

REPORT ON THE PROJECT "WOMEN FOR PEACE AND DIALOGUE" IN BURUNDI FUNDED BY GAI

December 2016

I. CONTEXT

In December 2016, the context did not change compared to previous months. The context has remained the same. On the politico-security front, few events should be mentioned:

- The political consensus on the way out of the socio-political crisis has remained far from being achieved. However, in December, the facilitator in the Burundi conflict, President Benjamin Mkapa paid a visit to the country which allowed him to meet the various partners involved in the Burundian dialogue. Women were invited and UNWOMEN played a role in preparing these women to meet with the facilitator.

- Insecurity has marked the context: cases of targeted killings, arrests, acts of violation of human rights denounced, assassination of Emmanuel Niyonkuru, Minister of Water, Environment, Regional Planning and Urban Development, etc.

- The country is facing a famine as a result of the bad weather occurred throughout the year. At least 2,100,000 households are in a humanitarian emergency and are in need of emergency food aid.

- Prices for essential products have risen sharply. This is aggravated by the rise in taxes on products of high consumption in order to fill the deficit caused by the interrupting of the international cooperation.

- - The Burundian human rights league ITEKA has been permanently struck off the civil society organizations by the Minister of the Interior and Patriotic Training, who accuses him of being "a repeat offender in his action to tarnish the image brand of the country and to sow hatred and the division of the Burundian population ". The UN deputy spokesman stressed that the United Nations said it was "very disappointed" with the government's decision to cancel this league which "is doing essential work to monitor and document human rights violations Committed in Burundi ".

All this has done much to fuel the political and security context. The security situation remains precarious.

II. MAIN ACTIVITIES

Output 1: Burundian women participate and lead in effective early warning and conflicts prevention

Activity 1: Continuation of implementing

Coordination continued to establish the Hillside Basic Nodes (HBCs), which are the continuation of the networking of mediators in the communities, at the hill level (the hill is a basic administrative entity in Burundi). As an example, with the end of 2016, the 14 provinces covered by the partner DUSHIREHAMWE has completed the installation of the NBC, ie 14 982 female mediators. The other 4 remaining provinces are covered by the CSO partner AGB. He's about finishing.

During the same month, coordination made an assessment of the implementation of NBCs across the country. The work was not fully completed by the end of December 2016. Initial estimates show that NBCs are established on 95% of the country's hills.

The NBCs are mainly concerned with organizing the dialogues on issues that affect the main concerns of the communities and whose consequences affect women. They are involved in conflict prevention.

Activity 2: Organization of dialogues.

The organization of the dialogues continued in December.

Activity 3: Official presentation of the report of the Municipal Meeting Days between the local administration and the mediators.

The end of the year was spent preparing the official presentation of the results of the municipal meeting days between local administration and mediators. The presentation was held on 30 December 2019 in Gitega by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior and Patriotic Training. All provincial governors or their representatives were present. This was an opportunity to take stock of the collaboration between the Ministry and the Network and to renew commitments to continue supporting it.

Outcome 2: Burundian Women are represented in Formal and Informal peace negotiations

Output 2.1: A gender expertise during negotiations is available and active

Activity 1: Follow-up of Provincial Consultations Results in the 18 Provinces to Develop the National Women's Agenda

In addition to the follow-up of the field consultations, coordination followed other steps that followed, including the drafting of the National Women's Agenda, which includes women's priorities. At the end of December 2016, the draft agenda is available and is expected to be shared with other partners interested in by the Agenda. A preparation of the political endorsement strategy of the Agenda has been initiated in order to legitimate and to be taken into account in the Arusha dialogue.

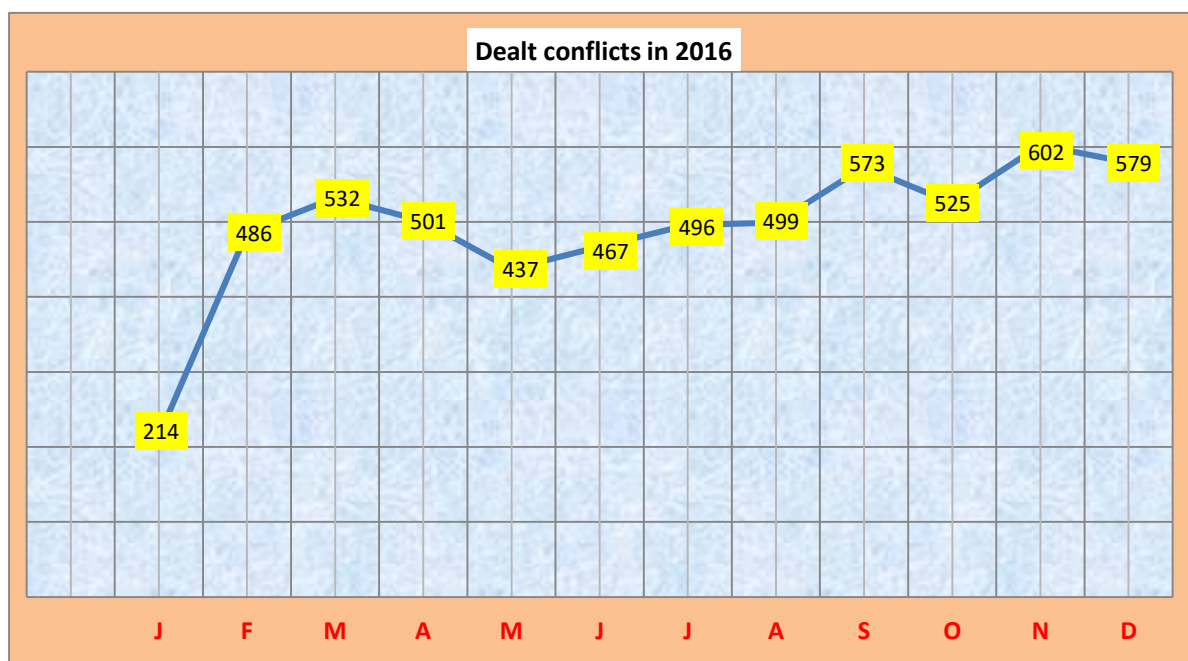
Activity 2: Follow-up of the results of the training of a pool of 25 women leaders in negotiation, mediation, lobbying and advocacy skills.

The training took place from 28 to 30 November 2016 but did not end due to interference from some public officials who had misunderstood the activity. Coordination has made contacts to accelerate further training. It will take place in February 2017. The implementation of this activity is carried out by ACCORD.

II. Conflicts resolution

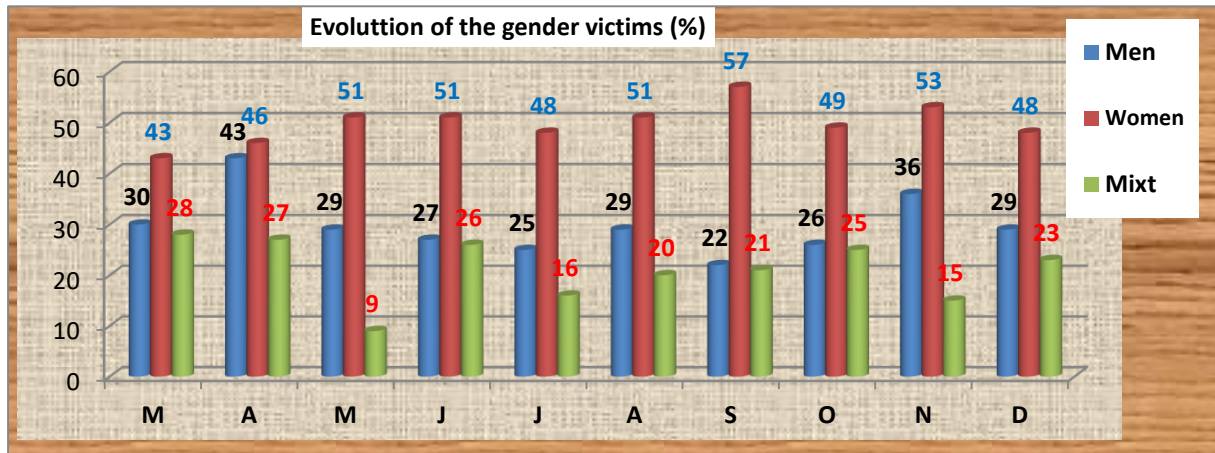
Main conflicts per category					Victims			Resultats			Total
<i>Politic</i>	<i>Familial</i>	<i>Social</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>VAWG</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Mixt</i>	<i>Success</i>	<i>Failure</i>	<i>Half-success</i>	
18	212	199	40	37	168	278	133	353	52	174	579

The following chart shows a graphical view of the evolution of known and dealt conflicts since January to December:



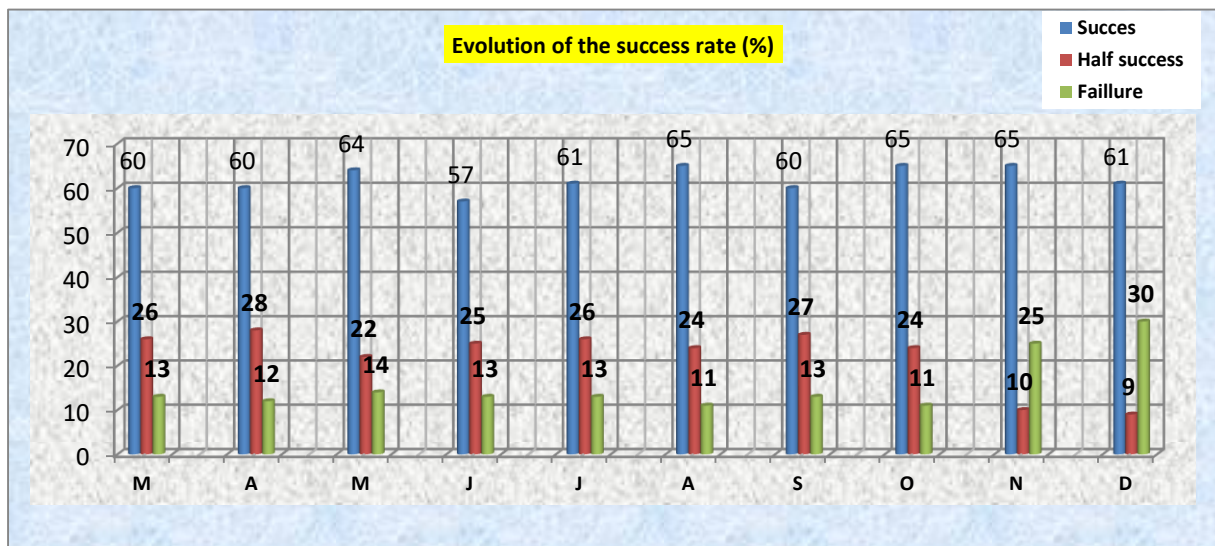
There is a steady increase in conflicts known and treated since May to December. Since September there is a remarkable increase that would be due to the increased collaboration between the Network and the local government established during the meetings at municipal level in August 2016. In August, the Network marked another milestone with the organization exchange session between local authorities and the mediators in every municipalities of the country. These exchange sessions aim at enhancing the sustainability of the initiative by strengthening collaboration between the Network and local authorities, by fostering commitments of the latter to support the mediating women's initiatives and by strengthening their capacity to act together to prevent and resolve conflicts.

The following chart shows the proportions of victims in relation to gender:



The graph shows that women are the main victims in the conflict known and treated by women mediators. They represent 48 % in December while men are 29%.

The proportions of 57% are the highlight of female victims since March. This brings to 50% as rate of women in conflict known and treated by the women mediators Network. The average was 49% in October and 53% in November.



In December, there has been 61% successful. The average since March is 61% of success, while the average for failure is 13%.

III. ORGANIZATION OF DIALOGUES

The organization of dialogue continued in December 2016. A total of 912 dialogues on municipal and hill dialogues were held in all provinces. Due to the political calendar overloaded in the provinces (many visits of the high authorities) debates didnt be easily applicable.

Number of dialogues per level per month

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Province	16	2	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	36
Municipality	0	33	88	58	36	25	26	25	30	20	341
Hill	0	219	445	777	790	777	788	950	960	879	6585
Bujumbura municipality	4	4	7	13	13	16	12	13	6	13	101
Total	20	258	540	848	839	818	826	1006	996	912	7063

Local elected officials are becoming involved in organizing of community dialogue through meetings between administration and mediators that occurred in August. There are no reports on administrative complication in organizing dialogues.

IV. COORDINATION OF LOCAL ACTORS

The organization of dialogue continued in December 2016. A total of 912 dialogues on municipal

Local networks of actors in conflict prevention and resolution are fully operational in the 129 municipalities.

Project coordination was busy preparing the women participating to high level dialogue which were planned to take place in December.

Network coordination was also dealing on preparing of official presentation of the results of the municipal meeting days between local administration and mediators. There was talk of making regular contacts provinces for the success of these activities.

V. SUCCESS STORIES

In order to perpetuate the network of mediators, they have taken initiatives to create savings banks.

In December mediators and the focal points continued the initiative of creating of savings and credits activities enabling them to reinforce field monitoring and provide for their travel and communication needs during the monthly meetings. In addition to the exchanges on the activities and they take advantage to contribute the agreed amounts (between 5000 and 10000 FBU / month). Interest rates, internal regulations and management committees have been validated since the 3rd quarter.

Leaders of couples weddings regularization movement in free union

In many cities, mediators have become leaders of couples weddings regularization movement in free union (a major source of conflict in the communities); registration of children in official register. The administration is now in good collaborating partnership with them in various campaigns.

In total, 4,149 dialogue meetings have already been held since early March at hill, municipal and provincial level when it was 3,323 already organized during the same period until August.