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## **Shlama Foundation and USAID Partner to Bring Solar Energy Jobs and Electricity to the Nineveh Plains**

*Ankawa-Erbil, Iraq — 4 Oct 2019* – The Shlama Foundation and USAID have partnered to bring solar power to areas negatively affected by ISIS in northern Iraq. Families who returned to their homes after years of displacement were faced with costly reconstruction and a damaged economy due to a decrease in populations and destroyed businesses.

The program seeks to provide professional engineers with solar installation training to develop an innovative new skill that utilizes Iraq's plentiful sun energy while improving environmental efficiency in the region. In addition to business and career development, the program seeks to provide families with solar power for their homes; to provide farms with solar-powered water pumps; and to provide street lighting for villages. Most areas in the region today are relying on unfiltered generators for primary and supplemental electricity, which release toxic fumes into the air.

Another aim of the USAID Shlama partnership is to educate the local community regarding the health risks of air pollution and the benefits of renewable energy.

The U.S. Agency for International Development administers the U.S. foreign assistance program providing economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 80 countries worldwide. The Shlama Foundation is a non-governmental nonprofit organization that serves the needs of the Nineveh Plains and surrounding areas.

**For more information, press only:**

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