

RBGE Certificate in Biodiversity and Conservation

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Welcome

Welcome to the **Middle Eastern Biodiversity and Conservation Course**

This course is designed to give you an introduction to biodiversity and conservation with a focus on the biodiversity of Iraq.

This course has been developed as a partnership between the Faculty of Agricultural Science at the University of Sulaimani, The Centre for Middle Eastern Plants (part of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh), Nature Iraq and BirdLife International.

This course is part of Darwin Initiative Project 19-007. The Darwin Initiative is funded by DEFRA.

We hope you enjoy the course.

Full course instructions are available by clicking the link below

[General Course Information](#)



Hypericum on Peramagroon Mountain, Iraq

File: 1

Course Forums

The course forum is an area where you can ask questions and comment on the course.

Forums: 2

UNIT 1 Introduction to Biodiversity

Unit 1 starts the course by giving an introduction to the concept of biodiversity.

[Go to Unit 1](#)



Peramagroon Mountain, Iraq

Files: 7 Quizzes: 6

UNIT 2 The Biodiversity of Iraq

This unit will introduce the biodiversity of Iraq. It will summarise what is known about a number of different taxonomic groups. We will look at fish, birds, plants and mammals.

[Go to Unit 2](#)



Cinereous Bunting, Kurdistan (Richard Porter)

Files: 6 Quizzes: 5 Folder: 1

Restricted: 'Available from 13 January 2014, 2:00 PM.'

UNIT 3 Introduction to Conservation

This unit will introduce conservation. We look at what it is, why we do it and how we do it. We will then go on to discuss international, regional and local approaches to conservation with examples from Iraq.

[Go to Unit 3](#)



Peramagroon Mountain, Kurdistan

Files: 7 Quizzes: 3

Restricted: 'Available from 15 February 2014.'

UNIT 4 IUCN Red Listing

This unit will introduce you to what IUCN Red Listing is, what it is used for, and why it is important. The different categories of Red Listing and the criteria used to produce them will be described in detail. Case studies will be presented using examples from different taxonomic groups.

[Go to Unit 4](#)



IUCN Red list logo

Files: 4 Quizzes: 3

Restricted: 'Available from 15 March 2014.'

UNIT 5 Protected Areas

This unit will introduce the concept of conserving biodiversity in its' natural environment - *in situ*. This is most often achieved using Protected Areas, and these will be discussed. Examples of the designation of Important Bird Areas and Important Plant Areas are used to illustrate how protected areas help to conserve biodiversity.

[Go to Unit 5](#)



Iraq Marshes (Esmé Allen)

Quizzes: 4 Files: 4

Restricted: 'Available from 7 April 2014, 8:00 PM.'

UNIT 6 Conservation & Sustainable Use

This unit will introduce the concept of sustainable use. Examples will be drawn from plants (including agricultural crops) and animals.

[Go to Unit 6](#)



Harvesting sap from Dracaena on Socotra

Files: 2 Quiz: 1

Restricted: 'Available from 5 May 2014.'