

# Iraq Waterkeeper Environmental Law and Advocacy Project



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## Building capacity for enforcing environmental laws: Environmental Enforcement Team Training

### Our Activities

Nature Iraq in partnership with the Water Rights Foundation with funding from the European Union, held two 3-day trainings in Kurdistan for government staff responsible for enforcing environmental rules and regulations. The trainings took place on 2431- March 2015 in Sulaimani and a total of 60 municipal and regional government employees attended the trainings (36 participants representing 13 enforcement teams from Sulaimani and 24 participants representing 10 enforcement teams from Erbil).

The workshop started by giving an introduction on the purpose of environmental inspections and focused on many subjects such as legal compliance and specific enforcement actions



in addition to case studies. There was also a presentation about public participation followed by group work and the third day on-site, field visit to the Tanjero River and the nearby Sulaimani garbage dump to practice inspection techniques. During these visits the enforcement members used the monitoring

checklist that were created during the trainings and to develop hands-on exercises at real sites that are a threat to public health and create a dialogue between CSO representatives and enforcement staff. The workshop, which was part of the Nature Iraq Environmental Law and Advocacy Project included two presenters from the

Water Rights Foundation of Italy; Riccardo Maetzke, an expert on environmental site inspections and Elisa Tachis, an expert on NGOs and community participation. To find out more about this project visit the Nature Iraq Website ([www.natureiraq.org](http://www.natureiraq.org)) or contact Nature Iraq at Tel/Fax: +964-329-53-2007



Erbil workshop



Sulaimani workshop