**Environmental Research Center**

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**Abstract**

This project is research conducted for an environmental research center. Environmental research centers are centers where scientists can do their research and test their findings in the labs and do exhibitions for their findings every now and then and finally, they can open educational programs for people who want to know more about environmental issues. All these activities require their own spaces which will be discussed in this thesis later on. While also the problems that this country have with environmental research centers were discussed in this thesis. The problem is that this country has only one research center, which is in Sulaymaniyah, and it lacks the principles that an environmental research center should have, such as a quantity of natural light, sustainable building materials, and aesthetic interiors. Some researches were conducted to find a solution to these problems by collecting information from articles, pdfs, and architectural books. The goal of gathering all of these pieces of information is to construct a sustainable building that meets LEED certification standards, and is also appropriate for Iraq's hot climate, and is aesthetically pleasing. Another consideration is that the interior of the building should reflect the culture of the city where it will be built. Finally, the next semester's research center should be environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable. Most importantly, it should include a large gathering area in the heart of the building to serve as a socializing space for all building users, and the gathering area should be exposed to plenty of natural light to create a relaxing atmosphere. But while the space is exposed with a lot of natural light it should also be kept in mind that Iraq is a hot country so this should be taken into account while designing the openings to avoid overheating the space. 