



News from our Partners

Rwanda – As part of its work with genocide survivors, SEVOTA hosted a meeting between women and their husbands to help improve their relationships, as well as the relationship with their children. A training on human rights and the right to peaceful enjoyment of possessions was also provided. This was an opportunity for beneficiaries to share, in gender-based groups, traumatizing experiences of cohabitation and to exchange advice under the guidance of trained facilitators.

Some husbands attended a formative workshop to discuss their family situation as part of a process aimed at promoting and building peaceful cohabitation. A follow-up meeting will bring together husbands, wives and children to discuss and exchange their views as a means to improve their mental health and psychological well-being.



SEVOTA also provided training on human rights and mental health treatment exercises to representatives of *peace clubs* which allow youth to take part in sport and recreation activities. During these meetings, young people talk about their personal journey and testify about the abuse and maltreatment they have suffered as children, in particular due to the fact that their fathers were engaged in the genocide. SEVOTA visited these young people at their schools and in their homes to provide psychosocial support. The provision of care to these young people is necessary as more than 80% of them suffer from low self-esteem and show signs of depression.



Liberia – As part of its work on gender equality in education, ADWANGA conducted a refresher training in learner-centered coaching and gender pedagogy for teachers, principals, school

administrators, community education monitors and girls club supervisors, as well as AWANGA's county coordinators. The training targeted 735 individuals and trained 709 participants from 25 schools in three counties.



The organization also conducted community engagement activities centered on the involvement of parent teacher associations (PTAs) in order to raise awareness and to promote

the participation of the community in the Gender Equitable Education Program (GEEP) activities. Radio spots were broadcasted on five community radio stations to inform communities of the GEEP and its impact.



During that period, 25 PTAs received school improvement grants aimed at ensuring a safe and healthy learning environment, notably through the rehabilitation of WASH facilities. The project also supported girls club activities, such as: a) girls club meetings to discuss life skills

issues ranging from the prevention of unwanted pregnancies to SGBV; b) girls club seed money, and c) recreations and excursions to allow girls to meet their peers and leaders from other institutions and to identify career paths and role models.

DRC – During the months of June and July, the supervisors who had been selected and trained in documenting cases of forced marriage and sexual slavery documented 44 cases in their respective areas, notably in the territories of Mambasa, Djugu, Mahagi and Irumu in the Province of Ituri. Of the 44 cases, 23 were cases of forced marriage and 21 were sexual slavery.

SOFEPADI will pursue its interviews with the victims identified during the month of August. These will provide information on the specific needs of victims with respect to socio-economic reintegration and possibilities for judicial support. In Oicha, as in Bunia (Mambasa and Mahagi territories), the organization will monitor victims trained in vocational training centers, as well as their income-generating activities. For their part, children born of forced marriage and sexual slavery will be identified for the purpose of reintegration into school starting in early September.

In Bunia, 10 cases are scheduled for a hearing in preparation with the military garrison court by mid-August. The preparation of the victims is carried out jointly with the partner CARITAS WAMBA based in Mambasa. SOFEPADI's lawyers and counselors are in contact with the victims in light of their participation in this hearing, supported by the Joint Human Rights Office (OHCHR).