

Effect of Social Inclusion & Reintegration Activity on Environmental security

The BRA-KDP program in Aceh, Indonesia, had a small effect on environmental security, showing limited improvement in access to water resources.

Geographical region: East Asia & Pacific

Effect: Small effect ($g = 0.045$)

Confidence in study findings: low (1 study with 1 effect size)

Short Summary

The Community-Based Reintegration Assistance for Conflict Victims (BRA-KDP) program in Aceh, Indonesia, demonstrated a small effect on environmental security outcomes. Using a quasi-experimental design, the study compared 1,724 treatment and control villages to assess access to clean water and related resources. Findings indicated that less than two-thirds of respondents had access to clean or protected water sources, with conflict victims facing greater insecurity than non-conflict victims. However, there were no significant differences in access between intervention and control communities, suggesting limited program impact. The small effect is attributed to the program's short duration and its focus on broader community reintegration objectives rather than environmental improvements.

Long summary

The intervention

The BRA-KDP program emphasized community-driven development (CDD) through block grants to conflict-affected villages, particularly in high-conflict areas. Activities included infrastructure rehabilitation, livelihood support, and participatory decision-making processes designed to foster social reintegration and local recovery.

How the intervention is expected to work

The program aimed to strengthen community collaboration through inclusive planning and shared resource management. By fostering equitable decision-making and local ownership of projects, the intervention sought to enhance social stability and address post-conflict needs, including access to essential services such as water and sanitation.

The evidence base

The cell contains one primary study, which was conducted in Indonesia. There is a low to medium degree of consistency in the findings.

Evidence findings

The study found that the BRA-KDP program had a small effect on improving access to clean or protected water sources. Conflict-affected individuals remained more vulnerable to water insecurity, though the intervention did not exacerbate disparities between treatment and control villages. The limited duration and scope of the program contributed to its small overall effect.

Included studies:

Barron (2009): The study evaluated the Community-Based Reintegration Assistance for Conflict Victims Program (BRA-KDP) in Aceh, Indonesia. This intervention is set 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 sub districts chosen for their conflict impact and success in fund disbursement, ensuring all villages in these sub districts 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 the findings. The study observed that Less than two-thirds of respondents have access to clean or protected water sources. Conflict victims face greater water insecurity than non-conflict victims. However, there is no significant difference in access between treatment and control communities, indicating limited intervention impact on water availability. 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 in the study

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

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

Community & state governance/Government performance,

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