on Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR)

The United Nations Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) was established in March 2005 by the United Nations Executive Committee on Peace and Security (ECPS), with a mandate to improve the Organization's performance in the area of DDR. The IAWG was mandated to develop a coherent UN approach to DDR in both peacekeeping and non-peacekeeping environments. The IAWG is jointly chaired by the Department of Peace Operations (DPO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and is currently composed of 26 UN entities. The objectives of the IAWG are:

Objectives

- To develop and maintain cutting-edge DDR policies and resources;
- To provide technical and strategic advice to DDR practitioners in the field;
- To monitor developments and evaluate results in DDR.

Achievements

The IAWG represents a distinct and functional application of the "UN Delivering as One" concept, in that UN entities have come together and developed a common set of DDR guidance, known as the Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Standards (IDDRS). These were launched in December of 2006 along with a supporting Operational Guide and a Briefing Note for Senior Managers, supported by an online DDR Resource Centre (www.unddr.org).

The IDDRS constitute the largest and most tangible achievement of the IAWG. They are used for policy and strategy formulation, integrated planning, programme development, management and evaluation and staff training, in collaboration with the Integrated DDR Training Group (IDDRTG) members. Although new and revised modules had been included in the IDDRS between 2009 and 2014, in 2017, the IAWG took the decision to proceed with a more comprehensive review of the IDDRS, which culminated with the launch of the revised UN Approach to DDR in November 2019.

Additional achievements of the IAWG include:

- Prepared the Secretary-General's Policy Committee decision on DDR in 2010;
- Produced the Third Report of the Secretary-General on DDR in 2010;
- Implemented the EC funded Joint Project towards an Integrated approach to DDR in 2011-2012, which resulted in the updated UN DDR Resource Centre, capacity development as well as specific work on Gender and HIV;
- Consolidated lessons on integration in DDR in 2012;
- Conducted an IAWG internal evaluation in 2012, which led to a revised IAWG Terms of Reference in 2013;
- Produced an Options Paper on Strengthening the Reintegration of Ex-Combatants at the request of the UN Secretary-General's Executive Committee in 2017.

¹ Members are CTED, DGC, DPPA/PBSO, DPO, ILO, IOM, ODA, OHCHR, OSAA, OSRSG CAAC, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDIR, UNITAR, UNOCT, UNODC, UNOPS, UN Women, WFP, WHO and the World Bank.