

## **Social inclusion and reintegration activities: row summary**

**Social inclusion and reintegration activities have little or no effect across a wide range of social cohesion and related outcomes.**

Social inclusion and reintegration activities are interventions with conflict and atrocity prevention aims that support the social inclusion and reintegration of returnees, non-combatants, or displaced populations, excluding the reintegration of ex-combatants which is categorised elsewhere. In practice this includes inclusive community-driven development with explicit inclusion objectives, and group-based community dialogues or reconciliations. Most quantitative evidence in this summary comes from a block grant programme for conflict-affected villages in Aceh, Indonesia (BRA-KDP).

By creating structured opportunities for participation and voice, these interventions aim to make local decision-making more inclusive and legitimate, strengthen accountability, and support collective action around shared priorities. Dialogue components aim to reduce mistrust and improve non-violent problem solving. Together, these pathways may help communities manage tensions and support reintegration after conflict.

Quantitative effects show mostly little or no effect for most outcomes. These effects are mostly statistically insignificant. The study of the BRA-KDP programme in Aceh reported near zero effects for civic participation, government performance, educational security, access to public services, dispute resolution, environmental security, and violence prevention (g values mostly between 0.0 and 0.045). There is also only a small impact on economic security (g = 0.04), despite some reported poverty reduction and gains in asset ownership. Health outcomes show little or no effect with a small negative estimate (g = -0.03). Findings from a systematic review are that social norms regarding violence and rights show consistently little or no effect (g from -0.01 to 0.04), while safety net outcomes vary widely (g = -0.17 to 0.88), with one study reporting large gains in women forming their own organisation but most other proxy measures showing no effect or mixed results. Qualitative evidence suggests local gains in women's representation in governance, and there are also adverse findings such as lower perceived influence over decisions and lower acceptance of ex-combatants among some groups.

Confidence is mostly low because evidence is limited and concentrated in a few programmes and settings, with several outcomes relying on a single quasi-experimental evaluation. The underpinning systematic review is high quality, but for this intervention category it often draws on small numbers of studies and sometimes narrative synthesis rather than pooled effects. Overall, the evidence supports at most modest, local effects, and does not provide a strong basis for general claims about reductions in conflict or atrocity risks.

**Effect sizes for social inclusion and reintegration activities (Hedges g)**

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Effect size (g)</b>	<b>Magnitude</b>	<b>Studies (n)</b>	<b>Effect sizes (k)</b>
Presence and quality of social safety nets	-0.17 to 0.88	Range from small negative to large positive	3	Not reported
Feeling of trust and acceptance of diversity	0.056	Small	2	24
Environmental security	0.045	Little or no	1	1
Diplomatic relations and peaceful dispute resolution	0.042	Little or no	1	1
Social norms regarding violence and atrocities	-0.01 to 0.04	Little or no	5	Not reported
Economic security	0.036	Little or no	1	7
Nature and scale of violence or atrocities	0.012	Little or no	1	4
Access to justice, rights and public services	0.007	Little or no	1	8
Civic participation	0.003	Little or no	1	2
Government performance	0.0	Little or no	1	4
Educational security	0.0	Little or no	1	1
Intermediate social cohesion outcomes	0.0 (average reported)	Little or no	3	Not reported
Food security, nutrition and health security	-0.027	Little or no	1	2
Political security	Not reported	Narrative evidence suggests positive local effects	3	Not applicable