



A Gender and Inclusive Climate-Migration Study

Salah al-Din Governorate – Iraq

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Acronyms and abbreviations

CSO: Civil Society Organisation

DoA: Department of Agriculture

EWS: Early Warning Systems

IOM: International Organization for Migration

Ha: hectares

KII: Key Informant Interview

MoE: Ministry of Environment

NDC: Nationally Determined Contributions

PCM: Project Cycle Management

SAD: Salah al-Din

SDS: Sand and Dust Storms

UNEP: United Nations Environmental Programme

DoE: Department of Environment

FGD: Focus Group Discussion

IQD: Iraqi Dinars

MSD: Market Systems Development NAP: National Adaptation Plan

PIN: People in Need

Executive summary

Iraq remains the fifth most vulnerable country to climate change¹. Increasing temperatures, unpredictable rainfall, intensified droughts, sand storms and desertification are just some of the variables contributing to Iraq's climate journey. Climate change impacts are further compounded by the trans-boundary water governance and misinformed management of natural resources which is leading to negative impacts on Iraqi farmers, most noticeable in sustaining livelihood production. As a result, agriculture productivity is being reduced and the sector, the second-largest contributor to the country's GDP in an oil-based economy, is shrinking. This is bringing about climate and environmental migration from rural to urban areas^{2,3}. Climate change has the potential to seriously limit the transition from humanitarian aid to development. This climate vulnerability study aims to review the available evidence of climate change trends and impacts in 3 villages in Shirqat, Baiji, Tikrit District, Salah-al-Din Governorate, emphasizing the gender and social inclusion factors linked to this. This study attempts to obtain a deeper understanding of migration, coping mechanisms and adaptation solutions, alongside movement dynamics within the target communities. The report also considers how the Government of Iraq, donors, international actors, and communities can mitigate, address, and prepare for impending climate change impacts.

¹ UNEP, 2019. Global Environment Outlook

² World Vision, Save The Children, Oxfam. 2022. Unfarmed now. Uninhabited when? Agriculture and climate change in Iraq

³ IOM Iraq. 2022. Migration, environment, and climate change in Iraq



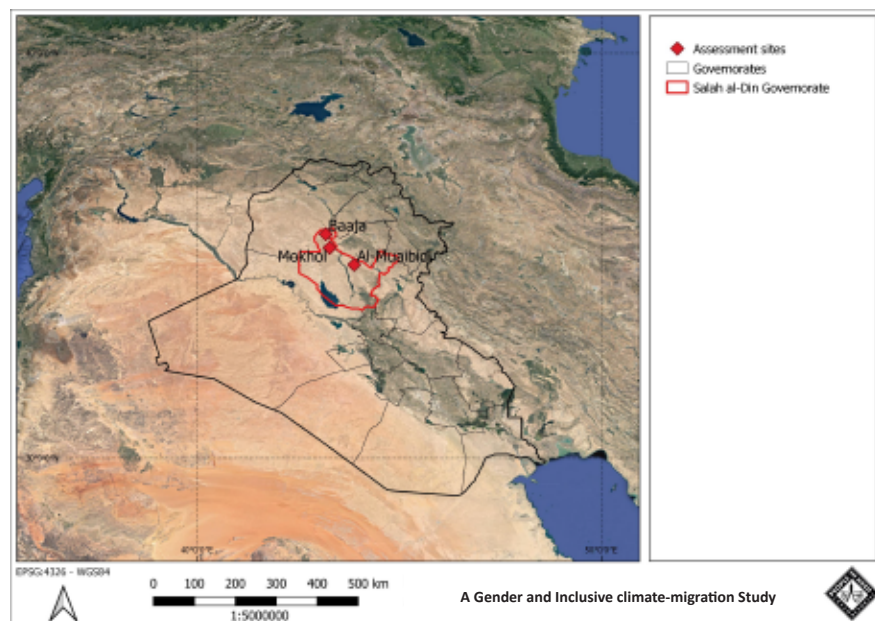
Purpose of the study

The study aims to gain a deeper understanding of migration and movement dynamics in relation to climate change impacts within the target communities in Salah al-Din, a strategic governorate for People in Need’s past and future interventions. This report is part of a two-phased approach into a deep dive to access climate migration dynamics in central Iraq. The first phase should serve as preliminary understanding of key points towards a second phase, planned to gather data with a household survey and further KIIs to double-check and cross-check the information collected so far. The final aim is to provide evidence-based information to feed the next programme phase in SAD. With equal aim, the study will be replicated in Ninewa Governorate.

In a rapid field appraisal carried out in October 2021 by PIN’s Iraq, farmers in al-Alam site (Salah al-Din – SAD Governorate) expressed their concerns in facing new challenges and changing factors, including climate⁴. It was noted that farmers were very keen to rely on inappropriate farming solutions in the long-term, based on business-as-usual practices in soil and water management. All this could ultimately lead farmers abandoning the farmlands and amplify migration dynamics. These factors are explored deeper to gather ad-hoc information and fill the evidence’s gaps in SAD governorate.

Geographical area

The geographical area selected for the study is Salah-al Din Governorate, Iraq. Three main sites were identified: Baaja (Shirqat District), Mokhol (Baiji District), al-Muaibidi (Tikrit District). The selection of the interested sites was made on the basis of PIN’s strategic presence and identified migration dynamics indicated by local authorities and farmers’ associations through previous interventions, due to climate change impacts. The area is located in the central part of Iraq, bordering the Kurdistan Region, mostly desertic and semi-desertic along the Tigris river. Agriculture is largely irrigated and consists of smallholder farmers or large monocultures (wheat and barley). The three sites are briefly described within the “Direct observations” chapter.



⁴ PIN. 2021. Internal Back to Office Report and Annexes.



Methodology

The methodology used to develop this report combined secondary data and literature review, with primary data collection and analysis. This was to provide a more comprehensive overview of the main climate change related factors and the push and pull factors in targeted areas.

To note, the secondary information review didn't aim to be an exhaustive analysis of secondary sources but rather an initial understanding of climate change factors in the area of SAD. It consisted therefore of a brief analysis of readily available resources online (written reports, institutional documents, papers, data analysis and projections), coupled with an internal analysis of secondary data in selected locations in SAD made by PIN and BigTerra⁵.

Primary data collection intended to rapidly gather key information on climate change impacts, vulnerabilities and migration dynamics from a variety of stakeholders. This included 27 farmers, all returnees, living in the target geographical area with a gender and social inclusion lens, local authorities and academics. Two tools were designed and customised to the target respondents.

The first tool included customised lists of key and probing questions for KII to governmental officials and research centres/university representatives across six areas: climate change impacts, climate change vulnerabilities, coping mechanisms, adaptation strategies, Early Warning Systems, migration fluxes and related actions. The tool was designed for a complete guidance on points to investigate and to be adapted in accordance to the key informants met.

The second tool included a customised list of key and probing questions and tools to use in the FGD across 5 areas: access and control over natural resources, decision-making power, climate hazards and expected changes, reorder to migration, and vulnerability and response.

The ideal sampling effort was planned in Shirqat, Baiji, al-Alam/Tikrit, including 2 KIIs with governmental officials and 1 KII with research centres/universities. Additionally, in each area the team conducted one separate FGD for men and women in a Baaija, Mokhol, and al-Muaibidi employing direct observations.

Limitations of the Methodology

Some key issues:

- Observation of farms were only available in the first location (Baaja - Shirqat) it was possible to visit the farms in person and pose punctual questions to the farmers. While in the other two cases, security constraints and/or overlaps with KIIs did not allow a field visit.
- It was challenging to ensure women's participation and freedom of speech without men's consensus and presence.
- The local authorities are generally scarcely aware of the situation in the farmlands, so KIIs in Shirqat and Mokhol have been composed by a heterogeneous group of 2-3 individuals representing both local authorities and farmers' associations.
- Interviewed key informants from research centres/universities were not intergrating research on migration take out and or any social aspects.

⁵ Big Terra & PIN. 2022. Climate Report – Iraq available at <https://resources.peopleinneed.net/documents/1144-iraq---executive-summary-2.pdf>



- It was difficult to select a sufficient number of key informants, as climate change has become a recent issue in the Iraqi society and in SAD.
- A household survey has been designed to cross-check, validate, quantify and gather extra evidence on the information collected – which could not be used in the first phase of the study due to time and capacity limitations.

The following table reports the final sampling effort:

Location	Date	FGD – men (participants)	FGD – women (participants)	KII– governmental officials (no.)	KII – research centre/ university (no.)	Direct observations
Baaja Shirqat area	3 rd July 2022	✓ (7)	✓ (4)	DoA (1)	N/A	✓
Mokhol Beiji area	4 th July 2022	✓ (10, 2 ppl with a physical disabilities)	✓ (8)	Mayor, DoA (2)	Desertification Centre (1)	
al-Muaibidi al-Alam area	5 th July 2022	✓ (10)		DoE (1)	University of Tikrit (1)	
	25 th July 2022		✓ (6)	DoA Planning and Monitoring (1)		

Main findings

The secondary research⁶ highlighted Salah-al Din as one of the governorates most vulnerable to climate change. Climate parameters, trends and projections in SAD⁷ reported:

- An increasing average temperature
- Unstable annual precipitation
- Increasing variability for temperatures and precipitation
- High probability of extreme events in temperature
- High probability of intense rainfall in autumn and drought events in summer

Projections for the future confirm these facts. PIN’s “Climate Report”⁸ shows in Shirqat area an average raise of minimum temperature in winter months of 1-degree Celsius. Which leads to probable harm to the vernalization of crops, unreliability of precipitation patterns in November, March and April, extremization of rainfall events, lower productivity for some crops like wheat and barley.

Other observations noted, included droughts are intensively affecting farmers’ livelihoods and governmental actors lack monitoring and strategical tools, nor farmers apply measures for a wiser use of natural resources.

Reduction in soil moisture is an increasing trend due to urbanisation, improper agriculture, droughts, removal of vegetation, and upstream dams, and this can compromise agricultural productivity, ecosystem health and food security.

Sand and dust storms have intensified and become more frequent due to reduced soil moisture with impacts on health and livelihoods.

Although environmental and climate migration from rural to urban areas in Iraq is confirmed by international NGOs and the UN’s International Organization for Migration (IOM) countrywide, in Salah-al Din information is still scarce⁹.

The highlights from the finding of the primary data collection through direct observations, the KIIs and FGDs are reported hereafter, while the details on main findings are included in the Annex 3¹⁰.

⁶ Annex 2: Brief analysis of secondary data

⁹ IOM Iraq. 2022. Migration, environment, and climate change in Iraq

⁷ <https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/iraq>

¹⁰ Annex 3: Main findings

⁸ PIN & Big Terra. 2021. Climate Report - Iraq available at <https://resources.peopleinneed.net/documents/1144-iraq---executive-summary-2.pdf>



Direct observations

“What are the main farming features visible/present? What are the main environmental and climate characteristics of the area? What are the key changes in respect to the past?”

- In Baaja - Shirqat, smallholder farmers are trying to diversify the agricultural production and find alternative agriculture livelihoods like olive trees. Support is needed for improvement and effectiveness of the solutions undertaken. Lack of water and salinization are strong barriers.
- In Mokhol - Baiji, desertification processes are intense and water resources are impacted. Smallholder farmers are present, but very limited, while large scale monocultures are more recurrent. Power supply is a strong limiting factor.
- In al-Muaibidi- al-Alam/Tikrit, both smallholder farmers and larger farms, growing wheat, barley and maize. Desertification processes exist and encroachment of sand dunes are evident. Power supply and need for deeper wells are the main challenges.

Key findings from KIIs and FGDs

Access to and control over natural resources

“What are the roles and tasks of men and women at household level? Are there inequalities in access and control on natural resources?”

- The main natural resources are the same in all sites: water (through wells), farmland, soil and livestock.
- Women are deemed by men to have access to the natural resources but with limited or no control and ownership. This was confirmed by female respondents.
- Men are in charge of farming, agriculture commodities processing and marketing, water management for drinking, farming and livestock, energy management and livestock management. Women are in charge of taking care of children, house chores and milking cows. In Baaija, Shirqat women also participate in farming activities.
- Men did not allow PIN to hold an FGD with women in al-Muaibidi in Tikrit district at the first visit, despite previously agreeing. They reported that they could be the spokesperson for both theirs and the women's interests and views. However, an FGD was held 20 days later.



Decision-making power

“ *Who is taking decisions in the household and in the community? How would you describe men and women’s role in decision making?* ”

- In general, there are strong gender, social and cultural norms that affect women’s participation and decision-making power at household and community level. The further south and central in SAD, the stronger these dynamics are observed.
- Men have the decision-making power but feel that women are consulted and included in the process. Women feel that the final choice is in the hands of men and their voice is not binding.
- Men produce the income and women are consulted on how to use it, although the final decision is with men. In case of more than one wife, they are not consulted.
- In the surveyed areas, women are limited in their role in their communities in relation to participation in meetings and institutional activities. It was acknowledged that there are some women in their communities holding positions such as teachers and doctors, and girls can attend school.

Climate trends and impacts

“ *What are the main climate tenders and climate change impacts? How have things changed in comparison to the past? What are other socio-economic and environmental stressors?* ”

- Climate change is generally overemphasised and farmers are not pointing the finger to bad natural resource management and agricultural practices in loco. Meanwhile, unseen governmental support is noted as key issue.
- Previous conflicts that disrupted the farmlands and farming assets are seen as a multiplying factor of negative impacts in Mokhol - Baiji.
- The rise in food and energy prices are deemed further economic stressors in all locations
- The decrease of groundwater availability, quantity and quality (salinization) are mentioned as primary impacts linked to climate change.
- An increase of droughts, Sand and Dust Storms (SDS), temperatures, a decrease of rainfalls and an intensification of desertification processes are also seen as main climate related trends and patterns. SDS and desertification processes are more intense in farmlands closer to the desert (e.g. in al-Muaibidi (Tikrit) and Mokhol (Baiji), it happens that people have to abandon houses and farmland covered by the sand).
- A decrease of vegetation cover and changes in land use are noticed and linked to an impoverishment of the landscape quality.
- Ultimate impacts are seen on household financial resources, food security and health, with increased diseases than in the past (human, livestock and plants).
- Changes in people’s wellbeing and family and community dynamics were noted.



Main climate related vulnerabilities

“ What are the main vulnerabilities that are related to changes in the climate trends and parameters? How different groups can be differently interested by such changes? Who can be more vulnerable to such changes? ”

- All participants shared concerns of their own vulnerabilities from climate change. However, people with disabilities, chronic health (e.g. respiratory diseases in case of SDS), the elderly and children are seen as the most vulnerable in their community. In particular, for children experienced responsibilities of house tasks (girls, in particular in Baaja - Shirqat), child labour (boys, in particular in Mokhol - Baiji), and psychological stress.
- Women are highly vulnerable due to increased farming activities (Baaja - Shirqat), increased/new house tasks, decreased/changed household dynamics and spaces in urban settings with psychological stress.
- Households with already low incomes, climate change will exacerbate their vulnerabilities.
- No early warning systems (EWS) exist and farmers rely on word of mouth and Facebook to get alerts of climate hazards, institutional knowledge of seasonal trends and extreme weather events.

Coping mechanisms

“ What are farmers doing to cope with a sudden-onset climate shock? How are other stakeholders intervening to help farmers in this? ”

- Across all locations coping mechanisms exist and are various, this includes:
 - Relying on savings or borrowing money from friends and relatives
 - Selling livestock
 - Eating less food quantity and reduce its quality
 - Less oil, less meat, no vegetables
 - Maximising the usage of water resources, as noted, water fetching from wells in Baaja – Shirqat, and agricultural assets, e.g. sprinklers in Mokhol - Baiji
- Loans and micro-credits are not available. Farmers mainly rely on community and family support for extra credit.
- Moving to the towns and searching for non-farming temporary jobs is common in case of sudden climate hazards impacting the household economy.
- **In Baaja - Shirqat**
 - Farmers reported to maximise their cooperation with other farmers, for example, operating the wells alternatively to ensure a minimum amount of water to everyone
 - Daily migration
- **In Mokhol - Baiji**
 - Farmers use money saved, share the land with the sprinkler owners, or rely on temporary jobs taken by men and boys



- Vegetation belts to halt the sand coming towards the farmlands and roads
- Temporary migration patterns are used
- **In al-Muaibidi and al-Alam - Tikrit**
 - Farmers confirmed that there is permanent, temporary and daily movements

Adaptation strategies and Solutions

“ What are farmers doing to adapt to climate change and its effects and impacts (long-term)? How are other stakeholders intervening to help farmers in this? ”

- Smallholder farmers are trying to diversify the agricultural production and find alternative agriculture livelihoods like olive trees. Furthermore, they're diversifying income through daily labour work, driving taxis and selling petrol.
- The desertification centre in Baiji, is working to stop the desertification by building green walls and mini-green belts to halt the sand coming towards the farmlands and roads.
- Coping mechanisms can become in some cases adaptation solutions and lead to long-term issues on natural resource management, food security and nutrition.

- Some solutions being taken by farmers:
 - Diversification of agricultural production.
 - Additional wells and reduced water usage for irrigation.
 - Daily movements from urban to rural areas in Baaja - Shirqat.
 - Sharing of farmland with sprinklers' owners in Mokhol - Baiji for farming and pastures.
 - Multiplication and construction of deeper wells in al-Muaibidi - Tikrit are applied.
- As still embryotic and scattered, if not properly planned and managed, these solutions can become inadequate practices (e.g. if groundwater recharge is not duly considered when constructing a new well). Solutions lack support in instruments for the local authorities and knowledge and skills by the farmers.
- Awareness raising on climate change is seen as the main action from the government, and solutions suggested cannot benefit by the governmental instruments in place (policies, strategies, plans, actions points, finance schemes, laws and regulations).
- The governmental support with seeds and fertilisers, delivery of basic goods and specific safety nets for poor households have decreased in years both in quantity and quality, due to lack of internal and external funding.
- A centralised system makes sub-national governmental institutions lack resources to work on local instruments, and farmers highly rely on governmental and non-governmental support to implement on-site practices and solutions.
- Actions are scattered and support is needed to improve governance, capacities and deploy customised solutions locally.
- The main solutions suggested by local farmers and institutions are:
 - Installation/rehabilitation of greenhouses.
 - More water efficient irrigation systems with sprinklers and drip irrigation.
 - Solar energy systems in irrigation, water desalination systems (for human consumption in Baaja - Shirqat, and irrigation).
 - Construction/rehabilitation of wells, provision of inputs (seeds, ploughing tools).



- Mechanisation, construction/rehabilitation of storage facilities
- Food processing facilities (e.g. olive press in Baaja - Shirqat), financial and moral support
- In al-Muaibidi - Tikrit facilitation of governmental procedures for farmers and planting trees are also seen fundamental
- In Mokhol – Baiji people see migration as a main adaptation solution in the long term

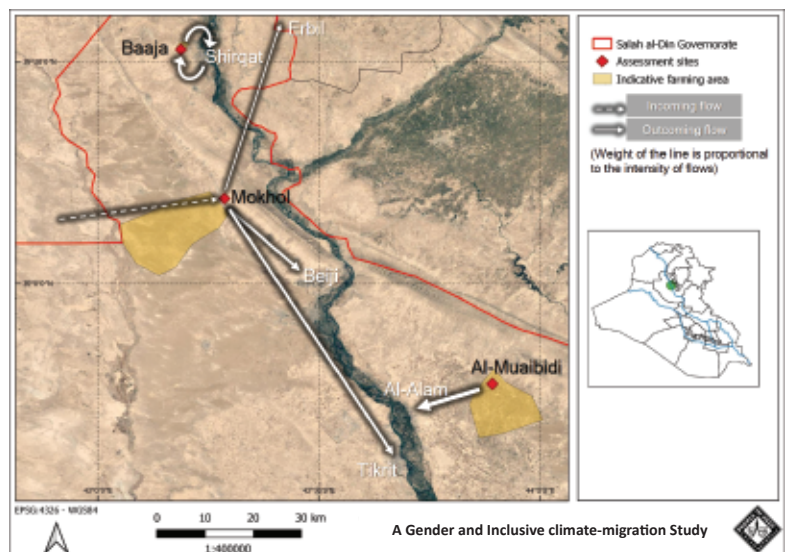
Migration

“ *What are the migration dynamics (permanent/temporary) and how migration is influenced by climate change? What is the resulting income used for? How migration dynamics affect different groups of people (gender, age, disadvantaged)?* ”

All returnees see migration as a last resort and wouldn't leave their farmlands. Temporary migration is therefore preferred, if need be, but migration dynamics are different in all three sites. Climate migration has now become a big issue, in many cases linked to other aspects such as environmental issues, security and economy, and there are increasing climate-driven displacement. Governmental institutions and research do not have clear information on migratory fluxes and socio-economic drivers.

Migration dynamics are different in the targeted sites:

- In Shirqat (Baaja) both men and women's movements are more localised and daily-based from areas where people live (a few kms far) to their farmlands. Farmers do not want to live in harsh conditions to be subjected to climate hazards.
- In Baiji (Mokhol) men and boys are normally moving to find temporary or more permanent jobs to Tikrit, Baiji and Erbil, leaving the rest of the family at home. Children and women are requested to provide extra help with house tasks and engage in agricultural activities, although on reduced farmlands in size. Farmers feel that this is a good strategy not only to cover basic needs (e.g. food security) but also to have extra budget for agricultural inputs/assets and infrastructure, education, health and housing. Permanent migrations are also taking place from desertic areas towards villages close to the main road.
- In al-Muaibidi – Tikrit it is estimated that 70% of farmers have migrated with the family, mainly to al-Alam urban area, abandoning the farmlands deemed no longer profitable. Although the quest for non-farming jobs is successful in several cases, increasing difficulties (e.g. new habits and behaviours) have emerged and extra burden could be allocated to women's tasks.





Conclusions and recommendations

In this chapter, the main conclusions are recommendations to tackle climate hazards, increase climate resilience and reduce migration fluxes from the farmlands in SAD (given the fact that farmers would aim to stay in their sites) as reported.

Recommendations to governmental bodies

The promotion of good governance approaches is crucial to ensure that farmers feel included and supported. Farmers' associations need to be capacitated and backed by investments in a strategic sector as agriculture. Governmental extensionists have to build a mutual trust with farmers to avoid continuation in solutions that are unsuitable for the area and the changing climate.

- Work on transboundary water governance and build on existing climate change documents, frameworks and platforms (e.g. NDC, NAP, COP 27, Green paper) to integrate migration perspectives and dynamics.
- Ensure the design of local instruments with bottom-up and decentralised approaches to ensure the translation for the materialisation of national and international commitments.
- Provide financial resources and capacity building to sub-national governmental bodies to implement the expected policies, strategies and tasks to boost proper water management, climate-resilient agriculture, diversification of the sector and local production and consumption.
- Invest in strengthening rural and urban infrastructure and services (e.g. water and sanitation, energy, transport, telecommunications, health and social services) to increase resilience of farmers in farmlands (to discourage farmers migrating) and accommodate and enhance resilience of farmers in urban areas after migrating.
- Create ad-hoc power and water payment systems, and explore water tariffs, monitoring schemes and water payment mechanisms on consumers.
- Promote also investments in nature-based solutions to increase resilience to climate change in the long-term by applying monitoring protocols and support. Concentrate the efforts on combating environmental degradation and restoring ecological conditions regardless of climate change scenarios.
- Strengthen and tie local stakeholders together, creating the necessary collaboration with central authorities and investing on participatory policy and decision-making processes. Cross-ministerial climate change policy is needed to ensure a common ground and shared vision across concerned Ministries.
- Building on existing resources, such as technical capacities at the desertification centre and at the University of Tikrit, and existing analysis available at the DoE (database on desertification areas in SAD) is encouraged.
- Systematise gender and social inclusion perspectives and actions in governmental approaches and instruments.

Recommendations to international donors and actors such as NGOs

As farmers' main focus is to increase the quantity of water for farming, solutions on soil and water conservation and climate-smart practices should be widespread and adopted instead. To ensure their adoption is fundamental to leverage behavioural changes, e.g. Social and Behavioural Change approaches, and long-term support.



Diversification of livelihoods and agriculture production, together with nature-based solutions are needed to restore agroecosystems. This would also contribute to the protection from sand encroachment and desertification processes to increase climate resilience.

In the short-term:

- Rehabilitate water systems damaged by the conflicts and respond to imminent droughts with cash assistance.
- Rehabilitation of physical infrastructure (e.g. irrigation and drainage) should prevail on the construction of new ones and new groundwater wells should be backed by hydrological evidence.
- Provide inputs and tools, construct storage systems and provide food processing tools locally.

In the long-term:

Improve natural resource management, technical and engineering solutions, policy, governance, economic and financial approaches, political and legal frameworks and instruments, should be combined for a more effective intervention. It is key to invest and promote solutions to reduce water consumption, water wastage and increase retention at local scale. This could restore/increase soil productivity with both soft and hard solutions in combination with the gendered and social inclusion and migration dynamics.

- Improve disaster risk management systems with a particular focus on the improvement of Early Warning Systems. Ensure community ownership and input in EWS.
- Support awareness raising and behavioural change campaigns and activities with a focus on water saving in schools, mosques and markets.
- Invest in water reuse and reduction systems, supporting small-scale wastewater and reuse systems for irrigation also piloting nature-based solutions (e.g. vegetation-filtering parcels) – exploring rainwater harvesting and small catchment systems
- Increase investment in capacity building of local authorities, private sector, general public on climate-smart practices in different sectors. Capacitate and improve extension services for farming and livestock, both for governmental and private extensionists.
- Engage and empower farmers' associations and enhance governance, including them in networking actions with universities/research centres, governmental actors and the private sector.
- Capacitate local CSOs to advocate on climate change and environmental topics, in particular on inclusive water policies, favouring debate across water bodies and actors and application of small-scale solutions.
- Invest in nature-based solutions (NbS), in particular Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) solutions, creating green belts and green walls with indigenous trees and bush species to increase biodiversity, decrease evaporation, maximise shading effects, as breaking-wind action, to stop desertification processes. Create buffer areas with agroforestry practices (orchards and rotational parcels with crops, vegetables, pastures).
- Make sure that groundwater supply systems (wells) are supported by evidence by implementing hydrological feasibility studies, understanding water cycle dynamics and risks of over exploitation due to insufficient recharge capacity and decrease of the groundwater tables.
- Install solar pumps through off-grid systems to self-rely on an electricity source at farm level is highly advisable.



- With experts, support systematic monitoring of water parameters, for both surface and groundwaters. Simple kits may be used to collect field information (e.g. oxygen dissolved, Ph, TDS, electroconductivity, temperature, ORP, turbidity) while laboratory analysis have to be requested in case need is to measure for instance heavy metals content, BOD and COD, specific water pollutants.
- With experts, support monitoring of biological, physical and chemical soil parameters and characteristics both with field observations and rapid field kits (to understand the pedology, texture and basic parameters such as Ph and organic content), and laboratory analysis (to investigate content in nutrients, organic matter, lime, texture, heavy metals and pollutants, EC, infiltration rate, saturation, moisture, Cation-exchange capacity – CEC).

It is key to assess and understand gender, age, disability, social inclusion norms and the impact that they have on access to opportunities, decision making processes, burdens, etc. Tackling gender issues is crucial. Women have to be empowered and have an active role in controlling resources and be part of the decision-making processes to reduce their vulnerability also to climate change. Marginalised and disadvantaged groups, including minorities, people with a disability and people with health related illnesses are greatly vulnerable to climate change and ad-hoc approaches have to be envisaged.

- Systematically mainstream gender and social inclusion perspectives and actions in project cycle management and or aim for transformative gender-based and inclusive interventions.

- Ensure customised climate vulnerability studies that can include gender and social inclusion perspectives and migration dynamics.
- Improve knowledge of gender-based approaches that are key for women’s empowerment and ensure representation of gender, youth, disadvantaged and minority groups into policy and decision-making processes.
- Customise gender-based household and community activities (e.g. vegetable gardens) that can return in specific climate actions with food security and nutrition co-benefits.
- Involve communities with innovative approaches, e.g. women-led natural resource management groups that can have psychological, physical and societal benefits and help the diffusion of key messages on environmental protection and climate change.
- Support the establishment of women saving groups and exploit formal microcredit women-led associations at community level. This needs to consider gender norms and roles, ensuring male engagement and support (allies).
- Work closely with existing CSOs on marginalised and disadvantaged groups, including minorities, people with disabilities and people with health related illnesses to tackle specific issues and ensure inclusive mechanisms.
- Migration fluxes and customised solutions in original sites have to be coupled with ad-hoc approaches and solutions in migratory places, where social tensions and higher competition for resources can arise.
- Provide psychosocial support to help internal migrants and members of the households to ensure psychological relief and recovery after traumatic dynamics, and build people’s resilience.
- Apply DNH and conflict sensitive programming, understanding the link to war, impunity, existing community tensions, land disputes and how this is/will be further exacerbated by climate change.
- Engage in social protection approaches for climate risk management.

HQ: Šafaříkova 635/24, 120 00 Prague
2, Czech Republic
Email: mail@peopleinneed.cz
Phone: +420 226 200 400

[Facebook.com/peopleinneed](https://www.facebook.com/peopleinneed)
[Twitter.com/people_in_need](https://twitter.com/people_in_need)
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IRAQ: Justice Tower, 5th floor, 44001
Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq

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