



EUROPEAN UNION



The EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis

الصندوق الاستئماني الأوروبي 'مدد'

Project Factsheet

Restoring the Water Supply for Food Production and Livelihoods in post conflict areas

OBJECTIVE

- Contribute to reducing chronic, transitory or acute food insecurity, malnutrition, poverty, and associated risks and vulnerabilities in the agriculture sector, by increasing the resilience of farmers' livelihoods in crisis-affected liberated areas through the rehabilitation of damaged irrigation infrastructure and restoring the water supply after 4 years without water or livelihoods.

BUDGET

EUR 6 million

START DATE

01/05/2018

DURATION

36 months

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Rehabilitate water and agriculture infrastructure and assets in targeted areas.
- Improve income levels of returnees, remainees and the local community.
- Increase employment opportunities.
- Strengthen livelihoods of farmers through labour intensive vegetable growing schemes that include women's participation.

BENEFICIARIES

210,000

internally displaced people (IDPs), host communities, refugees and returnees in Iraq

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

PROJECT LOCATIONS



Iraq

Ninewa
governorate

IMPACT



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Fayyad lives in Rabia Nineveh, Iraq, with his wife and ten children, three girls and seven boys. His job, in the context of FAO's "Cash for Work" activities, is to clear rubble, grass and other vegetation that has been piling up in a canal during the period Daesh was occupying the region, obstructing the free flow of water.

"This project is vital and goes beyond agriculture fields," explains Fayyad. If there is no water flowing through the fields, local populations are not able to plant vegetables and provide sustenance to their families. *"My motivation to work within this project,"* says Fayyad, *"is to see agriculture develop again, have water running and green fields, and jobs available again because the unemployment rate has been high since Daesh came to the region."*

Water is really hard to access in this region and removing impediments from canals where water should be flowing is hard work, especially when lacking modern equipment to support this endeavor.

Like Fayyad, Fares works on freeing the canal from obstacles. *"After Daesh came in, the everything was destroyed,"* he says. *"This project is vital to revive the whole region."* In fact, more than 70 villages will directly benefit from FAO's work here.

When speaking about Daesh, Fares explains: *"I can't even describe the negative effects it had on the region... they destroyed homes, families, killed people. They did unspeakable things, they ruined everything, destroyed everything: homes, infrastructure, projects... I cannot even put into words what they have caused."*

Talahao Pumping Station is part of a big irrigation system comprising about 70,000 hectares in Northern Nineveh, Iraq, an area that was occupied by Daesh in 2014 and that serves about 35,000 farming families. *"During that time, they pilfered most of the metals, the aluminium and the copper that was in the pumping station,"* explains Paul Schlunke, FAO's Head of Office in Erbil. *"Farming families rely on irrigation water for their cropping seasons."* Water flow is of fundamental importance for the community's agricultural season, the products of which constitute the base of these families' livelihoods.