

## **LERC Attends LAU Workshop on Knowledge Production in Migration Research**

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The Institute for Migration Studies at the Lebanese-American University (IMS-LAU), Lebanon, in association with Centre population et développement (CEPED) in Paris, France, held a workshop at LAU's Beirut campus, on April 12, 2013, under the title of "*What Do We Know About Migration and Lebanon? An Assessment of Knowledge Production.*"

Lama Kabbanji (CEPED-IRD) and Paul Tabar (IMS-LAU) organized the workshop. Participants from various Lebanese and French universities and research centers joined them at the discussion table.

Dr. Eugene Sensenig-Dabbous, Adjunct Research Associate, Dr. Suzanne Menhem, Research Associate, and Michel Ghanem, Intern, all represented the LERC at the workshop.



*LERC attends LAU workshop on knowledge production in migration in Lebanon (April 12, 2013)*

Each participant discussed his/her research and the methodology used to conduct it, concluding their presentations with the various obstacles faced in the course of their research. Toward the

end of the workshop, there was a clear consensus that such obstacles were hindering research efforts to further understand migration issues to and from Lebanon, mainly related to the availability of data and literature.

Differences between the scopes of research in various languages were debated, including the lack of digitized works in Arabic, effectiveness of some methodologies, and gender issues. A number of realizations were also made as to the people and institutions conducting research on this topic outside Lebanon. It was found that scholars, mainly of Lebanese origins, were the ones taking the initiative to study issues around migration, chiefly from the perspective of their host countries.

The participants concluded the workshop with general comments, stating that more funding and cooperation was needed to carry out research on the root causes of modern migration, gender roles, legal status of foreign workers, and the issue of Syrian refugees in Lebanon.