ddr

in peace operations
a retrospective

THIS **DISARMAMENT**, **DEMOBILIZATION** AND **REINTEGRATION** RETROSPECTIVE IS INTENDED TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE ROLE OF DDR IN PAST AND CURRENT PEACE OPERATIONS, AS WELL AS HIGHLIGHT EMERGING PRACTICES. DDR INITIATIVES ARE A CRUCIAL COMPONENT OF POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION AS THEY AIM TO SUPPORT THE PEACE PROCESS, CREATE POLITICAL SPACE AND CONTRIBUTE TO A SECURE ENVIRONMENT. WHILE THE MAGAZINE IS PRIMARILY TARGETED TO MEMBER STATES, KEY PARTNERS, DONORS AND DDR PRACTITIONERS, WE HOPE THAT IT WILL ALSO RESONATE WITH BROADER AUDIENCES.

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The Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, visits the Petion Ville Club golf course IDP camp in Port-au-Prince. (UN Photo/Sophia Paris)

In many respects, the range of activities that fall under the heading of "disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR)" is as wide as the global scope of the United Nations system itself. In the early days after a cessation of hostilities, DDR can serve as a vital confidence-building measure. DDR features prominently in the mandates of United Nations peacekeeping operations. In the last few years, we have also seen that DDR is just as crucial for peacebuilding, as reflected by the increasing references to DDR tasks in integrated peacebuilding missions. Not to mention the reintegration of ex-combatants, which is closely related to wider early recovery and development processes. In the twenty years since the first peacekeeping operation with a DDR mandate was established in Central America, we have seen that DDR is an important tool for countries emerging from conflict to pave the way for sustainable peace, recovery and development. I am proud of my colleagues in the entire United Nations family engaged in DDR activities – from peacekeeping operations to special political missions to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes who are playing crucial supporting roles in advancing the ultimate objectives of the United Nations.

A WORD FROM: MR. ALAIN LE ROY, UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

In March 1990, the Security Council expanded the mandate of the peacekeeping operation known as ONUCA to demobilize anti-Government elements in Nicaragua, among other tasks. In the past two decades, DDR has played a central role – along with elections – in the mandates of peacekeeping operations. But DDR practices – just as peacekeeping operations themselves – are changing and evolving. The publication of "Second Generation DDR Practices in Peace Operations" in June 2010 made it clear that DDR can take different shapes and forms – including labour-intensive projects providing alternative livelihoods to gang members in Haiti or disbandment of illegal armed groups in Afghanistan. As with the larger challenges of peacekeeping, in which DDR plays an integral part, the issues have become more complex over time. In order to better serve our clients – the host countries and our colleagues in the field – the whole United Nations system has to keep innovating and improving. There will still be major DDR challenges ahead – especially in the DRC and Sudan, including Darfur. I encourage the DDR Section in OROLSI/DPKO, together with the Inter-Agency Working Group on DDR, to continue to develop, evolve and get stronger as a centre of excellence.

Mr. Alain Le Roy. (UN Photo/Sophia Paris)

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DEFINING DDR

The Secretary-General in his May 2005 note to the General Assembly (A/C.5/59/31) defines the elements of DDR as set out below:

Disarmament
Disarmament is the collection, documentation, control and disposal of small arms, ammunition, explosives and light and heavy weapons of combatants and often also of the civilian population. Disarmament also includes the development of responsible arms management programmes.

Demobilization
Demobilization is the formal and controlled discharge of active combatants from armed forces or other armed groups. The first stage of demobilization may extend from the processing of individual combatants in temporary centres to the massing of troops in camps designated for this purpose (cantonment sites, encampments, assembly areas or barracks). The second stage of demobilization encompasses the support package provided to the demobilized, which is called reinsertion.

Reinsertion
Reinsertion is the assistance offered to ex-combatants during demobilization but prior to the longer-term process of reintegration. Reinsertion is a form of transitional assistance to help cover the basic needs of ex-combatants and their families and can include transitional safety allowances, food, clothes, shelter, medical services, short-term education, training, employment and tools. While reintegration is a long-term, continuous social and economic process of development, reinsertion is short-term material and/or financial assistance to meet immediate needs, and can last up to one year.

Reintegration
Reintegration is the process by which ex-combatants acquire civilian status and gain sustainable employment and income. Reintegration is essentially a social and economic process with an open time-frame, primarily taking place in communities at the local level. It is part of the general development of a country and a national responsibility, and often necessitates long-term external assistance.

in peace operations

TRAINING

For a DDR Section in a peace operation to be able to carry out its work in a coherent and effective way, all staff need to have a common understanding of what DDR is and how all the nuts and bolts of a DDR programme fit together. With staff members coming from a variety of backgrounds and with diverse experiences, what helps us ensure that we are working from the same page is training. Through the Inter-Agency Working Group on DDR, the DPKO DDR Section is working with a number of national peacekeeping training institutions to develop and share training material and deliver training courses in order to meet the growing need for skilled DDR specialists. These institutions are working under the umbrella of the Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Training Group (IDDRTG) and run courses ranging from basic DDR to advanced planning, to reintegration programming. All IDDRTG training is based on the Integrated DDR Standards (IDDRS), the UN system guidelines on DDR. In addition to the courses the IDDRTG provides, the Inter-Agency Working Group runs courses on an as-needed basis and is planning to develop several new initiatives, including custom made in-country training for practitioners in the field.

E-Learning Course

This year, the DDR section of DPKO is rolling out its first-ever online course. The creation of the course was born out of the need to provide standardized training to all our personnel working on DDR. Due to the location and cost of most courses, many of our staff members are not able to attend on-site trainings; this course will give them the opportunity to receive necessary skills for working in the field.

The course is based on the IDDRS, and also includes content from the new DPKO/DDR monitoring and evaluation guidelines, as well as a look at emerging issues within the field of DDR. There are five units of lessons covering a range of topics, including communications, integrated planning, DDR programme design, DDR and Security Sector Reform, DDR and Transitional Justice, and Second Generation DDR.

While the course is primarily intended for DPKO/DDR personnel, we would like to extend an invitation to anyone interested in furthering their knowledge on DDR. Please send requests to: ddr-unhq@un.org

Unit 1: The UN Approach to DDR

Unit 2: Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration

Unit 3: Structures and Processes

Unit 4: Cross-cutting Issues and Linkages with other Processes

Unit 5: Emerging Issues

DDR IN ACTION: CÔTE D'IVOIRE

(UNOCI Photo)

Interview with Dohotié Coulibaly

How did you start working in DDR?

My first contact with DDR took place in 2006, when I attended a seminar organized by UNDP on small arms and light weapons. I was representing the Ivorian section of Amnesty International and participated in the working group dealing with DDR. After the seminar, I began researching DDR matters to better understand the concept and its implications. Six months later, I applied for a position with the UNOCI DDR Section and got the job.

What motivates you in your work?

It's to contribute effectively to the implementation of our DDR mandate on a daily basis. I am particularly happy with the outcome of my work when I see that people who had taken up weapons to fight against each other are now reinserted and accepted back in their communities. They are participating in the economic development of their communities by carrying out their own projects. I'm also motivated by the fact that our work in DDR paves the way for the start of security sector reform which is a major issue yet to be solved for the sustainable development of my country.

You have been involved in the DDR process in Côte d'Ivoire since the very beginning. What has been the most memorable part so far?

The most memorable part in the DDR process was the implementation of the "1,000 Micro-projects" programme. While the formal DDR process was stalled, UNOCI's DDR Section took the lead to launch the 1,000 Micro-projects programme as a concrete effort to advance the peace process. This initiative resulted in the resumption of the reinsertion process in Côte d'Ivoire.

What is the greatest challenge in working in DDR in Côte d'Ivoire?

Following the 2003 the agreement, and the adoption of a timetable for DDR in May 2005, the door was opened for an effective DDR process in Côte d'Ivoire. However, this good start very soon became hostage to the lack of confidence between the concerned parties, the National Armed Forces (now the Defence and Security Forces) of Côte d'Ivoire and Forces Nouvelles. This lack of trust in the peace process constitutes a major challenge for the implementation of an effective disarmament process and the reunification of Côte d'Ivoire.

Micro-projects

This pilot pig farm, which started on 14 August 2008, is one of the first micro-projects run for ex-combatants. It was implemented by seven FAFN ex-combatants who decided to work together as a group. About 2,940,000 FCFA (approximately $5,500) was allocated to the three month project, covering the construction of four pig sties, the purchase of male and female pigs for breeding, as well as food for the pigs. After six months, the beneficiaries have been able to get seven times the initial number of 21 pigs allocated to them. Using the money from selling some of these pigs, the beneficiaries extended their activities and constructed an additional 12 sties.

In the framework of the sustainability of the project, the beneficiaries shared roles and responsibilities among themselves, including finding markets to sell their goods and accounting. They agreed upon a monthly allocation of $100 for each beneficiary, and deposited the remaining funds in a group bank account.

To support the beneficiaries, the community donated a piece of land for the project. Through the planned community rehabilitation projects the Division undertook the rehabilitation of a primary school.

The host community of Oliénou lives in harmony with the beneficiaries and has even given them additional plots around the site for the development of agricultural activities such as maize, yam and cassava. The project is now supplying meat to the whole of Bouaké and its surrounding markets.

The beneficiaries have so far carried out 6 reproduction cycles and the project is at its reintegration phase.

SRSG Choi visits the Oliénou pig farm established under the 1,000 Micro-projects programme. (UNOCI Photo).

"The micro-project activities were initiated at the right moment and helped the FN authorities to appease the tensions among the demobilized elements and the social environment in the FN zones. We oriented our demobilized elements to this concrete, operational reinsertion opportunity."

General Bakayoko,
Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces
of the Forces Nouvelles (FAFN)
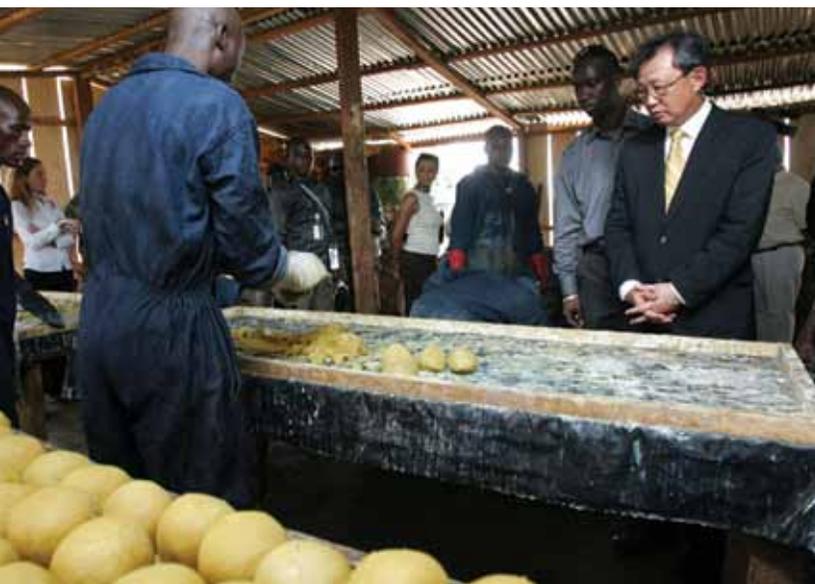
SRSG Choi inspecting the project savon kabakro soap factory run by ex-combatants in Séguéla. (UNOCI Photo)

DDR IN ACTION: DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Jeannot Muloba is a pioneer of the DDR/RR Section of MONUC, having joined in 2003. He is an expert on the FDLR. As a reliable national staff, Jeannot imparts his knowledge about the foreign armed groups active in eastern DRC. His job is not risk-free; kidnapped by some deserters of the FDLR in 2006, Jeannot was released during rival fighting. However, his kidnapper - only identified as "Major Ninja" - was later sensitized and repatriated to Rwanda. In spite of all this, Jeannot continues to be dedicated to the goal of DDR/RR. Being a former Mai-Mai (local militia) from 1998-2002, he organized the first meeting of FDLR combatants, MONUC, and the Mai-Mai in 2003 in Walikale, eastern DR Congo. Jeannot is married and has 6 children, all of whom are based in Goma. His wish is to work with the UN until the DRC enjoys peace once again.

(UN Photo/ Bruno Donat)

MONUC DDR/RR HANDS OVER RECUPERATED WEAPONS to FARDC. Seen here: Gen. Amuli Bahiswa, FARDC (centre), inspects weapons during official handover ceremony at MONUC DDR/RR camp in Goma, North Kivu. (MONUC Photo/Marie Frechon)

"The DDRRR process led by the United Nations in the DRC has allowed us at the Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (RDRC) to support the reintegration of thousands of FDLR ex-combatants from the DRC into Rwandan civilian life. Our program, which includes counselling, financial support, skills training, and education, has been a key factor in the pursuit of peace and stabilization in the Great Lakes Region."

Jean Sayinzoga, Chairman of the Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (RDRC)

A short conversation with Gromo (Gregory) Alex, Chief, DDR/RR, MONUC *

What are some of the indicators of success for the DDR/RR Section of MONUC?

While numbers are important in terms of DDR and repatriations, we also recognize that the deeper we go within an armed group, for instance, the FDLR, the more difficult it becomes to convince combatants and commanders to end their armed presence in the DRC and return to Rwanda. Each defection is important as each represents a decrease in the ability of the FDLR to continue operations at the expense of the DRC population and regional stability. The number of officers that have recently started to repatriate is also a sign of a cracking organizational structure, although it continues to remain strong and controlled. The repatriation of civilian dependents is also an important indicator because it weakens the recruitment base for the FDLR. Gaining access and increasing DDR/RR outreach are also indicators of success because they instil in the local populations a sense that change and security will come.

(MONUSCO Photo/Sam Howard)

A few words on the impact of the repatriation process?

On the one hand, numbers tell us we are making an impact. But on the other hand, there continue to be people recruited — particularly children — into the armed groups. Also, families — whether refugees, dependents or displaced Congolese — have been affected through their ability to return home, enabling them to go to school, access markets and farms and resume their lives. Women and children are the most affected by the change in security that comes with the diminishing presence of foreign armed groups. In addition, we need to continue to intensify our efforts and results. It is an ongoing battle and one that will take time, effort, and collaboration for the foreseeable future; not just in the DRC but in the region.

What kind of challenges are you faced with in carrying out your mandate?

The challenges for DDR and DDRRR cannot be listed or calibrated. At every turn we find something new that we need to address: a combatant's reluctance; difficult terrain; inadequate logistics; insufficient staffing; intervention by political leaders of armed groups; insecurity and risk. The list goes on and on. Where DDR/RR excels is in its adaptability and perseverance: having staff who are committed; working closely with other MONUC Sections; expanding relations with UN agencies and non-governmental organizations; and improving relations with the Government and the FARDC [National Army].

(UN Photo/Bruno Donat)

* On 1 July 2010, MONUC was succeeded by the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO).

DDR IN ACTION: SUDAN

UNMIS

After two decades of war, a peace process is underway in North and South Sudan. In 2005 the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) paved the way for the gradual downsizing of the military on both sides through the establishment of the Sudan DDR programme. The UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) is mandated to assist and support the Governments of both North and South Sudan in the implementation of the national DDR programme. In the 2007 National DDR Strategic Plan, some 180,000 candidates were identified to be disarmed, demobilized and reintegrated back into their communities.

UNAMID

While provisions on DDR were included in the 2006 Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA), no formal DDR programme has been established to date due to a lasting impasse of the peace process in Darfur. In the meantime, UNAMID is providing logistical support to UNICEF and the North Sudan DDR Commission responsible for the implementation of the Darfur Child DDR Programme, which started in July 2009.

Combatants of the Popular Defence Force (PDF), aligned to the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF), hand in their weapons prior to demobilization in Kadugli, Southern Kordofan. (UNMIS Photo/Napolean Viban)

26 July 2009 El-Fasher: DDR programme for the demobilization of 25 child soldiers in Tora, Northern Darfur.
(UNAMID Photo/Olivier Chassot)

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William Deng Deng, Chairman, Southern Sudan DDR Commission.

"The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) has been an excellent pact for us all, preventing people from returning to war in Sudan. DDR emerged out of the CPA as a very important element of the security arrangement. The two Sudanese armies, the SPLA and the SAF, now sit and discuss the issue of downsizing without being hostile towards each other, and it is only because of the existence of the DDR programme which allows that to happen. In order for us to have overall security, we must be able to discuss the issue of downsizing, and to downsize both armies we must start with the vulnerable groups such as women, the disabled and veterans, and see how they can best be reintegrated back into the community. When that is completed, both in the South and the North, then we will talk about the issue of how the SPLA and SAF can professionalize and reorganize themselves by going through a formal downsizing on both sides."

(UN Photo)

Dr. Sulafeldeen Salih, Chairman, North Sudan DDR Commission

"DDR contributes to national development by transforming ex-combatants into productive citizens. For instance, some 83 cooperative societies formed by ex-combatants have produced thousands of sacks of grain to boost Sudan's food security. Our reintegration packages have to be sensitive to the limitations of a weak economic infrastructure. That's why we started with social reintegration through community projects such as cooperative farming in areas with large concentrations of ex-combatants. Reintegration is also linked to our health insurance and micro-finance systems. We have approval from the Bank of Sudan to establish a micro-finance unit for the ex-combatants. Hopefully, this will be operational before the end of 2010."

(UNMIS Photo/Napolean Viban)

The Hakamas, a group of women who during war time travelled with the troops and sang war songs, perform at UNMIS HQ as part of their "Sing for Peace and DDR in Sudan" programme.
(UN Photo/Johann Hattingh)

Singing for Peace

Hakamas, or "the wise ones", are traditional women singers who are indigenous to the states of Southern Kordofan, Northern Kordofan and Southern Darfur. During the years of conflict these women spurred on the combatants from the frontlines.

During a two-year interim period before DDR rolled out fully in 2009, the Hakamas travelled across much of Southern Kordofan and the capital, Khartoum, spreading messages of peace and reconciliation. This was a unique experience as the DDR programme took the bold step to employ their singing skills, for messages of peace.

BETTER TOGETHER: KEY PARTNERSHIPS

Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on DDR

The Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on DDR welcomed its five-year milestone earlier this year. The Working Group can look back with some considerable pride at its achievements.

Some of them are harder to describe than others but here are a few figures: two co-chairs; eighteen members (and growing); three sub-working groups (gender/HIV, capacity development and socio-economic reintegration); five programme areas (revision and harmonization of Integrated DDR Standards (IDDRS), roll-out and dissemination of the IDDRS, knowledge management, capacity development, strengthening of the of Working Group's partnership and capacity); twelve training partners; five in-country joint trainings; 28 IDDRS modules published; a lot of hours spent in "coordination"; two more modules under development; one resource centre (www.unddr. org); three "annual" retreats; countless IAWG meetings; one hundred sixteen pages of minutes of meetings; some disagreements; a lot of goodwill; one secretariat; one funding strategy; one common goal.

Picture Caption: On 14 December 2009 the IAWG held its first IAWG Principals meeting. From left to right: Mr. Bo Viktor Nylund (UNICEF), Ms. Joanne Sandler (UNIFEM), Ms. Ayaka Suzuki (DPKO), Mr. Jordan Ryan (UNDP). (UN Photo/Bruno Donat)

"DDR will always be at the intersection of security, peace building, reconciliation and long-term development processes. Hence, the UN is working to deliver as ONE on an integrated approach on DDR. The key to our success lies in addressing the challenges of reintegration by linking it to wider recovery efforts focusing on employment opportunities, sustainable natural resource management, and gender mainstreaming. Our work together can bring recovery opportunities to conflict affected populations and build peace. "

Jordan Ryan, Assistant Administrator and Director for the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, United Nations Development Programme

"A successful DDR programme requires full political engagement by the parties concerned, well coordinated financial support and a high level of expertise on demobilization and reintegration. The recent consultations on the FDLR and the LRA to reinforce cooperation between the UN, the EU and other partners are a very encouraging step towards enhanced DDR in the Great Lakes Region."

Roeland van de Geer, EU Special Representative for the Great Lakes Region

"The primary objective of the Transitional Demobilization and Reintegration Program (TDRP) is to assist countries in the Great Lakes Region of Africa transition from DDR to broader recovery and development. To this end, the TDRP provides gap financing for demobilization and reintegration activities to eligible countries and supports quality enhancement through technical assistance and analytical work. The TDRP also provides a platform for collaboration, learning and exchange among practitioners and policy makers on DDR. A strong partnership with DPKO and other UN agencies is thus critical for meeting TDRP's objectives."

Maria Correia, Program Manager, Transitional Demobilization and Reintegration Program (TDRP), World Bank

SECOND GENERATION DDR AT A GLANCE

Over the past decade, DDR practitioners in peace operations have had to develop innovative approaches in situations where peace agreements are lacking or non-inclusive, and where greater levels of violence against unarmed civilians persist, often perpetrated by undisciplined armed groups. To document and build upon these initiatives, the DDR Section of DPKO conducted a study published in January 2010, entitled **Second Generation Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Practices in Peace Operations**.
(Available from: http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/publications/ddr/ddr_062010.pdf)

What is it? Second Generation DDR is an "umbrella" term for a set of practices that serve the same strategic goals as "traditional DDR". Programmes include stabilization measures such as emergency employment and reinsertion, and often target at-risk youth and gangs.

Who does it and where? In peacekeeping, current Second Generation DDR initiatives include MINUSTAH's Community Violence Reduction programme and the 1,000 Micro-projects in Côte d'Ivoire. Governments, UN agencies (particularly UNDP) and external partners have a long history of implementing programmes and activities which would fall under the Second Generation concept outline in DPKO's study.

MINUSTAH's CVR Watershed Management Project.
(UN Photo/Sophia Paris)

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Three Questions to Ayaka Suzuki, Chief, DDR Section, DPKO

Does Second Generation DDR replace traditional DDR?

We accept that it's an imperfect name; what we call Second Generation DDR may be used to address unfinished or failed aspects of a traditional DDR programme. Or, it might also be implemented in parallel with these formal efforts to maximize the impact. Where there is ongoing conflict or a fragile peace process, a traditional approach may not be appropriate. Second Generation DDR may then be used to help build trust among the parties and contribute to a secure environment, and possibly pave the way for a more traditional approach. We use the term to describe the emerging practices in various peace operations around the world.

Is gender mainstreamed into the Second Generation DDR concept?

There is extensive guidance on gender-responsive DDR, however, Second Generation DDR fosters the participation of both women and men in the design and implementation of programmes by engaging with communities and drawing on broad-based assessments of political and security dynamics.

Are Second Generation DDR initiatives sustainable in the long run?

Second Generation DDR activities do not constitute long-term development. Second Generation DDR programmes are all stabilization and peacebuilding measures with immediate political and security objectives. We are seeking to build on the innovations of practitioners, by first documenting existing practices, and then refining the concept. Linking these programmes to broader peacebuilding and development strategies will be a key component of this approach.

(UN Photo/Evan Schneider)

A RETROSPECTIVE: DDR OVER THE LAST TWENTY YEARS

28 July 2010
25,000 ex-com-batants disarmed and demobilized in Sudan

31 March 2005
ECPS formally establishes the IAWG

14 September 2009 DDR starts in the CPA areas in Sudan

30 November 1999
MONUC established

2 December 2004
DDR operations start in Burundi

17 August 2009
Demobilization officially concludes in Burundi

22 August 1994
UNOMOZ concludes demobilization

22 October 1999
UNAMSIL estab-lished with a DDR mandate

28 October 2001
DDR operations begin in the DRC

3 February 2004
DDR operations conclude in Sierra Leone

21 July 2009
DDR in Liberia officially ends - over 101,000 ex-combatants are disarmed, demobilized and reintegrated

1 June 1997
DDR operations begin in Angola

1 February 1999
DDR operations conclude in Angola

1 September 2007
OROLSI created and the DDR Section is established

10 March 1994
UNOMOZ begins the demobilization process

30 May 1997
MONUA is established with a DDR mandate

17 December 2003
DDR in Liberia sus-pended

| 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |

3 March 1990
ONUCA becomes the first peace-keeping mission mandated to assist in a DDR process

9 December 1994
UNOMOZ closes

19 September 2003
UNMIL is established with a DDR mandate

2 March 2006
Report of Secretary-General on DDR published

8 August 2008
UNOCI launches 1,000 Micro-projects programme

November 1997
Reintegration in Mozambique is concluded

7 December 2003
DDR in Liberia begins

15 August 2006
Security Council mandates MINUSTAH to undertake CVR programmes in Haiti

14 December 2009
New IDDRS modules on DDR and SSR, and DDR and Transitional Justice are launched

3 June 1999
Lome accord signed (for Sierra Leone)

15 April 2004
DDR in Liberia restarts

10 June 2010
"Second Generation DDR" study is launched

2 November 2000
Secretary-General's report on The Role of UN Peacekeeping in DDR published

21 May 2004
ONUB is established

18 December 2006
IDDRS launched

COMMUNITY VIOLENCE REDUCTION IN HAITI

From DDR to CVR

MINUSTAH's Community Violence Reduction (CVR) programme, unique in peacekeeping, was initiated following the decision by the Security Council in 2006 which recognized that where conditions for DDR did not exist, "alternative programmes are required to address local conditions..." It became clear that armed groups, in particular urban gangs, were the main source of insecurity in Haiti, and not the disbanded army (FADH). Following military operations, which restored a fragile calm in the slum areas of Port-au-Prince, MINUSTAH re-oriented its DDR approach in 2007 to tackle the major root causes of violence in Haiti — poverty and the absence of rule of law.

How does CVR work?

The CVR programme targets Haiti's most marginalized urban neighbourhoods which span five of the country's ten Departments (Ouest; Artibonite; Nord; Centre; and Sud). Armed groups tend to operate at the local level and may be viewed by the community as necessary protection where State institutions are lacking. Programmes are developed in consultation with community representatives, as well as local authorities, including the Mayors' office and the Haitian National Police (PNH).

MINUSTAH's CVR Watershed Management Project. (UN Photo/Sophia Paris)

Labour-intensive projects provide temporary work for communities on a large-scale, while more targeted projects provide professional skills training, small enterprise start-up, business development and apprenticeship placement in the Haitian private sector. To foster dialogue amongst community members, local administration and the PNH, social activities are organized alongside projects. Currently, in preparation for the hurricane season, efforts are concentrated on watershed management and canal reinforcement through masonry and cleaning; in Port-au-Prince, sixty-three such projects are ongoing (see photo above). Youths at risk of criminal activity are enrolled in a variety of courses at Haitian training institutes, including plumbing, mechanics, carpentry, electrical installations and air-conditioning. CVR is working to establish legal aid centres and is conducting social reinsertion activities for inmates including women and minors in Port-au-Prince's prisons.

To implement this breadth of projects, CVR has identified a network of reliable international and local partners specializing in environmental issues, community mediation, entrepreneurship, psychosocial support and professional skills training. These organizations bring their knowledge and understanding of dynamics on the ground and form the backbone of the CVR approach.

Bel Air "Peace Accord"

(© Viva Rio/André D'avila)

Community leaders in Bel Air, one of the toughest areas in Port-au-Prince, renewed their commitment to reducing violence in the greater Bel Air area, which includes parts of Cité Soleil, with the signing of a local peace accord on 29 May 2010. "Tanbou Lapè" in Creole, or Peace Drum, initi-

ated in 2007 by Viva Rio, a Brazilian NGO, in partnership with MINUSTAH's CVR Section, entered its fourth year. The Peace Drum accord sets up a process for dialogue on violence within the community. Leaders of the community, including those previously involved in the violence, discuss the security situation together with the Commission for Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (CNDDR), Viva Rio, MINUSTAH (CVR and BRABATT) and the PNH. If no violent deaths occur over the course of one month, lotteries are held to distribute scholarships to school-age children. Young people are involved in performances of Creole rap which deal with social themes. Today, while there are almost no conflicts between urban gangs in Bel Air, crime persists as do systemic challenges, such as lack of job opportunities for youth. The accord provides a forum to address difficult social issues without resorting to violence.
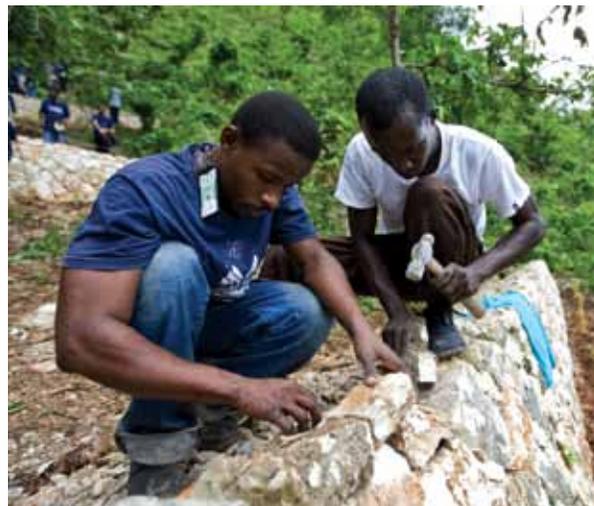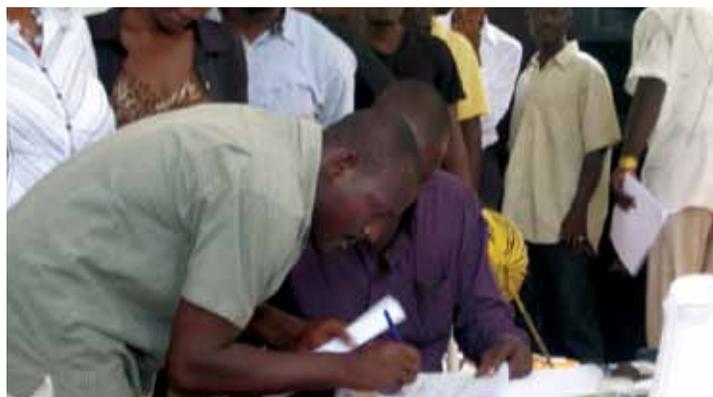
"Peace Drums gave us a framework to talk about and to work on violence reduction from inside the community. It was an indigenous invention. MINUSTAH/CVR was fast in realizing its potential and it is growing with us in it. Even the toughest hard liners begin to look at it with interest..."

Rubem Cesar Fernandes,
Executive Director of Viva Rio

Belette Delicé (above) learned business skills in a MINUSTAH supported business training programme. (UN Photo/Sophia Paris)

"I didn't think it was in my personality, but I have become an entrepreneur. I can now do any kind of business. I don't want to keep this for myself; I want to train young women so that they can earn a living."

Belette Delicé, participant in a MINUSTAH supported business training programme.

Women entrepreneurs even stronger

Women running small businesses in some of the most crime-ridden areas of Port-au-Prince undertook a business training programme developed by Haitian Partners for Christian Development (HPCD), a network of Haitian business entrepreneurs and CVR. The 6-month programme was designed to give women the skills to develop marketing strategies, packaging and quality control. Many of the women's businesses were destroyed in the devastating 12 January earthquake. To foster the rebuilding of these enterprises, which include T-shirt and pastry making, and crocheting, HPCD in partnership with CVR has established two facilities where the women will receive operational support and advice to run their businesses for one year. Reinforcing these businesses, which produce merchandise locally, could create employment opportunities in neighbourhoods where unemployment and the draw to criminal activity are high.

SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS AND DDR: BURUNDI

Interview with Mbaye Faye, Chief, DDR/SSR-Small Arms Section, BINUB

The DDR process in Burundi has been a long and complicated one. What was the main challenge faced during its implementation?

DDR processes involve a wide range of actors and donors, each with their own and diverse basic assumptions and mandates. Facilitating the coordination of all these parties, while also respecting Burundian and regional political leadership in a uniquely African-led series of disarmament processes, posed a significant challenge. The Mission's establishment of a joint DDR-SSR unit, BINUB's participation in political and technical Ceasefire Agreement Implementation mechanisms, donor coordination, and close integration with UNDP, allowed BINUB to forge necessary, but often missing, institutional links.

22 June 2009, demobilization site for ex-FNL combatants, Rubira. (© Sylvain Liechti)

How did the regional dimensions affect DDR in Burundi?

In 2004, the National DDR Programme was part of the larger regional MDRP. This facilitated cross-border coherence, including coordination between MONUC and ONUB on combatants on foreign soil. The MDRP, however, meant that we could not fully adapt the national DDR programme to the Burundian context. When the MDRP closed in 2008, the World Bank and the Government faced difficulties effecting a smooth transition into a new national Transitional Programme. In particular this was hampered by "legacy" tensions between improving the "next generation" of DDR and maintaining equilibrium with past beneficiaries.

Are there any lessons from your experience in Burundi that you would like to pass on to other practitioners?

DDR is innately political: BINUB's integrated SSR/DDR role permitted a holistic view of the ties between DDR, and political/SSR issues such as military and police "rightsizing" and the parallel military integration.

Beneficiary criteria must be context specific: In both the 2004-2008 and the 2009 processes, the majority of the candidates were not eligible for combatant status; however, treatment of these caseloads was critical to CFA and DDR implementation.

Financial flexibility is key: The direct and pre-financing support of the Peacebuilding Fund permitted BINUB and its partners to innovate in mid-operation and respond to the changing context of the disarmament process. Donors were highly supportive but unable administratively to respond quickly enough.

DDR is not arms collection: "One Combatant-One Gun" eligibility programmes will not effectively assist in achieving peace in insecure environments. The key is to dismantle armed groups' chains of command regardless of the number of arms collected.

22 June 2009, demobilization site
for ex-FNL combatants, Rubira.
(© Sylvain Liechti)

SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS AND DDR: CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

In the Central African Republic (CAR), UNDP implemented an MDRP-funded Special Project of $9.7 million that closed in 2007, and provided reintegration support to some 7,500 ex-combatants and small infrastructure rehabilitation to communities of return. The signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in Libreville in June 2008 and the outcome of the Inclusive Political Dialogue in December 2008 have moved CAR along its fragile transition. In January 2010, the UN Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA) became operational – replacing BONUCA, and in 2010 UNDP continues to implement a $27 million DDR programme for some 8,000 combatants.

(UN Photo/Bruno Donat)

"In the Central African Republic, DDR is at the core of the Inclusive Political Dialogue supported by the United Nations and a priority of our work. It encompasses not only the creation of a more secure and stable environment but also harmonizing the development of the former conflict zones. DDR is therefore a key to peacebuilding in this country."

-Sahle-Work Zewde, SRSG of BINUCA

SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS AND DDR: SOMALIA

In 2010, the security situation in Somalia remains extremely volatile, with a number of Islamist armed group elements continuing to launch attacks in south central Somalia on the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and its forces. The African Union force supporting the TFG, AMISOM, increased its deployment to 6,000 Ugandan and Burundian soldiers with UN assistance. The criteria for the deployment of a UN peacekeeping operation, presented in the Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Somalia (S/2009/132) of 9 March 2009, have not yet been met. In this environment, of course, the conditions did not exist either for implementing a conventional DDR programme. Given the particular culture of gun ownership and the range of target groups – from clan-based and factional militia to armed groups established by businessmen – a "Second Generation" community-based approach to DDR may prove best in the Somalia context. One possible starting point may be the several hundred opposition fighters that have left the armed groups, some with weapons and others without.

(Stuart Price/Albany Associates)

A LOOK BACK – CONCLUDED DDR PROGRAMMES: LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE

(UN Photo)

Anecdote from the field

Before DDR started, I travelled to the North of Liberia to negotiate with the local war lord, "General" Walking Stick who must have been 17 or 18 years old. Most of his rank and file were also very young and under the influence of drugs. We told him about the forthcoming disarmament and he promised that he would freely disarm as long as he and his men would get a package. He turned out to be one of the rebel groups who surrendered most serviceable weapons.

Koliab Nahataba, RRR Officer for UNMIL

Excerpts from an interview with Mr. Raisedon Zenenga — Director, Africa II Division, Department of Peacekeeping Operations

How did DDR contribute to the peace processes in Sierra Leone and Liberia?

DDR programmes were key elements in the successful implementation of peace agreements in Liberia (2003) and Sierra Leone (1999). The effective implementation of the DDR process was vital in ensuring that combatants laid down their arms and did not act as spoilers to the peace agreements.

What were the ingredients for the overall successful implementation of DDR in both Sierra Leone and Liberia?

Key amongst the many issues that contributed to the successful implementation of DDR in both countries was the building of trust between the parties. The DDR programme in Sierra Leone was designed and implemented in a way so as to avoid, to the extent possible, a perception that the perpetrators of human rights violations were being rewarded while local communities were not receiving any support. At the same time, the DDR programmes needed to contain benefits that met the needs and aspirations of the former combatants to help ensure their participation.

If you were to come up with one single lesson that we should learn from DDR in both Sierra Leone and Liberia for the future DDR processes, what would it be?

Ensure wide consultation, good planning, sound coordination and close cooperation amongst the various actors, as well as transparency throughout the programme, and ensure that it is adequately resourced and implemented in a flexible way that can adapt to conditions on the ground.

ddr in peace operations

Sinoe Rubber Plantation. (UN Photo)

Excerpts from an interview with Mr. Andrea Tamagnini, former Director of the Reintegration, Rehabilitation and Recovery Section of UNMIL

(UN Photo)

Do you think of the DDR process in Liberia as a "traditional" one?

The DDR process in Liberia was characterized by two distinct phases, a classical D & D (Disarmament and Demobilization) process in 2004, and a more complex RRR (Reintegration, Rehabilitation and Recovery) Phase. Additionally, we had an important "Community-based Emergency Employment Initiative". A third initiative was the joint Government of Liberia - UNMIL, "Rubber Plantations Task Force", which helped the Government to recover all rubber plantations in the country, formerly occupied by ex-combatants.

What was the key challenge for DDR in Liberia?

The original estimated number of ex-combatants in Liberia was close to 40,000. However, the criteria for accepting ex-combatants were at a certain point opened, allowing for 103,000 ex-combatants to be registered.

Unemployment was also, and still is, a huge challenge to Liberia and the reintegration effort. There are not enough jobs in Liberia for everybody and, as indicated by the Government, fighting unemployment will continue to be a major national challenge for the longer-term reintegration effort.

Can the lessons learned of the programme in Liberia be applied in future DDR programmes? If so, how?

I think that it is important to be ready to cooperate and work together within the UN system, and with our partners, at all costs. The recipe for UN integration requires a lot of good will, a good knowledge of UN mechanisms, humility, creativity, and respect and love for the people we serve.

ASG Dimitry Titov (second row, left) with the late Mr. Takahisa Kawakami (second row, centre), former DSRSG, UNMIT (Timor Leste). The DDR Section wishes to pay tribute to Mr. Kawakami, who passed away 15 March 2010, for his commitment to the people of Timor Leste, his leadership within the Mission, and his dedication to international public service. (UN Photo/Martine Perret)

Mr. Titov, could you tell us why DDR matters?

Over many years of practice, DDR has become part of the mainstream of peacekeeping. It matters because it is a crucial element of peace consolidation. It matters because it impacts directly on the lives of ex-combatants and communities and provides a solid bridge to peacebuilding and to longer-term development.

How does DDR contribute to the work of a peacekeeping operation?

DDR is critical to the management of peace processes. By creating opportunities for ex-combatants and their families, DDR greatly contributes to creating a safe and peaceful environment. Constructing a DDR programme takes a considerable level of experience, logistical support and interaction with many partners, both international and national. It has become an "art"- properly and skillfully managed by the Inter-Agency Working Group on DDR, and by the DDR Section in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO).

Mr. Titov, you were appointed Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI) within DPKO in 2007. How does DDR fit into this structure at Headquarters?

Absolutely naturally; DDR is a critical activity in peace stabilization, consolidation and early peacebuilding. Usually, the notion of DDR comes very early in the negotiation of any peace agreement, with warring factions seeking to find a proper place for both leaders of groups involved and for rank-and-file. Beyond the peace negotiations, disarmament and demobilization should be jumpstarted from the early stages of any peacekeeping undertaking, as it requires a tremendous amount of preparation, knowledge, methodology, interactivity with many players and, finally, trust of the combatants in the process and its outcome.

You have been working in peacekeeping for over two decades: could you tell us how DPKO's work in DDR has evolved over the last few years? What are the next major challenges to be addressed?

During my first United Nations operation, which was the Mission in Angola (UNAVEM), we faced a situation where nobody knew how to do disarmament and demobilization. We tried to present combatants as a civilian community, because, at that stage, the UN was not expected to cater to people with weapons. Nonetheless, through makeshift arrangements, the UN managed to demobilize a considerable number of combatants and accommodate their families. Nowadays, the UN has a methodology and highly trained personnel to conduct DDR in a complex, comprehensive manner. The DDR Section in DPKO has earned considerable trust among recipient nations and the donor community; yet, there is always space for innovation. The new generation of DDR methods is sorely needed in a variety of situations, including that of Haiti. Some of the methods adapted to peacekeeping by DDR practitioners and documented in the DDR Section's recent report, **Second Generation DDR Practices in Peace Operations**, could – and will - be applied elsewhere. But this is not the end of the developments in this crucial area: we will be talking about further fundamental projects in the next edition of your magazine.

* Dmitry Titov is the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the
  Department of Peacekeeping Operations. The DDR Section is located in this Office.

MEET THE TEAM: STAFF BIOS

Ayaka Suzuki, Chief of the DDR Section

Before being appointed as the first Chief of the DDR Section when it was formally created with the establishment of OROLSI in DPKO in 2007, Ms. Suzuki served as Senior Political Affairs/Planning Officer in MINUSTAH from 2005-2007. Prior to that she was Political Affairs Officer in the Africa Division of DPKO at United Nations Headquarters and was involved in the start-up and daily management of the peacekeeping missions in Burundi (ONUB) the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) and Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL). DDR featured prominently in the mandates of all of these peacekeeping missions.

Bruno Donat, Policy and Planning Officer

Prior to joining the DDR Section, Mr. Donat was the Officer-in-Charge of MONUC's DDR/RR Section. Before that, he worked on DDR and communications within the Fragile States, Conflict and Social Development unit of the World Bank's Africa Region and specifically on the Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program (MDRP). Bruno serves as the focal point for Burundi, Central African Republic, the DRC, the LRA and communications.

Carolina Gasiorowski, Team Assistant

Ms. Gasiorowski has worked at the United Nations for over nine years as an Administrative Assistant within different departments including DPI and OCHA. Ms. Gasiorowski studied Communication and Information Studies as an undergraduate at Brunel University in London. She went on to complete her Postgraduate Diploma in Broadcast Journalism at City University of London.

Lotta Hagman, Policy and Planning Officer

Ms. Hagman has been working on DDR issues in DPKO since 2005. Previously, she served in UNMIL (2003-2005) first as Special Assistant to the Deputy SRSG for Operations and Rule of Law and subsequently as Special Assistant to the Deputy SRSG for Relief and Recovery. Lotta serves as the focal point for Sudan, Guinea-Bissau, training, children and risk management.

Elizabeth Kissam, Policy and Planning Officer

Before working with the DDR section Ms. Kissam worked as a Policy and Planning Officer in the Office of the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions in DPKO where she served as the focal point for DDR and SSR issues since the establishment of OROLSI in September 2007. Prior to that, Ms. Kissam served in MONUC for three years as a Political Affairs Officer. Elizabeth serves as the focal point for Haiti, Nepal, Timor Leste, the DRC and peacebuilding.

Nikolai Rogosaroff, Policy and Planning Officer

Prior to joining the DDR Section in May 2009, Mr. Rogosaroff served with UNAMID as Humanitarian Liaison Officer in the field of civil-military coordination and as Political Affairs Officer with the Office of the UNAMID Joint Special Representative. When working as a DDR Coordination Officer in DPKO's Peacekeeping Best Practices Section from 2006 to 2007, he was a member of the DPKO-UNDP joint assessment of UNMIS and MINUSTAH. Nikolai serves as the focal point for Sudan and humanitarian issues.

Sergiusz Sidorowicz, Policy and Planning Officer

Mr. Sidorowicz joined the DDR Section in September 2008 as Associate Expert. From 2004 to 2008 he was posted at the Permanent Mission of Poland to the United Nations Office in Geneva. In 2000, he joined the Polish Foreign Service and worked as a desk officer for the United Nations Political Issues. Sergiusz serves as the focal point for Liberia, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, West Africa, gender, monitoring and evaluation, and reintegration.

Simon Yazgi, Policy and Planning Officer

Mr. Yazgi has been working as DDR Policy & Planning Officer at DPKO since early 2006 when he was transferred from the Office of Operations/Africa Division where he had served as desk officer for West Africa from 2004 to 2006. Prior to this, he was a DDR officer in MONUC from 2001 until 2004. He first joined MONUC as Political Affairs Officer in 2000. Simon serves as the focal point for Côte d'Ivoire, Iraq, Somalia and the Inter-Agency Working Group on DDR.

THINK YOU KNOW DDR? TAKE THE DDR CROSSWORD PUZZLE
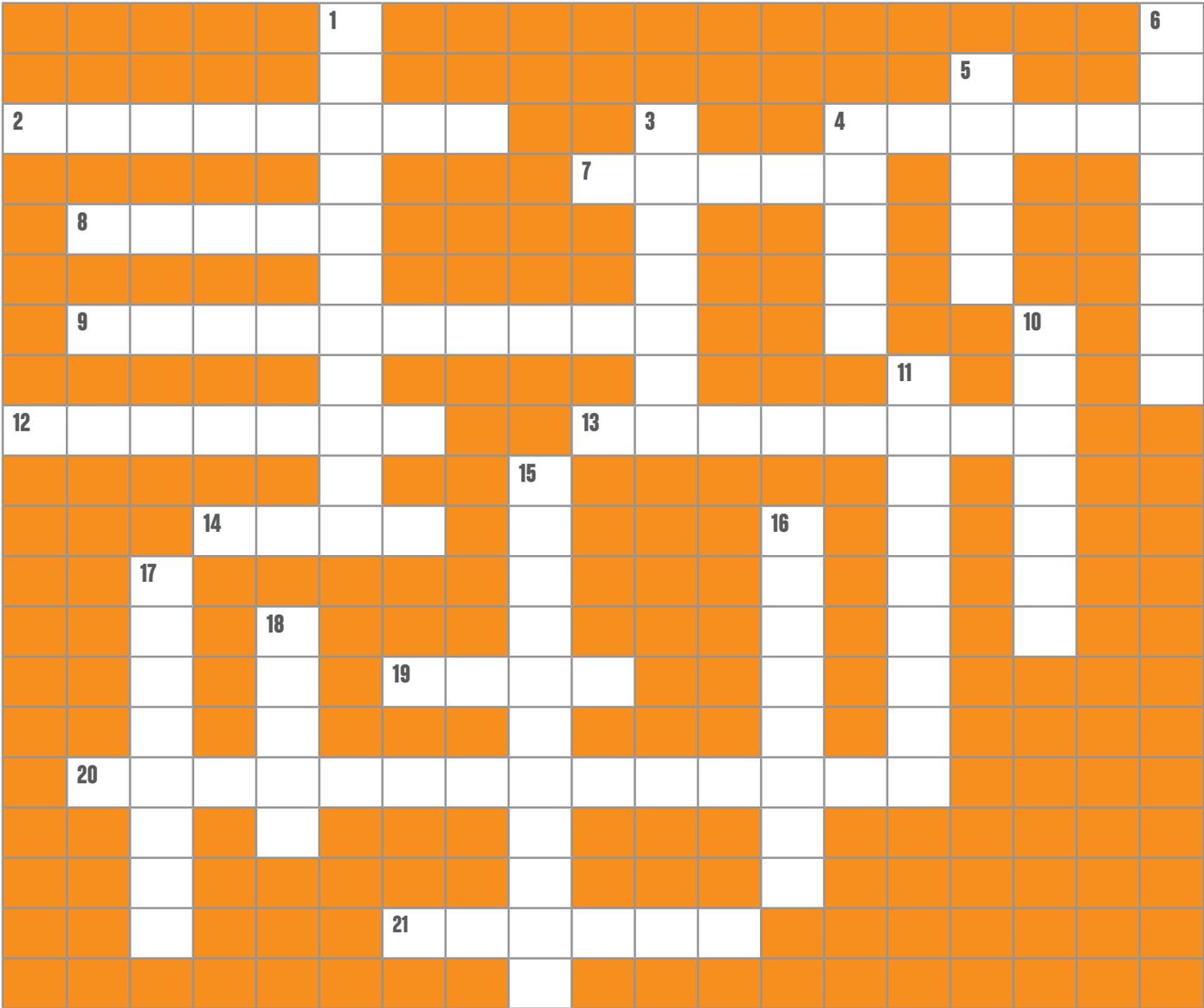
Down

1. Second phase of demobilization, which provides short-term assistance.

3. One of the countries in which DPKO supports a Special Political Mission with a DDR mandate.

4. First UN peacekeeping mission mandated to assist in DDR.

5. DDR programmes have increased their focus on _____, as this demographic presents great potential for resiliency, as well as high risk for re-recruitment.

6. Rather than participating in traditional DDR, _____ go through "release and reintegration" programmes.

10. Newly named stabilization mission in the DRC, which will continue to support the country's DDR/RR process.

11. Community violence _____ in Haiti seeks to provide at-risk groups with alternatives to armed violence.

15. In addition to focusing on combatants, DDR focuses on _____ affected by violence.

16. DPKO/OROLSI/DDRS staffer who completed her Postgraduate Diploma in Broadcast Journalism.

17. Côte d'Ivoire's reinsertion programme, "1,000 Micro-_____".

18. DPKO/OROLSI/DDRS staffer who previously served as desk officer for West Africa in the Office of Operations/Africa Division.

Across

2. An important principle in national ownership is building _____.

4. DDR Section is part of this Office in DPKO (acronym).

7. Country with two separate PKOs, both of which are mandated to carry out a DDR process.

8. The DDR reference for standards (acronym).

9. Second _____ DDR approaches are evolving practices within the field of DDR.

12. Country which formally concluded its DDR programme in July 2009.

13. Number of members in the DDR inter-agency working group (as of July 2010).

14. The Hakamas of Sudan _____ their message of peace.

19. Number of countries where PKOs are mandated with DDR or related programmes (June 2010).

20. Second 'D' of DDR.

21. Floor in 380 Madison where the DDR Section is located during the Capital Master Plan relocation.

OROLSI

Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions

POLICE DIVISION

MINE ACTION SERVICE

SECURITY SECTOR REFORM UNIT

CRIMINAL LAW AND JUDICIAL ADVISORY SERVICE

DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION AND REINTEGRATION SECTION

In 2007, the **Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI)** was established in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), in order to strengthen the links and coordinate the Department's activities in the areas of police, justice and corrections, mine action, the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants and security sector reform. The Office is headed by Assistant Secretary-General Dmitry Titov, who reports to the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Alain Le Roy. The DDR Section is part of this Office.

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