



هجرة آمنة
HIJRA AMINA
SAFE MIGRATION FOR IRAQ



FLASH REPORT

Counter Trafficking in Persons Training for Civil Society 26-23 August



“It is very exciting to see this collaboration amongst civil society, bringing together different expertise and experience. All the humanitarian work you do is extremely important and creating these links is a strong next step.”

Matthieu Goodstein, Attaché EU Delegation to Iraq

IOM collaborates with civil society in its campaign to raise awareness and fight human trafficking among vulnerable communities

Late August saw the International Organization for Migration in Iraq take a crucial step in its fight against Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) as the European Union (EU) funded HIJRA AMINA programme held a collaborative training with key civil society members of Iraq. The four days of training also brought together Al Amal and PAX, two EU funded NGOs recognized for holding key positions in Iraq's fight against THB via their work with youth to protect vulnerable communities and promote human rights within Iraq.

This event created the opportunity to build synergies with other EU funded initiatives in Iraq; IOM and civil society activists will continue to build on their achievements and develop their outreach. The bridges and alliances created between the two NGOs and IOM will drive the campaign to raise public awareness of the crime of THB as IOM enters the next phase of its Iraq-wide fight against human trafficking.

August
23-26
2015



“The use of role play is extremely helpful, it means we experience the complexities of assisting victims of trafficking and can develop our skills. Now all participants and we are ready to act to fight it.”

Hassan Wahab, Al Amal Organisation

The training sessions developed understanding of TiP, emphasized the importance of a victim centered approach, and created a forum for information sharing and constructive feedback. Participants including lawyers, social workers, field workers, trainers and members of Iraq’s printed and social media were extremely engaged, discussing and sharing best practice on every topic. HIJRA AMINA worked with participants to identify and develop the potential to use their unique capacities and outreach to raise awareness of trafficking in persons.

Participants contributed throughout the training with their own structured inputs and presentations, expanding the depth of topics covered and ideas developed. The sessions were greatly enriched through these lively dialogues amongst participants and trainers. The NGOs agreed that the pressing priority and next step must be awareness raising amongst the general public and more specifically, vulnerable communities to increase the instance of reporting of suspected cases of THB. They also identified the requirement for further links to be built amongst NGOs and also between NGOs and the



“Knowing that there are international organisations like IOM working so hard to assist vulnerable people within Iraq is extremely encouraging for us, it makes us feel like we are not alone and drives us to work harder in protecting the people of Iraq.”

Hazzim Safe, Editor in Chief of Almeezan Newspaper



“As an organization with wide outreach throughout Iraq, it was key for us to attend this training. We now have a way forward for this campaign and are now ready to train our partner organizations and staff in order raise the awareness of the Iraqi public.”

Ibtisam Lateef, Programme Coordinator-PAX

Government of Iraq, a dialogue that will be facilitated by HIJRA AMINA in the upcoming months.

Moving forward as partners Al Amal, PAX and IOM have fine-tuned the roll out of the awareness campaign and planned a collaborative effort to action this. IOM will lead the campaign to raise awareness amongst vulnerable communities within Central and Southern

Iraq in the Najaf, Basrah and Baghdad governorates in partnership with Al Amal and PAX, ensuring a comprehensive and holistic delivery of this campaign. Both NGOs expressed their dedication to engaging the Iraqi public in responding to this pressing concern and building practical understanding of the crime of THB throughout the country.



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