

## MDRP Guiding Principles

The Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program (MDRP) is founded upon and is implemented in accordance with, these basic principles:

- (i)* **National ownership:** The MDRP will promote country ownership and leadership of national programs.
- (ii)* **Confidence-building:** The MDRP shall encourage transparency of DDR efforts in the region, helping to ensure that external monitoring and evaluation takes place across borders.
- (iii)* **Harmonization of Demobilization and Reintegration (D&R) activities:** The MDRP shall encourage collaboration among key actors in order to harmonize approaches across national programs and special projects. At the same time, it shall ensure that each activity is designed and implemented to address the particular local needs and contexts.
- (iv)* **Knowledge sharing:** The MDRP shall encourage the sharing of knowledge and training across national programs and special projects.
- (v)* **Optimization of external assistance:** The MDRP will seek to ensure consistency of approach, regardless of the diverse funding sources used in its D&R efforts.
- (vi)* **Coordination with reconstruction efforts:** MDRP's regional approach shall seek to optimize linkages between reintegration activities for ex-combatants and related community recovery and refugee reintegration activities.
- (vii)* **Special target groups:** MDRP shall take into account the needs of women, disabled, child ex-combatants and other vulnerable groups in the design of national programs. If and when necessary, the identification of third countries of return will be undertaken with the explicit support of the receiving countries' governments and relevant local administrations and communities.
- (viii)* **Special projects:** After consultation with national authorities, the MDRP may facilitate the provision of assistance in areas not controlled by those national authorities. Assistance for D&R activities may also be provided in the absence of a fully-formulated national program, with the understanding that these activities will be integrated into any eventual national program.
- (ix)* **Transparency:** The MDRP shall provide a high level of transparency in the financial and procurement management systems of national programs and special projects.
- (x)* **Flexibility:** The MDRP shall maintain a high degree of flexibility to respond to emerging needs in a timely manner.