



United Nations
Peacebuilding

**SUPPORT TO THE REINTEGRATION OF EX-FDLR
COMBATANTS AND DEPENDENTS REPATRIATED TO
RWANDA FROM THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
(DRC) IN NOVEMBER 2018**

Final evaluation report

Kigali, 28 February 2022

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ACCRONYMS

COVID-19	Corona Virus Disease-19
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
ID	Identification Card
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
MAJ	Maison d'Accès a la Justice
MONUSC	Mission de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation du Congo
O	
NIDA	National identification Agency
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's - Development
DAC	Assistance Committee
RDC	Democratic Republic of Congo
PBF	United Nations Secretary General's Peacebuilding Fund
PSC-F	Peace, Security and Cooperation-Framework
RC	Resident Coordinator
RDRC	Rwanda Remobilization and Reintegration Commission
RDRP	Rwanda Remobilization and Reintegration
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNRC	United Nations Resident Coordinator

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project titled “Support to the reintegration of Ex-FDLR combatants and dependents repatriated to Rwanda from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was officially launched on 28th January 2020 by the One UN and Government of Rwanda with the aim to respond to the immediate socio-economic needs for the reintegration of ex-combatants and their dependents. The implementation of the project was overseen by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Women, within the framework of the Rwanda UN Country Team and funded by the UN Secretary General’s Peacebuilding Fund (PBF). The implementing partner was the Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (RDRC). The project focused on supporting a total of 1,635, including 554 Ex combatants, 249 women and 832 children distributed in all districts of the country.

The aim of this evaluation was to assess the achievements of the PBF/RDRC project against the initial targets. The evaluation adopted a consultative approach to ensure participation of all key project beneficiaries and partners. In total 25 Focus Group Discussions (FGD) have been conducted, including 17 with ex-combatants and 6 with host community members, 28 interviews with key informants, including with local authorities, ex-combatant dependents and neighbors. Women accounted to 43% of the total evaluation participants.

In addition to desk review, FGD and interviews with key informants, the Outcome Harvesting (OH) interviews were conducted to document stories of changes in relation to the project.

Overall, the project has successfully achieved its objectives, namely socio-economic reintegration of ex-combatants and dependents of 65 Phase. In many areas of the project objectives, achievements went beyond the initial targets. For instance, 95% of ex-combatants reported social acceptance by host communities while the target was fixed at 90%. Similarly, 100% of identified cases of disabled ex-combatants (43 in total) received medical support instead of 90% of cases initially targeted. A total of 102 women and girls of identified dependents, including teen mothers, enrolled in and completed the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Schools equivalent to 100% of the target.

Factors of success include a responsive project design that took into account the needs and priorities of the project beneficiaries, provision of direct support to both ex-combatant and their dependents, alignment to global, regional and national peacebuilding goals, investment in life long skills, a strong coordination and vibrant collaboration between RDRC and relevant national level and decentralized institutions, and UN relevant agencies, and rich expertise and strong commitment of RDRC leadership and technical staff.

More specifically, the evaluation findings point to the following results:

- The project responded to priority needs of beneficiaries including support in marketable skills, entrepreneurship literacy and access to startup capital among others. Project interventions were guided by the findings from the baseline study, vulnerability study, predischarge orientation and monitoring visits. Necessary adjustments were made to accommodate the context and needs of the project beneficiaries. For instance, legal and administrative support and orientation were provided to project beneficiaries who had land related and marital conflicts;
- The project was gender sensitive from its design phase. Indicatively, a minimum of 30% of the project budget was dedicated to women specific needs while taking into account the needs of men and boys. For instance, a total of 803 project beneficiaries, including 439 women (54.7%) and 364 men (45.3%) ex-combatants received mentorship and guidance on how to develop income generating activities and joining cooperatives;
- The project was equally sensitive to special needs. In this regard, 5 houses were built for critically disabled ex-combatants; breastfeeding mothers have equally received a special support to address their needs and those of babies.
- The PBF/RDRC project made a concrete contribution to reducing conflict factors in Rwanda especially among the demobilized ex-combatants and dependents. The project directly contributed to SDG 16 on peaceful societies in that it empowered men and women, boys and girls to constructively contribute to social harmony via improved livelihoods. No single case of return to DRC bushes was reported with regard to 65 RDRP Phase. This is seen as an indicator of a successful reintegration process. Though the COVID-19 context has affected joint activities between RDRC, MONUSCO and DRC authorities, media, particularly *Isange mu banyu* program that is aired on a weekly basis to encourage members of armed groups who are still active in DRC bushes to repatriate. The program highlights the advantages of a peaceful repatriation and existing reintegration opportunities in Rwanda;
- The project contributed to capacity building at RDRC including in the areas of gender mainstreaming and gender responsive DDR. The rate of budget execution turns around 97% and funds have been utilized to achieve change as initially designated in the project document. Collaboration between RDRC, UNDP and UN Women, the core project partners, was smooth and adjustments have been conjointly made where needed;
- The project has empowered women, among other beneficiaries, through the provision of startup capital, marketable skills and direct reintegration grant. For instance, a total of 555 ex-combatants and their dependents, including 237 women, (42.70%) have been trained on marketable skills of their choice which informed their livelihood initiatives choices as they were submitting projects requiring support. At the RDRC level, 49 RDRC staff, including 23 women (46.9%) and 26 men (53.1%) have been trained in gender responsive monitoring and evaluation in the DDR process;

- The evaluation findings show that the project beneficiaries, men and women, have taken on new roles at the community level, including in the security sector and cooperatives. The evaluation clearly shows that women's voice and role in family decision-making have equally increased as a result of the project;
- COVID-19 has affected the project start and implementation pace, but adjustments have been progressively made to accommodate the new context. The use of technology tools for communication and a non-cost extension of a 3 months have enabled the project team to implement close to 100% of the project activities;
- The project's outstanding best practices include gender and inclusion sensitivity from its design, provision of direct support to dependents of ex-combatants, a strong collaboration between RDRC and other governments institutions as well as lifelong skills capacity building.

Recommendations

In relation to noticed challenges and gaps, best practices and lessons, the following recommendations are formulated:

To RDRC

- To develop a comprehensive conflict sensitive analysis tool to complement the existing Environmental and Social Management Framework. The conflict sensitive analysis would help identify conflict drivers and engines of peace before demobilized ex-combatants are released to their respective communities and plan accordingly;
- To include in future project design funds for capacity building of local and opinion leaders (including MAJ, cell and sector executive secretaries for further reintegration accompaniment after the project phases out. Capacity building would take into account the background of RDRP beneficiaries (sensitive), DDR objectives, and include topics such as trauma counselling, conflict analysis and most used laws at the community level, including the land law, family law, succession law, GBV and child protection laws;
- Maintain the gender and inclusion criterion as a main feature of all reintegration projects and provide support to both ex-combatants and dependents to reinforce the family-based vision of reintegration;
- Extend reintegration projects lifetime to a minimum of 3 years to ensure enough time for better planning, activity implementation, monitoring and evaluation

To UN agencies (UNDP and UN Women)

- Pull peacebuilding/reintegration funds under one basket to reduce the time invested in reporting;

- Advocate for longer reintegration project timelines to ensure enough time for project implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- Provide financial and technical support for building capacity of local and opinion leaders for better follow up of the reintegration process when projects phase out;
- Ensure the joint nature of this project is replicated in future RDRC DDR programing;
- Extend reintegration projects lifetime to a minimum of 3 years to ensure enough time for better planning, activity implementation, monitoring and evaluation

I. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the findings of the final evaluation of the project “Support to the reintegration of Ex-FDLR combatants and dependents repatriated to Rwanda from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)” in November 2018. Known under the name ‘Phase 65’, of the Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Programme (RDRP), the project was implemented from 19 December 2019 to 18 June 2021, with a total budget \$1,499,999. The final project evaluation is an integral part of the project document agreed upon between the United Nations (UN) Secretary General’s Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) and the ONE UN Rwanda. The implementation of the project was overseen by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Women, within the framework of the Rwanda UN Country Team. The implementing partner was the Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (RDRC), the government institution that is mandated with demobilization and reintegration in Rwanda.

1.1. Project background

Phase 65 of the RDRP was officially launched on 28th January 2020 by the One UN and Government of Rwanda officials for a period of 18 months with the aim to respond to the immediate socio-economic needs for the reintegration of ex-combatants and their dependents. Led by UNDP as managing agent and funded by the PBF, the project focused on supporting a total of 1,635, including 554 Ex combatants, 249 women and 832 children distributed in all districts of the country.

The project is a result of multi-partner talks. On the 30th November 2018, the RDRC held a meeting with the UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC) in Rwanda and UNHCR Representative Rwanda to discuss the urgent need to support the reintegration of Phase 65 and their dependents. Based on the recommendations of this meeting, on 4th April 2019 the RDRC submitted to the attention of the Office of the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region (O-SESG-GL), the request for financial support to a long-term social and economic reintegration project for Phase 65 ex-combatants and their dependents, including women and children, that includes vocational skills training and tool kits, agriculture and entrepreneurship.

In a view to provide technical advice for the timely and tailored support, a joint UNDP and O-SESG-GL mission visited Rwanda in July 2019. The mission held several consultations with relevant partners, including UN Country Team Rwanda (RC Office, UNICEF, UNHCR, UN WOMEN, UNFPA), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Rwanda, the RDRC and

other relevant national partners in Rwanda in addition to former RDRP and Phase 65 target beneficiaries¹.

From its design and in view of partners involved, the project aligns to key global, regional and national frameworks. For instance, in line with the Cooperation Framework between the UN and GoR, the project makes a direct contribution to the achievement of SDG 16, target 16.1: “Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related deaths everywhere” and also contributes to SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 17. Likewise, the project is a directly contribution of the Government of Rwanda (GoR) to the implementation of the, Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the region of which the UN is a Guarantor and Rwanda a signatory. Furthermore, this project contributes to the regional and cross-border objectives of the UN Great Lakes Regional Strategic Framework, which provides a regional platform for UN integrated, multi-agency development approach to sustaining peace in the region, among other objectives.

1.2. Project purpose and objectives

This project’s main purpose was to respond to the immediate needs of ex-combatants and their dependents. In terms of objectives, the project aimed at (1) ensuring access to social and economic services through central and local government institutions; (2) improving the capacity of phase 65 ex-combatants and their dependents to advance their own social and economic reintegration attitudes and skills with support from families and communities; (3) raising awareness among Rwandan ex-combatants remaining in armed groups outside Rwanda about the reintegration opportunities to which repatriated ex-combatants and their dependents have access in Rwanda; and (4) mainstreaming gender equality throughout repatriation and reintegration services and related support provided to ex-combatants and their dependents including women and children.

1.3 Project theory of change

The project theory of change entailed of the following 4 outcomes:

1. Ex-combatants and their dependents increasingly access and take advantage of services provided by central and local government institutions;
2. Ex-combatants and dependent benefit from inclusive development programmes that generate opportunities for to advance their own economic and social reintegration;

¹ These include Rwanda Institute of Cooperatives, Entrepreneurship and Microfinance (RICEM), and Kigali Polytechnic.

3. Rwandan ex-combatants remaining in armed groups outside Rwanda and their dependents benefit from continued access to information on the reintegration opportunities that benefited repatriated ex-combatants and their dependents in Rwanda; and
4. Ex-combatants benefit from enhanced gender equality for a life free from discrimination through gender adequately mainstreamed throughout repatriation and reintegration services and related support provided to ex-combatants and their dependents (women and children).

While the project design appropriately corresponds to the stated outcomes, it was difficult to assess progress in some areas of the project. For instance, the evaluation team could not meet active ex-combatants who are still in armed groups to check whether they are aware or not about existing reintegration opportunities in Rwanda. Radio programmes continued to be aired, including during the COVID-19 lockdowns, but the evaluation could not address the theory of change outcome 3 from the perspective of those in armed groups. Beside the feasibility issue to include active ex-combatants, reporting by the project team was done at the output, not the outcome level. The project timeframe was relatively short, which makes it a bit ambitious to examine progress achieved from an outcome point of view. In addition, the project lifetime coincided with and was affected by the COVID-19 context to the extent that some activities, such as the physical sensitization meetings initially expected to happen with ex-combatants who are still in armed groups, in collaboration with the Mission des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation du Congo (MONUSCO), could not take place.

1.4 Objectives of the final evaluation

As is the practice for One UN managed projects, it is recommended that at the end of implementation, a final evaluation should be carried out to assess the programme or project relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and/or sustainability. Overall, the evaluation aims at assessing the progress made towards the achievements of overall and specific objectives of the project, to document achievements, gaps and lessons learnt and to provide recommendations and best practices to guide future programming by RDRC, UN Women and UNDP and other stakeholders. More specifically, the evaluation focused on achieving the following:

1. Assess the relevance and appropriateness of the project in terms of: 1) addressing key drivers of conflict and the most relevant peacebuilding issues in the conflict analysis ; 2) alignment with Great Lakes Regional Strategic Framework priorities, the National Peacebuilding Policy and national priorities of Rwanda and RDRC in particular 3) whether the project capitalized on the UN's added value in Rwanda; and

- 4) the degree to which the project addressed cross-cutting issues such as conflict and gender-sensitivity in Rwanda;
2. Assess the extent to which the PBF project has made a concrete contribution to reducing conflict factors in Rwanda especially among the demobilized ex-combatants and dependents and the contribution the project has made to prevent resumption of arms and encourage defections among groups that are still active. With respect to PBF's contribution, the evaluation may evaluate whether the project helped advance achievement of the SDGs, and in particular SDG 16;
3. Evaluate the project's efficiency, including its implementation strategy, institutional arrangements as well as its management and operational systems and value for money;
4. Assess whether the support provided by the PBF has promoted the Women, Peace and Security agenda (WPS), allowed a specific focus on women's participation in peacebuilding processes, and whether it was accountable to gender equality;
5. Assess whether the project has been implemented through a conflict-sensitive approach.;
6. Assess the gender-responsiveness of project implementation and its pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment;
7. Document good practices, innovations and lessons emerging from the project;
8. Provide actionable recommendations for future programming;
9. Assess the inclusiveness of vulnerable groups (women, youth disability) and the implementation of the principle Leaving No One Behind;
10. Evaluate the impact of COVID-19 on the project implementation and results.

II. EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

The final evaluation of the PBF/RDRC 65 Phase project adopted a mixture of methodological aspects to ensure the evaluation objectives are addressed. These aspects include the approach, data collection methods and finding analysis techniques.

2.1. Approach of the evaluation and method for data collection

This summative final evaluation adopted a participatory approach. The evaluation process engaged various project stakeholders from the government (central and decentralized), relevant UN agencies, local government authorities, ex-combatants and dependents (spouses and children) as well as host community members. For instance, at RDRC, leaders and project technical staff have been interviewed. A total of 25 Focus Group Discussions (FGD) comprising of approximately 200 people has been conducted, including 17 with ex-combatants and 6 with host community members. In addition to FGDs, 28 interviews with key informants, including with local authorities, ex-combatant dependents and neighbours, among whom, 12 women, representing 43% of the total key informants. Comparable proportions were also reflected in FGDs.

In addition to desk review, FGD and interviews with key informants, the Outcome Harvesting (OH) interviews have been conducted. The aim of the OH interviews was to “harvest” evidence of what has changed (“outcomes”) as a result of the PBF/RDRC project and factors that contributed to the change. Findings generated by the OH interviews are presented in form of direct quotes.

Detailed lists of participants in FGDs per category and key informants is presented in annex 2 and 3.

2.2 Evaluation data analysis methods

The analysis of evaluation data was conducted manually consisted of a four steps process. namely review of data, organization of data, coding and interpretation. The review concentrated on understanding the collected data. It involved reading, re-reading until the evaluators had a general understanding of the content. Reviewing collected data involved note taking in line with the key evaluation areas.

Data review led to data organization. Qualitative data tend to be lengthy and complex. Organisation of data aimed at making collected data easy to navigate. Data was grouped per data collection method (interview, desk review and FGD) and by questions/evaluation dimension.

Coding consisted mainly in identifying and labeling themes within data that correspond with the evaluation questions that the evaluation team wanted to answer. Themes are common trends or ideas that appeared repeatedly throughout the collected data. Interpretation involved attaching meaning and significance to the collected data. The team started by making a list of key themes. The interpretation also involved revisiting the review notes to factor in the initial responses to the data. Each theme that emerged from the coding process was reviewed to identify similarities and differences. The interpretation phase also considered relationships between themes to determine the way they may be connected. Relevant information, both qualitative and quantitative from the project reports (baseline, periodic and monitoring) are also used to support the interpretation of the evaluation findings where relevant. In such cases, sources are provided.

2.3. Sampling and quality assurance

Criteria for participation in the evaluation includes background of the project beneficiary (ex-combatant & dependent), gender and age, physical conditions (people with disability), preference in terms of reintegration activity, characteristic of the residence (rural vs urban), marital status and degree of proximity with ex-combatants for neighbouring community members. These criteria have led to a rich and balanced composition of the evaluation audience. Quality assurance measures include recruitment of experienced data collectors, refreshed training, daily supervision and data collection detailed reports.

III. EVALUATION FINDINGS

As clearly indicated in the terms of reference, this final evaluation adopted the OECD DAC evaluation criteria extended to the PBF specific evaluation criteria, which have been adapted to the context. The evaluation addresses relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability and ownership, coherence, conflict-sensitivity, catalytic character of the project, risk-tolerance and innovation. The evaluation equally covers best practices and lessons learnt from the project.

3.1 Project relevance

The evaluation exercise found the PBF/RDRC 65 Phase project highly relevant for three major reasons: (1) The design of the project took into account the needs and priorities of the project beneficiaries; (2) the project activities are strictly aligned to global, regional and national priorities on peacebuilding and social cohesion; and (3) necessary adjustments have been made during the course of the project implementation to align to changing context and meet the need of beneficiaries.

3.1.1 The project's interventions address real and pressing needs

It is a practice at RDRC that the needs and priorities of ex-combatants and their dependents are identified, defined and set into priorities during the pre-discharge orientation activities. These include profiling of repatriated ex-combatants and accompanying family members to ensure project interventions respond to real needs of the beneficiaries. The predischarge profiling was reinforced by a baseline study conducted by RDRC in December 2020 that further documented the needs and priorities of the project beneficiaries². However, from project beneficiaries, the findings with regard to whether the former were consulted prior to intervention design are mixed. While some ex-combatants indicated having been consulted, others supported the opposite. For instance, during a FGD with ex-combatants in Nyamasheke district, a participant declared: “we have not been consulted with regard to entrepreneurship opportunities, we have learnt what was in the plan” (*Ntabwo twabajijwe ibijyanye no kwihangira imirimo kuko ababyize byari muri gahunda y’ibyo tugomba kwiga*).³ A quick analysis of FGD suggests that the needs of returning ex-combatants and dependents are concentrated on marketable skills, start up capital and information sharing, the very areas of focus of the PBF/RDRC interventions.

² RDRC, *Baseline study on social and economic reintegration of ex-armed groups and dependents, phase 65*, Final report, Kigali, December 2020.

³ FGD with Ex-co mbatants, Nyamasheke, 16 November, 2021.

3.1.2 The project's activities directly contribute to peacebuilding priorities

The project interventions directly contribute to global and national objectives on peace. For instance, by providing reinsertion kit, reintegration grants, lifelong and entrepreneurship skills and by promoting membership into cooperatives among ex-combatants and their dependents, the PBF/RDRC project directly contributes to several global, regional and national peacebuilding commitments. For instance, SDG 16 provides for peaceful and inclusive societies, and access to justice among other aspects. In light of the responses from ex-combatants, dependents and neighbors, the project has had a huge impact in this area. For instance, during a FGD with ex-combatant in Kamonyi, participants were unanimous to affirm that the project's support made it possible for its beneficiaries to improve livelihoods, which in turn promoted social cohesion, or at least, social harmony: "inkunga umushinga waduhaye yadufashije kwiyubaka, bityo iturinda kwanduranya mu baturanyi".⁴ (the support received from the project improved our living conditions, which contributed to the prevention of conflicts with neighbours).

Inkunga umushinga waduhaye yadufashije kwiyubaka, bityo iturinda kwanduranya mu baturanyi. Support from the project improved our livelihoods and therefore prevented conflicts with neighbors (Ex-combatant, Kamonyi, 23 November 2021)

Similar statements were heard from both dependents and host community members. For instance, during an interview with a spouse of an ex-combatant in Huye, she indicated that social harmony improved as a result of the project interventions both at the family and community levels. "Tukiba mu mashyamba njyewe n'umugabo twari tubanye nabi cyane ariko ubu sinakubwira; ndishimye cyane turafatanyaga byose, turakundana tukubahana rwose n'abana bacu barabyishimiye cyane. Abaturanyi nabo tubanye neza, dufatanyaga muri byose". (I used to have very bad relationships with my husband during our stay in the bushes, but today I cannot tell you, I am happy, my children too. We respect each other, collaborate for every single decision. We have very good relationships with our neighbors, we support each other).⁵ When she was asked about the factors that contributed to this change, she replied "the project (...) We have been sensitized on peaceful coexistence, we have been given a support to sustain our livelihoods, our children have reintegrated schools; we are just like any other citizens..."⁶.

With regard to regional peacebuilding commitments, the PBF/RDRC project contributed particularly to two key goals: the Peace, Security and Cooperation-Framework (PSC-F) for the DRC and the region and the Kampala Declaration on Sexual and Gender Based Violence

⁴ Kamonyi, FGD with ex-combatant, 23 November 2021.

⁵ Huye, 15 November 2021.

⁶ Idem.

(SGBV). Repatriation of 65 Phase of ex-combatants was possible due to an active cooperation between the governments of DRC, Rwanda and MONUSCO. The project contributes to Rwanda's commitments to prevent SGBV, end impunity for SGBV, provide support to victims of SGBV and mainstream gender in all peace processes as enshrined in the Kampala Declaration on SGBV.

From an internal perspective, the project is directly aligned to the transformation governance pillar, particularly areas related to the "peace and unity" and "increased participation and engagement of citizens in development". The project equally contributes towards the realization of the National Gender Policy and the National Policy against GBV, among other policies. By mainstreaming specific needs of women, the youth and people with disability, the project has responded to the principles of inclusion and Leave No One Behind. For instance, 4 houses have been built for critically disabled ex-combatants. The project has also accompanied a number of cases in accessing justice via the support of the Access to Justice Bureaus (MAJ) and other local government relevant structures, including sector and cell executive secretariats.

3.1.3 Consistent alignment to the changing context and needs of beneficiaries

One of the key features of the project is that its implementation has been characterized by flexibility to accommodate not only the changing COVID-19 dominated context, but also the needs of beneficiaries. For instance, a 3 -month no-cost extension was granted to accommodate delays that affected the project start due to COVID-19 prevention measures, including lockdowns. A direct support to dependents (spouses and children) beyond the project primary targets (ex-combatants) was motivated by the need to empower women and the youth and to contribute to a conducive environment for effective reintegration. More particularly, women who could not receive support because they had no bank accounts (cannot get National Identify Cards because they are not nationals or because they were not legally married) were helped to open their own bank accounts or have access to their husbands' accounts. This was made possible due to door-to-door sensitization of husbands and a smooth collaboration with the National Identification Agency (NIDA) that initiated the process when 65 Phase members were still in the demobilization camp in Mutobo. From the perspective dependents of ex-combatants (spouses mainly), having a bank account was a "great opportunity for women's participation in households' affairs and decision-making"⁷. The same, other dependents believe, "has eased the process of reintegration since it provided women with the opportunity to influence family choices in terms of income generating activities and the use of family resources"⁸.

⁷ Interview with a spouse of ex-combatant, Bugesera, 22 November 2021.

⁸ Interview with a spouse of ex-combatant, Rubavu, 17 November 2021.

3.2. EFFICIENCY

3.2.1. Overview of funds disbursement and utilization

The aim was to establish the relationship between the attained outputs and invested inputs. It is indeed an assessment of the extent to which the project has used the least costly resources possible to achieving the desired results.

The project was officially launched on 28th January 2020, and as a result, the first instalments from the UNDP and UN women, were respectively disbursed on 23rd March and 6th May 2020. It is therefore obvious that the disbursement coincided with the period when Rwanda experienced the first cases of COVID-19 -19 and a series of restriction measures introduced to control the spread of the pandemic.

The project activities covered 97.5% of the planned budget. Efficiency in the implementation of the project was also materialized by the use of data in refining the project implementation and especially in informing the choice of appropriate corrective actions

Overall, the implementation of the project activities covered 97.5% of the planned budget, (using Frw 1,411,304,623 out of planned Frw 1,445,699,217) while the outcome related budgeted utilization rate varies between 79.3% and 100%. For instance, the total budget from the UN Women and all associated activities have been fully implemented.

Despite challenges brought by COVID-19 -19 pandemic, adequate adjustments were introduced throughout the implementation of project, which led to effective use of resources as initially envisages.

Some of the adjustments introduced to curb the delays caused by COVID-19 19 pandemic include the deployment of dedicated staff immediately after lockdown for facilitating the speeding up of the project implementation as well as an extending the timeline of the project by an additional three months.

Efficiency in the implementation of the project was also materialized by the use of data in refining the project implementation and especially in informing the choice of appropriate corrective actions. For instance, the use of monitoring data has informed decision making about referring cases of intra-family land conflicts to MAJ for appropriate legal support.

Furthermore, the project implementation was solidified by strongly established coordination mechanisms coupled with improved communication between different partners, namely the UNDP, UN Women, RDRC and local government. In accordance the project document. The UN RC Office has a coordinating and oversight role, while the implementation was overseen by UNDP and UN Women, within the framework of the Rwanda UN Country Team. Both UNDP and UN Women were recipient agencies. UNDP was the lead agency, thus responsible for

compliance with reporting and M&E requirements for the project. The implementing partner for this project was the RDRC, the government institution that is mandated with demobilization and reintegration and has been confirmed to have adequate expertise and capacity for direct implementation of the project activities.

Project strategic direction and oversight were assured and approved by the joint Steering Committee meetings that were convened twice a year. Member of the steering committee included RDRC, UNDP and UN Women. The technical working group consisted of the project/program managers of RDRC, UNDP and UNWOMEN.

Interviews with the UN agencies revealed a shared feeling that RDRC has successfully used its experience for the implementation of the PBF/RDRC project. In fact, having previously implemented 64 phases of reintegration of ex-combatants and their depends, RDRC has acquired extensive experiences that was capitalized on throughout the implementation of the 65th Phase.

With regard to funds management, the table below provides details of the budget utilization by the project outcomes and related outputs.

Table 1. Budget utilization by outcomes and outputs

Output	Description	Amount in Frw	Progress	%
OUTCOME 1:	Ex-combatants increasingly access support services provided by central and local government institutions			
Output 1.1:	RDRC capacity enhanced to optimize and scale-up reintegration of ex-combatants	52,735,110	52,730,115	100,0
Output 1.2:	Support services are provided to ex-combatants and their dependents by National and Local Government Institutions	185,013,000	184,254,621	99,6
OUTCOME 2:	Ex-combatants and their dependents benefit from inclusive development programs that generate opportunities to advance their own social and economic reintegration			
Output 2.1	Socio-economic reintegration of ex-combatants and their dependents is optimized and up scaled through inclusive local development programs	240,209,789	235,153,521	97,9
Output 2.2	Employment opportunities for ex-combatants and their dependents created	557,692,500	554,652,623	99,5
OUTCOME 3:	Combatants remaining in armed groups outside Rwanda and their dependents benefit from awareness raising and sensitization programs			
Output 3.1	Awareness of ex-combatants in armed groups outside Rwanda raised with a view to paving the way for voluntary repatriation	77,784,150	69,277,553	89,1
OUTCOME 4:	Ex-combatants and dependents benefit from enhanced gender equality for a life free from discrimination			

Output 4.1	Gender adequately mainstreamed throughout repatriation and reintegration services and related support provided to ex-combatants and their dependents (women and children)	67,710,000	53,690,565	79,3
Output 4.2	Operating cost (including funds for prevention of CoVID-19 19)	264554668	261545625	98,9
	Total	1,445,699,217	1,411,304,623	97,53

Source: RDRC, Sept 2021

With regard to fund management, this assessment has observed a challenge resulting from the fact that this project had two main funding sources – the UNDP and the UNWOMEN, that were managed separately. This required project implementors to provide a separate report to each of the funders. In addition, in some cases, the two funders could not disburse funds at the same time, causing delays in the implementation of some planned interventions.

3.3. EFFECTIVENESS

A close analysis of the project planned targets and achievements show that apart from the one target that was achieved at 67%⁹ (mainly to due Covid-19 restrictions to meet physically) others targets were attained with utmost levels of

I am treated like any other citizen when I require services from our local entity...Some ex-combatants have already benefited from shelter and mutual health insurance while others were selected to take part in the Vision 2020 Umurenge Program (VUP)... briefly, we are like any other Rwandan” (Ex-C Rubavu, 17 November 2021).

achievements as detailed below:

- **Output 1:** RDRC capacity enhanced to optimize and scale-up reintegration of ex-combatants: one target was achieved at 67%, one at 95% while the remaining 6 targets were fully achieved
- **Output 2:** Social-economic reintegration and their dependents is optimized and up scaled through inclusive local development programs: 3 out of the 5 targets (whose data are available) were achieved at a rate between 95% and 98% while the remaining 2 were fully achieved.
- **Output 3:** Awareness of Combatants remaining in armed groups outside Rwanda raised with a view to paving the way for voluntary repatriation: all the two targets retained under this output were fully achieved
- **Output 4:** Gender is mainstreamed throughout repatriation and reintegration services provided within RDRP: All the two targets related this output were fully achieved

⁹ Conducting sensitization meetings with ex-combatants and their dependents on the available support services and the related government programmes

- **Output 5:** Provide protective equipment, thermometers, hygiene materials to ex-combatants and their dependents in demobilization and transit centres: A single target retained in his outputs was fully achieved.

More specifically, the project provided health insurance to a total of 1127 beneficiaries of whom 751 are men (ex-combatants), 257 women, 37 civilians (all men), 41 people living with disabilities (all men) and 82 adult children (49 girls and 33 boys).

In addition, 555 ex-combatants and their dependents (including 237 women, 42.7%) were trained and equipped with skills of their choice in line with the livelihood initiatives of their choices.

Details of the performance for each of the planned activities' targets and achievements are summarized in annex.

3.3.1. *Achievements of the project from ex-combatants' point of view*

Overall, beneficiaries of the project perceived that the project has achieved its objectives at a very satisfactory level (between 70% and 75%).¹⁰ However, there are some of the beneficiaries who think that the project only achieved 50% of its objectives as the project did not provide them with facilities such as shelter. An ex-combatant argued that *"for me the project has only reached 50% of its objectives because I don't have a house and I live in a high-risk zone, I have a plot in the community but I don't have the capacity to build a house"*¹¹.

It is however important to mention that the achievements of the project as perceived the beneficiaries is not based on the actual project objectives but rather on their expectations, which they wish could be addressed by the project, regardless of whether they are beyond the scope of the project.

Throughout FGDs, beneficiaries of the project confirmed that there is no discrimination between them and the rest of the population in terms of service delivery. In this regard, a project beneficiary participating in the FGDs argued that *"I am treated like any other citizen when I require services from our local entity"*¹². Similarly, a participant in FGDs in Rubavu reported that *"some of ex-combatants have already benefited from shelter and mutual health insurance while others were selected to take part in the Vision 2020 Umurenge Program (VUP)... briefly, we are like any other Rwandan"*¹³

In the same line, ex-combatants in Rwamagana claimed that their households were put in national welfare categories, commonly known as Ubudehe¹⁴ categories while families with children requiring special nutritional support were enrolled in *Shisha Kibondo* program – a

¹⁰ Project semi-annual report of June 2021

¹¹ FGD of ex-combatants, Rwamagana, 25th November 2021

¹² FGD of ex-combatants, Bugesera, 19th November 2021.

¹³ FGD of ex-combatants, Rubavu, 17th November 2021

¹⁴ Social stratification program based on the household income

program that provides rich nutrient flour for eradicating malnutrition and stunting among children below 6 years.

In addition, those requiring official documents delivered by local authorities were also facilitated to get them as any other member of the community.

With regard to role of the project in reducing conflicts among community members, ex-combatants (and their dependents in some cases) were trained on how to peacefully integrate and cohabitate with other members of their communities. In this regard, 95% of ex-combatants reported social acceptance by their communities. Ex-combatants also believe that the visits they received from different project officials in their respective communities, has helped build trust between host communities and ex-combatants¹⁵.

Most of interviewed ex-combatants also argued that the fact they were supported to start their own income generating activities implies that they are no longer a burden to their communities and therefore reduced the risk of conflicts.

3.3.2. *Achievements of the project from dependents' point of view*

In addition to strengthening cohesion among the project beneficiaries and host communities, the majority of interviewed dependents indicated that the project has contributed to improve their livelihoods by providing them with skills that facilitated their integration on the labour market. More specifically, the project provided technical and vocational trainings including sewing for women and construction/ building and welding for men.

The project prevented us from falling into extreme poverty and become beggars... we have become self-reliant thanks to the project (Ex-C, Huye, 15 November 2021)

A dependent argued that *"the project prevented us from falling into extreme poverty and become beggars... we have become self-reliant thanks to the project"*¹⁶.

The project has brought about several changes in the livelihoods of its beneficiaries, including meeting basic needs for the beneficiaries to settle, providing beneficiaries with opportunities for employment through training (especially for youth, women and persons with disabilities), improved working relationship between the project beneficiaries and their relatives in the host communities as well as participating in the government programs aimed to promoting community development.

3.3.3. *Achievements of the project from host communities and local leaders' point of view*

Host communities and local leaders unanimously confirmed that the project has significantly contributed not only in integrating ex-combatants and their households' members in the

¹⁵ The fact that ex-combatants are visited by officials has assured host communities that different levels of administration – local and central are aware of their presence in the community and that they are part of the community

¹⁶ FGD of ex-combatants, Huye, 15th November 2021

host community but also in facilitating their peaceful cohabitation with members of the host communities. *“As residents, we initially had very negative perceptions about ex-combatants but we have all been proven wrong; they are Rwandans like all of us, willing to integrate and participate in the socioeconomic life of their community, thanks to the project support”*¹⁷.

Similarly, a local leader reported that: *“as local leaders, our role is to ensure that ex-combatants and their dependents fill confident and assured to actively participate in all government programs at community levels without any discrimination. With the support from the project, ex-combatants and their dependents are actively participating (like other member of the community), in community work (Umuganda), safeguard security, paying mutual health insurance, maintaining community infrastructures (water, roads, etc.) and we even have some who were elected in village and cell committees”*¹⁸.

The evaluation of this project raised a need for building the capacities of local government to effectively support the socioeconomic integration of ex-combatants and their dependents in their host communities: *“we wish the project could build the capacities of local leaders at villages and cell levels to facilitate effective mindset transformation of ex-combatants and their dependents. Local leaders need to have better understanding of the project objectives and their anticipated roles in facilitating integration of ex-combatants. Local leaders should also be invited in closing ceremonies of marking the end of each training for effective monitoring”*¹⁹.

3.4. Sustainability & ownership

In light of the evaluation findings, the project achievements have the chance to continue after the funding phased out. Both project beneficiaries, host community members and local authorities are unanimous about this.

Key factors of sustainability include the following.

Key pillars

of sustainability include the following:

- Investment in lifelong knowledges and skills
- Buy in of the project intervention by local structures
- Empowerment beyond traditional RDRP targets
- Commitment and expertise of RDRC leadership and staff
- Ex-combatants and dependents who took up new community roles
- Membership of cooperatives and financial schemes
- Start-up capital provided to beneficiaries
- Involvement in income generating activities

¹⁷ FGD with host communities, Nyamasheke, 16th November 2021

¹⁸ KII with a local leader in Bugesera, 22nd November 2021

¹⁹ KII with a local leader in Rubavu, 17 November 2021

3.4.1 Investment in lifelong knowledges and skills

A big share of project beneficiaries (both ex-combatants and dependents) has benefited from marketable skills via quality-based vocational trainings. For instance, RDRC signed contracts with Nine TVET schools to deliver training to the project beneficiaries. As a result, a total of 246, including 102 women, representing 41.6% graduated in various vocational areas such as construction and tailoring. Project beneficiaries reported increased access to finance where 1,036 ex-combatants and dependents who were supported through income generating activities including capacity and skills development. Start-up capital was provided to the beneficiaries (30.7% women). The majority of beneficiaries (95%) invested in agriculture and animal husbandry while a small proportion invested in other businesses including petty trade, tailoring.²⁰ Field evaluation findings confirm involvement of significant number of project beneficiaries in agricultural activities.

3.4.2. Involvement of established structures and buy in of the project intervention by local leaders

The success of 65 Phase of RDRP is partly attributed to local government and community-based structures, the same that continue to provide necessary support to ex-combatants and their families, particularly on matters pertaining to basic services, such as health, education and access to justice. The proximity character of these services is seen as a critical factor for further reintegration of ex-combatants and their dependents. In own words of an ex-combatant, local organs have been supportive from day one and continue to provide support on regular basis (inzego z'ibanze zatubaye hafi kuva umunsi twinjira mu karere kandi zikomeje kudufasha).²¹ The evaluation findings however suggest the need for training in specific areas for key service providers including MAJ that provide legal support to ex-combatants and their dependents as well as cell and sector leaders. Specific areas of training should include knowledge in DDR objectives to facilitate the reintegration process, conflict analysis and counseling.

3.4.3. Empowerment beyond traditional RDRP targets

The provision of direct support to spouses and children of ex-combatants by the project is interpreted as a long-term investment. Women beneficiaries of the project, local authorities and host community members similar interpretation of the approach: “supporting women is building families”.²² (uremeye umugore aba afashije umuryango wose). The reintegration

²⁰ See also Project semi-annual report of June 2021.

²¹ FGD with ex-combatants, Musanze, 18 Novembre 2021.

²² In substance, local authorities, dependents and neighbors in almost all district visited are of the view that support provided to women serves the entire family members as opposed to support provided to ex-combatants who sometime have more than one wife.

grant and start-up capital for women and young people translated into women and their children having a say and control over the use of family resources. In the opinion of host community members, ex-combatants and dependents are even better compared to some people that they found in the community because they benefited from support and skill training (Njye mbona babayeho nk'bandi bose duturanye, ndetse hari n'abo baruta basanze mu gihugu kubera ko bo bahawe inkunga n'ubumenyi".²³

3.4.4. Firm commitment of RDRC leadership and technical staff and a strong collaboration with other structures

RDRC partners from UNDP and UN Women describe the leadership and technical staff of RDRC as being firmly committed to serve the reintegration cause of ex-combatants. Field visits and meetings at UNDP headquarters that RDRC leadership and technical staff attended are considered as evidence of this commitment.²⁴ More importantly, the way RDRC team treat ex-combatants with respect and humanity was highly appreciated and confirmed by the later. "iyu urebye uburyo abayobozi n'abakozi ba komisiyo bafata abahoze mu mashyamba ya Kongo ntabwo watekereza ko ari abantu bahoze barwanya leta (...). Ubona bakorana umurimo wo kubasubiza mu buzima busanzwe ubwitange, urukundo n'ubumuntu bwinshi".²⁵ (when you see the way RDRC treats those who came from DRC bushes (read ex-combatants), you cannot imagine they were the ones who used to fight the government. They (RDRC) do their work with dedication, love and humanity).

Equally important in relation to the said commitment was the request from RDRC to train members of its board in gender responsive Demilitarization, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR). In the opinion of Janvier Mukantwari, the project contact person at UN Women, "this request is evidence of the interest that RDRC leadership attaches to its mission".²⁶ In addition to 49 RDRC staff members who received a gender responsive planning, monitoring and evaluation and DDR processes trainings, board members have been trained in the above-mentioned topic. The relevance of these trainings for the durability of the project impact is self-evident. Also important for the sustainability of the project results is the fact that the project provided RDRC with gender tools, including a gender mainstreaming strategy. It is too early to evaluate the quality of the said tools, but during the evaluation interview with UN Women representative, the development and adoption of the gender tools were referred to as a "significant" step in that they will guide

²³ Rwamagana, FGD with community members, 25 November 2021.

²⁴ Alexis Ndayisaba, Interview, Kigali, 03 December 2021.

²⁵ Janvier Mukantwari, Interview, Kigali, 16 December 2021.

²⁶ Interview of 16 December 2021.

RDRC activities for other programmes to come. Likewise, the built capacity will continue to serve national interests, including in future demobilization phases.²⁷

In addition to the commitment, RDRC has built a strong network at the local level, which continues to follow up reintegration process even after the project phased out. This network that includes local leaders and reintegrated ex-combatants from different phases was described as “a key asset for the sustainability of the project achievements.

The evaluation noticed a strong collaboration between RDRC and several national level and decentralized structures. For instance, the former National Unity and reconciliation Commission was actively involved in sensitizing 65 Phase of RDRP in matters pertaining to peace and reconciliation while NIDA collaborates in relation to the issuance of IDs to eligible ex-combatants and dependents. The same collaboration exists between RDRC and districts, sectors and cells.

3.4.5. Ex-combatants and dependent took up new community roles

Though the evaluation was not able to find the exact number of ex-combatants and dependents from 65 Phase who took up new roles and responsibilities, there are several examples that attest that. Both ex-combatants and dependents have taken up new roles at the community and local administration levels and beyond. These roles include enrolment of some ex-combatants into Rwanda Defense Force (RDF), security responsibility at the sector and cell levels and leadership positions within cooperatives and other community spaces. Cases of ex-combatants and dependents involved in cooperative management were reported in almost all the Nine districts that the evaluation covered. For instance, in Mbazi sector, Huye district, Nyamasheke sector, Nyamasheke district and Nyamyumba, Rubavu district, ex-combatants are in charge of security in the security committees in their respective villages.

3.4.6. Membership of Ex-combatants and dependents into joint community cooperatives

Another element that contributes to the project sustainability is the fact that many beneficiaries of 65 Phase of RDRP are enrolled in community-based cooperatives and informal financial schemes. In all the Nine districts, several ex-combatants and dependents indicated to the evaluation team being members of community cooperatives and other financial schemes such as *Ibimina*.

Membership into cooperatives creates opportunities for improved livelihoods. At the same time, cooperatives accelerate reintegration of ex-combatants in that their generate,

²⁷ Janviere Mukantwari, Idem.

community members believe, “a binding force that connects people from different backgrounds”.²⁸ Illustratively, during a community FGD in Rwamagana, a participant stated the following: “inkunga bahawe yatumye benshi babone ayo bakotiza mu mashyirahamwe, bagenda gagurizanya bigatuma bikenura (...) kandi amashyirahamwe azakomeza kubaho” (the support they received from the project enabled them to join cooperatives, they now earn some money and use it to address their problems (...) Cooperatives will continue to exist).²⁹

The same was confirmed by ex-combatants, dependents and local authorities. In all the Nine districts both project beneficiaries and local leaders repeatedly indicated that cooperatives help ex-combatants and their families to improve their living standards while promoting social cohesion. By offering its members a shared space around joint interest, cooperatives contribute to a better living together (kubana) and participate in reintegrating ex-combatants.³⁰

3.5. COHERENCE

The 65th phase support to the reintegration of ex-combatants and their dependents builds on previous phases and contributes to the overall objective of the Rwanda demobilization and reintegration programs for ensuring timely and cost-effective delivery of demobilization and reintegration support

The implementation of the project has contributed to reinforcing the national reintegration mechanisms in Rwanda by filling the funding gaps and by contributing to building trust in the repatriation process. In fact, the project as, on one hand, contributed to filling the funding gaps by the Government of Rwanda overserved in the RDRP Stage IV. On the other hand, the project also embodies a catalytic nature derived from the fact that successful reintegration of combatants in Rwandan community will generate more trust in the repatriation and demobilization process on the side of FDLR members who are still in DRC. It is therefore obvious that the project was meant to contribute to the global regional, and national peacebuilding endeavors.

Furthermore, the role of different partners and mainly the UN agencies (especially the UNDP and UN Women) and the Government of Rwanda in the design and implementation of the project paramount in reaching the intended objectives. In fact, the UN organizations and the Government of Rwanda have participated in the design of the project by providing all the required inputs that helped shape the project. The partners also played a key role in

²⁸ The idea was repeated in many districts including Rwamagana, Gakenke, Nyamasheke and Musanze.

²⁹ Community members FGD, Rwamagana, 25 November 2021.

³⁰ Interview with Mukamazera Marie Gorette, Executive Secretary of Mbazi Cell, Huye, 15 November 2021.

monitoring the project implementation and in introducing the required refinements/adjustments especially in response to the COVID19 volatile context.

In addition to important role played by UN agencies and the central government, Phase 65 was also characterized by extensive consultation of ex-combatants, their dependents and local government entities at different stages of the project, including in the design and implementation. Visits and sensitization meetings were organized and discussions between local authorities, project team and beneficiaries informed the adoption of corrective measures where needed.

“We frequently received visits from authorities and project supporters to discuss how the project was implemented and our views were taken into account in the refining the implementation”³¹

Despite commendable achievements of the project, this assessment has signaled some grievances by beneficiaries from other phases. In fact, Phase 65 is the only one that targeted both ex-combatants and their dependents, raising expectations from beneficiaries from other phases.

3.6. Conflict-sensitivity

The PBF/RDRC project adhered to the Do No Harm principle. This implies that the project was sensitive to conflict from its design. Like it does with other reintegration phases, RDRC conducted the profiling of phase 65 ex-combatants upon arrival in the demobilization camp. Profiling provides relevant information, including on drivers and risks of conflicts. The information that is obtained from the profiling is shared with relevant institutions and organs for action.

Beyond on camp profiling, sensitivity to conflict in a common feature during the rest of the reintegration process. For instance, vulnerability assessment, pre-discharge orientation and follow up visits were found sensitive to the background of Ex-C and the national, local and family contexts. Context monitoring and monitoring of the project implementation are equally

Profiling project beneficiaries provided relevant information on drivers and risks of conflicts which information was shared with relevant institutions and organs for action. Context monitoring and monitoring of the project implementation were equally attentive to any unforeseen negative impact of the project

³¹ FGD of ex-combatants, Gakenke, 19th November 2021

attentive to any unforeseen negative impact of the project. Monitoring of the project implementation process is partly due to the need to identify any unintended negative effect of the project in order to develop corrective measures timely.

Identified cases of conflicts were addressed via advisory services by district legal service, MAJ (including orientation) and relevant sector/cell/village administrative units. For instance, in order to ease access to basic services such as bank account, education and health and prevent conflicts particularly between spouses, RDRC and NIDA work collaboratively to accelerate the process of ID issuance. Photo taking is done before ex-combatants and dependents are released to their villages.

In the same vein, ex-combatants and spouses are sensitized for marriage legalization with the aim to ensure associated rights of men, women and children are safeguarded. Cases that could not be addressed during the project lifetime or that require intervention of other structures were reported to competent organs to mitigate negative impact of such conflicts.

The evaluation found that most conflicts are intra-families rather than inter-family. They are mainly related to disagreement on the way family land and other properties are used by those who remained in the country or returned to Rwanda before their relatives. Given the fact that this form of conflict is reportedly frequent, there is a need for RDRC to conduct a specific and systematic conflict analysis prior to the release of ex-combatants from the demobilization camp.

3.7. Catalytic, risk, tolerance and innovation

The PBF/RDRC project was catalytic in that it was meant to inform future programming. Providing support beyond ex-combatants contrarily to all other RDRP has had catalytic effect. The project approach to provide direct support to dependents (women and children) in addition to Ex-C has led to quick wins in terms of reintegration. The focus on family reintegration as opposed to individual based reintegration is believed to have eased reintegration and therefore worth to be used in future DDR projects. This has been the key innovative aspect of the project.

Direct support to ex-combatants and dependents has significantly raised the capacity of families, allowing them to initiate/engage in income generating activities. As earlier mentioned, many are involved in agricultural activities, other have started small business. In the words of RDRC

By improving livelihoods of its beneficiaries, the project has directly contributed to social harmony.

*The project has empowered women to participate in family decision making through participation in income generating activities
Targeting approach focusing ex-combatant and their dependents should replicated in future planning*

leadership and staff³², the project has had a unique impact in that it empowered at the same time ex-combatants, but also spouses and children. This promoted the rights of men, women, and children.

By improving livelihoods of its beneficiaries, the project has directly contributed to social harmony. As many participants in the evaluation indicated, there have been only a few cases of conflicts between beneficiaries of 65 Phase of RDRP and their neighbors. For instance, during community FGDs in Gakenke and Musanze, participants partly attributed this state of harmony to the gains of the project. For many participants, peace that prevails at the community level where ex-combatants from 65 phase reported has to do with what they received from the project that helped them to resume a normal life.

Where risks of and conflicts were identified, they were mediated by existing community structures such as MAJ, Abunzi, umugoroba w'imiryango and inshuti z'umuryango. Project staff made the necessary follow up where needed (particularly for cases involving a second wife, or land conflict) through monitoring visits to ensure such risks do not develop into violence. Understandably this is done in collaboration with relevant organs within the local governments.

The 18 months of the project lifetime appear relatively too short for the project that targeted changes in attitudes and mindset. However, this period was meant to generate lessons that would inform future DDR programming. Based on the findings of the evaluation, this objective has been undoubtedly achieved. From now onward, RDRC envisages to be designing projects in way that target both ex-combatant and their dependents. For instance, by proving women and youth (dependents) with marketable skills in addition to ex-combatants, the project has accelerated the process of reintegration through family conducive environment. This, our sources believe, contribute to de-radicalization in a relatively short period of time. Furthermore, for having empowered women particularly by providing them with access to income generating opportunities (cooperatives, informal financial schemes, entrepreneurship skills), consequently the project has improved their participation in family decision making. Several participants in the evaluation argued that the strengthened participation of women in decision making is key for conflict prevention and management bit at the family and community level. This indirect project outcome participates in providing communities with inside mediators – a key driver of peace and social cohesion. All these lessons are to be replicated in future RDRC programming. Furthermore, the model and experience of the PBF/RDRC project were appreciated by beneficiaries and described by local authorities, RDRC staff, UNDP and UN Women representatives as a real success that

³² Interview with RDRC chair person, Kigali 14th December 2021

deserves to be replicated. The chance for RDRC to attract new funds as a result of lessons learnt from Phase 65 RDRP is high.

3.8. Time sensitivity

This project comes at the right time – coinciding with the launch of the Vision 2050 that promotes (among other things): peace, security and stability as well as strengthened participation and inclusiveness of all categories of Rwandans (men, women, youth, persons with disabilities) in the national development anchored in the “leave no one behind” and the “reach the furthest behind” principles of the 2030 agenda on Sustainable Development Goals.

In addition, from the onset of the project, implementors put in place with clear timeline for different milestones and a corresponding spending plan was also agreed upon taking into account the available time for delivering on the project expected outcomes.

Time sensitivity was also observed through the phased integration ex-combatants and their dependents. In fact, while dependents spent three months, ex-combatants stayed in Mutobo for six months to ensure they are well prepared to a peaceful reintegrate in their communities.

In addition, pre-discharge period was used to enable engagement between ex-combatants with political and administrative leaders with the aim to facilitate the reintegration.

3.9. Best practices and lessons learnt

The PBF/RDRC project was characterized by a number of best practices that are worth being highlighted. The same practices would inform next RDRP programming and similar projects.

Major project best practices are as follows:
Dedication of 30% of the project funds to women needs
Direct support to non-ex-combattants
Inclusion of special needs disaggregated project data
Optimal use of technology and active collaboration between key project partners

3.9.1. *The agreement dedicates 30% of the project funds to women needs*

The PBF/RDRC project has been sensitive to gender from its design phase as provided for in various global, regional and national peacebuilding frameworks. From the perspectives of both RDRC and UN Women, “the project gender responsiveness was the distinctive element

of the PBF/RDRC project”.³³ The agreement between UN and the GoR provides for a minimum of 30% of the total budget for women specific needs. For having been gender sensitive, the agreement set the ground for gender sensitive interventions, which resulted into women being empowered.

As ex-combatant spouses repeatedly mentioned, access to direct support from the project empowered them. In substance, women indicated being able to have a say in family affairs and the capacity to address some needs: “kubona inkunga y’umushinga byaduhaye ijambo mu miryango yacu, byatumye natwe tugira ubushobozi bwo kwikemurira utubazo tumwe na tumwe”³⁴ (the project support has given us a say in the family; it gave us the capacity to address some needs by ourselves).

Dedicating resources to women specific needs has led to impressive results as discussed in the previous sections. The implementation of the project activities followed the same path, leading to capacities and networks that is likely to continue to serve the interests of the project beneficiaries, their families and communities at large.

3.9.2. Direct support to non ex-combatants

The impact of the direct support to dependents of ex-combatants, both spouses and children, on the reintegration process of 65 Phase members cannot be overstated. In all the districts covered by the evaluation, ex-combatants, dependents, community members and local leaders affirmed in a convergent way the positive impact of this support, particularly the reintegration grant. The support did not empower women and vulnerable groups only, but also prevented conflicts via active participation in and contribution of men and women, boys and girls to the wellbeing of the family.

The approach, that other demobilization phase members envy, is seen as innovative in it led to quick wins among the project beneficiaries, including marketable skills, or a startup capital that enabled some to engage in small business and other income generating activities. By providing support to both ex-combatant and their dependents, the project significantly reduced vulnerability among 65 RDRP phase members. In line with this approach, the assessment of needs, but also the vulnerability assessment and various monitoring activities have taken into account the needs of men and women, boys and girls. It was on the basis of this that the choices for reintegration activities were operated.

³³ Janvière Mukantwari, Kigali, 16 December 2021.

³⁴ Interviews with spouses of ex-combatants in different districts.

3.9.3. Inclusion

The PBF/RDRC project was sensitive to inclusion. In line with the Leave No One Behind principle to which the project adhered, RDRC conducted the vulnerability assessment to identify those in need and support them accordingly. In addition to the vulnerability assessment, the project baseline study also identified priority needs for ex-combatants and dependents. The findings of the baseline were to be used to inform adjustments where needed.³⁵

The vulnerability assessment identified 1036 beneficiaries (318 women, 718 men) among them 41 people living with disabilities (all men) most vulnerable in need of emergency support to cater for basic needs including food, shelter but also to start small income generating activities (IGAs) and increase family income. Some of them (245) choose to enroll in vocational skills training including 100 women/girls and 145 men while young women parents with more than five children under 18 years received additional financial support to cover specific needs of women and their children. Those include supplement food, pads, etc. The assessment also identified 21 GBV cases which needed psychosocial support. All of them were women. They received psychological and medical support through individual counselling, social advice and referral to hospitals to address medical issues case by case. This group is mostly composed of ex combatants' wives, widows and single mothers. They benefited from particular attention and support.³⁶

3.9.4. Disaggregated project data

Another best practice that characterized the PBF/RDRC project is the collection and use of disaggregated data. The project reports (baseline, vulnerability assessments, progress reports...) took into account gender, age groups, background, and physical and mental conditions, among other criteria. Disaggregated data made it possible for the project to take decisions that are responsive to various criteria, including gender and disability.

Indicatively, disaggregated data has enabled the project to dedicate resources to the most critical needs. It is in this regard that 5 houses were built for category 1 disability (critically disabled). In the same line, breastfeeding mothers have received a special support to cater for the needs of their babies, but also their own. Disaggregated data has been critical for informed decision-making throughout the project implementation process.

³⁵ RDRC, *Op. Cit.*, 2022.

³⁶ PBF, *Support to the reintegration of ex-FDLR combatants and dependents repatriated to Rwanda from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in November 2018*, semi-annual report, Kigali, 2021.

3.9.5. *Optimal use of technology to run the project*

In response to the necessity to control and prevent the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, the GoR of Rwanda took a series of measures, in different times, including two lockdowns. Lockdowns and other COVID control measures coincided with the start of the project. They seriously affected the project calendar, which resulted into delays in the project implementation. The project partners widely resorted to technology tools, including Teams, Zooms and other platforms to execute various project activities to catch up with the time. The use of technology enabled the project team and partners to execute some activities virtually.

3.9.6. *Active collaboration with relevant organs led to outstanding success*

Established collaboration between RDRC, UN relevant agencies (UNDP and UN Women), central government institutions such as NIDA and Rwanda Cooperative Agency, technical and vocational schools, and local administration, among other partners, have led to outstanding achievements in a very challenging COVID-19 context. RDRC leadership and staff as well as local leaders have unanimously described this collaboration as a key factor of success. Equally important in this partnership is the role of Reserve Force and ex-combatant structures at the local government level.

3.10. **Challenges and gaps**

Though the project registered impressive results in terms of achievements and chance for sustainability, it was implemented in a particularly challenging context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The project was launched in January 2020, but a few weeks later, the pandemic broke out and caused to significant delays in the implementation of activities. The table below presents the major challenges that the project was faced with, associated gaps, and mitigation strategies used. It also suggests, for a number of observed gaps/challenges, ideas that can inform future programming.

Table 2. Challenges faced and Mitigation strategies

SN	Challenges /Gaps	Mitigation strategy/ideas on improvement
1.	Delays resulting from lockdown and reduced activity due to COVID-19 pandemic	Use of technology tools for online communication (where feasible); A 3 three-month non-cost extension of the project

2.	Joint sensitization sessions between MONUSCO and RDRC of members of armed groups who are still active in DRC did not take place essentially due to the COVID-19 context	RDRC used media, particularly Radio Rwanda's <i>Isange mubanyu</i> programme that is aired once a week
3.	Shorter project life time for a process that requires changes in attitudes	Plan for longer term reintegration programmes and follow up periods Reintegration process to be formally handed to local government organs when the funding phases out
4.	Parallel reporting (RDRC for UNDP and UN Women)	Better to pull funds into one single basket for future projects
5.	Trainees who had not received certificates at the time of the evaluation exercise while graduation was expected to take place in October 2021	Need for RDRC to ensure certificates are availed for those who have completed trainings to provide them with evidence for marketable skills
6.	Frequent land-based conflicts between ex-combatants and their relatives	RDRC sought the services of MAJ for legal advice and orientation
7.	Limited skills for RDRC partners in local governments, particularly with regard to psychosocial support to ex-combatants & dependents	Capacitation of local leaders needed for future projects in order for them to effectively support the reintegration process, essentially when the project phases out

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The aim of this final evaluation was to assess progress made towards the achievements of the overall and specific objectives of the PBF/RDRC project, known under the name of 65 Phase of RDRD by documenting achievements against the initial targets, gaps, best practices and lessons learnt and providing recommendations to guide future programming by RDRC, UN Women, UNDP and other stakeholders.

4.1. Key evaluation findings

In light of the evaluation findings, 65 Phase of RDRP has been unique in that it concentrated on a family-based vision of reintegration (dependents eligible for direct support) as opposed to individual-based (ex-combatants) reintegration. This approach (provision of direct support to the primary RDRP targets and dependents) has led to outstanding successes as recorded in the stories of change from the project beneficiaries despite a particularly delicate background of the core beneficiaries of the project (4 years in DRC camps; high ambitions about a negotiated repatriation process, forceful repatriation...).

The project has adopted a gender and inclusion sensitive approach from its design. This has led to interventions that took into account specific needs of men and women, boys and girls. The PBF/RDRC project was aligned to a number of global, regional and national peacebuilding goals. These include SDG16, the UNSCR 1325 on women, peace and security, the PSC-F on DRC and the region, the Kampala Declaration against SGBV and the NST I, transformation governance pillar, particularly the sub-pillar on peace and unity.

Additional factors of success include a strong collaboration between RDRC, UNDP, UN Women and local governments among others; and investment in life long skills for the project direct beneficiaries (ex-combatants and dependents) such as marketable skills, membership to cooperatives, etc. The joint nature of the project made it possible for each partner organization (UNDP, UN Women, RDRC) to bring in its comparative advantages, leading to cumulative positive effects on the side of the project beneficiaries (provision of marketable skills by UNDP, gender responsive activities by the UN Women, strong re-integration expertise by RDRC).

Based on stories from the evaluation, “beneficiaries of Phase 65 of RDRP are well integrated in the society.”. This was confirmed by Phase 65 beneficiaries, dependents, those repatriated in previous phases as well as host community members. Evidence of successful reintegration includes ex-combatants 65 Phase members taking on additional community roles. These roles include security at the local level, enrollment in RDF and cooperatives leadership and

membership. The evaluation found no case of ex-combatant from 65 Phase who went back to the bushes of DRC, contrarily to other reintegration intakes.

The project however faced a number of challenges/gaps f which were associated to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic context. Major challenges include delays in the start and implementation of the project activities due to COVID-19, limited project timeline as compared to expected changes in mentality, attitudes and relationships, slow procurement process and parallel reporting on the side of RDRC.

The table below provides an overview of the major findings per key evaluation objective

S/N	Objective	Major evaluation findings
1	Relevance and appropriateness in responding to real needs and alignment to strategic peacebuilding goals	The project responded to priority needs of beneficiaries including support in marketable skills, entrepreneurship literacy and access to startup capital among others. For instance, a total of 803 project beneficiaries, including 439 women (54.7%) and 364 men (45.3%) ex-combatants received mentorship and guidance on how to develop income generating activities and joining cooperatives. With regard to strategic peacebuilding goals, the PBF/RDRC project contributed particularly to the PSC-F for the DRC and the region and the Kampala Declaration on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). Repatriation of 65 Phase of ex-combatants was possible due to an active cooperation between the governments of DRC, Rwanda and MONUSCO. From an internal perspective, the project is directly aligned to the transformational governance pillar, particularly areas related to the “peace and unity” and “increased participation and engagement of citizens in development”.
2	Contribution to reducing conflict factors & advancement of relevant SDGs, particularly SDG 16	The PBF/RDRC project made a concrete contribution to reducing conflict factors in Rwanda especially among the demobilized ex-combatants and dependents. The project directly empowered men and women, boys and girls to constructively contribute to social harmony via improved livelihoods. By providing a direct support to ex-combatants and adult dependents, the project reduced livelihood vulnerability and participated in a successful reintegration of the project beneficiaries. No single case of return to DRC bushes was reported among the project beneficiaries, which is, in itself, an indication of success.
3	Project efficiency (implementation strategy, institutional arrangements as well as its management and	The project implementation was solidified by strongly established coordination mechanisms coupled with adequate communication between different partners,

	operational systems and value for money)	namely the UNDP, UN Women, RDRRC and local governments. Interviews with the UN agencies revealed a shared feeling that RDRRC has successfully used its experience for the implementation of the PBF/RDRRC project. The project activities covered 97.5% of the planned budget. Efficiency in the implementation of the project was also materialized by the use of data in refining the project implementation and especially in informing the choice of appropriate corrective actions where deemed necessary.
4	Promotion of the Women, Peace and Security agenda (WPS), particularly women's participation in peacebuilding processes	As a result of the project empowerment, beneficiaries, men and women, have taken on new roles at the community level, including in the security sector and cooperatives. The evaluation clearly shows that women's voice and role in family decision-making have equally increased as a result access to finances and income generating activities brought about by the project
5	Sensitivity to conflict (approach)	The PBF/RDRRC project observed the principle of Do No from the design to the implementation phase. The profiling project beneficiaries provided relevant information on drivers and risks of conflicts which information was shared with relevant institutions and organs for action. Context monitoring and monitoring of the project implementation were equally attentive to any unforeseen negative impact of the project and solutions were devised in such a way that emerging issues were addressed in a conflict sensitive manner. MAJ and local government structures have played a key role in addressing such issues, including land related disputes.
6	Gender-responsiveness of project implementation and pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment	The project has empowered women, among other beneficiaries, through the provision of startup capital, marketable skills and direct reintegration grant. For instance, a total of 555 ex-combatants and their dependents, including 237 women, (42.70%) have been trained on marketable skills of their choice which informed their livelihood initiatives choices as they were submitting projects requiring support. At the RDRRC level, 49 RDRRC staff, including 23 women (46.9%) and 26 men (53.1%) have been trained in gender responsive DDR processes. All victims of GBV have been provided psychosocial support, including orientation and advocacy.
7	Inclusion of vulnerable groups (women, youth disability) and the implementation of the principle Leaving No One Behind	By mainstreaming specific needs of women, the youth and people with disability, the project has responded to the principles of inclusion and Leave No One Behind. The project was equally sensitive to special needs.

		Illustratively, 5 houses were built for critically disabled ex-combatants; breastfeeding mothers have received a special support to address their needs and those of babies.
8	Good practices, innovations and lessons emerging from the project	The project's outstanding best practices include gender and inclusion sensitivity from its design (a minimum of 30% of the project funds dedicated to women's needs; Leave no One Behind...), provision of direct support to dependents of ex-combatants, a strong collaboration between RDRC and other governments institutions as well as lifelong skills capacity building.
9	Impact of COVID-19 on the project implementation and results	COVID-19 has affected the project start and implementation pace, but adjustments have been progressively made to accommodate the new context. The use of technology tools for communication and a non-cost extension of a 3 months have enabled the project team to implement close to 100% of the project activities

4.2. Recommendations

In relation to noticed challenges and gaps, best practices and lessons, the following recommendations are formulated:

To RDRC

- To develop a specific conflict sensitive analysis tool to complement the existing environmental and social management framework. The conflict sensitive analysis would help identify conflict drivers and engines of peace before demobilized ex-combatants are released to their respective communities.
- To include in future project design funds for capacity building of local and opinion leaders (including MAJ, cell and sector executive secretaries for further reintegration accompaniment after the project phases out. Capacity building would take into account the background of RDRP beneficiaries (sensitive), DDR objectives, and include topics such as trauma counselling, conflict analysis and most used laws at the community level, including the land law, family law, succession law, GBV and child protection laws;
- Maintain the gender and inclusion criterion as a main feature of all reintegration projects and provide support to both ex-combatants and dependents to reinforce the family-based vision of reintegration;
- Extend reintegration projects lifetime to a minimum of 3 years to ensure enough time for better planning, activity implementation, monitoring and evaluation
- Organise a training session of the RDRC board members on gender sensitive DDR processes.

TO UN agencies (UNDP and UN Women)

- Pull peacebuilding/reintegration funds under one basket to reduce the time invested in reporting; Advocate for longer reintegration projects timelines to ensure enough time for project implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- Provide financial and technical support for building capacity of local and opinion leaders for better follow up of the reintegration process when project phase out.
- Ensure the joint nature of this project is replicated in future programing
- Extend reintegration projects lifetime to a minimum of 3 years to ensure enough time for better planning, activity implementation, monitoring and evaluation
- Provide support for translation of the project final evaluation report to Kinyarwanda

To UN Women

- Support the mainstream of DDR in the national gender frameworks including the National Gender Policy and National anti-Gender Based Violence Policy

REFERENCES

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PBF, *Support to the reintegration of ex-FDLR combatants and dependents repatriated to Rwanda from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in November 2018*, semi-annual report, Kigali, 2021.

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UNDP, *Final PBF/RDRD Project Evaluation*, Terms of Reference, Kigali, September 2021

Annex 1. Summary of targets and achievements

Planned activities	Targets	Achievements	Achievements in %
Output 1: RDRC capacity enhanced to optimize and scale-up reintegration of ex-combatants			
Conduct sensitization meetings with ex-combatants and their dependents on the available support services and the related government programmes	3 meetings	Ex combatants were sensitized in 2 meetings targeting 555 ex-combatants and dependents including 237 women and girls (42.70%) and through house-to-house visits	67%
Promote social cohesion initiatives at local level	90% of ex combatants and their dependents report social acceptance by their communities	95% of ex combatants reported social acceptance by their communities	95%
Provide refresher psychosocial training to RDRC staff including a new module on psychosocial support to survivors of SGBV, Human trafficking and forced marriages	100% of project staff	100% of project staff trained. In total, 40 staff (17 women and 23 men) attended and completed the training	100%
Provide refresher training to RDRC staff on gender responsive planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of DDR process. This will include updating gender analysis and gender responsive M&E and child protection manual	40 staff	49 RDRC staff (23 women, 26 men) were trained in gender responsive M&E in the DDR process 24 RDRC staff were trained (14 women and 10 men)	100%
Deliver Psychosocial support to all ex-combatants with mental health problems	80%	100% of identified cases (130 men and 21 women) suffering from post-traumatic disorder and depression were supported	100%
Provide medical assistance to disabled and vulnerable ex combatants and their dependents	90%	100% of identified cases (43 Disabled ex combatants) received medical support	100%
Provide Medical and Psychosocial response services for survivors of SGBV among ex combatants and dependents	88%	100% of identified survivors of SGBV among ex combatants and dependents received support	100%
Support the teenage mothers among phase 65 ex combatants or their dependents	100%	100% (102 women and girls) of identified dependents enrolled in TVET Schools and are expected to receive tool kits after graduation in October.	100%
Output 2: Social-economic reintegration and their dependents is optimized and up-scaled through inclusive local development programs.			
Conduct the vulnerability support window (VSW) screening for ex combatants and dependents to be supported depending on their preferences	78% of ex combatants and 76 % of dependents	95 % ³⁷ of ex combatants and 100% of dependents were screened	95% and 100%
Conduct sensitization meetings with ex-combatants and their dependents on marketable skills of their choice	70% of ex combatants participating in local development programs	98% of ex combatants and their dependents participate in local development programs	98%

³⁷ A total of 1036 Ex Combatants and civilians with their dependents were assessed/screened. The screening did not cover the RDRC did not screen beneficiaries convicted for genocide and other crimes against humanity

Deliver skills training to eligible ex-combatants and dependents through Vulnerability Support Window (VSW)	60% of trained ex combatants and dependents who actively use the skills they were trained for. At least 30% of women enrolled in TVET	(100%) 246 ex combatants and dependents were trained and graduated in September 2021. 41.1% of women and girls trained (100 women).	100%
Provide reintegration support to demobilized ex-combatants as start-ups for income generating activities	30% of women among ex combatants and dependents receiving start up capital funds 554 (553 Ex C & 1 Fem Ex C.) plus dependents	100% Of ex-combatants 100% Women dependents supported	100%
Provide mentorship/technical guidance to implement income generating activities for ex combatants and dependents	803 (439 Women & 364 Men)	All ex-combatants and their dependents were visited, received mentorship and guidance on Development of their Income Generating Activities and joining cooperatives	100%
Support cooperatives of ex-combatants, through technical assistance, entrepreneurship skills, learning tours and project competition	65 Co-operatives	63 Selected cooperatives received support	97%
Output 3: Awareness of Combatants remaining in armed groups outside Rwanda raised with a view to paving the way for voluntary repatriation			
Conduct sensitization and communication activities (talk shows, quarterly magazines and Isange mu banyu, newsletters, newspapers, web media, video documentaries, national and international radio and TV broadcasts, etc.) including women and Girl's corner.	1 activity organized each quarter	Weekly programs are aired on Radio Rwanda and quarterly, Monthly magazines printed. Monthly news magazine were produced. RDRC aired live talk show on Radio Rwanda and Rwanda Television where the focus was on reintegration of Ex combatants and dependents	100%
Produce women and girls' corner in quarterly newsletter where women ex combatants and dependents share their successful reintegration stories aimed at sensitizing others to return	2 stories featuring women and girl's ex combatants or dependents in each newsletter	Weekly programs are aired on Radio Rwanda and quarterly, Monthly magazines printed. Monthly news magazine were produced. RDRC aired live talk show on Radio Rwanda and Rwanda Television where the focus was on reintegration of Ex combatants and dependents	100%
Output 4: Gender is mainstreamed throughout repatriation and reintegration services provided within RDRP.			
Develop a Gender mainstreaming strategy into RDRP	75 % of RDRC plans and reports produced after strategy development include gender considerations	A strategy is developed and 100 % of the plans and reports include gender considerations	100%
Strengthen RDRC capacity for a gender responsive management of DDR/RR process	30 Staff trained in gender responsive planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of DDR process	49 staff trained (26 men and 23 women)	100%
Support the production and dissemination on gender mainstreaming in DDR in English and Kinyarwanda	300 copies of Gender mainstreaming manual	Gender mainstreaming manual produced	An online version of the manual was shared.

			The dissemination/distribution of the hard copied of the manual are still going on
Output 5: Provide protective equipment, thermometers, hygiene materials to ex-combatants and their dependents in demobilization and transit centres			
Provide protective equipment, Construction of handwash facilities	2 hand wash facilities, 4 infrared thermometers, 6,000 facemasks, 100 hand sanitizers	2 hand wash facilities constructed in Mutobo DC and Nyagatare TC, 4 thermometers, 6,000 facemasks purchased and distributed	100%

Source: RDRC, Sept 202

Annex 2. List of participants in FGDs and KIIs at district level

#	AMAZINA	AKARERE	ICYO AKORA	TARIKI
1	2 FGDs EX-Combatants	Huye	FGDs	15/11/2021
	1 FGDs Spouses of EX-C	Huye	FGDs	15/11/2021
	Nsenga Mutima Wardo Child of EX-C	Huye	Child of Rx-C/0789045227	15/11/2021
	Mukamazera Marie Gorette	Huye	Executive Secretary of Cell Mbazi/0782636447	15/11/2021
2	2 FGDs EX-C	Nyamasheke	FGDs	16/11/2021
	1 FGDs Community members	Nyamasheke	FGDs	16/11/2021
	1 FGDs EX-C and Community members	Nyamasheke	FGDs	16/11/2021
	Ntaganira Evariste	Nyamasheke	SEDO Cell Rwezzero/0788466797	16/11/2021
	Kanamugire Adolphe	Nyamasheke	Director Good governance/0788610668	16/11/2021
3	2 FGDs EX-Combatants	Rubavu	FGDs	17/11/2021
	1 FGDs Community members	Rubavu	FGDs	17/11/2021
	Mukanyamibwa Eugenie	Rubavu	Spouse of Ex-C/0784726146	17/11/2021
	Mujawayezu Dancilla	Rubavu	Spouse of Ex-C/0781335505	17/11/2021
	Nkurunziza Faustin	Rubavu	Executive Secretary Kanzenze Sector/0788473058	17/11/2021
	Habina Gratien	Rubavu	Village leader Nyamyumba/0786667634	17/11/2021
4	2 FGDs EX-C	Musanze	FGDs	18/11/2021
	1 FGDs Community members	Musanze	FGDs	18/11/2021
	1 FGDs EX-C and Community members	Musanze	FGDs	18/11/2021

	Ntirenganya Martin	Musanze	Director of Social development Unity/0788466299	18/11/2021
5	2 FGDs EX-Combatants	Gakenke	FGDs	19/11/2021
	Uwamahoro Clarisse	Gakenke	Spouse of Ex-C/0784334855	19/11/2021
6	2 FGDs EX-Combatants	Bugesera	FGDs	22/11/2021
	1 FGDs Community members	Bugesera	FGDs	22/11/2021
	Nyiramudacumura Patricie	Bugesera	Spouse of Ex-C/0787712502	22/11/2021
	Murenzi Jean Marie Vianney	Bugesera	Director of Social development Unity /0788539476	22/11/2021
7	1 FGDs EX-C	Kamonyi	FGDs	23/11/2021
	1 FGDs Community members	Kamonyi	FGDs	23/11/2021
	Ayinkamiye Beata	Kamonyi	Spouse of Ex-C/0781080893	23/11/2021
	Mushimiyimana Rosine	Kamonyi	Executive Secretary Cell/0783291507	23/11/2021
	Ntirenganya Emike	Kamonyi	Village leader/0788283489	23/11/2021
8	2 FGDs EX-Combatants	Gasabo	FGDs	24/11/2021
	Shumbusho Jean de Dieu	Gasabo	Child of Ex-C	24/11/2021
	Mugabo Danny	Gasabo	Executive Secretary Cell Cyaruzinge Ndera/0788418852	24/11/2021
	Uwimana Jean Claude	Gasabo	Village leader Karubibi ndera/0783487914	24/11/2021
9	1 FGDs EX-C	Rwamagana	FGDs	25/11/2021
	1 FGDs Community members	Rwamagana	FGDs	25/11/2021
	Mukanyana Violette	Rwamagana	Spouse of Ex-C/0725899152	25/11/2021
	Uwinama Oliva	Rwamagana	Spouse of Ex-C/0789420224	25/11/2021
	Ayinkamiye Therese	Rwamagana	Leader Village/0786990982	25/11/2021
	Uwamungu Evode	Rwamagana	Executive Secretary Cell/0788403776	25/11/2021

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1. Total FGDs of EX-C: **16**
 2. Total FGDs of dependents: **1**
 3. Total FGDs Community members: **6**
 4. Total FGDs EX-C and Community members: **2**
 5. Total interviews spouses of EX-C: **7**
 6. Total interviews Child of Ex-C: **2**
 7. Total interviews of local government leaders: **13**

Grand Total: 47

Annex 3. List of participants in KIIs at central level

Names	Institution	Date
Alexis Ndayisaba	UNDP	6 th December 2021
Muberanyana Jane	RDRRC/ M&E	13 TH December 2021
Nyirahabuneza Valerie	RDRRC/Chairperson	14 th December 2021
Musoni Francis	RDRRC/SG	14 th December 2021
Kayiranga Francois	RDRRC/project coordinator	16 th December 2021
Mukantwali Janvier	UN Women	20 th December 2021