In 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MOFAIC) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) confirmed their support of Nadia's Initiative's (NI) comprehensive WASH project: "Water to Accelerate Sinjar's Hope," implemented by Dorcas Aid International. The project aimed to improve access to potable water, restore or establish new internal water networks, rehabilitate sanitation infrastructure, and increase awareness of best hygiene practices. NI fully restored clean water to 6 primary villages/complexes in the Sinjar District, Ninewa Governorate, Iraq. NI also provided emergency WASH infrastructure to an additional 12 villages/complexes in Sinjar. Disability-inclusive WASH facilities were constructed in 17 schools and hygiene awareness sessions were provided to students and teachers in 35 schools across Sinjar.
OBJECTIVES

Sinjar, the ancestral homeland of the Yazidis, was systematically destroyed by Daesh in 2014 and further damaged by two years of fighting to retake the district. During this period, up to 80% of public infrastructure and 70% of private infrastructure were destroyed. The majority of communities in Sinjar report critical or severely problematic conditions related to clean water and other basic services.

Specific objectives:

- Implement water supply solutions in 6 villages in Sinjar to ensure safe drinking water availability through infrastructure, equipment, and/or water networks.
- Improve the sanitation facilities in schools and promote safe and good hygiene practices through awareness-raising and the distribution of hygiene kits.
- Enhance the local capacity of community members to sustainably manage the water facilities by establishing community groups.
- Contribute to addressing the emerging WASH needs during the project period.
PROJECT OVERVIEW

Total Number of Beneficiaries: 89,589 individuals

Completed: Villages

20 — Total Boreholes
- 7 new boreholes drilled
- 13 boreholes rehabilitated

13 — Total Water Tanks
- One 200m3 concrete water tank was constructed in Borek village + 11 new water tanks
- 1 water tank rehabilitated

17 — Total Water Networks
- 11 new water networks constructed
- 6 water networks rehabilitated

Completed: Schools

- 55 new latrines completed
- 43 rehabilitated latrines completed
- Disability accessible WASH was completed in 17 schools
- Hygiene kits were distributed in 35 schools.
- Hygiene promotion in awareness sessions completed in 35 schools.
Map of Sinjar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6 WASH Villages</th>
<th>12 Emergency WASH Villages</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hardan</td>
<td>Sinuni</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dugure</td>
<td>Rambosi</td>
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<td>Zorava</td>
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<td>Duhola</td>
<td>Zeravki</td>
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<td>Kani Sarki</td>
<td>Kondi Azeer</td>
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<td>Adnaniya</td>
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<td>Tel Azeer (BH4)</td>
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*Click on the hyperlinks to view project videos*
A water pipeline was constructed to link the water storage tank with the internal water network in the village. The existing internal water network was renovated, new water lines were constructed, and manholes were rehabilitated.
Two new boreholes were drilled and connected to the water storage tank. Those were then connected to the electrical network by installing new electricity transformers. Additionally, two new pump rooms were constructed and parts of the existing water network were rehabilitated, while others were built brand new.
Two new boreholes were drilled and connected to the water storage. Those were then connected to the electrical network by installing new electricity transformers. Additionally, two new pump rooms were constructed and the existing internal water network was renovated.
One borehole, one water storage tank, and one pump room were rehabilitated. The work on the internal water networks included repairing all the broken points along the existing village water network, changing the old valves, and rehabilitating the manholes.
A new water pump was provided and installed and a water storage tank base was constructed. One galvanized water tank was also provided and installed. The work included the construction of a new water network using HDPE pipes.
Two new boreholes were drilled, connected to the water storage tank, and to the electrical network by installing new electrical transformers. Two new pump rooms and one concrete water tank were also constructed.
NI and implementing partner Dorcas received many requests from returnees and local authorities to support the newly returned individuals and communities. Needs assessments were conducted to identify the specific and major concerns in response to those requests. All 12 WASH emergency projects are complete and included the rehabilitation of boreholes, electrical systems, pump rooms, and water storage tanks, as well as the construction of new internal water networks.
BOBI VILLAGE
Installation of a new water tank and new water pump. Construction of a new water network and borehole room.
Total beneficiaries: 188

ADNANIYA VILLAGE
Rehabilitation of borehole room. Installation of a new water tank, electrical transformer, and water pump.
Total beneficiaries: TBD

KONDI AZEER VILLAGE
Installation of a new water tank, water pump, electrical transformer, and water network. Rehabilitation of borehole room.
Total beneficiaries: 218

ZIKDUKHAN VILLAGE
Provision and installation of RO units for each household.
Total beneficiaries: 203
SINUNI VILLAGE
Internal network and electrical system repairs, including the provision of a new pipeline.
Total beneficiaries: 25,127

TEL QASAB VILLAGE
Installation of an electrical transformer and new internal water network. Rehabilitation of pump room, tank base, and borehole.
Total beneficiaries: 534

ZERAVKI VILLAGE
Installation of a new internal water network, water pump, and tank. Rehabilitation of pump room, tank base, and borehole.
Total beneficiaries: 573

RAMBOSI VILLAGE
Rehabilitation of 2 boreholes and water tanks. Installation of new tank base, water pumps, electrical transformers, and water network.
Total beneficiaries: 647
GEDALA VILLAGE
Installation of a new water tank, water pump, solar powered system, and new water network. Rehabilitation of one borehole.
Total beneficiaries: 50

HAYALI VILLAGE
Provision and installation of a new water pump.
Total beneficiaries: 348

TEL AZEER VILLAGE
Installation of five electrical transformers and rehabilitation of the electrical system.
Total beneficiaries: 2,749

TEL AZEER VILLAGE (BH4)
Rehabilitation of one new borehole, water tank, borehole room, water pump, and water network.
Total beneficiaries: 459
Restoring the WASH facilities in schools across Sinjar included rehabilitating the latrines, constructing new latrines, restoring the water supply, providing and installing water tanks, and constructing disability inclusive WASH infrastructure, such as wheelchair ramps and wheelchair inclusive washrooms. 17 schools have been partially or completely rehabilitated.

Total Number of Beneficiaries:

5,936 individuals
• Kharaniya Primary School
• Alyarmook 2nd Mixed School (Borek)
• Al Taamim 4th School for Girls (Khanasor)
• Jabal Sinjar School 2 (Dugure)
• Hardan Big Mixed School
• Alandlos Secondary School for Boys (Gohbal)
• Alandlos 2nd School (Gohbal)
• Duhola Secondary Mixed School
• Sinuni Intermediate School
• Dasht Mixed School (Borek)
• Duhola Intermediate Mixed School
• Al Yarmook School for Girls (Borek)
• Adnaniya Primary School for Girls
• Kolka Primary School
• Sinuni Secondary School
• Dasen Primary School (Gohbal)
• Wardiya Mixed Primary School

Disability Inclusive WASH Facilities in 17 Schools

*Click on the hyperlinks to view project videos*
VILLAGE WATER COMMITTEES (VWCS)

6 VWCs were formed in the targeted villages, each consisting of 6 people, including women and men.

The VWC members were selected in coordination with community leaders and youth centers in the villages and were trained in water management and general hygiene issues.

During the implementation of the project, the VWCs were able to gain experience in managing water sources, identifying gaps in the water network, and monitoring water management without NGO intervention. They were also tasked with follow-up monitoring in the villages and assisted with delivering hygiene messages in schools and households.
An assessment was conducted in 11 villages. 35 schools were then selected based on the need for hygiene kits. These needs were identified through interviews with the teachers and students at the selected schools. During and after the distribution of hygiene kits, consisting of face masks, hand sanitizers, handwashing soap, tissues, and other cleaning items, good practice hygiene messages were continuously delivered to emphasize awareness of the importance of hygiene. In addition to messages, VWCs and Dorcas hygiene officers handed out leaflets carrying these messages to ensure that they were widely spread throughout the community.
NI requested that throughout the project, implementing partner Dorcas should conduct community outreach and awareness sessions. Starting in February 2021, Dorcas WASH officers and VWC members started conducting outreach and awareness sessions in all targeted areas. The sessions provided an overview of the project, donor, and partners. They also covered personal healthcare, hygiene, proper use of water resources, and poor hygiene conditions and disease. The sessions were conducted in three ways:

**Total Number of Beneficiaries:**

10,473 individuals
CLEAN WATER IS AN ESSENTIAL HUMAN RIGHT

Global warming and climate change are serious threats to water-stressed regions like Sinjar, Iraq, where residents have little to no access to potable water. Access to clean water and sanitation is a priority for Yazidi returnees to Sinjar. Severely damaged water infrastructure impairs the region’s socio-economic development, preventing thousands of Yazidis from reestablishing their livelihoods in a healthy and secure environment.

Nadia’s Initiative believes that safe drinking water is a basic human right and necessary for rehabilitating any post-conflict community. Humans can neither live nor thrive without access to clean water. Providing Yazidi returnees with clean water and sanitation facilities requires comprehensive, long-term solutions.

Communities deserve clean water to support their health, livelihoods, and overall redevelopment. Children deserve safe learning environments to play, learn, and heal from the immense trauma of conflict. Schools without adequate water and sanitation facilities are unsafe and have a particularly negative impact on female students. In many situations, differently-abled students cannot attend school due to a lack of access to inclusive WASH facilities.

Nadia’s Initiative views investing in WASH as a way to support post-conflict, marginalized communities to sustainably rebuild and reduce their vulnerability. Our "Water to Accelerate Sinjar's Hope" project is just that: an undertaking to lay the foundations for a hopeful, prosperous future for the Yazidi community and all Sinjar residents. Let's raise a glass to clean water for all!