

TRANSITIONAL DEMOBILIZATION AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The Transitional Demobilization and Reintegration Program (TDRP) is a multi-donor initiative that assists countries in the Great Lakes region of Africa transition from demobilization and reintegration (D&R) activities to broader recovery and development. Its ultimate goal is to consolidate peace and security in the region.

The TDRP is financed by a US\$ 30.8 million trust fund managed by the World Bank and funded by seven donors: the African Development Bank, Belgium, Finland, France, Italy, Norway and Sweden.

BACKGROUND



The TDRP directly follows the Multi-country Demobilization and Reintegration Program ([MDRP](#)), which operated from 2002 to 2009. The MDRP was the largest disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) program in the world. Thirteen donors and the World Bank financed operations in seven countries (Angola, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda). The MDRP relied on a network of over 40 additional partners (UN agencies, regional bodies, and NGOs) and a budget of US\$560 million to demobilize 280,000 combatants and offer reintegration assistance to about 230,000 of them.

Since 2002, the security environment in the Great Lakes region has improved, thus the continuation of a large scale regional DDR program like the MDRP was no longer necessary. However when the MDRP closed in June 2009, ex-combatants were still being processed through DDR programs in some countries. Moreover many MDRP partners wanted to continue to dialogue and coordinate their efforts through a regional facility – hence the TDRP was established.

OBJECTIVES

The TDRP is a four-year program (2009-2013) with the following objectives:

- **Provide technical support** for the implementation of existing demobilization and reintegration (D&R) programs in the Great Lakes region;
- **Expand D&R coverage** by providing emergency financing for new D&R operations or ongoing programs with funding gaps; and



- **Facilitate dialogue, information exchange and learning on D&R** to address the regional aspects of conflict, improve the quality of D&R efforts, strengthen coordination on policy and programming, and generate lessons for future D&R programming.

ACTIVITIES

The TDRP offers two types of support:

- It **finances D&R programs** in the Great Lakes region (ongoing or new). The TDRP remains small compared to other D&R actors in the region, and its support is invoked as a last resort when other sources of funds have been exhausted. However, the TDRP provides critical expertise and technical assistance to governments that request its support. Currently, the TDRP provides a **US\$4.5 million grant to the Rwanda** national DDR program, and an **US\$8.6 million grant to a Community Reintegration project in the Central African Republic**. It also funds technical staff and consultants working on the seven GLR countries mentioned above.
- The TDRP supports **regional D&R activities** and serves as a platform for learning, dialogue and exchange. In particular, the TDRP analytical agenda serves to deepen the understanding of D&R and its contribution to security and development (see Facility for Quality Enhancement and Innovation below); it has established a network of practitioners, DDRnet (see below); and it organizes meetings and exchanges to share knowledge, foster collaboration, and increase capacity in the countries where D&R programs are implemented.

Facility for Quality Enhancement and Innovation

The TDRP has established a structure to provide direct technical support to implementers of D&R programs in the Great Lakes region. Called the Facility for Quality Enhancement and Innovation, it has three objectives:

1. It provides technical assistance, mentoring and capacity building to implementing agencies of D&R programs. This support is done online for immediate response to monitoring and evaluation staff and can be supplemented on site when required. Regional workshops tailored to identified needs are also organized.
2. It supports monitoring, research and evaluation tasks led by implementing agencies of D&R programs. This work includes assisting with research and evaluation methodologies, sampling and survey instruments, and identifying and managing expert consultants.
3. It promotes synergies and collaboration by partnering with academic institutions (national, regional & international), research agencies, think tanks, NGOs and civil society.



DDRnet

The TDRP has set up a network of DDR practitioners called DDRnet. DDRnet gathers a wide range of stakeholders from north and south governments, UN agencies, African regional organizations, civil society/NGOs, think tanks and research institutions that come together in flexible configurations to:

- Discuss matters related to DDR, security and development in the Great Lakes region;
- Share information on DDR and related activities with a view to reduce duplications and coordinate activities;
- Provide training and learning opportunities and build the capacity of its members; and
- Generate policy advice for future DDR programs.

To date, DDRnet has organized five expert seminars so far on the politics of demobilization, foreign armed groups in the Great Lakes Region, DDR and shadow economies, and national ownership in DDR programs. Other events are planned over the coming months, including direct support to develop a DDR program at the African Union, jointly with the UNDPKO.