



Trust Fund Committee Meeting

25 January 2012 – Washington DC

MINUTES

1. A TDRP Trust Fund Committee (TFC) meeting was held in Washington on January 25, 2012. The meeting was placed under the theme “Consolidating Peace after Conflict: the future of DDR”, which was the title of a conference held the day before. It highlighted the necessity to move beyond DDR into longer-term development operations to help the countries that came out of conflict, and also the necessity to shift the center of gravity from the TDRP, which will close in 2013, to other institutions, in particular the African Union.

2. Five of the seven TDRP donors were represented at the meeting (see the list of participants in Annex 1). The meeting was chaired by Abderrahim Fraiji, TDRP manager, and divided into five sections:

- I. DDR Operations
- II. Regional Activities
- III. Technical Assistance to TDRP Countries
- IV. Technical Assistance beyond TDRP Countries
- V. Program Management and TF Status
- VI. Next steps

I. DDR Operations

A. Rwanda

3. The Rwanda Second Emergency Demobilization and Reintegration Project started in 2009 and is financed by the following sources: \$2 million from the Government of Rwanda, \$8 million IDA grant, \$4.5 million TDRP grant, and \$4.5 from a multi-donor trust fund with contributions from KfW (Germany), SIDA (Sweden), and the Netherlands. The overall objective of the project is to support the efforts of the Government of Rwanda to: (i) demobilize members of Armed Groups (AG) of Rwanda origin (FDLR in Eastern DRC) and the Rwanda Defense Forces (RDF); and (ii) provide socioeconomic reintegration support to such members following demobilization, with a particular focus on female, child, and disabled ex-combatants.

4. In June/July 2011, the Bank carried out a mid-term review to assess the continued relevance and achievability of project objectives, to evaluate whether the situation had changed and whether any adjustments were needed. A regular support mission was also carried out in October 2011.

5. The current project status is as follows: 3,910 RDF combatants have been demobilized, 2,597 FDLR combatants were repatriated and demobilized, and 3,806 dependents were supported by the



project. The collaboration with MONUSCO in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is excellent, which has helped to improve the dissemination of messages to FDLR combatants in eastern DRC. When interviewed, FDRL returnees often refer to the messages heard on the radio or read on leaflets, which confirms the effectiveness of communication/sensitization activities.

6. Social and economic reintegration activities are progressing well. Vulnerable groups receive additional support from the vulnerable support window (VSW) to help them achieve the same level of reintegration as other community members. This includes for example vocational training, apprenticeships and formal education.

7. The project has supported 148 children associated with armed forces, who have been reunited with their family and received reintegration support. The project also provides medical support and housing to disabled ex-combatants. Over the past months, medical mobile teams have traveled around the country to perform surgeries for those needing urgent care. The group of disabled is divided into four categories (from most to less severe), with the project supporting the most severely in need, while support to the other three categories is delegated to other agencies.

8. The project does not have a specific component on gender, but instead addresses gender issues in each of its components. For example, the project has provided training on gender equality and sexual and gender based violence.

9. Finally, the mainstreaming component aims to transfer the majority of non specialized services from the project to other ministries. It is assumed that demobilization activities will remain with the Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (RDRC), as the capacity for these activities is not available elsewhere. All combatants who come forward after the project is closed will be processed and supported.

10. Besides the \$4.5 million grant from the TDRP, its technical assistance on fiduciary aspects as well as monitoring and evaluation, and communications, has proven extremely useful to the project

Questions & Answers

11. Belgium asked how long the team was keeping track of ex-combatants who had been supported by the project. Pia Peeters (Task team leader) explained that several studies had been conducted by the RDRC using its comprehensive project database to track ex-combatants and assess how they were faring one, two or three years after receiving reintegration support. (see also paragraphs 24 to 30 on FQEI)

B. Central African Republic

12. The Community Reintegration Project is supported by a TDRP grant of \$8.6 million to four international NGOs tasked with implementing the project's activities. In CAR, a traditional DDR process did not follow the signing of the Libreville peace agreement in 2008. Based on the situation in 2009 (weak economy, lack of state presence in the north, fracturing of rebel groups, unclear political commitment) the decision to provide support to communities where large numbers of combatants were located seemed most appropriate.



13. Because the project did not follow typical Bank processes (grants were made to four implementing partners rather than to the government), the processing time and learning curve for implementing partners took time. The project became effective in July 2011, and NGOs have since then completed a number of activities (totaling about \$1.5 million). Since retroactive financing is allowed under the project agreement, disbursements will quickly go up once the first withdrawal applications are processed. In the meantime, the project team has provided extensive technical assistance to both the government of CAR and the implementing NGOs. It recruited a DDR expert based in Bangui, who is in charge of liaising on an ongoing basis with the Ministry responsible for DDR, the *comité de pilotage* (steering committee for DDR process) and the implementing partners.

14. The team also established a consultation committee comprising the NGOs, the government and the TDRP to build a relationship, address distrust, allow for mutual feedback, and inform the project as it progresses.

Questions & Answers

15. France asked for cooperation between the project team and its technical assistant for children's reintegration based in Kinshasa as well as its new political advisor with the Ministry of justice in Bangui. Overall, the international partners in Bangui (bilaterals, AU and UN) collaborate well.

16. Belgium asked about the role that the Peace Building commission (PBC) plays in DDR in CAR (see paragraph 34 on technical assistance to CAR). They agreed that the main issue was ownership of DDR and accountability by the CAR government. Finland expressed a wish to play a more active role (through their representative in Addis or Nairobi). The AfDB asked about the role of CEMAC in the country. The forces on the ground are still present but greatly reduced. They carry out disarmament activities. Overall, participants agreed that the situation in CAR remains complex and, as much as possible, the international community should speak with one voice in CAR.

II. Regional Activities

A. African Union DDR Capacity Program

17. The AU DDR Capacity Program is part of the TDRP's key objective to transfer DDR knowledge and capacity to other regional organizations. The AU support was developed jointly with UNDPKO (Dept of Peacekeeping Operations) and UNOAU (UN Office to the African Union). The AU presents a complex challenge for donors to coordinate their support. For this reason, the TDRP engaged with the EU and other AU partner groups early on.

18. Through various missions and meetings, the AU program was developed with the Peace and Security Department (PSD). It is important to note that AU Commissioner Lamamra was part of the consultative group for the Bank's World Development Report on Conflict and Security. The AU has thus a keen interest in this work. DPKO provides support on Security Sector Reform (SSR) and jointly with the TDRP on DDR.



19. The support is provided in two stages: initially, consultations within the AU and with its regional economic communities (RECs) and UNOAU will take place to gather experiences (2012). This will lead to drafting a 3-year capacity program (by October 2012) in line with the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). The program is to be implemented starting in 2013 (second stage).

20. In February 2012, a first consultation meeting with RECs will be organized in Addis Ababa (Feb. 21/22). Training sessions on DDR are also being prepared, with a first training of four AU officials in Norway (organized with NODEFIC) on March 18 to 24. The training will focus on reinsertion, reintegration, and reconstruction as articulated in the AU policy. The principle was agreed that further training will take place in/through African institutions.

21. The TDRP is also helping the AU develop a resource center on DDR, using both hard and soft materials (online portal, library, etc.). Finally, the AU is interested in providing DDR support in specific countries where its liaison officers have requested support: CAR, South Sudan, Comoros and Cote d'Ivoire. Additional details have been requested from the AU before the TDRP can fully engage on this issue. Finally, the issue of foreign armed groups, namely the LRA, remains high on the AU agenda, with the LRA recently labeled "terrorist organization" by the AU. Discussions are needed to engage further on this.

B. DDRnet

22. The TDRP organizes events to bring DDR practitioners together around specific DDR issues. The theme of the "economic dimensions of DDR" started last year (seminar on Dec. 16, 2010) and continues with a second seminar in Feb. 2012 in Addis Ababa. This second event will look at the sustainability of reintegration in informal economies. The event is being organized back to back with the AU REC consultation to allow these participants to attend as well. Eventually, all DDRnet events will be aligned with the needs and topics identified in the AU DDR capacity program.

23. The TDRP will support the new AU DDR program until its end in 2013. It will also study how best to continue this support past its closing date, using already existing links within the Bank (for example the new Conflict and Development hub in Nairobi) and strengthening links with other partners such as UN agencies. Donors asked clarification on the type and form of training provided to the AU. The TDRP team confirmed that support is provided at various levels, through formal training by specialized institutions and direct technical assistance from TDRP staff. It expects that there will be a transfer of the formal training by NODEFIC to an African center to ensure continuity and capacity building. The TDRP agreed to provide donors with more detailed reports on these activities on a regular basis.

C. Facility for Quality Enhancement and Innovation

24. The Facility for quality enhancement and innovation (FQEI) provides direct technical assistance to DDR programs in TDRP countries and carries out studies and evaluations. Under its technical assistance component, the FQEI team supported the DDR projects in Burundi and Rwanda, focusing on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and management information systems (MIS). The objective was to synchronize the type of research that the various DDR commissions carry out so that regionally comparable databanks can be developed to inform future practitioners.

25. Building on the experience from many past studies, the FQEI has refined a questionnaire that is now used in various countries to collect data for DDR studies. The amount of data collected and reviewed/"cleaned up" is enormous and can be the basis for many more interesting studies. The FQEI team has seen an improvement in the quality of reports from Rwanda and Burundi, thanks both to baseline and tracer studies. Some of the reports can be considered best practice (for example the study on vulnerable groups in Rwanda). The team also assists the commissions in finding good quality consultants.

26. Pia Peeters gave a short update on the **status of the Burundi D&R program**. The target group of the program includes former FNL combatants, FNL dissidents, as well as a small pending caseload of CNDD-FDD ex-combatants from the previous project. The end of disarmament and demobilization was officially announced in August 2009. Since then, the project is focusing on economic and social reintegration activities. The project's closing date was extended by one year, which allows a longer follow up of beneficiaries. The support now concentrates on economic associations, with technical advice, training (for example to access microcredit), and support to the disabled. The political situation in the country has been tense in the past few months (with extra judicial killings, but so far the project has not been impacted negatively).

27. The FQEI team has carried out various learning studies and evaluations in DRC and Uganda. In DRC, a very large data collection exercise was undertaken with the Congolese Central Statistics Office. A total of over 4,300 ex-combatants were interviewed. The data collected was then analyzed by international consultants. The reports are expected shortly. One study of interest is the one on child soldiers, which analyzed the experience of samples of 17/18 year olds demobilized as children, and of 18/19 year olds demobilized as adults. Another study looked at how ex-combatants fared when reintegrated into eastern DRC where conflict is still present.

28. In Uganda, five studies were commissioned and completed. They were presented to the Amnesty Commission and partners in Uganda and will be published in a few weeks. In this country, one notable study looked at the different profiles of ex-combatants who succeeded in reintegration and those who didn't to try and extract similar characteristics. Another study examined the migrating factors of ex-combatants and how their movement impacted their reintegration experience. Finally in Uganda, a large study on the Information, Referral, and Counseling System (ICRS) was carried out. An ICRS is seen as useful in many other contexts (natural disasters, displacements) and the FQEI team is putting together an ICRS guide which will be piloted in South Sudan. The guide will be published and launched during a workshop in Nairobi in mid-2012.

29. Other FQEI projects include a manual on ex-combatants economic associations and a manual on human rights for ex-combatants. Overall, the FQEI will publish 17 studies (online) and 3 manuals (in print). In CAR, the team will launch a study in April 2012 on the impact of social networking in peacekeeping. It will work with the AU on this project.

30. The January 24 conference "Consolidating Peace after Conflict: the future of DDR" in Washington represented a forum to present some of the findings from FQEI work. The team is planning another similar conference in January 2013 focusing on vulnerable groups (women, disabled, psycho-social, youth/children and communities). During 2012, the team will also organize two other events in Africa.

D. Gender

31. Pia Peeters, TTL for the LOGICA program (Learning on Gender in Conflict in Africa), gave an update on joint LOGICA/TDRP gender activities. The TDRP will help to finance a follow-up study to a pilot project in DRC (Maniema), where women ex-combatants received economic support. A field visit recently tried to locate the women two years after the initial support was provided to assess their current situation. Moreover, a study on the impact on families of ex-combatants will be undertaken in Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda. This is an area that has not been studied carefully yet. Due to a World Bank travel ban to DRC after the elections, the LOGICA team was not able to travel to the country and follow up on gender activities there.

III. Technical Assistance to TDRP Countries

A. Democratic Republic of Congo

32. The PNDDR in the DRC closed in September 2011. The team has provided extensive technical support in the closing activities of the project (identification of international experts for independent evaluation, beneficiary assessments). The TDRP has a locally based staff who continues to support the executing agency (UEPNDDR). The AfDB also continues its support to the PNDDR through community reintegration (farms) and both the AfDB and TDRP have agreed to carry out a study on cross border trade (DRC with Rwanda and Burundi).

B. Republic of Congo

33. The TDRP conducted an analysis of the situation in the Pool Region, where many ninja bases remained until late 2010. Through discussion with the country's DDR commission and the Bank's office in Brazzaville, it was agreed that a new project is needed to consolidate the fragile peace in the Pool region. There are still between 4,500 and 5,000 ex-combatants in the province. The project will likely be between \$25 and \$30 million, financed in large part by the RoC government. The TDRP is providing technical support to finalize the project proposal for a parliamentary review in May 2012. There will be a need for additional support for this project.

C. Central African Republic

34. In CAR, the DDR process has historically been difficult. The Bank has an ongoing relationship with the government: it financed the PRAC (*Projet d'appui aux communautés*) with an MDRP grant from 2004 to 2007. But tensions remain between the Government of CAR and international actors. The responsibility for DDR has now shifted to BINUCA, which received a \$2.5 million grant from the Peacebuilding Fund. During a visit to Washington by the UN SRSG, the Bank committed to helping BINUCA to support reintegration of communities and local NGOs. The TDRP will finance three consultants to provide technical assistance to BINUCA for this work. The terms of reference and budget for this activity will be reviewed during a joint mission with BINUCA in end February/early March 2012.

D. Uganda

35. The TDRP is exploring the feasibility of a project aiming to consolidate peace in Uganda and focusing on female ex-combatants, particularly those with children. The new project to promote sustainable livelihoods for women and strengthen economic associations is being studied. In total, the project would support about 100 associations. The TDRP will coordinate with other partners who may have direct experience with this type of activities.

IV. Technical Assistance beyond TDRP Countries

A. Niger

36. When the Libya crisis took place in 2011, many Nigeriens who worked there returned home. This presented great difficulties for the Niger government and the Bank proposed to assist it, pulling about \$15 million from four ongoing projects. The TDRP was called upon to provide technical support in the development of a registering and coordination framework (similar to the identification system for ex-combatants) as well as design a communications campaign at the national, regional and local levels.

B. South Sudan

37. In late 2011, the South Sudan DDR Commission reached out again to the TDRP to request support. The TDRP went to Juba on a scoping mission in mid-December 2011 to assess the situation and evaluate needs. The mission found that there are many different stakeholders with different agendas in the country, with little coordination among them.

38. The TDRP proposed to use the ICRS as a vehicle for reintegration in the country. The team presented the model to the SSDDRC. The Bonn International Center for Conversion will contribute to the program and fund parts of it. The TDRP and BICC will agree on a division of responsibilities and will support the piloting of the ICRS. The TDRP's involvement will be only technical as part of the AU program, but it will be placed under the FQEI's work. During an earlier meeting with AU and South Sudan representatives, it was agreed that the AU would take a leading role for the work with South Sudan.

Questions & Answers

39. Last year during the TFC meeting, the AfDB requested some assistance for Tunisia, following the popular uprising there and the need to reduce the police. Now that a new government has been elected, the needs remain acute. The AfDB proposes to carry out a study with assistance from other partners to understand the needs. The TDRP will discuss with WB senior management and continue the discussion with the AfDB on this matter.

40. Norway noted the concerns with the political aspects of the work in South Sudan. It also asked clarification about the recent political situation in Burundi. Pia Peeters explained that the relationship with the government of Burundi was very good, contrary to previous projects. Extra-judicial killings are closely monitored by the various partners in Bujumbura, since the targets for this violence are FNL and



FNL-D, in other words the very beneficiaries of the DDR program in Burundi. The ruling political party is the CNDD-FDD. There is no expectation that the situation will deteriorate further, but the project is keeping a close watch. The team raises the subject with the government during each support mission.

41. Belgium asked whether South Sudan was ready for a DDR program, considering that conflict was still present in the country. The TDRP team concurred that the situation remained volatile and that a lot of work still needed to be done by the DDR community before reintegration activities can be initiated. Moreover, the issue must be closely linked to SSR, which is beyond the scope of the WB/TDRP. The TDRP team asked donors to relay the message to their headquarters: DDR should not be funding until the situation on the ground clears up.

V. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

42. The TDRP extension of the trust fund closing date to end 2013 has been processed. Overall, income in the TDRP Trust Fund is \$30.5 million. Disbursements since June have risen sharply to reach \$8.4 million, thanks mostly to the expenses under the Rwanda DDR project. Technical assistance activities are also disbursing at a good pace. As agreed with Norway at the time of signing the administration agreement, a transfer of \$400,000 from the TDRP trust fund to LOGICA will soon be done. This amount will cover gender activities.

Questions & Answers

43. Norway expressed some concern at the disbursement rate. The TDRP team explained that only one project was holding back disbursement: the CAR community reintegration project. All other activities were on track regarding their disbursements.

VI. Next steps

44. The next Trust Fund Committee meeting will take place in Paris in June 2012. The TDRP team will propose a date to donors. In the meantime, if any particular date is definitely not possible, donors should inform the TDRP.

45. The TDRP team will be in Norway in March for the AU training. It would like to use this opportunity to meet with Norwegian colleagues. During a trip to Tunis in the spring, the TDRP would also like to connect with AfDB colleagues. Norway also asked to be informed in advance about WB/TDRP missions to the TDRP countries in order to have the option to participate. The TDRP team will inform donors of the mission calendar for the coming months.

Annex 1

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