



Enhancing Migration and Border Management Capacity in Lebanon: *IOM organizes training for senior officials from the General Directorate of General Security*

10 – 19 March – IOM Lebanon organized a Training of Trainers (ToT) in Beirut aimed at providing support and strengthening the capacities of the Government of Lebanon on passport examination procedures. The training course prepared and equipped 20 Lebanese border officials with the necessary skills and expertise to deliver trainings on good practices concerning passport examination to their colleagues deployed at border posts with Syria. The training was organized within the framework of activities conducted under the U.S. Government funded project “Multi-Sector Assistance to Populations in Lebanon Affected by the Syrian Crisis”.

The training was delivered by IOM’s Immigration and Border Management Regional Thematic Specialist for the Middle East and North Africa, Donato Colucci, and comprised of two sessions; a three-day training of trainers course on training techniques and a five-day training course on passport examination procedures.

The first part of the training covered specific topics on proper training techniques such as “developing a training plan” and “methods of delivering training sessions”. The second part of the training focused on the specific type of security paper and the most common printing techniques used for producing genuine travel documents.

The training also highlighted the most common security features utilized to protect travel documents, in particular the watermark and intaglio which are easy to identify and at the same time very difficult for forgers to imitate. Exercises conducted during this session allowed document inspectors to examine and familiarize themselves with the unique characteristics of both genuine and counterfeited travel documents in order to better identify all possible cases of passport imitations and alterations.



IOM immigration border management specialist training on passport examination techniques © IOM 2014

The delivery method of the entire training followed a highly interactive structure that included breakout sessions, short plenary presentations, simulation activities, trainee presentations, open dialogue and self-evaluation.

The pedagogical approaches utilized throughout the training program incorporated open discussions, exercise assignments, plenary sessions and presentations accompanied by detailed and thorough explanations by the trainer. This combination of approaches ensured that participants were fully engaged in the learning process and able to learn multiple types of training methodologies for future use in their role as trainers.

By the completion of the IOM training programme participants had acquired the necessary knowledge and were thoroughly prepared to adapt international best practices to the Lebanese context. As a direct result of the training sessions, participants learned and were able to use new terminology for the assessment of passports and also

attained valuable technical expertise on the most modern and efficient tools used for passport examination, including UV magnifying lamps.

With on-going border management trainings, IOM is committed to assisting governments in the Middle East and North Africa region in fulfilling their developmental goals. IOM activities in the region aim to achieve a high performance and sustainable results in establishing rights-based immigration and border management through enhancing the capacities, knowledge and skills of border officials.

As the Syrian conflict continues to significantly impact neighboring countries and more and more people are forcibly displaced, IOM capacity building activities at border crossings are vital to the protection of all vulnerable populations.



For more information please contact Donato Colucci at dcolucci@iom.int

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Tel: +20 2 273 651 40/1 • Fax: +20 2 273 651 39 • rocairo@iom.int • <http://www.iom.int>

