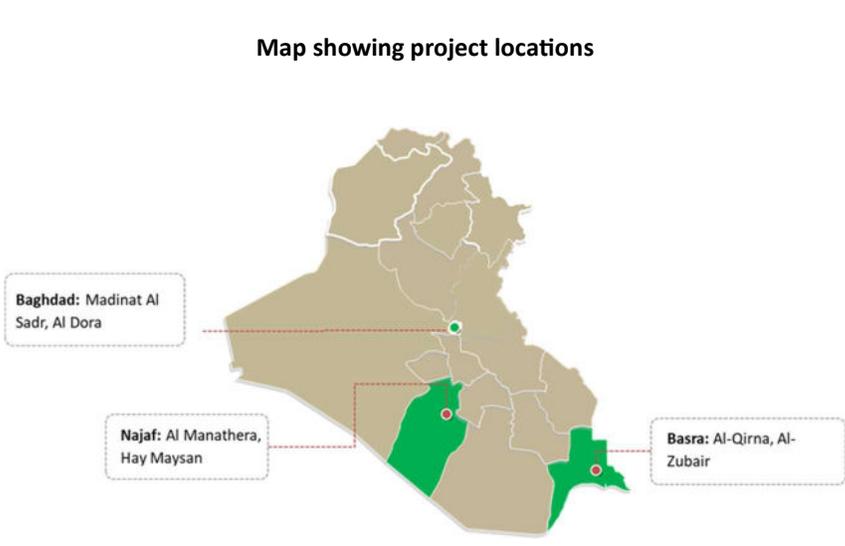


Nabni Together: Building Local Peace and Trust in Baghdad, Najaf, and Basra

Country	Republic of Iraq	<p style="text-align: center;">Map showing project locations</p> 
Location(s)	Baghdad Governorate: Madinat Al-Sadr; Al-Dora Basra Governorate: Al-Zubair; Al-Qurna Najaf Governorate: Hay Maysan; Al-Manathera	
Partners	Lead Grantee: Iraqi Al-Amal Association Sub-Grantees: Ana Basry Organization for Development; Ashour for Relief and Development	
Duration	20 months (01.03.2025 – 30.10.2027)	

Across urban Iraq, everyday frustrations around services, jobs, and voice in decision-making can quietly deepen divisions. In selected districts of Baghdad (Madinat Al-Sadr & Al-Dora), Najaf (Hay Maysan & Al-Manathera), and Basra (Al-Zubair & Al-Qirna), this project tackles the service-linked pressures that strain trust between communities and local authorities, especially for young people, women and vulnerable communities.

The Challenge

Through 24 dialogue sessions with 534 participants (58% women), 74 in-depth key informant interviews and six validation sessions, the Consortium’s Peace and Conflict Analysis identified the following key tensions across the target locations:

- Limited spaces for dialogue reduce constructive engagement between citizens and authorities.
- Overstretched services and high-density fuel perceptions of unequal access.
- Youth unemployment and environmental pressures intensify competition and grievances.
- Weak accountability mechanisms undermine trust in local governance.

📍 Baghdad – Madinat Al-Sadr & Al-Dora

In densely populated neighborhoods, overstretched public services and limited space for constructive citizen–authority dialogue fuel perceptions of unequal access. Young people, facing economic constraints, are particularly affected.

Basra – Al-Zubair & Al-Qurna

Environmental stress and service delivery challenges intersect with scarce income opportunities for young people, reinforcing perceptions of uneven access to services and economic prospects.

Najaf – Hay Maysan & Al-Manathera

Service delivery gaps and limited participatory mechanisms reduce opportunities for communities, especially young people and women, to influence local decisions and jointly solve problems.

The Building for Peace Approach in Practice

1 Inclusive Dialogue & Trust-Building

Community-led platforms and volunteers create safe spaces for joint problem-solving, strengthening local capacities for conflict resolution and community engagement.

2 Fair Services & Opportunities for Youth

Rehabilitation of priority public facilities is paired with market-informed vocational training, reducing competition over scarce resources while opening real income pathways for young people.

3 Responsive Local Governance

Local authorities and service providers receive targeted support to promote inclusive planning, transparent communication and community feedback systems.

Dialogue, tangible improvements and accountability mechanisms work together to rebuild both horizontal trust (within communities) and vertical trust (between citizens and duty bearers).

How it Works

Target Outcomes

- Improved social cohesion and trust through locally led initiatives and constructive dialogue.
- Improved access to functional, inclusive public services and community facilities in target districts.
- Increased income opportunities for targeted youth participants.
- Strengthened participatory governance through regular, transparent engagement between communities and local authorities.

In Figures

- **12,500 beneficiaries of public facilities rehabilitation** (students, teachers, parents, health staff, patients, market users, youth, etc.).
- **144 community members** trained in conflict resolution.
- **6 locally led-platforms** for problem-solving and community consultation.
- **18 locally-led trust-building initiatives** implemented around rehabilitated sites.
- **18 public facilities rehabilitated** and equipped with O&M support for inclusive service delivery.
- **120 youth supported** with market-informed vocational training and linkages to income opportunities.
- **48 officials and service providers** supported in authority-citizen dialogue and feedback mechanisms reinforced.

