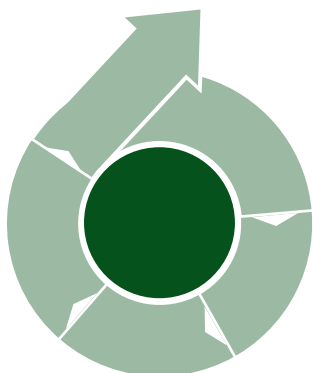


Thematic Brief 16: Promoting sustainable livelihoods

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Access to diverse, sustainable livelihood options is essential, as it gives communities at risk the freedom of choice before, during and after the crisis. It can provide affected people with the assets necessary to use mobility as a preventive strategy; present them with alternatives to displacement when hazards strike; and is a condition for recovering quickly and effectively, achieving durable solutions to displacement and avoiding secondary displacement. Sustaining livelihood options, especially of the most vulnerable, is therefore effective in reducing risk in the long term and in avoiding the disasters' negative impacts on human mobility.

Actions

- ▶ Multiply and broaden access to essential assets, services and income-generating activities, especially for the most vulnerable.
- ▶ Address conflicts related to the preferential support of the most vulnerable population, by enhancing dialogue and participated decision-making.
- ▶ Make livelihoods resilient to hazards and environmental change (e.g. through ecosystem conservation, structural protection measures, insurance, education and capacity-building), in order to protect investments and well-being gains in the long term.
- ▶ Preserve key material and non-material assets during and after disasters and crises, by securing their physical and legal protection and safeguarding community institutions and social bonds.
- ▶ Adequately assist and support households and communities responding to disasters, in order to avoid livelihood-depleting coping strategies.
- ▶ Restore and enhance assets, services and income-generating activities as soon as possible in the recovery process (e.g. by building on emergency management, through rubble removal activities and local procurement), in order to accelerate the transition to a productive life and tackle pre-existing conditions of vulnerability.
- ▶ Protect and multiply the livelihood options of communities receiving a planned or a sudden and massive population influx, in order to minimize inter-communal tension and conflict.

CASE STUDY 25: Promoting sustainable livelihoods in Indonesia

Many of IOM Indonesia's activities have been focusing on improving the living conditions of local communities by supporting sustainable livelihoods, in order to tackle the drivers of forced migration and reduce disaster risk.

In collaboration with Bank Mandiri's Corporate Social Responsibility Division, IOM supported micro- and small batik producers in the earthquake-affected province of Central Java. Under the Mandiri Bersama Mandiri ("Self-Reliant with Mandiri") Programme, the pilot project supported Kebon Village, a strong natural dye batik-producing community in Klaten District. The intervention assisted members of the Kebon Batik Cooperative through business development, business resilience, production capacity-building, direct market access and networking support.

Kebon Village was a beneficiary under the Livelihood Recovery Programme of IOM, which was funded by the multi-donor Java Reconstruction Fund. The project benefited from an established network of key stakeholders, including the private sector, media, business associations, universities and the local government. The project was a pilot initiative to support the Indonesian Government's efforts to address the livelihood recovery needs of disaster-affected communities, and lessons learned from the project were applied to livelihood assistance provided to populations affected by different disasters.

In Aceh, IOM supported the coffee production chain, which serves as the main source of income for at least 60,000 households. Over the last years, climate trends, combined with coffee farmers' limited knowledge of sustainable farming techniques and the decreasing mean size of coffee farms, have been important drivers of rural-to-urban migration and of the related poverty, marginalization and risk in urban areas.

With an ever-growing global demand, there is a window of opportunity to invest in the development of a sustainable coffee industry. In particular, consumers are increasingly interested in distinctive varieties grown in specific conditions (so-called "specialty coffees"), sustainable produce and the traceability of the product, from the seed all the way to the final cup. IOM mobilized key stakeholders in the supply chain in order to help Indonesian small and medium enterprises produce and distribute sustainable Aceh Gayo Arabica Specialty Coffee.

The negative impact of the coffee production process on the local ecosystem was reduced through shade growing, biodiversification and the use of organic fertilizer, while the environmental footprint of the supply chain benefitted from improved resource efficiency and the reduction of toxic material usage and waste generation. The investments have increased local incomes, contributed to prosperity in the target area and made local livelihoods more resilient, thereby tackling some of the most important drivers of out-migration.

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