

IRAQ (IRQ_S_083)

Through MARS, UNEP's International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO) turns satellite data into methane action. MARS is the only public global satellite-based system alerting governments and companies of extreme methane emissions. Using 30+ satellite instruments, combined with expert analysis and AI models, MARS detects major emission events and enables rapid response.



 **LAST UPDATED**
1 June 2026

 **SOURCE ID**
IRQ_S_083

 **COUNTRY**
Iraq

 **COORDINATES**
34.99329°, 43.5058°

 **SECTOR**
Oil & Gas

 **SOURCE TYPE**
Pipeline

 **TOTAL NUMBER OF PLUMES DETECTED**
13

 **DATE OF FIRST DETECTION**
27 July 2024

 **DATE OF REPORTED MITIGATION**
7 May 2026

 **ESTIMATED TOTAL VOLUME OF EMISSIONS**

18,600 tonnes

 **SAME CLIMATE IMPACT AS**

~356,000 cars

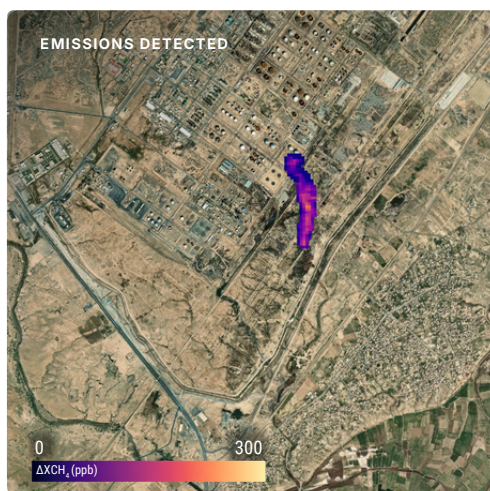
DRIVEN FOR A YEAR

DETECTION & ACTION

THE CAUSE AND THE SOLUTION

The emissions were caused by a leak in a corroded dry gas pipeline. The operator applied a protective coating to repair the corrosion, and emissions ceased.

The image shows a plume detected by NASA's EMIT in Iraq on 27 July 2024. No further emissions have been detected at the location since 7 May 2026.



In implementing MARS, UNEP collaborates with various institutional partners, including the World Bank, International Energy Agency, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, Universitat Politècnica de València, the Netherlands Institute for Space Research, the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites and the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service.

Based on satellite data used by MARS, it is not possible to confirm the presence of minimal methane emissions at a given location. Rather, this data can confirm the absence of emissions at levels higher than a given satellite's detection limit, which varies based on the technology, ground conditions and the weather.