

TRANSITION INTERNATIONAL

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NEWSLETTER 2023



Achievements in 2023

This newsletter aims to update our network of partners, associates, selected clients and friends, about the work completed by Transition International (TI) and its partners in 2023. From our Netherlands-based team, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have supported TI, allowing our impact to continue. We would like to wish all of you a bright and happy 2024.



18th version of TI's specialised (re)integration course



Advisory services

IGAD Somalia: Conflict sensitivity analysis

TI supported the IGAD special mission to Somalia to undertake a conflict sensitivity analysis and design strategies for its project: “Support to Effective Peace Building and State Building in Somalia”.

Clingendael Institute: MTR Knowledge Platform Security & Rule of Law

TI conducted the mid-term review of the Knowledge Platform Security & Rule of Law (KPSRL). KPSRL was established by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs to strengthen the evidence base for security and rule of law (SRoL) policies and programmes. KPSRL is managed by a consortium comprised of the Clingendael Institute, Saferworld, and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO).

UNDP/SSU DRC: Technical assistance to the Government of DRC

Irma Specht, the director of TI, provided technical assistance to the government of DRC, on behalf of the UN-system, in collecting comments from across the UN system, liaise with donors, and the drafting the new national strategy on Disarmament, Demobilisation, Community Reintegration and Stabilisation (P-DDRCS).

Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs: MTR Nexus Skills and Jobs Programme

TI conducted the mid-term review of the Nexus Skills and Jobs Programme in nine countries. The programme is a delegated budget for embassies to support (additional) training and work/income for young men and women.

Advisory services

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands Mozambique: End evaluation of FIPAG II

The TI-Cowater consortium conducted the end evaluation of the second phase of the Institutional Support Programme to FIPAG (Water Asset Holding and Investment Fund). The programme started in 2011, focused on capacity building, institutional development, improving operational efficiency and expanding service to the low-income population through a partnership with FIPAG that focused on strengthening the water supply services in cities.

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands Burkina Faso: MTR PESA project

The TI-Cowater consortium conducted the mid-term evaluation of the Fish Farming for Food Security Project (PESA) in Burkina Faso. The PESA project aims to promote the development of the fish farming value chain, focusing on food security, employment and entrepreneurship for young people and women in Burkina Faso.



MONUSCO DRC: Setting up ICERS

Irma Specht supported MONUSCO to design an Information, Counselling and Referral Service (ICRS) system for the implementation of the P-DDRCS in Tanganyika. This included a mapping of existing services for referral and support to the design of the tailormade software by the database specialist. Further, extensive training was provided to P-DDRCS staff.

Knowledge

GIZ: Guidance Notes on conflict sensitive programming along the HDP triple-nexus

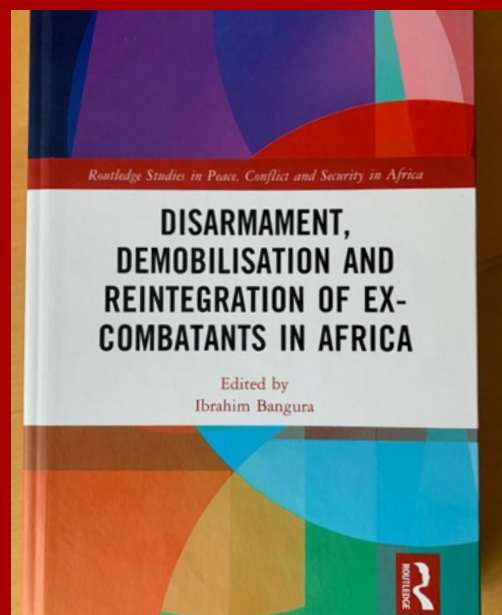
TI conducted a conflict analysis and produced eight thematic guidance notes on conflict-sensitivity. The main objective was to produce evidence based and context driven guidance on conflict sensitive programming along the Humanitarian, Development and Peace (HDP) nexus in the DRC. The eight guidance notes provide recommendations on how to operationalise conflict sensitivity into the collective outcomes under the HDP nexus, on both working in conflict, as well as working on conflict.

UNDP DRC: Developing four concept notes on DDRCS

Irma Specht designed four concept notes to operationalise the new national DDRCS strategy, namely on vocational training, opportunity mapping, gender responsiveness and entry points for UNDP programming in support of P-DDRCCS.

Research Collaboration with the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre.

Ibrahim Bangura, director of TI-Siera Leone produced a paper titled: Rethinking the Nexus: DDR and SSR in Post- and Evolving Conflict Contexts in Africa



Book launch: Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration of Ex-Combatants in Africa

TI partners and associates contributed to the book on DDR in Africa. A volume edited by the director of Transition International Sierra Leone, Ibrahim Bangura.



UNICEF DRC: Programmatic research CAAFAG

Irma Specht designed and led a large programmatic research to review and identify promising reintegration approaches for young people, based on feedback and experience of the children who left armed groups and forces (CAFAAG) since 2005. She led 40 researchers in a study to find back over 3000 former CAAFAG. The study included a control group of 1500 youth, who never joined, and interviews with Government, UNICEF, NGO staff and local leaders who have supported them.

Training

FBA and The CCCPA: DDR and Youth Peace and Security pilot course

The Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding (CCCPA) – in partnership with the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) of Sweden – have conducted the pilot training course on “Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) and Youth: A Practitioner’s Guide on How to Include Youth in DDR and other Security Transitions in a Meaningful Way.” The training took place in Cairo and brought together a diverse group of participants from 17 nationalities. TI designed and co-delivered several modules.

Helsinki España/TI: Conflict analyses and conflict sensitivity training

This course was organised by Helsinki España in participation with TI. The course trained participants in conflict analysis and conflict-sensitive programming tools. This yearly course was held in Alfaz del Pi, Alicante–Spain.

The Hague Academy for local governance The Netherlands: LESD Training

Delivery of annual training sessions in several courses including on Local Economic and Social Development (LESD), in their annual Local Economic Development (LED) course.



TI/Barcelona Peace centre: Specialised Re(Integration) Training Course

TI’s annual course brought together 27 senior and mid-level practitioners, policy makers, researchers and donors from around the world. They shared experiences and developed a common understanding of possible and innovative approaches to (re)integration of ex-combatants, returnees, CAAFAG and other conflict affected groups. Best practices on economic, political and social (re)integration were shared by a pool of experienced trainers, and further explored and challenged by the participants. This course was organised together with the Barcelona International Peace Center (BIPC) and held in Barcelona, Spain.

KA IPTC: DDR foundation course

TI Sierra Leone provided the lead trainer for the DDR Foundation Course by the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre in Ghana in February, 2023.



EU, Great Lakes Region: Support to the EJVM

TI, in consortium with Altair, is implementing a three-year EU funded project to strengthen the capacities of the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism (EJVM) of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR). The objective is to strengthen the capacity of the EJVM to contribute to the creation of conducive conditions to security, stability and development in the Great Lakes Region. Over 20 trainings, partnership building and coaching will be provided.

International Alert DRC/Rwanda: Baseline study on access to justice

TI is conducting the baseline study to inform the International Alert's project: "improving access to justice for peace and stability in the Great Lakes region/ regional project Uhaki Bila Mipaka". The project aims to facilitate access to justice for vulnerable people and to help improve access to justice for people living in cross-border areas in order to reduce tensions and strengthen stability in the Great Lakes region.

UNICEF DRC: Review of alternative care systems in place in DRC

Irma Specht is supporting UNICEF and the Government of DRC with the review of alternative care systems for conflict affected children (CAAC) and Children Formally Associated with Armed Groups (CAAFAG). This includes review of practice of Interim Care Centres (ICC) and transitional foster families.

KAIPTC: Research preventing Jihadism

TI-Sierra Leone has a research collaboration with the DDR unit of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre on Preventing Jihadism in Senegal.

Ongoing

New partnerships and Framework contracts

TI, as part of different consortia, has been awarded six new framework contracts for EU's external action (SEA 2023). The contracts relate to the following areas:

- Climate change, sustainable energy, nuclear safety
- Food systems, sustainable agriculture and nutrition
- Democracy, human rights, rule of law, gender equality and human rights-based approach
- Civil society and local authorities
- Security, conflict prevention, sustaining peace and building resilience
- Migration and forced displacement

In addition to TI's current framework partners, Cowater and Altair, TI has formed new partnerships this year with IBF and WEglobal.

UNDP DRC: Training on community based reintegration

TI is designing and implementing four training workshops on community based reintegration in Kinshasa and three provinces, for the staff of the new national P-DDRCS programme and other relevant stakeholders

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands Kenya: Third party monitoring & data quality assessments

The TI-Cowater consortium is providing Third Party Monitoring (TPM) & Data Quality Assessments (DQA) of programmes under the grant instrument "Policy Framework for Strengthening Civil Society (SCS)".

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands Mozambique: Mid-term review of the AIAS project

The TI-Cowater consortium is conducting a mid-term review of the third phase of the AIAS project (AIAS PO75). The project aims to improve access to sustainable water and sanitation services in secondary towns in Mozambique.



TI/Barcelona Peace centre – Specialised Re(Integration) Training Course

This course aims to bring together senior and mid-level practitioners, policy makers, researchers and donors from around the world to share experiences and develop a common understanding of possible and innovative approaches to (re)integration. Best practice on economic, political and social (re)integration are shared by a pool of experienced trainers, and further explored and challenged by the participants. This course is organised together with the Barcelona International Peace Center (BIPC) and will be held in Barcelona, Spain, the 17th to the 24th of November 2024.

Conflict Analysis & Conflict Sensitivity Programming – Module I

This five-day residential course will be organised by Helsinki España in participation with TI. The course trains participants in conflict analysis and conflict-sensitive programming. This requires a deep understanding of the actors of the conflict, as well as the two-way interaction between an intervention and the context. This course will be held in Alfaz del Pi, Alicante–Spain, from the 27th to the 31st of May, 2024.



TI's aim is to assist the major players in peacebuilding to become more effective in order to reduce suffering and increase hope and opportunities for those people in this world who do not have the power or voice to trigger change.

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