

Annual Report 2021 – Save the Tigris

Selected activities in 2021

March	Statement by Save the Tigris on water projects threatening the Lesser Zab	Website link
March	Message from Humat Dijlah and Save the Tigris on World Water Day	Website link
May	Letter From Save the Tigris to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre on Fourth State of Conservation Report by the State Party of Iraq on the Ahwar: Civil Society Concerns and Requests	Website link
May	Current reality of Iranian water policies: a Q&A Seminar	Website link
May	Letter From Save the Tigris to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre on Ashur, the Ahwar, and Makhoul Dam: Civil Society Concerns and Requests	Website link
June	Message from Save the Tigris on World Environment Day	Website link
June	Publication “The Ahwar of Iraq: Persisting Threats and Paths to Protection” in the 2021 annual report of World Heritage Watch	Website link
July	Campaign on law enforcement in the Iraqi Marshes to protect biodiversity	Website link
July	Participation and intervention by Save the Tigris in the 44th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting	Website link
September	Campaign against environmental degradation in Anbar, Iraq	Website link
September	Participation and intervention in the International Water Forum in North East Syria	Website link
November	Report published on evaporation losses from dam reservoirs in Iraq	Website link
November	Seminar on Makhoul Dam in the COP26 People's Summit	Website link

In 2021 the Mesopotamian Region continued to be heavily affected by the Covid pandemic, which impacted priorities and work of civil society organizations in Iraq. As a result, activities took place focusing on the mitigation of the pandemic impacts, with local communities across Iraq. Yet we still strengthened relations with Syrian partners, as a result of our participation in the NES Water Forum, and we organized online seminars with our Iranian partners. This will be beneficial to prepare for the next Mesopotamian Water Forum (scheduled to take place in the near future). At the same time, we have been conducting activities on some of our major focus points: dam construction and the preservation of the Iraqi Marshes. We conducted new research on the impacts of dams in Iraq; we released a report on the impacts of evaporation in dam reservoirs and have done research on the Makhoul Dam, to be published in 2022. As for the Marshes, together with our partner Humat Dijlah was conducted on law enforcement in the Iraqi Marshes to protect biodiversity, and additionally we advocated directly with UNESCO for better protection of the wetlands, in open letters and high level meetings. In 2022 we plan to produce a brand new strategy for Save the Tigris and organize a new edition of the water forum.