



هجرة آمنة
HIJRA AMINA
SAFE MIGRATION FOR IRAQ



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

FLASH REPORT



“Local authorities are key in the implementation of a coordinated emergency response. This is why I am pleased to see that our most important counterparts from the Southern Governorates of Iraq are building strong and long-lasting synergies.”

Thomas Weiss, IOM Iraq Chief of Mission

Oct
26-29
2015

IOM Iraq expands migration crisis management skills to the southern governorates of Iraq

From 26 to 29 October, IOM Iraq conducted a training course in Erbil on Skills Development for Enhanced Migration Crisis Management. Nineteen officials from local authorities and central government institutions of the southern governorates

of Iraq attended the training, representing the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD), the Directorate of Health (DoH), the Governorate's Office and the Provincial Council of the governorates of Basrah, Thi-Qar, Muthana and Missan.



“We really appreciate the efforts of IOM experts to provide us with a comprehensive understanding of the complexities of migration crises, and to pass on their knowledge and experience in immediate humanitarian assistance, early recovery, transition and long-term development.” **Thaer Abbas Ma’atooq, Ministry of Migration and Displacement, Thi-Qar**



“The Governorate Office in Erbil plays a crucial role in the current emergency response, and can be presented as an example of how local authorities can proactively and efficiently implement humanitarian projects in coordination with International Organizations and local NGOs.”

Vian Rasheed, Senior Decision Maker, ERC

This training is part of a series of capacity building initiatives undertaken by IOM under the EU-funded Hijra Amina (HA) programme, which aims at strengthening the capacities of provincial authorities and other locally based central institutions throughout Iraq. After similar trainings in Babylon, Baghdad, Kerbala, Missan, Najaf and Qadissiya in June 2015, and in the Kurdistan Regional Government in September 2015, the southern governorates had the opportunity to enhance their capacities in migration crisis management.

The training was facilitated by IOM Iraq’s emergency response experts and relied on the IOM global Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF). Guest speakers Ms. Vian Rasheed, Senior Decision Maker, and Mr. Peter Joshi, Senior Humanitarian Advisor, of the Erbil Refugee Council (ERC), focused on their day-to-day experience in responding to the migration crisis in Erbil and provided insightful observations on challenges and lessons learned, and on the essential partnership with the UN through the Humanitarian Country Team. The guest speakers also underscored the need to build sustainable capacities and skills to respond efficiently to the current situation.



“The sustainability of the current emergency response is not only the responsibility of the Ministry of Migration and Displacement. Local authorities must be able to maintain long-term efforts to guarantee durable solutions are successfully implemented.”

**Wameed Khudeir Abbas,
Governorate Office,
Basrah**

The training provided an interactive and participative forum that encouraged participants to present their views and experiences and discuss how the framework and practical tools presented in the workshop can be applied in the context of south Iraq. Through a series of practical sessions, group activities and case studies, participants brainstormed on

the role of their respective institutions in relation to the planning and implementation of an emergency response as a means to support the efforts of the GoI in dealing with the crisis.



“It is essential to build the capacities of local authorities on migration crisis response, as the main implementing partners of UN agencies.” **Vian Rasheed, Senior Decision Maker, ERC**

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