



**REINTEGRATION IN SORTUTUVILLE:
A Gender-Focused Simulation**

A Case Study

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Author Biographical Sketch

Nicole Junker is currently a PhD Student in the International Conflict Management program at Kennesaw State University, where she is completing a dissertation on the reintegration of conflict related sexual violence victims in Nigeria. Her past research focuses have included human trafficking in the Republic of Moldova and the effects of media on survivors of sex trafficking and conflict related sexual violence. She previously served as the Communications and Outreach Specialist for the USAID Access to Justice Program in Iraq and she holds a Master of Arts in Central and Eastern European Studies.



Scenario

This simulation places participants in the fictional nation of Sortutuville which has just entered into peaceful negotiations with Truffistan, ending the Truffistan War which has been going on for 20 years. Participants will be assigned a role of either an international development worker (a member of the reintegration team) or an aid recipient (a Sortutuvillian village inhabitant). Prior to the exercise, participants will receive information about Sortutuville, the Truffistan War, their roles and publications to serve as guidance during their tasks.

Tasks

The final product of the simulation is a reintegration plan. A successful reintegration plan will meet the needs of the village inhabitants, has real world feasibility, is within budget, and promotes long term peace in the region.

- The specific task of the reintegration team is to complete a final reintegration plan.
- The specific task of the village inhabitants is to ensure that their needs are met in the final reintegration plan.

Exercise Groups

Reintegration Team (RT):

The focus of the UN currently is to engage a Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) program. You are part of a team specializing in the reintegration phase of the DDR package. You have two days to develop a reintegration plan for the citizens of Sortutuville. In line with UNSC Resolution 1325, you must ensure that your analysis and resulting plan includes solutions embedded with gender considerations. You have been provided with a statistical fact sheet about the country of Sortutuville, a brief primer on the Sortutuville – Truffistan War and a current Sit Rep on the region. Most importantly, you have been given a list of exemplary cases which have been gathered by NGOs already on the ground.

Village Inhabitants (VI):

You have been told that there is a team of UN specialists coming to Sortutuville to begin programs to help villagers in Sortutuville get back to normal life after the war. They are said to offer jobs, money, medical and psychological care. You need to come up with a list of needs for the specialists that will help you get back to “normal” life and rehabilitate from the war.

Sortutuville Roles

Reintegration Team (RT):

Reintegration Team: Medical Doctor

You are a male medical doctor specializing in post-conflict medical care. You have been asked by the UN to help with the post-conflict reintegration process in Sortutuville. You have heard that there has been a large amount of sexual violence, which has compounded the issue of the spread of HIV in the region. There is a lot of social stigma surrounding the HIV / AIDS in Sortutuville. Of course, you will also be dealing with a large amount of people with injuries. Furthermore, there has been a rise in cases of water-borne illnesses as the water sources have been polluted due to damage to water sources.

Reintegration Team: Psychosocial Specialist

You are a female psychologist specializing in psychosocial programs in post-conflict environments. You have been asked by the UN to work with a team to develop psychosocial programs in Sortutuville for the reintegration of victims of the war.

Reintegration Team: Economic Specialist

You are a male DDR expert with a specialization in economic activities in post-conflict environments. You have been asked by the UN to work with a team on creating economic opportunities for the people of Sortutuville following the end of the conflict. Sortutuville has a lot of good land on which to grow crops and there is a diamond mine right outside of the largest city (which was one of the reasons for the conflict and its duration). The population has an average education level of 6th grade. Roads connecting Sortutuville have been destroyed during the war and the city has no airport.

Reintegration Team: Team Lead

You are a male DDR expert with a specialization in reintegration of ex-combatants. You have been asked by the UN to head the team which will create the reintegration portion of the DDR plan for Sortutuville.

Village Inhabitants (VI):

There are a number of roles for individuals participating in the exercise as inhabitants of a village in Sortutuville. Unlike the Reintegration Team roles, these roles are not being shared with anyone other than the role player themselves. The exercise is conducted in this fashion to enable a realistic simulation of providing assistance to people who may not be open to sharing their past experiences or current situations with development workers.

Sortutuville - Truffistan War Background

The war in Sortutuville began in 1996 when neighboring Truffistan attempted to invade Sortutuville in an effort to obtain ownership over natural resources including diamond and gold mines. The two warring factions were supported by external parties, but there is yet to be an investigation or proof of just who the parties were. Attempted peace talks, brokered by the African Union (AU) under the leadership of the Ghanaian president and with the involvement of European Union (EU) and American military observers, took place throughout the war, but each failed, leaving the conflict to rage even stronger each time. There was heavy focus by the international media on the rape of women from both countries during the conflict. This led to international interest in the cases of war rape. As a byproduct of the media reports, there are also issues with the identification of victims to others in the community. It is believed that smaller rebel groups ramped up their use of rape as a weapon of war in order to get into the spotlight of the international media and therefore become an important party to the conflict. This allowed the rebel leaders to have a seat at peace processes they should not have had. This stalled any chance of resolution and rewarded combatants for engaging in sexual violence during the conflict.

The conflict has been raging for 20 years due to lingering support for the fighting by the Truffistan government. The war recently ended with the surrender of the Truffistan National Army, following Truffistan's sizeable losses of territory and of control over resources. Though the armed fighting portion of the war is over, the rebuilding of both countries has just begun. A peace deal has allowed for the release of all prisoners of war (POWs) and captives, including women and girls who had been captured and held by the Truffistan fighters. The aftermath of the war has left Sortutuville with major damage to its infrastructure, including roadways and water sources. The area of the country that houses government ministries has been well protected during the conflict and is in decent condition, as is the country's main airport. However, the capital has been mostly deserted as it was continually targeted and became unsafe to inhabit. Sortutuville's economy was already unhealthy prior to 1996. A large earthquake in the region in 1984 led to a flood of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international non-governmental organizations (IGOs) and government aid agencies

providing basic goods to the region. Sortutuville quickly became dependent on this aid and was not self-sufficient even 10 years after the earthquake.

It is estimated that at least 200,000 people have died during the war. There are nearly 600,000 internally-displaced persons (IDPs) living in poorly-constructed camps which lack any sort of security. It is of concern that there are still small factions of the Truffistan army who refuse to surrender and it is feared they will begin to target these camps and the civilians within them. There is also a large number of land mines throughout Sortutuville which have been strategically placed on water gathering routes by Truffistan fighters. Three women have already fallen victim to these land mines since the ceasefire.

Though there was a small number of INGOs and civil society organizations (CSOs) on the ground during the conflict, now is the first time that large-scale humanitarian and international development agencies have been able to reenter. Many countries and the UN have offered up assistance packages valued together at 2.3 million dollars. There has been an inquiry by the International Criminal Court into crimes against humanity on both sides of the conflict with special attention paid to the rampant sexual violence. Tens of thousands of women have come forward as victims of rape.

Due to the stigma attached to sexual assault in both the Sortuti and Truffistan communities, it can be anticipated that levels of victimization are actually much higher than reported. Many of these sexual assaults occurred in front of the victims' families causing trauma to those who witnessed the attacks. In other cases, members of the victims' families were forced to take part in the rape or assault on the victim, compounding the trauma. The people of Sortutuville are unhappy with their current president as he was unable to stop the war and only became richer through his despotic 30-year rule.

There have been public demonstrations by citizens of the country and many people are using social media to bring attention to the problems of the Sortutuville government. All of the turmoil has made Sortutuville a hot news topic and with the peace treaty, reporters from around the world have poured into the small West-African country. Sortutuvillans were at first happy with the media coverage as they thought it would bring help from the international community. However, they have now seen that the media coverage has not done this and many feel angry and exploited. There are stories of reporters sneaking into IDP camps to find rape victims for their news stories and many women have told camp management that they did not want to be interviewed but felt they had to in order to keep their tent. Some women now feel pressure that victimhood may be the best or only way to survive. Some women have recently come forward and embellished or completely fabricated stories of sexual transgressions to receive preferential treatment for them and their children when it comes to being seen by a doctor or keeping their beds and tents.

Sortutuville Situation Report

Please note security level and proceed in your actions accordingly:

Security Level Red: There has been at least one conflict related death or kidnapping within 15 miles of your vicinity in the last 96 hours. Active bombings and/or shootings are ongoing. Full security details are mandatory when exiting your compound and armored vehicles should be used for transportation. Travel throughout the region is highly discouraged.

Security Level Yellow: There have been no reports of conflict related death or kidnapping within 15 miles of your vicinity for 96 hours. There have been no reports of bombing or active shooting in the region for 14 days. Full security details are still required, but travel can occur in non-armored vehicles.

Security Level Green: There have been no reports of conflict related death or kidnapping within 15 miles of your vicinity for 30 days. There have been no reports of bombing or active shooting in 60 days. Minimal security details are required and travel can occur in non-armored vehicles.

Timeline:

October 2: A cease-fire agreement has been signed between military and political leaders of Truffistan and Sortutuville. Peace talks have been scheduled for October 14, 2016. The Truffistan National Army has begun retreat from Sortutuville territory. Security level remains at red.

October 6: The cease-fire agreement has continued to hold. The Truffistan National Army has completed its retreat and no casualties have been reported since the ceasefire went into effect. However, there are demonstrations occurring throughout the capital as people are lacking basic necessities. Security level remains at red.

October 14: A peace deal has been signed between the political and military leaders of Truffistan and Sortutuville. POWs and captured nationals will be released by both parties within 24 hours. Security level remains at red.

October 16: POWs and captured nationals on both sides have returned en masse to their homes. Both sides of the conflict have held their ends of the peace deal. There have been no casualties reported in the last 2-week period. Security level remains at red.

October 20: UN Troops have entered Sortutuville and are engaging in providing security and stability to the region. Security level has been lowered to yellow.

October 25: Following the introduction of UN Troops, The Sortutuville National Army has granted leave to all soldiers who have been disarmed and are now free to return home. Security level remains at yellow.

October 30: The UN has initialized disarmament of soldiers, offering cash for weapons. There have been 46,729 small arms collected thus far. However, there is no way of estimating how many weapons are still in circulation so there is nothing to compare this number to as far as disarming the public. Security level remains at yellow.

Sortutuville Quick Facts

Capital: Domook

Population: 3,267,547

Languages: Sortutunese (84%)

English (36%) French (35%) There are also many local dialects.

Religions: Sortuti (85%) Muslim (10%) Christian (5%)

Age Structure:

0-14 years: 42.2%

15-24 years: 21.44%

25-54 years: 30.13%

55-64 years: 3.58%

65 years and over: 2.65%

Education:

Average education level is 6th grade. 4% of the population holds college degrees, but most educated citizens emigrate upon receiving higher education degrees (most of which are awarded abroad).

Literacy:

definition: age 15 and over can read and write

total population: 63.8%

male: 78.1%

female: 50% (2015 est.)

School Life Expectancy (primary to tertiary education):

Total: 9 years

Male: 10 years

Female: 8 years (2013)

Child Labor - Children Ages 5-14:

Percentage: 42% (2015 est.)

Unemployment, youth ages 15-24:

Total: 56%

Male: 39.6%

Female: 73.5% (2016 est.)

Population below Poverty Line:

63% (2016 est.)

Total Fertility Rate:

4.53 Children Born/Woman (2016 est.)

Mother's Mean Age at First Birth:

19.9

Maternal Mortality Rate:

693 deaths/100,000 live births (2015 est.)

Infant Mortality Rate:

Total: 69.8 deaths/1,000 live births

Male: 73.4 deaths/1,000 live births

Female: 66.2 deaths/1,000 live births (2016 est.)

GDP:

GDP (official exchange rate):

\$28.01 billion (2016 est.)

\$26.51 billion (2015 est.)

\$25.94 billion (2014 est.)

GDP - per capita (PPP):

\$600 (2016 est.)

\$600 (2015 est.)

\$500 (2014 est.)

Agriculture - products: cotton, coffee, tobacco, cassava (manioc, tapioca), yams, millet, corn, bananas; timber

Industries:

gold and diamond mining, logging, brewing, sugar refining

Electricity access:

Population without electricity: 1,500,000

Contraceptive prevalence rate:

14.8%

Physicians density:

0.2 physicians/1,000 population (2015)