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Property Rights and Resource Governance Issues and Best Practices

Potential LTPR Reform Interventions

Module 5: Land and natural resource conflict: How rights and access to land and resources can be the cause of conflict and can fuel conflict

- Protect housing and access to land and resources, including land records, by peacekeeping forces.
- Document changes in land access during final phase of conflict, through support to local institutions.
- Promote the discussion of housing, land and property rights issues in peace negotiations and documentation of commitments in peace agreements.
- Support access to information/awareness-raising regarding land laws, policies, and land administration institutions, particularly for returning IDPs and refugees.
- Provide capacity-building for local and national institutions, such as mediation services (often linked to rule of law programs).
- Support to customary and other local dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Develop systematic linkages between local and statutory systems for land and resources disputes mediation.
- Develop a national cadre of land administration professionals, through assessment, training and capacity-building.
- Provide land rights literacy training for local government officials on rights of women & other vulnerable groups.
- Deliver assistance to state-run property restitution and compensation programs addressing land loss caused by violent conflict and illegal appropriations of land.
- Provide temporary housing to help keep displaced people from occupying homes of others.
- Create programs to enhance security of tenure through legal recognition of customary and informal claims of land users, including piloting land rights documentation programs.
- Support legal aid programs, particularly those targeting ethnic minorities, women-headed households, and other vulnerable groups.
- Address informal land occupations through regularization of occupants' possession, or where this is not possible, evictions with procedural protections.
- Give assistance in obtaining ID documents for those who require them for legal processes.
- Encourage the simplification of court processes and monitoring of judicial fairness in handling land and natural resources disputes.
- Provide long-term assistance to government in development of LTPR policy and legislation to address grievances and deliver more effective land governance.
- Provide assistance to civil society organizations to participate in policy and legal debates related to LTPR and natural resources disputes.
- Work with local and national media to sensitize the population on new land policies, or to promote dialogue around land policy or land issues.
- Provide non-agricultural livelihood training/equipment/employment opportunities as alternatives in situations of seriously limited land availability.