The European Union (EU), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) continue to work together to assist the people of Iraq in their pursuit of recovery and stability.

Together, in early 2019, they launched a programme to help the Government of Iraq to strengthen the efficiency of the country’s institutions and renew the social contract between citizens and the state.

The programme builds upon the momentum created by the flagship Local Area Development Programme (LADP II), that concluded in mid 2018 after providing strategic planning and capacity building support to twelve governorates across Iraq.

The programme has the overall objective of contributing to the stability and socio-economic development of Iraq by enhancing democratic governance at the local level. The efforts of UNDP and UN-Habitat are directed towards:

- Improving the ability of selected governorates to effectively and transparently manage local government and public services
- Increasing economic growth and creating jobs, with a focus on green projects involving youth and women
- Enhancing the living conditions of returnees and in conflict affected areas
Key activities tackling pressing local development needs encompass:

**Implementations of local priority actions**, derived from the Provincial Development Plans and the Sustainable Energy Action Plans developed under the LADP II, that address the top priorities of each governorate and pilot ways to translate policy into practice.

**Supporting decentralization of powers** from central to local authorities, including through the development of institutional capacities, the optimization of revenue generation systems, peer-to-peer partnerships with EU local authorities, and the empowerment of civil society to advocate for local development causes.

**Rehabilitation of housing, schools, and public spaces**, repairs to secondary infrastructure in post-conflict areas, in addition to job creation, skill enhancement, and vocational training.

**Mobilization of additional resources** and improvement of donor coordination.

**WHERE**

9 governorates in Iraq

**FUNDING**

€47.5 million
Provided by the European Union

**DURATION**

4 years

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