

**PROLONGED CONFLICTS AND WOMEN'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT: A CASE STUDY OF GOMA  
DRC**

**BY**

**MASIKA MUVUYA RACHEL  
BSW/33994/112/DF**

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### DECLARATION

I MASIKA MUVUYA RACHEL declare that, this dissertation is my own and has never been produced by anybody else for any award in any institution and that material which is not mine has been fully acknowledged.

Signature: ..... 

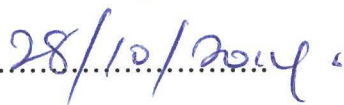
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### **APPROVAL**

This is to satisfy that this dissertation has been done under my supervision and submitted to the college of humanities and social sciences for examination with my approval.

MR.SSEKATE JOHNMARY

Signature:.....

Date: .....

## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this research work to The Lord my God, my parents Mr. and Mrs. Musay Stany, my friend Lucielle Kuria and my entire family without whose moral, spiritual and economic support, all would have been impossible.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I acknowledge the Almighty God for the strength and wisdom that have enabled me to accomplish my research. I also express my sincere heartfelt gratitude to my supervisor, JOHNMARY whose guidance and encouragement enabled me to produce this work.

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## **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

GOSS	Government of DRC
NGOs	Nongovernmental Organizations
PB	Political Bureau
SPLM	-CONGOese People's Liberation Movement
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
USA	United .s of America

## **ABSTRACT**

The research on “the impact of prolonged conflicts on women’s socio-economic development” was conducted in Goma- DRC. The research was conducted in line with the research objectives which included; finding out the impact of prolonged conflicts on women’s socio-economic development in Goma- DRC , DRC; establishing the roots causes of conflicts in DRC; and finding out the post war intervention strategies needed to foster women’s socio-economic development in Goma- DRC , -

On the impact of prolonged conflicts on women’s socio-economic development in Goma- DRC, DRC, the findings reveal that; destruction of infrastructures, discouragement of investment, loss of lives and injuries, and loss of properties.

On establishing the roots causes of conflicts in DRC, the findings reveal that; unfair allocation of positions, rampant corruption, competition for Oil, and religious differences

On the post war intervention strategies needed to foster women’s socio-economic development in Goma- DRC , DRC, the findings revealed that; civic education, Gender balance in employment, Offer free education to women, Enact tougher laws on women’s rights abuse.

The researcher concluded that prolonged conflicts have indeed disrupted women’s development initiatives in Goma- DRC. The researcher then recommended that development programmes be undertaken by the government, women be empowered, among other recommendations.

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.0 Introduction**

This chapter is concerned with the background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, scope of the study, and significance of the study.

#### **1.1 Background of the study**

According to Blattman and Miguel (2010), civil conflict remains important in many developing countries and has become an integral part of the study of economic development. Especially the last decade has seen a boom in studies on conflict. One finding that stands out from this work is the strong negative association between conflict and economic development.

For more than a decade, resolutions from the United Nations and the European Commission have highlighted women's suffering during wars, and the unfairness of their treatment upon the return to peace. Over the past few years there thus has been an increasing interest in women's experiences during war and their potential capabilities for peace, but this interest has not led to significant improvements in women's lives during and after armed struggle (Lake 1990).

Cattle raiding as well as inter- and intra-tribal fighting have been features of DRC life for decades. But the scale, intensity, and impact of violence have increased in recent years. Anthropologists Hutchinson and Jok noted that in pre-war DRC (pre-1955) community violence consisted of

infrequent and short-lived skirmishes over resources such as grazing areas or fishing pools (Hutchinson and Jok, 2002). The weapons used were almost exclusively spears. Women and children were not regarded as legitimate targets. One reason for this was that a woman's ethnicity was not as rigidly defined as it is today. In earlier times, women were permitted to marry men from other tribes and to adopt that tribal identity, without becoming a "tribal enemy". In fact, women who married into other tribes represented 'points through which adversarial relations among men could be potentially defused and transformed into relations of affinity through marriage' (Hutchinson and Jok, 2002). The unwritten ethical code further considered women as sources of refuge for fleeing or wounded men.

During the second -Congolese civil war (1983–2005), small arms and light weapons flooded into the south. Firearms became integral to the culture, and were used as a form of dowry payment in some parts of the south. To kill with a spear, one has to be physically close and have a specific target. Firearms depersonalized the act of killing or injuring another person, and contributed to the dehumanization of the other. This made it easier, psychologically as well as physically, for combatants to target women and children.

## **1.2 Statement of the problem**

While women remain a minority of combatants and perpetrators of war, they increasingly suffer the greatest harm. Women in war-torn societies can face specific and devastating forms of sexual violence, which are sometimes deployed systematically to achieve military or political objectives. Women are the first to be affected by infrastructure breakdown, as they struggle to keep families together and care for the wounded. And

women may also be forced to turn to sexual exploitation in order to survive and support their families.

Rebellion is large-scale predation of productive economic activities. Tribal conflicts can set back social and economic development gains by decades; hard-won development successes can be wiped out in an instant.

Countries that have endured such conflicts have diverted vast amounts of resources, both economic and human, to support military actions. 'Victory', if ever finally declared, has a very hollow ring indeed. Prolonged conflicts in DRC has left many women with little development as many of them lose their husbands during the conflicts. Many of them are subjected assaults and all forms of physical abuse. This hampers their development in the long-run. It is therefore against this background that the researcher found out the how prolonged conflicts impacts on women's development in Goma- -

### **1.3 Objectives of the study**

To examine the impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC .

#### **1.3.1 Specific objective**

- (i) To find out the impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC, -
- (ii) To establish the roots causes of conflicts in Goma- DRC DRC
- (iii) To find out the post war intervention strategies needed to foster women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC

#### **1.4 Research questions**

- (i) What is the impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC?
- (ii) What are the roots causes of conflicts in Goma- DRC?
- (iii) What are the post war intervention strategies needed to foster women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC?

#### **1.5 Scope of the study**

##### **1.5.1 Geographical scope**

**Goma** is a city in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. It is located on the northern shore of Lake Kivu, next to the Rwandan city of Gisenyi. The lake and the two cities are in the Albertine Rift, the western branch of the East African Rift system. Goma lies only 13 to 18 km due south of the crater of the active Nyiragongo Volcano. The recent history of Goma has been dominated by the volcano and the Rwandan Genocide of 1994, which in turn fuelled the First and Second Congo Wars. The aftermath of these events was still having effects on the city and its surroundings in 2010. The city was captured by rebels during the M23 rebellion in late 2012, but has since been retaken by government forces.

Goma is capital of North Kivu province, ethnically and geographically similar to South Kivu (capital Bukavu); the two provinces are known as "the Kivus".



### **1.5.2 Content scope**

The research was carried out on the impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC, -

### **1.5.2 Time scope**

The research looked at the impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development between the periods of 1990 to 2013.

### **1.6 Significance of the study**

The study will try to identify areas where the government has been ineffective to addressing the problem of women's marginalization. Findings obtained will stimulate further research in prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development.

The study will help the principle researcher to recommend on appropriate strategies in lifting the status of women in DRC so as to foster socio-economic development in Goma- DRC, -

The research will further help policy makers come up with appropriate policies of solving the conflicts that sideline women from contributing to socio-economic development in DRC as a whole.

The research findings will boost the documented literature resource of Kampala International University on contribution of women emancipation to socio-economic development.

The research will help the principle researcher attain a bachelor's degree in Social Work and Social Administration of Kampala International University.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.0 Introduction**

This chapter included looking through the earlier research documents; literature with an aim of identifying a problem of concern eventual number of duplication of early research work is done. Apart from going through other related work. It also involved critically going through other services of materials that are related with the research topic.

#### **2.1 Overview of Conflicts in DRC**

Understanding DRC's complex of conflicts is an essential step in establishing the linkages between conflict and stability in the region. DRC's history of marginalization has produced a complex web of dynamics that often provokes conflict. There are varying views on the causes that relate to all conflicts in - Therefore, it is important to underlying some general issues, which relate to all conflicts in EASTERN -CONGO, and there are specific factors underlying some particular conflicts. Historical methods of conflict mitigation and resolution by respected leaders, where negotiation of land, grazing and water rights need to be shared, have fallen foul to the manipulation of armed malevolence for personal gain (Douglas 2003). In addition, too many people, particularly the young people in villages, are in possession of small arms (Beshir 1970). Rule by the force of a gun has replaced rule by respect for values and by the decree of those in authority, whether it is the judge, the chief, the parents or the policeman or woman (*United Nations -CONGO Joint Assessment Mission Report 2005*).

Given the years of conflict, many people, particularly in rural areas, feel they are distanced from the normal services provided by the government in general and their security and rule of law institutions in particular.

The situation is also exacerbated by ambiguity over the separation of powers between the law enforcement organs and the fact that most civilians are armed. The presence and uncontrolled use of firearms by civilians remains a serious concern. The issue of protracted war has brought a culture of violence and proliferation of small arms, which in turn is perpetuating more violence (Francis 1998). Like any systematic change, removing firearms from one community while allowing the neighbor to keep theirs may not reduce violence but bring it about – such plans need careful negotiation and implementation, with appropriate measures to overcome any real or perceived imbalance of security in either community until the disarmed new context becomes accepted all round.

With the advent of independence, it remains a challenge to provide sufficient security. Fear that there is an insufficient provision of security can lead communities to take up arms in order to provide the level of security they think they need. Many institutions are still learning their roles and responsibilities and will take time to overcome these concerns after so many years of conflict. Many ex-combatants were asked to fill the ranks of related rule of law and local government agencies, mostly without time to train them properly or allow them to gain experience in a peaceful context (Francis 1998). Now, they face increased pressure to perform, sometimes with the continuing pressure of delivery in a conflict environment.

In addition, the strong and active tradition of heavy dependence on cattle as the source of livelihood persists. Although cattle are used for many purposes such as payment of dowry, income source, food, wealth etc, performing a single traditional marriage would cost a family up to an average of 100 heads of cattle and this is very costly to an average family household, thus resulting into cattle raids and counter raids, flaring insecurity (Wadi 1998). Therefore, the urge for young men to get married propels them in cattle raids and conflict with other communities (Wadi 1998). Poverty has made cattle rustling a function of apparent “wealth” acquisition and enhancement of economic and social status. In the circumstances there is a clear lack of sustained economic activities in all the .s and communities fall back on cattle. Schools, road and health facilities are poor and communities lack means of income generation.

Another area of concern includes lack of economic opportunities that remains difficult, particularly in rural areas, to make a living in DRC; economic opportunities are still limited. Most are employed in traditional agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry, commerce and low-level trade, crafts, construction and services. The economically important oil sector generates little employment for DRCese (Wadi 1998). Some of the reasons cited for the lack of progress include:

- The scarcity of infrastructure, and thus of land served by roads, water points and accessibility to markets.
- Unclear land tenure policies, rules and practices.
- The challenge of providing security and rule of law, thereby enforcing rules and decisions and resolving conflicts peacefully.
- The territorial and symbolic role of land in inter-communal disputes, which are often making a claim on administrative resources.

Claims over land now appear to have been intensified in some areas because of speculation on its future value, and on the possibility of it bearing minerals.

The above causes show that conflict in DRC is a complex and multi-dimensional process. In many cases the above factors act together to build pressures, which if not mediated, spill over into conflict.

## **2.2 Causes of the prolonged conflicts**

Two scholars, Mats Berdal and David Malone, conducted a study of all the civil conflicts in Africa. Using a quantitative, statistical approach, they discovered that overwhelmingly the primary cause for conflicts is greed: "...income and asset inequality, ethnic and religious divisions, and political repression do not seem to increase the risk of conflict....The evidence on the causes of conflict points to economic factors as the main drivers of conflict" (Berdal and Malone, Greed and Grievance 2010).

The North-DRC conflict has complex factors which have not been addressed since the country gained her independence 54 years ago. Among these factors, ethnic identity, religious imposition, and geopolitical development have been viewed by scholars (Deng, 1995; Jok, 2007) as cleavages that exacerbate relations between -CONGOese ethnic groups. A failure to address and recognize these factors has made peaceful coexistence difficult.

The ravages of the first war between North and DRC were followed by the Darfur genocide in 2003. These devastating catastrophes established that multiethnic communities must find a unifying mechanism if they hope to survive. A shared national identity could provide some unity. Jok (2007)

and Lado (1996) argued that between the 1980s and 1990s, the world ignored the conflict in -CONGO. In 22 years of war, 2 million people died (mostly on the EASTERN -CONGO side) and more than 4 million have been displaced (Ahmed, 2008; Sharkey, 2004). Today the -CONGOese government, dominated by Arab Muslims, still commits brutalities against ethnic minorities. According to Jok (2007), Arab brutalities against ethnic groups of African origin between 1955 and 2005 have resulted in catastrophic mass graves. These atrocities are seen as an attempt to destroy African identity and religious beliefs, force conversion to Islam, and assimilate people into Arab culture. This ethnic and religious war effectively created a first genocide which proceeded to Darfur.

Ethnic differences have resulted in devastating conflicts in various parts of the world. In Bosnia, Somalia, Rwanda, the Congo, and Darfur, -CONGO, ethnic differences have led to hatred and often caused catastrophic conflicts (Deng, 1995; Jok, 2001, 2007). Olson and Rothman (2001) have explained that “between 1945 and 1993, 91 civil wars were identified as conflicts over identity versus political or economic issues”. These conflicts occurred due to threats or frustrations existing within groups in given countries.

Narang explained that there are “190 nations and there are 3,000 ethnic groups who are agitated and engaged in one or other form of struggle for their identity”. Conflicts related to ethnic identity are occurring more frequently than conflicts with political and economic motives. This is because ethnic groups feel threatened and take up arms to express their concerns in violent conflicts. Narang (2002) said that “the deep-laid sources of the conflicts in most countries experiencing ethnic or minority conflicts are countries such as: Chad, Spain, Sri Lanka, -CONGO, the

Philippines, China, Moldova, the UK, Pakistan, Yugoslavia, Indonesia and many others" (p. 2696). Schirch (2001) holds that in many societies, ethnic conflicts are inevitable because ethnic minorities lack representation. She describes these conflicts "as relational problems between individuals and groups characterized by power imbalances, poor communication, and dysfunctional social structures that are unable to meet human needs" Narang (2002).

Narang 2002 further explains that the most common sources of ethnic tensions are:

1. Exclusion from employment opportunities because of language or religious requirements, both in the civil service or in private activities;
2. Actual exclusion of members of a substantial minority from most . employment positions, especially in the higher echelons;
3. Denial of land ownership, or refusal to recognize traditional land ownership;
4. Refusal to allow minorities to hold elected office because of language or other discriminatory criterion;
5. Economic development projects in minority regions which benefit the majority instead of the minority;
6. Expropriation of traditional lands without proper compensation, and/or trans-migration programme which results in arrival of vast numbers of migrants;
7. Refusal to use minority language in public schools and administration where warranted by substantial number of speakers of a minority language;
8. Denial of citizenship and corresponding rights on a discriminatory basis; and

9. Prohibition of use of minority languages, symbols or of minority religious practices in private activities (Fisher, 2001).

The exclusion of ethnic minorities creates frustrations and often leads to conflicts (Fisher, 2001; Rothman & Olson, 2001). Meeting basic human needs for vulnerable ethnic minority communities competing with dominant ethnic elites is sometimes difficult. This system in -CONGO has led the EASTERN -CONGOese to fight for their survival. They must acquire basic needs and, at the same time, protect their identities. Rothman believed that “conflicts involving ethnic identity do, in fact, contain issues of resources or other tangible interests” (p. 291).

A denial of basic human needs can cause discontent and violence between groups and people within given communities. Staub (2003) explained that “Frustration of basic needs is central in the development of hostility and aggression, while fulfillment is central in the development of caring about other people’s welfare and altruism”.

Deng (1995) acknowledged that the “turn of Islam against the South, became a divisive element”. Consequently, “religion” became a divisive influence the government used to organize individuals and groups to commit inhumane acts to promote certain government objectives. The conflict was ignited by several factors, but religion has been fundamental. Arab Muslims used ‘Islam’ to rally support and gain financial and military support from the larger Muslim world. In the same manner, African Christians and Animists in the South used their Christian and African identity to seek support from Africa and Western nations. These supporting factions often fueled the conflict.



### **2.3 Prolonged Conflicts and women's socio-economic development**

The incidence of uneven development is, in general, a special characteristic found among the developing nations due to tribal, and civil wars. Tribal wars impose substantial costs on the domestic economy. These wars are destructive of human lives and economic infrastructure. They also undermine the legitimacy of the ., threatening its institutions, the security of property rights, and the rule of law. Moreover, internal wars introduce tremendous uncertainty into the economic environment, making both public and private investment riskier (Collier 1999).

Since tribal war increases the rate of depreciation and reduces investment, growth in the capital stock is stunted. Civil war, therefore, reduces both the level of the capital stock and its rate of growth (Bush, 1998). This suggests that a major way in which civil war affects the economy is through dramatic reductions in domestic investment. According to this perspective, the flight of capital is the driving force behind the economic costs of conflict. For example, Collier (1999) develops a model of economic output that distinguishes between liquid and fixed capital. The distinction is that the former is likely to be responsive to changes in the economic environment, while fixed capital such as supplies of land, buildings, and unskilled labor is unlikely to move easily even as the economic environment deteriorates.

Previous research on the costs of conflict has assumed away variation within the scope of tribal war (Knight, Loayza, and Villanueva 1996; Easterly and Levine 1997). With the exception of war duration (Collier 1999), the assumption has been that all wars are alike. Casual

observation suggests the implausibility of this claim. Some civil wars are concentrated in a particular geographic area like the rebellion of the Sendero Luminoso in Peru, while the rest of the economy functions uninterrupted in bustling urban centers. Other wars are spread throughout the country, involving massive armies on both sides, and resulting in significant fatalities among the civilian population as in Mozambique's deadly 14-year civil war.

In the 1997 *Human Development Report*, devoted to analysis poverty, again failed to give any in-depth consideration to countries with tribal conflicts. Yet among the ten countries listed with the lowest Human Development Index, eight have suffered serious tribal and civil wars in recent years—Mozambique, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Sierra Leon, Niger, Mali, and Guinea. In fact, of the fifty countries classified by the UN as 'least developed' have experienced major armed conflict in the last twenty years (UN 1998; FitzGerald 2000).

Similarly, most studies on the subject find that defense spending tends to have an adverse impact on economic growth, either directly or indirectly. Examples include studies by Lim (1983), Deger and Sen (1983), Faini, Annez, and Taylor (1984), Maizels and Nissanke (1985), Deger (1986), Chan (1986), Grobas and Gnanaselvam (1993), Roux (1996), Pradhan (2001), Arunatilake et al. (2001), and Ra and Singh (2005). These domestic conflicts pose a serious threat to economic development, especially for these poor African countries.

There is ample evidence that conflict can have strong impacts on human capital. With respect to health, Alderman, Hoddinot and Kinsey (2009), analysing data for Zimbabwe, find that greater exposure to civil war has a

negative effect on child height. Bundervoet et al. (2009), focusing on Burundi, find that an additional month of war decreased children's height for age z-scores by 0.05 standard errors compared to non-affected children; and Arcand and Wouabe (2009) find that conflict intensity worsened child health during and after the conflict in Angola. There is also micro evidence for the effects of conflict on education. Akresh and de Walque (2008) show that the armed conflict in Rwanda had a negative effect on schooling outcomes, with exposed children completing half a year less. De Walque (2004) discusses how civil conflict in Cambodia women had a lasting impact on educational attainment, mostly because of the collapse of the education system, and Shemyanika (2011) presents evidence of the negative impact of conflict on schooling in the case of Tajikistan. Chamarbagwala and Morán (2011) find a strong negative effect of the civil war in Guatemala on the education of Mayan men and women in rural areas, the most disadvantaged groups. In contrast, Arcand and Wouabe (2009), find that conflict increased school enrolment in Angola.

These results, which are also summarized in a literature review by Justino (2007), indicate that conflict can have profound negative effects on human capital, thereby sustaining poverty and slowing down economic recovery.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Introduction**

This chapter included the methodology of the study. It entails research design, geographical location/area and population, sampling design, data collection methods and instruments, data analysis and processing and the limitations of the study.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

This study employed the descriptive survey design. Descriptive studies are *non-experimental* researches that describe the characteristics of a particular individual, or of a group. No other method of observation provided this general capability. Consequently, very large samples are feasible, making the results statistically significant even when analyzing multiple variables. Many questions were asked about a given topic giving considerable flexibility to the analysis.

#### **3.2 Area and Population of study**

The research was conducted in one area that is in Goma- DRC, - The respondents consisted of local population especially; women activists, politicians, local government officials, and local community members. The area has been basically chosen because the researcher is familiar with the area and is able to speak the most common languages in the area of the study.

### **3.3 Sample size**

Using convenient sampling, women activists, politicians, local government officials, and local community members was part of the study for adequate of various views were expressed. The sample size of 100 respondents were chosen and this included; 20 women activists, 20 politicians, 15 local government officials, and 45 local community members mainly women.

### **3.4 Sample framework**

The researcher used stratified, random and purposive sampling technique to determine the respondents. These methods ensured that the only predetermined and chosen respondents are approached, hence getting relevant, correct and adequate information.

Researchers also regard a sample of 100 as adequate irrespective of population (Bailey, 1994). Also according to Roscoe 1975), sample sizes of between 30 and 500 are appropriate for most studies. However, through this sampling technique is chosen, it has a weakness that inadequate information can sometimes be given because the selected respondents may be less informed on the topic of research.

#### **3.4.1 Sample technique**

Random sampling technique was used to determine the local community members, stratified sampling technique was used to determine the politicians, women activists, and local government officials. A sample size of 100 was arrived at and was randomly selected from the sheets of paper spread. Quantitative data collection was then used which involved editing, encoding, and later tabulation of the collected material.

### **3.4.2 Sample procedure**

Stratified sampling was employed to determine the number of respondents from the different categories of respondents was got. This sampling data collection instrument was pre-tested in which the researcher has to first pre-test and find out whether the sampling technique is efficient or not. The determined respondents were consulted and prior information was given to them seeking their consent before they are fully involved in the research.

### **3.5 Data collection instruments**

The following data collection instruments were used:

#### **(i) Questionnaire**

This was designed in line with the topic and objectives. They included both open and closed-ended questions. This instrument has been selected because it is efficient and convenient in a way that the respondent is given time to consult the documents before answering the questions. It is also because the respondent can give unbiased answers since she/he is given to write whatever she/he would like to write which would otherwise be hard for the respondent to write if the researcher is present.

#### **(ii) Documentary Review**

This included detailed review of already existing literature. The tool is selected because it gives accurate, correct and historical data, which may be used for future aspects. The sources of the information here were the libraries, data banks, news papers and any other published information that can readily be available for use as regards the topic of research.

### **(iii) Interviews**

This involved face to face interaction between the researcher and the participant through discussion. Babbie (2003) argues that interviews can be in two ways, namely:

Structured interview in which the responses by the participants was a brief and specific. Structured interviews, where the responses were long, elaborated and not specific, the interviews were conducted in group, individual. The researcher carried out interviews with the selected respondents using the interview guide because it is the most appropriate method which can be used to study the attitudes, values, beliefs and motives of people. It also has an element of flexibility. These persons were interviewed individually so as to get independent answers.

### **3.6 Source of data collection**

The researcher collected data from both primary and secondary sources.

#### **i. Primary Data**

This may be sourced by physical and visiting of the files and collecting data through variable tools. The respondents were got by first determining the number of the respondents and then taking a physical visit to seek for the consent of the respondents to have them answer the set questions in the questionnaire and this was through following stratified sampling techniques in the respondents are first selected and then approached.

#### **ii. Secondary data**

This was sourced by reviewing of documented resources as newspapers, journals, reports, presentations, magazines and online publications. This is done in order to first identify the existing information on the topic of

research and to understand how much the respondent knows about the research topic in order to avoid lies.

### **3.7 Data processing and analysis**

Data processing starts by editing the schedules and coding the responses. Editing, Coding and Tabulation techniques are used in data processing exercise.

Nachmas and Nichimas (1992) pointed out that it involves the transformation of data gathered from the field into systematic categories and the transformation of these categories into codes to enable quantitative analysis and tabulation; the data collected is classified into a meaningful manner for easy interpretation and understanding. This involved preparing data collected into some useful, clear and understandable data. The whole exercise involved editing, tabulation and analyzing the data to enable the researcher draw conclusions in relation to the research variables.

#### **3.7.1 Editing**

Editing is the process whereby the completed questionnaires and interview schedules are analyzed in the hope of amending recording errors or at least deleting data that are obviously erroneous. This is aimed at improving the quality of information from respondents. The researcher fills out few unanswered questions. However, answers filed are deducted from the proceeding answers or questions.

#### **3.7.2 Coding**

The purpose of coding in research is to classify the answers to questionnaires into meaningful categories so as to bring out their essential



patterns. Coding was used in this research in order to summarize data by classifying different response given into categories for easy interpretation.

### **3.7.3 Tabulation**

Data once edited and coded are put together in some kind of tables and may undergo some other forms of statistical analysis. Data is put into some kind of statistical table showing the number of occurrences of responses to particular questions with percentage to express data in ratio form.

### **3.8 Ethical procedure**

Before going to the field, the researcher began with getting authorization letter from the principle, college of applied Social Science and Humanities then take it to the respondents and this enabled the researcher attain adequate information from the respondents. During the process of data collection, confirmation was given to the respondents in that the researcher assured the respondents that the reason for the research was for academic purpose only.

### **3.9 Limitations of the Study**

Unwillingness of the respondents to effectively respond to the questions was one of the most notable problems that the researcher faced while conducting the research.

Financial constraint was also another problem that occurred during the process of conducting the research. Transport costs were so high to be met by the researcher and this fully contributed to the delay of the research because it became so hard for the researcher to continue with the less funds.

Hostility among some respondents was also another limitation of the study in the sense that the researcher found that there are hostile respondents who in the long run turned down the request of the researcher to answer the questions. Some of such respondents walked away in spite of the fact that the researcher may try to plead for their attention.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS

#### 4.0 Introduction

The data was collected using both quantitative and qualitative methods, which was then analyzed and processed to make it useful and understandable. Data was collected, tabulated and then analyzed.

#### 4.1 Socio-demographic Characteristics

##### 4.1.1 Age of the respondents

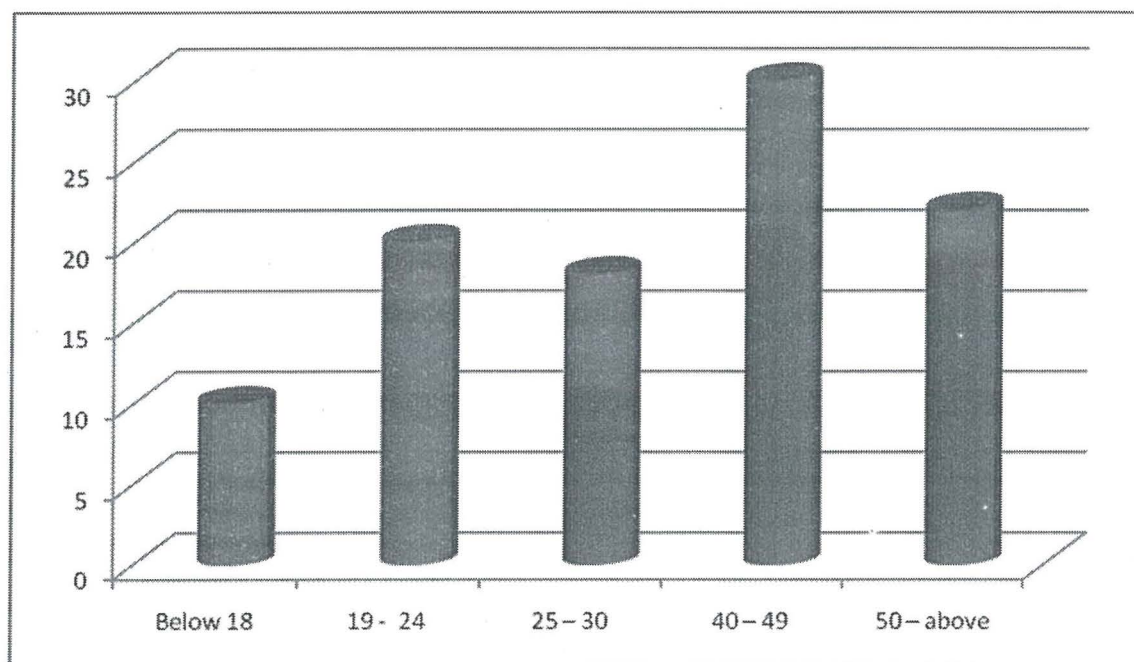
Respondents were asked questions related to their age and the results are shown in the table below:

**Table 1: Age distribution of respondent**

Age group	Frequency	Percentage
Below 18	10	10
19 - 24	20	20
25 – 30	18	18
40 – 49	30	30
50 – above	22	22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary data 2014**

**Figure 1: Age distribution of the respondents**



**Source: Primary data 2014**

Table 1 and Figure 1 above show that 10% of the respondents were below 18 years, 20% were between 19-24 years of age, 18% were between 25-30 years of age, 30% were between 40-49 years and 22% were above 50 years of age. This means that majority of the respondents are between 40-49 years of age, implying that they are knowledgeable about the research topic.

#### **4.1.3 Marital Status of the respondents**

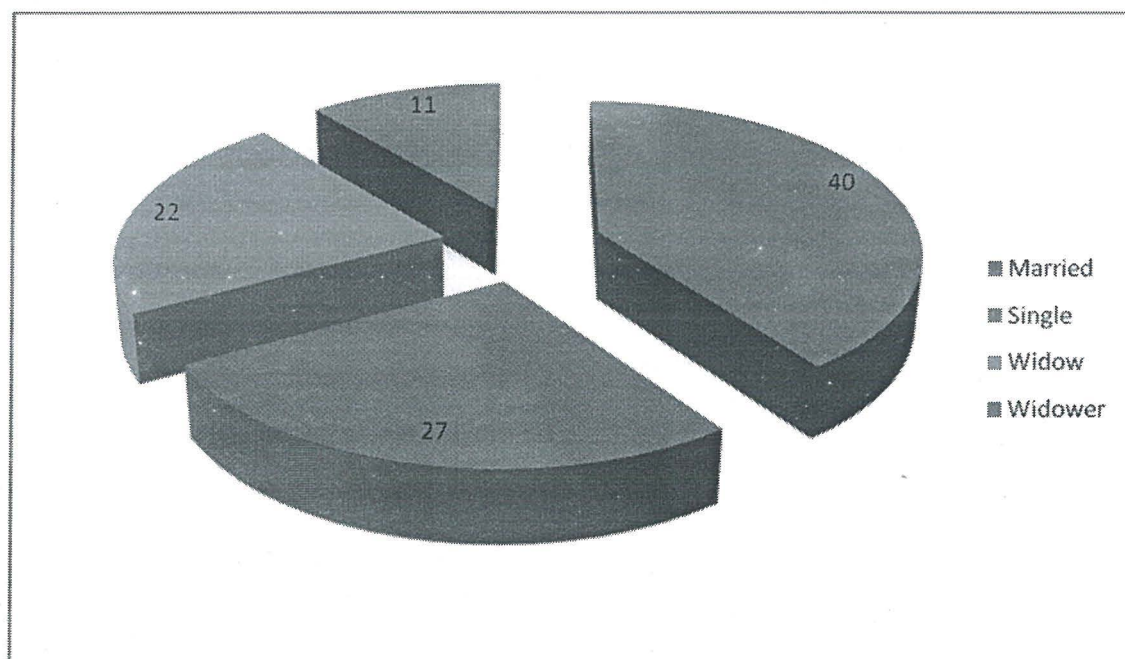
Another variable which was important in respect to the situation of the people in the area was marital status. Information regarding marital status of the respondents was obtained by asking them whether they were married, single, widowed or widowers.

**Table 2 Marital status of the respondents**

Marital Status	Frequency	Percentage
Married	40	40
Single	27	27
Widow	22	22
Widower	11	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary data 2014**

**Figure 2: Marital status of the respondents**



**Source: Primary data 2014**

Table 2 and figure 2 above shows that 40% of the respondents were married, 27% were single, 22% were widows and 11% were widowers. The

majority of the women in this study were married and they constitute the majority of women.

#### 4.1.4 Gender of the respondents

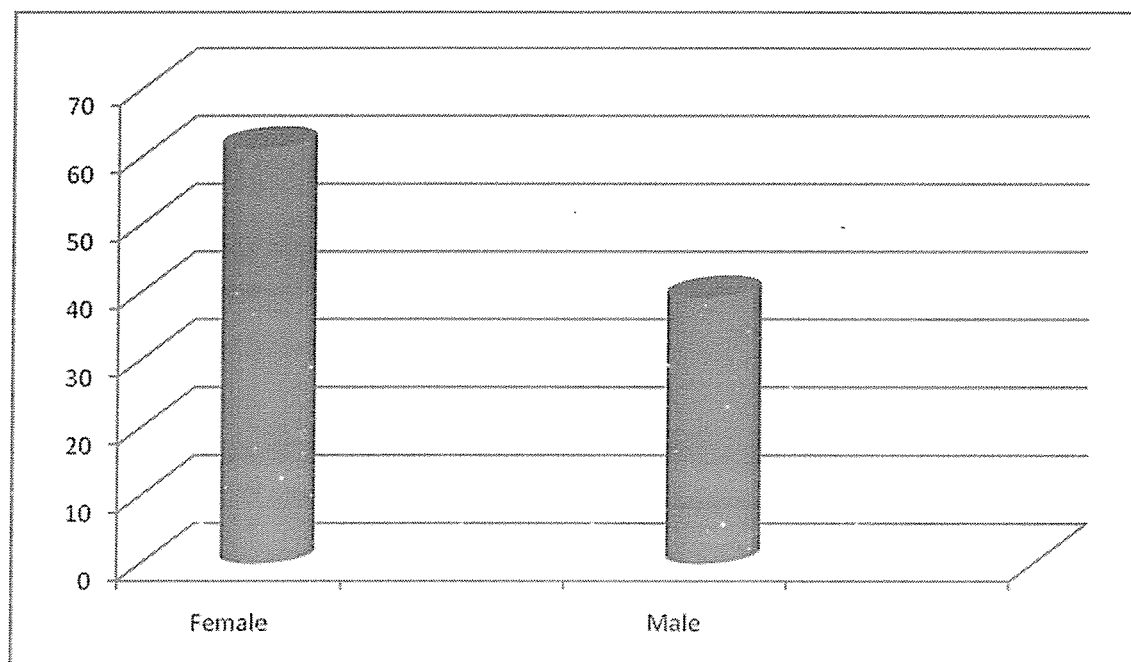
Gender was also another factor which was considered during the study. This is because the researcher was interested in finding out the number of females and males in the whole of the population, and compares the percentage composition of the two.

**Table 3 Gender of the respondents**

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Female	61	61
Male	39	39
Total	100	100

Source: primary data 2014

**Figure 3: Gender of the respondents**



Source: Primary data 2014

Table 3 and figure 3 above show the gender of the respondents and it was found that 39% of the respondents were males and 61% were females. This therefore means that the majority of the respondents are females because many women were involved in the study since the study was predominantly about women and how prolonged conflicts affect their socio-economic development.

#### **4.1.5 Educational status of the respondents**

Respondents were asked questions related to their educational status and their responses are shown in the table below;

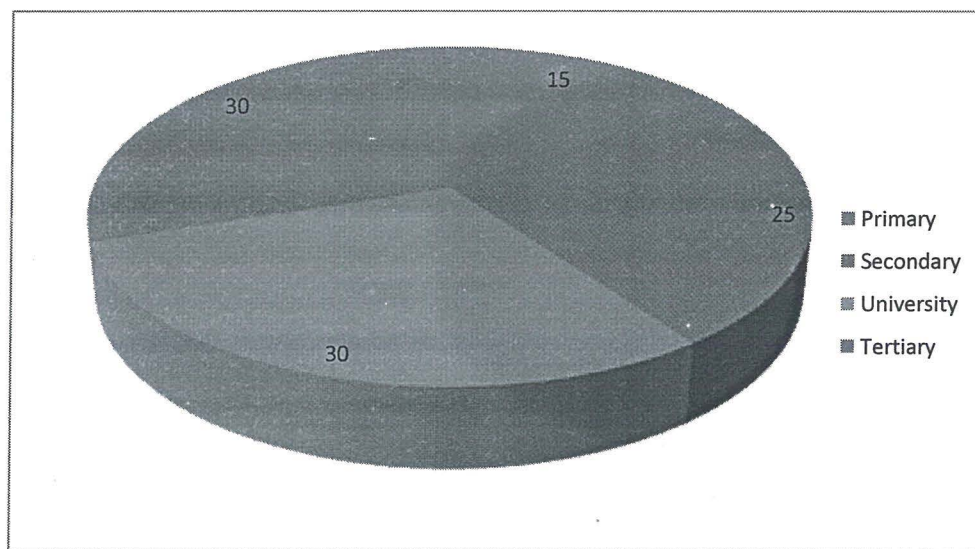
**Table 4: Educational level of the respondents**

<b>Education levels</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Primary</b>	15	15
<b>Secondary</b>	25	25
<b>University</b>	30	30
<b>Tertiary</b>	30	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary data 2014**



**Figure 4: Educational levels of the respondents**



**Source: Primary data 2014**

Table 4 and figure 4 above shows educational levels of the respondents and it revealed that 15% had reached primary school, 25% of the respondents had secondary education, 30% received university education, and another 30% had tertiary education. This means that the majority of the respondents had university and tertiary level of education respectively.



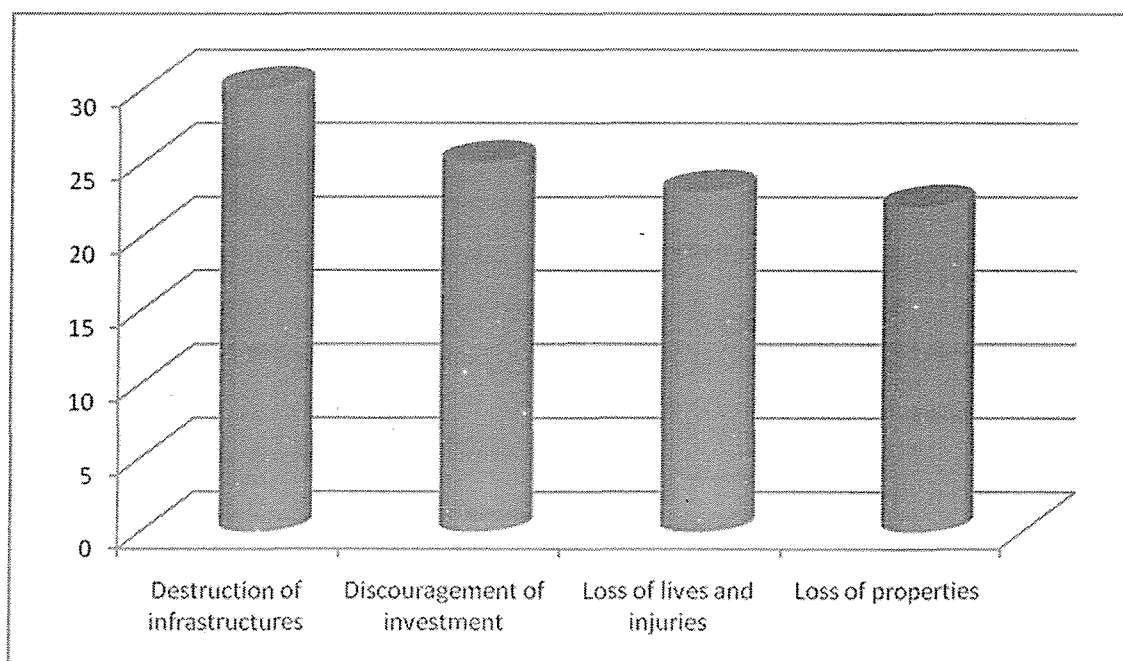
## 4.2 The impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC -

**Table 5: The impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC, DRC**

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Destruction of infrastructures	30	30
Discouragement of investment	25	25
Loss of lives and injuries	23	23
Loss of properties	22	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary data 2014**

**Figure 5: The impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC DRC**



**Source: Primary data 2014**

The table and figure show the impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC and the findings reveal that;

Destruction of infrastructures was found to be the major impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC - Majority (30%) of the respondents noted that prolonged conflicts has led to destruction of infrastructures like roads, rail, banks and other social amenities like hospitals. This according to the respondents has instead stalled women's development in Goma- -

Furthermore, the respondents noted that discouragement of investment is yet another impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC, - Over 25% of the respondents noted that prolonged conflicts have discouraged investments in the area because no investor wishes to invest in such a political climate that is uncertain for their businesses. Such women investors are also forced to withhold their resources for fear of disruptions or loss.

Over 23% of the respondents noted that loss of lives and injuries was yet another impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC , - The respondents noted that many people have lost their lives since the insurgency begun and many people have as well been injured in the process. Many women have either lost their lives, lost their bread winners or been subjected to physical injuries like assault and other related attacks. This limits their development endeavors in both long and short run.

The remaining 22% of the respondents noted that loss of properties was also associated to prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC - The respondents noted that many people have lost their properties during the conflicts and this has affected women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC, -

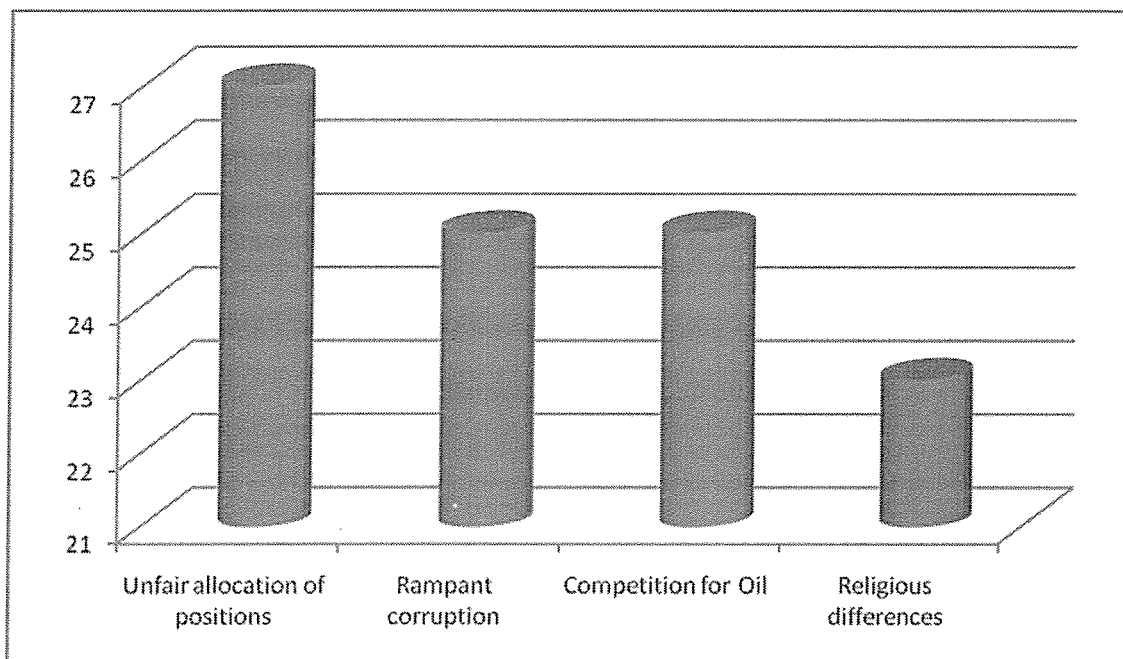
#### 4.3 The roots causes of conflicts in DRC

**Table 6: the roots causes of conflicts in Goma- DRC**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Unfair allocation of positions	27	27
Rampant corruption	25	25
Competition for Oil	25	25
Religious differences	23	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary data 2014**

**Figure 6: the roots causes of conflicts in Goma- DRC**



**Source: Primary data 2014**

Table and figure show the roots causes of conflicts in DRC and the findings reveal that;

Majority (27%) of the respondents noted that unfair allocation of positions is a major root cause of internal conflicts among Eastern -Congolese from the past governments to this present government of EASTERN -CONGO are based on an unfair allocation of positions (question of power) and resources on geographical and ethnical basis. The respondents noted that one single tribe has always maintained a dominant role over other tribes. DRC; as it's known locally and internationally, is a multi-ethnic and multi-cultural society with more than sixty (68) ethnic groups. If the majority of the people do not consider the importance (or role) of minority groups, then problems or tribal conflicts shall always be on the rise until

this question of power and or resources is addressed accordingly, and in a pragmatic manner.

Over 25% of the respondents noted that rampant corruption and nepotism are also contributing factors to the conflicts. The respondents noted that corruption and nepotism, which is the making of the so-called “land grabbing”, money laundering, denial of job opportunities and the selective promotion of SPLA officers and other security organs are based on this kind of setup where checks and balances are not relevant at all levels of GOSS. One may wonder why EASTERN -CONGOese are still fighting themselves while they have already got what they have been fighting for. The respondents noted that Goma- DRC is lacking a visionary leader who can accommodate our diverse community’s interests fairly. The respondents further asserted that the Political Bureau (PB), which is the highest political organ of the ruling SPLM is actually a rubber stamp used by one ethnic group (Dinka) to dominate others by using their numbers to impose decisions on others. There is no fairness in it. Serious decisions are made behind the back door. Even the so-called ‘deputies’ used to wonder when decisions are passed and announced publicly. This is also applied to the Council of Ministers which is being chaired by H.E President Salva Kiir himself.

Another contributor to prolonged conflicts in Goma- DRC is Oil. Over 25% of the respondents noted that the possibly the biggest single cause of the -CONGOese conflict can be summed up in a word: oil. The respondents stressed that -CONGO’s large oil reserves are in the South, and the North wants control over them. Considering 70% of -CONGO’s export revenues comes from oil, it’s high on Khartoum’s list of priorities. - CONGO has found a stalwart patron in China; in return for diplomatic

support, military supplies, and investment, -CONGO exports 60% of its oil to China. This relationship is under strain as of late, as China voted to approve an arrest warrant for -CONGO's leader, Omar al-Bashir, from the International Criminal Court. Without oil, there would be much less at stake, and thus a less lethal conflict.

Finally, 23% of the respondents noted that religious differences was yet another cause of conflicts in - Thus the ethnic/religious dimension is a potent factor in an almost continual civil war lasting from 1955 to 2005 (with an eleven year break from 1972 to 1983). Today's tension has roots reaching back hundreds of years. The Moslem expansion that swept much of North and West Africa stopped short of converting the Christian and Animist blacks of - That didn't stop them from trying though. The Arabs' attempts at assimilation and religious conversion continued until -CONGO became a British colony. Under British supervision, North and DRC were ruled separately, furthering the distinction between the two. Upon independence, the Arabs quickly dominated the South's government; the old animosities rekindled quickly and ferociously, leading to an intractable civil war.

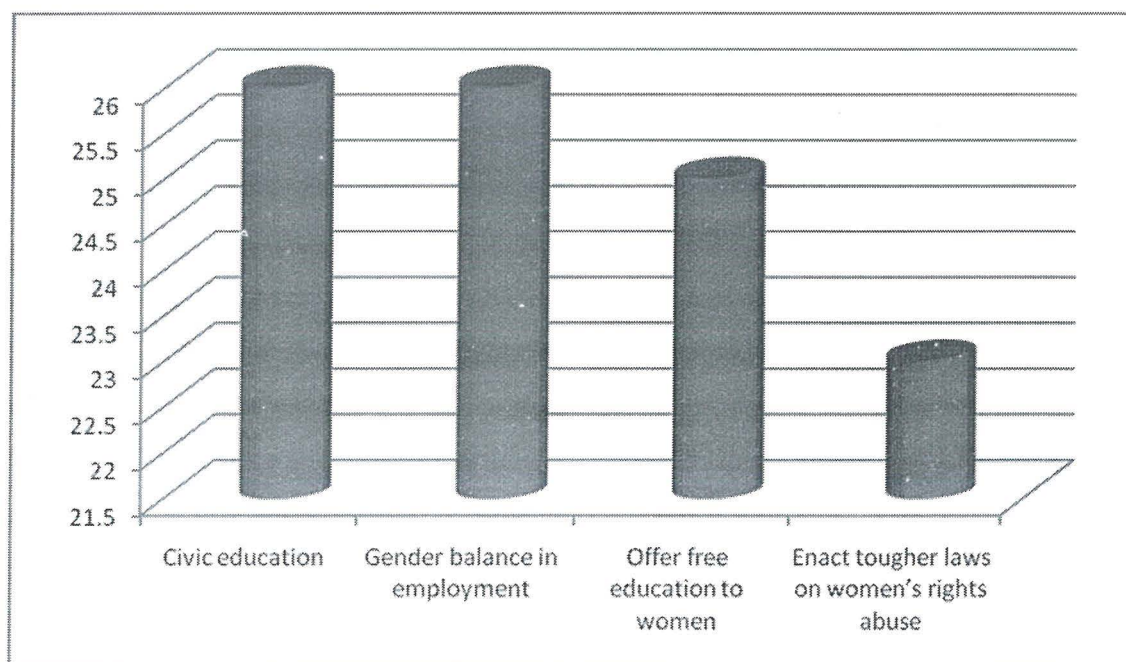
#### 4.4 The post war intervention strategies needed to foster women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC

**Table 7: The post war intervention strategies needed to foster women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC**

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Civic education	26	26
Gender balance in employment	26	26
Offer free education to women	25	25
Enact tougher laws on women's rights abuse	23	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Primary data

**Figure 7: The post war intervention strategies needed to foster women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC**



Source: Primary data 2014

The table and figure show the post war intervention strategies needed to foster women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC and the findings revealed that;

Majority 26% of the respondents said that there ought to be civic education of the public on the rights and eventual socio-economic development of women in Goma- DRC. The respondents argued that the media for example need to teach the people because many of the people who sideline women do not appreciate that women also have the same equal rights like men and thus need equal status in the country.

Over 26% of the respondents noted that gender balance in employment needs to be emphasized as a post war intervention strategies needed to foster women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC. The respondents noted that the government employment bureau under the ministry of public service should ensure that women are given the same priority like men during employment.

Another 25% of the respondents noted that offering free education to women is another post war intervention strategy needed to foster women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC .. The respondents noted that there are still many women without education in East Goma- DRC and DRC in general since illiteracy rate stands at 80% among women in DRC, making it the highest in East Africa than any other country in East Africa.

Finally, 23% of the respondents noted that enacting tougher laws on abusers of women's rights is yet another post war intervention strategies



needed to foster women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC  
Many women have been subjected to mass abuse by their spouses and  
this has left many women with physical and emotional harm and others  
maimed to the extent that they cannot involve in any development at all.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.0 Introduction**

In this chapter, the researcher presents; the summary of the findings, discussion, conclusion and recommendations.

#### **5.1 Summary of the major findings**

The research was conducted in Goma- DRC The research was conducted in line with the research objectives which included; finding out the impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma-DRC DRC; establishing the roots causes of conflicts in DRC; and finding out the post war intervention strategies needed to foster women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC -

On the impact of prolonged conflicts on women's socio-economic development in Goma- DRC, the findings reveal that; destruction of infrastructures, discouragement of investment, loss of lives and injuries, and loss of properties.

On establishing the roots causes of conflicts in DRC, the findings reveal that; unfair allocation of positions, rampant corruption, competition for Oil, and religious differences

On the post war intervention strategies needed to foster women's socio-economic development in R Goma- DRC , DRC, the findings revealed that; civic education, Gender balance in employment, Offer free education

to women, Enact tougher laws on women's rights abuse. The conclusion and recommendations were later made.

## **5.2 Conclusions**

The researcher concludes that women are the most affected people during and after the conflicts. Their economic performances are hindered by the nature of economic instability in a ., leading to further conclusion that the lower economic performance of areas that have experienced more conflict contrasts with findings from other studies. Indeed, when comparing the returns to factors of production between low and high conflict intensity areas using a production function approach, the paper finds significantly different returns to land and labour. While the return to land is positive in general, it is almost reduced to zero in past conflict areas, which is consistent with land becoming less scarce in these areas due to excess mortality.

The research also concludes that another potential reason why conflict areas (still) have lower levels of consumption is that it takes an economy longer to recover from human capital destruction than from physical capital destruction, as suggested by Barro and Sala-i-Martin (2003). Distinguishing between genocide, which reflects a brutal destruction of human capital, and civil war, which destroyed less human capital and is associated with higher losses of physical capital, we find distinct effects. Returns to land are lower, and returns to unskilled labor higher for genocide affected areas, more so than for civil war affected areas. This is a direct consequence of the decrease in labor force, as the genocide targeted adult males in particular. In contrast, the returns to skilled labor are lower in civil war affected areas, but not in areas that experienced

genocide, which is consistent with civil war bringing more damage to factors that augment skilled labor, although it may also stem from the genocide having targeted the highly educated. Summarized, these findings provide supportive evidence that recovery depends on the form of violence.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

Basing on the findings of the research, the researcher came up with various recommendations in an attempt to promote socio-economic development among women affected by prolonged conflicts in Goma-DRC. The following recommendations were thus advanced by the researcher;

There is need of designing an economic development plan which includes *contribution to peace* as a core criterion – meaning not just economic growth, but *the right kind of growth*. Thus, for example, it would include steps to rebalance the economy away from extractives towards other production sectors, and ones with a greater potential for added value in country. The plan would need to focus on issues such as balancing development investment in different parts of the country, thus contributing to a sense of fairness; and maximising employment and self-employment opportunities.

There is also need of improving the national infrastructure – roads, markets, telecoms, etc. – so that economic opportunities are widely available, not excluding or seeming to exclude certain regions or groups.

Furthermore, the government should recognize that that it will take decades for the private sector and investment to take off and provide

sufficient opportunities, use oil revenue and donor funds (when these resume) to invest in labour-intensive public works over a predictable 15 to 20-year period, thus providing jobs *and* public goods.

The government of DRC should engage with the international financial institutions towards a Poverty Reduction Strategy, as well as re-budgeting around the disruption of oil revenues, may provide entry points to think about and implement economic reconfiguration.

One of the most effective ways to contribute to peace-building in DRC is to harness the potential of development programmes over the next few years to deliver peace benefits as part of their impact. But as observed by the 2010 multi-donor study, this does not happen automatically. Indeed, many apparently “good” development programmes can unintentionally exacerbate conflicts and thus cause violence. It is therefore of utmost importance that donors, government, businesses and NGOs are all made aware of this and equipped to deal with it. In other words, they need to make their policies, programmes, projects and business ideas conflict-sensitive.

Furthermore, fostering the conditions for meaningful reconciliation in the longer term also means committing to tackling impunity in the near term and sending strong signals that the perpetrators of violence will face justice for their actions. This could mean resourcing and deploying mobile courts to areas where significant violence breaks out. It could also entail strengthening and regulating the statutory justice and penal systems at the . and county levels.

The role of women in building peace remains quite marginal, despite the existence of widespread women's networks and a large body of female parliamentarians. A greater and more independent role for women in peace dialogue – freeing them from ancillary support roles to male elder negotiators – is often desirable, recognising that women may as often be the inciters or rewarders of violent behaviour as peace advocates. A greater focus on meeting the specific needs of women and girls is also necessary, starting with improving access to justice and better awareness of women's security needs among police and customary security and justice providers. This means working with the police and traditional leaders to sensitize them, as well as reforming and disseminating specific protection legislation. Support also needs to be provided to women in political parties, to promote their active involvement and the promotion of women's needs and perspectives. Underlying all of this is a need for greater attention to women's needs in economic reconstruction and development, supporting girls' education and sustainable livelihoods for women.

Use of the media is a notable omission in the DRCese peace-building toolbox. There is a media and information vacuum over large areas of the country that could be bridged by the resourcing of local, perhaps community-owned, FM radio stations operating in vernacular and lingua franca languages. These could serve to connect communities to each other as well as to the .. At the same time, they could reinforce or multiply peace-building initiatives by broadcasting peace messages and discussions of controversial issues. Properly facilitated and monitored, radio programmes can act as pressure valves for local frustrations as well as providing a source of conflict early warning and response. Supporting the Fourth E. at the local level should be increasingly important as a

means to holding county and . administrations to account. It is also important for communicating development priorities if political and economic decentralization is really to occur.

#### **5.4 Areas for further research**

Basing of the findings of this research, the researcher found out many research gaps which she feels should be covered by other researchers intending to carry out their research in Goma- DRC - The researcher suggests that further research be done on women education on promoting socio-economic development in Goma- DRC -



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## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX I: QUESTIONNAIRE

I MUVUYA RECHEAL a student of Kampala International University pursuing a Bachelor's Degree of Social Work and Social Administration kindly request you to answer these questions in utmost faith that would really help me successfully finish my course as a partial fulfillment of the award of Bachelor of Social work and Social Administration. I therefore affirm that this information is purely for the academic purpose.

#### SECTION A

1) Gender

(a) Male ☐ (b) Female ☐

2) Age

(a) 20-25 ☐ (b) 25-30 ☐  
(c) 30-40 ☐ (d) 41-50 ☐  
(e) 50-60 ☐ (f) 61-70 ☐

3) Marital Status

(a) Married ☐ (b) Single ☐  
(c) Widower ☐ (d) Widow ☐

4) Religion

(a) Catholic ☐ (b) Protestant ☐  
(c) Muslim ☐ (d) Others (Specify) .....

5) Educational Level

- (a) None ☐ (b) Primary ☐  
 (c) Secondary ☐ (d) Post Secondary ☐

## SECTION B

1) Do know conflicts?

- (a) Yes ☐ (b) No ☐

2) If yes, what you know about it?

- (a) .....  
 (b) .....  
 (c) .....

3 Do you think that women in Goma- DRC are economically vibrant?

- (a) Yes ☐ (b) No ☐

If yes or no, give your reasons

- (a) .....  
 (b) .....  
 (c) .....

4. Are women effectively represented in key positions in Goma- DRC,  
 DRC?

- (a) Yes ☐ (b) No ☐

Give reasons for your answer

- (a) .....  
 (b) .....  
 (c) .....

**SECTION C**

(i) What is the impact of prolonged conflicts on women’s socio-economic development in Goma- DRC, DRC?

- (a) .....
- (b) .....
- (c) .....
- (d) .....
- (e) .....
- (f) .....

(ii) What are the roots causes of conflicts in Goma- DRC -CONGO?  
-CONGO?

- (a) .....
- (b) .....
- (c) .....
- (d) .....
- (e) .....
- (f) .....

(iii) What are the post war intervention strategies needed to foster women’s socio-economic development in Goma- DRC?

- (a).....
- (b) .....
- (c) .....
- (d) .....
- (e) .....
- (f) .....

**END, THANK YOU**

## APPENDIX II: BUDGET

The study is estimated to cost 935,000/= arrived at as follows:-

ITEM	COST (UGHS)
Stationery and other related costs	150,000
Transport	400,000
Communication	50,000
Photocopy	20,000
Typesetting and binding	50,000
Internet	25,000
Subsistence	100,000
Miscellaneous	140,000
Total	935,000



**APPENDIX III**  
**ACTIVITY PLAN**

NO.	ACTIVITIES	MAY 2008	JUNE 2008	JULY 2008	NOV. 2008	JAN 2009	APRIL 2009	MAY 2009
1.	Topic Identification							
2.	Preparation of Proposal							
3.	Proposal Writing							
4.	Data Collection							
5.	Data Analysis & Interpretation							
6.	Preparation of Report							
7.	Report Presentation							