

**UN-Habitat inaugurates Bab Sinjar Housing Complex with senior government officials**



Dr. Erfan Ali, ROAS Regional Representative, visited Iraq in the occasion of the inaugural ceremony of the Bab Sinjar Housing Complex. Built with funding from the Government of Japan, the complex comprises of a total of 9 buildings and 324 apartments that have been allocated to displaced people from the Old City of Mosul. During its inauguration ceremony, senior representatives of the Government of Iraq spoke about the significance of such a project in offering dignified housing solutions for very vulnerable citizens affected by the conflict and praised the role of the local authorities in providing the necessary infrastructure. After the ribbon-cutting ceremony, invitees walked through the complex and met with some of the families who are eligible for one of the new apartments. At the end of the ceremony, keys were handed over to the respective beneficiaries' representatives.

**More than 4600 vulnerable households from Syrian refugees received HLP claim certificates**

Under the project "Safeguarding Housing, Land and Property (HLP) rights of Syrian refugees in Iraq, UN-Habitat finalized the first phase of the project by registering and distributing 4,684 claim certificates to vulnerable affected Syrian Refugees.



**Celebrating Europe Day by organizing different events with communities**

On 9 May, UN-Habitat teams in Ninewa governorate celebrated Europe Day by organising a community planting event in Ayadiah, Tel Afar District, led by 26 female trainees, and a youth sports match in Al Yarmouk Park in Mosul aimed at bringing visibility to the generous support of the EU, thanks to which thousands of young people living in areas deeply affected by the recent conflict can safely play in well maintained and equipped public open spaces.

On 12 May, UN-Habitat in Basra celebrated Europe Day by organizing a cleanup campaign with community leaders and youth volunteers in the Jurf Al Melah neighbourhood of the Shatt Al Arab district that increased the visibility of the support of the European Union for creating employment in the provision of basic services and waste management in three underserved areas.



## UN-Habitat team visits the flood prevention works in Matahin

"For the first time this year my shop was not flooded" an elderly shopkeeper told Dr Erfan Ali, UN-Habitat Regional Representative for Arab States, during a site visit to the low-lying neighbourhood of Matahin, in west Mosul. The purpose of the visit was to observe the impact of the recent flood prevention works executed by UN-Habitat in close partnership with the Ninewa Sewage Directorate, who provided all the pipes and manholes. Dr Erfan was also invited to visit the home of a neighbour who had just demolished a 1,5-meter-tall protection barrier in concrete blocks that he had built years ago at the entrance of his home to protect it from the flash flood that frequently affected this area. The intervention was funded by the European Union, through its Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis, while the works were designed and supervised by the team that is working in the Matahin area under the Local Area Development Programme funded by the European Union "Supporting Recovery and Stability through Local Development in Iraq".



## The rehabilitation of Baiji Park kicks off in Baiji

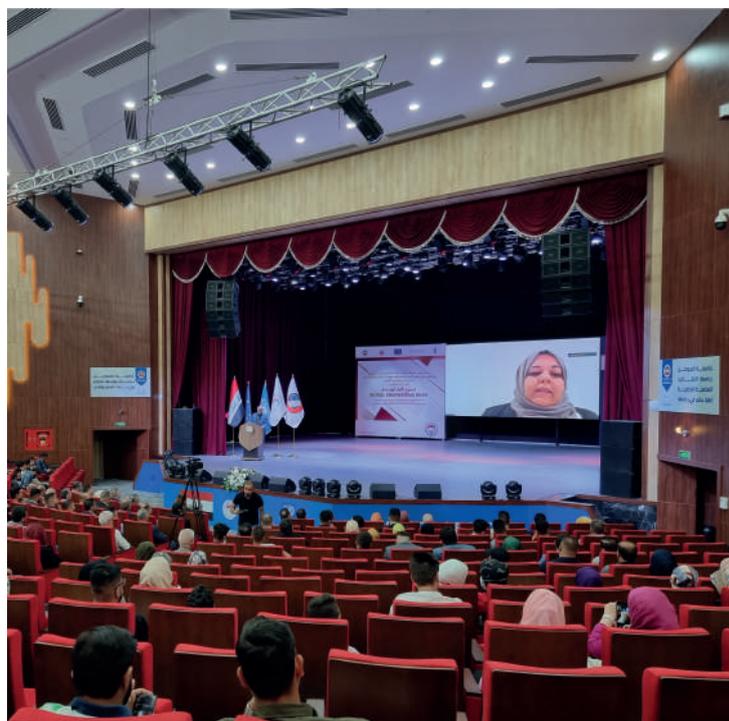
On 17th May, Dr. Erfan Ali, UN-Habitat Regional Representative for Arab States, and Mr. Wael Al Ashhab, Head of UN-Habitat Iraq Programme, visited the ongoing rehabilitation of Baiji Park, a project funded by the European Union in the city of Baiji. The Park was entirely redesigned during participatory sessions with the community to include multi-purpose sports grounds, a cycle route for children, gazebos for families and a large fountain. The new facilities are being realised by Janat Al Frdaws and Sabe'a Sanabul Organization for Relief & Development (SSORD) who have been also entrusted with several complementary activities, such as delivering vocational training, organising a sports festival, tree planting and conducting a cleaning campaign in the neighbourhood of Al Asri. Dr. Erfan and Mr. Wael met with staff of the two NGOs and their female horticulture team, and together planted a tree each as a symbolic gesture of good will and prosperity for the new endeavour.

## Mosul Engineering week 2022 focuses on environment sustainability

Following the successful delivery of the Mosul Engineering Week last year, UN-Habitat Iraq partnered with the Faculty of Engineering of Mosul University for the 2nd year to hold the 2022 edition under the theme "environmental sustainability". The initiative contributed to the #ClimateAction4Cities Campaign calling for urgent action and effective solutions to address climate change challenges.

The week-long event, which took place at the Grand Theatre Hall in Mosul University, included an Exhibition Fair where companies displayed renewable energy solutions and innovative construction materials for a greener construction industry that will ultimately help to increase the climate resilience of cities and communities in Iraq. Lectures on the first day offered an insight into the plastic recycling industry in Mosul city and sustainable cities in the Middle East. In the afternoon, the UNDP/FFS team presented some of their most striking projects that were recently implemented in Ninewa governorate.

UN-Habitat strongly believes in our collective responsibility towards a more sustainable urban future, starting from how we build better our cities and buildings. And there is no better place to exchange ideas and discuss appropriate solutions as in a university. This initiative was funded by the European Union under the programme "Supporting Recovery and Stability in Iraq through Local Development" implemented by UNDP Iraq in partnership with UN-Habitat.



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.



**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE IN IRAQ

May 2022

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [v](#) @unhabitatiraq

[aryan.al-jamoor@un.org](mailto:aryan.al-jamoor@un.org)

[www.unhabitat.org/iraq](http://www.unhabitat.org/iraq)