

Community-Based Reintegration Assistance in the Horn of Africa

Projects implemented under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration and the Individual Measure Project between March 2017 and April 2023



Project funded by the European Union
Project implemented by IOM

In IOM's Integrated Approach to Reintegration,¹ community-based reintegration assistance programme aims at strengthening community networks and improving the conditions for sustainable reintegration. Initiatives at this level are implemented using a participatory approach involving returnees and their communities of return to address wider needs and concerns, increasing support for reintegration among local actors.

Under the [EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration](#)² in the Horn of Africa, IOM and its partners implemented 60 community-based reintegration assistance initiatives.³ In several instances, the initiatives targeted areas with high incidence of irregular migration where several returning migrants concentrated, allowing to reduce tensions between returnees and local communities, or serve as extra capacity when a community has been stretched to accommodate returnees' needs.

60 Initiatives



Community Response⁴

- 92%** feel involved in the identification, design and/or implementation of a project
- 92%** believe that the projects addressed the need of returnees in the community
- 94%** agree the projects had a positive impact on the whole community

¹ For more information on the Integrated Approach to Reintegration, please consult the first chapter of IOM's [Reintegration Handbook](#).

² <https://migrationjointinitiative.org/>.

³ The estimated number of direct beneficiaries of Community-Based Reintegration projects is 77,973 (29,223 male, 48,750 female). A number of initiatives entailed the improvement of public infrastructure and services in communities with high incidence of irregular migration: in such cases, the number of direct beneficiaries was estimated based on population size residing in the catchment area of the facilities or infrastructure improved. These estimates were possible in Somalia and Sudan only, but not in Ethiopia due to lack of data.

⁴ Source: survey of residents of the areas targeted by Community-Based Reintegration projects, administered between February 2021 and July 2022 (n=809, 476 male, 333 female).

In Sudan, 10 Community-Based Reintegration projects were implemented between June 2020 and December 2022

Focuses:



Job creation and economic empowerment



Public infrastructure improvement

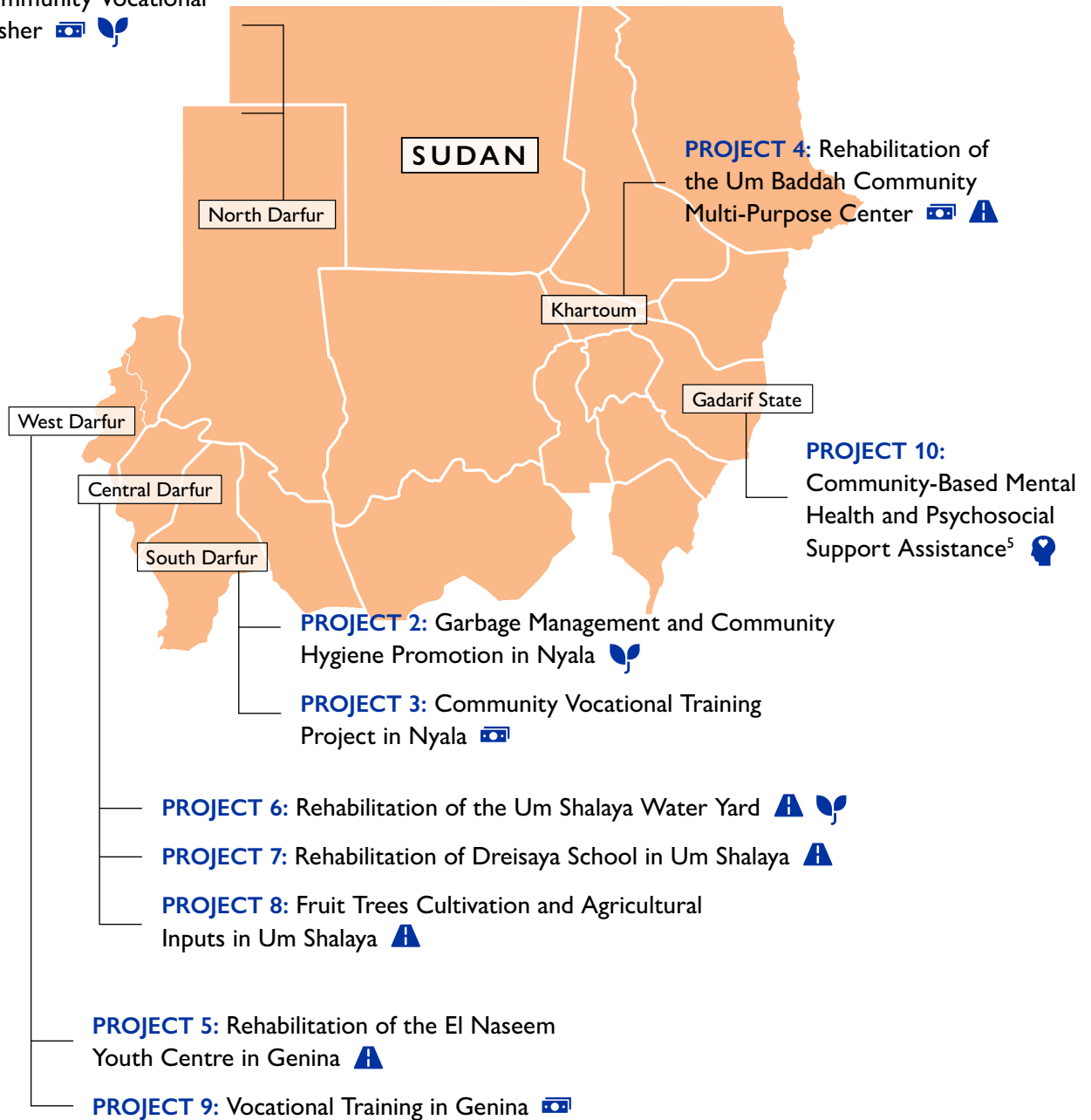


Environment preservation/restoration



Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

PROJECT 1: Community Vocational Training in El Fasher



5 This project is also held in North Darfur, South Darfur and West Darfur.

PROJECT 1

Community Vocational Training in El Fasher



North Darfur

To address the low employment rate, the lack of livelihood options and the high incidence of irregular migration in the El Fasher area, two hundred local youths, including returnees and other community members, enrolled in a three-month vocational training programme. They could choose one of the following trades: car maintenance, welding, plumbing, general electricity, and soil stabilization block production and usage (The technology allows for zero consumption of firewood and structural timber in building construction. There is also a consistent reduction in water usage up to 60 percent less than the amount needed to produce fired bricks. It uses locally available resources). The training was followed by a 20-day internship. All the participants received toolkits to start offering services in their trade of choice.

Project Timeline

August 2022

Focuses

-  Job creation and economic empowerment
-  Environment preservation/restoration

Implementing Partners

- El Fasher Technical School

Direct Beneficiaries

170 male **30** female



A woman participating in the production of stabilized soil blocks, El Fasher, North Darfur. © EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2022



A woman participating in the plumbing skills training, El Fasher, North Darfur. © EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2022

PROJECT 2

Garbage Management and Community Hygiene Promotion in Nyala

South Darfur

Ten communities with high incidence of irregular migration in the Nyala area were targeted for a hygiene promotion community engagement campaign through radio, billboards, pamphlets and a mobile theatre. Community members, returnees and students, teachers including local businessman embarked on several clean-up and environmental conservation activities, in close collaboration with the local Hygiene and Sanitation Unit of the Ministry of Health. IOM and the Ministry provided the project with a truck. In addition to the above efforts, one community member also volunteered his truck to support other communities with the garbage collection. Despite the end of JI contribution, the Ministry has continued to lead this project and is planning to replicate it in the Beliel locality.

Project Timeline

March 2022

Focuses

 Environment preservation/restoration

Implementing Partners

- Ministry of Health – Hygiene and Sanitation Unity (Nyala)

Direct Beneficiaries

220 male **780** female



Local community working on the garbage collection in South Darfur.
© EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2022



Garbage collection using equipment donated by local authorities.
© EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2022

PROJECT 3

Community Vocational Training Project in Nyala

South Darfur

To reduce youth unemployment and improve the supply of services to the community, 198 youths in Nyala received entrepreneurship training on in-demand trades such as mobile phone maintenance, vehicle maintenance, home appliance maintenance, handicraft and leather products, perfume making, sewing and food processing. Several participants went on to open their businesses after the training. Sixty women who graduated from the training started working together at the Nyala Youth Centre to produce goods and sell them. They also pass on their skill to other women in the community.

Project Timeline

March 2022

Bonuses

 Job creation and economic empowerment

Implementing Partners

– Nyala Technical College

Direct Beneficiaries

138 male **60** female



A trainee displaying the products she made by utilizing the acquired skills, Nyala, South Darfur. © EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2022

PROJECT 4

Rehabilitation of the Um Baddah Community Multi-Purpose Center



Khartoum

Residents of Um Baddah, a locality in the Khartoum state with high incidence of irregular migration and youth unemployment, are benefiting from the rehabilitation of the local Multi-Purpose Community Centre. The Centre is managed by a Community Development Committee and provides a safe place for social gatherings, meetings, community mobilisation and income generation activities (two of the centre's rooms are used by local youths for soap making and laundry services). The space also includes recreational facilities such as a watching club and a sport pitch for volleyball and basketball.

Project Timeline

December 2021

Focuses

-  Job creation and economic empowerment
-  Public infrastructure improvement

Implementing Partners

- Rural Community Development Organisation, Khartoum

Direct Beneficiaries**2,223** male **1,896** female

Youths practicing basketball in the Community Multi-purpose Centre Khartoum. © EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2022



Laundry services provided by women to generate income at the Community Multi-Purpose Centre, Khartoum. © EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2022

PROJECT 5**Rehabilitation of the El Naseem Youth Centre in Geneina***West Darfur*

The rehabilitated El Naseem Youth Centre serves as a platform to strengthen ties between returning migrants and the rest of the community, as well as to support local youths and women in general. Managed by a committee comprising local youths, the Centre is also a free hub for social gatherings and community mobilisation activities.

Project Timeline

August 2020

Focuses

 Public infrastructure improvement

Implementing Partners

– Tihraga Engineering for Building Co. Ltd.

Direct Beneficiaries

500 male **350** female



PROJECT 6

Rehabilitation of the Um Shalaya Water Yard



Central Darfur

Water is scarce in Um Shalaya and its management is of utmost importance. This locality is placed along an important transhumance route and is also an important place of origin and return for Sudanese migrants. The rehabilitation of the local water yard aimed at improving access to water for non-migrants, returnees, IDPs and transhumant herders and reducing the risk of conflicts. The inclusion of returnees in the Project Committee was important to highlight the contribution of migrants to community development. A space for social interaction was also created under the same initiative.

Project Timeline

August 2020

Focuses

-  Public infrastructure improvement
-  Environment preservation/restoration

Implementing Partners

- Emmar Group for Construction

Direct Beneficiaries**15,146** male **22,504** female

Rehabilitated water yard with an overhead water tank in Um Shalaya.
© EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2022

PROJECT 7

Rehabilitation of Dreisaya School in Um Shalaya

Central Darfur

The rehabilitation of the Dreisaya Primary School was a priority for community leaders, returnees and authorities in Um Shalaya. Before the intervention, learners were studying while seated on the ground, under the sun or in a temporary shelter. The initiative aimed at creating a conducive learning environment where students and teachers are motivated.

Project Timeline

August 2020

Focuses

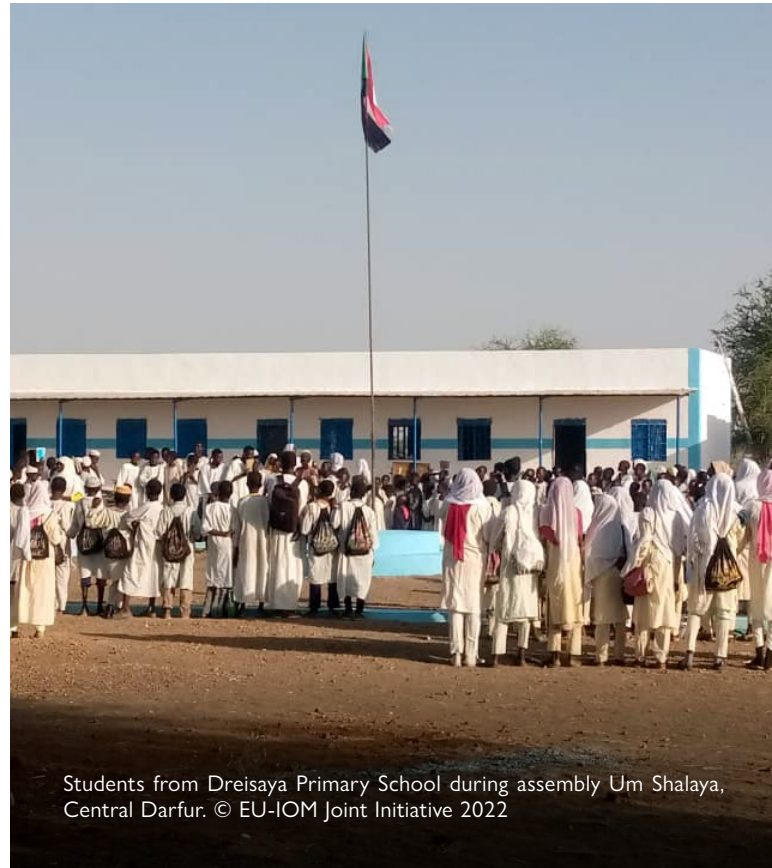
 Public infrastructure improvement

Implementing Partners

– Emmar Group for Construction

Direct Beneficiaries

1,796 male **704** female



Students from Dreisaya Primary School during assembly Um Shalaya, Central Darfur. © EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2022



Dreisaya Primary School building before the rehabilitation, Um Shalaya, Central Darfur. © EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2022

PROJECT 8

Fruit Trees Cultivation and Agricultural Inputs in Um Shalaya



Central Darfur

The project targeted four villages in Um Shalaya, an area with high incidence of irregular migration. Traditional farming tools and technical training were given to 200 women, in collaboration with local women's agricultural associations. The project also rehabilitated a tree nursery and supported fruit tree plantation campaigns to enhance income generation and increase the area's greenery.

Project Timeline

June 2020

Focuses

-  Public infrastructure improvement
-  Environment preservation/restoration

Implementing Partners

- Darfur Development and Reconstruction Agency (DDRA)

Direct Beneficiaries**200** female

PROJECT 9

Vocational Training in Genina

West Darfur

70 youths from Al Genina, West Darfur, were provided with vocational training and toolkits to start their economic activity of choice. Courses in four trades were offered: car maintenance, welding, perfume making and leather processing.

Project Timeline

June 2022

Focuses

 Job creation and economic empowerment

Implementing Partners

– Genina Technical School (GTS)

Direct Beneficiaries

30 male **40** female



Training graduates with the tools they received, Al Genina, West Darfur. © EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2020



Rawia, the only female participant in the car maintenance training, practicing the skills she learned, Al Genina, West Darfur. © EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2020

PROJECT 10

Community-Based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Assistance

North, South, West Darfur, and Gadarif State

Host communities, returnees and their families in El Fasher (North Darfur), Nyala (South Darfur), Genina (West Darfur) and Gadarif (Gadarif) benefited from mental health and psychosocial support to accelerate recovery and reintegration. However, most of the residents in the target areas have been affected by the civil war, displacement, COVID-19 pandemic, competition over limited resources and lack of livelihood, sometimes resulting in an irregular migration journey that further strains individuals and their families. Under this initiative, the participants learned to recognise the returnees as a part of the society, strengthening their ties and helping them live in social co-existence. In addition, they learned to utilise existing community structures, acknowledge psychological distress, and manage them.

Project Timeline


El Fasher, February 2021

Nyala, July 2021

Gadarif, October 2022

Genina, December 2022

Focuses

 Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

Implementing Partners

– Direct IOM implementation

Direct Beneficiaries

468 male **320** female



Group Discussions with the community members about the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing, Gedarif State. © EU-IOM Joint Initiative 2022