







IIE CAPABILITIES IN IRAQ

Founded in 1919, the Institute of International Education (IIE) is among the world's largest and most experienced international exchange organizations, dedicated to increasing the capacity of people to think and work on a global and intercultural basis. IIE implements more than 250 programs benefiting nearly 25,000 men and women from 175 nations through its 17 offices in the U.S. and around the world.

The Institute has extensive experience strengthening higher education in Iraq. In 2003, IIE re-launched the **Fulbright Program in Iraq** on behalf of the U.S. Department of State. We currently partner with **public and private sector donors**, including the U.S. Department of State, corporations and foundations, on a number of strategic objectives, including:

- Selecting Iraqi students for U.S. graduate fellowships;
- Training Iraqi women in IT;
- Organizing short-term visits by Iraqi faculty to the U.S.;
- Providing short-term fellowships outside the country for threatened Iraqi scholars.

In January 2011, IIE hosted a three-day forum in Jordan on "Reconstruction of Higher Education in Post-Conflict Iraq." Over 100 Iraqi academics, officials, and university presidents gathered to discuss such topics as quality assurance, restoration of order to universities, and the role of women in higher education in Iraq.

In implementing these programs, the Institute has developed **close relationships with key stakeholders** in Iraq. These include local NGOs, the Ministries of Higher Education in both Baghdad and Kurdistan, and a range of universities, including:

- Salahddin University
- University of Al-Nahrain
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- University of Al-Nahrain
- President/ Royal University for Women-Bahrain
- Tikrit University
- Anbar University
- Wasit University
- Kirkuk University
- Al Mustansiriyah University
- University of Technology-Sulaymaniyah
- Diyala University

- Kerbala University
- Dijla University
- University of Technology- Baghdad
- Basra University
- Kufa University
- Baghdad University
- Hawler Medical University
- Koya University
- Dihok University
- Kurdistan University
- Soran University
- Erbil Technical Institution
- Sulaimanya Technical Institution

EXEMPLARY PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY IIE

- On behalf of the U.S. Department of State, IIE's Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) launched the inaugural **Visiting Fulbright Scholar Program for Iraq** which places visiting Iraqi scholars at host institutions in the U.S. in cohorts of seven to ten scholars from related academic disciplines. Participants represent applied linguistics/English as a Second Language (ESL); Education; Management/Business Administration; Public Health; and Science, Technology and Engineering, among others. Scholars engage in faculty development, research and guided study activities.
- IIE's Iraq Scholar Rescue Project, funded by private donors and the State Department's Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (NEA), provides visiting professor grants outside the country to threatened Iraqi scholars, builds their skills while on fellowship, and helps them return to Iraq once conditions allow. IIE has assisted nearly 250 Iraqi fellows through this program and placed them in the U.S. and other countries mainly in the MENA region in a variety of fields including science, technology, engineering and the humanities. IIE manages their stipend payments, provides adjustment support, monitors them, and funds opportunities for developmental training with the goal that the scholars return to their home country to improve conditions in Iraq.
- The Iraq Scholars and Leaders Program (ISLP) provides fully-funded BS, Masters, or PhDs, primarily in science and engineering related fields. Over 40 students have been enrolled in the program and IIE assists them with visa sponsorship and stipend payments to orientations and cultural adjustment throughout their degree programs in the United States.
- As part of the umbrella **Women in Technology (WIT)** program funded by the U.S. Department of State Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI), **WIT Iraq** was launched in 2006 in partnership with the Iraqi Al Amal Association. Courses were launched in Iraq in 2007 with 47 WIT participants. By 2009, the number of women trained reached 685 women, and to date, over 1,100 women have been trained. The program has expanded to six graphically diverse centers located in Baghdad, Erbil, Karbala, Najaf and Kirkuk.