



Iraq: Ninewa Return Program (NRP)

Shelter, Livelihoods, Social Cohesion and Education for Communities and Returnees in the Ninewa Plains

Our Engagement in the Ninewa Plains



Reconstruction	Help displaced people from the Ninewa Plains return to their homes.
Livelihoods	Provide small/medium-sized enterprises with resources to resume operations or start new ones. Help young people develop skills that will help them earn an income.
Education	Ensure children of the Ninewa Plains can attend kindergarten and school again.
Social Cohesion	Foster peace within ethno-religious communities in the region

Background

Malteser International has been working in Iraq since 2004, mainly providing health-related emergency relief and launched the Ninewa Return Program in October 2018, focusing on the return of internally displaced people (IDPs) to the Ninewa Plains. The Ninewa plains are located in north-western Iraq and are home to diverse ethno-religious groups including several Christian, Yazidi, Sunni, Shia, Shabak, Kakae, Turkmen, Arab and Kurdish communities. After the Islamic State (IS) entered Mosul in June 2014, they proceeded to bring large swaths of the Ninewa Plains under their control for several years. Many people were forced to leave their homes; a large number of villages was partially or completely destroyed. Since the liberation of the region in 2017, needs have evolved beyond immediate emergency aid to displaced people in camps, there is a growing focus on transitional aid in the form of assistance for families returning to their homes.



Our Approach

Our program employs a unique, integrated and multi-sectoral approach in order to support the return of families in the most effective way. The four pillars of the program are: providing sustainable and dignified shelter through the reconstruction of war damaged houses, enhancing livelihoods and boosting economic development through cash grants and business development support, increasing access to quality education for returning children via school rehabilitation and teacher training, and promoting social cohesion and peacebuilding through inter-religious dialogue and community integration activities.

Spotlight on Successes in 2020

Homes repaired or constructed	12,611
Participants trained in business, construction, and agricultural techniques	1,886
Youth and adults reached with socio-cultural activities to foster social cohesion	41,186
School-aged children enrolled in schools supported by the program	5,262

Partners	Aid to Church in Need (CAN), Local Reconstruction Committees of the Syriac-Catholic, Syriac-Orthodox and Chaldean Church, CAPNI, CNSF, PFO, PIN, MH, SP, UPP, WRO
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