



Democratic Republic of Congo



Country Snapshot

- 3rd largest country in Africa with 2,344,798 Kms
- over 200 ethnic groups
- 55 million people
- 4.0 million deaths over the last 10 years
- Under five mortality 20.5%
- Life expectancy 41.8
- 48% of population under the age of 14
- Infant mortality rate: 89 per 1,000 births
- Maternal mortality ratio : 990/100,000
- HIV prevalence: 4.2%
- Annual per capita income: \$120
- More that 80% of population lives in absolute poverty line
- Landlines 10,600 & 2.9 million Mobile phones

Sources: United Nations Human Development Report 2005, World Bank Annual Report 2005

Program Overview

CARE DRC's approach is to work in partnership with others, reinforcing civil society to engage in advocacy and actions in favor of vulnerable and marginalized groups and enabling the latter to claim their rights and assume their responsibilities. All of the projects in the CARE DRC portfolio use a similar approach to raise awareness and reinforce the rights and responsibilities of all actors, and to advance toward a peaceful, democratic state that supports the sustainable development of its society.

Équateur Province

Landscape Protection (Maringa – Lopori – Wamba)

In a region equivalent in size to both Burundi and Rwanda, CARE works with local communities to help them protect the environment, while maintaining their livelihoods that are dependent on the forest. While developing community-based natural resource management plans in collaboration with the residents, CARE is reinforcing structures that advocate for more appropriate environmental policies at the national and regional levels.

Kasai Occidental et Oriental Provinces

Reproductive Health

In collaboration with community organizations and government health services this program, funded by the United States Agency for International Development, raises awareness about and increases access to family planning services, builds capacity of health providers and community agents on family planning and counseling skills to insure that individuals are able to make informed choices when selecting a family planning method. The program provides

contraceptive supplies through health clinics and community agents and works with community based organizations and peer educators to increase demand for family planning services and products.

Maniema Province

Demobilization and reintegration of children formerly associated with armed groups

The program, funded by the World Bank, advocates with military and militia leaders for the release of children, traces the family and reunifies the child with his/her family. Children who cannot be immediately reunified are temporarily housed in a transit and orientation center or are placed with host families. The program also works at the community level to assist children to reintegrate back into their communities through education and economic opportunities. The program works throughout Maniema Province. CARE is also a member of the NGO Consortium composed of IRC and IFESH who implement demobilization and reintegration programs for children in Oriental and Northern Katanga.

Women in Development of Maniema (Wakinamama)

This program provides a forum for women, particularly many of the young women who have been demobilized from armed groups, to improve their household livelihood security by participating in income-generating and savings activities, as well as strengthening the role of women in the communities.

Basic Health Care

Working through more than 100 health centers and hospitals in Southern Maniema, CARE provides medicines, equipment and builds staff capacity in health service delivery and supervision. The program works with community based health committees, involving them in the management of



Patients from the main Hospital of Kasongo

health services and works with community associations in the promotion of health practices. The program also includes a health component for survivors of sexual and gender based violence.

Improving the health of survivors affected by sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)

Mwishowe, tuna furaha moyoni

Working through health centers in Kibombo Territory of Maniema, CARE provides medicines and works with health care providers to increase their capacity on treatment and counseling of survivors of SGBV. CARE works through community peer educators who refer survivors for treatment and works in partnership with COOPI, an Italian NGO, who provide the psycho-social counseling as well as reintegration activities for survivors of SGBV.

Combating Malaria

In collaboration with the health structures in the area, CARE aims to reduce the impact and incidence of malaria in Kasongo through community based strategies for managing malaria, including the distribution of mosquito nets for pregnant women and children under the age of five years. Health service providers receive training for the prevention and treatment of malaria, including the provision of drugs. Local associations are trained in long-term marketing of mosquito nets. This program is funded through the Global Fund.

Reproductive Health

In collaboration with government health services, the program raises awareness about and increases access to family

planning, builds capacity of health providers on clinical family planning and counseling skills to insure that individuals are able to make an informed choice when selecting a family planning method. The program, funded by the US Agency for International Development, provides contraceptive supplies through health clinics and works with community based organizations and peer educators to increase demand for family planning services and products.

Community Action for Development (PACDEV)

This program, funded by the Government of Netherlands, builds the capacity of local civil society organizations to undertake and successfully implement projects for the overall wellbeing of the war-affected communities. The program focuses on infrastructure rehabilitation, reinforcing peace among communities and pursuing livelihood improvements. A particular emphasis is being placed on education by rehabilitating schools and, in collaboration with partners, supplying materials such as textbooks, teachers' guides, and offering teacher training events.

Major Donors

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Center for International Research, the European Union (ECHO), the MacArthur Foundation, and the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

CARE International members supporting current programs:

CARE Canada, CARE USA, CARE France, CARE Netherlands, and CARE Germany

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