

Kurdistan Regional Government
Ministry of Construction and Housing
(MOCAH)



March 2015

Introduction:

Iraqi Kurdistan is an autonomous region in Northern Iraq, bordering Iran to the east, Turkey to the north, and Syria to the west. It is home to one of the oldest civilizations in the world. The region is officially governed by the Kurdistan Regional Government.

The Kurdistan Region of Iraq has achieved dramatic development in the past decade. Although challenged by damage to our society and infrastructure from years of war, genocide, forced displacement, and the destruction of more than 4,000 villages at the hand of the previous Iraqi regime.

Short brief about Kurdistan history;

Our Region has an ancient culture and a long heritage. It has more than 1,000 archaeological and historic sites, from Shanidar cave and its Neanderthal skeletons, to the Erbil Citadel, to the Sheikh Choli Minaret, and to all the treasures in our antiquities and heritage museums in Duhok, Erbil, and Slemani.

In our heritage we have poets, historians, scholars, diplomats, and dreamers in our past, such as the minister and historian Ibn Al-Mustawfi of 800 years

Finally, in 1991, we rose up against a hostile Baathist regime after the Gulf War, only to face counterattacks by the Iraqi military and its helicopters, leading to a mass evacuation and humanitarian crisis in which nearly the entire population fled to the mountains.

- This sparked U.N. Security Council Resolution 688 on April 5, 1991, which recognized that there were Kurdish parts of Iraq. It condemned the repression “in Kurdish populated areas,” demanded an end to this repression, insisted that international humanitarian organizations be allowed access, and opened the way to a mission to report on the plight of “in particular the Kurdish population.”
- This resolution enabled a no-fly zone and, protected by this zone, the Kurdistan Region held parliamentary elections and created the Kurdistan Regional Government in May 1992.
- From 1992 to 2003, we endured the double sanctions—the world sanctioning Iraq and Iraq sanctioning the Kurdistan Regional Government.
- We remained vigilant and resilient, and in the 2003 Operation Iraqi Freedom, our official armed forces, the Peshmerga, contributed to the coalition effort to liberate Iraq.

- We then played a key role in drafting the 2005 Iraqi Constitution, which almost 80 percent of the population voted to ratify.

As of October 2014, Kurdistan has been flooded by up to two million refugees fleeing the conflict with ISIS, placing great demands upon the region's infrastructure. Addressing the infrastructure challenge is the Ministry of Construction and Housing (MOCAH), whose teams are also working with the **Peshmerga** (Kurdish fighters against ISIS) on the front line. Beside the other main duties MOCAH is building new emergency roads and barriers, and providing technical support.

It's worth of mention, that our nation has garnered esteem internationally for having proven their bravery, prowess, and commitment to fight ISIS, and they have been unique in their successful containment and repulsion of Islamic militants. However, the conflict is distracting MOCAH from the multi-billion dollar project portfolio that is part of Kurdistan's strategic plan to develop the region, which is poised to become a major hub for trade.

The MOCAH faces an imperative to improve its ability and capacity to deliver projects successfully, consistently, and predictably against a backdrop that is complex, volatile, and uncertain.

It's also important to say that our standards are international standards so international companies can come and succeed.

The overall development vision of the Kurdistan Regional Government

We have begun a sustainable development process, so Kurdistan Region of Iraq where all people enjoys the benefits of freedom, health, welfare, and economic security and opportunity.

The Kurdistan Vision: Building on History and Opportunities

Toward to achieving our region we want, all people In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq will enjoy the benefits of freedom, health, welfare, and economic security

and opportunity. Fulfilling this vision by 2020 requires an overarching set of coordinated activities by the KRG that focus on delivering:

- Health and social services that meet the needs of the population
- An education system and labor market opportunities that will enable the population to achieve its potential and improve its standard of living
- The necessary physical infrastructure
- The development of a diversified economy relying on the private sector
- Effective and honest government.

MOCAH main missions:-

1-Road management.

2-Building and Housing.

1-Road management;

As road is considered a major part of transportation, we are commencing under the **vision of ;(transportation for a Growing Economy)**.

Policy Priorities;

The KRG transportation policy priorities through next decade to support the Region's growing economy will include:

- A road network that connects every inhabited location in the Kurdistan Region to every other inhabited location in the Kurdistan Region and to the world is what our ministry tries to achieve, according to master plan of road network that prepared by our ministry few years ago, we try to construct the full double carriageway roads (which tens of this project are know under implementation) connecting all main cities and regions border which will be our target for 2020. This will be done through upgrading the Regional road network.

A network of well-paved roads is the key to economic development and the expansion of commerce and tourism. We will continue to build and improve our primary roads that connect major population centers. A strong road network is also the key to improving living conditions in rural areas and promoting strong

mass transportation networks. We will institute a national paving program for secondary roads to ensure that all secondary roads are paved and well maintained. As part of this program, we will upgrade construction standards for input materials to increase durability of the new roads. We will also create a road maintenance fund to pay for the maintenance of the existing roads, and support this fund with the appropriate institutional and regulatory frameworks.

- Improving mass transportation systems. People need access to employment, community resources, medical care, and recreational opportunities. Travel by car provides high levels of mobility, but it may also lead to congestion, pollution, and accidental injuries. Mass transportation provides people with mobility while safeguarding against many of these negative effects. Therefore, we intend to develop a safe, efficient, mass transportation system, building on current systems and our current tramway design efforts. Our policy will enable private providers and public-private partnerships in addition to the possibility of public transit, and will balance ridership against cost recovery and fiscal sustainability.

2-building and housing

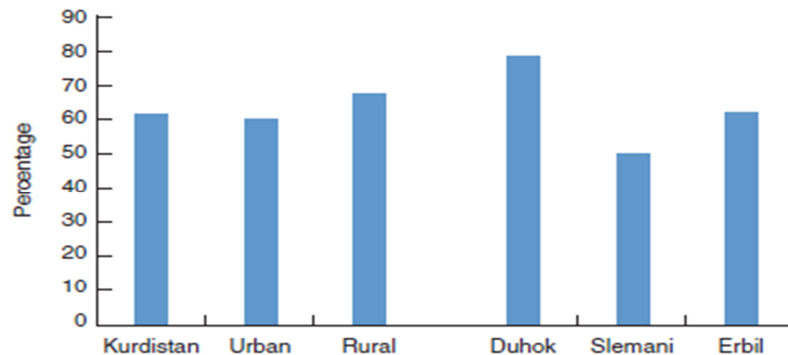
Vision; Housing for a Growing Population

Construction is a booming industry in our Region, especially in the housing sector. The vast majority of people in Kurdistan live in their own houses. Throughout our Region, 79 percent of the people live in houses they own and have completely paid for. In urban areas, this is 77 percent, and in rural areas, this is 89 percent.

Despite this rapid construction, individual family homes are still in demand and our households are large (Figure 2.4). Part of this is because multiple families and many generations are living together. For example, in our Region in 2011, 29 percent of our households had four or more children, but 61 percent of our households had six or more total residents.

So in this regard great attention to this sector is desirable, KRG and through our ministry prepare along plan for housing program which includes building of 5000 units for the whole region each year based on law number (7) 2008. These programs started since 2012, and now we have nearly 8000 units under

construction in Duhok, Sulymani and Erbil all are implemented due to high construction quality.



Ministries Capacity;

Its worth of mention that ministry have different skills and abilities;

1-the human forces consist of 6700 different skilled, experts and technical staff which involve 650 engineers whom having experiences in planning, design and supervision of the big engineering projects.

2-Ministry is acquiring about 730 working machines, trucks and asphalt plants who can involve in direct implementation of different road projects.

3-The ministry own the central technical laboratories which execute all types of test concerning project implementation.

THE MAIN TASKS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION & HOUSING

Tasks include;

- Construction of new roads, bridges and tunnels.
- Upgrading and improvement of existing roads through their widening, doubling and/or re-alignment. Rehabilitation of existing roads, bridges and road maintenance work.
- Construction of new Government buildings and residential complexes.

- Supervision of the engineering laboratories and equipment maintenance, and upgrading their skills in terms of technical aspects, equipment and labor.
- Human recourse management; in term of building capacity and rearrangement of administration structure in order to prepare technical staff which can meet global technical and managing standard.

MINISTRY'S PLAN;

- The Ministry main strategy is that all the primary roads will be upgraded to become double path way (two – side) roads.
- It's the ministry mission to construct more housing units to meet the growth in population in the three governorates.

The ministry activities (implemented projects)

Year	Divided Roads/k m	Two lane 2 way/km	Bridges/m	Tunnel/km	House Unit	Buildings
Till 2004	2.4	531.37	427.5	0	1136	494
2005	9.78	1118.823	4491.2	0	320	83
2006	9.4	765.15	534.5	0	5076	49
2007	3	950.927	1076	0	1999	33
2008	5.08	756.36	3398.5	0	825	30
2009	51.7	905.74	871.3	2334	2985	42
2010	61.3	800.71	1259.8	0	741	43
2011	16.2	1560.74	1029.09	0	1430	33

2012	10	24	0	0	0	3
2013	1.5	159.6	726	0	0	0
2014	69	185.35	900	0	324	0
Total	239,36	7758,77	14713,89	2334	14836	810

Ongoing projects

Year	Divided Roads/km	Two lane 2 way/km	Bridges/m	Tunnel/km (two tube)	House Unit	Buildings
2012	228.15	102.04	36	5071	2428	45
2013	48.65	13.25	930	4100	4632	35
2014	138.4	148.95	100	5000	228	18
Total	415,2	264,24	1066	14171	7288	93