

Central Africa Democratic Republic of Congo - Burundi

Projects in Central Africa :

- DRC 43 « Project on Economic Solidarity and Food Security in the fight against poverty in Kivu (Essalki) »
- DRC 46 « Support to the revival of local entrepreneurship in South Kivu »
- DRC 47 « Emergency »
- DRC 70 « Coordination of activities in Central Africa »
- DRC 71 « Support to the health zone of Kadutu »
- DRC 72 « Support to the health zone of Katana »
- DRC 73 « Support to the health zone of Nyantende »
- DRC 74 « Support to the health zone of Walungu »
- DRC 75 « Production of medical soap »
- DRC 76 « Renewal of food security through micro-credit »
- DRC 77 « Support to permanent training of health personnel in South »
- BUR 44 « Integrated fight against poverty in the provinces of the North »



1. Health RDC 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 77

The aim is to improve the provision of care and supply service for medicines available to people in its qualitative objective (as seen by providers) and subjective (perceived by the beneficiaries), in its quantitative and in its administrative and financial management. This is done in a vision of community participation and ownership of certain activities by the population, which contributes to the gradual empowerment of the health zone. Work is also being done on motivation, stabilisation and renewal of doctors in health facilities by offering, for example, an attractive training offer that can be used to improve the quality of services. Together with our partners, these actions assure the maintenance and the quality of integrated rural health systems and reduce the use of uncontrolled private health posts, which damage the most disadvantaged populations.

Key results for 2007

- ✓ **Establishment of 5 zonal pharmacies, rehabilitation of hospital wings and operating rooms, support the coordination of sanitation activities and community initiatives;**
- ✓ **Improving of skills and motivation of the nursing staff and the functioning of health services, recovery of operational research, improving of hygienic conditions;**
- ✓ **Construction of the central office of the Nyantende health zone and three health centers, improving data collection and analysis ;**
- ✓ **Improving pharmaceutical supply and medical equipment**
- ✓ **Improved production capacity of the medical soap factory, the distribution system of finished products and the financial empowerment of the company.**

1. Economic and food security (RDC 43, 46, 75, 76, BUR 44)

The aim is to improve the living conditions of people living in extreme poverty with regards to economy and food. The productive capacities of the population are at risk because of sometimes inappropriate survival strategies which alter sustainable natural resources. We specifically support the community dynamic and sustainable local development to ensure food self-sufficiency and improve people's access to basic social services (education and health). Our actions focus on the development of production capacities, processing, diversification and marketing of individual or community structures and in different sectors (agriculture, fishing, petty trading, processing, livestock, ...). It is also to revive the local economy and rural employment through a tailored offer of decentralised financial services (micro credit, mutual insurance society..) or non-financial (advice, training, ...). These services are provided for sustainable individual or collective initiatives with an added community, economic, social or environmental value and improving the living conditions of people (micro projects, small and medium businesses with local added value). To this end, we support our partners, such as UCODE-Microfinance, or the ASOP or GEL / South Kivu, so they themselves would be able to provide sustainable services to people in the fight against poverty.

Key results for 2007

- ✓ UCODE-Microfinance is legally, institutionally and operationally independent and is supported by Louvain Développement in restructuring its financial services in rural areas.
- ✓ The peasant organisations in 15 locations in South Kivu, grouped into Local Development Committees of South Kivu (and thus the member households) have been strengthened in their capacities for decision, production, storage, processing and marketing regarding agriculture, breeding and fishing.
- ✓ 150 Mutual insurance societies are supported in their decentralisation and member managed saving and credit programmes. The local associative dynamic has been reinforced. Large umbrella structures grouping small entrepreneurs (federations, cooperatives, etc.) have either been created or strengthened in their ability to provide efficient services to their members.
- ✓ The Bank of Local Economy of South Kivu becomes a leading player in revitalising the local economy and the offer of non-financial services tailored to micro-entrepreneurs. A guarantee mechanism allows the realisation of 8 micro-enterprises.

2. Coordination project Democratic Republic of Congo – Burundi (RDC 70)

This project aims to improve the coherence, relevance and impact of Louvain Développement's interventions in South Kivu and Burundi.

Key results for 2007

- ✓ The local partners were strengthened and fully play their role to support people in the most effective and sustainable manner.
- ✓ The coherence between the actions of Louvain Développement is ensured in order to maintain a programme which is coherent with the multifaceted interrelationships between "health" projects and projects dealing with " economic and food security."
- ✓ A new regional programme is developed which focuses on the consolidation of previous actions, the search for complementarity between our local partners and capitalisation of experiences and strategies.

Total budget Central Africa (sum of the total budgets per project in the area) :

2.418.762,00 €

Direct beneficiaries (estimation) :

1.560.960 inhabitants

Highlights from the intervention of Louvain Développement in the area :

- ▶ **12 projects grouped into two programmes (« health » and « economic and food security ») and implemented by 13 partners in two countries**
- ▶ **The new intervention programme 2008-2010 has been identified and approved 100% by the major donors (DGDC, European Union and Walloon Region). 5 new partners have been identified and integrated into this new programme organised around 8 actions.**
- ▶ **The coordination of LD includes a multidisciplinary team that has ensured the reinforcement of its partners on a strategic, methodological and institutional level.**
- ▶ **The programme of LD and its partners in AC enjoys the growing recognition of major international actors (World Bank, European Union, Belgian Cooperation).**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Louvain Coopération au Développement asbl Av. du Grand Cortil 15A, 1348 LLN

Account: ING 340-1111111-14 / CBC 732-3331919-20 with mention **Central Africa**

Tél : + 32 (0)10 390 300 / info@louvaindev.org / www.louvaindev.org