



# Rwanga Foundation Annual Report 2021

a world where quality education is accessible for all



Rwanga Foundation  
**Annual Report 2021**

a world where quality education is accessible for all

# About Us

Rwanga Foundation is a non-governmental organization, which envisages a world where quality education is accessible for all. Its mission is to provide services, build capacities, and design policies to ensure easy access to education for all and improve the overall educational standards in KRI, Iraq, and the greater global community. Rwanga's strategic goals are to develop platforms for youth to discover talents, fulfill their potentials, and introduce the latest technology, including an e-learning system to the education process in order to meet the advanced international standards and create a culture and passion for learning in particular among the youth.

Rwanga Foundation's Headquarters is based in Erbil. It officially launched its activities in September 2013 to conduct projects and activities all over Iraq through its four main sectors of education, youth, environment, and vulnerable groups.



# Index

1.0 Introduction	8
1.1 Our Partners & Donors	9
2.0 Our Programmes	10
2.1 Education	14
2.2 Youth	26
2.3 Environment	42
2.4 Vulnerable Groups	46
3.0 Statistical Reports	52
4.0 Way Forward	58

**SUCCEED.**  
**COMMIT.**  
**DECIDE.**



**Idris Nechirvan Idris**  
Founder and President

We established Rwanga Foundation to help make education universal. To improve education is the principal idea that guides us; we firmly hold that the employability, dignity, security and self-respect of individuals hinges on their education. We believe that the individuals' education is by far their most precious investment and in effect, confers identity to them. We operate on the belief that in this changing world individuals remain loyal only to a culture based on education. Therefore, we aim to create a culture of learning among the youth so that they find an essential function in society.

To counter the adverse circumstances, created by the ongoing conflicts in Iraq and Syria, we broadened our operations beyond education and youth empowerment to include refugee and disaster relief. We have aided the internally displaced peoples in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, and assisted the Syrian refugees; in particular, to help them pursue education, to facilitate capacity building, and to provide employment opportunities. Furthermore, as a response to the Covid-19 pandemic, Rwanga volunteers have been distributing food supplies to the vulnerable families in quarantine.

Rwanga continues to focus on education and youth empowerment, and in the meantime stands ready to support the disadvantaged and the less fortunate in our society. We remain steadfast to create a better future; we remain committed to our vision of improving education and creating a culture of learning.



Rwanga Foundation successfully implemented projects and activities in the four sectors of Education, Youth, Environment, and Vulnerable Groups, mainly in the Kurdistan region and other parts of Iraq in 2021. Rwanga Foundation was able to implement 34 projects in which various activities were allocated to support and aid the community, conduct policymaking in the education system and implement research to strengthen local and national development solutions. The assistance reached above a quarter to a million people in different categories of age, gender, and communities of host, IDPs, and refugees, with a particular focus on female and male youths.



## OUR DONORS



## OUR PARTNERS



## SPONSORS



## MEDIA PARTNERS



## MEDIA SPONSORS







Education

9 Projects

153,853 Students

The projects and activities included delivering online classes and videos, competition-based learning for potential students, Tech-exhibition, school innovation and playground establishment, a Micro-Internship program, and supporting the Directorate General of Education in implementing the General Education Sector Plan.



Youth

17 Projects

133,012 Youth

Regarding youth, the projects and activities covered sectors of human capacity development where female and male youth between the ages of 18 – 35 were actively trained in some principles to lead to practical development. The practices that Rwanga Foundation provides to youth are job creation and employment opportunities, representing the voice of young people in KRI to stand up for their rights where young people are empowered to achieve their fullest potential, reward young people who played an active role in the creation of a more sustainable future, technical/skills development through recent technology approaches to promote sustainable development and building a dynamic network among young people employing tools of innovation for into their societies and to implement research; use data and learnings to improve own cross-sectoral, positive youth development programs.



Environment

4 Projects

328 Beneficiaries

To raise awareness of the public through painting significant locations to water conservation and environmental protection. The main aim is to reduce environmental risks and help protect the environment by planting trees and volunteering for cleanups in the community.



Vulnerable groups

4 Projects

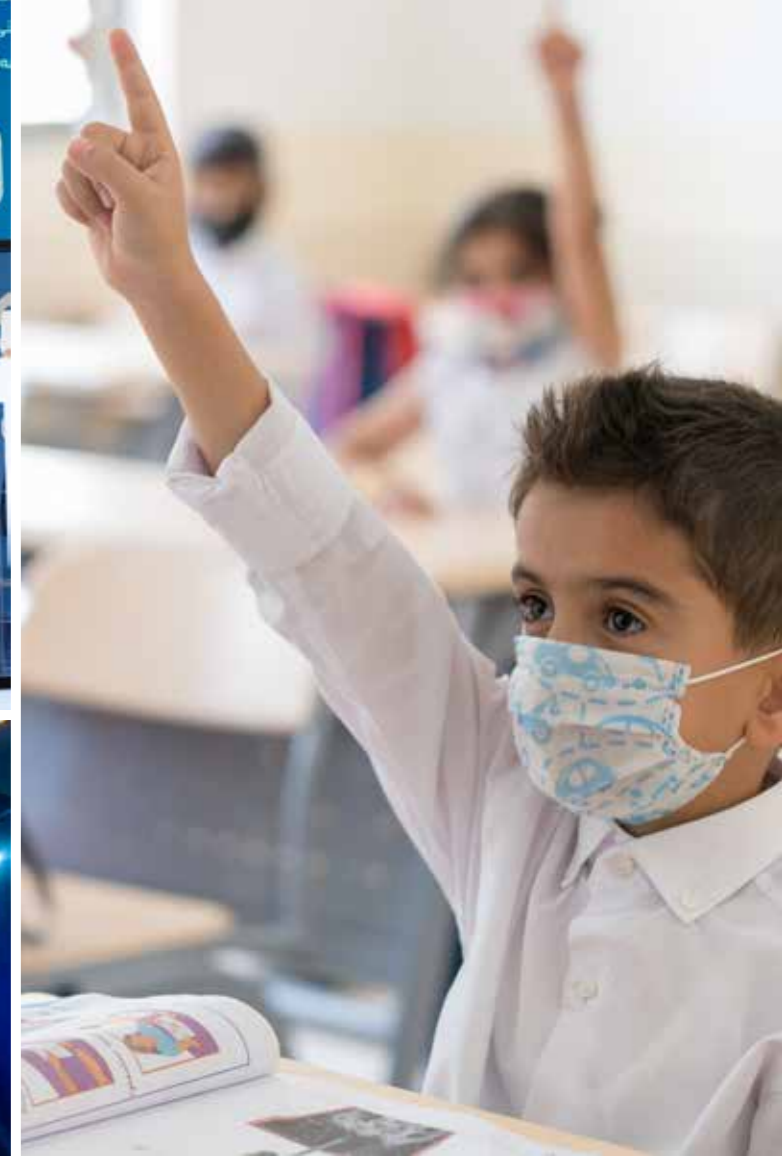
8,218 Beneficiaries

Additionally, Rwanga Foundation provided basic support and assistance to help the vulnerable people who confronted floods that hit Erbil neighborhoods following heavy rainfall. Rwanga Foundation responded to severe flooding following heavy rainfall in Erbil by providing immediate humanitarian assistance and in-kind assistance to the most vulnerable populations. In addition, the foundation conducted Cash for Program through the innovation of vulnerable families' houses, escalated the building capacity of the government employees, and delivered a business recovery support program.





The thirty-four projects were implemented in close coordination with the relevant government authorities as well as with other concerned stakeholders, including the target communities, non-governmental and civil society organizations. The main donors and partners of Rwanga Foundation in 2021 included international and national organizations, among others: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), BMZ, EU Trust Fund, KIA (Kerk in Actie), Rhone services, Netherlands Consulate General, and office of KRI Presidency. LWF (The Lutheran World Federation), USAID - IREX, UNDP, Silatech Foundation, Private donors, Al Hayat Company-PEPSI, UKH, Koya University, NWE organization, CAPNI (Christian Aid Program Nohadra Iraq), Waar Satellite Television, Five One Labs, Search for Common Ground, University of Zakho and NRC, Ministry of Education-KRG, HITEK, and Leaders Dream Company.



It is worth mentioning that from launching Rwanga's programs in September 2013 until December 2021, Rwanga Foundation executed 268 projects benefiting more than three million people from the host, IDP, and refugee communities.





# Education

**9** Projects  
**15,853** Beneficiaries

Education is not limited to the knowledge we gain from school or university, but it is a continuous learning process through practical and innovative methods and approaches. Rwanga Foundation believes that quality education should be accessible for all and strives to improve various aspects of learning and education.

The Rwanga Foundation, in partnership with international and national organizations and in coordination with the Ministry of Education, conducted nine projects in 2021. The education projects and activities, in total, benefited more than 153,853 students, youths, and teaching staff.



# قوتابخانه

## RWANGA QUTABKHANA

ئىستا بەردەستە



پرسیاری وزاری بو پۆلی 9 و 12

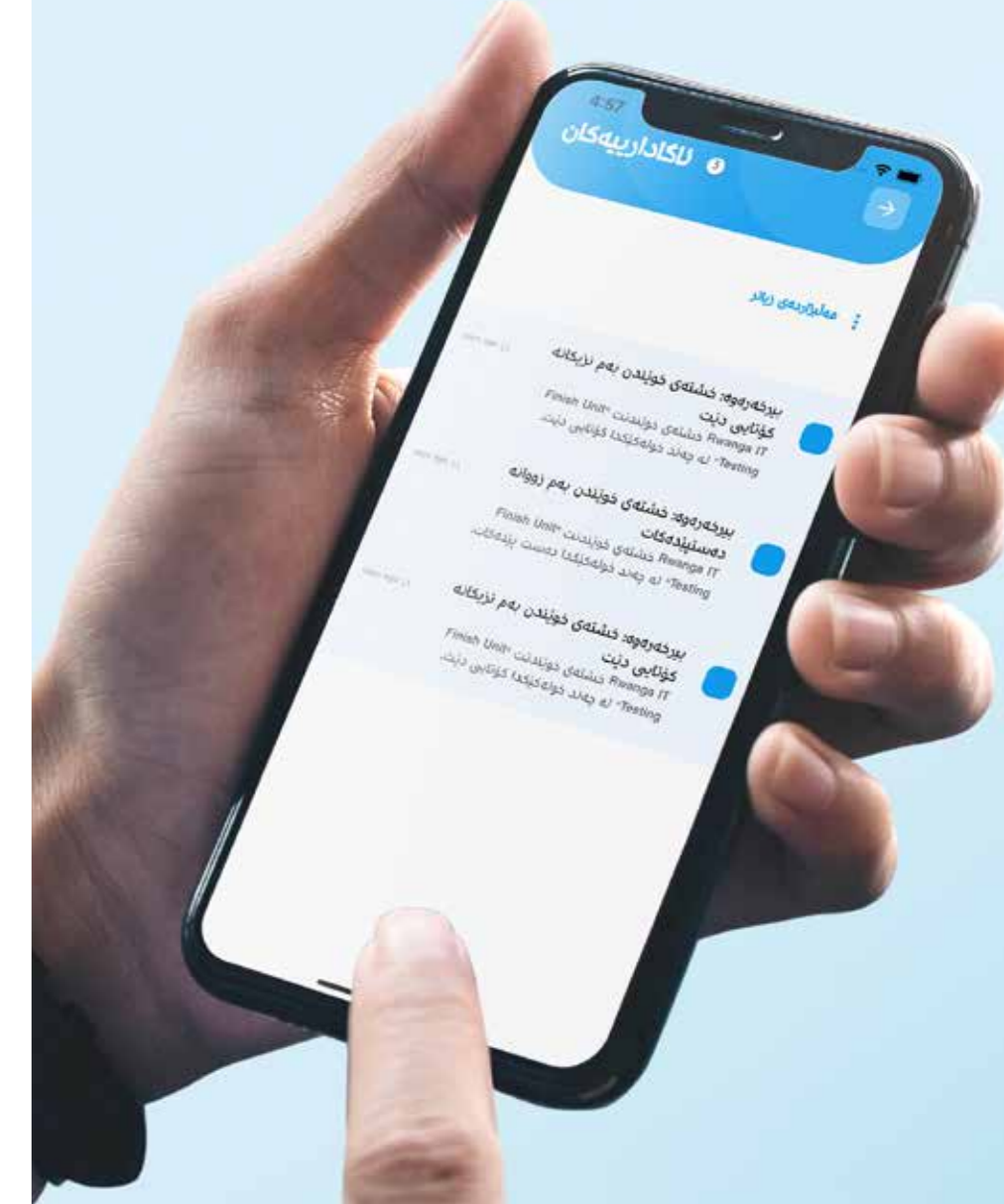
To empower and develop the educational system through technology's contemporary methods and approaches. Rwanqa Foundation implemented the "Rwanqa Qutabkhana Application" project in the Kurdistan Region, Iraq, to provide all the lessons in Kurdish (in both dialects; Sorani and Badini).

There were some new features added in the Application in 2021, such as Q/A to assist students to collaborate and exchange information as a collaborative means of learning, Library as a pool of English, Arabic, and Kurdish books, Study Schedule to assist students to organize their study time by creating schedules and setting reminders, "Choose Your Path" to assist students to select the right specialty for college through a variety of content including videos and personality test, and Search Engine for navigating throughout the entire application either through typing or voice recognition feature. The Application supported ninth and twelfth-grade students.

# 13,714

Users (6,553 male and 7,161 female)

There were 40 lessons in the Application, divided into 495 sections, including nearly 42,000 questions. In addition, 28 teachers prepared questions to support the students to test their knowledge before attending the final exams. Al-Hayat – Pepsi Co. funded the project to sustain the educational system through contemporary methods.





Rwanga Book Project was another project under the Education program. It sought to encourage and coordinate collaboration among readers and write about the educational process in KRI and Iraq. The project started in January and ended in August 2021. Rwanga Foundation awarded the first four winners in publishing educational books related to the method of teaching, language obstacles, and documentary novels to the readers, whether in universities, bookstores, libraries, or schools. The main themes of this project were on encouraging the youth community to write down the education system process and identify the problems and solutions mainly in the Kurdistan Region and Iraq generally.



**4000**

Copies

**4**

Winners







A gap was indicated in the Ministry of Education research to encourage students to attend the sciences stream. Rwanda Foundation implemented a 'Mathematics Competition' to motivate the 10th-grade students to attend the sciences stream at high school and create a platform for students to show their talents and abilities. Students competed through four phases to rank up to the first, second, and third levels. Rwanda Foundation awarded the first three winners. 332 students (224 female and 108 male) participated in the competition.

**332** Students  
**4** Stages  
**3** Winners



Among other projects under the education program are those conducted and managed online. For example, the University Guide Video was one of the Rwanda online projects to produce a guide video about studying and life in university to guide the high school students to make their decisions for pursuing the education journey. The video included interviews with key persons such as deans of colleges, heads of departments, and several students from each department to shed light on departments, admission systems, curriculum, teaching qualifications, job opportunities after graduation, and student life experience. In 2021, the project reached 139,347 YouTube viewers and thousands of viewers via Facebook and other social media channels.

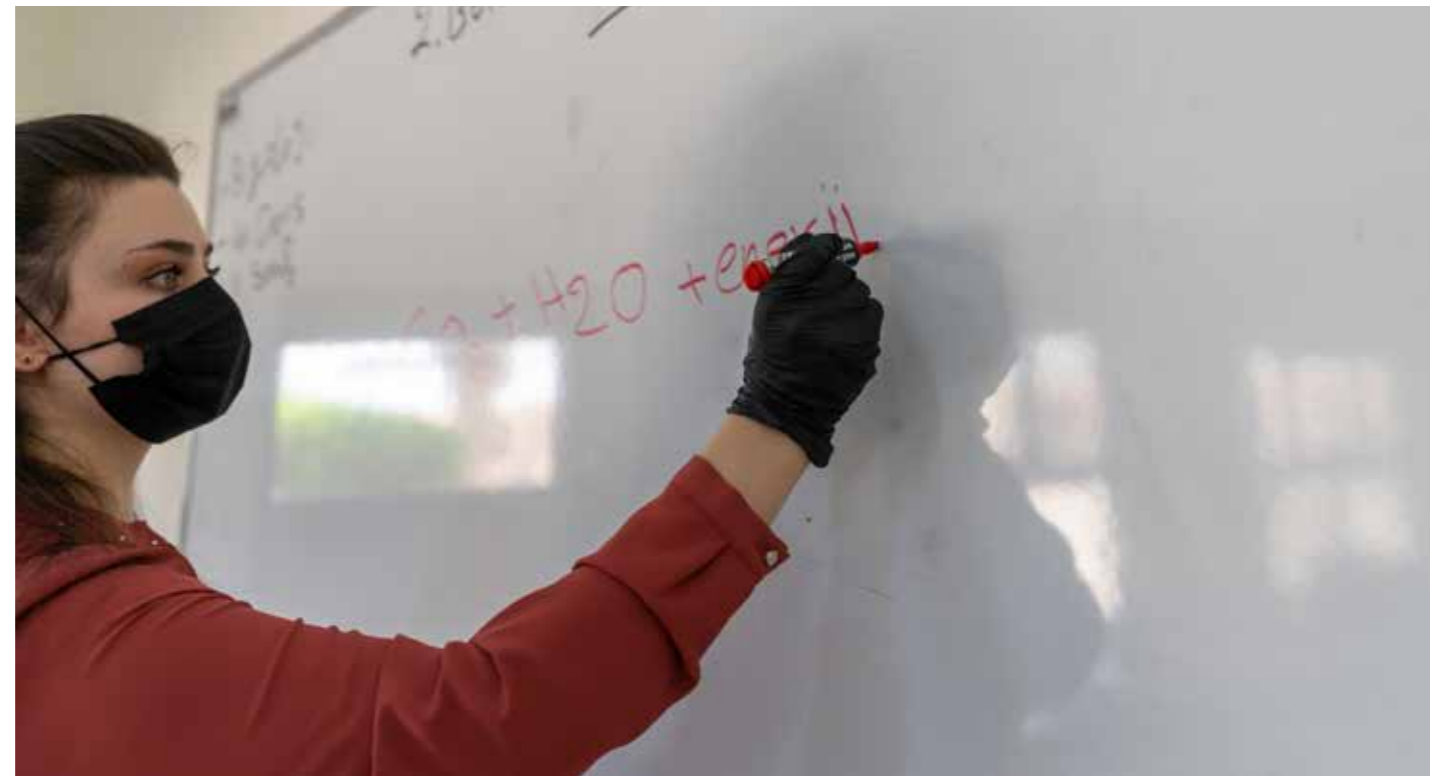
**139,347** Viewers





Besides, to support students who studied in Syriac and Turkmani languages and continue their education at home due to the coronavirus pandemic. Rwanga Foundation was in close coordination with the Ministry of Education and other relevant stakeholders to find the possible methods to tackle the issue of online video lessons to support those students. The Ministry of Education agreed that Rwanga Foundation recorded video lessons funded by (Al Hayat Company and PEPSI). The recorded videos were published online for the students to catch up with classes while at home and perhaps with the support of parents. The project supported 100 viewers in 2021 only.

**100**  
Viewers



Another online project was developed and published through online lessons of English, Chemistry, and Physics subjects. They were considered among the most challenging topics for the students in the sciences stream in general and the 12th-grade students. This project was implemented in partnership with Zaweta Academic Office to meet the project objective. Considering the above and that most high school students have easy internet access, the project was developed and proved to be very helpful based on the viewers' feedback, particularly for the students who could not afford private tutors. The online classes had about 115,352 VIEWERS from April 2019 to April 2020.

**115,352**  
Viewers



To encourage pupils among the grades of 1-6, the foundation attempts to make a competition through the project of Message from Children among the KRI school talented pupils to express their thoughts on LOVING Homeland enthusiastically in the form of a paint. The competition mechanism will be through receiving the paints via WhatsApp and Viber. A committee of experienced professional painters selected the best 50 paints to hang on the Iraqi Kurdistan Parliament's indoor walls. The overall pictures received from the pupils were 2011 pictures.

# 2011

Students Participated

# 50

Selected Winners



In addition, the Rwanda Foundation contemplates increasing access to kids' playgrounds and creating a safe space where children can be themselves and express their fun-loving nature while developing crucial cognitive, physical, social, and emotional skills. Children these days are overwhelmed with an abundance of activities and fewer opportunities to enjoy outside play. Video games, TV, after-school activities, and an increasing academic focus have led to disappearing playgrounds and playtime. Diralok sub-district in the Amidi district was targeted due to the high demand of its kindergarten for a proper playground and painting tools. The project benefited 298 children, who were mostly girls.

# 298

Beneficiaries



Furthermore, the Rwanga Foundation is in close cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The micro-Internship program was organized by the IREX organization and implemented by Rwanga Foundation, which served as an alternative or a compliment to a traditional internship. This program consisted of a specific task or project that a student worked on for a company or organization for three weeks to complete and conducted virtually, in which students participated in several online training courses focused on building capacities and improving skills, and getting ready for post-graduation, 13 students from the Universities of (Zakho, Duhok, and Polytechnique) participated in this program.

# 13

Student Beneficiaries



Moreover, another project is designed in a way to improve the education sector through some comprehensive training sessions to accelerate the skills and knowledge of committee members. Rwanga Foundation is committed to implementing the GESP program, Erbil – Basic Education part that requires a coordinated and decentralized response to meet learners' education needs and support teachers and education staff at the governorate level. Implementing the plan to develop the education sector requires establishing the three committees and finding ways to achieve continuous cooperation between these committees. It also requires strengthening partnerships between governmental and non-governmental organizations like local and international organizations to implement and achieve its goals. The project was started by the last quarter of 2021 and lasted for one year of implementation.







# Youth

**17** Projects  
**133,012** Beneficiaries

Involving youth in creating positive changes and developing society is an absolute necessity. Therefore, supporting and developing the capabilities of youth is one of the main objectives of the Rwanga Foundation, which is achieved through providing various opportunities for youth to play their vital role and become a real driving force for developing society in all aspects.

Rwanga Foundation launched 17 projects in 2021. The project benefited more than 133,012 youth.





Rwanga Foras is one of the main youth projects. Silatech Foundation-funded Foras project in partnership with Microsoft Corporation, and Rwanga Foundation implemented it for the fourth successive year. Rwanga Foras Project, which was funded by the GIZ from April 2019 until September 2020, was a platform that brought together different resources, opportunities, and initiatives for everyone, mainly youth and university graduates, who were eager to learn, work, and develop themselves but did not know where to start.

The project operated all over Iraq to provide host, IDP, and refugee youth with free access to a wide variety of resources through online training courses, including personalized advice on how to write a CV and cover letter, learn about interview skills, and work ethics. A career guidance tool provides virtual advice to help young people determine the career path best matches their life aspirations.



In 2021, through online training courses, job placement, and email and phone communication, the project supported and guided 1,285 people, mainly female and male youth job seekers, across Iraq. 16 youth placed into jobs and 1,285 beneficiaries, including face-to-face training to job seekers, youth placed into jobs, face-to-face training to employers, and job seekers registered.



**16**

Youths placed into jobs

**1,285**

Beneficiaries







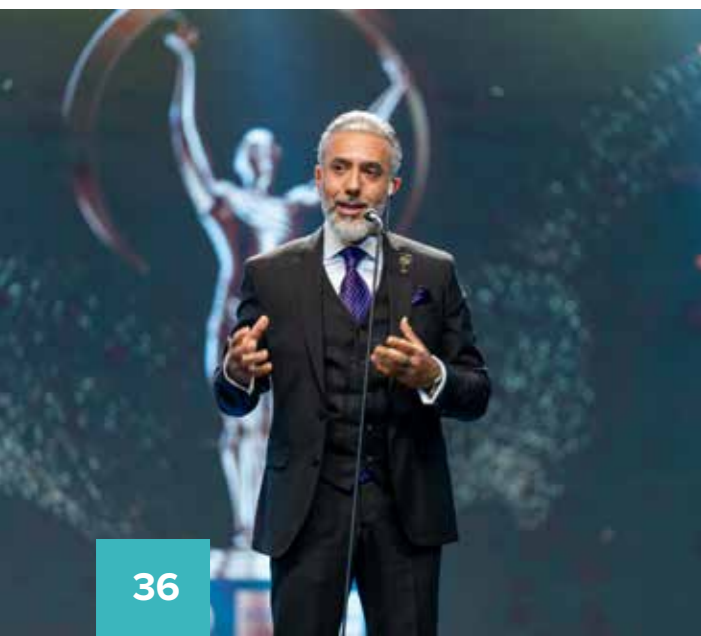
The most prominent technology exhibition, so-called HITEX 2021, was delivered in partnership with Rwanga Foundation for two successive years. The exhibition was held from 16th to 19th June 2021 at the Erbil International Fairground. It is a new opportunity for businesses to develop and grow by showing their latest products, services, and the newest worldwide technological inventions. In addition, during the HITEX days, there was a technological conference named HITEX conference, which included five different panels. On each panel, there were five panelists to discuss the topic from different perspectives and their points of view. The total number of participants was 59,064, (52,337 males and 6,717 females).

# 59,064

Visitors







To improve and foster the potential of the youth, Rwanga Foundation organized the “Annual Rwanga Awards” to discover talents and strengthen confidence among youth over the country level. Rwanga Foundation accepted products by young people (15-25), including IDPs, refugees, and all-over Iraqi governorates. The foundation designated a focal point per each Iraqi governorate to coordinate with talented people to receive their products. The categories for submission were a short story (Kurdish and Arabic versions), short film, recycled art, scientific innovation, entrepreneurship, solo music, photography, drawing, poetry (Kurdish and Arabic versions), and software development. A specialized jury evaluated the products for each category. Finally, the nominees (three winners per each category, 36 in total) were selected as winners, which took place at the National Theatre in Baghdad on November 17, 2021, where famous artistic and political characters were attending. At the event, the winners were awarded on the stage. Several entertainment activities were usually shown on the stage during the ceremony, such as musical pieces by Iraqi National Orchestra and singing performances by Mustafa Alabdalla and Parwas Hussien. The overall project target was 716 young talented people (308 male and 408 female).

**30**  
Youths awarded annually

**10**  
Categories











Undoubtedly, the continued Employment Creation Grant Scheme program in 2021 could positively impact the SMEs after a troublesome wave of COVID-19 covered the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The program continued the Grant Scheme Program, which started in August 2019 and ended in March 2021. The “EU Regional Trust Fund funded the project in response to the Syrian crisis, the EU MADAD Fund,” and partnered with UNDP and Erbil Governor Office. The main goal was to improve the resilience of host and refugee populations in the target communities impacted by the Syrian crisis through strengthened local/regional multi-level governance systems and improved access to basic services, affordable housing, and income while complementing existing initiatives and supporting national governments addressed those risks and vulnerabilities. Due to the Headway Programme’s Job Creation in KRI, the grant scheme contributed resilience in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq in which 56 Companies were supported and provided 700 jobs for vulnerable youth, among them 240 females. At the same time, 20 successful candidates received funds to establish and develop their business for the Entrepreneurship Development Programme project at Koya University. Youth Entrepreneurship project implemented at the University of Kurdistan-Hawler, three winning teams in the hackathon and six winning teams in training were selected at the end to receive funds.



At the same time, ten business plans were selected to support building and developing their business to develop Agripreneurship Initiatives in Halabja. Regarding the Entrepreneurship Network Crowdfunding platform, 30 start-ups were selected based on established evaluation criteria with the local and international consultants. In addition, the Let’s Beat Corona Campaign was another part of this project as an awareness campaign on COVID-19 implemented in Iraq from June to September 2020. UNDP executed the campaign under the programs Supporting Recovery and Stability in Iraq through Local Development, funded by the European Union, and Headway, financed by the EU Regional Trust Fund, MADAD.

# 31,700,000

people reached the online and offline components of the campaign

- 31.7 million people reached the online and on-line components of the campaign:
  - 29 million reached directly and indirectly through the dissemination of awareness material
  - 2.7 million reached through social media
  - 69,881 awareness items disseminated in 10 governorates
  - 533 multimedia posts published on seven digital platforms
- The project took 18 months and benefited 879 youth in building capacity development and job placement.



The economic crisis, political tension between the KRG and the government of Baghdad, and the COVID-19 pandemic did not stop Rwanga Foundation's curiosity to build and develop youth skills and capacities and enabled them to become qualified to enter the new job market or establish their own businesses and meet the market needs have become a vital necessity. Hence, Rwanga Foundation conducted vocational training to provide the keys to the youth job seekers who desired and drove to work but did not have the necessary skills and could not find a door to enter the job market. This was done through organizing technical and vocational training courses and connecting the youth with the job market and potential job providers. The training was initiated in Sulaimani, Chamchamal, Halabja, Kalar, and Ranya in partnership with Leaders Dream Company which covered Sales, Marketing, Mechanics, Customer Service, Communication Skills, and Work Ethics topics. 52 youth benefited from the overall comprehensive vocational training.



**52** Youth Beneficiary

In collaboration with Waar TV, Rwanga Foundation Launched the "Volunteer Youth" (VY) project in the Dohuk governorate. The project aimed to promote voluntary work through funding 10 volunteer group projects in six governorates. The age of the targeted volunteer groups was 18 to 35 years old. After the end of the application period, a committee of specialists evaluated and selected the best 10 projects recorded and broadcasted by WAAR TV through a special program. 4,504 Beneficiaries.

**10**  
Volunteer groups

**4,504**  
Beneficiaries





Also, Rwanga Foundation implemented the Youth Volunteers Initiative (YVI) project in partnership with several local business companies. The project aimed to promote voluntary work among the age of 18-35 through funding of 12 volunteer groups to implement projects in six governorates: Erbil (two projects), Sulaimani (two projects), Duhok (three projects), Kirkuk (two projects), Halabja (one project), and Ninewa (two projects). The groups had to submit project proposals with required funds which an independent committee assessed.

The winners were selected based on the submitted projects' relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability. The volunteers' projects included, among others, awareness-raising and artistic, educational, and environmental activities. It is estimated that the projects benefited more than 64,916 people in the targeted areas: 12 Volunteer Groups.

**12**  
Volunteer Groups  
**64,916**  
Beneficiaries



Another project under the Youth Program is to build a proper communication channel to share experiences and develop ideas. Therefore, Rwanga Foundation seized this opportunity and announced a new initiative called 'TALK@Rwanga,' a platform for talented young people to convey their speeches to others and have their voices heard through Rwanga Foundation's support and communication channels. The project duration started from January – to December 2021 benefited 1,339 youths, mainly focused on ages 15-35.

**1,339**  
Beneficiaries







Indeed, Rwanga Foundation thought of creating a platform to engage youth with various decision-makers to explore possible solutions for creating an economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable future. It also provides a stage for the unheard voices of the youth. The aim was to with various decision-makers to explore possible solutions for creating an economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable future and allowing them to exchange views and recommend initiatives to decision-makers and influential figures. It also provides a stage for the youth's unheard voices, provides recommendations, and proposes solutions for the challenges and issues. The theme of 2021 was more about the shortage of job opportunities and how to address this issue by participating 30 youth activists and nine panelists, including decision-makers.

# 128

Beneficiaries







To maintain and improve local products in domestic markets and take advantage of product makers' opportunities. Rwanda foundation has created an application, which operates on both iOS and Android systems with a wide capacity to receive and show handmade products/handicrafts for supporting people; to produce and sell handmade products by using this app, share their product photos daily, and collect different type of handmade profiles in one platform and application. 30 handmade makers were registered to the Application by Dec 2021.

**30**  
Handmade Makers Registered

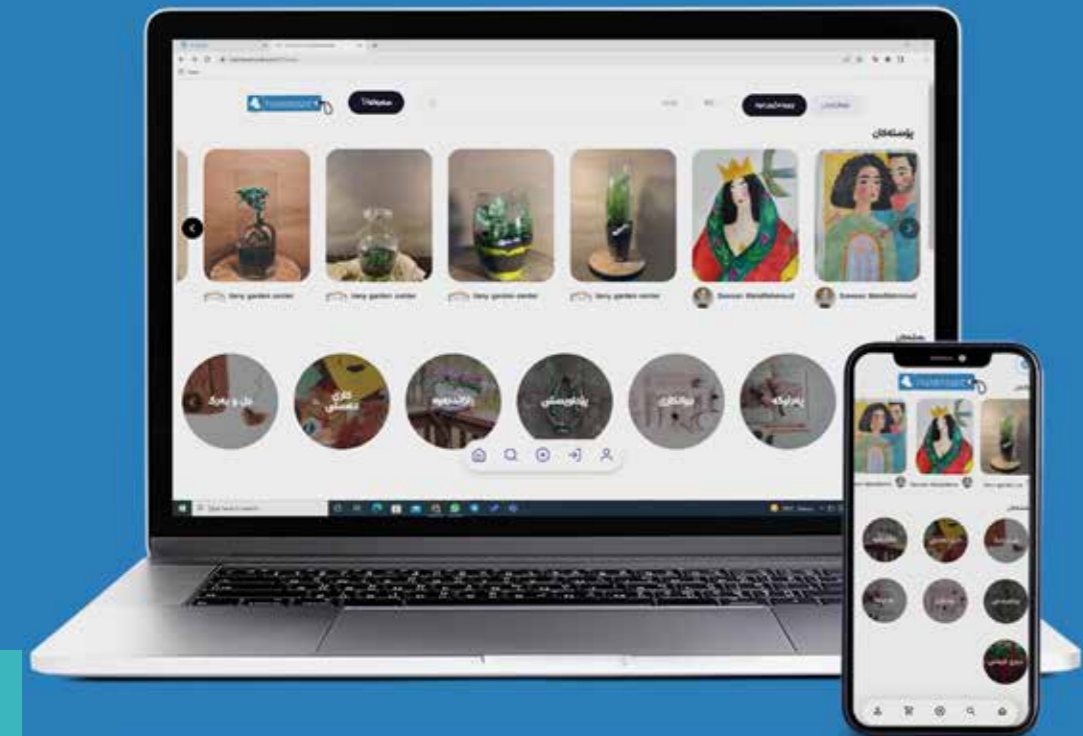
Identically, Rwanda Foundation put some strategic aspects to coordinate technology management across the entire enterprise. The WeCode project proposes teaching 100 young Kurds how to code within six months. This implementation could make learning more efficient and help graduated students increase their understanding of software development. The boot camps, operating in a ready-to-work model, were specifically designed to teach the most up-to-date software programming languages used in the market to graduate students with the complete set of skills needed to qualify for software developer jobs. The training Bootcamp topics were UX/UI, Front-end Development, and Mobile Application development.

**100**  
Target Beneficiaries



بەرھەمەکانمان بپینە  
Check Our Products

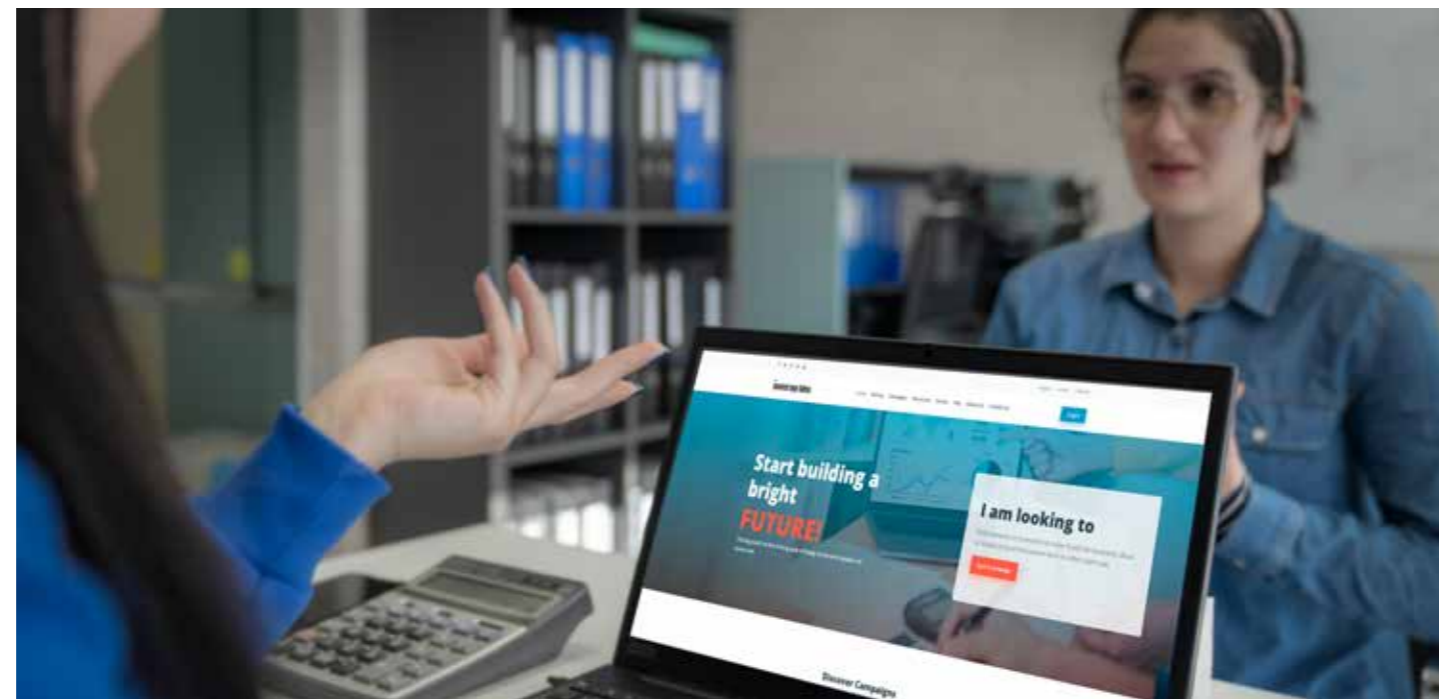
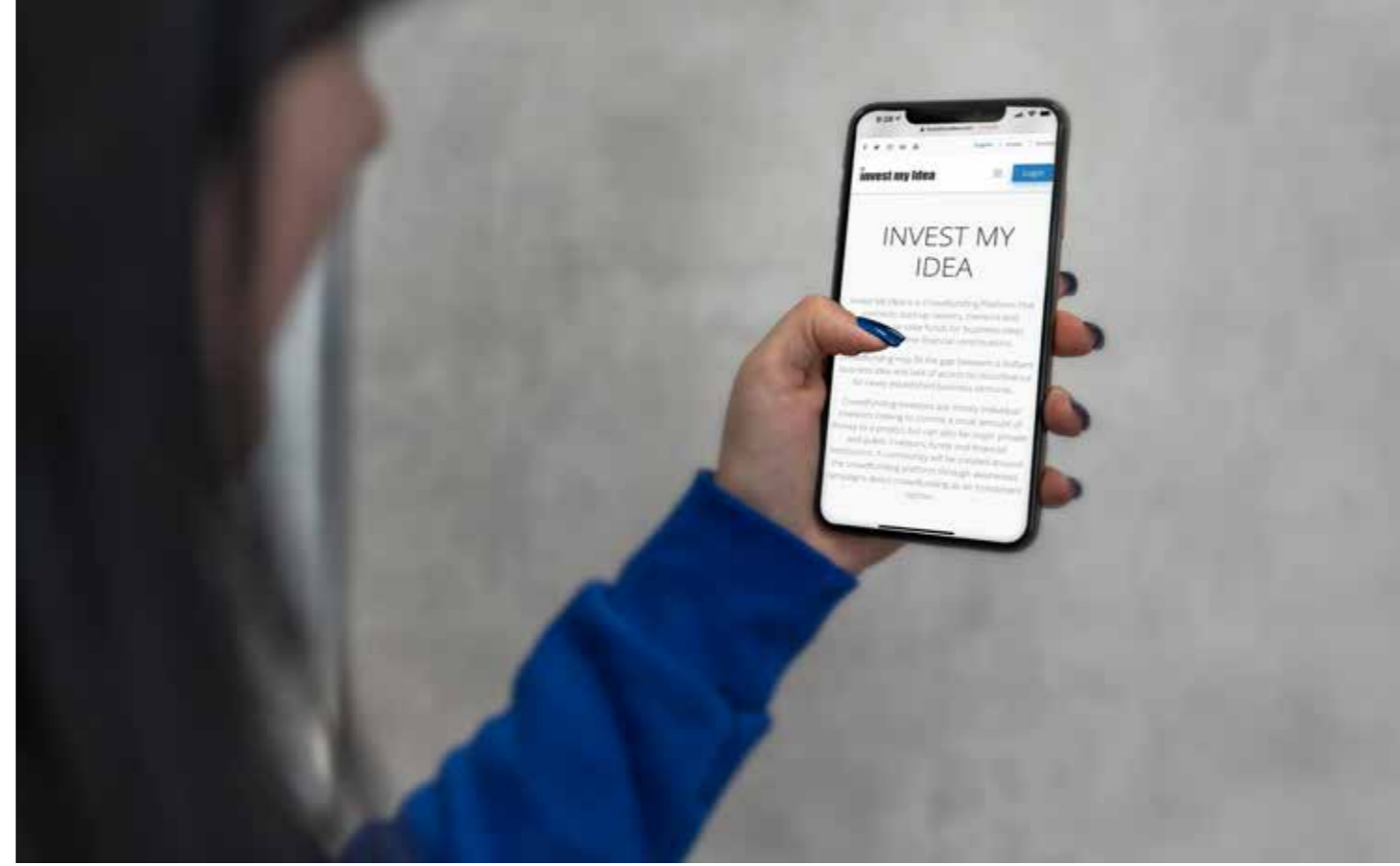
نەپلێکەیشنی (Iraq Handmade) دا بەزێنە  
 AVAILABLE ON THE App Store  
 AVAILABLE ON THE Google Play  
 Download Iraq Handmade Application





Another platform developed by Rwanga Foundation, «Invest My Idea,» is a crowdfunding project that connects start-up owners, mentors, investors, and organizations working in the entrepreneurial landscape (in an online platform) to perform crowdfunding which is a way for people, businesses, and charities to raise money. It works through individuals or organizations who invest in (or donate to) crowdfunding projects in return for a potential profit or reward. Start-ups applied for crowdfunding, and qualified start-ups with applicable business plans for their project have been selected and published on the platform to raise money for their business. In 2021, 30 potential founders/owners registered themselves in the platform and initiated the process.

**30**  
Potential Founders/Owners Registered



In addition, the Business Registrations and Regulations in KRI were designed to improve the Business and Start-up sector. This project was a follow-up to the Council of Ministers of the Kurdistan Regional Government to advise and design a concrete roadmap towards improved methods and policies that fit the modern business world. The Business Infrastructure project was funded by the government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and implemented by Five One Labs in collaboration with Rwanga Foundation.

**1,339**  
Beneficiaries





On the other hand, Rwanga worked on a Leadership Program, which was designed for a long-term transformative youth to empower active youths to become change-makers, leaders, and drivers of sustainable development and social change. The program levels up the capabilities of 25 youth to nurture their creativity, strengthen their leadership, gain management skills to become future leaders, and help them discover their ideas to improve their communities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The selected participants participated in two professional training sessions per month during the two-month leadership program. The training subjects were delivered through interactive activities, case studies, and lecture-based to involve them effectively and practically. After each training, they had three weeks to conduct and finish a project assignment within a team. At the final ceremony, the teams could pitch their projects to an evaluation committee, and they had the chance to win a grant for implementing the three best project ideas. The three winners were awarded 1,500 USD per team.

**25**

Youth Beneficiary

**3**

Winners



Furthermore, Rwanga Foundation implements a program from September 2021 to May 2022 under the entitlement “Youth Excel” in partnership with Search the Common and led by IREX. The program is more about leading change program to support young leaders and youth-led and youth-serving organizations around the community level to conduct quality “research-to-change» (implementation research); use data and learnings to improve their own cross-sectoral, positive youth development programs; synthesize data and learning; and engage in intergenerational dialogue with adult decision-makers so that together youth and adults can shape and advance data-informed development policies, agendas, and programs. The Issue-Based Collaborative Network (ICON) brought together different types of local stakeholders to promote the inclusion of youth livelihoods in Koya, KRI, to address a common problem facing them through their ongoing initiatives and existing assets. ICON participants worked together to learn about the issue and turned what they learned into what they did to better address it through an iterative process.

The purpose of this project is threefold:

1. To improve civil society capacity, particularly local formal and informal youth-led and youth-serving organizations, in improving youth livelihoods.
2. To promote more effective livelihoods programming and policies based on youth Livelihood’s research and consultations.
3. To increase livelihoods inclusion in Iraq based on the following factors: rural exclusion, gender exclusion, and political exclusion.





Also, The University of Zakho, in partnership with the Rwanda Foundation and the Norwegian refugee council (NRC), organized a JOB FAIR in Zakho to create opportunities for job seekers and job providers to meet in one place. This organized job fair aimed to strengthen the employment sector among youth.

The panel discussion and training held around 90 international and local companies, NGOs, and educational institutions participated and announced about 120 vacancies and 105 internship opportunities to the job seekers. In addition, 708 visitors were recorded during the event.

**12**

Volunteer Groups

**64,916**

Beneficiaries



Moreover, Rwanda Foundation has an ongoing project to empower the private sector employees through Skills Development training sessions in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The project fosters the skills and capacities of employees working in the private sector. This implication is a part of the previous project implemented in KRI funded by GIZ. Rwanda Foundation has set a plan to continue enhancing the skills development of both employees' capacity to work and their opportunities at work. This approach will offer more scope for creativity and satisfaction at work.

**300**

Target Beneficiaries







# Environment

**4** Projects  
**328** Beneficiaries

Environmental protection, a global concern, holds an important place in Rwanda's vision and mission. Rwanda Foundation, through raising awareness of the public and through painting significant locations to water conservation and environmental protection. The main aim is to reduce environmental risks and help protect the environment by planting trees and volunteering for cleanups in the community.

Over 328 people benefited from the four environmental projects and activities carried out by Rwanda Foundation in 2021.





Markedly, Rwanga Foundation thought of a critical aspect of land management and considered planting oak trees as a keystone species since the entire ecosystem depends on such trees for their habitat and survival. The project was the first attempt by the Kurdistan region of Iraq to respond to climate action since climate change is happening due to exceeding carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from burning fossil fuels.

Rwanga Foundation, in partnership with the Hasar organization, has implemented a project which aims at planting 1,000,000 Oak trees in 2024-2021. Oak acorns will be collected from the mountains planted directly by installing an irrigation system through the project. The remaining oaks will be prepared until the tiny seedlings grow into small oak trees. After one year, they will be planted. The directorate of city park management selected the site and landscape for planting the Oak trees, and the planned location for planting is 120m roads in Erbil city. The total number of beneficiaries who have participated so far was 250 people.

**1,000,00**

Oak trees to be planted by 2024



Also, Rwanga Foundation implemented a Painting Project (to raise environmental awareness through the power of art) in partnership with Haval Company for Cars. Painting of Three selected locations in the KRI that sent messages out to clarify the protection of the environment and to use the unique power of street art to encourage everyone to come together and keep the environment clean.

The targeted locations were Erbil at UKH and Parliament, Duhok at Awaz school, and Halabja at Amez hospital. Throughout the project, 16 people participated in supporting and implementing the project.

**16**

Youths placed into jobs





Moreover, Rwanga Foundation facilitated arranging environmental workshops that the Board of Environmental protection and improvement implemented. The role of media was critical in shaping public awareness about global climate change and associated actions. The workshop's focus was on the role of media in informing, educating, and entertaining. The workshop aimed to train media and journalists to present environmental subjects. The total number of participants was 50 people.

**50**  
Participants



Furthermore, Rwanga Foundation thought of improving agricultural water management and water-saving facilities. Mostly, the project referred to the action plan of reducing the overall usage of water and recycling wastewater to maximize functionality for various purposes, such as manufacturing, agricultural irrigation, and environmental regulation. The Foundation implemented Painting Project under the name of a Water conservation Campaign. Rwanga Awards (2014-2020) - Drawing Winners participated and financed painting the Kurdistan Parliament wall that sent messages out to clarify water conservation and the protection of the ecosystem. The total area of the wall was (340 meter-square), divided into a couple of areas. Each winner will select/submit a wall design on the Water conservation and ecosystem protection theme.

**340 m<sup>2</sup>**  
Total Area of Wall







# Vulnerable Groups

**4** Projects  
**8,218** Beneficiaries

Natural and human-made disasters and conflicts have serious negative consequences on people's lives as well as their learning and development processes. Therefore, focusing on development projects, Rwanga Foundation also provides essential humanitarian assistance to vulnerable groups, mainly during emergencies, to become more resilient and eventually self-dependent.

In 2021, the Foundation provided help and support to more than 8,218 vulnerable people, including children, women, men, and the elderly from the host, IDP, and refugee communities through the implementation of four projects.



Rwanga Foundation implemented a project which was funded by KIA (Kerk in Actie) in partnership with LWF (The Lutheran World Federation) to purpose on Fast Track Business Recovery Support Program aimed at supporting local firms and enterprises in WASH, agribusiness, and textile industries to recover their business and develop their productions in response to the needs of communities and as virus protective gear such as the production of food, hygiene material, and protective cloths. 66 host community beneficiaries.

**66**

Host Community Beneficiary



Also, the Rwanga foundation provided capacity-building sessions to the General Directorate of Care and Social Development in Duhok Governorate (DoLSA). The project aimed to support and develop the technical skills and capabilities of DoLSA to sufficiently operate the six-community social Centres during the contracting year with GIZ. DoLSA was technically and administratively prepared to operate the six community Centres and other centers and institutes in Duhok when GIZ and other international organizations withdrew and stopped funding. The project, during the course of 2021, benefited 76 employees. (44 males and 32 females).

**76**

Beneficiaries



64



65





Furthermore, Rwanga Foundation brought unskilled and semi-skilled workers on labor rehabilitation of vulnerable families in Duhok governorate, income support to the poor and vulnerable people from different backgrounds and groups through short term, intensive and unskilled so that they can meet their essential needs as well as rehabilitate shelters for families in extreme needs. The project was launched in late December 2021 up to May 2022 and benefited 34 people during 2021.

**23,983**  
Beneficiaries



As the main component of supporting vulnerable families affected by the flood, Rwanga Foundation initiated Emergency assistance to 8,052 affected people. The project was granted by the Kurdistan Regional President, H.E. Mr. Nechirvan Barzani, with the amount of One Billion Iraqi Dinars as emergency support to the vulnerable families affected by the flood Erbil through the Rwanga Foundation. On December 17, Rwanga Foundation received the fund to support the flood-affected families. The team started to come forth with the fund and joined an urgent meeting on Friday, December 17, 2022, which were attended by the Minister of Municipalities and Tourism, Erbil Governor, related directorates, Barzani Charity Foundation, and EJCC to do a quick assessment of the situation and discussed the immediate delivery of the support. After understanding the situation, plans for the project started as emergency support for three types of support:

- 1-Provided three warm meals per day for two days.
- 2-Provided water to support the cleaning process of the affected neighborhoods.
- 3-Provided necessary home equipment for the vulnerable families

**8,052**  
Beneficiaries





# Statistical Report

**34**  
Projects

**295,411**  
Beneficiaries

## Data Of Beneficiaries & Projects

2021

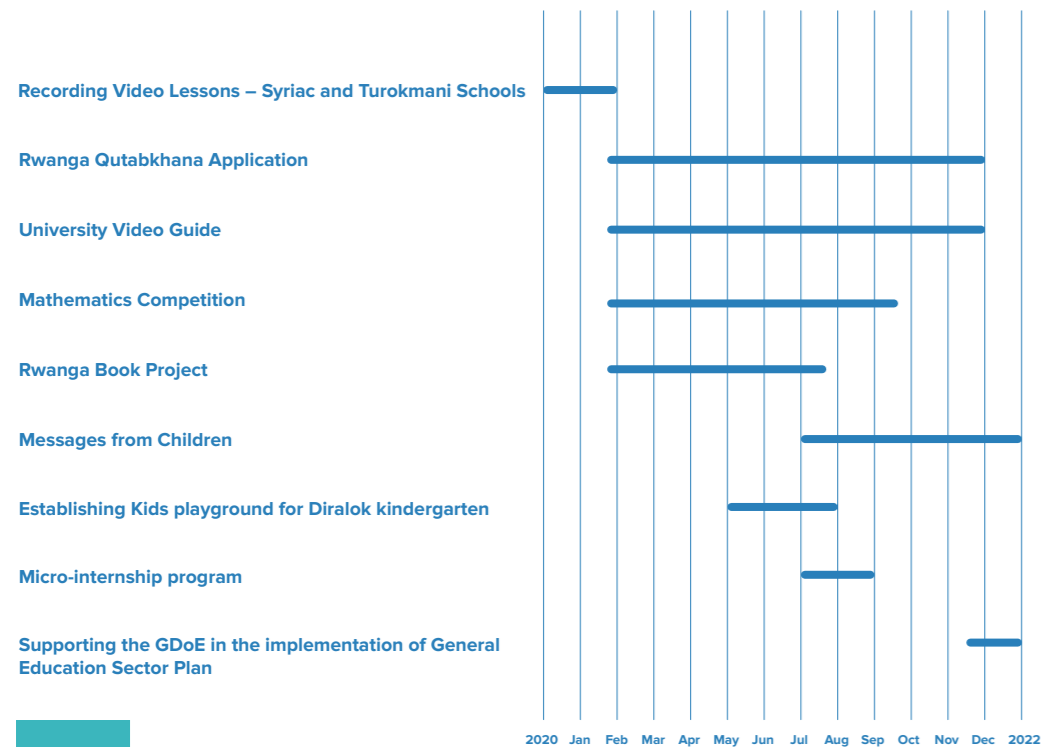
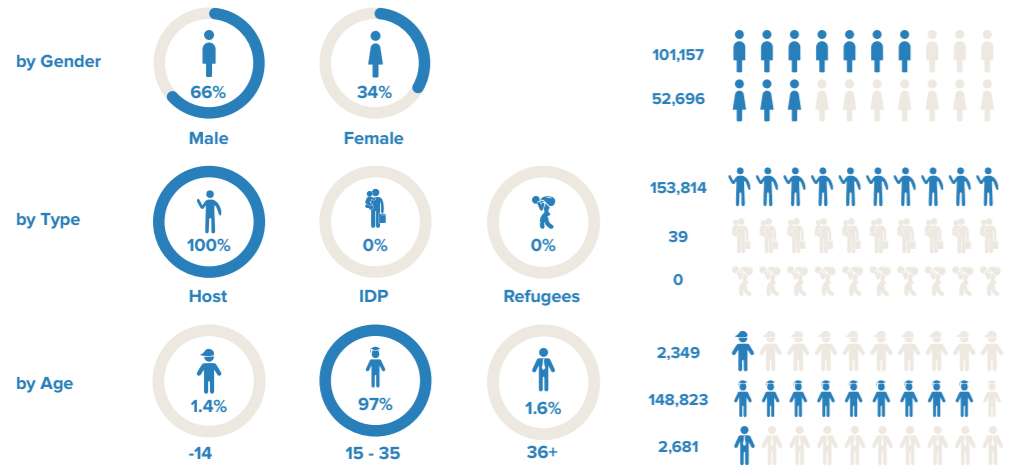
2013-2021





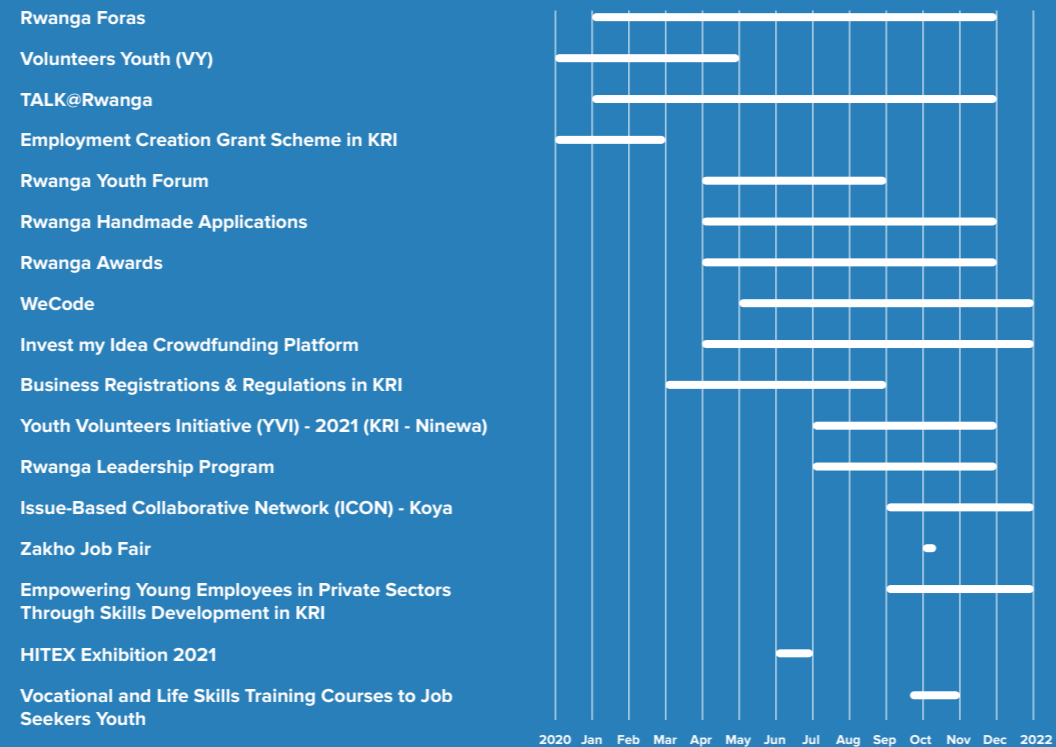
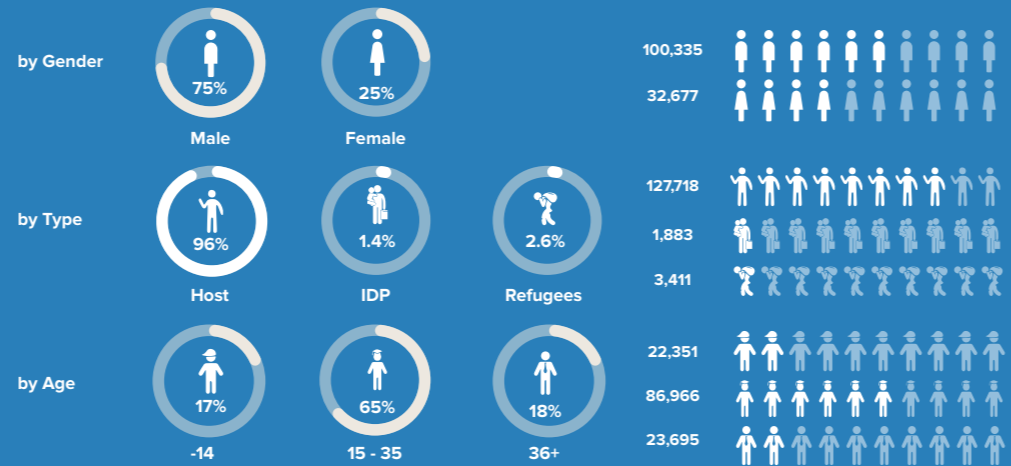
# Education

9 Projects  
153,853 beneficiaries



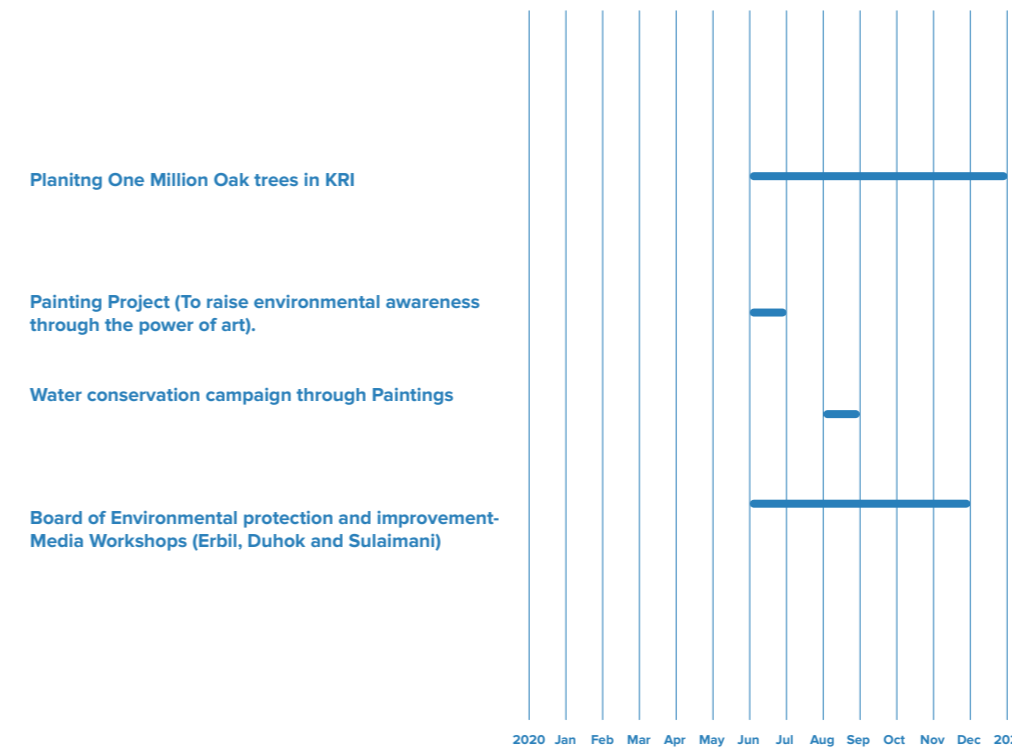
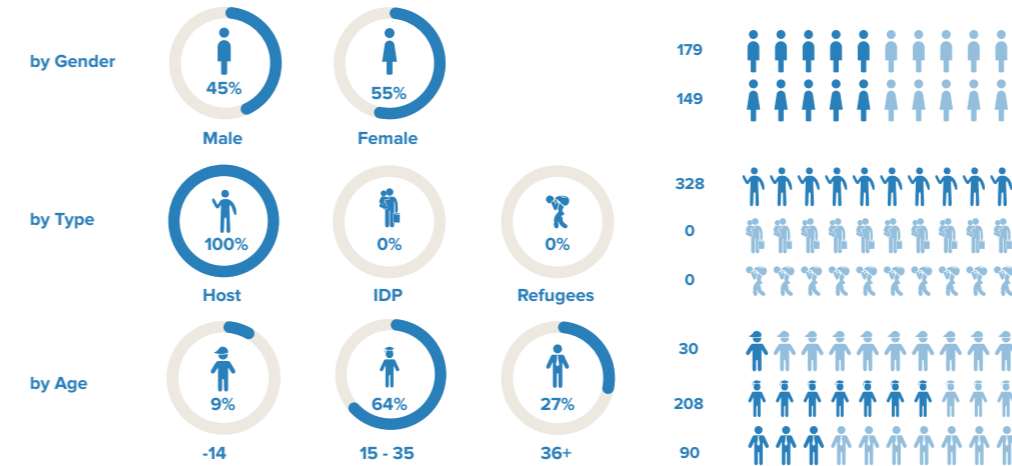
# Youth

17 Projects  
133,012 beneficiaries



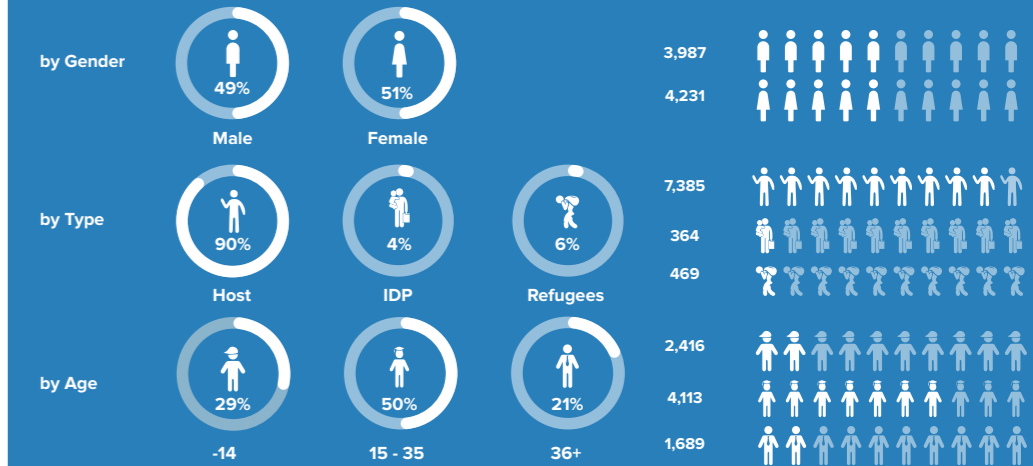
# Environment

4 Projects  
328 beneficiaries



# Vulnerable Groups

4 Projects  
8,218 beneficiaries





# Way Forward 2022

Rwanga Foundation strives to envision the overall goal of sustainable development by developing people and institutions' capabilities and capacities to become more effective and self-reliant. Although education and youth capacity building, environment, and vulnerable groups will continually form the core of Rwanga Foundation's mission and work. There are multiple strands to the foundation's substantive contribution to this strategy.

These strands include supporting the formal education system in capacity building, technical support, renovation of school buildings, and essential educational materials. Moreover, providing vocational and life skills training courses to support youths in working, starting a business, and participating in voluntary activities to become more productive and self-reliant will remain the foundation's focus in 2022 and afterward.



## Education

-School rehabilitation is the main component that the Rwanga Foundation plans to achieve for the sake of helping children to resume their learning in a safer environment through its school rehabilitation.

-To facilitate enrollment and regular attendance to education, girls' children will receive a payment to alleviate financial difficulties, which constitute one of the main barriers to the participation of girls' children in education.

-To improve the quality of teacher education and education staff by making teacher training to escalate the capacity building of teaching staff to determine student achievements and education governance.

-To conduct schools needs assessments to systematically examine performance gaps and identify, understand, and prioritize the needs that must be addressed to improve outcomes for all students.

-To provide a relaxed atmosphere for students to actively participate in competitive events and provide them with an opportunity to develop their talents and reward the talented ones for pursuing their future visions.

-To develop a distance learning program through integrated digital learning platforms video lessons, mainly broadcasting social media and other communication channels.

-To create and stimulate competition by offering various literacy projects to strive for excellence in education.

-To encourage pupils to express their thoughts on a specific theme through painting.

-To support a group of students through education awarded based on academic achievement, help students gain access to education and provide financial support.



## Youth

-To recognize the talented youth's efforts and acknowledge their work to the community through different Rwanga Programs, including Rwanga Awards and Iraq Handmade Project.

-To deem a group of young people from the communities where they can bring new ideas and innovations to address complex social problems.

-To facilitate an opportunity to many employers to provide employment opportunities and provide a network for career exploration and professional development.

-To provide a technical training program that teaches programming skills that youth look for. Youth can learn coding proficiency to focus on the most important aspects of coding and apply their new coding skills to the existing workforce.



## Environment

-To combat air pollution, improve air quality, and plant evergreen trees can benefit people living and positively impact mental health and well-being.

-To examine water use and identify potential areas for saving (water conservation), reusing water, or campaigns to prompt reductions in water use.



## vulnerable groups

-In partnership with the Save the Children (SCI) to deliver cash and food assistance to the most vulnerable affected populations in Erbil in Zhyan, Daratw, Roshenberi, Grtjwtyar, and Qwshtapa. The proposed interventions will be in line with the Cash working group standards and food security cluster standards.

- To support local firms and enterprises in WASH, agribusiness, and textile industries to recover their businesses and develop productions in response to the needs of communities.

-To conduct some related projects for the skills development to startup a small enterprise, particularly home-based business projects.



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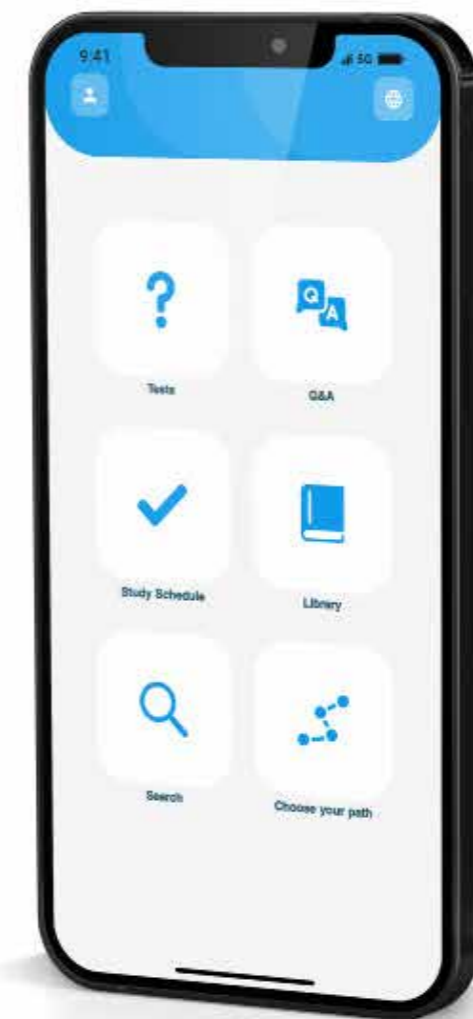
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