



Iraq – Housing land and property rights preparatory study

LAS22IQ10 – LAND-at-scale Iraq

Terms of Reference

Background

This study takes place in the context of the LAND-at-scale programme¹. LAND-at-scale is a land governance support programme for Dutch embassies, commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and managed by the Netherlands Enterprise and Development Agency (RVO.nl). As part of the LAND-at-scale programme, the Netherlands Embassy in Iraq and RVO.nl have been working together with Iraqi partners to formulate a plan for support to ongoing land governance efforts in Iraq. The resulting Formulation Plan provides an overview of the context, main opportunities and challenges, and possible ways forward. At the same time, a number of crucial aspects remain before the project can start. For these aspects, the current study should provide answers.

LAND-at-scale Iraq

The main project idea for LAND-at-scale Iraq departs from the protection of housing, land and property (HLP) rights for promoting peace and stability in areas of return². The many waves of forced dislocations over several centuries, combined with multiple ethnicities and sects occupying different areas of the country make current efforts at land and property conflict resolution very difficult, with often claims from previous dislocations clashing with those from more recent dislocations and overlain with ethnic territorial claims. Despite the many challenges, development partners together with the Government of Iraq have started to address HLP rights and facilitate sustainable returns. Projects and programmes were supported by the European Union, South Korea, USAID, the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and others. In the coming years some of these partners have already expressed interest in jointly scaling up existing efforts, with the Government of Iraq. In order to programme a LAND-at-scale intervention which contributes to HLP rights in areas of return, RVO seeks to obtain an overview of projects and programmes to date, the results in terms of sustainability and tenure security, value-for-money comparison and key stakeholders involved in the work. In addition to this projects and programmes review, RVO places special attention on 1) the way(s) in which conflict sensitivity has been integrated, as well as the experiences and results in terms of 2) gender equality and women's land rights. For both foci areas, the study should provide recommendation for future programming.

Objectives

The main objective of the study is to compile an overview of HLP support in areas of return so far, the approaches taken, including sustainability and value-for-money aspects, and provide background information for possible LAND-at-scale support. Specific attention will be given to the way 1) conflict sensitivity and 2) gender have been integrated in the past projects and programmes, including recommendations for LAND-at-scale for conflict sensitive and gender transformative programming. Lastly, the study will also include a strong stakeholder analysis of the stakeholders involved in HLP work in areas of return, including the political economy lens.

Activities

The assignment is based on desktop study and interviews with key informants, both individual experts and representatives of key organizations active in Iraq on the topic of land governance and HLP rights. If the health and security situation allows, fieldwork should be part of the assignment

¹ <https://english.rvo.nl/subsidies-programmes/land-at-scale>

² With a focus on areas where the Netherlands Embassy in Iraq is already engaging through their embassy programming

and has to focus on the areas in which HLP projects and programmes have been rolled out in areas of return where the Dutch Embassy is active with related programming. Documentation will include the LAND-at-scale Formulation Plan, Embassy strategies for Dutch engagement in Iraq, existing HLP studies for Iraq (including by UN-Habitat), policy documents by the Government of Iraq, professional and academic literature, conference proceedings, etc.

The assignment will be conducted in close collaboration with RVO.nl and the Netherlands Embassy in Iraq. The project will start with a kick-off discussion (conference call) with the counterparts at the RVO.nl and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During the kick-off call two additional check-in moments will be planned, to ensure coordination between the consultant and RVO.nl and the Netherlands Embassy in Iraq.

Key partners to align with as well include: the EU Delegation in Baghdad and UN-Habitat, both of which are currently engaged in preparatory work for land governance interventions in Iraq. Complementarity and added value will need to be taken into account.

Deliverables

The consultant will submit a report which covers the areas as mentioned under the objectives (see above). The report will address the two main areas of study:

- Overview and analysis of existing HLP rights projects and programme in areas of return in Iraq, with specific attention to conflict sensitivity and gender;
- Stakeholder analysis, including a political economy lens;
- Include an overview of literature consulted and people interviewed.

The report will be drafted in English and not exceed 20 pages including annexes (or more in coordination with RVO). The report includes an overall analysis and practical suggestions for ways forward and for further sharpening the LAND-at-scale project design.

Implementation

The assignment should start as soon as the contract has been awarded and the final report is expected October 31st. A draft report should be ready at least by September 30st, 2021; RVO.nl and the embassy will provide written feedback on the draft report which will be incorporated in the final report.

Expertise consultant

We are looking for a consultant with a background in a balanced range of land governance topics (technical, social), an excellent knowledge of the land governance situation in Iraq, an existing network of both government and non-governmental stakeholders, and an independent affiliation. Excellent knowledge of the English and Arabic language is required.

Quotes should include the following:

- A plan of action of the assignment to be carried out. You can hereby elaborate on or provide suggestions for alterations regarding the activities to be carried out, a first identification of key stakeholders, the planning including travels and the results of the work to be delivered.
- A CV(s) of the expert(s) to be involved including their roles and responsibilities related to this assignment. This can be one or more than one person.
- A budget with number of hours with associated hourly rates, per activity and consultant.
- A fixed total price (excluding and including VAT) for the execution of the contract.

Duration

The expected time for completion of the study is maximum 40 working days for carrying out the activities as elaborated on above, formulation of the draft report and an additional 2 days for adjustments to the draft report.

Costs and size of the assignment

The cost of the assignment should not exceed the total amount of 25.000 EUR incl. VAT and inclusive of expenses for travel costs and all other expenses.

Time planning

Interested experts should submit a CV and one-page description of their proposed approach to the study to RVO (gemma.betsema@rvo.nl) on Friday 15 July 2022 at the latest. The RVO contact person can be reached for questions about the assignment between 11 and 15 July 2022.

Contact person

Gemma Betsema (RVO.nl): gemma.betsema@rvo.nl; +31629177685