

Village Justice and Empowerment

COD-HEA-VJE-P03



Goma/Idjwi, Dem Rep of Congo



Economic Empowerment

Total Budget

\$72,000

Project Timeline

JAN 18

JULY 22



Overview

In an area ravaged by ongoing civil conflict and natural disasters, our partners offer healthcare together with community development to the marginalized, vulnerable and needy. This project established 8 local village leadership committees of men and women to bring about justice and empowerment in their communities. Through training and capacity building, local leaders from all groups effectively contributed to peace and stabilisation. With training and support, conflict resolution and mediation were undertaken with great success. The project took 4.5 years rather than 3 as planned due to civil unrest, volcanic activity and COVID-19, however we are pleased to support our partners as they resolutely move forward with great resilience.

Objectives



8 peace committees formed

Impact

In the absence of a good justice system, 108 leaders were selected by 8 communities and were trained and supported in many areas of conflict resolution and mediation with 82.7% achieving successful outcomes.



Over 10,000 benefitted from conflict resolution

Over 10,000 have benefitted as the committee gained the respect and trust of their communities. The long-term impact will benefit everyone. Hundreds of microloans have added extra impact and much-needed support for families.



Elyse's successful mediation for girls and women!

Elyse says, "I was one of the committee members chosen to represent the community. I was trained in the types and sources of conflict resolution and in different ways to mediate many situations. This has been lacking in my community. I was put in charge of the young girls sector. I am now called to these conflicts and outcomes have improved considerably." As a result, Elyse has become an adviser and counsellor for young girls and women of her community. As she has assisted and advised many in her village, the women have chosen her to be president of the group of girls they created in their village.



Life change

- Good leadership has helped villagers to feel empowered and safe in their communities
- Peaceful and fair outcomes have helped build a cohesive community, bringing hope
- Villagers are re-building their lives knowing there is justice and stability
- Small loans for start-up businesses has resulted in children attending school and better health through nutrition and access to medicines, together with self esteem and pride

