

**Republic of Iraq**

Presidency of council of Ministers  
National Investment Commission



# INVESTMENT MAP OF IRAQ

## 2022



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## Introduction

Investment enjoys a great deal of importance by the Federal Government, the National Investment Commission (NIC) and the Provinces Investment Commissions. They all support investment due to its fundamental role in economic development in a time when economic resources began to relatively decrease. Organizing various types of investments in the national economy is the way for more efficient results compared to leaving investments to personal decisions without planning. Investment programs, governmental or direct investment, is one of the economic policies that enhance economic growth and achieve the country's main goals in building balanced economic development.

More over, relation between investment and economic growth is one of the planning factors through which economic trends can be known and focus on main sectors which lead growth in the right direction. Planning can bring back investment according to growth rates to achieve the goals that are important for the future strategies. Investment is the trigger for the new productive energy going side by side with the already existing ones. More investment means more ability for societies to use the unused economic resources represented in technical skills, implementing modern production methods, enhance the types of products, and less cost to compete with local and international markets. In spite of current circumstances, the National Investment Commission and the Provinces Investment commission stepped forward since its foundation through Law no. 13 for 2006 (amended) to improve development in the country and open up to the outside world. NIC promoted its activities as a new foundation and tried to attract local and international investment in addition to making structural changes in the Iraqi Economy which resulted in establishing a data base for investors' guide.

NIC was the first to support private sector through workshops, seminars and local and international conferences aiming at supporting private sectors and promote international partnership with international companies and Chambers of Commerce. Also, NIC paid attention to the reasons behind the delays in investment projects by being active in amending several laws linked directly or indirectly with investments to enhance investment opportunities as we believe that governmental investment budgets will not be able to improve economy without a clear strategy to attract foreign investment to our country. Based on investment projects, NIC signed contracts that require cooperation by all governmental agencies for successful projects. Being professional in dealing with different agencies is the main reason to encourage well-known investors to enter the Iraqi market depending on NIC's One Stop Shop Dept. which provides services to all investors in addition to issuing visa to investors and staff working in Iraq. Businessmen and investment companies focus on NIC for its transparency and quick response to meet their requirements.

The Iraqi economy witnessed important changes in the path of openness and freedom and the adoption of the forces of supply and demand as basic mechanisms in the economic

relations in a way that facilitates the process of integration in the international economic system. This is part of our new economic philosophy which contributed positively to achieving significant growth in many economic indicators, That the Iraqi economy will be among the most developed economies in the world in the coming years.

Iraq has achieved a number of positive economic developments over the past years despite the economic challenges, including the global decline in oil prices, the cost of war on terrorist organizations, law enforcement, reconstruction and returning the displaced people to their cities, the Iraqi government succeeded in developing an efficient policy to control inflation and control government spending and structuring The government banks to keep abreast of developments in the banking business in the world, as well as Iraq completed a set of policies of standby arrangements with the International Monetary Fund and the signing of several international conventions.

It is well known that Iraq has considerable human and material resources to achieve development in Iraq, as well as the availability of many investment opportunities distributed across different sectors with different investment patterns, most notably direct investment or investment partnerships with state-owned public companies.

This diversity in the economy comes from the strategic tracks and policies developed to improve the private sector within the directions of the National Development Plan 2018-2022, including:

- Promoting an economic approach based on a leading role for the private sector in all economic and social activities.
- Raising competitiveness of the private sector and improving its productive and export efficiency
- Increase demand and expand the local market in order to absorb domestic production and allocate part of it for export purposes.
- Creating a stable macroeconomic environment that promotes growth.
- Reform of the tax and customs system to simplify procedures and improve the investment environment.
- Establishment of industrial and investment free zones and economic cities.
- Develop incentives to attract foreign capital.
- Identify and distribute roles between the private sector and the public sector in order to ensure a gradual transition to a market economy.
- Develop an investment policy that makes the infrastructure sector and basic services priorities of its strategic objectives (electricity, water, roads and bridges ...), which supports the effectiveness of private investment and promotes the entry of foreign investment to Iraq.
- Develop a supportive financial policy from specialized banks (industrial, agricultural, real estate) and other governmental financial institutions for the purpose of supporting the principle of competition.



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## Prelude

This document was prepared by the National Investment Commission (NIC) in the Republic of Iraq for the purpose of providing a detailed presentation about the available investment opportunities in Iraq at the level of Provinces and Governmental Ministries.

This document in addition to Investment Guide to Iraq, will help to provide details about investment, investment atmosphere in Iraq and main travelling information. For help or more information, do not hesitate to contact us on:

<b>E-mail:</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:info@investpromo.gov.iq">info@investpromo.gov.iq</a></u></b> <b><u><a href="mailto:info@nici.gov.iq">info@nici.gov.iq</a></u></b>
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Or

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[info@nici.gov.iq](mailto:info@nici.gov.iq)



## Are You Interested in Investing in Iraq?

For general information about investment opportunities in Iraq or about how to get an investment license, please visit the National Investment Commission's website on the internet at the following link:

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For more information or to arrange for a visit to Iraq, please contact the National Investment Commission on one of the following e-mails:

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Department	e-mail
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Economic Department	<a href="mailto:economic@nici.gov.iq">economic@nici.gov.iq</a>
Finance and Administrative Department	<a href="mailto:management@nici.gov.iq">management@nici.gov.iq</a>
Legal Department	<a href="mailto:Legal.dept@nici.gov.iq">Legal.dept@nici.gov.iq</a>
Public Relations, Promotion and Media Department	<a href="mailto:prd@nici.gov.iq">prd@nici.gov.iq</a> <a href="mailto:promotion@nici.gov.iq">promotion@nici.gov.iq</a> <a href="mailto:media@nici.gov.iq">media@nici.gov.iq</a>
Provinces Coordination Section	<a href="mailto:cwp@nici.gov.iq">cwp@nici.gov.iq</a>
Technical Section	<a href="mailto:projects@investpromo.gov.iq">projects@investpromo.gov.iq</a>

Investment Commission of Kurdistan region	<a href="http://www.kurdistaninvestment.org">http://www.kurdistaninvestment.org</a>
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### Websites of Provincial Investment Commissions:

Commission	Website
Baghdad Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.baghdadic.gov.iq">http://www.baghdadic.gov.iq</a>
Diyala Investment Commission	<a href="http://invesdiyala.com">http://invesdiyala.com</a>
Saladin Investment Commission	<a href="http://investsalaaddin.org">http://investsalaaddin.org</a>
Kirkuk Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.investkirkuk.com">http://www.investkirkuk.com</a>
Nineveh Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.mosulinvestment.org">http://www.mosulinvestment.org</a>
Anbar Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.anbarinvest.net">http://www.anbarinvest.net</a>
Wasit Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.wasitic.gov.iq">http://www.wasitic.gov.iq</a>
Holy Karbala Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.krinves.com">http://www.krinves.com</a>
Babylon Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.bic.gob.iq">http://www.bic.gob.iq</a>
Holy Najaf Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.investnajaf.net">http://www.investnajaf.net</a>
Thi-Qar Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.thiqarinvest.gov.iq">http://www.thiqarinvest.gov.iq</a>
Maysan Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.misic.com">http://www.misic.com</a>
Muthanna Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.misic.org">http://www.misic.org</a>
Diwaniya Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.investdiw.gov.iq">http://www.investdiw.gov.iq</a>
Basra Investment Commission	<a href="http://www.investbasrah.com">http://www.investbasrah.com</a>



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## Why Invest in Iraq?

Iraq is characterized by having many factors that would attract capitals and investments, due to the availability of natural resources like oil, gas, lands, and human resources, as well as the large size of the Iraqi market and the geographic position which creates opportunities for production, import, and export. All this represents diversified attracting factors that reflect the diversity of investing opportunities in different economic sectors.

In the light of the change that the economic philosophy of Iraq has witnessed, the goals and the reasons included in the Investment Law (no. 13 for the year 2006, amended) have contributed to attracting foreign investment, due to the privileges and exemptions to these projects on the basis of the following:

1. Adding the developer concept who could be defined as each natural or corporal person obtaining an investment license in cities construction and investment zones or any other sector suggested by the National Investment commission after obtaining the Ministers council approval, and adding the subordinated developer concept who could be defined as each natural or corporal person to whom a part of the investment project (of the suggested sectors) ownership is transferred to be developed.
2. Inserting the phrase of the mixed sector to investment as law was limited to promote private Iraqi and foreign sector only.
3. Establishing industrial investment projects and warehouses for agricultural sector on agricultural lands in and outside the fundamental designs.
4. Encouraging Iraqi and foreign investors through facilitating easy conditioned loans provided that the investor implements 25% of the project, the loans also granted to the housing projects implementers and to the final beneficiary while this privilege was previously restricted to Iraqi investors only.
5. The new amendment allowed owning the state lands allocated for housing projects by Iraqi and foreign investors against estimated fees if the land was within the fundamental design and without fees if it was out of the fundamental design of the cities.
6. Acquiring or leasing lands for Iraqi investors in order to establish land and industrial investment projects with a lease term up to 50 years that can be renewed (depending on the project's size and type) in addition to allowing partnership with foreign investor.
7. Investing in the halted strategic and federal projects in all sectors for the purpose of completion and rehabilitation.
8. The new amendment obliged the Ministries, independent entities and provincial municipalities to provide the estates / lands suitable for establishing investment projects and in case of not committing to this provision, the Ministers council shall have the right to transfer the estate/land ownership to the National investment Commission without any fees and the Commission in its turn shall have to allocate the estates/ lands for investment projects.



9. Entering and taking out the capital allocated to the project as well as its profits and revenues in accordance with the provisions of the aforementioned law and Iraqi Central Bank regulations.
10. Circulating shares and bonds in Iraqi Stock Market and acquiring membership in joint-stock companies.
11. Creating investment portfolios in shares and bonds.
12. Insuring projects with any Iraqi or foreign insurance company.
13. Opening accounts in Iraqi or foreign currency or both in any bank inside or outside Iraq.
14. Employing and hiring foreign labor in projects alongside local labor.
15. Providing foreign investors and workers the right of residency in Iraq and facilitating the process of entering and leaving the country for them.
16. Open a branch of the foreign company in Iraq.
17. Register patented for his investment project.
18. The new amendment granted exemptions from taxes and fees for licensed investment projects for (10) years starting from the date of operation for each phase of the project phases not to include customs exceptions, while it allowed tax and customs exemptions for the imported assets providing being imported within the construction phases before commencing commercial operation for each phase and according to the fundamental design of the project and the implementation timetable as the law previously exempted the imported assets for three years starting for the date of obtaining the investment license. This was considered an obstacle to investors but it was treated in the new amendment.  
The new amendment also exempted housing investment projects from land screening fees, estate registration fees including the fees of transferring housing units' ownership to people.

The new amendment included taxes and customs exemptions granted for environment friendly preliminary materials imported for the purpose of the commercial operation of the national nutrition basket materials, medicines and construction materials and according to the percentage of the local materials contribution in manufacturing which represent support to local productions.

- 1- The new amendment exempted estates/ lands allocated for investment projects from the provisions of the laws and decisions below for their role in hindering investment:
  - a- The law of selling and leasing state owned possessions No. (21) for the year 2013
  - b- The law of Agricultural reclaimed lands No. (35) for the year 1983, the law of Reorganizing agricultural ownership No. (42) for the year 1987 and the law of renting reclaimed agricultural lands No. (79) for the year 1985
  - c- The law of Industrial investment No. (20) for the year 1998 regarding investors keeping allocated land for himself accordingly.
  - d- Provision (second) of the decision No. 850 for the year 1979 as amended by the decision No. 940 for the year 1987



- e- Decisions of the dissolved Council of the Revolution Leadership No. 581 for the year 1981, 1187 for the year 1982, 222 for the year 1977 and 165 for the year 1994.
- 19. Granting hotels, tourism institutions, hospitals, health institutions, rehabilitation centers, and educational and scientific institutions additional exemptions from the duties paid on furniture and the material needed for modernization and renewal purposes at least once every four years.
- 20. Covering strategic partnerships with public sector projects in rehabilitating, operating or establishing in cooperation with private sector by the advantages of the Investment Law.
- 21. Provide investors with a badge after granting the investment license to enjoy privileges accordingly.

### Concept and Importance of Investment Environment

The importance of the investment environment is noticeable in attracting local and foreign investments because it includes fundamental aspects to successful investments and appropriate to investors activity in present and future time. Investment environment includes all policies, indicators and tools that affect directly and indirectly decisions regarding economic policies (financial, monetary and trade) in addition to (legal regulations and infrastructure). It's also related to other factors such as basic facilities, laws and regulations, political and security situation in addition to real investment opportunities, incentives and various markets for production.

We can identify investment environment as (a comprehensive concept focusing on negative and positive circumstances in making investment opportunities successful ones and affect investment mobility. It includes social, economic, political and legal situation, and governmental supporting agencies).

### UNCTAD defined the investment climate on two dimensions:

**The first dimension:** includes various basic factors affecting the investment decision, including the level of political, economic and social stability, laws related to foreign investments, applicable standards for dealing with foreign investors, work policies, the nature of the market and its mechanisms, international agreements on foreign direct investment, privatization programs, trade policies and tax systems.

**The second dimension:** relates to the state's reputation, quality of life, the level of investment support and promotion through the provision of financial incentives such as tax and customs exemptions, financial incentives such as granting loans with low interest rates, and subsidies provided to the investor.

While the World Bank went to a more accurate and comprehensive definition of the concept of the investment climate; it defined it as a set of specific factors in a particular location that shape investment opportunities, incentives and motives for companies to invest productively, generate job opportunities, and expand the scope of their business.

Some defined the investment climate as the political, institutional and regulatory environment in which companies operate. While others see that the appropriate



investment climate is limited to a set of specific conditions that are subdivided into the basic conditions for attracting investment, As follows:

**Basic conditions for attracting investment:** they are the indispensable conditions for attracting foreign investment and encouraging domestic investment. These conditions are represented by political and economic stability; If profits are high in a certain investment environment, but it lacks a stable political and economic climate, this makes this environment repulsive to investment. This is because the investor will invest in an environment devoid of the possibility of predicting profits or their stability, which means that this environment is dominated by uncertainty, and thus exposes human, physical and financial capital to risk.

**Other conditions to attract investment:** After the basic conditions are met, additional ones must be guaranteed to create an appropriate investment climate and an encouraging and attractive environment for investment. These conditions include (market size and growth rate, availability of skilled and qualified human resources, a developed base for means of communication, and an effective institutional environment).

#### **Investment climate components:**

The investment climate consists of a set of factors that determine the appropriateness of the economic, investment and legislative environment, the degree of its attractiveness to attract and localize investment, and the achievement of increasing rates of commercial exchanges in open markets, which in turn raise the rate of economic growth and push it towards development sustainability that leads societies to prosperity and a higher standard of living. The investment climate, which can be divided into economic components and non-economic components, as follows:

#### **Economic components of the investment climate**

It includes a set of elements indicative of the level of performance of the national economy, the most important of which are:

**Economic policy:** It is viewed through three sub-policies: **fiscal policy**, **monetary policy** and **foreign trade policy**.

The state's fiscal policy is considered one of the most important economic tools, because of its effects on economic variables, as it affects the actual demand and consequently the levels of activity and operation and the general level of prices and others. One of the results of this policy is the occurrence of an equilibrium, a deficit, or a surplus in the public budget. However, what is undesirable regarding the investment climate is an excessive deficit that leads to a significant rise in the rate of inflation or a sharp deflation and economic depression. The more fiscal policy maintains a stable rate of the state's general budget deficit, in a manner that does not lead to mass inflation or a downward stagnation, and this is attractive to investment so that the deficit is not an obstacle to investment growth.



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As for the monetary policy, it refers to the planned change in the money supply in order to influence aggregate demand in the desired direction, it can be expansionary or deflationary, and with regard to the investment climate, monetary policy should control both the exchange rate and the inflation rate. Sudden fluctuations in exchange prices has a negative impact on the investment climate, and such fluctuations make it difficult to study the feasibility of projects and expose the investor to a large unexpected loss, as well as inflation rates a direct impact on pricing policies and the size of profits, and thus the movement of capital. It also affects the production costs that investment companies are interested in. Therefore, the more expansionary monetary policy is, the more attractive it is to investment and vice versa, provided that this is done using appropriate monetary tools, and that it is compatible with the change in the volume of economic activity required and is characterized by stability.

As for foreign trade, and its role in improving the investment climate when it stimulates exports and encourages export-oriented investments, and works to remove restrictions that stand in the way of international trade, it is distinguished by a flexible, low and transparent customs tariff, few procedures and easy implementation, far from bureaucratic complications, and the effects of this policy are reflected positively or negatively in the current account of the balance of payments, as the current account achieves a surplus if the foreign trade policy is good and sound and thus brings new investors, or a deficit in the opposite case.

**How open economy is:** The economy direction to deal with the outside world means that there are no restrictions on the movement of trade exchange or production elements, which ensures good economic efficiency in directing them and the absence of imbalances in these markets (the elements of production). The higher the degree of open economy, the better the investment climate is.

#### **Investment climate in Iraq (reality and challenges):**

Iraq enjoys enormous potentials and huge resources, if well exploited and managed, it would upgrade its economy and encourage national investments and attract international investments. These ingredients are embodied in all the necessary factors of production; In terms of the land element, Iraq owns a large area, and its land represents an important geographical area with distinctive characteristics capable of embracing agricultural, industrial, commercial and many other projects. In terms of the raw materials, raw materials produced in Iraq are of high efficiencies if produced according to standard specifications and have the appropriate atmosphere, in addition to Iraq's openness to foreign markets. Regarding work element; the working age group represents the largest proportion of the population of Iraq, so the population of Iraq is called the young population. As for the capital component; providing capital in Iraq is of high



potential, considering the free movement of capital and its production locally. Therefore, if these ingredients were efficiently managed, they would be enough to attract huge investments, and if those investments were directed towards the productive sectors, the backward and forward linkages would have resulted in much better economic growth.

**First:** the internal economic balance: It is the stability of the internal indicators of the economy in its structure, and it includes the gross domestic product, the rate of inflation and interest rates (monetary policy evaluation), the stability of the public budget (financial policy evaluation), and the stock market index in the Iraq Stock Exchange.

**Gross Domestic Product:** The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) indicator is one of the most famous indicators to measure the country's production base and its diversity. By analyzing the structure of GDP in Iraq, it is possible to know the extent of diversification of the Iraqi economy. In this context, focus must be placed on a detailed analysis of economic growth, in order to assess the course of macroeconomic policy and the extent to which it is moving towards the best goal.



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## A Glance at Iraq's Geography

Iraq has a strategic and effective position in the world as it represents a crossroad for the different routes connecting the world continents and a land bridge leading to naval communication routes. Iraq is important on both international and commercial levels. The capital of Iraq is Baghdad. The country consists of eighteen Provinces, three of them, Al-Sulaimanyah, Erbil, and Duhouk, constitute Kurdistan



Region, whereas Basra, Mosul, and Erbil are considered the principal Provinces due to the large areas and large number of population they enjoy. Iraq's main resources are oil, natural gas, sulfur, phosphates, iron, red mercury, kaolin clays, bauxite, limestone, gravel and sand.

Geographically, Iraq can be divided into four main areas: the Western Area, the Southern Area, the Mountain Area, and the Sedimentary Plains Area on the Tigris and Euphrates. The area of the country is about (438,446) km<sup>2</sup>. The population of Iraq is about (38.8) million, 19.6 m male and 19.2m female. Most of them live in urban areas.

Iraq has two main rivers which are Tigris and Euphrates, whose lengths are (1850 km) and (2350 km). Both of these rivers rise in Turkey and meet in Al-Qurna City in Basra Province to form Shatt Al-Arab which in turn flows for another (185 km) before reaching The Arabian Gulf.

Iraq borders Turkey to the north, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Gulf to the south, Iran to the east, Syria and Jordan to the west.



## Land Borders

The total length of Iraqi borders is (3631) km distributed as follows: (1458) km with Iran, (181) km with Jordan, (242) km with Kuwait, (814) km with Saudi Arabia, (605) km with Syria, and (331) km with Turkey. On the other hand, the total length of maritime borders is (58) km\*.

## Lakes

There are many lakes in Iraq, the most prominent of them are:

Dowkan Lake, Al-Habaniya Lake, Al-Razaza Lake, Sawa Lake, Darbendekhan Lake, and Al-Thirthar Lake.



## Dams

Dowkan Dam, Darbendekhan Dam, Al-Habaniya Dam, Al-Faluja Dam, Al-Hindiya Dam, Mosul Dam, Duhouk Dam, Himreen Dam, Al-Kut Dam, Samaraa Dam, Qazanya Dam, Al-Itheim Dam, and Hadeetha Dam



## Rivers

The Tigris, The Euphrates, Diyala River, Al-Zab Al-Kabeer River, Al-Zab Al-Sagheer River, Shatt Al-Arab River, Al-Idhaim River, Al Gharaf river and Al Dejail river.




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### Iraq Geography

Source: Wikipedia, the free Encyclopedia

<http://ar.wikipedia.org>



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[info@nici.gov.iq](mailto:info@nici.gov.iq)

## Surface Classification

Iraq's surface can be classified into four main areas: the Western Plateau, the Mountainous Area, the Sedimentary Plain Area, and the Undulating Area.

### Mountains

Sinjar Mountain, Qaradagh Mountain, Himreen Mountain, Sanam Mountain, Al-Jabal Al-Abyadh, Kara Mountain, Qindeel Mountain, Helgord Mountain, Mateen Mountain, Korek Mountain



### Marshes

Al-Hamar Marsh, Al-Huweiza Marsh, Al-Jibayish Marsh, Al-Qurna Marsh.



### Islands

Alus Island, Jibba Island, Um Al-Khanazeer Island, Um Al-Russas Island, Hijam Island, Um Al-Babi Island, Al-Sindbad Island.



## A Glance at Iraq's Economy

### Oil Sector

- Oil plays a vital role in the development of Iraq's economy as it contributes to GDP about 56% in fixed prices for the year 2018, (according to primary estimation of the five- year plan 2018-2022) and more than 90% of financial revenues.
- Oil sector has achieved a daily production of 4.401 m bpd in 2018 while it was 4.469 m bpd in 2017.
- Gas proven reserves is 132.9f<sup>3</sup> trillion.
- Iraq has large potentials and competitive experience in sulfur-related industries. It also produces significant amounts of nitrogen fertilizers and phosphate.
- The daily average of oil exports for 2018 (3.836) million barrels / day
- The daily average of oil exports for 2017 (3.802) million barrels / day
- fixed oil reserves (146.9) million barrels

**Table (1)**

### Oil Sector Indications

Fixed Oil Reserves 1/1/2018	146.9 Billion barrel
Fixed Gas Reserves 1/1/2018	132.9 trillion cubic feet (TCF)
The daily average of oil production for 2017	4.469 m bpd
The daily average of oil production for 2018	4.401 m bpd
The daily average of oil exports for 2017	(3.802) m bpd
The daily average of oil exports for 2018	(3.836) m bpd
Target crude oil 2019	5.000 thousand barrels
Target crude oil 2020	5.000 thousand barrels

\*source: Iraqi Ministry of Oil/ studies, planning and follow-up Dept. according to its letter no.961 on 9/1/2019

## Capital formation of the public and private sectors

The available data for the year 2015 indicates that private sector participation in capital formation amounted to 34.7% compared to 65.3% for the public sector. In light of the relevant economic trends and policies, the National Development Plan 2022-2018 aims to strengthen the role of the private sector and to create appropriate opportunities to play its real role in the development process, especially in light of the decline of the role of the state and the suspension of many government projects due to the financial crisis and the low size of available financial revenues. The development plan aims at the private sector's contribution in investments to reach in 2022 about 38.3% compared to 61.7% for the public sector as shown in the following table.

**Table (2)**

<b>Public /private sector contribution to the capital formation in fixed prices</b>				
<b>Sector</b>	<b>Standard year 2015</b>		<b>Target year 2022</b>	
	<b>Public sector %</b>	<b>Private sector %</b>	<b>Public sector %</b>	<b>Private sector %</b>
Agriculture	67.6	32.4	60.0	40.0
Oil	100.0	00	95.0	5.0
Mining	66.4	33.6	66.0	34.0
Transformational industry	39.5	60.5	30.0	70.0
Power & water	80.8	19.2	75.0	25.0
Construction & building	43.1	56.9	40.0	60.0
Transportation & telecommunication	9.9	90.1	5.0	95.0
Trade	13.1	86.9	13.0	87.0
Finance & insurance	4.1	95.9	4.0	96.0
Services	81.8	18.2	70.0	30.0
Total	65.3	34.7	61.7	38.3





## GDP

The value of goods and final services produced in a country with a certain period of time. It consists of public and private expenditures, capital structure and changes in exports and imports. GDP is an important indication that reflects the economic stability.

## Economic Growth

The National Development Plan 2022-2018 aims to achieve an appropriate economic growth rate consistent with the rates achieved by the Iraqi economy during the past periods based on the material and human resources it enjoys, especially with the maintenance of oil production and the ability to achieve oil exports guaranteeing the sustainability of financial revenues that can be employed in the productive and other services sectors. The target growth rate has been specified for the years 2018-2022 to be 7%, 7.5% of which for the growth of oil sector and 6.1% growth rate for all other non-oil activities (commodity, distribution and service). Although the conviction is available to the ability of the Iraqi economy to achieve higher growth rates, but taking into consideration the global instability of oil prices on one hand and the terrorist threats and security instability on the other hand and other factors that undermine the development process in the coming years.

## First: Gross domestic production

Below we present the table of GDP growth rates at the fixed prices estimated for the years 2018 - 2022 which were calculated according to the model adopted for the plan.



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Table (3)

The target country's GDP in fixed prices for the years 2018-2022*							
Sector	2015 standard year	Target growth rate (%)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Agriculture	3707.5	8.4	4722.5	5119.2	5549.2	6015.3	6520.6
Oil	100929.2	7.0	125384.0	134787.5	144896.9	155764.2	167446.5
Mining	330.0	1.0	340.0	343.4	346.8	350.3	353.8
Transformational industry	1535.1	10.5	2071.2	2288.7	2529.0	2794.5	3088.5
Power & water	2130.7	6.0	2537.7	2690.0	2851.4	3022.4	3203.8
Construction & building	13768.4	6.8	16772.5	17913.0	19131.1	20432.0	21821.4
Transportation & telecommunication	14313.9	7.0	17535.1	18762.6	20076.0	21481.3	22985.0
Trade	14872.9	8.3	18892.1	20460.2	22158.4	23997.5	25989.3
Finance & insurance	11815.1	2.6	12760.8	13092.6	13433.0	13782.3	14140.6
Services	19777.8	4.5	22569.8	23585.4	24646.7	25755.8	26914.9
Non - oil activities	81402.0	6.1	98201.8	104255.3	110721.6	117631.5	125017.3
Total \$b	182331.2	7.0	223585.8	239042.8	255618.5	273395.7	292463.8
			189.2	202.2	216.3	231.3	247.4

It is clear that the plan aims to increase the gross domestic product and fixed prices to (292.5) trillion dinars in 2022 compared to (182.3) trillion dinars in 2015 and an absolute increase of (110.2) trillion dinars and a growth rate of 7%. The main target sectors are the industry sector 10.5% and the agricultural sector 8.4%. These rates are conditional on the availability of the necessary investments in both public and private sectors.

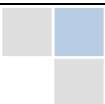


Table (4)

Sectorial structure of the GDP compared to the standard year			
Sector	2015	2018	2022
Agriculture	2.0	2.1	2.2
oil	55.4	56.1	57.3
Mining	0.2	0.2	0.1
Transformational industry	0.8	0.9	1.1
Power & water	1.2	1.1	1.1
Building & construction	7.6	7.5	7.5
Transportation & telecommunication	7.8	7.8	7.9
trade	8.2	8.4	8.9
Finance & insurance	6.4	5.7	4.8
Services	10.7	10.1	9.2
Total	100	100	100

Table (5)

Non- oil activities contribution in GDP 2018-2022 (billion ID)										
	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
Activity	Product	%	Product	%	Product	%	Product	%	Product	%
Goods	26443.9	11.8	28354.3	11.9	30407.5	11.9	32614.5	11.9	34987.6	11.9
Distributive	38056.1	17.0	40924.8	17.1	43980.7	17.2	47270.5	17.3	50812.6	17.4
Services	33960.4	15.2	34976.0	14.6	36333.4	14.2	37746.4	13.8	39217.2	13.4
Gross domestic product	223585.8	44.0	239042.8	43.6	255618.5	43.3	273395.7	34.0	292463.8	42.7


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## Second: Investment and Growth

Required investment in both public and private sector to achieve the target growth rate of 7% with a total amount of (220.6) trillion dinars equivalent to (186.7) billion dollars throughout the years of the plan (2022 - 2018) of the amount of 132 trillion dinars is expected to be provided by the state budget as governmental investment and the rest up to 88.6 trillion dinars reflects the private sector investments in all forms and as shown below:

**Table (6)**

Estimated revenues and investments for 2018-2022 plan	Trillion ID
Total envisaged revenues	440.0
Total required investments	220.6
Estimated investment in the state budget	132.0
Envisaged investment in the private sector	88.6

### - Governmental investment

The expected governmental investment during the years of the plan is about 132 trillion dinars, equivalent to 111.7 billion dollars and constitutes about 60% of the total required investment of 220.6 trillion dinars, as shown in the table above.

### - Non-governmental investment (private)

The plan envisages that the private sector will contribute 88.6 trillion dinars, equivalent to 75 billion dollars during the years of the plan 2022 - 2018. It reflects the private sector investments in Iraq in all its directions and activities, which constitutes 40% of the total investments required to achieve the target growth rate in the plan.

### - Sectoral distribution of required investments

In order to achieve the sectoral targeted growth rates, we list below the estimated investments required annually for each sector of the economy, where it is clear that the oil sector continues to get a high proportion of investments, around 38.4%, a total of about 84.7 trillion dinars for the period 2022 – 2018. This comes in line with the need of this sector for large investments as a capital intensive sector that needs advanced technology as well as to meet the obligations of the international oil companies. The infrastructure sectors (electricity, water, construction, transport and communications) together account for about half the estimated investment up to 49.5% as the need for electricity and water sector was estimated to around 20.2 trillion dinars for the next five years, While the estimated investments required for the construction sector amounted to



about 12.2 trillion dinars during the plan years. The required investments for the transport and communications sector were estimated at 39.6 trillion dinars, which is required to meet the requirements of reconstruction in the affected areas, in addition to the decline in the infrastructure throughout the country with reference that the private sector is the main contributor in this vital sector, where the proportion of its contribution to about 90%. The services sector also needs large investments during the years of the plan estimated at 37.2 trillion dinars and up to 17% of the total investment estimated in the hope of re-activity to this vital sector that touches the daily needs of citizens. The production and commodity sectors (agriculture and manufacturing) accounted for 5.6% of their share, which is low due to weak absorptive capacity, technological backwardness, unfair competition from imported goods and poor implementation of related procedures and decisions.

Table (7)

Size of the estimated investments to achieve the target growth rates in the economic sectors 2018 -2022					Billion ID	
Sector	Target growth % rate	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Agriculture	8.4	1280.8	1388.4	1505.0	1631.5	1768.5
oil	7.5	14579.5	15673.0	16848.5	18112.1	19470.5
Mining	1.0	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.8
Transformational industry	10.5	787.2	869.9	961.2	1062.2	1173.7
Power & water	6.0	3591.1	3806.5	4034.9	4277.0	4533.7
Building & construction	6.8	2135.8	2281.1	2436.2	2601.8	2778.7
Transportation & telecommunication	7.0	6883.0	7362.8	7880.3	8431.9	9022.1
Trade	8.3	14479.9	1568.0	1698.2	1839.1	1991.8
Finance & insurance	2.6	1077.9	1105.9	1134.7	1164.2	1194.5
Services	4.5	6803.3	7109.5	7429.4	7763.7	8113.1
Total	7.0	38592.2	41172.8	43934.2	46889.4	50052.5
		32.6	34.8	37.2	39.7	42.3



Table (8)

Percentage distribution of required investments		%
Sector	Investment (billion ID)	%
Agriculture	7574.2	3.4
oil	8468.7	38.4
Mining	28.6	0.01
Transformational industry	4854.3	2.2
Power & water	20243.3	9.2
Building & construction	12233.6	5.5
Transportation & telecommunication	39582.1	17.9
Trade	8545.1	3.9
Finance & insurance	5677.2	2.6
Services	37219.0	16.9
Total	220640.0	100

### Third: Average per capita

The plan aims at achieving a real GDP growth rate of 7% with a population growth rate of 2.5%. It is expected that the average real per capita will increase by 4.5%. The average per capita GDP and fixed prices for 2007 are about 4.9 million dinars in 2015 and about 5.1% Dinars for 2016, where the average per capita is expected to reach about 6.9 million dinars at the end of the plan in 2022.



Table (9)

Average per capita during the plan year			
Year	Target GDP (billion ID)	Estimated population (thousand)	Average per capita Thousand ID
2018	223585.8	38124.2	5864.7
2019	239042.8	39127.9	6109.3
2020	255618.5	40150.2	6366.6
2021	273395.7	41190.7	6637.3
2022	292463.8	42248.9	6922.4

The plan aims to achieve a significant improvement in the standard of living of citizens by ensuring the suitable employment opportunities in addition to maintaining inflation rates at the minimum levels through the adoption of fiscal and monetary policies to maintain the stability of prices, stability of exchange rates and to maintain as much as possible supporting low-income groups through social security networks and continued support of the ration card.





**Table (10)**

Consumer Prices Index Numbers for the years (2019-2020)

(100 - 2012)

	Main sectors	Weight	Annual rate		Change rate	Contribution Rate
			2019	2020		
1.	Foods and non alcoholic drinks	<b>29.605</b>	<b>97.5</b>	<b>97.0</b>	<b>(0.5)</b>	-31.7
2.	Tobacco	<b>0.615</b>	<b>121.1</b>	<b>121.9</b>	<b>0.7</b>	0.9
3.	Readymade clothes and shoes	<b>6.472</b>	<b>102.2</b>	<b>101.9</b>	<b>(0.3)</b>	-4.2
4.	Lodging, water supply, power supply, gas	<b>25.539</b>	<b>113.9</b>	<b>113.8</b>	<b>(0.1)</b>	-5.4
5.	Domestic equipment and maintenance	<b>6.524</b>	<b>96.7</b>	<b>96.1</b>	<b>(0.6)</b>	-8.4
6.	Medical care	<b>4.124</b>	<b>123.1</b>	<b>131.2</b>	<b>6.6</b>	58.3
7.	Transportation	<b>15.185</b>	<b>97.6</b>	<b>97.5</b>	<b>(0.1)</b>	-3.3
8.	telecommunication	<b>3.109</b>	<b>109.7</b>	<b>109.1</b>	<b>(0.5)</b>	-3.3
9.	Entertainment and recreation	<b>1.998</b>	<b>94.2</b>	<b>95.1</b>	<b>1.0</b>	4.3
10.	Education	<b>0.922</b>	<b>144.0</b>	<b>154.7</b>	<b>7.4</b>	14.6
11.	Restaurants and hotels	<b>1.527</b>	<b>112.1</b>	<b>112.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	0.3
12.	Different goods and services	<b>4.542</b>	<b>106.7</b>	<b>115.2</b>	<b>8.0</b>	77.8
00	General index number	<b>100</b>	<b>104.5</b>	<b>105.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	100.0
	General index number after exclusion	<b>100</b>	<b>105.2</b>	<b>106.2</b>	<b>1.0</b>	

Source: Central Statistics Organization, General Indexes directorate



**Interest Rates:** there are several effects and dimensions for interest rates that extend deeply in macroeconomics; as it widely affects investment especially the productive side of it which contributes to expanding the productive capacity and increasing the resilience of the production system; on one hand it affects the investment costs and on the other has an impact on the capital sufficiency limits.

Interest rate represents the cost of the borrowed capital, the increase in the interest rate leads to higher borrowed capital cost and in the end to low investment; investment is reversely connected with the interest rate as it depends on the real interest average considering it as cost of borrowing, and the trend of the investment mark is minus: raising the interest rate leads to lowering investment levels and vice- versa.

On the other hand, interest rate affects the sufficiency limits of investment as well as the present value of the future income streamline and the market interest rate connects reversely with the present value of the future income streamline, as a result the increase in interest rates leads to (I) lowering the present value and if it is higher than costs means that the investment is profitable before raising the interest rates but in raising market interest rates present value shall become lower than costs and the investment is unprofitable.

Likewise, the market interest rate affects the investment by its effect on the marginal sufficiency of the capital. After calculating the marginal sufficiency of the investment, it is compared with the market interest rate and thus the increase (or decrease) of the market interest rate may make the marginal sufficiency of the investment less (or greater) than the price. Market interest and thus the investment is unprofitable (or profitable). This is because the market interest rate represents the opportunity cost of investing. The higher it is, the higher the opportunity cost. Whereas the higher the marginal sufficiency of the investment, the higher the investment.

**Third: Infrastructure Reality:** infrastructure is defined as the concrete capital invested in public utilities and services, and it is an indispensable economic factor that is critically important for production, trade and investment inside and outside the country, and it can be divided into two types: tangible and intangible infrastructure.

Tangible infrastructure includes quality of roads, irrigation systems, airports and seaports, bridges and so on. While intangible infrastructure includes power supply, telecommunications, technology and others.

In Iraq, all infrastructure had been subject to devastation beside a tremendous lack of finance capacity and the most important part of devastated infrastructure is electricity which represents a decisive factor in investment and production process and a vital nerve in the modern life the matter that leads to giving it special attention by planners and economic policy drawers embodied by the annual enormous financial allocations, for this sector front and back connections with other economic sectors in Iraq and the back connections can be represented by activating the oil sector and products derived out of it and other big industries, while front connections includes activating agriculture, industry in all its branches, trade and other economic sectors.



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## Banking Sector

### Reinforcing and fostering the banking sector and the financial institutions

#### Developing regulation in the banking sector

Iraqi Central Bank has always been keen to have principles of corporate governance established and applied in order to keep pace with the international developments and apply the best practices in the banking sector through inserting structural, legislative and monitoring developments that aim at minimizing possible risks since investors are trending towards dealing with banks that use intact governance structures.

- Governance aims at defining the nature of relationship between the bank board of directors and executive administration in a way that leads to protecting the depositors, stock holders and benefits owners' money in addition to focusing on disclosure and transparency, and out of this principle a corporate governance guide has been published by the CBI based on relevant Iraqi laws and international standards issued by international establishments and institutions like (IFC, OECD, Basil committee for banking monitoring, AAOIFI, IFSB) to help banks reinforce the general frameworks for governance and wise management.

The CBI, in its implementation for the strategic plan and through its keenness to continue abiding by applying the best international practices in the field of banking industry and international standards for financial reports (IFRS), applied the international standards for financial reports in all licensed banks for the purpose of reinforcing the safety of their financial ranking and deepening the concepts of transparency and disclosure in these banks as this standard included abiding all banks to form a committee responsible of applying it that contains a group of members to insure the success of the process of converting from the international accounting standard.

#### Developing and Supporting Islamic Banking Industry

- Islamic banks had imposed a new reality on the international banking market where terms like solidarity, checks and partnership had become common in western banks and they could present a new concept in the banking transactions. And for the purpose of developing and supporting the Islamic banks in Iraq CBI issued the final edition of the executive regulations that regulate the work of the Islamic banks and as follows:

- \* Issuing the regulations of the Islamic funding tools
- \* Issuing the regulations of risks management in Islamic banks
- \* Issuing the regulations of legislative monitoring, internal checking and compliance committee in Islamic banks according to Islamic Sharia



- CBI also drafted the regulations for solidarity insurance by a committee formed for this purpose in cooperation with the insurance diwan; also, it developed the draft of the Islamic Investment Checks Law and presented it to the State Council.

### **Supporting the establishment of Deposits Guaranty Institution**

- CBI had sought according to its strategic plan to establish a Deposits Guaranty Institution which represents an essential part of the financial safety network to solidify the fellows confidence in the banking sector by guarantying their savings deposited in the banks, and based on its strategic plan an establishment contract for the institution had been signed with the committee formed on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2018, which included the membership of 44 government and private banks (6 government banks, 22 commercial banks, and 16 foreign banks), this establishment shall play a big role in protecting the banking sector especially individuals and corporate deposits to reinforce confidence in the banking sector inside and outside Iraq, the matter that can contribute much to attracting more deposits to be reused in crediting and investment for the good of the Iraqi economy.

### **Participating in Developing the Financial Markets**

- For the purpose of reinforcing and fostering the banking sector and the financial establishments in managing the banking liquidity in Islamic and commercial banks and participating in developing the financial markets (monetary market in Iraq), CBI constructed a diversified structure for its securities with one year and less terms and offering them through auctions according to the central securities depositary system and as follows:
- Commencing the issuance of Islamic deposit certificates as a new investment window for the Islamic banks to manage liquidity in the banking sector, as a plan had been prepared to offer new short and medium term financial products with variations in the rates of revenues whether they were for the CBI transfers or for the traditional or Islamic deposit certificates.

The central bank trained banks staff on the central securities depositary to use the system and loaning services.

CBI had established the new Financial Products Unit for the purposes of researching and analyzing the possibility of inventing new financial products to manage liquidity and finding the best applications to implement the monetary policy through searching in the global experiments and available financial tools with measuring the effect and analyzing the results.

### **Developing the regulating body and structure of the CBI**

Aiming at supporting the continuation of the work in the banks, CBI issued the regulations of the business continuance management system in the Iraqi banking sector and trained the IT and risk management committees to apply these regulations according to the requirements of the international standard for business continuance and the

recommendations of receiving the returning information from the banks regarding applying these regulations.

The CBI reconsidered the monetary regulations to make sure they are compatible with the international standards issued by Basil Committee for Banking Monetary (III) in cooperation with (METAC) which were recently published and as follows:

- The monetary work guide that concentrates on the regulations of risks management in the traditional banks.
- Supervisory controls for the capital adequacy standard in accordance with the requirements of Basel (III).
- Regulations for organizing the work of brokerage firms for the sale and purchase of foreign currency No. 1 of 2018
- Regulations of Islamic financing tools.
- Instructions and procedures issued by the Central Bank to regulate banking activity in Iraq, including (branches of foreign banks).
- Executive controls to regulate the work of Islamic banks
- Instructions for the business continuity system in the Iraqi banking sector according to the international standard.

### **Developing the CBI operating performance**

After meeting the requirements of the international standard last year, CBI obtained the ISO certificate in the field of cash management granted by LMS Certification Limited, and the ISO9001 standard is considered as the most spreading in the world for the management systems which essentially helped CBI to develop and regulate its management standards in the various fields.

Finishing the process of preparing the BSRS program and the tests of connecting banks with the CBI in terms of auditing financial statements.

For the purpose of gradual converting to the centrality of accounts, CBI achieved the first stage of unifying accounting processes for foreign currency auction window.

CBI also created new departments within the exchange monetary office, dept. of analyzing the banks performance and risk monetary, section of evaluating the real estate mortgages, and the IT section in the banks and the financial institutions. Those departments and sections were created according to the best international standards.

### **Reinforcement and completion of infrastructure**

In order to develop the infrastructure of the banking communication network, obtaining safe and fast communication channels and maintaining the credibility and availability levels of the banking network, CBI connected the main branched of government, private and foreign banks and the Ministry of Finance by using the fiber optics project to the CBI sites.



### **(VPN) Virtual Private Network**

CBI accomplished the project of VPN (Virtual Private Network) according to developed standards. devices and levels of protection and encryption act as principal connecting channels for the users of the electronic systems and as auxiliary connecting channels to support the banking communication network working with the technologies of the fiber optics to be used by the network subscribers in case of the stoppage of the main streamline of the banking connecting network. CBI could finish the infrastructure works of the database centers, database systems, their operating applications, and ICT systems that provide a platform for backup and programming in order to avoid partial and total failure of database systems.

### **Macroeconomic objectives**

#### **Financial Policy:**

##### **Objectives**

Goal 1: correct the public spending structure.

Goal 2: diversify the structure of public revenues and increase the revenues of non-oil revenues

Goal 3: address the real deficit in the state budget.

Goal 4: Improve public financial management.

Goal 5: Raise private saving rates.

#### **Monetary policy:**

##### **Objectives:**

Goal 1: To maintain inflation rates within the limits of the decimal point.

Goal 2: To maintain the stability of the local currency exchange rate.

Goal 3: To promote the principles of disclosure, transparency, monitoring and the establishment of governance systems in the Iraqi banking sector.

Goal 4: Enhancing financial inclusion.

Goal 5: Create a growth-driven credit activity.

Goal 6: Reinforcement of foreign exchange reserves.

Goal 7: Combating the phenomenon of money laundering.

Goal 8: Activate the role of the Central Bank of Iraq in promoting monetary and financial integration, including capital markets, banking and investment institutions and insurance companies.

Goal 9: The adoption of information technology in the mechanisms of the Central Bank of Iraq.

#### **Trade Policy:**

##### **Objectives:**

Goal 1: Improve the competitiveness of domestically produced goods.

Goal 2: increase the revenues of the general budget.



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- Goal 3: Achieve equilibrium in the balance of payments.
- Goal 4: Promote national production.
- Goal 5: To increase the volume of commodity exports.
- Goal 6: Increase agricultural and industrial production.
- Goal 7: Coordinate macroeconomic policies in Iraq.

#### **4. Sectorial development objectives of the plan**

##### **1-4: Population and labor force**

###### **First: Population**

###### **Objectives:**

- Goal 1: couples are free to choose the number of births or spacing between them.
- Goal 2: return 100% of the total displaced persons to their original places voluntarily.
- Goal 3: achieve population stability in rural and less developed cities.

###### **Second: Labor force**

###### **Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Reduce the unemployment rate.
- Goal 2: Develop a planning framework for human resources for more than 5 years.
- Goal 3: Invest the demographic window (by governorates).

###### **Third: Wise Governance**

###### **Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Strengthen the rule of law and reduce human rights violations.
- Goal 2: Develop the capacity of human rights institutions.
- Goal 3: Improve administrative decentralization.
- Goal 4: Improve the degree of integrity and transparency and reduce administrative and financial corruption.
- Goal 5: To improve the performance of the administrative system efficiently and effectively.
- Goal 6: Ensure public participation in the decision-making process.
- Goal 7: Adopting the electronic governance system as an alternative to the current administrative style.

###### **Fourth: Activating the role of the private sector and improving the business and investment environment**

###### **Objectives:**

- Goal 1: increase the contribution of the private sector.
- Goal 2: Improve the business and investment environment.
- Goal 3: Developing Small and Medium Enterprises.
- Goal 4: To establish a genuine participation of the private sector in the process of reconstruction and development, and share burdens and benefits thereof.





Goal 5: Restructuring public companies.

Goal 6: Private Sector Governance.

### **Fifth: Reconstructing and developing the post-crisis governorates**

#### **Objectives:**

Goal 1: adopt an effective administrative and financial system that responds to the needs of recovery, the requirements of community stability and sustainable peace-building.

Goal 2: rehabilitate the infrastructure with comprehensive coverage.

Goal 3: revive the sectorial economic activities and optimize the opportunities for development.

Goal 4: Strengthen human protection and protect against the risks of relapse.

### **Sixth: Poverty alleviation**

#### **Objectives:**

Goal 1: Higher and sustainable income for the poor.

Goal 2: Improve the health situation.

Goal 3: Improve the education for the poor.

Goal 4: Adequate housing and a responsive environment to challenges.

Goal 5: Effective social protection for the poor.

Goal 6: Enable and promote the social, economic and political integration of IDPs and returnees in the liberated areas.

### **Agriculture and Water Resources Sector**

#### **Objectives:**

Goal 1: Increase the contribution of the agricultural sector in the gross domestic product (non-oil activities) from 4.5% in 2015 to 5.2% in 2022. Achieving growth in the agricultural sector in the target year reaches 8.4%.

Goal 2: Achieving sustainable food security.

Goal 3: Secure the annual demand for water for sustainable uses in the fields of agriculture, industrial and municipal, and achieve water balance with the possibility of reducing the annual demand for water to 500 million m<sup>3</sup> annually.

Goal 4: Work towards sustainable water resources.

### **Energy and manufacturing industries**

#### **First: Oil and Gas sector**

#### **Objectives:**

Goal 1: increase the production capacity of crude oil to reach (6.5) million bpd.

Goal 2: increase the export capacity of crude oil to (5.25) million bpd.

Goal 3: raising the crude oil capacity of the crude oil in export warehouses.

Goal 4: raising natural gas production to reach (3500) mf<sup>3</sup> per day.

Goal 5: Strengthen proven gas reserves.



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- Goal 6: To achieve self-sufficiency and export of petroleum products by increasing the refining capacity to reach (900) thousand bpd.
- Goal 7: To strengthen the reservoir energy of petroleum products to secure storage of 2267 m<sup>3</sup>.
- Goal 8: Protect the environment from pollution and address the environmental problems caused by the oil and gas activity of existing facilities and reduce CO2 emissions.

## **Second: Electricity sector**

### **Objectives:**

- Goal 1: to increase the production capacity in the electrical system to reach (20869) megawatts.
- Goal 2: increase the per capita electricity supply to reach (4041) kWh.
- Goal 3: Improve the efficiency of the electrical system.
- Goal 4: Improve the quality of services provided to consumers according to categories (household, government, industrial, agricultural, commercial).
- Goal 5: To rationalize the consumption of electricity for different uses and reduce it by 7% annually.
- Goal 6: Improve the environmental impact of electricity activity by reducing Co2 emissions.
- Goal 7: Enhancing the role of the private sector in managing the production and distribution sectors.
- Goal 8: Promote governance of the electricity sector and its institutions.

## **Third: Manufacturing and Extraction Industries (excluding Oil)**

### **Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Increase the contribution of non-oil manufacturing and extractive industries to GDP by 40% from the base year.
- Goal 2: work on finding other sources of funding for public sector projects and limiting the financing of the investment budget for strategic projects only.
- Goal 3: activate the strategies related to this sector and modernize them according to the industrial strategic developments in Iraq up to 2030 and the implementation mechanisms.
- Goal 4: support important strategic industries, especially in the liberated areas, because they contain minerals and natural gas, which is a major incentive to encourage these industries.
- Goal 5: achieve a sectoral link between the manufacturing sector and other sectors and the involvement of the private sector within this threading by using the potential available to the private sector.
- Goal 6: Revitalize geological surveys in order to develop an integrated map of the country's mineral resources in order to turn them into investment opportunities.



#### **4.4: Transport, Communications and Storage Sector**

##### **First: Transport Sector**

###### **Port activity**

###### **Objectives:**

- Goal 1: increase the capacity of the existing ports and their Ship canals to 23 million tons annually.
- Goal2: complete the initial construction to begin building Faw port.
- Goal 3: Promote private sector involvement in the implementation and operation of port services.

###### **Shipping activity**

###### **Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Enhance the role of the national maritime carrier in securing Iraq's trade.
- Goal 2: Supporting the role of the private sector in the field of maritime transport.

###### **Air transport activity**

###### **Objectives:**

- Goal1: Improve the performance and development of the role of the national carrier through a global partnership which enjoys economic efficiency in the field of air transport.
- Goal 2: Supporting the role of the private sector in the field of air transport.

###### **Passenger transport activity**

###### **Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Improve the efficiency of transport activity performance.
- Goal 2: Develop the role of the private sector in the transport sector.
- Goal 3: Strengthen the role of public transport and support it through administrative and operational partnerships which enjoy economic efficiency.

###### **Land transport by truck**

###### **Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Enhance the role of the private sector in implementing the comprehensive long-term transport plan and activate its real participation with the public sector.
- Goal2: Join to the international transport agreements and activate the agreements with the neighboring countries.

###### **Railway activity**

###### **Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Modernize the railway system, develop it and increase its operational capacity.
- Goal 2: Improve the level of service delivered in this activity
- Goal 3: Strengthen Iraq's geographical location as a link between east and west.
- Goal 4: Enhancing the role of the private sector and foreign investment.



**Activity of roads and bridges****Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Increase the length of the road network in all its details and branches.
- Goal 2: build a modern maintenance system for the entire land network.
- Goal 3: Implementing the traffic control system in an integrated and accurate manner.

**Second: Telecommunications Sector****Objectives:**

- Goal1: increase the contribution of the telecommunications sector to GDP.
- Goal 2: meet demand for services at competitive prices and qualities.
- Goal 3: Keeping up with the rapid development of the ICT sector.
- Goal 4: Reach everyone.
- Goal 5: To make the communication environment safe and informative.

**Third: the storage sector****Objectives:**

- Goal 1: secure strategic stocks of basic crops.
- Goal 2: the contribution of the private sector in the management, maintenance and operation of the silos.

**Buildings and services sector****Objectives**

- Goal1: completion of housing projects under implementation or on hold (including investment), which is estimated at (700) thousand housing units in all provinces except Kurdistan.
- Goal 2: Provide 100 thousand housing units to be implemented in accordance with the modern methods and techniques used in the construction of housing units in order to contribute to filling part of the housing deficit achieved in all governorates, including the governorates that were destroyed by terrorist operations and military operations.
- Goal 3: Establish 100 thousand housing units suitable to provide requirements for displaced families as a result of terrorist operations, military operations, ambiguities and transgressors according to the framework document of the National Plan for Reconstruction and Development of the provinces affected by terrorist and war operations of 2017.
- Goal 4: Provide 50% of the mortgage finance from the private sector investment required to cover the housing deficit based on economic feasibility studies of projects and supported by the design prepared according to Building Information Modeling (BIM).



**Water and Sanitation****First: Potable water****Objectives**

- Goal 1: ensure the supply of potable water according to international standards and access to the share of per capita consumption of clean water to fit the population growth and at least 250 liters / day per person in Baghdad and provincial centers and 200 liters / day in the districts and villages.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of potable water.
- Goal 3: Reduce the lost by at least 10% of the base year.

**Second: Sanitation****Objectives:**

- Goal 1: increase the percentage of beneficiaries to 97% in Baghdad and 72.66% in the provinces.
- Goal 2: bring treated water to the river according to the standard specifications.

**Culture, tourism and archeology****First: Culture****Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Complete the ongoing or expected infrastructure projects.
- Goal 2: bring up and spread the Iraqi culture in the society.
- Goal 3: Promote investment in cultural activity.

**Second: Tourism and Archeology****Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Increase the contribution of tourism activity in the GDP.
- Goal 2: Preserve the historical-cultural heritage and revive archaeological monuments.
- Goal 3: Enhance the role of the private sector in tourism investment.

**Spatial development****Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Reduce the bilateral spatial development, and reduce the developmental disparity among provinces.
- Goal 2: Strengthen rural infrastructure.
- Goal 3: Improve the hierarchy of the urban system and urban renewal of city centers.
- Goal 4: Activate urban management and organize cities.
- Goal 5: Integration of different transport systems (improvement of the inter-governorate transport system and the development of urban transport).
- Goal 6: Promote decentralization, transfer of powers and participation in the management of development among governorates.



## Human and Social Development

### First: Education

#### Objectives:

#### First: pre-university education

##### Goal 1:

- Increase enrollment ratios as follows:
- Increase the net enrollment rate in kindergartens to 30% in the target year.
- Increase the net enrollment ratio at the primary level to 99%.
- Increase the net enrollment ratio in the intermediate level to 70%.
- Increase the net enrollment ratio in high school level to 45%.
- Increase the enrollment rate in vocational education to 7%.
- Increase the contribution of private education in the providing educational opportunities for public and higher education by at least 20%.

Goal 2: Provide the buildings and supplies necessary to accommodate the targeted numbers of pupils and students during the plan period.

Goal 3: Improve the efficiency of the educational system.

Goal 4: Provide educational services and supplies to create an attractive school environment.

Goal 5: Develop educational techniques in curriculum modernization.

Goal 6: Enhance the developmental role of vocational education.

Goal 7: Improve the use of administrative governance in schools.

Goal 8: Develop educational and social guidance and health care.

Goal 9: Develop the methods of testing and evaluation.

Goal 10: Support literacy projects.

Goal 11: Restore the educational institutions that have been affected by terrorism.

Goal 12: Promote coherence and positive values in education.

#### Second: University education

Goal 13: Improve the international classification of Iraqi universities.

Goal 14: Develop the academic side of Iraqi universities.

Goal 15: Strengthen partnership with the private sector.

Goal 16: Reconstruction and rehabilitation of universities in liberated areas.

### Third: Health

#### Objectives:

Goal 1: Improve and modernize the health system.

Goal 2: Improve the health protection system.

Goal 3: Develop health information management.

Goal 4: Improve the delivery of health services.

Goal 5: Implementing administrative governance in the health sector.

Goal 6: Reduce rates of transitional and non-transitional diseases.

Goal 7: Rehabilitation of health institutions in areas affected by terrorism.

Goal 8: Maximize financial resources and promote health economics.



**Forth: Women****Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Empowering women scientifically and knowledgeably.
- Goal 2: Empowering women economically.
- Goal 3: Empowering Women Healthily.
- Goal 4: Empowering women in areas affected by terrorist acts.
- Goal 5: Expanding women's participation in the private sector.

**Fifth: Youth****Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Commit to the implementation of national policies, plans and strategies related to youth.
- Goal 2: Provide an enabling environment for young people.

**Sixth: Social development****Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Reduce the disabled and people with special needs rate.
- Goal 2: Improve institutional services provided the disabled and people with special needs.
- Goal 3: Raising awareness and community participation in educating people with disabilities and special needs in primary and secondary schools.
- Goal 4: Reduce the rate of child labor.
- Goal 5: Reduce violence against children.
- Goal 6: Reduce juvenile delinquency.
- Goal 7: Reduce levels of addiction to drugs, alcohol and smoking.
- Goal 8: Reduce the rate of early marriage for females.
- Goal 9: Rehabilitation of infrastructure and integration of vulnerable groups in areas affected by terrorism.
- Goal 10: Improve quality of life.

**Environmental sustainability****Objectives:**

- Goal 1: Ensure availability and management of water and sanitation, including:
  - Protecting and improving water quality.
  - Development of liquid waste management system.
  - Preserving the marine and coastal environment.
  - Reduction of oil pollution.
  - Water harvesting projects.
  - Systematic utilization of groundwater.
- Goal 2: Address air pollution and its effects, including:
  - Protect and improve air quality.
  - Control oil pollution.
  - Projects to reduce electricity pollution.
  - Develop the waste management system.



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- Development of energy and environment units.
- Reduction of radiation pollution.
- Integrated management of hazardous materials
- Legislation and institutional framework

Goal 3: Protection, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, including:

- Reducing land degradation and combating desertification.
- Conservation of biodiversity.
- Evolution of the use of alternative materials in agriculture and the trend toward clean agriculture.

Goal 4: Address climate changes and its impacts

- Protect and improve air quality.
- Development of waste management system.
- Reduction of radiation pollution.
- Integrated management of fragrances.
- Institutional framework and legislation.
- Mitigation and adaptation to climate changes.







## Provincial Profiles

- Province of Baghdad (the Capital)	<a href="mailto:onestopshop@baghdadic.gov.iq">onestopshop@baghdadic.gov.iq</a>
- Province of Diyala	<a href="mailto:diyalainv@gmail.com">diyalainv@gmail.com</a>
- Province of Saladin	<a href="mailto:sic@investsalahaddin.org">sic@investsalahaddin.org</a>
- Province of Kirkuk	<a href="mailto:info@investkirkuk.com">info@investkirkuk.com</a>
- Province of Nineveh	<a href="mailto:mosulinvestment@gmail.com">mosulinvestment@gmail.com</a>
- Province of Erbil	
- Province of Duhok	
- Province of Sulaymaniyah	
- Province of Anbar	<a href="mailto:invest@anbar.iq">invest@anbar.iq</a>
- Province of Wasit	<a href="mailto:wasit_invest@yahoo.com">wasit_invest@yahoo.com</a>
- Province of Babylon	<a href="mailto:info@bic.gov.iq">info@bic.gov.iq</a>
- Province of Holy Karbala	<a href="mailto:info@krinves.com">info@krinves.com</a>
- Province of Holy Najaf	<a href="mailto:inv.najaf@gmail.com">inv.najaf@gmail.com</a>
- Province of Muthanna	<a href="mailto:samawa_investdiw@yahoo.com">samawa_investdiw@yahoo.com</a>
- Province of Diwaniyah	<a href="mailto:diwinvest@gmail.com">diwinvest@gmail.com</a>
- Province of Thi Qar	<a href="mailto:thiqarinvest@yahoo.com">thiqarinvest@yahoo.com</a>
- Province of Maysan	<a href="mailto:inv.maysan2008@yahoo.com">inv.maysan2008@yahoo.com</a>
- Province of Basra	<a href="mailto:info@investbasrah.com">info@investbasrah.com</a>

# Province of Baghdad

## Historical Background

Province of Baghdad is the capital of the Republic of Iraq. It is situated on the Tigris River. It is the biggest city in Iraq; the second biggest city in the Arab world after Cairo, and the second biggest city in Western Asia, after Tehran, the capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Baghdad is an important point as roads, air, and trains cross at it. It is regarded as the economic, administrative, commercial and educational center and GOI headquarter.



Baghdad has been the most important center of the various sciences in the world. It had been the meeting spot of scholars and learners for many centuries. Baghdad has several names, such as, Al-Mudawwarrah (the Circular), Al-Zawra (the Deviated), and Dar Ul-Salam (House of Peace). Tigris River passes through the city, dividing it into two halves: Karkh (Western part) and Rusafa (Eastern part).

Baghdad has a lot of historical and civilization sites, most important of which is Al-Mustansiriyah School, ancient Islamic mosques, ancient palaces, and the National Museum which embraces the most important civilization, Mesopotamia. .

- **Area:** Baghdad has the area of 4.555 km<sup>2</sup>.

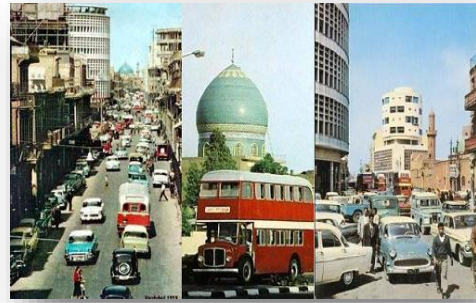
- **Population**

Inhabitants of Baghdad are approximately (8.318.696), eight million and three hundred eighteen thousand, six hundred ninety six persons. Almost 83% of the inhabitants of the capital are concentrated in the City of Baghdad itself, while 17% of them reside in its countryside and outskirts as Baghdad is the biggest city in Iraq and the second in area in Asia. This data show that the density within the municipal boundaries of the city is extremely high. This high density requires more and more housing complexes and other various economic activities.



### Main cities

- Rusafa District (Eastern Karada, new Baghdad, Palestine)
- A'adhamiyah District (Rashdiya, Fahama, Zuhoor)
- Al-Sadr Al Azali District (Al Sideeq Al Akbar, AL Oula),
- Al-Sadr District (2) (Abna Al Rafedain, Al Munawara) ,
- Karkh District, (Al Mansour, Al Mamoon)
- Kadhimiyah District, (That Al Salasil, Al Taji)
- Mahmoudiyah District, (Al Yousfiya, AL Latifiya, Al Rasheed)
- Abu Ghraib District, (Al Nasir Wa Al Salam)
- Tarmiyah District. (Al Mishahda, Al Abayachi)
- Madaien District, (Al Jisir, Al Wihda)



### • Bridges in Baghdad:

Muthanna Bridge, Aa'ima Bridge, 14<sup>th</sup> of Ramadhan Bridge, Iron Bridge, Bab Al-Muadham Bridge, Shuhada Bridge, Ahrar Bridge, Sinak Bridge, Jumhuria Bridge, 14<sup>th</sup> of July Bridge, Jadria Bridge, Hasanain Bridge, Dora Bridge.



### • Main activities

The most important activities at the Province of Baghdad are concentrated in the following fields:

Oil refining, light industries, financial services, food manufacturing, tobacco, furniture, printing, construction, chemical and plastic material production, and electric devices.





## Economy at a Glance

The capital Baghdad is regarded the center of the main and commercial activities. The main important oil industries are concentrated in it. Among these industries is Eastern Baghdad oil field which includes the biggest fixed reservations, in addition to many innovated and traditional industries among which are leather, textile, cement, and tobacco industries.

Baghdad, as well, is a vital and crucial center of financial and banking exchanges through its financial and banking sector (state and private). The most important specialized universities, schools, specialized institutes, state and private hospitals are located at it, in addition to a wide net of roads, international and local transport lines.

### • Infrastructures

- There is a wide net of main roads and highways which link the capital to its south, north, east, and west. Among the most important of these is the international highway which links Baghdad to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in addition to the international way which links Basra to Turkey through Zakho in the north and passes through Baghdad, the capital.
- There are a number of important railway lines which link north Iraq to its south. There is, for instance, (Baghdad- Mosul) and (Baghdad- Basra) railways.
- There is also one of the most important airports (Baghdad International Airport), which is located at the western part of Baghdad, 16 km away from the center of the city. In addition, there is a net of land roads which link Baghdad, the capital, to the international lines, such as, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iran, Turkey, and Syria.

### • Education

Baghdad has four state Universities, Baghdad University (est. 1957), Mustansiriyah University (est. 1963), Technology University (est. 1974), and Nahrain University (est. 1980) and the Iraqi university. There is also the Technical Institutes Foundation (est. 1969) which turned to be (Technical Teaching Commission) in 2001. Fine Arts institutes (6) and teachers' institutes (50). There are many private Universities and Colleges all over the city, in addition, there are almost 2474 public and private primary school and 317 public and private kindergartens and more than 1334 public and private secondary school, and 97 technical institutes.

### • Health:

Baghdad has 85 public and private hospital, 43 specialized public hospitals, 19 general hospital, 4 pediatric hospital, 2 Maternity and child hospital, 2 Maternity and Gynecology hospitals and 16 specialized hospital. In addition to 69 health center with 357 other health facilities.

### • Tourist sites



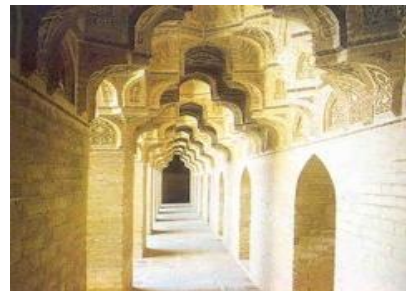
Baghdad has many museums, most important of which are the National Iraqi Museum which exhibit the antique treasures of Mesopotamia Civilization, Baghdadi Museum for Folklore Arts. It has numerous mosques, religious shrines, such as Al Kadhimiya Holy shrine, the Great Imam Mosque in addition to churches and cathedrals. 288 hotels are located in Baghdad in different ranks.

1. **Mustansiriyah School:** This had been the most important university in the Islamic world during the Abbasid era. It had gained a wide reputation in teaching Arabic language; Theology, Astronomy, Mathematics, Medicine, Pharmacology, as well as it had its own university hospital to train its students.



Historically speaking, Mustansiriyah School had been famous for its watch which had been functioning astronomically; in addition to pointing time, it depicted locations of sun and moon at any time.

2. **Abbasid Palace:** One of the important buildings in Baghdad traced back to the second Abbasid era. It is situated near Bab Al-Mua'dham, on the River bank. Historians assign its building to the Caliph Al-Nasir Li Deen Illah (575- 623 A. H./ 1179- 1225 A. D.).



3. **Murjaniyah School:** Murjaniyah School which is known today as Murjan Mosque is situated at Shorja quarter, Rasheed street. It was named so after Ameen Al-Deen Murjan who built it in 758 A. H./ 1357 A. D., i. e., almost a hundred year after the Abbasid era. In its early stages, it had been similar to the Mustansiriyah School, as it had classrooms and a dormitory department.



4. **Baghdad fence and its gates:** It is one of the most striking features of Baghdad. Its walls were built circularly; its four gates deviated with 90 degrees for defensive purposes. Administrative and religious buildings were at the city center so as people may reach them easily.



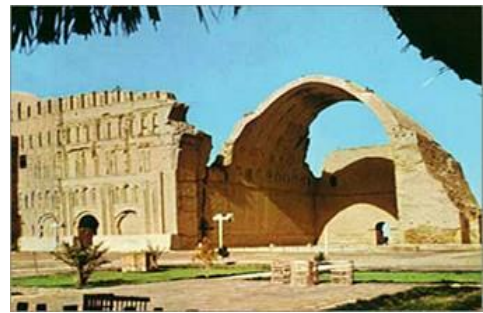
5. **Aqarquf:** This is an important historical city. It is one of the cities which were built according to Sumerian- Babylonian architectural concepts. It is situated on 30 km west northwards of the city center. Its building age traces back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century B. C. according to an order by the King Qurikalzo the first after whom it had been named.



Aqarquf was built on a prolonged scheme on natural limestone. The city took its water from a branch of the River Euphrates (Baiti Inleel), i. e., God Canal, according to the Babylonian naming. People dedicated for this God the city biggest temple. It is the creative God and God of air.

The most immanent thing one can see is the city Ziggurat, as it elevates to 57m above the plain surrounds it while the base was rectangular.

6. **Madaien:** This is one of the important historical cities the ruins of which erect on the eastern bank of the river Tigris, 30 km southwards the center of Baghdad. It was built during the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC. Its most prominent features are its high arch, a part of a huge palace on the River Tigris. Its building time goes back to the middle of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century A. D. This Arch is the biggest and highest brick built Arch all over the world.



Its building design had been developed from genuine Iraqi style of architecture. Iwan (Hall) idea was developed from the ancient Iraqi buildings. Cities' entrances frontages and some Assyrian palaces provide clear order of the development of the idea of Iwan.



## Province of Diyala

### Historical Background

Ba'quba is the center of the Province of Diyala. All over the Province there are ancient buildings and historical sites which are considered as tourist sites. Most prominent of these sites are Prophet Danial Shrine, Tel Asmer, Tel Abu Uthaina, Tel Shihab, Zindan, the Abbasid Dam on the river Al-Uthaim, ancient Saray of Ba'quba, and the River of Wend and Khait Al Habs). The Province is characterized for its historical hills which are traced back to the 5<sup>th</sup> century B. C.



### Location

Province of Diyala is situated in the eastern part of Iraq, between the longitudes (34-36) and the altitudes (44- 46). The center of the Province is the city of Ba'quba, 56 km north east of Baghdad. It is boarded by the Provinces of Baghdad, Saladin, westwards, Sulaimaniyah to the north, Wasit and the Islamic Republic of Iran to the east. The main paved roads which link Baghdad to Tehran, Baghdad- Kirkuk, Sulaymaniyah and Irbil pass through the Province.

### Area

The area of the Province of Diyala is (17.685) km<sup>2</sup> which represents 4% of the total area of Iraq.

### Population

Population of the province is (1.660.007) person according to population growth in Iraq 2.8%

### Main cities:

- Ba'quba District
- Baladrouz District
- Khalis District
- Mouqdadiyah District
- Khanaqeen District
- Kifri District





## Economy at a Glance

The economic activities at the Province are concentrated in agriculture because of being situated on two main sources of water, Diyala River (a main affluent of Tigris River) and Uthaim River in addition to Himreen and Uthaim lakes with maximum storage capacity 5.5  $\text{bm}^3$  and Qazaniya and Mendly dams with storage capacity of 1.25  $\text{mm}^3$ . A large number of the manpower is employed in agriculture. Orange is widely grown in its orchards. Date palm trees are concentrated around Mouqdadiyah and run north towards Kifri. Olive, wheat, barley, and dates planting are common. The Province is also famous for cattle breeding, poultry, honey bees, and fisheries.

The best part of its land is characterized by being fertile and plain, beautified by the mountains of Himreen and Zagros, the two lakes of Himreen and Uthaim, the orchards of date palms, fruits, farms of vegetables, grains, and dozens of factories.

### Education:

The Province has only one University, University of Diyala and two private colleges, Al Yarmook and Mesopotamia colleges. There are more than 844 primary school in Diyala; 44 kindergarten, more than 409 secondary school; 15 technical school 2 institutes for Teachers' Qualifying, and one technical institute.

### Health:

Diyala has 10 governmental hospitals, 3 private hospitals, 54 main medical center and 39 clinics.





## Province of Saladin

### Historical Background

Saladin is one of the Iraqi Historical Provinces. Its center is Tikrit. It is essentially linked to the wake of civilization, almost 4,000 years ago. Its history has continued to be present during all the historical ages of ancient Iraq until the pre-Islamic era. The province has been named after Saladin Al-Ayoubi.



The Province is famous for the shrines of the Imams Al-'Askariyain (PBUT) (Imam Ali Al- Hadi and Imam Al- Hasan Al-'Askari 'PBUT') in Samara, Al-Malwiyah minaret, (Abbasid mosque), Ashiq Palace, Abbasid Caliph Palace, mosque of Abi Dulaf, the historical city of Ashour at Shirqat on the River Tigris, and overlooks, northwards, on a wide plain at the end of which is the present city of Shirqat, Tikrit fence, Nun monastery, and a number of the churches on both banks of Tigris at the city of Tikrit, and the Seeniyah Dome, northward the present city of Samara, near Ashiq Palace and the shrine of Saeed Mohamed, Son of Imam Ali Al- Hadi at the city of Balad, one of the important religious sites in the province.

### Location

Province of Saladin is situated northwards Baghdad, the capital, and almost 165 km away from it. It is bordered by the Provinces of Nineveh and Irbil from the north, Kirkuk and Sulaimaniyah to the east, Diyala and Baghdad to the south and Anbar to the west. Saladin has a vital geographical location being the knot of transportation between the northern and southern Provinces. It has two roads and a railway linking Baghdad with other provinces in addition to Tigris river passing through it in 250km and the biggest part of Thirhar lake.

### Area

The area of the Province of Saladin is 25,807 km<sup>2</sup>.

### Population

Population of the Province is (1,615,924) person.



**Main cities:**

- Tikrit District
- Tuz Khirmato District
- Samara District
- Balad District
- Peigi District
- Dour District
- Shirqat District
- Dijail District

**Main activities**

Cattle breeding, agriculture, oil refinery, animal feed, drug industry.

**Infrastructures**

One of the main roads that lead to the north passes through the province of Saladin. In addition, there are roads which link it to Kirkuk to the east, and Haditha and Qaim to the west. Baghdad- Mosul railway passes through the city of Tikrit, too.

**Education:**

The Province has only one University, (University of Tikrit), more than 1199 primary school, 42 kindergarten, more than 527 secondary school, 11 Teachers' Qualifying Institute and many vocational institutes and schools

**Health**

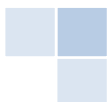
Province of Saladin has 12 hospitals and almost 98 medical center.



### Tourism

**City of Samara:** The ruins of the city of Samara run on the eastern bank of the River Tigris for 35 km, from Samara to the south: The Grand Mosque, Malwiyah, and Ashiq Palace.

To the north of Malwiyah, there is the house of the Caliph, Equestrian arena, Abu Dulaf Mosque, Mutawakkiliyah, and Rasasi River.



## Province of Kirkuk

### Historical Background

Kirkuk is an ancient city. It is 250 km north of Baghdad. It was built, firstly, as a castle on a circular four cornered hill. It includes the areas among Zagros Mountain, the rivers of minor Zab and Tigris, and Himreen Mountain series. History of Kirkuk City goes back to 1.600 years B. C.



Kirkuk is famous for the shrines, mosques and the ruins of some buildings and antiques it has which can be traced back to the beginnings of the third millennium B. C., i. e. the early beginnings of the historical eras, in addition to its geographical and commercial location.

### Location

Province of Kirkuk is situated at an important geographical area within the part which links north Iraq to its middle. It is surrounded by the Provinces of Sulaimaiyah, Irbil, Nineveh, Saladin, and Diyala.

### Area

The area of the Province of Kirkuk is 9.679 km<sup>2</sup>, 2.2% of the total area of Iraq.

### Population

Inhabitants of the Province are (1.629.625).

### Main cities:

- Kirkuk District (Bayji, Alton Kopry, Multaqa, Taza Khormato, Shwan, Laylan, Qart Hanjeer)
- Hawijah District (Abasi, Riyadh, Al Zab)
- Daquq District (Al Rashad)
- Dibs District (Serkanan)



### Main activities

- Crude Oil
- Cement
- Agriculture

### Economy at a Glance

- Kirkuk governorate is characterized by being rich in its mineral resources as well as its natural resources. Oil is the main focus of its economic activities as it has the largest oil field in Iraq and the daily production of crude oil is estimated at 650 million barrels per day. In addition, it enjoys the presence of natural gas and sulfur. It also enjoys the fertility of its agricultural lands and the presence of many arable lands suitable for investment, in addition to the presence of irrigated lands that include reclaimed and non-reclaimed lands and muddy lands that depend on rain.
- **The most important irrigation projects**
  - A- Kirkuk Irrigation Project: It irrigates lands within the areas: (Debs, Hawija, Riyadh, Rashad, Taza, Daquq). It is hoped that the project, upon completion, will irrigate an area up to the Uthaim area in Salah al-Din Governorate and its area is estimated at (one million) dunams.
  - B- Al-Hajjah project: irrigates an area estimated at (150,000) dunams.
- Kirkuk has several main sources of water that the governorate depends on for agriculture and industry activities. Among these sources are: -
  - C- The Lower Zab River, from which five small rivers branch in the Zab district within the Hawija district.
  - D- Part of the Tigris River in the Zab region, south of Hawija, near the city of Al-Shak.
  - E- Khasa River (seasonal), a dam is currently being built to regulate the water course.
  - F- Artesian and surface wells.
  - G- Springs and wells
  - H- Valleys that feed Al-Uthaim River / Tuz, Zgaitoun, Taza, Gai Daquq

### Infrastructures

Province of Kirkuk is characterized by the many main roads which link it to the neighboring provinces. It is located on the main road linking the capital with the north.

The strategic location of the province which links the north to the middle has made the city a crossway for roads and railways linking it to the capital, Baghdad.





**Education:**

The Province of Kirkuk has only one University, (University of Kirkuk), more than 1121 primary school, 77 kindergartens, more than 461 secondary school, and many vocational institutes and schools.

**Health**

Province of Kirkuk has 9 hospitals and more than 114 medical center.

**Tourism**

**Castle of Kirkuk:** This is one of the ancient sites at the Province. Its height is 140m with an oval shape, it has historical sites such as churches and Prophet Daniel Shrine in addition to palaces from the Ottomans era.



## Province of Nineveh

### Historical Background

City of Nineveh has an ancient history which goes back to the fifth millennium B. C. This city is regarded as one of the most historically important cities in Iraq as it had been the capital of the Assyrian Empire during its widest expansion. In it the first library was established. This Province, with Mosul being its center is the second biggest city in Iraq, after the capital, Baghdad, regarding its area.



### Location

Nineveh Province is situated in the northern western part of Iraq, (402 km) from Baghdad.

### Area

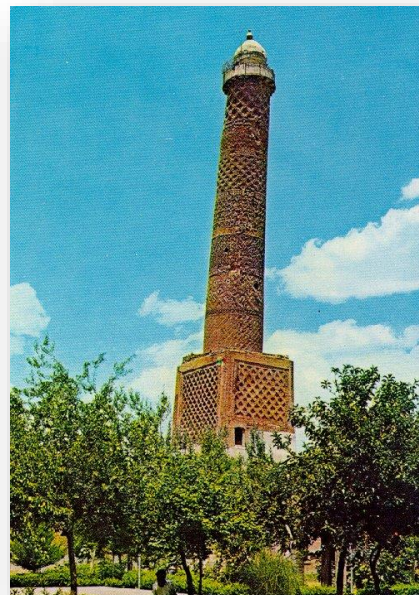
The area of the Province of Nineveh is (36.515 km<sup>2</sup>).

### Population

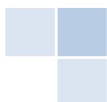
Inhabitants of the Province are (3793982).

### Main cities

- Mosul District (Basheeqa, Shora, Hamam Al Alil, Qayara, Mahalabiya)
- Hamdaniyah District (Namrood, Bartila)
- Sinjar District (Shamal, Qayrawan)
- Tilkef District (Wana, Al Qoosh)
- Ba'aj District (Qahtaniya)
- Tella'fer District (Zamar, Rabeea, Eyathiya)
- Sheikhan District (Zankan)
- Hatra District (At Tal)
- Makhmour District (Kwair)



Al-Hadba'a Tower



## Main activities

Agriculture, oil, asphalt, textile, sugar, dairy products, and cement.

## Infrastructures

Mosul represents the crossways center in the north of Iraq. Both the main road from Baghdad to Turkey and the railway line pass through it. It also has an international airport, a number of bridges on the River Tigris which links east to west banks.

## Education:

The Province has only one University, (University of Mosul), more than (1802) primary school, 114 kindergartens, more than (647) secondary school, 10 Teachers' Qualifying Institutes, (43) library and many vocational institutes and schools.

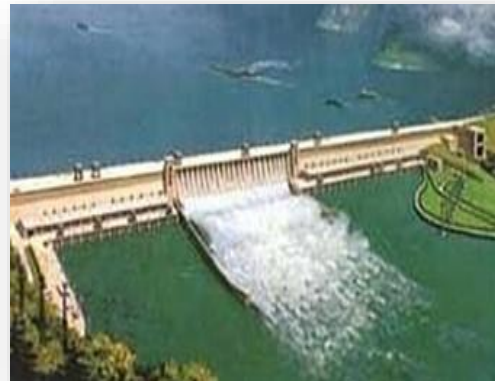
## Health

Nineveh has 18 hospitals and 156 health center.

## Tourist sites

There are a lot of tourists sites in Nineveh among which are the Mosque of Prophet Yunus, Mosque of Khidhr, Hadba Minaret, Noumroud, and Bashtabiyah Castle. The city is famous for its tourist woods, Mosul Dam, in addition to many worship places and religious shrines which is related to many Prophets and priests.

**Dam of Mosul:** It is located on the River Tigris, approximately 60 km to the north of Mosul. It had been accomplished in 1986. Its length is approximately 75 km from the Dam site to the Iraqi- Turkish borderline. The area of its lake is almost 220 km<sup>2</sup>. A tourist city was established by it. It contains several tourist facilities and apartments.





## Province of Irbil

### Historical Background

Arbeel or Irbil is the capital of Iraq's Kurdistan. It is the fourth city in Iraq regarding area after Baghdad, Basra, and Mosul. It is 360 km from Baghdad. Mosul city is westwards of Irbil, almost 80 km away from it. It is 112 km away from Sulaimaniyah.



### Area and climate

The area of Irbil is (13.165) km<sup>2</sup>. The province occurs within the steppe area which has transitional climate between that of the Mediterranean and the desert climate. It is characterized for its sever cold and drop of humidity average. Irbil is regarded as one of the historically important cities throughout ages and an important effective cultural and civilization center in Kurdistan of Iraq. Its naming refers back to the Assyrian age when it was given the name of (Arba-Ilo), i. e. the four Gods. This is a metonymy of the important Assyrian temples at Irbil.

### Population

The number of the inhabitants of Irbil is 1.896.753 person

### Main cities

Province of Irbil constitutes of a number of main districts:

- Irbil District, (Behraka, Ainkawa, Shamamek)
- Benslawia District (Dartoo, Qoshtaba, Rezkari, Kesnezan)
- Soran District, (Khlaifan, Diana, Sedkan)
- Shaqlawa District. (Saladin, Hareer, Heran, Basmera, Balisam)
- Joman District (Haj Umran, Smelan, Gelala, Qasry)
- Kwesenjeq District (Taqtaq, Shoreshe, Ashty, Sektan, Serdekan)
- Khabat District (Dar Shukran, Rezgary, Korkosek)
- Rawandouz District (Werty)

### Infrastructures

Irbil is the capital of Kurdistan Reign and a commercial center. It has a land strategic line which links it to Iran and the border center of Choman for commercial exchange. The province has three round streets, street 60, street 90, and street 120. It has Irbil International Airport as well.



## Education

The Province has a number of primary and secondary schools among which is the international school of Shwaifat, and many state universities, colleges and institutes in addition to the private ones. The most important state Universities include Hawler medical university, Saladin University. Among the private institutions are Kurdistan University, Dijlah College University, Jihan College University, the Lebanese- French University for Business Management, and Ishq Medical College.

## Health

The Province has more than 42 hospital covering all the specializations and a number of the State central hospitals, among which are (Irbil University hospital, Azadi hospital, Rezgari hospital, Central Pediatric hospital) and 270 medical center all over the province outskirts and districts.

## Tourist sites

**Castle of Irbil:** It is situated at the center of the city of Irbil at Kurdistan of Iraq. Its history dates back to the Assyrian age, approximately the first millennium B. C. It was built primarily for defensive purposes, as it was regarded as an immune stronghold for the city of Irbil by then.



## Gilli Ali Beg waterfall

This waterfall occurs between the cities of Khalifan and Soran. Its length is 12 km. It is situated between the mountains of Korek and Nouathneen, 60 km from Shaqlawa summer resort. Gilli Ali Beg waterfall descends from a high point in a high speed. It is 130 km from the city of Irbil and it is one of the beautiful summer resorts in Irbil and in Iraq in general. It is 800 m above sea level.



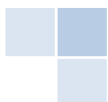
### Bikhal waterfalls

They are regarded among the most beautiful tourist sites in Iraq. The area is characterized for its humming waterfalls and its beautiful landscapes. These waterfalls are 10 km. from Rawandouz city. Bikhal has been known as summer resort which has wonderful waterfalls and landscapes.



### Shaqlawa resort

The city is famous for its waterfalls and mountainous nature as it is situated on the mountain Sifeen.



## Province of Duhok

### Historical Background

An Iraqi city which falls in Kurdistan of Iraq. Its three sides are bordered by mountains. This grants the city a marvelous looking. A streamlet coming from the Big Duhok Dam penetrates the city turning it to be one of the most beautiful sites. The Province of Duhok is famous for its fascinating landscapes.



The origin of the city dates back to the Stone Age, then it became a part of the Assyrian Empire; then the Babylonians; the Akhminians before it failed in the hands of Alexander the Great and the Romans.

### Location

Province of Duhok is situated in the region of Kurdistan, extremely to the north west of Iraq. This province enjoys a special importance from the historical and geographical stand of view. The ruins and sculptures which were discovered in its hills and caves depict this importance. Moreover it has a distinctive geographical situation as it occurs on the borders between two states, and an international strategic transport way passes through it to link Iraq to Turkey and the external World as well. In addition, oil line which passes from Kirkuk to Turkey penetrates its north western corner. The province of Duhok is characterized by its various land shape, including the high mountains which shape the political borders of Turkey, and wide plains which are rich in their agricultural resources. These shape the southern part of the province.

### Population

Inhabitants of the Province is (1318458).

### Main cities

Province of Duhok is consisted of several important districts:

- Duhok District (Zaweeta, Mankeshek)
- Summail District (Bytel)
- Zakho District (Derkar, BAtifa)
- Namidi District (Sarseng, Kani Masy, Derlok, Jamanky, Bamerny)
- Sheikhan District (Qasrorek, Etreesh, Baadery, Ekry, Denarta, Bejeel, Kurdseen)
- Berdersh District (Dartoo, Rovia, Kelek)





### Infrastructures

Province of Duhok is an important commercial center. Ibrahim Al-Khaleel entrance on the border with Turkey is one of the important points through which 40% of the materials pass. The province has a strategic road links it to Turkey.

### Education:

The province has more than five private Universities and Colleges most important of which are (College of Agriculture, University of Duhok, and University of Kurdistan), many technical and administrative institutes, 440 primary schools, 215 secondary school and many Teachers' Qualifying Institutes and vocational institutes and schools.

### Health

Province of Duhok has 19 hospitals inside the province and 157 medical center all over its outskirts and districts.

### Tourist Sites

#### Serseng summer resort

This is 126 km from Mosul. It is 1.046 m. above sea level. The maximum temperature there during summer mounts to 34°.

#### Soulaf summer resort

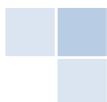
This is (166) km from Mosul through a paved way, 5 km from Imadiah. It is 1150m above sea level. It has many marvelous waterfalls as high as 25 m. The summer resort is characterized by its numerous caves most important of which is Safi cave shaded by nut trees.

#### Jarsteen cave

This is a four columned cave at the valley of Duhok. Some historical references and some historians who visited the area confirm that it is one of the most ancient caves in which man had lived.

Historians confirm that Jarsteen cave dates back to the middle ages with its most ancient documents dates back to 12.000 years B. C. There is also the hill of Bastik and of Kammoun which date back to the history of the Kurdish Metanic State, in addition to the hill of Malta, the cave of Hilahta at Shandoukha, southward the province center which dates back to the ages of the Kurdish medians.

Still, there are many other caves and antiques sculptured on stones and many other ancient sites.



## Province of Sulaimaniyah

It is situated in the eastern north of Iraq, on the Iraqi- Iranian borders. It affiliates to the region of Kurdistan. It is 2.895 f. above sea level. Mountainous nature overwhelms the province which increases as one goes towards the east borders with Iran. It is 140 km eastward of Kirkuk. 60 km North West the city of Sulaimaniyah is the Dam of Dokan on the River of Minor Zab.



### Population

Inhabitants of the Province are (2.212.099).

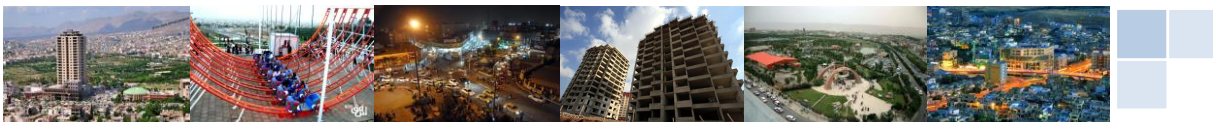
### Main cities

Province of Sulaimaniyah is consisted of several important districts including:

- Sulaimaniyah District, Bakra Jo
- Qara Dagħ District, She Setan
- Shara Zour District, Halabcha Taza- Warmao
- Sayed Sadiq District, Serjok
- Halebcha District, Serwan- Khormal- Byara
- Penjoueen District, Kermek- Talbareez
- Sharbareez District, Chwarta- Sewtel- Setek- Zlan- Kapilon
- Mawt District,
- Bishder District, Diza Castle- Hero- Helsho- Thar Awo- Nawa Desht- Esawy
- Ranyah District, Chwar Qorna- Haji Awa- Betwana- Serkabkan
- Dokan District, Sordash - Bera Macrin- Khalkan- Khadran- Benkerd
- Derbendikhan District, Baw Khosheen
- Klar District, Klar- Bebaz- Shiekh Taweel
- Chamchamal District, Shoresħ- Sinkaw- Tekiya- Aghchiler- Qadir Karam- Tekiya Jabbar
- Khanaqeen District, Maydan- Bmo- Qowra too

### Infrastructures

Province of Sulaimaniyah is a border province which has a commercial relation with Iran and has Sulaimaniyah International Airport.



## Education

Education in Sulaimaniyah, just like in other places in Iraq, is free starting from primary school till university graduation. Sulaimaniyah has more than 600 primary school; 310 secondary school; more than 15 vocational institutes and the University of Sulaimaniyah which was established in 1968 using Arabic and English languages in teaching. It was transferred to Irbil under the name of Saladin University and the new University of Sulaimaniyah has been inaugurated in 1991 which teaches in Arabic, English and Kurdish as well. In 2007 The American University at Sulaimaniyah, the first University of International teaching has been inaugurated. It teaches in English and includes 6 private Colleges.

## Health

Province of Sulaimaniyah has 50 hospitals and 502 medical center all over its outskirts and districts.

## Tourist Sites

### Serchenar summer resort:

Serchenar summer resort is 5 km away from the center of Sulaimaniyah city. It is rich in trees, lot of water, and wide shaded areas. This summer resort has the hotel of Serchenar in addition to many tourist houses, a number of hotels and coffee shops ready to welcome tourists and provide services. There are also Luna parks and big entertainment gardens.



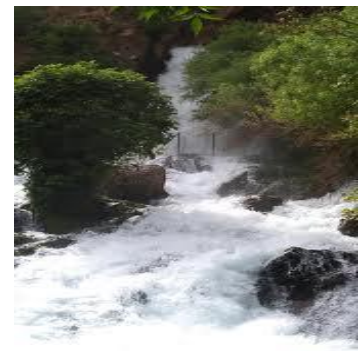
### Dokan Lake:

This lake is 71 km from the center of the province of Sulaimaniyah, 141 km from the city of Kirkuk. It has been established near the Dam of Dokan on the Minor Zab. For the ease of tourist, an integrated vast tourist complex, game hall, coffee shops, and a modern market have been established to help people get their food. There are playing areas for adults and children, a pool, and boats marina too.



### Ahmed Awa waterfalls:

These are 75 km to the east of Sulaimaniyah, parallelizing the Iranian borders. This spot is regarded as a border point between Iraq and Iran, as the distance from there to the Iranian borders is only half an hour by car. The area is 2.000m above the sea level. The summer resort is situated amidst high mountain series. It is regarded as one of the most important sites in the city.



## Province of Anbar

### Historical Background

Anbar is regarded as the biggest Iraqi Province with its center Ramadi. It is situated in the western side of Iraq, 100km from the capital, Baghdad. It had been known before 1961 as (Liwa Ul- Dileim).

### Area

The area of the province is approximately 137.723km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population:** The population of the Province is (1.796.557) person



### Main cities:

- Ramadi District, Habaniya –Al Waffa
- Heet District, Al Baghdadi –Kubaisa-Heet
- Faluja District, Al Amriya- Saqlawiya-Karma
- Ana District
- Hadeethah District, Haqlaniya-Berwana
- Rutbah District, Al Waleed- Al Nikhaib
- Qaim District, AL Uboor- Al Ubaidy
- Rawa District



### Main activities

- Planting grains
- Cattle breeding
- Dates production
- Fertilizers production
- Cement Manufacturing
- Ceramics Manufacturing
- Glass Manufacturing





## Economy at a Glance

Industrial raw materials are available at Anbar Province which can be extracted through open mine methods like that of natural gas and oil in (Ukaz) gas field westward Anbar which reserves is estimated to be (50) b. f<sup>3</sup> and (Reesha) gas field, oil experts estimates refers to the availability of oil reservoirs in the Province of Anbar which need more exploring processes so as to estimate the quantities of the reserves and its economic feasibility. Anbar has approximately 53 Trillion cubic feet of natural gas in addition to the natural mineral fortunes, such as gold, phosphate, iron, uranium, sulfur, and silver. There are water resources embodied in the River Euphrates which runs (450 km), from the western north to the eastern south of the Province. In addition, there are four big water surfaces, the lakes of (Habbaniyah, lake of dam of Hadeethah, lake of Thirthar, and Razaza Lake).

There are reservoirs of groundwater suitable for irrigation in the western desert and arable fertile soil.

## Infrastructures

There is only one railway in the province. It starts from the capital, Baghdad, to end at the mines' area at Ukashat in Qaim, having the length of (522) km. This railway is used to carry passengers and goods. Anbar has (24) station for passengers and (5) for goods.

- The highway is regarded as the longest of the main roads in the province of Anbar, as it is (596) km. It stretches from Baghdad- Faluja- Ramadi- Turaibeel- Tunuf at the Iraqi- Syrian borders.
- Another way has the length of (219) km linking Qaim – Ukashat- Rutbah district.
- Qaim- Hadeethah road, (156) km
- Nikhaib- Ar'ar outlet (160) km on the borders of Saudi Arabia.

Province of Anbar has borders with three states: Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Syria, and Saudi Arabia Kingdom.

The Province has (4) outlets:

- Turaibeel outlet with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.
- Tunuf outlet with Syria.
- Qaim outlet with Syria.
- Ar'ar outlet with Saudi Arabia Kingdom.



## Education:

The Province has two Universities, Anbar University and Faluja University, in addition to technical institutes, a number of private colleges and the College of Al-Imam Al-'Aadham- Branch of Anbar. There are 1201 primary school; 47 kindergarten, 584 secondary school, 4 Teachers' Qualifying Institute and many vocational institutes and schools.

## Health

Province of Anbar has (15) hospital and (161) medical center

## Tourist sites

**Lake of Thirthar:** One of the most beautiful artificial lakes in Iraq. It was formed after Dam of Samara was built for irrigation purposes and to control floods of the Rivers Tigris and Euphrates. The lake can be attained at from Baghdad via Faluja and Ramadi, or via Samara.



**Lake of Habbaniyah:** This is a pan located to the south of the city of Ramadi, used to store 3.3 b.m<sup>3</sup> and to return 2.7 b.m<sup>3</sup> to the River of Euphrates at the season of draught. The lake is controlled by the Dam of Ramadi. The lake is linked southward to a river which connects it to the lake of Thirthar to drain the surplus water from Habbaniyah Lake to the Lake of Razaza whose capacity is 26 b.m<sup>3</sup>. A resort has been established on the banks of this lake.



## Province of Wasit

### Historical Background

It is situated in the middle of Iraq. Building the city started in 78 A. H. and it was finished in 86 A.H. to be the new administrative headquarter of the country. It was named Wasit due to its location in the center of the country or in between Al Koufa and Basra, this province is important for its Historical and ancient sites as it has more than (420) location such as Wasit historical City which is located in the South – east of the province as well as (Tal Mariees) located to the north of Badra District and (Tal Al Welayia) located in Al Ahrar District.



### Location

Province of Wasit situates in the southern part of the middle area, The province center is the city of Kut, 172 km to the south of Baghdad, bordered by the Province of Diyala and Baghdad to the north and Maisan Province (206 km) and Thi Qar (204 km) both to the south, Babylon is (274 km) to the west and AL Qadesiah is (192 km) to the south west. Eastwards of the Province is the international borderline of Iraq with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

### Area

The area of the Province of Wasit is (17153) km<sup>2</sup>

### Population

The population of the Province is (1.401.442) person

### Main cities:

- Kut District, Wasit- Shikh Saad
- Al Noumaniah District, Al Ahrar
- Hai District, Al Muafaqiya- Al Bashair
- Badra District, Jasan- Zurbatiya
- Sewaira District, Al Zubaidiya- Al Shihaymia
- Aziziyah District, Taj Al Deen- Al Boni



**Al-Kut Dam**



**Main Activities:**

- Agricultural.
- Livestock.
- Crude oil extraction.
- Border port

**Economic at a Glance**

The Provinces famous for its Minerals and natural resources and a huge reservations of oil (such as, the oil fields of Ahdab at Ahrar District and Badrah field) and reservations of natural gas linked to the oil reservations. Raw materials for construction industries, such as cement, gypsum, brick, etc.) are also available in large quantities.

The province is distinguished by its agricultural lands and producing a high quality of the strategically grown plants such as wheat, barley, corn, cotton, sunflower, rice and many dates, vegetables and fruits production where The River Tigris go through it from north to south in a 327 km length in addition to Al Garaf, Al Deejail and Al Kalall seasonal rivers and underground waters. Livestock is also of great importance to the national economy and the economy of the province, it contributes to providing raw materials for the industrial sector. The governorate is famous for producing poultry meat, fish fields and honey bees.

**Infrastructure:****Electricity:**

Al Zobaidiah station is considered as a large electrical project in the country, it includes six generating units, four of them is of 330 MW per unit, and two of them are of 610 MW each one of them.

**Education:**

The Province has only one University, 3 private collages (Al Kut Collage, Imam Al Kadhimi Collage, and Al Wasiti Collage) and a number of technical institutions, 754 primary school; 222 secondary school and some technical schools.

**Health**

Province of Wasit has 10 public and private hospital, 47 health center and 33 clinics.

**Roads and Transportations:**

In Wasit there is a net of main roads that link it with the Capital Baghdad and other province s such as (Thi Qar, Maisan and Babylon) in addition to the main road that





connects the province with the borderline with The Islamic Republic of Iran through Badra Border Port.

### **Tourism Locations:**

The province has many ancient and historical sites in addition to the religious sites dispersed in different locations of the province.

#### **Wasit Historical City:**

The city is located to the south east of Wasit and it goes back to 83 H, the gate of the city is one of the noticeable sites till this day which is thought to be the remains of the sand school in Wasit City.



#### **Saeed Ibn Al Jabeir Shrine:**

The shrine is Located in District of Al Hai 40 km to the south of Kut as he was one of Imam Ali ( Poh) friends. The total area of the shrine is currently ten thousand square meters, and it is a source of attraction for many visitors, in addition to holding literary and poetry festivals.



#### **Imam Taj Al Dein Shrine:**

The shrine is located in Taj Al Dein District (to the north of Wasit province) around 100 km far from the center of the city and it is considered as a source of attraction to many visitors and tourists which empowers the tourism in the area.



#### **Imam Mahdi Threshold (PBH):**

The Threshold is located on the road connecting between Numaniyah and Kut,( 15 Km far from Numaniyah and 22 Km far from Kut). The threshold regularly visited by lots of visitors during the religious occasions.



#### **Al Motanabi:**

The shrine is located in Al Numaniya District in Wasit in which Al Mutanabi poetical festival is held annually with the present of many known Arab and Iraqi writers and critics, a festival that activate tourism in the province.



## Province of Babylon

### Historical Background

Province of Babylon had been known as the Capital of the Babylonians during the rule of Hammurabi where the Babylonians ruled over Mesopotamia. The first dynasty of the Babylonians, ruled by Hammurabi (1792- 1750 B. C.) had ruled the majority of Mesopotamia provinces.



This Province is one of the main areas known for their agricultural production and it is rich in historical sites. Its center is Hilla. The Province has many investment opportunities among which are the religious, archeological and cultural tourism, cattle, and agricultural ones.

### Area

Babylon has the area of (5.258) km<sup>2</sup>.

### Population

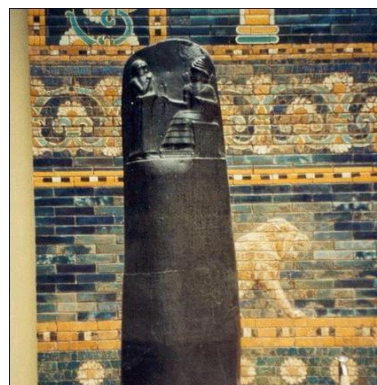
The population of the Province is (**2.093.416**) person.

### Main cities

- Hilla District, Al Kifil- Abi Gharaq
- Mahaweel District, Al Mashrooa- Al Imam- Al Nile
- Hashimiyah District, Al Qasim- Al Midhatiya- Al Shomaly- Al Taliaa
- Musaieb District, Sadat Al Hindiya- Jurf Al Sakhar- Al Eskandariya

### Main activities

- Industry
- Textile
- Cattle breeding
- Grains
- Dates
- Tourism



**Obelisk of Hammurabi**



## Economy at a Glance

Agriculture is regarded as the main activity in the Province, as 70% of its area is suitable for cultivation using 15% of the Euphrates waters. However, there is also an industrial activity as another field, among which is the State Company for Automobile Manufacturing at Alexandria which produces vehicle bodies and assembles automobiles, in addition to other number of operating companies such as the State Company for Mechanical Industries and Hilla textile factory, Al Forat State Co., Corn flour and dextrin plant, Al Sada Cement Plant and disposable syringes plant.

## Infrastructures

The Province is located to the south of Baghdad; therefore, it has many roads which link it to the capital and other areas in Iraq. There is a direct road which links the Province to the Provinces of Karbala, Najaf, Diwaniyah, and Wasit. the (Basra – Baghdad) highway road passes through the Province.

## Education

The Province has two Universities (Babylon University) and (Al Qasim /Al-Khadraa University), technical college and institute and a number of private collages, more than 881, primary school; 46 kindergartens, more than 383 secondary school, 5 Teachers Qualifying Institutes and a number of vocational Institutes.

## Health

Babylon Province has (19) hospital and (111) health center.

## Tourism

**Babylon historical site:** This is situated 5 km to the north of the city of Hilla. It had been the most famous city in the ancient and modern worlds and the miracle of the ancient world, particularly after its widest expansion by the Babylonian famous King Nebuchadnezzar (605- 562 B. C.). It became famous to such a degree that it turned to be the title of Mesopotamia civilization as a whole, Babylonia was the name. Its walls and Hanging Gardens were among the Seven World Wonders.





**Burs:**

Burs is situated almost 15 km southwards the city of Hilla. Its scaled tower is a high mark on the Hilla- Kifl road. Its present name (Burs) is derived from its Babylonian ancient name (Bursia), a Sumerian word which means "Sea sword" or "Sea horn" as it had been situated on a stream or a lake.

**Keesh historical site:**

This is situated 13 km away from the city of Hilla, 6 km eastwards of Babylonian historical site. Among its antiques is the ziggurat of "Aneer Kedirma", the ziggurat dedicated for the temple of (Ayil Baba), the God of war.





## Province of Holy Karbala

### Historical Background

The city history dates back to the Babylonian era. Some historians see that the word Karbala means (qurb Alilah: near God), a Babylonian origin word. It is said that the word has been chiseled from (Kur Babil: a collection of Babylonian villages). The Province has soft pure land surrounded by dense orchards irrigated by the River Euphrates. The most prominent feature of the Holy City of Karbala is the shrine of Imam Hussein (Poh) and the shrine of his brother, Al-Abbas, (Poh). Within the Province, there is also Al- Akhaidhir stronghold, southward the city, the palace of Sham'oun at Ain Tamr, and Al-Tar historical caves.



### Location

Province of Karbala is situated on the right bank of River Euphrates, surrounded by important agricultural areas on three sides, particularly, the eastern side which occurs between the city and the River Euphrates. The city is 105 km to the western south of Baghdad, bordered from the north by the Province of Anbar; from the south by the Province of Najaf; from the east by the Province of Babylon; and from the west by the desert of Sham and the Saudi Arabia lands. The city occurs on the longitude 44° and the altitude 33°.

### Area

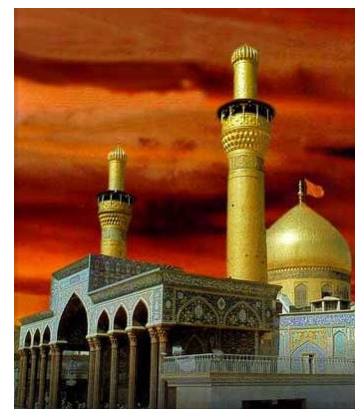
The area of the Province of Karbala is 5.034 km<sup>2</sup>.

### Population

The population of the Province is (1.241.237) person.

### Main cities

- Karbala, Al Husainiya- Al Hur
- Ain Tamr
- Hindiyah, Al Jadwal Al Gharbi- Al Khairat



### Main activities

- Tourism
- Oil refine
- Dates
- Citrus
- Agriculture
- Canning factories



### Infrastructures

There are two main roads pass through Karbala, the first starts from southern Baghdad, passes through Karbala, and continues to Najaf. the second starts from Babylon and goes westward to Kerbala and continues through the south part of Anbar to the border outlet of 'Ar'ar towards Saudi Arabia Kingdom, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and Syria.

### Education:

The Province has two Universities, Karbala University and Ahl al-Bait University, 532 primary school; 43 kindergartens, 233 secondary school, 5 Teachers' Qualifying Institutes and many vocational institutes and schools.

### Health

The Province has (8) hospitals and (51) medical center.

### Tourist sites

#### Karbala

Karbala is one of the ancient Iraqi cities. It enjoys a religious prestige due to shrine of Imam Hussein (Poh) and the shrine of his brother, Al- Abbas (Poh),. Among the most historical sites at the Province are the following:

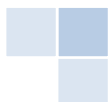
**Akhaidhir stronghold:** This feature is one of the defensive archeological buildings. It is one of the characteristic Islamic military architecture regarding design and geometry, not only in Iraq, but also on the level of the Arab and Islamic World. The stronghold occurs on a desert way links Iraq to the external world.



**Razaza Lake:** This Lake is 18 km from Karbala, on the way leads to Akhaidhir. The Lake is 60 km in length 30 km in width. This wide beautiful lake is an important tourist site visited by people who are eager to practice various kinds of water sports and fishing.



**Ain Tamr:** The city of Ain Tamr "Shithatha" is situated to the western south of Kerbala, (67 km) from Karbala. It is a historical spot as it has ancient civilization antiques. Ain Tamr district is regarded the largest oasis in the western upland, It is famous for its palm tree forests and orchards. It is characterized for its landscapes, beautiful weather during spring and autumn seasons. It is also famous for its mineral water which flow from more than fifty natural springs. A tourist complex composed of 20 tourist apartments, a hotel, and a restaurant, in addition to extended gardens was established in the area.



## Province of Holy Najaf

### Historical Background

Najaf is a historical city. It represents an important cultural, religious, commercial, and agricultural center at the center of Iraq. It is situated on a high mound over vast sand land overlooking from the northern eastern front on the cemetery of Wadi Salam "**Valley of Peace**"; and from the western front on the sea of Najaf.

The Province of Najaf embraces the tomb of Imam Ali, (Poh). It receives millions of visitors from all over the world.



### Location

Najaf is one of the Provinces which occurs in the middle of south Iraq, at the edge of the western upland, 161 km from Baghdad. The city is 70m above sea level. It is bordered from the north by the Province of Karbala, almost 80 km away.

### Area

The area of the Province of Najaf is (27. 845) km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population:** The population of the Province is (1.500.522) person

### Main cities:

- Najaf District, Al Haideriya- Al Shabaka
- Kufa District, Al Abasiya- Al Huriya
- Manathirah District, Al Hera- Al Mishkhab- Al Qadisiya

### Main activities

- Tourism
- Agriculture
- Cattle breeding
- Commerce





### Infrastructures

- A main road starts from Baghdad southward to the Province of Babylon, and then to the province of Najaf. Another road links province of Najaf to the Province of Karbala.
- The Province has the International Airport of Imam Ali (Poh).

### Education:

The Province of Najaf has only one University, University of Kufa and (616) primary school; 45 kindergartens (322) secondary school; (4) Teachers' Qualifying institutes and many vocational institutes and schools.

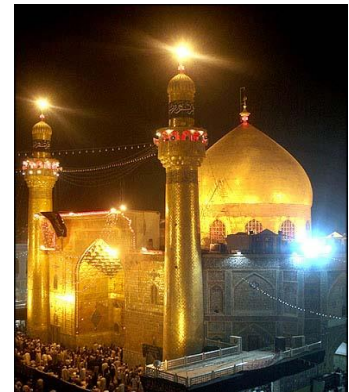
### Health

Province of Najaf has 13 public hospitals and 76 medical center.

### Tourist sites:

Tomb of Imam Ali (Pbh):

It is one of the most important sites for religious tourism. Its attended by almost 40 million visitors a year.



### Khan of Rahba:

It occurs on the old Hajj route within a low area, almost 30 km from the village of (Rahba). It was built from rocks and gypsum.



### Palace of N'uman Bin Al-Munthir:

Palace of N'uman Bin Al-Munthir is one of the palaces which date back to the ancient kingdom of Heera and the state of Manathirah which enjoyed a major role in the Arab pre-Islamic history. Its monuments remained to cope with the historical events; it often enriched poets' imagination who chanted these monuments and ruins.



## Province of Muthanna

### Historical Background

Human settlements in the southern part of the province were found during various ancient eras. Sumerians settled in Warka City in the fifth millennium B. C. many civilizations were built representing the first shift to the stable style of life and the early beginnings of the appearance of modern lifestyle, laws which organized the social life in addition to developed Agriculture and irrigation system which made Al Warkaa city the first spark in the Sumerian civilization.



### Location

Muthanna province is located in the south part of Iraq, at the edges of the alluvial plain. The majority of its areas height varies between (70- 220m) above the sea level. The River Euphrates and its branches pass through it. It is the only water resource for agricultural crops irrigation. The Province is 270 km from Baghdad to the south. It is the second biggest Province, after Anbar, regarding its area. It has a desert climate, and its center is Samawa District and the province has administrative borders with Al-Najaf and Al-Diwaniyha from the North, Basra and Dhi Qar from the east, Saudi Arabia from the west and part from Basra and Kuwait country from the south.

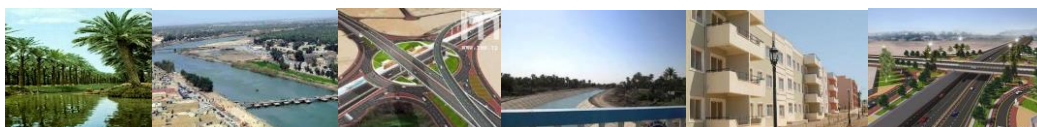
### Area

The area of the Province of Muthanna is (51.740) km<sup>2</sup>, 12% of the total area of Iraq. The desert occupies 47.000 km<sup>2</sup>, which means 91% of the total area of the Province.

**Population:** The population of the Province is (824.831) person.

### Main cities:

- Samawa District, Sewair
- Rumaitha District, Al Majd- Al Warkaa- Al Najmi- AL Hilal
- Salman District Al Basiya
- Hatra District, Al Daraji





### Main activities

- Agriculture
- Industry, especially cement, bricks, concrete structures
- extractive industries
- Oil products and refineries
- Cattle breeding

### Economy at a Glance

The Province is characterized by the availability of the natural and human resources for investment, especially in the industrial sector. Muthanna province is rich with raw materials of the low cost in extraction and production, such as, limestone which is used in cement industry, sedimentary compounds of Sodium and Chlorine as salty compounds used in salt production. The Province is also characterized by lots of date palm orchards and its distinctive tourist site being near the Lake of Sawa and some tourist facilities. UNISCO approved the historian location of AL Warkaa to join the international heritage which granted the province an international reputation and importance.

### Infrastructures

- The Province has a vital location in the southern part of Iraq on the International road linking Basra to Baghdad and international borders.
- (Baghdad- Basra) railway line goes through the city with a maintenance station for locomotives and train carriages.
- Oil refinery with 30.000 bpd capacity
- The strategic gas pipe line from Basra to Baghdad passes through Muthanna Province.

### Education:

The Province of Muthanna has only one University and (496) primary school; 21 kindergartens (154) secondary school; (2) institutes for Teachers' Qualifying, and 1 vocational institute.

### Health

The Province has (4) hospitals and (57) general medical center.



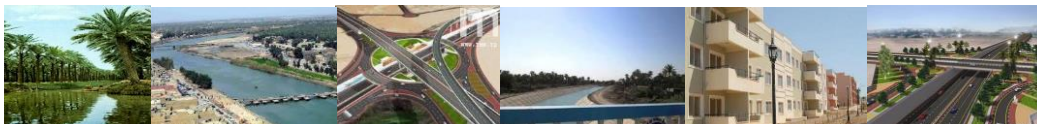
### Tourist sites

**Lake of Sawa:** a closed salty lake located at the Province of Muthanna, southern Iraq, and few kilometers from the city of Samawa. The Lake is surrounded by a natural limestone wall which quickly repairs itself if broken due to fast hardening character of the limestone material in the water.



### Historical tourist city:

the location of historical Warkaa



## Province of Diwaniyah

### Historical Background

It is one of the middle Euphrates Provinces that lies within the alluvial plain of Iraq. The name of the city first appeared during the eighteenth century. River Euphrates passes through the Province where it is known as Shatt Al-Diwaniyah. Diwaniyah is characterized by the fertile lands which qualifies it to be the food basket for the people at the area in specific, and for Iraq, in general.



### Location

The Province of Diwaniyah is located at the southern part of Iraq, surrounded by Najaf, Karbala, Babylon, Muthanna and Thi Qar. It is characterized by agriculture, such as rice, and other agricultural crops.

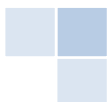
### Area

The area of the Province of Diwaniyah is (8.507) km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population:** The population of the Province is (1.311.699) person.

### Main cities:

- Diwaniyah District, Saniya-Shafiya- Daghara
- Ifak District, Nifer- Bedair-Sumer
- Shamiyah District, Ghammas- Mhanawiya-Salahiya
- Hamza District, Sadeer-Shanafiya



### Main activities

- Agriculture (rice as the most famous product)
- Food stuff industries
- Textile industries
- Rubber industries (Tires)
- Cattle breeding
- White meats, eggs and fishes
- Construction industries (Bricks factories)
- Oil industry (Diwaniya Oil refinery)



### Infrastructures

There is a main road starts from Baghdad to Diwaniyah and a multi- track highway passes through the Province. The main Iraqi railway passes through the Province as well from north to south. Three generating stations are available in the province, two of them produce 300 MW and the third one produces 500 MW, in addition to the International Diwaniya Airport. It also has many industrial companies for rubber, textiles, dairy, cement, petrochemicals, and oil refinery.

### Education:

The Province of Diwaniyah has only one university and some private collages and institutes (Technical, Teachers and Fine Arts) and (666) primary school; 58 kindergartens, (249) secondary school; And a good number of private teaching institutes (nursery, kindergarten, primary schools) .

### Health:

Province of Diwaniyah has (9) hospitals, 4 specialized centers, (73) medical center in villages around the city and 3 working private hospitals and others under construction.



## Province of Thi Qar

### Historical Background

Thi Qar is one of the Iraqi southern Provinces. Its center is the city of Nasiriyah. Historical evidence indicates that this name exists from old ages. Some historical sites, such as, the ancient city of Ur, 5.000 years B. C. occurs there. It is the land where the Sumerians and Acadians settled.



### Location

The Province of Thi Qar is located at the heart of the southern part of Iraq. The best part of the area of the Province is situated next to the Rivers of Euphrates and Gharraf. The Province is one of the most ancient lands settled by mankind and established the first human civilization and there still lays the ancient archeological monuments of cities such as Ur and Lagash and else.

### Area

The area of the Province of Thi Qar is (13,626) km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population:** The population of the Province is (2.132.149) person.

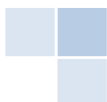


### Main cities:

- Nasiriyah District, Al Eslah- Al Bathaa- Said Dekheel- Ur
- Rifa'i District, Qalaa Suker- Al Nasir- Al Fajir
- Suq Al-Shouyoukh District, Akeka- Karma Beni Saad- Fdhaliya- Al Tar
- Al Jabaish District, Hammar- Al Fohood
- Shatra District, Dwaya- Al Garaf



Zaqura Heritage City





**Main activities**

- Agriculture
- (Engineering and textile) industries
- Oil and gas production
- Cattle breeding
- Fishing



Archeological Harp

**Infrastructures:**

Thi Qar Province has an electric-thermal station that produces 600 MW, there is also Al Nasyriah Gas turbine station and an Oil Refinery with a refining capacity of 30,000 bpd, it has a good net of roads and transportation linking it to the neighboring provinces as there are many land roads. These are:

- Baghdad -Basra international highway
- Nasiriyah- Kut way
- Imarah – Ri'fai- Diwaniyah way
- Nasiriyah- Diwaniyah way
- Nasiriyah- Samawa way
- Nasiriyah- Imarah way



The Province is also penetrated by the railway which links Basra to the capital, Baghdad.

**Education:**

The Province of Thi Qar has two state universities, Thi Qar University at the City center and Sumer University at Ri'fai district and there are almost (1273) primary school; 40 kindergartens, (555) secondary school; (7) institutes for Teachers' qualifying, and many vocational institutes and schools.

**Health:**

There are 11 hospitals and 138 public medical center in Thi Qar.





## Province of Maysan

### Historical Background

It is one of the southern Provinces of Iraq. It is located to the east of the country, on the Iranian borders. Its center is the city of Imarah. It is located on the River Tigris. It had been known, before 1976 as Imarah Province. It is believed that the origin of the name of "Maysan" refers back to the Kingdom of Mayshan, and turned, by time, to be Maysan.



Its distinctive location formed a core for an important city and commercial center and had been adopted by Alexander the Great as a capital for his kingdom. Among its common names "Korat Dijlah" which means a number of villages alongside the River Tigris.

### Location

The province is located in the southern eastern part of Iraq, on the banks of the river Tigris. It is almost 400 km away from Baghdad. It represents a commercial center for agricultural crops, fish, and cattle. It is linked to the Provinces of Basra and Wasit by a 200 Km main road; and with the Province of Thi Qar through another road. An oil pipeline passes through the eastern part of the province and extends down to Basra and Fao southward.

**Population:** The population of the Province is (1,134.968) person.

### Area

The area of the Province of Maysan is (16.072) km<sup>2</sup>

### Main cities:

- Imarah District, Kumait
- Maymouna District, Said Ahmed Al Rifaii- Al Maymouna
- Qal'at Salih District, Al Aziz
- Mijar Al Kabeer District, AL Adil- Al Khair
- Kahla District, Al Musharah- Beni Hashim



**Main activities**

- Oil
- Agriculture
- Cattle breeding
- Agricultural industries
- Sugar production
- Paper production

**Education:**

The Province of Maysan has only one university and (653) primary school; 31 kindergartens, (186) secondary school; (4) institutes for Teachers' Qualifying, and many vocational institutes and schools.

**Health:**

In Maysan, there are 6 hospitals and 80 general medical center



## Province of Basra

### Historical Background

Basra is the third Province in Iraq regarding population and considered as the economic capital of Iraq, its only port overlooking the Arab Gulf and its main sea outlet. Basra has several names mentioned by references, after building it, it was named Um Al-Iraq "Mother of Iraq", Khizanat Al-Arab "Treasury of Arabs", Al-Basra Al-Uthma "The Great Basra", Al-Basra Al-Zahira "Prosperous Basra", Thaghr Al-Iraq Al-Basim "The smiling mouth of Iraq", Al-Fayha "The extensive", Qubat Al-Ilm "Dome of Science".



### Location

Basra is situated at the extreme south of Iraq, on the western bank of Shatt Al-Arab, the watercourse which results from Rivers Tigris and Euphrates meeting at Qurna, 110 km northward of Fao. Basra is almost 55 km from the Arab Gulf, 545 km from Baghdad. It has mutual border with Saudi Arabia Kingdom and Kuwait southward, and with the Islamic Republic of Iran Eastward. Local borders of Basra are with the provinces of Thi Qar and Maysan to the north and Muthanna to the west. Basra is the only port of Iraq and its main sea outlet.

From a geographical view, it occurs at the southern eastern corner of Iraq. This location has its impact in putting the province within the huge desert extension in the continents of Asia and Africa which consequently results in its overwhelming dry climate.

Basra, within its geographical location, is linked to the other provinces of Iraq through paved roads which lengths vary according to being near to, or far from it.

### Area

The area of the Province of Basra is (19.070) km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population:** Approximately (2,972.162) person.



**Main cities:**

- Basra District, Hartha
- Abu Al-Khaseeb District
- Zubair District, Safwan- Um Qasir
- Qurna District, AL Dair- Al Thaghr
- Fao District
- Shat Al Arab District, Al Nashwa
- AlImdainah District, Izz Aldeen  
Saleem- Talha

**Main activities**

- Oil and gas
- Sea charging and Railway
- Agriculture
- Food industries
- Heavy industries, such as, iron  
and steel, fertilizers, and  
petrochemicals
- Fishing

**Economy at a Glance**

Basra is one of the important provinces in Iraq, as it is rich with oil fields such as Rumaila field, Shi'aiba field, western Qurna field, and Majnoun field. Due to its location in the plains of Al Rafidain valley, it is considered as one of the best locations for planting rice, barley, wheat, and millet. It is also famous for cattle breeding. The province occurs on varying terrain land includes plains, upland, and desert and is also considered as a tourists Province for having many religious shrines and historical sites.

**Infrastructures**

Province of Basra has all the six Iraqi sea ports, including the deep port. Thus it is the transportation cross point of the southern part of Iraq. There is also a highway linking the Hashemite kingdom of Jordan to Iraq which starts from the Jordanian borders and ends in Basra. The province is also linked to the State of Kuwait via Safwan border crossing point, a main commercial outlet. In addition to these, there is Basra International Airport too.





**Education:**

The Province of Basra has only one university, University of Basra and (1198) primary school; 88 kindergartens, (632) secondary school; (14) institute for Teachers' Qualifying, and many vocational institutes and schools.

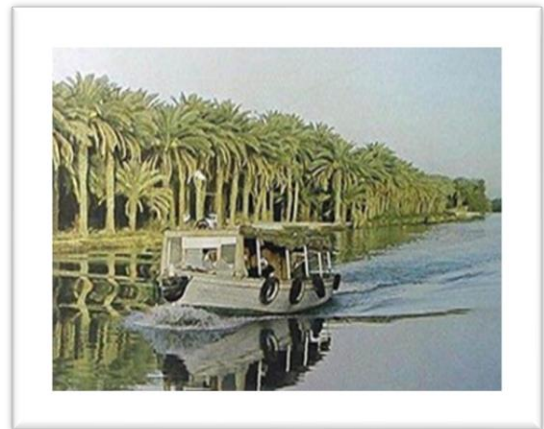
**Health**

Province of Basra has 19 hospitals and (121) medical center.

**Tourist sites:****Sindibad Island**

This island is a marvelous tourist site which is located at the middle of Shatt Al-Arab, opposite to Shatt Al-Arab Hotel in Maqal. It is linked to both river banks via Sindibad Bridge.

It has wonderful gardens decorated with beautiful fountains. There are facilities for visitor comfort, a tourist coffee shop, and tourist houses for residence, in addition to the floating hotel near the Island, and a vast coffee shop at the southern end of the Island.



**Qurna City:** It is 74 km northward of Basra; Qurna is the legendary place of Adam's tree and paradise of Eden, where Tigris and Euphrates meet to form together Shatt Al-Arab, where we can see a lot of farms and orchards especially date palm orchards.

**Abu Al-Khaseeb:** This city is located on Shatt Al- Arab, 26 km to the south of Basra. It is the city of the late great poet Badr Shakir Al-Sayyab, it is also the center of date palm forests which are unique for their beautiful landscapes.



## Investment Zones in Iraq

The National Investment Commission has started a program to prepare mechanism and a system to establish secured zones for investment according to the text of (Article 9 of the ratified amended Investment Law no. 13/ 2006

The National Investment Commission has formed up a strategy for the investment zones in Iraq in cooperation with the Investment

Program in the Middle East and North Africa of the (OECD) to determine terms and conditions that achieve investment in the region.



**The National Investment Commission is working on completing the requirement number of major investment zones:**

- **Basra Investment Zone/**Grant Faw port Zone, 2400 hectare, for petrochemicals, power station and oil refinery.
- **Babylon Investment Zone/** Hitteen Zone, 6000 dunum, for heavy and medium engineering industries with several in - site facilities and services.
- **Baghdad Investment Zone/** near the International Airport, for various economic sectors ( housing, recreational, services, educational, exhibitions, and social activities.
- **Middle Euphrates Investment Zone/** (between the Holy province of Najaf and the Sacred Province of Karbala) for Agricultural industries such as milk and dairy products, fruits canning, vegetables, meat and food industries.
- **Nineveh Investment Zone/**, suggested to be either in the site of Al Kindy Company or the site of Jaber bin Hayyan Company, for precision engineering industries, equipment and integrated engineering systems for medium and small projects.
- **Diyala Investment Zone/** The New Camp of Iraq (multipurpose, tourism)
- **Anbar Investment Zone/** construction materials and glass factories

### A - The importance of establishing investment areas in Iraq:

- Represents a real breakthrough for foreign companies in Iraq and advanced technology.
- Provide greater possibility to monitor the commitment of companies operating in them with all the controls imposed by Iraqi laws, such as environmental conditions and work systems through the administration in charge of the investment area, whether purely Iraqi or with a foreign partner.





- The creation of new economic communities with an advanced infrastructure largely independent of the existing infrastructure in the cities because they are dilapidated and weak in addition to the new projects in reliance on some of the existing services will lead to the weakening of such services as electricity, and thus the investment areas represent a more attractive environment due to the availability of services and infrastructure.
- Reduce bureaucratic procedures and routine as well as exceeding the delay in some commissions due to the delay of sectoral approvals and the lack of clarity of powers among some institutions.
- The application of such model will greatly reduce the dependence on allocations of the investment budget for the establishment of these areas, where the private sector, whether local or foreign will build them .
- Iraq adopts a free-market approach, and therefore, allowing national and foreign private sector initiatives is the direction that should be encouraged at the present time.

#### **B. Advantages of establishing investment zones:**

1. Encourage the establishment and rapid growth of large and medium-sized industries within a specific location.
2. Expanding and increasing employment opportunities, thus reducing unemployment, training and upgrading human resources.
3. Creating competitiveness ability and development among the products of the factories established in the city with each other on one hand and between them and similar imported goods on the other hand.
4. Transfer, use and localization of modern technologies.
5. To grant projects in these areas privileges according to the investment law and the system of safe investment zones, which the NIC is working to accomplish in accordance with the legislative methods.
6. Developing local capital and attracting foreign capital.
7. Achieving coherence among different sectors.
8. Reduce the cost of establishing, operating, maintaining and developing projects.

#### **C. The role of investment zones in economic and urban development:**

These zones play an important role in economic and urban development:

1. Reducing population density in large cities, thus reducing pressure on transportation, housing and energy.
2. Protecting residential areas from pollution hazards and thus avoiding the impact of industrial waste on the environment.
3. Create new and developed areas of cultural and social aspects, especially in the districts and villages where the investment areas are established in addition to raising the living standers and the economic base, productivity and employment.
4. Provide special services for workers in these areas at appropriate rates.

#### **Free Zones in Iraq**



**First: Khor Al Zubair Free Zone****Owned by the Ministry of Finance/ State Commission of Free Zones**

Area	Dis. & plot no.	Specifications
<b>20364200 m<sup>2</sup></b>	13/8 M44 Hela 1/3 2/2 3/1 M20 Shaawan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Available electricity</li> <li>2. Near Khor Al Zubair port</li> <li>3. 25 km to Um Qasir port</li> <li>4. 55 km to Safwan border Crossing point</li> <li>5. Paved roads</li> </ol>

**Second: Al Qaim Free Zone**

Area	Dis. & plot no.	Specifications
<b>430000 m<sup>2</sup></b>	133/7533 M 21 Dayoom Al Maniy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Next to Al Qaim border crossing point to Syria</li> <li>2. Near power and water resources</li> <li>3. Near the center of AL Qaim town</li> <li>4. Paved road 25 km between to free zone and Ukaz gas field</li> </ol>

**Third: Al Qaim Free Zone/ Ukashat**

Area	Dis. & plot no.	Specifications
<b>6612500 m<sup>2</sup></b>	133/7530 11/5 M 21 Dayoom Al Maniy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On the way linking Al Qaim border crossing point to Al Waleed and Traibeel</li> <li>2. 20 km paved road from Al Qaim border crossing point</li> <li>3. Strategic location near Ukashat mine and phosphate factory near Ukaz gas field</li> </ol>

**Fourth: Expanding Free Zone in Nineveh**

Area	Dis. & plot no.	Specifications
<b>4204980 m<sup>2</sup></b>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Located in Felfeel town to the north of the province</li> <li>2. 20 km from the road linking Nineveh to Douhok</li> <li>3. 120 km from Rabiaa Crossing point</li> <li>4. 180 km from Ibrahim crossing point</li> <li>5. Strategic location for big trade exchange between Iraq and Turkey in the last few years which makes it a good choice for a vital crossing point.</li> </ol>

Ministry of Finance/ State Commission of Free Zones/ property and construction Dept. letter no. 1682 in 21/10/2020





## Overview of Sectors

**Oil & Gas Sector**

[http:// www.Oil.gov.iq](http://www.Oil.gov.iq)

**Electricity Sector**

<http://www.Meolc.gov.iq>

**Communication Sector**

<http://www.Moc.gov.iq>

**Health Sector**

<http://www.Moh.gov.iq>

**Housing Sector**

<http://www.Imariskan.gov.iq>

<http://www.Moch.gov.iq>

**Transportation Sector**

<http://www.Motrans.gov.iq>

<http://www.Motransport.gov.iq>

**Industry & Minerals Sector**

<http://www.Industry.gov.iq>

**Tourism Sector**

[http://www.tourism .gov.iq](http://www.tourism.gov.iq)

**Education Sector**

<http://www.Mohesr.gov.iq>

**Services Sector**

<http://www.Mot.gov.iq>

**Youth and Sports Sector**

<http://www.Moys.gov.iq>

**Agriculture Sector**

<http://www.Zeraa.gov.iq>

## 1- Oil and Gas Sector

Iraq is blessed with vast reserves of oil and natural gas, and is one of the most promising, still largely undeveloped sources of hydrocarbon resources in the world. After decades of lack of investments due to wars and sanctions. The importance of oil is not only limited to its role in developing Iraq but exceeds that to the role



which it can play in the international oil market level for the big reserves which can be reinforced in the future because of Iraq's being one of the most responding countries to the increase demand of energy and it is expected for Iraq to be the second largest international resource for the crude oil, this sector contributed to the GDP with the fixed price by %58 during 2020 according to the national development plan. Iraq is actively seeking international investment and expertise to help in the development of its oil and gas sectors so negotiation rounds started and led Iraq for a new march in investment history. The Ministry of Oil announced new ambitious plan to increase oil production and exports during this decade depending on foreign investment as a main source to achieve this goal. The main way for investors interested in oil and gas sector is in oil bidding rounds announced by the ministry.

On the other side, it is more likely that the oil and gas industry will continue to attract foreign business activities in the near future and that Iraq has a wide range of untapped oil and gas fields which requires a large number of investments to develop these fields.



### Oil & Gas Indicators

Fixed oil reserves 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan. 2018	146.9 billion barrel
Fixed gas reserves 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan. 2018	132.9 Trillion Standard Cubic Feet
Daily average of oil production 2017	4.469 m bpd
Daily average of oil production 2018	4.401 m bpd
Daily average of oil exports for 2017	3.802 m bpd
Daily average of oil exports for 2018	3.836 m bpd
Target crude oil capacity 2019	5.000 thousand barrel
Target crude oil capacity 2020	5.500 thousand barrel

Source: Iraqi MoO- Planning & Studies Office, according to letter no: 961 in Jan.9<sup>th</sup> 2019

#### Oil:

There are 146.9 billion barrels of fixed reserves in Iraq discovered in 71 fields , 27 of which are developed and %75 of the fixed reserves concentrated in many major fields in the south east of the country near the Iraqi border with Kuwait and Iran. An additional %20 is located in the northern part of the country near Kirkuk.

#### Gas:

Iraq is similarly rich in natural gas, with 132.9 Trillion Cubic Feet in proven reserves.





### Oil and gas export and distribution pipelines

Iraq has a wide pipeline infrastructure total of 4350 miles. There are three main pipelines that connect Iraq to Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Syria in addition to the forth one (the Strategic line) that starts from Basra in the south to Kirkuk in the north. This line exports three quarters of daily production from Basra oil port in the south and the rest from the north pipeline from Kirkuk to Jihan port in Turkey.



### Production, Distribution and Export:

As Iraq is developing its infrastructure at the present time, and heading towards expanding its productive operations in oil field, and to attract investments in production, distribution and export fields for oil sector in order to improve the current situation of oil sector as well as it will help to attract investments in other fields such as export pipelines particularly in Basra Port, and the export pipelines from



Kirkuk Province to Jihan Turkish Port. There is a wide range of needs in the south of Iraq which includes the need to establish a new pipeline to link the resources extracted from oil wells to refineries and to establish storage facilities in addition to expanding the ports. A number of studies were conducted to develop infrastructure which would enable Iraq to gain its position as a source for natural gas and this requires constructing an expanded infrastructure for gas sector in order to enable Iraq to supply the gas pipelines heading to Turkey and therefore it will supply major European markets.



## Investment Opportunities in Oil and Gas Sector

Ministry of Oil announced an ambitious plan to increase oil production and exports in the following years. Participation and direct investments are principal means for achieving this goal through oil licenses rounds announced by the Ministry.

### 1. Investment projects in Refineries and Oil & Gas sectors:

No	Refinery Name	Location	Type of investment
1	Oxide asphalt production unite 10 KBPO	Basra	BOO Or BOOT
2	LAB project 75 KT/Y	Basra	BOO Or BOOT
3	Fuel oil hydrogenation project KBPO 30	Basra	BOO Or BOOT

### 2. Future investment projects in storage and transportation sector

No.	Project	location	How to implement	Capacity
1	Mosul warehouse for oil products	Mosul	Investment or EPC+F	Gasoline 4*20000 M3 Gasoil 3*20000 M3 Kerosene 3*10000M3 Jet fuel 2*10000M3 LPG 2*3000 ton

Source/ Ministry of oil/ Follow up ,planning, and study office letter no. 2814 dated in 27/1/2022



## 2- Electricity Sector

Electrical power is considered as one of the pillars that achieve economic and social development programs in all countries since the advancement of all economic sectors intrinsically depends on upgrading the power services.



The electrical grid system enters the core of the development process as it is considered one of the most important sectors upon which many other sectors depend.

Iraq is witnessing a crisis in power supply due to the unbalance between supply and demand as the production of power cannot meet the increasing demand which is affected by many factors.

Probably the most prominent problems hindering the provision of electrical power is the dependence on a lonely source, which is the fuel, in production whereas other countries started to resort to sustainable alternatives to meet the rising need.

Many problems result from miscoding in opting the right locations for the electrical generation stations like the environmental problems represented by pollution and the production problems represented by the remoteness of the fuels resources, the matter that largely affected production capacities in addition to the distribution problems represented by the inefficient electricity distribution grid that led to waste large amount of power before its being received by the consumer.

**Source: Ministry of Planning/ Local & Regional Development Office letter 17867 in 3/8/2021**



## Available Investment Opportunities in the Electricity Sector

No.	Project name	Additional capacity/ MW	Province
1	Al Shanafiya thermal power Station	3×330	Al Dewaniya
2	Al Yousfiya thermal power Station	2/ 210+4×350	Baghdad
3	North thermal power Station	4×350	-

Source: Ministry of Electricity/ Investment and Contracts Office letter 9279 in 8/3/2021

