

IOM CONDUCTS INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT TRAINING AT NDU

*Jasmin Lilian Diab, LERC Staff
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The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in collaboration with the Lebanese Emigration Research Center (LERC) of the Faculty of Law and Political Science (FLPS) held a four-day training on ‘International Migration and Development’ at Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) main campus from the 10th and the 13th of February 2015.



From left: Mr. Tauhid Pasha, Dr. Nada Saad-Saber, Dr. Maan Bou-Saber, Mr. Suheil Matar, Mr. Fawzi Al Zioud, Dr. Ghazi Asmar, Mr. Michael Newson, and Dr. Guita Hourani (NDU, Feb. 2015)

IOM designed the training modules “to provide trainers, policymakers and practitioners with structured training sessions covering both theoretical and practical elements intended to strengthen their professional capabilities. The modules promote a highly participatory training methodology, fostering teamwork and participants’ engagement in stimulating discussions and reflection.”

The training is constituted of 7 modules with lectures and group exercises that addressed the following issue areas: The migration–development nexus, Frameworks for cooperation on migration and development, Migration and development policy and planning, strengthening the collaboration between policymakers and Diasporas for development, Facilitating labor mobility, and mobilizing the financial resources generated through migration.

The opening of the training was held under the auspices of the President of NDU, Fr. Walid Moussa, represented by Mr. Suheil Matar, Vice President for Public Affairs and Communication. Director of the VPAC's office Dr. Nada Saad-Saber opened the ceremony and introduced IOM and NDU representatives who were: Mr. Fawzi Al Zioud IOM Representative in Lebanon, Dr. Maan Bou-Saber Dean of the Faculty of Law and Political Science, Dr. Ghazi Asmar Assistant Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Dr. Khaled Abdel Mageed Director of Secretariat of the Sudanese Working Aboard of the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs of Sudan, Mr. Michael Newson IOM Regional Labour Migration/Migration and Development Specialist, Mr. Tauhid Pasha IOM Senior Specialist on Migration and Human Development, and Dr. Guita Hourani Director of the Lebanese Emigration Research Center.



Front left to right: Dr. G. Hourani, Mr. M. Newson, Dr. M. Bou-Saber, H.E. Dr. Ahmad Hassan Ambassador of Sudan in Lebanon, Mr. F. Al Zioud IOM Rep in Lebanon, and Dr. K. Abdel Mageed of Sudan (NDU, Feb. 2015)

The approximately 30 participants came from Egypt, Sudan, Yemen, Italy and Lebanon, as well as from government, local, non-governmental and academic institutions. The participants attended all the sessions and showed immense interest across the training; their professional and academic backgrounds gave each module the added value needed to become more relatable and less theoretical.

Guest speakers came from IOM, NDU/FLPS, the Investment Development Agency of Lebanon (IDAL), the International Labor Migration (ILO), the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies (LCPS), the United Nation Development Program (UNDP) Live-Lebanon Program, Byblos Bank, and the International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD).

The closing ceremony was attended by H. E. Dr. Ahmad Hassan Ambassador of Sudan in Lebanon, Mr. Al Zioud, Dr. Bou-Saber, Mr. Newson, Dr. Hourani and Dr. Elie El-Hindy Chairperson of the Department of Government and International Relations.

Following a closing word from each of the aforementioned attendees and from two participants and one trainer, each participant was handed a certificate of completion for his/her successful participation in the training.



Participant Ms. Suad Mohammed Elhilo Mohammed receives her certificate from H.E. Dr. Ahmad Hassan (FRIENDS HALL, NDU, Feb. 2015)

IOM trainers, participants, as well as the guest speakers informed LERC and IOM that the training was a success. Everyone appreciated the hospitality provided and the welcoming spirit at NDU. Participants who stayed in the Guest House from Lebanon or abroad were satisfied with their accommodations and loved the campus.

Mr. Fawzi Al Zioud, Mr. Michael Newson, Ms. Nur Fitrana and Ms. Dima Haddad of IOM have expressed interest in continuing cooperation with LERC and NDU. A debriefing meeting will take place in the coming few weeks between IOM and LERC for debriefing and for planning future activities of common interest.