CARDUCHI

CONSULTING · LONDON

SAMPLE EXTRACT

KURDISTAN'S OIL & GAS SECTOR REPORTS

Sarsang *Block*

A political, social, environmental and security risk assessment

Kurdistan Region of Iraq

01

ABOUT THIS REPORT

A producing block inside a cross-border conflict zone

Carduchi Consulting rates the Sarsang block as high risk across all four categories: political, social, environmental and security.

2	20m	4 / 4	2–3
PRODUCING FIELDS	BARRELS PRODUCED BY OCT 2019	CATEGORIES RATED HIGH	WEEKS OF FIELDWORK

This extract previews a field-based assessment prepared for an international oil company. The block lies in the mountains of Duhok province near the Turkish border, mostly within Chamanke sub-district of Amedi.

The area is politically settled at party level, but the surrounding mountains host a non-state armed group in conflict with Turkey, bringing regular airstrikes, sanctions exposure and complex security arrangements.

> *"The area is a conflict zone between a non-state armed group and a neighbouring state."*

The assessment reflects conditions at the time of fieldwork (late 2019). Carduchi can update any section to current conditions on request.

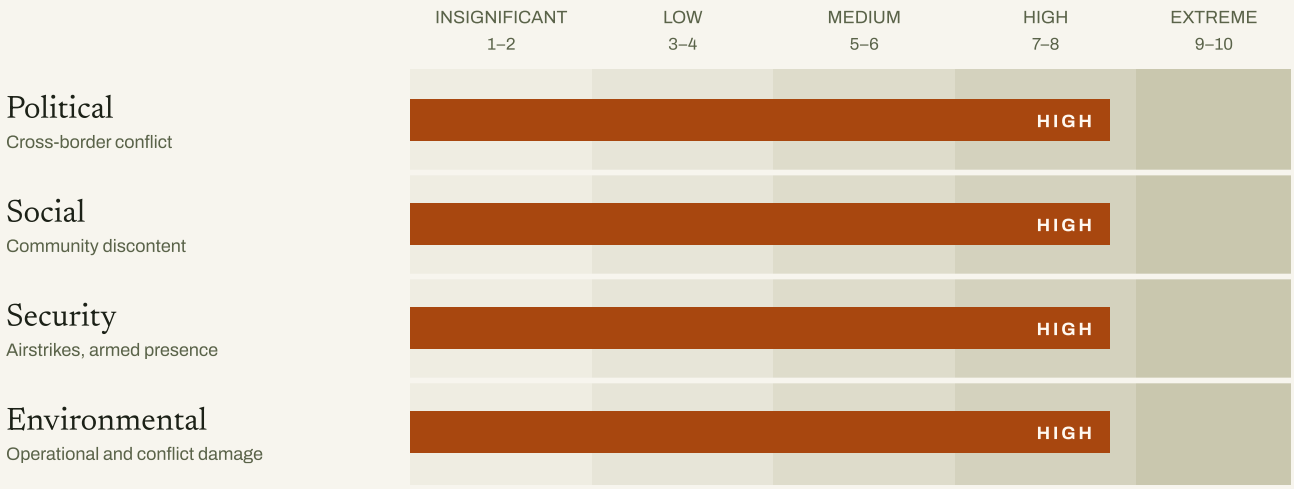


The Sarsang block (shaded) in northern Duhok, close to the Turkish border. Base map © OpenStreetMap contributors.

02

RISK SNAPSHOT

All four risk categories rate high



Carduchi Consulting risk scale, 1–10. Ratings reflect conditions at the time of fieldwork.

03

KEY FINDINGS

Political

HIGH

A non-state armed group controls the mountains around the block and is in open conflict with Turkey. Regional authorities are dominant but thinly present, and any operator faces sanctions risk.

Social

HIGH

Villages destroyed in the 1980s–90s were never rebuilt. Residents have protested over employment, compensation and engagement, and use local and social media to voice grievances.

Security

HIGH

Turkish airstrikes regularly hit the surrounding sub-districts, affecting civilians, farmland and infrastructure. Conflict has intensified since peace talks collapsed in 2015.

Environment

HIGH

Wildfires, flash floods, mines and strike damage combine with criticism of operational impacts on orchards, produce and public health. Local activists publicly raised concerns in 2019.



Strike damage near the block. Carduchi fieldwork.

04

CONTEXT

Decades of conflict shape the mountains around the block

1980s–90s — **Villages razed**
Hundreds of villages destroyed to separate fighters from civilians; many never rebuilt

1998 — **Armed camps established**
A non-state armed group sets up bases in the surrounding mountains

2007 — **Licence awarded**
The production sharing contract is signed with the regional government

2015 — **Peace talks collapse**
Cross-border conflict resumes, with frequent Turkish airstrikes

2019 — **20 million barrels**
Cumulative production passes 20 million barrels

2019 — **Carduchi field assessment**
Fieldwork in Chamanke and surrounding villages

05

SAMPLE EXTRACT

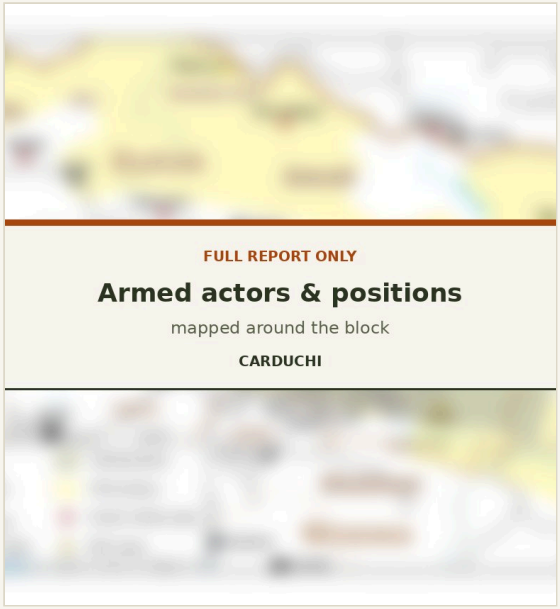
Production grows amid an armed standoff

Output is rising and new infrastructure is planned, while operations depend on arrangements in a contested landscape. The full report maps who controls the ground around the block.

FIELD	WELLS	OUTPUT (2019)
Swara Tika	4	Over 21,000 bpd capacity
East Swara Tika	1	About 5,600 bopd
Block target	—	27,000 bopd by end-2019

Source: public company and government disclosures, as of 2019.

> *Security here is negotiated, not provided.*



Areas of armed-group control and military positions around the block are mapped in the full report.



Chamanke and the surrounding mountains, photographed during Carduchi fieldwork.

06

INSIDE THE FULL REPORT

49 pages of field intelligence

01 **Executive summary & recommendations** — sanctions, conflict, engagement, environmental practice

02 **Block overview** — contract history, fields, infrastructure

03 **Political environment** — party control and the armed-group presence

04 **Cross-border conflict** — airstrikes, incidents and impact on residents

05 **Social environment** — demographics, tribes, economy, social needs

06 **Operator engagement** — social initiatives and community relations

07 **Environment** — key issues and operator legacy

08 **Security risk assessment** — militancy, war, crime and stakeholder profiles

METHODOLOGY

Each category is scored 1–10 against defined indicators, combining field observation, open-source research and expert interviews. The full report is available in English.

SCORE	RATING	MEANING
1–2	Insignificant	Negligible impact
3–4	Low	Rare, manageable
5–6	Medium	Intermittent risk
7–8	High	Frequent, persistent
9–10	**Extreme**	Disruption, staff safety

REQUEST THE FULL REPORT

Confident decisions start with *clarity*

The full report, an updated assessment, or a bespoke study of another block or asset in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region is available on request.

SPEAK WITH OUR TEAM

EMAIL
contact@carduchi.com

TELEPHONE
+44 (0)7882 933905

WEB
carduchi.com