

LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

Digital Explorers - Iraq Edition

About the Project

Digital Explorers - Iraq Edition aims to create an enabling environment for digital talent development and mobility partnership between Lithuania and Iraq. Building on the experience and knowledge gained throughout the implementation of Digital Explorers Project in 2019 between Lithuania and Nigeria, the *Iraq Edition*, with a more exploratory and dialogue-oriented approach, seeks to provide Iraqi youth with advanced digital skills training while contributing to strengthening Iraq's higher value-added digital economy and relations between the ICT sectors of the two countries, as well as with labour market stakeholders.



Partners

This MPF project is implemented by VšĮ OSMOS Global Partnerships (Lithuania).



Countries

Lithuania, Iraq



Time frame

September 2023 – June 2025 (22 months)



Budget

EUR 399,458.02 (95% from AMIF)

Activities



Skills Enhancement

Under Digital Explorers - Iraq Edition, a 4–6-month training programme will be implemented for 15-25 aspiring Iraqi ICT professionals. The training will not only increase participants' skills in selected fields, but also serve as an analytical tool to understand existing qualifications and skills gaps among young Iraqis interested in building their ICT careers in Iraq and internationally. To complement the training, the project will organise a job fair to facilitate young Iraqi ICT specialists' access to internship or employment opportunities and maximise their exposure to new career opportunities.



Labour Market Needs Assessment

With the aim of creating a long-term and mutually beneficial partnership between the two countries involved, the project will gear towards an in-depth understanding of the needs of the Iraqi digital economy. This will be done through analysis and relationship building with various stakeholders in the Iraqi ICT sector and labour market, such as universities and training providers, tech hubs, private sector and governmental institutions. The analysis will focus on two main areas: 1) reviewing ICT curricula and educational frameworks and 2) identifying needs and interests for capacity building and infrastructure modernisation of public institutions that implement labour market policies.



Policy Dialogue and Knowledge Exchange

In order to facilitate policy dialogue and exchange, Digital Explorers – Iraq Edition envisages multi-stakeholder events on best practices in the labour market, both internal and external, and migration management. The policy dialogue will be based on the interests and needs of major stakeholder groups. By creating an additional space for exchange and communication, the project will provide several opportunities for bilateral exchanges between Lithuanian and Iraqi officials on technical aspects of migration management and opportunities provided by the digital economy. The ultimate goal of these activities will be to create a concrete roadmap anticipating the next steps for sustainable and long-lasting bilateral cooperation on the issues addressed. The project will also seek to create a positive and constructive narrative about migration in Lithuania and Iraq, allowing these countries to capitalise on the momentum and begin a discourse about diversifying economic partnerships and cooperating for innovation.

Implemented by



The Migration Partnership Facility



Migration Partnership Facility

This project is awarded and contracted in the framework of the Migration Partnership Facility (MPF), an EU-funded initiative implemented by ICMPD in support of the external dimension of the EU migration policy. Through its grants, the MPF facilitates the execution of projects to strengthen dialogue and cooperation on migration and mobility between Member States and partner countries outside the EU.

Funded by the European Union



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Contracted by ICMPD



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