



KASAI: A child Protection Crisis

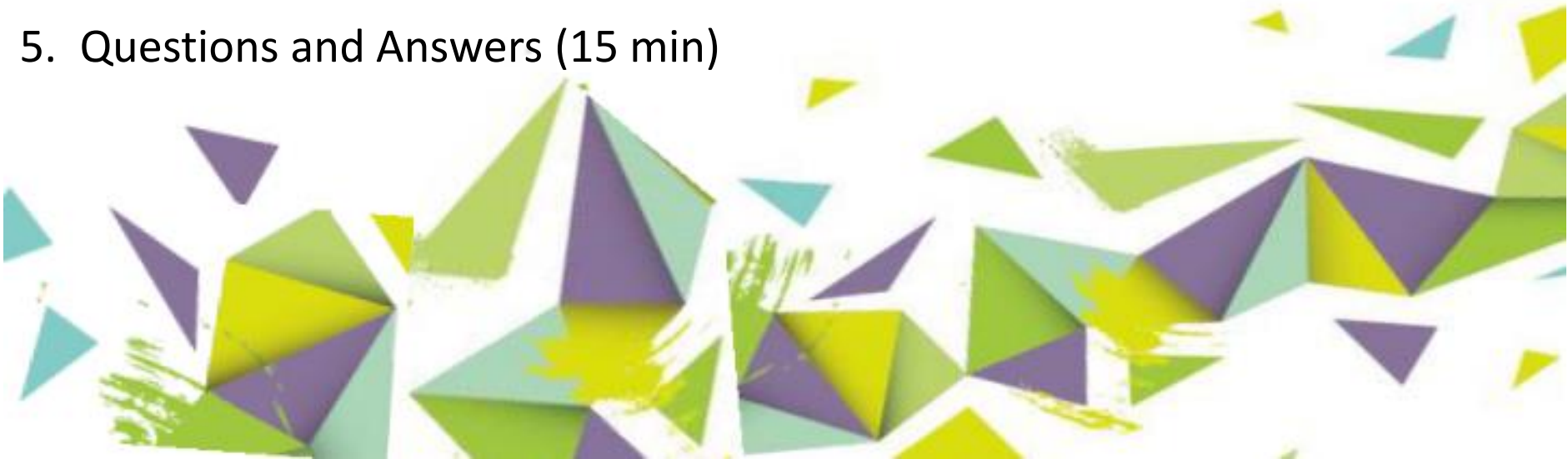
Global CP AoR Members call
30 August 3017

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Agenda



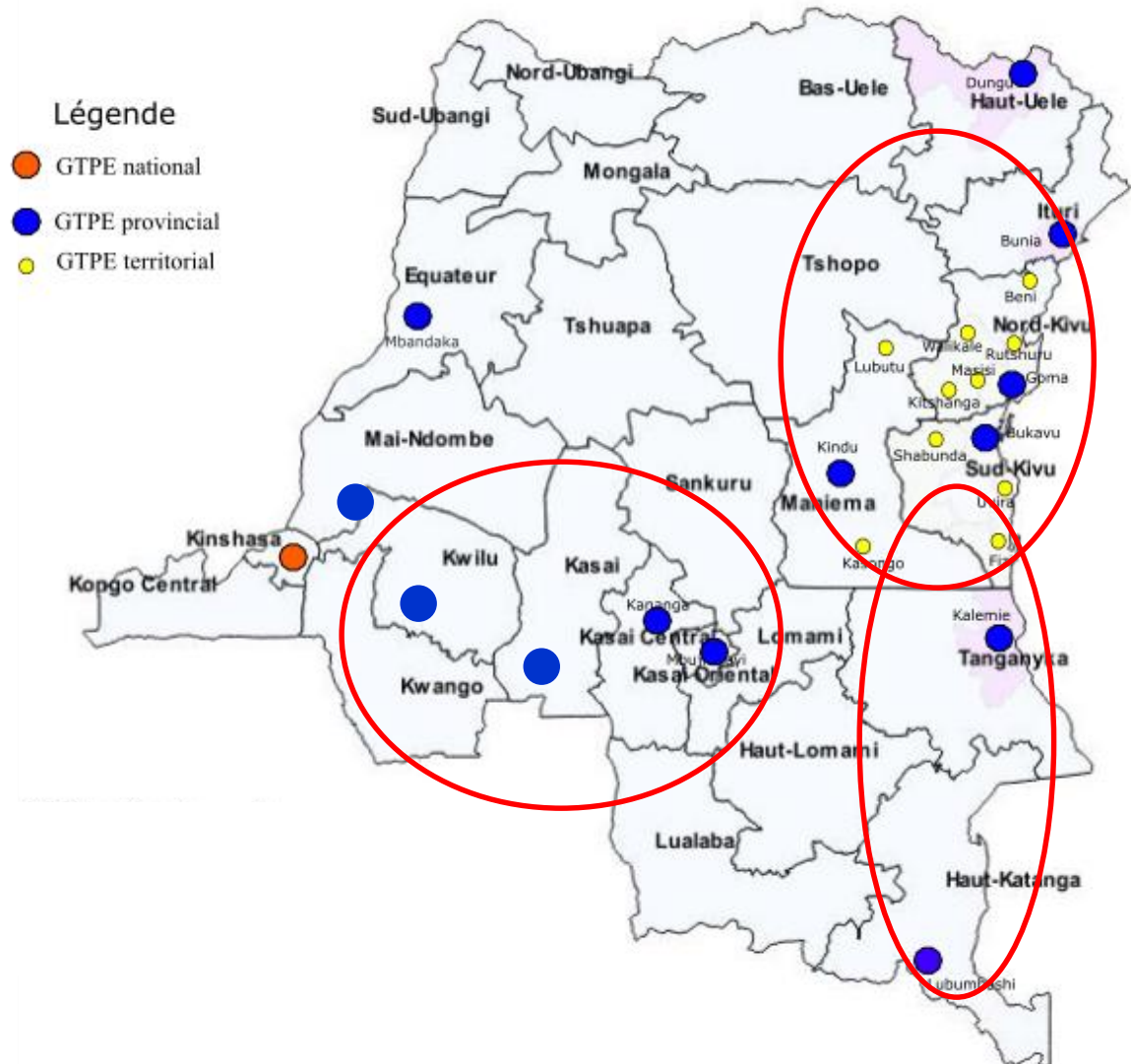
1. Update on the Kasai situation: *A Child Protection Crisis* (10 min)
2. Current child protection response capacity and gaps (10 min)
3. Integration of child protection with other sectors, in particular education (5 min)
4. Key advocacy points (10 min)
5. Questions and Answers (15 min)



1. Update on the situation in the Kasais and other hotspots in DRC



- **1 national CPWG** in Kinshasa
- **23 sub-national CPWGs** including 1 new CPWG in Kasai and 2 CPWGs in Kwilu provinces
- **Some 2/3 of the country affected by emergencies**
- **Crises in Tanganyika and in Eastern DRC**
- **The impact of the Kasai crisis extends to 9 provinces + Angola**
- **Nealy 4 million IDPs, the highest number in Africa, including on average 60,5 % child IDPs, hence over 2 million IDP children in need of protection**





Between **40% and 60%** of militia members are **children**, often younger than 15, which constitutes a war crime. **Over 1,000 children used as combatants or human shields** have been registered.



The population and **children in particular live in a state of deep shock and panic**. Children show signs of psychosocial distress and are often afraid to leave their parents, even shortly.



Over 400 children have been arrested since August 2016. The living conditions in the cells are extremely precarious. Several children have been reported to be **victims of torture**.



More than 400 schools attacked verified, out of which more than 260 destroyed (affecting more than 100,000 children). **More than 210 attacked health centers** and nearly **400 attacks on health personnel**.

This document is based on a secondary data matrix compiled by the global Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR) using the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action as an analysis framework. All data points have been compared, interpreted and updated, but not triangulated and verified.- August 2017.

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At least **7,000 children** have been separated from their families in the Kasai and Central Kasai provinces alone: they are particularly vulnerable to being recruited by militias and to being victims of violence and abuse.



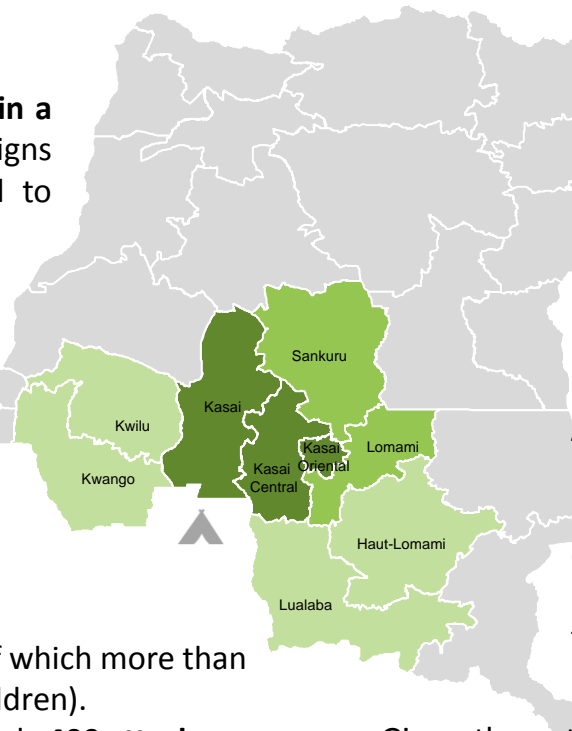
Over 1,400 cases of sexual violence have been registered between August 2016 and July 2017 in the three provinces of Kasai, Central Kasai and Eastern Kasai. **Children, the vast majority of whom are adolescent girls aged 12 to 17, account for 68% of survivors of sexual violence.**



At least 100 children have been killed between January and March 2017. Numerous cases of summary and extra-judicial executions have been reported, affecting in particular children allegedly associated with the militias.



Given the extension of the impact of the conflict to nine provinces and the emergence of new protection needs, **the financial gap remains significant.**



2. Child protection response and gaps



Response :

- **Over 400 children released from detention** and reunified with families;
- **Some 700 UASC** incl. 90 girls, identified and reunified with families;
- **Over 34,000 child IDPs**, incl. some 14,600 girls, have received psychosocial support and leisure activities through CFS.

Gaps:

- Thousands UASC incl. children used in militias in need of assistance;
- Girls need more attention;
- Need for tailored specialised psychosocial support;
- Livelihood and vocational training for children formerly associated with the militia;
- More transitional care arrangements and monitoring of these children.



2. Child protection response capacity and gaps (continued)

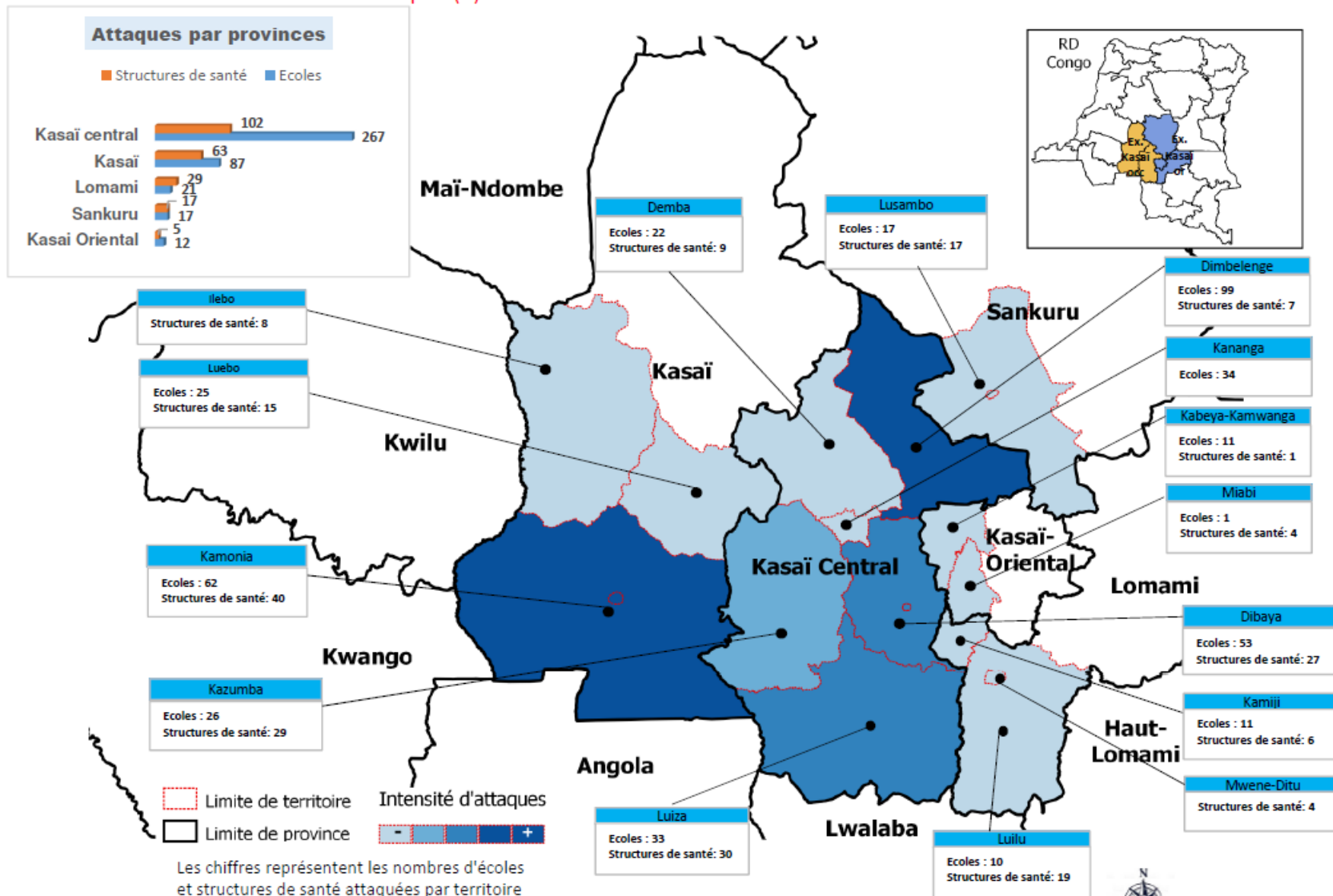


Capacities: Early warning/alerts of violations; much presence of local (development) actors, UN and international NGOs scaling steadily up.

Gaps: Insufficient capacity of qualified child protection actors who can quickly scale up; while scaling up localisation is key.

Challenges: Access is still low due to ongoing fighting; needs are expected to skyrocket as areas become more accessible over the next months; needs will massively exceed available financial resources.

620 attaques(*) : 404 contre les écoles et 216 contre les structures de santé



Date de mise à jour : 24 juillet 2017, Source de données thématiques: Unicef et ses partenaires
Source de données géographique : RGC
L'Unicef ne saurait être tenu responsable de la qualité des limites, des noms et des désignations utilisées sur cette carte

(*) Il s'agit des attaques commises sur les bâtiments et mobiliers

3. Integration of child protection with other sectors



- Ensure mainstreaming of child protection in all humanitarian action, including all clusters (education, nutrition, WASH, health, NFI, etc.)
- **Innovative integrated CP-Education-Mine Action** approach to respond over 400 attacks on schools.
- **Development of a joint strategy with GBV sub-cluster** to address 68% of over 1,400 VBG documented cases involving children.
- **Integration of Protection into the Rapid Response Mechanism of Movement of Population (RRMP).**



4. Key advocacy points

1. The need for humanitarian funding is crucial to avoid more loss of life and human suffering, as well as the need for strong efforts by the international community to bring these conflicts to a sustainable end.
2. Scale up of international partners already present is necessary, aligned and supporting of CPWG action plan under development. To include capacity building for local actors to translate to quality and timely child protection response; close, individualized accompaniment is necessary.
3. The Kasai crisis is a *child protection crisis*, everyone is invited to support the 'I'm just a child' campaign.

4. Key advocacy points (continued)



4. Need for specialised services, e.g.:

- tailored, specialised psychosocial support (fetichism)
- school/socio-economic reintegration, livelihood and vocational training for children formerly associated with the militia (humanitarian – development nexus)
- more transitional care arrangements and monitoring of these children

5. Need for qualified and experienced human resources

5. Questions and Answers (15 minutes)





Child Protection

Thank You

Girl living in a host family in Kikwit with her mother and 4 brother and sisters. She lost one 22 year old brother.

(Photo Credit: UNICEF DRC/Vockel)