



The UN Migration Agency (IOM) Lebanon launched an executive professional training program, with funds from the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and in collaboration with the Lebanese University

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Themes: Psycho-social Support

Beirut – IOM, through generous support from the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and in collaboration with the Lebanese University has launched an executive professional training program: “Psychosocial Support, Dialogue and Social Cohesion”. The course targets Lebanese professionals currently providing psychosocial assistance to conflict-affected communities.

The course will run from February – May 2020 and will train 28 participants who are currently involved in helping people affected by the Syrian conflict, in Lebanon (Syrian displaced population and Lebanese host communities). International and national experts will teach the modular course to provide a diverse overview of topics related to the relationship between psychosocial support, dialogue and social cohesion in a conflict-affected environment. Teaching will take place every second weekend (Fridays included) to facilitate the participation of working professionals.



The course is part of IOM’s psychosocial programme: “Enhancing the Psychosocial Wellbeing of Displaced and Hosting Communities in Lebanon Affected by the Syrian Crisis”. The course will help participants to identify and conceptualize emotional and mental threats to individuals caused by displacement, war and migration; adopt creative approaches to strengthen the community fabric; counsel war-affected individuals; and develop conflict resolution and mediation skills. The ultimate aim is for the participants to apply this crucial understanding to their daily work with affected communities within their respective NGOs or SDCs. TF

The training programme will have three main focus areas: 1) Conflict mediation and transformation; 2) Fostering Social Cohesion, 3) Integrating Psychosocial Support into livelihoods activities

Twenty-five active humanitarian actors (Psychology, Sociology, Social Assistance, Education, Social Animation, Media, Public Health, Medicine,) and three social workers from the Ministry of Social Affairs’

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Social Development Centres were selected to increase their knowledge and their skills on how to integrate a psychosocial approach within their daily activities, in order to transform conflict, foster inter-community dialogue and promote social cohesion.

On successful completion of the training program, the participants will be able to understand mental health and psychosocial paradigms in conflict-affected societies and integrate psychosocial considerations in family and community supports services. Furthermore, the participants will strengthen the effectiveness and sustainability of livelihood activities through integrating the psychosocial dimension and recognize the complexity of conflicts and the value of inter-community dialogue and social cohesion as well as to improve their capacity to manage and mediate small-scale conflict at the community level.

IOM has developed this multi-disciplinary approach to try to resolve psychosocial issues related to the Syrian crisis, with a special focus on the individual, the family and the community.

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