



# TV UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

## UN IN ACTION

Release Date: January 2009

Programme No. 1163

Duration: 4'34"

Language: English, French, Spanish, Russian

### BURUNDI: EX-COMBATANTS FACE POVERTY

#### VIDEO

#### AUDIO

LAKE TANGANYIKA/MARKET  
DRUMMING/DANCING

(*NATURAL SOUND*)

#### NARRATION

Burundi – a country of over eight million people is famous for its beauty ...and rich cultural heritage. (8")

WAR/CHAOS

But it's also a country split by hatred that got so out of control that Burundians fought for 13 years among themselves. (8")

DEMOBILIZATION  
SLUMS

Now that all factions have laid down their weapons, ex-combatants, especially the youth who fought in the war as children, are finding it difficult to rebuild their lives. (9.3")

DONATIEN AT GARBAGE  
HEAP

Donatien, a Hutu was recruited by the rebel army when he was fifteen. (4.20")

DONATIEN ON CAMERA

DONATIEN: (Kirundi) **M**

*"I saw combatants cutting throats. I was horrified – jumping over dead bodies."* (5.2")

LAZARRE WORKING

NARRATION

His friend, Lazarre, a Tutsi, was a soldier in the National Army. He, like Donatien, is looking for work. (7")

LAZARRE ON CAMERA

LAZARRE: (Kirundi) **M**

*"My parents became even poorer as a consequence of being displaced. So I decided to go on my own and look for some way to survive."* (9.6")

SLUMS

NARRATION

But this is not so easy. Many years of conflict had driven the country into extreme poverty. (6")

Both young men had heard that someone named Benjamin Bikorimana was hiring young people. (5.2")

BENJAMIN ON CAMERA

BENJAMIN: (Kirundi) **M**

*"I don't care if you're a Hutu or a Tutsi at work. I am trying to bring all those groups to work together."* (7.2")

GARBAGE REFUSE

NARRATION

At the crack of dawn, side-by-side, Donatien and Lazarre begin their work – separating organic waste from the regular garbage. (7.6")

The United Nations Population Fund, UNFPA, manages a programme that helps to pay their salaries. They each receive a meager 2,000 francs, the equivalent of two dollars at day's end. (12")

YOUTH CENTRE

This is made possible by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, which allocated four million dollars to promote youth employment through a public works programmes, vocational training and micro-credit schemes. (11.2”)

PIAZZA-GEORGI ON  
CAMERA

PIAZZA-GEORGI: (English) F

*“The young people get a chance to sit together, and talk and be informed about subjects that are important to them.” (7.5”)*

NARRATION

Representative of UNFPA, Barbara Piazza-Georgi. (3.4”)

PIAZZA-GEORGI ON  
CAMERA

PIAZZA-GEORGI: (English) F

*“Other things that we do with this project are to give young people a hope for their own future.” (5”)*

NARRATION

YOUTH CENTRE

The project is geared to assist those young people who have been marginalized or displaced. They learn life skills, including how to communicate peacefully. It also finances special public works programmes like this one in Makamba region. (17.2”)

TREE PLANTING

Twenty-year-old Christine is a returnee. She is planting trees to replace those destroyed during the conflict. It helps to revive the environment. (8”)

CHRISTINE ON CAMERA	<p><u>CHRISTINE:</u> (Kirundi) <b>F</b></p> <p><i>“We went to plant trees. After one month, they gave us money. My parents were happy.”</i></p> <p>(7.2”)</p>
YOUTH AT MARKET	<p><u>NARRATION</u></p> <p>Most of all, bringing former enemies together is a priority in Burundi – especially young people who make up sixty percent of the population, says Minister of Youth, Jean Jacques Nyenimigabo. (11.4”)</p>
NYENIMIGABO ON-CAMERA	<p><u>NYENIMIGABO:</u> (Kirundi) <b>M</b></p> <p><i>“These young people who fought in the war have participated in the destruction of our country. The government feels that this programme will help to reintegrate them.”</i> (11”)</p>
DONATIEN AND LAZARRE WALKING TOGETHER	<p><u>NARRATION</u></p> <p>As for Donatien and Lazarre, they are now inseparable. (4”)</p>
BOTH PLAYING DRUMS	<i>NATSOT</i>
YOUNG MEN PLAYING SOCCER	<p>Bonds like this – between Hutus and Tutsis – are being forged not only in neighbourhoods between former child soldiers – but also on playing fields across the country. (11”)</p>
UN LOGO	<p>This report was prepared by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations. (4)</p>