

## **Tearfund, Partners and Donors in Harmony**

### **DFID award Tearfund new £4 million grant**

Tearfund and key partners have built a strong reputation amongst donors over the past few years. This reputation has been rewarded with the news this week of a new £4 million grant in DRC for work involving DMT, Heal Africa and PPSSP over the coming three years. For PPSSP this is their fourth high compliance donor award in a row in recent years. The new grant is the first round from DFID's new fund - The Global Poverty Action Fund. I was able to visit Goma, DRC in July to meet key people and see for myself the excellent work being carried out.

#### **Why was I visiting?**

To help facilitate a four day donor funding workshop in Kigali, Rwanda attended by 36 partner delegates. We were joined by Renaud Houzal from the EU delegation of Rwanda. Once the workshop was over I travelled to Goma DRC to train DMT and PPSSP people on donor compliance linked to the 2010 EU Water Facility award of €1.8 million. Nothing could be a greater contrast than crossing the border from Rwanda into DRC where the roads change from 21st century to volcanic rubble.

#### **Tearfund's Partners**

In north and south Kivu, Eastern DRC, partners work with Tearfund and donors to bring transformation to multitudes of the poorest through water and sanitation provision, addressing gender violence, HIV/Aids interventions, and provision of health care. Some of the most remarkable people I have ever had the privilege to meet live and work here, the gifted and the brave. For example Mwaka Deogracias who leads PPSSP, an organisation which focuses on water, sanitation projects. Amongst the brave are the survivors of gender violence, who come to a Heal Africa hospital in Goma for help and some of whom move to a safe house following treatments. The Heal Africa focus on meeting the spiritual, emotional as well as the physical needs of the patients made me reflect about the physical focus of health work I'm familiar with in the UK. For example, following treatment, some are given training in livelihood skills and placed in a safe house if necessary.

#### **Tearfund's Government Donors**

Our donors in the DRC include the EU who in 2010 started to fund a water and sanitation programme where our DMT team work with PPSSP to implement a €1.8 million project. DFID already fund a five year project through their Challenge Fund where Tearfund leads a six partner consortia focused on HIV/Aids needs. The US State Department (BPRM) has provided almost \$5m in awards for DMT in DRC since 2008 with the latest to provide returnees with clean water and public health education. USAID (OFDA) has confirmed an additional \$1m this year to improve food security in South Kivu. ECHO are funding DMT work with a €800k contribution. Jersey have joined the Tearfund donors by funding a three year programme for water and sanitation.

#### **New £4 million Award**

The new project 'Integrated WASH, Gender and HIV' addresses the central impoverishing, incapacitating and debilitating issues facing the war weary peoples of Eastern DRC. This is good news for our beneficiaries and reward for those who combined their talents to develop and scope the project then draft the proposals.

DMT will be working closely with PPSSP and Heal Africa on the new project implementation.

Its in North Kivu and Maneima and with these partners that the new award has been secured. DFID's Global Poverty Action Fund supports actions focused on off-track MDG's. How better to accomplish the objectives of this fund than through experienced and effective Christian operations – DMT, Heal Africa and PPSSP.

This mix of amazing work, dedicated people and brave beneficiaries takes place in both a war torn nation and a place where for most people the comforts of modern living are but a dream. We know Tearfund to be strong on its relationships and nowhere better illustrates the respect and mutual co-operation on the level I found between Tearfund, partners and donors as I found while on this visit to DRC. They will need all our prayers and support to help mend broken lives and bring healing to communities much oppressed over past decades.

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