

UN-Habitat celebrates International Children's Day at Al-Yarmouk Park

UN-Habitat organized multiple open-air activities for children in Al Yarmouk Park in Mosul to mark International Children's Day celebrated on 20th November. Under the watchful eye of our field engineers, 20 boys and girls from the adjacent neighbourhood spent a lively day playing football and enjoying the newly established children playground area as a part of the local area development programme funded by the European Union and implemented in partnership with UNDP.



UN-Habitat completes vocational training of 400 Sinjar residents

UN-Habitat Iraq and its implementing partner have completed vocational training of 400 trainees in Sinjar district, including an on-site placement on a construction site, in coordination with Iraqi contractors. UN-Habitat has also coordinated with UNDP and its contractors for placements on UNDP housing rehabilitation projects. Trainings were conducted on the following topics: First aid, plumbing, blacksmith, masonry, painting, plastering, electricity, carpentry and ceramic works. Training courses for women focussed on home repairs, electricity and painting. Over 120 women have participated and completed the training.



UN-Habitat Iraq signs Contribution Agreement to build resilience against dust storms in the region

Reduced precipitation in the last four decades has caused the progressive desertification of regions across southern Iraq. Desertification is one of the leading causes for increased sand and dust storms in Iraq and Kuwait and demonstrates the adverse effects of climate change on our planet. A Contribution Agreement was signed by Mrs. Maimunah Sharif, UN-Habitat's Executive Director (ED), and Mr. Marwan Abdullah Yusuf Thunayan Al-Ghanem, Director General of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, to initiate a joint project to build resilience against sand and dust storms in Iraq and Kuwait. The project will adopt innovative solutions to build such resilience, particularly through scientific research and technology. The project is also anticipated to stimulate jobs in southern Iraq and boost the local economy in target areas.

UN-Habitat implements intensive COVID-19 awareness campaign reaching 1200 beneficiaries

In partnership with its implementing partner, Peace Winds Japan, UN-Habitat is implementing an intensive COVID-19 awareness campaign in Sinjar targeting more than 1,200 beneficiaries. With funding from the Government of Japan, under the project titled "Emergency Support to Returnees in Iraq after the Outbreak of COVID-19", the campaign is delivering a new set of awareness messages to fight the latest wave of the pandemic and enhancing the visibility of clear preventive measures. Public initiatives include the organization of COVID-19-related events at local schools for children and their parents.



UN-Habitat supplies a Water Sterilization Device to Mosul Water Directorate

With funding from the European Union under the Headway Programme, UN-Habitat has supplied water sterilization equipment to enhance the operational capacities of Mosul Water Directorate. This initiative will be instrumental in improving water quality. The government counterparts expressed their appreciation to the EU and UN-Habitat for their support through this project.



UN-Habitat sources opinions from hundreds of citizens to jointly redesign three public parks

"What do you like to do in parks? Do you feel safe in public open spaces?" These are just two of the many questions that over 250 residents of all ages were invited to respond in a series of lively hands-on citizen's participatory sessions organized for the redesign of three public parks in the cities of Tel Afar and Baiji. The sessions, delivered by UN-Habitat's Implementing Partner EADE, aimed at improving the team's understanding of citizens' needs and expectations in terms of the required facilities, open air activities, accessibility, privacy, designated playground areas and sports. The rounds of Focus Group Discussions were concluded by a final session that brought together the authorities and citizens to present the preliminary design of the Al-Asri Park in Baiji, and Al-Buari Park and Al-Shuhada Ladies Park in northern Tel Afar. The upcoming rehabilitation and landscaping of these public open spaces will represent a major contribution by the European Union to the healing of these conflict-affected neighborhoods through its programme 'Supporting Recovery and Stability in Iraq through Local Development', implemented by UNDP 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.



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