

# MONTHLY UPDATE 1 TO 31 AUGUST 2011

## **Highlights:**

- Launch of USAID and PBF-funded programme in support of DDR of residual elements.
- Turmoil in Masisi Territory (NK) following nomination of Col. Zabuloni as PNC Chief of Staff.
- DSRSG/RC/HC Fidèle Sarassoro launched a bio-economy project in South Kivu.
- MONUSCO Military Engineering Conference confirmed planning of road rehabilitation priorities and upcoming interventions in Eastern DRC.

LOCATIONS: NK North Kivu; SK South Kivu; IT Ituri; REG Eastern DRC

#### COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING SECURITY

#### Launch of reintegration activities of residual elements

NK SK

- The GoDRC has finally approved to resume reintegration activities for 750 former combatants.
- As a result, UNDP's "socio-economic profiling" activities have started and 51 centers should be operational by mid September in four provinces: NK, SK, Maniema and Oriental Province. To date, a caseload of 321 benefited from vocational training to sustaining livelihood activities.
- The 3,250 former combatants who joined the DDR process voluntarily will most probably be redirected towards the MONUSCO-UNDP "regroupement" centers, once their actual numbers are assessed by the GoDRC.

Background: Notwithstanding the approval of the project by the Ministry of Defense (MoD) in December 2010, fully funded by USAID (US\$ 4m) and by the Peacebuilding fund (US\$ 630,000), the launch of the activities eventually entailed lengthy negotiations between MONUSCO, USAID, UNDP and the GoDRC: the MoD had expressed reserves to reopen of the reintegration process to the "residual elements" and the potential new negotiations this exercise may lead to.

#### **COMPONENT 2: SUPPORT TO POLITICAL PROCESSES**

**NSTR** 

#### **COMPONENT 3: RESTORATION OF STATE AUTHORITY**

#### Clashes in Masisi territory following appointment of new PNC chief of staff

NK

The security situation seriously deteriorated in Masisi territory, following the appointment by the PNC *Inspecteur Général* (IG) of former CNDP combatant, Col. Zabuloni as PNC territorial chief of staff, and his deployment to the newly constructed ISSS PNC Commissariat.

- Following some population discontent and shootouts, Col. Zabuloni and his men
  withdrew to Lushebere, where they have established a new *Etat-major*. A new chief of
  staff was appointed by the IG, and is to be shortly deployed.
- It was reported that these tensions, originated by ethnic allegiances of local population, were influenced by political agendas. On the eve of presidential elections, the situation is being closely monitored by the UNPOL and the CLAs.

Comment: This appointment by the PNC hierarchy raised several issues with regard to the conditionality aspects: following allegations of human-rights abuses against several new appointees in the law enforcement services, it was advised that all high-ranked personnel appointed to the new ISSSS facilities should be screened in advance.

#### **Integrated Border Management: first trans-border training**

SK

- IOM organized a two-day workshop aiming at introducing principles of Integrated Border Management (IBM) and at enhancing regional and trans-border cooperation.
- Officials from DRC, Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania decided to establish a multinational Steering Committee to design and implement SOPs for international agencies coordination in the areas of migrations, customs, law enforcement, and phyto-sanitary inspections.

Background: This first initiative in CEPGL-countries was conducted in the framework of the project in support of the establishment of the DRC Border Police, funded by the US Department of State.

#### Hand-over of new infrastructures to provincial authorities

IT REG

- UNOPS has officially handed-over to Ituri authorities, an administrative building and a Police station in Bogoro; this last step, marks the successful completion of infrastructures by UNOPS in NK and Ituri, with a 100% of planned facilities handed-over to provincial authorities.
- In addition, following facilities were handed-over this month by UNOPS: a) in <u>Fizi</u>, a PNC station and *Tribunal de Paix*; b) in <u>Shabunda</u>, a *Tribunal de Paix*; c) In <u>Bunyakiri</u>: a prison and an administrative building, and d) in Baraka, a PNC station.

Comment: Notwithstanding the notable progress in hardware construction and rehabilitation, concerns remain in ensuring that state personnel is trained, deployed, and benefits from adequate remuneration. Given the delays in the decentralization process and its related budgetary considerations, the STAREC coordination team is advocating for extraordinary allocations from the national budget. In this respect, a recent joint UN-GoDRC exercise assessed the situation in the field and structured the data for around these financial projections (see below).

#### Census of deployed personnel to ISSSS facilities

NK

- A joint assessment UN-GoDRC, led by the Joint Monitoring Teams and the SSU was initiated in July and conducted during this month in NK, SK and Ituri with a view to assessing the "software" in ISSSS-constructed facilities, and to collect data necessary for the extra-budgetary funds to be requested to the GoDRC.
- In NK, data collected from 554 civil servants and law enforcement personnel working in the 42 new facilities NK confirmed serious shortages, notably:
- Training: only half of the civilian trained personnel under the ISSS/STAREC was effectively deployed to ISSSS-constructed facilities, and 35% for the police elements.
- Deployment: The major challenges are met in the penal chain, as only 5% of necessary

- staff was deployed to judicial and correction institutions.
- Benefits: most worrisome, only 18% of civil servants were regularly remunerated, with a higher rate for the police officers, with approximately 85% currently paid.

### **COMPONENT 4: RETURN, REINTEGRATION & RECOVERY**

#### Launching of a bio-economy initiative in South Kivu

On 26 August, DSRSG/RC/HC Fidèle Sarassoro launched an integrated bio-economy project in support of rural communities from South Kivu. Implemented by UNDP, the GoDRC, and the Ethiopian NGO «Bio-Economy », this initiative will promote eco-friendly technologies aiming at two objectives: the increase of the agricultural yield and job creations.

Background: Co-funded by the Peacebuilding fund, UNDP and GoDRC for a total amount of US\$ 770,400, this initiative was already successfully implemented in Kinshasa and Bas-Congo.

#### Support to local reconciliation structures continues

NK SK

- A joint training for four CLPCs in North Kivu was provided by MSI, UNHABITAT and CNR.
- Concerns remain regarding the financial support to recurring costs and sustainability of these structures; a request for additional funds will be made at the provincial level.
- MSI handed-over 6 schools, 5 health centers and two markets to local communities in the Kivus.

Background: This USAID-funded project targets the ISSS strategic axes in the Kivus and combines a community-driven approach to the construction of socio-economic infrastructures, the promotion of local governance and local mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution.

#### **UNICEF, AVSI and COOPI start two new projects**

SK IT Following the agreement and signature by UNICEF with NGOs AVSI and COOPI for two new projects in support of affected communities in Bunyakiri (SK) and Djugu (Ituri), several missions were conducted in the field to identify the intervention areas and targeted infrastructures, as well as the creation of the local sectoral committees.

#### **COMPONENT 5: COMBATING SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

#### **Protection & prevention**

IT	•	been completed. Preliminary results are being analyzed by partner organization Coopi.		
	<ul> <li>Organization of a Community Day in Mahagi, in light of prevention of sexual violence</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>Six sessions of participatory theater on sexual violence and protection have organized in the territories of Aru and Mahagi.</li> </ul>				
	•	Outreach activities on prevention of sexual violence have been held by vigilance		
		committees and are continued by regular radio broadcasts.		
SK	-	Participation in the joint assessment mission of ISSSS programs, as part of the prevention and response to sexual violence.		

- A workshop on socio-cultural causes of sexual violence for 40 persons has been organized on the basis of the results of the 2010 study of CAMPS. The workshop, designed as a day of reflection and discussion, aimed to link customary practices and legal struggle against sexual violence, and was attended by various participants, from community leaders to governmental agents (the Division of Social Affairs, Ministry of Health, *Auditorat Militair*, FARDC, PNC), to UN agencies and local and international NGOs.
- A training session has been organized on the basic knowledge about sexual violence and the collection of data on incidents in Bukavu, Uvira and Kalehe. A total of 61 'protection monitors' benefited from the training.
- Joint monitoring missions with the Division of Social Affairs to monitor progress on the implementation of prevention and protection activities of partner organizations were organized.

#### Fight against impunity

SK IT Free legal advice was provided to 54 victims of sexual violence, out of which 35 cases were brought to court. In July, sentences for perpetrators followed in four cases and two cases have been resolved through mediation and financial compensations to victims. The sentences ranged from 5 to 18 years in prison.

#### **Multi Sectoral Assistance**

NK SK

- Three-day workshops were held in Goma and Bukavu to finalize standard protocols on medical and psychosocial assistance, organized by the provincial Ministries of Health and Gender with UNICEF.
- Short training course delivered on social reinsertion (240 participants); and medical priseen-charge (80 participants).

#### **PARTNERSHIPS & COORDINATION**

#### **Military Engineering Conference**

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On 10-11 August, the Stabilization Support Unit (SSU) attended the Military Engineering Conference (MEC), chaired by the MONUSCO Deputy Chief of Staff in charge of Operations and the newly appointed MONUSCO Force Engineer. The meeting was attended by all military engineering companies, as well as the Chief Engineer, Logops, UNOPS and Office des Routes (OdR) Ituri, among others.

Some of the main points include:

- <u>Ituri, Haut et Bas Uele</u>: Dungu-Faradje (133 km) has been completed and is maintained by the Indonesian Engineers (IEC), while SSU is coordinating with the *Office des Routes* to see when they can take over. In addition, Dungu-Duru (78 km) should be finalized around mid-February 2012.
- North Kivu: MONUSCO's support to the rehabilitation of the Otobora-Walikale road has been reiterated, in line with the priority to reconnect the two Kivus. In addition, South African engineers (RSAEC) are currently completing the last 15 km from Masisi to Nyabiondo and will continue working towards Walikale.
- South Kivu: The Uruguayan Engineers (UEC) will be in charge of Otobora-Musenge (22 km) as the first phase of the road towards Walikale.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

# **Sexual Violence Unit (Component 5)**

# **Stabilization Support Unit**

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