

# IMPACT REPORT 2 0 1 9



**INVISIBLE  
CHILDREN**

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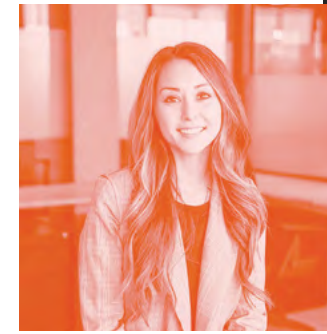
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## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear Friends,

At the start of the year, I could not have anticipated the incredible journey Invisible Children would undertake and how much we would grow as an organization. Looking back, I feel immense gratitude to our loyal donors, friends, and colleagues who continue to make our work possible.

Since our founding, Invisible Children has remained committed to ending the violence of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and supporting the lasting recovery of LRA-affected communities across central Africa. That commitment emerges from the conviction that every person holds equal and inherent value and deserves to live free from the threat of violence, no matter who they are or where they are born.

While that conviction first took shape for us in our resolve to end LRA violence – Africa's longest-running conflict and once considered the world's most neglected humanitarian crisis – it transcends any one conflict, armed group, or population.

Over the past year, as the LRA conflict and other threats to civilians in central Africa evolved, Invisible Children dynamically adapted and broadened our approach to community protection. As we adapted, we continuously asked ourselves and our local partners how we can best meet the needs of communities and support their solutions for sustainable peace.

What did this look like concretely?

In partnership with local civil society and international conservation experts from African Parks and African Wildlife Foundation, we launched new initiatives that integrate wildlife conservation efforts into our existing community protection programs. Having been on the ground in central Africa for more than a decade, we have seen the clear connection between threats of violent conflict facing civilian populations and threats to the region's wildlife and ecosystems. Armed groups like the LRA fund their operations through illegal wildlife poaching and trafficking, terrorizing communities

in their path, and access to natural resources is often a main driver of intercommunal conflicts. As Invisible Children works to support lasting peace and stability in central Africa, we are excited to help communities protect and preserve their local ecosystems as part of our approach.

In addition to launching new initiatives at the intersection of security and conservation, we reunited 64 children, women, and men with their families after they bravely escaped from armed groups. We expanded our support to local Peace Committees and extended the coverage of our HF radio-based Community Early Warning Network, providing more than 118 communities with access to life-saving information and violence-prevention training.

Of course, we didn't accomplish all of this alone. We were privileged to collaborate with brilliant and dedicated community partners and local organizers across central Africa. We are also sincerely grateful to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. State Department's Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, who have invested in our approach and enabled us to expand our impact. And of course, we continue to feel humbled and honored by the generosity of our long-standing donors who helped launch Invisible Children and build the programs that have earned the respect of local communities and international institutions alike.

As we step into a new year, and a new decade, I am confident that my Invisible Children colleagues – and all of you – are ready and able to handle whatever tomorrow might bring.

Thank you for standing with us.

Sincerely,

LISA DOUGAN

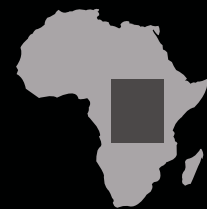
▶ VISION

We are building a world where all people and the planet thrive together.

▶ WHERE WE WORK

- Program sites as of June 2019
- Wildlife Protected Areas

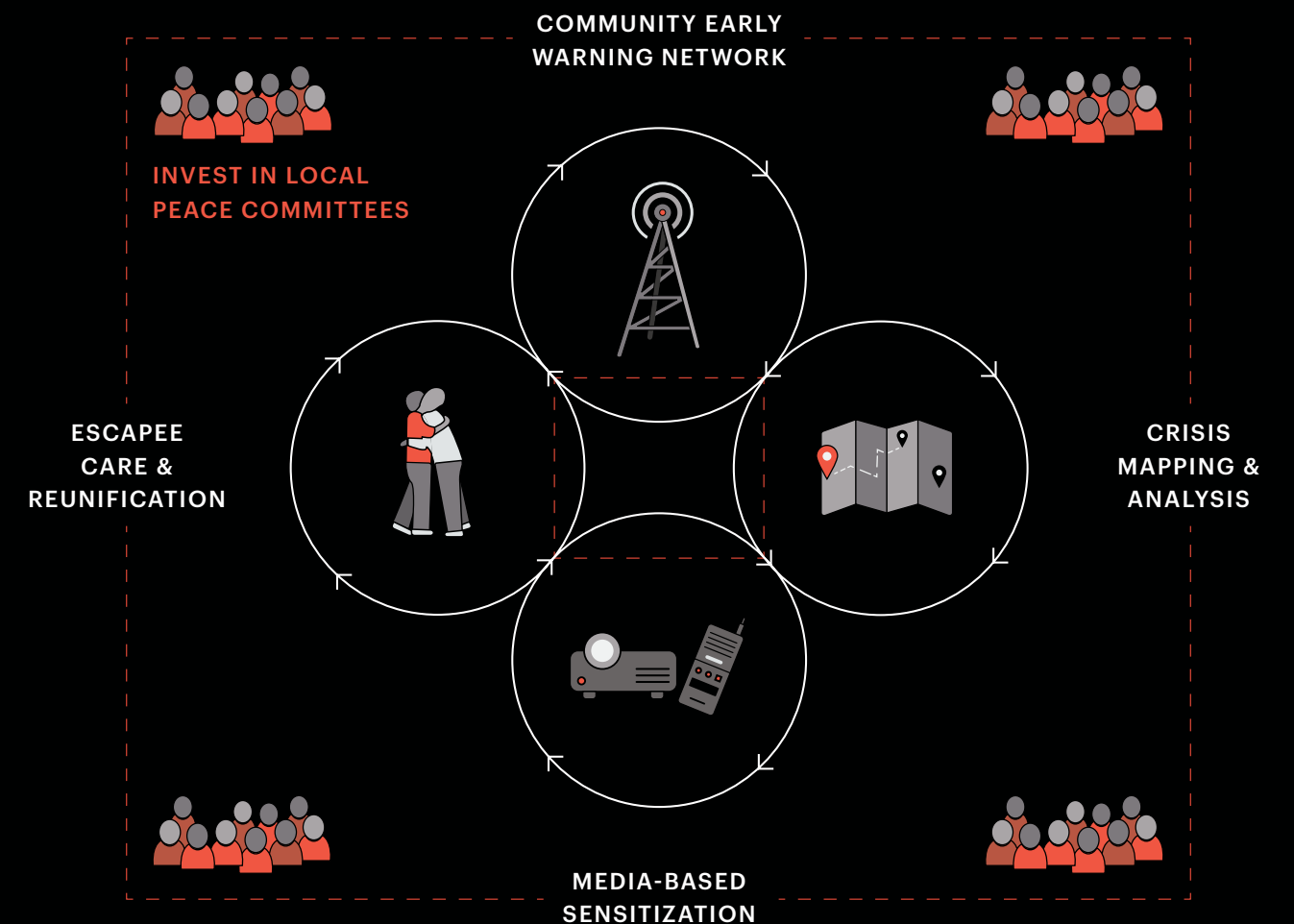
Invisible Children has 4 offices in CAR and 3 offices in DRC.



▶ MISSION

We exist to end violent conflict and foster thriving ecosystems in solidarity with our world's most at-risk communities.

▶ WHAT WE DO



# MEET OLIVIER\*

You changed his life.

\* Olivier's story is a dramatization based on the true stories of hundreds of children that our team has interviewed and cared for following their escape from LRA captivity. While this is not one person's story, it reflects the lived experiences of many, and how Invisible Children's holistic programs support children, families, and communities affected by violent conflict across central Africa.



The LRA kidnapped Olivier when he was just 10 years old.

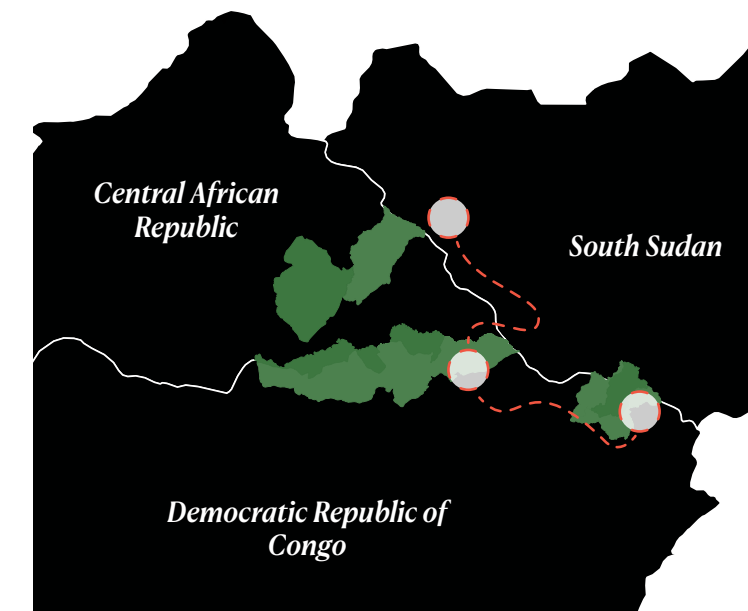
You helped bring him home.

Olivier was born in a small village in northeastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) near Garamba National Park.

In April 2011, Olivier was at the soccer field, watching a match from under a mango tree. He suddenly heard shouting behind him. He spun around just as a large hand grabbed his shoulder. He screamed and then felt a swift blow to his left temple. Everything went black.

Olivier was just 10 years old when he was kidnapped by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and forced to become a soldier. He spent nine years in captivity. During that time, the LRA group he was a part of spent years on the border of DRC and the Central African Republic (CAR) trafficking ivory, then moved into South Sudan.

One night in South Sudan, Olivier finally managed to escape. But he was alone and thousands of miles from home.



\*A depiction of Olivier's nine-year journey with the LRA



After traveling for days on foot, Olivier stopped for water and found himself face-to-face with a group of three women.

The women stood motionless, speaking to each other in hurried and hushed tones. Olivier listened and heard Sango. He had made it to CAR.

After a long silence, one of the women motioned for Olivier to follow her. A short walk later they were on the outskirts of a village, standing outside a small, one-room building with a tin roof.

She knocked on the door. A man in a crisp, blue shirt opened it. He nodded, looked Olivier straight in the eye and said “Ndjoni gango na ya ti sewa,” *you are welcome.*



**THIS YEAR, OUR MOBILE CINEMA PROGRAM HAS REACHED 23,000 PEOPLE THROUGH 119 SCREENINGS OF TWO POWERFUL FILMS.**

*They Came at Night* tells the story of a young boy who escapes the LRA and his difficult journey home. This film and the accompanying dialogue session were effective in helping 16,000 participants develop an understanding that most LRA escapees were kidnapped as children and are victims themselves. Through the dialogue sessions, participants collectively process the characters’ behaviors and beliefs, apply learnings to their own experiences, and, from there, develop local strategies to reintegrate escapees into society.

*Ani Wa Sa (We Are One)* illuminates the vital interconnection between peace and conservation, and that protecting local ecosystems helps to protect people.

## ▶ 119 MOBILE CINEMA SCREENINGS

Media-based sensitization messaging is an effective way to share critical information, shift perceptions, and catalyze collective action for change. Invisible Children works with local and international partners to develop FM radio programming, audio messaging distributed on micro-SD cards, and narrative films to introduce critical messages and inspire dialogue around pressing issues within communities.

Harnessing the power of storytelling through film, Invisible Children’s Mobile Cinema program counters the lack of information, misperceptions, and deeply-rooted mistrust that often prevent communities from working together.

In CAR and DRC, we collaborate with local and international experts and filmmakers to create short films with and for conflict-affected communities. These films, which address locally-identified needs in communities, are accompanied by facilitated dialogue sessions that provide opportunities for communities to discuss issues they face and develop solutions.



The man in the crisp blue shirt was named Arthur. As he took Olivier inside, he explained that they were in southeastern CAR and that he was the president of the Peace Committee, a group of local volunteers who work with an organization called Invisible Children and local leaders. The Peace Committee is trained to deal with a range of issues in the community, including how to accept and support people who escaped from armed groups.

Soon, other members of the Peace Committee began to arrive. Olivier was offered something to eat and drink, which he gladly accepted. One woman came forward and handed him a pile of clean, freshly folded clothes.

Olivier couldn’t help but feel a little nervous but, for the first time in a long time, he trusted that everything was going to be okay.

## ▶ 115 PEACE COMMITTEES

Invisible Children has established a history of consistent programming in central Africa, which has created a foundation of trust that enables us to work collaboratively with community leaders to mobilize local Peace Committees.

Peace Committees are comprised of 16 to 20 community-elected volunteers representing a diversity of livelihoods, cultures, and religions. Invisible Children works with communities to ensure female representation in each Peace Committee, including in leadership positions.

**THIS YEAR, INVISIBLE CHILDREN TRAINED AND SUPPORTED 115 PEACE COMMITTEES — OVER 1,700 LOCAL VOLUNTEERS — TO MANAGE CHALLENGES FACING THEIR COMMUNITY AND BUILD RESILIENCY, SAFETY, AND COHESION.**

Peace Committee members are critical for sharing life-saving information and creating links between remote communities. We train committee members to facilitate the safe surrender of armed group defectors, like Olivier, and begin the process of reuniting them with their families by alerting Invisible Children and our local partners. Peace Committees also share information about threats of armed group violence via the Community Early Warning Network, ultimately saving lives and contributing to regional conflict analysis.

**“AS THE INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP’S LEADING EXPERT ON THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR), I CAME ACROSS INVISIBLE CHILDREN’S WORK AND STAFF NUMEROUS TIMES. I HAVE TO SAY IT’S PROBABLY THE ORGANISATION WITH THE BEST UNDERSTANDING OF THE SECURITY AND POLITICAL DYNAMICS IN THE SOUTHEASTERN PART OF CAR. SEVERAL OF MY COLLEAGUES PRAISED THEIR WORK WITH THE LOCAL PEACE AND RECONCILIATION COMMITTEES IN THE REGION.”**

*- Hans de Merie, International Crisis Group’s lead analyst for the Central African Republic*



After most of the Peace Committee had left the building, except for Arthur and a few others, Olivier noticed that along one wall ran a long desk and, on top of it, an HF radio set.

Arthur explained that the radio connected them to a network of over a hundred other communities across CAR and DRC. The radio network was used to share information about threats in the area, including armed group activity like LRA attacks. Arthur went on to explain that they also use the radio to report when people escape armed groups.



“This will help us find your family and get you home,” Arthur said. “But we need to know more about who you are, and if you have any information about what your LRA group was planning. We need to know that too so we can warn other communities.”

Olivier told the Peace Committee members details about himself and his kidnapping. While one member took notes, Olivier went on to share what he knew about his LRA group’s last movements, including their plans to return to DRC in the dry season to run another load of ivory.

Then, the man in front of the radio flipped a few switches and a low static filled the room. He pressed the button on the side of the receiver, lifted it close to his mouth, and began speaking.

## ▶ 118 COMMUNITIES CONNECTED BY THE COMMUNITY EARLY WARNING NETWORK (EWN)

Communities in remote areas of CAR and DRC have little to no access to modern communication tools including mobile phone and internet services. Invisible Children’s EWN connects 118 isolated communities to one another and the outside world through a system of High Frequency (HF) radios and, when possible, through Short Message Service (SMS) and WhatsApp messaging.

Communities within the network participate in twice-daily calls to share information with one another and Invisible Children’s Crisis Tracker conflict analysis team. It allows the safe and regular exchange of life-saving information including imminent threats as well as security trends.

The EWN is also a critical tool in the reunification of LRA escapees with their families. Peace Committees use the EWN to alert Invisible Children when someone escapes to their community and we then use the EWN to contact the escapee’s home community to locate their family.



After finishing the call on the EWN, the Peace Committee members introduced Olivier to a woman called Mama Mary who was trained by Invisible Children staff to host LRA escapees when they arrived in the community. That night, at Mama Mary’s home, he slept longer and deeper than he had in years.

Two days later, Arthur came to Mama Mary’s home. “We found your family,” he told Olivier, “You’re going home.”

Olivier met with the Peace Committee who explained that Invisible Children had reached out to the woman who operates the EWN radio in his home village. She got in touch with Olivier’s family who were able to confirm his identity and the details of his kidnapping.

Invisible Children confirmed everything with the radio operators, regional partners, Olivier, and his family; then,

they got to work. Over the next two weeks, they arranged all the necessary paperwork for Olivier’s travel and legal repatriation to DRC.

Not long after, Invisible Children staff drove Olivier to his village in DRC. As they got closer, he started recognizing faces in the crowd. He saw his mother and father, his two sisters, then his brother. He leapt out of the car and ran to them.

After nine years, Olivier was finally home.



## ▶ 64 ESCAPEES GIVEN THE SUPPORT TO RETURN HOME

In Fiscal Year 2019, Invisible Children reunited 64 people with their families after they escaped armed group captivity.

When escapees from the LRA or other armed groups arrive in a community, the local Invisible Children-trained Peace Committee immediately reports their arrival to us and our local partners using the EWN. Invisible Children then coordinates with committee members to provide immediate care to the escapee while we begin planning for their transportation home. Most people escape from the LRA in very remote areas that can be difficult for our team to reach, so



local communities and trained host families are essential to the process of caring for them. At the same time, we work to locate and contact the families of escapees using the EWN.

We then coordinate their travel home and, for those who need to be repatriated to their home country, we help them safely and legally cross the border.

Even after they arrive back home, an LRA escapee’s journey is not over. In most cases, the trauma of abduction and captivity has a deep and lasting impact, and there can be stigma within families and communities. Before a reunification even happens, we begin helping families and escapees prepare for the transition by explaining trauma and providing information and resources for basic psycho-social support.

Olivier had been home for a few days when Invisible Children visited to check on his wellbeing. They also asked if he would be willing to share more about the LRA group that held him captive and their activities. The information that Olivier shared with Invisible Children staff would then be relayed to other organizations, improving efforts to protect communities and end violence.

At first, Olivier was nervous that the LRA would find him. But he was assured that everything he shared would be anonymous and that his identity and location would be protected.

Convinced, Olivier took a deep breath, and started from the beginning.

He shared everything he could remember from the past nine years, naming commanders and other captives like him. Olivier explained how they trafficked ivory from DRC into CAR - their routes, their buyers, and where they hid it along the way. He spoke for hours, answering questions as his interviewers furiously took notes, showed him photos, and drew on maps.

Invisible Children explained that they would add what he shared to a database called the Crisis Tracker and it would be used to help make his community and many others safer.

Thanks to you, Invisible Children has helped dozens of other brave escapees like Olivier safely return home to their families and start their journey of healing.



distributed through secured channels. When security allows, data and analysis is also made publicly available on the Crisis Tracker's online mapping platform.

Equipped with reliable data, information, and expert analysis, local civil society and international stakeholders are able to make better decisions for preventing violence, strengthening community protection, and providing communities with vital services.

In addition to tracking threats to civilians, the Crisis Tracker database and reporting system is also used to collect and report information on illicit wildlife trafficking, track missing persons abducted by armed groups, and coordinate the reunification of armed group escapees with their families.

A LETTER FROM

# Maimouna & Maya



► We are privileged to work on two of Invisible Children's most innovative and well-known projects, the Community Early Warning Network and the Crisis Tracker. For us, *how* we do this work is just as important as the work itself. As much as these innovative, life-saving programs have set Invisible Children apart, so has the longstanding trust we have built with Central African communities.

Invisible Children recognizes that those most impacted by violent conflict are best placed to identify their own needs and threats to their wellbeing and to lead effective solutions. Our role is to listen, earn their trust, and then co-create solutions that reinforce local agency and capacity to prevent violence and build resiliency.

The Community Early Warning Network, for example, grew out of an initiative started by a Congolese priest named Father Benoit Kinalegu. In response to a massacre committed by the LRA in northeastern DRC in 2009, Father Benoit mobilized local churches to share security information using a small network of nine high frequency (HF) radios. When Invisible Children met Father Benoit in 2010, he told us that one of the best ways we could help communities in the region was to expand this network. In partnership with him and other Central African community leaders, we have done that. Now, our Community Early Warning Network connects 118 communities across the region, enabling them to rapidly share life-saving information with each other and the outside world.

The information communities share via the Community Early Warning Network feeds into Invisible Children's Crisis Tracker. Through this initiative, the risks and needs identified by local communities are analyzed in the context of broader trends, then fed back to communities and local actors who can then use the information to strategize and organize around community protection.

In a region where governments and security actors have long struggled to effectively protect civilians from armed group violence and provide sustainable solutions, these Invisible Children initiatives are improving the safety of communities and building their resilience. The secret to the success of these initiatives lies largely in Invisible Children's collaborative, locally-led approach and the trusting relationships with communities that our team has built through many years of committed work.

We are honored to serve as Invisible Children representatives and grateful for the donors who make it possible. Your support enables us to work directly with Central African partners and communities, and learn from their courage and ingenuity. Every day, we get to witness the extraordinary power of people coming together to build a better future for central Africa. From where we stand, the future looks bright.

**MAIMOUNA & MAYA**

## ► 588

### LIFE-SAVING SECURITY ALERTS

Historically, armed group violence against civilians in remote areas of central Africa has been severely under-reported. The lack of credible data and information made it nearly impossible for humanitarian groups, policymakers, and security actors to protect these isolated communities or deploy essential services in these areas.

Invisible Children's crisis mapping experts work together with Central African partners and local communities to collect and verify information on armed group activities and trends. Information shared over the EWN and through first-hand interviews with survivors is triangulated with reports from other credible sources to develop in-depth analysis of trends.

Near real-time reports and trend analyses are shared with local communities, humanitarians, protection actors, and other stakeholders in daily, monthly, and quarterly reports

BUILDING A WORLD WHERE

# People & Planet Thrive Together

► A NEW CHAPTER IN INVISIBLE CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS: **COMMUNITY CONSERVATION**

The safety and wellbeing of people are inextricably linked to the safety and wellbeing of our natural world. In central Africa, the reality of this interconnection and its life-or-death consequences are particularly evident.

Regional armed groups that prey on civilians often exploit the area's natural resources to sustain their existence and fund their crimes. This includes using violence and intimidation to control remote gold and diamond mines, and poaching endangered wildlife like elephants, pangolins, and Kordofan giraffes. As a result, the natural ecosystems on which local communities depend face the increasing threat of irreparable devastation, and the cycles of violence against civilians continue.

To help turn the tide of armed group violence and exploitation in central Africa, Invisible Children collaborates with wildlife conservation experts at African Parks and African Wildlife Foundation and with our local partners to address this intersection of human security and wildlife conservation at the community level. Together, we are working to ensure that communities and the fragile ecosystems on which they depend are protected from armed group violence.

**"IN A FEW DECADES, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ENVIRONMENT, RESOURCES AND CONFLICT MAY SEEM ALMOST AS OBVIOUS AS THE CONNECTION WE SEE TODAY BETWEEN HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY AND PEACE."**

*- Wangari Maathai, Nobel Laureate and Founder of the Green Belt Movement*

► ANI WA SA ("WE ARE ONE")

Our latest mobile cinema film, *Ani Wa Sa*, is a narrative drama that tells the story of two estranged Central African brothers who come together in an effort to protect their community and their local forest as a rebel group approaches, seeking to poach elephants and traffick their ivory. Created with a coalition of partners and featuring a fully Congolese cast, including actual park rangers from DRC's Garamba National Park, the film is designed to help build trust and collaboration between local communities and conservation actors to improve the protection of Central African civilians and wildlife from armed group violence.

**"IT IS ONLY TODAY, AFTER THIS SCREENING, THAT I UNDERSTAND HOW OUR NATURAL RESOURCES CAN EXPOSE US TO FOREIGN ARMED GROUPS AND FUEL CONFLICTS, AS WE HAVE SEEN IN THIS FILM. I THOUGHT THAT PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT ONLY CONCERNED THE GOVERNMENT AND NOT US MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY. TODAY I AM CONVINCED OF WHAT I SAW AND HEARD DURING THIS SCREENING AND WILL MAKE OTHERS AWARE. OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE CONSERVATION OF OUR ENVIRONMENT AND OUR NATURAL RESOURCES IS TRULY ESSENTIAL."**

*- Arthemias, Hunter, Central African Republic*

► CONSERVATION PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2019

### Conservation Training for Local Peace Committees

In collaboration with African Parks, African Wildlife Foundation, and our Congolese partner Solidarité et Assistance Intégrale aux Personnes Démunies (SAIPED), we developed a training program for local Peace Committees on the importance of conservation and how to recognize and report signs of poaching activity using the Community Early Warning Network.

**893**

Peace committee members trained in conservation & reporting

**93**

Conservation-related reports via the Community Early Warning Network

**59**

Conservation-related alerts sent to communities and other stakeholders via the Crisis Tracker

### FM Radio Sensitization Programming

In partnership with SAIPED and local FM radio stations, we produce and broadcast sensitization messaging related to peace and conservation.

**191**

FM radio programs on conservation produced

**658**

Hours of educational FM radio messaging broadcast across central Africa

### Pro-Conservation Risk Reduction Strategies

Through training workshops and facilitated planning sessions, we help communities develop localized strategies to reduce their vulnerability and prevent violence. These strategies include measures to better manage local natural resources and prevent natural resource exploitation.

**137**

Pro-conservation risk reduction strategies developed with local communities

**"INVISIBLE CHILDREN'S NATURE CONSERVATION RADIO PROGRAMS ARE LIKE A FLASHLIGHT THAT LIGHTS UP OUR HOME. THE BROADCASTS AWAKEN OUR AWARENESS OF HOW WE CAN FIGHT AGAINST POACHING AND THE DESTRUCTION OF OUR REGION'S NATURAL HERITAGE, AND ALSO TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE."**

*- Odon, Local Chief, Democratic Republic of Congo*



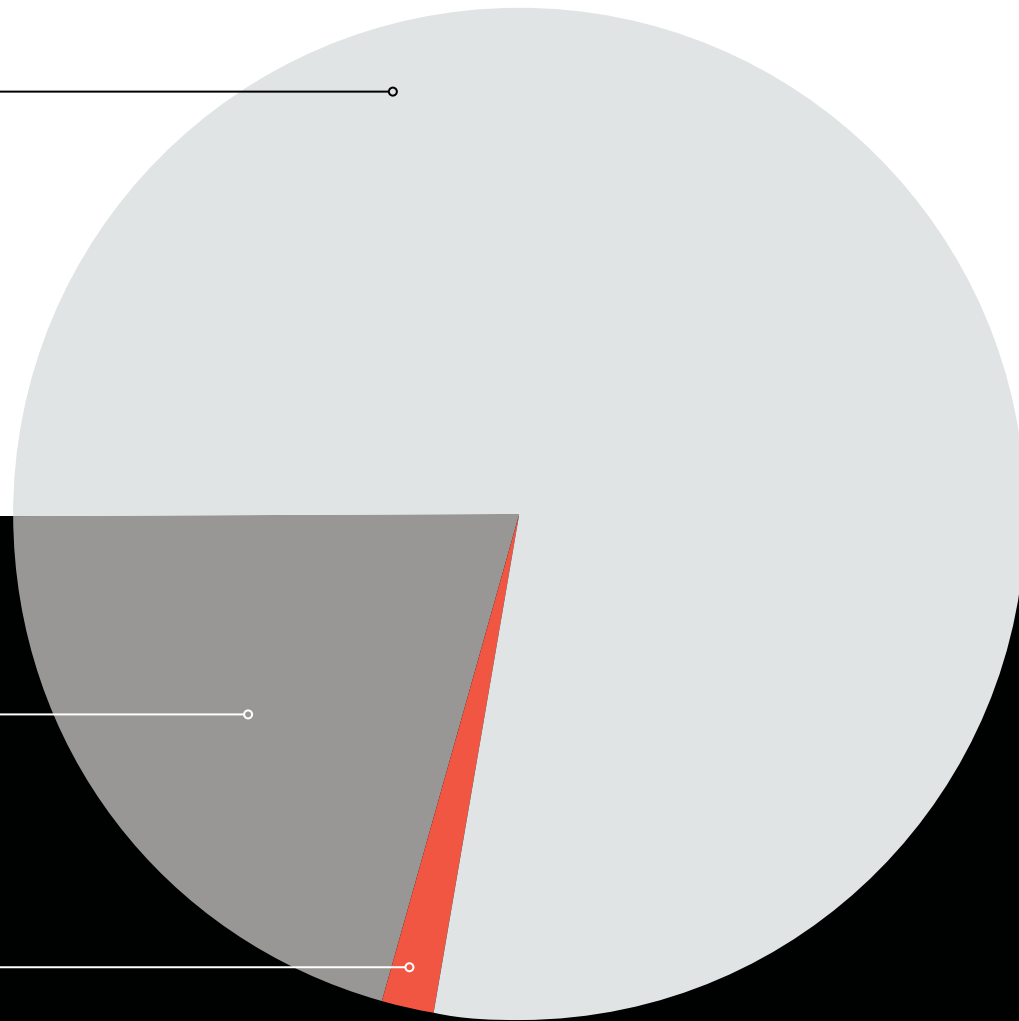
# 2019 Financials

▶ **TOTAL EXPENSES**  
**\$6,037,756**

COMMUNITY  
PROTECTION  
PROGRAMS\*  
**\$4,696,378**

GENERAL &  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
**\$1,237,323**

DEVELOPMENT  
**\$104,055**



\* INCLUDES \$14,764 TO ADVOCACY PROGRAMS

## Thank you.

### INVISIBLE CHILDREN APPRECIATES YOUR GENEROSITY AND YOUR VITAL SUPPORT.

We are not able to include all of our donors. We acknowledge the institutions and individuals who contributed \$500 or more in fiscal year 2019.

### ▶ INSTITUTIONS

Aid for Africa	Menlo School
Anonymous	Onekind Foundation
Bocholt Foundation	Pledgeling Foundation
Center for Action and Contemplation, Inc	U.S. Agency for International Development
The Hervey Family Fund	U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Democracy Human Rights and Labor
The Hurlbut-Johnson Charitable Trusts	
Institute of International Education	

### ▶ INDIVIDUALS

Stacy Ambrozich	Stephanie Harth	Dorothea Olson
Gwen Ball	Kate Heaton	Robert Pace
Sarah Barnes	Ryan Hemmerich	Dennis Parman
Megan Bennett	Julie Henn	Stephanie Pearson
Ken Blaisdell	Nicholas Jarmuzewski	Michael Poffenberger
Laurie Boykoff	Emily Johnson	Allan Ramsay
Yolanda Chankuo	Ben Keeseey	Christa and Jerry Reynolds
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Young Choi	Carol Knipp	Lynn Ronan
Maria Febres Cordero	James Knipper	Jennifer Ruggiero
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Lisa Dougan	Nancy Lang	Gary Skidmore
Patrick John Fenton	Joseph Manente	Mercy Southam
Adam Finck	Jeff Martin	William Takes
Michael Fontenot	Vera Mayo	Nicole Van Proyen
Emily Gneiser	Terri Meyer	Rebecca Walls
JoLeah Gorman	Dale McCarthy	Nikolai Wedekind
Alyssa Gottshall	Debra McManus	Melissa and Lowry West
Joshua Graybill	Jeff Michie	Pam White
Megan Green	Jay Miller	Melissa Wood
Kayla Griffin	Keith Muhlenkamp	
Jennifer Groth	Terri Nagel-Hamm	

*We also thank the donors who have preferred to remain anonymous.*

A LETTER FROM THE

# Board Chair

► Dear Supporters and Partners,

I have witnessed Invisible Children's incredible ethos and impact since its inception in 2004, first as a fellow activist focused on the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) crisis in northern Uganda and then as founder of a partner organization. Today, it is a great privilege to serve this mission as Invisible Children's Board Chair.

From day one, Invisible Children has lived out a deep promise to see an end to LRA violence and support communities in their journey toward lasting recovery. Even as political priorities and international attention have fluctuated over the years, Invisible Children's commitment has not. This organization has remained steadfast in its promotion of peace, alongside communities targeted by violence. As a result, LRA violence remains on a downward trajectory and Invisible Children programs continue to bring former child soldiers back home to their families.

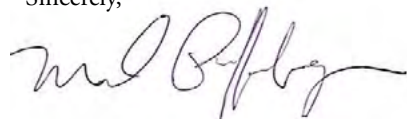
While never losing sight of that original promise, Invisible Children has built on this success and expanded the scope of its work beyond the LRA conflict. Thanks to our team's technical expertise, unparalleled regional knowledge, and deeply-rooted trust with community leaders, our programs are now building a safe and thriving future for communities facing multiple existential threats in extremely remote areas across central Africa. I am awed by the grit and integrity of our CEO, staff, local partners, board, and donors whose courage and leadership make it possible.

Invisible Children's persistent and innovative pursuit of peace has earned the trust and respect of Central African communities and peers in the international humanitarian and human rights fields. In late 2017, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor awarded Invisible Children with multi-year projects that were a significant focus of the organization's work in Fiscal Year 2019. Invisible Children's in-depth conflict analysis continues to be solicited by governments and institutions, including the UN Security Council, and is used to inform the efforts of humanitarian practitioners, civilian protection actors, and researchers. Simply put, Invisible Children has become a critical thought leader and trusted expert on one of the world's most challenging and complex regions.

So much has changed since I first encountered Invisible Children 15 years ago. What has and will always remain, however, is Invisible Children's commitment to building a safe and thriving future *with* and *for* communities affected by violent conflict.

I am immensely grateful to all of you for standing with us on this journey. Your support and partnership is what continues to make our promise possible.

Sincerely,



**MICHAEL POFFENBERGER**  
*Chair, Board of Directors*



► INVISIBLE CHILDREN STAFF & BOARD



Abel Désiré Mboifouefe, MEL Assistant, CAR • Adam Finck, Board Member, USA • Aimé Crépin Malianda, Guard, CAR • Aimé Mikayelle Seredouma, Early Warning Manager & Protection Analyst, CAR • Aimée Mambabua Numuba, Project Assistant, DRC • Alfred Bulakali, Project Specialist & Head Of Office, DRC • Alida Anidigui, Cook, CAR • Alinoti Undji, Regional MEL Manager, DRC • Amos Omari Esuu, MEL Assistant, DRC • André Régis Kowoho Pataki Siolo Watembo, Project Assistant, CAR • Andrea Ramsay, Chief Finance & Operations Officer, USA • Arthure Zoungangbe, HF Radio Technician, CAR • Azy Groth, Strategic Communications & Digital Product Manager, USA • Bénédicte Fizane Zara, Protection Assistant, CAR • Blanchard Konzabi, Gardener, CAR • Boris Olivier Marandji, Clinical Psychologist, CAR • Camille Marie-Regnault, Regional Protection & Conflict Analysis Coordinator, CAR • Charles Poumayassi, Project Manager, CAR • Christelle De Bonheur Omokonzoyen, Finance Assistant, CAR • Christian Sangate Gado, MEL Assistant, CAR • Clément Loutemboli, Project Assistant, CAR • Daniel Dobrovolec, CRCA Chief of Party & Country Director, DRC • Daphnee Raynaud, Regional Finance Manager, Central Africa, DRC • Delphine Dibert, Security Manager, CAR • Delphine Gisèle Thole, Media Assistant, CAR • Devy Vizuri Bahizire, Livelihoods Manager, CAR • Dieudonné Djonga Wembo, Mechanic/Driver, DRC • Edgard Carlos Nadjindo, Admin & Finance Officer, CAR • Elie Marume Mughalia, IT Officer, DRC • Emmanuel Sangbaba Daduyo, Security Manager, DRC • Enguerran Miller Moukpidie, Protection Specialist, CAR • Eric Francis Tole Belikouan, HF Radio Technician, CAR • Erin Miller, Finance & Administration Manager, USA • Esdras Ruben Dangbomrori, Cook, CAR • Félix Yangana, Project Manager, CAR • François Mbolihiri, Guard, CAR • Gabriel Mix Mihievoulou, Guard, CAR • Gang Karume, Regional Operations Director, Central Africa, CAR • Gaspard Muderhwa Balola, Finance Officer, DRC • Germain Zoungarani, Guard, CAR • Gobi Mauraye, Project Manager, CAR • Guy Tanga, Admin & Finance Officer, CAR • Jason Russell, Board Member, USA • Jean Blaise Mbolihidi, Guard, CAR • Jean Claude Gutule, Project Officer, DRC • Jean Claude Mbolingbanami Miukaumele, Store Keeper, DRC • Jean Claude Mingelevulu Aboyo, Project Officer, DRC • Jean Claude Ngbo, Project Officer, DRC • Jean De Dieu Kandape Magalaba, Protection Manager, DRC • Jean Paul Zeginokya, Gardener, DRC • Jeannine Gimiligu, Project Officer, DRC • Joanick-Stéphane Koumboyeke Pango, Principal Radio Operator, CRCA, CAR • Jocelyn Kelly, Board Member, USA • John Kangolo Lunkamba, Regional Finance Director, DRC • John Kinetu Katunda, Finance Assistant, DRC • John Mboyo Bakongo, Logistics Assistant, DRC • Jolet Bienvenu Ngbo, Admin & Finance Officer, CAR • Jolie Kaja, Finance Manager, DRC • Joseph Nzokomogu Awewe, Mechanic/Driver, DRC • Justin Akemane Ondaka, Media Assistant, DRC • Justin Minada Mihidi, HF Radio Technician, DRC • Justin Ntakobajira, Deputy Chief of Party & Country Director, CAR • Justine Acko Poulemakewo, Cook, CAR • Landry Roselin Asseni Ngboh Anguin'mbi, Protection Analyst, CAR • Larry Stéphane Amokobide, Mechanic/Driver, CAR • Leonard Ndovia Makasi, Logistician, DRC • Lévis Kpiofourani, Operations Officer, CAR • Lily Tibasaga Kyamulesere, Admin & HR Manager, DRC • Lisa Dougan, Chief Executive Officer, USA • Louis Luc Junior Nambei Namsere, MEL Assistant, CAR • Marcel Jean, CRCA Project Specialist, CAR • Mariette Djimadoum, Cook, CAR • Marina Estelle Assembya, Finance Officer, CAR • Marissa Sackler, Board Member, USA • Marthe Ngomba, Compliance & Capacity Building Coordinator, CAR • Maya Moseley, Program Officer, USA • Megan Green, Supporter Engagement Manager, USA • Melanie Zawadi Kasime, Operations Manager, DRC • Merville Tertulien Mbaye Nadji, Finance Manager, CAR • Michael McCusker, Project Director, Central Africa, USA • Michael Poffenberger, Board Chair, USA • Morel Venant Junior Sanzema, Operations Assistant, CAR • Mwayuma Owanga Maimouna, HF Radio Operator, DRC • Nagla Abdelhalim, Director of Finance & Administration, USA • Nastasia Stipo, Program Coordinator, USA • Noelle West, Board Member, USA • Oumarou, Mechanic/Driver, CAR • Papy Wenzunga Zakpa, Mechanic/Driver, DRC • Pascal Kakule, Mechanic/Driver, DRC • Patrice Bongonyoma Kinako, Mechanic/Driver, DRC • Patrick Assani, Project Officer, DRC • Patrick De Saint Martin Gnapelet, Admin & Finance Officer, CAR • Paul Ronan, Director of Research & Policy, USA • Pulchérie Léocadie Kazangba, Admin & HR Officer, CAR • Rene Dhedonga Ngabu, Regional Procurement & Logistics Manager, DRC • Roger Mbolitumbalani Timawe, Project Officer, DRC • Samuel Atatiya Akato, Mechanic/Driver, DRC • Samuel Bakuku, Project Officer, DRC • Service Mahamout, Mechanic/Driver, CAR • Stéphane Koumbozengui, Mechanic/Driver, CAR • Stéphane Moimou Nangara, IT Manager, CAR • Stéphane Youfeina, Project Specialist, CAR • Suzanne Kenemi, Admin & Finance Officer, DRC • Tanguy Séverin Bakotikote, Mechanic/Driver, CAR • Victorien Kangale Guinatimo, HF Radio Technician, CAR • Vincent Kadianda L., Protection Analyst, DRC • Yves Sidia Ndombasi, Mechanic/Driver, DRC • Yvon Marley Godame, Admin & Finance Officer, CAR

# To our Invisible Children Alumni

► Dear Alumni,

Each one of you is a special part of the Invisible Children story. For that, we are so grateful and so proud. Over the last 15 years, hundreds of talented individuals have walked through our doors in the U.S., Uganda, DRC, and CAR. You have driven roadie vans, worked in East and central Africa, and mobilized activists across the U.S. and around the world in pursuit of justice.

We came together for a common mission and with a common ethos, a belief that our liberty is bound together. While you certainly left your mark on Invisible Children, we know that your positive impact on our world did not end here. If anything, it was only the beginning.

Here are just a few reflections on life after Invisible Children from you, our dear alumni...

# From our Invisible Children Alumni



## **DR. KEVO RIVERA**

Intern Summer 2009  
Roadie Spring & Fall 2012  
Staff 2013

I'm so fortunate to have had the opportunity to work both inside the walls of, and on the road with, Invisible Children. In my work now, delivering mental health care and advancing health equity, I'm still drawing on the methods Invisible Children introduced me to and the spirit that Invisible Children drew out of me. Though I and many others have been inspired to fight for social and transformative justice in other corners of the world, I'm still invested in seeing that Invisible Children continues in its mission; it is as important now as it has ever been.



## **JESS MORRIS**

Roadie Spring & Fall 2010  
Staff 2011-2014

The five years that I spent at Invisible Children as a Roadie and staff member undoubtedly changed my life, worldview, and trajectory. Since leaving Invisible Children in 2014, my belief in the work and the people behind the work has remained constant. I'm a proud donor (and fangirl) because of that sustained belief, and because of the ethos that brought me to the organization so many years ago: that our liberty is bound together.

## **LINDSEY (WILLIAMS) KIM**

Roadie Spring 2010  
Intern Fall 2010-Spring 2011  
Staff 2013

I've been giving to Invisible Children for a decade plus and have seen the power of sustained, lasting work. It's tedious and hard, but that's what has compelled me to continue donating over the years. The steadiness and constant moving forward despite the difficulty and complexity of the work; the deep love and respect for the communities they partner with; and how much impact they are able to have with the money I donate - it's incredible. The grit and perseverance of this community shaped me and propelled me to where I am today, so staying involved as a monthly donor is a gift to me and is my favorite money to spend.



## **EUGENE KIM**

Roadie Fall 2008  
Intern Spring & Summer 2009  
Staff 2009

It's been over a decade since I was at Invisible Children. Much of life has happened since and I don't think about Invisible Children as much as I once did. But I carry around its profound impact on me daily, and I treasure the value of my friendships from Invisible Children as much as ever. In that sense, I feel like my monthly donations are my attempt to pay back something I'll forever be indebted to. Additionally, I just know my money's going towards incredible work and is being stewarded well to help communities I still care about, but don't have the means to do direct work for anymore. For many reasons, it's never been a second thought to give to Invisible Children.

# Looking Forward

Invisible Children works in some of the most remote and challenging corners of our planet. The families that call this region home continue to be among our world's most marginalized and exploited. They deserve our solidarity and we have so much to learn from their resilience, wisdom, and courage. That is why we press on.

We remain committed to reinforcing local solutions to ending violent conflict and building a peaceful, thriving future for generations to come.

In the coming year, Invisible Children will launch new initiatives to support community-led conflict mediation and trauma healing, and we will continue to help Central African communities identify ways that they can help protect their region's endangered and irreplaceable ecosystems.

We have accomplished so much together over the past year. With your continued support and with the wisdom and dedication of our staff and local partners, we know that peace and stability in central Africa are on the horizon.

Our liberty is bound together.



**INVISIBLE  
CHILDREN**