

# CASE STUDY

## National Training Program in Uganda

The Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF) has more experience engaging child combatants than any other professional army in the world. Since 1986, it has been in a near constant struggle with the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), a rebel militia that has abducted and deployed some 60,000 Ugandan children. During this time, the UPDF, without tools or tactics, were often ad hoc with their response to this weapon of war, causing casualties on all sides. Emerging from conflict, Uganda has become a peacekeeping leader in East Africa supporting African Union missions to neighbouring states including South Sudan, Central African Republic, and Somalia.

The Dallaire Initiative's National Training Programme with the UPDF builds on this experience and regional leadership, equipping them with the tools and knowledge to prevent the recruitment and use of child soldiers.

### OUR TRAINING BY THE NUMBERS

**38:** NUMBER OF WOMEN IN SECURITY SECTOR TRAINING BY REGION

**200:** NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS TRAINED



UGANDA



TANZANIA



RWANDA



MILITARY



POLICE



PRISON

### OUR PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Partnering with the Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF), the Dallaire Initiative is training the Ugandan military to strengthen their capacity to prevent the use and recruitment of child soldiers at home and abroad.

**EXECUTIVE LEVEL OFFICER SEMINAR**  
FEBRUARY 2015

The Executive Level Officer Seminar course held in February 2015 engaged 23 of the UPDF's high-ranking Generals, Colonels and Majors. This high-level engagement was critical to the overall sustainability of our project in Uganda.

**TRAINING OF TRAINERS**  
MAY 2015

A cohort of 18 UPDF officers participated in the May 2015 Training of Trainers course. Nine of these graduates subsequently co-facilitating with Dallaire Initiative staff training in October of 104 Uganda security personnel as part of Uganda's Junior Command and Staff College (JCSC) course. This training represented the single largest training undertaken by the Dallaire Initiative.

**WOMEN SECURITY SECTOR PROJECT**  
OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2015

The Women Security Sector Actors Project included a focus group and two subsequent three-day basic training courses which engaged a total of 38 women representing the UPDF, Uganda Police Force (UPF) and Uganda Prison Services (UPS) as well as female military personnel from Tanzania and Rwanda.



## IN FOCUS THE WOMEN SECURITY SECTOR ACTORS PROJECT

To date, female soldiers and police have been grossly underrepresented in national security structures and international peacekeeping missions. With this project, the Dallaire Initiative conducted targeted trainings with women in the Ugandan security sector and regional countries to increase the cohort of women that receive our training and to build their capacity in preventing the use and recruitment of children in armed conflict.

The Dallaire Initiative held a focus group and two subsequent three-day basic training courses which engaged a total of 38 women representing the UPDF, Uganda Police Force (UPF) and Uganda Prison Services (UPS) as well as female military personnel from Tanzania and Rwanda.

### FUNDERS:

The Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative would like to thank the following supporters and partners for their time, generous investment and input into this project:

- The Carnegie Corporation of New York
- The Government of Sweden
- The Ugandan Peoples' Defence Forces – with special thanks to Chief of Defence Forces – General Wamala, and Brig General Matthew Gureme
- The Fairway Hotel and the Jaffer Family



“It is never too late to do the right thing”

UPDF Colonel speaking to changing the ad hoc approach the UPDF has taken to address child soldiers for the past twenty years.