

Community Development



Participants in a litter cleanup campaign in Sudan.



A soccer tournament in Iraq.



An HIV/AIDS awareness rally in Ukraine.



Preparing to help build a road in Afghanistan.

International Relief & Development (IRD) works on the firm premise that for development projects to have long lasting impact, local communities must be at the center, actively engaged and empowered to take responsibility and be equally accountable. In more than 30 countries, our programs facilitate such community participation for capacity building, such as for constitutional reform in Southern Sudan, school management in Jordan, and infrastructure development in Afghanistan. The common thread in these programs is that communities learn what is possible by working together, in partnership with IRD. An effective community development program organizes

citizens concerned about a particular issue, such as increasing access to safe water, to find responsive solutions. IRD has learned that open communication is essential, to establish a common understanding of goals and a safe place to propose solutions. For more than 10 years, IRD's programs have worked with the people most affected by a problem, allowing them to decide what needs to be done and how to do it, and providing as much support as possible. We believe that people often have local answers to local problems but may lack the resources to take action. IRD comes into partnership with local communities to enable them resolve issues of concern to them.



Afghanistan

Southern Provincial Roads (SPR) Project

- **Involves communities in infrastructure priority decision making.**
- **Creates access to rural Afghan communities through road construction.**
- **Builds local engineering capacity.**

Donor USAID
 Date December 2007 – December 2010
 Amount \$400 million

The goal of SPR is to increase stability and security in Eastern and Southern Afghanistan. The project goes beyond simply obtaining services and goods to rehabilitate 1,500 kilometers of gravel roads, but also requires an integrated, substantial program for community involvement and training. Through a participatory, representative process, communities along the roads decide which other needs, like construction of clinics or water sources, are a priority for them.

Cambodia

Child Survival and Health Grant

- **Uses the “Hearth Model” to encourage sustainable changes in infant feeding.**
- **Decreases the prevalence of moderate and severe malnutrition.**
- **Conducts public awareness and health education campaigns.**

Donor USAID
 Date 2006 – 2010
 Amount \$1.7 million

IRD is using an integrated community-based approach to decrease child malnutrition in the Teuk Phos Administrative District of Cambodia. The project promotes community-level peer learning and behavior change to improve breastfeeding, the quantity and quality of complementary foods, and hygiene practices and village based nutritional rehabilitation using the “Positive Deviance Hearth Model.” It encourages community mobilization for immunization, Vitamin A and deworming sessions, and development of affordable transport mechanisms to community health centers. Finally, IRD is

undertaking diarrhea case management and prevention with oral rehydration solutions and point of use water disinfection, and social marketing of nutritionally fortified low cost foods.

Colombia

Mitigating the Suffering of Victim’s Families in Colombia

- **Builds the organizational capacity of local associations for displaced persons to provide support services.**
- **Provides immediate humanitarian assistance.**

Donors U.S. State Department
 Dates September 2008 – September 2010
 Amounts \$897,197

IRD is mitigating the grief and psychological trauma among surviving family members in Afro-Colombian communities that have been forced to relocate due to conflict. This program assists victims’ families while simultaneously developing the capacity of affected communities to do so on an ongoing basis through the formation and training of indigenous victims associations. IRD enables access to legally entitled reparations and government social assistance programs, and promotes reconciliation at the community level.

Ethiopia

Strengthening Communities’ Response to HIV/AIDS

- **Provides income generating activities for 30,000 families.**
- **Works with community organizations to create a broader community safety net.**

Donor USAID
 Date March 2009 – March 2012
 Amount \$670,000

IRD is integrating economic development into HIV care and prevention. IRD’s economic strengthening team is developing a selection of economic options, such as small-scale livestock and farming, market development, and entrepreneurial promotion for communities to adapt to their local area. Drawing on the cultural value of extended family, IRD trains



local organizations to bring communities and leaders together to address the economic needs of HIV-affected families. IRD also advocates for economic policies that support family income generation, such as inheritance and access to land, and long-term economic stability, reducing economic barriers to education and health care.

Indonesia

SERASI

- **Helps local organizations, institutions, and other partners eliminate violent conflict.**
- **Uses broad range of existing partnerships with local organizations across Indonesia.**
- **Handles programmatic, administrative, and logistical support for strategic grants and technical assistance program.**

Donor USAID
Dates March 2008 – March 2011
Amount \$44 million

IRD supports USAID's SERASI program to mitigate social conflict and encourage peace building initiatives across Indonesia. IRD is using participatory decentralized development planning to determine the most strategic use of grants for local, provincial, and national projects that promote respect for human rights and improved inter-group relations; institutionalize a legitimate peace process in Aceh and three other areas; increase capacity to manage conflict; and support a democratic and transparent security sector.

Iraq

Community Stabilization Program (CSP)

- **Assists Iraqi communities with conflict mitigation.**
- **Increases sustainable employment through training, job placement assistance, and business development.**
- **Reaches out to Iraqi youth considered at risk for recruitment into insurgency.**

Donor USAID
Date May 2006 – October 2009
Amount \$644 million

CSP works directly with community groups, local government officials, and provincial reconstruction teams to foster more productive and peaceful communities. IRD has placed more than 23,000 Iraqis in long-term jobs, graduated over 16,500 trainees from CSP-sponsored vocational training courses, and placed nearly 5,200 in apprenticeship programs to further their skills. To date, CSP has engaged nearly 69,000 Iraqi youth in over 100 different CSP-sponsored sports and arts programs.

Iraq Community Assistance Program (ICAP)

- **Encourages community residents to join community action groups, giving them a voice to communicate with local government.**
- **Provides grants and training for micro, small, and medium businesses.**
- **Assists accidental civilian victims.**

Donor USAID
Date July 2003 – October 2009
Amount \$107 million

ICAP fosters democratic principles at the grassroots level, encompassing civil society, economic development, and community infrastructure strategies in order to create a more capable and sustainable Iraqi civil society. Currently, IRD has 232 active Community Action Groups working throughout Baghdad. To date, IRD has completed more than 2,600 projects benefiting more than 7 million people. ICAP has also provided assistance to more than 3,000 accidental civilian victims of Coalition Forces with prosthetics, small business grants, and school and clinic repairs.



Jordan

Community Mobilization for Partnerships in Jordanian Schools (CMP) Program

- **Develops joint parent-child learning programs.**
- **Builds national awareness for education.**
- **Develops community participation criteria for the Queen Rania Excellent in Education Award Principles Award.**

Donor USAID
Date 2008 – present
Amount \$591,295

This program develops dynamic, sustainable community-school partnerships and creates a sense of ownership and responsibility among all stakeholders within the public school system. IRD is working with parents to encourage involvement in their children's learning through better parenting workshops and by actively seeking parental participation in newly formed Community Parent School Committees (CPSCs). The program also facilitates the involvement of CPSCs in the planning, design and maintenance of school renovation and construction, conducts awareness campaign for the community at large revolving around issues of relevance to children and youth, and trains CPSCs on the community school model, actively encouraging the establishment of extra-curricular activities within school premises.

Community Services Program for Iraqi Refugees (ICSP)

- **Operates programs to reduce the isolation, exploitation, and discrimination suffered by Iraqi refugees.**
- **Implemented in partnership with local NGOs.**

Donor UNHCR
Date February 2008 – December 2008
Amount \$2 million

IRD worked with the Noor Al Hussein (NHF) Foundation and the Family Guidance and Awareness Center to provide gender, age, and diversity-oriented programs to Iraqi women, children, and youth through expanded capacity of partnering

community centers, as well as NHF's Women's Counseling Center. The program improved refugees' quality of life through outreach and home visits to Iraqis in Amman, Irbid, Zarqa, Azraq, and Salt, advanced psycho-social care for children, and a child disability unit.

Laos

Solar Disinfection (SODIS) of Water

- **Increases the availability of safe, inexpensive drinking water.**
- **Promotes the use of SODIS in 750 households, schools, and other organizations.**
- **Raises awareness to the benefits and uses of SODIS.**

Donor The Swiss Federal Institute for Aquatic Science and Technology (Eawag)
Date 2008 – present
Amount \$20,000

This program will increase awareness and utilization of SODIS in Laos through the training and support of 36 health promoters targeting 750 households (3,750 persons) and 30 schools (1,500 students). In addition, IRD will develop promotional materials that will increase the general awareness of the importance of clean water and SODIS at the local health facilities in three rural districts and among other organizations.

Lebanon

National Campaign for Initiating, Sorting, and Recycling Municipal Solid Waste in Lebanon (NISR)

- **Created new businesses around recycling.**
- **Encouraged culture of recycling.**
- **Worked with schools nationwide.**

Donor UNICEF
Date June 2007 – March 2008
Amount \$394,670

Lebanon generates more than 1.5 million tons of trash every year. For a small country, finding new space for landfills is difficult, so recycling is imperative. NISR trains school teachers and students



in 1,153 elementary and intermediate level public schools in recycling do's and don'ts. IRD also installed school collection points, which are steel frames holding different colored bins for paper, organic, and non-organic waste.

Montenegro

Community Revitalization through Democratic Action (CRDA)

- **Worked with local communities to determine reconstruction priorities.**
- **Provided technical assistance, training, monitoring, and oversight to ensure the sustainability of projects.**
- **Encouraged development of local NGOs.**

Donor USAID
 Dates April 2002 – April 2007
 Amount \$23 million

CRDA program priorities were identified by the local community and completed with support from both communities and local governments. Projects included building and renovation of low-voltage electrical networks, irrigation systems, farm-to-market roads, livestock and green markets, water and wastewater facilities, and tourism facilities. Community groups are now trained in new skills such as proposal development so they can obtain funding for projects from a variety of sources, particularly the European Union. Associations and cooperatives formed under CRDA are still operating, expanding, and earning income.

Mozambique

Home-Based Care in Inhambane Province

- **Helps local organizations develop the skills to care for HIV/AIDS patients in their homes.**
- **Coordinates with local government.**

Donor Embassy of Ireland (Irish Aid)
 Date December 2008 – February 2010
 Amount \$1,082,355

This project supports community-based organizations to provide home-based care for patients, specifically HIV/AIDS patients, in coordination with

the Provincial Directorate of Health in Inhambane. The project also provides financial support to the CBOs and increases coordination between the various organizations doing the work.

Women First Program

- **Uses community-based health care approach.**
- **Trains women in small business skills.**
- **A model of a successful public private partnership.**

Donor World Vision/Canadian International Development Agency
 Dates June 2005 – present
 Amount \$342,325/\$91,000

The *Women First* program was initiated through established women's groups from the Women's Society of the United Methodist Church, in Inhambane Province. In partnership with household supply company Unilever and others, IRD uses an intensive small business training program, facilitates an in-kind micro-credit scheme, and establishes a sustainable product supply chain. In addition to the small business component, the *Women First* project is training peer educators to raise health and HIV/AIDS prevention issues with women in their groups, as well as bringing these messages home to their families and communities. In 2006, IRD expanded the program to Zambezia Province with funding from World Vision. The project has since added more distributors and varied the types of products it sells. *Women First* was selected by UNDP for its Growing Sustainable Business program.

Solar Water Disinfection (SODIS) Project

- **Brings simple method for disinfecting water supplies to the village level.**
- **Works in conjunction with local health clinic and schools to train SODIS trainers.**
- **Reduces incidence of water borne disease.**

Donor Swiss Federal Institute for Aquatic Science and Technology
 Date January 2008 – January 2009
 Amount \$22,000

Under this pilot project, IRD developed locally appropriate training materials and worked in two el-



elementary schools to promote this low-tech method to remove contaminants from drinking water.

Drought Mitigation through Community Management of Water Harvesting Systems and Conservation Farming in Massinga and Funhalouro Districts

- **Community-based approach to mitigate the affects of cyclical droughts.**
- **Increase crop yields through run-off farming water harvesting and conservation tillage techniques.**

Donor USAID/OFDA
 Date January – May 2006
 Amount \$399,991

The project, which relied on community participation in partnership with local governments and community-level associations, increased water availability through the construction of 14 cisterns in rural schools and improve captured water levels from eight water catchments. It also provided capacity training and hygiene promotion at each newly constructed water source.

Nepal

Reintegration and Resettlement for Conflict-Affected Populations in Mid- and Far-West Nepal

- **Facilitates permanent settlement and stabilization.**
- **Partners with Nepali NGOs.**
- **Complements existing activities by other OFDA partners in the target districts.**

Donor USAID/OFDA
 Date May 2008 – March 2009
 Amount \$470,000

This program facilitated permanent settlement and stabilization by providing critically needed basic services and livelihood opportunities for IDPs, returnees, and the conflict-affected communities in three districts. IRD expanded livelihood opportunities for 11,400 people through vocational skills trainings, business development education, and small start-up grants. IRD also rehabilitated or constructed the water systems in 12 villages to provide increased access to potable water for 3,600 people.

Serbia

Community Revitalization through Democratic Action (CRDA)

- **Worked with local communities to determine reconstruction priorities.**
- **Provided technical assistance, training, monitoring, and oversight to ensure the sustainability of projects.**
- **Encouraged development of local NGOs.**

Donor USAID
 Date July 2001 – July 2007
 Amount \$40 million

Projects under CRDA were identified and completed with support from both local communities and governments. IRD implemented over 1,000 activities, including community mobilization and development, solid waste management and environmental public awareness, community infrastructure, economic revitalization, and family planning, reproductive health, and women's initiatives. Community groups are now trained in new skills such as proposal development so they can obtain funding for projects from a variety of sources, particularly the European Union. Associations and cooperatives formed under CRDA are still operating, expanding, and earning income.

Southern Sudan

Return and Reintegration of IDP and Refugee Returnees in Rural Communities

- **Builds capacity of communities to absorb, accommodate, and cope with the influx of new residents.**
- **Enhances community conflict resolution and peace-building skills.**
- **Provides infrastructure for IDPs and refugees returning to Southern Sudan.**

Donor UNHCR
 Date February 2006 – present
 Amount \$197,000

This multi-donor, multi-sector program will rebuild health clinics and schools, train health personnel, provide livelihood materials such as agricultural and fishing tools and seeds, and enhance community



conflict resolution and peace-building capacity, as well as increase the skills of local NGOs.

Livelihood Recovery and Stabilization for Southern Sudanese Returnees and Receiving Communities in Upper Nile State

- **Helps receiving communities to absorb, accommodate, and cope with the influx of returnees.**
- **Develops community water points for crops and livestock.**
- **Promotes agricultural diversification through community gardens and agronomic training.**

Donor BPRM
 Date January 2008 – present
 Amount \$499,968

Building off a UNHCR-funded project in 2006 and FAO- and WFP-funded activities in 2007, IRD supports the recovery and reintegration of some 21,500 returning IDPs and the communities receiving them in Upper Nile State of Southern Sudan. The project expands livelihood opportunities and self-sufficiency by providing agricultural trainings and introducing community gardens and orchards and agricultural and fishing tools and seeds. It also offers community conflict management trainings.

Rapid Impact Emergency Projects

- **Generates income through community improvement projects.**
- **Relies on non-monetary contributions from local NGOs.**

Donor UNDP
 Date March 2008 – present
 Amount \$2 million

These twin projects focus on generation of income, capacity building for local NGOs, and improvements in basic urban infrastructure in two state capitals in Southern Sudan: Malakal, Upper Nile State; and Kuajok, Warrap State. Improvements include installing a new drainage system in downtown Malakal and rebuilding clinics and schools in Kuajok. Local NGOs managed the process, with IRD supervision, ensuring their ability to do these projects on their own in the future.

Radio Distribution and Civic Education project

- **Increases the availability of, and access to, independent information for the citizens of Southern Sudan.**
- **Provides a forum for understanding the peace process and the Constitution, and for requiring government accountability.**

Donor NDI/USAID
 Date April 2008 – present
 Amount \$231,000

IRD, in partnership with the National Democratic Institute, monitors and tracks the 16,000 radios it distributed across Upper Nile State. Parallel to the distribution of radios, IRD established 20 listening groups that convene twice-monthly in group gatherings to listen to the “Let’s Talk” radio program. IRD will also evaluate the general outcomes of Let’s Talk and assess the impact on civic education.

Sri Lanka

Community-Based Solar Water Disinfection System (SODIS) in Batticaloa and Ampara Districts.

- **Founded community organizations to sustainably run the program.**
- **Increased hygiene awareness.**
- **Provided safe drinking water.**

Donor World Vision
 Date July 2007 – June 2008
 Amount \$538,822

SODIS is an economical bacteriological disinfection method to provide safe drinking water for affected population in eastern Sri Lanka. IRD established community-based organizations to assure the sustainability of the program and educate the population in the benefits of good hygiene practices.

Swaziland

Drought Mitigation through Community Management of Water Harvesting Systems and Conservation Farming

- **Uses community-based approach to break impact of cyclical drought patterns.**



- **Increases water availability for human consumption.**
- **Increases farm yields through runoff farming water harvesting and conservation tillage techniques.**

Donor USAID
 Date September 2007 – present
 Amount \$400,000

IRD’s drought mitigation program in Shiselweni and Lubombo is constructing engineered rainwater harvesting systems at 14 schools, and training farming households in conservation farming/tillage techniques and runoff water farming techniques. Hygiene promotion, HIV/AIDS awareness-raising, and the promotion of water demand management techniques are essential additional components of the overall program, which will benefit an estimated 6,880 people.

Ukraine

Reducing the Stigma and Discrimination Associated with HIV infection and AIDS

- **Gives voice to those affected by HIV/AIDS.**
- **Promotes a supportive environment for people living with HIV/AIDS through strategic communications.**
- **Protects the rights of those affected by HIV/AIDS.**

Donor USAID
 Date September 2004 - September 2008
 Amount \$2.4 million

IRD hosted public events and trained a network of specialists on anti-stigma and discrimination issues regarding HIV/AIDS. Over 150,000 people in Crimea and the Donetsk region were reached through music and theater performances, photo exhibits, public debates, round tables, and summer camps.

Rapid Response to Avian Influenza (AI) in Ukraine

- **Raises public awareness of Avian Influenza.**
- **Strengthens technical ability of local professionals and institutions to handle AI.**
- **Encourages safe poultry handling practices.**

Donor USAID
 Date February 2006 – September 2009
 Amount \$1,785,939

IRD is assisting communities in adopting appropriate practices of bird handling, safe consumption of poultry products and proper hygiene practices with the goal of increasing community awareness of Avian Influenza (AI) and preventing AI outbreaks in animals and humans in the regions with higher risk of AI. In October 2007, IRD received additional funding from USAID to scale up and reinforce AI prevention activities in Ukraine. The program now focuses on 14 high-risk regions, primarily in southern and eastern Ukraine.

United States

Gulf Coast Community Resource Center

- **Connects Hurricane Katrina survivors with recovery resources.**
- **Facilitated the reconstruction of 30 homes and repairs of over 300 homes.**
- **Provides high school equivalency training and vocational education to at-risk youth.**

Donors U.S. Department of Labor; Mississippi Department of Human Services; Enterprise Corporation of the Delta; Mennonite Economic Development Associates; Presbytery of Mississippi; NeighborWorks America; Americares; Capital Group; AARP

Date November 2005 – present
 Amount \$999,535; \$545,425; \$250,000; \$74,206; \$33,000; \$30,000; \$25,000; \$25,000; \$50,000

IRD US opened a Gulf Coast Community Resource Center in Gulfport, MS, to help Hurricane Katrina survivors create and implement long-term recovery plans for themselves and their families. It helps ensure that affected communities have a continuous voice in the rebuilding process through community education and outreach. IRD US also provides high school equivalency education, service learning, and “on-the-job” training to at-risk youth who have dropped out of high school, many of whom have been referred by the juvenile justice system.