

Methodology

Due to time constraints an originally foreseen desk research was replaced by the development of two matrices, which were elaborated by the Review Team based on programme documents provided by DRC at the end of September 2002. The matrices contained summaries on (1) lessons learnt on key issues during previous evaluations of DRC programmes and (2) key issues as reflected in the SPR Tool Document vis-à-vis country strategy papers. These matrices were presented and discussed at a design workshop held at DRC head office on 3rd and 4th October 2002. Participants of the design workshop were key stakeholders of DRC country and SPR management staff, DRC head office staff and the Review Team.

Based on the concept paper, the DRC participants of the design workshop took the final decision on the key issues to be addressed by the review, thereby narrowing the scope of work from ten tentative issues to the following focus areas:

1. Strategizing and management systems
2. Holistic, integrated approach
3. Participation
4. Local cooperation
5. Connectedness
6. Do no harm/(re)integration – as a cross-cutting issue

Within the identified key issues a total of 32 sub-themes (evaluation questions) were detailed, which would be addressed by the Review Team in each of the country study reports and in the synthesis report. A summary report on the design workshop and a table showing the key questions are attached as [Annex 2](#) and [Annex 3](#) respectively.

Visits to the programme countries and areas by the consultants, individually or as a team, took place as follows: North Caucasus 11th – 20th October 2002, Somaliland 12th – 17th October 2002, Bosnia and Herzegovina 6th – 10th November 2002, Serbia 11th – 13th November 2002, FYROM 11th – 13th November 2002, Kosovo 14th – 19th November 2002.

Prior to the visits pertinent documentation on country programmes and individual projects was studied. Unfortunately the project portfolio of DRC was only made available to the consultants in March 2003 and it has, therefore, not been used by the Review Team. It is, however, for easy reference appended as [Annex 4](#).

During the country and area visits mini-workshops and discussions were held with DRC country management and review focus groups, SPR management and relevant local staff. Interviews were held with local authorities, beneficiaries and representatives of national and international organisations. DRC country offices and others provided additional documentation. In most countries – with the exception of Serbia – debriefing meetings were held prior to the departure of the consultant(s). The itineraries of the country visits are attached to the respective country reports.

All country reports were communicated as drafts to the respective country programme management and were discussed between DRC country management and the Review Team. Reactions to these reports have been duly considered by the Review Team and are reflected in the respective reports.

This report synthesises the findings and conclusions from the country reports. Text boxes have been included in various chapters highlighting certain findings and/or comments from the country visits and the country reports. They originate, of course, from a specific contexts and particular situations but they have, in the opinion of the Review Team, a relevance for the SPR component as a whole.