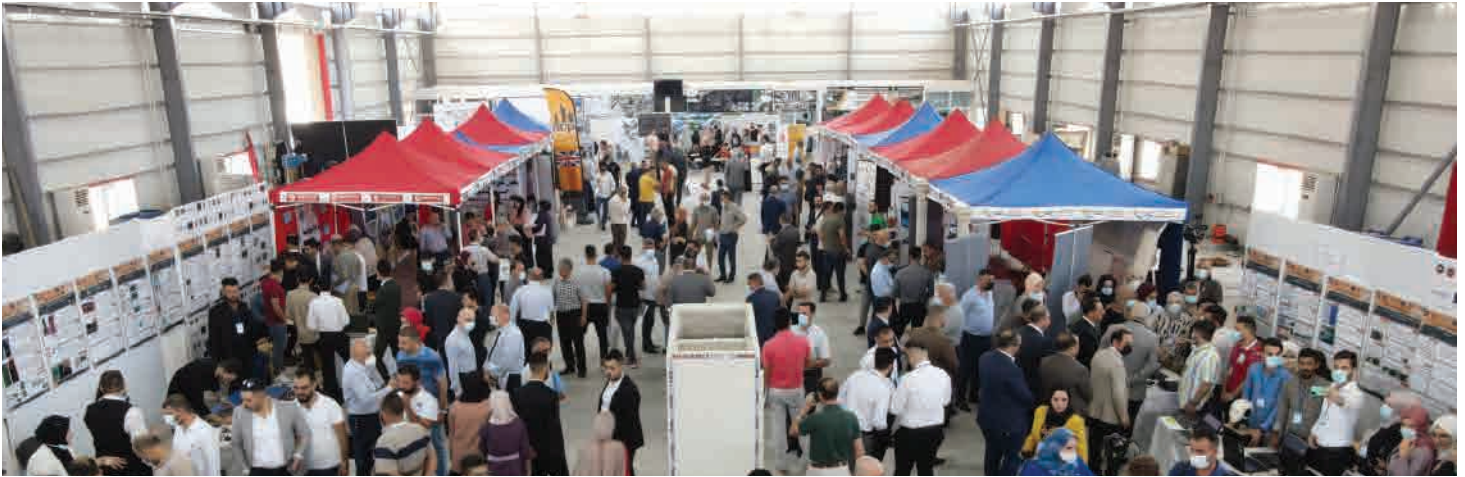


UN-Habitat partners with Mosul University for “Engineering Week”

UN-Habitat Iraq partnered with the Faculty of Engineering of Mosul University to hold the 2021 edition of the Engineering Week under the theme “Building Back Better” – key urban recovery approach of the European Union-funded programme “Supporting Recovery and Stability in Iraq through Local Development”. Academics and practitioners specialised in environmental sustainability delivered 27 public lectures and 67 students publicly presented their final year projects. One of the major highlights of the event was the organisation of an Exhibition Fair where 13 Iraqi companies displayed innovative construction materials and renewable energy solutions produced in Iraq. The Fair alone was visited by over 1,000 people.



UN-Habitat completes vocational training in Sinjar through partnership with Peace Winds Japan

In partnership with a Japanese NGO, Peace Winds Japan, UN-Habitat completed all of vocational training courses in Dokry village in Sinjar under the project titled “Support to Reconstruction and Peacebuilding of Liberated Cities in Iraq – Phase III”, funded by the Government of Japan. Courses have targeted 100 unemployed returnees and included electrical wiring and civil works for men, and house painting and maintenance for women. Trainees were very enthusiastic for acquiring new skills and were always punctual to attend the training. The apprentices are expected to be employed in the construction of 95 low-cost housing units in Dokry village, another component of this project, which will allow them to practice their newly acquired skills.



Measuring SDG indicators on land tenure

UN-Habitat HQ and Iraq Office organized jointly a two-day technical workshop titled “Enhancing the Capacity of Iraq to Collect Land Tenure Security Data and Report on SDG Indicator 1.4.2”. The workshop aimed to introduce and discuss with counterparts from Iraq’s Central Statistical Organization (CSO), relevant agencies and ministries in charge of land administration and management, the IAEG-SDGs approved joint methodology to: 1) Deepen understanding of the criticality of land governance in achieving the SDGs and how land tenure security indicator 1.4.2 can be monitored as part of national priority indicators in Iraq; 2) Improve participants’ knowledge of the globally approved methodology for monitoring SDG indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 and its integration in existing and future relevant national surveys by Iraq’s Central Organization for Statistics; 3) Draw action plans on follow-up training for Iraq’s Central Organization for Statistics and land registry on data collection including areas of capacity support required from custodians and other actors to enable data collection and reporting on SDG indicator 1.4.2; to inform policy decisions on responsive land governance in Iraq. The workshop brought together the technical staff responsible for survey design, land registration and management, reporting on the SDGs-including land indicators and representatives of other data contributing agencies, as well as staff from UN-Habitat (HQ and Iraq country office) working on urbanization and land governance issues, and related program implementation and management.

UN-Habitat organized a workshop to discuss land rights of Yazidis in Sinjar

UN-Habitat Iraq HLP programme organized a workshop to discuss with Iraqi counterparts "The Strategy for Facilitating the Procedures for Registering the Land Rights of Yazidi Minority in Sinjar". The workshop aimed to provide a better understanding of the situation of the Yazidi property rights by briefly looking at the recent historic perspective of internal displacement, the institutional attempts that have taken place to solve this issue, and the potential solutions that presently arise by: a) covering the discriminatory policy of denial to access land rights; b) showing the impact of forced relocation and unresolved land claims; c) emphasizing the lack of security of tenure; d) identifying legal challenges and land administration solution; e) providing a roadmap for resolution; and f) recommending a practical way forward to facilitate the registration of Yazidi's land rights. The workshop was attended by representatives of the Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance, Real Estate Registration Directorate, Ninewa Governorate, Municipalities Directorate of Sinjar. The strategic document was endorsed by the participants to be considered as the key guide to facilitate the registration of Yazidi's land rights.



Consultations underway for neighbourhood selection in Basra

UN-Habitat together with the Head of Basra Municipality, Head of Water Directorate and Head of Planning for Water Directorate, Deputy Head of Physical Planning Directorate and the Head of Operating Department Sewage Directorate came together on 17 June in Basra for the first of several consultations to identify the three neighbourhoods where which UN-Habitat will work for the next three years under the European Union funded project "Increasing Access to Employment Opportunities for Vulnerable Urban Population in Basra City in Response to the COVID-19 Crisis."



UN-Habitat, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, is the focal point for all urbanization and human settlement matters within the UN system and is mandated by the UN General Assembly (beginning in 1975) to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities. Its mandate is further derived from other internationally agreed upon development goals, including SDG11 of the Sustainable Development Goal, a goal dedicated for urban development, and the New Urban Agenda, an action-oriented document signed by member states which sets global standards of achieving SDG11. UN-Habitat has been active in Iraq since 1996.

Steering Committee Meeting highlights impact of Headway Programme

In collaboration with UNDP, UN-Habitat Iraq has organized the second annual steering committee meeting for the Headway Programme "Strengthening the Long-Term Resilience of Subnational Authorities in Countries Affected by the Syrian and Iraqi Crises", funded by the EU. As part of his opening remarks, Mr. Wael Al-Ashhab, Head of Iraq Country Programme, expressed appreciation to the EU for their longstanding partnership with UN-Habitat and in particular, their support for Headway Programme, funded through the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syria crisis.

Mr. Wael also thanked participating officials representing the Iraqi Ministry of Planning, the Kurdistan Ministry of Planning, the Governorates of Erbil, Duhok, Sulaimaniya and Ninewa and the Joint Crisis Centre of the Government of Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) for their collaboration throughout the implementation phase. UN-Habitat Iraq presented its achievements through this programme, which included the rehabilitation of more than 970 houses for vulnerable IDPs, refugees and host community members, the rehabilitation of water infrastructure networks in 5 target cities, the creation of more than 32,000 working days for skilled and un-skilled workers and the training of 25 technical staff on the effective maintenance of water networks.

