Centres, some new developments took place in 2010. A new KSC Youth Activities Center was opened in Shorish. Also, in 2010, the Kalar Youth Activities moved into a new building, specially designed for the centre.

In 2010, a delegation from the KSC Rania Youth Activities Center visited Duluth city in the USA. The delegation was able to establish good relations with the representatives of the Duluth City Council. As an outcome of the visit, Rania and Duluth became twin (sister) cities.

For the purpose of evaluating the effectiveness of the ‘putting a limit to the incidence of child labour’ programme, implemented by the KSC Child Protection Sector, a survey was conducted in the summer of 2010. The data obtained from the survey were compared with the data of a similar survey conducted in 2007. The outcome of the comparison shows that child labor in three major cities of Kurdistan decreased by 16% from 14878 instances in 2007 to 12479 instances in 2010. The number of children qualified as working children by the Iraqi Labour Laws decreased by 32%, from 7205 in 2007 to 4890 in 2010. The outcome demonstrates the effectiveness of the projects carried out by the Child Protection Sector, intended at reducing child labour in Kurdistan. Other Sector’s activities included provision of financial support to children from the low-income families, reintegration of school dropouts into the school system, establishment of good working relations with juvenile police and juvenile court.

Providing health services to sick children was another KSC priority in 2010. Throughout the year, the KSC Heath Sector consolidated its efforts for finding treatment for sick children having diseases that could not be treated in Iraq. To provide treatment for such children, President Jalal Talabani donated 300,000 US$ as an assistance fund. Within the framework of this fund, KSC was able to provide treatment for 60 children with hearing impairments. Having successfully undergone a Cochlear implant surgery, they presently undergo a post-implantation auditory rehabilitation training.

Children with congenital heart diseases have always been and still are one of the KSC priorities. In 2010, KSC invited several medical teams from the USA and Italy to perform a heart surgery that saved lives of many children. KSC also provided more opportunities for rehabilitating children with physical/mental disabilities.

In 2010, on the KSC Sponsorship programme, there were 1553 sponsored children. To facilitate the process of assistance in areas outside Sulaimany, KSC opened two new sponsorship centres in Darbandikhan and Penjween.

KSC Education Sector continued to implement their ongoing projects. Kaziwa Cultural Centres for Children. Throughout the year, the Sector also organized and conducted different cultural/artistic events and awareness programs for children to help them grow up as creative and industrious personalities. The sector also conducted several workshops for kindergarten staff to raise their professional levels.

In 2010, plans were made for getting more involved in helping children with special needs.
Child Protection Sector

One of the major projects of the Child Protection Sector in 2010 was conducting a survey on the incidence of child labour in three major cities of the Kurdistan region of Iraq and comparing its results with a similar survey conducted in 2007. According to the results of the 2007 survey, the total number of working children under the age of 18 in these cities was 14787, with 7205 of the total being qualified as working children under the provisions of the Iraqi Labour Law. Since 2007, the Child Protection Sector started a programme entitled ‘putting a limit to incidence of child labour in Kurdistan’.

In 2010, after three years of the programme implementation, the Sector conducted another survey to determine to which extent the programme was effective. The result of the 2010 survey showed that there were 12479 children who worked in three major cities of the Kurdistan Region, with only 4890 of them qualified as working children by the Iraqi Labour Law. As compared to the results of the previous survey, these findings show a significant decrease in the incidence of child labour in three major cities of the region: The total number of children who work decreased by 16%, and the number of cases qualified by the Iraqi Labour Law as working children – by 32% percent.

In 2010, six projects were carried out in the process of the programme implementation, which are as follows:

Project 1: Identifying cases of child labour violating the Iraqi Labour Law

This project was carried out in cooperation with different branches of the Department of Social Affairs. Its main objective was to ensure that Article 70 of the Iraqi Labour Law issued in 1987 is being implemented. The goals underlying this project have been formulated in keeping with the provisions of this Article as follows: (1) to identify children under the age of 15 working without supervision of adult members of their family, and (2) to give a warning to employers who hire children to carry out tasks hazardous to their physical and moral development.

In the process of the project implementation, a joint team of social workers from KSC and the Department of Social Affairs carried out 519 daytime and 97 night visits to various places of work in Sulaimani. As a result, 10 children hired to work under hazardous conditions were identified. The relevant measures were taken to protect these children and take them away from danger.

Project 2: Identifying cases of child labour violating the Juvenile Labour Law

In accordance with Article 24 of Juvenile Labour Law, “children under 15 who work outside their family supervision are identified as working children. Sending them to work is liable to starting legal proceedings against their parents/legal guardians”. The Law is being enforced by the Juvenile police in cooperation with the KSC social workers. Juvenile police officers are authorized to find working children, send them to their families, and take legal proceedings against their parents/guardians. In the process of the project implementation, a joint team of KSC social workers and juvenile police officers regularly visit market and work places. Whenever working children are found and sent home, the KSC social workers contact the children’s families, gather information about the family income and living conditions and make certain that parents/guardians sign a legally-binding pledge not to send their children to work in the future. Whenever parents/guardians violate their pledge, legally-binding pledge is a basis for taking a legal action against them.

In 2010, 262 visits were made to families, 342 children under the age of 15 years were identified as working children, with legal actions being taken against 104 parents.

Project 3: Providing financial assistance to families with low income

This project complements projects 1 and 2.
Its main objective is to provide a financial assistance to the families whose income is so low that they are compelled to send their children to work. When a child is identified as a working child, the KSC social worker visits the child’s family. If the child is the sole bread winner of the whole family, KSC makes a decision to provide monthly financial assistance to the family, which ranges from 75000 to 150000 Iraqi Dinars. The decision to provide financial assistance is made in accordance with certain established criteria. The assistance continues until the child reaches the age of 15, when the assistance is discontinued since Iraqi laws allow children to go to work at the age of 15 and above.

In the process of implementation of this project in 2010, 262 families were visited and financial support was provided to 109 children.

Project 4: Reintegrating the school dropouts into the educational system

This project is conducted in close cooperation with school departments inside and outside Sulaimany, and depends on the involvement and commitment of social workers at schools. Whenever there is a case of a child who dropped out of school, the school immediately notifies the KSC Child Protection Sector, and the Sector takes the necessary steps for bringing the child back to school. This project complements projects 1 and 2. Its main objective is to reintegrate the dropout children into the school system, and, whenever necessary, to provide a financial assistance to their family. The project also includes the children who were not sent to school by their parents. In this case, the Child Protection Sector helps children in starting schooling.

In 2010, 33 school dropouts were reintegrated into the education system.

Project 5: Follow up and monitoring

This project aims at organizing and conducting a regular follow-up and monitoring visits of the children’s families identified by projects 3 and 4. These visits are regularly made with the purpose to check whether children reintegrated into school continue attending it. During these visits, the Sector’s team encourages children to continue their education and not to go to work.
In the process of the project implementation in 2010, 612 visits were made to ensure that the children who receive financial support from the KSC continue their education.

**Project 6: Raising awareness advocacy**

This project aims at (1) raising parents’ awareness of the negative impact of working on children who are under 15, and (2) informing parents about the existing Iraqi laws that regulate child labour. The project is mainly conducted at schools situated in the neighbourhoods populated by the low-income families.

Throughout 2010, the raising awareness advocacy was conducted in 49 schools and attended by 4929 parents.

**Projects outside the programme of ‘putting a limit to the incidence of child labour in Kurdistan’**

Outside the programme of ‘putting a limit to the incidence of child labour in Kurdistan’, the KSC Child Protection Sector conducted the following projects:

* **Student’s financial support:**

  This joint project, involving all KSC sectors, is conducted by the Child Protection Sector. It aims at helping students from low-income families under the age of 15 to continue their education.

  During the academic year of 2009-2010, 39 students derived benefit from a monthly allowance of 75000 ID paid by KSC.

* **Financial assistance to the children living in orphanages.**

  The purpose of this project is to provide aid to the children living in orphanages in Sulaimany. The financial assistance covers mainly the children’s pocket money expenses. It complements a provision for the children’s basic needs supplied by the Kurdistan Regional Government. The amount paid monthly is 20000 ID to children between 5-12 years old and 30000 ID to children who are 12 years old and above. The KSC continues assisting the children from the low-income families who has left orphanages and live with their families to continue their education. KSC provides a monthly allowance of 50000 ID to these children.

  In 2010, 60 children received benefit from this project.

* **Juvenile delinquency project**

  In 2010, the Child Protection Sector was able to allocate 7 million ID for renovating the Juvenile Residential Centre. In addition to this, the Sector provides monthly salary of 350000 ID to a handicraft teacher who teaches the detainees a craft of making handmade articles in their leisure time.
Will Seywan’s family be reunited one day?

After his mother appealed for separation from his father and left their home, it was decided by Seywan, and his father that it would be better for the family if Seywan, who was ten years old, would help his father, working as a peddler and a manual labourer, to earn their family’s living. This meant that Seywan would be unable to spend most of his time with his younger four-year old brother, who was his childhood playmate. There was no any other alternative for Seywan but to forget about his childhood and take adult responsibilities on his shoulders. At the time when the father and the son talked about what to do, his father told him that it would be the best possible choice to make if Seywan could help him to earn their living and drop out of school.

Seywan did not go to school that year but shared with his father a responsibility of earning the living of their small family instead. While they both were at work, Sirwan, his younger brother, would be taken to their uncle’s home, where he stayed all day, until his father and brother came to take him home at the end of the day.

It was a beginning of the new academic year when the KSC field officers came across Seywan working at the market place. They talked to Seywan and his father, but both of them were adamant that Saiwan should continue helping his father. Then, the KSC’s social worker visited Seywan’s father at his home and found out about the family’s problems. In the outcome of these visits, Seywan’s father agreed to sign a pledge to send Seywan back to school on a condition that KSC would provide a monthly financial assistance to him.

There was still another problem: to help the family get reunited. When the KSC social workers talked to Seywan’s father about this, he assured them that he had always acted and would act in a way that would protect his children’s best interests. However, to make the reunion possible, an equal commitment should have been made by his wife. Seywan and Sirwan’s mother works as a cleaning lady at one of the institutions of higher education. She has not asked for an opportunity to see her children so far.

Whether these two children, who are longing for their mother’s unconditional love, would be given a chance to have it; whether their deepest wish to hug each other once more and live as one family would ever come true, is still unclear.
Sponsorship Sector

The main objective of the KSC Sponsorship Sector is to provide financial support for as many low-income families as possible. To ensure that the KSC assistance reaches the children living in different areas of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, the Sector operates five KSC branch offices in Kalar, Chamchamal, Qaladiza, Koya, and Halabja. In providing assistance, the priority is given to the younger children in a family, which does not mean that older children are being neglected.

In 2010, 1533 children were on the sponsorship programme, administered and supervised by the KSC Sponsorship Sector at the KSC Sulaimany Head Office.

Sponsorship Programme

The sponsorship programme gets its funding from two sources: President Talabani’s Sponsorship Fund and Overseas Distance Sponsorship.

President Talabani’s Sponsorship Fund

Presently, President Talabani’s Sponsorship Fund provides financial assistance to 1200 children from the low-income families. There are some qualifying conditions for starting/terminating sponsorship on this fund. The sponsorship is terminated when a child reaches the age of 18, or drops out of school, or when the financial situation of the family is improved. Whenever the sponsorship is terminated for a certain number of children, the corresponding number of children on the waiting list is offered a sponsorship. Thus, in 2010, the financial assistance was terminated for 140 children on President Talabani’s Sponsorship Fund, for they were no longer meeting the qualifying conditions for staying on the programme, and, at the same time, 140 new children on the waiting list were admitted into it.

Overseas Distant Sponsorship

In 2010, there were 333 children on the Overseas Distant Sponsorship Programme. The number of children on this programme is subject to constant change, for the continuation of the sponsorship depends on the sponsor’s willingness to go on with sponsoring. Compared to previous years, the number of overseas sponsors has dropped, with most sponsors being unwilling to take on new children once the sponsorship agreement has come to an end. KSC supporters in Switzerland, Italy and the UK do their best in finding new sponsors. Their strong willingness to help is a source of inspiration for the Sector’s team, who greatly appreciate their persistent determination in finding new sponsors.

In 2010, 92 children were sponsored by the benefactors from Switzerland, 83 – from Italy, 37 – from Denmark, 36 – from the UK, 30 – from Holland, 22 – from Finland, 6 – from France, 2 – from Germany, 2 – from USA, 1 – from Australia, and finally, 22 – from local sponsors inside Kurdistan.

There is an ongoing communication between the sponsored children and their sponsors. In 2010, 303 letters from the children on the programme were translated and sent to their sponsors. Thank you letters are usually sent when the sponsorship begins or ends. Also, in the end of 2010, the letters and photos of the sponsored children were collected and sent to the sponsors from Switzerland, Holland, the UK, Finland, and Denmark as a token of appreciation of their help.

New Applications

In 2010, the total of 284 new application forms was filled in in the hope of finding sponsors for these children. In considering the new applications, the Sector’s team gives priority to the families whose financial situation is most desperate and who meet the Sector’s qualifying conditions for financial support. With regard to the forms filled in in 2010, it is expected that 145 children of the total number are to be admitted to the sponsorship programme in 2011 as soon as the sponsors for them are found. As to the rest of children on the forms, they are not eligible for financial support because some of them come from the families whose financial
situation is adequate, and others do not qualify for the programme admission conditions.

Field Visits and Follow up Actions

Another aspect of the Sector’s activities is visiting the sponsored children’s family and taking follow up actions. The Sector’s field officers are engaged in an ongoing monitoring of the children who are on the sponsorship programme. In 2010, they made 2857 filed visits to the families of the sponsored children to deliver monthly financial assistance to them either directly or through the Sector’s branch offices. Follow up actions aimed at having first-hand knowledge about the life of each sponsored child and being aware of the changes in the child’s family, are conducted on a daily basis.

One of the aspects of the follow-up actions is to ensure that the sponsored children stay at school and continue their education. For this purpose, the Sector’s field officers request the parents/guardians to provide a Letter of Confirmation from the educational institutions their children attend. In 2010, 1500 Letters of Confirmation were received from schools and higher education institution attended by the sponsored children. Whenever the Letter of Confirmation is not provided, the Sector’s field officers visit the families in question or the schools to find out what the problem is.

Another aspect of the follow up actions is being engaged in negotiations on behalf of the children in cases when a violation of their rights takes place; in helping school dropouts to be reintegrated into the educational system; in distributing clothing, food items, and gifts from sponsors or charitable organizations to the families desperately in need of help. In 2010, these activities involved the following:

* Negotiations for finding solutions for the problems experienced by 7 children whose rights were violated by some members of their families.
* Efforts to reintegrate 6 children who dropped out of school, 5 in Koya, and 1 – in Sulaimany, carried out in cooperation with the KSC Child Protection sector.

* Distribution of some items of clothing, food, money, and other gifts from sponsors and other benefactors to 60 families, who were in desperate need of help.
* Deliverance of letters and gifts from the overseas sponsors to the sponsored children brought and delivered by Miss Maureen McLuckie, the KCF coordinator in the UK and longstanding KSC supporter, on her visits to Kurdistan, on behalf of herself and on behalf of other sponsors who did not have chance to visit Kurdistan.
* Visits made by the Sector’s field officers to schools of some sponsored children for monitoring their academic performance.
* Hospitalized sponsored children to provide the required assistance.

Problems and issues

There are some problems regarding the provision of sponsorship to children in need, which are as follows:

* There is a great number of children on the Sector’s waiting list who need financial assistance, and the waiting list is steadily growing; yet the Sector is unable to provide for their needs, for it is hard to find sponsors for all of them.
* The amount provided by overseas sponsors per child is lesser than the amount provided by President Talabani’s Sponsorship Fund, which might be considered as an instance of inequality.

With regard to these problems, the Sector’s team made the following suggestions:

* Finding sponsors via KSC website by publishing photos and stories of the children who are in need for help, which might encourage people for becoming sponsors.
* Making efforts to persuade sponsors whose sponsorship agreement has ended to take on new children by telling them about the number of needy children on the waiting list.
* Re-establishing the “Emergency Fund” for those children who are ineligible for President Talabani’s and Overseas Sponsorship funding but who are in desperate need for a short-term financial assistance.
Helping Lare and Her Family

Lare was born in 1996 in a big family of nine. She had five siblings, three of whom were children with special needs. Having a spinal injury, Hassan, Lara’s father, was unable to work. Most of the time he stayed in bed, and could walk with the help of crutches for short distances only.

The family misfortunes started in 1989 when Baath party was ruling Iraq. It so happened that two Peshmargas (members of the Kurdish resistance movement) were hiding at Hassan’s home. This became known to the government, and security forces were sent to search his house. They came, arrested and took to prison Hassan’s wife, his two brothers, and his mother. The house they lived in was destroyed, and their property was looted. Being a deserter from the military service at that time, Hassan was in hiding and escaped the arrest. From that time on, the family was unable to restore their former relative financial security, and were living on the verge of poverty.

Hassan’s wife, his mother and brothers were released from prison in 1991. The couple rented a room in an old dilapidated house, where six children were born to them, three of whom were children with special needs. Hassan worked as a labourer at construction sites. One day he fell off the wall and injured his spinal cord. He was unable to work since that time. Since he was the only breadwinner of the family, his injury had a tremendous impact on the family’s well-being. Their financial situation was rapidly deteriorating.

It was in 2004 that KSC learned about the desperate situation of the family, and the KSC field officers paid them a visit. Lara, who was 8 years old at that time, was given a monthly financial assistance by the KSC Sponsorship sector. The KSC Sponsorship team continued to visit the family regularly, offering it all possible support.

Later on, when two lady sponsors from Europe heard about the desperate situation of the family, they made a commitment to provide a financial assistance to it, including payment of the house rent, via Distant Sponsorship Program, wherein sponsors living abroad provide financial assistance to the children from low-income families living in Kurdistan. In 2006, in co-operation with Human Rights Office, KSC was able to obtain a piece of land in Kani Kurda neighbourhood of Sulaimany to the family, and in 2007, a house was built for them.

Presently, the family’s financial situation has improved. Lare is currently attending the 12th grade of the secondary school. Her brother, Halbast, is a university student at the Mathematics Department, College of Science of the University of Sulaimany. Her other brother, Hemin, is at the 12th grade of the Secondary school, majoring in science.

KSC still provides assistance to the family, and the staff of the Sponsorship Sector regularly visits them.

Lare and her family are immensely grateful to KSC and the donors for the timely and generous assistance.
Education Sector

Since its establishment in 1997, the KSC Education Sector has played an important role in offering educational services to hundreds of children coming from different religious and ethnic communities of Kurdistan. One of the channels through which these services have been provided is the Kaziwas Children’s Cultural Centres. The KSC Kaziwas are model projects of cultural awareness and learning, offered to children in a conviction that children and youth are an inexhaustible resource of the present and the future, and, as such, this unique resource should be treated with infinite care and consideration. To some extent, the Sector’s activities are an experiment undertaken with the intention to prove to the government and to all those concerned the truth of the above-mentioned belief. Kaziwas offer children the opportunities of learning, training, and intellectual/cultural growth.

Kaziwas represent a unique mechanism for offering extra-curricular services to children. Interestingly, inspired KSC and recognizing the importance such services to children and youth, the government opened its own Child Centers, by modelled on the KSC Kaziwas, in Darbandi-khan, Kalar, Shorsh and Kifry, which are affiliated to and sponsored by the Ministry of Social Affairs of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG).

One of the most challenging aspects of the Sector’s activities is supervising administrative and financial management of its projects, including salaries of the Sector’s employees, with an overall number of 153 employees working in Sector’s seven projects, of which 62 are females and 91 are males. The annual budget allocated for the Sector is distributed to cover the projects’ running costs, including the salaries. In 2010, in a move towards more efficient performance of the Sector’s projects,
some changes were made in the distribution of the funds allocated to the projects. In the outcome of this move, it was possible to increase the amounts to be used for the Sector’s projects, as well as for the salaries of the Sector’s employees by 25%. In the long run, this change has had a positive impact on the efficacy of services provided to children.

The Sector of Education runs the following projects: (1) Four Kaziwa Cultural Children’s Centres; (2) Children Music Band Centre; (3) Sara Cultural Centre; (4) Shahid Jabar Exemplary Secondary School.

Kaziwa Cultural Children Centres

There are four Kaziwa Cultural Children’s Centres run by KSC: Kaziwas of Sara, Sarshaam, Chwarta and Bazyan. Kaziwas provide educational and recreational services to children aging from 4 to 14 years through their participation in the Centre’s various departments, such as: computer, library, painting, ceramics, music, acting, sports, including handball, video games, play station games, among others. By participating in the Centre’s cultural, educational, recreational, and creative activities, children are given an opportunity to discover and realize their innate potentials and inclinations, and, at the same time, to learn about their basic rights.

The impact of the Kaziwas’ enriching environment on the children is evident from their willingness to actively participate in such diverse occasions as Nawroz celebration, International Children’s Day, annual Kaziwa festivals, International Music Day, among others. Children also enjoy participation in joint activities between Kaziwas, organized with the purpose of bringing together children living in different neighbourhoods of Sulaimany, and/or outside Sulaimany.

In 2010, the overall number of children who participated in Kaziwa projects was 2101, out of whom 1345 were males and 756 females.

Children’s Music Band Centre

Children’s Music Band Centre was established in 2003 with the purpose of providing opportunities for children to learn how to play on various musical instruments, such as guitar, piano, keyboard synthesizer, santur, clarinet, cello, and other instruments. Children choose the instrument they would like to play. Teaching is free of charge. Teachers are professional musicians, who combine theoretical knowledge with practical training during their lessons.

According to the regulations adopted by the Centre, children should attend classes every day. For most of them, music instruments are provided at the Centre.

In 2010, 149 children attended the Music Band Centre, with 94 being males and 55 – females.

Sara Cultural Centre

Located at the downtown market area, Sara Cultural Centre provides free access to a variety of newspapers, magazines and other publications for people of different gender, age, and occupation, including students, civil servants, and even passers-by. There is also a small library at the Centre, open for all those willing to read and learn.

In 2010, the number of the centre’s visitors was 3240, of whom 2809 were males, and 431 – females.

Shahid Jabar Exemplary Secondary School

Shahid Jabar Secondary School is a coeducational exemplary school established in 2001 by KSC in cooperation with the Ministry of Education. The school annually enrolls fifty students who have successfully completed primary education (grades 1-6). Students’ admission is dependent on the marks earned by them at the end of the 5th and 6th years of the primary stage, as well as on the outcomes of the school proficiency test.

The school provides secondary education at the intermediate (grade 7-9) and preparatory (Grades 10-12) levels, with majoring in science starting at the preparatory level. Subjects related to science are taught in English. Computer science, English, Kurdish, and Arabic languages are also part of the school.
syllabus. In the process of designing the school syllabus, attention has been paid to including such subjects as drawing, music, and physical education.

The school has developed its own system of rules and regulations, abided by students, teachers, and the school staff. The system includes such important components as regulations related to school management, obedience to the rules, the rights and responsibilities of students, teachers, and employees. It also regulates curricula activities and endorses team learning as an educational method adopted by the school.

Apart from focusing on educational and learning practices, the school administrative and teaching staff pays attention to building up the student’s personality by listening to their suggestions and views, especially to those that are closely related to their life at school. This is achieved by using such mechanism as selecting a class leadership group, composed of a teacher, a students’ representative, and a member of the administrative staff.

In the academic year 2009-2010, the total of 35 students successfully completed the secondary school, of whom 17 students were admitted to the College of Medicine, 6 students – to the College of Dentistry, 3 students – to the Department of Architecture, and 3 students – to the Electricity and Water Resources Departments at the College of Engineering; the others were admitted to the College of Science, and the Sulaimani Technical College.

Presently, during the academic year of 2010-2011, the total number of 281 students attends the school, of whom 113 are males and 168 – females. There are 50 students in each grade from 7 to 11; except for the 12 grade that has 31 students.

The internet connection available to students operates as a network connecting teachers and students at school, but also connecting the school to the international educational community. It is through this network that relations with British schools have been established and students’ visits to the USA are being organized by the school management.
A summary of the Sector’s other projects in 2010

In 2010, the Sector was engaged in carrying out projects in the following areas: (1) Participation in various events; (2) Workshops and training courses; (3) Field trips and cultural exchange activities; (4) Sports competitions; (5) Attending to the needs of children from low income families; (6) Cooperating with Governmental institutions and the KSC Sectors

Participation in various events

Below is a record of the various events, wherein children participated in 2010:

* On April 8, children from Sara and Sarshaqam Kaziwas took part in the festivities celebrating the World Health Day, organized in cooperation with the Suleimani Health Department and some other organizations, held at the Sulaimany Azady Park.

* On June 1, children from Sara and Sarshaqam Kaziwas and Sulaimany Children’s Music Band participated in celebration of the International Children’s Day, held at the Azady Park in Sulaimany. The performance of musical pieces and songs was concluded with a group drumming and, afterwards, 600 gifts were given out both to the performers and to the delighted audience.

* On June 21, a festival was held to celebrate World Music Day. A performance was given by children from Sara and Sarshaqam Kaziwas and Sulaimany Children’s Music Band of Sulaimany in various public places in Sulaimany. On the same occasion, music performance was presented by two French musicians representatives of the Balindabar contemporary music group in France. The performance was presented to the children from Sara and Sarshaqam Kaziwas on June 22, 2010.

* On September 16, a festival was staged by Sara, Sarshaqam, Chwarta and Dazyan Kaziwas to celebrate the beginning of the academic year 2010 - 2011.
The programme of the festival included an exhibition of drawings, graphics, handicraft articles, ceramics, as well as music and stage performance, and group drumming.

* In December 2010, 17 drawings and graphics, created by children from Sara and Sarshaqam Kaziwa, were exhibited in Kanagawa Children's Art Exhibition in Japan.

**Workshops and training courses**

The following workshops, training courses both for Kaziwa staff and the children were organized and delivered in 2010 to the following recipients.

**A. Kaziwa’s teachers and administrative staff**

* In February, a course teaching how to create a computer database was offered to Kaziwas’ receptionists, administrative staff and managers.

* On May 15, a workshop for training Kaziwas’ staff to perform a preliminary vision screening and testing was conducted in cooperation with the Public Health Sector of Sulaimany Health Department.

* In July, Ms. Soma Amin, psychologist from Sweden, volunteered to present a workshop, entitled “Confidence and How to Deal with Children”. This workshop was offered to staff members of Education Sector, the KSC Kaziwas, and a number of Children’s Cultural Centres run by the Department of Labour and Social Affairs of the Sulaimany Province.

**B. Children attending Kaziwa and other Children’s Centres**

* In June, a series of workshops on building up self-confidence were conducted for Kaziwa teachers and some children by Mr. Roberto, an expert in child psychology from Italy. It was Mr. Roberto’s second visit to KSC. The same workshop was also delivered to teachers and children at KSC Kaziwa in Halabja, and at the Darbandikhan Child Protection Centre.

* In June, the summer one-month courses in English, computer, and graphics were offered to children at the KSC Sara Kaziwa Children’s Centre. Seven students from Shahid Jibar Exemplary Secondary School volunteered to share their knowledge with the children from Kaziwa.

* In August, a one-week training course in playing chess was offered by Kaso, a British youth to the children of Sara Kaziwa.

* On October 28, a one-day workshop for making dolls and masks was offered to the children of Sara Kaziwa by three professionals from Britain who visited KSC, and volunteered to present the workshop to children.

**Field trips and cultural exchange**

* During summer vacations, several trips to Sulaimany museum, movie show and Nawroz recreation resort were organized for the children of Sara Kaziwa.

* On February 10, the Sector launched a cultural exchange project between Sara Kaziwa and a school of Robi City in France. Children from Kurdistan and France were asked to write stories and illustrate them. At the end of the project, their stories will be published in both languages in a book. The project is under way.

**Sports competitions**

* On September 5, chess and tennis championships were organized in Sara and Chwarta Kaziwa.

**Attending to children’s needs**

* During summer 2010, copies of *Papula* Children’s magazine were given out to the children of the Komala Refugee camp in Zirgwez village in Suleimaniah and children of the Child Protection Centres in Kalar, Darbandikhan, Rizgar and Kifri towns.

* In November 2011, the Sector’s team assisted Ms. Maureen McLuckie, KSC-KCF coordinator in the UK, delivered a financial help, donated by Mr. Peter, a British donor, to a school and pupils in need. The donation covered the costs of a white board, a carpet, and covering for the school roof at the Alyawai Sara village, as well as clothes, and shoes for six pupils at this school.
* Assistance was also given to children at rural area, who were at risk of becoming school dropouts because the schools were too far from their homes. Means of transportation were provided to the children from the following places:
  - 4 pupils in Goradem village for attending a school at Chwarta town
  - 11 students from Zirgwez village for attending a school at Tanjaro town.

**Cooperation with Governmental institutions and the KSC Sectors**

* From June to December of 2010, the Sector assisted the Sulaimany Department of Labor and Social Affairs in providing staff for working at the Child Protection Centres in Kalar, Rizzary, and Darbandikhan towns.

* Assistance was also given to the Department of Children’s Cultural Centres in employing staff for Cultural Centres in Halabja, Khurmal, Sangasar and Chwarquma towns.

* The Sector assisted the KSC Child Protection Sector in reintegrating working children and school dropouts into the educational system via Kaziwas.

**Issues and Problems**

In 2010, there were some problems that needed attention. Some of them were related to finding a solution to inadequate premises, whereas others – to raising professional skills of the KSC staff.

1- Inadequate premises:

A- There has been no permanent place for the Sulaimany Children’s Music Band

B- The building occupied by the Sarshaqam Kaziwa is in need of renovation

2- Raising professional skills

A- There is a difficulty in employing teachers of arts to work in Chwarta and Bazyan towns.

B- More training courses should be conducted for Kaziwas’ teaching staff to raise their professional skills.
My name is Saryas Mohammed Saeed. I came to Sara Kaziwa for the first time in the summer of 2001. The first department I attended was the Computer Department. It is there that I learned how to use various computer programs under the guidance of Mr. Diari Jamal, a teacher who was working there at the time. During the same summer I also attended the Drawing Department. Together with other gifted children, I learned how to make sketches, to draw using colour pencils, crayons, pastels, and charcoal, and how to make watercolour and oil paintings. Our teachers in drawing and painting were Ms. Hero, and, later on, Mr. Sarbaz.

During the same summer of 2001, I frequently visited the Kaziwa library, played chess, and participated in playing video and electronic games. In 2002, I was engaged in preparing the first issue of Kluklu magazine for children, which included various stories illustrated by us. We only managed to print the first issue. I cannot recall why we were unable to print other issues of Kluklu magazine though. I was still attending drawing department when a cinema group asked me to work with them. Unfortunately, although I really liked the idea, I had to refuse their invitation because my family was against it.

In the winter of 2002, I used to go to Sara Kaziwa on the weekends. I was also a regular Kaziwa Sara visitor during the summer of 2002, learning more about computing from my teacher, Mr. Ibrahim. I was also engaged in drawing at that time. When English Department was opened in summer of the same year, I attended English classes and even was able to translate a story for children from English into Kurdish. The translation of the story was reviewed by my teachers, Ms. Chimur and Mr. Amir, but I was neither offered a copy of the story nor told, ‘Well-done’! Be it as it may, what is more important to me right now is that children are still reading it.

From that summer on, I was unable to visit Sara Kaziwa any more. I came back there when I became a university student studying English at the English department. In 2008, I became a teacher of English at the Sarshaqam Kaziwa. During the summers of 2009 and 2010, I taught English at the Sara Kaziwa, the place where Saryas Mohammed, a child of the centre, was brought up.

I am now a fourth year student at the Department of English, College of Education of the University of Sulaimany in Kalar. My respect and deeply-felt gratitude go to the teachers of my childhood at Sara Kaziwa, and to my teachers’ friends, who educated and helped to grow up many children, like me. My special thanks also go to the KSC and Sara and Sarshaqam Kaziwas, who helped me to become what I am now. As we say it in Kurdish: ‘One is unable to clap using one hand: One needs two hands to clap!’
Youth Sector

Time and again, aspirations of young people, going hand in hand with human development, are on the increase. The higher their aspirations are, the more duties and responsibilities they have to attend to in the course of their lives. Youth has always been preoccupied with development, learning, and acquiring more knowledge. From this perspective, the KSC Youth Centres have been playing a notable and significant role in serving young people, coming from different communities in Kurdistan, by offering them a safe environment, wherein they could realize their creative abilities and potentials. The claim of efficacy of the KSC Youth Centres has been supported by the number of signatures on requests of the young people from different communities in Kurdistan to open youth centres in the places of their residence. Bearing this in mind, Kurdistan Save the Children made an administrative change in 2010 by separating Youth Activities Centres from the KSC Sector of Education, to which they were previously affiliated, and establishing the KSC Youth Activities Sector as an independent entity within the KSC administrative structure.

KSC has eight Youth Activities Centres, located in Sulaimany, Koya, Darbandikhan, Raniya, Kalar, Khanaqeen, Halabja, and Shorish. Each Centre serves youth by providing an opportunity for them to participate in the activities of the Centre’s different departments, while, at the same time, creating a healthy environment, wherein the inner potentials and aspirations of the young people can be realized. Each centre also acts as a youth support centre helping young people to find solutions to the problems that are facing them.

What follows is a summary of the activities of each KSC Centre in 2010.

Sulaimany Youth Activity Centre
The Sulaimany Youth Activities Centre was established in 1998. Initially, there were few departments, but later on the Centre was expanding and some new ones were added to provide for the youth needs and help them realize their aspirations. In 2010, the Centre was composed of the following departments: computer, music, fine arts, cinema cafe, sports, language teaching, vocational training, library, and yoga. Participation in the activities offered by these departments is being enhanced by providing opportunities for participation in other various activities carried out in the centre. Below is a short summary of the Centre departments’ activities in 2010:

Computer: nine computer and internet courses were conducted for 508 participants, 391 males, and 117 females respectively. The young people learned how to use Word, Excel, Access, and Photoshop programmes, 3ds Max software, how to format a computer, and how to use the Internet.

Music: During 2010, 700 youths attended this department, 524 males, and 176 females respectively. They learned how to play guitar, piano, synthesizer, and violin. They were able to demonstrate their skills in several performances organized by the Centre for this purpose.

Fine Arts: Three courses in drawing and painting were offered to 80 youths (48 males, and 32 females), who also participated in three fine arts exhibitions held at the Centre.

Library: Apart from having a collection of books, newspapers, and magazines, the quietude of the library creates an atmosphere of study, learning, and reflection. In 2010, an overall number of 1077 youths, 734 males, and 343 females, paid a visit to the Centre’s library. The total number of book requests was 304.

Language Learning: The Department offered 10 courses for learning English and Kurdish to 334 youths, 228 males and 106 females.

Vocational Training: 15 courses in haircutting, hair styling, and hairdressing were delivered to 265 male youths. The purpose of the courses was to assist participants in finding/creating job opportunities for themselves. Upon completing the course, most of the
participants were able to find a job as a hairdresser. Some of them chose hairdressing as a career for earning their living, a permanent source of their income, and a foundation of their future life.

**Sports:** The department offers facilities for playing such popular games as basketball, and football. Training is provided for the youths of both genders in Kong Fu, and Tai Ji Quan. There is also physical fitness classes available. In 2010, the Sports Department was expanded and became a Sports Unit within the Centre’s administrative structure. The total number of 910 youths, 740 males and 170 females, participated in the department sections in 2010. Throughout the year, the Centre Sports Unit organized and conducted 61 friendly games, as well as three Sports Day Performances.

**Yoga Department:** In 2010, one course in yoga was offered to 23 youths, 15 males and 8 females.

**Cinema Cafe:** This department was opened on April 17, 2010. Since that time, 28 foreign films were shown to the adult and children audience.

**Koya Youth Activity Centre**

The Koya Youth Centre was established on June 20, 2002. Since that time, it has played a key role in providing the youth with a space where they could enhance their innate abilities. The Centre offers serves the youth of Koya through the following departments: computer and internet, music, sports, Fine Arts, library, language, and vocational training.

**Computer and Internet:** In 2010, 7 courses were offered to 193 youths, 112 males and 81 females. The programs taught at the courses were Word, Excel, Internet, and Photoshop.

**Music:** In 2010, 8 courses teaching youths how to play various musical instruments were offered to 497 youths, 292 males and 187 – females respectively. The participants of the courses were given an opportunity to perform in several musical and song concerts organized by the Centre.

**Sports:** The Department offers training in Kong Fu, gymnastics, tennis, field walking, and physical fitness for both genders. In 2010, the total number of 1566 youths, 1210 ,
males and 356 females, participated in the Department activities. Throughout the year, 5 training courses were offered, and 7 sports performances were carried out. Interestingly, there were more females participants in the physical fitness classes in Koya than in any other KSC Youth Activities Centre.

**Seminars and Presentations:** In 2010, 7 presentations, 11 seminars and one workshop were organized and delivered to the youth audience.

**Fine Arts:** 3 courses on drawing and painting were taught throughout the year to 90 youths, 59 males and 29 females respectively. Three exhibitions of drawings and paintings were organized to display the work of the course participants.

**Library:** The number of youths who attended the library were 1277, 993 males and 284 females. The number of books requested by the readers at the library was 564.

**Language Teaching Courses:** 7 courses, 5 – for studying English and 2 – for studying Persian, were offered to the young people of Koya upon their request. A team work approach was used in teaching English. The number of participants was 752 youths, 505 males and 247 females.

**Vocational Training:** eight courses in dress-making were opened for girls and two courses in hairdressing – for boys. The total number of 214 youths took part in these courses, 53 of them males and 161 – females.

**Darbandikhan Youth Activity Centre**

The Darbandikhan Youth Activities Centre was established in September 1999. Since that time, according to the interviews with the young participants, most of the youth attending this centre have considered it to be their second home. The Centre provides educational opportunities for the young people of Darbandikhan. For instance, since there is no a music institute in Darbandikhan, the Centre’s Music Department functions as an institute for learning music, providing an educational opportunity for the young people who like to learn how to play different musical instruments. Interestingly, although there are established working hours at the centre, the centre is open at any time suitable for the youths, even late in the evening.

In 2010, the centre’s activities were as follows:

**Computer and internet:** 21 internet and computer courses were opened in 2010 for 187 youths, 152 males and 35 females. The programmes that were taught at the courses included Word, Excel, Formatting, and Photoshop.
Music Department: The work in this department relies heavily on its core: a professional drumming group, with all the drummers being trained at the Department. In Kurdistan Region, the group is the only of its kind. Since its establishment, the Darbandikhan Drumming Group participated in several festivals, some of them – outside Kurdistan. It frequently performs in Darbandikhan, and other cities of Kurdistan. In 2010, the group participated in 8 various occasions, the most important of which were ceremonies commemorating the victims of Halabja, Sewsean chemical bombardment, and Anfal operations in Garmian. The group also took part in Sarsalaqum festivals in Darbandikhan and gave a performance in Sulaiman Tawar Hall on December 14, 2010.

Among other activities of the Department in 2010, there were organized and conducted 7 music courses. The participants were taught how to play the Santoor, violin, tar, setar, and drum. The total number of participants was 273 youths, 241 males and 32 females.

Drawing and Painting Exhibitions: Although there is no a Fine Arts Department in the centre because of the small size of the Centre’s building, two Fine Arts exhibitions were opened in 2010.

Library: The Centre’s Library provides an important learning space for the youths in Darbandikhan. In 2010, the total number of youths who attended the Library was 4521 youths, 3457 males and 1064 females. The number of book requests throughout the year was 3064.

Language Learning Courses: In 2010, five courses for learning English and one – for learning Arabic were offered to 314 youths, 150 males and 164 females.

Vocational Training: A training course in hairdressing, hair cutting, and hair styling for men was offered to 23 youths.

Sports Department: The Sports Department in Darbandikhan Youth Activities Centre is opened at any time at day and at night, offering more flexible service to the youths of Darbandikhan. In 2010, 21 training courses in various sports were organized and delivered by the Department. The total number of the young people attending the Department was 6479, 6411 males and 68 females. Within the framework of competitive sports games, 21 friendly games were held in 2010.

Theatre and Dance Group: Under supervision of an expert trainer, 18 youths took part in a course on basics of theatre performance and dancing. In the outcome of the training, a group of Kurdish Traditional Dancing was founded, composed of 20 male youths.

Rania Youth Activity Centre

The Rania Youth Activities Centre was established in 2001. Presently, the Centre is making an effort to expand its activities.
By using mobile teams, the Centre reaches out not only to the youth in Rania, but also to those who live in the areas surrounding it. The centre comprises the following departments:

**Computer and Internet:** In 2010, 17 computer and internet courses were offered to 214 youths, 166 males and 48 females. The programmes taught at the courses included Word, Windows, Excel, Access, Formatting, Photoshop, and Video studio.

**Music Department:** In 2010, apart from teaching how to play various musical instruments, efforts were made to form a guitar music group. As a new form of musical performance in the town, the group was positively received by the general public. At the same time, the Department offered 10 courses on learning how to play the violin, oud, clarinet, guitar, and saz. The total number of 186 youths attended the courses, 136 of whom were males and 52 females. The participants of the courses took part in the following activities, organized by the Centre: performing in a TV show, taking part in the Centre's festival, and a musical performance of the Centre's Music Band and Guitar Group, and performing at a musical show in Koya City.

**Fine Arts Department:** In 2010, 6 courses in drawing and painting were offered to 78 youths, 44 males and 34 females. Three exhibitions were organized for the course participants, and an exhibition hall, entitled Youth Gallery, was opened to display the young artists' work.

**Library:** The Centre has an extensive collection of recent newspapers and magazines available for readers. In 2010, 2229 youths visited the library, 1823 males and 426 females. The total number of books borrowed 997.

**Language Learning Courses:** The Centre organized and conducted 8 language courses: 6 courses on learning English, one – Arabic, and one – Persian. The total number of 443 youths took part in the courses, 254 males and 189 females.

**Sports Department:** In 2010, the Department offered 11 courses on different kinds of sports to 2613 youths, 2482 males and 40 females, and conducted 40 friendly games.

**Seminars and Presentations:** Seven poetic presentations and seminars, and one workshop were conducted in 2010 at the Centre.

Apart from these activities, the Rania Youth Activities Centre organized and carried out a number of festivals, wherein the Centre’s various departments took part. Among them were exhibitions of drawings and paintings, book fairs, musical performances, cultural presentations and seminars, and various sports events. For one month, the Centre’s Mobile Team conducted various activities in Zharawa town in an attempt to reach out to the youths from the towns around Rania. This project started on July 2, 2010 and offered courses in English, computer, sewing, and raising intellectual awareness. The project was completed by a musical party, wherein 326 youths, 175 females and 181 males took part.

**Kalar Youth Activity Centre**

The Kalar Youth Activities Centre was founded in 2002; however, due to the lack of an appropriate building, the Centre could not expand its activities, as was originally intended. In September 2010, in cooperation with the Kurdistan Regional Government, a new building was constructed and handed over to the Kalar Youth Activities Centre. The new building provides an ample opportunity for the Centre to expand its activities and to offer better service to the youth of Kalar.

In 2010, the following activities were carried out by the Kalar Youth Activities Centre.

**Computer & internet:** 11 training courses in using computer were offered to 211 youths, 167 males and 44 females. The following programs were taught at the courses: Windows, Microsoft Office, Media Studio, among others.

**Music Department:** 11 courses in learning how to play different musical instruments were offered to 170 youths, with 163 being males and 7 females.

**Fine arts:** 11 courses in drawing and painting were offered to 151 youths, 113 of whom
were male and the rest were female participants. Some exhibitions were organized to display the outcome of their work.

**Library:** In 2010, there were 2904 young people visiting the library for the first time, 2178 were male visitors and 726 – female. The total number of 726 books and other publications was borrowed from the library.

**Language courses:** 33 courses for learning different languages were offered to 466 participants, of whom 266 were males and 200 – females. On August 4, 2010, an English language competition was held for the participants of the English language course in Rizgary Subdistrict of Kalar. The competition was attended by 65 participants, with 34 being males and the rest – females.

**Vocational training:** a training course in hairdressing was offered to 45 male participants.

**Sports department:** 95 courses in various sports activities were offered to 1122 youths. Throughout the year, 65 friendly matches were played at the Centre.

**Seminars and presentations:** The Centre conducted 7 seminars and presentations, wherein poets and intellectuals were given an opportunity to talk to and exchange views with the young audience.

**Khanaqeen Youth Activity Centre:**
The Khanaqeen Youth Activities Centre was founded in 2005. In 2010, the following activities were carried out at the Centre.

**Computer & internet:** 38 training courses were offered to 811 youths, 682 of whom were males and 129 – females. The following programs were taught at the courses: Windows, Microsoft Office, formatting, editing, recovery, among others.

**Music Department:** 2 courses in playing musical instruments were offered to 43 participants, of whom 36 were males and 7 – females.

**Fine arts:** 18 courses on drawing and painting were offered to 411 participants, with 350 of them being males and the rest – females. Their drawings and paintings were shown in two exhibitions organized by the Centre.

**Library:** The Centre’s library differs from other libraries because it is also used as a forum for intellectual debates and discussions. In 2010, 289 youths visited the library for the first time, of whom 232 were males.
and 57 – females. The total number of 173 books and other publications was borrowed from the library.

**Language courses:** a course in English was offered to 12 boys and a girl.

**Sports department:** In 2010, 66 courses in various kinds of sports activities were offered to 5684 youths, of whom 5161 were males and 523 females. The Department organized 65 friendly matches for the participants of the courses.

**Seminars and cultural events:** two seminars were held, wherein poets and intellectuals of the city participated. Also, 10 one-day workshops were conducted for 350 teachers of basic schools (combining primary and intermediate stages), in cooperation with the Peace organization of Khanakeen. The theme of the workshops was “violence against children”. The workshops were conducted at the Youth Activities Centre hall, with 35 teachers participating in each workshop.

**Halabja Youth Activity Centre:**

The Halabja Youth Activities Centre was founded in 2008 in a house rented for this purpose. In 2010, the following activities were carried out at the Centre.

**Computer department:** 5 training courses were offered to 86 youths, 47 males and 39 females. The course was focussing on training youths in using Windows, Microsoft Office, and other programmes.

**Music Department:** 8 courses for learning how to play different musical instruments were offered to 171 participants, of whom 146 were males and 25 – females. Also, the department organized 3 musical events and concerts wherein the participants were given an opportunity to perform in front of a wider audience.

**Fine arts:** one course on drawing and painting was offered to 25 youths, of whom 11 were male and the rest were female participants.

**Library:** The total number of 3925 youths visited the library for the first time, of whom 2383 were male and 912 – female visitors. Throughout the year, 497 books and other publications were borrowed from the library.

**Language courses:** 2 courses for learning English and one course for learning Persian were organized and delivered to 51 youths, 34 boys and 17 girls.

**Vocational training:** 6 courses in dressmaking were offered to 65 participants, of whom 62 were girls and 3 boys.

**Sports department:** a course for table tennis was organized and delivered to 15 youths.

**Shorish Youth Activity Centre**

Kurdistan Save the Children has always tried to respond to the needs of youths and to help them realize their aspirations. For this reason, when the youths of Shorish sought for a place where they could develop their abilities and discover their hidden potentials, KSC made a decision to open a Youth Activities Centre in Shorish. The Centre was opened on October 1, 2010. The building for the Centre was provided by the KRG government, and it was KSC that employed the people to work at the Centre.

In the recent past, Shorish was a forced resettlement camp built by Ba’ath regime for the people who survived the Anfal Campaign, and for those families who were deported by force from their villages in the 1980s. The youths of that area are full of energy, and creativity. From their parents’ past experience, they have learned that in order to survive it is necessary to help each other and volunteer to do the work that must be done. This attitude of active participation provides a promising start for the Centre.

Since its establishment, the following departments have been opened at the Centre: computer, sports, library, and language courses. The Centre provides a space for holding seminars, and cultural events. There is a beautiful garden on the Centre's grounds, a place of much needed harmony and peace.

The youths of Shorish are taking an eager interest in their newly-opened centre. They are working hard towards making it a place, where their inner potentials and aspirations could be realized, and their dreams and hopes would come true.
Health Sector

In 2010, the KSC Health Sector continued to provide medical services for sick children who need medical treatment unavailable in Iraq. In 2010, 1126 children, 602 male and 524 female, visited KSC for the first time.

The provision of services involves the following steps. Upon their first visit to KSC, the parents of a sick child submit a copy of a medical report describing their child’s condition, and leave their address and contact information. Then, the KSC field officers visit the family, fill-in the form, and create both a hard and a software file for each child. The child is then examined by the KCS paediatrician and placed on a waiting list. The place on the waiting list is determined by the kind of disease, the severity of the child’s medical condition, and the economic and social status of the child’s family. At this stage, KSC health officers get in touch with local and international medical establishments to procure the required treatment for children.

The activities of the Sector evolved around the following issues (1) providing medical treatment; (2) employing mobile medical team; (3) supporting and assisting the Children Rehabilitation Centre (CRC); (4) working with visiting medical teams.

Provision of Medical Treatment

In 2010, medical treatment inside and outside of Iraq was provided for sick children with the following medical conditions:

**Congenital Heart Diseases:**

In 2010, 56 children underwent heart surgery and received medical treatment in hospitals outside Iraq:
* 33 children received treatment in Tel-Aviv hospitals
* 12 children were sent to Austria
* 1 child was operated on in the USA
* 7 children were sent to Sudan
* 3 children were operated on in Italy

**Other Diseases**

The medical surgical treatment was provided for the total of 171 children suffering from diseases of different organs/system (ocular, spinal, musculo-skeletal, renal, intestinal) in the hospitals both inside and outside Iraq.

In 2010 through KSC
115 children in Kurdistan, 86 children in Iran, 33 children in Tel-Aviv,
12 children in Austria, 9 children in Jordan, 7 children in India, 7 children in Sudan,
6 children in Turkey, 6 children in Italy, and one child in USA had surgery and treatment.

Dr. Jay examine children with hearing impairments
* 86 children were sent to Iran
* 49 children were operated on in Sulaimani, Iraq
* 21 children underwent surgery in Erbil, Iraq
* 6 children were sent to Turkey
* 9 children were operated on in Amman, Jordan

In addition to the above, in 2010, a visit to Italy was organized for 3 children who underwent a surgery of renal/intestinal organs in Ivrea, Italy in 2009, and needed a follow-up treatment.

Hearing Impairments
In 2010, the Sector started a new project of rehabilitating hearing ability in children with congenital hearing problems through surgically implanted cochlear electronic device that allows a child to hear.

In implementing this project, the following steps were taken:
* 45 children received Cochlear implant surgery inside Sulaimani, Iraq
* 21 children were provided with digital hearing aids

The project of implanting cochlear devices was carried out in several stages. First, the Sector invited Dr. Jay from the Republic of Korea (South Korea) to examine children with hearing impairments and select the ones on whom a cochlear implant surgery would be performed, with priority given to the children on the KSC waiting list. After that, KSC invited Dr. Tariq from Jordan to perform cochlear implant surgery on the children. The first operation was successfully performed on June 6, 2010. After assisting Dr. Tariq in several operations, local doctors were able to perform the cochlear implant surgery at the General Hospital of Sulaimani under the supervision of Dr. Jay, who was also supervising the post-implantation treatment and follow up procedures.

Upon a successful implementation of surgery, KSC invited Dr. Nawzad from Iran to carry out post-implantation auditory training for the children with cochlear implant, which is still under the way.

Procuring medical treatment for the children on the waiting list
Some arrangements were made for procuring medical treatment for 75 children on the waiting list. For this purpose, medical reports of these children were sent to the hospitals outside Iraq and the agreement was obtained from the following medical institutions:
* 31 children will receive the required medical treatment in India
* 7 children will be taken care of by the British-based Facing the World charity organization
* 8 children will be sent to the hospitals in Tel-Aviv
* 29 children will undergo surgery either in private hospitals of Sulaimani, Iraq or in Iran.

Providing financial assistance to the low-income families
In 2010, a number of children received different kinds of medical assistance.
* The required medications were purchased for 7 children from low-income families
* The cost of treatment was provided for 7 children from low-income families in the hospitals of Sulaimany, Iraq
* A financial and logistic assistance was provided to the low-income families of 8 sick children.

The Mobile Medical Team:
In order to provide children with health services all over Kurdistan, especially those who live in remote areas with no clinical centres or hospitals, the Sector created a Mobile Medical Team, comprised of the sector’s doctor, an assistant, and a driver.

Two times per month, the team made scheduled visits to the remote areas, during which the doctor examined the children, prescribed and provided a required medication to the sick children and referred those who were in need of further assistance to hospitals in Sulaimany.

In 2010, the team also provided medical services to the internally displaced families from
the villages in the southern and northern Qandil mountain area in Sulaimany and Erbil governorates in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The villagers fled from Iranian and Turkish military cross border aerial attacks and shelling carried out during the local harvest season. Hundreds of families found shelter in make-shift tented camps outside local villages around the Qandil Mountain. The Sector’s Mobile Medical Team provided the required medical assistance to 200 children in this area.

Child Rehabilitation Centre (CRC)

In 2010, CRC provided treatment for 1395 newly registered children, in addition to the regular follow-up treatment for 15400 previously registered cases. The services were provided in the following way:

* 6092 children, out of whom 439 were newly registered cases, received physiotherapy treatment.
* 1078 patients with psychological disorders were given psychotherapy, out of whom 131 were new patients.
* 5623 patients had radiography tests performed at CRC.
* Medical check-ups were performed on 1649 children, in addition to 6033 follow-up patients;
* 1000 new cases with musculoskeletal disorder were examined by the CRC specialists in osteopathy.
* 1563 children were provided with splinters and other orthopaedic devices made at the CRC workshop.

KSC assistance to CRC involved an employment of two technicians and provision of the required equipment and materials for the workshop. KSC also invited Dr Amitesh Narayan and Dr. Jaya Shanker, both associated professors at the Department of physiotherapy of the Kasturba Medical College, Mangalore, India, who came to Kurdistan “to treat children, to teach parents, and to train students and therapists” by using physiotherapy for patients’ recovery.

They stayed in Sulaimany from November 25 till December 22. During their stay, Dr Amitesh Narayan and Dr. Jaya Shanker examined a great number of children having various disorders. Combining theoretical instruction with practical demonstration, they conducted a workshop for physiotherapists at CRC, and delivered a three-day training course in physiotherapy for the Sulaimani Physiotherapy Centre staff.

The overall number of patients who visited and received treatment at CRC in 2010 was 23379 children.

Visiting Medical Teams

Representatives of medical profession from different countries of the world have been paying regular visits to KSC. In 2010, KSC welcomed several such teams who offered the following service to the sick children of Kurdistan.

* Two medical teams from Italy came to KSC to carry out a medical check up of the children having heart disorders in March and September 2010 respectively.
* An American medical team invited by KSC performed heart surgery on 22 children during their one-week stay in Sulaimany in August 2010.
Shawgar can now hear and speak

Since its establishment in 1992, Kurdistan Save the Children has been working to assist every child, who seeks help, no matter what community, racial, religious or ethnic, the child comes from. Using different channels, KSC Health Sector works for restoring health to sick children and children with disabilities by making available treatment inside and outside Kurdistan. This is a story about one of the children, who was helped by KSC.

Shawgar was born in Takia town on January 1, 2001, to a poor family of five: her parents, her two sisters, Nigar and Sumria, and herself. The family lives in crumbling, poorly furnished three rooms made of mud bricks and covered with a wooden roof. Her father, a construction worker, has always been working hard to earn living for his family and to pay for the cost of schooling for Shawgar and her sisters.

Shawgar was the first born child in the family. She and her two younger sisters were born deaf and mute. The surgery for restoring the ability to hear was unavailable in Kurdistan, and sending Shawgar for treatment abroad was beyond the family’s means.

To help Shawgar, and other children with hearing disabilities, Kurdistan Save the Children signed a contract with a Korean specialist, Dr. Jay for treating 60 deaf-mute children inside Kurdistan. All of them had a Cochlear implant surgery, which was followed by rehabilitation training.

Shawgar was one of the children who underwent the surgery. She is presently in the process of her rehabilitation training. She can now hear and she is learning how to speak. When rehabilitation is over, she will be able to attend a mainstream school, like any other child. She is no longer a child with a disability.
Rethinking and Reorganizing the Range of the Sector’s Activities

Searching for the ways of helping each child to have a meaningful life as a person and as a member of society was the focal point of the Sector’s activities in 2010. For the KSC Training Sector, 2010 was a year of looking for new directions in its work for the children and with the children. It was also a year of searching for a vision that would be crucial for reorganizing the Sector’s activities and making plans for the future. This search evolved around the three closely related themes: the early childhood development, developmental delays, and early intervention for preventing a delay to become a permanent disability. An outcome of this search was a gradual crystallization of the Sector’s philosophical statement that each child, including the children with special needs, has an inalienable right to have a meaningful life as a person and as a member of society. The commitment to make this vision real was a pivot around which evolved all the Sector’s activities in 2010. It was also a cornerstone for planning the Sectors’ activities in 2011.

1. Activities carried out in the first quarter of 2010

The preoccupation with the idea of the early childhood development came about as an outcome of the Sector’s activities during the last two years when the Sector conducted a series of educational workshops that dealt with educational aspects related to the issues of child development and education. One of these workshops dealt with the issue of Early Diagnosis and Appropriate Timely Intervention of Developmental Disabilities of Children in Kurdistan and was offered to pediatricians in Sulaimany in April 2009. The following message was reiterated in the process of the workshop delivery: The earlier developmental delays in a child are identified and attended to, the better chance
the child has for living a life without a disability.

Most of the workshops conducted in 2008 and 2009 were aimed at educating caretakers who worked either with children in mainstream schools or with children with special needs, that is the children who had a disability.

In the process of delivering the workshops, a connotation between developmental delays in early childhood and disabilities in a child later on gradually emerged. Hence, in the first quarter of 2010, the focus was mainly on an intensive (re)search for available information on early childhood development and its different aspects. In an outcome of this research and other activities in 2010, the following two important issues gradually emerged and were formulated as follows:

1- the crucial role of early identification of developmental delays for the future of a child.

2- the importance of early intervention for preventing a developmental delay to become a permanent disability in a child.

During the same period, a training course entitled Psychological Disorders and Derangement of Personality was delivered to 28 members of the Soz Psychiatric hospital in Sulaimany on February 8-11, 2010. In the outcome of the course delivery, there came an understanding that derangement of personality was an ultimate form of disability when a person had to be protected from doing harm to oneself and/or to other members of a community.

2. Activities carried out in the second quarter of 2010

During the second quarter of 2010, on May 10-13, the Training Sector conducted a workshop on Speech Therapy for 23 parents of children with mental disabilities. During the workshop, the parents repeatedly expressed their great concern over the future of their children and asked KSC to take part in establishing a Centre for the children with mental disabilities. There was an unanswered question lingering during and after the workshop: Is there any possibility, even a slight one, that the children with mental disabilities can be rehabilitated to a partial/full independence? And if the answer is 'yes', whether the establishment of a centre will be enough for securing the children’s future.

This was one of the questions that was discussed with Ms. Eilisa Ihlainen, an M.Ed. graduate student at the International Programme of the University of Oulu, Finland, who came to Kurdistan to complete an eleven week combined internship and thematic practice at the KSC Training Sector, working at the Sector fulltime from March 16 till June 3, 2010. The concern over the future of children with special needs was repeatedly expressed in discussions held with her. It is during these discussions that the educational philosophy and the vision, underlying the Sector’s activities, gradually crystallized into a mission statement that was finally formulated as follows:

We work in this Sector for ‘helping every child to have a meaningful life as a person and as a member of society’.

As an outcome of these discussions, there came a realisation that this mission could be accomplished only by the consolidated efforts of all members of the society, and immediately there came up the following important questions: how to bring the different members of the society together and who would be willing to participate in this huge and challenging task. To achieve this task, it was necessary to increase general awareness of the importance of early childhood development at the public, professional, and governmental levels; to make every effort for preventing developmental delays in a child from becoming permanent disabilities, whenever it is possible, and, finally, to provide educational and social opportunities for the children with different disabilities so that they would be able to have a meaningful life both as children and as adults.
3. Activities carried out in the third quarter of 2010

From thinking about the issue of 'raising awareness', an idea suggested itself that it was possible to use the emerging KCS library as a community resource centre, which would offer educational resources to different members of society, and could also be a meeting place for holding discussions on issues of child development, education, and child's place in a society. Organizing the library and classifying the books owned by KSC was the main activity performed during this period.

The implementation of this work had priorities and difficulties of its own. The main problem was a necessity to identify which library classification system to use for an easy access to a book. This needed a knowledge of the basics of librarianship, as well as an ability to identify general and specific topics discussed in a book so as to find a specific place for a book within a more general category. Since in many instances it was very difficult to identify the more specific topics discussed by the book at a first glance and, therefore, to find a right place for it on a shelf, the whole project was a very time-consuming and frustrating one. A participation in one-day workshop for the librarians in Sulaimany, which was organized by the Information Resource Centre of the USA Embassy and held on April 3, 2010, at the Sulaimany Public Library, was interesting, but not very helpful for this specific issue, for it did not cover the basics of the librarianship.

During the whole period of working on the project of organizing the KSC library, there was almost no sense of achievement in the process of performing this task, which was very depressing. It is only, when looking through the notes made during the above-mentioned one-day workshop for the librarians that there emerged an idea that the library can be used as a community resource centre, around which a specific community or communities could be built up. This realization assisted in a gradual lifting up of a prevailing sense of depression and despondency. Yet, at this point there was still no clear sense of what those specific communities could be.

4. Activities carried out in the fourth quarter of 2010

The fourth and the final quarter of 2010 started with preparations for organizing and conducting a training course in using Wechsler Intelligence Scale and a workshop on how to apply IQ testing for identifying gifted students. The course was conducted on October 26-29 for 43 graduates having a bachelor degree in Psychology who worked in the fields of health, education, and social work. The course was designed and delivered by Dr. Kabeel Kudi Hussein, professor in psychological measurement at the Department of Psychological and Educational Sciences, College of Education of the University of Mustansiriya, Baghdad, Iraq. It was assessed as an important course by the participants.

The workshop was delivered on October 30 for 15 teaching members of the Shaheed Jabar Exemplary School for gifted students, affiliated to KSC. In their comments, the teachers wrote that the workshop enriched their knowledge about how to set exam questions, how to identify gifted and talented students, and how to organize an educational process in a model school with an emphasis on a student's success rather than on his/her failure.

In the process of organizing and conducting the course and talking to its participants, an idea of organizing support groups has emerged. This idea was very attractive because it blended into an indivisible whole the psychological counseling/educational guidance, an activity carried out by the Sector during 2010, and social support. The idea of creating support groups took a more definite shape when two physiotherapists from India, both holders of PhD in physiotherapy from the Manipal University, India, Dr. Amitesh
Narayan (M.P.T.[PhD]) and Dr. Jaya Shanker Tedla (M.P.T.[PhD]), came to Kurdistan to examine and provide physio-
therapeutical treatment to the children having Cerebral Palsy and other motor
disabilities. In their report, entitled Proposal
to systematically upgrade the qualification
standard of practicing physiotherapists in
Kurdistan Region, Republic of Iraq, they
stated that Cerebral Palsy cases seen by us
during our visit (November 2010 to
December 2010) with active support from
Kurdistan Save the Children/ Kurdistan
Children’s Fund Sulaimaniah (Iraq), nearly
70-80% still has the potential to become
partially or fully independent if quality
therapy care is made available to them
now. Many would still be saved from
surgical interventions as therapy will help
their muscular strength to improve and
become relatively more independent.
(Emphasis added)

Before they left, Dr. Amitesh and Dr. Jaya
presented a proposal for a project, entitled
Academic and Technical Collaboration
between Chetana Child Development
Centre (Unit of Seva Bharathi Trust)
Mangalore, India and Kurdistan Save the
Children/Kurdistan Children’s Fund,
Sulaimaniah, Iraq. The proposal presents a
plan for cooperation between the two
institutions, and clearly delineates the steps
for cooperation between the two
organizations. Key to this proposal is
creating an affected children/families
database as per their areas/zones of living,
which will involve the active participation of
‘Family Support Groups’ (5-10 core
dedicated family members who would be
responsible for monitoring the activities
performed by the families for children with
special needs).

Creating such groups along the above-
mentioned lines and lobbying for the
opening of the Department of
Physiotherapy at the University of
Sulaimany are the key destinations in a
plan of action for the KSC Training Sector
activities in 2011, which are consistent with
the Sector’s vision developed in 2010.
Year after year, KSC activities and services are being more genuinely valued and appreciated by the people of Kirkuk and particularly by the people of Kirkuk. The major priority of the KSC Kirkuk office is to deliver free educational, cultural, social, and health services to children and youths coming from different multi-ethnic, multi-religious, and multi-cultural communities of Kirkuk.

The population of Kirkuk represents a diversity of people who, although belonging to different ethnic / religious groups and denominations, all live together in one city. For this reason, since the time of its establishment, KSC office in Kirkuk has given a priority to promoting a spirit of peaceful coexistence in children and youth belonging to different communities. Building on the past and present experiences of bringing those communities together constitutes a distinctive feature underlying all the activities of the KSC Kirkuk Office.

The KSC Kirkuk Office activities are carried out by three sectors: those of education, child protection, and child sponsorship.

The Sector of Education

The Sector of Education provides educational services to children and youth via the KSC Kirkuk Youth Activity Centre and the Children’s Cultural Centre (Kaziwa). Each centre serves their respective constituencies by providing academically competent educational services adapted to the interests of specific target groups. These services are offered to children and youth by the departments of Computer, Sports, Music, Fine Arts, Internet services, English language, and video games. The doors of both centres are always wide open to all willing to participate in the centres’ activities, regardless of the community they come from. In 2010, a great number of youth and children took part in the activities of both centres, which act as an arena for developing their capabilities and talents. Both centres offered ongoing courses to them. The KSC Kirkuk office invited experienced professionals to work in both centers, which was possible because of existing strong bilateral relations between KSC Kirkuk office and different artistic and professional organizations in Kirkuk.

In 2010, the total number of children and youth, who directly participated in the activities offered by both centres, was 25404, of whom 16973 were male and 8431 were female recipients.

a- KSC Kirkuk Youth Center

In 2010, the overall number of youths who participated in various departments of the Youth center and training courses was 18143, of whom 12503 were male and 5640 were female.

More specifically, the following training courses, organized by different Youth Centre departments, were offered to those willing to learn:

* 8 courses in drawing and painting to 633 participants
* 13 courses in computing to 515 participants
* 12 courses in English language to 469 participants
* 10 courses in football, table tennis and other sports, apart from daily ongoing body building training, was offered to the total number of 14936 participants
* 12 courses in music, taught by professional and academic musicians, to 460 participants

Due to the presence of qualified teaching staff at the Centre, it was possible to organize different events such as, several musical and folk dancing events, wherein young people of different ethnic origin took part, art exhibitions, and athletic competitions for the youth inside the Centre. At the same time, the Center participated in several athletic competitions inside and outside the Kirkuk province, which strengthened relationships between the youth at the Centre and students of the College of Physical Education in Kirkuk, who frequently visited the center.
As an outcome of the Centre activities, the Youth Centre became a forum for seminars, workshops and other educational and cultural events, wherein students from different nearby colleges took part. These relations were strengthened when the Youth Centre offered the students of the College of Physical Education the free use of the Centre’s sport facilities, which the University of Kirkuk was unable to provide for the College. Strong bilateral relations between the management of the Youth Centre and the College of Physical Education have thus been created.

In the same spirit of cooperation, the KSC Youth Centre provided space for holding seminars and discussions on youth related issues to some NGOs. By establishing close ties with the Kirkuk Department of Health, KSC Youth Centre joined them in running workshops and educational programs for youths on drug abuse to alert them about negative consequences of drug addiction, attended by a great number of young people.

b- Kaziwa Cultural Centre for Children

Kaziwa centre is a recreational and educational place for children, where children can learn, fulfill their aspirations, and discover their hidden talents by being given access to meaningful leisure opportunities. Kaziwa is the only centre of its type in the city that consistently offers recreational and educational services for the children of Kirkuk.

In 2010, the overall number of children who visited the centre was 7261, of whom 4470 were males and 2791 were females. The following training courses were conducted by the Centre departments:

* 12 courses in computing for 175 children
* 12 courses in drawing and painting for 305 children.
* 10 courses in various kinds of sports for 157 children.
* 9 courses in music for 135 children.
* 6 courses in English language for 95 children.

The total of 867 children participated in the courses conducted by the Kirkuk Kaziwa in 2010.

In 2010, the Kirkuk Kaziwa organized several cultural events such as, musical entertainments, and graphic arts exhibitions. The children of Kaziwa also participated in a number of exhibitions held in the city of Kirkuk.

On June 1, the Kaziwa organized a special event to celebrate the International Children’s Day. wherein diverse ethnic communities living in the city took part.
In 2010, children of Kirkuk participated in the Mediterranean festival, held annually in Italy to promote a cultural and artistic exchange between the countries. KSC, represented by the children selected from the Kaziwa community, took part in this festival. During the festival, KSC Kirkuk delegation presented a dancing performance, and also participated in a graphic arts exhibition. Both presentations reflected a cultural diversity of different communities living in Kirkuk and were warmly received by the delighted audience. On the tour of some Italian cities, organized by the festival coordinators, the KSC dancing team was given an opportunity of performing before a wider audience. The drawings and paintings of one of the KSC children delegation were on a display at the Ostuni’s General Library Hall for three days. A participation in the festival provided an extraordinary opportunity of cultural exchange for the children of Kirkuk and was made real by the KSC unreserved support and assistance.

Working in close cooperation with governmental organization, Kirkuk Kaziwa was able to give a continuous support to the kindergartens in the city by hosting their different events at the Kaziwa hall. The Kaziwa also assisted NGOs in Kirkuk by lending them a helping hand in conducting workshops and seminars on child rights and other child-related issues. As an outcome of this policy, KSC Kirkuk Office has established good working relations with a number of governmental institutions in Kirkuk that work with children and for children.

Child protection;

Juvenile delinquency is one of KSC Kirkuk office projects. The main objective of this project is to assist children who are subjected to legal actions. The KSC social workers work in close cooperation with the juvenile court and juvenile police stations. They negotiate a shorter period of custody for juvenile offenders and help them be reunited with their
families after a minimum time in custody. Moreover, the KSC social workers monitor each case even after the period of imprisonment is over and assist the juveniles in being reintegrated and socially rehabilitated in the society.

Furthermore, the KSC project officers pay regular monthly visits to the juveniles held in custody and take care of their personal needs. They also provide counseling services to them, raise their awareness of the negative impacts that their previous actions had on their lives and help them be reintegrated in the society as respected individuals.

Despite the continual efforts of the KSC Kirkuk staff, as compared to 2009, the number of the juvenile detainees at Kirkuk Juvenile police stations increased by around 33%, from 110 cases in 2009 to 146 cases in 2010.

In 2010, the KSC project officers assisted in releasing 115 juveniles from custody; 16 were transferred to adult prison, for they reached the age of 18 and the juvenile legal procedures were no longer applicable to them, and 11 juveniles received sentences in accordance with the crimes that they had committed. The KSC Kirkuk office continues helping those adolescents who are still in custody. It is a well-established fact that the KSC Kirkuk office is the only organization that works in the field of child protection in Kirkuk. This claim can be supported by the police officers in Kirkuk. It is worth mentioning that children held in custody are well treated by the police officers, and the KSC social workers bear witness to this statement.

The KSC team works not only with and for juveniles, but also with police officers. In 2010, two workshops were organized and delivered for the police officers working in juvenile police stations and juvenile court, entitled ‘Juvenile Law’ and ‘Getting Involved with Juvenile Delinquency’.

The goals of both workshops, as well as the overall goals of the child protection project are 1) to protect legal rights of adolescents; and 2) to minimize a period of custody for juvenile. We will continue to help every child who needs our help.

Child Sponsorship

Child Sponsorship is another project that is carried out by the KSC office in Kirkuk. Its aims are 1) to provide financial assistance to the needy children for the benefit of their personal and social development, 2) to encourage the guardians/mothers of the sponsored children to have a greater control over their lives, and 3) to assist mothers in protecting their physical and spiritual integrity, for the loss of moral integrity in mother often has a devastating impact on her children and the whole family.

This project provides income for the families without a breadwinner; it also assists in reducing a number of children who are obliged to quit school so as to take share in providing for the family livelihood.

The KSC project officers closely monitor the families on the sponsorship programme. In 2010, they regularly visited 108 sponsored families inside Kirkuk. Also, several visits were paid to the families living outside the city. New application forms for sponsorship were filled in for the children in 17 families belonging to different communities that constitute the population of Kirkuk. At the same time, sponsorship was terminated for the children in 18 families as a consequence of improvement in their life conditions.

Health;

Although there is no health sector in Kirkuk office, yet the KSC office in Kirkuk operates as a field work branch of the KSC Health Sector in Sulaimaniah office. In 2010, the KSC office in Kirkuk filled in a number of forms for the families who visited KSC while seeking treatment for their children and who live in different communities of Kirkuk.

Since its establishment in 2003, KSC Kirkuk office has been consistently providing equitable services to the children belonging to different ethnic / religious and other communities. It has been the only NGO in Kirkuk that is steadfast in safeguarding and defending the rights of children.

Najmadin Nuri Muhammed
Kirkuk Programme Manager
For the sake of protecting the children living in the Kurdistan Region, in the year of 2010, the Erbil Office of Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC) Organization continued to work on a number of well planned programmes. The foremost amongst these programmes was that of putting a limit to ‘child labour’ in the Kurdistan Region, complemented with ongoing efforts to reintegrate the drop-out children into the school system. Simultaneously, in 2010, the Erbil KSC office carried out several other significant projects, such as conducting a survey on the incidence of child labour in three major cities of the Kurdistan Region, continuing participation in preparing a draft for making amendments to the “Law of Child Labour” in the Kurdistan Region, conducting a survey on the occurrence of child among children in Kurdistan Region, and continuing cooperation with other organizations working on child related issues.

1- Child Protection

The child protection programme includes the following projects: 1) putting limit to child labour in the region; 2) drafting an amendment to the Law on Child Labour; 3) conducting a survey on child labour; 4) collecting information on the conditions of children living in orphanages.

1.1. Child Labour

Throughout 2010, one of the main duties of KSC office in Erbil was implementation of the project of ‘putting a limit for labour among children’ while simultaneously encouraging them, using various means, to be reintegrated into the school system.

In general, the main aim of this project was to protect children from the possibilities of economic exploitation. The project has been implemented in two major steps; the first step was to identify working children whose ages were under fifteen and who were working without the direct supervision of their families; to assess their families’ general life situation, and to allocate a financial assistance, ranging 50 to 200 thousand Iraqi Dinars per month, to the low-income families on condition that their children would not go or be sent back to work, but would continue their school education.

The second step of the programme was to maintain an ongoing monitoring of these children by regularly visiting their families. During these follow-up visits, the KSC well-trained field officers make sure that the children and their families remain bound to the terms and conditions of the KSC assistance by not sending and not allowing their children to go back to work again.

The following activities were carried out during the implementation of this project in 2010:

* 1,498 field visits, on a well-planned schedule, were made by the KSC field officers, with the aid of field officers from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, to the licensed working places during the day-time; this is in addition to 184 visits during the night-time. The purpose was to identify children whose ages were under fifteen and who were working without supervision of their families, and also to identify older children between the ages of fifteen and eighteen who were working in places that were likely to have negative impacts on their health and moral conduct.

* During these visits, interviews were made and special forms were filled in for the total of 256 children, from 166 families, who were working on their own or employed by somebody else.

* In cooperation with the Juvenile Police Department, 111 families agreed to sign the legal obligation not to send their children to work again.

* A total amount of 90,170,000 Iraqi dinars was provided as a financial support to 196 children from 119 families who had one or
more working children in 2010; 1,455 follow up field visits were made to families that were receiving monthly support from the KSC in order to make sure that they are still bound to the condition not to resend their children to work, and, instead, to encourage their children to continue their education.

* Furthermore, social advice from the professional KSC field officers was given to 198 children from 136 families, for it was evident that social advice would be sufficient for these families so as to encourage them to avoid sending their children to work again. This was achieved through a number of planned field visits to the families of such working children.

1.2. Drafting an Amendment to the Law of Child Labour

With regard to this project, it is worth to mention that in January 2009, a draft proposal for the purpose of making amendments to the law of child labour in Kurdistan Region was given to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs for consideration and further discussion.

Since that time, Kurdistan Save the Children has been making continual efforts to introduce the amendment to the law of child labour. In its essence, the amendment, which was developed on the basis of Article 32 of Children's Rights Treaty and other relevant international conventions, stipulates that children cannot be used for earning livelihood of their families. This amendment, as suggested by the KSC and presented in various workshops and conferences, proposes to introduce a monthly financial assistance to the low-income families who may force their children to work for earning / contributing to their families' livelihood.

While carrying out this project, in February 2010, a follow-up meeting took place with the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs with the purpose of lobbying for the proposed draft approval. This meeting was followed by another one in May 2010 held with the Legal Department at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, where additional discussions on the issue of the amendment took place.

Later in August, a meeting was organised with the High Committee of Children’s Right Protection at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs for further debate on the content of the amendment.

1.3. Child Labour Survey

A questionnaire-based survey was performed by the KSC in three major cities of Erbil, Sulaimaniya and Duhok in the Kurdistan Region for the purpose of identifying the occurrences of labour among children, their health conditions, their families' financial status and finding reasons for sending children to work in places prohibited by the Iraqi Law. For that purpose, prior to starting data collection, a number of social researchers was assigned by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs for participating in the survey.

The process of data collection started and was successfully completed by late July. In August, the data were analyzed and reports were prepared. Finally, in December, the results of the survey were presented in a seminar, hosted by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Kurdistan Regional Government. At the seminar, the results obtained in 2010 were compared with the findings of a similar survey conducted in 2007.

Overall, the results of the 2010 survey showed that compared to the findings of the survey conducted in 2007, generally there was a marked decrease in the incidence of child labour and in the instances of violation of the law on child labour in the Kurdistan Region.

1.4. Conditions of Children at Orphanages

In May 2010, a new project was initiated in orphanage houses aimed at finding out about the general conditions of children living there, and the social and economic status of their families. Presently, the project is under way. No final results have been reported so far.

2. Education

There is a reciprocal relationship between school attendance and child labour to the extent that drop out children are more
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1.3. Child Labour Survey

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2- Education

There is a reciprocal relationship between school attendance and child labour to the extent that drop out children are more vulnerable to being engaged in child labour. For this reason, the more improvements are made within the school system, the more children will stay at school and, hence, the lower will be a chance of them being entangled in child labour.

To fulfill that goal, the KSC office team in Erbil have always been working hard on the process of reintegrating the drop-out children into schools.
In some areas, the families of the working children, and even the children themselves, were against continuing education.

2.3. Providing Courses during Summer Vacations

During the summer vacations, a course designed for developing children's abilities was conducted in four schools situated at the residential areas with low income population. The main objective of the course was to provide opportunities for the children at their free time during summer vacations to develop intellectually and enhance their general knowledge about various aspects of life.

3- Health

Although there is no health sector in KSC-Erbil, the KSC staff was engaged in health related projects that involved 1) seeking treatment for the sick children, and 2) participating in conducting a survey on childhood cancer.

3.1. Seeking treatment for the sick children

Persistent efforts have been made to identify the families that have one or more children with a chronic disease that could not be treated locally. In this regard, the following steps have been made:

a- A number of visits to the families of the sick children was made in 2010 to assess their general life conditions and to fill in specially designed health forms for sick children.

b- Later on, these forms and medical reports attached to them were sent to the Health Sector in Suleimaniya office for further assessment prior to sending these children abroad for the treatment.

3.2. Survey on Childhood Cancer

A significant progress was made during 2010 on conducting a survey on childhood cancer in three major cities of Kurdistan Region. The survey collects data on the children who suffered from various types of cancerous diseases during the period between January 2006 and December 2009. It also includes the children with cancer who came from other parts of Iraq but were diagnosed and/or received some kind of treatment in oncological hospitals of the Kurdistan Region.

Media and Social Awareness Campaigns

Throughout the year of 2010, a number of newspaper, radio and television interviews were carried out by KSC staff, aimed at 1) raising the community awareness of different aspects of child labour, 2) giving priority to disseminating information on basic child rights, and 3) bringing child-related issues to the headlines of government and public discussions.

External Relationships

One of the priorities of the KSC Erbil Office is to stay in a regular contact and be engaged in shared activities with other organizations and centres working on various child related issues.

Below is a list of some significant shared activities in 2010, which included a participation in:

A- establishing a child hotline

B- the annual anniversary of organizations working in the field of child psychology support

C- several planned meetings with the Minister of Social Affairs of the Kurdistan Regional Government for discussing a draft proposal for making amendments to the law of child labour

D- a meeting with a team from the Norway government for discussing the issue of bringing back a number of Kurdish children who live in Norway as asylum seekers

E- a festival arranged by the Handicaps Institute during Children’s Day

F- a workshop held by the Steps organization on the issue of "Foster Family"

G- a workshop for assessing improvements in the general condition of children in Kurdistan Region, which was jointly held by Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Kurdistan Regional Government and UNICEF

Shwan S. Maruf
Erbil Programme Manager
The Burden of a Lost Childhood

Peshang was the only son and brother. He had 3 sisters and all members of his family loved him. He also had friends, with whom he shared the happiest moments of his life. His life was stable and joyful, but then one day everything had changed and Peshang’s life turned upside down. His father got ill. His elder sister left school, and he himself had to earn his family’s living including the rent for the home where the family lived. All of a sudden, Peshang’s childhood was over.

As the family’s bread winner Peshang took responsibility of an adult although he was still a boy. Every day his mother would wake him up early in the morning. It was with great difficulty that he woke up every morning. She had to shake him several times before he was able to get up at 6 o’clock and be ready to go to work. In winter, it was so cold that he had to wear 5 sweaters and a coat. He would take a lunch pack that his mother had wrapped for him, and would go to the bakery where he helped the baker to make and sell bread. Every morning his mother was anxious in her heart about him. She was doing her house chores while the numerous questions pestered her and deep anxiety gripped her heart: Wouldn’t he be cold? Won’t he be bullied? Won’t he be too sleepy to get on with his work? These and other similar questions were breaking her heart. But what else could she do? Poverty and dire need left her with no choice at all: She had to send Peshang to work, for his father, who was recovering from a heart attack, needed rest, medications and regular medical check-ups, and was too weak to work.

Being a bread winner was too hard for Peshang. His teachers noticed a change in him. His face was pale and he looked exhausted most of the time. He would frequently fall asleep on his desk at school and be reprimanded afterwards. KSC filed officers met Peshang while they were working on a project related to child labour. Having made several visits to Peshang’s family, they made a decision to help Peshang by providing for the family livelihood until Peshang’s father was recovered. A huge responsibility was taken off Peshang’s shoulders. He is now back to the life that he had before his father had a heart attack. But will it last?
Befriending and Protecting Adolescents

Being members of the society who undergo a vitally-crucial transitional stage of physical and mental development, adolescents are in need of compassionate consideration and support. Coping with cognitive, emotional and physical changes they go through, adolescents often make choices and behave in a way that most of the adults around them, and especially their parents, disapprove. It is critical to have scientific knowledge and understanding about how to help adolescents in protecting themselves from actions that may disrupt their development.

The primary responsibility for carrying out this tremendous task is shouldered by parents. In discharging this responsibility, a fine balance should be maintained between having teenagers under control and, at the same time, respecting their right to make a decision based on their own choice. A rigid control exercised over teenagers often results in acts of defiance when they choose to act contrary to their parents’ advice. This could be avoided by maintaining friendly relationships with teenagers. Having their parents as their friends is very important for adolescents. At the same time, it is the parents’ responsibility to know about their children’s friends. Parents should also clearly formulate rules about the time when the teenager should come back home. They should not speak harshly with their children in front of their friends or other people. As much as possible, parents should meet their children’s demands.

It is important for parents to be aware of their children’s life at school. Paying regular visits to school, talking to their teachers, learning about their children’s conduct and performance at school, and about their attitudes to their teachers and friends are of great importance. In guiding adolescents towards adulthood, it is crucial to make them understand that they are important members of the society and that their contribution to the social welfare is unique and important.

Befriending and protecting adolescents are the main goals underlying the projects carried out by Kurdistan Save the Children branch in Duhok. These projects aim at working towards bringing to an end child labour; providing financial support to the low-income families who are forced to send their children to work; reintegrating school drop-outs into the education system; assisting sick children in getting medical treatment; combating violence against children, and establishing links with related governmental institutions.

**Project 1: Working towards bringing to an end child labour**

The main objective of this project is to identify working children under the age of 15 and to provide financial assistance to the needy families of the working children. This project was implemented in close cooperation with the Juvenile Police. In 2010, the following activities were carried out:

* 287 forms were filled in for the children identified as working children
* 272 children were identified as working children under the age of 15
* 269 families of working children were visited, and monthly financial assistance was provided for 74 families for the total amount of 7,870,000 IQD
* Financial assistance was terminated for 26 families of working children who had reached the age of 15 and are allowed to work, according to the Iraqi Law
* Clothes were provided for 386 children from the low income families.

Another aspect of this project was conducting follow up visits to the families of the working children and urging parents not to send their children to work. In 2010, 723 families were visited.

At the same time, the KSC team conducted a number of monitoring visits to the places where the children were employed. In 2010, the KSC team members made 168 night visits and 130 day visits to those places.
Project 2: Reintegrating school dropouts into the educational system

This project is being implemented in cooperation with the Directorate of Education of Dohuk. The main objective of this project is to identify the school dropouts among the working children and to reintegrate them into the school system. In 2010, the following activities were carried out:
* 39 working children under fifteen years old who had left school were reported
* 46 visits to schools were made to their families with the purpose of reintegrating these children into the educational system to complete their education
* 21 children were reintegrated.

Project 3: Assisting Sick Children

This project aims at making arrangements for assisting parents of sick children to provide the treatment for them. The assistance involves (1) sending the filled-in forms to the main office in Sulaimany for finding treatment for the critically sick children who cannot be treated in Iraq, and (2) providing medication for the children from the low-income families.

In 2010, the following activities were carried out:
* 67 forms were filled in for sick children and 54 forms were sent to the main office in Sulaimany.
* One child underwent medical surgery.
* Medication was bought for 196 sick children.

Project 4: Combating Violence against Children

The aim of this project is to identify and protect the children who have to cope with different kinds of violence perpetrated by members of their families against them. In 2010, the KSC field officers made 48 visits to the families with a reported violence against the children. The help was given to 31 children, out of whom 6 children were identified as having to face violence and imprisonment by their families.

Other Activities

There were other activities in 2010 carried out by the KSC branch in Duhok, such as:
* 170 children who regularly visit Kurdistan
Save the Children were sent to Zewa Children Protection Center for participation in training workshops held by the Centre
* 2 working children with misbehavior offence records were sent to Haval Center for dealing with such problems
* Distributing 720 magazines among children in kindergartens and schools.

Establishing links with related governmental institutions

In 2010, Kurdistan Save the Children Office in Duhok was engaged in establishing close relations with governmental institutions with the purpose of publicizing KSC activities and creating bilateral relations between KSC and other establishments that work in a similar field. The outcome of this activity was as follows:
* Participation in 12 meetings of the civic society organizations working in the field of human development, supervised by Mr. Behzad Ali Adam, Governor Deputy of Duhok.
* Participating, as a consultant, in the work of the committee, composed of seven governmental departments working in the field of child protection, on decreasing the number of working children and preventing incidence of child labour in Duhok, organized by Mr. Tamar Ramazan, Governor of Duhok in June 2010. This committee played an important role in decreasing the number of the working children in Duhok according to the results of the survey conducted in the summer of 2010.
* Participation in the annual occasions related to children’s rights, such as: International Children’s Day on June 1, and Universal Children’s Day on November 20
* Conducting two surveys (1) on the number of working children in Duhok city conducted in cooperation with the Duhok General Directorate of Social Affairs in July 2010 for the period of 20 days, and (2) on conditions of girls and boys in orphanages held for 10 days in August 2010.
* Participating in 7 workshops on the topics related to protection of children against violence, writing reports about violence against children, and writing proposals, organized and conducted by the Questscope Organization from Jordan in cooperation with Zewa and Haval Child Protection Centres in Duhok.
* Providing financial support to the Juvenile Police Office by buying stationary and paying their telephone bills.

Abdullah Ibrahim masiki
Duhok programme Manager
Papula Magazine

Papula is an educational, cultural magazine for children issued by KSC. It is one of the first KSC projects, started at the time of the KSC establishment in 1991. The first number of Papula was issued in spring 1992. Initially, it was decided that Papula would be a quarterly publication printed at the beginning of a new season. However, it was impossible to implements this project at that time because publishing houses did not have the equipment required for colour printing, and also because of lack of funding.

For these reasons, from 1992 to 1994, only three numbers were issued:
No. 1 in spring of 1992;
No. 2 in summer 1992, and, finally,
No. 3 in 1994

Later on, in February 1998, number 4 came into being, and since that time, on the 21 of each month, a new number of the 20-page Papula magazine was regularly published and made available to the children of Kurdistan. In December 2010, Papula No. 158 went to press, and was printed.

In addition to preparing and publishing the magazine, Papula team also made ready and printed some booklets and periodicals for children on specifically selected issues and topics. So far, 10 different booklets have been printed and distributed.

Having celebrated the 18th anniversary of the Papula magazine project, the Papula team pride themselves that Papula is the only children's magazine that punctually reaches the hands of children on time, without any delay.

In 2010, the Papula magazine team was engaged in the following activities:

1- Publishing 12 numbers of the magazine, from No. 147 to No. 158 throughout the year

2- Printing a coloured Papula calendar on a full-size paper in December 2010

3- Organizing a competition for the best poems, story, and drawing, written by children in April 2010, and on the 18th anniversary of the magazine, and awarding the Papula prizes to the winners of the competition

4- Increasing the number of pages in a magazine from 20 to 24 on the 18th anniversary of its first publication.
1.0 Kurdistan Save the Children’s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Iraqi Dinar</th>
<th>USD</th>
<th>Donor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1- Distant Sponsorship Program</td>
<td>480,000</td>
<td>Mr. Jalal Talabani</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>41,040</td>
<td>Italy - Ivria</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>36,200</td>
<td>Switzerland (PIK)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,320</td>
<td>Denmark (Dankurd)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9,720</td>
<td>Finland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>530</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,504,000</td>
<td>10,389</td>
<td>Iraqi Kurdistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total of distance sponsorship programme</strong></td>
<td>1,504,000</td>
<td>597,227</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2- All KSC’s projects in 2010</td>
<td>5,000,000,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>Kurdistan Regional Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3- Health Sector - Cochler implant</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>Mr. Jalal Talabani</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4- Building Kirkuk Stadium</td>
<td>139,550</td>
<td>Mrs. Hero Ibraim Ahmed</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5- Childprotection Sector</td>
<td>20,160</td>
<td>Mrs. Hero Ibraim Ahmed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6- Income Generation</td>
<td>18,495</td>
<td>Switzerland (PIK)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7- Health Sector</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>Finland</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8- Education Sector</td>
<td>2,618</td>
<td>KCF</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9- KSC Duhok Office</td>
<td>6,034,000</td>
<td>Mrs Kamila, Sabah Muhamad and Hazm Abdula</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10- Childprotection Sector</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>Weekly Story - Muhamad Hama Salah</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL FUNDING:</strong></td>
<td>5,007,958,000</td>
<td>492,323</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.1 KSC expenditure on all KSC’s offices projects in 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>Iraqi Dinar</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1- Health Sector</td>
<td>1,252,992,000</td>
<td>21.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2- All KSC offices administration</td>
<td>935,604,000</td>
<td>15.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3- Education Sector</td>
<td>928,547,000</td>
<td>15.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4- Child Protection Sector</td>
<td>847,800,000</td>
<td>14.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5- Sponsorship Sector</td>
<td>738,935,000</td>
<td>12.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6- Youth Sector</td>
<td>712,096,000</td>
<td>12.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7- Building Stadiums in Kirkuk City</td>
<td>166,064,500</td>
<td>2.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8- Papula children’s magazine</td>
<td>126,050,000</td>
<td>2.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9- Raniya Youth Centre renovation</td>
<td>58,681,000</td>
<td>0.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10- Engineering</td>
<td>52,255,000</td>
<td>0.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11- KSC’s Youth Centre Stadioms</td>
<td>50,337,000</td>
<td>0.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12- Students support</td>
<td>36,999,000</td>
<td>0.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13- Media Department</td>
<td>24,560,000</td>
<td>0.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL Expenditure</td>
<td>5,930,920,500</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2.2 Illustrate, by percentage, the KSC expenditure on programs in all offices.
Table 1.0 shows KSC sources of funds in 2010. A substantial amount of funding came from Kurdistan Regional Government, which funded the vast majority of KSC projects. DSP (Distant Sponsorship Program) funding amounted by 597,227 $U.S. and 1,504,000 Iraqi Dinars. Each child was sponsored with approximately 15 - 30 $U.S. per month. Together with various funds for other KSC projects, the grand total of funding was 492,323 $U.S. and 5,007,958,000 Iraqi Dinars.

Table 2.1 shows the expenditure of all KSC projects for the total of 5,930,920,500 Iraqi Dinars.

1,252,992,650 Iraqi Dinars was allocated for the Health Sector. The Administration of all KSC offices spent 935,604,000 Iraqi Dinars. The Education Sector’s funding was 928,547,000 Iraqi Dinars.

The Child Protection Sector spent 847,800,000 Iraqi Dinars, and the Sponsorship Sector spent 738,935,260 Iraqi Dinars.

Also, 712,096,000 Iraqi Dinars went to Youth Sector, 166,064,500 Iraqi Dinars was allocated for the construction of Kirkuk Stadiom, and 126,050,750 Iraqi Dinars was allocated for Papula monthly magazine.

Among other expenses, 58,681,000 Iraqi Dinars were allocated for the renovation of the Youth Activity Centre of Rania, 52,255,000 Iraqi Dinars for Engineering, 50,337,000 Iraqi Dinars for KSC’s Youth Centres Stadium, 36,999,480 Iraqi Dinars for Student’s Support, and 24,560,410 Iraqi Dinars for Media Department.

Figure 2.2 illustrates by percentage, the expenditures of KSC on all KSC projects in 2010. Most of funds was used for the Health Sector - 21.13%, followed by the administration of all KSC offices - 15.78%, for Education Sector was spent - 15.66%, and for the Child Protection Sector - 14.29%.

Also, 12.46% of the funds went to the Sponsorship Sector, 12.01% - to the Youth Sector, 2.80% - to the construction of stadium in Kirkuk City, 2.13% - to printing of Papula Monthly Magazine, 0.88% - to the Engineering, 0.85% - to the Youth Centres Stadium, 0.62% to student support, and 0.41% - to Media Department.
Acknowledgments

Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC-KCF) would like to extend its heartfelt appreciation to all who have contributed to our efforts to promote and protect the children's rights of Iraq and Kurdistan.

We are extremely grateful to all our partners without whose continued financial and moral support, the achievements highlighted in this report would not have been possible.

Additionally, we would like to say a very big thank you to all the individuals who have volunteered their time and effort in our sectors and overseas. Their contribution has been crucial in enabling KSC to fulfill its role as the biggest local NGO specializing in monitoring, protecting and promoting the rights of Iraq and Kurdistan children.
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