



Rwanga Foundation **Annual Report 2022**

a world where quality education is accessible for all



About Us

Rwanga Foundation for Development is a non-profit organization that aims to promote sustainable development and improve the quality of life for individuals and communities. The Foundation was established in 2013, focusing on multiple intervention sectors to bring about positive change. Its primary sectors of intervention include education, youth, environment, and support for vulnerable groups. In the education sector, it strives to improve access to quality education by enhancing infrastructure, providing trainings for teachers and students, integrating technology, developing the curriculum and teaching techniques, providing scholarships, and vocational trainings.

Through the youth empowerment initiatives, Rwanga Foundation recognizes the youth's immense potential and importance in shaping the future by empowering and supporting young people to unleash their creativity, explore their passions, and acquire practical skills that will enable them to thrive in a rapidly changing world. Youth development opportunities include leadership and entrepreneurship programs, social change, innovation, and technical training.

For environmental sustainability, the Foundation is committed to undertaking various initiatives to address environmental challenges. The initiatives include raising awareness about climate change, adopting sustainable agriculture practices, building resilience in agricultural systems, promoting renewable energy solutions, and advocating for environmentally friendly practices.

Additionally, the Foundation is dedicated to supporting vulnerable populations and addressing their specific needs. It identifies and reaches out to vulnerable individuals and communities, including refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and marginalized groups, to provide essential humanitarian assistance such as food, shelter, and healthcare services to those in need.

Through its diverse interventions, Rwanga Foundation aims to create a brighter future and foster sustainable regional development.



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**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.

In the year 2022, Rwanga Foundation was able to effectively implement programs and activities in the four areas of education, youth, environment, and vulnerable groups, mostly in Iraq's Kurdistan Region as well as in other governorates of Iraq. The Foundation successfully carried out 43 projects, each of which included various activities designed to promote and assist the local community, carry out policymaking within the educational system, and carry out research to strengthen both local and national development solutions. The support was provided to more than a quarter of a million people from a variety of age groups, genders, and communities of hosts, IDPs, and refugees, with a particular emphasis on young women and men.



OUR DONORS



OUR PARTNERS



SPONSORS



MEDIA PARTNERS



MEDIA SPONSORS





Education

11 Projects

149,984 Students

With several educational projects, Rwanga Foundation aimed at improving access to quality education for students and young people in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. These projects were designed to address the challenges faced by the region's education system and provide opportunities for students to learn and grow. Some of the key education projects implemented by Rwanga Foundation include School Rehabilitation and Construction, Teacher Training and Development, Curriculum Development, Advocating for educational policies and reforms, Scholarship programs, Vocational Trainings, Employee rights and social protection, and Education for Refugees.



Youth

18 Projects

127,344 Youth

Through a wide variety of programs, projects and initiatives, the Foundation strongly focuses on supporting youth between the ages of 18-35 in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and Iraq. The Foundation's youth sector aims to empower young people by providing opportunities to develop their skills, pursue their passions, and contribute to their communities. Some specific initiatives and programs that Rwanga Foundation's youth sector implemented or supported include Youth empowerment programs, Entrepreneurship programs, Arts and culture programs, Volunteer programs, Employment through job placement, Agricultural vocational training, and Tech program initiatives.



Environment

7 Projects

682 Beneficiaries

As part of its mission to foster sustainable development and conserve the natural world, The Foundation has implemented several environmental projects in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and other governorates of the country. These projects aim to address some of the region's environmental challenges, such as air pollution, deforestation, and awareness of water conservation. Some of the specific environmental projects that Rwanga Foundation implemented include Green Universities Initiatives, Reforestation projects, and awareness campaigns for water conservation.



Vulnerable groups

7 Projects

5,675 Beneficiaries

In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, the Foundation has implemented several projects to support and empower vulnerable groups. These projects were designed to address various social and economic challenges facing vulnerable populations, including poverty, basic needs assistance, and marginalization. Some examples of vulnerable group projects implemented by Rwanga Foundation include: Livelihoods programs (CFW), Food basket distribution, Disability Inclusion programs, Needs assessments for identifying the gaps and needs of the communities, and Technology Braille printers for the visually impaired.





Education

11 Projects
149,984 Beneficiaries

Education sector at Rwana Foundation does not focus solely on what is called education at schools, but it is dedicated to expanding young people's access to high-quality education in Iraq's Kurdistan Region and Iraq. The Foundation's education initiatives are intended to address the local educational system's difficulties and give young people chances to develop.

In 2022, Rwana Foundation coordinated and implemented thirteen separate projects with the Ministry of Education and its network of foreign and national partners. More than 149,984 kids, youth, and educators benefited from the education projects and events.



RWANGA
QUTABKHANA

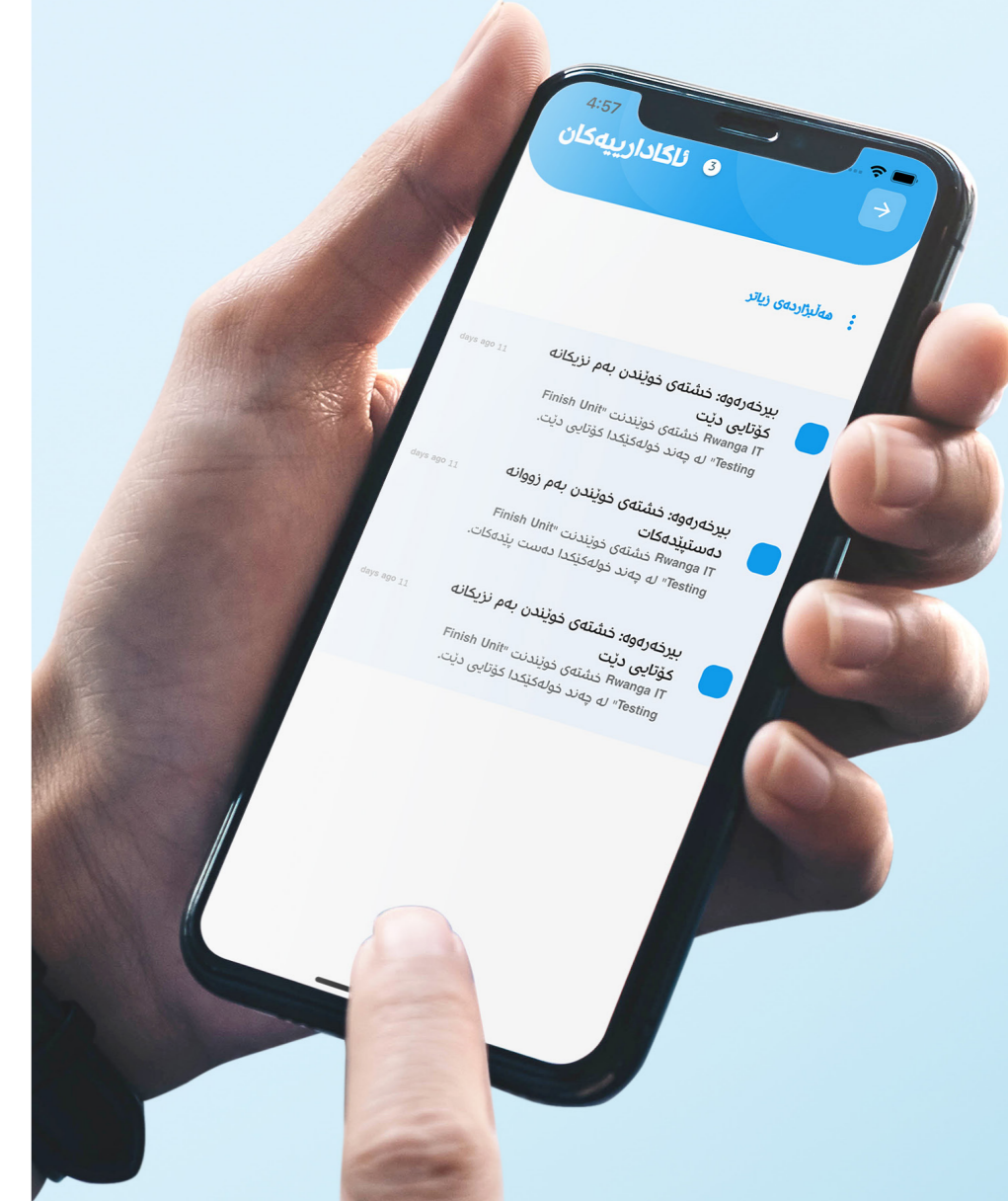
ئىستا بەردەستە



پرسىيارى وزارى بو پۆلى 9 و 12

By providing a platform and environment that encourages learning and knowledge growth, Rwanqa Foundation **improves the educational system using cutting-edge technology**. Kurdish (Sorani and Badini) literacy and language acquisition are promoted on this platform. High school and college students use this course-based question-and-answer tool. The platform also provides current major information to help high school students choose one before college. The app's informal education elements support Kurdish, Arabic, and English. To reach more students, the Choose Your Specialty (CYS) conference, and a book promotion disseminated fliers. QR codes on fliers provided one-click program access. **40 courses, 495 sections, and almost 42,000 questions comprised the application.** 28 educators received day one final pre-exam practice tests. Innovative teaching approaches were financed by Al-Hayat-Pepsi Co. 18,332 men, 11,418 women, and 34,414 unknown genders used the Rwanqa Qutabkhana app.

64,164 Users



Another education Initiative of Rwanga Foundation encouraged writers to develop books on multiple subjects. The Foundation granted writers a year to work on their book in 2022; the finest will be chosen in 2023. Writers were asked to write about one of four technological themes: social media (e.g., its pros and cons), digital addiction (e.g., its impact on individuals and communities), electronic blackmail and/or digital extortion, or gaming (e.g., its impacts on social life). This project hosted Iraqi writing competitions. The project's best two Kurdish and two Arabic books will be published in 2023. Two different judging panels will choose the top four books. The Arabic and Kurdish book evaluation committees will choose two best-written books. The selected books will be designed, printed, and distributed to Iraqi students, faculty, and institutions. A book signing ceremony will also honor the chosen authors.



4000
Copies

4
Winners





Research conducted by the Ministry of Education (MoE) showed that there was a need to get more students to sign up for high school science classes. Therefore, Rwanga Foundation for Development thought of an innovative approach to increase interest in science classes, particularly Mathematics. As a result, the Foundation held a “**Mathematics Competition**” to encourage students in grade ten to major in science at high school and to give students a stage to exhibit their skills.

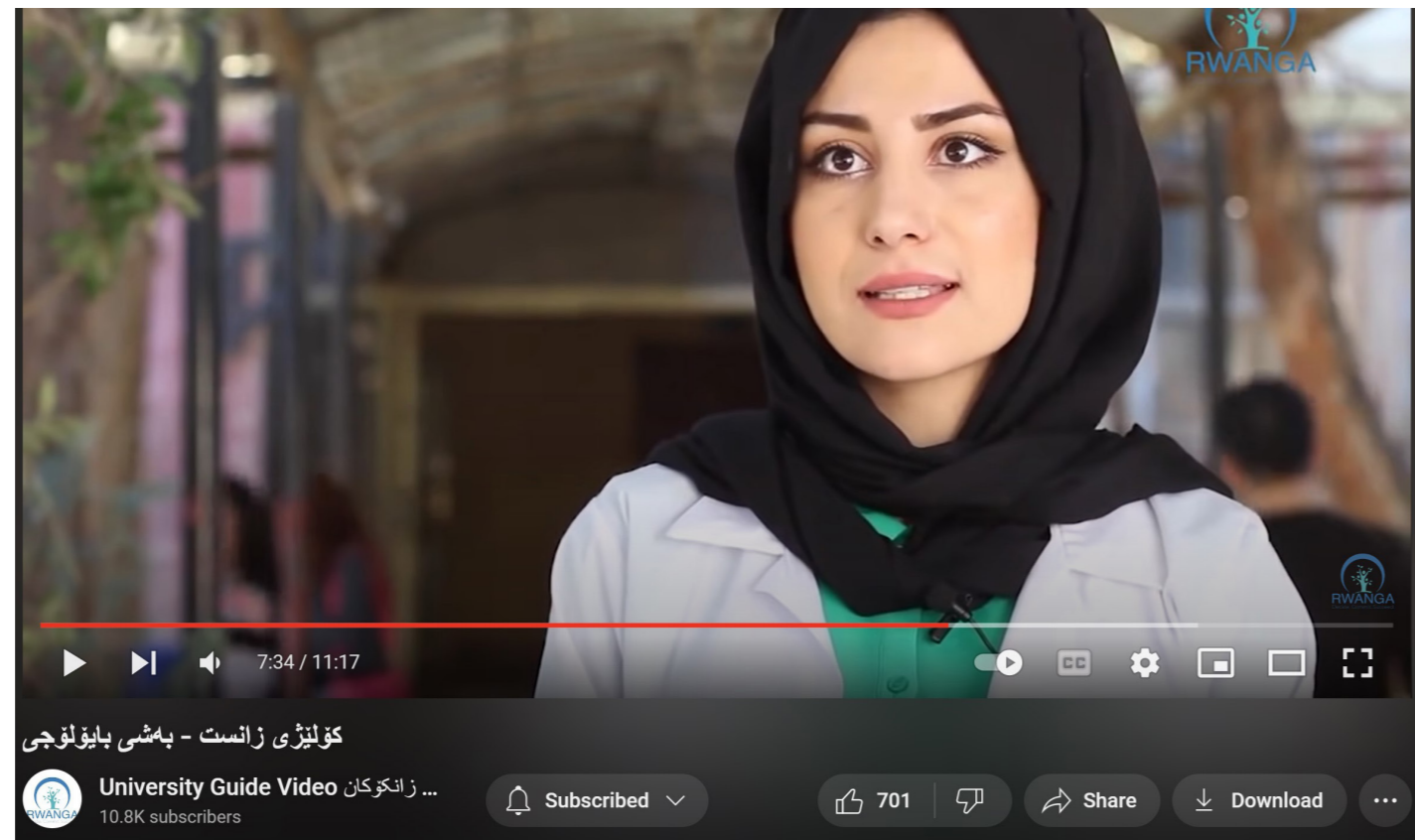


There were four rounds of competition between students competing for the first, second, and third places. Rwanga Foundation gave out awards to the first three winners. There were 430 students in four stages, and three winners were chosen to be awarded.

430 Students
4 Stages
3 Winners

Internet-based initiatives are among those supported by the education program. One of Rwanda's online projects was **University Guide Video**. It was an attempt to create informative videos for high school students to facilitate their integration into the university life. The video featured interviews with key individuals like college deans, department chairs, and numerous students from each department to provide insight into those institutions' selections, admissions processes, curricula, faculty qualifications, post-graduation employment prospects, and student life. In 2022, the project was viewed by 118,524 PEOPLE (male: 74,926 and female: 43,598) on YouTube and thousands more on Facebook and other platforms.

118,524
Viewers



A fun and learning event in which students draw artworks was **“Loving Homeland”**. The project exposes children to several drawing techniques and shows them how to utilize colors, shapes, lines, and textures to express their ideas. Instead of focusing on exam outcomes, the goal is to enjoy making art. Throughout the project, it **stimulates creativity, imagination, and self-expression, helping children develop their artistic skills** while looking into the theme. The Foundation developed this project to inspire KRI's outstanding elementary school students to paint a message about environmental protection they were passionate about. A jury of expert artists reviewed students' artworks, and the top 50 were hung in the KRI parliament building with the children's names and schools below them. This project was a collaboration between the Parliament of Kurdistan and the Ministry of Education.

2,700
Pictures were submitted



Rwanga Foundation, in collaboration with Erbil's General Directorate of Education, led this UNDP-funded initiative. Erbil Governorate Education Sector Plan (GESP) 2019–2022, a comprehensive study and strategic plan developed by the GDoE in collaboration with UNICEF, served as the basis for the project's design. **A primary goal of Rwanga Foundation was to ensure that the region's educational system received consistent, high-quality support throughout the project's implementation.** To achieve Sustainable Development Goal 4, the plan prioritized the following areas of focus: ensure that everyone has access to high-quality education and work to expand people's capacity to learn throughout their lives.



30

Educational Staff Trained

3

Committees of Educational Staff



The Multi-Year Resilience Program, often known as MYRP, is an additional effort in the field of education with a three-year long-term focus. **Its purpose is to give children and youth from refugee and host communities access to learning opportunities in urban and camp settings** within the Sulaimani Governorate and to guarantee that children whom the crisis has impacted get an inclusive and high-quality education. The renovations will not only make the schools more pleasant places for students to learn but also make the schools safer for students with impairments. To be more specific, WASH interventions are another facet to be implemented to protect and retain those most at risk. This will be accomplished by providing these individuals with access to clean water and sanitation, as well as facilities that are safe, easily accessible, dignified, and also separated by gender.

517

Beneficiaries in Second Year



A further remarkable initiative was conducted on the **“Social Policy and Economic Perspective in Iraq.”** This initiative aimed to bring together various stakeholders, relevant entities, and decision-makers to discuss the primary subject matter of implementing retirement and social security law, its inclusion, and increasing the inclusion area through roundtable sessions. The main objective of this project was to incorporate all of the various sectors and informal workers into the social security system. This can be determined with the intention of identifying the challenges as well as the approaches that can be a resource for resolving those challenges. In the end, the ILO will share the suggested recommendations and proposals with the relevant government agencies for their consideration.

123

Roundtable Participants



Rwanga Foundation greatly emphasized ensuring that its programs took the local educational climate into account. As a consequence of this, the Foundation was established with the intention of catering to the requirements of the educational sector in the Rovia sub-district in order to **guarantee the provision of an education that is both inclusive and equitable**, as well as one that facilitates effective learning and the acquisition of pertinent information, abilities, and capabilities. This intervention sought to design some ideas and solutions to reduce the negative impact of overcrowded classrooms and enhance learning environments in the classrooms themselves through the approach of a small-scale project (SSP) with the financial support of the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Erbil. The project achievement from the small-scale project approach was renovating the three classrooms, installing three wall partitions on each of the three existing corridors, and supplying the school facilities to the classroom, including lighting, a heating and cooling system, desks, and blackboards.

430

Students benefited from this initiative

To help children grow and contribute to society, Rwanga Foundation came up with a decent plan to give them the childhood they never had. **Erbil Orphanage's education program was the inspiration for the "You Are Not Alone" (YANA) initiative.** In 2022, 130 children were supported and given a variety of educational programs. In addition, the project provided another gain in the form of an application that helped keep child's schedules straight. The general objective was to provide orphans with a secure and harmonious setting by implementing various construction programs to improve their mental health, social skills, communication, and emotional stability.

130
Beneficiaries



A quitting smoking campaign at Swren High School for Boys in Sirwan District was a great initiative to raise awareness, in coordination with the Halabja General Directorate of Health, about the harmful effects of smoking and **encouraged students to quit smoking.** The campaign involved various activities, including educational sessions, peer support groups, and awareness-raising events. Educational sessions were held to inform students about the health risks associated with smoking and the benefits of quitting. A survey was conducted to estimate the rate of quitting smoking. As a result, 7 students completely quit smoking, 25 addicted students have reduced smoking from 20 cigarettes to 2 cigarettes in a day based on the school social worker's statistics

32
Beneficiaries



Youth

18 Projects
127,344 Beneficiaries

Youth, in our philosophy, is the source of power and development. We are strongly focused on empowering young people in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and Iraq by providing them with opportunities for education, skills development, and community engagement. The Foundation's youth programs aim to equip young people with the skills, knowledge, and resources they need to become active and engaged members of

their communities and contribute to the region's development. In 2022, the Foundation launched 18 initiatives. The initiatives benefited over 127,309 young people.



The most prominent **technology exhibition**, HITEX 2022, was put on in collaboration with Rwanga Foundation for Development for two years in a row. The Erbil International Fairground served as the location for the exposition from June 27th to June 30th, 2022. It was a new chance for businesses to grow and improve by showing off their newest products, services, and the most cutting-edge technological innovations worldwide. Besides exhibitors showcasing their innovations, HITEX brought multiple panels and seminars for the visitors to take home new information about the technological advancements in Iraq and the rest of the world. The HITEX Conference features a keynote address on the latest technological innovations and their implications for society. The conference's goal was to host a high-level discussion and debate on the future of IT in Iraq and beyond, bringing together the world's leading experts from academia, government, non-governmental organizations, and the corporate and public sectors. Academics, practitioners, and educators from across the world gathered at the HITEX Conference to present and debate the latest innovations, trends, concerns, and practical challenges. They adopted solutions in the field of Information Technology. This year's HITEX show was accompanied by the HITEX 2022 Conference, which included a number of insightful panels and debates on futuristic technology.

53,682
Visitors





Strategically, Rwanga Foundation for Development works with the **Flanders' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Voka)** and coordinates with the Erbil Chamber of Commerce and Industry to conduct trainings and conferences that help **local agri-food products be made and exported**. The project is a component of a broader initiative that Voka is carrying out. Its goal is to make it easier for Flanders and Iraqi Kurdistan region to share successful strategies and build cooperation relationships in three areas: agricultural output, domestic trade, and international trade.

- o Organic agri-food production and distribution/ exports.
- o Waste management and eco-friendly production.
- o Supporting female entrepreneurship

The area of organic agri-food production and distribution/ exports will be under Rwanga Foundation's mandate to implement the related activities. The Foundation has created 15 business case studies of local businesses, shared them with the Flanders' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VOKA), and organized a conference in Erbil with the active participation of 24 participants from the governmental, non-governmental, and industrial businesses.

24
Beneficiaries



GeneI20 Scholars is yet another fantastic endeavour. GeneI Energy managed another impressive undertaking, this time with the assistance of partners such as Rwanga Foundation for Development and the American University of Kurdistan (AUK), **supporting 20 outstanding students** with a full stipend to attend a four-year college with the overall goal of fostering the development of their leadership and organizing skills and a collection of programs designed for capability-enhancing measures.

20
Scholarships



Internationally, **Rwanga Foundation for Development** was pleased to be in partnership with **DIHAD**. The 8th Annual Dubai International Humanitarian and Development Conference and Exhibition was held in Dubai from March 14–16, 2022. As a Foundation, the management team participated in the conference to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. The event was under the theme “SDG 17: Partnerships and Cooperation for Sustainable Development.” 8,000 people from 84 different countries took part in the event.



Find the perfect job that you deserve.

The **Rwanga Foras Project**, funded by the **Silatech Foundation, Microsoft, and Rwanga Foundation**, brought together resources and opportunities for youth and graduates. It aimed to assist them in learning and finding work. The initiative, implemented for four consecutive years, provided free online training courses and career counselling tools. In 2022, it helped 10,100 job seekers, placed 32 young people, and created a database of applicant’s information and CVs.

24
Beneficiaries



Rwanga Foundation designed a program entitled the “Annual Rwanga Awards” to **recognize the talents of young people and boost their self-esteem nationally.** This was done to improve the lives of young people and help them reach their full potential. Rwanga Foundation approved the products that were made by young people aged 15 to 25, including internally displaced people, immigrants, and young people from all of Iraq’s governorates. The Foundation gave each governorate in Iraq a point of coordination to make it easier for creative people to talk to each other and for their work to be bought. The categories for submissions were short story (in Kurdish and Arabic), poetry (in Kurdish and Arabic), short film, recycled art, scientific innovation, entrepreneurship, solo music, photography, drawing, and software development. A panel of experts in each field judged each division’s products. In the end, the people who had been nominated for awards (there were three winners in each category, for a total of 36) were the ones who were chosen as the winners. This event took place at Saad Abdullah Hall on November 25, 2022. During the event, the prizes for the winners were presented on stage. The stage was typically used to display a number of different forms of entertainment throughout the course of the ceremony. Some examples of these kinds of performances include pieces of music performed by Nazdar and Ammar Alkoofe. The initiative’s overall goal involved 863 bright young individuals (566 males and 297 females).

30
Youths awarded annually

10
Categories





The Community Survey initiative, as one might expect, grew out of the goals and ideals of Rwanga Foundation for Development. As a result, the Foundation was **keen on carrying out surveys, assessments, and studies to ensure that all of its endeavours met the project's objectives and the local community's requirements.** The “Freelance and Career Fair Report” survey was among the most significant surveys Rwanga Foundation conducted because it offered crucial information on freelance services for assessing employment prospects, employee satisfaction, business expansion prospects, and social assistance.



24

Beneficiaries

A program called “**Youth Excel**” was also implemented by Rwanga Foundation for Development between September 2021 and May 2022 in collaboration with Search for Common Ground and under the leadership of IREX. The program focused more on **leading change by assisting young leaders and youth-led and -serving organizations to carry out high-quality “research-to-change” (implementation research),** use data and learnings to enhance their own cross-sectoral, positive youth development programs, synthesize data and learnings, and engage in intergenerational dialogue with adult decision-makers so that together youth and adults can shape and advance data-info.

25

Participants



Also, the Foundation implemented the Youth Volunteers Initiative (YVI) project in partnership with several local business companies. The project aimed to **promote voluntary work among the youth**, aged 18–35 by funding 24 volunteer groups to implement projects in all governorates of Iraq, with a minimum of 1 project per governorate. The groups had to submit project proposals with the 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. The project is estimated to benefit more than 60,302 people in the targeted areas through 24 volunteer groups.

24
Volunteer Groups

60,302
Beneficiaries



Under the Youth program initiative, there is also an effort to set up a good way for people to **talk about their experiences and develop new ideas**. As a result, Rwanda Foundation for Development seized the opportunity to unveil a brand-new program called "TALK@Rwanga," which gives young, talented people a platform to share their ideas with others and make their voices heard through Rwanda Foundation's channels for support and communication. 9,043 young people, primarily those between the ages of 15 and 35, benefited from the initiative from January to December 2022.

9,034
Beneficiaries





Indeed, the 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.** In 2022, the Foundation designed a continued project called the Rwanda Youth Forum Follow-Up to assess the forum conducted in 2021 to achieve the goal of reducing unemployment. The project took six months in this follow-up, during which different approaches and doable recommendations were chosen, including a questionnaire survey in which 2047 youth from Iraq's Kurdistan Region participated. Besides, direct and indirect meetings were held with the governmental entities, including the ministries, NGOs, the private sector, academia, and youth development centres. Based on the received data, the results indicated increased job opportunities and enhanced youth skills.

2047

Follow-Up Responses



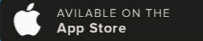
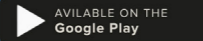


Iraq **Handmade** project was launched to **keep and improve the reputation of local products in domestic markets, meanwhile creating opportunities for the manufacturers.** People could produce and sell handmade products by using this application, sharing their product photos daily, and collecting different types of handmade profiles on one platform and in one application. Rwanga Foundation made this application, which could be used on both the iOS and Android operating systems. It had a large capacity to receive and show handmade products and handicrafts to support people. By December 2022, 266 creative handcrafters had registered on the application.

Similarly, Rwanga Foundation for Development implemented a few strategic components to **synchronize the management of technology across the entire organization.** The WeCode initiative aimed to **teach young Kurds the fundamentals of computer programming over three quarters.** Iraq Handmade project was launched to keep and improve the reputation of local products in domestic markets, meanwhile creating opportunities for the manufacturers. Graduate students with the full set of skills required to qualify for software developer jobs were the target audience for the boot camps, which followed a ready-to-work model designed specifically to teach the most recent software programming languages currently being used in the industry to graduate students. The training bootcamp covered subjects including front-end development, mobile application development, user experience and user interface (UX/UI), and Data Science and Machine Learning. Six boot camps resulted in the successful graduation of 258 students.

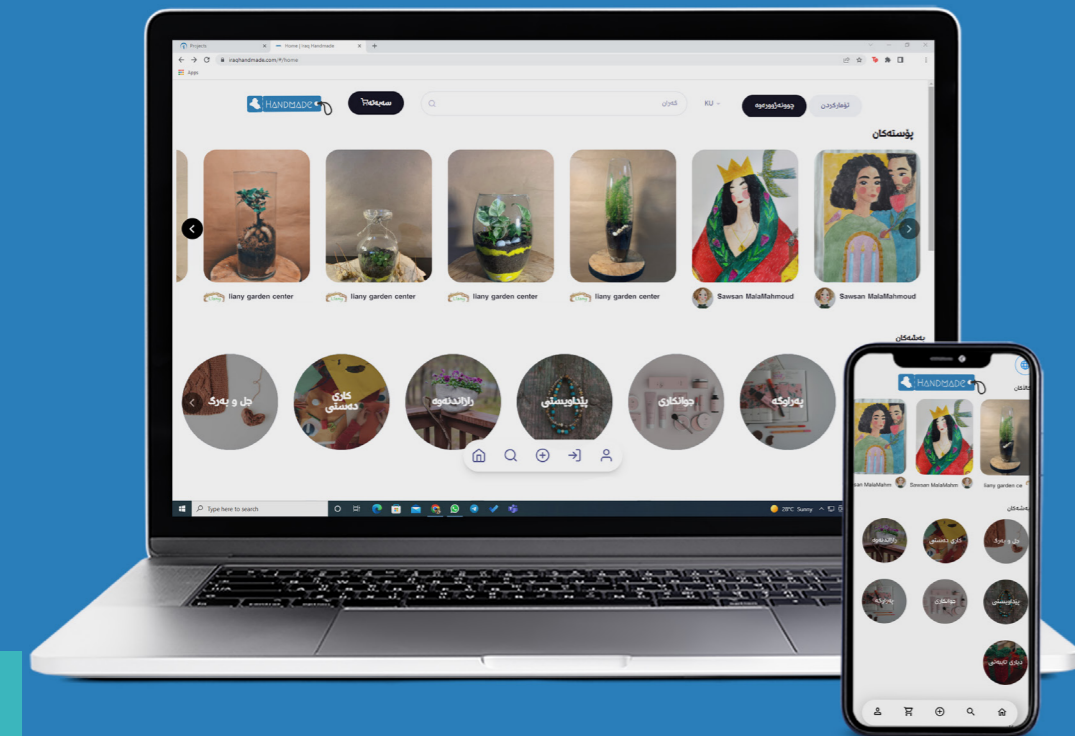


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30
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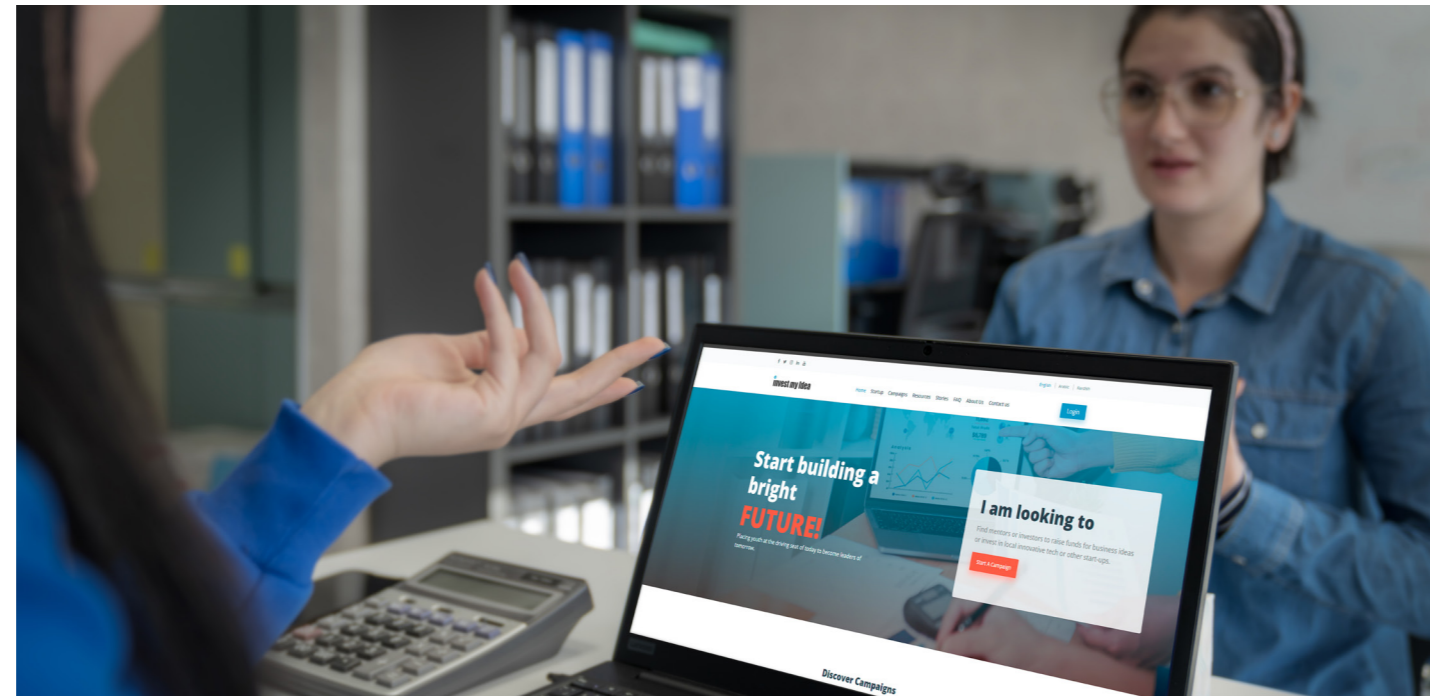
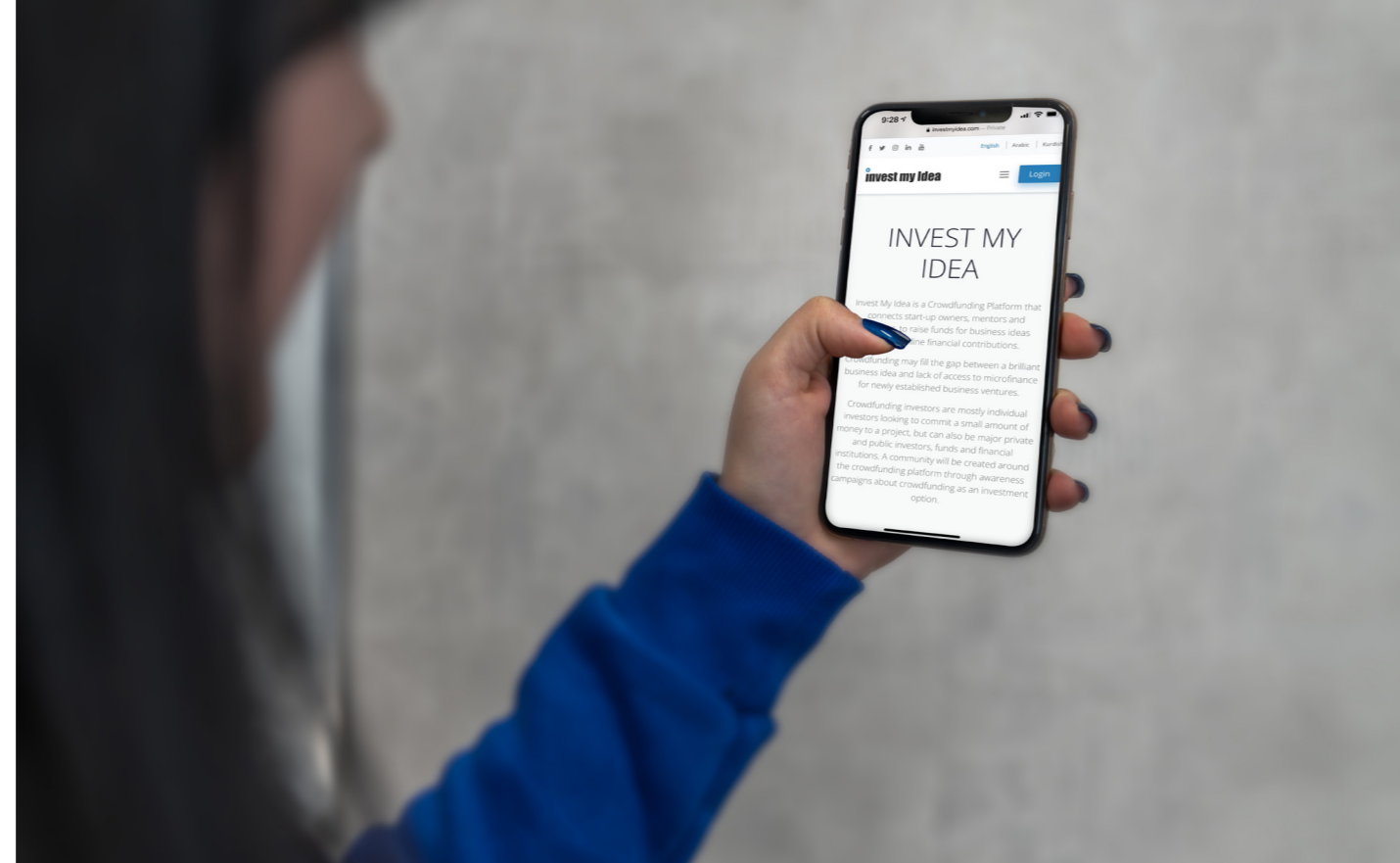
258
Beneficiaries



“Invest My Idea” is another platform Rwanga Foundation for Development developed. The crowdfunding project connects start-up owners, mentors, investors, and organizations working in the entrepreneurial landscape (on an online platform) to perform crowdfunding, a way for individuals, businesses, and non-profit foundations to raise funds. Individuals or organizations engage in (or contribute to) crowdsourcing initiatives in exchange for the possibility of making a profit or receiving compensation. This is how the system functions. Start-ups submitted applications to participate in crowdsourcing, and qualified start-ups with relevant business plans for their initiatives were selected for publication on the platform in order to generate funds for their businesses. With the remaining course of 2021 and 2022, 221 individuals with the potential to become creators or proprietors registered themselves on the platform and kicked off the process.

30

Potential Founders/Owners Registered



Also, this year’s “Invest My Idea” project was part of HITEX Future Stars in the HITEX 2022 exhibition with the participation of 15 start-ups where they pitched their business ideas in front of a jury of 3. At the end of the event, 5 start-ups became the competition winners. Rwanga Foundation funded the winners for a total of 45,000,000 IQD which was distributed as below:

- 1st place winner (SMARTMED): 12,000,000 IQD
- 2nd place winner (CheckeSystem): 10,000,000 IQD
- 3RD place winner (Wasla): 9,000,000 IQD
- 4th place winner (Laoois b App): 8,000,000 IQD
- 5th place winner (Parezar): 6,000,000 IQD

5

Startups Funded



Furthermore, Rwanga launched a brand-new project called **Creating Job Opportunities for the Cash for Work (CfW)** graduates in the internship and job placement spectrum as part of its support for young people. By the end of the project in August 2023, the project is expected to have created jobs for 1,000 people in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq in the governorates of Erbil, Sulaimani, Duhok and Halabja. The project helps fill job openings for young people and covers a portion of their salaries, making it more feasible for them to work and gain experience. GIZ funds this project, and as of the end of December, 273 people had jobs.

273
Beneficiary



Moreover, a project was conducted to empower private sector employees through **skills development training sessions in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq**. The project fostered the skills and capacities of employees working in the private sector through the GIZ fund. The Foundation set a plan to continue enhancing the skills development of both employees' capacity to work and their opportunities at work. This method gave people more room to be creative and happy at work by training them in areas like finances, administration, marketing, sales, customer service, communication, negotiating, and using computers. By the end of this project, 288 employees were trained.

288
Beneficiary



Through the **Horticulture, Dairy, and Poultry Farming Program—Technical Training, Rwanga Foundation** will help **80 small farmers** in the governorates of Sulaimani and Halabja to improve their economic and social situations. The initiative is designed to increase the income of the people. It is meant to help by giving them technical training in agriculture that boosts productivity and encourages the improvement of agricultural products for the market. The project aims to support creating and delivering agricultural training programs that will boost agricultural output and enhance livestock farming in the designated areas.

12

Volunteer Groups

64,916

Beneficiaries



This initiative's goal was to **reactivate the radio station of the College of Arts at the University of Salahaddin in Erbil**. The station had been dormant for **11 years**, so the main goal was to re-establish it so that it could be used as the voice of the students once more. The station would also be a place where students in the media school could get hands-on experience. The setup included computers, a sound mixer, sound cards, headphones, mics, mic stands, speakers, mic filters, cables, a studio cover, a parquet floor, tables, software, and other station necessities.

300

Target Beneficiaries





Environment

7 Projects
682 Beneficiaries

The Foundation's Environment sector is focused on promoting environmental sustainability and conservation in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The Foundation recognizes the importance of preserving natural resources and protecting the environment for future generations and is committed to promoting sustainable practices and reducing environmental impact.

Over 682 people benefited from the seven environmental projects and activities carried out by Rwanga Foundation in 2022.



Due to a lack of **rainfall**, an increase in **desertification**, and a **lack of arable land**, Rwanga Foundation for Development announced the start of a **7,000-tree planting initiative** at Northern Technical University and Mosul University to help create a healthy learning environment for students. This follows previous environmental protection efforts and improvement assistance provided to Mosul. The gardening and agriculture departments at both institutions' presidencies and the university president's administrative assistant selected the spot and the trees. 16 workers worked in the cash-for-work program for 25 days.

7,000
Trees to be planted

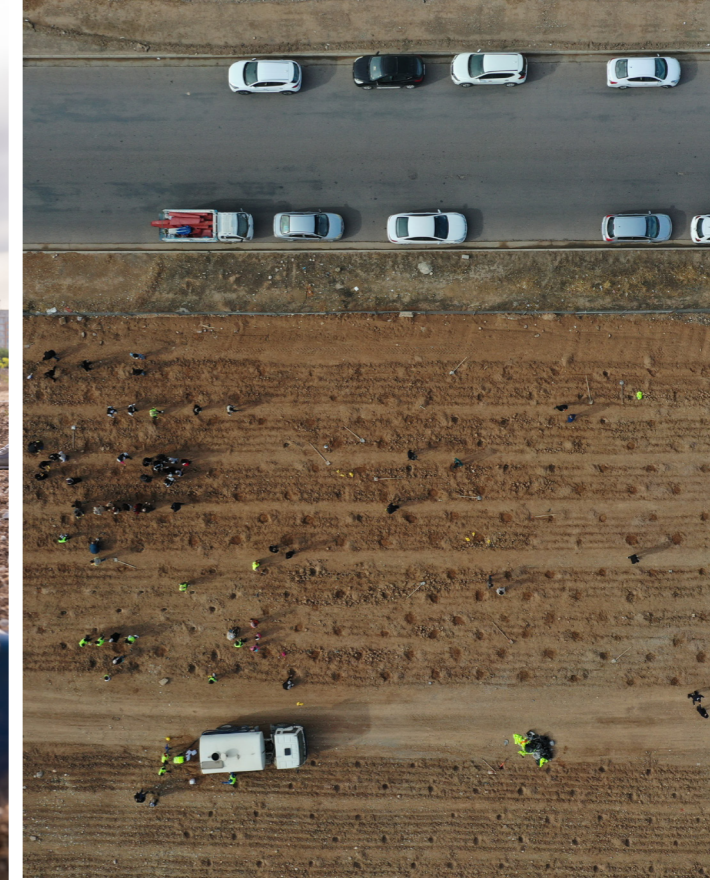




Rwanga Foundation for Development implemented the **Rwanga Forests project** inside the Duhok and Zakho university campuses to establish a forest there. In anticipation of the summer in Duhok Governorate generally, and Duhok and Zakho Universities specifically, and due to the low percentage of greenery, Rwanga Foundation announced the start of a project to plant 10,000 evergreen trees in the two universities to contribute to providing a healthy environment for students. With the cooperation of the presidents of both institutions, the area and trees were explicitly determined.

10,00

Evergreen trees in two universities



Evidently, Rwanga 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 happened due to excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from burning fossil fuels. The Foundation, in partnership with the Hasar organization, has implemented a project that aims to plant **1,000,000 oak trees** in 2021–2024. At the same time, the Ministry of Agriculture made site and landscape selections for planting the oak trees, which were planted in Erbil on the 120-meter road behind Majidi Mall. Planting Million Oak trees in KRI is the first step to restoring its natural ecosystem; it would build community spirit and unity, spread awareness about the benefits of trees and nature, reduce the risk of soil erosion, and create a microclimate for the local community.

1,000,000

Oak trees to be planted by 2024



After a forest fire exploded recently, Rwanga Foundation for Development provided **1,500 eucalyptus trees** that were two meters tall to help replant Mosul's forests. A fire explosion that recently struck the Mosul forests caused damage to about 120 dunums of the forest area. In response, the Foundation made a donation of 1,500 eucalyptus plants. This support was viewed as a continuation of the Rwanga Forests Project, in which the Foundation had previously planted 5,000 trees in the Mosul Forests in the spring of 2022.

1,500
Trees planted



Given the increasing problems of **desertification** and **environmental degradation**, as well as the scarcity and depletion of water resources in Iraq, along with a decline in local agricultural production and food industries, it was imperative to highlight the challenges and threats to the stability of food security. In response, it was necessary to devise deliberate and sustainable strategies for addressing these crises and extrapolating remedies and solutions for a secure future for our country and subsequent generations. For this reason, The Northern Technical University, in collaboration with Rwanga Foundation, hosted an important forum titled "The Future of Our Generations and Permanent and Sustainable Security." The forum aimed to bring together experts from various disciplines to address the issue of food security and its impact on Iraqi and regional society. The goal of the forum was to contribute to accurate scientific and objective results related to the challenges of food security and to discuss the areas and strategies for achieving sustainable food security. Instead of reviewing academic literature, the forum sought to understand the reality of food security and its sustainability, with the hope of generating meaningful and actionable insights for the benefit of future generations.

250
Participants



Desertification, which affected most of Iraq, including the **forests of Mosul**, was made worse by the lack of law and order. In 2017, a fire also burned through many of the forests, destroying them. The civil defence teams in Nineveh were able to put out the fire, which did not harm any people. Rwanda Foundation for Development implemented the first pilot project in the Mosul Forests as Rwanda Forests. The project's objectives were to fight climate change, breathe new life into the forests surrounding Mosul, and promote economic recovery by generating temporary jobs. Over the span of 50 days, 71 cash-for-work participants planted 5,000 eucalyptus trees in Mosul forests. The initiative served as a reaction to any form of assistance for the 2017 fire explosion.

10,000
Copies



Together with Rwanda Foundation, the **Board of Environmental Protection and Improvements** made a booklet about the environment to bring more attention to the issue. For the Ministry of Education's distribution **to students to help them learn about environmental issues and to increase awareness in the educational community**, the Foundation was tasked with designing and printing 10,000 copies to be distributed to over 5000 schools. All the characteristics and information about the environment were covered in the booklet. Additionally, the ministry provided the booklet to some teachers so they could read it and use it to instruct students during class discussions.

10,000
Copies





Vulnerable Groups

7 Projects
5,675 Beneficiaries

The Foundation works to provide these groups with access to essential services, nutrition initiatives, and sustainable livelihoods. Natural catastrophes, as well as those caused by humans and armed conflicts, have significant adverse effects on people's lives, as well as the learning and development processes that people go through. So, Rwanga Foundation focuses on development projects and gives essential humanitarian aid to vulnerable groups,

mostly during emergencies. The goal is to provide these groups with the tools they need to become more resilient and, eventually, self-sufficient. In 2022, the Foundation was able to help and support 5,675 vulnerable people from the host, IDP, and refugee communities. This included children, women, men, and elderly people. These individuals came from all three communities.

Rwanga Foundation, in collaboration with Waar TV, implemented a **cash-for-work program to help unskilled and semi-skilled young people renovate 15 homes** for low-income homeowners under the name of Nujen. The goal is to improve the homeowners' health and safety and give them access to better education, transportation, and healthcare. Waar TV broadcasts coverage of newly renovated homes throughout the holy month of Ramadan.

237
Beneficiary



The goal of the initiative was to help **visually impaired** people by giving them access to printing resources so that they could have a better chance of getting an education, creating art, and having their voices heard in the community. With the braille printer that was donated to Roshna Center – Directorate of Disable Care – General Directorate of Social Welfare and Development - Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. The government was able to provide the visually impaired with equal access to information. Index: The BrailleBox V5 printer was chosen because it best met the needs of people who could not see.

500
Beneficiaries



It was suggested that **Rwanga Foundation and Save the Children Iraq** to help the most vulnerable people in the neighbourhoods of Zhyan, Daratw, Roshenberi, Grtjwtyar, and Qwshtapa in the city of Erbil with emergency cash and food. The suggested interventions adhered to the guidelines established by the Cash Working Group and the Food Security Cluster.

Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA): In accordance with CWG standards, SCI's MPCA assistance covered the SMEB (Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket) of \$300 for two months, with a focus on 125 families, covering basic needs like food, WASH, rent, and electricity. Female-headed households, child-headed households, low-income families, families with devastated shelters, and families who lost their primary source of income were the SCI's top priorities among IDPs and among host communities.

Distribution of Food: Following the suggestions of the Food Security Cluster, SCI provided an extra 140 families with a food basket to meet their basic requirements for dry food for one month.

1,564

Beneficiaries



As part of this initiative, patients who required specialized **medical care**, such as those with Rett syndrome, Down syndrome, or cerebral palsy, were given a food basket. The following items were chosen to be supplied: 18 kilograms of rice, 5 litres of oil, 3.6 kilograms of tomato paste, 5 kilograms of sugar, 1 kilogram of tea, 2.4 kilograms of bulgur, 2 kilograms of salt, 3.6 kilograms of the lintel, 600 grams of pasta, and 3.6 kilograms of white beans.

1,000

Beneficiaries



To better understand the requirements of the **10 village** communities served by the Genel Energy-SARTA block in the Darashakran district of the Erbil governorate, Rwanga Foundation conducted an assessment of needs.

240

Participants

Rwanga Foundation planned a one-month-long project to give **650 meals** worth of food packages to 2,078 Soran University dorm-living students. Both the male and female student dormitory communities were involved in the project.

2,078
Beneficiaries



To help **local businesses** in the WASH, agribusiness, and textile industries recover and **develop their productions** in response to the needs of communities, Rwanga Foundation and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) collaborated on a project funded by KIA (Kerk in Actie) to implement the Fast Track Business Recovery Support Program (Revive Project). 56 people from the local community benefitted from this initiative.

56
Beneficiaries



Statistical Report

43
Projects

283,685
Beneficiaries

Data Of Beneficiaries & Projects

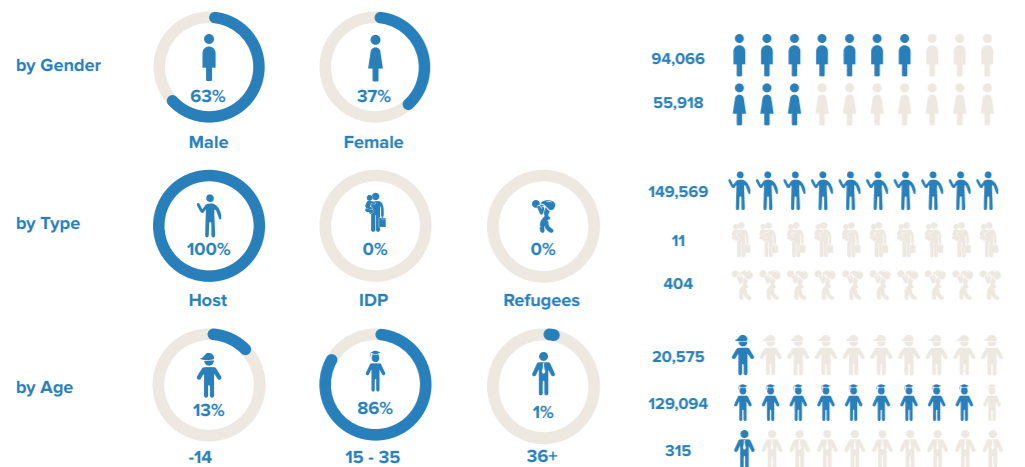
2022

2013-2022

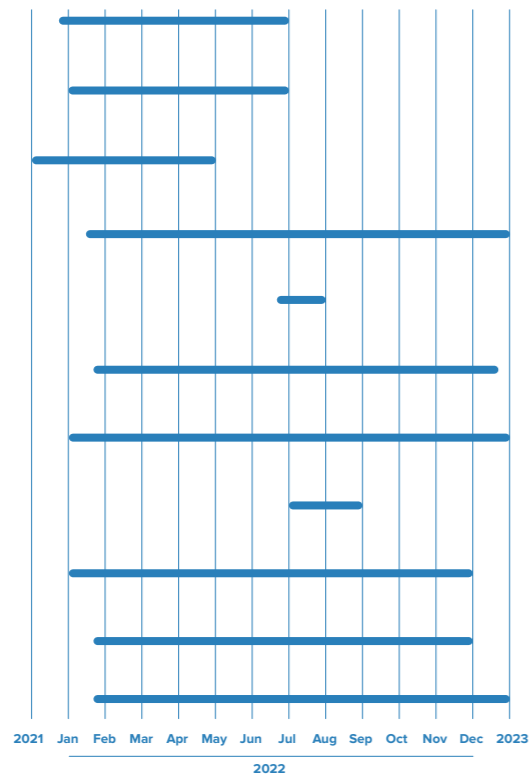


Education

11 Projects
149,984 Beneficiaries

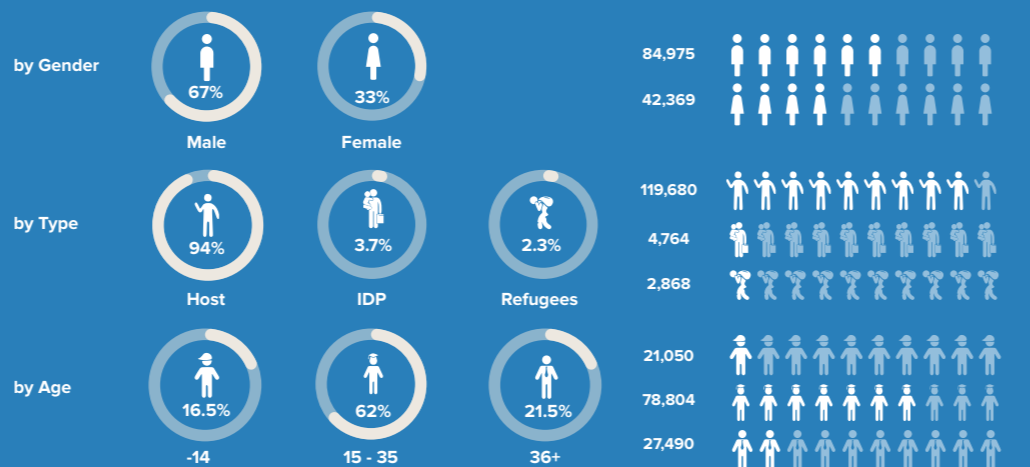


- Supporting the GDoE in the implementation of General Education Sector Plan
- Mathematics Competition
- Message from Children 2021 - 2022
- Multi Year Resilience Program (MYRP)
- Overcrowded Mitigation through Building Additional classrooms
- Rwanga Book Project 2022
- Rwanga Qutabkhana Application
- Sirwan High School Smoking Quit Campaign
- Social Policy and Economic Perspective in Iraq
- University Video Guide
- You Are Not Alone 2022 - 2023 Phase I,II

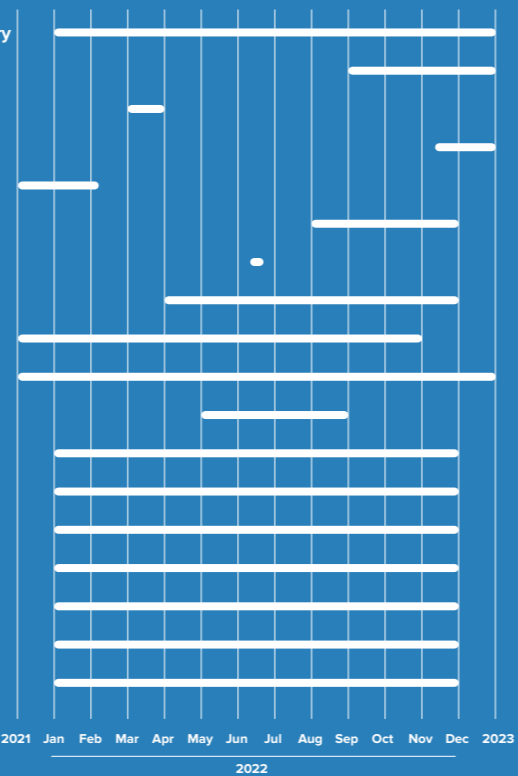


Youth

18 Projects
127,344 Beneficiaries

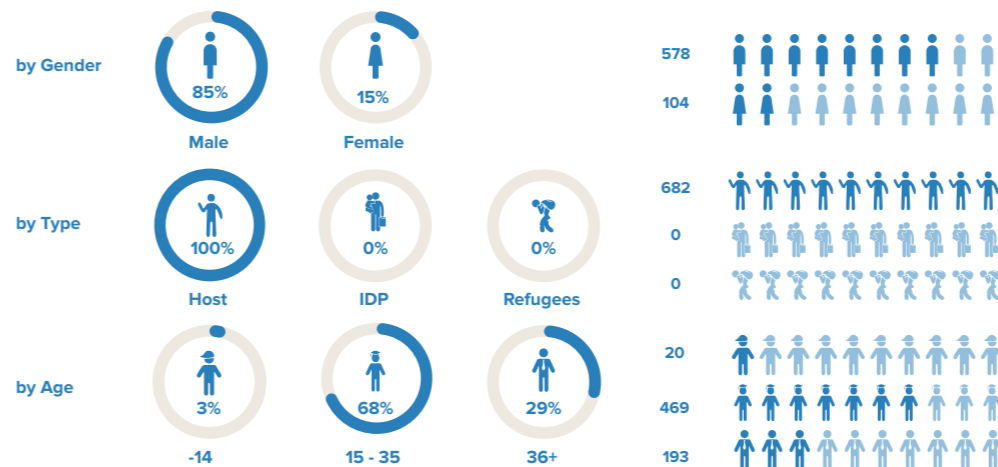


- Community Survey Library - Research and Assessment Library
- Creating job opportunities for (CfW) graduates
- DIHAD Exhibition-Dubai
- Agricultural Technical & Livestock Farming Trainings
- Skills Development for Young Employees in Private Sectors
- Genel - Scholars20
- HITEX-2022
- Invest My Idea Crowdfunding Platform 2022
- Issue-Based Collaborative Network (ICON)
- Developing Economic Cooperation between Flanders & KRI
- Re-establishing a radio station for University of Salahaddin
- Rwanga Awards 2022
- Rwanga Career - Rwanga Foras
- Rwanga Handmade Project
- Rwanga Youth Forum FollowUp
- TALK@Rwanga
- WeCode 2022
- Youth Volunteers Initiative (YVI) - 2022

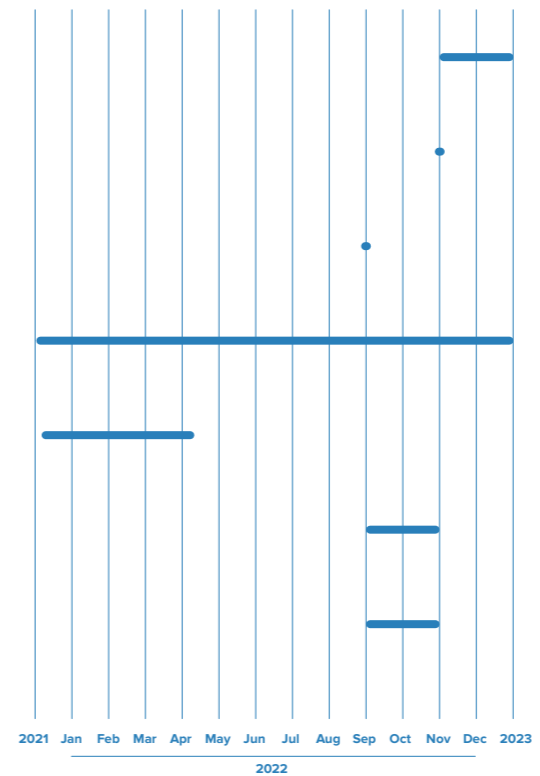


Environment

7 Projects
682 Beneficiaries

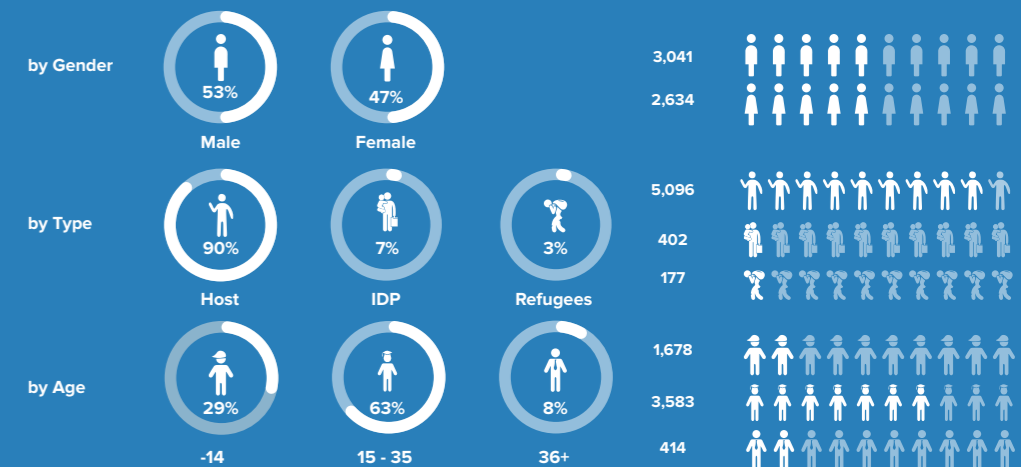


- Donating 1,500 trees to Mosul Forests
- Environmental Guidebook
- Food Security Conference-UoT in Mosel
- Planting One Million Oak trees in KRI
- Rwanga Forest in Mosul/ CfW
- Rwanga Forests in Duhok and Zakho Universities
- Rwanga Forests project in Mosul University and Northern Technical University

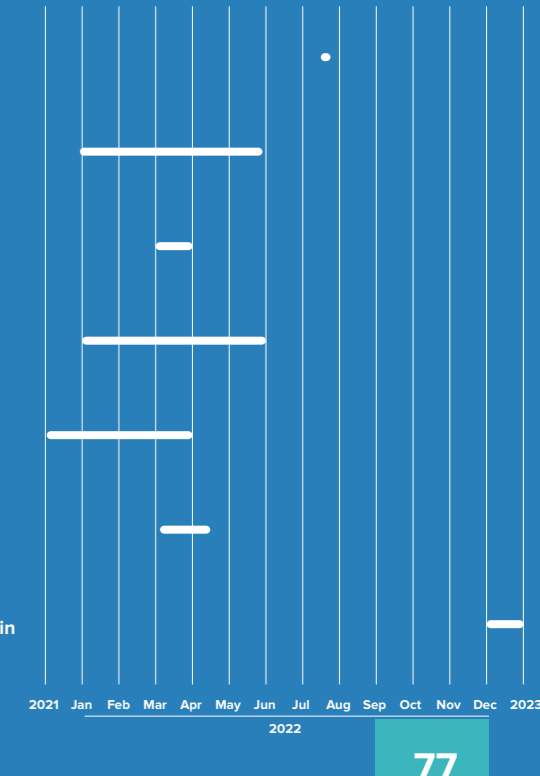


Vulnerable Groups

7 Projects
5,675 Beneficiaries



- Empowering visually impaired people to printing technology-Braille printer
- Erbil Flood Response Project
- Food Basket Distribution
- Nujen project
- Revive and Quest project
- SARTA Block Needs Assessment
- Supporting Retardates, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy in Duhok Governorate by providing them food baskets



Contact Us

info@rwanga.org
+964 750 815 5550

www.rwanga.org

Erbil Headquarters Office
Floor 16, Tower 4, Empire Business Towers

Sulaimani Office
German Village Villa No:4.

Duhok Office
Rojvin Road, House NO (31) Takhy Botan of KRO Street

Halabja Office
H 25, Ave 23, 202 Mamostayan.

Mosul Office
Al Shurta Neighborhood, House 7\2624

      /Rwangafoundation

