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Peacebuilding and Reconstruction Polls

Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo

Poll Report #2, June 2015

(Data from March - May 2015)

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About the Poll

The results of this poll are based on 4,317 interviews conducted between March and May 2015 with randomly selected adults in the following cities and territories. The margin of error is ± 5 percentage points at the 95% confidence.

Province / District	Territoire / City	Sample
North-Kivu	Ville de Goma	447
	Ville de Beni	300
	Beni	175
	Masisi	193
	Nyiragongo	192
South-Kivu	Ville de Bukavu	621
	Fizi	222
	Kabare	267
	Uvira	184
	Walungu	225
Ituri	Kalehe	215
	Ville de Bunia	611
	Djugu	215
	Irumu	235
	Mambasa	215
TOTAL		4,317

For more information, visit www.peacebuildingdata.org/drc
Or contact info@peacebuildingdata.org

About the Project

This poll is the second in a series of polls that will be conducted to provide reliable data and analysis on peace, security, justice and reconstruction in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The project is a joint initiative of the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in collaboration with MONUSCO Civil Affairs. HHI is responsible for data collection, the independent data analysis and report writing, working with partners such as the Free University of the Great Lakes Countries, Catholic University of Bukavu and Bunia University,

Publications :

Vinck P, Pham PN. (2014). Searching for Lasting Peace: Population-Based Survey on Perceptions and Attitudes about Peace, Security and Justice in Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, United Nations Development Programme.



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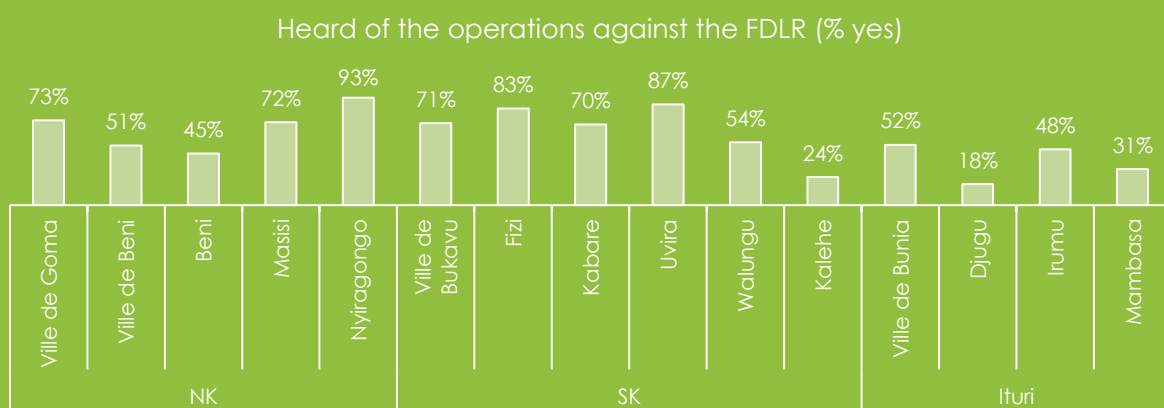
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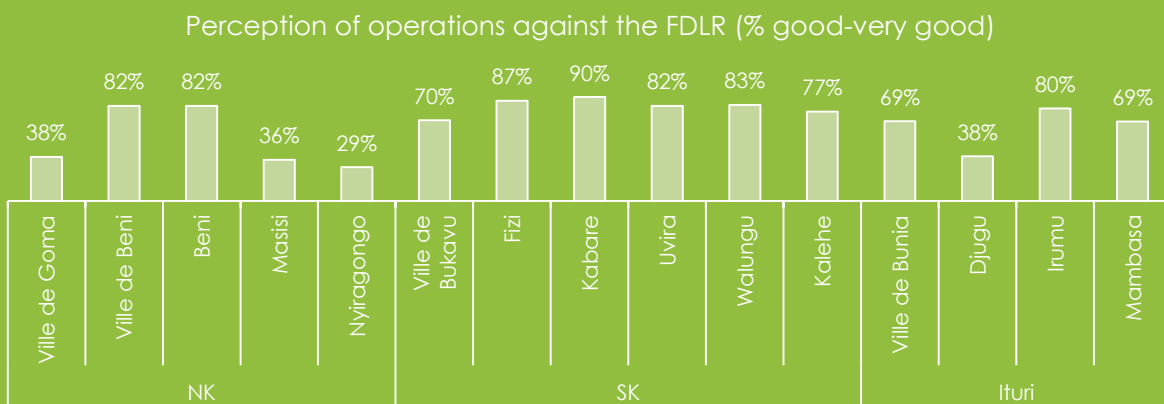
Wide support for operations against the FDLR, except in the areas concerned. Doubts persist about the impact on peace

The launch of the offensive of the armed forces of the DRC against the Democratic Liberation Forces of Rwanda (FDLR) launched in February 2015 is widely known, especially in North Kivu and South Kivu. With few exceptions (Beni, Kalehe) more than half of respondents are aware of the operations - in comparison, 50% of the population in eastern Congo have heard of the International Criminal Court. Awareness about the operations against the FDLR is less frequent in Ituri.



Data from March - May 2015

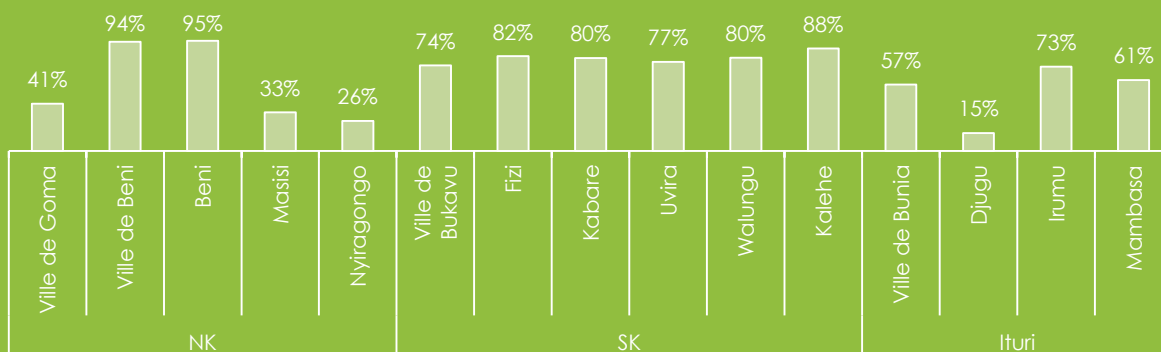
The perception of this intervention, however, is very mixed. In almost all jurisdictions, a majority of those who have heard of the operations against the FDLR judge this intervention favorably. However, in Goma, Masisi and Nyiragongo, only about a third of people who have heard of the intervention judge it favorably. These are the areas directly affected. This negative perception possibly reflects the fear of reprisals by the FDLR, and of the deployment of the military which too often targets the population.



Data from March - May 2015

It is also in the city of Goma and the territories of Masisi territories and Nyiragongo that respondents are most negative with regards to the likely effect of the intervention on peace in eastern Congo. In these areas, 41% or less of the respondents expect that the intervention will have at least some effects on peace, compared to more than half the respondents elsewhere.

Perceived effect of the intervention against the FDLR on peace
(% considering some to a lot of effects)

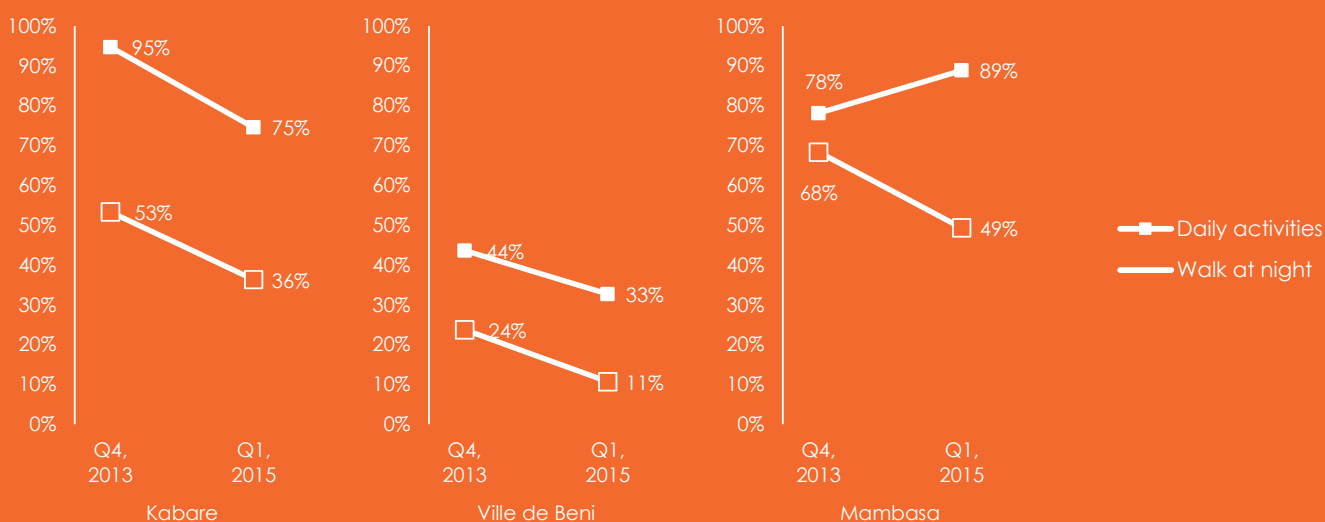


Data from March - May 2015

Stable sense of security, except in the city of Beni (NK) and Kabare (SK), Mambasa (Ituri)

Overall, a higher proportion of the population feels safe today compared to one year ago. However, this trend is not confirmed in Kabare, Mambasa and Beni town. In the town of Beni, almost one in two (49%) reported feeling less safe today than a year ago - the worst score of all territories. The proportion of respondents reportedly feeling safe walking at night decreased from 24% to 11% in the town of Beni. This is likely explained by the wave of deadly attacks in the city at the time of the poll. In Kabare too, the sense of security decreases, but it is still above average compared to the other territories. In Mambasa, the trend is mixed since respondents are more likely to feel safe in their daily activities than they were a year ago, but less likely to feel safe to walk at night. However other activities explored in the poll (eg going to the market) suggest a general decline in the sense of security in Mambasa.

Sense of Security (% safe / very safely)

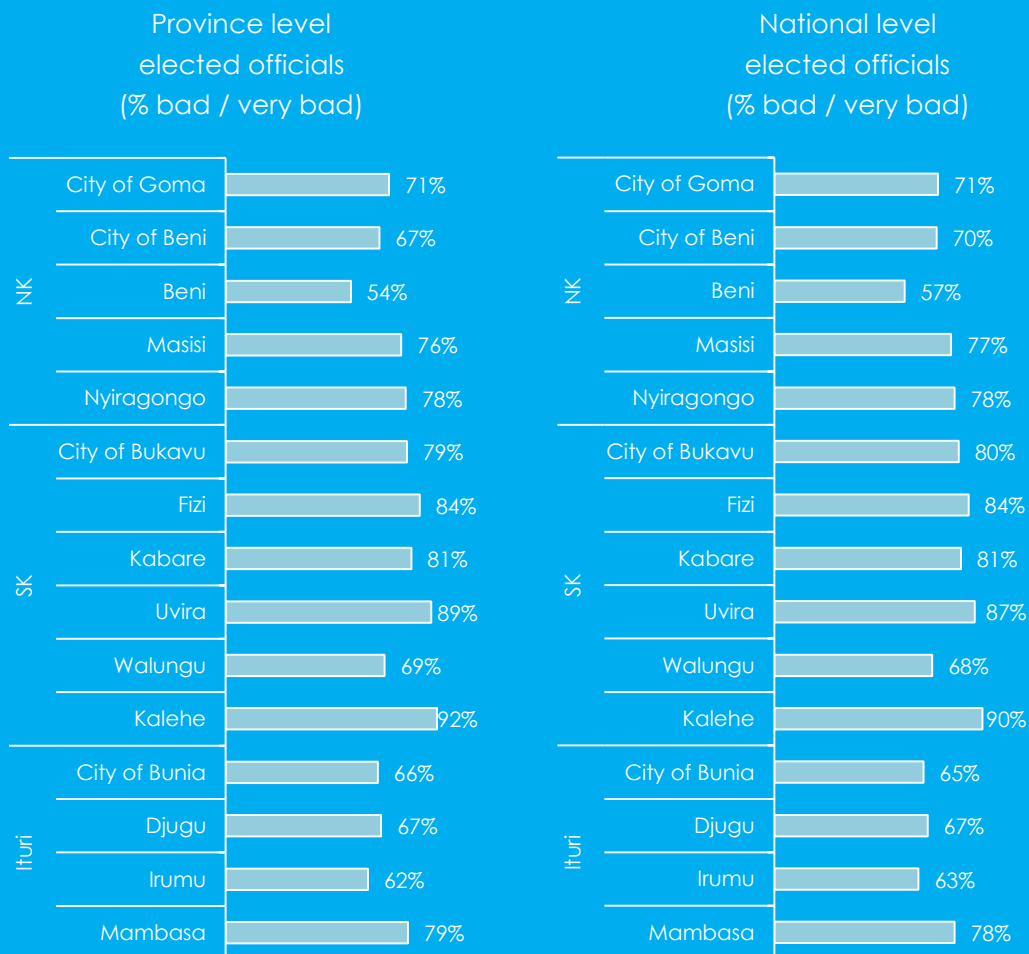


Data from March - May 2015

Voting intentions are not affected by the poor perception of elected officials.

In all polled territories, a large majority of respondents said they will vote in the upcoming presidential elections. However, about two-thirds or more of respondents also indicated that their provincial and national politicians elected poorly represent their interests.

How are elected officials representing the interests and opinions of the population?



Data from March - May 2015

Illness and injuries after rape: a cause of exclusion

This second poll explored respondents' perception of specific conditions for the return of a woman victim of rape. They were asked if the following are acceptable:

- The return to the community of a victim of sexual violence;
- The return in the household of a victim of sexual violence;
- The return in the household of a woman victim of sexual violence if she had a child because of this act?
- The return in the household of a woman victim of sexual violence if she had an illness or injury due to this act?

The results show that a large majority of respondents is ready to receive in their household a woman victim of sexual violence. However, this readiness is less frequent when the sexual violence resulted in the birth of a child and / or the transmission of a disease or injury.

For example, in Goma, the population is largely ready to accept the return of victims of sexual violence in the community (95%) or in their household (93%). However this support is less frequent if a sexual violence victim had a child because of the violence (87%), or if the person is also a victim of diseases and injuries (76%).

Return of a victim of sexual violence - Goma, NK data



Data from March - May 2015