

# NICOLE Foundation

For a healthier planet

Europe EQUIS User Group

June 2025





# NICOLE FOUNDATION

## Agenda and content

- Foundation Essentials
- Projects
  - Kakhovka
  - UNEA 6/12
  - Havana
  - NE Syria
  - Ukraine MEC
- Contribution



## CLEANING UP THE WORLD'S LEGACY POLLUTION

# Nicole Foundation Essentials

We focus on projects that have limited access to expert resources, because of conflicts of interest, complexity, or financial reasons.

We work with experts from the professional environmental community to bring solutions to communities facing pollution issues that pose an acute and serious threat to ecosystems and people.

We do this by partnering with NGOs, public institutions and donors.

Our projects are in the pre- or non-commercial sphere.

# Challenges

How can we help our beneficiaries (e.g. UNEP):

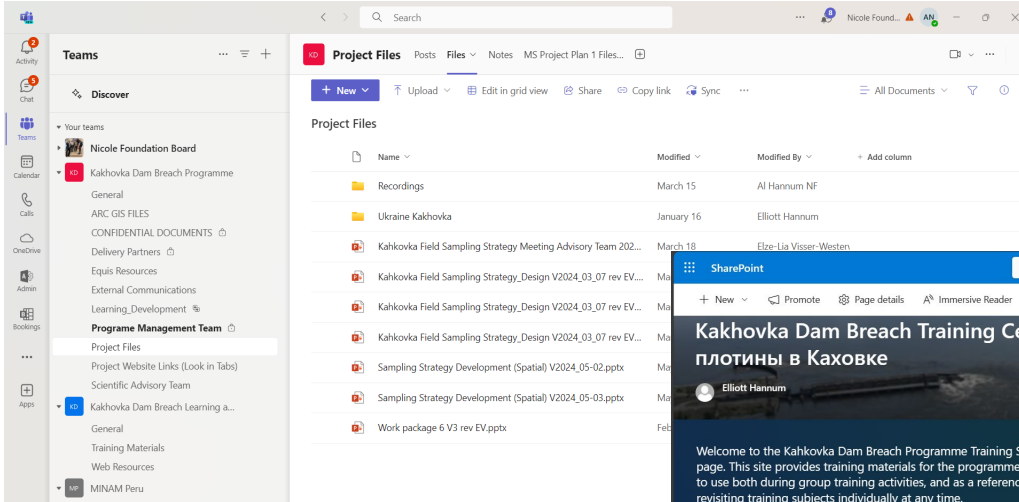
- better understand and coordinate the efforts of various environmental stakeholders in the countries they operate in?
- encourage efficient collaboration and reduce redundant efforts to maximize benefit and return on donor investment?
- coordinate and create teams from different organizations with different capabilities to collectively solve complex issues?
- shorten the recovery lifecycle to provide technically sound solutions faster?
- help build technical capacity among stakeholders and beneficiaries?
- provide opportunities for citizen science inputs to both produce robust data sets and increase civil society engagement in the scientific process?
- optimize communications, including simplifying complex scientific information & concepts, with its stakeholders?
- Measure impact?

# Solutions

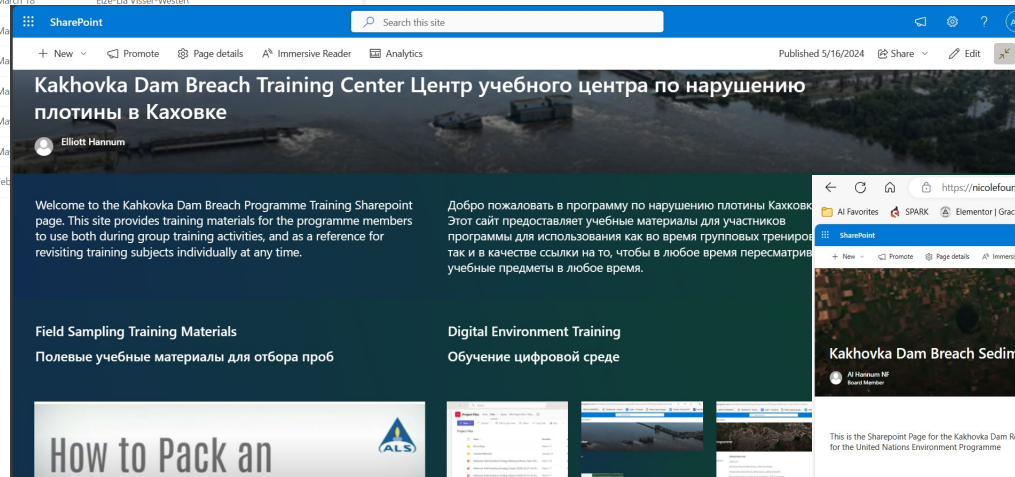
- We believe that a key element of the solution to these challenges is the creation of digital environments with customizable access levels that can be made available without cost to all stakeholders
- This includes providing capacity development for the various stakeholders to increase their “digital literacy” in the purpose and use of these tools
- The fast evolving “digital ecosystem” has created no- to very low cost solutions that can be applied – especially free to user tools like field data apps, survey tools, and web based storymaps

# Digital Programme Management Needs

## Organize & Manage Programme Information

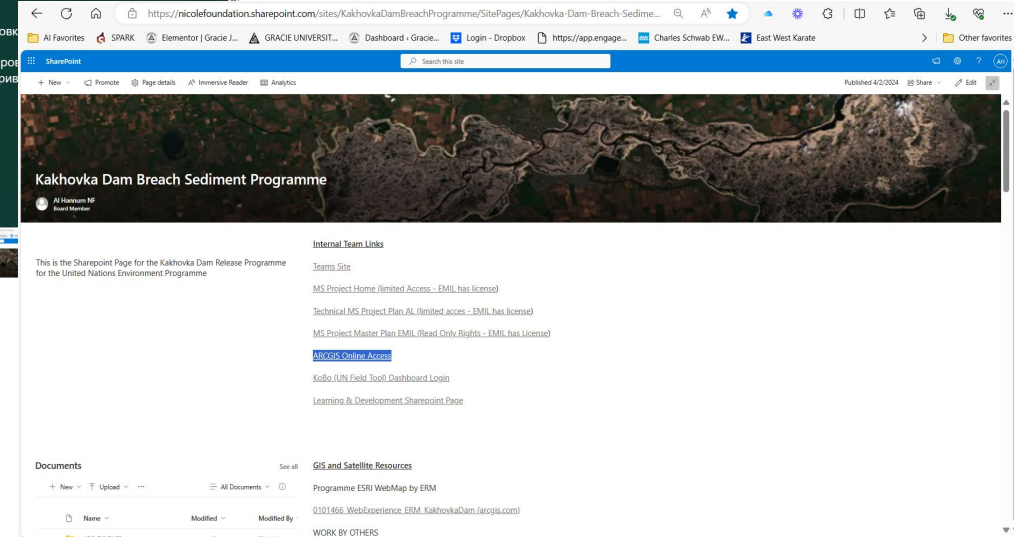


Train Stakeholders



Training Sharepoint Page

Communicate Outcomes



Programme External Sharepoint

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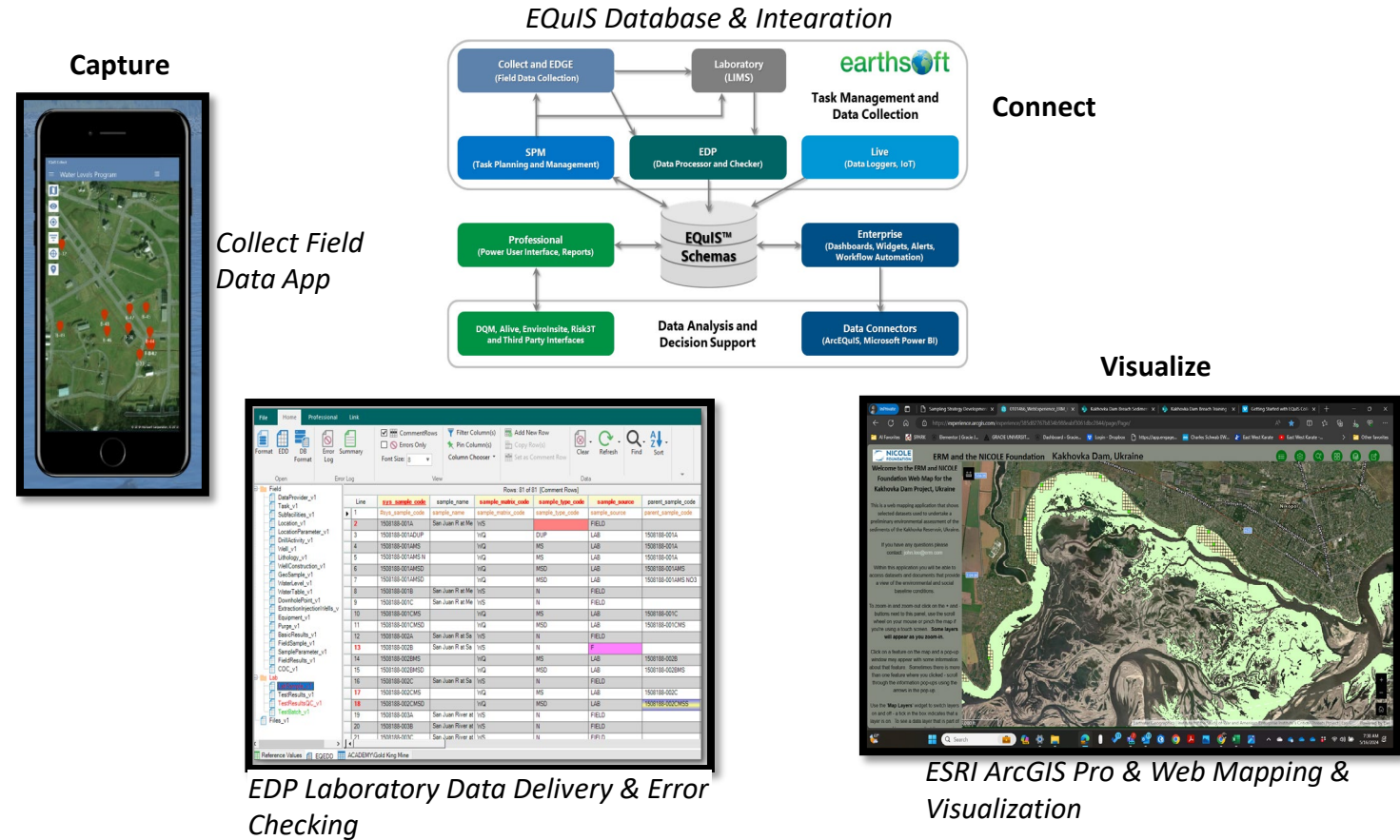
Programme Teams Environment

# Integrated Digital Data Management: Digital Environment

Given the need to collaborate among numerous stakeholders, and the desire to enable future investigations, a comprehensive digital programme environment was created that can be used by UNEP to identify and centralize data from any sampling activity in Ukraine

## Core Digital Programme Assets

- Programme Management Data
  - Programme Teams Site
  - Training Sharepoint Page
  - Learning & Development Teams Site
- Project level Data management
  - ArcGIS WebMap Showing Sampling Plan Location Layer
  - EQUIS Data Environment (Database, Data Integrator, Field Collect App)
  - Digital Surveys
  - Storymap Communications Tools



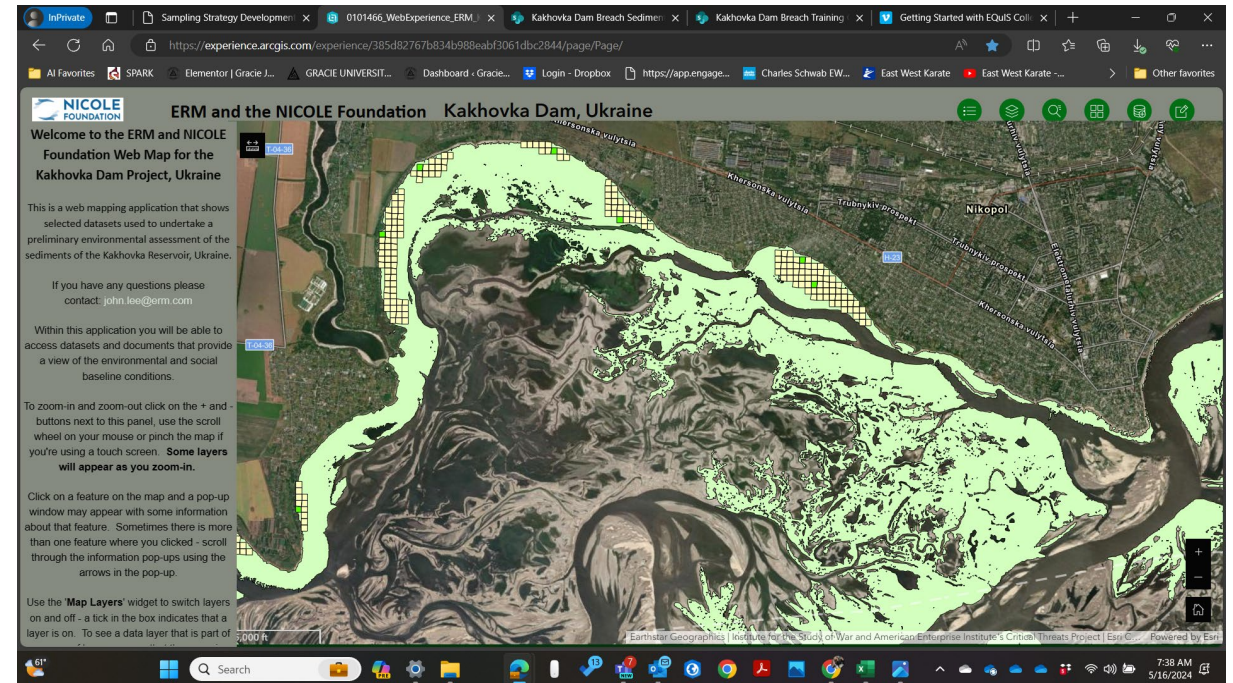
# Kakhovka Reservoir

## Assessing potential contaminant impact from newly exposed sediments

### Scope

- Historic impact analysis
- Data capture on bespoke GIS database
- Fieldwork app
- Capacity building
- Sediment sampling and analysis
- Exposure scenarios for agriculture and consumption
- Risk assessment
- Mitigation measures
- Stakeholder communications

Beneficiaries: UNEP, local Ukrainian authorities



Partners  
 ERM / ERM Foundation  
 Tauw / Tauw Foundation  
 DND Biotech  
 Liljemark Consulting  
 Institute for Climate-Smart  
 Agriculture  
 Inpolit  
 ALS  
 EarthSoft

NICOLE Foundation

# UN Environment Assembly Resolution 6/12

## Guidance on assessing environmental impact from armed conflict

### Scope

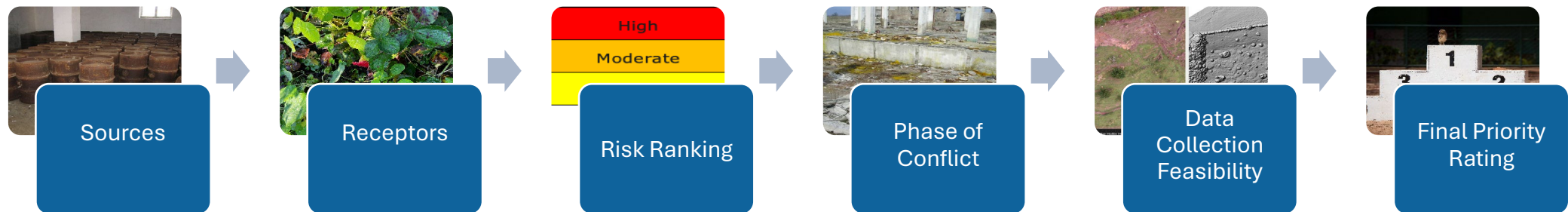
- Implementation plan
- Stakeholder engagement incl. citizen science and capacity building
- Data collection pre-, during and post-conflict
- Practical and user-friendly guidance
- Data storage and retrieval approaches
- Prioritization of possible impacts

		Pathway / Consequences	Environmental Receptors							
			Humans	Soil	Groundwater	Surface water	Marine	Air	Biodiversity	
Sources of Environmental Damage from Armed Conflict	Direct Sources	Explosives (shells, mines, chemical, depleted uranium, etc.)	e.g. acute impact, destruction of homes, displacement of people	Red	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
		Military installations	e.g. disruption to natural environment; pollution; military hardware	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
		Military transport	e.g. disruption to natural environment; pollution	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red
		Destroyed/damaged installations (industry, energy, wastewater, etc.)	e.g. release of pollutants	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
	Indirect Sources	Demolition debris	TBC	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
		Refugee camps	TBC	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
		Movement of refugees	TBC	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red
		Resource extraction driven by conflict (e.g. metals, fossil fuels, wood)	TBC	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
		Uncontrolled infrastructure	e.g. due to breakdown of normal governance	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red
		Uncontrolled waste management	e.g. due to breakdown of normal governance	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Uncontrolled wastewater management	e.g. due to breakdown of normal governance	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow		

In development

Beneficiaries: UNEP, users of the guidance

Partners: ERM, Tauw Foundation

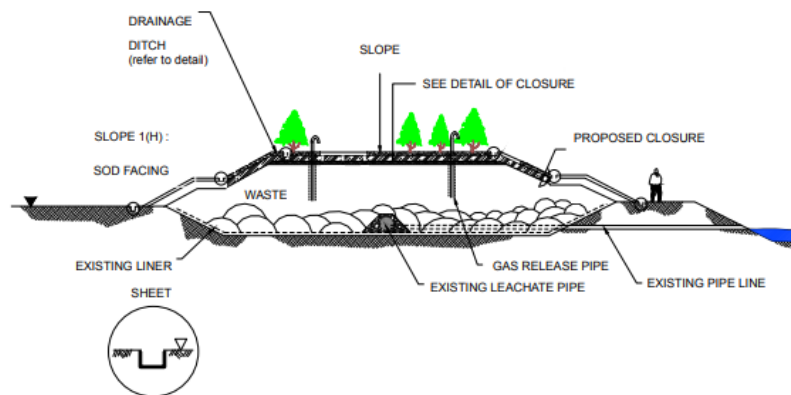


# Havana Calle 100 Municipal Landfill

## Feasibility study on closure and capping

### Scope

- Bottleneck analysis
  - Data gaps
  - Risk assessment continued use
- Drone measurements for profiling
- Cap and closure concept

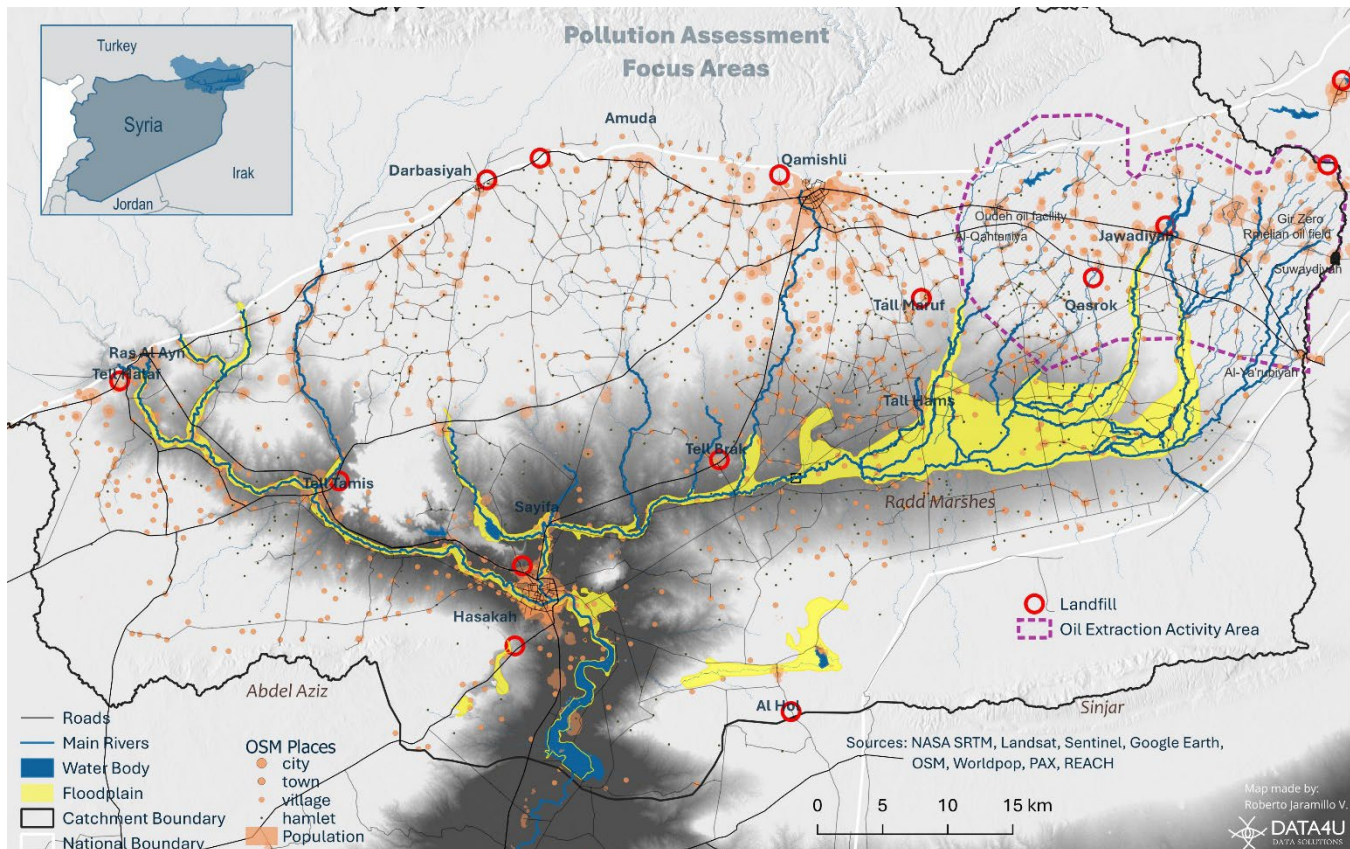


Pictures from: The Study on Integrated Management Plan of Municipal Solid Waste in Havana City – Final Report 2007 - JICA

Beneficiary: Municipality of Havana Partner: Pollux Consulting

# NE Syria Oil Pollution

Guidance on assessing environmental impact from armed conflict



## Scope

- Investigation concept
- Capacity building
- Conceptual site models
- Initial exposure assessment
- Sampling and analysis plan
- Acute risk mitigation

## Partners

Bruce Unger  
EarthSoft

Beneficiaries: RVO, UNICEF, UNEP, NES WASH Cluster

# Severity and Area of Impact on Water Bodies

Impacts to Water

Type of water body

Please select the type of water body from the list

Others

If others, please provide description of water use(s)

Impact on water body

Please put the impact level you see on the water body. Please refer to the attached images for reference.

Approximate Area of Impact in square meters

Please provide the approximate area of impact on the water body.



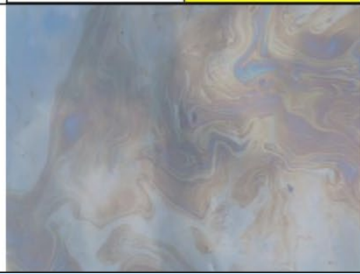
Select to reveal a dropdown menu

If impacts observed, select to reveal three options:

- River
- Lake
- Pond
- Canal
- Water Body - Others
- N/A

- Heavy Impact
- Moderate Impact
- Slight Impact

Select 'N/A' if no impacts observed

English	العربية	English	العربية	English	العربية
Heavy	ثَقِيل	Moderate	مَتَوَسِّط	Light	خَفِيف
					
Continuous layer of oil on the water surface		Discontinuous patches of oil on the water surface		Oily sheen on the water surface	

Tap here for help on defining impact level

# Severity and Area of Impact to Lands

## Impacts to Land

Type of lands that are impacted

Select all that applies

Select to reveal a dropdown menu (select all that apply)

Others (Area and level)

If others, specify the impacted area(s)

Select to reveal four options for each Land Use:

Impact on Shoreline sediments in square meters

Please put the impact level you see on the Shoreline sediments. Please refer to the attached images for reference.



Approximate Area of Impact on Shoreline sediments in square meters.

Please provide the approximate area of impact on Shoreline sediments.

Impact on Farmland.

Please put the impact level you see on the Farmland. Please refer to the attached images for reference.

Approximate Area of Impact on Farmland in square meters.

Please provide the approximate area of impact on Farmland.

Tap here for help on defining impact level (see next slide)

- Heavy Impact
- Moderate Impact
- Slight Impact
- None

Shoreline sediments
Farmland
Residential area
Commercial/Industrial
Area impacted - Others-Please describe
N/A

Select 'N/A' if no impacts observed

Impact severities and areas can be entered for up to 5 impacted land types

# Surrounding Land Use (*may or may not be visibly impacted*)

Surrounding Land Use

Land and Water uses - Select all that applies

Please select what are the primary usage(s) of the region being examined - Select all that applies.

Specify the land use, if others

Please specify the land use if you selected others.

Groundwater usages

Please specify in your own word what the groundwater is being used for.

Commercial/Industrial usages

Please specify in your own word the type of commercial or industrial activities.

Livestock/Crop being farmed

Please add the livestock and/or crop being farmed in the region in your own words.

Picture of the usage

Take a picture

Select a picture

Select all that apply from the dropdown menu

- Fishing
- Fishing - Within impacted area
- Fishing - Adjacent to impacted area

- Livestock watering
- Watering - Within impacted area
- Watering- Adjacent to impacted area
- Crop irrigation
- Crop irrigation - Within impacted area
- Crop irrigation - Adjacent to impacted area

- Livestock grazing
- Grazing - Within impacted area
- Grazing - Adjacent to impacted area
- Crop farming
- Crop farming - Within impacted area
- Crop farming - Adjacent to impacted area

- Homes/Dwellings
- Homes/Dwelling - Within impacted area
- Homes/Dwelling - Adjacent to impacted area

- Groundwater use
- Groundwater usage - Within Impacted area
- Groundwater usage - Adjacent to impacted area
- Commercial lands
- Commercial Lands - Within impacted area
- Commercial Lands - Adjacent to impacted area
- Industrial lands
- Industrial lands - Within impacted area
- Industrial lands - Adjacent to impacted area
- Others
- If others, please specify in the next section.

Click here to enable your phone/tablet's camera and photos of all nearby surrounding land uses

# Make a Rough Sketch

Rough sketch of the area

Draw here

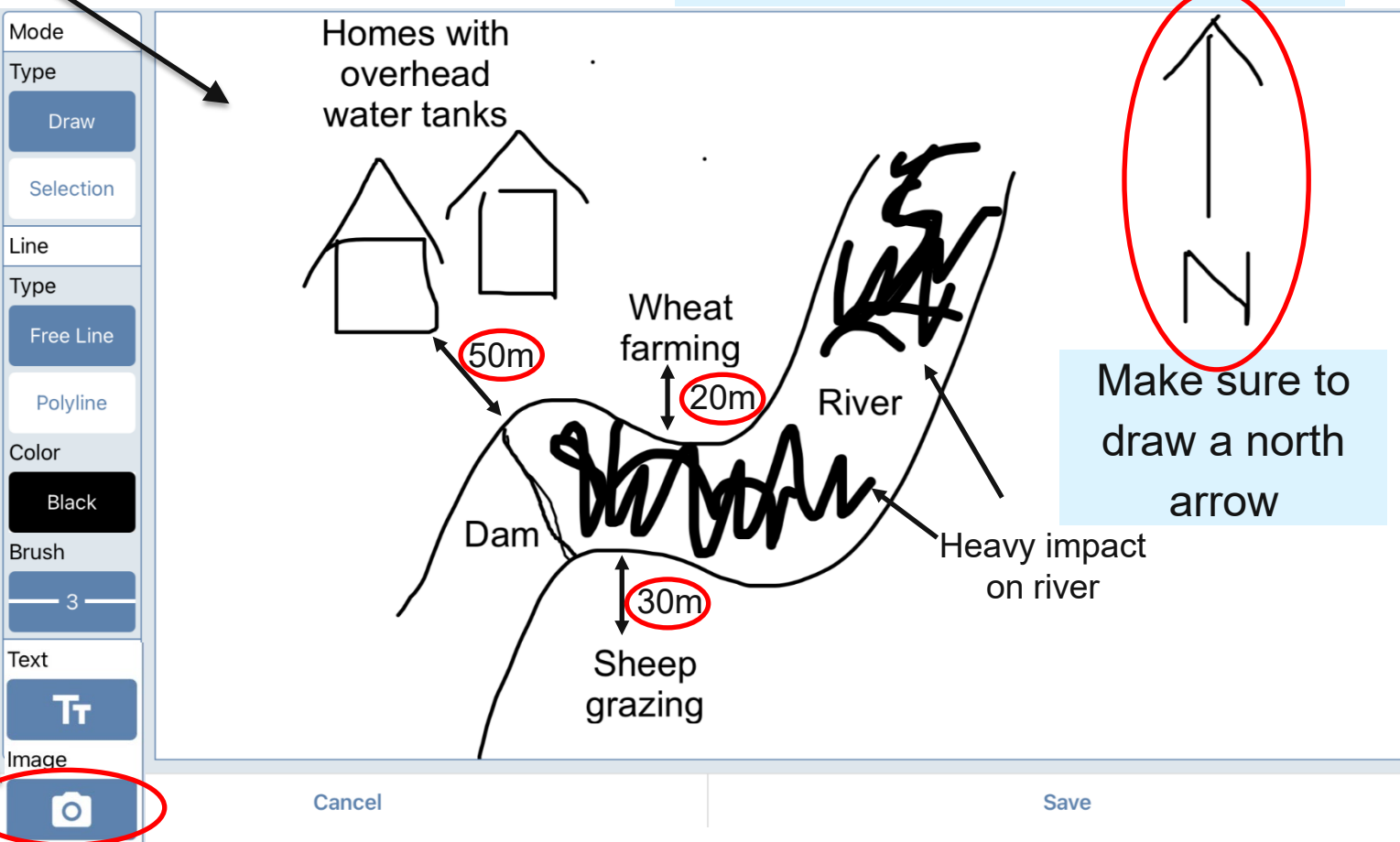
Note: It may be difficult to make accurate sketches on a mobile phone so if possible, a tablet (e.g. iPad or similar) should be used. If this is not possible, you should:

1. Make a hand-drawn sketch using pen and paper
2. Take photo of the sketch
3. Tap on 'Image'
4. Tap on 'Select a picture' to load the image from your device's image library

Choose an option

Take a picture

Select a picture



Very important to indicate the *distance* to any features of interest

Make sure to draw a north arrow

# Additional Information

14:03 Tue 20 May 72%

Cancel New Save

[Data collection of areas affected due to oil spills in the North east region of Syria.](#) [NESOilFCYR\\_1](#)

Please add the livestock and/or crop being farmed in the region in your own words.

Picture of the usage

Take a picture Select a picture

Rough sketch of the area. Please indicate a north arrow to understand the landscape better.

Draw here

Additional ^

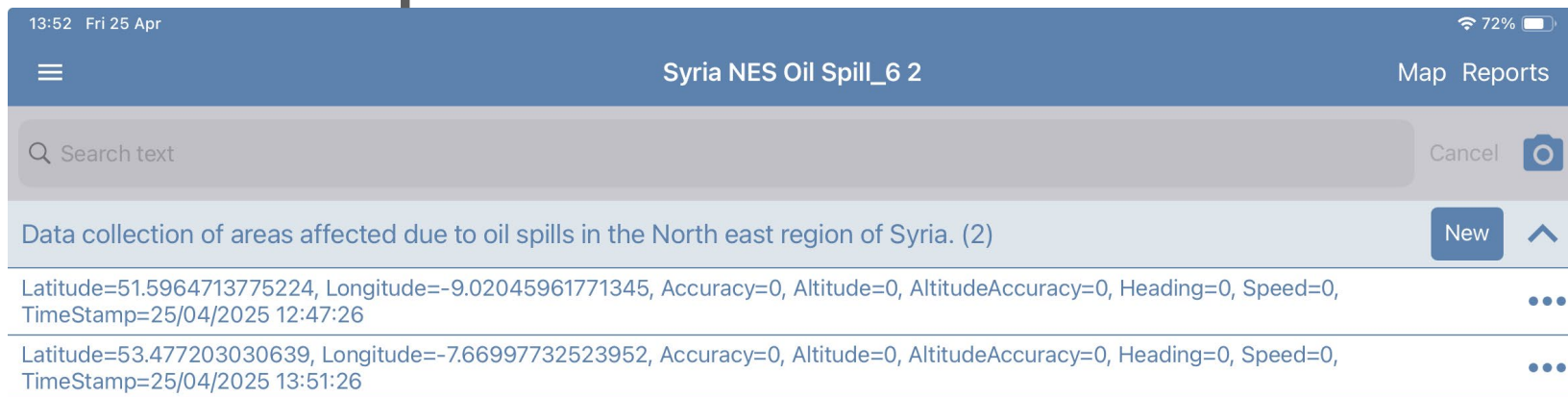
Additional observations

Use this space to make note of anything that may be of relevance that may not have been captured through the queries in the form, e.g. a receptor or land use that was not included in the drop-down menus provided in the form

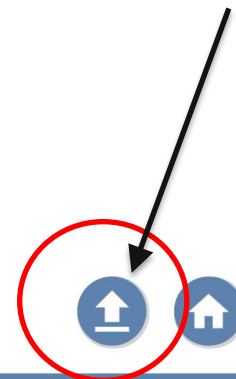


Remember to click on  
'Save' once you've  
completed the form

# Upload Completed Forms



At the end of each day of form completion, tap here to upload them to the server (once you have an internet connection)



# The NICOLE Foundation has needs at multiple levels



## Experts/volunteers

- Direct support to the administration and management of the foundation.
- Project-specific contribution, remote or in-country.
- Pro bono or reduced rate.

## Operating funds

- We require a strong executive team that understands the complexity and intricacies of managing multiple partners across the globe.
- Our ambition is to ensure our projects run smoothly, have the necessary support and tools to efficiently realize their goals, and project teams are safe and secure when conducting their work.

## Project funding

- At the basic level, this entails travel expenses to send an expert to work with the local beneficiary.
- Financial needs grow the further we engage in helping with specific and longer-term expertise, and where we need to pay for expertise and other requirements, such as preparing tender packages for multilateral funding and executing sampling and analysis.



# NICOLE FOUNDATION



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