



## *Informing Refugees and Returnees on Gender Based Violence*

### **Program Evaluation**

#### **SEARCH FOR COMMON GROUND**

#### **UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE: BUREAU OF POPULATION, REFUGEES AND MIGRATIONS**

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**JANUARY 2011**

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## **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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### **1.1 Background**

The statistics on sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) are grim. Recent studies have estimated that women are raped at a rate of nearly one per minute.<sup>1</sup> Although Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) has received significant attention, and much is being done in response, the problem persists. In order to complement the work being done to support survivors and hold perpetrators accountable, greater prevention efforts need to be made. Therefore, Search for Common Ground (SFCG) has implemented several projects to change attitudes and behaviors in the country via a strategy focused on community dialogue.

### **1.2 SFCG Project Goals and Objectives**

In 2009, SFCG signed an agreement with the US Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration to implement a twelve-month project which aimed to *better inform refugee and returnee populations on how to prevent Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and provide support for victims*. In particular, the objective of the project was to raise awareness around the causes of SGBV and the mechanisms available to support survivors and combat sexual violence. SFCG's approach consisted of a sensitization and dialogue strategy to reach out to refugees and adolescent youth. SFCG believes that providing a forum to discuss these issues is one of the most effective ways to address the problem. SFCG implemented a series of activities that included Mobile Cinema Screenings and developing a radio program, *Uishi na Upende*, that dealt primarily with youth-related issues. The program's theory of change assumes that through discussion, stereotypes and prejudices are exposed, and people who advocate respectful and considerate attitudes are empowered. Ultimately, aggressive masculine attitudes that were sewn during war and conflict, can give way to viewpoints that are more favorable to the wellbeing of women, and reduce the number of SGBV incidents in communities.

### **1.3 Summary of Findings**

The goal of the evaluation was to assess to what extent the project was able to achieve its objective. To measure the effectiveness of the project, pre- and post-studies were conducted among the participants of Mobile Cinema activities, and surveys were held for the listeners of the radio program. In addition to these surveys, the evaluation also employed focus group discussions and content analysis of listener feedback. The Mobile Cinema activity was very effective in increasing the awareness of the causes of SGBV and the mechanisms available to both combat it and support survivors. Survey respondents appreciated the screenings and survey results indicate that it was an effective source of information that contributed to a change in attitudes and perceptions among the participants. Pre-and post-survey results show that after the Mobile Cinema was screened,

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<sup>1</sup> New York Times. (May 11, 2011). *Congo Study Sets Estimate for Rapes Much Higher*. Retrieved from <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/12/world/africa/12congo.html>

individuals had greater knowledge and information related to SGBV. Some of the key findings include:

- **Participants are better informed about SGBV laws.** 94% of Congolese in post-survey know the maximum penalty for rape in the DRC (a 66% increase from the pre-test results). The percentage of respondents who believe that a rape settlement out of court is legally binding is lower after the activities, decreasing from 39% to 28%.
- **Participants are more likely to recognize that rape is not only perpetrated by foreign armed groups, but also by civilians and armed forces.** Results from the post-test show that 82% of Congolese surveyed recognize that rape is committed by both Congolese and foreign armed groups and 96% recognize civilians as well as armed men commit rape
- **Participants are more likely to recognize that rape affects the entire community and that the entire community should fight against SGBV.** 94% of attendees believe that rape affects not only the victim but the entire community (a 67% increase from the pre-test results). 71% of women and 68% of men surveyed during the post-test respond that the entire community is responsible for fighting against SGBV.
- **Participants are less likely to believe that a victim of SGBV should keep silent.** 93% of those surveyed believe that a victim of rape should speak out.

The radio program, *Uishi na Upende*, was also well received by the targeted groups and was the fourth most popular radio program of SFCG in the DRC. The program was considered highly relevant among those surveyed in terms of addressing topics related to youth, relationships, and sexuality. 88% of Congolese adolescents in the focus groups stated that the radio program reflects the realities of their daily lives. Both the Mobile Cinema activity and radio program provided a space for dialogue around issues that are usually considered to be taboo. Some of the key findings related to the radio program include:

- **Radio listeners are more likely to believe in gender equality and human rights.** Listeners were far more likely than non-listeners to affirm that girls should have the same rights as boys in determining the nature of their relationships or friendships with the opposite sex. 34% of non-listeners as opposed to 52% of listeners feel this way.
- **The radio program encouraged dialogue on healthy relationships.** After listening to *Uishi na Upende*, far fewer survey respondents still believe that it is “bad” to discuss male-female relationships. Over half of the non-listeners surveyed feel that this is the case, compared with less than a quarter of listeners.
- **Radio listeners are less likely to blame the victims of rape.** Focus groups show that some episodes addressing issues related to discrimination against women were particularly powerful in provoking reactions on these issues, with listeners condemning the perpetrators and supporting the victims. Over two thirds of listeners state that the primary theme that they had listened to relates to the myth that women are raped because they wear provocative clothing.

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

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A recent study by the American Journal of Public Health found that in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), “approximately 1.69 to 1.80 million women reported having been raped in their lifetime.”<sup>2</sup> Various armed groups linked to conflicts that have gripped the country are among the perpetrators of these acts. However, these crimes are not committed by armed men alone. The same study also found that “approximately 3.07 to 3.37 million women reported experiencing intimate partner sexual violence.”<sup>3</sup> Years of conflict in the DRC have given rise to misogynistic attitudes that have made the country one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a woman. The DRC has achieved significant notoriety due to these facts and the problem has already gained considerable domestic and international attention. Civil society groups have worked towards addressing SGBV and yet the problem persists. While responses to SGBV have improved, more work needs to be done on prevention.

One way to raise awareness and strengthen prevention is to foster dialogue. Therefore, SFCG employed the Mobile Cinema activity and a radio programming activity to provide a space for discussion. By the end of the project, 41 public screenings were organized for returnees and community members in North Kivu and South Kivu. A total of 32,460 participants, 17,500 from North Kivu and 14,960 from South Kivu viewed the film. In addition, 21 sub-film activities were held for various target groups, such as local authorities, police officers, soldiers, couples, and youth. *Uishi na Upende*, a youth-targeted radio program of 40 sessions provided space for adolescents to discuss issues related to relationships, sexuality, and daily struggles. Focus group discussions and listener feedback showed that the radio program was greatly appreciated for helping to initiate a free and open forum for dialogue. The most important part of the Mobile Cinema activity were the SFCG facilitated dialogues that were held after the screening of films on SGBV. In both cases, when positive and respectful attitudes towards women were given voice, they overpowered negative and aggressive points of view.

For example, the argument that women are raped because they dress too provocatively was regularly made during the SFCG facilitated discussions. Subsequently, such reasoning was put to the test by other participants. They referred to the fact that even elderly women and very young girls are raped, that women used to walk around bare-chested in the past, and that theft is illegal even if one sees a valuable product. This is just one example of the kind of discussions that took place. Discrediting attempts to blame the victim is an important part of the fight against SGBV, and open debates can effectively achieve this. Prior to participating in the Mobile Cinema, 61% of young men agreed with the notion that women are raped because they dress too provocatively. However, once

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<sup>2</sup> The American Journal of Public Health. (June, 2011). *Estimates and Determinants of Sexual Violence Against Women in the Democratic Republic of Congo*. Retrieved from <http://ajph.aphapublications.org/cgi/content/abstract/101/6/1060?maxtoshow=&hits=10&RESULTFORMAT=&author1=Bredenkamp&andorexactfulltext=and&searchid=1&FIRSTINDEX=0&sortspec=relevance&resourcetype=HWCIT>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

they participated in the activity this figured dropped to only 11%. These results provide strong evidence of the effectiveness of this activity and the power of dialogue and discussion.

### **3. PROJECT OVERVIEW**

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In order to raise knowledge and shift the attitudes of the groups targeted by the project, SFCG adopted a strategy which reached out to a mass audience and focused on effective sensitization and providing forums for dialogue. The Mobile Cinema activity involves screening films on SGBV in rural areas of the DRC, where film and television are not readily available. These screenings are a major spectacle and draw large crowds. After the screenings, discussions are held on issues related to SGBV. This is critically important in an area where such discussions are normally taboo. Facilitating dialogue that counters stereotypes and breaks down negative attitudes is perhaps the most important element of this activity. By the end of the project, 41 public screenings were organized for returnees and community members in 4 out of the 6 territories in North Kivu, as well as in South Kivu. A total of 32,460 participants, 17,500 from North Kivu and 14,960 from South Kivu viewed the film.

Furthermore, sub-film activities are held for various target groups, such as local authorities, police officers, soldiers, couples, and youth. In these sessions, edited versions of the film are shown to groups of approximately 15 people from each of these categories. These edited versions of the film have been tailored to their audience, as are the discussions held afterwards. There were 21 sub-film screenings to various target groups, such as local authorities, police officers, soldiers, couples, and youth.

SFCG also wanted to screen the Mobile Cinema and the sub-films for Congolese refugees in Rwandan camps. Unfortunately, SFCG was denied access to the Rwandan refugee camps and was unable to schedule visits to camps in Uganda within the time-frame of the project. Hence, SFCG shifted its efforts to focus on North Kivu and South Kivu return zones. These areas, especially in North Kivu, are affected by internal displacement and returns of internally displaced persons. The areas focused on are areas which will be receiving large numbers of returning refugees once the repatriation operations from Uganda and Rwanda will commence.

SFCG also used radio programming to expand the reach of sensitization activities and further efforts to foster dialogue. We employed a highly popular 20 minute radio magazine program, which is based on interviews and in-field round table discussions with 15 to 25 year old boys and girls. The 40 session-radio program is broadcast on a total of 51 partner radios in the Swahili speaking zone of DRC and addresses issues related to relationships, gender dynamics, and healthy sexual relationships, in a way which pinpoints the root causes of sexual violence within the civilian population. One of the key components of the radio program is that it gets young people and adults to talk about healthy relationships between boys and girls.

With support from the US Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, SFCG conducted these activities during a twelve-month project which aimed to: *better inform refugee and returnee populations on how to prevent SGBV and provide support for victims*. The

project expected to achieve a series of outputs and outcomes in pursuit of the overall goal, as listed in the annex. In order to assess the impact and the effectiveness of the project activities, SFCG conducted post-activity studies of the target groups around the main outcome level indicator, analyzed the data and compared the results. The results related to the outcome level indicators are provided in Annex 1.

## **4. METHODOLOGY**

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The evaluation to assess the effectiveness of this twelve-month project was conducted in the second half of 2010 by a team led by Pacifique Ngombwa Murhula, SFCG Design, Monitoring and Evaluation (DM&E) Coordinator in the DRC. The internal evaluation was conducted in several locations in North and South Kivu through a series of tools (surveys, focus group discussions, and review of listener feedback) that enabled SFCG to gather both quantitative and qualitative evidence.

### **4.1 Targets and Locations**

This evaluation focused on two of the three Congolese provinces targeted by the project: North Kivu and South Kivu.

SFCG collected quantitative data in South Kivu, where a survey was conducted by the SFCG DM&E team in several districts of Uvira and Baraka (Fizi territory), from a sample of 500 male and female Congolese people. In addition, 400 people took part in pre-tests and post-tests in Fizi, Kalehe, and Mwenga.

SFCG gathered qualitative data via focus group discussions conducted in four locations: Baraka, Uvira, and Walungu in South Kivu, and Goma in North Kivu. Goma and Uvira are urban centers, whereas Baraka and Walungu are in rural areas. The SFCG DM&E Coordinator organized two focus groups discussions in each of these four locations.

### **4.2 Data Collection**

To conduct this evaluation, SFCG used four main tools for data collection:

**Survey:** SFCG conducted a survey from November 20<sup>th</sup> to December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Researchers surveyed 500 inhabitants in different districts of Uvira and Baraka. A high proportion of the respondents were under 30 years of age, reflecting the demographic makeup of the country. Furthermore, women and girls were either less available or more reluctant to take part in the survey because of cultural taboos. Therefore, researchers decided to make sure that at least a third of the respondents were female.

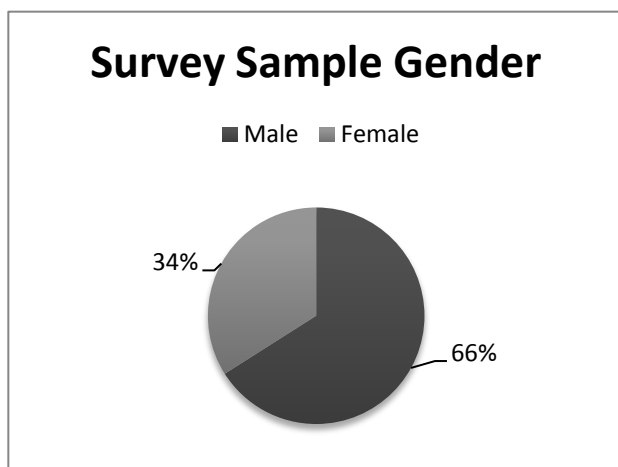


Figure 4.2.1: Breakdown of survey interviewees by gender.

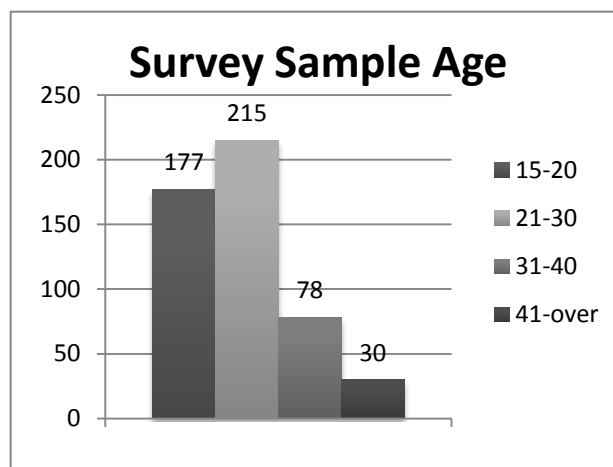


Figure 4.1.2: Breakdown of survey interviewees by age group.

**Pre- and post-tests:** SFCG is committed to testing the change in knowledge of people who participate in its activities. SFCG gathers data through pre- and post-tests held before and after the Mobile Cinema activity. SFCG staff members selected 15 people during each activity to test their knowledge and attitudes regarding issues related to SGBV. For this evaluation, staff members tested a total of 400 participants in pre-tests and post-tests in October of 2010.

**Focus group discussions:** SFCG facilitated a series of focus group discussions to research the opinions and experiences from the target groups. The SFCG DM&E team collected qualitative data on the radio program from focus groups held in December of 2010. Eight focus groups were held with approximately ten to 14 high school or college students, between 15 and 25 years of age. The focus groups gathered participants of a similar age and were divided by gender. This allowed for open discussions and helped to build an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence.

**Feedback from listeners:** SFCG received an average of 4,000 calls and cell phone text messages per month over the course of the project. The feedback is sent from listeners to our studio in the DRC and logged into a database. SFCG selects approximately 200 phone numbers at random to call back. Researchers analyzed feedback received from listeners of the radio program from June to December 2010.

NUMBER OF STUDY PARTICIPANTS			
TOOL	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
Survey among the general population	330	170	500
Pre-tests of authorities, youth, couples, and the general public	232	168	400
Post-tests of authorities, youth, couples, and the	230	170	400

general public			
Focus groups discussions with youth	42	41	83
Listener feedback	147	39	186
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>846</b>

Figure 4.2.3: Number of study participants broken down by gender and by data gathering tool.

## 5. FINDINGS

This section includes key findings from the evaluation. Results of the project indicators will be presented, as well as other findings gathered by SFCG which contribute to assessing the impact of the project.

### 5.1 Mobile Cinema Activity

The evaluation found that more than half of the respondents are familiar with the Mobile Cinema activities organized by SFCG. 57% of the people surveyed have heard of the activity, and 43% have participated in the activity. This means that among the people surveyed, 14% have heard of the Mobile Cinema activity, but have not actually taken part. This shows that horizontal communication around the Mobile Cinema activity is occurring. A large majority of the survey respondents, 97%, expressed their appreciation of the activity, which successfully attracted large audiences, and those who took part in Mobile Cinema activities discussed them afterwards with those who did not attend. As a result, a word-of-mouth effect has been generated at the community level, increasing the potential impact of the project activities.

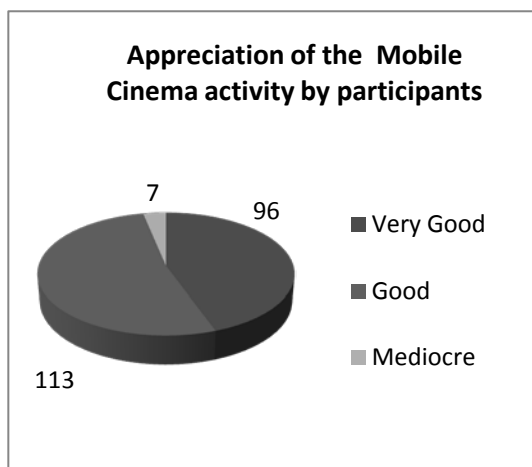


Figure 5.1.1: Viewer appreciation of the Mobile Cinema activity as found by the survey.

The activity successfully attracted viewers from different backgrounds, such as members of the ‘elite’ class, farmers, small traders, housewives, and students among others. <sup>4</sup> Participants were slightly less likely to be a part of the ‘elite’ class, as shown in the following graphs. Working-class people and students were more likely to attend.

<sup>4</sup> For the ease of analysis, SFCG classed government, NGO, and ‘liberal’ profession representatives as the ‘elite’ class.

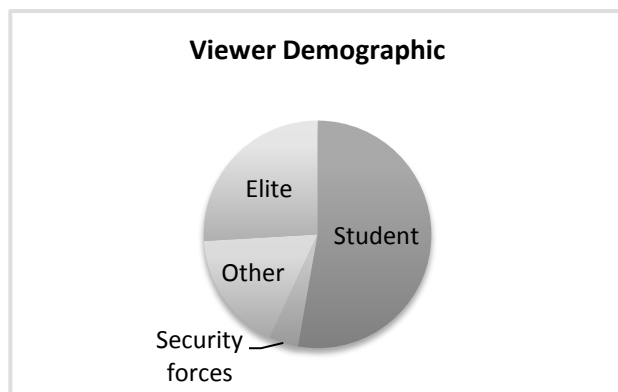


Figure 5.1.2: Breakdown of Mobile Cinema activity participants by profession. (N=216)

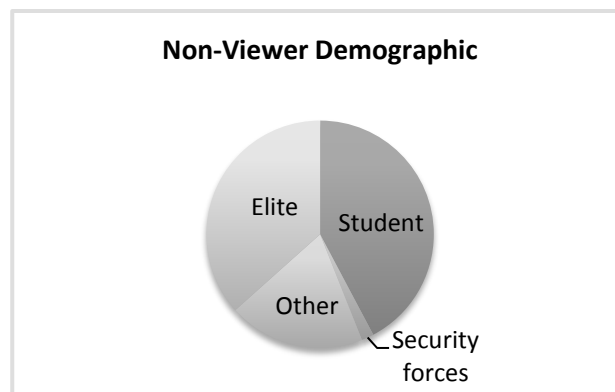


Figure 5.1.2: Breakdown of Mobile Cinema activity participants by profession. (N=216)

Note: The category 'other' is composed of small traders, farmers, and housewives among others.

### 5.1.1 Participants are better informed than non-participants regarding SGBV

The evaluation found that the participants in the Mobile Cinema activity improved their knowledge on SGBV following the activity. The pre- and post-tests included a series of factual questions on SGBV. The analysis of the answers shows that people who attended at least one Mobile Cinema activity are more likely to answer correctly on factual questions related to SGBV, than those who have not attended an activity. Therefore, Mobile Cinema has proven to be a source of pertinent information on SGBV for the Congolese population in the targeted areas, particularly regarding the legal aspect of SGBV, and importantly, for local authorities including members of the police forces.

#### Local authorities have gained knowledge regarding the definition of what constitutes a rape.

The pre- and post-tests conducted among representatives of local authorities showed that officials from local governments who participated in the Mobile Cinema activity are better informed regarding the definition of what constitutes a rape after attending an activity. Some of the 16 questions asked during the pre- and post-tests were related to the definition of rape, and the percentage of correct answers was higher among the respondents after the activity. For instance, when asked if “having a sexual relation with the wife of somebody else constitutes a rape”, a majority of the respondents answered incorrectly before the activity. After the activity, there was a 50% increase, from 42% to 62%, in the number

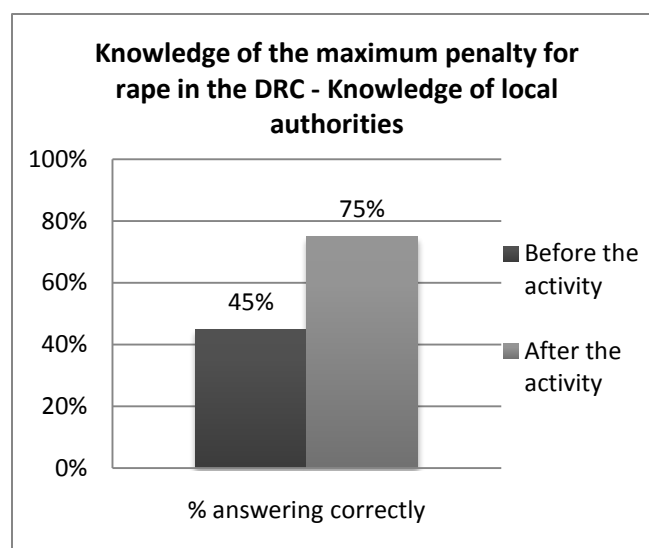


Figure 5.1.1.1: Knowledge of local authority survey interviewees of the maximum penalty for rape in the DRC. Comparison of pre- and post-test scores.

local authority representatives giving a correct answer.

**Participants are better informed about SGBV laws.** The project was effective in increasing the knowledge of the participants on SGBV law. Evaluation results indicate that mobile cinema viewers have gained knowledge on the SGBV law passed in the DRC in 2006. This was particularly true among local authorities who took part in the activities. In order to measure legal knowledge, the viewers and non-viewers were asked among other things: “What is the maximum penalty for rape in the DRC?” The correct answer is 20 years in prison. In a country which only developed specific laws against rape in 2006, it is important to raise awareness of those laws as a part of the fight against SGBV and impunity.

**Participants are more likely to understand that an “arrangement amiable” is not legally binding.** It is common in the DRC for the victims of rape, or at least their families, and the perpetrators of rape, to settle on an “arrangement amiable”. This means friendly arrangement, and usually involves having the perpetrator pay the victim, or their family, approximately \$100. However, these settlements are not legally binding, and are discouraged by legal authorities. The evaluation found that the project activities were successful in targeting this common misperception. Mobile Cinema participants were more likely to disagree with the statement that “rape can be settled out of court”. A similar change was seen among the local authorities. The percentage of respondents who believed that a rape settlement out of court was legally binding was lower after the activities, decreasing from 39% to 28%.

#### 5.1.2 Participants hold attitudes that are more respectful to the wellbeing of women than non-participants

The surveys conducted among a sample of the Congolese population showed that the mobile cinema activities organized by SFCG had the capacity to change the attitudes and perceptions of the participants surrounding violence towards women, and particularly aspects related to social stigma and stereotypes.

**Participants are more likely to believe that rape affects the entire community.** Part of the survey conducted for this evaluation report focused on the perceptions Congolese people have of the victims of rape. The evaluation found that participants are more likely than non-participants to realize that rape does not only affect the victim, but has wider consequences for society as a whole. It is clear to many that SGBV is ultimately a major societal problem for all Congolese people. The Mobile Cinema activity has made strides towards making this clear to all.

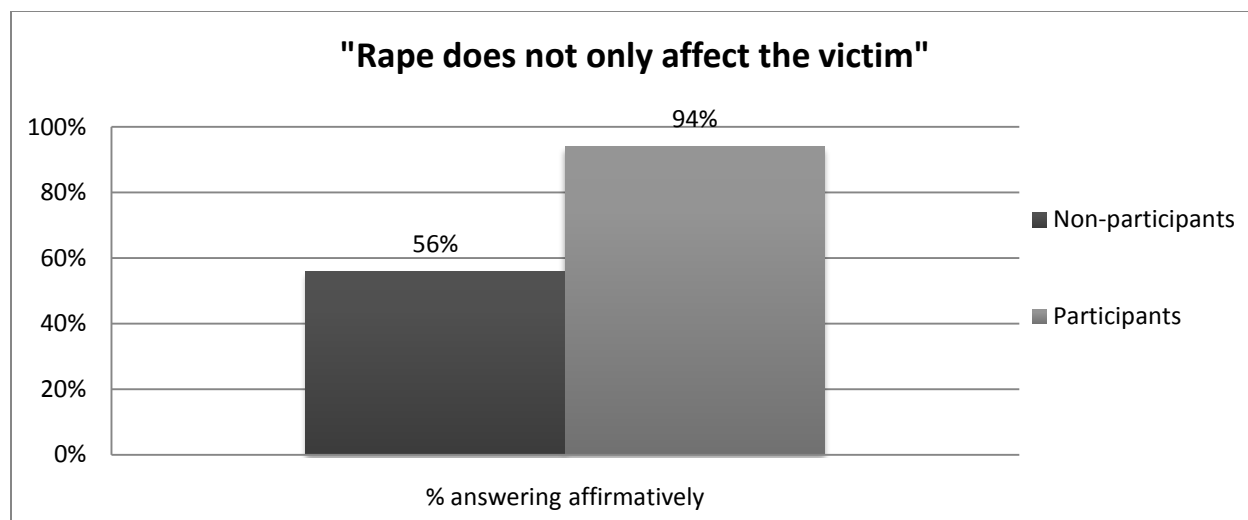


Figure 5.1.2.1: Survey question on whether or not rape only affects the victim. Comparison of Mobile Cinema participant and non-participant responses.

**Participants are more likely to recognize that rape is not only perpetrated by foreign armed groups.** It is sometimes common for civilians to believe that rape is only committed by armed men, or even that it is only committed by foreign armed groups. The truth is that rape is very often committed by Congolese civilians as well. Mobile cinema viewers were more likely to recognize this fact, which is an important step in tackling the problem of SGBV within communities. 65% of people tested before the activity, compared with 82% of those tested afterwards, recognized that rape is committed by both Congolese and foreign armed groups. The figures were 85% before the activity, and 96% afterwards, on the question of whether civilians as well as armed men commit rape.

**Participants are less likely to stigmatize victims of rape.** The Mobile Cinema film screened by SFCG features a husband who realizes that it was unfair of him to drive his wife away from home after she was raped. The evaluation found that viewers, and in particular local authorities, were more likely to condemn such behavior after watching the film and discussing it afterwards. 66% of non-participants, compared with 74% of participants said that a husband should not chase away his wife if she is raped. Mobile Cinema activities therefore have a positive impact on the issue of stigmatization of rape victims. Since social stigmatization prevents a large number of victims from reporting rape, this result is particularly encouraging.

Furthermore, there was an especially large shift in attitude on this question among married men and women who had taken part in a Mobile Cinema activity and for viewers of the sub-film designed for couples. Scores ranged from 61% to 71% before the activity, and increased to over 90% afterwards. Therefore the Mobile Cinema has effectively covered this key issue for those to whom it matters most.

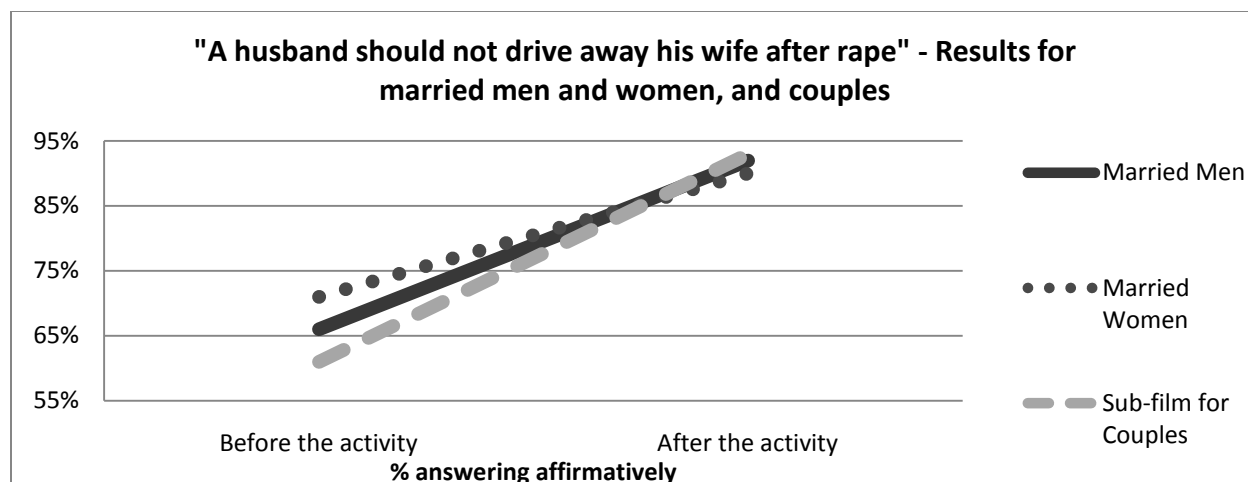


Figure 5.1.2.2: Views of married men and women, and couples, on whether or not a husband should drive away his wife if she is raped. Comparison of test scores before and after taking part in a Mobile Cinema activity.

**Participants are less likely to believe that women are raped because they dress too provocatively.** The project was effective in terms of combating some of the stereotypes surrounding violence towards women. Pre- and post-tests showed that after having taken part in a Mobile Cinema activity, viewers were more likely to refute some of the common stereotypes about victims of SGBV. For instance, before participating in an activity a majority of young men polled believed that women were raped because they dressed too provocatively. After the activity, the vast majority of young men surveyed said that the victims of rape are not to blame, as shown in the figure to the right. It is particularly encouraging to see that such a major change occurred among this key demographic.

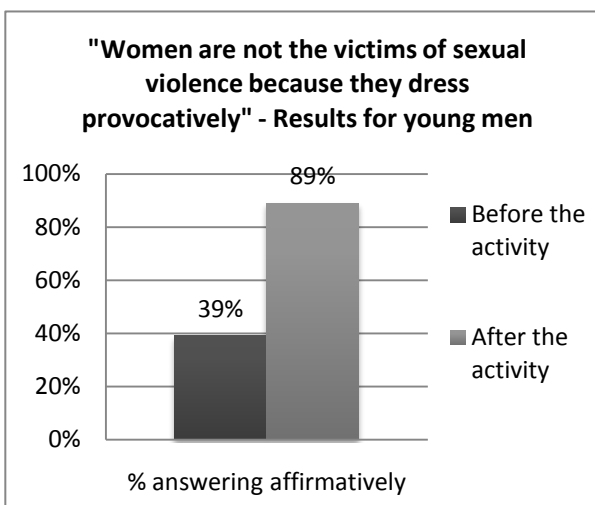


Figure 5.1.2.3: Views of young men on whether or not women are the victims of sexual violence because they dress too provocatively. Comparison of test scores before and after taking part in Mobile Cinema activities.

**Participants are less likely to believe that a victim of SGBV should keep silent.** One of the most important components of the Mobile Cinema activity is that it encourages people to talk about SGBV. On the question of whether or not the victim of a rape should speak out, a comparison of pre- and post-test scores revealed a noticeable improvement in perceptions. 79% of those tested before the activity, compared with 93% of those tested afterwards felt that a victim of rape should speak out. On another note, the 15-20 year old age group started off with a lower base level of knowledge on this question than their older counterparts. Before the activity 73% of young viewers felt that the victims of rape should speak out. That number increased to 94% after the activities.

**Participants are more likely to recognize that the entire community is responsible for the fight against SGBV.** SFCG asked Mobile Cinema viewers which groups they thought were responsible for the fight against SGBV. Possible answers included the government, the police, the courts, the military, or the entire community. A higher proportion of civilians in the post-test, compared with the pre-test, answered that the entire community was responsible for the fight against SGBV. Results show that viewers leave the Mobile Cinema with a heightened sense of responsibility in tackling this problem.

Furthermore, pre-test results show that women were initially far less likely than their male counterparts to believe that the entire community is responsible for the fight against SGBV. This could be for a number of reasons. Nevertheless, the most significant change in attitude on this question came from women. The Mobile Cinema activity provided them with an increased sense that this fight must be taken up by society as a whole.

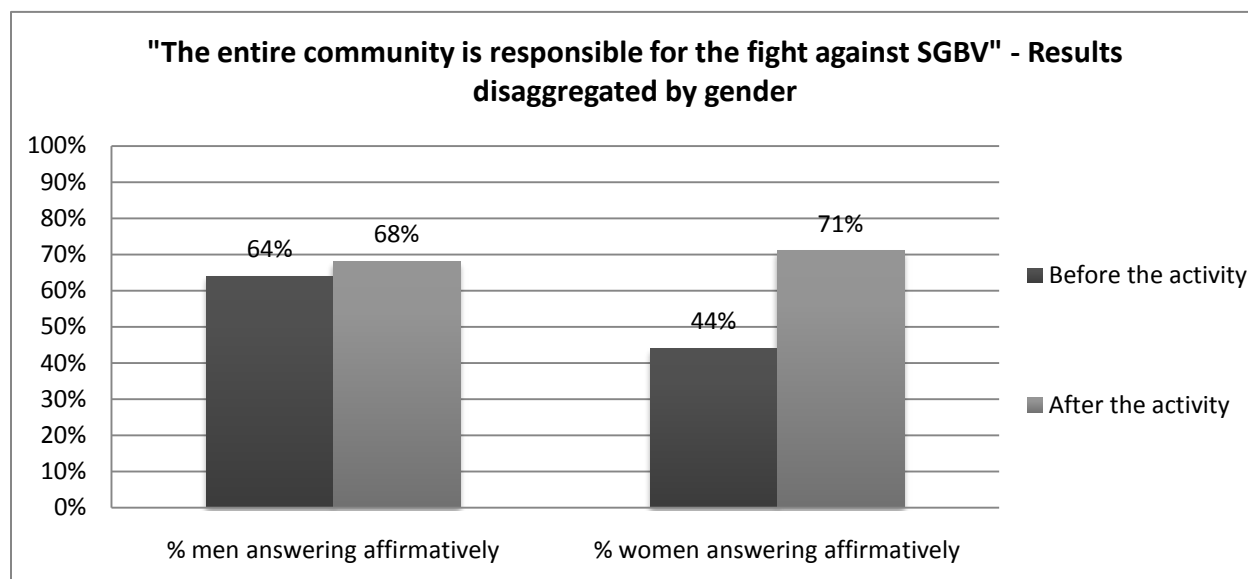


Figure 5.1.2.4: Views of civilians on whether or not the entire community is responsible for the fight against SGBV. Comparison of test scores, disaggregated by gender, before and after taking part in a Mobile Cinema activity.

### 5.1.3 Effectiveness of the activity for different groups, of different methods, and of repeat exposure

**The Mobile Cinema activity is effective across the board.** The activity has proven to be effective across genders, age groups, professions, and regions. The following table details the similarity in scores on pre- and post-tests across various categories of respondents. The pre- and post-test scores detailed below included many of the questions that have been described in the previous section. The questions fell into the following three categories:

- 1) Factual questions, for instance about the laws on sexual violence and what constitutes a rape;
- 2) Questions related to the norms in a society, such as whether or not women who are raped should keep silent; and

3) Attitudinal questions, for example if participants believed that women were raped because they dressed too provocatively.

The following table shows the percentage of respondents who answered 15 out of 18 factual, societal norm, and attitudinal questions correctly.

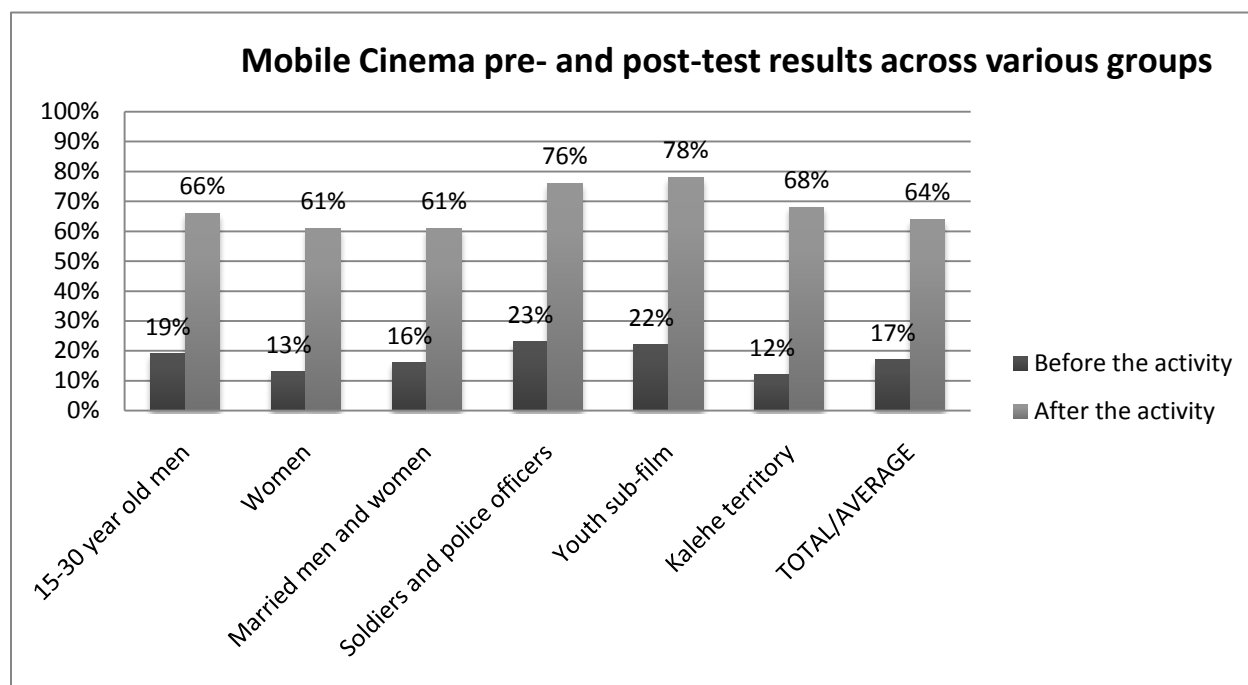


Figure 5.1.3.1: Percentage of Mobile Cinema activity participants answering 15 out of 18 questions on SGBV correctly. Comparison of Mobile Cinema pre- and post-test results across various categories of respondents.

The results are very similar considering the diversity of groups listed. However, military and law enforcement personnel and youth had a higher base level of knowledge. These two groups also scored higher on the post-tests. This was most likely because these groups are more exposed to sensitization activities. Soldiers and police officers are regularly sensitized due to their role in providing security, and young people are sensitized at school. Nevertheless, Mobile Cinema activities have proven to be effective for the wide variety of people who have participated in them. Furthermore, as a later section shows, the activities are effective for people who come into them with a lower base level of knowledge.

**Repeat exposure to Mobile Cinema increases awareness and changes perceptions.** Mobile Cinema participants who had taken part in multiple events demonstrated greater awareness and had more positive attitudes regarding SGBV than those who had only been to one or two events. This further validates the effectiveness of the Mobile Cinema; repeated exposure has proven to be beneficial for the participants.

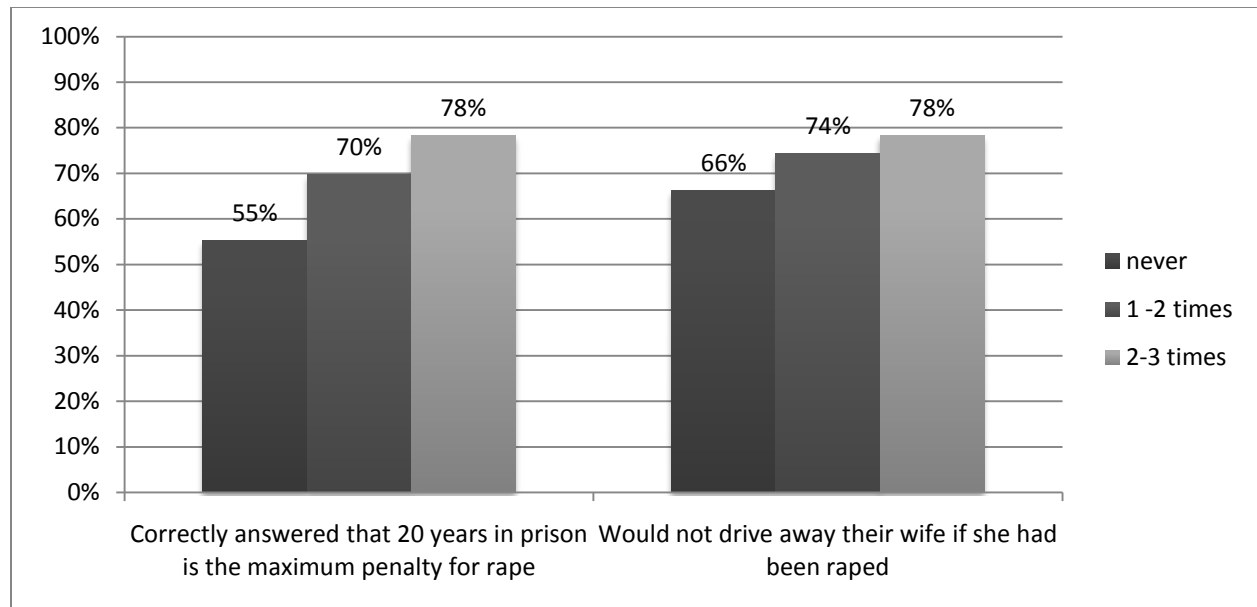


Figure 5.1.3.2: Comparison of Mobile Cinema pre- and post-test results by level of exposure to the Mobile Cinema.

**Sub-film activities are particularly effective.** On the same eighteen questions mentioned earlier, participants in sub-film activities scored higher than participants at the large-scale activities. This is because sub-film activities are organized for smaller groups, with participants of a similar age, profession, or background. These environments facilitate dialogue and make it easier for all of the attendees to actively participate. Furthermore, the audiences in sub-films are shown edited versions of the principal film, which have been tailored to their audience.

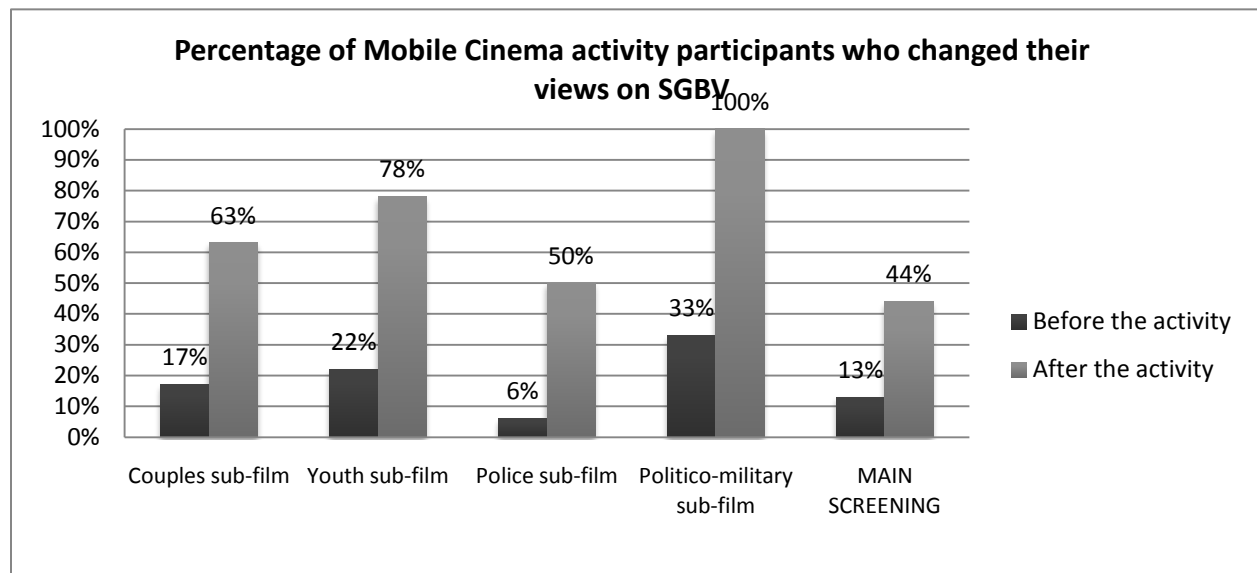


Figure 5.1.3.3: Percentage of Mobile Cinema activity participants answering 15 out of 18 questions on SGBV correctly. Comparison of Mobile Cinema pre- and post-test results by type of Mobile Cinema activity.

**Participants who performed poorly on pre-tests raised their scores significantly on post-tests.** Mobile Cinema activities are effective for participants who start off with a low level of knowledge or with negative attitudes regarding SGBV. For example, 49% of participants answered six questions incorrectly on the pre-test. This figure decreased to only 10% on the post-test.

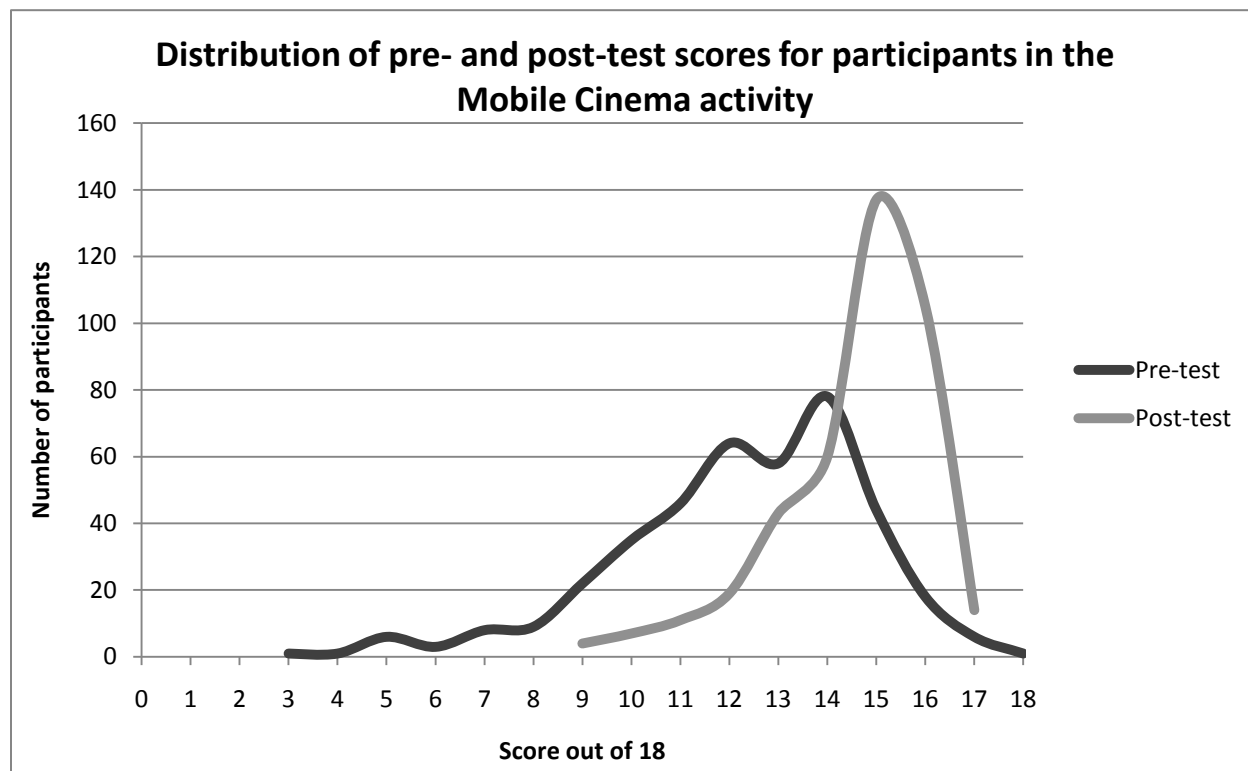


Figure 5.1.3.4: Distribution of pre- and post-test scores for participants in the Mobile Cinema activity.

In total, 28 pre- and post-tests were conducted for this evaluation. The median reduction in the knowledge gap from the pre- to post-tests was 43%. While the reduction in the knowledge gap did not meet the high standard of 50% that SFCG sets for its sensitization training activities with for instance the military, this is still a noteworthy achievement for the Mobile Cinema activity. These results show that even participants with a low level of knowledge or with negative attitudes are successfully educated and sensitized by the activity.

## 5.2 Radio Programming

The radio component of the project has been an unequivocal success. The radio program *Uishi na Upende* has achieved a strong listenership percentage, and focus groups show that it is highly appreciated among youth, and was effective in changing attitudes and behaviors. The evaluation found that radio was the most efficient medium to reach out to Congolese youth. For most of the SFCG survey respondents, radio is by far the primary source of information. Among the young people surveyed (aged 15-20) 91.5% regularly and primarily listen to the radio.

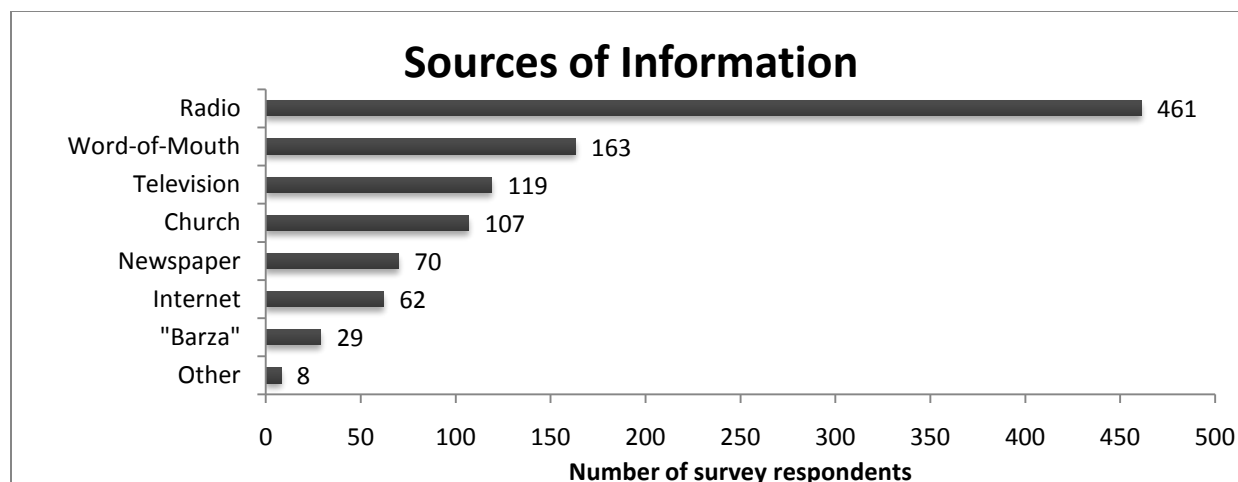


Figure 5.1.3.1: Primary sources of information as indicated by survey interviewees.

The radio program was also successful in developing a loyal following. Among the listeners of *Uishi na Upende*, over two thirds listened to the program more than twice, and over a third listened more than five times. Of all the radio programs produced and broadcast by SFCG in the DRC, *Uishi na Upende* is the fourth most popular according to the survey, with 50% of respondents having listened to the program at least once. Among Congolese youth who participated in the surveys and are specifically targeted by the radio component of this project, *Uishi na Upende* is the third most popular program produced by SFCG in the DRC.

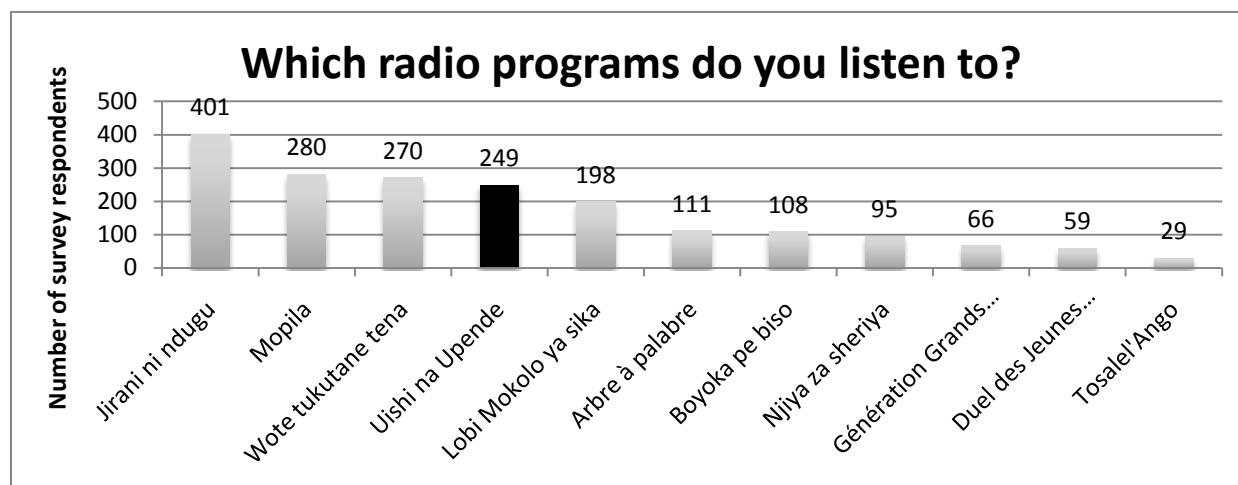


Figure 5.1.3.2: Most listened to SFCG radio programs as indicated by survey interviewees.

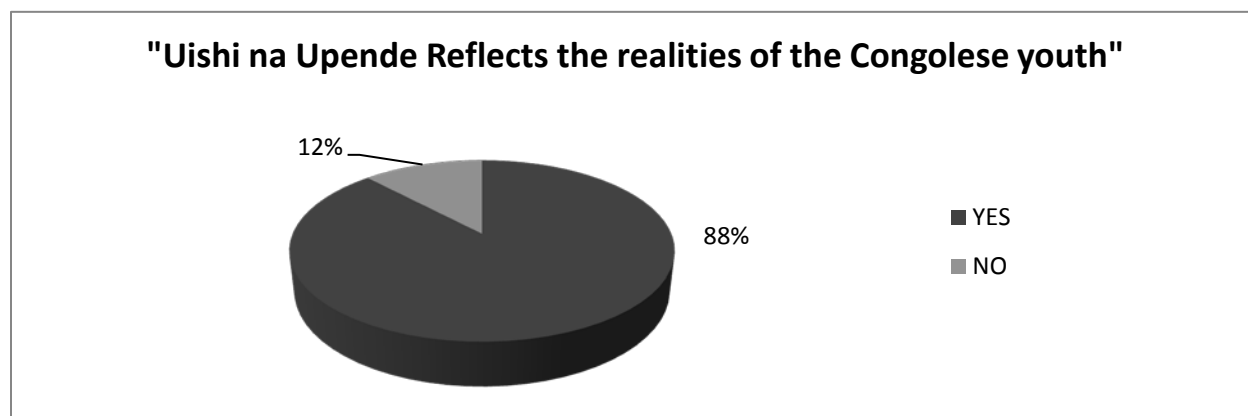
### 5.2.1 Relevance in regards to the daily lives of the listeners

The radio program was highly relevant in terms of addressing the issues related to gender roles, relationships, customs, traditions, and the stereotypes faced by adolescent youth in the DRC.

"I am very interested in this program, as it tackles issues relevant to the life of Congolese youth."

- A young listener of the radio program

**The radio program successfully reflected the daily lives and interests of Congolese youth.** Most of the participants in the focus group discussions, at approximately 70%, said that the topics addressed in *Uishi na Upende* were similar to the issues that they faced on a regular basis in their communities. The young people who participated in the focus group organized in Walungu expressed their interest in the program, saying that it “*tackles social realities and the realities of education.*” Among the focus group respondents, the percentage of Congolese adolescents who said that *Uishi na Upende* reflected the realities of their daily lives was even higher, at 88%.



**Figure 5.2.1.1: Percentage of adolescent survey interviewees who said that Uishi na Upende reflects the everyday realities of Congolese youth.**

The radio component of the project reflected the daily struggles of the listeners since the subject matters of the 40 radio programs broadcast matched the current problems faced by Congolese adolescents. Through feedback and comments, youth have demonstrated a keen interest in the subject material. Numerous young Congolese people appreciated the usefulness of the show as a forum for Congolese life outside of politics.

“Thanks for your educational, informative, and entertaining programs.”  
 – A listener of the radio program

Participants in the focus groups particularly expressed their appreciation of the relevance of the issue of “sexually transmitted grades.” Unfortunately common in the DRC, this particular phenomenon refers to the issue of female students trading sexual favors for good grades, or of unscrupulous male professors demanding sexual favors for passing grades. Several episodes of *Uishi na Upende* have addressed this problem. These shows were

highly relevant for Congolese students, who are often confronted by this problem. This finding was reinforced by the survey conducted among a sample of the Congolese population. In Uvira, more than two thirds of the respondents followed and particularly appreciated the episodes of *Uishi na Upende* that tackled the issue of “sexually transmitted grades.”

**The radio program was also relevant for parents.** Parents regularly listen to the radio program. Among the Congolese people surveyed, 48% of those who are 21 and older, and 31% of those who are 31 and older have listened to *Uishi na Upende* at least once. In addition, 80% of the feedback collected by SFCG came from adult listeners. This shows that *Uishi na Upende* is popular among Congolese parents, who like their children, are concerned about the issue of youth and sexual

relationships. Some of the episodes of *Uishi na Upende* specifically focused on topics related to relationships between young people and their parents. Topics covered included discussions of relationships between younger girls and married adults, and parents not approving of meetings between boys and girls.

Among the feedback that was gathered by SFCG from parents, the majority expressed their interest in the program, saying that it takes into account the interaction between parents and adolescents around sensitive and taboo issues related to relationships and sexuality. In their feedback, adult listeners thanked SFCG for discussing the idea that “*parents influence the relationships of their children*” and that “*parents have a great role to play in youth relationships.*”

“This is a great program that will enable parents to know what young people are feeling.”

– A parent listener

The evaluation of *Uishi na Upende* also found that the program is perceived as authentic. During the focus group discussions, a majority of participants felt that what is said during the episodes of the radio program is “*concrete and truthful.*” *Uishi na Upende* appears to be a reliable source of information for Congolese youth. Most of the young people who participated in the focus groups also mentioned that adolescents who speak in the radio shows are representative of Congolese youth. Many girls said during focus group discussions that “*what boys are saying during the episodes of Uishi na Upende conveys what they believe or do in their everyday life.*” This element has contributed significantly to the authenticity of the radio program. Focus group participants also expressed their appreciation of the title and the theme tune of the program, which they felt was particularly appropriate regarding the content.

### 5.2.2 Radio listeners have gained knowledge on issues related to gender roles and relationships

The radio program proved to be a useful source of information for youth on topics that are rarely discussed within Congolese society. Participants in the focus groups said that the program increased their knowledge on issues related to gender roles, relationships, and sexuality. *Uishi na Upende* seems to be an effective educational tool, particularly in “*educating youth in their love life,*” as mentioned in feedback. For instance, *Uishi na Upende* provided the listeners with information on sexually transmitted diseases and on good practices regarding this issue. This aspect was cited by focus group participants as one of the factors that contributed to the quality of the show. The feedback gathered also emphasized the educational aspect of the program for its listeners, some listeners mentioned that they “*learn a lot of things thanks to your programs*” and that *Uishi na Upende* was “*really educational.*”

The radio program was also effective in increasing the capacity of young people in understanding the perceptions and behaviors of their male or female counterparts. Youth expressed their appreciation of the program and its capacity to set out both male and female points of view and perspectives on the same issue, as shown by the feedback collected. Some wrote, “*I like this program a lot since youth give their points of view on their lives,*” and “*I like the declarations of the young participants on their relationships.*” During the focus groups some female participants mentioned that they felt empowered by the program. Among the reasons listed by girls in

explaining their appreciation of *Uishi na Upende* were: “*Uishi na Upende provides us with arguments that enable us to be less vulnerable to deceit from boys...Uishi na Upende helps us discover ourselves and behave better.*” Through a series of feedback gathered by SFCG, listeners expressed their appreciation of *Uishi na Upende*, which helps them in their daily lives, saying for instance “*thanks for your advice...Uishi na Upende is a good program, it gives plenty of advice*”, and would regularly ask for further advice. In this way, *Uishi na Upende* was particularly effective in promoting the sharing of information and experiences.

### 5.2.3 The radio program contributed to an attitudinal change among its listeners

**Radio listeners are more likely to believe in gender equality.** The radio program was effective in raising awareness on gender equality, and particularly on the rights of female adolescents. Listeners were far more likely than non-listeners to affirm that girls should have the same rights as boys in determining the nature of their relationships or friendships with the opposite sex. 34% of non-listeners as opposed to 52% of listeners felt this way. In addition, some of the opinions gathered during focus group discussions also showed that after listening to the program, youth were likely to condemn discrimination against women. Focus group participants said that they appreciated the fact that *Uishi na Upende* “challenged their conscience.”

The survey uncovered results that might seem counter-intuitive at first. A higher proportion of men than women supported equal rights for women. On a more positive note, younger women, who are specifically targeted by *Uishe na Upende*, are more likely than older women to believe that they should have equal rights.

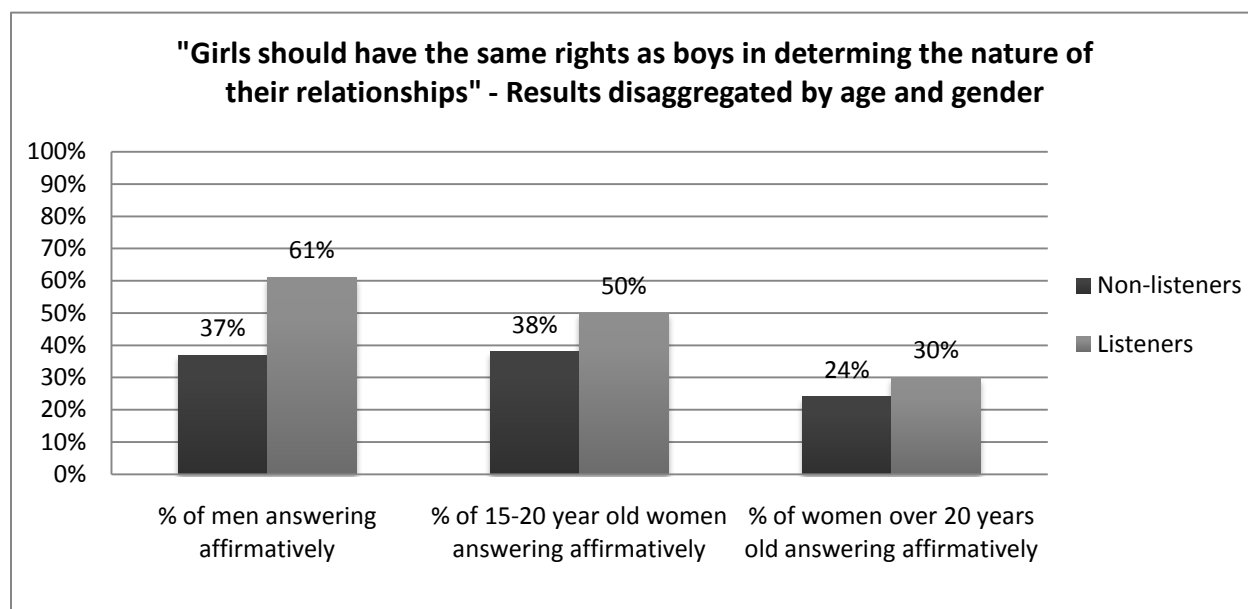


Figure 5.2.2.1: Survey question on whether or not girls have the same rights as boys in determining the nature of their friendships. Comparison of *Uishi na Upende* listener and non-listener responses, disaggregated by age and gender.

**The radio program encouraged dialogue on healthy relationships.** In an environment where this type of public forum is uncommon, *Uishi na Upende* was also effective in promoting the idea of a free and open dialogue on issues related to gender roles and relationships, and the conflicts rising from these kinds of interactions. After listening to *Uishi na Upende*, far fewer survey respondents still believed that it was “bad” to discuss male-female relationships. Over half of the non-listeners surveyed felt that this was the case, compared with less than a quarter of listeners.

“A good relationship means that we have to consult each other before making a decision.”

– A young listener of *Uishi na Upende*

In addition, *Uishi na Upende* was effective in initiating an interactive debate among Congolese youth on issues related to gender, sexuality, and relationships. Many listeners expressed that they wanted the program to come to their area, and that they wanted to participate in the discussion. Focus groups showed that some episodes addressing issues related to discrimination against women were particularly powerful in provoking reactions on these issues, with listeners condemning the perpetrators and supporting the victims. After listening to the program, some Congolese adolescents, particularly girls, said that they would be likely to “*discuss the content of the program.*” Male teens in Walungu and Goma stated, during focus group discussions, that they would be willing to “*follow the program with their fiancés and to comment on the participants’ interventions during the show.*” *Uishi na Upende* was also particularly appreciated by the listeners who felt that the program was giving a free voice to youth from different backgrounds on issues that are usually taboo within Congolese society. The program favored, according to the young listeners, “*an analytical approach*” to the issues addressed. In this way, *Uishi na Upende* has the ability to change the attitudes of Congolese youth via its positive effect in terms of fostering openness and dialogue.

**Radio listeners are less likely to blame the victims of rape.** One of the most prevalent and damaging attitudes in the area is the idea that girls are raped because they dress provocatively. *Uishi na Upende* covers this topic extensively. Over two thirds of listeners stated that the primary theme they had listened to was related to this very question. It was the most listened to theme among listeners. Like the Mobile Cinema activity, the radio program is changing perceptions regarding this topic.

**Radio listeners had a heightened sense of parental responsibility.** Survey respondents were asked if girls sometimes engage in sexual activities with boys or with older men because their parents cannot or do not provide for them. *Uishi na Upende* listeners were more likely to understand that this is the case. In particular, respondents who were 30 years or older, and were therefore more likely to have children, acknowledged this fact. For this age group, only 20% of non-listeners believed that this was the case. The figure was 65% for listeners.

**Regular radio listeners had more positive attitudes regarding issues related to male-female relations.** In the survey, respondents were asked the following six questions:

- 1) Does drug use influence young people to have sexual relations?
- 2) Do girls, as well as boys, take drugs?

- 3) Do relationships between boys and girls always develop a sexual nature?
- 4) Should girls have the same rights as boys in determining the nature of their relationships with the opposite sex?
- 5) Is it bad to talk about sexual relations?
- 6) If parents do not satisfy the needs of their daughters, might their daughters engage in sexual relations with boys or older men?

Test results showed that the more frequently a respondent listens to *Uishi na Upende*, the more likely they are to answer correctly on these questions. This shows that regular listeners were more informed and developed more positive attitudes regarding healthy relationships between boys and girls.

<b>How often do you listen to <i>Uishe na Upende</i>?</b>	<b>Average test score of respondents</b>
Never	38%
Once or twice	56%
Five to six times	60%
Never miss it	64%

Figure 5.2.2.2: Test scores on six key survey questions, broken down by frequency of listening to *Uishi na Upende*.

### **5.3 An Effective Combined Strategy**

Finally, the evaluation conducted by SFCG found that the sensitization and dialogue strategy proposed by SFCG in the framework of this project, which combined both Mobile Cinema and radio programming, was particularly effective in contributing to raising awareness and changing the attitudes of participants.

Among the respondents to the surveys who participated in a Mobile Cinema activity and who have listened to *Uishi na Upende* – a total of 26% of the people surveyed – the percentage of correct answers to questions related to SGBV was higher than among the people surveyed who took part in a Mobile Cinema activity or listened *Uishi na Upende*, but did not do both. For instance, on the question concerning the maximum penalty provided by law for rape in the DRC, the percentage of correct answers was higher among respondents who benefited from the two types of activities conducted by SFCG.

The same assessment can be made concerning a change of perception among the participants on whether or not discussing sexual relations is wrong, which seems to be greater among the Congolese population who participated in both cinema and radio activities.

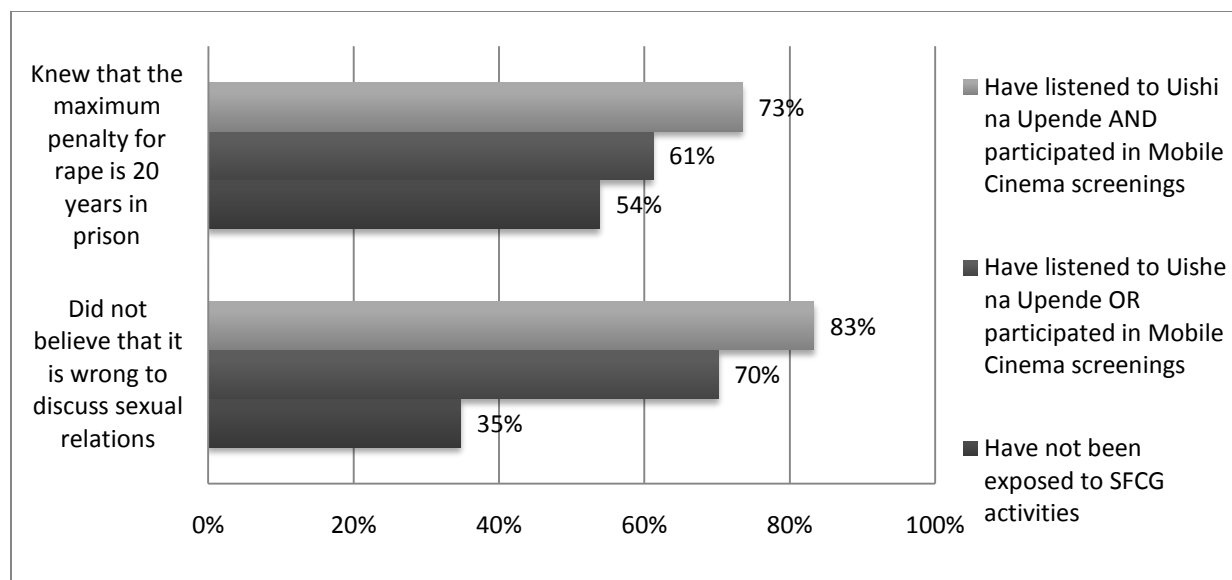


Figure 5.3.1: Comparison of test scores on two key survey questions, broken down by level of exposure to SFCG activities.

As a result, the project increased the knowledge of participants and had a positive impact on their attitudes and perceptions. The two activities reached out to a significant part of the Congolese population in the targeted areas, and worked well in tandem.

## 6. RECOMMENDATIONS

One of the objectives of this evaluation was to receive recommendations to improve future planning of similar activities or projects within the organization. During the focus group discussions, young participants had an opportunity to make recommendations. Among the suggestions, young people requested an increase in the frequency and an extension of the scope of the broadcasting of *Uishi na Upende*, so that the program can reach a broader audience. These recommendations were also made in listener feedback.

I thank you for this program, *Uishi na Upende*, which gives youth a means to express itself freely about sexual relations among young people."

- A young listener of *Uishi na Upende*

Concerning the content of the radio programming, teenage women said that the program should feature more girls to ensure that girls and boys are equally represented in each episode. Male adolescents proposed a series of issues that they would like to see further addressed by *Uishi na Upende*, among them, the issue of sexual abuse and attendance records in Congolese schools, and the issue of poverty and unemployment among youth. These issues impact the vulnerability of adolescents, particularly girls.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

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Findings from the surveys, pre- and post-tests, focus group discussions, and listener feedback, show that the sensitization strategy of SFCG has been very successful. The Mobile Cinema activity and *Uishe na Upende* radio program have raised knowledge and changed attitudes on issues related to SGBV. Mobile Cinema activities have received a very positive response, and have had a wide impact. Focus group discussions and listener feedback on *Uishi na Upende* showed that the radio program has been extremely well received. Young people and adults have expressed their appreciation of the program, stating that it deals with issues that they regularly face, provides a space for dialogue on important topics, and empowers young women. Furthermore, survey results showed that *Uishi na Upende* listeners were better informed than non-listeners, validating and reinforcing the statements made during focus groups and received as feedback.

Despite the progress achieved via this project, more needs to be done to prevent SGBV. For instance, the number of women who felt that the entire community was responsible for the fight against SGBV increased from 44% to 71% after participating in a Mobile Cinema activity. Although this is a very positive result, nearly a third of the women polled still held the same negative views. Therefore, while the project has been effective in changing attitudes and behaviors, there is still more to be done. Initiating a healthy dialogue around this issue is a necessary step towards tackling the problem, and targeting youth is of paramount importance. Young people, who are often marginalized and have grown up in the midst of numerous conflicts, need to be sensitized. Otherwise, there is a danger that SGBV will become the norm for a new generation of Congolese citizens. More than anything else, this project provides a space for discussion. It makes it clear for those taking part that having such discussions is acceptable and productive. In doing so, this project has provided important information on SGBV, contributed to attitudinal changes regarding the wellbeing of women, and had a positive social impact in the DRC.

## 8. ANNEXES

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### 8.1 Annex 1: Project Objective and Indicators

**Objective 1 – Raise awareness around the causes of gender based violence and the mechanisms to combat it and support for survivors of sexual violence**

**Indicator 1:** 75% of people surveyed who participated in the project can correctly answer two factual questions about SGBV, disaggregated by gender.

**Result:** In a survey of 500 return zone residents:

- 91% of male *Uishi na Upende* listeners and 92% of female listeners can correctly answer three factual questions. Comparative rates in non-viewers are 86% and 87%, respectively.
- 94% of male Mobile Cinema participants and 96% of women Mobile Cinema participants can answer three factual questions. Comparative rates in non-viewers are 85% and 86%, respectively.

#### Objective 1

**Indicator 2:** 75% of local authorities surveyed who participated in a Mobile Cinema activity can correctly answer two factual questions about SGBV.

**Result:** 79% of authorities who had participated in a Mobile Cinema activity could answer at least 12 out of 16 factual questions. **Of this group, only 25% could meet this threshold beforehand.**

#### Objective 1

**Indicator 3:** 20 public screenings for returnees and community residents in return zones.

**Result:** SFCG organized 41 public screenings. The screenings covered large parts of 4 out of 6 territories in the province of North Kivu, as well as return areas in South Kivu. **Screenings in South Kivu attracted 14.960 participants. Public screenings in North Kivu attracted 17.500 participants. A total of 32.460 participants (Men: 8.115, Women: 8.115, Youth: 12.984, Children: 3.246**

#### Objective 1

**Indicator 4:** 20 sub-film screenings for local authorities in return zones.

**Result:** SFCG held 21 sub-film screenings for local authorities.

#### Objective 1

**Indicator 5:** 10 public screenings for Congolese refugees in Rwandan camps.

**Result:** **After being denied access to the refugee camps in Rwanda and not being able to arrange visits to Uganda within the time-frame of the project**, SFCG focused the screenings on return zones in North- & South-Kivu, with public screenings and sub-film screenings for local authorities and community leaders. It is planned that in 2011 an information campaign related to the planned repatriation of refugees from Uganda and Rwanda will require activities in the refugee camps. SFCG will work on including screenings for camp leaders within its UNHCR funded project in North Kivu in 2011.

**Objective 1**

**Indicator 6:** 5 sub-film screenings for camp leaders in Rwandan camps.

**Result:** Please see note for Indicator 5.

**Objective 1**

**Indicator 7:** 40 radio programs targeting adolescent youth.

**Result:** SFCG produced 40 youth-targeted radio programs.

## 8.2 Annex 2: Data Collection Tools

### A. Pre- and Post-Test Questions

1. Le viol c'est le fait de coucher avec la femme d'autrui ?
  1. D'accord
  2. Pas d'accord
  
2. Si une fille mineure consent une relation sexuelle avec une personne adulte, c'est un viol ?
  1. D'accord
  2. Pas d'accord
  
3. Si un garçon mineur consent une relation sexuelle avec une femme adulte, c'est un viol ?
  1. D'accord
  2. Pas d'accord
  
4. Une survivante de viol ne doit pas en parler ?
  1. D'accord
  2. Pas d'accord
  
5. Un homme ne doit pas chasser sa femme après qu'elle a été victime de viol ?
  1. D'accord
  2. Pas d'accord
  
6. Quels types d'hommes armés sont auteurs de viol ?
  1. Les forces ou groupes armés étrangers
  2. Les militaires ou groupes armés congolais
  3. Les forces ou groupes armés étrangers et militaires ou groupes armés congolais
  
7. Les auteurs de viol appartiennent aux catégories ci- après :

1. Hommes armés seulement
  2. Civils seulement
  3. Hommes armés et civils
8. Le viol affecte seulement la survivante de viol ?
1. D'accord
  2. Pas d'accord
9. Si pas d'accord, qui d'autres ?
1. Mari de la survivante de viol seulement
  2. Parents de la survivante de viol seulement
  3. Enfants de la survivante de viol seulement
  4. Toute la communauté
  5. Tuer l'auteur de viol
10. Si j'apprends que ma voisine a été violée, je ferai quoi ?
1. Pardoner l'auteur du viol
  2. Dénoncer le viol
  3. Eviter la survivante de viol
  4. Ne rien faire
  5. Tuer l'auteur de viol
11. «Des vieilles femmes sont aussi victimes de viol » :
1. D'accord
  2. Pas d'accord
12. En matière de viol, la loi est au-dessus des coutumes.
1. D'accord
  2. Pas d'accord
13. C'est légal de régler à l'amiable le viol ?
1. D'accord
  2. Pas d'accord
14. L'auteur de viol est punissable à une peine de :
1. 6 mois de prison ferme
  2. 2 ans de prison ferme
  3. 20 ans de prison ferme
  4. 30 ans de prison ferme
  5. 5 ans – a perpétuité
  6. Je ne sais pas
15. Les femmes et filles se font violer parce qu'elles s'habillent mal ?
1. D'accord
  2. Pas d'accord

16. Lutter contre les violences sexuelles est de la responsabilité de :
1. Le gouvernement seulement
  2. Justice seulement
  3. Police seulement
  4. Les militaires seulement
  5. Toute la communauté
17. Est-ce que le viol est justifiable quand un homme n'arrive pas à gérer ses sentiments ?
1. D'accord
  2. Pas d'accord
18. Un auteur de viol a besoin d'être amené à l'église pour délivrance ?
1. Oui
  2. Non
19. Si ma fille, ma mère ou ma femme est violée, je ferai l'une des choses suivantes :
1. Pardoner l'auteur du viol
  2. Dénoncer le viol
  3. Eviter la survivante de viol
  4. Ne rien faire
  5. Tuer l'auteur de viol.

## B. Focus Group Discussion Questions

### I. Questions pour auditeurs (ou qui ont écouté deux émissions)

1. Comment trouvez-vous la participation des garçons et des filles dans ces émissions. Est-elle équilibrée ou non équilibrée?
2. Les participants dans les émissions disent-ils ce que vous vivez dans votre quartier? (expliquez)
3. Est-ce que les gens que vous avez entendus dans ces émissions parlent de manière concrète des problèmes entre garçons et filles? Les quels? Faites-vous confiance à leurs déclarations? Qui/No/Expliquez
4. La manière dont les garçons parlent des filles dans cette émissions, est ce qu'elle traduit ce que beaucoup de garçons pensent? Qui/Non
5. La manière dont les filles parlent des garçons ces émissions est ce qu'elle traduit ce que beaucoup de filles pensent souvent? Qui/Non
6. Comment trouvez-vous cette émission Uishi na Upende.
  - a) Ennuyeuse, pourquoi? Sentiment d'ennui, pourquoi?
  - b) Attrayante, pourquoi? Sentiment d'attraction, pourquoi?
7. Avez-vous des suggestions de sujet non traités par Uishi na Upende?

## II. Questions de comparaison avec les non auditeurs

8. Quel sens pouvons-nous donner à ce titre de l'émission « Uishi na Upende ». Il vous inspire à quoi?
9. Que pensez-vous de l'idée: « les filles se livrent à leurs enseignants ou professeurs pour les relations sexuelles afin d'obtenir plus de points » ?
10. Pensez-vous que les filles sont inférieures sur le plan de l'intelligence par rapport aux garçons? Que pensez-vous de ces garçons qui le disent?
11. Que pensez-vous des filles qui y croient?
12. Que pensez-vous de l'indicatif de l'émission? Approprié ou non approprié.

### **8.3 Annex 3: Biography of Internal Evaluators**

#### Principal Investigator

**Pacifique Ngombwa** is SFCG DM&E Coordinator for the DRC. He holds a Doctorate in Economics with a specialization in the monitoring and evaluation of projects, and in particular the use of surveys and focus group discussions. He worked for the International Rescue Committee for five years on SGBV related projects, and in programs providing support for NGOs. He has worked at SFCG since 2005, participating in the designing of projects, and organizing numerous surveys on media and other conflict transformation activities. He also supports partner organizations in the management of their projects with SFCG. His work covers the DRC and the Great Lakes region.

#### Research Assistants

**Anaïs Caput** is an Africa Program Consultant for SFCG. She holds a Master's Degree in Conflict Analysis and Peacebuilding from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques of Lille, France. Over the past couple of years, she has had the opportunity to intern with the United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, as well as the Religion and Conflict Resolution program of a New York-based NGO, the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding. Anaïs has also conducted several consultancies for the Africa Program of SFCG.

**Charles Holmquist** is an International Intern with SFCG. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Politics and Philosophy and a Master's Degree in International Relations from the University of Manchester in England. He has interned with SFCG in Washington and in Bukavu. He has worked on evaluations of SFCG's sensitization work with the Congolese military, and in assessing the security situation in the eastern DRC for the UNICEF funded PEAR + (Programme of Expanded Assistance to Returnees) project.