



# FUND FOR CONGOLESE WOMEN

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023



Participation, Transparency,  
Equality, Efficiency, Inclusion



[www.ffcrdc.org](http://www.ffcrdc.org)



## WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE FUND FOR CONGOLESE WOMEN

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We extend our deepest gratitude for the multifaceted support we have received, which has been instrumental in achieving these impactful outcomes. Without this collaborative effort, the strides made towards peace, empowerment, and community resilience in the DRC would not have been possible. As we reflect on the year that has passed and welcome the new one, our resolve to continue this journey together only strengthens.

The results we've achieved, alongside the persistent challenges we face, serve as both milestones and motivators, further solidifying the foundation of the women's movement within the DRC.

We invite you to discover the inspiring stories of women and girls who have transitioned from victims to powerful agents of change. Their testimonies shed light on their dedication to advancing the rights of Congolese women, offering a beacon of hope and a source of inspiration for us all.

These narratives not only celebrate their resilience and achievements but also underscore the transformative power of collective action and support in overcoming adversity and championing gender equality.

**JULIENNE LUSENGE**





# FUNDRAISING



To bolster the efforts of women's organizations and facilitate their activities, the Fund for Congolese Women (FFC) successfully mobilized funds totaling \$2,215,896

Table 1: Allocation of Funds According to Donors and Thematic Areas

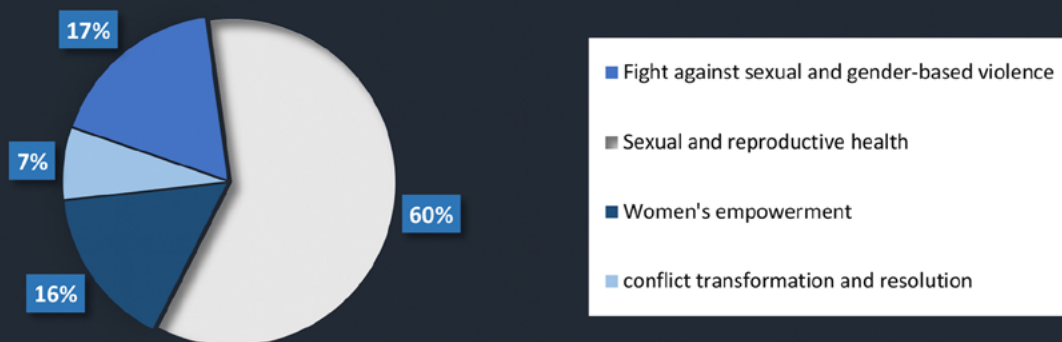
DONORS	AMOUNT IN USD	THEMES	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD
AFD	650329	Women, Peace and security in DRC, CAR and cameroon	2023-2024
ARABELLA	75 000	Core Support	2023
PRBB	12 000	Core Support	2023
FENOMENAL FUNDS	75 000	Core Support	2023
TIDE	300 000	Fight against sexual violence	2023
PACKARD	50000	Core Support	2023
PACKARD	100000	Sexual and reproductive health	2023
FCP	399 548	Do No Harm	2023-2024
ZIVIK	81 536	Women, peace and security in Tanganyika	2023
WELTLADEN	2 500	Women , peace and security in Kalemie	2023
OAK FOUNDATION	200 000	Core Support	2023
EQUALITY FUNDS	268916.86	Sexual and reproductive health	2023
Individua Donors	1067.07	Women 's empowerment	2023
	<b>2215896.93</b>		

# 1

## MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

To bolster the efforts of women's organizations and facilitate their activities, the Fund for Congolese Women (FFC) successfully mobilized funds totaling \$2,215,896

### Grantmaking



The Fund for Congolese Women (FFC) initiated an inclusive call for projects spanning a wide range of themes, receiving an impressive 245 submissions from 12 provinces. To ensure a fair and thorough evaluation, an independent committee was established. This committee's task was to analyze and select projects based on critical criteria. Priority was given to projects led by women's organizations that demonstrated clear, innovative ideas with relevance to the local context. Additionally, these projects were expected to contribute significantly towards the overarching goal of promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls.

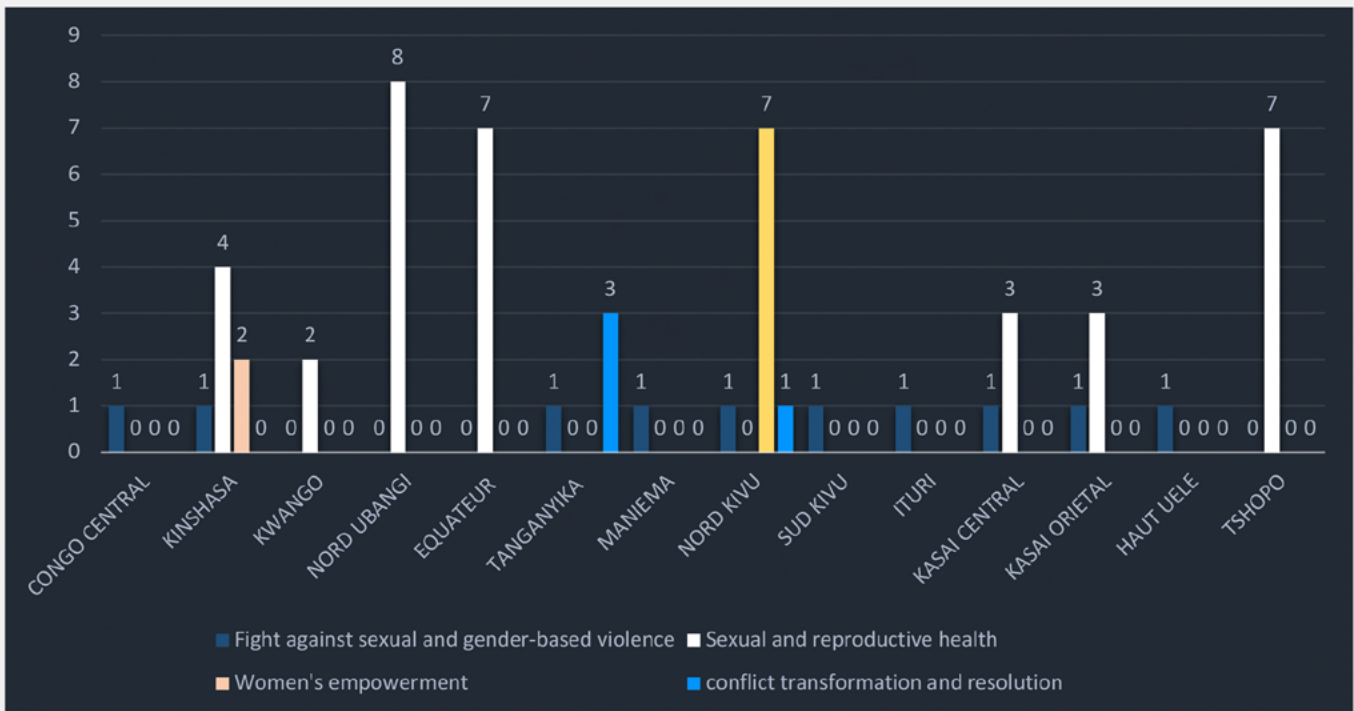
In the rigorous selection process undertaken by the committee, 67 projects were retained out of the initial 245 submissions, with 57 ultimately receiving funding across four distinct themes.

The distribution of the grants, as illustrated in the provided graph, shows a strategic focus: 60% of the projects were dedicated to sexual and reproductive health, reflecting its priority. Meanwhile, 17% of the projects addressed combating sexual violence and gender-based violence, showcasing a strong commitment to fighting these pervasive issues. Empowerment initiatives constituted 16% of the funded projects, underscoring the importance of strengthening women's and girls' agency. The remaining 7% focused on conflict transformation and management, highlighting efforts to address the root causes and consequences of conflict.

# Outcomes of projects

Graph 3 offers a detailed breakdown of the areas of focus among the organizations supported by the FFC, highlighting their commitment to addressing a range of critical issues impacting women and girls:

Graph.2: Number of projects by provinces and themes



**Sexual and Reproductive Health Initiatives:** A notable group of 34 organizations from the provinces of Kinshasa, Nord Ubangi, Tshopo, Kwango, and Equateur have been actively involved in executing activities aimed at improving sexual and reproductive health. This demonstrates a significant emphasis on health education and services as foundational elements for women's rights and wellbeing.

**Efforts Against Sexual and Gender-based Violence:** Ten organizations have directed their resources towards combating sexual violence and gender-based violence. This effort underscores a vital commitment to creating safer environments and supporting survivors.

**Women's Economic Empowerment:** Nine organizations have focused on empowerment strategies, seeking to enhance the social, economic, and political agency of women and girls. These programs are essential for building resilience and fostering independence among the targeted populations.

**Conflict Transformation and Management:** Four organizations have dedicated their efforts to conflict transformation and management. This critical work aims to address the root causes of conflict and provide sustainable solutions for peace, particularly in regions where women and girls are disproportionately affected.

# Fight against sexual violence and gender-based violence



In a significant stride towards combating sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), grants were awarded to ten organizations across ten provinces. These organizations have made remarkable achievements by conducting training programs for 281 students—both girls and boys aged between 14 and 17—across 34 schools.

The training sessions provided these young individuals with a deep understanding of legal frameworks surrounding SGBV, alongside knowledge about its various forms. Furthermore, a thoughtfully structured mentoring program was implemented to develop their leadership skills. This has enabled them to become influential champions and agents of change within their schools and communities, actively promoting awareness and advocating for transformative actions against SGBV.

## The result achieved in theme of sexual and Gender-based violence

The awareness campaigns led by young individuals trained in the fundamentals of gender-based violence (GBV), legal frameworks, and reporting procedures have significantly influenced the schools and communities involved in the project. These initiatives have notably decreased the number of cases resolved informally, paving the way for more formal and equitable solutions. The active participants in these campaigns are primarily aged between 12 and 17, representing 34 schools. The training was also provided to school officials and parents, many of whom are members of the parent committees at the schools.

Graph. 3: Number of people engaged in the activity

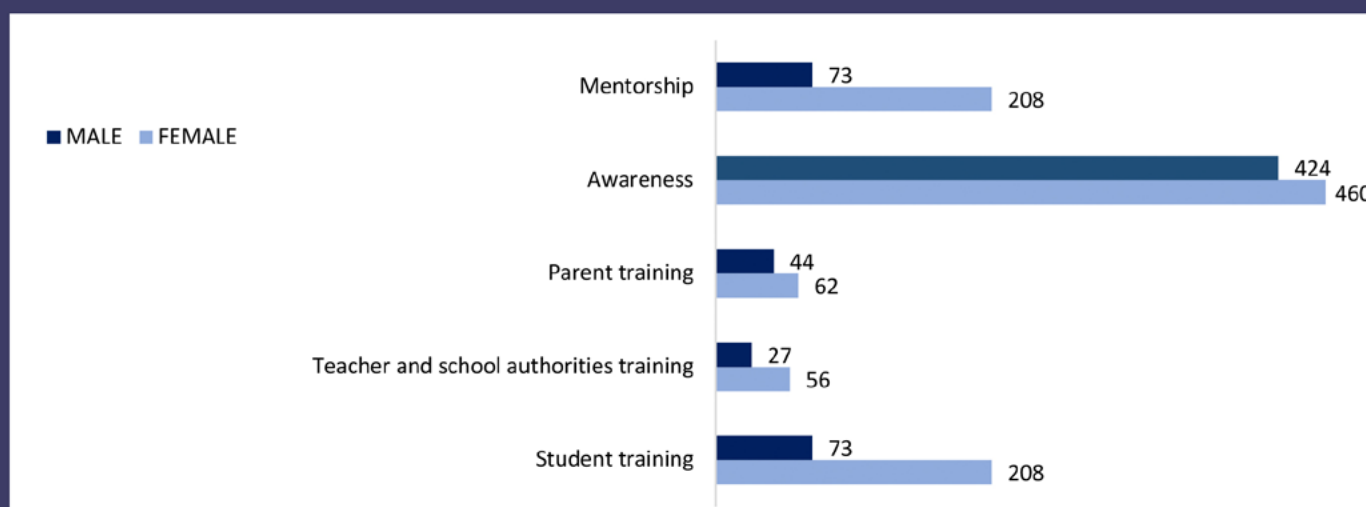


Table 2 : Table above shows the achievements made by 10 funded organizations

Activity	Number of people touched		TOTAL	Disaggregation of beneficiaries		
	Female	Male		Person living with a disability	Survivor of GBV	IDP
Trained students	208	73	281	32	4	15
Trained teachers and school authorities	56	27	83	3	1	1
Trained parents	62	44	106	2	0	8
Outreach	4291	4243	8534	136	11	89
Mentorship program	208	73	281	32	4	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>4825</b>	<b>4460</b>	<b>9285</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>128</b>

The breakdown of beneficiaries shows that the funded projects were inclusive, with specific individuals impacted by these projects including 205 people living with disabilities, 20 survivors of GBV, and 128 displaced persons. There's a testimony from an internally displaced girl trained by AVSD who raises awareness among her peers, and a report from AVDF that trained girls in the outskirts of Kinshasa (<https://youtu.be/VU8FcTvstlQ>)



Table 3 : Documented and referred GBV cases

Activity	Gender		TOTAL	Disaggregation of beneficiaries			Others
	Female	Male		Person living with a disability	Indigenous People	IDP	
GBV documented	11	0	11	0	0	3	9

The documented cases were referred to the appropriate facilities for care, following the consent of the survivor. Out of 11 documented cases, all 11 received medical and psychological care, and 3 cases were referred for legal support, with the process for obtaining a judgment currently underway.



# Sexual and reproductive Health

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In a targeted effort to enhance reproductive health across the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Fund for Congolese Women (FFC) has extended support to 34 organizations within the provinces of North-Ubangi, Équateur, Kinshasa, Kwango, and Tshopo.

These organizations, focusing on women of childbearing age alongside young girls and boys, have established robust collaborations with health zones, the Provincial Reproductive Health Program, local authorities, and religious leaders.



Table 4: The above table shows the results in five provinces:

Activity	Number of people reached or touched														
	Total					Person living with disability					Indigenous People				
	M	F	B	G	TT	M	F	B	G	TT	M	F	B	G	TT
Workshop	15	30	22	28	95	0	5	1	7	13	0	4	12	28	44
Educational talks /sharing experiences	3857	4658	2973	3525	15013	2	15	3	21	41	91	74	36	58	259
Person who received Services	11	64	826	476	1377	0	9	1	13	23	84	63	17	23	187
Awareness campaign through radio shows	11387	10080	6292	3707	31466	119	123	50	102	394	185	151	75	109	520
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15270</b>	<b>14832</b>	<b>10113</b>	<b>7736</b>	<b>47951</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>1010</b>



# Conflict transformation and resolution

FFC supported four organizations, specifically SAFEKA, AFEMDCO, WAPANAJI, and CPJC, in conflict management and transformation in the Tanganyika and North Kivu provinces. These four organizations carried out significant activities as follows:

- Training members of peace huts,
- Media and community awareness campaigns,
- Meetings with local leaders,
- Reception and guidance for demobilized ex-combatants and other vulnerable youths.
- Ex-combatants,
- At-risk youth: individuals with substance abuse issues who could easily be recruited into armed groups,
- Victims of the ravages of war.

The peace huts, five per territory, have sensitized and supported the community's youth in the demobilization process in collaboration with the P-DDRCS program, and these youths have been referred to the training and reintegration center created by FFC. The trainees trained and supervised in this center are grouped into three categories, namely:

The youths and their family members also benefit from psychosocial support provided by the organizations to promote social cohesion within the center and in the community. Following this support, two young girls testify that they are very interested in learning to prepare for their future (professional training to limit the resurgence of armed groups in Tanganyika ([youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com))).



A total of 1,800 broadcasts focusing on peaceful cohabitation and the Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration, Community Security and Stabilization (DDRCS) Program were aired across five radio stations, in local languages, effectively reaching 1,115,718 individuals—comprising 593,400 men and 522,318 women. These broadcasts significantly influenced social change within communities, fostering a spirit of peaceful cohabitation and encouraging young fighters to participate in the P-DDRCS.



# FONDS POUR LES FEMMES CONGOLAISES



L'unique fonds féministe en RDC pour un appui financier et technique aux organisations de la base pa

- Leadership féminin et participation politique des femmes
- Santé sexuelle et reproductive
- Changement climatique et protection l'environnement

# Women's Economic Empowerment

The nine organizations supported by the Fund for Congolese Women (FFC) for the economic empowerment of women and girls have successfully reached 6,335 individuals. These beneficiaries are organized into 181 Village Savings and Loan Associations (AVECs), which serve as platforms for them to engage in various income-generating activities.

Among these activities, women and girls are involved in transforming agricultural products, running small businesses, and participating in agro-pastoral activities.

Table 5: Number of women beneficiaries of income-generating activities and their disaggregation

Income generating activities	Disaggregation of beneficiaries			Other categories
	PVH	widows	IDP	
Pastoral agricultural	13	75	190	2987
Processing of agricultural products	7	12	12	280
Small businesses	15	53	358	3068
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>6335</b>

## Capacity-building activities for a strong feminist movement

### Activities of Women's synergy for Peace and Security

This platform's mission is to amplify the voices of women, girls, and Congolese compatriots suffering the ravages of war and to advocate for the effective participation of women in negotiation tables to contribute to the restoration of peace and security.

The advocacy actions carried out have enabled authorities at various levels to revisit and prioritize the restoration of peace in the DRC.

Thanks to all these missions,

The SFPS participated in the Luanda summit,

Neighboring countries were once again called upon regarding issues focused on human rights violations.

Voices have been raised to be allies of Congolese women in this fight for peace.

### Women's political participation and leadership

224 women and young girls distributed across 15 provinces to be observers during the 2023 legislative and provincial elections.

More than 2000 women and young girls were educated on the electoral process to influence the female electorate.





Sensibilisation sur le processus électoral en RDC

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

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### Solidarity mission by the Special Envoy of the African Union Commission to the DRC.

At the invitation of the director of the FFC for a solidarity mission, Ms. Bineta Diop, Special Envoy of the African Union Commission, her delegation, and some African women leaders visited the DRC to firsthand experience the situation of women, girls, and displaced people in general in North Kivu who are suffering in displacement camps, but also to listen to and support women leaders who have been living in the midst of armed conflict crises for more than two decades.





# CONCLUSION

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In conclusion of our annual report, we are delighted to share the exceptional achievements we have accomplished over the past year. Thanks to our dedication and collaboration with our partners, we have been able to make a real difference in promoting the rights of Congolese women.

We have provided financial and technical support to organizations that work tirelessly to improve the lives of women and girls in our country. Together, we have worked to prevent gender-based violence, economically empower women, contribute to peace restoration, manage conflicts, and ensure equitable access to sexual and reproductive health services.

The success stories we have collected are tangible proof of the positive impact we have had on the lives of Congolese women. Their courage, resilience, and inspiring achievements are a source of inspiration for all of us.

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