



# هجرة آمنة

## HIJRA AMINA

SAFE MIGRATION FOR IRAQ



THE IRAQ-EU-IOM JOINTLY RUN ADVANCED ASSISTED MIGRATION INITIATIVE

### FLASH REPORT

*“These sessions were an eye-opening experience, providing insight into how migration research can be linked to the Iraqi context on the ground.”*

- Dr. Feras

MoHE Central Government



## HIJRA AMINA consolidates policy orientated migration research in Iraq

**Government of Iraq, Kurdistan Regional Government and civil society partners come together to enhance capacities in migration research**

From the 23rd-26th of November HIJRA AMINA brought together institutions and organisations with migration management functions with the aim of informing migration policy development. The training covered specialized research and data collection methods tailored to the current migration context of Iraq.

Participants from the Government of Iraq (GoI), Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) and civil society actors worked together to identify methods for conducting

research aimed at assessing the priority needs of refugees and IDPs in camps and informal settlements. The session created a platform for the development of partnerships and synergies between representatives from the two governments and civil society organizations (CSOs), allowing them the opportunity to share knowledge and practical experience.

NOV  
23-26  
2014





*“This training is extremely beneficial for my work and I will transfer the knowledge received to my colleagues, especially junior researchers who are eager to work but have limited research skills.”*

**– Ms. Khawla  
MoP Central Government**



*“I am inspired to build on what I have learned in this training and am very interested to be part of upcoming initiatives and trainings organised by HIJRA AMINA in order to build advanced and specialized knowledge.”*

**- Ms. Suham  
MoLSA KRG**

Dr. Vanessa Iaria, post-doctoral research fellow at the Council for British Research in the Levant, British Institute in Amman facilitated the training, focusing on both theoretical and practical components of migration research. She underlined the importance of quantitative and qualitative approaches to research as well as outlining the skills required to conduct migration research in Iraq, taking into account the cross-cultural context.

She was impressed by participants' interest, reflected in their numerous and very pertinent questions about the different migration research instruments. They engaged enthusiastically in individual and group exercises showing particular interest in mixing qualitative and quantitative research methods and exploring their potential application in complex emergency contexts.

Participants engaged in constructive and fervent dialogue surrounding best practice when transforming migration research into contextualized policy and practice and expressed readiness to engage in building a policy-oriented research network. The training translated theory into practice through role plays and simulations, and participants were enthusiastic to actively use the skills acquired through exercises like animated interview simulations.





*“This training is very helpful as we are helping refugees and IDPs on a daily basis, but there is no concrete policy framework to guide us.”*

**- Mr. Joshi**

**Advisor to the Erbil Refugee Committee**

Overall participants gained an understanding of research design, research ethics, data collection and data management alongside the skills required to utilise these tools. They expressed their determination to use the skills developed through this training towards evidence informed migration policy development.

The participatory approach and the feedback will ensure future tailored interventions based on the current emergency context. Two of the areas identified by participants as requiring more focus in terms of research were the needs of refugees and IDPs in camps and informal settlements and the impact of displacement on Trafficking in Persons in Iraq. Following the very constructive outcome of the training, HIJRA AMINA will promote this partnership and further enhance capacities to reinforce policy orientated migration research in Iraq.



*“We are working in the field of migration research within the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and this event is a good opportunity to network with Central Government in order to expand the scope of our activities.”*

**- Mr. Guiu,**

**Middle East Research Institute**

**Contact IOM Iraq:**

Phone: +962 6 56 59 660

iraqpublicinfo@iom.int

www.iomiraq.net

Issued Nov 2014