

Report on a scientific symposium on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in Duhok Governorate, Kurdistan Region of Iraq

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On July 6, 2026, with the coordination of expert Ms. Saadia Falieh Hassoon, Director of the *Together to Protect Human and the Environment Association* in Erbil, and with the approval and support of the Director General of the Agriculture Directorate in Duhok and the Directorate of Agricultural Extension and Training, the Agricultural Extension and Training Department in Duhok organized a scientific seminar on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in the Duhok Governorate Center.



The lecture was titled "System of Rice Intensification (SRI): An Agricultural System resilience to the Climate Change." The lecture included: the justifications for implementing the System of Rice intensification in the Kurdistan Region, the objectives and principles of this system, and the positive results achieved from its application in the Al-Mishkhab Rice Research Station and in farmers' fields at central and southern Iraq.



At the end of the lecture, time was allocated for questions. The questions, inquiries, and suggestions of the attendees were answered. All the questions focused on how to develop the practices for implementing the SRI system with lowest cost, possibility of applying machines, equipment, and machinery appropriate to the principles of the SRI system.



At the conclusion of the seminar, I asked them to begin implementing the SRI system experiments using different varieties, organic manure, and water management scheduling, along with comparative field applications in farmers' fields with the organizing of the field days for rice farmers in the region. More than 30 technical and research staff members attended the seminar.



The seminar was attended by: Dr. Muhammad Sidqi from the expert team of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) within the Sabat agricultural project, the Director of the Agricultural Research Directorate in Duhok Governorate, Dr. Bazar Jamal, the Director of the Agricultural Extension Department in Duhok, Mr. Saad Allah and his extension staff, and many agricultural research and extension staff from the General Directorate of Agriculture in Duhok Governorate.

