



Nineveh: Paths to Social Cohesion, Coexistence & Peace

A Community-Based Initiative for Peace and Recovery in
Nineveh



Nineveh Paths to Peace

International Forum on Recovery, Stabilization and Peace in Nineveh

Dates: March 30 & 31 2016 in Duhok

The **Nineveh Paths to Peace International Forum on Recovery, Stabilization and Peace** is a joint effort of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Center for Peace and Human Security (CPHS), Niniveh Local Authorities and the "Nineveh Paths to Social Cohesion, Coexistence and Peace" alliance of local and international civil society organizations, coordinated by the Department for Peace Operations (PATRIR) and Un ponte per... (UPP). The purpose of this **first international forum on Nineveh** is to bring together all key local, national and international actors contributing to stabilization, recovery and peace in Nineveh. The forum will be a platform for the United Nations, government, the donor community and local, national and international organizations and agencies to address key issues and needs facing recovery and peacebuilding in Nineveh; to improve coordination; and to develop a clear vision and strategy for supporting the people of Nineveh in stabilization, recovery and building sustainable peace.

Scope:

The International Forum will address the needs and opportunities and strengthen joint planning in supporting peace, reconciliation and recovery in Nineveh. This unique event will be an international model for Nineveh and for the field of peacebuilding and recovery. In the midst of intense armed violence and violent extremism, the International Forum on Nineveh provides a critical forum in which key organizations, agencies and local, national and international partners can discuss and develop concrete strategies and measures to support and ensure effective coordination, coherence and the quality of interventions for peacebuilding, recovery and peace consolidation in Nineveh.

While the International Forum on Nineveh will include high level international representation, including Ambassadorial level diplomats, MFA/State Department representatives, donors and UN agencies, **its principal focus is to provide a space to empower and bring forward the vision and voices of the people of Nineveh – and to make visible to key local, national and international actors what is being done and what can be done to strengthen and support peace consolidation and coexistence in Nineveh in the aftermath of mass displacement and war.**

International Forum on Recovery, Stabilization and Peace: Program Overview:

- Powerful keynotes bringing inspiring and critical messages from key speakers at different points throughout the Forum.
- Working groups and panel events including two parallel sessions of five to six workshops each day on the key themes of the Forum. All interested agencies and organizations may submit proposals for workshops and/or sessions to ninevehpaths2016@gmail.com
- Cultural events to inspire peace, social cohesion, and coexistence featuring messages from local communities; youth theatre and song performances; a joint message from the senior religious leaders of Nineveh and much more.
- The Nineveh Hall, which showcases the work of agencies and organizations, community programs, and artistic expressions from Nineveh in the main foyer. All interested individuals, agencies and organizations may submit proposals for the Nineveh Hall to ninevehpaths2016@gmail.com

Overarching Forum Themes:

To set the tone, structure the dialogue and set target objectives for the Forum, there are two overarching themes for the International Forum on Nineveh:

- Strengthening the Ownership, Leadership & Participation of the people of Nineveh in order to build an inclusive and sustainable peace



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- Building Synergy and Partnership with a focus on strengthening coherence between local, national and international agencies and programmes, civil society, government authorities, and donors

Themes of the International Forum on Nineveh:

The themes of the International Forum address key issues facing recovery, stabilization and peace consolidation. Participants will choose the theme relevant to their interests and work, bringing their expertise to the conversation during the simultaneous workshops, sessions, and panel presentations. Major plenary sessions and panels will be held by key experts and representatives to bring major themes to the forefront of the conversation, to enhance idea sharing between groups, and to create synergy within the Forum.

The **5 focal themes** of the Forum include:

1. Civic & Community-Based Peacebuilding, Social Cohesion and Coexistence
2. Linking Recovery and Reconstruction with Stabilization and Peace Consolidation
3. Healing, Reconciliation & Transitional Justice
4. Women Building Peace and Recovering from War
5. International Support to Nineveh

Participants & Audience

150 participants are expected from all major organizations and agencies working in Nineveh, including the United Nations, international governments, foreign ministries, development agencies, donors, local community representatives, and key tribal, social and religious leaders in Nineveh as well as the Nineveh Provincial Council and local authorities.

Additional Highlights of the First International Forum on Nineveh

- Nineveh Heroes*: a film currently being produced showing what communities are doing in Nineveh for peacebuilding and recovery will premiere at the Forum.
- Sessions on the *Nineveh Peace Council* and *Youth Peace Alliance*.
- The Women's Peace Alliance of Nineveh: a civil society organization uniting women from all cultural, religious, and community-backgrounds across Nineveh will present their work and vision.
- The *Nineveh Paths*: publication will be introduced and launched at the Forum.
- A video message from UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

Panel & Nineveh Hall Proposals:

We invite you to submit a proposal for the Nineveh Hall or breakout sessions. The breakout session proposals may include, but are not limited to, panel topics, panelists, main speakers, and organizations and individuals to be included. The Nineveh Hall proposals may include, but are not limited to, art exhibits such as photography, painting, and/or multimedia work, booth featuring your organization, and performances.

Please submit a one-page maximum proposal of your idea to ninevehpaths2016@gmail.com. The proposal must include a summary, which of the five focal themes your idea addresses, participant suggestions, and your organization's background in relationship with Nineveh. Financial support for projects and presentations will only be given in extreme circumstances.

Location:

The International Forum on Nineveh will take place at and be hosted by the Center for Peace and Human Security, which is housed at The American University of Kurdistan. CPHS is located in Duhok-Semel, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

Lead Consortium:

A major alliance of local, national and international organizations is supporting and preparing the **First International Forum on Nineveh**. The lead consortium consists of the "*Nineveh Paths to Social Cohesion, Coexistence and Peace*" alliance of CSOs, the Nineveh Provincial Council, the Governor of Nineveh, UNDP, the Center for Peace and Human Security and University of Duhok. A full list of confirmed supporters and partner organizations will be released shortly.



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