Iraq Waterkeeper Environmental Law and Advocacy Project

This Project is Funded by European Union | Water Right Foundation Partnership | Implemented by NI

The First Phase of Water Purification Project of Saraw Truism Area-Sarai Subhan Agha

Advocacy project under Nature Iraq organization on 15 Aug 2016, where they campaigned to clean the water sources in the district of Said Sadiq in particular the truism area of Saraw (Sarai Subhan Agha) with collaboration of Sulaimani Environment Directorate, WaterKeeprs Iraq, Municipality of Said Sadiq and a group of young volunteers, as a first stage could clean up most of the water from the remaining dirt and garbage by boats, other cleaning tools, crane and using garbage's trucks to transfer the collected garbage, on the same day as the project duty to defense on headwater project we have distributed a number of brochures as to how preserve and keep up the water sources in a clean manner on those citizens who were in the tourist area.

Demand and preserve the headwaters of the water project is in constant attempts as how to maintain the cleanliness of the water sources in the region because in the case of dirty water shall have a direct impact on agriculture sector and influences to the local Products, besides the fact that with dirty water from a physical standpoint, have an impact on fish and aquatic life and have a direct threat to the life and health of citizens in general in the region. The project also cares about the tourist areas that Kurdistan is rich in tourist areas, where there are spectacular attractions which have economic importance both to the Governments of Iraq and the KRG with other related parties to pay attention to this sector and develop long term strategy and in particular after the construction of numbers of dams by the Iranian and Turkish Governments in the bordering area with Iraq, which could potentially dry out a large number of rivers in the province in the future and which consequently lead damage and great losses to the tourist areas because these areas are located near the valleys and rivers.

Excesses of Houses Drinking Water and Law Sanction Violators

In accordance to decision No.504 on 21 August 2005 Kurdistan Region-Iraq, Presidency of the Council of Ministers

List of Fines are shown below:

Type of Violation	Fine (IQD)
Fixing Water pump direct to the main water source first time.	30,000
Fixing Water pump direct to the main water source second time.	60,000
Fixing Water pump direct to the main water source third time.	Water Cutting for six months period and confiscating the water pump by the state stores
Connect and the involvement of illegal water by water pipe 1/2“.	50,000
Connect and the involvement of illegal water by water pipe 3/4“.	75,000
Using drinking water in washing cars and streets.	7, 500
Not installing water valves at roof tanks.	7, 500
Broken main pipe.	As the cost of repairs

Roof of a house in Sulaimani
Wasting water due to non-interest of Tank float Valve!

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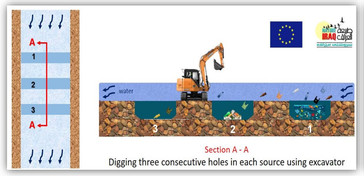
Nature Iraq's joint meeting in Kido Hall - Sulaymaniyah

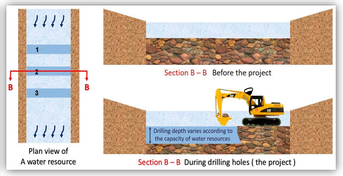
On 23rd of August 2016, Advocacy Project's members of Nature Iraq held a joint meeting in Kurdistan's economy growth organization's hall (Kido hall) in Sulaymaniah in conjunction with Green Kurdistan Organization with attendance of Regional Government's and organizations' experts and specialists on the subjects. The context of the meeting was presented by Professor Hussam, manager of Kido Organization, then he talked about some important environmental problems including water and air pollution and presented possible solutions. Afterwards Mrs.Shilan Aziz , lawyer and manager of Advocacy Project in Nature Iraq, talked about legislation NO.1 of 2015 concerning hunting and protection of wild animals as well as some flaws in the aforementioned legislation with participants sharing their opinions and notes on the matter. This is the second meeting held by Nature Iraq to improve this legislation and we as Nature Iraq work on collecting notes and advices from experts to direct them at authorities and people in charge to improve the legislation.

Advocacy project continuously encourages authorities to consult experts, specialist and environmental organization before making a law or legislation so we can improve Kurdistan's environment especially in legal measures.

Protecting Kurdistan Water sources

On 27th of July 2016 advocacy project in conjunction with Green Kurdistan Association went to QalatDizah and Ranya to investigate pollution of some water sources in those areas because of wastes and sewerage water that flows into rivers , because of the fertility of soil in those areas clean water is needed for irrigation. Nature Iraq made a well-thought plan, funded by European Union and will be executed and supervised by advocacy project, which aims to trap the wastes (as seen in the figures below) by digging 3 consecutive holes in some water sources , as such we have met with government authorities on the same day to take legal precautions.





Illegal Well drilling penalty in Kurdistan region

Drilling a well without warrant and permission using equipment and machines from authorized companies will result in a fine of 1 million Iraqi Dinar and their equipment will be seized and held in Underground Water Directorate garage for 6 months and their license suspended until the aforementioned period if it's their first time, but the fine and suspension periods will double afterwards in accordance to section NO.14 clause NO.1 and 2 of legislation NO.1 - 2014 Well Drilling legislation in Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

Life Cycle of Oriental Hornet

Engineer: Dler Rauf - Volunteer

Oriental hornet ,also called Vespa orientalis, is a species of hornet that can be found in Southwest Asia, Northeast Africa and parts of Southern Europe. It is harmful to farmers as they feed on fruits such as grapes, peach, fig, pear, bark of trees and honey along with bees.
Their stings are painful and sometimes cause death either to humans or animals. In order to decrease their numbers we should learn their life cycle which is summarized below:
Oriental hornets live in seasonal colonies which are formed every year in the spring by a single queen who mated during the previous fall.

The queen searches for an appropriate place to build a colony such as the inside of hollow trees, she starts by building a series of cells for hatching. After 29 days they hatch and workers (daughters) emerge, the workers as their name suggest work to increase the number of cells, provide food and all the colony needs except reproduction. During the fall, the queen lays her eggs, some of them will hatch after 39 days and develop into drones (sons) and others hatch after 43 days and develop into new queens.

After mating, the drones die off, followed by workers while the fertilized queens seek hideouts in which to hibernate for the winter, therefore any hornets seen in the spring is a queen which will form a colony that will grow throughout the spring and summer months until the population and activity of the colony peaks in the late summer and early fall.
In order to decrease the number of these hornet we need to get rid of their queen before she builds her colony, thus eliminating future queens and colonies. Similarly, foxes in the fall help to decrease their numbers by eating hornets' eggs which would have developed into droids and queens. Another way is using insecticide.

Who are Volunteers?

People who aren't paid, but offer their time and their help to do something, usually for a charity. These are 'Volunteers'.

Why Volunteer?

Volunteering offers vital help to people in need, worthwhile causes, and the community, but the benefits can be even greater for you, the volunteer. Volunteering and helping others can help you reduce stress, combat depression, keep you mentally stimulated, and provide a sense of purpose. While it's true that the more you volunteer, the more benefits you'll experience, volunteering doesn't have to involve a long-term commitment or take a huge amount of time out of your busy day. Giving in even simple ways can help others those in need and improve your health and happiness.

Benefits of Volunteering?

Volunteering connects you to others:
* Volunteering helps you make new friends and contacts.
* Volunteering increases your social and relationship skills.

It is good for your mind and body:
* Volunteering helps counteract the effects of stress, anger, and anxiety.
* Volunteering combats depression.
* Volunteering makes you happy.
* Volunteering increases self-confidence.
* Volunteering provides a sense of purpose.
* Volunteering helps you stay physically healthy.

Volunteering can advance your career:
* Volunteering can provide career experience.
* Volunteering can teach you valuable job skills.

It brings fun and fulfillment to your life:
* Consider your goals and interests when volunteering.

What is LandForm ?

Landforms on earth are features of the surface of the planet making up the terrain of the landscape. The physical characteristics of landforms include their features that make them unique, such as cliffs on a mountain. The landforms that exist on earth have evolved over millions of years and have been affected by erosion, rain, wind, ice ages, natural disasters, and even extinction events such as those caused by meteorites colliding with the earth. Landforms contribute to weather, climate, and the earth's ecosystem.

What are different types of landforms?

Landforms come in different shapes and sizes. Common landforms are mountains, hills, valleys, canyons, volcanoes, plains and even underwater features such as mid-ocean ridges and basins. You can use certain characteristics to identify each type.

Interesting Landform Facts:

The landforms that exist today were not the same as they were millions of years ago.
Factors contributing to the formation of landforms include volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis, tectonic plate shifts, and various weather phenomena.
It can take as little as a few years or several million years to create a landform under the right conditions. An earthquake or volcano can change the landscape and result in new or disappearing landforms in very short periods of time.

Mountains are the highest landforms on earth. take millions of years to form. The Himalayan Mountain Range is home to the world's tallest mountains and many are still growing even taller each year as the tectonic plates push them upwards.
Landforms can provide protection from the weather. Mountains slow down the winds like walls, and gather water to be released to lower levels of land via streams and rivers.
There are three types of mountains: volcanic, fold, and block. Each type is a landform created by different factors.
Volcanoes create new land forms, sometimes underwater as they build up over time. They also release important nutrients to the world that help maintain a stable atmosphere.
Hills are a type of landform that tend to be covered in grass and are usually within a warmer climate than that on mountain tops, which are often covered in snow and ice at their peaks.
Valleys are a type of land form created by glaciers moving across the land, or by water eroding the rock and soil. A valley may be U-shaped or V-shaped. The shape is determined by how it is formed and the speed it is formed.
Canyons are a landform and a type of very narrow valley.
Plains are a type of landform that are made up of flat pieces of land, and when rivers run alongside them the land is usually good for growing crops and supporting life. The flat land makes plains perfect for building houses and other buildings to create cities.
Islands are landforms that have water on all sides.
Other types of landforms include **peninsulas** (water on three sides), **isthmus** (narrow strip of land that connects two larger landforms), and **deserts** (dry, sandy landforms that can be very hot during the day and very cold at night).
Acquired from different references.