

RAPE HOTLINE: 122

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Statistical Data

I. Current situation

1.1 Sexual violence in the DRC

Statistics from a 2013 report issued by the Ministry of Gender are given below for seven provinces (Bandundu, Bas-Congo, North Kivu, South Kivu, Orientale, Kinshasa and Katanga). In 2013, there were 25,612 reported cases (i.e. reported but not recorded, so difficult to verify) and 19,937 recorded cases (data recorded by organizations, on which the Government relies more, because they are verifiable).

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 Reported cases: a 62% increase on 2011 and a 36% increase on 2012.
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 Recorded cases: a 47% increase on 2011 and a 27% increase on 2012. The slower rate of growth is due to more widespread reporting.

Most affected provinces:

-) South Kivu: 5,028 in 2012 and 10,706 in 2013.
-) North Kivu: 7,075 cases in 2012 and 6,898 in 2013, a 3% decrease.
-) Orientale: 3,667 cases in 2012 and 2,758 in 2013, a 25% decrease.

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Breakdown by cities and territories:

-) Bukavu: 2,510 reported cases
-) Mwenga: 1,869 reported cases, of which 1,263 recorded cases
-) Rutshuru: 1,794 reported cases, of which 1,529 recorded cases
-) Kalehe: 1,564 reported cases, of which 1,253 recorded cases
-) Masisi: 1,492 reported cases, of which 1,086 recorded cases
-) Uvira: 1,488 reported cases, of which 785 recorded cases
-) Lubero: 1,237 reported cases, of which 1,035 recorded cases
-) Walungu: 981 reported cases, of which 463 recorded cases
-) Beni: 846 reported cases, of which 589 recorded cases
-) Goma: 814 reported and recorded cases
-) Shabunda: 801 reported cases, of which 592 recorded cases

Location of incidents: in the perpetrator's home 25%; in the survivor's home 20%; in the bush or forest 20%; in the fields 17%; on the road 5%; on the way to somewhere (school, waterway, workplace or other) 13%.

Marital status of survivors: single 52%; married 30%; widowed 10%; divorced 7%.

Profile of perpetrators: civilians 54.9%; militiamen 36.6%; Armed Forces of the DRC (FADRC)/ Congolese National Police (PNC) 8.5%

Average age of victims: 13-15

Average age of perpetrators: 26-40

1.2 Child soldiers

According to the implementation report on the FADRC's action plan to end child recruitment and use and other grave violations of the rights of the child by the armed forces and security services for the second half of 2013 and the first half of 2014:

Separation and Protection

-  Access by MONUSCO and UNICEF to military camps and other military sites to verify the presence of children at all camps, despite the security situation during post-conflict operations.
-  5,609 children (4,858 boys and 751 girls) were demobilized by the Executive Unit for the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Programme (EU-NDDRP).

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Response

5,609 children assisted:

-  3,927 children (70%) placed in transit centres
-  1,402 children (25%) placed in foster families
-  280 children (5%) in youth shelters

Prevention

“Plus jamais de Kadogo” [“No more Kadogo”] campaign launched in 2013 in South Kivu, North Kivu and Katanga Provinces and in the Ituri district of Orientale Province.

Communications plan for 2014-2016 drafted.

“La voix de l’enfant” [“The child’s voice”] a television programme featuring child reporters, on the theme of ending violence against children.

Two spokespersons (Noel Ngiamu and former child soldier and writer Junior Nzita) appointed for the *“Plus jamais de Kadogo”* outreach campaign.

“Plus jamais de Kadogo” song launched in 2014.

Fighting impunity

The Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Defence issued a statement in October 2013 announcing that any member of the FADRC or any person joining the FADRC who has committed violations of the rights of the child will be prosecuted.

The Chief Military Prosecutor of the Military High Court instructed the military prosecutors of the military courts of Equateur and South Kivu Provinces to locate, arrest and prosecute for child recruitment Mr Gwiti Muchoma Bahani, Mr Ussama Ndukuche and Mr Marcel Habarugira Rangira, all members of the Nyatura armed group, detained in Ndolo prison.

Mr Gwiti Muchoma Bahani was detained for abduction and conscription of children.

Thomas Lubanga was convicted by the ICC, thanks to the cooperation of the DRC.

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II. Progress achieved by the DRC**2.1 Combating child recruitment**

- ⌋ 46,087 children associated with armed forces or armed groups (CAAFAGs) released from military ranks and returned to normal family and social life;
- ⌋ 15,365 children enrolled in formal education;
- ⌋ 30,722 children enrolled in vocational training;
- ⌋ 208 schools supported;
- ⌋ 417 apprenticeship training organizations supported;
- ⌋ Legislative Ordinance No. 14/022 of 8 July 2014 appointing a Personal Representative to the Head of State on Sexual Violence and Child Recruitment;
- ⌋ Joint Technical Working Group set up between the Government (several ministries, chaired by the Ministry of Defence) and the UN agencies;
- ⌋ Joint Technical Working Group's activities decentralized through provincial-level Joint Technical Working Groups set up in North Kivu, South Kivu and Orientale and in progress in Katanga;

- J Incorporation of the issue of children associated with armed forces or armed groups into the overall DDR III Programme;
- J Joint survey of demobilization on the ground in the DRC, initiated by the Personal Representative and UNICEF;
- J Statement by the Chair of the UN Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict on progress achieved by the DRC during her evaluation visit in December 2014.

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2.2 Combating sexual violence: more than 50 convictions in six months, including of high-ranking officers

- J Rutshuru/October 2014: 10 soldiers and police sentenced to between 14 and 20 years' imprisonment and damages of \$1,000-\$5,000;
- J Masisi/October 2014: 14 soldiers and police sentenced to between 14 and 20 years' imprisonment and damages of \$1,000-\$5,000;
- J Katanga/November 2014: The Deputy Provincial Commissioner of the Congolese National Police, Colonel Nkumu, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment and \$100,000 in damages and dismissal from the police force;
- J Kinshasa/November 2014: the first conviction of an FADRC general, General Kakwavu, a former warlord, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment and \$100,00 in damages;
- J Bukavu/December 2014: conviction of Colonel "106", sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment;
- J Statement, on 16 December 2014, by the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Zainab Hawa Bangura, on the progress achieved by the DRC in fighting impunity for sexual violence;
- J Ministerial Order signed, setting up a steering committee for the FADRC's Action Plan to tackle Sexual Violence;
- J The Head of State funds an operation in South Africa on the little girl Amnazo Abedi, a survivor of sexual violence, and institutional support provided for the HEAL Africa Hospital in Goma;

-) Memorandum of Understanding signed with the *Institut National de Préparation Professionnelle* (INPP) for a feasibility study in Goma on economic reintegration through social and vocational training of victims of violence and demobilized children;
-) 22 convictions of perpetrators of sexual violence in Bunia and Beni expedited;

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-) Judicial decisions convicting rapists publicized and televised, with the cooperation of the Military High Court, the Official Journal, the Office of the Military Prosecutor and independent experts;
-) With government funding via the Office of the Personal Representative, the database of the Office of the Military Prosecutor computerized to maintain statistics on rape cases referred to the Prosecutor;
-) A scientific committee set up for the planting of a memory garden: institutional recognition and exercise in internal national reconciliation for raped women as a result of ten years of “imported” war;
-) Reparations Fund: working group tasked with updating the law and the financial mechanisms for victims of sexual violence;
-) Emergency hotline call centre set up offering legal and medical assistance to victims of sexual violence;
-) Newsletter inventorying and publicizing collective progress by the Congolese authorities and institutions on combating sexual violence and child recruitment.

III. Obstacles

-  Structural reliability of the statistical tool (INS): needs to be stabilized and structured to migrate from a localized system in one ministry to the official national statistical tool of the DRC;
-  Overall policy: communication and visibility of the progress described above in terms of institutional perception (the DRC as the “rape capital”), high unbudgeted costs;
-  Persistent issue of social normalization: economic reintegration of demobilized children and female rape survivors;

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-  In line with government policy: better coordination of interventions and more clarity on partners’ actions, through mapping of NGOs and donors (e.g. the \$106.96 million World Bank project for the Great Lakes Region for 2014-2018, launched after the visit by the President of the World Bank Group and the UN Secretary-General in May 2013, which has an unclear implementation roadmap);
-  Delays in implementing the DDR III Programme;
-  Still fragile security situation in some eastern regions of the country and absolute need to consolidate peace through monitoring of the Great Lakes Region.

IV. Going forward

-) Child soldiers: design a roadmap of priority actions to secure DRC's delisting;
-) Sexual violence: mobilization and more visible advocacy to change public opinion on this issue.

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