The TRU identifies priority needs and addresses them at the local and state level to enhance social cohesion, sustainable community stabilization, and promote relationships amongst communities. The TRU addresses basic infrastructural needs, delivers livelihood activities, and supports local organizations and government authorities to assist communities in reducing conflict and facilitating cross-border movement.

Partners in Sudan

The TRU works closely with Government counterparts including the Ministry of Finance and National Economy, Humanitarian Aid Commission, the Darfur Regional Authority, State Water Cooperation, Water and Environmental Sanitation, Law enforcement; as well as the State Ministries of Social Affairs, Education, Agriculture and Animal Resources. Non-governmental partners include the African Union-United Nations Mission in Darfur, UNDP, and other UN agencies; National NGOs, and Community-Based Organizations.

Overview

Social Cohesion

Social inclusion encourages access and participation in communal interaction within groups facing particular vulnerabilities due to historical differences or other embedded cultural divisions. The TRU engages diverse segments of local communities, including displaced and hard-to-reach populations such as pastoralists and sedentary segments, to promote resilience and community stabilization. This is done by increasing access, knowledge and awareness for broader community participation in local institutions. The TRU provides businesses opportunities, strengthens community groups and governance processes with tailored community renewal projects that enhance socio-economic development. This in turn, encourages community engagement by fostering connections through capacity building and participation in the decision making processes. Such interventions increase social participation and create a sense of value and belonging in communities; therefore enhancing local investment, ownership and empowerment. IOM has also established sustainable networks of individuals and institutions that generate new opportunities and social safety nets.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

The TRU enhances access to WASH basic services through the construction and rehabilitation of water points, infrastructures, sanitation facilities, and promotes behavioral changes towards safe hygiene practices. WASH interventions under the Transition and Recovery Unit are an integrated part of projects that aim to promote social cohesion and community stabilization. The TRU supports communities towards peaceful coexistence and development, by increasing access to limited basic services and livelihood opportunities in the most underdeveloped regions in the country, such as farming and fishing. IOM promotes durable solutions by constructing solar powered mini water yards, and targeted community trainings to enhance future sustainability (hand pump mechanics, water user committees and hygiene trainings), and directly involving the community in the selection of activities, locations, and in construction works. The designs of the interventions are constantly being revised, combining them with tailored campaigns and trainings to enhance future resilience to environmental shocks.

Livelihoods

The TRU increases the self-reliance and coping capacities through protecting, restoring and creating livelihood opportunities for households. By working in partnership with local authorities and NGO’s, TRU aims to strengthen and facilitate the transition from emergency to early recovery and development. Beneficiaries in camp settings and host communities are supported through vocational trainings and income-generating activities, identified through communal and market needs whilst verified through evidence-based assessments ensuring the sustainability of livelihood interventions. These activities in combination with small business grants and job creation strategies, strengthen overall community resilience to external shocks and facilitate successful (re)integration through reduced aid dependence and broadening economic prospects. This creates strong foundations for greater social stability and peaceful co-existence. IOM sees this as a key area of growth essential to creating conditions for durable solutions for IDP’s and Host Communities.