

# Iraq Waterkeeper Environmental Law and Advocacy Project



No. 5

Summer 2015

## The Second Capacity Building Training for the NGOs to Manage Awareness Raising Campaign



Nature Iraq in cooperation with Water Right Foundation (WRF) in EU Project ran a six-days workshop for some environmental NGOs in Kurdistan. These NGOs were divided into two groups. From 17th to 19th of May 2015, 35 participants from selected NGOs of (Sulaimani, Halabja, Kalar, Khanaqin, Rania, and Chamchamal) were participated.

The first and second days were theoretical training on how to create a campaign in a modern way. The training was given by two Italian trainers from WRF that were of great assistance for the participants. On the third day, the participants were supported and trained to have a practical activity which was to create a campaign for decreasing the harmful

materials to the environment such as (plastics and plastic bags). The activity was to go to one of the shopping malls in Sulaimani city so that people get the message of the campaign better and clearer. From 22th to 24th of May 2015, the second group were 32 participants from the cities (Hawler, Dihok, Zakho, Soran, Sedakan). Similar to the first

group, for the second group, the first and second days were theoretical training on creating a campaign. The third day, similar activity was undertaken. Yet this time the activity was a walk to the city center and the public places to draw peoples' attention so that a greater number of them get to know the message along with greater environmental awareness.

## The Decision for Forbidding Car Washing in the Picnic Site (Tabin-Kani Shok)



Another activity of EU Project is to forbid car washing in the rivers and streams of the picnic and resort sites. The purpose is to keep water of these streams and rivers clean. On 2nd of April 2015, Nature Iraq in cooperation with Water Right Foundation had conducted a joint meeting along with a number of environmental NGOs, and relevant stakeholders. During the meeting, the participants agreed to reduce the car wash phenomenon in the area. On May 27th 2015, in cooperation with the presidency of Sulaimani Municipality as well as Dukan Mayor, Surdash Subdistrict Director and with the participation of some environmental organizations. Furthermore, with the financial support of Kurd Oil Company and EU, a decision was made to forbid car washing in (Tabin-Kani Shok) picnic resort. It is worth mentioning. Now, people can easily visit that place and spend a fun time there where they couldn't go before because of the car wash.





## Giving Seminar:

Another activity of Nature Iraq in EU Project was to give a seminar on June 15 2015 in Ranya City. The seminar was directed by Shilan Aziz, a lawyer and the project manager in Nature Iraq. A great number of people from governmental employees, environmental organizations and people from the city participated in this seminar. The emphasis of the topic was on keeping water and kurdistan environment clean. Furthermore, the seminar highlighted the importance of using law in everyday environmental activity and water keeping.

## Below are the main activities regarding the water resources

### A- Implications of Water Department:

Main activities include the monthly Measuring the Discharge of the Inland Rivers and Recording Staff Gauges Readings which are situated on these rivers and then preparing the seasonal report activities of each 3 months

the in charge responsible of the implications of water department is Mr. Kamil M. Mustafa

### B- Watersheds Managements Department:

1- Main activities include the monthly Measuring the Discharge of Giant Transboundary Rivers and

Recording Staff Gauges Readings which are situated on these rivers and then preparing the annual report activities of each hydrologic season  
2- Water Budget and Water Balance Studies implementations  
3- Water Quality testes and long term observation of the transboundary rivers regarding the quality of the water

4- Seasonal observation of the ponds and reservoirs and small dams which are related to the directorate of Sulaymaniyah

the in charge responsible of the Watersheds Managements Department is Ari Ismail Amin.





# Climate change, global warming and water crises caused by humans. It's time to take action!

How many shopping malls? Many of them... many cars? Plenty! These days I see some... and cars I never thought Sulaimany streets... ever see. Our roads are built for horse and... these days Sulaimany has become like a big... garage, chaos I could say! People choose... without even thinking about the environment... our planet! Do we really tell our kids what... going on? Do we really think ourselves w... on? Do we really tell our next generation... in the age of the plastic century? Our blue... not very happy with the way we are treating... make, we buy, we distort without thinking... mother nature! Are we busy thinking about... really going on? Climate change is human... caused by humans. It's not natural but man... is time to wake up and see, it is time to take... is time to remember how we started this life... our next generation the age of everything... make this planet safe for our kids when we... eco systems are changing and natural disas... alarmingly clear. We have droughts in man... this planet, nearly one million people are s... gain access to clean water in this world. W... Iraq & Art+ collaborated and took action o... New Year and World Water Day. This art... small action to raise awareness about clima... and global warming! Every individual can... small action by spreading the news and be... that our beautiful planet needs our help. We are not going to stop from raising aware... we are hoping to be in every street, road, s... government offices and by the river and la... well.

Waterkeepers



## Closing down Oil Refinery

On June 14th 2015, Nature Iraq organization has been invited by Sulaimani Governor, to attend a meeting in Sulaimaniya Governorate Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to close down or investigate those oil refineries

that operate illegally in Tanjero area. Nature Iraq is the only environmental organization that participated because of its works on environmental law and advocacy project in KRG. The governor of Sulaimani, his deputy, the council members

and environmental staff participated in the meeting. The governor later decided to form a committee to monitor oil refineries in cooperation with (Uni Recycling Company) that is a Romanian - German Company. The company provided the refineries with a standard method so that they can protect the environment, and avoid any emission or release

of waste into environment. The final decision was closing down all those refineries until it was made sure that they are complying with the environmental laws and conditions and they are not a reason for polluting Sulaimani environment and its surrounding. The law and advocacy team are planning to follow up with these important issues.





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## Earth day + Environment Day

Waterkeepers Iraq and Kurdistan Botanical Foundation collaborated together to organise an event for Earth day on 24/042015/ at the American University of Iraq-Sulaimani and Sulaimani University as well.

Waterkeepers Iraq showed the latest activities, presentations, videos and spoke about NI and WI goals for the future. It was a very positive response from the teachers and the students, and Q&A finished the event.



## Waterkeepers Iraq attending 2015 WATERKEEPER ANNUAL CONFERENCE



The Waterkeeper Annual Conference has been the cornerstone of the Waterkeeper Alliance movement. The conference educates, inspires, and energizes individual Waterkeeper organizations and strengthens their fight for clean water. As the Waterkeeper movement increases its global presence, the annual conference becomes increasingly important as a way to keep Waterkeeper organizations connected, to maintain the

unique Waterkeeper identity, and to increase the effectiveness of the individual organizations. Waterkeepers Iraq participate in this conference by attending the event and showing videos, water quality sampling data from their Flotilla project and presentations. Nearly 300 Waterkeepers, water experts and stakeholders convene each year to share information and insights from their global network, learn cutting-edge advocacy strategies, and be reinvigorated

to continue their work protecting their watersheds and leading the fight for clean water, to promote the sharing of forward-looking strategies and the development of new tools to address threats to their communities and waterways. The annual conference brings together renowned experts to share their knowledge in workshops, strategy sessions and roundtable discussions, and to share their vision for a more sustainable world in plenary speeches.



The conference features more than 30 panels over its three days covering topics such as environmental law and economics, media and communications, organizational development, fundraising and water quality monitoring.