



THE INDIA AFRICA FOUNDATION PROJECTS – DRC

Background. The **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** has been dubbed the ‘rape capital of the world’ and ‘the world’s most dangerous place for women’.

Project ‘Hope’ in **Goma, North Kivu**, runs 6 month tailoring courses for rape victims and feeds and schools some 250 children – many of whom are the result of rape. So far over 500 women have completed the dressmaking course – but do not have sewing machines of their own to develop their skills and generate incomes. The teachers are paid just \$50 a month when money is available. The children present significant health needs: malnutrition, HIV, TB, malaria etc.

Project ‘Stand Up Women!’ in **Kalehe, South Kivu**, is an agricultural initiative providing an income-generating opportunity for 300 women to farm cassava, ground nuts, pigs, goats etc. A micro-finance project has been started up.

The Needs. The needs are huge: salaries for teachers, instructors and supervisors; building materials and workers; sewing machines; food and recreational materials for the children; IT equipment; agricultural equipment and materials; and so on. There is an IAF mission going to DRC in May.



Graduation of Project ‘Hope’ Women (left)

Project ‘Stand Up Women’ and a ground nut harvest (below)



Project ‘Hope’ children (above)

