

Africa

Constellation: AF Central C5.1

Democratic Republic of Congo



NEEDS

Constellation: **AF Central C5.1**

Country: **DRC**

Cry of the Earth

- poaching threatens wildlife populations
- water pollution
- deforestation (forests endangered by fires set to clean the land for agricultural purposes; forests also used as a source of fuel)
- soil erosion
- mining (diamonds, gold, coltan - a mineral used in creating capacitors for electronic devices) causing environmental damage

Cry of the Poor

- high infant and maternal mortality rates
 - frequent and early fertility
- malnutrition
- poor vaccination coverage
- lack of access to improved water sources and sanitation.
- Ongoing conflict, mismanagement of resources, and a lack of investment have resulted in food insecurity
 - almost 30 percent of children under the age of 5 are malnourished
- The overall coverage of basic public services – education, health, sanitation, and potable water – is very limited and piecemeal, with substantial regional and rural/urban disparities
- government crackdown against the political opposition, media, and civil society groups continues
 - little to no accountability for past abuses
- Violent conflicts have intensified across the country, as numerous armed groups, and in some cases government security forces, attacked civilians
- Forced labor and sex trafficking

Commitments

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ the majority of this trafficking is internal, and much of it is perpetrated by armed groups and rogue government forces outside official control in the country's unstable eastern provinces○ Congolese adults are subjected to forced labor, including debt bondage, in unlicensed mines, and women may be forced into prostitution○ Congolese women and girls are subjected to forced marriages where they are vulnerable to domestic servitude or sex trafficking○ children are forced to work in agriculture, mining, mineral smuggling, vending, portering, and begging;○ indigenous and foreign armed groups, including the Lord's Resistance Army, abduct and forcibly recruit Congolese adults and children to serve as laborers, porters, domestics, combatants, and sex slaves | |
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