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This past year, justice has been at the forefront of global consciousness. I often find myself wondering, “What does justice look like? Punishment for criminal transgressions? Legal reprimand?” With each passing day, I become more and more convinced that the scope of justice cannot be contained solely in courts of law. Injustices affect our everyday lives – from the education we receive to our job opportunities, access to healthcare, and even our ability to practice our religion in peace. Justice, therefore, must be equally expansive and restorative. It must include the building of safer and more equitable communities where the most marginalized are the most supported.

In May, the Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/ISIL (UNITAD) presented "clear and convincing evidence that the crimes against the Yazidi people clearly constituted genocide." This acknowledgment substantiates the truths survivors have been bravely sharing for years.

The presentation of court-admissible evidence is an important milestone. Yet, evidence alone is not justice. It accomplishes little without concrete plans for legal proceedings. Prosecuting ISIS perpetrators for genocide and sexual violence is crucial to both the healing of the Yazidi community and prevention of future violence. Nadia’s Initiative advocates world leaders and policymakers to pursue accountability and deliver justice according to community wishes.

Legal resolutions may be far-off, but Yazidis need not wait for restorative justice. Together, we can take immediate action to help Yazidis rebuild their homeland and reclaim their lives. We can strengthen local security and governance, rebuild critical infrastructure, and restore access to essential public services.


Nadia’s Initiative is on the ground in Sinjar implementing programs across the education, healthcare, livelihoods, water and sanitation, women’s empowerment, and culture sectors. We actively seek input from the community and center the voices of survivors in our redevelopment, ensuring our projects are tailored to local needs. There is a clear correlation between community-led reconstruction and an increased rate of return. When community members participate in the process, they are empowered to sustainably manage the projects we implement for years to come.

Tangible action is urgently needed. But not just any action – we need work that sustains and empowers the community to define their version of justice. We at Nadia’s Initiative are proud to support the Yazidis’ vision of justice, healing, and atrocity prevention. The strength of survivors lights the way toward a brighter future.

I invite you to join us in building this future together.

NADIA MURAD

President & Chairwoman of Nadia’s Initiative
Nobel Peace Laureate
UNODC Goodwill Ambassador
The Yazidis are an ethno-religious minority native to Northern Iraq. In 2014, the so-called Islamic State (ISIS) began a genocidal campaign against Yazidis involving ethnic cleansing in the form of mass executions, forced conversions, conscription of child soldiers, and widespread sexual violence and enslavement.
Over the past two years, Nadia's Initiative has witnessed an increased rate of return, as we work to restore critical infrastructure in Sinjar. Improved access to schools, clean water, healthcare, and livelihood opportunities serve as a strong pull factor for displaced Yazidis. However, much work remains to ensure that every returnee has the services and resources they need to rebuild their lives.

- **3K** Yazidi women and children still missing
- **200K** Yazidis still displaced in Northern Iraq
- **140K** Yazidis who have returned to Sinjar are struggling to rebuild
Rebuilding communities in crisis

Advocating for survivors of sexual violence
2020 AT A GLANCE

6M fundraising commitments

32 projects funded

13 EDUCATION PROJECTS

6 HEALTHCARE PROJECTS

5 LIVELIHOODS PROJECTS

3 WASH PROJECTS

3 WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT PROJECTS

2 CULTURE PROJECTS

$5,860,504
2019: 11,005 direct beneficiaries
2020: 140,437 direct beneficiaries
2021: 150,000 projected direct beneficiaries
Nadia’s Initiative is uniquely positioned to facilitate the re-development of Sinjar, Iraq due to its extensive knowledge and understanding of the political, cultural, and economic complexities of the region. Nadia’s Initiative brings a comprehensive peace-building approach to the process of rebuilding and recognizes that reconstruction efforts must be developed locally - local solutions to local problems. This type of approach will empower survivors and re-establish a sense of community in the region. Nadia’s Initiative strongly believes in making survivors, particularly women and children, an active voice in the peace-building process.

Nadia’s Initiative works with the local community and a variety of implementing partners on the ground in Sinjar to design and support projects that promote the restoration of education, healthcare, livelihoods, WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene), women’s empowerment, and culture in the region.
COMMUNITY DRIVEN

SURVIVOR CENTRIC

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Education is a key component to rebuilding the Yazidi community and positively impacting the lives of children who have already endured tremendous trauma and instability. The majority of school buildings in Sinjar were destroyed, burned, and looted by ISIS in the summer of 2014. The absence of a stable education system is negatively impacting an entire generation. Investing in the redevelopment of school systems is life-changing for students who have not had access to education since 2014 and will stimulate economic growth in the region. Nadia’s Initiative is rebuilding the education sector in Sinjar to contribute to the healing process of many survivors and lay the groundwork for a hopeful, prosperous future.
Rehabilitation & reopening of Al Qahtaniya 3 Mixed Primary School in Tel Azeer village
• direct beneficiaries | 126
• donor partner | Government of Flanders
• implementing partner | Sunrise Organization for Civil Society Development

Rehabilitation School in Rambosi Primary School in Rambosi village
• direct beneficiaries | 165
• donor partner | Government of Flanders
• implementing partner | Sanabel Future for Civil Society Development

Rehabilitation & reopening of Nisyría Primary School in Nisyría village
• direct beneficiaries | 184
• donor partner | Swedish Postcode Lottery Foundation
• implementing partner | Dorcas Aid International

Construction of Tabba Primary School in Tabba village
• direct beneficiaries | 457
• donor partner | Swedish Postcode Lottery Foundation
• implementing partner | Dorcas Aid International

Rehabilitation & reopening of Al Salam Primary School in Tel Qasab village
• direct beneficiaries | 196
• donor partner | Austrian Development Agency
• implementing partner | Dorcas Aid International

Rehabilitation & reopening of Al Taamim High School in Khanasor complex
• direct beneficiaries | 875
• donor partner | Austrian Development Agency

Rehabilitation of Al Walid Primary School for Boys in Tel Banat complex
• direct beneficiaries | 320
• donor partner | Government of Flanders
• implementing partner | Jelan Organization for Care and Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation & reopening of Al Shakow Primary School in Al Shakow village
• direct beneficiaries | 63
• donor partner | USAID
• implementing partner | Youth Bridge Organization

Furnishing Sinjar Education Department in Sinjar City
• direct beneficiaries | 16,200
• donor partner | USAID

Rehabilitation & reopening of Zorava High School in Zorava complex
• direct beneficiaries | 321
• donor partner | Austrian Development Agency

Rehabilitation of Al Hateen Primary School in Dugure complex
• direct beneficiaries | 936
• donor partner | Austrian Development Agency

Rehabilitation and reopening of Aljzeera 2 Primary School in Aljzeera village
• direct beneficiaries | 45
• donor partner | Government of Flanders
• implementing partner | Sunrise Organization for Civil Society Development

Construction & opening of Al Hateen Hostler Library in Dugure complex
• direct beneficiaries | 454
• donor partner | Millie’s Bookshelf
• implementing partner | Sunrise Organization for Civil Society Development
Investment in healthcare lays the foundation for sustainable development. Healthcare is the necessary building block to ensure all future investments in education, women’s equality, poverty alleviation, and community-driven development are successful. Through the rehabilitation of the healthcare sector in Sinjar, Nadia’s Initiative seeks to provide comprehensive primary, specialized, and mental healthcare to Yazidis, many of whom have not had adequate healthcare since 2014.
HEALTHCARE

Construction of new comprehensive medical facility in Sinjar
- direct beneficiaries | 150,000
- donor partner | Government of France
- implementing partner | La Chaine De L'espoir

Provision of medical equipment to Sinjar General Hospital
- direct beneficiaries | 32,000
- donor partner | USAID

Provision of PPE to hospitals and health clinics in North and South Sinjar
- direct beneficiaries | 150,000

Distribution of COVID-19 emergency medical supplies to hospitals and health clinics in North and South Sinjar
- direct beneficiaries | 100,000
- donor partner | Government of Flanders

Provision of oxygen concentrators to health clinics in North and South Sinjar
- direct beneficiaries | 100,000
- donor partner | USAID

Rehabilitation of Tel Azeer Primary Health Center’s maternity ward
- direct beneficiaries | 711
- donor partner | Mercury One
Nadia’s Initiative works to revitalize Sinjar’s agriculture industry by providing comprehensive rehabilitation to farming households. Farming makes up 75% of the region’s income. ISIS intentionally destroyed Yazidi farmlands, severing the Yazidis’ life support. Irrigation systems were destroyed, boreholes were polluted, pipelines were disrupted, and pumps and generators were stolen and vandalized. For Yazidi farmers, this destruction represents an obstacle to their return and a threat to food security in the region. Nadia’s Initiative also works to rebuild public infrastructure, including roads, electrical networks, and government buildings to improve the quality of life for residents of Sinjar.
LIVELIHOODS PROJECTS

Provision of COVID-19 emergency food baskets to vulnerable families in Sinjar
- direct beneficiaries | 72,000
- donor partner | Keep A Child Alive, Millie’s Bookshelf, USAID

Restoration of electricity in South Sinjar
- direct beneficiaries | 3,054
- donor partner | Government of Flanders, USAID

Rehabilitation of Al Taakhi Park
- direct beneficiaries | 22,138
- donor partner | USAID
- implementing partner | Sunrise Organization for Civil Society Development

Removal of rubble to improve access to strategic areas
- direct beneficiaries | 29,400
- donor partner | USAID

Clean up campaign to returnee areas
- direct beneficiaries | 2,418
- donor partner | USAID
- implementing partner| Rainbow NGO for Child Protection
Nadia’s Initiative works to restore water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services for villages, clinics, schools, farms, and households throughout the Sinjar region. Access to clean water is a basic human right. It is a key factor enabling the redevelopment of Sinjar and a driver of return for still displaced Yazidis.
WASH PROJECTS

Restoration of WASH infrastructure in 22 villages in North and South Sinjar
- direct beneficiaries | 77,057
- donor partner | UAE Aid
- implementing partner | Dorcas Aid International

Restoration of WASH infrastructure in Hayali village
- direct beneficiaries | 216
- donor partner | Swedish Postcode Lottery Foundation
- implementing partner | Dorcas Aid International

Provision of emergency water tanks to returnees
- direct beneficiaries | 1,500
- donor partner | USAID
Designing and developing programs for women that are survivor-centric is key to helping women rebuild their lives, provide for their families, and serve as leaders in their communities. The people of Sinjar have experienced the worst crimes against humanity, and their crisis is ongoing. Women in particular have endured tremendous suffering and should now be afforded the opportunity to gain economic independence, provide for their families, and earn a place of respect in society. Nadia’s Initiative provides women with skills and sustainable support to empower them to rebuild their lives.
Rehabilitation of 438 female-headed farming households
- direct beneficiaries | 2,107
- donor partner | Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
- implementing partner | Dorcas Aid International

Household support and supplies to 130 female survivors and their families
- direct beneficiaries | 780
- donor partner | Government of Flanders
- implementing partner | Nabu Organization for Awareness

Small business training and establishment for female survivors
- direct beneficiaries | 57
- donor partner | Government of Japan
- implementing partner | IOM Iraq, Mission East
Restoring Yazidi cultural sites is critical to reversing the effects of ISIS’ genocide against the community. ISIS intentionally destroyed Yazidi temples in an effort to eradicate its people and religion from Iraq. Nadia’s Initiative is working to rebuild Yazidi temples throughout Sinjar and to support the design and construction of cemeteries, memorials, and museums to honor those who were lost and lay the groundwork for social cohesion and restoration.
CULTURE PROJECTS

Restoration of Sheikh Mand Temple in Gedala village

- direct beneficiaries | 343
- donor partner | ALIPH Foundation
- implementing partner | Nabu Organization for Awareness

Restoration of Sheikh Hassan Temple in Gabara village

- direct beneficiaries | 87
- donor partner | ALIPH Foundation
- implementing partner | Sanabel Future for Civil Society Development
Nadia’s Initiative is on a mission to create a world where women are able to live peacefully, and where communities that have experienced trauma and suffering are supported and redeveloped.

Nadia’s Initiative advocates globally on behalf of survivors of sexual violence and women in conflict-settings. We work to end the use of women and girls as weapons of war and to ensure survivors’ voices are heard. We seek justice by fighting to hold perpetrators accountable for their crimes and enabling survivors to heal and rebuild their lives.
UN Security Council Resolution 2379
Nadia Murad and the Nadia’s Initiative team were instrumental in drafting and passing of UN Security Council Resolution 2379. The resolution called for the creation of an Investigative Team, headed by a Special Adviser, to support domestic efforts to hold ISIL (Da’esh) accountable by collecting, preserving, and storing evidence in Iraq of acts that may amount to war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide committed by ISIL. Nadia's Initiative works with UNITAD to expedite the process of mass graves exhumation and evidence collection in Iraq.

UN Security Council Resolution 2467
Nadia’s Initiative worked with the German Mission to the UN to help draft and pass UN Security Council Resolution 2467 in April 2019. The resolution expands the UN’s commitments to end sexual violence in conflict and emphasizes a survivor-centric approach to justice and accountability.

Murad Code
Nadia’s Initiative is working with the Institute for International Criminal Investigations (IICI) and the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative (PSVI) of the UK government to establish the Murad Code, named after Nadia Murad. The Code is a global consultative initiative aimed at building and supporting a community of better practice for, with, and concerning survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. Its key objective is to respect and support survivors’ rights, ensuring work with survivors to investigate, document, and record their experiences is safer, more ethical, and more effective in upholding their human rights.

Sinjar Agreement
In October 2020, the governments of Iraq and the Kurdistan Region reached an agreement to settle disputes over Sinjar District and establish robust security and civil administrations in the region. Political gridlock continues to block implementation of the agreement, delaying the reconstruction of Sinjar and preventing Yazidi survivors from returning to their homeland. Nadia Murad has worked for many years with the Iraqi governments, United States, and international organizations to improve Sinjar's local governance and security. Nadia’s Initiative continues to advocate for meaningful implementation and international monitoring of this agreement.

De-Mining of Sinjar
In 2014, ISIS deployed improvised explosive devices and landmines on an industrial scale in Iraq. ISIS targeted vast areas of agricultural lands around villages, as well as key infrastructure. Explosives were placed in peoples’ homes, schools, and medical facilities. Nadia’s Initiative works with the Mine’s Advisory Group (MAG) to de-mine more than 2.6 million square meters of land in Sinjar, Iraq.
Chairwoman
NADIA MURAD

Vice Chairman
KERRY PROPPER

Director
GREGOIRE THERY

Director
ELIZABETH BOHART
OUR TEAM

Founder & President
NADIA MURAD

Executive Director
ABID SHAMDEEN

Director of Programs & Partnerships
OLIVIA WELLS

Head of Finance & Operations
ALISON ANDERSON

Communications Manager, USA
EMILY GOLDSTEIN

Personal Assistant to the President
AMY DEPOY

Projects Manager, Iraq
FAISAL GHANEM

Communications Manager, Iraq
FARIS MISHKO

Communications Coordinator, Iraq
SALAH HASSAN QASSIM

Community Outreach Coordinator, Iraq
YASSER EZDEN SALIH

Projects Coordinator, Iraq
NAWAF HASSAN SADOO

Protection Manager, Iraq
HAMEED MOUSA HAMI

Case Manager, Iraq
SUHA KHUADAYA KHALAF

Case Manager & Interpreter, Iraq
NISHTIMAN KHALAF AWSMAN
IN GRATITUDE

PROGRAMS AND ADVOCACY PARTNERS

Nadia’s Initiative works with a variety of implementing partners – from local, Sinjar-based NGOs to the United Nations. We select our partners based on knowledge of the local communities we serve and capacity to implement with the highest quality standards.

- ALLIANCE AGAINST GENOCIDE
- COALITION FOR JUST REPARATIONS
- DORCAS AID INTERNATIONAL
- HUNGARIAN INTERCHURCH AID
- IOM IRAQ
- JELAN ORGANIZATION FOR CARE & REHABILITATION
- LA CHAÎNE DE L’ESPOIR
- MINES ADVISORY GROUP
- MISSION EAST
- NABU ORGANIZATION FOR AWARENESS
- RAINBOW NGO FOR CHILD PROTECTION
- SANABEL FUTURE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT
- SUNRISE ORGANIZATION FOR CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT
- UNOPS
- YOUTH BRIDGE ORGANIZATION
DONOR PARTNERS

Nadia’s Initiative is supported by a wide range of donor partners – from governments to foundations to corporations to individuals. It is thanks to these donors that we are able to continue doing our vital work.

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*Donors who donated 5,000 USD or more in 2020 are listed*
2020 Expenditures

Total

$4,211,658

Programs

$3,793,632

Fundraising

$177,568

Advocacy & Communications

$151,758

Administration

$88,700
ALLOCATED OF EXPENSES

- Advocacy & Communications: 4%
- Fundraising: 4%
- Administration: 2%

Programs: 90%
In 2021, Nadia's Initiative plans to continue expanding programming across sectors in Sinjar. We will work to ensure the sustainability of all past, present, and future projects by empowering beneficiaries with the information, resources, and autonomy to lead the restoration of their homeland.

On the international stage, Nadia's Initiative will provide a platform for survivors to share their visions for a more just and peaceful world. We will continue to advocate world leaders to deliver on their promises for justice and accountability for the Yazidi Genocide, as well as prevention of sexual violence in conflict.
Help us leave a better, safer, and just world to future generations.

NADIA MURAD