

identifying the most important challenges and environmental problems facing the country and then recommending the solutions to these problems so that the environment in Iraq is protected, preserved and improved. We, in the Parliament, as the legislative body responsible for this sector support and embrace what is stated in this document in order to provide a good environment worthy of our children and our country. We recommend that all parties need to cooperate with the Ministry of Environment in the implementation of its tasks and achieving the objectives of this Strategy."

In appreciation of the importance of stakeholders' participation in the preparation of the Strategy, The Ministry of Environment has set up a team of national and international experts to formulate the Strategy, held extensive consultations with technicians, experts and leading officials in the institutions concerned, in addition to holding six expert meetings, three seminars and national validation workshop to discuss issues, analysis solutions and coming up with strategic vision and priority actions.

The Strategy consists of four chapters in addition to the Action Plan. The first chapter is an introduction highlighting how the strategy was developed, Chapter two describes the state of the environment in Iraq, the third chapter provides diagnosis and analysis of key environmental issues and identifies the strategic objectives and the priority themes and policy statements. The fourth chapter illustrate monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, the mechanism for implementation including roles and responsibilities of different institutions.

Ten Strategic Objectives (SOs) have been identified covering priority environmental issues in all sectors. Those SOs came as a result of in-depth analysis of the issues and environmental priorities with the active participation of all stakeholders and the extensive

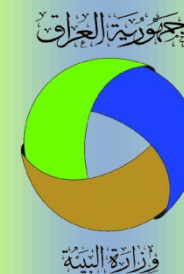
The protection and conservation of environment in Iraq has attained increased attention at all levels. HE Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in his opening statement of the National Environment Strategy and Action Plan (NESAP) confirmed that "Protection of the environment is a national duty that requires all stakeholders, citizens and institutions alike, to care and take the necessary measures to preserve it, especially since the environment of Iraq has been exposed to serious challenges and continuously neglected during the previous era, and therefore there is a need for serious and rigorous procedures of legislation and laws for environmental protection, and for capacity building and the provisions of participation of all competent specialized institutions and bodies and non-governmental organizations in order to protect the elements of the environment and biodiversity, with emphasis on raising environmental awareness at the community level, which we believe is key to the solution for the protection of the environment in Iraq."

This is also confirmed by HE Eng Sargon Lazar Slewa, the Minister of Environment in introducing the Strategy "the true measure of the civilization of the nation and progress comes through ownership of future visions which are based on strategies and the goals and activities of interest to the community, including environmental planning and long-term strategic plans. The purpose of developing the Strategy and its Executive Program in Iraq is to use it as a guide for work of the institutions of the state and society in order to protect the environment in Iraq. The Strategy is regarded by us as distinct quality work".

Dr Leqaa Alyassin, the Chairwomen of the Health and Environment Committee in the Iraqi Parliament has asserted that what distinguishes the Strategy prepared by the Ministry of Environment is the way in which it determining priorities for environmental action in Iraq,



The National Environment Strategy and Action Plan for Iraq (2013-2017)



25 June 2012 international experts from the United Nations, for the purpose of reviewing all comments received and taking and strategy formulation in its final form.

Fourth symposium Baghdad – Iraq 7 Novemb er 2012 For showing the strategy to the Parliament Council / Health and Environment Committee.



hazardous chemicals

Strategic objective X: development of the institutional and legal framework for sustainable environment management

Meeting	Place and date	Details
First meeting or preparatory workshop	Amman, Jordan, 2-3 July 2011	1. Assess the state of environmental planning in Iraq. 2. Identify planning of priority and to agree on the goals and directions for the environmental strategy. 3. Develop a detailed road map for the preparation of the strategy
Second meeting	Amman, Jordan, 28-29 September 2011	1 - as a group agreement on priorities and strategic objectives and indicators. 2- Review of Strategic and table of contents that were agreed upon in the Amman workshop 3- Implementation Programme (Action Plan) its contents and its components
First symposium on the Strategy	Baghdad , Iraq, 24 October 2011	on "National Strategy for the Environment" View stages of the preparation of the strategy and the initial output
Third meeting	Amman, Jordan, 15-16 November 2011	A review of what has been accomplished parts of the strategy and put the notes and makes the necessary adjustments.
Fourth meeting	Beirut, Lebanon , 20-23 January 2012	is the of the strategy, which included a review of what was completed of the strategy, and the development of programs and the operational plan of action.
Fifth meeting	Baghdad , Iraq, 15 March 2012	to discuss a number of issues related to the initial content of the strategy.
Second symposium on the Strategy	Baghdad , Iraq, 25 April 2012	on "National Strategy for the Environment" to discuss the observations of the first draft of the strategy (which has been circulated in advance of the seminar up to a month).
Third symposium on the Strategy	Baghdad , Iraq, 20 June 2012	on "National Strategy for the Environment" was held in the presence of representatives of all the ministries of the State, for the purpose of opening the discussion with the authors of the strategy put observations and comments.
Sixth meeting	Amman, Jordan,	was held in the presence of the authors of the strategy of the Ministry of Environment and

consultations that took place during the preparation of the strategy. The report of the strategic analysis of the environmental sector in Iraq prepared earlier by the Ministry formed an important source and a key for the preparation of the Strategy. The Strategy formulation is aligned and compatible with the goals and five axes of environmental sustainability of the National Development Plan 2010-2014. These were air pollution, water pollution, soil pollution and desertification, and solid waste and waste disposable. The main themes were identified for each strategic objective in which also included a range of relevant issues.

The process of monitoring and assessment is one of the most important tools to review progress made in the implementation of the strategy and thus improve performance, efficiency and optimum utilization of resources. The Ministry of Environment assumes responsibility for monitoring, which will be carried out by the district and institutional structures within the ministry. Key performance indicators for each strategic objective and progress indicators for implementation of the Strategy were selected to ensure proper monitoring and assessment.

Strategic objective I: Protection and improvement of air quality

Strategic objective II: Protection and improvement of water quality.

Strategic Objective III: reduction of land degradation and desertification

Strategic Objective IV: conservation of marine and coastal areas.

Strategic Objective V: Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

Strategic Objective VI: Development and Improvement of waste management.

Strategic objective VII: Reduction oil pollution

Strategic objective VIII: reduction of radioactive contamination

Strategic Objective IX: integrated management of