



DEVELOPMENT ACTION GROUP “GRAD” Non-profit organization

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DRC

PROJECT TITLE : “PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT FOR 200 WAR SURVIVORS IN BUKAVU”.

I. IDENTIFICATION OF THE ORGANIZATION

Name of the Organization	Development Action Group "GRAD" in acronym
Organization Address	-Kinshasa: 4. Av.Loano , Q. Joli Parc, Commune of Ngaliema -BUKAVU : 38/C Av. Kindu, Q/ Ndendere , Commune of Ibanda Bukavu South Kivu. -FIZI : Q/AEBAZI Baraka Center. E-Mail:- gradasbl2008@gmail.com Website : www.gradasbl.org
Representatives of the Organization	1. ESSAMBO LUKYE Ferdinand Position: National Coordinator Mobile: (+243) 829 990 102 990 997 599 Email: ferdinandessambo@gmail.com 2. BASUBI WITANDAY Jean Claude Position: Program Manager Mobile: (+243) 819 585 713 894 005 468 Email : jcwitanday@gmail.com

	<p>3. M'MASA BYA'OMBE Adrien</p> <p>Position: Provincial Coordinator (South Kivu) and Project Manager</p> <p>Mobile: (+243) 999 111 274</p> <p>815 326 221</p> <p>Email: adrienmassa7@gmail.com</p> <p>4. MUBAKE PONGA Aline</p> <p>Position: Community Mobilization Officer</p> <p>Mobile: 0974841670</p> <p>Email:</p> <p>5. ZABIBU RAMAZANI Diane Gender and Social Affairs Officer Contact: +(243) 823102950</p> <p>6. ESSAMBO LUBYULA Georges Finance Officer Contact: +(243) 991910301 Email: essambolubyulageorges@gmail.com</p>
<u>Project Title</u>	Psychological support for 200 war survivors in Bukavu.
Direct beneficiaries	<p>200 people including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 40% women - 30% men - 25% children - 5% of people with disabilities
Final beneficiaries	1,200 internally displaced people in the city of Bukavu
Bank account	<p>TMB TRUST MERCHANT BANK SA</p> <p>ACCOUNT: 00017-11000-50111010101-68</p> <p>TITLE: DEVELOPMENT ACTION GROUP .</p>
Project Duration	6 months
Total project budget	\$45,375 USA

Location of the project area	City of Bukavu, South Kivu Province in the Democratic Republic of Congo
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II. PROJECT CONTEXT

For more than two decades, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has been plagued by recurring armed conflicts, particularly in the east of the country, which have seriously affected the eastern part of the Republic of Congo and the city of Bukavu, the capital of South Kivu province. These conflicts have led to the destruction of socio-economic infrastructure, the deterioration of public finances, and the forced recruitment of youth and children into armed groups, often under the guise of protecting community interests.

The consequences of these successive wars are devastating for Bukavu: massive human losses, an increase in the number of orphans, and a brake on human development. No district in the city is spared, with massive population displacements both within and outside the country, exacerbating the trauma among the displaced. These displacements not only constitute an obstacle to peacebuilding, but also a brake on development.

Since February 2025, the M23/AFC rebel movement's offensive has intensified the humanitarian crisis in Bukavu. Scenes of looting and destruction of basic infrastructure have plunged many families into poverty. Approximately 1,200 households are currently affected by this crisis. Displaced populations, without support, are taking refuge in schools and churches, or sleeping in the open, exposed to the harsh weather of the rainy season. To survive, some parents send their children to beg in the streets, sell packaging bags or iced water, or carry small parcels, thus compromising their well-being and future.

The humanitarian situation is alarming: health facilities are overwhelmed, with overcrowded hospitals and shortages of medicines and equipment. More than 15 health facilities have been partially destroyed, while epidemics of cholera, measles and mpox are spreading. Since January 2025, 377 cases of cholera have been reported, with a worrying increase of 146 new infections at the end of February, particularly in IDP sites and the health zones of Minova and Uvira .

Furthermore, education is severely affected, with more than 1,000 schools closed, depriving more than 300,000 students in the province of an education. In Bukavu alone, 19 schools are serving as makeshift shelters for displaced families, highlighting the urgent need for alternative solutions to ensure both access to education and humanitarian assistance.

Faced with this critical situation, United Nations agencies and international organizations, in partnership with national and local organizations, including GRAD, are stepping up their support for children and families. Efforts to reunite unaccompanied children with their families are underway, with 40% of children already reunited. Four "listening points" have been established to provide psychosocial support to children and families affected by the conflict and facilitate referrals to specialized care services.

The need for psychological assistance is therefore immense, particularly for orphaned children aged 5 to 17 and people living with disabilities, who are among the most vulnerable and crying out for help. It is imperative to strengthen psychosocial support services to

mitigate the trauma suffered by these populations and foster their resilience in the face of the atrocities they have experienced.

III. JUSTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT

The city of Bukavu, located in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, has been the scene of prolonged armed conflict, resulting in widespread violence, including sexual violence. This violence has left many people, particularly women and children, deeply traumatized and in need of appropriate psychological care.

Survivors of this violence require a holistic approach to care, encompassing medical, psychological, legal, and socioeconomic support. Organizations like the Panzi Foundation have demonstrated the effectiveness of this integrated approach in helping survivors rebuild their lives with dignity and resilience, which we want to use as an example for an adequate response to this problem facing this population.

IV. CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This psychological assistance project for 200 war survivors in Bukavu adopts a community-based approach focused on the active participation of beneficiaries at all stages of the project cycle. This method aims to strengthen resilience, promote inclusion, and ensure respect for gender by taking into account individuals' skills. By working closely with communities, the project identifies rights holders (women, men, youth, and other vulnerable people) and duty bearers (including managers of psychological care centers and government service agents). This approach promotes community empowerment, allowing them to better understand and claim their rights while fulfilling their obligations.

The project builds on existing local structures, mechanisms, committees, and networks within communities, which serve as credible relays and communication channels. These actors play a key role in raising awareness of the rights of people living with disabilities, displaced children, and returned children, encouraging the adoption of inclusive behaviors. They also facilitate dialogue to peacefully resolve disputes related to access to basic social services and available resources. In addition, the project monitors and documents abuses and other rights violations, with particular attention to the prevention and referral of survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) as well as people with specific needs. By integrating the specific needs of beneficiaries according to their age, abilities, and context, the project contributes to the sustainable development of the environment and the improvement of the living conditions of displaced persons.

V. OBJECTIVES

V.1. Overall objective

Improve the psychological well-being and resilience of 200 war survivors in Bukavu by providing them with appropriate psychosocial support, in order to promote their social reintegration and empowerment.

V.2. Specific objectives

- provide appropriate psychological support
- Strengthen the capacity of local professionals
- Facilitate social and economic reintegration
- Raise awareness among the community and stakeholders

VI. EXPECTED RESULTS ;

- Improving the psychological well-being of survivors
- Strengthening the skills of local professionals
- Facilitated social and economic reintegration
- Reduced stigma and increased awareness

VII. ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT

Implementing a psychological assistance project for 200 war survivors in Bukavu requires a series of key activities aimed at promoting the healing, empowerment, and socio-economic reintegration of beneficiaries. The main activities to be carried out are as follows:

1. **Needs assessment and community mobilization** : Conduct surveys to identify survivors requiring psychological support and raise awareness among communities about the importance of mental health and psychosocial support
2. **Individual and group psychological support** : Provide individual counseling sessions and organize group therapies to help survivors express their experiences, strengthen their resilience and facilitate their healing process.
3. **Capacity building of local providers** : Train local health professionals, social workers and community leaders in holistic care approaches to ensure an appropriate and sustainable response to the needs of survivors.
4. **Socio-economic reintegration activities** : Implement vocational training programs, income-generating activities and leadership development initiatives to promote the economic autonomy and social integration of survivors.

VIII . ACTIVITY PLANNING

No.	Activities	MONTH
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		1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Contact with local authorities, local leaders for needs assessment and community mobility.	X					
2.	. Individual and group psychological support	x					
3.	Strengthening the capacities of local service providers	x					
4.	Socio-economic reintegration activities		x				
5.	Organization of psychological treatment sessions and social reintegration						x
6.	Monitoring and evaluation			X	x	x	x

IX. COLLABORATION PARTNERS

- All local structures working in psychological care;
- Local development committees;
- The project staff;
- Agents of the “Development Action Group” **GRAD**;
- The beneficiary population of the city of Bukavu;
- The various civil society organizations and community-based organizations;

All stakeholders (Administration, National Organizations, International Organizations, Political-Administrative Authority, Police, Local Associations, etc.)

X. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The coordinator and the finance and administration officer will manage the project until it provides full psychological care to the 200 selected individuals. Support staff (psychologists) and other technicians will be hired as activities progress.

The Project Coordinator ensures the smooth running and progress of the activities assigned to each of the project managers.

Monitoring will be carried out by the project management team, based on the skills and responsibilities of each member. It will be based on an analysis of the project's activity reports submitted and the results of field visits. Lessons learned from these working visits will be shared to encourage improvement.

The Project Coordinator will conduct a visit to the farm to discuss with all stakeholders more effective collaboration mechanisms for more positive and sustainable results.

Monitoring will be carried out at any time as necessary through the use of project activity reports as well as field visits.

The achievements made in relation to expectations will allow judgment to be made on the changes to be made.

A mid-term report will be drawn up three months after the start of the project on the state of its progress and achievement of the project results compared to the forecasts and must provide explanations on any deviations noted to improve future ones.

The financial report will be audited and certified.

XI. ANALYSIS OF RISKS/WEAKNESSES AND MITIGATION MEASURES

This involves identifying the strategic weaknesses and current mechanisms that underlie the implementation of project activities, and making mitigation proposals with a view to optimizing results.

a. Risks/weaknesses

1. Weak incentives and incoordination of actions taken for quality treatment.
2. Non-payment of agents assigned to this project which could lead to cessation of activities, lack of preparation of private actors;
3. Lack of adequate psychological support infrastructure;
4. Insufficient information on the state of affairs of people affected psychologically;
5. Low technical capacity of healthcare staff to respect;
6. Insufficient financial resources allocated to this project;
7. Inappropriate allocation to psychological support centers (financial and material support) for actors and their misuse;
8. Other anti-value practices in the project;
9. Poor allocation of resources related to project management;
10. Embezzlement of funds.

b. Risk mitigation measures

1. Establishment of a permanent multi-stakeholder consultation platform and coordination of all actions carried out in favor of psychological care;
2. Work closely with the State and other partners to ensure that they take over psychological support activities by strengthening operational capacities;
3. Establish a financial management system under permanent control of a permanent internal audit and an independent external audit;
4. Place the project funds in a bank account in the name of the organization with 2 signatures;

5. Implement a monthly reconciliation system for bank accounts with the fund;
6. Establish a system for monitoring and permanent evaluation of project activities;
7. Report to the donor and project beneficiaries at each stage of the project;
8. Implement policies against fraud, against sexual abuse and exploitation and against vulnerable people;
9. Support beneficiaries to create a better atmosphere in care.

XII. SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PROJECT

This project, implemented by the GRAD organization in collaboration with the Globalgiving team and its grant partners under the facilitation of the local community of the city of Bukavu and its surrounding areas, brings a sigh of relief to this population, ravaged by large-scale armed conflicts and which continues to welcome internally displaced persons searching for armed atrocities in neighboring villages. The protection mode of this project must involve all the actors of the entity, at least initially, governance modes including a plurality of actors (residents, economic actors, state and decentralized institutions) with sometimes divergent interests and/or not used to dialoguing together. The involvement of these different stakeholders determines the sustainability of protection approaches. The scope of involvement and the role given to each of the parties differ greatly from one experience to another. As this project is a response to psychosocial resilience, psychological care is ensured and social needs are met. This six-month project, and its success, should encourage various stakeholders to build on the achievements made by establishing other psychological support centers in the area. A monitoring committee will be created to oversee this.

B. BUDGET FORECAST

XIV. BUDGET (in US\$)

No.	DESIGNATION	NUMBER	FREQUENCY	COULD	PT
1	Key personnel				
	Project Coordinator	1	6	700	4,200
	Clinical psychologists	2	6	500	3,000
	Social workers	3	6	480	8,640
	Animators	2	6	350	4,200

	Administrative staff	1	6	400	2,400
	Monitoring Officer	1	6	450	2,700
	Subtotal 1				25,140
2	capacity building				
	Training of psychologists and social workers	FF	FF	FF	780
	Awareness workshops for community leaders	FF	FF	FF	400
	Training materials (guides, digital media, etc.)	FF	FF	FF	490
	Subtotal 2				1,670
3	3. Location and layout of spaces				
	Rental of a reception center (6 months)	1	6	400	2,400
	Layout of therapy rooms	FF	FF	FF	1 800
	Purchase of furniture and equipment	FF	FF	FF	2,250
	Subtotal 3				6,450
4	Therapeutic equipment and supplies				
	Therapy materials (games, art therapy, books)	FF	FF	FF	5,000
	Office supplies	FF	FF	FF	800
	Phones and computers for tracking	FF	FF	FF	850
	Subtotal 4				6,650
5	Monitoring, evaluation and reporting				
	Field monitoring and evaluation mission	FF	FF	FF	860
	Final report and communication of results	FF	FF	FF	480
	Subtotal 5				1,340
6	Administrative and unforeseen costs (10%)				
	Bank charges, accounting	FF	FF	FF	2,025

	Unforeseen events	FF	FF	FF	2,100
	Subtotal 6				4,125
	GRAND TOTAL				45,375

Done in Bukavu, March 22, 2025



For the GRAD South Kivu organization

Adrien M'MASSA BYA'OMBE

Provincial Coordinator