



Community-field of Kibumba for Agriculture Re-launching to support transition and recovery in Rutshuru and Nyiragongo North Kivu. © IOM DRC, March 2015

BACKGROUND

In this issue:

- IOM DRC continues to contribute to the Restoration of State Authority in North - Kivu province
- IOM supports a restitution session for the follow up of Community-State Dialogue processes in the villages of return in Rutshuru and Nyiragongo.
- Early Recovery: IOM is inaugurating agricultural revival in areas of return in North-Kivu

Since January 2014, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has been continuing to support the Government in stabilizing two post-conflict Territories in North Kivu Province, Eastern DRC through its Recovery and Resilience Programme, funded by the Government of the Netherlands.

The Programme was piloted through the *Human Security in Rutshuru and Nyiragongo Territories* project which closed in March 2015. Achieved activities include in the three programme based pillars: Restoration of state authority, support the dialogue process State—Communities, with a series of activities that target local early recovery and increasing the resilience of communities. The activities were implemented in five selected areas affected by the conflict and a return process takes place in Rutshuru and Nyiragongo post-conflict Territories.

In these five zones, known locally as groupements, IOM is promoting adequate work environment for PNC and local authorities. Indeed, two sub-offices and four bureau of local structures called the *Comités*

Locaux de Paix et de Développement (CLPD) were constructed. These public and community buildings will help support effective deployment of PNC and create representation, coordination and planning within the community.

In addition, IOM has organized humanitarian management training sessions in four border posts in North Kivu. Capacity building activities aim to improve knowledge of border agents to assist in the management of migrants in case of conflict, crisis or natural disaster involving the displacement of people.

To further improve the resilience of communities, IOM in the DRC also distributed seeds and farming tools to 1,600 households at the community level. 55 young farmers have benefited from IOM's training on the use of plant and farming tools to continue tracking fields in the community. These activities are part of IOM's Youth Employment Strategy in the DRC.

IOM DRC CONTINUES TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE RESTORATION OF STATE AUTHORITY IN RUTSHURU AND NYIRAGONGO POST CONFLICT TERRITORIES

Increasing capacities of Border agents in North Kivu



A Training of Trainers session of the Humanitarian Border Management, Goma, North-Kivu. © IOM DRC, February 2015

During the first quarter of 2015, IOM is continuing its interventions in the context of supporting the restoration of State authority in post-conflict territories of North Kivu. IOM is involved in capacity building activities of public officials, especially border agents.

After Goma, Bunagana and Ishasha, IOM organized basic sessions and training of trainers on Humanitarian Border Management (HBM) between 9 to 13 March 2015 at Kasindi.

Twenty six (26) officials from the *Direction Générale de Migration (DGM)*, *Programme National d'Hygiène aux Frontières (PNHF)*, *Direction Générale de Douanes et Accises (DGDA)*, *Office Congolais de Contrôle (OCC)*, *Service de Quarantaine Animale et Végétale (SQUAV)* and the *Police des frontières de la PNC* took place .

The aim is to reinforce the capacities of agents from this area in their daily work. Covered domains are

management, border control and provision of customs. Thus, elaborating Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) of customs services for protection and aid provision to vulnerable migrants during conflict and/or natural disaster.

This program inaugurates a new era in the development of strategies to stabilize and rebuild the areas of return as recognized by the various actors in these areas.

Promotion of adequate work environment for PNC and local authority



Launching the Humanitarian Border Management training (Basic and ToT) at Kasindi Beni-North Kivu, DR Congo. © IOM DRC March

In collaboration with local authorities and the community, IOM is currently finalizing an office building substations for the Congolese National Police (PNC), adequate infrastructure and working environment to contribute improving the quality and quantity of public services offered to the population.

Simultaneously, a baseline study of the infrastructure and profitable economic sectors was conducted to support the next IOM and all the partners interventions in stabilizing the province of North Kivu.

RETURN OF THE DIALOGUE PROCESS STATE- COMMUNITIES in areas of return in North Kivu

Need of Restitution after decentralized fora sessions



Restitution session organized by IOM to validate findings and recommendation of Community-state Dialogue Fora at Rutshuru centre, DR Congo. ©IOM DRC, March 2015

After the launch of the process and intensification of activities, IOM organized on 24 March 2015 a restitution session to validate conclusions and recommendations made by participants in twelve (12) fora in the villages of return of Rutshuru and Nyiragongo post conflict Territories.

Those sessions between populations and the State were conducted in major urban centers of both territories to launch the process. Thus, to decentralize the process and establish an inclusive process for the involvement of segments of the population in dialogues, fora were held in the return villages.

In *Rutshuru* territory four (4) sessions have been organized. *Bunagana* and *Gikoro*; *Kabaya*; *Kigarama* respectively villages from the *groupements* of *Jomba*, *Gisigari* and *Rugari* were covered. Regarding to *Nyiragongo*, 3 fora held in the localities of *Gasizi*, *Kibiriga* and *Kingarame* from the *groupement* of *Kibumba* before two other were organized in *Mutaho*, *Buhama* from *Kibati*. Later, a dissemination workshop was organized on 24 March 2015 at *Rutshuru* center to validate findings.

Profile of participants

Participants came from different social and professional village organizations particularly: members of the local civil society, community Leaders of the *Comités locaux de Paix et de Développement* (CLPD), representatives of collective women's groups, youth organizations and peasant unions, community leaders and religious denominations, representative of returnees (IDPs and refugees), local authorities and customary chiefs, PNC, Army (FARDC) and other security services (ANR, DGM and ICCN).

Perception of security and State authority by populations

Discussions focused on community-based initiatives, peace after an autopsy of the security situation. This approach helped to understand local dynamics and sources of conflict and to identify sustainable solutions for peace.

During these discussions, participants identified the problems and the remaining challenges in security, justice and political governance. On the whole, community representatives and state authorities have a consensus on the constraints that limit the actions and initiatives of local communities.

A final report containing the findings and recommendations made by each other, will be shared. The document will serve as an advocacy tool and will allow governmental and nongovernmental partners to improve their actions in areas under the stabilization and return sectors located in *Rutshuru* and *Nyiragongo*.



Presentation of conclusions of the previous Fora, Community-state by participants. © IOM DRC, March 2015

Recommendations of Community and state/Local authorities for the security and sustainable peace in Rutshuru and Nyiragongo

During these sessions, different solutions to the above problems have been proposed as recommendations :

1. Organize regularly fora of democratic dialogue on basis of three months;
2. Establish frameworks of dialogue between local authorities and population to encourage active participation in the local Security Council;
3. Organize Open day to disseminate "missions" of each state service;
4. Organize trainings to increase capacities of local authorities and those in charge of security to clarify roles and responsibilities;
5. Build / rehabilitate infrastructure to house local administrative services (especially PNC, local authorities) in the return areas;
6. Advocate for increased deployment of PNC elements in both Rutshuru and Nyiragongo post conflict territories;
7. Encourage people to use non-judicial mechanisms for conflict resolution for mild cases;
8. Enlighten classification of legal costs to in adequacy with the purchasing power of the population;
9. Establish a collaborating mechanism between community and security officials to identify and denounce bandits hidden among populations;
10. Establish frameworks for dialogue between the communities themselves, on the one hand, and between the authorities and the population, on the other hand using community structures (CLPD, NPD,);
11. Sensitize communities and promote awareness on responsible citizenship.
12. raise awareness of civil society and local authorities on their mission in the fight against ethnic manipulation between communities;
13. Establish effective strategies and mobilize resources needed to collect weapons from civilians;
14. Continuous advocacy for the creation of a buffer zone between the boundaries of communities and Protected areas (especially parks) and establish the compensatory mechanism for crops destroyed by animals from the park;
16. Launch selected community-projects and encourage income-generating activities in return areas to fight against poverty.

Upcoming steps of the process

For the upcoming programme, democratic dialogue, as a pivotal part of IOM's interventions, ought to be permanent.

IOM will continue to organize democratic dialogue based on three components.

First, intercommunity dialogue will be established to overcome prejudices and stereotypes so that solutions that both agree upon, can be acted upon in a concerted manner.

Secondly promote dialogue among various actors of the Society for a collective vision for the long-term peace. The hope is to create a basis for stable and credible institutions that are necessary for stabilization.

Thus, the reinforcement of local coordination mechanisms to improve the impact of local initiatives is needed. In particular, OM will encourage the exchange of experiences between stakeholders, the municipal advocacy, and the definition of common intervention methodologies.

Democratic dialogue activities contribute to the creation of appropriate policies for the concerted stabilization plan. Particular emphasis will be placed on promoting local governance, particularly on responsible citizenship, such as payment of taxes, the local development planning, and public decision making. Local and traditional authorities and community members are trained to build capacity and develop leadership in the community.

The initiative was welcomed by all beneficiaries who have found on these occasions, and for the first time they emphasized, an opportunity to talk about security issues in their daily lives.

Democratic dialogue is proving to be a key pillar of the other components. Stabilization programs should be implemented to strengthen the resilience of the community in the areas of return.



Representative of local authorities and community ready working together for building peace initiatives Rutshuru-Centre -North Kivu.
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EARLY RECOVERY IN RUTSHURU AND NYIRAGONGO

Considering the needs for local economic recovery and vulnerabilities observed in areas of return, since late January 2015, IOM has launched six (6) Community projects that meet the main needs of the whole population in Rutshuru and Nyiragongo.

The objective is to mitigate potential conflicts between returnees and the community; after furniture assistance to returnee households during 2014. The current process is conducted in close consultation with community organizations and the *Comités locaux de Paix et de Développement* previously installed. In this context, IOM in the DRC supports the provision of sustainable means of supply of agricultural and non-agricultural subsistence to facilitate socio-economic reintegration in the stabilization process.

IOM is inaugurating Agriculture Re-Launching through the implementation of community fields



Community projects for re-launching agriculture as a livelihood in Rutshuru and Nyiragongo Jomba -North Kivu, DR Congo back.
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In each “*groupement*”, two community fields were organized and supported with seeds and farming tools. In total, 1,600 are targeted for subsistence farming after harvest.

In 2014, IOM supported around 10 000 returnees (1750

households) with a provision of livelihood package of seeds and farm tools especially to returnees. The community support will help to meet the population needs as whole and mitigate potential conflict resulted from this assistance.



IOM DRC trained and equipped young farmers with crop product and farm tools, Kiwanja -North Kivu, DR Congo. ©IOM DRC, March 2015

As a result, candidates from among the unemployed youth have been identified for training in the use of crop protection products. Then young trained farmers received the

same products and were equipped with farming tools for starting their economic reintegration. This initiative is part of the IOM’s strategy Youth employment in post-conflict areas.

Construction/rehabilitation of rural access roads and promote other non agricultural livelihood means

Additionally, for easy and improve access to markets of crops, IOM DRC continue to support the construction/rehabilitation of basic social infrastructure, rural access roads, including farm-to-market roads the set-up of community seed banks based on HIMO approach (high intensity labor). The approach is to generate revenue at the community level and to increase social cohesion and solidarity.

In addition, to facilitate and improve access to crop markets, IOM continues to support the construction / rehabilitation of basic social infrastructure, rural access roads, including farm-to-market roads with establishment of community seed banks on the basis of the labor-intensive approach. This approach is to generate income at the community and strengthen social cohesion and solidarity.



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