Sudan DDR Programme

A brief on the activities supporting the “Disability”
Enabling lives of People with Disability

In accordance with Sudan DDR Programme’s (SDDRP) policy and strategy, ex-combatants with disabilities are categorized as special needs groups because of the complementary support they required to enhance their economic and social reintegration sustainability. Recognizing that a number of former fighters were inflicted with long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments, the DDR Commission (SDDRC) with the support from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continues to support this group by providing specialized assistance to enable them to sustain a normal livelihood.

This is achieved by providing economic assistance, access to medical assistance and prosthetics, promoting awareness on the rights of people with disabilities (PWD), providing medical insurance and contributing to the policy structures which address the issues of disability and disability rights and services.

While the initial activities exclusively focused on the assistance to ex-combatants with disabilities, interestingly, ex-combatants themselves took lead in promoting initiatives that assist the issues related to disability at large at the community and society levels.

It empowered PWDs with some economic independence, livelihoods and confidence to take part in the policy structures at the state and national levels. SDDRP supported disability mechanisms to engage in advocacy and policy dialogue on disability issues with the national and state statutory bodies. The Sudan DDR Commission took the lead in bringing this kind of coordination between the ministries, organizations, unions and target groups to utilize all the resources available to maximize impact on the issues related to disability. These kinds of interventions were not only limited to ex-combatants but managed to promote good will within the states and communities to the extent that matching grants were given by the relevant line ministries of Zakat Chamber.  

“I thank Tuwasol Alamal Charity Organization and Sudan DDR because they helped me with a small project and now I know things about microfinance and I am able to attract capital from banks. Now I have a project and a life.”
Ibrahim Ahmed Abdalla

Ex-combatants with disabilities - Blue Nile State

A Group Effort benefitting communities!

In addition to the individual support mentioned before, and as a result of the gaps indentified by the disability situation analysis study that was conducted by the programme, some ex-combatants with disabilities volunteered to forego their special assistance given by the DDR Programme and agreed to pool their funds together to rehabilitate the structures that address the issues of disability in the long run for the state. Sudan DDR Commission along with UNDP and National Council of Persons with Disabilities ventured into supporting & rehabilitating community centers, the Deaf, Blind & Physical disability Unions buildings in Blue Nile and South Kordofan States. Support was also extended to Prosthetics Unit in both states to improve the provision of services, with free artificial limbs to be awarded to XCWDs. The State ministries of Social Welfare and Health agreed to continue support the salaries and technical staff and support the running cost of these units.
Achievements:

1. **Data on PWD:** Activities were carried out for sensitizing on the rights of people with disabilities; the program has supported the State Government on the collection and processing of data and information on disability and services. The database about people with disabilities is a key step to help in an appropriate planning for future projects.

2. **Advocacy:** under the advocacy and public awareness, production of advocacy publications as well as conducting workshops to raise awareness at the communities’ level and the local governments.

3. **Capacity Building:** The program provided capacity building support to the state councils for persons with disabilities who are in turn responsible for enforcing government legislation and global conventions on disabilities. Rehabilitation of the office and provision of the equipment was provided in both states.

4. **Rehabilitation of psychological centers:** The program has supported the rehabilitation of the psychological unit and pharmacy as well the training of staff working on disability issues in the Kadugli Hospital in South Kordofan by total cost of 300,000 SDG.

5. **The Support to Prosthetic Units:** The program also provided support to the prosthetic centres in Damazin and Kadugli, while the Ministry of Social Welfare has agreed to provide technical staff needed and supported the running cost. The National Authority for Prosthetic (NAP) has in turn committed to providing training and ongoing technical support by 220,000 SDG.

6. **The Support to Physiotherapy Unit:** Established physiotherapy unit in South Kordofan hospital equipped with essential equipment and needs. This unit will operate with the orthopedic center that has been rehabilitated to prepare amputated limbs to receive necessary at a cost of 180,000 SDG.

7. **Establishment of Community Social Center:** and the support provided to the community social centers in Blue Nile and South Kordofan states, was mainly to encourage these centres to act as focal social points. These centers were supported with 270,000 SDG for social, cultural, sports activities and show club, thus contributing to the social reintegration of the target groups as well as reducing the tension between the different sectors in the communities in both states.

8. **The Support to Disability Associations:** The program provided support to the States’ associations in Blue Nile and South Kordofan (Physically Disabled Persons’ Federation, the Federation of the Blind & Deaf and Unions) rehabilitations of buildings, provided furniture and assistance devices costing 130,000 SDG.

In BNS, Government provided the Union with land to establish a Union office and social center. The SDDRP supported the construction and provision of equipment of a social center. To ensure continuity of the work of the Centre, a bakery was built as investment in the center creating sustainable livelihoods and social integration for ex-combatants with and without disabilities.
For more information:

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