



QUARTERLY NARRATIVE REPORT

(October-December 2018)

Project Name: Integrated Water Resources Management

Target Areas: Ruzizi Plains (DRC)

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Maji Ya Amani (IWRM) is a project funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Ruzizi plains, South Kivu province, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). It is implemented by the IRC-led consortium comprising IRC, Stichting ZOA and Search for Common Ground. The interventions of this multisector project aim at contributing to the reduction of violence and the increase in stability in the *groupement* of Luberizi (with a total of 28,800 beneficiaries) by (1) increasing access to land and reduction of land conflict, (2) increasing access to safe drinking water and irrigation water and reduction of water related conflicts, (3) equitable and inclusive access to income generation opportunities, and (4) increasing awareness of population pressure on the limited natural resources.

The intervention zone, Luberizi *groupement*, is located in the Ruzizi plains which is situated along a part of the eastern border with Rwanda and Burundi. The Ruzizi plains is rich with natural resources including water that provides substantial opportunity for agriculture and household use, thereby creating a potential bond for communities divided along ethnic lines. It's said that, if well exploited, the Ruzizi Plains would potentially be capable of feeding all of the total population in the plains and Burundi and Rwanda.

This report provides an update on the progress the project made during the fourth quarter of 2018. Among major achievements, we should note that drinking water is now running through all 72 kilometers of piping, serving nearly all the 14 villages which were targeted to be supplied in clean drinking water. Indeed, the water piping activities stand now at 90% of the entire work. Regarding the land tenure process which is a pre-condition for the start of the rehabilitation of the Tenge-Tenge dam, crucial progress has been made. Reflections and discussions have been conducted with the community, with relevant government technical services experts and at all administrative levels including national level. In accordance with the relevant Congolese law, the option of *group land titles* has been agreed upon. The first land titles are to be issued early in January 2019.

During this quarter, the project conducted several technical trainings, awareness raising sessions, and community project evaluation and planning meetings as part of capacity strengthening, knowledge increase, information and education, and accountability-raising. These involved the community and state technical services directly interacting with the project administration at all levels. Furthermore, sessions conducted to foster gender promotion, conflict resolution, education and support to value chains, town hall meetings (*tribune d'expression populaires*) followed by scorecard sessions are other areas where project actions directly involved the community.

Overall, the project is steadily making progress in its implementation, and the community's confidence and acceptance of the *Maji ya Amani* project improves progressively as the project's achievements meet their expectations. The project notes that this is an asset and/or opportunity to build on in order to improve on actions aimed at ensuring greater ownership and sustainability of the project achievements.

Nevertheless Luberizi is subject to persistent security issues due to its geopolitical position, the ethnic divisions present in the local communities, and the presence of armed groups in the surrounding areas.

ACRONYMS

ACEP	: Association des Consommateurs d'Eau potable de Luberizi
ASUREP	: Associations des Usagers de Réseaux d'Eau Potable
CAG	: Community action groups
CEFE	: Competency-based Economies through Formation of Enterprises
CICF	: Comité Intérimaire de coordination Foncière
CMG	: Collective Marketing Groups
CMGEL	: Comité de Maintenance et de Gestion d'Eau de Luberizi
COOPAILU	: Coopérative Agricole des Usagers de l'Irrigation de Luberizi ()
COOPEC	: Coopérative d'Épargne et de Crédit
DRC	: Democratic Republic of Congo
FARDC	: Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo
FFS	: Farmer Field Schools
FP	: Family Planning
GEL	: Guichet d'Économie Locale
IWRM	: Integrated Water Resources Management
MINOKA	: Minoterie de Kamanyola
MYA	: (Projet) Maji Ya Amani
PAC	: Post-Abortion Care
SNHR	: Service National de l'Hydraulique Rurale
SRH	: Sexual and Reproductive Health
VSLA	: Village Savings and Loan Associations

A. Project Implementation Environment

The project implementation environment is still characterized by security instability and military activities in the surrounding hills and mountains, and abuses perpetrated by local and foreign armed groups operating in the DRC. In this climate, the number of robberies increased on the national road No.5 (Kamanyola-Uvira). The project team recorded an increase in the number of civilian population kidnappings and armed attacks on several civilians. The area is prey to a proliferation of armed groups and the circulation of arms, cases of cattle theft, kidnapping of people for ransom, rape, robbery, and conflicts between herders and farmers, as well as conflicts around land due to the superimposition of boundaries, the illegal occupation of public spaces, and double allocation.

This quarter was also marked by the electoral campaign, which had an impact on the project team's mobility, the availability of communities, and the need for project staff to demonstrate strict neutrality in the exercise of their mission. Indeed, the risk of seeing the intervention claimed by political actors or for our actions to be perceived as aligned with certain political ideologies was great. Therefore, the project sent a firm reminder to all staff to observe, more than ever, the totally neutral and apolitical character of both the project's mission and the implementing organizations values.

It should be noted that in the face of this sensitive context which could have easily flared up due to the political situation, staff movements were limited, particularly for the surrounding hills and mountains to further minimize incidents against project personnel and vehicles in the field.

Besides this context, the duality (over administrative power exercise) characterizing Luberizi remained a challenge which the project remains aware of and consistently takes in account in its actions.

B. Project Activities

❖ *Capacity Building for Local Organizations*

- (a) **CICF** : As part of the Interim Land Coordination Committee (CICF) restructure, local actors, together with technical services deployed in Luberizi and Uvira, have reviewed according to the alignment criteria, efficiency and implementation which options would help ensure more sustainability of the structure to be put in place.

The analysis focused not only on the ability to mobilize land actors, but above all, the need to integrate into a global dynamic, harmonizing the approach, the coordination and interaction with other actors working in the field. Thus, based on the experience drawn from the visits of similar structures in Walungu, Kalehe and North Kivu, participants exchanged views on non-profit organization models, community-based organization, and on developing a coordination framework for development actions and a network of organizations in the land sector.

Proposals emerged to take the exchanges to the provincial level and make a final decision. The proposals took into account the need for the structure to be operational after the close of the project, the sustainability of the expertise already acquired by the CICF, along with alignment and interaction with other actors. Note that the alignment with land and agricultural reform mechanisms under way served as a basis for the discussions.

- (b) **CMGEL**: To ensure greater efficiency and inclusiveness of the CMGEL, the findings of an organizational diagnosis led to the conclusion that a re-organization of the structure would be necessary to allow membership to all communities and integrate new skills that would help achieve more dynamism, accountability and efficiency in service delivery.

The membership process, which registered more than 1600 members is leading to a new structure to be set up whose proposed name is Coopérative Agricole des Usagers de l'Irrigation de Luberizi (COOPAILU). The next step will consist in setting up the different bodies and thus begin the

development of relevant texts governing the community structure that will also help it to acquire a legal personality.

❖ ***Recruitment of local organizations***

The implementation of some of the project activities through partner local NGOs will enhance the sustainability of project actions in the future while strengthening community ownership. The process is already advanced in the area of social accountability and land management, where selected local organizations may be onboard during the first quarter of 2019. Specifically for the local NGO that will work in the social accountability sector (strengthening governance capacity for community and public assets), the vetting process and community reference checks before eventual signature of the contract are already completed. With donor's go-ahead, it will be contracted to carry out the community Score Card activities.

Regarding the land management sector, the vetting process has also reached the community reference check stage and verification with other actors is taking place. Unlike the social accountability sector, two organizations are in the running, of which one will be retained to proceed to a general review and approval of their proposal before the contract is set up. It should be noted that one of the essential criteria is that the organizations are based in the target community. At the end of December, the two organizations under consideration have the advantage of being present in the intervention zone, and have sound experience with the actors at the grassroots level.

❖ ***Codification of land-related local practices***

In order to avoid any overlaps in land rights management roles between government land administration and customary authorities (as guardians of customary land), the project initiated the process of (local) land practices identification and codification through the involvement of customary authorities in the legal process of access to land. In collaboration with the services involved and the community, the project is organizing visits and meetings to validate the implementation plan of this process.

❖ ***Collaboration with technical services techniques at local and territory levels***

Local level: The project is aiming to strengthen accountability through community meetings. On these occasions, the local actors and the project team discussed planning, achievements and implementation challenges. In the end, agreed mechanisms for more inclusiveness, participation and follow-up of the recommendations made it possible to plan for the future, emphasizing the roles and responsibilities of each.

Provincial level: In collaboration with the provincial level authorities, the first meeting of the MYA steering committee was held on December 14th. It allowed all stakeholders to discuss project implementation challenges in the context of Luberizi. The meeting brought together the provincial ministers of Interior, of Planning, of Agriculture and Land, as well as Health and Gender; alongside their specialized technical services and other stakeholders in the stabilization sector.

The main recommendations stemming from the first steering committee were to set up a pacification and conflict management unit involving the youths from all ethnic groups; to encourage field visits by provincial ministers to increase state ownership over project interventions ; to accelerate the group land tenure process under the supervision of the Provincial Ministry of Agriculture and Land Affairs; to present and discuss with the provincial level the schedule and the option of the rehabilitation of the dam (dike and canal) also involving relevant services at the provincial level; to approach Ruzizi Health Zone to incorporate the three-year plan on gender data collection; to consult with the Ministry of Hydraulic Resources as well as the SNHR (provincial level) to better manage water supply issues ; and to submit a quarterly summary report on project implementation, highlighting in particular how technical services are involved.

❖ ***Capacity Building and Awareness Raising***

During the period under review, the project conducted many training sessions, sensitizations, technical meetings and further technical accompaniment actions for the community structures involved in the project implementation, including government technical services and other stakeholders. The project also

organized exchange sessions with the community, and intensified contacts with the provincial administration aiming at an improvement of buy-in towards the project and an increase of auto-promotion and self-ownership of the project activities. A total of 7,318 people (3,160 women and 4,158 men) attended

❖ **GBV/SRH Interventions**

During the period under review, the MYA project's GBV team engaged in capacity building activities and the implementation of structural support plans for health and community facilities on GBV / SRH activities. In detail, the activities focused on:

- Door-to-door community awareness raising sessions led by community action groups (CAG) on the consequences of GBV and the need to refer any victims to the appropriate structures (health centers throughout 8 villages of Luberizi), within 72 hours. A total of 417 people (167 boys, 250 women) attended;
- Training of 78 health providers and community stakeholders on GBV/SRH awareness raising and communication techniques;
- Training session organized for listener club members, focal points and journalists on the consequences of sexual violence, on the GBV Guidelines and on general information on family planning and post-abortion care. A total of 73 participants completed the training;
- A workshop on violence among intimate partners was organized for 30 Maji Ya Amani staff;
- A gender awareness raising session and age-specific sessions were held on Family Planning and post-abortion care (PAC) for 417 schoolchildren in Luberizi;
- Training of 40 young peer educators on communication and awareness raising techniques and GBV consequences and how to access services;
- A mass campaign (72 participants) on GBV, FP and PAC in Rwenena 1 and 2.

❖ **Economic Recovery and Development activities**

During the period under review the MYA ERD team focused on the agricultural value chain and livelihoods. Some of the activities were carried out in collaboration with other project components with the main objective to "increase income and assets for conflict-affected groups" as a stability strategy for the Luberizi group. The actions carried out consisted of:

- Coaching on market studies and information gathering techniques concerning the market of producer organizations, namely: Collective Marketing Groups (CMGs); Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) and farmers' organizations in the Farmer Field Schools (FFS).
- Deployment of marketing coordinators (members of the CMG's) in different markets to formally contact merchants and help small producers to meet the qualitative and quantitative requirements of buyers;
- Training of 400 VSLA members and 40 youth groups (200 members) in Competency-based Economies through Formation of Enterprises (CEFE);
- Participation in various monthly platform meetings in the field of credit. The platform brings together both national and international organizations such as Louvain Cooperation, Swiss Contact, Mercy Corps, IRC, ZOA, Women for Women, FOPAC, Alert International, and War Child, among others, in order to draw out support/ accompaniment strategies applicable to MYA project beneficiaries.

❖ **Support to agricultural production**

The project provided support to the production of rice, maize and manioc crops on 850 ha ploughed at the end of 2018 in the irrigated area. So far 265 ha's have been planted with rice, 93 ha with maize and 40 ha with manioc. As the formal credit product is not yet in place (the process of identification of micro-finance institutions (MFIs) continues), the project supported beneficiary households/farmers with tractorized ploughing, and distributed chemical fertilizers and seeds on 10% interest repayable in-kind, at harvest. Besides the assistance to farmers in the irrigation scheme, the project assisted farmers in the catchment area with agricultural techniques and inputs to promote the zero-tillage practice. The project established Farmer Field Schools focusing on cassava and maize, and project agronomists offered a training to beneficiary households and partner associations on nursery development, transplanting,

fertilizer application and sowing, and general follow-up of agricultural activities within and outside the irrigated perimeter.

Furthermore, to establish links with microfinance organizations and enable farmers and entrepreneurs involved in value chains to gain access to affordable credit needed to increase agricultural and livestock production, the project conducted an evaluation of the MFIs existing in the area this reporting quarter. Currently a product is being developed with the Kalundu Savings and Loan Cooperative (COOPEC), which has been identified as a reliable potential provider of this service on terms that are still under review.

❖ ***Access to water (including Sanitation and Hygiene)***

During this period, the drinking water gravity system has connected nearly all villages in the groupement. This resulted in more acceptance of the project and more community participation in Maji Ya Amani's activities. As of the end of December, the progress stood at 90% of all planned outputs: excavation and positioning of piping lines is completed up to 95% (71 Km on the 72 km planned), 3 settling tanks at the 3 water sources, ten speed break tanks at the mountain slopes, 72 water taps finished with 48 already operational, and seven reservoirs operational and filled with water.

At the same time, the project led discussions between the Luberizi Association of Consumers of Drinking Water (ACEP), local leaders, administrative authorities and state services, and a pricing mechanism was established to pay for maintenance and functioning. Public consultations via the water sub-committees were conducted on pricing tariffs under ACEP's responsibility. Exchange visits between ACEP Luberizi and similar water associations (such as ASUREP) were organized and carried out in Buhozi and Nyantende.

In addition, a two-month training for ACEP's senior technician, with support from Régideso Uvira, ended this quarter, while a training of all ACEP water system maintenance sub-committees was organized. The project trained 50 young entrepreneurs on the manufacture of various sanitation products and soil protection techniques, ensured follow-up and accompaniment of the activities of two hygiene committees set up in the Luberizi and Mutarule Health Centers (HCs) and held sensitization sessions on hygiene and sanitation promotion throughout the eight villages of Luberizi.

Establishing a water supply system in Luberizi is one thing; ensuring its sustainability is another. With this in mind, reflections on pricing were organized to allow effective management of the water supply service in Luberizi. Relevant technical services and local actors have been oriented on the best mechanisms likely to help recover the costs and ensure the maintenance of water supply under construction.

Finally, to ensure the quality of the water supply service, the project organized exchanges between the technical staff on the use of the ScoreCard methodology to better help evaluate the quality of the services provided and thus consider, if need be, ways for improvement.

❖ ***Land Tenure***

During the last quarter of 2018, several activities aimed at access to land were conducted, building on the achievements of the participatory land mapping process conducted previously. This includes particularly the finalization of reflections on land tenure options and the validation of the group land titles, whereby a group of owners of plots in the irrigation scheme adhere to the co-management principle of a space where each one has a portion of land. The discussions particularly involved the community, the provincial Minister of Land, the Mwami of the chiefdom, the "Land Brigade" from Luvungi and the department of Conservation of Real Estate Titles in Uvira.

It should be noted that the process required the organization of repeated visits and joint working sessions between a delegation of experts from the National Ministry of Land Affairs from Kinshasa and the department of Conservation of Real Estate Titles Uvira to validate the organization of plots in the irrigation scheme, grouping them according to applicable land standards so that the latter can be the subject of group titles. On the basis of the cadastral norms relevant to the parceling out of agricultural

plots, a total of 219 group plots were determined by the experts from the relevant department in Uvira. This means that there will also be 219 group titles to secure farmland in the Luberizi irrigation scheme.

As a prerequisite for the acquisition of a group title, (1) all parcels need to be located in the same area/block; (2) no disputes must be recorded on one of the parcels subject to the same title (so that the owner of the parcel is undisputed); (3) no service roads may intersect the group, and finally, (4) all the owners must adhere to the basic act governing co-management of the space concerning a group title. This is to ensure that the allocation of these lands is not disoriented and that they are used exclusively for farming, respect of the growing seasons, irrigation schedules, the obligation to continually exploit the spaces and provide contributions to the maintenance and sustainability of the structures that will be developed. Note that currently, lists of land owners/occupants are being developed before they are transmitted to the technical and competent services to deliver the titles. The first grouped land titles are expected to be issued in January 2019.

❖ **Watershed Management (beyond Luberizi):**

With regard to the management of the watershed area, the project completed a study on Land, Water and Environment in the watershed. The report proposes a (watershed) management plan whose implementation requires the establishment of an executive committee with representation from different levels, including provincial and local authorities and institutions, local leaders representing different ethnic groups in local communities, Technical Services (such as SNHR), the Water Users Committee, farmers, and herders, as well as women and the youth.

❖ **Peaceful conflict resolution: community education sessions**

During the quarter under review, the project produced 44 participatory theater performances in different locations, depending upon the relevance of the topic vis-à-vis the type of conflict addressed. The project uses participatory theaters to raise awareness about peaceful conflict resolution, sexual and gender-based violence, and conflict transformation. The performances provide an opportunity to illustrate real-life conflict/issues that the communities experience on a daily basis and convey messages that encourage/promote positive behavior change. Indeed, most of the performances deal with land access conflicts/issues. The audience is invited to intervene during the performances and even take on, with the facilitator's guidance, the role of actor to change the bad behavior portrayed in the scene. The table below presents information relating to locations, themes addressed and participants disaggregated by age and sex:

Location	Conflict themes addressed	PARTICIPANTS				
		Adults		Youth		TOT
		Male	Women	Boys	Girls	
Katekama	Conflict between farmers and herders linked to wanderings of livestock	21	65	39	82	207
Nyamugali Market	Land access conflicts between ethnic groups	127	192	47	52	418
Rwenena	Land-related disputes based on farm boundaries	12	35	18	42	107
Sange Market	Land-related disputes based on farm boundaries	17	102	52	91	262
Nyamugali Market	Land access conflicts between ethnic groups	48	93	64	102	307
Rwenena	Conflict of interest between farmers due to theft of cassava roots	15	49	41	64	169
Mutarule I	Ethnic conflict due to theft of trees	12	58	31	69	170
Nyakabere I	Land-related disputes based on farm boundaries	21	57	37	51	166
Nyamugali	Land-related disputes based on farm boundaries	39	73	91	47	250

Location	Conflict themes addressed	PARTICIPANTS				
		Adults		Youth		TOT
		Male	Women	Boys	Girls	
Nyamugali/Mapendo,	Land-related disputes based on farm boundaries	43	96	67	102	308
Luberizi/Sango	Land disputes between farmers due to land occupation	26	73	44	92	235
Kitemesho	Inheritance conflict between family members (land access)	11	38	39	51	139
TOTAL		392	931	570	845	2,738

❖ **Fostering community cohesion through youth solidarity activities**

The project organized 13 solidarity activities, during this period, bringing together the youth from the eight villages in the Luberizi groupement and the Uvira territory. These activities involved a football tournament and cultural music activities for peace, under the theme "Vijana, Amani Kwetu" or "Dear youth, Peace be with us!" The goal was to promote interethnic collaboration among the youth. Youths (women and men) from each village were organized in football teams and sports events became a meeting place for all young people. The existing cultural groups were previously not inclusive—which led the project to not only revitalize them but also ensure membership is inclusive of all ethnicities. Overall, 1,000+ people participated in the aforementioned activities, including 12 elders from eight villages, two chiefs of groupement, military officers at the groupement level, and the youth division of the territory level. Eight football teams from eight villages with more than 160 players participated.

❖ **Fostering accountability and security governance through dialogue**

The project is organizing town hall meetings (also known as *Tribune d'expression populaire-TEP*, in French) which are a form of community dialogue that allows communities and authorities to come together to identify and analyze challenges and envisage possibilities to collaborate to reach mutually beneficial solutions. The process aims to create pathways for conflicts to be transformed by fostering increased trust, collaboration, and mutual accountability that can transform the relationships between parties in conflict. Prior to the actual town hall, a scorecard takes place. This helps ensure that the content of the town hall will be relevant to the needs of the local community and authority.

Between October and December 2018, the project organized seven town halls and three community consultations on the basis of three scorecards. It's worth noting that the number of issues identified in the three *scorecards* was diversified enough to hold multiple TEPs in order to allow sufficient time to handle each issue separately. In addition to the TEPs, the project team also conducted three community consultations to ensure all community members and stakeholders contributed to the forum. Findings include the need to identify families with children in armed groups; the need for the community to denounce the youth affiliated with armed groups and who sometimes enter the neighborhood; military and civilian patrols around kraals for the safety of cows to limit cattle theft need to be organized jointly; the community expressed the view that youth interested in joining security forces should be integrated into the army and that the military should not prosecute the youths who decide to leave the armed groups and return freely to the community.

After this activity, relevant measures were agreed. No civilian will have the right to enter the kraals after 18:30; only military assigned to this area will be allowed inside. Since this decision was taken, no case of livestock theft has been recorded in all kraals of the groupement.

C. Monitoring Progress

Maji Ya Amani has a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit whose role is to routinely collect and analyze data to inform project decision-making, identify gaps and delays, and to ensure the project is progressing towards achievement of the objectives. Monthly coordination and planning meetings are being held during which every project sector team makes a presentation on their achievements vs. targets and points out

challenges. It's on this basis that discussions/exchanges are held to envisage actions to successfully address them.

Furthermore, as progress against some of the project indicators is assessed annually, the project conducted an annual review. Data collected in this framework will help prepare the annual analytical progress report. An update is also expected to be uploaded in IATI.

D. Key Achievements

Key achievements for this quarter are the following:

- (1) *Land tenure* is at a crucial stage. After the participatory land mapping activities, the reflections and exchanges made to decide on the land title option were successfully completed. Land tenure will be done on the basis of group land titles to the owners of parcels within the irrigated perimeter.
- (2) The gravity drinking water supply project over a total distance of 72 km is about to be completed. Nearly all the villages are already supplied with long-awaited clean drinking water. At the end of December, the overall progress of this project stands at 90% of expected deliverables.
- (3) In order to contribute to the improvement of working conditions and hence increase yields for small producers in Luberizi, the project has undertaken actions aimed at transferring agribusiness innovations and connecting producers to profitable markets. In the same vein, and in response to the challenges related to access to micro credits, these producers have been oriented towards the mobilization of savings at the local level through VSLAs and through a specific training on entrepreneurial skills.
- (4) With the support of the project, the CICF re-organization process was able to reach a final decision on what type of structure it should be while ensuring its legitimacy and regulatory alignment.
- (5) This quarter, ACEP was registered with the National Ministry of Justice with a view to obtaining legal personality.
- (6) Major activities aimed at community cohesion, such as the peace football tournament, were organized and saw the participation of many people (adults, young people, men, and women from all ethnic groups) from not only Luberizi but also beyond this groupement.
- (7) As part of interaction/collaboration with the provincial level authorities to ensure ownership over and follow-up of the project's commitments/achievements, a steering committee meeting was held and a follow-up visit organized by the provincial government to the MYA project.

E. Gender and Vulnerable Groups Analysis

1. The project is taking specific action to ensure inclusion of the Batwa ethnic group who are not only the minority but also the poorest group of the population in Luberizi. The Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) approach has set up a specific mechanism for their accompaniment. They formed three VSLAs and are currently benefiting from support adapted to their situation.
2. To ensure that activities impact on gender and vulnerability, the project ensures that each partner community structure in place considers integration of women and youth as a priority criterion. Thus, in the bodies of each structure set up with the support of the project it was possible to represent all the ethnic groups present in the groupement, women and youth. Furthermore, the existence of a gender component within the project helps ensure that the gender aspect is taken into account in all interventions.
3. Staff recruitment also takes this aspect into account, not only in relation to Maji Ya Amani staff, but also to the manpower recruited by partner organizations and companies contracted by the project

F. Challenges

1. Security context: The presidential and parliamentary elections caused an increased alert level, sometimes limiting implementation of project activities.

2. Luberizi is still prey to rivalries over the exercise of traditional and administrative power, leading to the establishment of dual authorities up to the level of villages and avenues. The project maintains the decision to collaborate with both local leaders is, so far, more effective, as all communities feel they are involved.
3. Discussions over the water service pricing to ensure maintenance and sustainability of the system were held with the community. The challenge is that the community don't seem to be ready or able yet to contribute sufficiently to ensure that the water supply system is maintained.

G. Lessons Learned

1. The continued involvement of the administration at all levels, not only in the implementation of project activities but also in the search for appropriate solutions such as land tenure for the irrigated perimeter, made it possible to get land title costs reduced and procedures simplified.
2. In a situation of acute interethnic conflict, a common center of interest is a factor likely to reunite communities in conflict. The case of the establishment of the drinking water gravity piping system is a striking example. Indeed, over a distance 30 km occupied by the Mai-Mai armed group whose mission is allegedly to protect their ethnic identity, it should be noted that the activities continued over months and months without any interference. Also, in order to supply Luberizi in drinking water, communities overcame their differences and set up inclusive sub-committees (all ethnic groups, men, women, and youth) up to the Avenues level regardless of their descendance. This collaboration for the management of a common good is a precursor of a better future in terms of coexistence between the ethnic groups of Luberizi.
3. It has been observed that the lack of information on women and girls' menstrual hygiene is a longstanding problem that women face in Luberizi. Some use tree leaves, dried grass, or unhygienic fabrics and are unfortunately guided by multiple taboos that discriminate against women and girls. The main consequence for young girls is increased school drop-out at the primary level. Girls believe that management of menstruation cannot go hand in hand with education, as they are told the first appearance of menstruation reveals that the time for the girl to be married has come. To tackle this issue, the project intends to conduct awareness sessions through the project GBV/SRH/FP component.

PHOTOS

		
Exchange visits to Kabare (onion fields)	Distribution of Equipment	Reservoir of 120m ³ of Katekama
		
BF in service at Nyakabere2	Conclusion of training of the ACEP technician at the Regideso Uvira.	Training of 50 <i>Jeunes Macon</i> entrepreneurs at Nyamugali on the sanmarket
		
Training of 50 Youth in sanmarket	Land mediation session	