

## **The effect of social inclusion and reintegration activities on social norms regarding violence and atrocities**

Effect: Small to none (g from -0.01 to 0.04)

Confidence in study findings: Medium confidence

Headline finding: Interventions to increase social inclusion have no effect on social norms regarding the rights of women and children or violence against women.

### **Short summary**

In this study, social inclusion and reintegration activities were expected to reduce community support for violence and reshape gender and conflict-related social norms. However, all studies find no effect on these outcomes.

### **Long summary**

#### *The Intervention*

Social Inclusion and reintegration activities included group-based reintegration efforts for returnees, non-combatants, or displaced populations. This includes community dialogues and reconciliations which draw participants from different sections of a community and create opportunities for exchanging information and perspectives, clarifying viewpoints, and developing solutions to issues of interest to the community. It also includes inclusive community programmes, such as community-driven development (CDD). It does not include reintegration of combatants which is a different intervention sub-category. The evidence in this summary refers to CDD and one community dialogue intervention.

#### *How the intervention is expected to work*

Socially inclusive activities, such as including women in the management of CDD programmes and community dialogues, are expected to change norms with respect to the role of women, and so the acceptability of violence against women.

#### *The evidence base*

The cell consists of one systematic review, which consisted of 104 studies conducted in 29 fragile and conflict-affected countries including studies from DRC, South Sudan, Sierra Leone, Liberia. There are five studies providing evidence for this cell summary, one from Afghanistan and the rest from sub-Saharan Africa.

#### *Review evidence*

A study conducted of community dialogues in Sierra Leone has a small positive, but statistically insignificant, effect on attitudes to wife beating (g=0.04).

Two studies, both of the Tuungane programme in DRC, assess the effect on women agreeing with certain reasons that justify violence against women, finding a very small, insignificant effect (g=-0.01). And two studies on community support for women's and children's human, economic and legal rights also found a small, insignificant, effect (g=0.02).

One study of men's perceptions of the effect of the socially inclusive CDD programme in Afghanistan on women's economic, social and human rights found no effect ( $g=0.0$ ).

*Effect:* All effect sizes are small (range  $g= -0.01$  to  $0.04$ ) and statistically insignificant.

*Confidence assessment:* The review is rated high. The cell is rated medium confidence. There is a small number of studies, but with consistent findings of a small, statistically insignificant, effect.

Source: Lwamba (2022)

Lwamba E, Shisler S, Ridlehoover W, Kupfer M, Tshabalala N, Nduku P, Langer L, Grant S, Sonnenfeld A, Anda D, Eyers J, Snilstveit B. Strengthening women's empowerment and gender equality in fragile contexts towards peaceful and inclusive societies: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Campbell Syst Rev.* 2022 Mar 8;18(1):e1214. doi: 10.1002/cl2.1214. PMID: 36913184; PMCID: PMC8904729.