

Nesreen Barwari, PhD

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Nesreen Barwari works across the private, public, non-profit, and academic sectors to promote conflict management and coexistence through, good governance, education and participatory planning in Iraq and Iraqi Kurdistan. Promoting green living and development, preservation of local heritage.

CV AND PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY

EDUCATION:

- **B.Sc.** in Architecture and Urban Planning, Engineering College of Baghdad University (Sep 1986- Aug 1991)
- **MC/MPA** in Public Policy and Management, Harvard's Kennedy School of Government (Jun 1998- Jul 1999)
- **Certificate** of International Leadership and Management, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tuft University (Fall 1998)
- **Executive Education** Program for Senior Managers in Government, Harvard's Kennedy School of Government (Jul 1999)
- **Ph.D.** in Spatial Planning, Faculty of Spatial Planning of the Technical University of Dortmund (Jan 2010- Feb 2015)

EMPLOYMENT:

- International Organization for Migration (IOM), Dohuk-Iraq, Executive Administration Assistant (1991-1992)

Provided office and logistical management and support to one of the biggest refugees' repatriation operations from Turkey and Iran to Iraq following the second Gulf War.

- United Nations' Iraq Relief Coordination Unit (UNIRCU), Dohuk-Iraq, Executive Administration and Program Assistant (1992-1996)

Provided office and logistical management and coordination support to more than 50 International relief organization involved in the rehabilitation, reconstruction and relief operations for the displaced families in Iraqi Kurdistan.

- United Nations' Office for the Coordinator of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), Dohuk-Iraq, Executive Administration and Program Assistant (1996-1997)

Provided office and program management and coordination support to more than 50 International relief organization involved in the rehabilitation, reconstruction and relief operations for the displaced families in Iraqi Kurdistan.

- United Nations Human Resettlement Program (UN HABITAT), Dohuk-Iraq, Head of Field Office (1997-1998)

Headed and managed all office, program and finances aspects related to the infrastructures' rehabilitation and reconstruction together with resettlement program within the UN Oil for Food program during the International Economic Sanctions imposed on Iraq with a budget exceeded 10 million US\$ assisting more than 500,000 persons to be resettled and establishing a new life after decades of war and displacement.

- Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), Minister of Reconstruction and Development, Erbil-Iraq (1999-2003)

Headed and managed all office, program and finances aspects related to the infrastructures' rehabilitation and reconstruction together with resettlement program of the Kurdistan Government Region. Leading the efforts of the reconstruction of more than 4,000 villages resettling over 500,000 persons back to their original way of live.

- Iraq Government, Minister of Municipalities&Public Works, Baghdad-Iraq (2003-2006)

Headed and managed all office, program and finances aspects related to the Iraqi Municipalities' infrastructure rehabilitation and reconstruction and management operations together with overseeing Local Governance operation and process of 15 Iraqi Provinces. Helped introduce and draft the first application of a decentralized system of governance in Iraq following regime change in 2003. During this time also initiated, led meetings, and helped organize a woman movement to demand for a role for women in the new Iraq paving the way for the adoption of the 25% quota system for women in Iraq reprehensive bodies.

- Breeze of Hope NGO, Founder and President, Erbil-Iraq (2006-Present)

Breeze of Hope focuses on women's and youth development in Iraq. Initiated and conducted training, dialogue and capacity building programs related to the advancement of democratic thinking and processes with focus on women, youth and vulnerable groups within the Iraqi society with the goal of their advancement and capacity building. Currently, has been focusing on providing humanitarian assistance to the influx of Syrian refugees into Iraqi Kurdistan and the Iraqi internally displaced taking refuge in Iraqi Kurdistan due to conflicts with ISIS.

- KWS for Learning&Education, CEO and President, Erbil-Iraq (2012-Present)

A consultative company that advices on good governance and participatory approaches and plans to open a private education facility that builds co-existence, promotes environmental sustainability, and celebrates local heritage.

- Friends of Waldorf Education NGO, Country Representative, Erbil-Iraq (2014-Present)

The well being of Iraqi's children is continuously interrupted through a series of conflicts and crises. The need for humanitarian assistance in Iraq is continuously determined by violence and persecution. Development of quality education and child protection is hindered and human rights violations are committed. With a total of 1.8 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Kurdistan region of Iraq, the need of protection is very high. Educational staff, school social workers and other pedagogues need capacity building training in Psychosocial Support/Trauma Pedagogy. Through FEW's programs, we aim to improve the well being of Iraq's children and improve the system of Quality Education.

- University of Dohuk's Department of Planning and Applied Sciences, Associate Professor, Duhok-Iraq (Present)

Iraq and Kurdistan continues to be faced with policy making and planning challenges as goals such as development, security, equity and good governance are pursued and aimed for. In support of preparing and generating knowledge and skills to achieve these goals, the university of Dohuk in cooperation with Dortmund University established a four-years program in Planning within the Department of Applied Sciences in 2011. In support of this initiative and effort, I joined the department fall of 2015 and working with the teaching staff and the Dortmund University team to improve and get this newly established department on its feet. Aside from management and program advising, I also lecture on the topics of: Governance and Planning, Theory of Space and Place, and Academic Debate. I also supervise student advanced project class.

NON-PROFIT/VOLUNTRY INVOLVEMENT:

- US State Department's Future of Iraq project, Member of the economy and infrastructure working group, Washington-USA (2002-2003)

As a member, advised and drafted policy papers on post war Iraq reconstruction. Participated in numerous workshops regarding the planning for the “day after” of Iraq regime change.

- Institute for Inclusive Security, Network Member, Washington-USA (2003-Present)

In trying to make a difference and after a decade of work, there is an increasing recognition that women not only have a right to be at the table, but that their involvement is critical to ending war and realizing sustainable peace. Inclusive Security supports policymakers by providing expert advice grounded in research that demonstrates women's contributions to peace building. It strengthens women leaders through targeted training and mentoring, helping them to build coalitions, and connecting them to policymakers working with partners in the US and abroad to build just and sustainable peace.

- Ministry of Education's Higher Consultative Board, Member, Erbil-Iraq (2010-2014)

Advising the Ministry on their educational and institutional policies and setup. Also advised on Minister's reform agenda to promote active learning and increase the quality of teaching. While at the board contributed to the drafting of several important Ministry's Laws. Laws related to the Ministry setup and policy, regulation for private education in Kurdistan, decentralization of education governance in Kurdistan. Supervised the introduction of peace and coexistence educational materials through art and story telling to the curriculum. Also helped in establishing a new teachers' training program and institution within the Ministry.

- US-Iraq Joint Trade Committee, Member, Baghdad-Iraq (2011-2014)

Promoting and building trade and economic relationships between the United States and Iraq through exploring the challenges that hinders such development and through trade and economy pave the way for a lasting peaceful productive relationship between the two countries. Drafting of many proposed changes to the existing law and regulations. Advising the US embassy in Baghdad on issues related to creating a positive atmosphere between both countries.

- Higher Planning Steering Committee of Dohuk Governorate, Member, Dohuk-Iraq (2014-Present)

Advises on regional planning and participatory approaches in governance. Guide the Governor of Dohuk Province and the Dohuk's Local Government Departments strategic planning with the promotion of participatory planning to allow for broad participation in vision development and budget planning for Dohuk Region Development Plan.

- Steering Committee of Peace and Human Security Center at Dohuk's American University, Member, Dohuk-Iraq (2015-Present)

Examining major contemporary challenges to security and peace, sources of conflict and violence, and several key mechanisms for conflict transformation and prevention. Bases the center work on the epistemic foundations on which international security and peace are being built, the challenges that they are facing, and how they are likely to evolve.

FELLOWSHIPS:

- Harvard's Kennedy School of Government's Institute of Politics, Fellow, Cambridge-USA (Feb 2006-Jun 2006)
- National Endowment for Democracy (NED), Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program, Washington DC-USA (2009-2010).

TEACHING:

- **Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge-USA (Feb-May 2006)**
Taught a not for credit course "Reinventing Iraq: Deconstructing and Constructing a Nation." Leading group discussions and participating in various panels and workshops related to Iraq and Kurdistan.
- **George Washington University, Elliott School of International Affairs, Washington-USA (Jan-Jun 2010)**
Lectured a graduate level course for credit on democracy and democratization and ran a workshop for credit on participatory planning.
- **Dohuk University, Department of Architecture, Dohuk-Iraq (Sep 2011-Aug 2013)**
Lectures on public management, strategic planning and urban planning, housing policies, and practice of the profession for third and fifth levels.
- **Dohuk University, Institute of Regional Planning, Dohuk-Iraq (Sep 2011- Dec 2012)**
Lectures on public management, strategic planning and urban planning for graduate level.

HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS:

- November 2003, UN-Habitat Scroll of Honor award, United Nations for "outstanding commitment to the welfare of displaced and vulnerable persons in Northern Iraq."
- April 2004, Arab League, Selected as one of ten distinguished women in the Arab world
- May 2005, the World Economic Forum, chosen as a Young Global Leader.

CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEDIA APPERANCES:

- Appeared on several TV and Radio shows and programs talking on Iraq, Kurdistan, the Kurds, Women and political and social issues of the Middle East.
- Contributed to numerous articles and book chapters
- Published a book reflecting on the governance and political development of Iraq: "Decentralization in Kurdistan"
- Working on a book on stories about our cities and villages, a journey through Kurdistan's architectural and urban heritage.