



# — 2020

# ANNUAL

# REPORT

## Actionaid DRC

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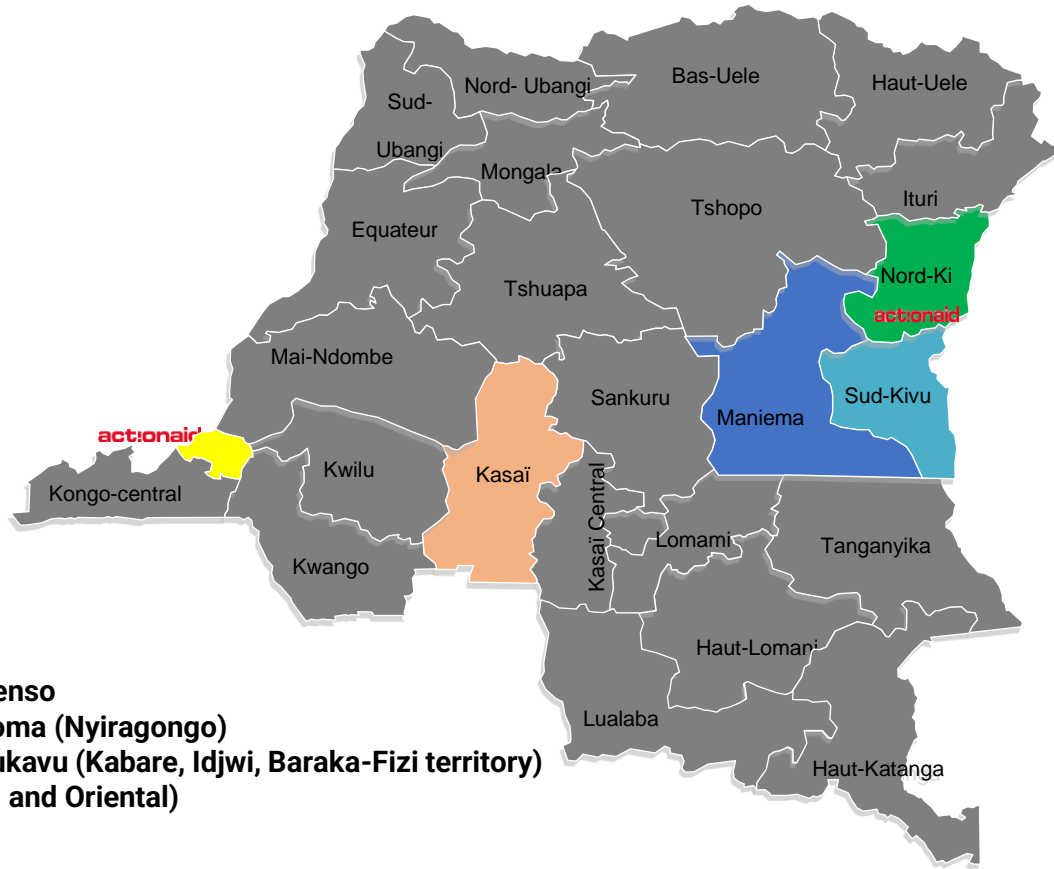
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Where we work  
In RDC



-  Kinshasa, Kisenso
-  North Kivu, Goma (Nyiragongo)
-  South Kivu, Bukavu (Kabare, Idjwi, Baraka-Fizi territory)
-  Kasai (Central and Oriental)

## **Acronyms:**

AAI – Actionaid International

ADMR – Action for the Development of Rural Areas

CMR – Country Model Review

CODEC – Comite de Développement au Congo

CRA – Reflection and Action Circle

DEC – Disasters Emergency Committee

EAFAG – Children Associated to Force and Army Groups

ECHO – European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid

EiE – Education in Emergency

ENA – Unaccompanied children

GBV Gender Based Violence

ICCN – Congolese Institute for the Conservation of Nature

IDPs Internally Displaced Persons

IHART International Humanitarian and Resilience Team (ActionAid International)

LRP –Local Area Program

MFIS – Microfinance Institution.

MUSO – Mutual of Solidarity

PRRP – Program Reflexion and Review Process

PSEA Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

RDC – Democratic Republic of Congo

SGBV Sexual and Gender Based Violence

SHEA Sexual Harassment Exploitation and Abuse

UNHRC – United Nations Human Rights Council

ZS – Health Zone

# CONTEXT

The on-going conflicts in the DRC are causing internal and external displacement of populations and loss of human life; in the provinces of Ituri, Kasai, North and South Kivu 1.8M people were displaced since 2018. In total, there are an estimated 4.8 million IDPs in DRC. The security situation has continued to deteriorate in the eastern DRC, in the provinces of Haut-Katanga, North and South Kivu and Tanganyika, due to incessant fighting between armed groups driven by intercommunal conflict and the army. South Kivu is the second most-affected province by population movement in DRC. Since June 2017, increasing insecurity has caused a rapid increase in displacement, 401,178 IDPs were recorded in 2019 in South Kivu. Fizi is the most affected territory, with a population of 218,073 IDPs and host community population of 1,000,674. The perennial nature of these happenings has made the territory an epicenter for humanitarian needs like Shelter, NFIs, WASH, food, education, and health needs (OCHA DRC, 2019).

In South Kivu, 96% of the displaced people live with host families, sharing food, water, space, and basic services. This results in increased needs and vulnerability of host communities. The entire population is exposed to a serious protection risks due to the resurgence of violence, population movements (internal and from neighboring countries), and risks related to the difficult socio-economic context. Women and girls, from both IDP and host communities are vulnerable to serious protection risks.

The most prominent concern noted was sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) including rape, sexual harassment and exploitation of both women and children. Sexual Violence is extremely prevalent, with 83 cases reported in the last 3 months alone, however most cases are not reported.

Women and girls are exposed to health risks due to lack of hygiene practice and supply. With limited access to water, as well as poor hygiene condition this pose a real threat to woman and girls' health. During the needs' assessment, women respondents, particularly young ones emphasized sanitary kits and modest dressing as their priority needs.

In the Eastern province of the Republic Democratic of Congo, communities live in a very advanced situation of vulnerability with huge gaps accentuated by negative impact of COVID-19 on all dimensions such as the economic downturn, low food supply, no access to urban areas and neighboring countries yet the Island of Idjwi and Baraka community are landlocked and still requires commercial collaboration with neighbors to the survival of its population.

Given these imminent needs due to COVID-19 which has hit the whole world since the beginning of March 2020 until today, plunging the population into total misery and more particularly that of South Kivu province.

Within its mandate to respond to urgent needs resulting from population movements in areas of conflict and life-threatening situations targeting the most affected people including host families, IDPs, returnees, refugees, pygmies and most particularly women and girls; Actionaid DRC with the support from different donors and Actionaid International, throughout the year 2020 provide assistant in General Protection, Child Protection, Integrated Education in Emergency Programme

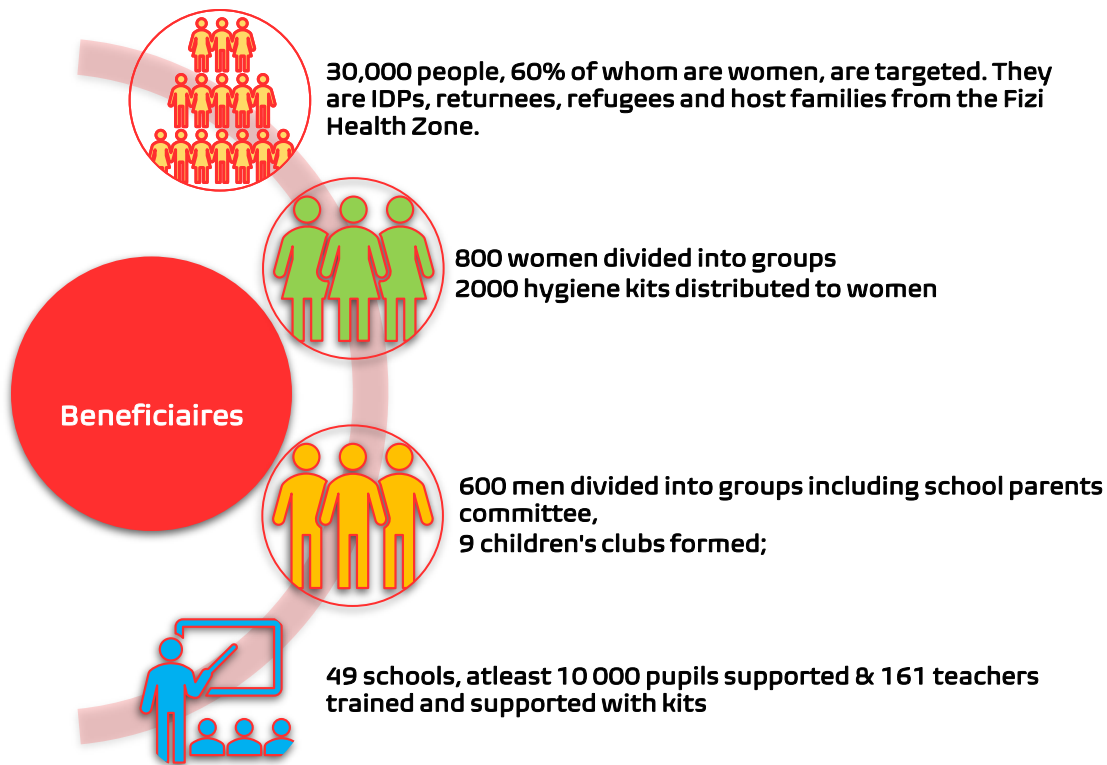
Moreover, Actionaid DRC provided support against the Corona Virus pandemic reaching out to at least 39500 people through different interventions including community and radio awareness raising, distribution of hygiene kits, capacity building of teachers and parents, and support the implementation of PCI interventions and activities in schools.



## Key contextual factors and how they impacted our work:

- Difficulty in containing the COVID-9 outbreak resulting in AAIDRC inability to effectively implement activities.
- Increased security risk and militia activities in the area limits the mobility of staff to undertake project activities and access to beneficiaries.
- Repeated attacks on the local population and fighting in other parts of the country will result in an increase in the number of IDPs and create difficulties in maintaining an appropriate response capacity.
- Traditional and cultural practices that limits people of concern especially women's access and control over economic resources like land, credit and extension services.
- Community inhibits the visibility of women and adolescent girls including disclosure of GBV issues.

# Achievement



## Lessons learnt.

- To guard the reputation of the ActionAid federation, there is the need for federation leadership to provide adequate oversight over country programmes even as the countries are allowed sufficient autonomy to define and implement their priorities.
- AA DRC made considerable efforts were made to turn around its deplorable situation with focused priorities on financial sustainability, programme quality and impact, effective team with motivated and skilled personnel and visibility at all levels.
- The ability to draw on support and expertise of the country program in the region to quickly respond to crises is an asset that the federation should continue to build upon.
- The operational context of where programmes are implemented is not only insecure but expensive. Cost of doing business in DRC is very high due to lack of infrastructure and vast nature of the country.
- Despite political instability witnessed in the country where general elections were postponed on two occasions, AA DRC implemented its interventions with less disruption. Clarity of organizational mandate with a clear contingency plan contributed to this.
- There exist opportunities for fundraising especially for interventions in disaster prone areas.

## How we are changing lives and livelihoods across the Federation

### ActionAid provides emergency support to people affected by the impact of COVID-19.

In the South-Kivu province of the Republic Democratic of Congo precisely Bukavu town, territories of Kabare and Idjwi communities live in a very advanced situation of vulnerability with huge gaps accentuated by the impact of Covid-19 and prevention measures raised. The COVID-19 had negatively impacted community life on all dimensions such as the economic downturn, low food supply, no access to urban areas and neighbouring countries yet the Island of Idjwi is landlocked and still requires commercial collaboration with neighbours to the survival of its population. Actionaid promotes women led protection and resilience livelihood by empowering and integrating women in our response and provide training on COVID prevention and alert of GBV cases, SHEA and safeguarding, distribution of food and certified seeds to reduce the impact of COVID-19.

# COVID-19 RESPONSE



**Vulnerable groups were targeted and reached in the response including widowed-responsible for households, the elderly, people living with disabilities, orphans, and young girls.**

## Protection

- Training of 30 focal points / women on prevention and management of GBV cases
- Logistical support for 30 women to document, report and refer cases of SGBV
- Logistical support to 15 women's groups to sensitize community members to the prevention and response to SGBV in the context of COVID-19
- Distribution of covid-19 prevention kits to 400 households
- Radio broadcasts

## Education

- Training 334 school teachers and directors on compliance with barrier measures against covid-19 in schools
- Support for schools with prevention kits
- Distribution of school uniform to 800 vulnerable children and pygmy families
- Disinfection and fumigation of classroom blocks and school latrines 15 communities to reduce the risk of infection when schools reopen

## Health

- Support 28 health structures with COVID-19 prevention kits and referral system.
- Distribution of dignity kits to 2400 women

## Food Security

- Food distribution to 700 householders
- Distribution of certified seeds to 400 farmer households

# Women's leadership and empowerment in our responses

ActionAid believes in three key aspects to achieve good results and to reduce poverty including women led protection, accountability, sustainable and resilient livelihood. Throughout our response to COVID-19, ActionAid organized capacity building activities and empowered women in communication and transformative leadership, community dialogues on Gender, positive masculinity, women's political participation and freedom of expression. The challenges are the illiteracy of some women, backward cultures and customs, lack of trust among women but ActionAid used a different approach strategy to sensitize and promote women participation and women community led engagement.



## Women-led protection

Shifting power targeting women and inclusion of affected people to claim for their right is key to long term resilience<sup>1</sup>



I am a farmer and depend only on country products for the whole survival.

Sometimes I used to go out to the neighboring country, Rwanda, to buy tomatoes and resells at the Musheke market. I started this business when I got the support from a fund on the income generating activities formerly given by ActionAid to support women's groups. I also used to farm to support my family's needs, it's not easy when you do it as a single mother with no other support.

- NASAFARI Pascaline, 56 Years old

by her condition, she is a widow. She lives with her 11 children. All were afraid when they learned how COVID-19 is raging the worldwide. She is very happy for this training and empowerment of women supported by ActionAid.

NASAFARI added: "It was desperate when borders were closed, and no one can cross to buy goods, we were obliged to use our store of seed that were reserve for the next seasons. Today, I am very happy and thank ActionAid for these trainings and empowerment of women in leadership, which is helping us as women to lead and engage into teaching our children and community members how to protect themselves against Corona virus and fight against GBV and protection issues in our communities. I also benefited with agricultural seeds to carry on my activity as a farmer; I have harvested once and was able to stock some seeds for the next season. Today I can provide for my children."

<sup>1</sup> <https://stories.actionaid.org/?r=251404>

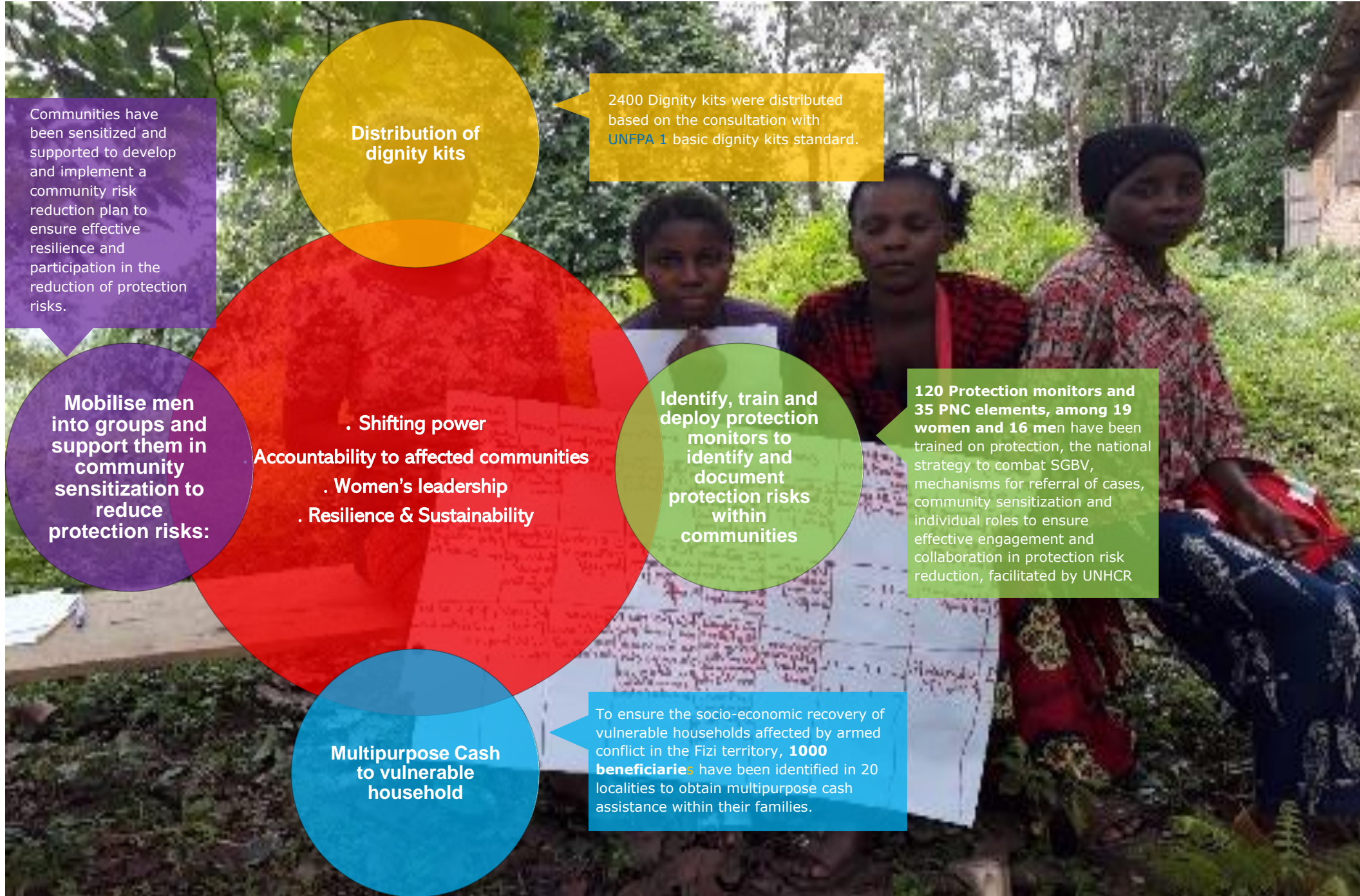


# Priority 1:

Enhance security, dignity, and empowerment of persons of concern to reduce protection risk.

**FOCUS  
AREA 1**

*Strengthen community-based protection mechanisms to reduce protection risks.*



## Distribution of dignity kits

2400 Dignity kits were distributed based on the consultation with **UNFPA 1** basic dignity kits standard.

Communities have been sensitized and supported to develop and implement a community risk reduction plan to ensure effective resilience and participation in the reduction of protection risks.

**Mobilise men into groups and support them in community sensitization to reduce protection risks:**

- . Shifting power
- . Accountability to affected communities
- . Women's leadership
- . Resilience & Sustainability

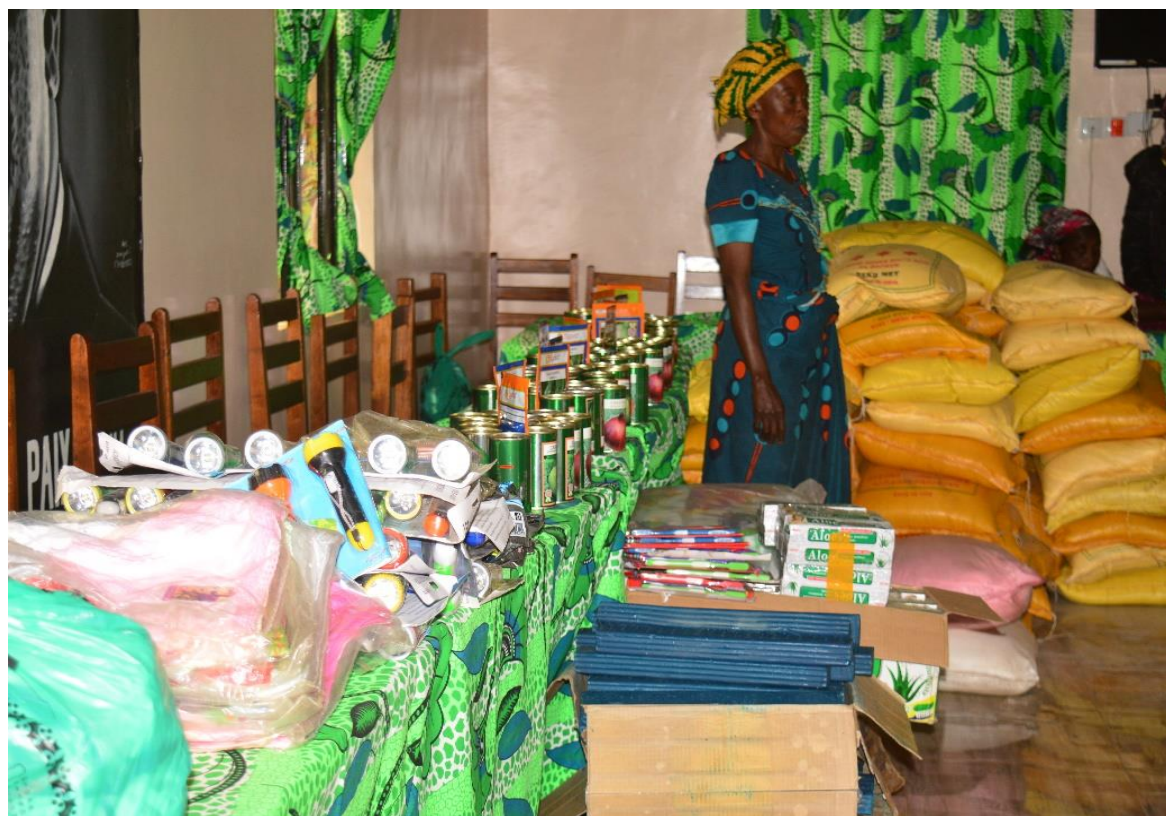
**Identify, train and deploy protection monitors to identify and document protection risks within communities**

**120 Protection monitors and 35 PNC elements, among 19 women and 16 men** have been trained on protection, the national strategy to combat SGBV, mechanisms for referral of cases, community sensitization and individual roles to ensure effective engagement and collaboration in protection risk reduction, facilitated by UNHCR

**Multipurpose Cash to vulnerable household**

To ensure the socio-economic recovery of vulnerable households affected by armed conflict in the Fizi territory, **1000 beneficiaries** have been identified in 20 localities to obtain multipurpose cash assistance within their families.

# \*Distribution of dignity kits to 2400 women and girls



## In accordance with the IASC Guidelines on Safe Distribution in the Context of COVID-19 and the UNFPA<sup>2</sup> Minimum Standard for the Prevention and Response to GBV in Emergencies

In view of the dire consequences of COVID-19, many households in Idjwi had become very vulnerable and highly exposed to infectious diseases due to a lack of humanitarian assistance.

ActionAid with the mission of eradicating poverty, 400 young women and girls aged 12-18 who are pregnant or vulnerable were selected based on their degree of vulnerability to benefit from the Dignity Kits (soaps, women's underwear, torch, toothpaste, toothbrush, and life jacket) for safety in the context of COVID-19 and the prevention of GBV in emergency situations as well as the Prevention and Control of Infections (IPC).



**Kabare**  
**250 Women**



**Idjwi**  
**150 Women**



**Fizi**  
**2000 Women**

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.unfpa.org/resources/unfpa-basic-dignity-kit>

## Training the National Police of Congo:

35 PNC elements, among 19 women and 16 men have been trained on protection, the national strategy to combat SGBV, mechanisms for referral of cases, community sensitization and individual roles to ensure effective engagement and collaboration in protection risk reduction, facilitated by UNHCR and INTERSOS.



## Multipurpose Cash to vulnerable household

To ensure the socio-economic recovery of vulnerable households affected by armed conflict in the Fizi territory, **1000 beneficiaries** have been identified in 20 localities to obtain multipurpose cash assistance within their families.



## Mobilise men into groups and support them in community sensitization to reduce protection risks:

The number of cases of communal violence continues to increase in the province of South Kivu in general and in the territory of Fizi in particular. The population of Fizi remains more affected by armed conflict and violence.

Communities have been sensitized and supported to develop and implement a community risk reduction plan to ensure effective resilience and participation in the reduction of protection risks.

As the session was participatory, members generally listed the risks below:

- High drop-out rate at secondary school level due to school fees.
- Recruitment of children into armed groups and militias.
- The involvement of children in artisanal fishing activities on Lake Tanganyika and mineral digging.
- Presence of cases of sexual violence provoked by armed groups.
- Early marriages/pregnancies due to girls dropping out of school.
- Inadequate health facilities in some areas, resulting in women having abortions following late consultations and poor medical care.
- Inadequate latrines in some schools, leading to illnesses such as diarrhea.
- Bridges and floods causing deaths in the rainy season.



**Setting up accountability mechanism:**

*To ensure accountability in the communities; complaints and feedback boxes have been installed in the 20 communities of intervention of the project including the Toll-free number publicized, promoted, and distributed widely in the communities.*

Actionaid is working with 120 protection monitors trained and equipped with android phones to report protection cases through Actionaid's online system and establish referral systems to ensure that persons with specific needs have access to relevant service providers.

**NUMERO VERT**



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**Training and logistical support to 30 focal points / women on prevention and management of GBV cases in Kabare**  
*Document, report and refer cases of SGBV.*

Women led humanitarian response and empowerment of Women to build capacity on resilience, report, referral of protection cases and supported with alert kits.

The participants received training on the prevention of COVID-19, integration of Protection and Control of Infections (PCI) lessons in school curriculum and strict compliance with barrier measures in schools.



**Priority 2:**

**Increase access to safe and quality learning environment for all children especially those affected by conflict.**

*Education In Emergency & Child Protection interventions combine efforts to create cohesive and holistic programmes supporting learners and their caregivers and meaningfully respond and mitigate protection risks.*

Access to secondary education is extremely limited, both for nationals and refugees. Lack of secondary education opportunities would put young Burundian refugees at risk of forced recruitment, sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation. Thanks to its comprehensive response, UNHCR, through its partner ACTIONAID, supports preschool supervision, access to primary and secondary education, and the integration of Burundian refugee children into the national education system through the **Project of support for access to and maintenance of quality education for Burundian refugee children from Lusenda and Mulongwe in the Territory of Fizi / Province of South Kivu.**



**The community in Fizi territory benefited from different assistance in EiE under the project supported by the EU Humanitarian Aid and UNHCR in Fizi territory, which covers 20 community and supporting 20 schools and two refugee's camps and identification of ENA and EAFAG for socio-economic and school reintegration under FHRC's financial support in Minembwe, Salamabila and Lusangi ZS. The support included:**



- **Rehabilitation of 2 primary schools**  
12 classrooms and 5 latrines  
2,345 students including 1,330 girls and 1,015 boys have access to improved learning facilities at the Ngombe Mulolwa and Afulo Primary Schools.



- **Payment of fees in favor of 9 primary schools for the 2019-2020 school year including 1749 Burundian refugee students including 839 girls and 910 boys**



- **334 teachers received teaching and learning kits including from refugees' schools in Mulongwe and Lusenda camps in Fizi territory and Kabare territory.**



- **Support 1,800 preschool refugee children (3 to 5 years old) 950 girls and 850 boys and Power porridge food in Mulongwe and Lusenda camps in Fizi territory.**



- **10940 children benefited from school kits and uniforms including 3,120 girls and 2,880 boys in 20 communities of Fizi territory supported by ECHO, 1824 refugee students in Lusenda and Mulongwe camps (863 in primary and 1824 in secondary schools) supported by UNHCR, 500 in Kabare and 300 in Idjwi.**



- **200 members of Parents' Committees (80 women and 120 men) trained and support to implement the community protection plan and interventions including COVID-19 prevention.**



- **22 community sensitizations on the importance of education.**  
Reached out to 15420 people, 8173 of whom were women and 7247 men.



- **20 children's clubs established and supported and Provide catch-up and bridge for classes for IDPs, survivors, orphans and out of school children.**



- **Support 6572 élèves réfugiés in primary school dans le Mulongwe and Lusenda campus in Fizi territoire**



- **Strengthening 20 School committees**  
**On the development of school improvement and risk prevention plans.**

**Actionaid DRC has increased access to education for over 15,000 children especially IDPs, returnees and refugees through provision of gender responsive and safe school infrastructure, training of teachers and parents' committees and provision of teaching and materials.**

To ensure a quality and protective basic education environment, support for teachers, directors, and children, finally to enforce prevention and safety measures based on the directives and statements of the government in the face of COVID-19 in the environment school.

*Working with 68 school partners.*

<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Bukavu</b>	<b>Kabare</b>	<b>Idjwi</b>	<b>Kisenso</b>	<b>Fizi</b>



## FOCUS AREA 2

### Strengthen community-based child protection mechanisms.

#### Provision and Running Child Care Spaces as part of the Multi-Purpose Safe Spaces

In 2 Multipurpose Centres built in Baraka and Fizi; South-Kivu province, a well-equipped space is reserved for children for the organisation of play activities and awareness raising on children's rights.

#### Conduct Community awareness raising on child rights, the risk of Early Marriage, Sexual exploitation

A community mobilisation campaign was organised in 4 of the project's intervention localities to close the 16 days of activism, during which we emphasised the approach of "the place of women in relation to retrograde customs, opportunities for employability". The aim was to strengthen the knowledge of community members on human rights and the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence to (i) inform the community on the different forms of SGBV, (ii) break the false habits practiced in the customs that are the source of violence, (iii) raise awareness among men and women on behaviour change, (iv) present the roles of women in community development.

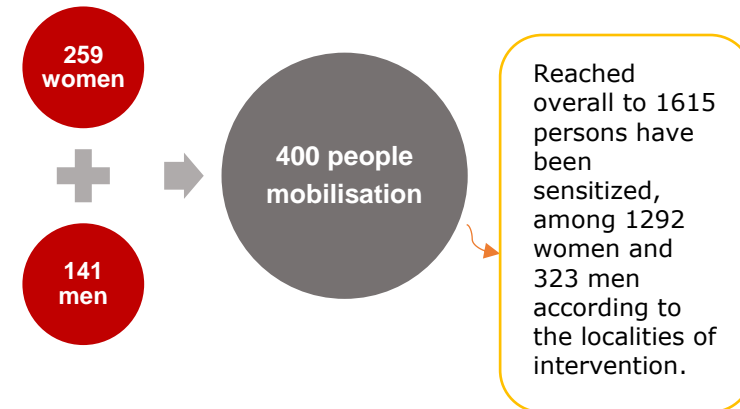
#### Distribution of Hygiene Kits to Vulnerable Children

300 dignity kits were distributed to vulnerable pupils in 20 partner schools in Fizi to improve the health and hygiene conditions of girls affected by community violence.



#### Provision of transitional support for unaccompanied children

We conducted 6 community awareness sessions on the identification of children at risk of community protection, focusing on unaccompanied children and the search for families who can temporarily welcome them in the communities. In order to support the transitional foster families of children at risk, including unaccompanied and/or separated children, a support envelope has been granted to families who have volunteered to house these children pending their reunification with their biological families. For this first phase, 210 children are already assigned to the FATs, among 172 are unaccompanied children, 32 separated children and 6 from armed groups. We are in constant contact with the monitors, village chiefs and community leaders in order to locate the biological families of these children.



#### Referral of SGBV cases

In collaboration with the Fizi Health Zone, a capacity-building workshop for healthcare providers on the psychosocial care of survivors of sexual violence. 40 nurses participated, including 15 women and 25 men. In the training, the following sub-themes were developed: The rights of victims of sexual violence, the needs of SGBV victims, the consequences of rape, and the stages of counselling. Through the development of participatory methods, the participants found the organised session very useful and promised to put it into practice and above all to improve their skills in providing psychosocial assistance to survivors of sexual violence. They subsequently suggested that holistic care should be developed for a comprehensive response to victims.

# Priority 3:

Establish and strengthen sustainable resilient livelihood support systems.

FOCUS  
AREA 1

Build community based sustainable and resilient livelihood program.

## Food Security



ActionAid DRC responds to urgent humanitarian needs and prevent famine in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Fizi Territory of the DRC. The interventions aimed at saving lives and building resilience to reduce the impact of COVID 19 on the lives of people of concern in the Minembwe and Nundu Health Zones of the Fizi Territory, Kabare and Idjwi territory in the South Kivu province. **4664 persons** benefited from the response including 1,510 IDPs, 407 host families and 320 returnees. 1,520 households in Minembwe health zone and 717 households in Nundu Health Zone benefited from the project.





## \*Food distribution to 2900 householders including IDPs, Returnees and Host families

### *Minembwe, Nundu, Idjwi and Kabare*

Actionaid response ensured the inclusion and accountability to most vulnerable affected groups including widows, the elderly, people living with disabilities, orphans and young girls and benefited from certified and nutritious food products (Corn flour, Bean, Rice, Salt, and vegetable oil).

Communities are involved in targeting of beneficiaries, in decision making and post distribution period.

A notice board was installed in the communities to track the indicators; complain and feedback boxes secured by 3 padlocks (1 for ActionAid, 1 for women representative or protection monitor and 1 for community representative) including ActionAid free tool free line to receive and manage complain cases.

“

Before this distribution I and my children already had two days without eating due to

lack of means, but thanks to ACTIONAID, we received food and spent two weeks eating 2 to 3 times a day. We plead for this kind of activities to be perpetual in times of crisis, seeing my physical condition it is hard to meet the need for my children.

- Said Mrs. Yvone Bagalwa, aged 31, stays in Kabare territory, blind by her condition, a beggar and mother of 3 children.

## \*Distribution of certified seeds to 2150 farmer households.



To Contribute to the production of market garden products during the period of the Covid-19 pandemic, 1500 households in Nundu, 500 in Kabare and 150 in Idjwi benefited from certified seeds (cauliflower, white cabbages and red onions) including active members in the CRA.

“

The seeds of cauliflower, white cabbage and red onions received as a farmer were very productive and now I intend to harvest the cabbages and see how to sell to cover certain needs of my children including the payment of school fees to my 3 children in secondary school.

— In Kabare territory, Mr MUHIGIRHWA JEROME, 65 years old and father of 8 children.

## \*Support 10 health structures with COVID-19 prevention kits

With the objective of strengthening preventive measures against COVID-19 in community health structures, a package in kits including buckets, taps, liquid soaps, disinfectants, and mufflers was distributed to health structures in the territories of Idjwi, Kabare and city of Bukavu.

2

### Bukavu

CS Lumu et Hospitalier  
résurrection de Panzi

3

### Kabare

CS. Cirunga ; CS Karhwamulamba ;  
CS Compétence

5

### Idjwi

Kasihe, Mpene, Nyakalengwa,  
Mugote/Lubuye, Kisiza



*Mrs Mwamini and members of his women's group giving porridge to children attacked by poor nutrition.*

*@ At the Women Safe space constructed by Actionaid in Nyiragongo territory, Goma.*



## PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURE RESILIENT TO CLIMATE CHANGE FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE

Support for the Forum of Women Farmers in the Nyiragongo territory of North Kivu province, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

To promote women's economic empowerment, the CCRA provided training in three areas, including soap making for 20 women, sewing for 10 women and bag making for 20 women. These women were selected collectively by the 14 groups. The identification of the trade which was based on market research to ensure the availability of the market for the products to be manufactured has proven to be successful because all the women who have taken the training are doing well. At the end of the training, the women received kits to start economic activities.

The overall objective is to increase women's access to and control over land and promote public services that respond to gender in a sustainable environment.

### Key actions:

- Increased conservation of land and forest reserves
- Indigenous women small-scale farmers increase their participation in agricultural governance and decision-making, and acquire increased resilience and skills related to land use and production
- Support for 800 women farmers
- Response to COVID-19 to minimize the primary and secondary impact of the pandemic targeting 200 households.



I have lived in the village of KIBATI, Nyiragongo territory since 1980 and I am engaged in agricultural

activities. In 1994, I had pain in my left hand when I went to see the doctor, I was told that there was no other solution than to amputate my hand. It was so painful to receive this news and to know that I was going to lose a hand. I lost hope and self-esteem and thought I was going to be good for nothing. After the operation, I spent a long time doing nothing and living miserably with my 8 children. Although disabled, I decided that I had to get up and do something for the survival of my children. I started doing agricultural work, but my condition was morally disintegrated. I joined the group of women farmers of Tujitegemee (group supported by ActionAid). The band members were so nice to me. I felt loved and considered, which helped me regain my esteem. I was trained in new agricultural techniques and received beans and hoes. We have also been made aware of environmental protection since we live near the Virunga National Park. We are committed to using new agricultural techniques for a better harvest, most of us can no longer rely on the national park for a living. We are equipped to behave differently for the preservation of nature. It is still not easy for me to fully practice agriculture, especially when it comes to preparing the land and planting, but my daughters and a few members of the group are helping me. "



@On the right side

- **SAFI BITITA**, a 50-year-old disabled widow with 8 children (4 boys and 4 girls).

## FOCUS AREA 2

### *Promote assets recovery and diversification.*

Support refugee leadership to ensure continuous communication and interaction on the purpose of the program to promote the concept of self-reliance.

#### Access to financial services (formal and informal)

20 refugees join 3 cooperatives and microfinance institutions (MFIs) under 5 service agreements which benefited to 200 refugees though a Protection and Durable Solutions project linked to the empowerment of urban refugees in Kinshasa.

Statistics:

- ✓ 20 Number of refugees benefiting from programs accessing formal employment.
- ✓ 21 Number of young people trained

#### Access to self-employment / entrepreneurship

- ✓ Formation of 1 refugee groups according to the chosen livelihood activity, gender, and location
- ✓ Capacity building of 42 group leaders on group dynamics, leadership, development of group resolutions, networking, and collaboration.
- ✓ Support groups to establish a revolving savings and credit system to increase the support received to start their livelihood activities as well as to instill the habit of saving.
- ✓ Support refugees to develop a business plan and 63 implementation of livelihood interventions

#### Access to training and learning

- ✓ Sensitize 428 refugees to the objective of the empowerment support program (difference compared to consumable assistance) and to the advantage of financial and economic inclusion in the Congolese system.
- ✓ Training of 9 monitors on market access to identify income-generating activities that can be carried out depending on the current market situation

#### Provision of cash grants or vouchers by sector

- ✓ Training 100 refugees with specific needs and supported in cash / livelihood vouchers / Focus indicator on livelihoods / Focus indicator

# Reflexion and Learning

In 2020



Shifting the power has been among Actionaid signature, community member should be on the frontline of our responses including women and young people to ensure effective engagement and long-term change and development.

Actionaid uses every opportunity to address humanitarian crises and shift power relationships in favor of people living in poverty and exclusion, particularly women by implementing emergency programmes from transformation feminist and development principles to build resilience of affected people to ensure long term gains.

Our intervention therefore supports people of concern with dignity kits including IDPs, host families, returnees and most vulnerable women and girls to improve the living conditions, protect their dignity and promote the effective hygiene practices.

The lessons learned in different activities are among others:

- **Shifting power** targeting women and inclusion of affected people to claim for their right is key to long term **resilience**.
- Local authorities, media and youth and women's groups and are a great force for **community behavior change**.
- Need to adapt project activities to the current **socio-economic and political context** of the country and the scope of the project which changes from day to day.
- **Accountability** reinforce the acceptance, engagement, and participation of the community in our responses.

@Women's group representative leading the distribution of dignity kits in Fizi Territory.

## Child Sponsorship

Actionaid through the CS program has supported over 10000 children in the LRP and constructed / rehabilitated over 10 schools including EP MALINDE, EP MUGOTE, EP NYABUNYUNI, EP GORHO, EP KISIZA, EP BUSHAKE, EP KISIZA; construction of a multi-vocation youth center in KASHARA, supporting women groups through literacy, raising awareness of children's rights in schools, resilient and sustainable livelihood (farming, agriculture, seed endowment), training in cutting and sewing and equipment for sewing machines in the CRAs, GBV case management, awareness against pandemics and epidemics.

Actionaid DRC is phase out Child sponsorship program from 2020 to 2022. As part of the CMR processes, a clear phase out plan and communication strategies are being rolled out to ensure smooth transition from child sponsorship-based programming to project led programming with minimum impact on programs, communities, and territories.

AA DRC will continue to interact with local authorities, protection monitors and community facilitators and community structures to exchange information on humanitarian issues affecting the areas. Protection monitors and women groups will be supported to work with service providers under the leadership of UNFPA to respond to women protection risk. AA DRC will set up a complaints and feedback mechanism which will include the running of a toll-free line. This will enable the CP to receive complaints and cases from communities thereby maintaining regular communication with communities and service providers.

### Key Actions:

- ✓ Servicing and maintaining existing links through innovative processes to ensure smooth phaseout.
- ✓ Engage children and communities to develop clear phase out and communication plan for phase-out.
- ✓ Put in place measures in communities to ensure AA DRCs visibility and continuity after child sponsorship phase-out.

The various activities implemented by the program in 2020, in particular:

- Emergency COVID-19 response,
- Supporting 14 women's groups
- The improvement of the school environment for the protection of the child, including the rehabilitation of schools.
- Child protection: Awareness children right in schools.
- Support women's activities for the integration of Pygmy women into the community.
- Awareness raising against SBVG,
- Training of 10 women on the prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence
- Supporting 136 households with COVID-19 prevention kits to promote good practices.
- Supporting the Police National Congolese in logistics to meet community demand for SBVG and training.

As part of accountability process, a PRRP was conducted in September 2020 to deepen community's understanding of the transitional processes of the Child sponsorship program phase out, evaluate the impact of the program, gaps and collect recommendations from local authorities, individuals, genre-based focus groups to ensure planned program addresses and responds to people's humanitarian needs for the next year 2021.

To response to the impact of COVID-19 in the community, Actionaid reallocated some of the activities within the framework of an emergency to provide aid including awareness raising, distribution and prevention against Covid-19, promoting women-led protection, resilience, and livelihood interventions.



@Before rehabilitations



@After rehabilitations

The construction EP MUBALE was finalized before the school year 2020-2021, to accommodate students, unlike the period before the rehabilitation. Currently, the school has reached an enrollment of 547 students including 291 girls and 256 boys while in March 2020 there were only 329 students, thus: a positive difference of 218.

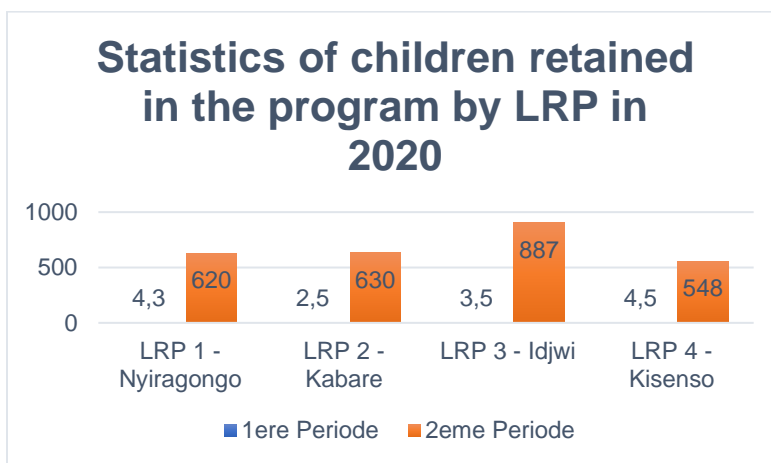


I warmly thank Actionaid and its partner because it is from their contribution to them that we have this building, and our schoolchildren are already interested in this school. There was a disgust for some when they were in clay classrooms, it even drove others to drop out of school. They are already back. God bless our sponsors and AAI.  
**- The principal KABUMBA RUHAMBUZA did not hide his feeling of satisfaction at the sight of what has just been done for his school.**



The student NABWINJA, an albino by his condition, was not indifferent to this gesture made in favor of their school. She puts it this way: "I continue to study at EP MUBALE in the 4th year. Our school has been rehabilitated by Actionaid; I sincerely say thank you to the sponsors who donate the funds".

**- NABWINJA**, student, an albino by his condition.



# Human resource

ActionAid DRC promotes and guarantees diversity and equality based on gender inclusion and capacity building of staff, encourage sharing experience and participation in cluster.

Regular trainings are therefore organized for staff on fraud awareness within and outside the organization and Actionaid policies are translated into French an English including the SHEA and Safeguarding, Anti-Bribery and Anti-corruption, Anti – Terrorism Financing, Staff Health and Safety Directive in the context of COVID-19 and the Code of conduct.



## Country Information

Country Information	Description	Women	Men	Total
<b>Staff Numbers</b>	Full Time	6	20	26
	Senior Leadership Team (SLT, SMT, CMT)	1	5	6
<b>Number of Partners we support</b>	3 (ADMR, Rhuheke Kuguma and CODEC)			

# Finance

A funding strategy based on clear local and national funding plans is developed to grow our funding in innovative and sustainable ways to achieve our strategy. A Business Development/Fundraising. AA DRC is committed to diversifying its income streams to ensure diverse sources of funding and audience for financial sustainability.

ActionAid DRC collaborate with the IHART, Global Secretariat and the DRC Working Group to mobilize resources through cost saving mechanisms and direct support to implement its strategy.

AA DRC beliefs that gender inequality and poverty alleviation can be achieved not only with the affected people but also with allies and other groups interested in the issue at stake.

AA DRC continue to support geographic expansion as an essential part of adjusting to a fast-changing nation, helping us to secure the resources, partnerships, skills, and political influence to achieve our strategic ambitions.

## Partnerships

International			
#	Donors	Sector	Health Zone
1.	ECHO <sup>3</sup>	General Protection, Child Protection & Education in Emergency	Fizi territory (20 communities), province du Sud Kivu
2.	FHRDC <sup>4</sup>	General Protection, Child Protection & GBV	ZS de Minembwe /Territoire de Fizi, province du Sud Kivu et ZS de Saramabila et Lusangi/Territoire de Kabambare, Province de Maniema
3.	UNHRC <sup>5</sup>	Education	Fizi territory, province du Sud Kivu
4.	UNHRC	Protection et solution mixte	Kinshasa province
5.	AVAAZ <sup>6</sup>	Emergency response against COVID-19	Minembwe and Nundu Health Zones of the Fizi Territory, province du Sud Kivu
6.	DEC <sup>7</sup>	Emergency response against COVID-19	Fizi Territory, province du Sud Kivu
7.	Packard Foundation	Resilience and Livelihood	Nyiragongo Territory, province du North Kivu
8.	AAI Italy, AA UK, Global Secretariat, IHART and AA Centers of Support	Child sponsorship program. Communication and diversify funding. Financial management. Capacity building.	All country program support
Local partners			
1.	Rhuheke Kuguma	Idjwi Territory, province du Sud Kivu	Child sponsorship, General protection, SGBV, Resilience and Livelihood
2.	ADMR	Kabare, Territory, province du Sud Kivu	
3.	CODEC	Kisenso Territory, province du Sud Kivu	

<sup>3</sup> <https://europa.eu>

<sup>4</sup> <https://chfdrc.unocha.org>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.unhcr.org>

<sup>6</sup> <https://avaaz.org>

<sup>7</sup> <https://dec.org.uk>

# Actionaid DRC

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