

Eligibility Criteria for MDRP

Country eligibility

The Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program (MDRP) for the Greater Great Lakes Region was designed to provide assistance for Demobilization and Reintegration (D&R) activities to the countries involved in, or affected by, the conflicts in the region. To be eligible for this assistance, each country must be actively involved in the regional peace process (signatory to the applicable peace/ceasefire agreement(s), and must be participating in the appropriate institutions set out in the agreement(s).

Countries also must fulfill the following country-level prerequisites:

1. **Preparation of a national Demobilization and Reintegration Program.** A national government must demonstrate that it is preparing a national D&R program. A coherent national program developed in consultation with national stakeholders and the international community may serve as adequate demonstration, as may the launching of a credible program development process, with a clear roadmap and timetable in place.
2. **Establishment of a suitable institutional structure.** The government concerned must establish flexible implementation arrangements with significant planning, coordination and monitoring capacity and with appropriate participation of relevant political and security stakeholders.
3. **Formulation of a letter of demobilization policy.** The government concerned must prepare a letter of policy in which they outline their commitments to the regional peace process, demobilization and reintegration, and fiscal plans for social expenditure. The letter also expands on links with security sector reform (including plans for future military size and budget, military unification and restructuring where relevant), humanitarian activities and reconstruction/recovery efforts.
4. **Establishment of appropriate safeguards and fiduciary measures.** The government concerned must provide assurances and monitoring measures to ensure consistency with environmental and social safeguards. In addition, governments must establish satisfactory financial management and procurement arrangements.

Ex-combatant eligibility

To be eligible for D&R programs, individuals must prove their status as former combatants. Specific criteria will be elaborated for each national program and special project and be rigorously and systematically applied. Such proof may consist of, *inter alia*: self-identification, proven affiliation with a known armed group, and/or proof of military ability, such as weapons handling. For special projects involving irregular forces, particular attention shall be paid to avoiding the creation of perverse incentives (eg, individuals or groups arming themselves in order to subsequently benefit from a program of demobilization). A non-transferable identification system and a beneficiary database will be established for each national program and special project so as to avoid the risk of ex-combatants benefiting from multiple D&R activities.