

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT YEAR 2016





ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

PART 1 : PRESENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION	3
PART 2 : ACCOUNT OF ACTIONS 2016.....	4
EMERGENCY AID FOR IRAQI REFUGEES	4
<i>Necessities package delivery</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Transit of blankets for the kakai villages.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Purchase and install of tanks in Sharanish</i>	<i>5</i>
RECONSTRUCTION HELP	5
<i>Demining</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Mar Behnam reconstruction.....</i>	<i>5</i>
SUPPORT FOR THE EVERYDAY LIFE OF THE DISPLACED IN ERBIL.....	6
<i>Tank installation with the Saint Irénée Foundation in the Ashti camp</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Layout of 38 caravans in the Ashti II camp.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Craft workshop for women in the Ashti camp.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Help to the « Les femmes aux aromates » association in Ankawa</i>	<i>7</i>
HELP TO YOUTH AND EDUCATION.....	7
<i>Construction of a school in Bassorah.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Funding of a school in Bozan for the Yezidis children.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Trainings in Mart Schmouni</i>	<i>9</i>
DEVELOPMENT	9
<i>Opening of a sesame cream plant in Soleymania</i>	<i>9</i>
.....	9
<i>Opening of a cream sesame plant in the Ashti camp in Erbil.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>The launching of an extraordinary orchard in Alquosh</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>A Kubbas factory in Alqosh.....</i>	<i>11</i>
ENGAGEMENT IN CULTURE.....	12
<i>Music Tour</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Exhibition in Erbil.....</i>	<i>12</i>
HONOURS.....	13
PART 3 : ACCOUNT 2016	14
<i>Division of donors :</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Spending distribution :.....</i>	<i>15</i>
PART 4 : WHY SUPPORT FRATERNITE EN IRAK ?.....	17



Part 1 : Presentation of the Association

« Fraternité en Irak » is an association, whose purpose is to help religious minorities to stay in their country, by enabling them to play a positive role for the majority of the population. For this purpose, it collects funds and develops humanitarian and educational projects. The idea of the foundation of the association emerged in 2009, among a group of friends, very affected by the plight of Iraqi refugees in Syria, which appeared in the newspaper. However, despite exams, they have shown an unfailing determination, and commitment to helping these men and women, chased from their land by the horror of war and precariousness. At the end of 2010, the attack on Baghdad cathedral, which left 58 dead and 72 injured, reminded them of their project.

The statutes of the association were registered at the Prefecture de Police in Paris on May 5, 2011. Loyal to those statutes, members of « Fraternité en Irak » went to Iraqi Kurdistan, during the summer of 2011, 2012 and 2013, and developed their projects in Kirkuk and Qaraqosh.

The capture of the city of Mosul and the Nineveh Plains in June 2014 forced « Fraternité en Irak » to rethink its organization, its activity and its projects. The long-term projects continue to make progress, yet « Fraternité en Irak » ensured an emergency humanitarian aid to help the tens of thousands of refugees, fleeing IS to take refuge in Iraqi Kurdistan. Therefore, 2014 was a turning point in the activity of « Fraternité en Irak. » The regular trips since 2011 and the specific knowledge of the minorities gave the association an important media coverage, positioning it as one of the best known organizations in the unfolding humanitarian catastrophe in Iraq.

This document introduces the activities during 2012 carried out by « Fraternité en Irak », and provides free access the 2015 activity report, and the 2014 activity report, outlining all the actions carried out since the founding of « Fraternité en Irak » (2011).

Part 2 : account of actions 2016

Emergency aid for Iraqi refugees

Necessities package delivery

At the beginning of January 2016, « Fraternité en Irak » transported and delivered more than 30 tonnes of food and hygiene products for 930 displaced families in the North of Iraq. The packages were delivered to the families of the Araden and Akra villages, which are penniless, generally because of the work shortage in those two areas, which had less access to the circuits of humanitarian aid. These families migrated at those areas after being forced out from the Mosul area by IS in August 2014. Each package delivered makes possible to respond to the basic essential needs (food and hygiene products primarily) of a family for several weeks. This distribution has been done in partnership with the Saint Irénée Foundation and the Carrefour Foundation.



Transit of blankets for the kakai villages

In January 2016, « Fraternité en Irak » distributed close to one thousand of blankets for 300 displaced kakaïes families. The member of this unknown religious minority, displaced at the arrival of IS in 2014, found refuge in the villages near the battle line. They feel forgotten by everybody. Their situation is very unstable. In December 2015, the Jihadist of IS launched military offences in the Zangal and Sufaya villages, where a part of the kakaï community had taken refuge. This proximity with a moving battle line makes it very difficult the installation of perennial support structures for these families. The Volunteer members of the association went in December 2015 in the villages where are living these community members, in order to better understand their needs. They found that these families were under-equipped. In particular, they were affected by the persistent cold during winter. Discussions with the community leaders confirmed the emergency to solving this problem. The distribution of blankets, organized within a few days, was a direct answer to this urgent request.



Unloading of a truck full of blankets



Suivi de la distribution des couvertures

Purchase and install of tanks in Sharanish

In January 2016, the small Christian village of Sharanish, situated in Northwest Iraq, was hit by the Turkish army, targeting groups of Kurdish fighters of PKK. In order to enable the residents to return home as quickly as possible, « Fraternité en Irak » undertook several actions. All the windows of the village, blown off by the explosion of bombs have been urgently changed. Then, the damaged roof of the church hall have been completely refurbished. Finally, the teams of « Fraternité en Irak » has replaced two voluminous 30 000 litres tank, used to irrigate crops : they had been perforated... Following intensive discussions, new tank have been bought by « Fraternité en Irak » in Dohuk, then routed to Sharanish. The replacement operation have been led by a « Fraternité en Irak » team at the end of June 2016. In order to make it profitable for the whole families of the village, the Mayor of Sharanish has committed the farmers to reach 3% of their harvest to the Chaldean parish, which will forward it to the poor and refugees families.

Reconstruction Help

Demining

In May 2016, as early as the advance of the Kurdish troops to retake some villages from IS, « Fraternité en Irak » reflected upon after IS. In particular, the demining question. In the first liberated villages, those of the kakai community, a dozen people, who wished return to their homes, are dead by stepping on a mine. It was an emergency. The association has therefore built a partnership with MAG NGO, on one side, and with the crisis unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the other side, in order to assess damage and to « clean up » completely the six first villages liberated from IS. After tracking, Helped by the local population, the demining began in November 2016 and continued in this beginning 2017. This project has been made possible thanks to the local knowledge of « Fraternité en Irak », thus anticipation of the demining problem. Meanwhile, a calling for donations to the public enabled to raise the money required for the first phase of the operation, in very short deadlines.

Mar Behnam reconstruction

At the behest of Monseigneur Petros Mouché, catholic Syriac archbishop of Mosul and Qaraqosh, « Fraternité en Irak » accepted take over the reconstruction and the restoration of the Mar Behnam sanctuary, partially destroyed by IS. The convent, devoted to the martyred saint in the fourth century, and in which is preserved his grave, has been liberated by the Iraqi army on 20 November 2016. Since then, « Fraternité en Irak » teams could get there many times and began to assess damage and to draft a plan of intervention. The project requires a strong Financial mobilization, estimated to 350 000 euros.



Mar Behnam tomb

Support for the everyday life of the displaced in Erbil

Tank installation with the Saint Irénée Foundation in the Ashti camp



Unloading of tanks from trucks in Ashti II

The advent of water in the Ashti camp was sometimes difficult because of the shortfalls of electricity, which does not enable the pump to operate continuously. This situation was difficult, in particular in summer. Therefore, during the winter of 2016, in partnership with the Saint Irene foundation, 1000 tanks of 500 litres have been purchased and installed on the roof of the caravans of the second Ashti Camp, whereas 3 tanks of 10 000 litres have been installed in the first Ashti Camp. These tanks changed the refugee's life : they enabled them to avoid buying water canteens or, for the poorest, avoid renouncing to dispose thereof during the diary power failures, lasting several hours.

Layout of 38 caravans in the Ashti II camp



The new mobil-homes area in the Ashti 2 camp in Erbil

« Fraternité en Irak » financed in the spring of 2016, the refurbishment of 38 new caravans, offered by the government of Kurdistan, in the refugee camp of Ashti, in Erbil. They enabled 38 families – a mob of hundreds of people – to live under decent conditions, without having to pay rent. These families indeed left the housing they were previously renting in the town, of which they couldn't take care anymore.

« Fraternité en Irak » financed the water and electricity connection of these new four times eight meters, the installation of a water tank on the roof (as in the other cabins of the camp), and the interior layout, except furniture. « Fraternité en Irak » bring thus a continuous help in an emergency, which is perpetuating nowadays.

Craft workshop for women in the Ashti camp

In 2016, Fraternité en Irak financed the construction and the operation of a craft workshop in Ashti. This workshop is specialised in the manufacture of artworks : mosaic, carpet, jewellery etc. Every day, between 10 a.m. and 18 p.m., the workshop manager welcomes the women of the camp in various workshops, provided for that purpose.

It enables them to leverage their creative talent to producing crafted pieces, which can generate a small income.

Help to the « Les femmes aux aromates » association in Ankawa

Since 2016, Fraternité en Irak support the Iraqi association « Les femmes aux aromates » whose mission is to support the poorest people by material assistance and friendly support.

Founded by Sarah Al Jamil, some years ago, while she was still living in Qaraqosh, this charitable society gathers some women of the city, who regularly visited visits to isolated people, sick people and family in difficulty. Today, these women have themselves taken refuge in Erbil. Despite their precarious situation, some of them decided to continue their charity, by visiting the most disadvantaged refugees. Every afternoon, they visit five or six families to listen to them, find out their needs and bring a material assistance, according to the emergencies : a child suffering from cancer who required a particular treatment, a woman who lost her husband and powerless, etc. Fraternité en Irak monthly brings a financial support to this association, in order to continue her tailored action towards the poorest refugees.



A team of volunteers with Sarah Al Jamil, during visits to underprivileged refugees

Help to youth and education

Construction of a school in Bassorah



Young of Bassorah with members of Fraternité en Irak

In August 2016, a team of Fraternité en Irak went to Bassorah, the third city of the country, where the situation of Christians is particularly difficult. Whereas 1000 Christians families were living in Bassorah in 2003, Monseigneur Habib Al Naufali, a Chaldean Archbishop, highlights they are currently only 200. In order to restore hope to the residents, Fraternité en Irak decided, in accordance with the local political and religious authorities, to finance entirely the building of an elementary school. This school, which will open in September 2017, will offer a school éducation to 180 Christians, Muslims and Mandaean

pupils. His building will furthermore enable to create a dozen jobs. Raised on an estate belonging to the diocese, it has received broad support of Shiite authority, and became a federating project in the city. She will enable to end the isolation of the Christians, which are increasingly minority. Open to all, this school will encourage unity among pupils and will help them to end communitarianism.

Budget « a school for Bessorah » - Fraternité en Irak		
	Description	Cost
Phase I	Construction of a 2-storey building with a laboratory and a Library	70 000 euros
Phase II	Construction of an additional stage of 4 classroom in the existing nursery school, in order to make a building available for the elementary school	59 000 euros
Phase III	Construction of a small building devoted to teachers and administration	25 000 euros
Total	Opening planned for September 2017 (time for construction and obtaining permissions required)	154 000 euros

Funding of a school in Bozan for the Yezidis children

In Bozan, a small village in the North of the Nineveh Plains, a school has been opened in 2015 and is increasing constantly thanks to the support brought by Fraternité en Irak. It moved à the end of 2016 in new premises. Thus, 130 children, between 4 and 8 years old, split into five mixed classes, can attend school. During 5 mornings a week, they have courses of Kurdish, Arabic, English, Mathematics, biology, Art and Music. In this affected village, where almost all people are unemployed, the school is also a source of employment for 6 persons. Besides the planning and the management of the premises, Fraternité en Irak funds every month the teachers' wages, a breakfast for children who arrive at school with empty bellies, and school material. Convinced of the importance of the education for these uprooted children, Fraternité en Irak shall pursue its engagement in the long term towards the displaced Yezidis.



A round in the schoolyard funded by Fraternité en Irak for Yezidi Children of Bozan

Trainings in Mart Schmouni

As part of a vast training program organized by the Mart Schmouni parish in Erbil, Fraternité en Irak financed in 2016, courses of Kurdish language for the refugees of the Nineveh Plains, all Arab-speaking. Kurdish language courses concern about thirty students split into 2 classrooms. The 36-hour program extends for two months divided into 3 periods of 3 weeks, two days per weeks during 2 or 3 hours. The teacher is a Kurdish woman from Erbil, who wishes help refugees of the Nineveh Plains. At the end of the first semester 2016, after reviewing the courses given and the identified needs, Fraternité en Irak decided to fund a new Kurdish language course, level 1, and to add a level 2, an enhancement for the first session pupils, all wishing to carry on. These actions of training meet the objectives of Fraternité en Irak : enable refugees to be integrated.



Graduation ceremony

Development

Opening of a sesame cream plant in Soleymania

In Suleymania, in the mountains of Kurdistan, Fraternité en Irak contributed to develop, in cooperation with the bishopric of Kirkouk, a sesame cream plant : a product highly valued by Irakian. The plant could be opened thanks to the skills of refugees, who possessed a similar plant in Qaraqosh before the exile. Five family members, supported by a Kurdish foreman, found therefore a new job. The product is in good quality. When the factory will make a profit, benefits will be allocated to the diocese in order to finance other projects.



Yelda and family in front of the machine factory



Sesame cream jars, sold in different volumes

Opening of a cream sesame plant in the Ashti camp in Erbil

At the end of November 2016, another sesame cream was created, this time at the Ashti camp in Erbil. It employs today three employees, all natives from Mosul and refugees. The boss in charge of the plant exploitation, also refugee himself, drove before the war several factories, in particular situated in the town of Bashiqa. The plant, which has two presses, operates 5 days a week, 8 hours a day, during sesame seeds are transformed. Produced once, conditioned on-site, sesame cream is sold in Erbil, about 500 Kg produced at 4 day intervals. The activity of the plant should end at the end of April, or, if there are still demands, in May, and will stop at summer.



View of the plant's camp

The launching of an extraordinary orchard in Alqosh

Fraternité en Irak is involved in an innovative project of orchard driven by the Italian NGO King Fruits, in partnership with the monastery of Alqosh, which lends the field and provides water and electricity. King Fruits grows fruits in this field and exports them in Jordania, enabling daily provide employment for about fifteen Yezidis refugees, who take care of the planting. In order to protect this fruits hectare, Fraternité en Irak financed a high fence, contributing to preserve dynamic agriculture in the North of the Nineveh plain.



Tomatoes picked in the Alqosh orchard

A Kubbas factory in Alqosh

A factory of traditional food opened in Alqosh, on the initiative of friars of the monastery of the village. The funds provided by Fraternité en Irak enabled the restoration of an appropriate building, purchase and installation of machines for the preparation of several Irakian recipes. In 2016, 3 mothers were cooking various kinds of meat fritters : « kubba », bulgur products, « buraka » with sheets of brick, and potatoes « batata jaba. » The projects enabled the employment of several residents of the village, and also enabled other members of the local community to provide good and affordable food.



Souha, Nidhal and Maha cooking kubbas



Delicious final result

Engagement in culture

Music Tour

In February 2016, a volunteer team has been formed to enable French artists to discover Iraqi works and artists, for mutual enrichment, in order to revitalise artistic creation to their minorities persecuted and exiled in their own country. The team was composed of a drafter, a musician, a singer and an actor. Their mission was to organize artistic highlights, for instance, an improvised concert in the Ashti camp in Erbil. The team went also to Alqosh, in Bozan, in order to meet Yezidis children, in Kirkouk to sing with students et children from the Mariamana school, to Kalak, to meet kakaïes. From these moments of great joy, in the exile suffering, emerges a need to create beauty, to express by art the live in Iraq – For today, for tomorrow, in order to transmit this life going on.



Artistic team among children in Bozen

Exhibition in Erbil

Musicians are successful !



Some of exposed artworks

At the beginning of November 2016, Fraternité en Irak organized an exhibition about « Exile and Hope » theme. Its purpose was to help Iraqi refugee artists to rediscover the desire to create. Some artists eagerly awaited this exhibition, and took up the paint brushes in order to express through art the harsh reality of their life.

The exhibition took place near the Ashti camp : it lasted 3 days, and welcomed more than 600 visitors, who could admire 39 paintings and 14 sculptures made by artists from Erbil, Kirkouk, Suleymania or Alqosh. Several TV and radio channels covered the event, in particular the inauguration in attendance of Monseigneur Petros Mouché and Monseigneur Youssef Abba. At the same time as visit, readings of theatre play *Martyrs*, written by Alexis Chevalier and translated in Arabic, were performed by two actors. Franck Seguy and Vinz le Mariachi, two French musicians, played with two Iraqi musicians, and experimented a great artistic meeting, at the junction of Oriental and European music.



Honours

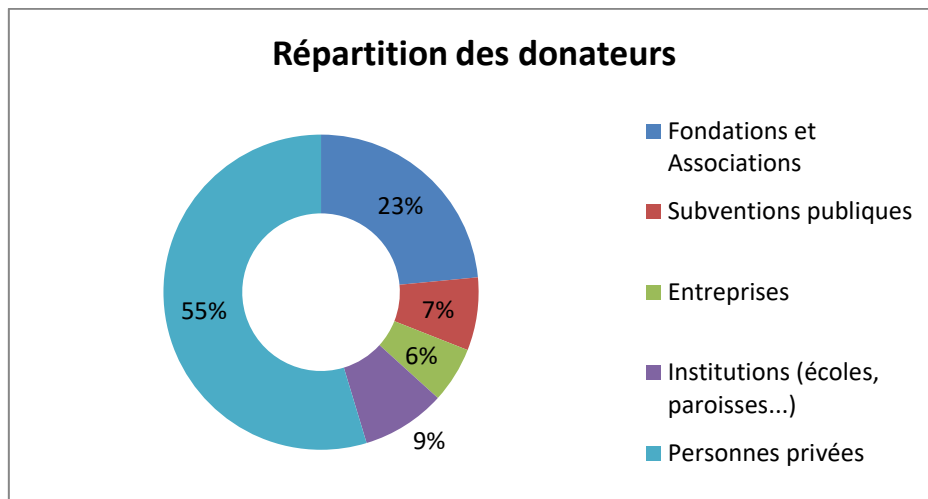
Fraternité en Irak received in 2016 the « Irenée d'Or de la Solidarité » award, presented by the Saint-Irénée Foundation, recognizing its action towards the minorities of Iraq, and especially its project « 1000 tanks for refugees. »

Part 3 : account 2016

In 2016, the association budget was distributed as follows :

Sources of funding		Expenditures	
Foundations and associations	227 423	Art and Culture	12 644
Public subsidies	72 500	Demining	69 495
Companies	55 441	Development	155 496
Institutions (School, parish, etc.)	83 414	Sundry	6 121
Individuals	529 192	Childhood and Education	241 102
Others	1 363	Health	31 648
		Emergency	148 751
		Operating expenses in Iraq	16 283
		Operating Cost	23 055
		Retained earnings	264 738
Total	969 333	Total	969 333

Division of donors :



During 2016, donations received by Fraternité en Irak reached more than €969 000, so a 25% increase compared to 2015.

The part of individuals increased (56% compared to 47% in 2015), especially in December, responding to the intensive communication campaign from Fraternité en Irak (press, radio, newsletters etc.)

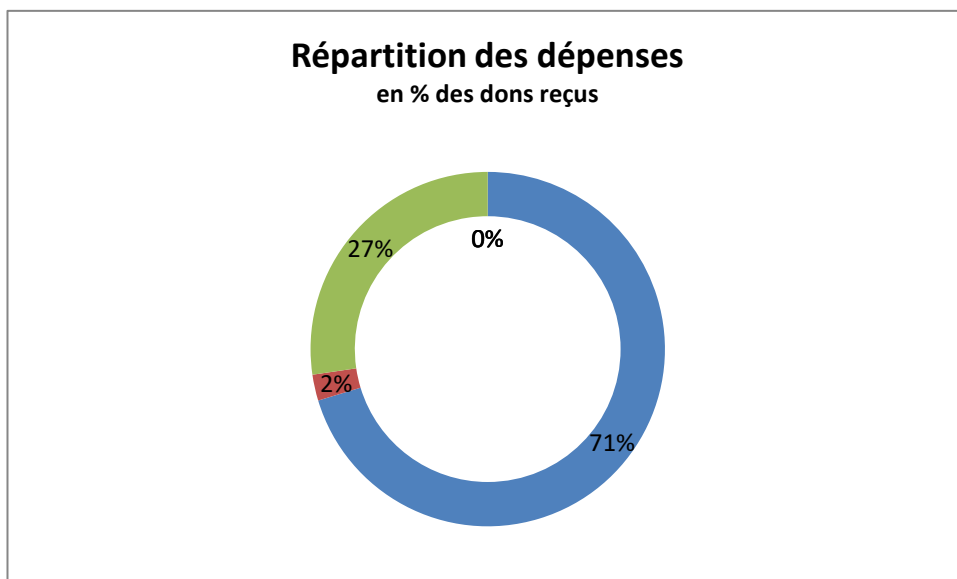
In 2016, the category « Public subsidies » was composed of donations from several parliamentarians deciding to allocate a part of their parliamentary reservation to actions driven by Fraternité en Irak, and of a support from « Pays de la Loire » region.

Among others categories, like parish, educational institutions or companies, several actions have been led in 2016, in favour of our association, like, for instance, several concerts by Gregory Turpin in Paris and Boulogne.

Overall, the large increase of donations received by the association reflects, on the one side, the high visibility of minorities in the Middle East, and on the other side, reconnaissance of expertise of Fraternité en Irak, developed during these 5 last years.

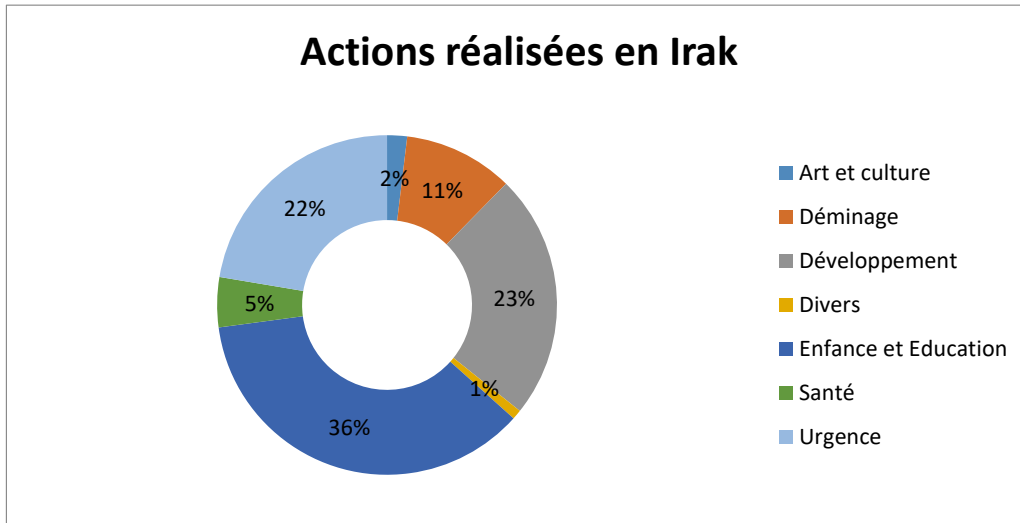
Spending distribution :

In 2016, in accordance with 2015, the operating cost rate reached 2%. The large part of the accumulated surplus allocated to the 2017 financial year is due to the fact that most of donations was received in December 2016.



The amount of actions led in Irak in 2016, which reached more than €665 000, reflects the evolution of the humanitarian situation in Iraqi Kurdistan. The most important NGO are now well established in Erbil and in the area of concentration of refugees, enable them a better access to food and medical aid. As long as the Nineveh Plains is not liberated, populations cannot return home. This precarious situation continues. That is why Fraternité en Irak has to support mid/long-term projects.

The completed actions in Irak have been distributed as follows :



In 2016, in accordance with 2015, we have considered the emergency to give hope to refugees, by several cost items :

- **Education**, in order to give to students chased from the Nineveh Plain the possibility to continue their studies. This item includes housing assistance to students of Kirkouk as well as Yezidi school of Bizan. We have also financed the first phase of the works of the future multiconfessional school of Bassorah. The children's aid was effected by 2 projects : the animation, all year long, of a nursery school in the refugee camp of Ashti, and the completion of the works of an orphanage in Alqosh. Reaching a part of 35%, the item « Childhood and Education » is the most important of 2016.
- **The development projects**, in accordance with 2015, include the opening of a bakery, and of a sesame cream factory in Suleymaniah, thus a koubba factory and an orchard in Alqosh. The refurbishment of a church in Dohouk has also been prefinanced.
- Concomitantly to these long-term projects, Fraternité en Irak led **emergency projects**, like installation of caravans in the refugee camp of Ashti in Erbil, the purchase of tanks, repair works of Sharanish village, blast by turkish bombardments, and a regular support to the association of Sarah Al Jamil.
- **The demining item** includes two parts : in one side, demining of the first liberated villages in the Nineveh Plain, in collaboration with NGO MAG, and on the other side, the training of Irakian deminers in collaboration with NGO HAMAP. The health post includes especially reconstruction and replenishment of the Al Hamdania hospital of Qaraqosh, works of Mart Shmouni clinic in Erbil and health needs of local populations of Amara, an area of Bassorah.



Part 4 : why support Fraternité en Irak ?

- ❖ **Fraternité en Irak has an important local knowledge.** It is the only non-irakian NGO specialised in Irak. The several travels of its volunteers enabled to maintain good relations with local players, and enabled a serious and integral follow-up of the various projects directly financed by the NGO.
- ❖ **Fraternité en Irak directly finances** the projects it leads, without intermediary. The full funds traceability is indeed very important in a country as Irak, where corruption reigns.
- ❖ **Fraternité en Irak has an expertise covered by the press.** Fraternité en Irak is quoted in several articles, including Le Monde, Le Figaro, BBC website, etc. Please find all of these reviews in our website : <http://fraternite-en-irak.org/presse/la-presse-en-parle/>
- ❖ **Fraternité en Irak develops a long-term vision of projects, beyond emergency moment.** Some are supported for several years, like the school or the crèche of Kirkuk. Furthermore, the NGO already anticipates expenditures allocated to help refugees to rebuild their villages, when they will come back home.
- ❖ **Fraternité en Irak has almost zero operating costs.** All members are volunteers and finance themselves their travel and expenses. Except costs due to flyers printing and tax receipts sending, full amount is allocated to the projects driven in Irak.
- ❖ **All accounts of Fraternité en Irak are audited** by an auditor.