



## Baghdad Women Association Organizational Profile



## Message from the President of Baghdad Women Association

*"Stronger Together... For Them and Because of Them... We Continue"*

This blossoming and vibrant organization celebrates its full legal recognition and intellectual maturity since its establishment in June 2004, crowned with humanistic dedication, care, and love for women and girls.

It would not have reached this stage without the efforts of countless individuals who worked and contributed to its support and nurturing since its earliest stages of establishment, despite the high-security risks at that time. We carried our goals on the palms of our hands, setting aside our own lives and those of our loved ones, driven by the desire to progress and achieve. Today, we have reached our destination.



Baghdad Women Association is now a thriving force, offering women and girls the elixir of life—sometimes through psychological support, social and legal counseling across different parts of our beloved country, and other times as a fierce advocate protecting their rights and confronting any threats to them. At the same time, it is an active leader, shouldering the agenda of women, peace, and security, working within national, regional, and international networks and alliances to support women’s rights and promote their political participation on a broader scale.

It is noteworthy that Baghdad Women Association is always renewing and refining itself, adopting a tactical approach based on alternatives and solutions to empower women and girls from diverse religious, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, in all crises and circumstances.

Our success over the years, from 2004 until today, is the result of collective effort—from our tireless staff to the partners and donors who support us at every step. Therefore, I extend my sincere gratitude to everyone who has contributed to our mission. We look forward to continuing this journey and working on advancing women’s rights with dedication and integrity. Together, we can create real and tangible change, building a safer and more dignified future for women and girls in Iraq.

**Eng. Liza Nissan Hido**

President, Baghdad Women Association

March 2026

# Baghdad Women Association (BWA)

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## 1. About the Association

After 2003, Iraq's political transition enabled the growth of independent civil society organizations. In 2004, eleven women from diverse backgrounds founded the Baghdad Women Association (BWA) in response to the deteriorating conditions faced by women. BWA was officially registered with the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation (August 10, 2004), the NGOs Directorate at the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers (February 22, 2012, Reg. No. 1017090), and the Kurdistan Region Government's NGOs Directorate (May 21, 2018, Reg. No. 2705-I).

Since its establishment, BWA has worked to reduce inequality and strengthen women's social, economic, and political participation. The Association began through volunteer efforts and later institutionalized its programs, expanding its impact across Iraq.

## 2. Vision

A society where women and girls live free from violence, discrimination, and inequality, and are empowered to participate fully in social, economic, and public life.

## 3. Mission

To prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, promote women's rights, and enhance women's economic resilience through sustainable, community-driven interventions.

## 4. Strategic Framework

### 4.1 Protection and Support Services for Women and Girls

Strategic Objective:

- To provide comprehensive protection, psychosocial, and legal support to women and girls survivors of violence.

#### Key Interventions:

- Establishment and management of Listening, Psychosocial, and Legal Counselling Centers.
- Case management and referral systems in coordination with police and health institutions.
- Legal representation and court follow-up by specialized female lawyers.
- Expansion of centers across Baghdad and other governorates.
- Technical support to partner organizations to establish similar protection centers.

#### 4.2 Women's Leadership and Socio-Political Empowerment

##### Strategic Objective:

- To strengthen women's leadership, political participation, and socio-economic empowerment.
- Training on civil and political rights and international instruments including CEDAW and UNSCR 1325.
- Capacity-building programmes for women candidates and elected representatives.
- Vocational training and income-generating initiatives.
- Institutional strengthening of governmental departments working on women's affairs.

#### 4.3 Advocacy, Policy Reform, and Documentation

##### Strategic Objective:

- To influence laws, policies, and public attitudes to eliminate discrimination.
- Documentation and monitoring of violence against women.
- Publication of policy papers and research studies.
- Contribution to national and CEDAW shadow reports.
- Advocacy for legal reforms and monitoring of UNSCR 1325 implementation
- National dialogue sessions with religious leaders, tribal leaders, and decision-makers to shift social norms and prevent violence.

## 5. Across all programming, BWA ensures:

Survivor-centered approaches

Confidentiality and data protection

Safeguarding and PSEA compliance

Community ownership and sustainability



## BWA ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



## Donors from 2020 to 2025

2020	2023
Tearfund	German International Cooperation for Development (GIZ)
Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)	Lutheran World Federation (LWF)
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	OXFAM Organization
International Republican Institute (IRI)	International Rescue Committee (IRC)
German Institute for Foreign Relations (IFA)	UN Women Iraq
UN Women in Iraq	Cordaid Organization Iraq
Women's Fund for Peace and Humanity	United Nations Trust Fund (UNTF)
Global Fund for Women (GFW)	Tearfund
Euro-Mediterranean Feminist Initiative	Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
International Management Systems (MSI)	African Women Development Fund (AWDF)
2021	German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	CARE International
UN Women Iraq	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	2024
OXFAM Organization	Lutheran World Federation (LWF)
African Women Development Fund	OXFAM Organization
Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)	International Rescue Committee (IRC)
United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women	UN Women Iraq
BLUMONT	United Nations Trust Fund (UNTF)
Global Fund for Women	Tearfund
Canadian Embassy	German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)
INTERNEWS	CARE International
Tearfund	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
Norwegian Church Aid	Heartland
2022	The SecDev Foundation
African Women Development Fund	Democracy Human Rights Labor (DRL)
United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women	2025
OXFAM Organization	Lutheran World Federation (LWF)
Norwegian Church Aid	German International Cooperation for Development (GIZ)
Tearfund	OXFAM Organization
Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)	International Rescue Committee (IRC)
Canadian Embassy	German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)
UN Women Iraq	CARE International
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
Cordaid Organization Iraq	The SecDev Foundation
RNW Media	Democracy Human Rights Labor (DRL)
Care International	Agence Française de Développement (AFD)
	Tearfund

## **Impact and Key Achievements – Baghdad Women Association**

- 2,005,886 beneficiaries reached through association projects (excluding women and girls survivors of violence).
- 215,210 women & girls survivors of violence supported with psychological and social services.
- 30 policy & research papers published on critical women's rights issues, launched on international occasions.
- 375 training activities delivered, including workshops and courses (up to 2025).
- 55 comprehensive training manuals developed on topics such as women's rights, financial management, and combating violence.
- 26 high-level national conferences hosted, each with 100+ participants including government leaders, advancing women's empowerment and rights.

## 6. Registration Certificates

الاقليم كوردستان / العراق  
رئاسة مجلس الوزراء  
رئاسة الديوان  
دائرة المنظمات غير الحكومية

ههزيس كوردستان / عيراق  
سهزوكايلهتس نهتجومهتس وهتوزران  
سهزوكايلهتس نيوان  
ههزيمانگهتس ريكفراوه ناكوييهكان

Department of NGOs  
Code : ( 2705 - 1 )  
Date: 21 \5\ 2018

پروانامهتس تۆمار

نهتۆز روشناسين ههزوهو ماددهتس (10 و 11) نه ياساس ئيماره (1) اي ساتس 2011ي پهزلهمانس كوردستان،  
تايبهتس پهزركفراوه ناكوييهكان نهههزيس كوردستان، بهيوش ههزه ياساييهكان لهداواكارى  
تۆماركردن، به پئس نهو دسهلاتهتس پئماندراوه پريارماندا، بهتۆماركردن (جمعيه نساء بغداد)

**Registration Certificate**  
According to articles (10 & 11) of Kurdistan Parliament Law NO (1) for the year 2011; and fulfilling legal terms with regard to registration request; we, by the power granted to us-decided to recognize (Baghdad Women Association) as a registered NGO.

آكرم محمّد جو  
سهزوكايلهتس ريكفراوه ناكوييهكان

ولهتبهتس بۆ:  
- مۆسهتس تۆمار،  
- خولار.

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جمهورية العراق  
الاقليم كوردستان / العراق  
رئاسة مجلس الوزراء  
رئاسة الديوان  
دائرة المنظمات غير الحكومية

ههزيس كوردستان / عيراق  
سهزوكايلهتس نهتجومهتس وهتوزران  
سهزوكايلهتس نيوان  
ههزيمانگهتس ريكفراوه ناكوييهكان

REPUBLIC OF IRAQ  
General Secretariat for the  
Council of Ministers  
NGOs Directorate

شهادة تسجيل  
Registration Certificate

Ref: 522  
Date: 22 / 5 / 2012

الس / جمعيه نساء بغداد

نظراً لاستيفائكم الشروط المنصوص عليها في قانون المنظمات غير الحكومية رقم (12) لسنة 2010 وتعليماته، صدرت هذه الشهادة بالرقم ( 1017090 ) كمنظمة ( محلية ) والتي اكتسبتم بموجبها الشخصية المنوية لممارسة نشاطكم وفقاً لأحكام الدستور والقوانين العراقية النافذة، علماً بأن الأمانة العامة لمجلس الوزراء هي الجهة المخولة حصراً بمنح هذه الشهادة.

TO: **Baghdad Women Association**

Due to fulfillment of conditions stipulated in the law of non-governmental organizations (12) for the year 2010 and its instructions, this certificate No. ( 1017090 ) is issued as a ( Local ) organization, where you gained the moral character to practice your business in accordance with the provisions of the constitution and Iraqi laws in force.  
Note: COMSEC is exclusively vested in the providing of this certificate.

ع.ا. الأيمن العام لمجلس الوزراء  
د. الخليل هادي الحيدر  
عليه علم دائرة المنظمات غير الحكومية  
2012 / 5 / 22

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## 7. Get In Touch

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