

Beautiful Missan

Local project funded by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme under the programme Supporting Recovery and Stability in Iraq through Local Development



WHAT

Funded by the European Union (EU), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is supporting socio-economic growth through eco-tourism, restoration of cultural heritage and urban beautification in the Governorate of Missan, south of Iraq. The Beautiful Missan project was launched in mid-2020 as part of the programme Supporting Recovery and Stability in Iraq through Local Development. UNDP is implementing the project in partnership with the Governorate of Missan and Oxfam over the period of two years.

The programme aims at contributing to the stability and socio-economic development of Iraq through enhancing democratic governance at the local level. It is working to improve the ability of selected governorates to efficiently manage local government and public services. Economic growth and job creation are prioritized, with a focus on green projects and the inclusion of youth and women.

WHY

The objectives of the Beautiful Missan project are:



Increased access to jobs;



Urban revival and boosted local socio-economic development;



Improved decentralized local services; and



Renewed sense of nationhood, self-confidence and hope as a result of the changes.



HOW

- Creation of the first environment-friendly recreational area in Missan at the corniche of the Al-Majidiya and Al-Serriya districts inhabited by nearly 86,000 people;
- Re-introduction of the architectural and cultural heritage of Missan into new designs;
- Reviving of the richness of traditional ecosystems and livelihoods, such as old boats and natural purification of water from the Marshlands;
- Building back better by using environment-friendly methods of recycling and renewable energy;
- Training of unemployed, vulnerable people, mostly youth and women, to carry out sustainable livelihood activities;
- Creation of employment opportunities for at least 400 unemployed members of the local community; and
- Facilitation of job creation through local small and medium enterprises.

FUNDING

**\$2
million**

Provided by
the European Union

DURATION

2 years

WHERE



Relevant Sustainable Development Goals

“Young people in Missan, like other parts of Iraq, can play a significant role in the recovery of their local communities. The Beautiful Missan project provides them with the needed support to move forward towards this goal.”

Ambassador Martin Huth
Head of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Iraq

“Eco-tourism can be a cornerstone for economic development in Iraq. With Beautiful Missan, we are helping the local population and authorities to harness this potential, improve livelihood opportunities and accelerate growth.”

Zena Ali-Ahmad
Resident Representative of UNDP Iraq

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