

# IOM'S SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY STABILIZATION IN THE TWO AREAS

## Joint Conflict Reduction Program (May 2012 - February 2016)



The Joint Conflict Reduction Programme (JCRP) is a joint initiative of IOM and UNDP implemented in two phases from May 2012 to February 2016. JCRP aimed to develop the capacity of government and community-led institutions to resolve conflicts at the local level and strengthen community resilience to withstand future conflicts, so as to foster the long-term social cohesion, peace, and pluralism in the regions bordering South Sudan.

The project was implemented in Blue Nile State (BNS), South Kordofan State (SKS) and West Kordofan State (WKS) in close coordination with local authorities, such as the Reconciliation and Peaceful Coexistence Mechanism (RPCM) in WKS, the Social Peacebuilding and Peaceful Coexistence Committee (SPPCC) in SKS, and the Peace Council (PC) in BNS.

In close cooperation with local counterparts, IOM implemented two outputs of the project. Delivery of targeted peace dividends to communities, such as reconstruction and rehabilitation of basic infrastructures, was supported in accordance with priorities identified during local Reconciliation Conferences. Moreover, initiatives for stability, reconciliation and peaceful coexistence were promoted through grant management and capacity building to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

### Overview of IOM Assistance for Community Stabilization

**Project Sites:** Blue Nile, South Kordofan and West Kordofan States

#### Social Infrastructure To Support Peace Agreements

In consultation with state peace mechanisms and according to identified priorities, IOM supported construction and rehabilitation of social infrastructures to promote community stabilization initiatives such as:

- o Demarcation of migration corridors
- o Water points to mitigate natural resource conflict
- o Schools and markets as venues for coexistence of communities

#### CSO Initiatives To Increase Communal Capacity To Manage Conflict

IOM worked with CSOs to build capacity in conflict-sensitive programming and project management. IOM further worked in 24 CSO-led projects in the target states to implement:

- o Community-based peacebuilding
- o Conflict mapping and priority identification
- o Income generating activities
- o Community management of natural resources

### Case Study: IOM Supports Management of Pastoral Movement to Enhance Peaceful Coexistence

In 2010 and 2012, state-wide conferences were held in BNS with support of JCRP and the State Governor, including leaders of both pastoral and sedentary tribes. Key stakeholders agreed that traditional corridors should be clearly demarcated, with affected farmers duly compensated. It was agreed that establishment of water points along the corridors, and construction of schools as space for children of both communities to study together should also be promoted.

Based on this, IOM demarcated 109 kms of migration corridors while the BNS authorities compensated farmers affected by the demarcation. Mr Ibrahim Shaga, a farmer living in Agadi West, BNS, commented: "We are very happy about this intervention. Animals will no longer enter our land and we can grow crops safely without fear of damage."

The Blue Nile Peace Council stated that, as a result of the corridor demarcation, the number of disputes between farmers and pastoralists decreased from an average 400 - 500 per year to fewer than 30 incidents in 2013. The Minister of Agriculture added: "between July 2012 and July 2013, 20-30 deaths related to farmer-pastoralist conflict were reported. Since the demarcation started, there have been no reports of deaths".



Assured by the improved relationships between his people and other tribes, Mr. El-Fatih El-Mak, the Advisor to the Governor for the Native Administration Affairs, added: "JCRP provided positive mechanisms that pulled people out of a state of frustration. We, as native authorities, are satisfied and grateful, as these projects have helped us in our work."

