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U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

**AIDSFree**  
Strengthening High Impact Interventions  
for an AIDS-free Generation

# Gender-Based Violence Initiative (GBVI)

## Lessons from the Democratic Republic of Congo

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# Methodology

- **Document Review:** 21 reports and presentation
- **Data Collection:** Individual and group interviews with 26 global and in-country stakeholders

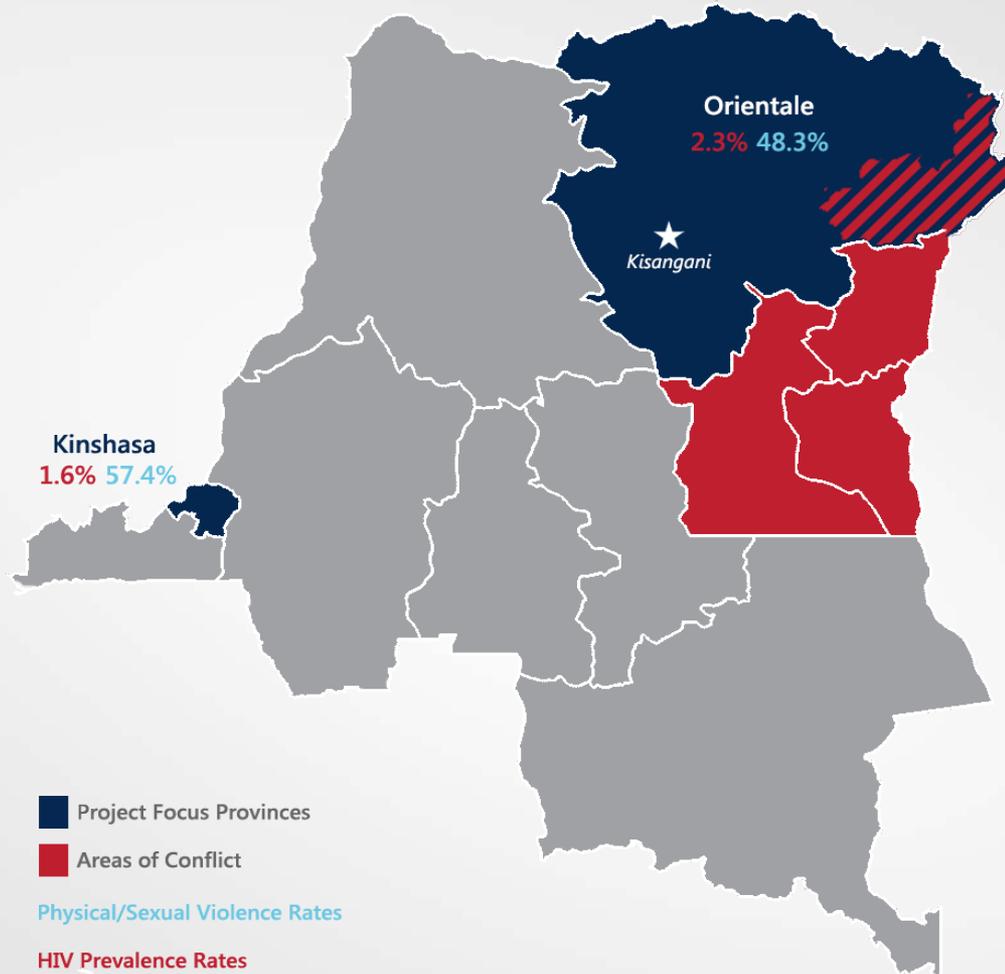


# GBV & HIV in the DRC

- Approximately **390,000 adults** and **59,000 children** (under 14 years) are HIV positive
- **58%** of all HIV-infected adults are women
- The DRC ranks number **149 of 155 countries** included in the 2014 Gender Equality Index
- **52%** of women aged 15-49 have ever experienced physical violence since age 15



# Geographic Focus



# Project Overview

- \$10 million, FY 2011 & FY 2012 (some activities extended).
- 4 main implementing partners.
- National objectives related to coordination, GBV service delivery, and GBV prevention including focus on laws, policies, and guidelines.
- Regional objectives related to GBV service availability and quality, changes in GBV-related attitudes and behaviors, and capacity strengthening.



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# Programmatic Approach

- Strong emphasis on the links between GBV and HIV
- Explicit focus on HIV/GBV integration



# Key Contributions

- **Development and dissemination of a national protocol** on medical care for GBV survivors.
- **Development of training package for health care workers** on GBV prevention, screening, and response.
- **Development of a training package for community actors** on GBV prevention and linking community members to services.
- **Development of a GBV screening tool** for use in health facilities.
- **Training clinical staff** to provide integrated care to GBV survivors based on newly released Ministry of Health (PNSR) protocol for the medical management of GBV.



# Linkages Beyond Health Sector

- **Support to the national HIV/GBV hotline** - trainings, a national referral resource, and increased number of counselors.
- **Inclusion of military partners** – protocol, training, life skills programs for youth, peer education with military spouses and children.
- **Adaptation of Stepping Stones** – community-level prevention efforts.
- **Capacity strengthening for media stakeholders** - social and behavior change communication (SBCC) materials and media activities at national and provincial levels.
- **Coordination** - provincial-level multi-sectoral synergy meetings.



# The GBVI Catalyzed Change

- Demystified critical GBV/HIV linkages in practice and integration of GBV into HIV programs.
- Institutionalized changes in service delivery.
- Capitalized on range of other PEPFAR partners to extend the reach of the GBVI.

**“ One of the biggest contributions of the GBVI was to show that this work is possible – something can be done about GBV. ”**





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**Thank You!**

