

The First National Plan to Promote Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration



2025

Republic of Iraq

Ministry of Migration and Displaced

In the name of God, the most gracious, the most merciful

“Indeed, those who have believed and those who have emigrated and fought in the cause of Allah - those expect the mercy of Allah. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.”

The Holy Quran (The Cow: 218)*

* This translation of the Quranic verse is based on the version provided by Sahih International.

Words from Her Excellency the Minister of Migration and Displaced

In implementation of the directives of His Excellency the Prime Minister, Mr. Mohammed Shia' Al Sudani, communicated to us through the Prime Minister's Office letter No. (2441256) dated 17/10/2024, the Diwani Order No. (241270), which includes the formation of a committee to prepare the **First National Plan to Promote Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration**, in cooperation and coordination with the relevant authorities. The committee is chaired by us and includes representatives from concerned ministries and institutions.

Based on the State's commitment to protecting the rights of migrants and regulating migration pathways in a manner that ensures human dignity and safeguards the interests of the country, the urgent need has arisen to establish clear mechanisms and practical procedures that contribute to strengthening safe and orderly migration policies and ensure the sustainable integration of returnees and migrants into society.

This plan represents a fundamental step towards enhancing national and international cooperation in the field of migration, through the development of supportive programs for migrants and the provision of economic and social opportunities that contribute to their stability and integration, thereby achieving mutual benefit for the state and society.

In conclusion, I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to all those who supported and cooperated with the Ministry in preparing this national plan. We call upon all governmental and non-governmental institutions to intensify efforts to ensure its optimal implementation.

May God bless our efforts and lead us to a successful outcome.

Evan Faek Gabro

Minister of Migration and Displaced

Plan Supervision

Her Excellency /**Ms. Evan Faek Gabro**

Review and Preparation

The committee formed according to the letter of the Prime Minister's Office by Diwani Order No. (241270) No. (2441256) on 17/ 11/2024 and its annex to Diwani Order No. (241090) No. (2435505) on (10/10/2024)

National Drafting Team

#	Name	Place of work
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2	Mrs. Nagham Ishaq Zia	State Council - Member
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5	Mr. Khader Mansour Eyal	Secretary of the National Intelligence Council - National Security Advisor - Member
6	Mr. Maytham Salman Dawood	Head of Migration Department at the Office of the Undersecretary for Bilateral Relations – Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Member
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10	Mr. Mohammed Mashhadani	International Organization for Migration (IOM) - Member
11	Mr. Usama Hammodat	International Organization for Migration (IOM) - Member

Activities of the Diwani Order Committee (241090)

1. The timeframe of the committee's work from (4/11/2024 to 16/6/2025)
2. The number of meetings conducted by the Committee is (5) meetings.
3. The number of meeting minutes issued by the Committee is (5) meeting minutes.
4. The number of workshops discussing the plan are (2) workshop conducted by IOM.

Table of Content

INTRODUCTION	1
VISION	3
MISSION	3
GOAL	3
SLOGAN	3
LOGO	3
UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS 2016-2030	4
GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF THE PLAN	4
CORE PRINCIPLES	6
IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES	6
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THE PLAN	6
EXPECTED RESULTS	7
PLAN PILLARS	7
REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPOSED PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS	12
CLOSING REMARKS	12

Introduction

The Federal Government of the Republic of Iraq and the Government of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq are concerned with the welfare of Iraqi citizens both **inside and outside the country**. They strive to guarantee their rights, preserve their dignity, and ensure a decent life for them and their families.

Iraqis have migrated to many different countries, with one of the most significant migration waves occurring in 2014, when many Iraqis traveled to European countries and others. With the increasing need of Iraqi youth for sustainable employment opportunities, and in light of the threats and risks associated with irregular migration - such as drowning at sea and falling victim to human trafficking and organized crime - safe, orderly, and regular migration has become an urgent necessity. This requires precise guidance to ensure legal and safe pathways that protect their rights and uphold their dignity.

In this context, the Iraqi government has prepared the First National Plan to Promote Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration, which aims to regulate migration and ensure its alignment with national development needs and national security.

This plan is based on the **National Migration Management Strategy of 2020** and is integrated with the **Comprehensive National Plan to Reduce the Risks of Irregular Migration (2023)** and the **Integration Plan for Returned and Deported Iraqis from Abroad for the same year**, making it part of a comprehensive vision for managing the migration dossier. It aspires to strengthen legal migration pathways for work, study, and other legitimate purposes.

The Diwani Order Committee supervises the implementation of this plan in cooperation with the relevant ministries and institutions. It was formulated based on extensive discussions and regular meetings to ensure the integration of roles and responsibilities.

Despite ongoing efforts to reduce the risks of irregular migration and support returnees and deportees, this plan seeks to establish sustainable legal alternatives that guarantee the development of Iraqi youth skills, serving the highest national interests and aligning with the economic and urban renaissance witnessed by Iraq.

The Main pillars of the Plan:

- 1. Legal and institutional:** Updating national legislation to ensure that safe migration is regulated in
- 2. Economic and Social:** Designing programs to support returnees and potential migrants through job opportunities and vocational training to increase their productivity and enhance their contribution to the national economy.
- 3. Awareness and Information:** Providing awareness programs to increase community awareness of migration issues and provide accurate information to potential migrants about the risks and opportunities associated with migration.
- 4. Training and capacity building:** Strengthening the capacity of governmental and non-governmental institutions and migration practitioners at the national and local levels to improve the quality of migration-related services.
- 5. Migration Management:** Develop effective migration tracking and regulation systems, and improve institutional capacities to ensure that policies are implemented in a transparent and sustainable manner.
- 6. Regional and international cooperation:** Building partnerships with countries and international organizations to coordinate efforts and exchange experiences on migration management and protection of migrants' rights.

The **five-year** plan will be implemented according to a detailed timeline, supported by clear performance indicators to track progress. The Ministry of Migration and Displaced will establish a regular monitoring and evaluation mechanism to ensure objectives are met, challenges are addressed, and implementation successes are reinforced.



Vision

Iraq is at the forefront of countries in organizing safe migration and providing legal pathways that meet the needs of migrants and returnees, contributing to sustainable development.

Mission

Promoting safe and orderly migration by empowering Iraqis to make informed migration decisions and creating enabling conditions for their integration into their communities, ensuring better opportunities for living and working within their homeland.

Goal

To establish a comprehensive framework to enhance safe, orderly, and regular migration in Iraq through the development of sustainable policies and mechanisms that ensure the protection of Iraqi migrants' rights and provide opportunities for them

Slogan

Your Opportunities Start in Your Homeland

Logo



United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2016-2030

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Eradicate Poverty | 10. Reduced Inequalities |
| 2. End Hunger | 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities |
| 3. Good Health and Well-being | 12. Responsible Consumption and Production |
| 4. Quality Education | 13. Climate Action |
| 5. Gender Equality | 14. Life Below Water |
| 6. Clean Water and Sanitation | 15. Life on Land |
| 7. Affordable and Clean Energy | 16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions |
| 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth | 17. Partnerships for the Goals |
| 9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure | |

The First Iraqi National Plan to Enhance Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration

The First Iraqi National Plan to Promote Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (2025-2030) establishes a comprehensive framework to strengthen migration governance, protect migrants' rights, and leverage migration to support national development. This plan aligns with the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration and international best practices, aiming to develop sustainable, transparent, and effective policies for migration management.

General Framework of the Plan

The plan will be implemented over a five-year period according to a precise timeline and clear performance indicators. A committee appointed by the Diwani Order Committee will establish an effective monitoring and evaluation mechanism, covering the following elements:

- Monitoring progress and measuring impact to ensure the achievement of the set objectives.
- Identifying challenges and addressing policy gaps to enhance implementation efficiency.
- Supporting successful initiatives and ensuring the long-term sustainability of efforts.
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Through this organized approach, **the Federal Government of the Republic of Iraq and the Government of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq** seek to develop a well-regulated migration system that contributes to achieving national development, ensures the protection of migrants' rights, and aligns with international standards.

The plan consists of three main phases to ensure effective implementation and the organized, sustainable management of migration:

Phase One: Data Collection and Analysis

Phase Two: Program Design and Implementation

Phase Three: Monitoring and Evaluation

Phase I: Data Collection and Analysis

This phase aims to assess the current migration situation in Iraq, by collecting data on migration trends, identifying challenges, and assessing the needs of migrants, returnees and host communities. This stage includes:

- Conduct a national migration assessment to understand the patterns and challenges associated with them.
- Register migrants, returnees and IDPs in a national database.
- Identify the legal, economic and social needs of migrants through data analysis.
- Evaluate current policies and compare them with international best practices.

Phase II: Program Design and Implementation

1- Legal and institutional pillar:

- Review and update the national legal framework in line with international conventions and standards related to migration.
- Develop effective institutional mechanisms to implement policies and ensure compliance with the law, while enhancing coordination between relevant sectoral entities

2- Economic and Social pillar:

- Design and implement economic and social support programs targeting migrants, returnees and host communities, including vocational training and employment opportunities.
- Enhance the contribution of migrants to the national economy through flexible and sustainable inclusion policies.

3- Awareness and Information pillar:

- Launch media awareness campaigns to enhance public understanding of migration issues and encourage positive social dialogue.
- Providing accurate and reliable information about migration opportunities and risks, through multiple electronic and media platforms.

4- Training and Capacity Building pillar:

- Implementing specialized training programs for government officials and civil society organizations working in the field of migration.
- Develop manuals and SOPs, focusing on knowledge sustainability and the formation of national trainers.

5- Migration Management pillar:

- Strengthen migration management systems through the development of updated databases and effective institutional coordination mechanisms.
- Support the implementation of return and reintegration policies and improve the efficiency of border crossings in dealing with migratory movements.

6- Regional and International Cooperation pillar:

- Expanding partnerships with countries and regional and international organizations in the field of migration governance.
- Active participation in multilateral forums and mechanisms to promote the exchange of knowledge and experiences, and coordinate migration responses with respect to the human security and dignity of migrants.

Phase III: Monitoring and Evaluation

The policies and programs designed in the second phase will be implemented through coordinated efforts between government institutions, international organizations and civil society, focusing on:

- Establish national mechanisms to oversee migration management.
- Implement tailored programs to support migrants and returnees.
- Monitor and evaluate the impact of policies to ensure the achievement of set objectives.
- Strengthen international cooperation to ensure sustainable migration management.

Core Principles:

1. Promoting legal and safe migration by reducing the risks of irregular migration through the development of secure and regular migration pathways.
2. Supporting economic diversification by providing new employment and educational opportunities for youth abroad to contribute to sustainable national development.
3. Protect migrants' rights by ensuring respect for human rights in accordance with the Iraqi constitution and international migration laws.

Implementing Entities:

1. Ministry of Migration and Displaced.
2. Ministries and other relevant sectoral institutions from the Federal Government of Iraq and the Government of Kurdistan Region of Iraq.
3. Local governments (including provinces organized by a region) International Organizations.
4. Civil Society Organizations.
5. Private Sector.

Strategic Objectives of the Plan:

1. Strengthening the legal and institutional framework for regular migration.
2. Promoting the economic and social development of migrants.
3. Raising community awareness and strengthening media on migration issues.
4. Building institutional and technical capacity of employees working in the field of regular migration.
5. Develop effective mechanisms for managing regular migration.
6. Strengthening regional and international cooperation in migration management.

Expected Results:

1. Update legal and policy frameworks to ensure that national laws are in line with international standards and strengthen the protection of migrants' rights.
2. Launch vocational training programs and sustainable employment opportunities for migrants and returnees, to improve economic productivity and reducing irregular migration.
3. Enhance regional and international cooperation through bilateral agreements and memorandum of understanding with countries and international organizations to ensure the protection of Iraqi migrants.
4. Establish an integrated national system for the registration of migrants that allows them to track their data and needs and provide them with appropriate support.
5. Implement awareness and media campaigns to inform the community about the dangers of irregular migration and provide accurate information about legal opportunities for migration.
6. Improve the institutional capacity of migration management through training government officials and develop coordination mechanisms between stakeholders to ensure effective policy implementation.

Plan pillars:

First Pillar / Legal and Institutional

Objective: To strengthen the legal and institutional framework for regular migration

#	Activity	Indicator	Time-frame	Authority responsible (non-federally- administrated governorates)	Supporting entities (Authority responsible (non-federally- administrated governorates))
1	Assessment of the private and public legal and institutional framework related to the regulation of the migration of Iraqis abroad and the migration of Arabs and foreigners arriving to Iraq	Number of assessments	2 years	Diwani Order Committee	Ministry of Migration and Displaced – International and local organizations
2	Conduct an assessment of the results of agreements and treaties related to the regulation of the migration of Iraqis abroad and the migration of Arabs and foreigners arriving in Iraq	Number of assessments	2 years	Diwani Order Committee	Ministry of Foreign Affairs - International and Local Organizations
3	Prepare proposals for draft laws and policies regulating the migration of Iraqis abroad and the migration of Arabs and foreigners arriving to Iraq	Number of proposals	2 years	Diwani Order Committee	Ministry of Migration and Displaced – International and local organizations

Second Pillar / Economic and Social

Objective: To promote the economic and social development of migrants

#	Activity	Indicator	Time-frame	Authority responsible (non-federally- administered governorates)	Supporting entities (Authority responsible (non-federally- administered governorates))
1	Prepare analytical studies on the economic, social and cultural impacts associated with migration of all kinds, including the migration of Arabs and foreigners arriving to Iraq	Number of studies	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Labor and social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Higher Education and international and local organizations
2	Prepare studies on the skills available and required in local markets compared to regional and global markets	Number of studies	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Labor and social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Higher Education and international and local organizations
3	Prepare policy papers regulating the economic and social affairs of migration based on the recommendations of the completed studies	Number of approved policy papers	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Labor and social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Higher Education and international and local organizations

Third Pillar: Awareness and Information

Objective: To raise community awareness and strengthen media on migration issues

#	Activity	Indicator	Time-frame	Authority responsible (non-federally- administered governorates)	Supporting entities (Authority responsible (non-federally- administered governorates))
1	Prepare a database and an electronic platform for available regular migration pathways and their legal requirements in Iraq (for non-Iraqis) and destination countries (for Iraqis)	Number of pathways	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, MoFA, MoHE, MoLSA, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Media and Communications Commission, National Data Center and international and local organizations
2	Organize field and non-field awareness campaigns through various media about the available regular migration pathways (inside or outside Iraq) and the risks of irregular migration	Number of Campaigns	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, MoFA, MoHE, MoLSA, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Media and Communications Commission, National Data Center and international and local organizations
3	Incorporating academic modules on safe, orderly, and regular migration into human rights curricula	Number of modules	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, MoE, MoHE and international and local organizations

Fourth Pillar: Training and Capacity Building

Objective: To strengthen the capacity of migration stakeholders through specialized training and sustainable skills to improve the quality of services

#	Activity	Indicator	Time-frame	Authority responsible (non-federally- administrated governorates)	Supporting entities (Authority responsible (non-federally- administrated governorates)
1	Provide specialized training workshops for employees of relevant government agencies on good governance of migration, management of return and reintegration, combating human trafficking and protecting migrants	Number of workshops	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, Ministry of Interior, MoFA ,MoLSA, international and local organizations
2	Provide Training-of-Trainers programmes to empower government officials capable of delivering trainings on regular migration within their institutions.	Number of trainees	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, Mol, MoFA MoLSA and international and local organizations
3	Establish educational channels allowing citizens to inquire and express their opinion about the available regular migration programs	Number of Channels	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, Mol, MoFA MoLSA and international and local organizations
4	Design and implement training courses to build the capacity of government officials concerned with the implementation of the plan	Number of trainings	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, Mol, MoFA MoLSA and international and local organizations

Fifth Pillar: Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration Management

Objective: To regulate migration to and from Iraq in a manner that preserves the security and rights of migrants

#	Activity	Indicator	Time-frame	Authority responsible (non-federally- administered governorates)	Supporting entities (Authority responsible (non-federally- administered governorates)
1	Establish a national system for the registration and tracking of Iraqi migrants abroad	Number of registrants	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, Mol and MoFA and international and local organizations
2	Prepare an annual report on migration to and from Iraq to include qualitative and quantitative data, and analysis of trends and recommendations.	Number of reports	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, Mol and MoFA and international and local organizations
3	Conduct a mid-year evaluation to follow up on the progress of the implementation of the plan	% of completion	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD and international and local organizations
4	Conduct national surveys and questionnaires on regular migration	Number of surveys or questionnaires	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD, Ministry of Planning and international and local organizations
5	Provide the concerned authorities with the tools, equipment and devices necessary to operate and manage regular migration programs	% of completion	1 year	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD and international and local organizations
6	Prepare a guide and SoP regular migration management programs, with the adoption of a mechanism for periodic updating in line with relevant national and international developments.	% of completion	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoMD and international and local organizations

Sixth Pillar: Regional and International Cooperation

Objective: Strengthening Regional and International Cooperation in Migration Management

#	Activity	Indicator	Time-frame	Authority responsible (non-federally- administered governorates)	Supporting entities (Authority responsible (non-federally- administered governorates)
1	Prepare proposals for draft agreements to regulate the migration of Iraqi citizens abroad and the migration of Arabs and foreigners arriving to Iraq	Number of proposals	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoFA , MoMD, and International and local organizations
2	Conducting coordination workshops between Iraqi embassies in destination countries and embassies of destination countries in Iraq to organize the migration of Iraqi citizens abroad and the migration of Arabs and foreigners arriving to Iraq	Number of workshops	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoFA and MoMD International and local organizations
3	Iraq joins UN- supported regular migration programmes	Number of Programs	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoFA, MoMD International and local organizations
4	Iraq's participation in the coordination meetings of the UN Network for Migration in Iraq	Number of meetings	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoFA, MoMD and International and local organizations
5	Organize regional and international conferences to exchange knowledge, and expertise on regular migration programs	Number of conferences	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoFA, MoMD and International and local organizations
6	International support for the implementation of the pillars of the plan.	Number of organizations	5 years	Diwani Order Committee	MoFA, MoMD, and International and local organizations

Requirements for Proposed Programs and Projects

- Legal framework supporting the regular migration.
- Availability of adequate financial allocations and qualified human resources.
- Obtaining technical support from international organizations.
- Availability of regular migration opportunities in destination countries such as work and study.
- Matching Iraqi skills to the needs of the global market.
- Cooperation between governmental and non-governmental entities.
- Alignment with national plans and SDGs.
- Compliance with relevant international laws and norms, such as the Global Compact for Migration (GCM).
- Cultural acceptance of customs, beliefs and traditions in destination countries.

Closing Remarks:

1. This plan was prepared by the committee formed under Diwani Order No. (241270) and the prosecution of Diwani Order No. (241090) with the participation of experts from the International Organization for Migration (IOM).
2. This plan is approved and mandatory for implementation from the date the Council of Ministers endorses it in accordance with applicable constitutional and procedural frameworks.
3. If no explicit implementing entity is specified for any component of the plan, the Diwani Order Committee shall address the relevant sectoral authority officially, in accordance with the fundamental contexts and procedures approved by the federal government.
4. Acknowledging the autonomous nature of implementation in the Kurdistan Region, Kurdistan Regional Government is authorized to carry out the plan's components in alignment with its own strategic priorities and planning frameworks, with constituency of the general directives issued by the Federal Government of Iraq.

