



IOM and Iraqi Migration Management Ministries join forces to develop response framework to Iraq crisis

Erbil 14-16 July 2014 - Senior migration management officials from the Central Government of Iraq (CG) and Kurdish Regional Government (KRG) combined efforts to outline a tailored response methodology to the unfolding crisis in Iraq, supported by the “Planning in Migration Crises” training provided by IOM.

The three-day training, brought together the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD) in CG, and the Bureau of Migration and Displacement (BMD) in KRG, in order to build upon their understanding of emergency situations and strengthen their capacities for a swift, adaptable and effective response to better serve the humanitarian needs of displaced Iraqis.

IOM Iraq, in collaboration with IOM’s Regional Emergency and Post-Crisis Specialist, Rana Jaber, trained 11 officials in total, focusing on the following critical capacity-building elements:

- Analysis of crises stages;
- IOM’s Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF) and its efficacy in establishing a basis for immediate crises responses;
- Tailoring the MCOF model to the Iraqi context;
- Strengthening inter-ministerial coordination; and,
- Enhancing procedures for efficient operational responses and immediate interventions in terms of data management, outreach mechanisms and tailored assistance.

Since January more than 650,000 Iraqis have been displaced due to the ongoing crisis. Most of the displaced populations in immediate need of assistance are now located within the central governorate of Ninewa, or have sought refuge in the



Kurdish Region of Iraq (KRI). As a response the MoMD- led ‘Emergency and Crisis Committee’, in coordination with BMD, other government institutions, and relevant humanitarian actors, is registering internally displaced persons (IDPs), tracking their movements, and distributing essential humanitarian assistance.

The training was encouraged by the presence of Deputy MoMD Minister, Dr. Salam Al-Khafaji, who highlighted the importance of a humane approach to crisis response, “Your participation in this training is critical for the ministry at this time,” he said, “The individuals you deal with are going through unfamiliar situations in terms of psychological, social and economic issues and are relying on your support.”

Participants identified forced-migration-related effects of the current Iraqi crisis before addressing other critical migration management areas for Iraq. These were Humanitarian Border Management (HBM) and counter-trafficking, both of which

require emergency measures such as rapid screening to ensure that human rights are upheld at all phases of the displacement. Participants then formulated an immediate plan of action covering prioritization, communication management and resource allocation for a coordinated response to migration crises.



The event was organized within the framework of the EU-funded HIJRA AMINA programme, which supports the Government of Iraq (GoI) through technical provision to enhance efforts in providing enhanced assistance to displaced populations in Iraq.

This project is funded by the EU



For any other questions please contact Alvina Samjawon at asamjawon@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>

