



FREE PRESS UNLIMITED
NO NEWS IS BAD NEWS PROGRAMME
INTERNAL MID-TERM EVALUATION
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
MARCH 2018



Picture: Gender content monitoring in Tshopo province, in partnership with by UCOFEM

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Saskia Nijhof
Head Knowledge & Quality Free Press Unlimited
July 13th, 2018

1 INTRODUCTION AND EVALUATION DESIGN

1.1 Context

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) ranks 154th in the 2017 World Press Freedom Index. Freedom of information is constantly violated. Journalists are exposed to threats, physical violence, arrest, prolonged detention, and even murder. Under President Joseph Kabila, who has postponed the next presidential election, many crimes were committed against journalists without the perpetrators being brought to justice. The Internet is often disconnected and, since November 2016, the authorities have been targeting the international media, notably Radio France Internationale by disturbing the FM signal.¹ Passed in 2002, law No. 013/2002² governs the telecommunication sector and confers powers on the government to take charge of communication facilities in the interest of national security or public defence.



According to the Ministry of Communications there were 134 television stations, 463 radio stations, and 445 newspapers registered in the country in 2012. Given its low literacy rates and deep poverty, the population of the DRC relies largely on radio broadcasts to receive news reports. Only a few stations, including state-run Radio-Télévision Nationale Congolaise (RTNC) and UN-funded Radio Okapi, have nationwide reach in most urban areas. Most private media outlets are owned by public figures or businessmen, and are used for setting agendas and biased reporting. Journalists are usually poorly paid and lack sufficient training, leaving them vulnerable to bribery and political manipulation.³

The media in the DRC is governed by the 1996 Media Law (law no. 96/002). In an effort to see the media playing a key role in the transition, the Constitution of Transition devotes at least three Articles to the Press (see Art 27, 28 and 29): freedom of expression, freedom of the press and access to information.⁴ To regulate the media sector the authorities installed the Conseil Supérieur de l'Audiovisuel Congolais (CSAC).

There are several umbrella organisations that deal with media issues, including:

- Union National de la Press du Congo (UNPC), which defends the rights of journalists, distributes press cards, monitors the respect of deontology and ethics and deals with complaints on non-respect of the ethical code. UNPC is one of FPU's partners in the DRC.
- Observatoire des Media au Congo (OMEC): This self-regulatory institute is supposed to monitor the Congolese media but is hardly operational since a few years. Based on a complaint mechanism the press union UNPC verdicts in case of individual complaints

Local media outlets are subject to regulation by the CSAC. The agency's mandate is to ensure freedom of expression, but it has the power to temporarily suspend outlets for hate speech and other ethical transgressions, and its decisions have at times been criticized as politically biased. Journalists' rights groups have long criticized the CSAC for its vulnerability to political manipulation and apathy regarding the prosecution of crimes against journalists.⁵

¹ <https://rsf.org/en/democratic-republic-congo>

² <http://www.leganet.cd/Legislation/JO/2003/JO.25.01.2003.PT.pdf>

³ <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-press/2014/congo-democratic-republic-kinshasa>

⁴ <https://www.eisa.org.za/pdf/OP30.pdf>

⁵ <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-press/2014/congo-democratic-republic-kinshasa>

1.2 Free Press Unlimited in the DRC

FPU works in the DRC since 2007 and has been one of the biggest contributors to the community media sector. FPU increased access to information for Congolese citizens by increased capacity of the media and by building representational structures. Together with its partner Journalists en Danger (JED) FPU invests in the safety of journalists. FPU has nationwide coverage as a result of the partnership with FRPC, which represents more than 350 community radio stations all over the country. In recent years FPU put a strong focus on media & gender with partners as UCOFEM and AFEM. Women are underrepresented in the Congolese media in terms of professional female journalists as well as resource persons for media content. FPU tries to change this in various ways. FPU also supports the production of radio programmes that address gender issues.

1.3 The “No News is Bad News” (NNIBN) Programme in the DRC

The aim of the NNIBN Programme is: “Media and journalists as independent players in civil society, constitute a diverse and professional media landscape and function as change catalysts”. This is achieved by working on three interlinked Intermediate Outcomes:

- IO1: An enabling environment for the media is established, conducive to freedom of expression, pluralism, and diversity.
- IO2: Media serve the interest of the public and act as a watchdog on their behalf.
- IO3: Journalists and media-actors work professionally and are effective and sustainable.

In the DRC, one of the 18 countries of focus of NNIBN, FPU provides funds, programme support, capacity development and monitoring & evaluation support to the NNIBN Partners. The objectives of the NNIBN programme in the DRC are:

- (~IO1) To improve the enabling environment for the media incl. safety of journalists. The legal and regulatory framework needs to improve and prevent arbitrary closure of media outlets and imprisonment of journalists. Revision of the media law n°96-002, safety of journalists, and action against impunity are the focus areas for lobby and advocacy. Partner: JED
- (~IO1) To increase legitimacy of journalists and their access to information by registration of professional journalists and providing press cards. Partner: UNPC.
- (~IO2) To encourage and support journalists to adhere to ethical standards, especially during the upcoming elections (planned for December 2018). Partner: JED and UNPC
- (~IO2) To improve the access to women-centred information and female sources in media content and to increase the number of professional female journalists. The activities focus on regions that are currently under-served by international donors. Partners: AFEM and UCOFEM
- (~IO3) To improve the access to reliable, accurate and timely news through a large network of local radio stations and trained journalists, especially in hard to reach, remote, rural areas. Partners: FRPC, COCACON (and soon a new partner: Actualité.CD)

1.4 Implementing partner organisations and activities

In the period January 2016 – March 2018 FPU collaborated with 6 partner organisations to reach the programme’s objectives. The following activities were carried out by FPU and its partners with funds from NNIB:

1. Journaliste en Danger (JED) – partner since 2015

2016: FPU supported JED to bring together 9 Congolese media support organizations in a national colloquium to prepare and sign a Charter on the responsibilities and ethics of journalists during the elections. JED, with the support of FPU, also organised the May 3rd event: International Press Freedom day.

2017: FPU supported JED to organize a very well frequented May 3rd event and November 2nd event, and to develop and publish their annual report on safety of journalists in the DRC. JED also managed FPU's Reporter's Respond Fund in the DRC.

2. Union Congolaise des Femmes des Médias (UCOFEM) – partner since 2016

2016: FPU supported UCOFEM in its media monitoring activities on the portrayal and participation of women in the media and published a report. UCOFEM was also supported in online communication (website, Twitter, Facebook) in the form of training.

2017: FPU supported UCOFEM to update and publish a database with 4,000 female resource persons for journalists (Répertoire des Femmes Ressources (FERES)).

3. Association des Femmes de Media (AFEM) – partner since 2014

2016 and 2017: FPU supported AFEM with the production of a weekly radio show which focused on human interest stories told from a gender sensitive angle. 10 Articles were posted on the Mama Radio website related to the topics of the radio shows.

4. Fédération des Radios de Proximité du Congo (FRPC) – partner since 2011

2016: FPU supported FRPC to train 80 journalists (72 women) in the production of 19 radio programmes and on gender-related topics across 4 provinces. The trainings were given in partnership with UCOFEM.

2017: FPU supported FRPC to train 36 female radio producers in 3 provinces. Each participant received a Zoom H1 recorder. 18 laptops to radio stations have been distributed. The training was on gender sensitive reporting and technical skills in radio production.

5. Collectif des Radios et Télévisions Communautaires de Nord-Kivu (COCACON) – partner since 2016

2016: FPU supported CORACON to install a wireless MESH network in the city of Goma, an alternative for internet access. A MESH network was also installed in the city of Bukavu in partnership with Radio Maendeleo.

2017: FPU supported CORACON to support 3 community radio stations in war-affected North Kivu to develop targeted program formats to address gender-based violence, mining abuse and conflict reporting.

6. Union Nationale de la Presse de Congo (UNPC) – partner since 2016

2016: FPU supported UNPC to organise the registration of professional journalists and to post the database online. In addition FPU supported UNPC with legal assistance in case journalists are brought to court.

2017: FPU supported UNPC to organise a congress (4-5 May) to revise and validate its statutes.

2018: FPU supported UNPC to buy a printer and print press cards for journalists to increase their legitimacy and access to information.

1.5 Scope of the internal mid-term evaluation

FPU's progress monitoring system of the NNIBN programme records progress against 9 indicators on a quarterly basis, based on narrative reports from the participating partner organisations. To capture complex policy processes and changes that the programme is contributing to, as well as lessons learned during the process, FPU decided to undertake an internal mid-term evaluation principally based on Outcome Harvesting⁶, to be carried out in 10 programme countries. For the DRC, the Outcome Harvesting workshop took place in March 2018 in Kinshasa, with the participation of 7 partners (see Appendix 1 for a list of participants). The workshop sought to identify the outcomes that

⁶ <http://outcomeharvesting.net/outcome-harvesting-brief/>

occurred in the period January 2016 to March 2018. This report will start by explaining the evaluation design and the evaluation approach, followed by the findings of the evaluation and the overall conclusions.

1.6 Evaluation questions

The mid-term evaluation in the DRC sought to answer the following questions:

1. In which social actors is the NNIBN influencing change?
2. To what extent do the outcomes represent patterns of progress towards the intermediate outcomes of the NNIBN Programme?
3. How did NNIBN contribute to the outcomes through its programme themes?
4. What is the contribution of FPU and partners to the outcomes?

1.7 Users and uses of the mid-term evaluation

Outcome Harvesting is based on the principles of Utilization-Focused Evaluation (UFE). This means that the users are involved in the design of the evaluation as well as in decision-making during the evaluation process. The Knowledge and Quality team and the Fragile Africa Programme team of FPU wish to get a better overview and understanding of the results of the NNIBN Programme and the approach that contributed to these results. They will use the evaluation findings to adjust programme design and approach of NNIBN in the DRC, and to inform the M&E framework for the next phase of the NNIBN programme.

1.8 About the evaluator

The internal mid-term evaluation in the DRC was carried out by Saskia Nijhof, Head Knowledge & Quality of Free Press Unlimited, with the help of Leon van den Boogerd and Natalia Merchán. For questions, please send an email to nijhof@freepressunlimited.org.

2 THE EVALUATION PROCESS

2.1 Methodology

The evaluation relies heavily on Outcome Harvesting, but is also informed by the following research:

- *Monitorage sur le Genre dans les Médias Congolais*, Rapport 2016 (UCOFEM 2016)
- *Most Significant Change Pilot - Gender media monitoring* by UCOFEM, supported by Free Press Unlimited, Democratic Republic of Congo (WHYZE Communications & Research 2016)
- *FERES : Répertoire des Femmes Ressources en République Démocratique du Congo à l'intention des médias*, Troisième édition 2017 (UCOFEM 2017)
- *Etat de la Liberté de Presse et d'Expression en RD. Congo – Rapport 2017* (JED 2017)
- *Etat de la Liberté de Presse et d'Expression en RD. Congo – Rapport 2016* (JED 2016)
- In-depth interviews of CEOs of 3 partners by Natalia Merchán.

2.2 About Outcome Harvesting

Outcome Harvesting is a utilisation-focused, participatory tool to identify, formulate, verify, and make sense of outcomes when relationships of cause-effect are not always known. “Unlike most other evaluation methods, Outcome Harvesting does not measure progress towards predetermined outcomes or objectives, but rather collects evidence of what has been achieved, and works backward to determine whether and how the project or intervention contributed to the change.” (Wilson-Grou & Britt 2012).

The Outcome Harvesting approach consists of six steps:

1. Design the harvest
2. Review documentation and draft outcomes
3. Engage with change agents (programme partners)
4. Substantiate
5. Analyse & interpret
6. Support the use of findings

Outcome Harvesting focuses on outcomes defined as the changes in behaviour, practices, and relationships of actors that the NNIBN programme has influenced. “Outcome Harvesting seeks to avoid assessing results through a linear, cause-effect mind-set. Instead, it seeks to identify causality in the activities or outputs of the NNIBN Programme that contributed in a small or large way, directly or indirectly, and intentionally or not to the outcomes. In addition, Outcome Harvesting does not limit assessment to predefined results, but also aims to capture unexpected results, either positive or negative.” (Scheers 2017).

2.3 Data collection

Data was collected through a document review as well as through engagement with the programme partners. The evaluator reviewed all progress reports, research reports and donor reports available (see Appendix 2: Overview of documents consulted). The programme partners of the NNIBN programme involved in this evaluation were staff from the 6 partners described above. An Outcome Harvesting workshop was organised from 13 to 14 March 2018 in Kinshasa. Participants shared, discussed and reviewed the observed changes followed by the formulation of an outcome description. Outcome descriptions state the changes in behaviour of a particular social actor that the NNIBN Programme has influenced. The descriptions clearly explain who changed, what, when and where. The outcome descriptions are brief statements of approximately 2-3 sentences. In addition to the formulation of the outcomes, participants were asked to describe the significance of the outcomes on the local or national level, as well as to articulate the contribution of the NNIBN programme to the outcome. In follow-up to this workshop, the evaluator engaged with the partners via e-mail to fine-tune the outcomes. In addition to the workshop, 3 in-depth interviews were held with partner organisations to complement the findings of the Outcome Harvesting workshop. For a full overview of the outcomes harvested, see separate Annex. For the agenda and format used during the workshop, see resp. Appendix 3 and 4.

2.4 Analysis and interpretation

In addition to formulating the outcomes, the partners were asked to classify their outcomes, in order to enable the evaluator to answer the evaluation questions. The following categories were used for the classification:

Classification field	Category
Month and Year	
Actor	
Theme	
Intended/Unintended	
Positive/Negative	
Intermediate Outcome	IO1, IO2, IO3
Significance	0-10
Contribution Partner	0-100%
Contribution NNIBN funds	0-100%
Contribution FPU	0-100%

2.5 Substantiation

The outcomes were provided by knowledgeable partner staff at decision-making positions. In addition the partners were asked to provide any evidence to support the outcome as well as their contribution. The evidence consisted of citations (interviews), reports, information on websites, lists of attendance, and pictures. The outcomes were also verified by the evaluator through online research. Websites were found for 15 outcomes (36%).

2.6 Limitations of the evaluation

Because of its nature, Outcome Harvesting has certain limitations and challenges. Skill and time are required to identify and formulate high-quality outcome descriptions. Only those outcomes that the partners are of are captured. Starting with the outcomes and working backward depends on the ability to remember and to recall what happened some time ago. We evaluated the methodology after the workshop to check some of these issues with the participants (see Appendix 5).

3 FINDINGS OF THE EVALUATION

3.1 General findings

3.1.1 Number and type of outcomes

In total, 42 outcomes were harvested in 2 days. The first day we focused on intended and positive outcomes. The second day the partners were requested to also think about unintended positive or negative outcomes. Most outcomes (34) were reported as intended outcomes. Only 8 were identified as unintended outcomes.

List of unintended/positive outcomes:

1. (AFEM) After the production of an episode of *Témoignage Spécial* broadcast in November 2016 on "The Prison Conditions of Women in the Central Prison of Bukavu", the prison director took the initiative to improve the conditions in the women's prison. Showers were installed as well as a place to cook.
2. (AFEM) The production and broadcast of the programme *Témoignage Spécial* on "The Use of Underage Girls in Households in Bukavu, South Kivu", in October 2016, allowed girls who were victims of sexual harassment and other injustice to join a local organization that defends the rights of servants.
3. (AFEM) "The prejudice against and discrimination of albinos in South Kivu", this is the subject of a *Témoignage Spécial* episode that was broadcasted in June 2017. After this broadcast, a local CSO was formed with the mission to defend the rights of albinos. Name of organization: Association for the Integrated Promotion of Albinos.
4. (FRPC) In February 2018 in Kinshasa, the Minister of Media and Communication recognized the contribution/relevance of community radio's to the development and the success of electoral processes.
5. (FRPC) In May 2016, during a Gender and Media training in Mbandaka, a three-year-old problem was solved for the Federation of Radio Stations. The presence of the National Executive Secretary of the Federation resulted in the distribution of equipment to the ten radio stations stored since 2013.

List of unintended/negative outcomes:

1. (AFEM) Despite the broadcast of *Témoignage Spécial* on the low participation of women in South Kivu in the National Dialogue of December 2016 in Kinshasa about good social cohesion, women leaders are still perceived as bad women.
2. (JED) Following the presentation ceremony of the 2017 JED Annual Report, which took place on November 2, 2017, Mr. Tshivis Tshivuadi (Secretary General of JED) received many threats and harassments.
3. (UCOFEM) According to the publication of the gender monitoring report in the Congolese media in 2016, the percentage of women mentioned as resource person in media content has gone down by 3%.

3.1.2 Location

Figure 1 shows the spread of the outcomes over the provinces of the DRC. The outcomes are located in 10 out of 26 provinces. Some outcomes are located in more than one province. Most outcomes are in Kinshasa province, which is explained by the fact that most partners are based here, and most important (nation-wide) campaigns and other advocacy-related outcomes are related to decision-makers in the capital Kinshasa.

Figure 1: Overview of number of outcomes per province

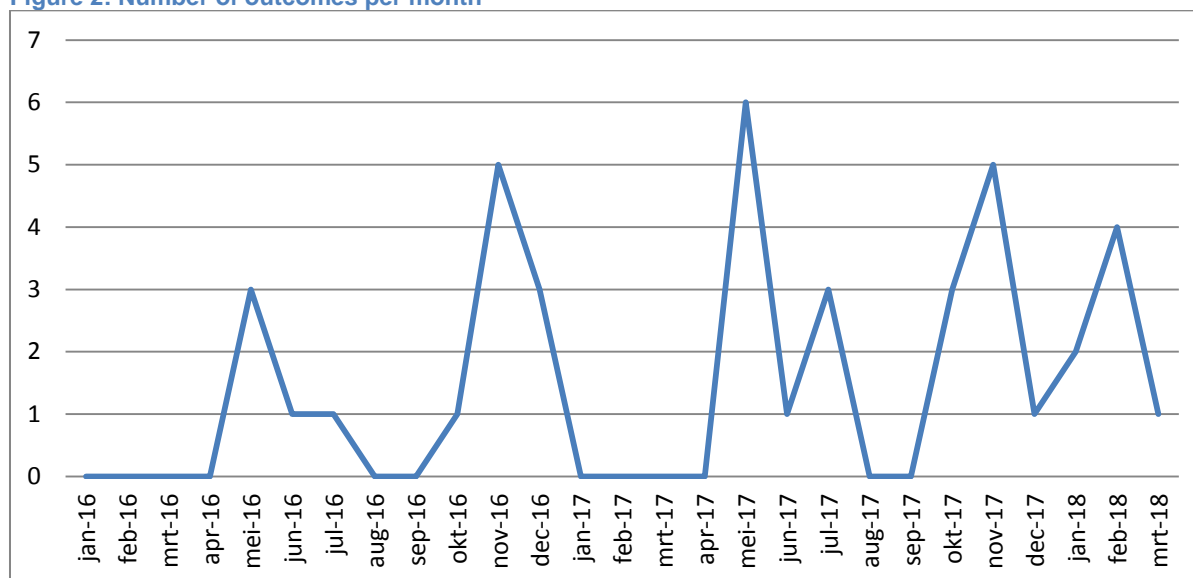
Province:	Outcomes:
Kinshasa	27
Sud-Kivu	6
Nord-Kivu	4
Kwilu	3
Équateur	2
Haut-Katanga	2
Kasaï-Oriental	2
Kongo-Central	1
Tshopo	1
Kasaï-Central	1



3.1.3 Time

This evaluation aimed to look for outcomes that occurred between January 2016 and March 2018. Figure 2 shows that in both years 2016 and 2017, most outcomes took place in the months of May and November. This is related to the May 3 and November 2 campaigns and to the publication of several lobby & advocacy reports during these months by UCOFEM and JED.

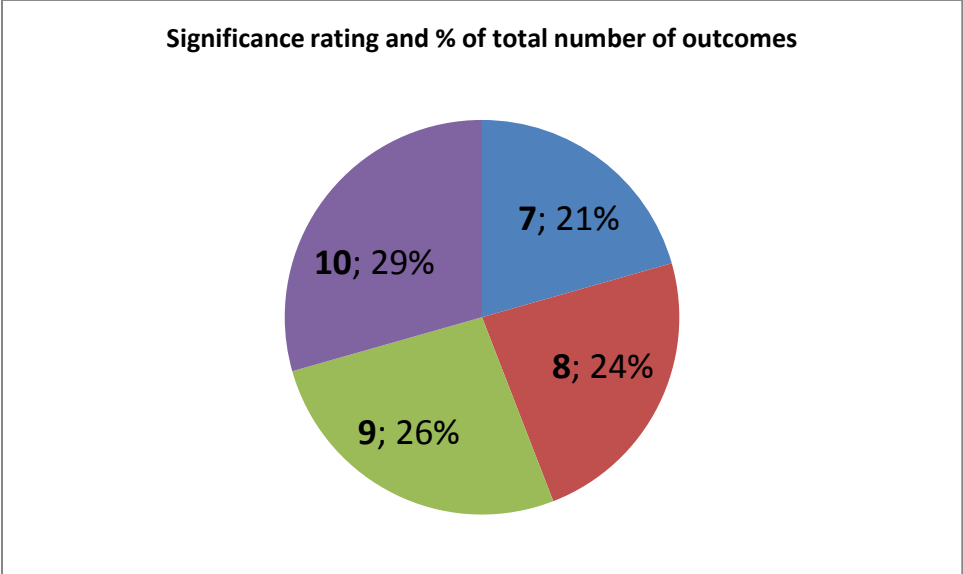
Figure 2: Number of outcomes per month



3.1.4 Significance

Besides describing the outcome and the contribution, the partners were asked to describe the significance of the outcome on the local or national level and to rate this significance on a scale of 1 to 10. The rating of the significance is shown in Figure 3. All outcomes were rated 7 or above. The largest share of outcomes (29%) received the highest rate (10). It will require some more practice with outcome harvesting to be able to identify less significant outcomes.

Figure 3: Number of outcomes per significance rating

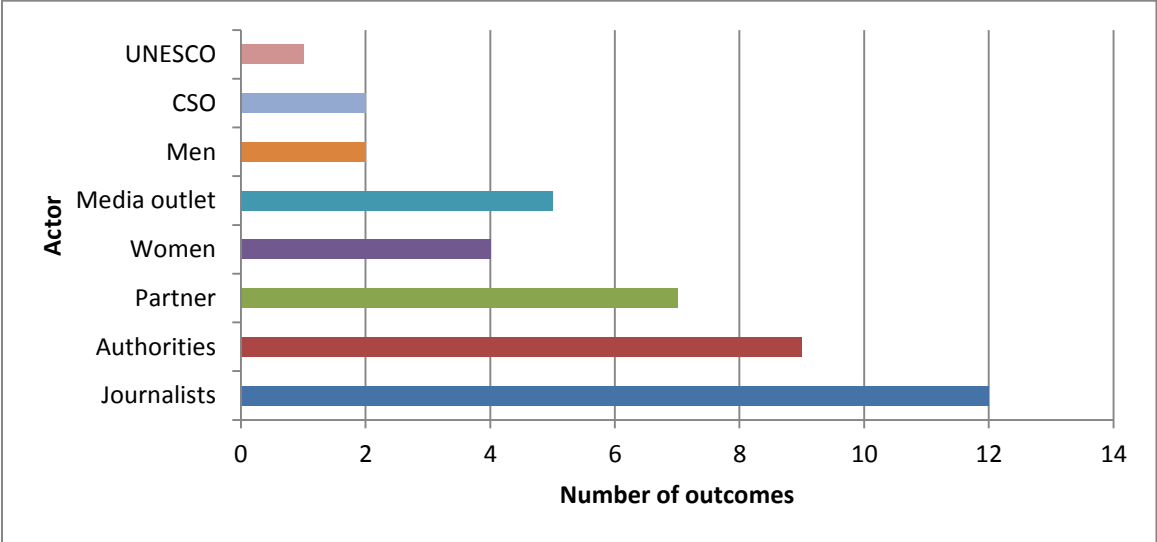


3.2 Answers to evaluation questions

3.2.1 In which social actors is the NNIBN influencing change?

Figure 4 shows that the NNIBN Programme influenced 9 types of social actors, notably Journalists (13 outcomes) and Authorities (8 outcomes). It also allowed for capacity building of FPU’s partner organisations (7 outcomes). Several of the outcomes demonstrate a change in behaviour of *national* authorities, of which 3 positive and 3 negative outcomes (see list below).

Figure 4: Number of outcomes per social actor



Positive outcomes that influenced the National Authorities:

- 1. (FRPC) In February 2018 in Kinshasa, the Minister of Media and Communication recognized the contribution/relevance of community radio's to the development and the success of electoral processes.
- 2. (JED) Participation of the authorities in the celebration of the International Press Freedom Day (3 May 2017), notably CSAC, representatives of several ministries, and diplomats.
- 3. (UNPC) The Press Card is accepted by a large number of Congolese journalists, embassies and security services.
- 4. (JED) The adoption and signature of the Journalists' Responsibility Charter has improved collaboration between journalists and the authorities. Meetings between journalists and public authorities are organized to be able to operate freely, each within his/her limits and competences.

Negative outcomes that influenced the National Authorities:

- 5. (JED) The JED 2017 report on safety of journalists was poorly received by the DRC Government. The publication of this report got a lot of media attention in the national and international press. The message of JED incited the fury of some authorities in the country, named in this report as the hangmen of the press.
- 6. (JED) Following the presentation ceremony of the 2017 JED Annual Report, which took place on November 2, 2017, Mr. Tshivis Tshivuadi (Secretary General of JED) received many threats and harassments.
- 7. (UNPC) On July 22, 2017, the UNPC celebrated National Press Day. This celebration is known by all Congolese journalists present in Kinshasa and by some authorities of the country. Advocacy was done to improve the journalists' working environment, their safety and salary. This plea did not bear fruit.

3.2.2 To what extent do the outcomes represent patterns of progress towards the intermediate outcomes of the NNIBN Programme?

The outcomes were classified according to the 3 Intermediate Outcomes (IO) of the NNIBN Programme. Figure 5 shows that most outcomes (40%) relate to the third Intermediate Outcome (IO3). This is explained by the fact that many outcomes result from partner capacity building, training of journalists, increasing the number of female journalists employed by media outlets, and supporting community radio stations, which all fall under IO3.

Figure 5: Number of outcomes per Intermediate Outcome

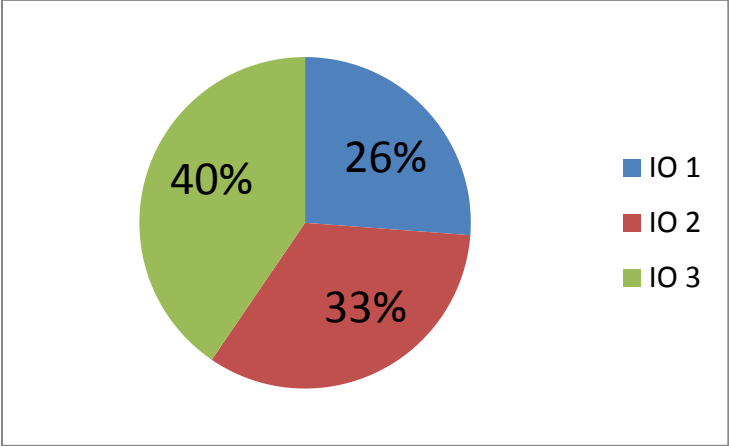
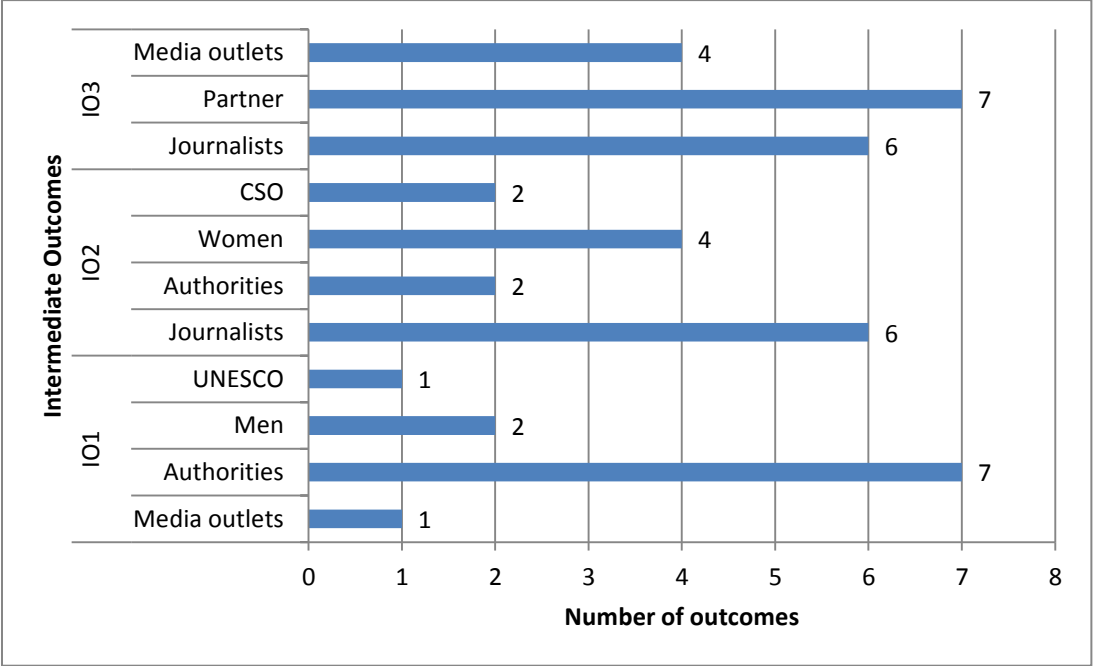


Figure 6 shows which actors the NNIBN Programme is influencing under each of these IOs. Lobby and advocacy (IO1) has mainly influenced local and national authorities, but also UNESCO, men (for gender rights) and media outlets. The promotion of the watchdog role of media and gender-sensitive media content (IO2) has influenced mainly journalists and women, which is in the line with

expectations. The capacity building of partners, journalists and media outlets (IO3) has effectively influenced these target groups.

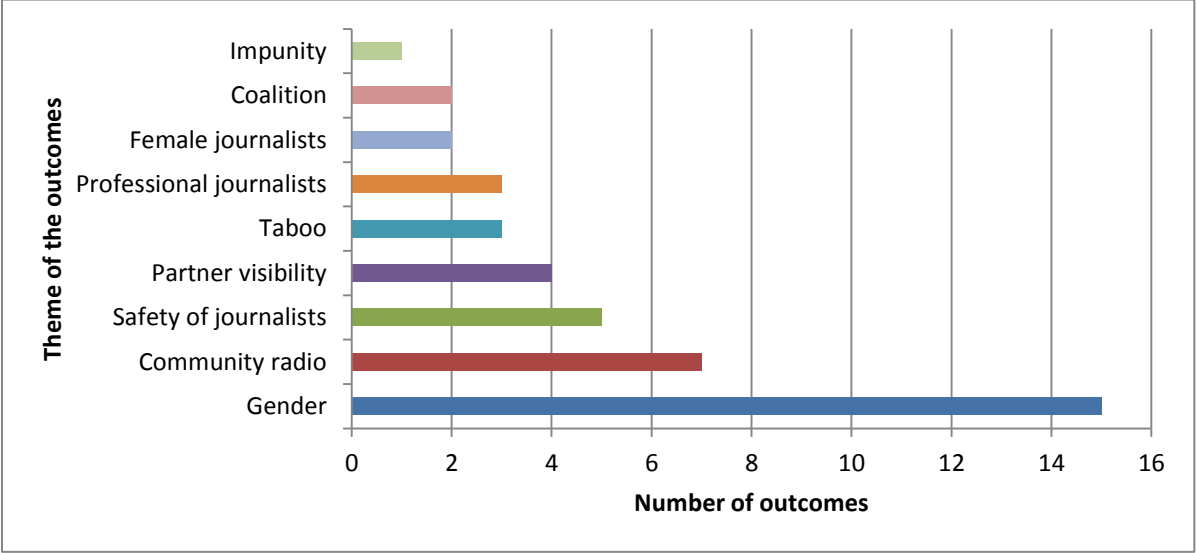
Figure 6: Actors and number of outcomes per Intermediate Outcome



3.2.3 How did NNIBN contribute to the outcomes through its programme themes?

As can be seen in figure 7 below, many (15) outcomes contributed to **Gender** (equity), which has become an important pillar of FPU’s programme in the DRC. (Increased capacity/quality of) **Community Radios** (7) is the second important theme. Third is **Safety of Journalists** (5).

Figure 7: Number of outcomes per theme



When looking at the national trends of these 3 themes, we observe that the only positive trend is the acknowledgement of the importance of Community Radios during elections, but laws for community radios have not yet improved. Both Gender (in the media) as well as Journalist Safety are not improving according to reports from UCOFEM and JED (see overview below). So even though some

results were achieved, it will remain important to continue working on these themes in the coming years.

Trends in relation to FPU's strategic themes:

Indicator:	1995	2000	2005	2006	2011	2015	2016	2017
% Women in the media content	17%	18%	21%		22%	21%		
# of cases of violence against journalists				125	160		87	121

MSC Story Manager, TOP Congo (man):
 (...) Since I have read the report, I told my editorial staff that they should always pay attention to the fact that the female voice is generally discredited. I also understood that I must also be aware of this in my job as a reporter. Since then, I use every opportunity to give space to a woman in my reports. (...) In reading the monitoring report, I became aware of the exclusion and low participation of women in the media, and it motivated me to look for female resource persons. (...) I feel obliged to integrate an opinion or intervention of a woman in a manifestation so as to have it as source of information. (...)The fact that UCOFEM sent us the repertory of women resources [a document with contacts of key women sources to be used by media] has helped me to balance my stories.

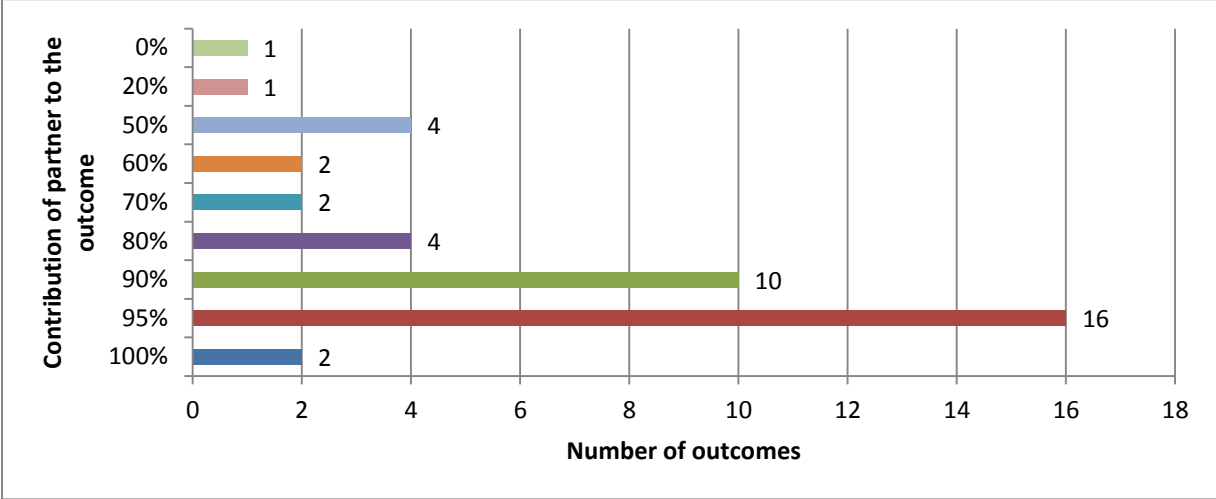
MSC Story Journalist, TOP Congo (woman):
 Since I took note of the monitoring report and attended several trainings of UCOFEM on gender, I make sure to balance my sources of information. I now never have a recording without a female voice. I give more voice to women even if it is difficult to get an interview with them. I apply all journalistic techniques to get information from a woman as a source. Women are often afraid of the TV or the microphone, but it is necessary to make them at ease and give them confidence.

Interview with Ms Gisèle Baraka and Ms Armant Chako from AFEM 11th of March 2018 (by Natalia Merchán):
 “Over the last two years, Témoignage Spécial has been able to amplify the voice of women. The issues discussed in the emissions have achieved visible results. Women that were raped or accused of witchcraft have been able to overcome these problems and now are part of the community. They are very brave and courageous and they feel safe to express themselves for Témoignage Spécial. The government has played an important role and they have promised to organise awareness campaigns to the population regarding diverse issues. For example, the head of the police spread different messages saying that people do not have the right to burn women accused of witchcraft. With these messages from the head of the police, people are starting to change. (...) The emissions also offer opportunities for feedback from listeners and testimonies. People have indicated that due to "Témoignage Spécial" they are changing their way of thinking. This is a big success for women living in DRC and a great example for other countries facing similar issues. We are proud about the positive reactions of the listeners, the letters received and the comments left on social media encouraging them to keep doing a good job for the free press.”

3.2.4 What is the contribution of FPU and partners to the outcomes?

During the workshop the participants were asked to only consider outcomes that they obtained with funds of the NNIBN programme. However, other actors may also have contributed to that change. We determined the “contribution” of NNIBN (i.e. the partners and FPU) by asking the question: How did the partner contribute to this change? Concretely, what did the partner do that influenced the change? For each outcome the partners described their own contribution and FPUs contribution, and assigned a percentage to the contribution. 100% means that the outcome can be totally attributed to the partner’s efforts, and 0% means that the outcome was an indirect outcome that was out of their control. FPU’s contribution was also quantified in a percentage.

Figure 8: Contribution of partners to the harvested outcomes



As can be seen in Figure 8, their own contribution to the outcomes was positively judged by the partners, generally above 50% with 100% funding by the NNIBN Programme. For some outcomes the partners recognised that other actors contributed to the change, notably UNESCO. A few outcomes were high-level outcomes for which it was hard to establish the programme’s contribution. See the lists below for more details.

List of outcomes with contribution from others:

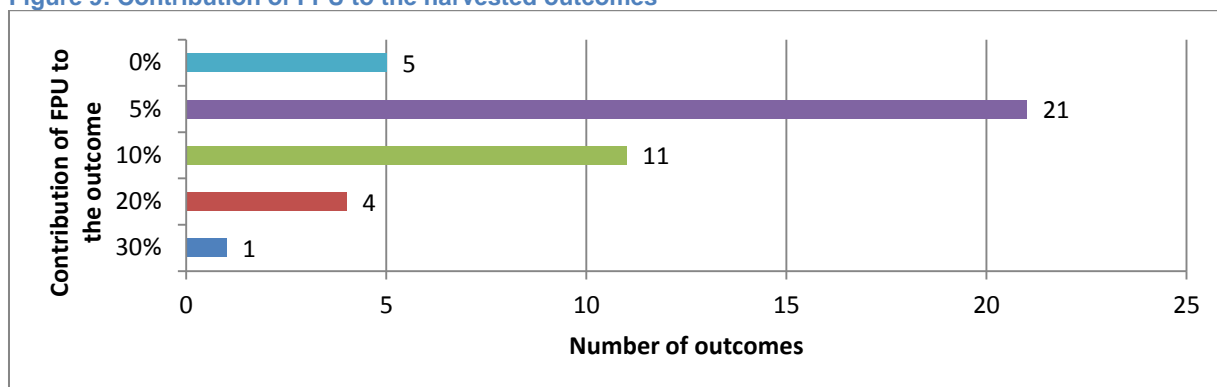
- (70% NNIBN, 30% UMECKO) In May 2017, a new Community Media Network (UMECKO) in the province Kongo Central became a member of the FRPC.
- (80% NNIBN, 20% UNESCO) In February 2018 in Kinshasa, the Minister of Media and Communication recognized the contribution/relevance of community radio's to the development and the success of electoral processes.
- (80% NNIBN, 20% UNESCO) The recognition of the FRPC by UNESCO through the joint organization of the commemoration ceremony during International Radio Day.
- (50% NNIBN, 50% autres) On July 22, 2017, the UNPC celebrated National Press Day. This celebration is known by all Congolese journalists present in Kinshasa and by some authorities of the country. Advocacy was done to improve the journalists' working environment, their safety and salary. This plea did not bear fruit. (negative outcome)

List of indirect and/or high-level outcomes:

- In December 2016, the manager of Kinshasa-based radio station TOP Congo became more gender aware after reading the report on gender monitoring in the Congolese media (2016).
- Nearly 4000 women (2000 more than in 2014) are included in FERES and freely agreed to participate as sources or other contributors in reports and in broadcasts. Despite the cultural barriers, there are Congolese women who know their right to freedom of expression and defend it.
- Media professionals use FERES to involve more women.

- According to the gender monitoring report of the Congolese media in 2016, the percentage of women working in the media increased from 28.2% in 2014 to 33.6% in 2016. This is a growth of 5.4% in two years.
- The website of La Pepinière (the Nursery) dedicates a page to UCOFEM's report Gender Monitoring in Congolese Media 2016.
- UCOFEM is invited to the closure meeting of the project "Protecting and Training Journalists to Strengthen Freedom of Expression in the DRC" during which it presented the 5th Annual Report on Gender Monitoring in the Media. The project was organized by the NGO RCN Justice and Democracy in partnership with JED, with the financial support of the Directorate-General for Belgian Development Cooperation.
- According to the publication of the gender monitoring report in the Congolese media in 2016, the percentage of women mentioned as resource person in media content has gone down by 3%. (negative outcome)

Figure 9: Contribution of FPU to the harvested outcomes



The contribution by FPU in terms of activities and advice (so besides funding) was small for most outcomes (see Figure 9), but the fact that FPU was willing to fund certain more risky or sensitive activities was very much appreciated by the partners (see Box 1). For one partner, UCOFEM, FPU initiated an assessment of the impact of the gender content monitoring report using the Most Significant Change methodology.

The NNIBN funds allowed for capacity building of several partners in the form of organisational strengthening, increased visibility, networking, or trainings on specific topics like online communication.

List of outcomes related to partner capacity building⁷:

- Since February 2018, after the General Assembly, the FRPC has filled the gaps in the board of directors and has a legal and legitimate team.

Box 1: Illustration of FPU support to JED

“The 30th of December 6 armed people arrived with rifles to come for me. They were the people of the ANER (Security service). They assault the guards and when 3 times, at 7pm, 11pm and 3am. They surrounded the neighbourhood. Luckily I was in Paris for a meeting and when I discussed with Leon he recommended me to stay more time in Paris and he supported me. FPU gave me a financial grant that allowed me to stay in a hotel and to eat during a month. It is really important that journalists don't feel abandoned during hard times and that they can keep doing their job. It is a way to show our gratitude towards them and the risks they take for freedom of speech.” (Tshivis Tshivuadi, March 11th, 2018)

⁷ This list excludes the capacity building of media outlets which was organised by FPU's partners. See Annex 7 for a complete list of outcomes.

- On May 3, 2017, JED increased its visibility in different parts of the country during World Press Freedom Day through new promotion materials (caps, pens, notepads).
- In May 2017, JED increased its visibility in the city of Kinshasa through giant panels on some of the main roads of the city of Kinshasa with the slogan of the campaign: "Let's commit ourselves, for free media, for peace and for national cohesion".
- UCOFEM has increased its visibility and influence in Central Africa through the publication of the report "Monitoring Gender in the Congolese Media".
- Since the gender and ICT training (information and communication technologies) implemented together with the FRPC in 2016 and 2017, UCOFEM is recognized for its pedagogical capacities of its trainers.
- (UNPC) From 4 to 6 May 2017, the delegates of the Steering Committee, the Commissions and the Auditors, the delegates of the associations as well as the provincial delegates all gathered at the Nganda Catholic Center and revisited the statutory texts of the Union (UNPC). The texts are not yet validated.

4 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

In the previous sections we managed to answer the evaluations questions on the basis of the harvested outcomes. In this section we will focus on the 2 pillars of the NNIBN fund “Dialogue and Dissent”, which are (1) Lobby and Advocacy; and (2) Partner Capacity Building.

Conclusions related to lobby and advocacy

The past 2 years the NNIBN programme in the DRC has seized many opportunities for lobby and advocacy for various objectives: press freedom; safety of journalists; acknowledgement of the importance of community radio stations; gender in the media; and women’s rights in society in general. Several actors were influenced, ranging from national authorities to local authorities and from media outlets to individual journalists. Most of the lobby and advocacy efforts yielded positive results. They led to more media attention to press freedom, more attention to gender equity, and ethical considerations by journalists themselves.

A lot of work remains to be done. JED, in its annual report of journalist safety 2017, observes the following challenges for 2018:

- The election years are the more risky years for journalists (elections will take place in December 2018);
- Repression as reaction to the media coverage of demonstrations against the postponements of the elections;
- Repression as reaction to the media coverage of manifestations of a social or economic nature;
- Technological censorship;
- It is not good to be a journalist in the following provinces: Kinshasa, North Kivu, Kasai Central, South Kivu and Kasai. Of the 121 various cases of breaches of freedom of information listed by JED in 2017 throughout the Congolese national territory there are: 46 cases in the city of Kinshasa; 19 cases in the province of North Kivu; 14 cases in Kasai Central; 10 cases in South Kivu and 5 cases in Kasai province.

"It is clear that DR Congo faces some challenges to respect and consolidate freedom of information. Among these challenges are the overhaul of the liberticidal laws that prevent journalists from playing their role in a democracy, the adoption and the promulgation of the law on access information, the improvement of the economic framework of the media and journalists and the culture of impunity enjoyed by the perpetrators of freedom of the press. "(JED 2017)

Conclusions related to partner capacity building

Although partner capacity building was organised on the request of the partners and in line with their needs, it seems that the NNIBN baseline assessment of partner capacity in 2016 measured other capacity indicators, for example capacity to do lobby and advocacy. It is recommended to revisit the baseline and discuss what remains to be addressed in the coming 2 years of the NNIBN programme.

Lessons learned

A common lesson learned for most partners is that activities can be better monitored at the level of the target groups, to be able to determine outcomes. Partners need FPU’s guidance to know which methods to use to measure outcome and impact, for example by means of the Most Significant Change method that was piloted in the DRC in 2016. But also other methods could be used, like media content monitoring of trained journalists, and audience research for community radio stations.

5 ACTION PLAN FOR 2018-2020

The last session of the partner workshop focussed on action planning for 2018-2020. Plans were proposed for important themes related to the Intermediate Outcomes of the NNIBN Programme.

Intermediate Outcome 1 – JED and UNPC:

Theme 1: Financial sustainability

- UNPC and JED propose to organise a workshop on the economic viability of Congolese media, to analyse the economic viability of media outlets. During this workshop, an inventory will be made of the sources of income for media organisations.

Theme 2: Security of journalists

- The organization of awareness workshops for journalists to enable them to internalize the Code of Ethics and Deontology.
- Lobby the authorities of the Congolese national police, military, judicial and political for a frank and sincere collaboration by insisting on the fact that instead of stopping a journalist, they should rather make use of disciplinary sanctions, which will have a larger effect than the prison.
- JED is preparing to have Congolese security officials sign a Citizens' Charter of Understanding to ensure the safety of journalists, especially when covering public events.

Theme 3: Access to information

- Intensify advocacy at the level of the National Assembly, which opens its session tomorrow March 15 for the draft law on access to information, to be scheduled, discussed and adopted in the lower house of the Congolese parliament.

Theme 4: Continuous training (by UNPC)

- Mobilization of funds for the training of journalists from the provinces, especially during this election period. Security and deontology training (inside the country).

Intermediate Outcome 2 – AFEM, UCOFEM and JED

Theme 1: Inclusion of women

- The problem is the culture with the inferiority of women. She must speak freely in the microphone. In relation to politics, women are more reticent. Or even if it is not a political subject, it is necessary to raise the awareness in the media, first about the journalists, in relation to how to approach their sources. We must insist on having a balance between men and women as resource persons.

Theme 2: Gender equity and female journalists

- Advocacy and sensitization at the level of media managers is needed to show that it is important to mentor women and girls, to give a chance to female trainees, and to encourage women journalists to apply (female candidates). And also to sensitize media students and encourage female students.

Theme 3: Taboos

- Encourage and guide female journalists to address taboo topics, for example with guidelines and a template, to learn how to approach resource persons. For example the problem of sex: how to treat this subject impartially, without taking sides.

Intermediate Outcome 3 - AFEM, CORACON and FRPC

Theme 1: Journalists femmes

- Follow-up of women journalists who have been trained (in gender and editing) and the coaching of these women.

Theme 2: Community Radio

- In the complicated context of the elections in 2018, training for community radio journalists is needed on the following topics: security; knowledge of the law; the rights of journalists; and respect for deontology.

Theme 3: Visibility

- Develop websites of organisations and networks to increase visibility at the international level;
- Organize consultation networks between community and state radio in each province;
- Update the 2012 Community Radio Directory.

APPENDIX 1: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE WORKSHOP

Participants of partner organisations:

1. Adelin Mboma (FRPC)
2. Rigobert Malalako (FRPC)
3. Francine Umbalo (UCOFEM)
4. Anna Mayimona Ngemba (UCOFEM)
5. Christine Tshibuyi (Actualité.CD)
6. Willy Akonda (Actualité.CD)
7. Jacques Vagheni (CORACON)
8. KasongaTshilunde (UNPC)
9. Tshivis Tshivuadi (JED)
10. Scott Mayemba(JED)
11. Wilson Munzemba (JED)
12. Gisèle Baraka (AFEM-sk)
13. Armant Chako (AFEM-sk)

Free Press Unlimited:

1. Leon van den Boogerd
2. Natalia Merchán
3. Saskia Nijhof

Dutch Embassy Kinshasa :

1. Claude Kyanza (first morning)

APPENDIX 2: OVERVIEW OF DOCUMENTS CONSULTED

DRC partner documents:

- Partner proposals of all partners in 2016 and 2017
- Websites of all partners
- Web search to assess hits related to all partners
- *Monitorage sur le Genre dans les Médias Congolais, Rapport 2016* (UCOFEM 2016)
- *Répertoire des Femmes Ressources en République Démocratique du Congo à l'intention des médias, Troisième édition 2017* (UCOFEM 2017)
- *Etat de la Liberté de Presse et d'Expression en RD. Congo – Rapport 2017* (JED 2017)

FPU documents:

- Country (Work) Plans DRC 2016 and 2017 (FPU)
- Proposal assessments of all partner proposals in 2016 and 2017
- Final assessments of all partner reports in 2016 and 2017
- Most Significant Change Pilot - Gender media monitoring by UCOFEM, supported by Free Press Unlimited, Democratic Republic of Congo (WHYZE Communications & Research 2016)

Other documents:

- Freedom House DRC country profile on website
- Reporters without borders – DRC country profile and news on website
- Ricardo Wilson-Grau Heather Britt, *Outcome Harvesting*, Ford Foundation (May 2012)
- Goele Scheers, *Outcome Harvesting Evaluation Tax Justice Programme*, ActionAid Denmark (August 2017)
- Charles-M. MUSHIZI (2016), *Protéger les Libertés de Presse et d'Expression en RD Congo: Fondements juridiques et rôles du pouvoir judiciaire*.
- Claude Kabemba (2005), *The State of the Media in the Democratic Republic of Congo*. EISA Occasional Paper Number 30, March 2005.
- Jean-Baptiste OTSHUDI DISASHI KALONDA (2012), *Le droit d'accès à l'information publique et restrictions liées aux impératifs de sécurité et de défense nationales : état de la question en République Démocratique du Congo*.

APPENDIX 3: AGENDA OF THE OUTCOME HARVESTING WORKSHOP

Atelier Récolte de Résultats - No News is Bad News Programme Kinshasa, RD Congo, 13 et 14 Mars, 2018

1^{er} Journée: 13 Mars

Temps	Session	Responsable	Méthode	Outils	Remarques
08:30-08:40	Bienvenue	Rigobert (FRPC)	Plénier	Étiquettes de nom	
08:40-08:50	But et agenda	Leon (FPU)	Plénier		
08:50-09:30	Présentations par les partenaires (7)	Partenaires/ Leon	Plénier, 7*4 minutes	Projecteur	SVP envoyez les présentations en avant à Leon
09:30-10:10	Q&R Ambassade	Claude	Plénier		
10:10-10:30	Pause	-	-	Café/thé/casse-croûte	-
10:30-10:50	Recap Théory de Changement NNIBN	Leon	Présentation plénier	Projecteur	
10:50-11:30	Introduction Récolte de Résultats	Saskia	Présentation plénier	Projecteur	
11:30-12:00	Test de formulation d'un résultat par organisation partenaire	Saskia	Travail de groupe par organisation partenaire (donc 6 groupes)	Format disponible (dans Google Docs) Tables de groupe 6 ordinateurs portables	Jacques Vagheni (CORACON) et Kasonga Tshilunde (UNPC) travaillent ensemble.
12:00-13:00	Présentations travail de groupe	Partenaires/ Saskia	Présentation plénier	Projecteur	
13:00-13:45	Déjeuner				
13:45-14:30	Formulation de plus de résultats (groupe 2)	Saskia	Travail en groupe – couples mixés	6 Ordinateurs portables	Les participants reçoivent le numéro 1 ou 2. Le numéros 1 interviewent les numéros 2 et prennent des notes dans un ordinateur portable.
14:30-14:45	Energizer				
14:45-15:45	Formulation de plus de résultats (groupe 1)	Saskia	Travail en groupe – couples mixés	6 Ordinateurs portables	Les numéros 1 interviewent les numéros 2 et prennent des notes dans un ordinateur portable.
15:45-16:00	Pause	-	-	Café/thé/casse-croûte	

16:00-16:30	Questions et discussion	Saskia	Session plénier		Les partenaires ont la possibilité de poser des questions et de discuter de la méthodologie.
16:30-17:00	Finalisation du travail et fin de la journée 1	Saskia	Travail de groupe par organisation partenaire (donc 6 groupes)	6 Ordinateurs portables	Chaque partenaire vérifie ses propres résultats.

2ème Journée: 14 Mars

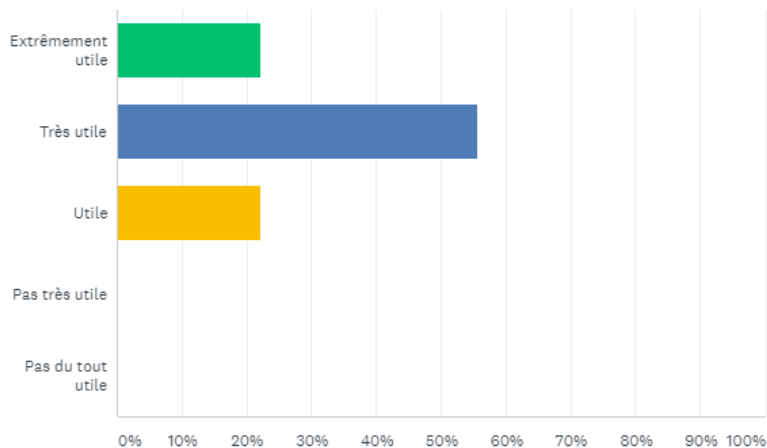
Temps	Session	Responsable	Méthode	Outils	Remarques
08:30-08:45	Récapitulation journée 1	Natalia			
08:45-09:15	Résultats inattendus et négatifs	Saskia	Présentation plénier	Projecteur	
09:15-10:30	Formulation de résultats inattendus et négatifs	Saskia	Travail en groupe – couples mixés	6 Ordinateurs portables	Les participants reçoivent le numéro 1 ou 2. Le numéros 1 interviewent les numéros 2 et prennent des notes dans un ordinateur portable.
10:30-11:00	Pause			Café/thé/casse-croûte	
11:00-12:00	Continuation et présentations travail de groupe	Partenaires/ Saskia	Travail en groupe Présentations plénier	Projecteur	
12:00-12:15	Energizer				
12:15-13:00	Définir des catégories et regrouper les résultats en catégories	Saskia	Présentation plénier	Projecteur Papier A4	Explication et exemples Écrire les catégories sur A4
13:00-14:00	Déjeuner et photo de groupe				Saskia et Natalia écrivent des résultats sur A4
14:00-14:45	Regrouper les résultats en catégories	Partenaires/ Saskia		Mur vide, ruban adhésif	Coller les résultats sur le mur sous les catégories
14:45-15:00	Energizer				
15:00-16:00	Leçons tirées et implications pour la stratégie et la coopération	Tous/ Saskia	Discussion en plénier		
16:00-16:15	Pause			Café/thé/casse-croûte	
16:15-16:45	Évaluation	Natalia			
16:45-17:00	Clôture	Leon			
	Boissons				

APPENDIX 4: FORMAT USED DURING THE WORKSHOP

Numéro du résultat:
Description du résultat (quand, où, quoi, qui ?)
Le résultat était:
<input type="checkbox"/> Prévu <input type="checkbox"/> Imprévu <input type="checkbox"/> Positif <input type="checkbox"/> Négatif
Importance pour le contexte local/national:
Importance (1-10):
Contributions de [Nom de partenaire] et de FPU:
% Contribution [Nom de partenaire]:
% Contribution fonds de NNIBN:
% Contribution activités/conseils FPU:
Documents/personnes de vérification:
Auxquels des résultats intermédiaires du NNIBN le résultat contribue-t-il?
<input type="checkbox"/> Environnement propice (légal, politique et économique)
<input type="checkbox"/> Les media servent l'intérêt publique (responsabilité, l'inclusivité, participation)
<input type="checkbox"/> Journalistes & media travaillent avec professionnalisme et efficacité (capacité, compétences, attitude)
Leçons apprises:

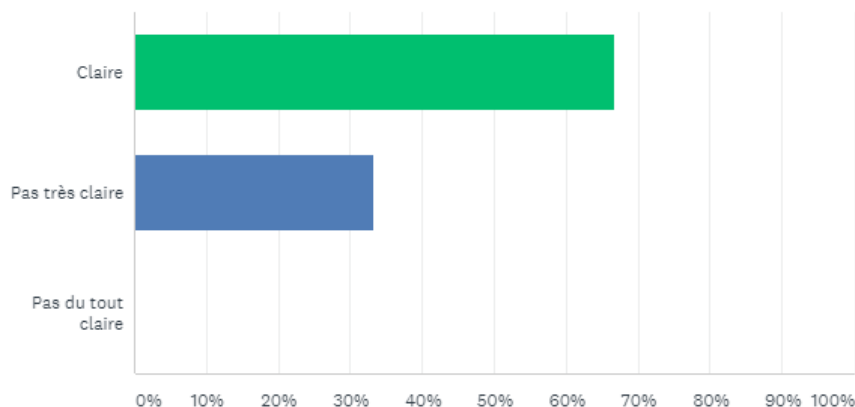
APPENDIX 5: EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOP

Q1 : Quelle est votre opinion sur la méthodologie "Récolte de Résultats" utilisée pendant l'atelier?



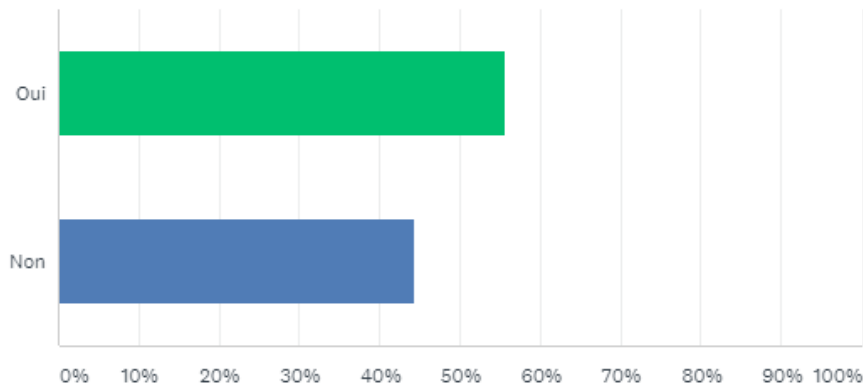
- Cet atelier a permis de comprendre la différence entre impact et résultat
- Cela permet de faire une évaluation à mi-parcours des activités et des résultats obtenus
- la méthodologie était très bonne
- Cette méthode nous a permis de bien comprendre la différence entre résultat et impact
- Elle a permis de mesurer tous les contours du mécanisme pour avoir le résultat escompté.
- C'était une méthodologie participative. Tous les participants avaient mis la main à la pâte. Les débats et les échanges étaient plus que constructifs.
- Une évaluation à mi-parcours est bonne pour savoir si nous faisons bien.

Q2 : La définition du terme «résultat» était-elle claire pour vous?



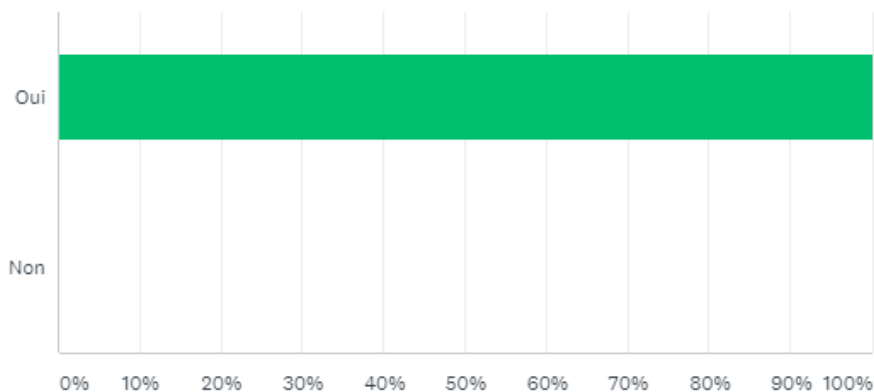
- Nous n'avons pas donné les résultats de 2018
- Non, parce que le travail de plaidoyer se poursuit
- parce que nous l'avons transmis dans la boîte de la formatrice et avant la fin nous avons fait une synthèse
- Non, nous avons mis l'accent sur les actions menées en 2016 et 2017
- Parce que chaque partenaire est passé en revue de tout son projet dès le début jusqu'aujourd'hui. Nous avons chaque organisation exploitée ses rapports envoyés à FPU
- Oui, tous les résultats ont été passés en page fin par notre Organisation.

Q3 : Est-ce que vous êtes d'opinion que tout vos résultats ont été récoltés pendant l'atelier?



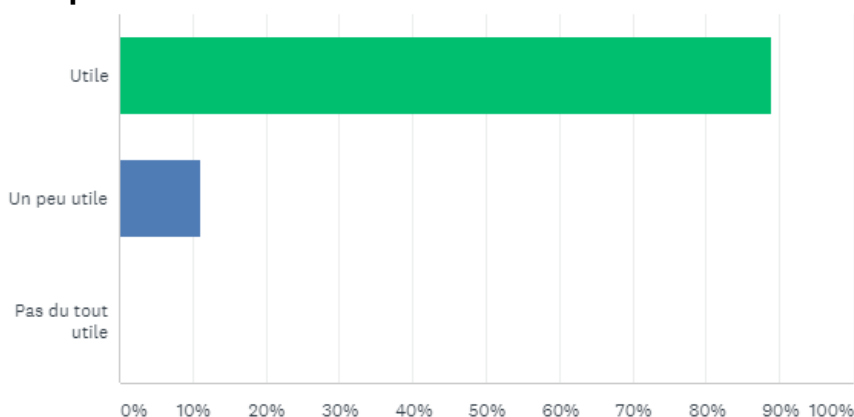
- Non, nous n'avons pas donné les résultats de 2018
- Non, parce que le travail de plaidoyer se poursuit
- Oui, parce que nous l'avons transmis dans la boîte de la formatrice et avant la fin nous avons fait une synthèse
- Non, nous avons mis l'accent sur les actions menées en 2016 et 2017
- Oui, parce que chaque partenaire est passé en revue de tout son projet dès le début jusqu'aujourd'hui. Nous avons chaque organisation exploité ses rapports envoyés à FPU
- Oui, tous les résultats ont été passés en peigne fin par notre Organisation.

Q4 : Avez-vous obtenu une idée plus claire sur les résultats réalisés par les autres participants pendant l'atelier?



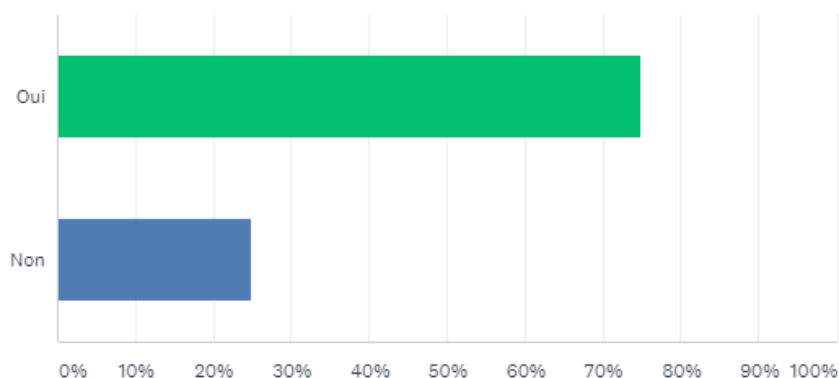
- Surtout pour l'UNPC
- De manière générale, toutes les organisations concernées ont présenté en plénières leurs activités, les résultats et les difficultés rencontrées.
- Parce que la méthode était participative
- Dans l'ensemble oui
- Effectivement, c'était une réunion d'échanges et de partage d'expériences. Nous travaillons tous pour l'amélioration de l'environnement de travail des professionnels des médias congolais.
- Grâce aux séances plénières

Q5 : Dans quelle mesure le regroupement des résultats à la fin de l'atelier a été utile pour vous?



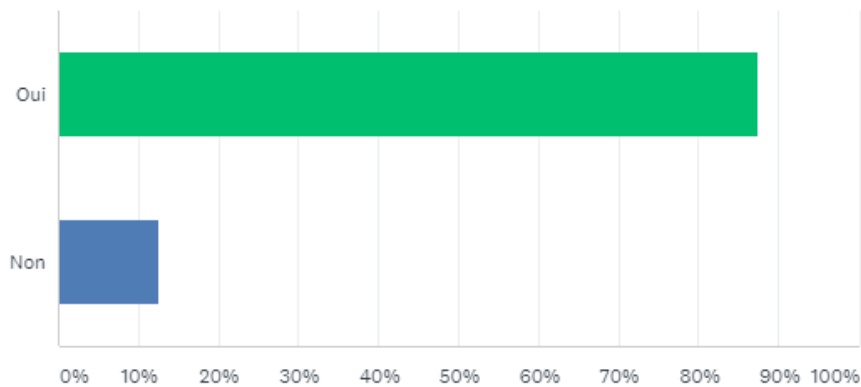
- Cela a permis de catégoriser les groupes
- Un peu utile. Les résultats obtenus visent à promouvoir l'information
- dans le cadre d'échange de chaque partenaire travaillant avec FPU c'était une bonne expérience
- Cela a aidé à établir les différences dans nos actions
- C'était très utile dans la mesure où les Organisations ont proposé à FPU les pistes des solutions, c'est à dire comment elles peuvent travailler- en synergie en cas de besoin - pour faire face à certains problèmes, notamment la sécurisation des journalistes, l'accès à l'information, etc.
- Cela m'a permis d'avoir le cœur net sur la vraie contribution des activités aux résultats intermédiaires

Q6 : Est-ce que vous avez obtenu une idée plus claire des priorités de votre programme avec FPU en 2018?



- Oui. Compte tenu du contexte politique qui prévaut depuis 2017, il y a la nécessité de poursuivre les actions entamées pour promouvoir l'information et renforcer la sécurité des journalistes.
- Oui. Parce que FPU tient à avoir de très bon résultat à la fin de chaque exercice annuel
- Oui. En partie parce que les actions à mener n'ont pas tout été abordées
- Non. Des choses restent à définir pour le Nord-Kivu

Q7 : Souhaitez-vous que nous continuions à utiliser le modèle (canevas) de Récolte de Résultats pour les rapports narratifs trimestriels?



- Non. Un Rapport tous les trois mois, cela risque d'être fastidieux. Il faut laisser plus de temps pour la réalisation des activités
- si ça dérange pas évidemment le fonctionnement de la FPU
- Pas mal comme approche pour apprendre davantage
- L'outil me semble important à utiliser même pour d'autres projets que nous menons

Q8 : Avez-vous des autres recommandations?

- Je demande seulement à l'équipe de continuer a travaillé en étroite collaboration afin de ramener le niveau des professionnels des médias plus haut
- Continuer avec des séances d'évaluation comme celle-ci pour permettre aux uns et aux autres de s'imprégner du niveau d'atteinte de leurs résultats
- Faire un programme de suivi
- Préciser avant la tenue de l'atelier le type d'outil qui s'impose, cas de l'ordinateur par exemple.