

Kurdistan Region: Agriculture and Water Resources - Sustainable Development Conference 14-15 November 2012

Invitation to Kurdistan Region: Agriculture and Water Resources Conference Wednesday 14 – 15 November 9.15am to 4pm BIS Conference Centre, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET

Against a background of over a quarter of a billion US Dollars worth of private investment devoted to its agriculture sector and a forward looking strategy to sustainably develop its rich water resources, the Kurdistan Regional Government is hosting two day conference in London to enable some of Kurdistan's largest companies and senior officials to meet and potentially partner with British producers of goods and services and expertise and consulting.

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) UK Representation is holding a two-day agriculture, water resources, investment and business match-making conference in London, with the support of UK Trade and Investment, on 14 - 15 November.

We invite you to attend as our guest at the conference, where you will meet KRG ministers and government officials, leading Kurdish companies and Kurdistan's chambers of commerce and trade associations.

The Kurdish companies work in the agriculture and water resources sector (including livestock, poultry, vineyards, fruit farming), construction of dams, green houses, engineering, contracting, marketing and packaging.

Since the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003, the KRG has pushed forward to create a stable and growing economy. The KRG is reviving its agriculture sector, allocating 50% of the region's land, and developing its water resources to become the breadbasket of Iraq again.

The Region is rich in natural resources with five main rivers, 59.8% of the water flow staying in Kurdistan and 40.2% flowing into Turkey and Syria. Kurdistan has 3 large dams with the capacity of 10.5bn cubic meters and 3 smaller dams with the capacity of 6m cubic meters. Currently there are 14 dams under construction with 38 being considered.

Growth over this year is expected to be at an approximately 8%, with the UK boasting the 4th largest contingent of foreign companies registered in the Region.

Main conference plus one-to-one business meetings

Speakers include the KRG Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, the Head of the Department of Foreign Relations, officials from the Kurdistan Investment Board, private sector representatives operating in the region, and the British government.

Alongside the conference, there will be the opportunity for one-to-one meetings with the government and with leading Kurdish company representatives, who are visiting the UK to meet British firms.

There will also be networking opportunities over lunch and coffee breaks. This event is **free of charge** and is funded by the Kurdistan Regional Government.

Deadline for accepting this invitation: Friday 2 November 2012

RSVP to <u>nawal.karim@krg.org</u>

As the maximum capacity is 100 delegates and this event is free of charge, your prompt response is appreciated. For further information, please contact Nawal Karim <u>nawal.karim@krg.org</u> at the KRG UK Representation, tel. 020 3301 8340.

Requests for one-to-one meetings

Please send your requests for one-to-one meetings with KRG officials and the Kurdish companies to <u>charlotte.jordan.krg@gmail.com</u>

Yours Sincerely,

Vanval Narim

Director of Trade and Investment Relations Kurdistan Regional Government UK Representation