

As part of its mandate to support reintegration and address drivers of displacement, IOM has developed significant conflict management experience including the design and implementation of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) activities, since its first engagement in Mozambique in 1992. IOM has expanded and diversified its tools to address the socio-economic and social cohesion needs of individuals and communities facing the challenges of reintegration. IOM current DDR engagements includes programmes in Colombia, Central African Republic, Kenya, Mozambique, Somalia and in the Lake Chad Basin Region (Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria).



TERRITORIAL LECTURES WITH FEMALE FORMER COMBATANTS IN YONDO, AN-TIOQUIA, COLOMBIA © IOM COLOMBIA 2020

Over the last 31 years, IOM's DDR operations have assisted thousands of former combatants and their dependents to return to normal civilian life after years of conflict, contributing to national and regional reconciliation and stability, preventing further conflict and displacement. Through tools such as its Information, Counselling and Referral Service (ICRS), IOM supports the reintegration of former fighters through individual assistance and community-based approaches to foster social cohesion, protect communities and family members from insecurity and support recovery.

IOM'S INFORMATION COUNSELLING AND REFERRAL SERVICE (ICRS)

IOM's DDR approach is supported by its Information, Counselling and Referral Services (ICRS) mechanism that assists in managing the provision of personalized services for ex-combatants and their dependents in their transition from demobilization to reintegration. By integrating the provision of services, such as registration, profiling, counselling, camp and cantonment management and transportation, reinsertion and reintegration assistance are tailored based on analyses of gaps, needs and expectations. ICRS effectively aids in case management and the design and tailoring of socio-economic reintegration activities for ex-combatants and their dependents.

Facilitating confidential counselling and direct discussion with beneficiaries and communities throughout the reintegration process helps to identify and address socio-economic and demographic obstacles faced by ex-combatants and their dependents. Referral services link beneficiaries with economic opportunities that offer the best potential for growth and expansion and which can absorb ex-combatants and other vulnerable groups in a community. ICRS also maps and links beneficiaries to external services within the health, legal, housing, education, training, business and development sectors.

The organization has supported the establishment and implementation of national frameworks and policies, the management of transition and cantonment facilities, and the transportation and repatriation of ex-combatants. However, IOM focuses primarily on reintegration, working at the individual, community and structural/institutional levels through vocational, educational and skills training, health and psychosocial support and administrative assistance to individuals, and concurrently at the community level to rebuild social cohesion and provide for material recovery to strengthen communities and create receptive environments conducive to return, reintegration and reconciliation. At the structural level, IOM often supports local, regional and national government institutions to revitalize governance and improve the responsiveness of authorities to the challenges of sustainable reintegration.

For more information: <https://www.iom.int/transition-and-peacebuilding> Contact: TRDCoreGroupHQ@iom.int

EVOLUTION IN DDR PRACTICES

In post-conflict contexts IOM's DDR work helps prevent a relapse of conflict – and associated displacement – by strengthening the resilience of former combatants to resist (re)recruitment and supporting communities by addressing the structural and individual motivators, and contextual factors that contribute to fragility in post-conflict settings.

In non-traditional DDR contexts, such as in the Lake Chad Basin Region, or Somalia, where peace agreements are absent, where conflict is on-going or unresolved, or where transnational violent extremist groups operate, IOM has adapted its DDR approaches and tools to support governments in the disengagement and reintegration of former fighters to prevent the risk of recidivism and community retribution, or recruitment into organized crime or violent extremism. In these new contexts, IOM' DDR work addresses drivers of violent extremism to prevent further recruitment or the (re)recruitment and build individual and community resilience. Where formal DDR programs have not been established, such as Haiti or the Central African Republic, IOM implements Community Violence Reduction (CVR) programming to create conditions that improve security and stability at the community level.

<u>Traditional DDR</u>	<u>Second Generation of DDR/CVR</u>	<u>Third Generation DDDR</u> <u>(Disengagement, Disassociation, Reintegration and Reconciliation)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stipulated in Peace Agreements • Will of the parties to implement DDR • Minimum security guarantee • Target individuals of armed forces and armed groups • Focus on disarmament and demobilization and individualized assistance to former combatants. • Example: Mozambique, Guatemala 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused on community-based reintegration benefiting former combatants and affected communities. • Emphasis on social cohesion, community security and recovery • Mitigates social frictions and resentments that arising from assistance focused only on armed groups • Contributes to building trust and reconciliation • Example: Central African Republic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused on context on ongoing conflict or violent extremist groups • Emphasis on former combatant reintegration and restoration of social cohesion • Contributes to building trust and reconciliation • Supports Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) • Example: Lake Chad Basin Region, Somalia

IOM'S DDR PROJECTS FROM 1992 TO DATE

Since 1992, IOM has implemented projects to address former combatants in 50 countries, with 40 active during 2020.

