

ICGLR-RTF alongside the Member States of the ICGLR to deal with SGBV during the Covid-19 pandemic

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Despite the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, ICGLR-RTF was able to hold out and found ways and means to continue to pursue its activities within the framework of its mandate on the prevention and suppression of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in the Region of the Great Lakes.

With the technical and financial support of our partners, we had the privilege of developing a holistic model for the prevention and response to SGBV in the Great Lakes Region. This model was developed in partnership with ICGLR-RTF, and the Panzi and Dr. Denis Mukwege Foundations, under the technical support of the GIZ funded by the EU and BMZ. In this same project, 6 training sessions for trainers were carried out in 5 pilot States; CAR, DRC, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zambia.

III Trainers of Trainers from the medical, legal, police and psychosocial sectors were trained on the holistic care of survivors.



Figure 1: Hon Dora facilitating a session.

Following this ToT and as part of the implementation of this model, the ICGLR-RTF in partnership with GIZ, will conduct, from the month of September 2021, awareness-raising and consultation workshops as well as training for professionals and actors from



Figure 2: Clemence Byaruhanga facilitating a session.

all the stakeholders involved in the fight against SGBV in the aforementioned Five Pilot States.

During the same period, the RTF with the financial and technical support of NICHE, and MSM, organized training workshops on victim/survivors care for around 200 medical



Figure 3: A training session in progress

staff within the police, in Burundi and in Uganda. These trainings were conducted by Master Trainers affiliated to RTF including Dr. Romano Byaruhanga, Dr. John Kamya, ACP. Rose Nalubega, Psy. Diane Mpigazima, Me. Aloys Ndikuriyo, Dr. Sylvie Nzeyimana, Psy. Clemence Byomuhanzi.

We saw the need to include media since they are influential actors in fighting SGBV.

The media have not been forgotten. Through the financial support of UN WOMEN 58 journalists from the main media in the 12 states were trained and made aware over 3 days on their role in the fight against SGBV.

As the harvest is abundant but there are few workers, the ICGLR-RTF has recruited two new staffs to strengthen its capacities and its human arsenal to boost the fight against SGBV in the Great Lakes Region.

conviction that with your continued collaboration and support with the presence of these two new cartridges, all together we will serve the Great Lakes region more and

make it a space where it will be nice to live for everyone.

Especially in this period of Covid-19, and when Sexual Violence against little girls and women is proliferating.



Advocacy Expert



RTF Accountant



ICGLR-RTF and UNITAR forge a partnership to promote the prevention of SGBV and the holistic care of Victims / Survivors in the Great Lakes Region.

With technical support from the Dutch, research was carried out by RTF experts in 9 Member States. At least more than 2,700 girls between 15 and 18 years were raped during lockdown; girls and women have suffered very excruciating violence during this period.

Victor Mugaruka after signing of the MoU with UNITAR, on 13th August 2021

In addition to the Covid-19 pandemic, Member States have been seriously hit by SGBV, hence the ICGLR-RTF determination to stand alongside all ICGLR states to deal with this other pandemic. It is from this angle that RTF entered into a partnership on UNITAR 13th August 2021 with in order to develop more innovative strategies and approaches and to mobilize substantial financial resources to help member states strengthen their capacity for prevention and the rehabilitation of victims / survivors.