

JOHANNESBURG SUMMIT 2002

IRAQ



COUNTRY PROFILE



UNITED NATIONS

INTRODUCTION - 2002 COUNTRY PROFILES SERIES

Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, underscored the important role that States play in the implementation of the Agenda at the national level. It recommended that States consider preparing national reports and communicating the information therein to the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) including, activities they undertake to implement Agenda 21, the obstacles and challenges they confront, and other environment and development issues they find relevant.

As a result, in 1993 governments began preparing national reports for submission to the CSD. After two years of following this practice, the CSD decided that a summarized version of national reports submitted thus far would be useful. Subsequently, the CSD Secretariat published the first Country Profiles series in 1997 on the occasion of the five-year review of the Earth Summit (Rio + 5). The series summarized, on a country-by-country basis, all the national reports submitted between 1994 and 1996. Each Profile covered the status of all Agenda 21 chapters.

The purpose of Country Profiles is to:

- Help countries monitor their own progress;
- Share experiences and information with others; and,
- Serve as institutional memory to track and record national actions undertaken to implement Agenda 21.

A second series of Country Profiles is being published on the occasion of the World Summit on Sustainable Development being held in Johannesburg from August 26 to September 4, 2002. Each profile covers all 40 chapters of Agenda 21, as well as those issues that have been separately addressed by the CSD since 1997, including trade, energy, transport, sustainable tourism and industry.

The 2002 Country Profiles series provides the most comprehensive overview to date of the status of implementation of Agenda 21 at the national level. Each Country Profile is based on information updated from that contained in the national reports submitted annually by governments.

Preparing national reports is often a challenging exercise. It can also be a productive and rewarding one in terms of taking stock of what has been achieved and by increasing communication, coordination and cooperation among a range of national agencies, institutions and groups. Hopefully, the information contained in this series of Country Profiles will serve as a useful tool for learning from the experience and knowledge gained by each country in its pursuit of sustainable development.

NOTE TO READERS

The 2002 Country Profiles Series provides information on the implementation of Agenda 21 on a country-by-country and chapter-by-chapter basis (with the exception of chapters 1 and 23, which are preambles). Since Rio 1992, the Commission on Sustainable Development has specifically addressed other topics not included as separate chapters in Agenda 21. These issues of trade, industry, energy, transport and sustainable tourism are, therefore, treated as distinct sections in the Country Profiles. In instances where several Agenda 21 chapters are closely related, for example, chapters 20 to 22 which cover environmentally sound management of hazardous, solid and radioactive wastes, and chapters 24 to 32 which refer to strengthening of major groups, the information appears under a single heading in the Country Profile Series. Lastly, chapters 16 and 34, which deal with environmentally sound management of biotechnology, and transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation, capacity-building respectively, are presented together under one heading in those Country Profiles where information is relatively scarce.

At the release of this Country Profile, Iraq had not updated it and therefore any new changes will appear on our web page: <http://www.un.org/esa/agenda21/natinfo>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC POLICIES.....	1
CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC POLICIES - TRADE.....	2
CHAPTER 3: COMBATING POVERTY.....	3
CHAPTER 4: CHANGING COMSUMPTION PATTERNS.....	4
CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS - ENERGY.....	5
CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS - TRANSPORT.....	6
CHAPTER 5: DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS AND SUSTAINABILITY.....	7
CHAPTER 6: PROTECTING AND PROMOTING HUMAN HEALTH.....	8
CHAPTER 7: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT.....	9
CHAPTER 8: INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN DECISION-MAKING.....	10
CHAPTER 9: PROTECTION OF THE ATMOSPHERE.....	11
CHAPTER 10: INTEGRATED APPROACH TO THE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND RESOURCES.....	12
CHAPTER 11: COMBATING DEFORESTATION.....	13
CHAPTER 12: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: COMBATING DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT.....	14
CHAPTER 13: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT.....	15
CHAPTER 14: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT.....	16
CHAPTER 15: CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY.....	17
CHAPTER 16 AND 34: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF BIOTHECHNOLOGY AND TRANSFER OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND TECHNOLOGY, COOPERATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING.....	18
CHAPTER 17: PROTECTION OF THE OCEANS, ALL KINDS OF SEAS, INCLUDING ENCLOSED AND SEMI-ENCLOSED SEAS, AND COASTAL AREAS AND THE PROTECTION, RATIONAL USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR LIVING RESOURCES.....	19
CHAPTER 18: PROTECTION OF THE QUALITY AND SUPPLY OF FRESHWATER RESOURCES: APPLICATION OF INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO THE DEVELOPMENT, MANAGEMENT AND USE OF WATER RESOURCES.....	20
CHAPTER 19: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF TOXIC CHEMICALS, INCLUDING PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL INTERNATIONALTRAFFIC IN TOXIC AND DANGEROUS PRODUCTS.....	21
CHAPTER 20 TO 22: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS, SOLID AND RADIOACTIVE WASTES.....	22
CHAPTER 24 TO 32: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF MAJOR GROUPS.....	23

CHAPTER 33: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISMS.....	24
CHAPTER 35: SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.....	25
CHAPTER 36: PROMOTING EDUCATION, PUBLIC AWARENESS AND TRAINING.....	26
CHAPTER 37: NATIONAL MECHANISMS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.....	27
CHAPTER 38: INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.....	28
CHAPTER 39: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS AND MECHANISMS.....	29
CHAPTER 40: INFORMATION FOR DECISION-MAKING.....	30
CHAPTER: INDUSTRY.....	31
CHAPTER: SUSTAINABLE TOURISM.....	32

LIST OF COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

ACS	Association of Caribbean States
AMCEN	Africa Ministerial Conference on the Environment
AMU	Arab Maghreb Union
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CARICOM	The Caribbean Community and Common Market
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CSD	Commission on Sustainable Development of the United Nations
DESA	Department for Economic and Social Affairs
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECCAS	Economic Community for Central African States
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FIDA	Foundation for International Development Assistance
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GAW	Global Atmosphere Watch (WMO)
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEMS	Global Environmental Monitoring System (UNEP)
GESAMP	Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GLOBE	Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment
GOS	Global Observing System (WMO/WWW)
GRID	Global Resource Information Database
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission
ICSU	International Council of Scientific Unions
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICTSD	International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development
IEEA	Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFCS	Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety
IGADD	Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund

IMO	International Maritime Organization
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPCS	International Programme on Chemical Safety
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IRPTC	International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
LA21	Local Agenda 21
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MARPOL	International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NSDS	National Sustainable Development Strategies
OAS	Organization of American States
OAU	Organization for African Unity
ODA	Official Development Assistance/Overseas Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
SACEP	South Asian Cooperative Environment Programme
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SARD	Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNU	United Nations University
WFC	World Food Council
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

WTO	World Trade Organization
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
WWW	World Weather Watch (WMO)

CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC POLICIES

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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**CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC
POLICIES - TRADE**

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 3: COMBATING POVERTY

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS - ENERGY

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS - TRANSPORT

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 5: DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS AND SUSTAINABILITY

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 6: PROTECTING AND PROMOTING HUMAN HEALTH

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 7: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 8: INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN DECISION-MAKING

Decision-Making: The key national sustainable development coordination mechanism in Iraq is the Planning Commission. Also involved in decision-making in this area are all Ministries and Government organizations, the Environment Protection and Improvement Council, the National Human Settlements Commission, the Regional and Rural Planning Center - Academic, the General Federation of Iraq Women, and the Iraq Economists Society.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 9: PROTECTION OF THE ATMOSPHERE

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: Iraq is not a Party to the following Conventions: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (1985), the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (1987), the London Amendment to the Montreal Protocol (1990), or the Copenhagen Amendment to the Montreal Protocol (1992).

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CHAPTER 10: INTEGRATED APPROACH TO THE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND RESOURCES

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 11: COMBATING DEFORESTATION

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 12: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: COMBATING DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: Iraq is not a Party to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

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CHAPTER 13: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 14: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 15: CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: Iraq is not a Party to the following Conventions: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; and, Convention on Biological Diversity.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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**CHAPTERS 16 AND 34: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY
AND TRANSFER OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND TECHNOLOGY,
COOPERATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING**

Decision-Making:

Technologies: No information available.

Biotechnologies: No information available.

Programmes and Projects:

Technologies: No information available.

Biotechnologies: No information available.

Status:

Technologies: No information available.

Biotechnologies: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising:

Technologies: No information available.

Biotechnologies: No information available.

Information:

Technologies: No information available.

Biotechnologies: No information available.

Research and Technologies:

Technologies: No information available.

Biotechnologies: No information available.

Financing:

Technologies: No information available.

Biotechnologies: No information available.

Cooperation:

Technologies: No information available.

Biotechnologies: No information available.

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CHAPTER 17: PROTECTION OF THE OCEANS, ALL KINDS OF SEAS, INCLUDING ENCLOSED AND SEMI-ENCLOSED SEAS, AND COASTAL AREAS AND THE PROTECTION, RATIONAL USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR LIVING RESOURCES

Decision-Making: Iraq ratified the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on 30 July 1985.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 18: PROTECTION OF THE QUALITY AND SUPPLY OF FRESHWATER RESOURCES: APPLICATION OF INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO THE DEVELOPMENT, MANAGEMENT AND USE OF WATER RESOURCES

Decision-Making: The Ministry of Irrigation is responsible for coordinating water resource management and development. Irrigation Directorates related to the Ministry undertake management and development at the state or district level. Pricing policies exist for agricultural use in order to manage water distribution and reduce waste. For household use, the policy is to charge less than the actual cost of water treatment. The Government has set a target of 100 percent coverage of water supply by the year 2000, and 50 percent sanitation coverage by the same date.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: Iraq follows both its own and international standards to measure water quality, including contamination of water by Persistent Organic Pollutants. Iraq has the capacity to treat 4,715,000 P.e. wastewater, but it does not have the capacity to recycle it. The Government regularly protects the water supply, including in rivers, lakes and dams, from pollution and contamination. A major constraint, however, is the difficulty in controlling pollution of freshwater from neighboring countries.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: Information on the use of water by agricultural, household and industrial sectors is the work of the Central Statistical Organizations within the Planning Commission. Information is distributed through the Agricultural Planning Directorate, the Construction, Housing and Services Planning Directorate, and the Industrial Planning Directorate.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: Iraq shares an agreement with Syria and Turkey over the use of international watercourses. Iraq is not a party to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

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**CHAPTER 19: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF TOXIC CHEMICALS,
INCLUDING PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN TOXIC
AND DANGEROUS PRODUCTS**

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTERS 20 TO 22: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS, SOLID AND RADIOACTIVE WASTES

Decision-Making:

Hazardous wastes: No information available.
Solid wastes: No information available.
Radioactive wastes: No information available.

Programmes and Projects:

Hazardous wastes: No information available.
Solid wastes: No information available.
Radioactive wastes: No information available.

Status:

Hazardous wastes: No information available.
Solid wastes: No information available.
Radioactive wastes: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising:

Hazardous wastes: No information available.
Solid wastes: No information available.
Radioactive wastes: No information available.

Information:

Hazardous wastes: No information available.
Solid wastes: No information available.
Radioactive wastes: No information available.

Research and Technologies:

Hazardous wastes: No information available.
Solid wastes: No information available.
Radioactive wastes: No information available.

Financing:

Hazardous wastes: No information available.
Solid wastes: No information available.
Radioactive wastes: No information available.

Cooperation:

Hazardous wastes: Iraq signed the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal but has not yet ratified it.
Solid wastes: No information available.
Radioactive wastes: No information available.

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CHAPTERS 24 TO 32: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF MAJOR GROUPS

Women: Cooperation: Iraq acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women on 13 August 1986 (with reservations).

Children and youth: No information available.

Indigenous people: No information available.

Non-governmental organizations: No information available.

Local authorities: No information available.

Workers and trade unions: No information available.

Business and industry: No information available.

Scientific and technological community: No information available.

Farmers: No information available.

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CHAPTER 33: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISMS

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 35: SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 36: PROMOTING EDUCATION, PUBLIC AWARENESS AND TRAINING

Decision-Making: Education is free for all and for all levels. In addition, education related to environment and sustainable development comprises part of the national strategy and plans.

Programmes and Projects: Environment and sustainable development curricula have been integrated into education at both primary and secondary levels. Programmes for educating the media are undertaken in cooperation with television and radio.

Status: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 37: NATIONAL MECHANISMS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 38: INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

This issue deals mainly with activities undertaken by the UN System.

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CHAPTER 39: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS AND MECHANISMS

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 40: INFORMATION FOR DECISION-MAKING

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER: INDUSTRY

Decision-Making: No information available.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER: SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

Decision-Making: Within Iraq, the Republic of Iraq, the Council of Ministers and the Tourism Board are responsible for sustainable tourism at the national level. At the local level, the Association of Travel and Tourism Agents of Iraq and the Hotels and Restaurants Association in Iraq are also responsible. There are many codes of practice, standards and guidelines that are taught in schools, institutions and universities that affect the activities of industry in sustainable tourism. Some of them are mandatory and some are voluntary. The national strategy of Iraq with respect to this issue is to develop tourism places to attract a great number of tourists. Both eco-tourism and nature-based tourism are integral parts of the national strategy. The strategy has also been aimed, in particular, at overcoming the constraints imposed on tourism by the embargo. Among these constraints have been those which have made it impossible to promote tourism through printed matter, guides, cassettes and all other media activities.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: The embargo left a great impact on the economic situation of the country and the reduction of both local and outbound tourism. The embargo also led to the destruction of the tourism centers, such as monuments and religious places, as well as destruction of the environment. These combined have had a negative impact on tourism activities in the country.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: The management systems applied in hotels and other tourist establishments are the same as those of the international systems. Because of the embargo, the country is deprived from using the Internet and World Wide Web Sites that contain the requisite data.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: The embargo and sanctions have deprived Iraq from participation in international conferences and from exchanging experiences in the tourism sector. This compelled Iraq not to participate and show liability with the international world.

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