

# External Evaluation of the Trust Fund for Victims Programmes in Northern Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo



## Towards a Perspective of Upcoming Interventions

November 2013

Jennifer McCleary-Sills & Stella Mukasa (2013) *External Evaluation of the Trust Fund for Victims Programmes in Northern Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo: Towards a Perspective for Upcoming Interventions*, International Center for Research on Women (ICRW).

---

Copyright © 2013. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form by any means without the prior permission from the Trust Fund for Victims at email: [trust.fund@icc-cpi.int](mailto:trust.fund@icc-cpi.int).  
For more information:

The Trust Fund for Victims  
International Criminal Court  
Maanweg 174  
2516 AB The Hague  
The Netherlands

<http://www.trustfundforvictims.org>

*Cover photo: TFV beneficiary in Gulu, Uganda. Photo by Marita Nadalutti/TFV.*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Acronyms</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Overview</b>	<b>10</b>
Background of TFV Programming	10
Purpose and Objectives of the External Evaluation	15
<b>Context of TFV Programming</b>	<b>15</b>
Northern Uganda	16
Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	18
<b>Methodology</b>	<b>20</b>
Key Review Questions	20
Data Collection and Analysis	21
Limitations	22
<b>Results</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Physical Rehabilitation</b>	<b>24</b>
Overview of Physical Rehabilitation Activities	24
Factors Underlying the Success of Physical Rehabilitation Activities	25
Factors Limiting the Success of Physical Rehabilitation Activities	27
Strategic Opportunities for Enhancing Physical Rehabilitation Activities	27
<b>Psychological Rehabilitation</b>	<b>27</b>
Overview of Psychological Rehabilitation Activities	28
Factors Underlying the Success of Psychological Rehabilitation Activities	28
Factors Limiting the Success of Psychological Rehabilitation Activities	30
Strategic Opportunities for Enhancing Psychological Rehabilitation Activities	31
<b>Material Support</b>	<b>31</b>
Overview of Material Support Activities	31
Factors Underlying the Success of Material Support Activities	32
Factors Limiting the Success of Material Support Activities	35
Strategic Opportunities for Enhancing Material Support Activities	36
<b>Cross-cutting Themes</b>	<b>37</b>
Promoting Community Reconciliation, Acceptance; and Rebuilding Community Safety Nets	37

Mainstreaming Gender to include Addressing Impact of Gender-based Violence and other Sexual Violence	39
Sexual & Gender-based Violence (SGBV)	39
Environmental Impact	41
<b>Institutional Arrangements, Coordination and M&amp;E Mechanisms</b>	<b>42</b>
Institutional Arrangements and Coordination	43
Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting	44
<b>Recommendations and Conclusion</b>	<b>44</b>
Recommendations for TFV Programming	45
Recommendations for Institutional Arrangements, Coordination and M&E Mechanisms	46
<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Annexes</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Annex 1: Terms of Reference</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Annex 2: Domains of Evaluation</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Annex 3: DRC &amp; Northern Uganda TFV Assistance Projects Evaluated</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Annex 4: Full list of TFV Assistance Projects</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Annex 5: TFV Programme Framework</b>	<b>61</b>

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors would like to thank all those who made this evaluation and report possible. We offer our sincerest appreciation to the more than 750 victim survivors, programme participants, and implementing partners who took part in the field-based evaluation activities. We also acknowledge the tireless efforts and important contributions of the local evaluators Eric Ochen and Fiona Alenyo (Uganda), and Paul Ramazani (DRC).

We are grateful for the commitment and energy dedicated by the TFV programme team to planning and accompanying the evaluation activities: Scott Bartell and Aude Le Goff in Kampala and Bertin Bishikwabo and Richard Budju in Bunia. The safe conduct of this fieldwork would not have been possible without the logistical support of the ICC field security teams in both situations.

We also acknowledge the TFV team in The Hague, who provided critically important guidance and input throughout the evaluation process. Pieter de Baan, Executive Director, for sharing his insights about TFV programming and its future directions.

Kristin Kalla, Senior Programme Officer provided invaluable orientation to the TFV programming, and on-going input into the evaluation, report, and design. Judicael Elidje, former Monitoring & Evaluation Advisor, provided input into the design of the evaluation methodology and site selection.

We also appreciate the time dedicated by Marita Nadalutti, TFV Programme Assistant and for her photo contributions; and Gaelle Van Der Meerendonk, TFV Executive Assistant for ensuring the printing and French translation. Special thanks to the ICC's Travel Unit and Field Operations and Security for supporting the administrative and logistical processes related to this evaluation.

Our thanks also go to Silke Studzinsky, TFV Legal Adviser; Paolina Massidda, Principal Counsel, Office of Public Counsel for Victims and Dmytro Suprun, Counsel, Office of Public Counsel for Victims, ICC; Caroline Maurel, Outreach Officer, Public Information and Documentation Section, ICC; and Fiona McKay Chief of Victims Participation and Reparations Section, ICC for taking the time to speak with the evaluators about TFV programming.

Finally, the authors would like to acknowledge our ICRW colleagues Zayid Douglas, Programme Associate, and Kirsty Sievwright, Programme Assistant for their contributions to the management of this evaluation and the production of this report.



*TFV beneficiary  
in Mahagi,  
DRC.*

*Photo by J.  
McCleary-  
Sills/ICRW.*

## ACRONYMS

ACIAR	Appui à la Communication Interculturelle et à l'Auto Promotion Rurale
AFDL	Alliance des Forces Démocratiques pour la Libération du Congo-Zaïre
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ALT	Action for Living Together
AMAB	Association de Mamans Anti Bwaki
AP	Assistant Psychosocial (Psychosocial Assistant)
ASP	Assembly of States Parties
AVSI	Association of Volunteers in International Service
AYINET	African Youth Initiative Network
CAG	Community Action Group
CAR	Central African Republic
CCVS	Centre for Children in Vulnerable Situations
CoH	Cessation of Hostilities
COOPI	Cooperazione Internazionale
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CVT	Centre for Victims of Torture
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
DNU	Diocese of Northern Uganda
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
ECP	Emergency Contraceptive Pills
EAFGA	Enfants Associés Aux Forces et Groupes Armés
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FORAL	Foundation Rama Levina
FP	Family Planning
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GROW	Gulu Regional Orthopaedic Workshop
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICRW	International Center for Research on Women
IDI	In-Depth Interview
IGA	Income-Generating Activity
KAF	Kataliko Actions Pour l'Afrique
KII	Key Informant Interview
LRA	Lord's Resistance Army

MONUSCO	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
MUSO	Mutuelle de Solidarité
NECPA	Northeast Chilli Producers Association
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
PEP	Post-exposure Prophylaxis
PME	Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
RHA	Réseau Haki na Amani
RPF	Rwandan Patriotic Front
SILC	Savings and Internal Lending Communities
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
TFV	Trust Fund for Victims
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Association
ZAF	Zairian Armed Forces

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Overview

Created in 2002 under the Rome Statute, the Trust Fund for Victims (TFV) is the first of its kind in the global movement to end impunity and promote justice. The TFV mission is to support programmes that address the harms resulting from the crimes under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC) by assisting victims to return to a dignified and contributory life within their communities. To achieve this, the Fund has a two-fold mandate: (1) to administer reparations ordered by the ICC against a convicted person, and (2) to use other resources for the benefit of victims subject to the provisions of article 79 of the Rome Statute.

In 2012, TFV released a Request for Proposals for an evaluation of on-going TFV programmes in northern Uganda and eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The aims of this evaluation were to:

- Determine significance and assess impact of the programmes;
- Identify areas for strengthening and improvement of the programmes;
- Provide evidence-based recommendations to inform the design of the next TFV Strategic Plan and finalization of country programme strategies.

As the result of a competitive bidding process, the TFV contracted the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) to carry out this independent evaluation. This report presents the results of the evaluation. Section 1 provides an overview of TFV programming and the objectives of this external evaluation. Section 2 presents background information on the conflicts in both Uganda and DRC. In Section 3 an overview of the evaluation methodology is provided. Section 4 presents the results of the evaluation in each of the three areas of legally defined assistance (*physical rehabilitation, psychological rehabilitation and material support*) and the crosscutting themes. Finally, in Section 5, overarching recommendations are provided to guide TFV's next phase of investment in programming under the assistance mandate in both countries.

### Methodology

For the present evaluation ICRW developed a mixed methods approach that employed participatory monitoring and evaluation (PME) activities, in-depth interviews (IDIs), and secondary review of existing documentation and data. Through the fieldwork in both countries, more than 750 individuals participated in IDIs and/or PME activities. These included victim survivors, other programme beneficiaries, implementing partners, and representatives of government agencies.

### Results

Results are presented by type of assistance provided (*physical rehabilitation, psychological rehabilitation and material support*) and by the crosscutting themes defined by TFV (*community reconciliation, gender mainstreaming, and environmental impact*). TFV partners report reaching more than 100,000 victims through these three types of assistance. Across situations and implementing partners, the evaluation revealed that programme activities related to physical rehabilitation provide victim survivors with an extensive degree of physical healing. This rehabilitation promotes reintegration into

their communities by allowing them to function as normally as possible and to participate in regular community-based activities.

Among the most significant changes indicated were the ability to live a normal life again, to make plans for the future, to resume school and work, the confidence to participate in community gatherings again, social independence and self-reliance. The evaluation also revealed that activities in this category of assistance are highly relevant to victims' needs and to the context in which the programming is taking place.

The activities aimed at promoting psychological rehabilitation also achieved a high degree of effectiveness using a variety of individual, group, and community-based approaches. The evaluation found important indications that these achievements are sustainable and likely to achieve substantial impact in the long term. Among the most significant changes resulting from the counselling sessions, victims reported that they had taken a more positive outlook to life and some had gained the confidence to re-engage in community activities. Many reported being better able to deal with their problems because of their increased sense of self-confidence and social cohesion.

Overall, TFV partners achieved or surpassed their objectives in material support, as evidenced by the numbers of victims participating in communal savings groups and/or completing vocational training or literacy programmes. Across programme sites, material support activities demonstrated a clear recognition of the real livelihood needs faced by victims and their families. Notable achievements included group-based vocational training (which engaged many students at once); the establishment of savings and loan groups (which incurred minimal upfront costs for the partner and quickly became self-sufficient); and the high rate of repayment achieved in most micro-loan initiatives. The ability to borrow, save and invest, pay school fees and afford emergency medical care was reported as most significant changes by both male and female participants. Male and female respondents reported that these economic gains also contributed significantly to improvements in their mental health and sense of security.

The evaluation revealed the following key achievements under the cross-cutting themes: 1) Within the theme of community reconciliation the evaluation highlighted results related to unity, solidarity, and peaceful cohabitation as showing great promise due to the inherent and powerful will of the community members themselves; 2) Strengthening the capacity for gender mainstreaming was central to the institutional strengthening of TFV implementing partners; 3) At the individual level, SGBV survivors indicated that the assistance they received helped them stop blaming themselves for the crimes they had experienced, and helped them to see themselves as "real women" again. Many others also attributed the ability to return to work and be economically active as the greatest contributor to their newfound positive mental health; and 4) TFV supported implementing partners to undertake environmental impact assessments of their interventions. Specific activities to address environmental concerns included training beneficiaries in agriculture and animal husbandry and provision of plots of land for these activities.

### *Key areas underlying success*

While a number of factors contributed to the success of the many assistance interventions supported by TFV funding, the evaluation highlights five fundamental factors that were consistent across the situations and programming contexts: 1) effective translation of theory into practice; 2) an integrated approach to promote a holistic approach to problems; 3) community participation in identification of victim beneficiaries for support; 4) a focus on capacity building and institutional strengthening; and 5) working with community resources and promoting local ownership.

## *Recommendations*

Despite these obvious gains made by the programmes, the evaluation also revealed some factors limiting the success of interventions in each of the three areas of assistance. To respond to these gaps, ICRW puts forward a set of recommendations targeted at TFV programming as well as institutional arrangements and coordination. Key recommendations include: 1) prioritize participation of community members and victim beneficiaries in programme design and monitoring; 2) establish a standardized project-level M&E framework; 3) commission structured research on programming models; 4) explore the possibility of a multi-annual funding system; 5) establish a Management Information System; 6) explore alternative in-country management structures; and 7) streamline communication efforts to raise awareness about TFV in-country.

This evaluation provides evidence of the great strides made by the TFV-supported projects in the name of assistance to victims under the jurisdiction of the ICC. As the TFV moves toward putting its new strategic plan into action, it will be important to prioritize the documentation of the impact of these projects, assessing and replicating effective models, and scaling up to reach even more of the many thousands of victims who are still in need of assistance.



*TFV beneficiaries from the community reconciliation project in eastern DRC, Noyo Pacifique de Mamans.*

*Photo by J. McCleary-Sills/ICRW.*



*TFV beneficiaries in the veterinary medicine vocational training track, eastern DRC.*

*Photo by J. McCleary-Sills/ICRW.*

## OVERVIEW

### *Background of TFV Programming*

The Trust Fund for Victims is the first of its kind in the global movement to end impunity and promote justice. In 2002, the Rome Statute created the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the Trust Fund for Victims (TFV, or Fund). The legal basis for the TFV is stated in article 79 of the Rome Statute, which provides for a “Trust Fund...for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court, and of the families of such victims.”<sup>1</sup> Victims are defined in Rule 85 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the TFV. The Fund supports activities that address the harm resulting from the crimes under the jurisdiction of the ICC by assisting victims to return to a dignified and contributory life within their communities.<sup>2</sup>

### *Structure and Mission of the TFV*

Based on the legal framework stipulated in article 79 of the Rome Statute a number of resolutions have been adopted at various annual sessions of the ICC Assembly of States Parties (ASP) towards the establishment and operations of the TFV, as summarized below:

1. Through this resolution the ASP defined contributions to the TFV and established the five-member Board of Directors<sup>3</sup>. The TFV benefits from the leadership and guidance of a five-member Board of Directors elected by the ASP for three-year terms. These seats are distributed according to the five major world regions with each member serving in an individual capacity on a pro bono basis.
2. Establishment of the Secretariat of the Trust Fund for Victims “to provide such assistance as is necessary for the proper functioning of the Board of Directors in carrying out its tasks”. The resolution also “calls upon governments, international organizations, individuals, corporations and other entities to contribute voluntarily to the Fund.”<sup>4</sup>
3. To articulate regulations of the Fund followed by an amendment on earmarked contributions that were adopted subsequently.<sup>5</sup> The Regulations contain provisions regulating: the management and oversight of the TFV; the receipt of funds; the activities and projects of the TFV; and the TFV's reporting requirements. With respect to the TFV's assistance mandate, the Regulations specify that before undertaking activities to provide physical rehabilitation, psychological rehabilitation, and/or material support to victims, the Board is required to formally notify the Court of its intentions.

Subsequent resolutions have been adopted at the annual ASP sessions to clarify the operations of the Secretariat, the Board and the regulations of the TFV.

The TFV mission is to support programmes, which address the harms resulting from the crimes under the jurisdiction of ICC by assisting victims to return to a dignified and contributory life within their communities. To achieve this, the Fund has a two-fold mandate

---

1 For information on the TFV's legal basis, see: <http://trustfundforvictims.org/legal-basis>

2 TFV Strategic Plan, 2009-2013.

3 Resolution ICC-ASP/1/Res.6

4 Resolution ICC-ASP/3/Res.7

5 Resolution ICC-ASP/4/Res.3

pursuant to Rule 98 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence: (1) administering reparations ordered by the ICC against a convicted person, and (2) using other resources for the benefit of victims subject to the provisions of article 79 of the Rome Statute.<sup>6,7</sup> As discussed in further detail below, both mandates provide support to victims of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes committed since 1 July 2002.<sup>8</sup>

### *Reparations Mandate*

The TFV's reparations mandate is linked to a war crimes case. Resources are collected through fines or forfeiture and awards for reparations are complemented with "other resources of the Trust Fund" if the Board of Directors so determines (see regulations 43-46 and 56 for details).<sup>9,10</sup> Reparations to or in respect of victims can take many different forms, including restitution, compensation and rehabilitation. This mandate leaves room for the ICC to identify the most appropriate forms of reparation in light of the context of the case and the rights and wishes of the victims and their communities. Reparation is in no way limited to individual monetary compensation; it could instead include collective forms of reparation and symbolic or other measures that could promote reconciliation within divided communities.

The Court may order that an award for reparations against a convicted person be deposited with the TFV where at the time of making the order it is impossible or impracticable to make individual awards directly to each victim.

### *Assistance Mandate*

The assistance mandate of the TFV envisions the possibility for victims and their families to receive assistance separate from and prior to a conviction by the Court, using resources the TFV has raised through voluntary contributions. While this support is distinct from awards for reparations, in that it is not linked to a conviction, it is key in helping repair the harm that victims have suffered because: 1) the TFV can provide assistance to victims in a timelier manner than may be allowed by the judicial process; and 2) assistance is targeted to victims of the broader situations before the ICC, regardless of whether the harm they suffered stems from particular crimes charged by the Prosecutor in a specific case.

The resources used for the TFV's second mandate are "*resources other than those collected from awards for reparations, fines and forfeitures,*" as defined in Regulation 47 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims. They are used in accordance with Regulation 48, to benefit "*victims of crimes as defined in Rule 85 of the Rules, and, where natural persons are concerned, their families, who have suffered physical, psychological and/or material harm as result of these crimes.*" Earmarked funding has constituted an important share of the Trust Fund's resources under the assistance mandate, especially for supporting victims of sexual and gender-based violence.<sup>11</sup>

Regulation 50 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims provides that "the TFV shall be considered to be seized" when the Board of Directors considers it necessary to provide physical or psychological rehabilitation and/or material support for the benefit of victims and their families, and has consulted with any relevant Chamber of the Court in

---

6 Rule 98 (2), (3), (4) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence

7 Rule 98 (5) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence

8 As defined in Articles 6, 7, and 8 of the Rome Statute

9 Regulations 43 to 46 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims

10 Regulation 56 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims

11 TFV Regulations 27 and 28

accordance with the procedure specified.

Under the assistance mandate, the TFV may provide three forms of support: physical rehabilitation, psychological rehabilitation and material support. This victim's assistance is legally defined, and based on TFV experience in northern Uganda and DRC, this has meant:

- **Physical Rehabilitation** may include reconstructive and general surgery, bullet and bomb fragment removal, prosthetic and orthopaedic devices, and referrals to medical services for victims of sexual violence;
- **Psychological Rehabilitation** may include both individual and group-based trauma counselling; community-led healing of memories initiatives, and community sensitization around the rights of victims to promote reconciliation; and
- **Material Support** may include access to safe shelter, vocational training, reintegration programmes for former child soldiers, support for village savings and loans, education grants, and classes in accelerated literacy.

Under its non-Court ordered assistance, the TFV is presently employing two targeting strategies to ensure victims fall within the jurisdiction of the ICC: (1) assistance to specific categories of victims, including victims of sexual violence and children and youth associated with armed forces; and (2) assistance to affected communities, including villages victimized by pillage, massacre, and/or displacement. This category also includes communities reached through sensitisation, healing of memories or reconciliation activities at community levels. Through these initiatives the TFV supports projects that aim to reduce the stigma and discrimination often faced by victims of grave human rights abuses.

To provide this support, intermediaries - local and international partners - are engaged through a procurement process for the implementation of services. The partner selection process varies from sole sourcing to a competitive bidding process with the assistance of the ICC's Procurement Unit, and based on a Board-approved programmatic framework resulting from a field-based assessment carried out by the Fund. The TFV grant-making process emphasizes the following key principles: *participation* by victims in program planning, *sustainability* of community initiatives, *transparent* and *targeted* granting, and *accessibility* for applicants that have traditionally lacked access to funding, addressing the *special vulnerability of girls and women*, *strengthening capacity* of grantees and *coordinating* efforts to ensure that the selection and management of grants is strategic and coherent.

### ***TFV Strategic Plan and Performance Monitoring Plan***

From 2009-2012, the Fund operated under a Strategic Plan that informed its programme framework and a global performance monitoring plan. This plan was extended to the end of 2013 by the Board of Directors to ensure that the findings of the external programme evaluation could help to inform the next multi-year plan.<sup>12</sup> The design of each of the projects funded by TFV was informed by this overarching strategy and programme framework, which defined the specific types of assistance to be provided and the cross-cutting themes to be addressed across the TFV physical and psychological rehabilitation and material support.<sup>13</sup> These themes included:

- Promoting community reconciliation, acceptance, and rebuilding community safety nets;

---

<sup>12</sup> As per the TFV Board decision, March 2013

<sup>13</sup> See Annex 5: TFV Programme Framework

- Mainstreaming gender to include addressing impact of gender-based violence and other sexual violence of women, men, and children in line with UN Security Council Resolution 1325;
- Integrating and rehabilitating child soldiers and abductees into communities, including support of intergenerational responses; and
- Addressing issues of victims' stigma, discrimination and/or trauma.

The Fund considers the empowerment of women and girls and its assistance to victims of sexual and gender-based violence a key step toward ending impunity for perpetrators, establishing durable peace and reconciliation in conflict settings, and successfully implementing the full range of UN Security Council Resolutions on women, peace and security. Therefore, the Trust Fund has several projects involving war-affected women and girls as key stakeholders.

The TFV works in partnership with victims, their families and communities through intermediaries to implement rehabilitation programmes. This approach reinforces TFV's goals of promoting accountability, ownership, dignity and empowerment.

### ***TFV Programme Baseline and Impact Assessment***

In early 2010, the TFV Secretariat initiated a quasi-experimental evaluation with victims to better understand the impact of its assistance on affected communities throughout northern Uganda and eastern DRC. Drawing on initial findings<sup>14</sup> from this research and lessons learned from the first two years of TFV programming, the study highlighted how assistance must take into account the social relations in which victims live, in particular through (1) conflict-sensitive and (2) participatory approaches. These, in turn, suggested a third "finding" that, (3) the TFV's field presence and direct support to victims and affected communities under the jurisdiction of the ICC provides flexibility to target victims at both the individual and community level for administering reparations and key lessons learned for addressing the gender dimensions related to victims' perception of, and rights and needs for rehabilitation, reparation, and justice.

This evaluation interviewed approximately 2500 victims receiving TFV support through its implementing partners in northern Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The study included pre-testing the questionnaire in both situations, and then launching the interviews in early 2010. The study utilized a random survey representative of the total population of victims of specific crimes currently benefitting from TFV assistance, in-depth interviews (individual and group), and consultations with stakeholders and secondary sources, to measure the TFV's impact across six cross-cutting impact areas:

- a. **Transitional Justice:** victims' experiences with and perceptions of the ICC and TFV, knowledge of their rights, empowerment, perceptions of local conflict, and attitudes toward key concepts like *justice, reparation, peace, and rights*;
- b. **Gender Mainstreaming:** victims' experience of gender justice, attitudes toward sexual and gender-based violence, and knowledge of their rights;
- c. **Physical and Mental Health:** victims' physical health, attitudes toward forgiveness and reconciliation, and cognitive functioning;
- d. **Economic Security, Food Security, and Shelter:** victims' access to economic security, food, and shelter;

---

<sup>14</sup> This includes a sub-sample of the representational survey of TFV beneficiaries in northern Uganda and group interviews in both northern Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo

- e. **Social Support and Integration:** victims' social support and integration in their families and communities; and
- f. **Peace and Reconciliation:** promotion of inter-group cooperation and inclusion of all victims under the ICC's jurisdiction into TFV projects.

The survey was offered to partners as both a monitoring tool and a capacity building exercise. Many of the TFV's implementing partners had limited experience and capacity in research methods, monitoring, evaluation and data management. Eventually the results were presented to the partners; and project monitoring and evaluation plans and indicators were strengthened based on the findings.

### *Environmental Impact Assessment*

While the International Criminal Court has no official 'green policy' or 'environmental policy', the Fund would like to ensure that it adheres to, and complies with, international environmental standards in the design and implementation of the projects it funds. To date, the TFV receives the majority of its funding for its assistance mandate programmes from 28 member states to the Rome Statute. Among the contributing member states, Sweden required that detailed assessments of possible environmental impacts of the projects they fund be undertaken.

In this context, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken during September 2012 is considered as an analytical process undertaken to examine the possible positive and negative impacts that a particular project and/or activity has on the environment. The objectives of the EIA were four-fold particularly: i) to ensure that the Trust Fund adheres to, and complies with, the requirements of the funding States Parties; ii) to ensure to the extent possible that the Trust Fund's activities are contributing to sustainable development; iii) to explore in detail the environmental impacts, both positive and negative, of the projects funded by the Trust Fund; and iv) to explore possible ways that positive impacts could be developed and promoted further, and negative impacts prevented, mitigated or ameliorated.

In total, 22 organisations (12 principal grantees and 10 sub grantees - 5 international NGOs and 17 local network of organisations) took part in the survey. Ten organisations operated in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo while 12 were based in northern Uganda. Participating organisations have implemented activities in the three main areas of intervention of the TFV assistance mandate: physical rehabilitation, psychological rehabilitation and material support. The survey gave an opportunity for implementing partners and their sub grantees to share their practices, their perspectives, and their concerns.

The findings of the survey showed that all the implementing partners were fully aware about the needs to align the daily management of their project with national and international environment standards. Despite this willingness, they pointed out some challenges requiring coordinated efforts and means to have an upper hand on those issues.<sup>15</sup>

The Trust Fund took stock of all these dimensions and consequently placed the respect of environment as a key condition for any future activities, including the project extensions in northern Uganda and the DRC. This will later include the development of monitoring indicators related to the respect of the environment during the implementation phase. In addition, the Trust Fund expects to establish a community of practice among its partners to promote the sharing of experiences and good practices.

---

<sup>15</sup> Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the TFV's Projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Northern Uganda.

## *Purpose and Objectives of the External Evaluation*

In 2012, TFV released a Request for Proposals (#114068) “Evaluating the Results of the on-going TFV Programmes in Northern Uganda and Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo: Towards a Perspective for Upcoming Interventions”. The following key aims of this evaluation were to:

- Determine significance and assess impact of the programmes;
- Identify areas for strengthening and improvement of the programmes;
- Provide evidence-based recommendations to inform the design of the next TFV Strategic Plan and finalization of country programme strategies.

As the result of a competitive bidding process, the TFV contracted the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) to carry out this independent evaluation. This report presents the results of the evaluation based on a thorough document review and field missions to northern Uganda and eastern DRC. Details of the Terms of Reference for this evaluation can be found in Annex 1.

The context of TFV programming in each of the two countries is initially presented. In Section 3, an overview of the evaluation methodology is provided. In Section 4, the results of the evaluation in each of the three areas of legally defined assistance and the cross-cutting themes are presented. Section 5, provides overarching recommendations for TFV to build on its successes and to continue strengthening its implementing partners and projects in the situation.

## **CONTEXT OF TFV PROGRAMMING**

The TFV started its field operations related to its assistance mandate in northern Uganda and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in 2008. Following submissions to the Pre-Trial Chamber in 2008, the authority was provided by the Pre-Trial Chamber to launch victims’ assistance in these two situations under the ICC’s jurisdiction.<sup>16</sup> The TFV’s assistance programme is restricted in terms of how the projects were filed and approved by the ICC Pre-Trial Chamber, including ensuring that the location of the interventions, victims, types of crimes, and types of assistance cited on the filing are maintained. Prior to issuing grants, field assessments are carried out to ensure projects directly address the harm caused by the conflict under the ICC jurisdiction and target the most vulnerable and marginalized victims.

In 2008, Chambers approved 34 projects for both situations, and some of these projects have either been completed or phased out.<sup>17</sup> After almost five years of implementation, numerous victims, their families and their communities have benefited from the TFV projects implemented. There are currently 28 active projects in these two situations (out of 34 approved projects) providing support to over 110,000 victims of crimes under the jurisdiction of the Court through integrated physical and psychological rehabilitation and/or material support at both the individual and community levels. Of these beneficiaries, over 5,000 survivors of sexual and gender-based violence including girls abducted and/or conscripted and sexually enslaved by armed groups, and children of women victimized by campaigns of mass rape and displacement are supported. The target beneficiaries of the Fund’s interventions are victims as defined in Rule 85 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.

---

<sup>16</sup> See Annex 6 for the TFV Pre-Trial Chamber Project Annexes (DRC & Uganda)

<sup>17</sup> See Annex 7 for full list of TFV projects and the status of the activities

In the Central African Republic (CAR), an international competitive tendering procedure for the Fund's programme in CAR was completed with assistance to initially focus on supporting victims of sexual and gender-based crimes. The Pre-Trial Chamber found that the programme did not pre-determine any issue before the Court. However, due to the deteriorating security situation, the Fund suspended its activities in March 2013 in CAR until further notice. Therefore, CAR was not included in the scope of the external programme evaluation.

There are important differences between the contexts in which TFV victims' assistance is being implemented in northern Uganda and eastern DRC. Notably, DRC is still plagued by on-going violent conflict and instability, while northern Uganda has experienced a period of relative calm and is in a post-conflict and reconstructive period. This distinction is a key factor in determining the definition of victims and type of assistance in each context. The section below provides a brief overview of the conflict in each situation as a framing for the TFV programming.

### *Northern Uganda*

Since the 1980s, Uganda has been involved in a civil war in the North against the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). Joseph Kony is accused of carrying out widespread abduction of children to serve as soldiers or sex slaves. It is estimated that the LRA have abducted around 30,000 children and the civil war led to the displacement of 1.6 million people from Northern Uganda and the deaths, mutilations, rape, sexual enslavement, and kidnappings of more than 100,000 people.<sup>18</sup> The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) says the number of people abducted since the war started in the late 1980s ranges between 52,000 and 75,000.<sup>19</sup>

The atrocities, which were mainly targeted at the civilian population, included murder, rape, abduction, forced marriage, and grave acts of physical violence including mutilations and amputation.<sup>20</sup> The conflict disrupted community cohesion and social networks, which were replaced with social mistrust and tension. Human rights violations within and between families persisted in the camps, which were themselves not immune from further rebel attacks. The destruction of property and disruption of productive activity resulted in loss of livelihoods and thus exposed the population to extreme poverty during displacement and upon resettlement.

In the 27 years President Museveni's government has been in power, more than 20 other militant groups have attempted to displace the government both within and beyond the Ugandan borders. The Allied Democratic Front (ADF) operates in the western parts of Uganda, in the districts of Kasese and Bundibunyo, with the bases in the border mountains of Rwenzori in DR Congo, from which they launch occasional attacks on civilians in both countries. The People's Redemption Army (PRA) is another rebel group operating in parts of DR Congo with alleged links to some opposition parties within Uganda. In the eastern parts of Uganda and the Karamoja region, armed rebellion has ended following a government blanket amnesty to members of the Uganda Democratic Army (UDA) but armed cattle raids and a forceful disarmament programme being conducted by the government forces render the regions potentially violent and at times inaccessible. The West Nile region had two rebel groups; the West Nile Bank Front (WNBF) and Uganda National Liberation Front (UNLF II)

---

18 ICTJ 2010, Uganda: Impact of the Rome Statute and the International Criminal Court

19 Irin Africa. "Uganda struggles to come to terms with its disappeared." August 30, 2013. Online at: <http://www.irinnews.org/report/98669/uganda-struggles-to-come-to-terms-with-its-disappeared>

20 ICTJ 2012, Briefing Paper. Reparations for northern Uganda. Addressing the Needs of Victims and Affected Communities

both of whom operated in and out of DR Congo but which ceased hostility following a peace deal with the government in 2001.<sup>21</sup>

Uganda has also been involved in a number of diplomatic incidents and armed incursions with their neighbours, most notably Rwanda, Sudan, DR Congo and Somalia. In addition, conflict surrounding resources and influence from international actors has exacerbated the divides between different national, religious and ethnic groups. Though Uganda has been free from LRA attacks since 2006, and a number of former child soldiers have returned, the ICRC estimates thousands remain missing from the north as a result of the conflict.<sup>22</sup>

In 2003, the Ugandan government asked the ICC to address violations of international criminal law committed on its territory. The LRA had been fighting the Ugandan military since 1987 and had perpetrated mass killing, looting, abduction, and other forms of violence against civilians. The referral letter from the Ugandan government stated: "Having exhausted every other means of bringing an end to this terrible suffering, the Republic of Uganda now turns to the newly established ICC and its promise of global justice".<sup>23</sup> The former ICC Prosecutor began investigations in early 2004, and the conflict in Uganda became the first situation before the ICC.

During the Juba Peace Process (2007-2010), various humanitarian organisations started to scale back and wind up their operations. Yet government rehabilitation programmes had not yet gained ground, and the local government structures and infrastructure for service delivery were weak and inadequate to meet the needs of the returning population. In 2007, the Trust Fund for Victims carried out an assessment to identify the types of assistance interventions. Eighteen projects were submitted to the Pre-Trial Chamber in 2008 for northern Uganda to focus on the following interventions for victims within the jurisdiction of the ICC:

1. Psychological support and material support for ex-child soldiers, abducted persons and victims of sexual and gender-based violence;
2. Physical rehabilitation and psychological support for mutilated victims and physical injuries, and victims of sexual and gender-based violence;
3. Physical rehabilitation and psychological support for handicapped victims and mental trauma; and
4. Psychological support and material support for victimised villages and traumatised communities.

The TFV's northern Uganda assistance programme has been administered in 18 sub-Districts within Acholi, Lango, Teso, and West Nile sub-regions.<sup>24</sup> To date, the TFV-funded partners in northern Uganda have provided services to an estimated number of 39,750 victims of crimes against humanity and war in the following categories:<sup>25</sup>

---

21 Insight on Conflict. "Uganda Conflict Profile: Reigns of Terror in the Pearl of Africa." August 2011. Online at: <http://www.insightonconflict.org/conflicts/uganda/conflict-profile/>

22 Irin Africa. "Uganda struggles to come to terms with its disappeared." August 30, 2013. Online at: <http://www.irinnews.org/report/98669/uganda-struggles-to-come-to-terms-with-its-disappeared>

23 As quoted in: Uganda and the International Criminal Court: Debates and Developments. Backgrounder No. 60, July 2013

24 During the life of the programme, Uganda redefined districts in northern Uganda. Therefore, the district areas were modified. However, the TFV maintained the intervention areas based on the original filing to the Pre-Trial Chamber.

25 TFV Programme Progress Report, Summer 2013

- Survivors of sexual violence & child mothers
- Former abductees & former child soldiers
- Returnee communities
- Acutely impacted communities – massacre sites
- Widows/widower, surviving family members
- Disabled persons & amputees – due to burns, firearms, and explosives
- Disfigured and tortured persons – burns, cut lips, ears, and noses
- Other vulnerable persons - orphans, elderly, child-headed households

In northern Uganda, the Fund has transitioned its material support following consideration by the TFV Board of the existing social, economic and security situation. The TFV will continue to support physical and psychological rehabilitation assistance projects in northern Uganda.<sup>26</sup> The causal link of past physical or psychological injuries resulting from crimes within the jurisdiction of the ICC in northern Uganda may still account for the present condition and rehabilitation needs. Hence the rationale for continued assistance from the TFV.

### *Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)*

Since war broke out in the Democratic Republic of Congo in 1996, more than five million people have died. The roots of this conflict date back to the Rwandan genocide of 1994. Following the victory of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) over the largely Hutu *genocidaires*, many of the remaining Interhamwe extremists crossed the border into DRC, where they regrouped and continued to foment instability and violent conflict.<sup>27</sup> There, they also joined forces with the (then) Zairian Armed Forces (FAZ), targeting violence against ethnic Tutsis.<sup>28</sup> Led by Laurent-Désiré Kabila, and joined in coalition with the Rwandan and Ugandan military, the Alliance des Forces Démocratiques pour la Libération du Congo-Zaïre (AFDL) invaded with the intention of overthrowing President Mobutu, who fled in 1997. Kabila named himself president and, due to concerns about a coup by Rwandan officers who favoured a Tutsi presidency, asked foreign military forces to leave the DRC. In response, both Ugandan and Rwandan troops launched rebel military movements against the new president in 1998.

Neighbouring governments (Angola, Zimbabwe, Namibia) joined the conflict in support of Kabila, who was assassinated in 2001 and succeeded by his son. In response to the young Kabila's call for peace talks, MONUSCO (then MONUC) was established in 2001 to support the stabilization of DRC. In July and September 2002, the President of the DRC signed peace accords with Rwanda and Uganda to withdraw their troops from the DRC. Shortly thereafter, power sharing talks, sponsored by the UN, began in South Africa.<sup>29,30</sup> In 2003, a peace accord was signed in which Kabila committed to sharing power with former

<sup>26</sup> As per the TFV Board decision, March 2013

<sup>27</sup> Verveer, M., Alam, M., and Warren, R. Pursuing Peace in the Great Lakes Region of Africa: A New "Framework of Hope" and the Critical Role for Women Within It. Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security. Washington, DC. August 2013.

<sup>28</sup> Thom, William G. "Congo-Zaïre's 1996-97 civil war in the context of evolving patterns of military conflict in Africa in the era of independence", *Conflict Studies Journal at the University of New Brunswick*, Vol. XIX No. 2, Fall 1999

<sup>29</sup> UN News Centre. "Annan hails peace agreement between DR of Congo and Rwanda, pledges UN support", July 30, 2002. Online at: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=4329&Cr=democratic&Cr1=congo#.UnQKy9iE5dZ>

<sup>30</sup> UN News Centre. "Peace with Rwanda, Uganda first step towards ending DR of Congo conflict, Annan says", September 16, 2002. Online at: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=4726&Cr=monuc&Cr1=>

rebels in a transitional government.

And though the conflict officially ended in 2003, fighting has continued, mainly in the country's eastern province. In the decade since, conflict has continued on ethnic lines among such groups as the Hutu and Mai Mai.<sup>31,32</sup> A 2006 election saw renewed fighting between supporters of Kabila and his opponent, Bemba, though Kabila was ultimately declared the victor and sworn in as president in December of that year. As a result, eastern DRC was the site of simultaneous international and civil war.<sup>33</sup> Since the resumption of fighting in 2009, more than 1 million people are reported to have been displaced, more than 1,000 civilians killed, approximately 7,000 women and girls raped, and more than 6,000 homes burned to the ground.<sup>34</sup> DRC has experienced some of the highest levels of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in the world, particularly in the eastern region, which was referred to as 'the rape capital of the world' by UN's Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Margot Wallström.<sup>35</sup>

On her last day serving as the Wallström reiterated that rape is frequently used as a weapon of war, and indicated that the absence of justice has long-lasting effects on the whole society and is an impediment to restoring peace and security in the region. With each new study and report emerging from DRC, it becomes increasingly clear that sexual violence is used to intimidate and forcibly displace populations, and that efforts to prevent and respond to this violence is dramatically impeded by the presence of the armed groups who are often the perpetrators of rape.<sup>36</sup>

In addition to the trauma and subsequent challenges of reintegration suffered by women (and men) subjected to rape, there remain grave concerns about the social status of the thousands of former child soldiers and girls associated with armed groups (ex-EAFGA). Many of these young people were forcibly removed from their home communities and held as combatants or "wives" (sexual slaves) to adult soldiers for up to a decade. While the number who suffered this fate is not known, conservative estimates suggest that at least 15,000 children in DRC lived as soldiers or sexual slaves.<sup>37</sup> The effects of these experiences are far-reaching, and include both physical and emotional trauma as well as negative impacts on social status that result from stigmatization and acute challenges readjusting to a civilian and family-based lifestyle.<sup>38,39</sup>

Millions of civilians have died as a result of conflict in the DRC since the 1990's. However, the Court's jurisdiction extends only to crimes committed after 1 July 2002, when the Rome Statute of the ICC came into force. States, international organisations and non-governmental organisations have reported thousands of deaths by mass murder and summary execution in the DRC since 2002. The reports allege a pattern of rape, torture, forced displacement and the illegal use of child soldiers. In a letter in November 2003 the

---

31 UN News Centre. Increasing ethnic violence in DR Congo has led to serious humanitarian crisis", January 4, 2013. Online at: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp/html/story.asp?NewsID=43879&Cr=democratic&Cr1=congo#.UnJdJHC-ous>

32 International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect. Background report: "Crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo". Online at: <http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/crises/crisis-in-drc>

33 F. Reyntjens, 'Briefing: the Democratic Republic of Congo, from Kabila to Kabila' (2001) 100/399 *African Affairs*, pp. 311-317;

34 Oxfam America. "Conflict in DRC". Online at: <http://www.oxfamamerica.org/emergencies/conflict-in-drc/background>

35 Wallstrom, Huffington Post. "A Glimmer of Hope for the Women in Congo", May 30, 2012. Online at: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/margot-wallstrom/a-glimmer-of-hope-for-the\\_b\\_1555962.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/margot-wallstrom/a-glimmer-of-hope-for-the_b_1555962.html)

36 UN Special Report on Sexual Violence in Conflict- Report of the Secretary General. March 14, 2013. A/67/792-S/2013/149

37 BIT, *Enfance blessée, l'utilisation des enfants dans les conflits armés en Afrique Centrale*, Genève, BIT, 2003

38 Okello, J., Onen, T. S., & Musisi, S. (2007). Psychiatric disorders among war-abducted and non-abducted adolescents in Gulu district, Uganda: A comparative study. *African Journal of Psychiatry*, 10, 225-231

39 Henderson, S.W., & Wessells, M. (2009). Supporting the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing of former child soldiers. *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 48(6), 587-590

government of the DRC welcomed the involvement of the ICC and in March 2004 the DRC referred the situation in the country to the Court.

As such, TFV programming in DRC targets eastern DRC and victims of such crimes between 2002 and the present day in North and South Kivu, and through 2005 in the Ituri region. The TFV supports victims through activities focused on psychological rehabilitation, and material support.<sup>40</sup> Following an assessment in 2007, the TFV submitted a filing to the Pre-Trial Chamber in 2008 for 16 assistance projects in the DRC to focus on:

1. Psychological support, physical rehabilitation, and material support related to sexual violence for men, women and children;
2. Psychological support and material support for ex-child soldiers and abducted children; and
3. Psychological support for families of murdered victims

To date, the TFV partners in eastern DRC have provided services to 72,700 victims of war in the following categories.<sup>41</sup>

- Survivors of sexual violence
- Child mothers
- Former (male and female) child soldiers
- Girls formerly associated with armed groups
- Returnee communities
- Acutely impacted communities – massacre sites
- Disabled persons & amputees – due to burns, firearms, and explosives
- Disfigured and tortured persons – burns, cut lips, ears, and noses
- Other vulnerable children and young people, including orphans and those children living in affected communities

In DRC, the Fund aims to consolidate the impact and to scale up its activities given the on-going conflict in the east. This effort will also assist with the preparation for implementing Court-ordered reparations.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This evaluation marked an important milestone in the inaugural period (2009-2013) of TFV programming under its assistance mandate. Therefore, the evaluation methodology aimed to facilitate reflection, learning, and programmatic interpretation of the TFV mandate.

### ***Key Review Questions***

The TFV RFP outlined six overarching evaluation questions to be answered by the field visits and desk review of programme and TFV documents:

---

<sup>40</sup> TFV Programme Progress Report, Summer 2013

<sup>41</sup> Ibid

- A. To what extent, the proposed interventions under the mandate of general assistance related to physical rehabilitation, psychosocial rehabilitation, material support and other cross-cutting issues in Uganda and DRC were able to provide an adequate response to the harms suffered by the victims?
- B. To what extent the programme/projects related to physical rehabilitation, psychosocial rehabilitation, material support and other cross-cutting issues in Uganda and DRC were able to achieve the initially set objectives?
- C. To what extent the programme/projects related to physical rehabilitation, psychosocial rehabilitation, material support and other cross-cutting issues in Uganda and DRC used the inputs or the resources in view of achieving the objectives?
- D. What effect has been achieved by the TFV through its programme/projects related to physical rehabilitation, psychosocial rehabilitation, material support and other cross-cutting issues in Uganda and DRC over the last 4 years?
- E. To what extent the achievements made through TFV programme/projects are viable after donor funding stopped?
- F. To what extent governance body, coordination mechanisms, monitoring and evaluation activities were coherent and adequate to ensure the success of the programme/projects?

To answer these key questions, ICRW's evaluation methodology was aligned with the OECD Principles for Evaluation of Development Assistance. As such, we assessed the programme across six critical domains of program impact: A) meeting the needs of beneficiaries (Relevance), B) meeting intended objectives (Effectiveness) C) appropriate utilization of program resources (Efficiency), D) effect of program activities (Impact) E) likelihood of program sustainability (Sustainability) and F) appropriateness of the institutional arrangements, coordination, and monitoring of program activities (coordination and monitoring & evaluation mechanisms). The latter is an important cross-cutting element that underlies all aspects of programming.

### ***Data Collection and Analysis***

Review of programme documents took place from December 2012 to April 2013, and consultations with key TFV and ICC staff took place in April and May of 2013. The mission to northern Uganda took place June 4-11, 2013 and included site visits in the districts of Lira, Pader and Gulu. The mission to eastern DRC took place from July 7-26, 2013 and comprised evaluation activities in Ituri District (Bunia, Mahagi, Djugu) and South Kivu (Bukavu, Uvira, Wlungu). It was not possible to travel to North Kivu given the security situation. However, implementing partners from North Kivu participated in round table discussions and debrief sessions in Bunia and Bukavu. A description of the methodology used during these field missions is below.

In keeping with TFV's emphasis on community-based participatory engagement, ICRW developed a mixed methods evaluation approach that employed participatory activities, in-depth interviews (IDIs), and secondary review of existing documentation and data. The intent of such participatory evaluation approaches was to empower beneficiaries to tell their stories of change based on their experiences, and provide them an opportunity to inform decisions on future programming. Core activities included IDIs with key informants who worked or participated in TFV programming in each country. A range of PME activities with TFV direct victim beneficiaries and other members of affected communities where TFV programmes are being implemented were included.

For the evaluation in northern Uganda, meetings were held with key implementing partners represented in Kampala, and with other relevant stakeholders such as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The trip to northern Uganda included meetings with local government officials, round table discussions with staff of implementing partners, sub-grantees and site visits to a variety of programmes supported by TFV. Focus group discussions, most significant change stories and in-depth interviews were conducted with victim survivors (VSLAs and affected individuals and families) who have participated in the programmes, staff of implementing partners, district and community leaders. In total about 250 respondents (150 women, 100 men) participated in the evaluation activities over the course of two weeks. Annex 2 presents a schedule of the evaluation activities.

Evaluation activities in eastern DRC included a series of round-table discussions and interviews with all of TFV's implementing partners from Ituri and the Kivus, and with two representatives of national and local government officials. Focus group discussions and in-depth interviews were conducted with victim survivors who have participated in the programme activities. These included former child soldiers, girls formerly associated with armed groups, other vulnerable youth, members of savings groups and other community-based groups, representatives of grassroots partner NGOs, and individual beneficiaries of TFV-funded assistance, including survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). In total more than 500 respondents (230 women, 270 men) participated in the evaluation activities over the course of three weeks. Annex 3 presents a schedule of the evaluation activities and details about the number and types of respondent can be also found there.

### ***Limitations***

Despite the strengths of this methodology with respect to the participatory focus and significant degree of triangulation built into the evaluation activities, there are four important limitations to note with respect to the site visits, the representativity of the sample, the secondary data, and the degree of independence. These are discussed below:

#### **1) Site visits were not conducted to all projects**

While the evaluation team was able to visit a large number of project sites and speak with beneficiaries of many different implementing partners, it was not possible to visit each of the projects supported by TFV since the inception of programming. Projects that have already closed and those in areas deemed unsafe for travel (i.e., North Kivu) were not included in the site visits. This limits the extent to which the findings presented below can be assumed to apply to these projects.

#### **2) Sample of respondents was purposive**

The selection of participants in evaluation activities was purposive to ensure that beneficiaries in each of the assistance categories were included in sufficient numbers to provide triangulation of the data collected. Invitations to participate were issued by implementing partners, and site selection was determined by TFV field staff. As such, the recruitment of participants at each site was not necessarily representative of all victims who have participated in TFV-supported assistance activities. This potential for selection bias limits the degree to which findings may reflect the experiences of victims who are no longer engaged in project activities or those in areas where the partners elected not to bring the evaluators.

### 3) Availability and quality of secondary data varied

While each of the implementing partners is required to submit periodic reports detailing the numbers of victims served in each of the assistance categories, the degree to which these data are clearly and consistently provided was quite varied. The review of implementing partners' reports revealed numerous errors in calculation, including double counting of individual beneficiaries. Additionally, without consistent monitoring data on individual victims reached by each project, it is not possible to quantify the effect of the TFV-funded activities. The evaluation therefore reflects respondents' reported experiences and most significant changes resulting from TFV assistance.

### 4) Translation needs may have compromised independence

The ICRW team of evaluators, including the local consultants hired in each country, were neutral parties with complete independence in regard to their interests in evaluation findings. However, at times during the fieldwork in DRC, additional local language skills were required to communicate with victims in their own language, and these skills were available only among the TFV staff. This may have produced a social desirability effect, limiting the degree to which respondents felt they could express their true opinions. However, based on the candid and often critical remarks provided through these translations, and the high degree of professionalism demonstrated by the TFV field staff, the evaluation team is confident that this did not compromise independence nor provide any undue influence on victims' comfort in responding honestly.



*Members of Lapit pe Kun VSLA group in Kitgum district, Uganda during a loan disbursement in one of their saving days.*

*Photo by Marita Nadalutti/TFV.*

## RESULTS

Using the methodology presented above, both the fieldwork and the document review assessed the TFV programming in northern Uganda and eastern DRC against six domains of evaluation. The overarching questions assessed in each domain and the key findings from each are discussed in Annex 4. A synthesis of the findings related to relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability, and coordination mechanisms is provided within each of the assistance categories below.

ICRW's findings indicate that TFV programme activities related to each of the three categories of assistance (physical rehabilitation, psychological rehabilitation, and material support) constituted a relevant response to the major effects of the conflict envisaged within the TFV's assistance mandate. In the case of most implementing partners, particularly those

in Ituri, the projects fill an important void by addressing needs that no other civil society or governmental agency is addressing. It is also noteworthy that the integration of multiple forms of support strengthened the relevance of programme activities in recognizing that the effects of the conflict did not occur in isolation.

Overall, the programme activities funded by TFV in all three areas of intervention registered valuable achievements, albeit with varying levels of effectiveness in programme delivery by implementing partner, location, and programming strategy. Further discussion of the findings from evaluation activities in each country is provided below under each category of assistance and cross-cutting theme.

## **PHYSICAL REHABILITATION**

According to the TFV Strategic Plan 2009-2013, programme responses in the area of physical rehabilitation aimed to address the care and rehabilitation of those victims who have suffered physical injury in order to recover and resume their roles as productive and contributing members of their societies.

The evaluation revealed that programme activities related to physical rehabilitation invariably provided victim survivors with an extensive degree of physical healing that enables them to function as normally as possible in their communities and to participate in regular community-based activities. Thus, the activities in this category of assistance are highly relevant and effective, and also show significant promise for achieving impact in the long term. In terms of efficiency and sustainability, both strengths and weaknesses were revealed through this evaluation, and these are discussed below.

It is noteworthy that physical rehabilitation was inadvertently left out as a programme response for DRC within the TFV's Court filing to the Pre-Trial Chamber. As a result, in all but one project, interventions have been built into the programme response only through referrals by partner organisations to appropriate service providers. In all cases, this assistance constitutes an increasingly important element in the TFV- supported activities in DRC.

### ***Overview of Physical Rehabilitation Activities***

In northern Uganda, programme activities for physical rehabilitation respond to human rights violations and losses experienced by victim survivors ranging from burns and chronic wounds, mutilation of ears, noses, or lips, and loss of limbs due to human amputation, burns, and land mine incidents. This assistance is given through the provision of or referral for corrective surgery (plastic and general surgery), prosthetics, physiotherapy and psychological support to victim survivors. TFV appropriately engaged implementing partners that could respond to the variety of physical rehabilitation needs. AVSI has been the core partner in community outreach and the provision of prosthetics through the Gulu Regional Orthopaedic Workshop (GROW). The intervention by AVSI included a component of sensitisation of public officials on the rights of persons with disability coupled with construction to improve accessibility to public buildings.

Through an earlier project, Stichting Interplast Holland implemented a four-year (2008-2011) intervention on corrective reconstructive surgery in collaboration with AVSI, AYINET, and Caritas who would mobilize patients for surgery. The intervention by Interplast was designed with cost-sharing and capacity building components. TFV funds covered 40 per cent of the total Interplast budget, and the organisation performed reconstructive surgeries, trained the local medical staff and nurses in plastic and reconstructive surgery and burns care. The subsequent intervention for corrective surgery

was implemented by Watoto Child Care Ministry. In addition, other implementing partners utilized the funds they had earmarked for physical rehabilitation to refer some people for surgery on a needs basis. All interventions included physiotherapy and trauma counselling on a needs basis.

While physical rehabilitation is currently implemented as a referral component to core activities in eastern DRC, partners in Ituri, South Kivu, and North Kivu all recognize the critical importance of this form of assistance for victims. As such, many partners provide some degree of response to the physical needs of victims of conflict-related injuries using matching resources. From partners such as AMAB, COOPI, ALT, and ACIAR, victims are referred to specialized providers for corrective surgery, fitting for and provision of prosthetics, and physiotherapy sessions, depending on the particular physical needs of individual victims. In South Kivu in particular, CRS and (its partner) Caritas also have a system of identification and referral for survivors of sexual violence and women with fistula. Through referrals and assisted transportation, these women have access to the highly specialized medical care at Panzi Hospital for fistula repair, HIV tests and treatment, post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), and other critical health care.

### *Factors Underlying the Success of Physical Rehabilitation Activities*

The evaluation revealed that implementing partners in both northern Uganda and DRC largely achieved their targets. Examples of the effectiveness achieved in this category are provided below with sex-disaggregated data where available:

- # of beneficiaries referred for corrective surgery
  - Interplast evaluated the condition of 374 victim patients during this period, and conducted 257 operations under five surgical camps that they convened;
  - Watoto provided medical rehabilitation to 152 individuals (94 men, 58 women);
- # of buildings improved for accessibility
  - AVSI had ramps constructed to improve accessibility to 3 buildings including the District Council hall, the Community Services building and the Central Police station in Gulu municipality;
- # of beneficiaries provided with prosthetics and orthotics;
  - AVSI reports having delivered services to about 1,000 victim survivors evenly distributed among men and women;
- # of beneficiaries of other medical care
  - ACIAR referred 237 individuals for various types of medical care through partnerships with local health facilities;
  - COOPI provided PEP medication to 76 survivors of rape.

Beyond the numbers of direct and indirect beneficiaries, the evaluation revealed that the programme activities related to physical rehabilitation were effective in supporting victim survivors to resume their productive roles in society. This is particularly evident in northern Uganda where physical rehabilitation was part of the programme response. Evidence from the review of programme performance reports resonated with testimonies of victim survivors who were involved in the evaluation. According to the programme performance reports submitted by AVSI, the follow up visits showed that on average 80 percent of victim survivors used their prosthetics and orthotics from GROW fully on a 12 hour basis daily. Among the most significant changes indicated to the evaluation team were the ability to live a normal life again, to make plans for the future, to resume school and gardening, the confidence to participate in community gatherings again, social independence and self-reliance.

*“After the war, I couldn’t even walk because my legs were destroyed. They gave me crutches and I was able to walk. Then they gave me this leg and I was able to work again. I can be a part of the community again and do the things I’m supposed to do as a man.”*

**- Male victim, Ituri, DRC**

*“It was initially very difficult to accept the disability but the counselling helped me. With this artificial limb I am like any other person. I can cook, fetch water, and dig.”*

**- Female victim, Gulu, Uganda**

This sort of positive feedback was shared by all victim beneficiaries of physical rehabilitation, even those who had experienced delays or complications related to their treatment. In keeping with the TFV programme strategy for an integrated approach, the majority of victim beneficiaries under the physical rehabilitation response were also able to access psychological rehabilitation and material support. This is evidenced in the project progress reports, which show a high degree of complementarity in the services received by individual victims across the areas of assistance.

Another factor underlying the success of physical rehabilitation efforts is the support TFV contributed to the sustenance of the operations of the Gulu Regional Orthopaedic Workshop (GROW), for whom the TFV is currently the only donor. The TFV strategy of working in collaboration with strong and well-established organisations such as Interplast Holland fostered capacity building for local organisations in northern Uganda, as well as, an efficient use of resources. Further the inclusion of a training/capacity building component for local staff at hospitals enhanced their skills for corrective surgery. Although the Government of Uganda is yet to assume financial responsibility for the important services, the TFV’s support to AVSI (an international NGO) helps to sustain operations of the Gulu Regional Orthopaedic Workshop.

In the DRC, implementing partners, including AMAB, RHA, COOPI, ALT, and ACIAR, are able to identify and effectively refer small numbers of beneficiaries for physical rehabilitation. These include victim beneficiaries who receive operations and/or prosthetic limbs to repair physical disabilities resulting from war crimes and crimes against humanity. Other partners, notably AMAB, CRS (and their partners RAFEC, and DFF), prioritize identification and referrals of victim survivors of SGBV for care and treatment. When warranted, the care received includes fistula repair and a significant healing time during which vocational training may be provided.

A factor underlying the success of these efforts to refer victims to physical rehabilitation is the effort made to render these services in a cost and time efficient manner. For example, in eastern DRC, partners such as CRS arrange for shared transport to Panzi Hospital or other distant sites for required specialized medical attention. By grouping individual survivors together to receive this service, implementing partners avoid incurring high transport costs for each survivor. It is important to note again that the majority of physical rehabilitation activities by partners in DRC are not carried out with funds directly from TFV.

To determine whether this is truly a gain in efficiency would require an analysis of the average transport costs; as well as, the wait time and degree of follow up and number of visits required between the initial identification of a victim and the transport date. However, this is an important element that undergirds the partners’ ability to effectively and efficiently serve a larger number of victims with essential care.

### *Factors Limiting the Success of Physical Rehabilitation Activities*

Despite the significant positive contributions made by implementing partners in providing assistance toward physical rehabilitation, several key limiting factors must be highlighted. Chief among these are inefficiencies and bottlenecks related to the provision, maintenance, and repair of prosthetics. While the provision of prosthetics has been crucial in restoring a strong sense of normalcy to victim survivors, the costs involved in producing them has affected the success of the interventions in both situations.

In eastern DRC, several partners and victim survivors highlighted the expenses and time required for transport to, and lodging at sites specialized in fitting prosthetic limbs and training beneficiaries to regain their mobility as factors contributing to inefficiency and ineffectiveness. Staff at GROW indicated that because they have to import the materials from Switzerland or India, it renders the unit cost per victim beneficiary quite high. It follows that if the cost of production were lower, the workshop would be able to produce more prosthetics and thus cover more victims. Moreover, there is limited support from Uganda's Ministry of Health towards the operations at GROW; which if not improved will render it difficult to sustain programme benefits.

In addition to these high costs, there are significant direct and social costs when a prosthetic breaks or needs to be adjusted. For example, the time and costs related to identifying and reporting the problem, and transporting the prosthesis back to the facility for repair. During this time, victims reported feeling like they had reverted to their old "helpless" state and that they risk being re-traumatized in the process. Without a locally available response mechanism, these delays and costs can render the initial investment inefficient.

### *Strategic Opportunities for Enhancing Physical Rehabilitation Activities*

In terms of the sustainability of physical rehabilitation, the limited infrastructure available in most of the areas of intervention indicates that referral support is unlikely to continue in the absence of continued external funding from the TFV or other donors. And while the benefits to those who receive surgeries and prosthetics are profound, these can be affected by the lack of continuing follow-up care and support. Therefore, it is recommended that the TFV include physical rehabilitation as a recommended response in their next Court filing to the Pre-Trial Chamber for DRC; and find ways to integrate sustainability measures for the services in both situations. This is a strategic opportunity to ensure that those victims who have outstanding and immediate physical rehabilitation needs will have access to continual life-altering surgery, care, and equipment.

Another strategic opportunity is in maximizing the benefits of TFV investments in GROW. It is recommended that the TFV support to AVSI ensures increased advocacy with Uganda's Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Health so they assume full financial responsibility of the GROW by the end of the next TFV programme period (2014-2017). To address some of the bottlenecks and delays, ICRW also recommends that the TFV, with its implementing partners, explore options for streamlining and shortening the repair process in both situations. Some such options might include providing training to local agents and assistants to conduct basic repairs, and storing a small supply of crutches, canes or other temporary substitutes for prosthetic limbs at local project sites or facilities.

## **PSYCHOLOGICAL REHABILITATION**

The TFV Strategic Plan 2009-2013 indicates that programme responses in the area of

psychological rehabilitation aim to offer cost-effective psychological, social and other health benefits; and a means to educate local populations about the needs of victims and the resources available to assist in their recovery. The evaluation revealed that activities in this category of assistance are highly relevant to victims' needs and to the context in which the programming is taking place. The activities achieved a high degree of effectiveness and the evaluation found important indications that these achievements are sustainable and likely to achieve substantial impact in the long term.

### ***Overview of Psychological Rehabilitation Activities***

Activities related to psychological rehabilitation responded to the psychological consequences and trauma arising from the crimes under the jurisdiction of the ICC in both situations, such as murder, abductions, disappearances, forced marriage as an inhuman act, and sexual violence. Central to the interventions in both situations were efforts to promote a culture of acceptance in order to reduce stigmatization of victim survivors, and to revive the long-held community values of trust, shared responsibility, and peaceful coexistence. This response was mainly accomplished through the integration of psychosocial support into the interventions of all implementing partners, together with capacity building to enhance the quality of trauma counselling services. The key strategies applied for psychological rehabilitation included:

- Training and mentoring in the provision of professional trauma counselling provided by CVT to selected staff from organisations providing counselling services in Uganda. Participating organisations included COOPI, Caritas, and ACTV.
- Training community-based counsellors throughout both situations to provide immediate emotional and psychosocial support to individual victims and groups of victims. Partners including AMAB, COOPI, and KAF in DRC; and ACTV, CARITAS, and COOPI in northern Uganda have a greater degree of focus on individual accompaniment and therapy sessions for survivors of violence. In DRC, individual therapy is generally provided by psychologists or community-based Psychological Assistants (APs), who receive tailored training to identify symptoms of trauma and provide basic counselling.
- Community therapy sessions in northern Uganda were implemented by COOPI through community-based facilitators and by DNU through the Healing Memories Project. In DRC, RHA and CRS (among others) employed a community-based approach to healing psychological wounds, promoting forgiveness and reconciliation, and resolving emerging conflicts through the implementation of Peace Caravans (or *Caravane de la Paix*).
- School-based participatory peace promotion is a central strategy of the ECOPAIX activities in Ituri and in North and South Kivu. These sessions are facilitated by trained *animateurs* in collaboration with teachers and school administrators, with the goal of promoting a culture of peace and non-violence within schools and communities.

### ***Factors Underlying the Success of Psychological Rehabilitation Activities***

Within the period under evaluation, the activities supported by the TFV responded to the psychosocial and trauma related needs of thousands of victim survivors in both situations. Discussions with community members across the project sites reflected an overwhelming appreciation of the psychosocial support provided. Among the most

significant changes resulting from the counselling sessions, victims reported that they had taken a more positive outlook to life and some had gained the confidence to re-engage in community activities. Many reported being better able to deal with their problems because of their increased sense of self-confidence and social cohesion.

*“From AMAB, we got advice to help lift our shame and raise our self-esteem again. They talk to us about not isolating ourselves and tell us we should be integrated like other members of society. They taught us to see ourselves as equal to everyone else again.”*  
- Female victim, Ituri, DRC

Many respondents, particularly SGBV survivors, said that the assistance they received helped them stop blaming themselves for the crimes they had experienced, and helped them to see themselves as “real women” again. Many others also attributed the ability to return to work and be economically active as the greatest contributor to their newfound positive mental health.

*“I had a lot of problems, but after I went through counselling, I became strong and started working for my children.”*  
- Female victim, Lira, Uganda

The evaluation revealed that the projects had largely made great strides toward achieving their targets. Examples of the effectiveness achieved by psychological rehabilitation activities are provided with data sex-disaggregated where available:

- The reach of community-based therapy
  - AMAB reached 310 victims through community therapy sessions
  - RHA reached 40,000 community members through community reconciliation activities; and
  - COOPI identified and referred 112 former child soldiers for community therapy sessions in eastern DRC.
- The reach of awareness-raising and peace building
  - CRS and partners have identified 102 cases of conflict in communities and resolved 54 of these peacefully;
  - ECOPAIX has reached 14,850 are students as direct beneficiaries and 30,270 as indirect beneficiaries in their peace-building efforts; and
  - COOPI has reached 130 villages and 30 schools in Uganda with sensitization activities, with a total more than 9,925 beneficiaries.
- The reach of individual and small group counselling and therapy
  - In Uganda CVT conducted 40 sessions of co-therapy, reaching 29 women and 12 men;
  - AMAB provided individual therapy to 300 female survivors of SGBV;
  - NECPA reached 265 victims through small-group therapy sessions; and
  - DNU reached 33 participants (22 women and 11 men) in Ongako, Koch Goma, and Coorom with “memory healing” sessions.

Many of the partners working in the area of psychological rehabilitation employ a group-based model, which offers a good practice model from the perspective of efficiency

and sustainability. Whether these activities rely on a school-based programme or community sessions, these efforts reach a larger number of victim beneficiaries than individually directed counselling initiatives are able to with the same level of funding and staff. Whereas individual approaches often rely on trained psychologists or counsellors, most communal approaches employ a lay volunteer or psychological assistant (*APs, animateurs*) to conduct sessions.

These approaches, which employ facilitators with a lower level of expertise, have been shown to be effective in a number of settings, including in eastern DRC.<sup>42</sup> For example, most Counselling centres at community level and supplemented by community-based resource persons brought distant psychosocial support services closer to the population. During focus group discussions in northern Uganda, victims frequently indicated that they had sought and received advice and support to deal with anxiety and bitterness from the counsellors within the community.

The fact that victims have an outlet for sharing their stories of trauma and violation if they choose to often results in a certain degree of healing and contributes directly to broader goals of reconciliation and promotion of a culture of peace. The strong base established by the community-based peace building initiatives can be an effective protection against losing all the gains made by TFV-funded projects in realm of psychological health. Similarly, in northern Uganda this function is catered for within the Village Savings and Loan Associations to which most members are also victim survivors.

Another fundamental element of the success of TFV-supported activities is capacity development, which is used as a core strategy in both situations for improving the ability of locally based resource people to identify and respond to the psychological rehabilitation needs of victims. In DRC, the capacity of TFV implementing partners to deliver quality services for psychological rehabilitation was enhanced through a partnership with the Centre for Children in Vulnerable Situations (CCVS). In northern Uganda, capacity building for therapeutic counselling was done through a partnership with the Centre for Victims of Torture (CVT) who has trained and mentored qualified staff of implementing partners at community level.

### ***Factors Limiting the Success of Psychological Rehabilitation Activities***

It is important to note that those victims who are reached by this vast range of psychological rehabilitation activities remain a minority of those who were victimized by the conflicts in both situations. As such, any degree of attention to their psychological wounds is an important step toward individual and community-wide healing. Nonetheless, there are some factors that limit the degree to which these gains may be sustainable and able to achieve lasting impact. For example, in projects that favour group and community-based therapy, it is unlikely that the healing and stability achieved by group sessions is matched by the degree achieved through individual sessions. While there are no data available to demonstrate the degree of healing achieved in any of the interventions, community and group-based models do not adequately identify individual levels of traumatization and each survivor's specific needs or status.

In the absence of such tailored and continuing care, it is unclear how durable these positive effects will be beyond the period of intervention. This is of particular concern in eastern DRC, where the violence is continuing and where the threat of victimization is ever-present, particularly for sexual violence. In the face of this on-going instability, any gains in psychological rehabilitation can be jeopardized even if an intervention is tailored to

---

42 J. Bass et al. Controlled trial of psychotherapy for Congolese survivors of sexual violence. *New England Journal of Medicine*. Volume 368, June 6, 2013, p. 2182.

individual needs and implemented with appropriate continuing care and monitoring. An additional factor limiting the success of psychological rehabilitation interventions in northern Uganda is that it proved strenuous to use project funding to rent space for counselling centres, and for stipends of the resource persons. These factors are likely to affect the sustainability of these services, and thus, of the on-going care available to victim survivors.

### ***Strategic Opportunities for Enhancing Psychological Rehabilitation Activities***

Based on the foregoing analysis, we have identified key strategic opportunities for the TFV to consider in strengthening its support of psychological rehabilitation activities. One important opportunity is to strengthen the capacity of institutions that train professional counsellors. The investment at the institutional level would not only facilitate the transfer of skills on a wider scale, but would also promote sustainability. For example, it would be more efficient if the capacity-building undertaken by CVT for individuals from selected organisations was set within accredited training institutions in order to transfer skills on a wider scale. In the case of DRC, we recommend that the TFV explore options for expanding the scope of the training the CCVS experts provide; as well as, seek out other local experts in trauma counselling to deepen the capacity of implementing partners to meet this critical need among victims.

## **MATERIAL SUPPORT**

According to the TFV Strategic Plan 2009-2013, programme responses in the area of material support aimed to improve the economic status of the victims through education, economic development and rebuilding of community infrastructure, and creation of employment opportunities. Across programme sites, activities demonstrated a clear recognition of the real economic needs faced by victims and their families in both situations; and thus, the activities have a high degree of relevance. Overall, TFV partners achieved or surpassed their objectives in material support, as evidenced by the numbers of victims participating in communal savings groups and/or completing vocational training or literacy programmes. The efficiency of these activities, the degree of impact likely to be achieved, and the sustainability varied by intervention, as discussed in the sections below.

### ***Overview of Material Support Activities***

Material support activities responded to the destruction of property, and the consequences of displacement and loss of income-earning family members, which diminished the sources of livelihood and subsistence. Programme activities within this area included the establishment of community-based savings and solidarity groups as a primary intervention. In northern Uganda, these groups were mainly structured on the Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) model pioneered by CARE International. Key implementing partners included CARE Uganda, North East Chilli Producers Association (NECPA), COOPI, and the Diocese of Northern Uganda (DNU).

Savings groups in eastern DRC were based on two central models - the *Mutuelle de Solidarité* (MUSO) model implemented by multiple partners, and the Savings and Internal Lending Committee (SILC) model introduced by CRS and implemented by their partners at the local level. The typical structure for group-based savings models is to have 12-30 members who attend meetings and make contributions on a regular basis. While the strategies and processes employed in each of these initiatives differ, their common objective is to promote greater economic security and to foster a sense of shared responsibility among participants.

In northern Uganda, the TFV supported other activities to revive livelihoods including the provision of vocational training for bee-keeping, improved agricultural techniques, tree-planting and the introduction and scaling-up of new commercial crops. With regards to the latter the support to North East Chilli Producers (NECPA) stands out a major success. With TFV support NECPA has scaled up chilli growing in the region as a source of livelihood. The association coordinates about 30 groups of chilli producers the membership of which is mainly women. The TFV 2013 summer progress indicates that replication of this approach with Coffee production in Ituri is under consideration.

In the DRC, the TFV supported partners like RHA, KAF, and ACIAR provided direct support for individual victims in the form of micro credits for retail trade activities, vocational training, literacy training, and for developing community savings groups. Some of the partners, like ALT, provided combinations of training and direct financial support.

### *Factors Underlying the Success of Material Support Activities*

There are strong indications that implementing partners engaged in providing material support in an effective and efficient way. Key examples included group-based vocational training (which engaged many students at once); the establishment of savings and loan groups (which incurred minimal upfront costs for the partner and quickly became self-sufficient); and the high rate of repayment achieved in most micro-loan initiatives. The latter example demonstrates a high degree of efficiency in that minimal costs were incurred for providing the initial loan and following up with borrowers. The initial capital was recouped with a small amount of interest, which supported the on-going follow up and lending activities. With low default rates, the programmes were able to maintain a stable budget and reach a large number of victims with low direct costs to the project budget.

Although the evaluation noted variations in the robustness and progress of the VSLAs in northern Uganda, testimonies of male and female beneficiaries; and secondary evidence consistently indicated the savings groups to be effective in promoting community mobilization and the restoration of livelihoods.

*“Those who continue with the MUSO do so because it brings them together. It teaches them to save, even little by little. They learn to love each other.”*  
-Female MUSO member, Ituri, DRC

At the level of the savings groups notable achievements included high repayment rates of loans, successful repeat lending at incrementally higher amounts, and opening of bank accounts for the saving schemes. Examples of the effectiveness achieved in this category are provided below, with data sex disaggregated where available:

- # of savings groups created
  - ACIAR supported the formation of 123 MUSOs in Ituri;
  - KAF has established 20 MUSOs in South Kivu;
  - CRS, through its local partners, has supported the establishment of 64 SILCs in South Kivu;
  - CARE has mobilized 290 VSLA groups in northern Uganda;
- # of individual victims provided with material support
  - COOPI provided 106 child mothers with training and kits received kits in Ituri;
  - KAF provided vocational training to 250 survivors of torture in South Kivu;

- In Lira and Amuri Districts, NECPA has supported 3,261 direct beneficiaries to increase their food production and improve their income security.

The use of savings groups as an incentive for community engagement was an effective community mobilization strategy. The savings groups, which were community owned and managed, had a sure and predictable attendance of members at the weekly savings meetings, which served as forums for community sensitization and dialogue.

*“Before, each one lived for himself. The war destroyed everything, even relationships. Now we can easily bring people and tribes together, but it took time for us to rebuild this unity.”*  
- Female MUSO member, Ituri, DRC

These achievements are indicative of longer-term impacts of these material support initiatives. At the individual and family level, testimonies revealed that apart from the restoration of livelihoods the ability to save, borrow and invest was empowering for group members as evidenced in their strong sense of pride, dignity and self-worth. Among the most significant changes, victim participants indicated the ability to pay school fees, afford more than one meal a day, improved housing and newfound ability to purchase parcels of land and/or make capital investments for small businesses.

Regarding the impact on individual victims, implementing partners in Uganda such as CARE and COOPI indicated that more than 50 and 70 per cent respectively of individuals participating in the VSLAs had established their own income generating activities out of borrowing and saving. In other instances, savings groups established the income generating activities on a collective basis such as investment in ox ploughs. According to CARE’s management information system (MIS), the annual dropout rate from VSLAs was only 5 per cent and mainly due to relocation or marriage.

*“VSLA is spreading like wild fire. It is the best initiative that has been established in the entire region of northern Uganda.”*  
-District leader, Gulu, Uganda

The savings groups are a strong demonstration of the relevance and potential of community grown, community owned and community managed interventions in post-conflict settings. Sustainability is probable given that they are not a resource intensive investment but are rather based on a self-help approach where community members work together to amplify what they have. On this note, the victim groups have remained viable, operational and visible even in cases where the TFV support had ended about six months earlier and there was not any consistent engagement on a day-to-day basis with partner organisations. An example worth citing in this case is a group found in Agonga village Koch Goma sub-county, Gulu district supported by Kibera war victims support organisation. The team was impressed by the level of organisation, commitment and testimonies of victim members regarding their participation in the project, and how they conducted themselves in the post-project period.

In DRC, both the SILC and MUSO models showed similar promise for promoting a higher degree of financial stability among members. As in northern Uganda, the ability to borrow, save and invest, pay school fees and afford emergency medical care were reported as most significant changes by both male and female participants. Male and female respondents reported that these economic gains also contributed significantly to improvements in their mental health and sense of security.

*"It's been a big change for me. I had a baby who got sick and I couldn't do anything for her. Now I can take care of her. Even if I don't have money in my pocket, the MUSO helps."*

**- Female MUSO member, Ituri, DRC**

*"The microcredit was the biggest benefit I received. It gave me dignity and made me respectable. I can even afford to make myself beautiful. Without that, I couldn't have found a husband. Nobody wants to marry a woman who was raped, but he finds me beautiful because I can take care of myself."*

**- Female victim, S. Kivu, DRC**

*"My life before can't be compared to my life now. It's incomparable! I make money now and can take care of my own needs- soap, clothes. Before it was my mom who did this, so she's happy that I'm here and earning. It helps our whole family."*

**-Vulnerable female youth, Ituri, DRC**

The evaluation revealed that in both situations, beyond the economic objectives for their establishment the savings groups served additional social functions. Discussions with SILC and MUSO members in the DRC revealed a high degree of ownership and sense of shared responsibility- and that these were key to the on-going success of their groups. Individual groups reported savings of the equivalent of several thousand US dollars; and several of these had specific plans for continuing to grow their portfolios and membership.

A small number of these victim groups had immediate plans for moving beyond the basic savings and loan models provided to them, and to begin investing in infrastructure projects to benefit their affected communities. One such group in South Kivu was still in the early stages of planning, but was exploring ideas including a water pump and a mill. In addition to the envisioned social benefit of these endeavours, the groups had plans for recouping their costs and investing in further, larger scale projects.

In northern Uganda COOPI utilized the VSLA model to mobilize and sustain community dialogue on sexual and gender-based violence in Pader District. Among the membership VSLAs provided a safe space for members to regularly share and learn from each other's experiences, including recognition of some degree of peer accountability among members. In the case of the latter, some group members could convene to mediate between couples.

While these disputes may not stem directly from the larger political conflict, it is evident that the instability caused by war trickles into daily lives and adds new layers of interpersonal tension. Such tension is often engendered, as men and women struggle with redefining their traditional "masculine" and "feminine" roles in the wake of conflict and the social and familial disruption it brings. Outcomes related to efforts to address this interpersonal conflict have been around improving the confidence, assertiveness and policy-making abilities, as well as, leadership roles of the victims - especially women.

It is noteworthy that across all contexts, victim members and their families reported a positive impact on gender relations at household levels for spouses/partners that jointly participated in the groups. In the majority of cases, it was reported that the men were keen to join upon realizing the impact of their partners' participation on the household income and well-being. While this was a rare case among participants in DRC, women involved in joint membership with their partners reported joint decision-making and transparency regarding use of the savings secured by the family.

*“We discuss how we use the income and mainly use it to pay school fees. Of course once in a while when the man wants to go for evening sitting (drink) it can bring problems.”*

**-Female VSLA member, Lira, Uganda**

An additional element underlying the success of material support initiatives was the focus on strengthening local capacities. For both sub-grantees and the community groups into which victim beneficiaries were mobilized; these capacities were strengthened through training and support to financial literacy and management, strategic planning, and monitoring. For female victims who participated in the literacy programme provided by KAF, there was an overriding appreciation of the inter-disciplinary curriculum, which placed emphasis on basic literacy and numeracy as well as more advanced financial literacy. Participants reported dramatic improvements in their self-confidence and their ability to effectively manage funding for their micro and small business activities.

*“They gave me \$10 and I bought a bag of coal. I put my training to use, sold the coal and earned \$18 on my \$10 purchase. The next time, I borrowed \$30, then \$50, and now up to \$100. I have my own business and I learned how to manage it here.”*

**-Female victim, S. Kivu**

Similarly, MUSO members discussed the importance of learning to manage their collective and individual funds, to plan for expenses, as well as, calculate interest and repayment costs. This building of their capacity as individual savers, heads of families, and micro-entrepreneurs is a critical step toward improved financial stability for victims and their families. It is also important to highlight the steps toward institutionalizing VSLA groups in northern Uganda, which were registered at the sub-county and district levels and linked to technical and financial support from the local government. While there is interest from MUSO and SILC members in eastern DRC to achieve a similar level of formalism, implementing partners and TFV programme staff pointed to a number of challenges within the country’s legal and financial regulatory frameworks that render this impossible in the near term.

### ***Factors Limiting the Success of Material Support Activities***

As discussed above, the benefits that victim participants derived from the various savings groups and training opportunities were important contributors to their financial and emotional well-being. Nonetheless, there were variations in the vibrancy and progress of the MUSOs, SILCs, and individual micro-enterprises undertaken by victim beneficiaries. Testimonies from victims and implementing partners in eastern DRC indicated varying degrees of economic stability and *“l’auto prise en charge”* as a result of these activities.

The majority of victims from direct assistance (training, micro-loans) in the DRC felt that the assistance provided was insufficient to promote a level of real economic stability and socio-economic reinsertion. The capital costs for implementing partners to support these models were quite minimal. This indicated that, once established, these groups could be easily sustained without requiring any external funding source or assistance. However, as to the question of whether the benefits of these models can be sustained over time, this would require some degree of economic stability both for individual members and for their environment as well. As is the case with psychological rehabilitation, any economic gains made are jeopardized by on-going instability and conflict in and around the communities where TFV-supported activities take place. In the DRC, it was also found that savings groups

with male and female victim participants were generally led by men, who were elected as officers by the group:

Female group members insisted that this selection as being based not on gender, but on literacy, leadership ability, and trustworthiness. While this democratic approach is another factor supporting the success of these groups, it may also serve to perpetuate in-built gender inequalities and norms, which place higher trust and confidence in men as leaders. This, in turn, may limit the extent to which women's voices are represented and their interests are given priority in the groups.

There were also indications of low efficiency within the programming in both situations. One key example that was invariably discussed by victim beneficiaries of material support in eastern DRC was the poor quality of the "kits" provided by implementing partners. These kits, which are intended to promote reintegration and rehabilitation, generally supplement vocational training, and often include goods such as sewing machines and thread for those pursuing tailoring; a set of wrenches for those engaged in mechanic training; and small animals (seeds, chickens, goats, etc.) for those who engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry. The initial investment in these kits consumed a significant portion of many project budgets. However, the tools provided were not deemed of adequate quality to be durable and to support sustained income generation. When the sewing machines broke, for example, the replacement parts were not locally available. As a result, the machines went unrepaired and the victim was no longer able to meet her clients' demand for tailoring.

Similarly, the number and variety of wrenches provided was not adequate to allow newly trained mechanics to respond to the local demand. They often found themselves without the appropriate size tool for the job, or with only broken wrenches remaining after the first few months in business. Many beneficiaries questioned the quality of the livestock provided in their kits. They described these animals as "small and unhealthy," commenting that many died before producing any young, and thus, before any profit could be made.

### *Strategic Opportunities for Enhancing Material Support Activities*

The TFV has valuable and promising evidence of the relevance and likely sustainability of savings groups as a strategy for material support to victims and their families. However, the extent to which these groups supported long-term goals of economic stability and reintegration remains unclear. It is also unclear how each model compares to the others with respect to the intended outcomes and impacts.

ICRW recommends that TFV support a series of structured comparative analyses of the three core savings models. This would serve to document learning and achievements from the different models currently being applied in northern Uganda and DRC, and will generate further lessons for programming in these situations and others. Within this analysis, it will be important to also assess the distinction between male/female representation in the groups and male/female leadership of and agency in these groups.

Another strategic opportunity to enhance the assistance provided through material support is for the TFV to work with partners to explore additional activities to revive livelihoods based on both market analysis and participatory research with (potential) victim beneficiaries to maximize the long-term potential for these areas of income generation. In this exploration, it will be important to make intentional efforts to integrate environmental protection efforts as well as a gender perspective to ensure an approach that is responsible to the environmental and cultural realities in each country context. These options may include the provision of vocational training for beekeeping and veterinary medicine, improved agricultural techniques, or the introduction and scale up of new commercial crops and tree-planting.

Vocational sectors that offer great potential and interest for youth in particular, such as hotel management, ecotourism, should also be considered as a special emphasis. In cases where there is a demand for technology or equipment-dependent vocations (e.g., photography, tailoring, computer or internet-based skills), an analysis of the costs and a feasible plan for supporting maintenance, repairs, and replacement must be made prior to training. As noted above, it is critical to ensure that beneficiaries participate in the selection and design of vocational training programmes in a meaningful way to ensure that the options provided are aligned with their interests, their local realities, and their existing capacities. This focus on participatory engagement should also explore options for developing the skills of beneficiaries to serve as trainers and to become local agents of implementing partners, which may offer longer-term employment and more sustainable career options.

## **CROSS-CUTTING THEMES**

In addition to the three core areas of victim's assistance discussed above, the ICRW's evaluation of TFV programming considered three cross-cutting themes as defined by the TFV's global programmatic framework: 1) Promoting community reconciliation, acceptance; and rebuilding community safety nets; 2) Mainstreaming gender to include addressing impact of sexual and gender-based violence; and 3) environmental impact. These transversal issues are integrally linked to each of the categories of assistance as well as to one another. These constituted very important components of the TFV supported activities, and were considered in the design of interventions by all implementing partners.

### **Promoting community reconciliation, acceptance; and rebuilding community safety nets**

*"This project helps with psychological rehabilitation. It helps children be less afraid and helps them heal from the problems in the war. There's no reason to fight anymore. We used to see wars between students in my school and the other school. Now we don't see that anymore." -Implementing Partner, Ituri, DRC*

In both contexts, the conflict disrupted community cohesion, which was replaced with social mistrust and tension. Conflict tears apart the social fabric of communities, through the loss of family members, including elders who provide intergenerational leadership and support. Conflict may sometimes also force an unexpected redefinition of gender roles, not through a process of gender-based transformation and empowerment, but due to necessity with the departure of male family members who join or are forced into armed groups or killed, and thus leaving women as the primary bread winners and the only decision-maker in the immediate family.

Added to this is the challenge of the stigma attached to children born during abduction or having fought in the rebel ranks. In Ituri in particular, inter-ethnic violence has significantly impeded the peace-building and reconciliation processes. Conflict affected communities in both DRC and northern Uganda continue to grapple with the stigma faced by survivors of sexual violence, the children born as a result of rape, and (to varying degrees) former child soldiers and girls associated with armed groups.

Peace-building, including reconciliation and reintegration, therefore constituted very important components of the TFV victims' assistance activities and were integrated into interventions by all implementing partners. This meant that activities related to specific efforts to promote a culture of peaceful coexistence, forgiveness, and reconciliation are woven into the achievements presented above in each of the three core areas of the assistance mandate. Overall, the TFV supported response to promote reconciliation involved:

- Trauma and therapeutic counselling
- Distribution of reintegration kits to at the individual and collective level (goats, cuttings, shelter, veterinary supplies)
- Drama groups and community peace activities (e.g. Caravane de la Paix, performing arts competitions)
- Youth camps
- Peace schools with drama, discussion and art therapy
- Vocational training
- Training elders and traditional leaders on peace building and reconciliation strategies.

In eastern DRC, RHA implements the Peace Caravan (*Caravane de la Paix*) initiative, which fosters intercommunity dialogues aimed at establishing a community forum in areas most affected by the conflict. The community dialogue provides an opportunity for victims and their families to discuss the underlying causes of the conflict, and to address community

understandings and perceptions that can prevent or fuel conflict. This process has helped to rebuild trust within and between communities, and foster reconciliation. Through *Caravane de la Paix*, RHA has also aimed to build the capacity of community leaders in conflict resolution so that they can employ a peaceful participatory approach in dealing with conflict within their communities.

*“As a community, we need to open our eyes and realize that even though RHA has helped us, they will leave and we need to do this work even without them. This is our community.”*

**- Male Peace Caravan member, Ituri, DRC**

*“‘Amani’ started first with women. We were socializing and talking with women from other ethnic groups. Men weren't ready to mingle yet, but we led the way. “*

**-Female Peace Caravan member, Ituri, DRC**

Moreover, the project is expanding to include a healing of memories component; and this component aims at enhancing the truth about the root causes of the conflict and social disorder. In many cases, these community-based activities were directly linked to savings groups and other structures supported by the TFV. On the whole, these efforts were essential to the long-term success of TFV-supported activities because they helped to restore the community cohesion and social networks. In northern Uganda traditional leaders were reported to be instrumental in successfully mediating family disputes concerning the acceptance of children born in captivity.

*“Following 6 months at the Rehabilitation centre in Lira, NECPA gave me counselling and advice to join VSLA. Through the VSLA activities, the drama group, getting agricultural skills and support from the church I feel close to and accepted by the community. I no longer fear that I will be killed.”* -Former Child Soldier, Gulu, Uganda

*“Joining the drama group with other community members has helped me to push back my negative thoughts. I feel accepted by the community and the same as all others.”*

**-Former female abductee, Lira, Uganda**

*“Before, each one lived for himself. The war destroyed everything, even relationships. Now we can easily bring people and tribes together, but it took time for us to rebuild this unity.”*

**-Female MUSO member, Ituri, DRC**

As these quotes illustrate, the effects of these efforts were profound and are likely to carry lasting impacts in the lives of individual beneficiaries, their families, and their communities. The evaluation highlighted results related to unity, solidarity, and peaceful cohabitation as showing great promise due to the inherent and powerful will of the community members themselves. The evaluation noted certain key elements as influencing the sustainability of these peace-building efforts including:

1. Working with community resources and promoting ownership and self-reliance, as with MUSO, SILC, Club de Paix groups.
2. Integration of cross-cutting themes of peace-building, reintegration and reconciliation.
3. Linkages with government structures at district and community level should augur well for sustainability, but it was noted that these varied from one implementing partner and one site to another.

One recommendation that emerged from the evaluation is for TFV to develop monitoring and reporting tools that provide greater opportunities to capture these outcomes, so that implementing partners can better document these successes. Specific suggestions related to monitoring and evaluation, follow in the section below.

### **Mainstreaming gender to include addressing impact of gender-based violence and other sexual violence**

The TFV applies both mainstreaming and specific targeting approaches in mainstreaming gender into all its programmes. The mainstreaming approach aims to ensure a gender-based perspective across all programming. Specific targeting focuses on compliance with Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1889 and the 2007 Nairobi Declaration on the Right of Women and Girls to a Remedy and Reparation. Hence, the TFV responds to the crimes of rape, enslavement, forced pregnancy, and other forms of sexual and/or gender based violence.

The TFV also adopted a systematic approach to gender mainstreaming based on the *Inter-Agency Standing Committee's Gender Handbook in Humanitarian Action* and the World Health Organization's Ethical Standards and Procedures for Research with Human Beings. To this end, the Fund has emphasized gender mainstreaming as a key requirement to implementing partners and their sub-grantees. In addition, the TFV has invested in training to strengthen the capacity for gender mainstreaming among implementing partners at grassroots level.

In addition to gender training provided to implementing partners, other examples of gender mainstreaming have included aiming for a balanced participation of men and women in programme activities, and requiring sex disaggregated data for all projects. Specific examples of how this cross-cutting theme has been mainstreamed in relation to sexual and gender-based violence are provided in the section below.

### **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)**

Added to the overarching reconciliation and reintegration issues discussed above was the challenge of the stigma faced by survivors of sexual violence, the children born as a result of rape, and (to varying degrees) former child soldiers and girls associated with armed groups.

In northern Uganda, displaced women and girls were especially at risk because of the manner in which the war was being fought and because of vulnerabilities unique to their gender. Women and girls also faced particular difficulties in seeking physical and legal protection during the conflict. The LRA attacks were of sinister purpose and they used raids as a means of exerting control over communities in the north by creating a constant state of fear. Common LRA tactics used to instil such fear included mutilating women and girls by cutting off lips, ears, and breasts; systematic rape and forced pregnancy; and forced conscription of children.

In the DRC, as in conflicts around the globe, women and girls have been disproportionately affected by the violence and instability that occur during and result from the conflict. For example, females are the majority of victims of sexual and gender-based violence, including rape, abduction, and forced “marriage” perpetrated during attacks on villages. These acts continue to occur along with domestic violence through the period of displacement and resettlement, including up to the present day. While these female victims have specific needs, it is also important to recognize that male victims of sexual violence also have substantial needs. Unfortunately, social norms related to masculinity and taboos against homosexuality make it particularly difficult to identify male survivors of sexual violence, and to ensure that their needs are met.

In response, TFV programme activities on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) had two main objectives, to provide a health and psychosocial response to cases of SGBV; and to mobilize communities and increase awareness of SGBV and the rights of victim survivors. In the DRC, with support from TFV, partners such as COOPI and AMAB were able to provide emergency response, counselling and referral for cases of SGBV; as well as, mobilize communities to reject SGBV and report cases.

In addition to those achievements already highlighted in the sections above, key outcomes related to SGBV survivors included:

- Establishment of 5 counselling centres each supported by a minimum of 4 trained social workers mainly providing psychosocial support;
- 16 community working groups representing men, women, youth and the elderly in each of the 4 project sites;
- 4 groups of community activists to implement the SASA model on community mobilization against SGBV in each of the project sites;
- An estimated 2,160 women and girls received emergency response for medical care, PEP, ECP and psychological care in response to SGBV;
- Provision of family mediation to encourage parents and/or husbands of survivors of SGBV to allow them (and their children) to return home.

Despite these important contributions, the evaluation revealed some challenges with respect to how consistently gender is integrated across programme activities and implementing partners. Chief among these challenges is the extent to which assumptions are made about the types of crimes experienced by male and female victims, and, thus, the types of assistance they require.

ICRW recommends that gender analysis be integrated into the initial needs assessment and project planning to ensure a high degree of responsiveness to the gendered realities of potential beneficiaries. Such structured inclusion of gender issues from the design phase will reveal expanded or additional areas of intervention, such as provision of care and

support to male survivors of SGBV, more tailored interventions to support the reintegration of child mothers and girls associated with armed groups, and a wider array of vocational and livelihood options. In addition, this improved focus on gender will likely signal important changes in the structure and leadership of savings groups, creating more space for female ownership of this work.

Victim survivors, especially young women who returned from captivity with children born of rape, reported that even after being allowed to return to their family homes, they and their children were treated poorly and not allowed to be fully integrated as members of the family. Thus, it is critical that follow-up support be provided to returnees and on-going discussions held with families to prevent further traumatization and victimization. As such, it is important for TFV to insist that partners report on longer-term results of this reintegration and to question the reported results with respect to “successful” mediation. Other challenges discussed in the evaluation include:

- Transport to reach victims or respond to cases of sexual violence before the deadline for PEP.
- Lack of shelters or safe houses for victim survivors. Exposes them to further risk including re-victimization.
- Police do not have sufficient resources to carry out their statutory functions. For instance, in Pader they ask for transport to enable them undertake arrests and for copies to be made of the forms they need to file reports. Similarly, the health workers are not always cooperative.
- Limited legal aid services. For instance in the entire district of Pader, legal aid is only provided by War Child Canada. Coordination and referral between TFV partner organisations and legal aid service providers remains critical to addressing the needs of survivors on a comprehensive basis.

These challenges are derived largely from funding constraints and the very limited infrastructure and governmental support for efforts to prevent and respond to SGBV. From the perspective of TFV, we recommend that efforts be made to work with implementing partners to identify appropriate points of referral as well as bottlenecks and barriers that will prevent them from reaching their targets. This will ensure that the commitments they undertake to survivors of SGBV can be met with the available resources and in spite of the structural limitations. We also recommend that TFV partners be further encouraged to refer survivors to critically important legal aid resources to help them take action and/or seek justice for the crimes they have suffered.

In the case of northern Uganda, the community outreach activities by GROW continue to identify victims. The five surgery camps conducted by Interplast and the intervention by Watoto benefitted very few victim survivors. Moreover, with the trauma, the communities initially lived in fear that rebel incursions would recur and therefore victims did not come out to seek help. This is a strong basis for including a component on corrective surgery within the transition period for Uganda with emphasis on targeting women and girls who were mutilated.

## **Environmental Impact**

Environmental concerns are also an important cross-cutting issue in all TFV-supported programmes. The ICC does not yet have a “going green policy,” but TFV has tried to progressively integrate the environmental dimension in its interventions. In addition, TFV

has adopted a broad definition of the 'Environment' in the context of its operations to consist of such aspects as human beings, cultural environment, and biological diversity, in addition to land, water and air. 'Impacts' are changes in one or more of the above aspects, resulting from an undertaking of a particular project activity. Impacts may be positive and/or negative, direct, indirect, or cumulative. During September 2012, the TFV developed an environment impact assessment (EIA) survey with their implementing partners. The survey put in balance positive and negative impacts of the TFV-funded projects on the environment.

This survey revealed that all the implementing partners were fully aware about the need to align the daily management of their project with national and international environmental standards. Despite this awareness, they highlighted some challenges requiring coordinated efforts and resources. The survey also showed that about a third of the Trust Fund funded organisations reported having an environmental component in their project design. All of these organisations were operating in northern Uganda. Examples of such component in the project design include training in soil and water conservation, distribution of trees, fruit and trees seedlings, setting up plant and tree nurseries, inclusion of such issues as animal traction, water management and sanitation, and land use and agriculture in the project design.

None of organisations in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) reported to have an explicit environmental component in their project design. However, during the evaluation activities, AMAB mentioned environmental protection as a core element of their agricultural training and projects for survivors of sexual violence and other vulnerable women in their communities. While few partner organisations or programme beneficiaries during the evaluation articulated the need to consider climate change or other environmental degradation related to their projects, it is evident that the many projects are likely to produce impacts (positive or negative) on the environment. Of particular note are the many projects that train beneficiaries in agriculture and animal husbandry and provide plots of land for these activities.

The TFV's continual commitment to environmental protection is clear. In the coming year, the Fund expects to establish a community of practices among its partners to promote the sharing of experiences and good practices on environmental related topics. In addition, a new requirement in the project selection process ensures that any approved project will have a clearly expressed plan for minimizing environmental damage and maximizing protective efforts.

A number of key challenges remain with respect to fully integrated environmental concerns into all TFV-supported activities. First, the lack of a monitoring mechanism related to these issues during the implementation phase is a serious hindrance to meaningful integration and sustained attention to the environment. Second, as noted by respondents in the survey, are the limited resources (including expertise, funding, and time) available to dedicate specifically to environmental issues. In the next phase of programming, ICRW recommends that TFV pay particular attention to putting in place a structured monitoring system that matches its stated priorities and goals, as well as its budgetary constraints. Further discussion of these points follows in the section below.

## **INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, COORDINATION AND M&E MECHANISMS**

The evaluation assessed institutional arrangements and coordination as well as monitoring and evaluation mechanisms through document review, discussions with TFV staff at headquarters and in the field, and with implementing partners in the field. An overview of the findings is presented below.

## *Institutional Arrangements and Coordination*

At the level of The Hague, the Trust Fund for Victims Secretariat is equipped with programme staff with multi-disciplinary expertise to support the technical interpretation and operational application of the assistance and reparations mandates. This includes, notably, the development of guiding principles and programme strategies and planning, as well as, the selection of and technical assistance to TFV field staff and of implementing partners in both situations. The TFV also benefits from the leadership and guidance of a five-member Board of Directors elected by the ASP for three-year terms. The five seats are distributed according to the five major world regions, and each member serves in an individual capacity on a pro bono basis.

At both the headquarters and field level, the TFV programme team operations are linked to the work of the wider ICC responses, especially within the Registry in areas that ensure outreach, and information and communication materials to communities throughout both situations. At the field level, a small staff based in Kampala under the leadership of the Regional Programme Officer supports the TFV-funded operations in northern Uganda. For eastern DRC, two Field Assistants based in Bunia support the Regional Programme Officer in Kampala. It is the role of these field-based teams to interface with and provide direct support and technical assistance to implementing partners on a regular basis.

Implementing partners invariably acknowledged the good working relationships and support they enjoy with the TFV programme team as contributing positively to their projects. They also expressed appreciation for the opportunities provided by the TFV to come together with other implementing partners and share lessons learned and common challenges faced during a programme year. Partners also expressed satisfaction with the role that the TFV programme team plays in helping them gain new skills and build their capacity through bringing in external experts to provide training, and through helping them navigate and resolve particularly difficult cases, including those requiring specialty care not locally available. In fact, there was consensus among the partners that more such opportunities would be welcome and that they would further enhance the impact and efficiency of their projects.

Two of the cost-effective approaches highlighted by the evaluation activities were the use of international and local NGOs as intermediaries to deliver assistance; and the integration of multiple forms of capacity building support, which minimized programme support costs while ensuring comprehensive interventions. Integration of TFV supported activities into wider organisational programmes as was done by CARE Uganda and Interplast Holland created benefits from economies of scale.

The evaluation noted several factors within institutional arrangements and coordination that limited the success of programme activities. First, as was noted by respondents at both headquarters and the field level, there are multiple challenges with the internal coordination and communication of TFV with other ICC stakeholders. At the field level, this affects the extent to which there is a common understanding of the role that the TFV can play in assisting victims and how this differs from the core work of the ICC. In terms of the challenges this poses for implementing partners, the main difficulty is in the uneven application of and understanding of the eligibility criteria defined for victims. Partners expressed that these criteria are very limiting and that they are not always certain whether they have to apply them in a literal legal sense or whether there is some flexibility. As a result, each partner applies a slightly different set of criteria for identifying victims and for providing support.

Partners in the field also reported having varying levels of monitoring, communication and collaboration with the TFV. This was particularly true in eastern DRC, where partners in Ituri, South Kivu and North Kivu all commented on their perception of

inconsistency with respect to the frequency, clarity, and intensity of communication between them and the TFV team covering the DRC based in Bunia and Kampala. This challenge is exacerbated by the fact that the decision-making authority for the DRC programming sits in Kampala rather than in-country. Additionally, those partners who are sub-grantees to larger NGOs felt more removed from the relationship with the TFV and expressed lower levels of clarity about the identity and mission of TFV as a donor.

A common challenge that was repeatedly discussed in both situations is related to the lack of multi-annual funding affecting the implementation and sustainability of project activities. In northern Uganda, the uncertainty of funding from year to year coupled with delays in the approval of funds forced some partners to suspend activities with disruptive consequences such as eviction from rented properties. Due to the delays, some of the partners had to request for no-cost extensions in order to complete planned activities.

### *Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting*

The monitoring and evaluation framework for TFV-funded projects has continued to be refined over the course of implementation, with significant guidance from the previous M&E Adviser based in The Hague. Under his guidance, the structure of project progress reports was streamlined with the intention of making the reporting more uniform. It is important to note the link between the M&E framework and funding, i.e., that the funding modality is based on annual disbursements and that this influences reporting against annual targets. Thus, monitoring and reporting of achievements focuses more heavily on outputs rather than outcomes or impacts. Despite these advances by the TFV toward a more uniform M&E framework, many partners still use their own institutional M&E mechanisms and measures for reporting to TFV. Apart from the challenges emerging from differences in the scope and quality of M&E mechanisms, output-based monitoring does not provide an adequate basis for assessing impact, efficiency, and sustainability.

Evaluation activities revealed that among implementing partners, there is uneven understanding about what the intended outcomes related to physical rehabilitation, psychological rehabilitation, and material support were, and how these are currently or should be measured. This appeared to be directly linked to the challenges mentioned above as well as to limited capacity among partners for crafting meaningful indicators. In some instances, international intermediary partners had robust M&E indicators with both qualitative and quantitative information. However due to the limitations of the reporting format, qualitative information captured in case studies could not be fully incorporated in their reports to TFV.

The TFV global PMP provides a clear framework for M&E beyond quantitative data. It is therefore recommended that the next strategic plan be aligned with the PMP framework with clear indicators defined at the project, country and global levels. Also to be articulated are the performance indicators for the cross-cutting themes with an indication of methods and frequency for monitoring them. An important starting point will be the clear definition of core elements/themes against which the TFV desires to assess performance on its mandate. (See recommendation on structured research on programming models below.)

## **RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION**

Throughout the preceding results section, ICRW has highlighted strategic opportunities within each of the three areas of victims' assistance, as well as in the cross-cutting themes, and within institutional relationships and coordination. Below ICRW

presents key recommendations for strengthening TFV's impact in the lives of victims under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court that are applicable across areas of intervention and the cross-cutting themes.

### ***Recommendations for TFV Programming***

Across the areas of intervention and the transversal themes prioritized by the TFV, a great number of lessons have been learned and several programming models have been developed and tested. In an effort to solidify and apply the learning from these endeavours into future TFV programming, ICRW proposes three overriding recommendations:

**Prioritize participation of community members and victim beneficiaries in programme design, implementation, and monitoring.** For example, including victim beneficiaries in setting targets and defining what success will look like for each set of activities. While this would require additional time in the design progress, it would promote greater coherence between project promises and the expectations of the victims who participate in it. Similarly, the inclusion of community-based change agents as integral components of current projects has been an important key to success, and one that should be scaled up and employed in each project. These change agents should be male and female victim beneficiaries, leaders, youth, and duty bearers - all of whom should be given opportunities to play an active rather than passive role in project implementation.

*“We were on the ground and we saw all the bad things that happened. We could have played a big role in teaching and sensitizing the community because we know the reality. If we were working as animateurs and facilitators, we could discourage the other children not to join the militias.” -Male ex-EAFGA, Ituri*

**Establish a standardized project-level M&E framework with a focus on outcomes and impact linked to the global PMP.** The challenges with funding and project time frames notwithstanding, it is still critical that standards for monitoring and evaluation be established across projects and linked to the global performance monitoring plan. Beyond this step, it is also essential that new standards for monitoring and indicator development prioritize the measurement of achievements at a higher level than just outputs (i.e., number of people trained and kits given) and capture the significant changes experienced by victims. Initial steps have already been taken by the TFV in this regard, but will need to be more formally incorporated into project frameworks and reporting structures. This framework should also include clear indicators to demonstrate integration of and achievement toward the cross-cutting issues discussed above. This will ultimately allow the TFV greater opportunity to comparatively assess the performance of projects, and to improve its documentation of the overarching impact of the projects it supports.

**Commission structured research on programming models.** In line with the above recommendation on monitoring and evaluation, ICRW recommends that TFV invest in critical analysis of the programme models it supports. This would include comparative analysis of the existing models of material support to assess their relative value and impact, as well as developing a more structured approach to psychological support. Such analyses might employ a Positive Deviant model, for example, to identify the individual characteristics that promote healing, reintegration, and economic stability among some members of the community (including TFV victim beneficiaries). Other relevant research would aim to identify the markers of healing (or reintegration, or other indicators of “success”) as identified by survivors of war crimes. Together, these findings could then be incorporated into standards of care and follow-up for all TFV-supported interventions.

## ***Recommendations for Institutional Arrangements and Coordination***

**Explore the possibility of transitioning to a multi-annual funding system.** As discussed above, the current single year funding structure poses a number of important problems for implementing partners, in terms of their planning, operations, and targeting. The TFV Board recently increased the reservation for programme funds, which may provide an opportunity for transitioning to a multi-annual funding system. For this to become a reality, multi-annual commitments from the TFV's donors would be necessary. In the absence of this, an alternative would be to approve multi-year proposals with targets for the end of the (3-5 year) period, but to still complete an annual M&E plan. While not the ideal, this would still greatly aid in the planning and definition of proposed outcomes and achievements in each project- with a greater focus on longer-term effects and benefits.

**Establish a Management Information System (MIS)** to support the PMP at project, country and global levels. The lack of a Management Information System (MIS) for the TFV has proved a major challenge in the institution's ability to effectively track data and progress across the projects. This challenge is a critical one to address prior to opening additional situations where TFV assistance will be administered. It is therefore recommended that the TFV invest in establishing an MIS that will allow for the collection, monitoring, and tracking of outcomes and impacts for individual beneficiaries. The MIS will minimize the challenges of managing multiple data sources according to projects by country and will eliminate the risks of double counting of beneficiaries at project level among others. Coupled with the above recommendation for further strengthening the project-level M&E, this investment in an MIS will likewise provide the Fund with a foundation for strengthening its knowledge management process by building on its baseline data. These investments will also contribute directly to future impact evaluations.

**Explore alternative in-country management structures.** Ideally, the TFV would be able to expand their staff in order to provide adequate technical assistance to all implementing partners on an on-going basis. This would ensure that partners are appropriately carrying out activities in line with TFV's mandate, and that challenges are being addressed early and lessons are documented and shared more regularly. If expanding the current programme staff were not a realistic option, an alternative would be to re-assess the current management structure in the field offices. As mentioned above, some inefficiencies and bottlenecks were identified by implementing partners, some of which might be avoided by a renewed TFV programme structure. Similarly, it will be important for TFV to assess the efficiency and quality of its current partnerships, particularly those that engage one primary partner with multiple sub-partners.

**Streamline communication efforts to raise awareness about TFV in-country.** Finally, as discussed in the preceding section, communication about the TFV encounters challenges at the local level. This creates confusion among community members, who do not understand the distinction between TFV-funded projects, on-going ICC prosecution efforts, and the DDR and emergency response programming. It is important for TFV to work toward greater clarity on this point, to avoid misunderstanding and disappointment on behalf of the victim beneficiary communities where they support programming. This might be achieved through greater coordination with the ICC PIDS team in each country and integration into the ICC's outreach and communication strategies; or through the assignment of a communication specialist or contractor specifically for TFV in each situation. Given that resources are limited, it will also be important for the TFV and its implementing partners to explore existing formal and informal communication channels at the grassroots level that can be collaboratively employed to convey these important messages.

## CONCLUSION

Over the past five years, the Trust Fund for Victims has, through its network of partners, provided assistance to more than 100,000 victim survivors of atrocious war crimes and crimes against humanity in northern Uganda and eastern DRC. This support has fostered change at the individual and community levels and has proved to be an invaluable source of physical, psychological, and material rehabilitation. This assistance demonstrates the unique mandate that guides the TFV in practice, by employing clear intervention models and approaches for providing assistance that have been tested with relative success. Some of the key elements that contributed to these achievements included:

1. **Translation of theory into practice** in line with programming principles albeit with varying degrees of accomplishment across the core programme areas. TFV has achieved a balanced approach between provisions of immediate assistance to victims, coupled with capacity building and community participation to ensure sustainability of interventions in the post-TFV programme period. Accomplishment has been most evident in the areas of material support and cross-cutting themes (gender/reconciliation/reintegration).
2. **An integrated approach** that combines interventions ensures a holistic approach to problems. The approach recognizes that for any given victim and their families, the harm suffered- be it physical or material in nature- has an impact on their well-being in other aspects of their lives. Addressing all three dimensions and incorporating cross-cutting themes ensures effectiveness and sustainability of the intended outcomes. It is therefore important to ensure that this integrated approach is applied consistently in all countries.
3. **Working with community resources and promoting local ownership**, including by fostering male and female change agents within communities (e.g. community based trainers, facilitators, farmer group leaders, animators). This approach has been beneficial for community reconciliation and addressing gender norms about the role and competencies of women in community service and leadership. Similarly, the savings groups that are often an entry point for material support are community grown, owned and managed. In both situations, these groups have evolved to serve wider social functions. Prioritizing community participation in identification of victim beneficiaries in need of support has also contributed significantly to the success of TFV-supported assistance efforts.
4. **Capacity building and institutional strengthening** has been at the core of TFV programme delivery strategy from the outset. This is demonstrated by through the collaborative efforts of both international and local implementing partners. The mentoring arrangement has been provided to match TFV resources or as in kind contributions to the TFV. This is an innovative strategy for resource mobilization to further TFV assistance. Training on the establishment of VSLA is among the most significant capacity building interventions that have been scaled up through TFV assistance.

In many instances, international partners also worked to mentor local partners as sub-grantees in areas such as programme design and implementation, financial management, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting. In northern Uganda the groups have been registered with the local government and some considered for funding. It follows therefore that at the close of its operations, TFV will leave behind viable community based organisations to further the goals of mobilization towards self-help.

This evaluation report provides evidence of the great strides made by the TFV-supported projects in the name of assistance to victims under the jurisdiction of the ICC. This report also provides concrete recommendations for enhancing and strengthening the programming and coordination that bring TFV funds to the community level, including the achievement areas noted here.

As the TFV moves toward putting its new strategic plan into action, it will be important to prioritize the documentation of the impact of these projects, assessing and replicating effective models, and scaling up to reach even more of the many thousands of victims who are still in need of assistance.



*TFV beneficiaries at a MUSO in S. Kivu with TFV partner KAF in Bagira, DRC.*

*Photo by J. McCleary-Sills/ICRW.*

*TFV beneficiary trained in photography at an ACIAR center in Ndrele and was putting his skills to good use Ituri, DRC.*

*Photo by J. McCleary-Sills/ICRW.*



**INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC)  
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) 114068****TRUST FUND FOR VICTIMS: EVALUATING THE RESULTS OF PROGRAMMES IN  
NORTHERN UGANDA AND EASTERN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO  
TOWARDS A PERSPECTIVE FOR UPCOMING INTERVENTIONS****Background and Context**

The Rome Statute created the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the Trust Fund for Victims (TFV or Fund). They are committed in the global movement to end impunity, promote peace and justice for victims. In 2002, the Rome Statute came into force and the Assembly of States Parties established the TFV. The Trust Fund for Victims mission of reparative justice is to support programmes, which address the harms resulting from the crimes under the jurisdiction of ICC by assisting victims to return to a dignified and contributory life within their communities. To achieve this, the Fund has a two-fold mandate. The mandate to implement Court ordered reparations on the basis of a conviction by the ICC is yet to be activated. The mandate to provide assistance services to victims within the jurisdiction of the ICC does not depend on the outcome of judicial proceedings and has been implemented since 2008. Under the assistance mandate, the TFV may provide three forms of assistance: physical rehabilitation, psychological rehabilitation and material support. Intermediaries - local and international partners - are engaged for the implementation of services.

**Purpose of the Programme Evaluation**

The TFV programme evaluation aims at determining the significance and the impact of the programme developed and implemented in northern Uganda and eastern Democratic Republic of Congo since 2008. The evaluation is intended to improve programme performance and provide a basis for accountability. It will be mainly used for managerial and decisional purposes. The outputs of the programme evaluation should serve to review and finalize key programming documents. The results of the programme evaluation will also inform the process to design the TFV Strategic Plan for 2013-2016. As well as the underlying country programme strategies. The programme strategy in Uganda will focus on strategies to create the conditions for post-programmatic sustainability. In DRC, the strategy will look at options and conditions to scale up interventions and to consolidate results.

**Evaluation Objectives**

The evaluation should provide an extensive analysis, which describes the relationship between the intervention and its effects. For the purpose of this programme evaluation, it is suggested to consider the evaluation criteria laid out in the OEDC DAC Principles for Evaluation of Development Assistance: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability. A combination of descriptive, normative and cause-and-effect evaluation questions will help to better understand the logic of intervention as well the theory of change behind the intervention. The programme evaluation is intended to be a formative and forward-looking undertaking, of which the findings will consider and guide the Trust Fund for Victims as a learning organisation.

**Proposed Timeframe**

The evaluation should take between 30-80 days, to be carried out in 2012-2013.

**Criteria for Tender Selection**

Applicants can be a firm or a group of skilled evaluators, who stand in no direct or indirect relationship to the Fund's current or foreseen partners or projects. The proposed team shall have demonstrable experience in programme evaluation in relevant contexts, including evaluating projects and programmes involving physical rehabilitation, psychological rehabilitation, psychological, economic and livelihood, reparative and restorative justice, transitional justice, public health, gender and gender-based violence issues, children, reconciliation and peace, and justice issues. The team should have evaluators able to work in both English and French language settings.

## ***Annex 2: Domains of Evaluation***

As presented in Section 3, there are six domains of evaluation that informed design and analysis of this study. The parameters for each of these domains are discussed below.

### ***1) Relevance***

An assessment of relevance seeks to determine whether the programme activities are relevant to the needs of its intended beneficiaries.

### ***2) Effectiveness***

An assessment of effectiveness seeks to determine whether the programme activities meet their intended objectives.

### ***3) Efficiency***

An assessment of a programme's efficiency relies in great part on comparative analysis across activities as well as the calculation of the amount of outcome, effect, or impact achieved per amount spent. In essence, the primary question is whether the most direct (and least costly) approach is used to achieve programme outcomes. The extent to which the present evaluation could assess efficiency from the cost-effectiveness perspective was limited by the available data on effects achieved and expenses per output. Nonetheless, this report provides a discussion of indications of efficiency and potential areas for improving efficiency in the delivery of programme activities.

### ***4) Impact***

Assessing the impact of programme activities entails an exploration of actual achievements against the intended results in each category of assistance. The evaluation team explored elements that support or hinder both the sustainability of the benefits obtained through the assistance as well as the sustainability of the activities themselves. However, an objective assessment of impact was hindered by data limitations; programme documentation tends to focus on the achievement of short-term targets rather than on the impact of these efforts. For example, counting the number of counselling sessions provided but not documenting the degree to which beneficiaries' trauma symptoms improve. As such, there is very little documentation of programme impact except in the cases of partners who report anecdotal evidence of change.

### ***5) Sustainability***

In assessing the sustainability of programme activities, the evaluation team explored elements that support or hinder both the sustainability of the benefits obtained through the assistance as well as of the activities themselves.

### ***6) Coordination and M&E Mechanisms***

This additional domain of evaluation is not central to the OECD principles, but is an essential element to the success or failure of projects. As such, the evaluation team included it as one of the core domains. To evaluate the coordination and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, the team reviewed secondary data from project reports, as well as primary data from discussions with implementing partners and TFV staff at Headquarters and at the field level.

### *Annex 3: DRC & Northern Uganda TFV Assistance Projects Evaluated*

#### **Implementing Partner: Action for Living Together (ALT)**

**Location:** South Kivu, DRC

**Funding from TFV:** \$845,974 for 1 Nov 2008 – 30 Jun 2014

**Status:** Victims of SGBV have received small grants and psychological rehabilitation; there are 1,200 direct beneficiaries and 2,478 indirect beneficiaries; 10 MUSOs have been created and 5 sessions on MUSO have been conducted; 71.3% of success in the provision of education support.

**Activities:** Counselling and therapy to SGBV victims; distribution of microcredit to SGBV victims; and provision of school supplies to their children.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 1,200 (133% of 900 person target)

♦ Gender ratio: 62.0% Female, 38.0% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 5-50+ Female, 5-17 Male

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 2,478 (130% of 1,900 person target)

♦ Gender ratio: 59.6% Female, 40.4% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 0-24 Female, 0-50 Male

#### **Implementing Partner: Association de Mamans Anti-Bwaki (AMAB)**

**Location:** Ituri, DRC

**Funding from TFV:** \$595,770 for 1 Dec 2008 – 30 Jun 2014

**Status:** 300 victims of SGBV receiving material support and psychological rehabilitation are direct beneficiaries, while its impacts 1,800 indirect beneficiaries; 13 new MUSOs have been created; 310 victims have participated in community therapy sessions.

**Activities:** Counselling, therapy, psycho-social support, and home visits to SGBV victims and vulnerable women; monitoring/support of IGA beneficiaries; creation of a community development structure that carries out trainings/projects about sewing, agriculture, and animal husbandry.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 290 (100% of 290 person target)

♦ Gender ratio: 97.5% Female, 2.4% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 5-50+ Female, 25-50 Male

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 1,740 (100% of target of 1,740 person target)

♦ Gender ratio: 77.6% Female, 22.4% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 5-50 Female, 18-50 Male

**MUSO:** Beneficiaries: 92 (48.9% Female, 51.1% Male)

♦ # of MUSOs: 81 ♦ Savings: US\$ 14,385.81 ♦ Participants: 1,097 (48.9% Female, 51.1% Male)

**Implementing Partner: Réseau Haki na Amani (RHA)**

**Location:** Ituri, DRC

**Funding from TFV:** \$1,417,960 for 1 Nov 2008 – 30 Jun 2014

**Status:** 800 beneficiaries of counselling; 10,500 victims benefitting from material support; 40,000 community members benefitting from community reconciliation activities, 581 beneficiaries of psychological therapy from which 500 beneficiaries have received follow up sessions; 237 individuals had access to medical support

**Activities:** Identify victims to offer psychosocial support and material support.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** Gender and age not verifiable

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** Gender and age not verifiable

**Implementing Partner: Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI) DRC**

**Location:** Ituri, DRC

**Funding from TFV:** \$1,391,257 for 1 Nov 2008 – 30 Jun 2014

**Status:** Girls associated with armed groups, and their babies have received or are receiving accelerated education and material support to re-join the Ituri school system; there are 596 people benefitting directly and 1,300 indirectly; 52 girls have gone back to school; 106 child mothers have followed training and received kits; another 112 former child soldiers have received information about MUSO to support them on their IGAs and to engage them in community therapy.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 596

♦ Gender ratio: 76.2% Female, 23.8% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 18-50 Female, 18-24 Male

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 600

♦ Gender ratio: 50.0% Female, 50.0% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): Not available

### Implementing Partner: Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Sub-Grantees

**Location:** South Kivu, DRC

**Funding from TFV:** \$600,000 for 11 Dec 2009 – 10 Aug 2013

**Target:** 1,929 direct beneficiaries of CRS projects focused on providing medical support of survivors, helping to peacefully transform cases of conflict, and supporting SILC; 102 cases have identified, from which 54 were peacefully resolved; from the 64 SILCs, 220 members have invested in IGAs, 321 have invested in cattle, and 8 of them in the rent of common fields.

**Planned Activities:** Survivors of SGBV are supported in fistula surgery and other serious cases relating to SGBV; victims of sexual violence have psychosocial care; survivors of SGBV have a better understanding to sexual violence in their communities; and communities participating in community outreach activities and applying the techniques of peaceful resolution of conflicts within their communities.

**Expected Direct Beneficiaries:** 2,225

♦ Gender ratio: 78.0% Female, 22.0% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 0-50+ Female, 18-50 Male

**Expected Indirect Beneficiaries:** 14,150

♦ Gender ratio: 64.0% Female, 36.0% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 0-50+

**Training Beneficiaries:**

♦ Community Leaders: 227 (45.4% Female, 54.6% Male)

♦ Community Liaisons: 492 (100.0% Female)

♦ Medical Care Providers: 100 (30.0% Female, 70.0% Male)

♦ Opinion Leaders: 126 (100.0% Male)

### Implementing Partner: Kataliko Actions Pour l'Afrique (KAF)

**Location:** South Kivu, DRC

**Funding from TFV:** \$371,657 for 1 Nov 2008 – 30 Jun 2014

**Status:** Counselling and vocational training for victims of torture and mutilation; 250 direct beneficiaries and 1,236 indirect beneficiaries; 20 MUSO have been created; 58 victims are benefitting from psychological support, and 12 have been showing positive progress; 68 victims had access to medical treatment; 123 children are now going to school.

**Activities:** Membership in the community health insurance (*mutuelle de santé*) for the beneficiaries of microcredit; Psychological counselling and therapy with family for victims; organize and monitor MUSO; and support the education of children of the beneficiaries.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 250 (312.5% of 80 person target)

♦ Gender ratio: 70.0% Female, 30.0% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 5-50+

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 1,236 (312.9% of 396 person target)

♦ Gender ratio: 62.2% Female, 37.8% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 0-50

**Implementing Partner: Appui à la Communication Interculturelle et à l'Auto Promotion Rurale (ACIAR)**

**Location:** Ituri, DRC

**Funding from TFV:** \$1,053,404 for 1 Nov 2008 – 31 Jul 2013

**Status:** 400 children and youth formerly associated with armed groups; 200 children and youth made vulnerable by war (i.e. orphans); 400 people from families caring for children orphaned by war; a total of 524 direct beneficiaries and 4716 indirect beneficiaries; 123 MUSO have received follow up; 175 new beneficiaries have been identified and are being trained for jobs, 5 sessions of community therapy have been conducted.

**Activities:** Psychosocial listening and family reintegration counselling for families for victims; psychosocial support for children; identifying material needs of beneficiaries; training and distributing kits for beneficiaries; and community awareness of MUSO.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 524 (100% of 524 person target)

♦ Gender ratio: 27.3% Female, 72.7% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 18-24

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 4,716 (100% of 4,716 person target)

♦ Gender ratio: Information not available ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): Not available

**Muso:** Beneficiaries: 264

♦ # of MUSOs: 101 ♦ Participants: 3,375

♦ Green Fund Savings: US\$ 44,731.67 ♦ Red Fund Savings: Not available

**Implementing Partner: Watoto**

**Location:** Gulu, Kitgum, Pader, Lamwo, Lira, & Amuru Districts, Uganda

**Funding from TFV:** UGX 417,000,000 for 20 Jan 2011 – 19 Apr 2013

**Status:** WATOTO provide medical rehabilitation to victims identified through other TFV projects, whose needs were too severe to be met by current interventions; 152 direct beneficiaries and 795 indirect beneficiaries; this quarter 23 beneficiaries have undergone various forms of treatment, 5 new beneficiaries have been identified, and 5 patients were treated for bomb splinters.

**Activities:** Assist victims who have suffered from: amputations, retained bullet/bomb splinters, loss of sight or teeth, burns, chronic wounds, bone infections, and facial mutilations (for women).

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 152

♦ Gender ratio: 38.2% Female, 61.8.0% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 5-50+

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 795

♦ Gender ratio: 48.9% Female, 51.1% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): Not given

### **Implementing Partner: CARE International Uganda**

**Location:** Adjumani, Agago, Amuru, Gulu, Kitgum, Lamwo, Nwoya, Alebtong, Lira, Oyam, & Otuke districts, Uganda

**Funding from TFV:** UGX 3,228,683,029 for 2 Dec 2008 – 1 Jun 2013

**Status:** The grant awarded to CARE expired in April 2013 and the projects are closing out; 6,104 direct war victims and 4,277 indirect victims have been reached; all partners have been trained on governance, internal control and programme development and management; 290 VSLA groups have been mobilized, trained, and equipped; a total of 3,541 direct and indirect war victims have received counselling support; a total of 223 direct victims with physical rehabilitation have already received treatment and surgeries.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 6,104

- ♦ Gender ratio: 52.1% Female, 47.9% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 0-50+
- ♦ Types of beneficiaries included: Widows, ex-combatants, orphans, disabled, child mothers, children born in captivity, child headed HH, physical mutilations, early forced marriage, denial to education, PLHIV, and victims of torture, rape, bombing, open wounds, and burns.

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 4,277

- ♦ Gender ratio: 55.6% Female, 44.4% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): Not given
- ♦ Types of beneficiaries included: Community members saving in VSLA, attending peace building, and benefitting from psychosocial support.

### **Implementing Partner: The AVSI Foundation**

**Location:** Northern Uganda

**Funding from TFV:** € 439,575 for 1 Oct 2008 – 31 Oct 2013

**Status:** Implementing two projects with the TFV since 2008, one identifying and mobilizing victims for physical rehabilitations (with TFV partner Interplast) and one providing victims with prosthetic limbs at GROW Centre in Gulu, Uganda; 113 direct beneficiaries and 2,930 have been reached; 110 amputees/other PWDs due to war were assessed; 102 prostheses and orthotics were produced and delivered; a total of 32 direct and 17 indirect beneficiaries were accommodated at GROW; a total of 18 direct beneficiaries benefited from individual counselling.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 1,109

- ♦ Gender ratio: 39.7% Female, 60.3% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 0-50+
- ♦ Types of beneficiaries included: Amputees, PWDs, and victims of: burns, facial mutilation, and PTSD.

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 2,887

- ♦ Gender ratio: 57.7% Female, 42.3% Male ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): Not available
- ♦ Types of beneficiaries included: Family members of the direct beneficiaries.

**Implementing Partner: Centre for Victims of Torture (CVT) Uganda**

**Location:** Gulu, Kitgum, Amuria, & Lira Districts, Uganda

**Funding from TFV:** UGX 1,863,924,518 for 30 Oct 2009 – 29 Oct 2013

**Status:** 408 direct beneficiaries and 20,140 indirect beneficiaries; 40 sessions of co-therapy have been conducted to 29 women and 12 men (41 clients, including one couple); there are 36 new clients this quarter; 72 hours of supervision of formal training in 9 sessions to partners and stakeholders; 39 supervision sessions took place.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 367

- ♦ Gender ratio: 66.2% Female, 33.8% Male
- ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 5-50+
- ♦ Types of beneficiaries included: Torture survivors, child soldier, victims of war violence or sexual torture/GBV, and ex-combatants.

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 1,835

- ♦ Gender ratio: Not given
- ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): Not given
- ♦ Types of beneficiaries included: Family members of the direct beneficiaries.

**Implementing Partner: Northeast Chili Producers Association (NECPA)**

**Location:** Lira & Amuria Districts, Uganda

**Funding from TFV:** UGX 865,544,000 for 1 Dec 2008 – 30 May 2013

**Status:** Supporting victims in the Lango and Teso Sub-Regions of Northern Uganda through agricultural assistance; 3,261 direct beneficiaries and 4,345 indirect beneficiaries who have increased their food production, income security, and have received psychosocial therapies; 28 follow-up sessions to psychosocial therapy took place, reaching 265 victims; 25 formerly abducted girls are now able to meet their needs; 85% increased house hold food availability and income security; 100% of the VSLA are functional and operational; 95% of the beneficiaries have enough food for the following 7 months; 25 formerly abducted girls are able to meet their basic needs, by selling their weekly production.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 3,261

- ♦ Gender ratio: 48.0% Female, 52.0% Male
- ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): 5-50+
- ♦ Types of beneficiaries included: Physically harmed, mentally affected, former abductees, rape victims, victims of specific war wounds, elderly, orphans widow/ers, the sick, child-headed HH, child mothers, single parents, former combatants, and PWDs.

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 4,345

- ♦ Gender ratio: 47.5% Female, 52.5% Male
- ♦ Age ranges (yrs.): Not available
- ♦ Types of beneficiaries included: Children, physically impaired, psychologically sick, relatives and parents of former abductees, elderly, orphans, PWDs, and former combatants.

### **Implementing Partner: Anglican Diocese of Northern Uganda**

**Location:** Gulu & Amuru Districts, Uganda

**Funding from TFV:** UGX 525,856,200 for 5 Nov 2008 – 4 Nov 2013

**Status:** DNU provides “healing of memories” sessions to several hundred victims, in which groups speak collectively of their experiences during the war; and provides scholarships to children abducted or injured or whose parents were killed during the war; 12,151 direct beneficiaries and 7,762 indirect beneficiaries; the savings of the VSLAs have increased and they have started their own business; income and food security have improved considerably; the healing of memories sessions had a total of 33 participants (22 women and 11 men) in Ongako, Koch Goma, and Coorom.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 1,144

♦ **Gender ratio:** 58.7% Female, 41.3% Male ♦ **Age ranges (yrs.):** 5-50+ Female, 0-50+ Male

♦ **Types of beneficiaries included:** Orphans, child mothers, those born in captivity, amputees, PLHIV, victims of other types of physical, war trauma (i.e.: landmine, torture).

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 7,106

♦ **Gender ratio:** 63.2% Female, 36.8% Male ♦ **Age ranges (yrs.):** Not given

### **Implementing Partner: Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI) Uganda**

**Location:** Oaym & Pader Districts, Uganda

**Funding from TFV:** €390,000 for 28 Nov 2008 – 27 Apr 2014

**Status:** COOPI has provided women with medical and psychological care in response to SGBV and has conducted outreach sessions with community leaders to inform them about the nature of SGBV and the rights of victims; 6,246 direct beneficiaries and 732,772 indirect beneficiaries; the sensitizations reach 130 villages and 30 schools for a total of 9,925; the topics discussed were: women’s rights, domestic violence, gender roles, and HIV prevention; 16 GVB working groups have been trained on “Human Rights and SGBV legal response;” 311 cases have been received by the four counselling centres from which all hotlines remain functional; 318 survivors received COOPI services ranging from psychosocial support to providing material supports; 76 out of the 102 raped survivors managed to receive the PEP medication.

**Direct Beneficiaries to date:** 6,246

♦ **Gender ratio:** 76.0% Female, 24.0% Male ♦ **Age ranges (yrs.):** 0-50+

♦ **Types of beneficiaries included:** SGBV survivors and working groups/community activists.

**Indirect Beneficiaries to date:** 732,722

♦ **Gender ratio:** 53.5% Female, 46.5% Male ♦ **Age ranges (yrs.):** Not available

Annex 4: Full list of TFV Assistance Projects

TFV ASSISTANCE PROJECT UPDATES

DRC Project Number(s)	Partner(s)	Location	Project Duration	Obligated	Funded by	Description and Comments
TFV/DRC/2007/R1/001 TFV/DRC/2007/R1/031 TFV/DRC/2007/R2/036	Catholic Relief Services and sub-grantees	South Kivu & North Kivu	11 Dec 09 – 10 Aug 13	\$600,000	Denmark Germany Finland Common Basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,929 direct beneficiaries of CRS projects focused on providing medical support of survivors, helping to peacefully transform cases of conflict and supporting Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILCs);</li> <li>• 102 cases have been identified, from which 54 were peacefully resolved;</li> <li>• From the 64 SILCs, 220 members have invested in Income Generating Activities (IGAs), 321 have invested in cattle and 8 of them in the rent of common fields.</li> </ul>
TFV/DRC/2007/R1/019	Missionnaires D’Afrique	Ituri, North Kivu & South Kivu	1 Nov 08 – 31 Jun 14	\$742,864	Common Basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and youth associated with armed forces or made vulnerable by war have been reached through “School of Peace”;</li> <li>• 14,850 are direct beneficiaries and 30,270 are indirect beneficiaries of the projects to restore a culture of peace;</li> <li>• 100% of the heads of schools and professors have agreed to cooperate with the project;</li> <li>• 60 open days have been organized to reach more beneficiaries;</li> <li>• 594 students have now facilitated workshop of peace at schools.</li> </ul>
TFV/DRC/2007/R1/021	ALT	South Kivu	1 Nov 08 – 30 Jun 14	\$845,974	Denmark Finland Norway United Kingdom Common Basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victims of SGBV have received small grants and psychological rehabilitation</li> <li>• There are 1200 direct beneficiaries and 2,478 indirect beneficiaries</li> <li>• 10 MUSOs (Mutuelles de Solidarité) have been created and 5 sessions on MUSO have been conducted;</li> <li>• 71.3% of success in the provision of education support.</li> </ul>
TFV/DRC/2007/R1/022	AMAB	Ituri	1 Dec 08 – 30 Jun 14	\$595,770	Finland Norway Germany Common Basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 300 victims of SGBV receiving material support and psychological rehabilitation are direct beneficiaries, while it impacts 1,800 indirect beneficiaries;</li> <li>• 13 new MUSOs have been created;</li> <li>• 310 victims have participated in community therapy sessions.</li> </ul>
TFV/DRC/2007/R1/004 TFV/DRC/2007/R2/027	Réseau Haki Na Amani (RHA)	Ituri	1 Nov 08 – 30 Jun 14	\$1,417,960	Common Basket Netherlands Republic of Estonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 800 beneficiaries of counseling;</li> <li>• 10,500 victims benefitting from material support;</li> <li>• 40,000 community members benefitting from community reconciliation activities;</li> <li>• 581 beneficiaries of psychosocial therapy from which 500 beneficiaries have received follow up sessions;</li> <li>• 237 individuals had access to medical support.</li> </ul>

## TFV ASSISTANCE PROJECT UPDATES

DRC Project Number(s)	Partner(s)	Location	Project Duration	Obligated	Funded by	Description and Comments
TFV/DRC/2007/R2/028 TFV/DRC/2007/R2/029	COOPI	Ituri	1 Nov 08 – 30 Jun 14	\$1,391,257	Denmark Finland Germany Norway United Kingdom Common Basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Girls associated w/ armed groups, and their babies have received or are receiving accelerated education and material support to re-join the Ituri school system;</li> <li>• There are 596 people benefitting directly, and 1300 indirectly ;</li> <li>• 52 girls have gone back to school;</li> <li>• 106 child mothers have followed training and received kits;</li> <li>• Another 112 former child soldiers have received information about MUSO to support them on their IGAs and to engage them in community therapy.</li> </ul>
TFV/DRC/2007/R2/026 TFV/DRC/2007/R2/030	ACIAR	Ituri	1 Nov 08 – 30 Jun 14	\$1,053,404	Common Basket & Netherlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 400 children and youth formerly associated with armed groups;</li> <li>• 200 children and youth made vulnerable by war (e.g. orphans);</li> <li>• 400 people from families caring for children orphaned by war;</li> <li>• A total of 524 direct beneficiaries and 4716 indirect beneficiaries ;</li> <li>• 123 MUSO have received follow up;</li> <li>• 175 new beneficiaries have been identified and are being trained for jobs;</li> <li>• 5 sessions of community therapy have been conducted.</li> </ul>
TFV/DRC/2007/R2/032	KAF	South Kivu	1 Nov 08 – 30 Jun 14	\$371,647	Common Basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counselling and vocational training for victims of torture and mutilation;</li> <li>• 250 direct beneficiaries and 1,236 indirect beneficiaries;</li> <li>• 20 MUSO have been created;</li> <li>• 58 victims are benefitting from psychological support, and 12 have been evolving positively;</li> <li>• 68 victims had access to medical treatment;</li> <li>• 123 children are now going to school</li> </ul>
TFV/DRC/2007/R2/043	CAF	North Kivu	12 months	\$35,000	Common Basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project will ensure psychological and economic rehabilitation of women victims of sexual violence in the territory of Beni through activities that involve victims in their communities. In the long term the project intends to contribute to social transformation, peace, and the prevention of future perpetrations.</li> </ul>
<b>TOTAL: 14 active DRC projects (out of 16 approved)</b>						<b>72,735 direct beneficiaries (est.)</b>

## TFV ASSISTANCE PROJECT UPDATES

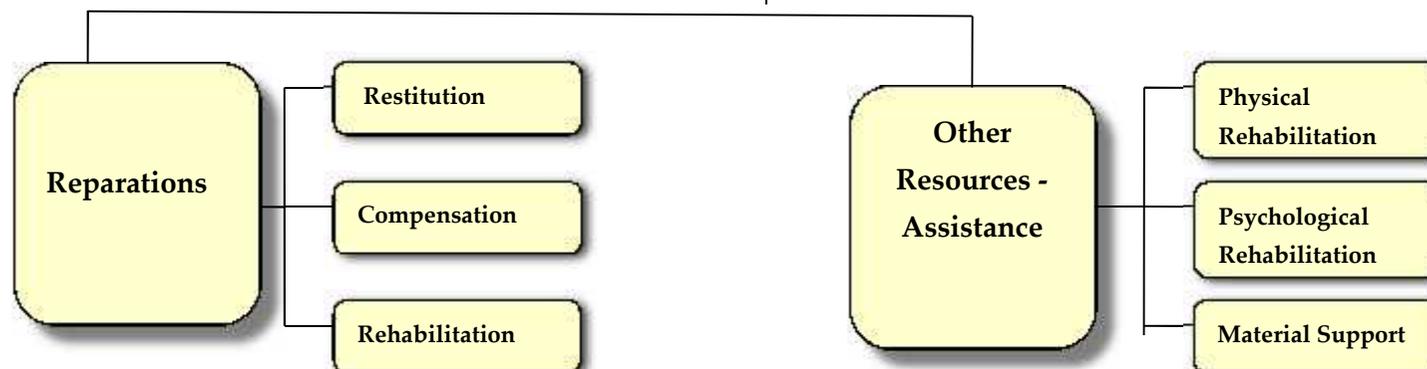
Northern Uganda Project Number(s)	Partner(s)	Location	Project Duration	Obligated	Funded by	Description and Comments
TFV/UG/2007/R1/003 TFV/UG/2007/R1/005 TFV/UG/2007/R1/006 TFV/UG/2007/R1/016 TFV/UG/2007/R1/020 TFV/UG/2007/R1/025 TFV/UG/2007/R2/035	CARE International Uganda	Adjumani, Agago, Amuru, Gulu, Kitgum, Lamwo, Nwoya, Alebtong, Lira, Oyam and Otuke districts.	2 Dec 08 – 1 Jun 13	UGX 3,228,683,029	Common Basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The grant awarded to CARE expired in April 2013 and the projects are closing out.</li> <li>6,104 direct war victims and 4,277 indirect victims have been reached</li> <li>All partners have been trained on governance, internal control and programme development and management.</li> <li>290 VSLA groups have been mobilized, trained and equipped</li> <li>A total of 3,541 direct and indirect war victims have received counselling support.</li> <li>A total of 223 direct victims with physical rehabilitation have already received treatment and surgeries.</li> </ul>
TFV/UG/2007/R1/014b	Watoto	Gulu, Kitgum, Pader, Lamwo, Lira & Amuru Districts	20 Jan 11 – 19 Apr 13	UGX 417,000,000	Common Basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WATOTO provide medical rehabilitation to victims identified through other TFV projects, whose needs were too severe to be met by current interventions.</li> <li>152 direct beneficiaries and 795 indirect beneficiaries;</li> <li>This quarter 23 beneficiaries have undergone various forms of treatment, 5 new beneficiaries have been identified, and 5 patients were treated for bomb splinters.</li> </ul>
TFV/UG/2007/R1/014c	Centre for Victims of Torture	Gulu, Kitgum, Amuria and Lira Districts	30 Oct 09 – 29 Oct 13	UGX 1,863,924,518	Common Basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>408 direct beneficiaries and 20140 indirect beneficiaries;</li> <li>40 sessions of co-therapy have been conducted to 29 women and 12 men (41 clients, including one couple)</li> <li>There are 36 new clients this quarter</li> <li>72 hours of supervision of formal training in 9 sessions to partners and stakeholders.</li> <li>39 supervision sessions took place</li> </ul>
TFV/UG/2007/R1/018 TFV/UG/2007/R2/042	AVSI	Northern Uganda	1 Nov 08 – 31 Oct 13	€439,575	Common Basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing two projects with the TFV since 2008, one identifying and mobilizing victims for physical rehabilitation (with TFV partner Interplast) and one providing victims with prosthetic limbs at GROW Centre in Gulu, Uganda;</li> <li>113 direct beneficiaries and 2930 have been reached</li> <li>110 amputees/other PWDs due to war were assessed</li> <li>102 prostheses and orthotics were produced and delivered</li> <li>A total of 32 direct and 17 indirect beneficiaries were accommodated at GROW.</li> <li>A total of 18 direct beneficiaries benefited from individual counselling.</li> </ul>

## Annex 5: TFV Programme Framework

**Mission:** To support programmes which address the harm resulting from the crimes under the jurisdiction of ICC by assisting victims to return to a dignified and contributory life within their communities.

### Goals:

- Identify and raise awareness on the situation of victims of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes
- Mobilize resources and partners in reaching out to these victims and helping them rebuild their lives and the ones of their communities
- Advocate for, and facilitate a dignified reconciliation within the affected families, communities, states, striving to prevent the reoccurrence of such crimes in the future



### Cross-cutting issues:

- Promoting community reconciliation, acceptance; and rebuilding community safety nets
- Mainstreaming gender to include addressing impact of gender-based violence and other sexual violence of women, men, and children
- Integrating and rehabilitating child soldiers and abductees into communities, including support of intergenerational responses