



**REGISTRY AND TRUST FUND FOR VICTIMS
FACT SHEET
March 2011**

Victims Participation and Reparations Section (VPRS)

- The VPRS facilitates victims' participation in ICC proceedings and their requests for reparations.
- Since 2005, the Section has received a total of 4,773 victims' applications for participation and 2031 for reparation. The table below indicates the breakdown by case as on 31 March 2011:

Proceedings	Victims applications for participation received	Victims authorized to participate	Victims applications for reparation
DRC situation	1,105	196	176
Lubanga case		118	
Katanga case		366	
Uganda situation	1,012	21	406
Kony et al case		41	
Darfur situation	208	11	83
Abu Garda case		87	
Al Bashir case		12	
Harun case		6	
Banda & Jerbo case		89	
CAR situation	2,389	0	829
Bemba case		1,312	
KENYA situation	59	0	537
TOTAL	4,773	2,259	2,031

- All victims participating in the proceedings have been represented by a lawyer, and all victims needing it have benefited from legal aid. VPRS staff have assisted a significant number of victims to make choices and/or express wishes with regard to their legal representation. VPRS in collaboration with CSS facilitated the appointment of a legal representative (including OPCV) by the Court for 2,647 victims (1,690 in 2010).
- VPRS undertook 135 missions (including 11 for the first quarter 2011) in the field and organized 518 meetings and seminars (including 55 from January to March 2011). Through those, the VPRS has reached and assisted various categories of victims, including women and children, and victims of gender based and sexual violence. Moreover, considerable efforts have been put in the improvement of the capacity of intermediaries and legal representatives to provide quality, secure and ethical assistance to victims, given the Court's limitations in this regard.
- VPRS submitted 332 reports and filings to Chambers (including 23 for the first three months 2011). The VPRS serves as the conduit to the Chambers in relation to victims' applications and actively assists the Chambers on numerous occasions in making sensitive and appropriate decisions with regards to requirements for victims participating, in order to ensure that the reality of the victims in the field is taken into consideration.

Victims and Witnesses Unit (VWU)

- The mandate of the VWU is to provide protection, support, and logistic arrangements to witnesses and victims appearing before the Court. The VWU works closely with the parties and participants in the protection and support of victims and witnesses;
- VWU services shall apply to witnesses, victims appearing before the Court and other at risk on the account of testimony given by such witnesses.
- Not all witnesses are victims but some of them will be known as "dual status" witnesses meaning they are both victims and witnesses. The VWU must be informed of all dual status witnesses so that it can advise those concerned to seek the appropriate legal advice;
- VWU organizes the appearance of victims and witnesses at the hearings which includes protection, support, and operational arrangements. It provides preparation of victims and witnesses for testifying before the Court through the means of process known as "familiarization", which familiarizes victims and witnesses with courtroom and procedure; and
- Since the beginning of the trials in 2009, the VWU has prepared and assisted 17 dual status witnesses (Lubanga: 4, Katanga/Ngudjolo: 8, Bemba: 5). In addition, in the Lubanga and Katanga/Ngudjolo cases 5 victims were called to testify. All victims physically appearing before the Court received full VWU services: support, logistical and security arrangements and other appropriate assistance in the field and in HQ, including *inter alia*: payment of allowances, providing of clothing and organizing medical check to travel, escorting by VWU staff to the Seat of the Court.
- The VWU with the appointment of a Psychologist/Trauma Expert has developed a protocol for the assessment and support of *inter alia* vulnerable victims who appear physically before the Court. This protocol forms the basis for the provision of psychosocial assessment and support before during and after testimony. The vulnerability assessment also includes recommendations for special measures to the relevant Chamber to facilitate testimony and protect them from further psychological harm. Since the beginning of trials,

the psychologists have conducted 15 vulnerability assessments of vulnerable dual status witnesses and victims.

- The VWU also offers general support and assistance to all witnesses and victims including psychosocial support under the direction of the Psychologist and Support Officer, information and debriefings before and after testimony, and access to medical care when needed. The VWU ensures that victims and witnesses appearing before the Court feel secure and comfortable during all stages of the trial.
- At the conclusion of a victim or witnesses testimony the VWU conducts a Post Testimony Assessment to ensure it is safe for the victim or witness to return to their normal place of residence. The victim or witness remains in the care of the VWU for a period of time whilst their situation is monitored. 17 Dual status witnesses and 5 victims were assessed so far.
- In principle, victims participating in the proceedings benefit from the same access to protective measures as witnesses. So far, the VWU has conducted group security assessments of approximately 1796 victims participating in the Lubanga, Katanga/Ngudjolo and Bemba trial.
- In addition, VWU contributed to trainings organised by VPRS on good practices on how to interact with victims on behalf of the VPRS; 25 trainings for approximately 300 victims, representatives of civil society and lawyers were jointly conducted in DRC, Kenya, and HQ.

Outreach Unit

- The Outreach Unit aims to cultivate a level of awareness and understanding of ICC judicial proceedings among the communities affected by crimes in situations and cases brought before the Court, and to foster realistic expectations about the Court's work. This is done by sustaining a dialogue with these communities and the actors in contact with them in the geographical areas of residence of the victims in the situations under ICC investigations and cases brought before the Court. At present, outreach activities take place in connection with the situations in Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the Central African Republic (CAR), Darfur, Sudan and most recently Kenya.
- The Outreach Unit's communication plans are developed hand in hand with the judicial proceedings, bearing in mind contextual factors, and in consultation with local actors. Its work in the field is subject to regular assessments. When a new situation is under investigation, an initial study on perceptions with regard to the ICC intervention is used to develop strategic planning. The findings of these studies are used as a reference point for future studies to measure impact. In general, every activity carried out is evaluated through surveys. Key partners also provide feedback to Outreach Unit teams in the field, and a collection of questions asked and concerns raised by the public complement the evaluation. This information is kept in a database, analyzed and used to adjust planning and programming. Plans and monthly calendars of activities are available on the ICC website. Reports covering from 1 October to 1 October each year are presented on the occasion of regular sessions of the Assembly of States Parties and are also available to the public.
- The Unit's database was established in October 2007. From that date until December 2010, statistics show that around 110,000 individuals have been directly engaged in the course of 1411 interactive sessions. Ninety-three sessions were conducted in 2007, 337 in 2008, 456 in 2009, and 525 in 2010.
- To enhance the impact of outreach and inform broader audiences in a cost-effective way, in particular in remote areas, the Outreach Unit uses media, especially community radio stations. Radio programmes answering the questions most frequently asked by

participants during outreach sessions are produced locally and in The Hague. They are broadcast by local community radio stations in English, French or Arabic, and where needed translated into local languages. To overcome the challenge of having groups that were not able to afford to have their own radio receptors, ICC radio listening clubs have been successfully established. The clubs are led by one person, usually a teacher, who has been trained by Outreach Unit staff and is able to respond to basic questions asked by the audience. Each club has from 50 to 80 members. This experience was originally born in the DRC but has also been established in CAR, where men usually decide what radio programmes to listen to, leaving out women's choices. Therefore, the Outreach Unit is establishing ICC radio listening clubs specifically for women.

- In 2008, a small audio-visual team started operations within the Outreach Unit. Since then, 663 audio-visual programmes have been produced (29 programs in 2008, 255 in 2009 and 379 in 2010). The programmes are used to introduce discussions during outreach sessions and are broadcast by local radio and television stations. This has been a successful communication tool for all audiences including the less educated.

- The Outreach Unit assessments during the last six years show that significant progress has been made. Some of these findings show that people attending outreach sessions have a better understanding of the judicial process and their expectations are more realistic. This has been demonstrated by the fact that, throughout the years, the questions asked have become more technical and in-depth, showing that participants are developing a deeper understanding of the issues and the situations.

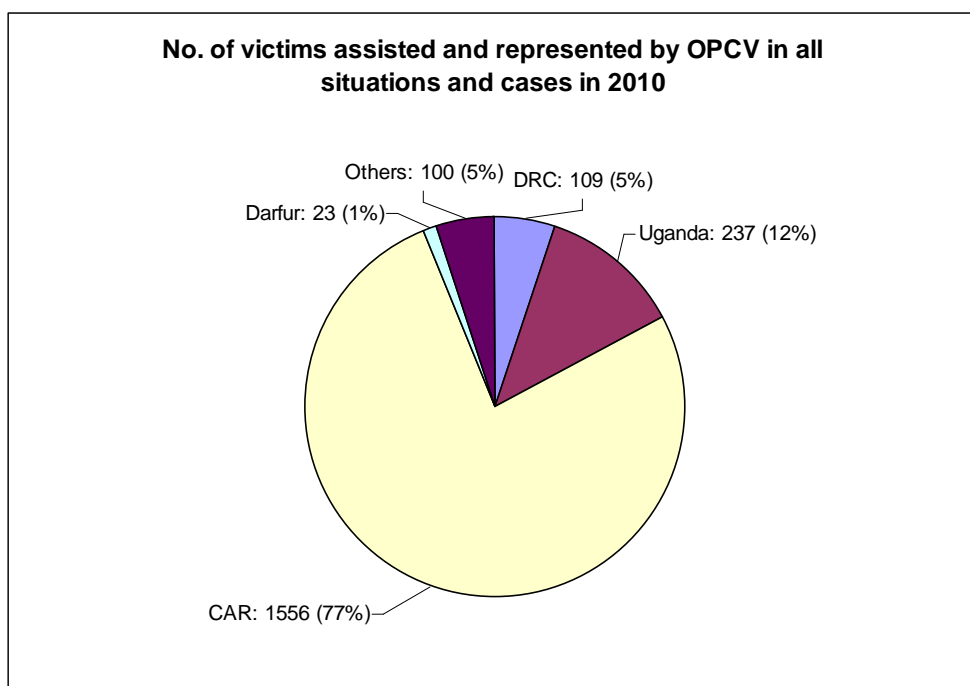
- The majority of people interviewed in 2009 in the four situations (before Kenya was an ICC situation) stated that they were happy with the presence of the Court. The figures can be broken down as follows: 72% in the DRC were happy, while expressing reservations about the lack of arrests in the Kivu provinces and the length of the proceedings in the cases related to alleged crimes committed in Ituri; 91% in Uganda; 100% in the CAR – although some participants showed caution indicating the need to closely follow the judicial developments in the situation to see whether or not there has been progress. In Darfur, 98% of the refugees interviewed in eastern Chad were happy with the intervention of the ICC, while 100% of the respondents among the diaspora were very happy with it. Even when negative views about the proceedings were expressed, the respondents to surveys mentioned that they felt that the ICC's intervention has contributed to make victims and their living conditions visible. They also felt that they have become relevant to the Court because their questions have been answered and their concerns addressed by field Outreach Unit staff during outreach sessions and through the media. They have underlined the importance of having the Court's Principals visiting them or answering their questions in the institutional television and radio programme *Ask the Court*. Furthermore, even in Uganda where, due to lack of arrests, there have been no ICC judicial proceedings and affected communities experience a high sense of frustration, respondents to surveys have acknowledged their understanding about the Court's work and mandate and the distinct roles played by different actors including international and national actors in the area. The majority of the participants believe that the ICC's intervention has helped to improve security in Northern Uganda and that this has enabled displaced people to return to their normal lives.

Note: More detailed information can be found in the Outreach Reports for 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 available at:

<http://www.icc-cpi.int/Menus/ICC/Structure+of+the+Court/Outreach/Outreach+Reports/>

Office of Public Counsel for Victims (OPCV)

- The mandate of the OPCV is to assist and support external legal representatives of victims, as well as to represent victims in the proceedings before the Court.
- Since its inception in September of 2005, the Office has submitted approximately 400 filings in the various Situations and Cases before the Court pertaining to victims' participation issues, and provided more than 700 pieces of advice and research on victims' issues to external legal representatives, thus paving the way for victims' participation rights in international criminal law;
- Since its inception in September 2005, the Office has provided support and assistance to 31 external legal representatives and around 2500 victims;
- In 2010 alone, the total number of victims assisted by the Office was 2025: 109 in the DRC situation and related cases; 237 in the Uganda situation and the Kony, *et al.* case; 1556 in the CAR and the Bemba case; 23 in the Darfur (Sudan) situation and related cases; and 100 victims not pertaining to any opened situation but rather under scrutiny by the OTP.
- Added to this is the number of victims who contacted the Office for information on the participation of victims before the Court, particularly in the context of the Kenya proceedings and to whom the OPCV provided advice. The total number of victims who contacted the OPCV over the year is, therefore, more than 650.



Trust Fund for Victims (TFV)

- € 7.3 million raised from 24 countries since 2004 (status as of 1 April, 2011):
 - €4.5 million obligated for projects in northern Uganda and the DRC since 2007 (status as of 28 January, 2011);
 - 2008 Donor Appeal for projects addressing victims of Sexual Violence, from which €1.1 million has been raised from four countries (Denmark, Norway, Andorra & Finland).
- €1 million held in reserve for future Court-ordered reparations;

- Operational presence and partnerships established on the ground in northern Uganda and the DRC to provide assistance to victims under the Court's jurisdiction:
 - Court-approval for 34 projects in northern Uganda and the DRC, of which 28 are ongoing, totalling an estimated €4.3 million in obligated funds since 2007
 - 70,000 victims benefiting directly from physical rehabilitation, psychological rehabilitation and/or material support;
 - Partnerships established with 33 grassroots, national, and international organizations on the ground in both countries;
 - Capacity-building support for implementing partners in counselling, project planning, monitoring, evaluation.
 - 5 Donor Technical Proposals – (2) Sexual Violence, Former Child Combatants, Institutional Strengthening, and Community Rehabilitation; and
 - Implementation of Project Impact Baseline Survey with 2,585 victims (Uganda & DRC) translated into seven languages and complemented by qualitative focus groups and interviews to better understand TFV impact on the ground.
- Preparation for implementation of general assistance in the Central African Republic:
 - CAR Mission Assessment Report (2009);
 - €600 thousand held in reserve for general assistance projects in the Central African Republic, call for proposals May 2011.
 - Pre-Trial Chamber Filing to seek approval for Request for Proposals.
- Court filings and Public Reports:
 - 4 TFV Programme Reports (Spring 2009, Fall 2009, Spring 2010, Fall 2010);
 - 8 Legal Briefs and Official Observations – Uganda, DRC & CAR (Pre-Trial Chamber Filings);
- Communications and Branding to promote TFV and support fund raising.