

**Chronology of the Cooperation
between TU Dortmund and Iraqi Universities
in Spatial Planning**

- 1998 *Signing a declaration between University of Salahaddin (Erbil) and the NGO DhK from Dortmund (Dortmund citizens help Kurds; now: Dortmund citizens help in cooperation) operating in northern Iraq*
Declaration to implement a Spatial Planning education Programme in northern Iraq in collaboration with the TU Dortmund; signed by the President of Salahaddin University Dr. Bahram Mawlood and the representative of the DhK, Dr. Hasan Sinemillioglu.
- 1999 *Letter from the dean of the School of Spatial Planning at TU Dortmund to the president of Salahaddin University*
Agreement to the cooperation. Nomination of a professor from the School of Spatial Planning as the person responsible for further collaboration.
- 2000 *A delegation of the Spatial Planning Faculty travels to northern Iraq for ten days*
Prof. Dr. Günter Kroës and Dr. Hasan Sinemillioglu visit the Kurdistan region in northern Iraq. Exploratory talks at Salahaddin University in Erbil and at University of Duhok. The President of the University of Duhok, Dr. Asmat Khalid, agrees on taking responsibility for the coordination of further collaboration activities in Iraq.

Two-week visit of representatives from the three Kurdish universities in northern Iraq to Dortmund
Getting to know the School of Spatial Planning. Exchange about the training of spatial planners in Kurdistan. Development of an agenda for further collaboration.
- 2001 *Three-week Workshop “Integrated Local and Regional Development Planning and Management” in Duhok (north-Iraq)*
Ten participants from each Kurdish university (Salahaddin, Duhok, Sulaimania), two professors and two research assistants from TU Dortmund, representatives of the regional administration and UN-organizations and NGOs.
Presentations from Iraqi and German participants. Several workshops in the cities and villages involving local inhabitants.
The cooperation between the three Kurdish universities is intensified. “Declaration of Duhok” is executed and publicized, which emphasizes the cooperation of the universities and the necessity of spatial planning education in Kurdistan, Iraq.
- 2002 *Cooperation agreement between the University Duhok and the TU Dortmund*

Signing of this agreement by the presidents of both universities in Dortmund on April 30th 2002.

Two-week conference on “Environmental Planning and Settlement Patterns in Iraqi Kurdistan” in Sulaimania (north-Iraq)

50 participants, including two professors and four research assistants from Dortmund.

Preparation of presentations and method-workshops from Iraqi and German participants. Application of participative planning-techniques in workshops in cities and villages of the region Sulaimania.

Discussion about the Implementation of a Spatial Planning Program at University Duhok.

2003 War in Iraq hinders to implement the planned conference in Erbil.

Visit of a delegation from the Kurdish universities at TU Dortmund

Talks at the School of Spatial Planning and with the Rectorate. Planning of the collaboration-program for 2004.

2004 *Two-week Winter School on “University Training for Sustainable Reconstruction and Development in Northern Iraq” in Dortmund*

Includes 19 participants from Iraqi universities. Involvement of several professors of the TU Dortmund and their research assistants.

Getting to know of the German planning-system and the spatial planning training in Dortmund. Excursions about aspects of development and structural change in North Rhine-Westphalia.

Development of a curriculum-draft for a Spatial Planning Program in Kurdistan.

2005 *Visit of the prorectors of the University Sulaimani in Dortmund*

Signing of the cooperation agreement with TU Dortmund on February 7th 2005.

Two-week Winter School “Reconstruction and Development: Planning and Management” in Dortmund

Includes 14 Iraqi participants and professors and research assistants of the Spatial Planning Faculty.

Presentations, excursions and discussions about the German planning-system and its ‘Lessons for Iraq and Kurdistan’. Joint planning of the curriculum- und personnel-development for the intended Master-Program in Duhok.

Visit of the president of the University of Baghdad in Dortmund

Meetings with the president of TU Dortmund and with the head of SPRING- Programme at the School of Spatial Planning.

Cooperation with Iraqi Universities since 1998

- 2006 *Two-week Winter School “Reconstruction and Development – Integrated Planning and Urban Design“ at the UN University in Amman*
Includes 40 participants from Iraqi, Jordanian and Palestinian universities as well as two professors und four research assistants from the School of Spatial Planning of TU Dortmund.
Presentations and excursions on the current planning themes in the Middle East (i.a. development of historic cities). Methodology workshops. Further planning of a curriculum for the designated Master-Program at University Duhok.
- 2007 *Two week Winter School “Reconstruction and Development – Management Strategies“ at UN University in Amman*
Includes 40 participants from Iraqi, Jordanian and Palestinian universities as well as two professors und four research assistants of School of Spatial Planning of TU Dortmund.
Presentations and excursions particularly about conservation and development of the built-environment-and-cultural heritage.

Foundation of ‘Middle East Planning Network’
Representatives from the universities of Duhok, Sulaimania und Salahaddin (Kurdistan, Iraq), Birzeit (Palestine), Al Balqa, German-Jordanian University (Jordan) and TU Dortmund. Planning of an application for DAAD-Program for Intercultural Dialog.
- 2008 *Two-week Symposium “Spatial Planning through Intercultural Dialogue“ in Amman*
Includes 40 participants from Iraqi, Jordanian and Palestinian universities as well as two professors und three research assistants from the Spatial Planning Faculty at TU Dortmund.
Presentations und excursions (case study Madaba) particularly about conservation and development of the structural-cultural heritage.
- 2009 *Two-week Symposium “Spatial Planning through Intercultural Dialogue“ in Amman*
Includes 40 participants from Iraqi, Jordanian and Palestinian universities as well as two professors und three research assistants of Spatial Planning Faculty from TU Dortmund.
Presentations and excursions (case study Birzeit and Maloula) particularly about sustainable revitalization of the Arabian historic town.
- Since August 2009 *Intensification and extension of the cooperation with the Iraqi universities Bagdad, Diyala Duhok and Mosul within the DAAD-Program “University-Partnerships with Iraq (UPI)“*
- 2009 - 2011 *First phase UPI: Preparation for the implementation of a study programme "Spatial Planning for Iraq"*

"Needs Assessment Study", curriculum for study programme in 2010, planning-conferences "Spatial Planning for Iraq - I" in 2010 in Duhok and "Spatial Planning for Iraq - II" in 2011 in Erbil, diverse workshops in Dortmund and in Iraq.

2012 - 2014 *Second phase UPI: Implementation of the study programme "Spatial Planning for Iraq"*

Implementation of the study programme and admission of the first students in winter semester 2012-13 at University Duhok, enhancement of the curriculum for the study programme, planning-conference "Spatial Planning for Iraq - III" 2012 in Duhok; several professors and lecturers from the School of Spatial Planning, Dortmund, support teaching in Duhok, diverse workshops in Dortmund and in Iraq.

2015 *Stabilization and extension of the study programme "Spatial Planning for Iraq"*

Professors and lecturers from the School of Spatial Planning, Dortmund, support teaching in Duhok; first Summer School for the sixth semester students of the study programme "Spatial Planning for Iraq" in Germany; "training-courses" for the teaching staff from Duhok in Dortmund; diverse workshops in Dortmund and in Iraq.

2016 *The cooperation between TU Dortmund University and Duhok University will be extended to 2021.*

The delegation from Duhok led by the Rector Prof. Mosleh Duhoky visits Dortmund. Rector Prof. Duhoky and the Prorector of TU Dortmund University Prof. Metin Tolan sign the extension. The mayor of the city of Dortmund Mr. Ulrich Sierau participate on the celebration.

Professors and lecturers from the School of Spatial Planning, Dortmund, support teaching in Duhok; second Summer School for the sixth semester students of the study programme "Spatial Planning for Iraq" in Germany; "training-courses" for the teaching staff from Duhok in Dortmund; diverse workshops in Dortmund and in Iraq.

2017 *The first batch enrolled in 2012 at the Spatial Planning in Iraq graduates. On May 14 the group of 23 students get their joint certificates.*

Prof. Dietwald Gruehn, Dr. Hasan Sinemillioglu and Dr. Heike Wendt participate on the celebration. Many officials of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) participate likewise.

Prof. Duhoky and Prof. Gruehn hand over the certificates to the BSc. Holder.

Professors and lecturers from the School of Spatial Planning, Dortmund, support teaching in Duhok; second Summer School for the sixth semester students of the study programme "Spatial Planning for Iraq" in Germany;

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"training-courses" for the teaching staff from Duhok in Dortmund; diverse workshops in Dortmund and in Iraq.

2018

The second batch enrolled in 2013 at the Spatial Planning in Iraq graduates.

Professors and lecturers from the School of Spatial Planning, Dortmund, support teaching in Duhok; second Summer School for the sixth semester students of the study programme "Spatial Planning for Iraq" in Germany; "training-courses" for the teaching staff from Duhok in Dortmund; diverse workshops in Dortmund and in Iraq.

Prepared by Dr. Hasan Sinemillioglu, 2018.