

## **Effect of Social Inclusion & Reintegration Activity on Diplomatic relations & Peaceful Dispute Resolution**

The BRA-KDP program has a small effect on dispute resolution mechanisms and community power-sharing capacity.

**Geographical region:** East asia & pacific

**Effect:** Small effect (g = 0.042)

**Confidence in study findings:** Low (1 study with 1 effect size)

### **Short Summary**

The Community-Based Reintegration Assistance for Conflict Victims Program (BRA-KDP) provided block grants to 1,724 conflict-affected villages in Aceh. A quasi-experimental study identified persistent social divisions among aid recipients, non-recipients, and different economic groups. The program had a **small effect** in improving conflict resolution skills among participants, but there is no clear evidence of significant improvements in community capacity for dispute resolution or power-sharing. Participants reported high satisfaction with program activities despite limited measurable outcomes.

### **Long summary**

#### *The Intervention*

The BRA-KDP focused on community-driven development (CDD) by providing block grants to conflict-affected villages. Program activities included infrastructure development, livelihood support, and participatory decision-making, aiming to promote inclusive governance and social cohesion.

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

The program intended to empower communities to manage tensions and enhance individual and collective capacity for conflict resolution. By addressing social divisions and facilitating inclusive, community-driven projects, the intervention sought to strengthen local dispute resolution mechanisms and support cooperative decision-making.

#### *The evidence base*

This cell contains one primary impact evaluation conducted in Indonesia. The study used a quasi-experimental design with matching and instrumental variable techniques to compare program and non-program villages based on conflict exposure and village characteristics. Consistency in findings is assessed as low to medium.

#### *Evidence findings*

The BRA-KDP program had a small effect on enhancing conflict resolution skills. There is no clear evidence that it significantly strengthened community capacity to manage conflicts or improved dispute resolution and power-sharing dynamics. Participant satisfaction was high, but measurable improvements in community-level outcomes were limited.

#### *Included Studies*

The cell contains one low- confidence primary study, the detailed summary thus provided as below;

**Barron (2009):** The study evaluated the Community-Based Reintegration Assistance for Conflict Victims Program (BRA-KDP) in Aceh, Indonesia. This intervention aimed to support conflict-affected communities by providing block grants directly to villages. The evaluation used a quasi-experimental design to compare treatment villages that received the program with control villages that did not. Initially planned for two phases across Aceh, only the first phase was completed. Conducted from August to the following year, the program targeted 1,724 villages—about one-third of Aceh's total—across 67 rural subdistricts chosen for their conflict impact and success in fund disbursement, ensuring all villages in these subdistricts received block grants. To address selection bias, the researchers utilized matching techniques, where treatment villages were matched with control villages based on factors like conflict exposure and village characteristics to ensure comparability. An instrumental variables approach addressed non-compliance and confounding factors, isolating the program's effects. Alternative specifications were used to test the robustness of findings, particularly regarding social divisions and conflict escalation.

The study found that social divisions were prevalent, including those between aid recipients, non-recipients, and the rich and poor. Overall, A high proportion of individuals in both treatment and control villages expressed satisfaction with how problems were resolved in their communities. However, there was no significant improvement in satisfaction with dispute resolution processes due to the program. The study hypothesized that the BRA-KDP program would improve collective action and dispute resolution, but there were no notable differences in the ability to secure community projects or the quality of dispute resolution between the treatment and control groups. The frequency and quality of peaceful dispute resolution were consistent across both groups, with no evidence of improved power-sharing or enhanced resolution processes. Overall, the program did not significantly impact the accessibility, capacity, or effectiveness of dispute resolution mechanisms. The study is rated as a low - confidence study.

#### *Confidence assessment*

Overall, the cell is rated as low due to the small (n) in the cell and the presence of low confidence in the findings.

#### **The other outcomes assessed**

**Social cohesion/**Feeling of trust & acceptance of diversity. Sense of belonging

**Human security/**Economic security, Education security, Health security,

**Community & state governance/**Civic participation, Government performance, Access to justice, rights & Public service

**Violence or atrocity prevention/**Nature and scale of violence or atrocities