

## **“Sixth Civic Values and Life Skills Steering Committee Meeting”**

**12 December 2012 - Erbil, Iraq**

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2012, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in collaboration with the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) hosted the 6th Steering Committee meeting in the framework of the “Promoting Civic Values and Like Skills for Adolescents through Education in Iraq”.

The Steering Committee is comprised of members of the Ministries of Education, Youth and Sports, Youth and Culture, and Labor and Social Affairs from both the Kurdistan Regional Government and the Federal Government of Iraq.



The meeting was opened by H.E. Mr. Dara Hassan Rasheed, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, who requested UN agencies that all papers and field research reports ensued

from the project be available to all parties involved to ensure a transparent dissemination.

The three sister UN agencies proceeded to present the progress of their activities and pointed both successes and challenges faced during the project. Also, the importance of Monitoring and Evaluation was highlighted as a crucial element to ensure a proper follow up mechanism for the integration of civic values and life skills in educational curricula.

The Steering Committee then issues a series of recommendations for the closure of the project and to build on the momentum generated by the recent national consultative project that took place in Erbil, Iraq on 10 and 11 December, 2012. Committee members recommended the creation of a website as a knowledge hub for Civic Values and Life Skills, multimedia activities to disseminate Civic Values especially among youth, the integration of said values and skills in both the ministries annual planning and daily work, the creation of a code of ethics and values for Media, and capacity building activities for youth to understand and critically analyze the impact of media on their values.

Finally, the Steering Committee decided to continue their collaboration at least until the upcoming National Conference is organized by the Ministry of Education in Baghdad. The need to create a committee to oversee the implementation of the Civic Values and Life Skills Action Plan was highlighted and the Higher Council of Youth in Baghdad was proposed as an option for this task.