

# GSDM Initiative Business and Human Rights on the Issue of Conflict Minerals in the DR Congo AY 2016 Report



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# **I. Project Outline**

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## **1. Title**

Business and Human Rights on the Issue of Conflict Minerals in the DR Congo

## **2. Organizer**

Main organizer

Kazuyo Hanai, the University of Tokyo, Project Research Associate

Co-organizer

Hiroshi Sato, Institute of Developing Economies, Chief Senior Researcher

Kaoru Nemoto, United Nations Information Centre, Director

Masako Yonekawa, Rikkyo University, Specially Appointed Associate professor

Mitsugi Endo, the University of Tokyo, Professor

Takashi Izutsu, the University of Tokyo, Specially Appointed Associate Professor

Yasunobu Sato, the University of Tokyo, Professor

Akiyuki Masuda, the University of Tokyo, D2 student

Wakiko Ohira, the University of Tokyo, D1 student

## **3. Contents of the project**

### **3.1. Objective**

The objective of this project was to increase awareness of companies and consumers, positioned in the downstream of the supply chain, toward human rights violations in resource production areas, and to delineate an outlook to achieve social responsibility from the perspective of corrective justice.

### **3.2. Background**

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo), two conflicts occurred, during 1996 and 2003, that involved surrounding countries and developed into a situation referred to as the Great War of Africa. Although a peace agreement was implemented and the war formally ended in 2003, numerous armed groups still remain active in eastern DR Congo and continue acts of violence against residents. In particular, eastern DR Congo, where large-scale sexual violence is used as a tactic of conflict, has been called the "rape capital of the world" and "worst place on Earth to be a woman."

Further, since the 2000s when it became apparent that illegal mining and trading of minerals in eastern DR Congo have become a conflict fund for armed groups, the social responsibility of companies and consumers of advanced countries is being called into question. In 2010, the OECD Due Diligence Guidance and U.S. Dodd-Frank Act Section 1502 were established and trade restrictions against conflict minerals exported from DR Congo and surrounding countries started. Companies using four minerals that are conflict

resources in eastern DR Congo (Tin, Tungsten, Tantalum, Gold: the 3TG) are required to investigate the origins of minerals and report and disclose information as to whether they were related to conflicts.

Although no legislation is in place in Japan, Japanese electronic equipment and automobile industries dealing with U.S. listed companies are under pressure to implement conflict mineral procurement inquiries. With these global trends, conflict mineral trade restrictions have spread on a worldwide scale. However, in contrast to Western countries where active discussions took place among government, corporations, NGOs, media, and citizens, in Japan conflict resource issues were rarely taken up by the media and the general public remained unaware of the problem. While companies did make efforts regarding conflict mineral procurement inquiries, there has been an aspect of implementing investigations in order to respond to requests by Western client corporations.

Frequent human rights violations by armed groups still occur in eastern DR Congo and brutal sexual violence is taking place. In 2016 the United Nations established the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict (June 19) and has been working toward resolving the problem. It is vital that Japanese society discusses this issue together with the United Nations, research institutes, companies, and civil society.

### **3.3. Project Details**

To change the status quo in Japan, this project invited Dr. Denis Mukwege to Japan and hosted a public symposium. Dr. Mukwege has worked on medical activities in the eastern DR Congo conflict area and received the UN Human Rights Prize (2008), the Hillary Clinton Award (2014), and the European Parliament's Sakharov Prize (2014), and his activities were made into a documentary film in 2015. Through this symposium, we intended to create an opportunity in Japan to hear about the actual current situation from a person closely involved and provide the participants with a chance to think about the involvement of businesses and human rights from the viewpoints of both production areas and consumption sites.

In addition, by holding a follow-up seminar with the participation of companies, NGOs, UN organizations, and media, we verified the impact this project had on society and compiled the results into a report in Japanese and English.

## **4. Expected Output**

Firstly, as an academic research result, we clarified the connection of human rights violations in mineral resource production areas and the behavior of companies and consumers in consumption sites, and discussed the social responsibilities of companies and consumers from the perspective of corrective justice, thus contributing to deepening consumer society research.

Secondly, as a suggestion to electronic equipment industry and other business sectors,

a lecture was held in September at the Komaba Campus. We provided an opportunity to verify the essential significance of procurement inquiries that electronic equipment industry is working on, through discussion with a director of the Pacific Asia Resource Center (PARC), which conducted a survey of local mines in eastern DR Congo, and members of the Japan Electrics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA), which supports corporate inquiry into conflict mineral procurement.

Thirdly, we invited Dr. Mukwege in October and held a public symposium. By increasing the interest of the media and the general public, we will raise the issue widely throughout society. In addition to the University of Tokyo, the symposium was also held in the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF), co-hosted by SPF and GSDM

Fourthly, by holding a follow-up seminar in February attended by companies, NGOs, UN organizations, and media, we verified the impact the project had on society and delineated a future outlook.

## **5. Contribution to GSDM Program Education**

While social contributions based on advanced technological innovation is viewed as important in the Global Leader Program for Social Design and Management (GSDM), discussion is slow to cover ethical problems generated by the introduction of new technologies. By holding lectures and symposium in collaboration with one of the groups of the GSDM Student Initiative Project "Thinking about the ethical dimension of global leaders," the project provided opportunities for students to turn their attention to the need of thinking about ethical aspects when introducing new technologies and operating businesses. GSDM advocates "global" but the awareness of students remains mainly in Western countries and Asia, and opportunities to study relationships with Africa are extremely limited. By inviting Dr. Mukwege, who engages in medical activities in eastern DR Congo, and creating an opportunity for students to interact with him, we expanded students' perspectives to Africa.

## **6. List of events**

- Screening of *The Man Who Mends Women* & Seminar  
September 21, Wed., 2016, Komaba Campus, the University of Tokyo
- Special Lecture of Dr. Denis Mukuwege  
Part 1. Sexual Violence and Protection of Women's Rights under Armed Conflict  
October 3, Mon., 2016, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation  
Part 2. The Relationship between Sexual Violence under Armed Conflict and  
Conflict Minerals  
October 4, Tue., 2016, Hongo Campus, the University of Tokyo
- Follow-up Seminar  
February 27, Mon., 2017, Hongo Campus, the University of Tokyo

## **7. Affiliated Institutions**

- Graduate School of Public Policy, the University of Tokyo
- Graduate School of Arts and Science, the University of Tokyo
  - Graduate Program in Human Security (HSP)
  - Institute for Advanced Global Studies (IAGS)
    - Center for African Studies
    - Research Center for Sustainable Peace
    - Research Center for Sustainable Development
  - Komaba Organization for Educational Excellence (KOMEX),
- NPO Human Security Forum (HSF) .
- The Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF)
- United Nations Information Center (UNIC)

## **II. Screening of *The Man Who Mends Women* & Seminar**

**18:00-21:00, September 21, Wed., 2016**

**Screening of *The Man Who Mends Women***

**+ Seminar on the Business and Human Rights on the Issue of Conflict Minerals in the DR Congo**

In the seminar held on September 21, the conflict resource problem was taken up as example. Discussion took place about the relationship of the actual situation of human rights violation in resource production areas and the social responsibility of companies that use these resources in advanced nations. As material for discussion, the documentary film *The Man Who Mends Women* (Belgium, 2015), describing the activities of Dr. Denis Mukwege who is engaged in medical activities in eastern DR Congo, was shown and the participants were able to understand the details of sexual violence as a tactic of conflicts occurring in resource production areas and the actual conditions of resource use. After the film screening, three panelists—Mr. Shigeru Tanaka from PARC, which conducted a survey of local mines in eastern DR Congo, Mr. Hajime Ueda of Kyocera, which is a member of the JEITA Responsible Minerals Trade Working Group that is engaged in conflict mineral issues in Japan, and Mr. Masahiro Yamazaki of the JEITA Secretariat—gave lectures explaining how Japanese companies are striving to meet their social responsibilities and discussed the direction Japanese society should take in the future.

**1. Date & Time:** 18:00-21:00, September 21, Wed., 2016

**2. Venue:** the University of Tokyo, Komaba Campus, Building 18 Hall

**3. Program**

- Opening Addresses

Kaoru Nemoto, United Nations Information Center (UNIC), Director

Junzo Fujita, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador for TICAD

- Film Screening of *The Man Who Mends Women*

- Lectures

Shigeru Tanaka, Pacific Asia Resource Center (PARC), Director

Hajime Ueda, Kyocera, Supply Chain Risk Management Section, Manager

Masahiro Yamazaki, Japan Electrics and Information Technology Industries

Association (JEITA), International Affairs Department, Manager

- Question and Answer

- Closing Remarks

Yasunobu Sato, the University of Tokyo, Professor

\*MC: Kazuyo Hanai, the University of Tokyo, Project Research Associate

#### 4. Organizers

- Organizer: the University of Tokyo, Global Leader Program for Social Design and Management (GSDM),
- Co-Organizer: the University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Arts and Science, Graduate Program in Human Security (HSP) / Komaba Organization for Educational Excellence (KOMEX)
- Support: Africa Society, Institute for Advanced Global Studies (IAGS) / Center for African Studies / Research Center for Sustainable Peace / Research Center for Sustainable Development, NPO Human Security Forum (HSF) , Ohdake Foundation, United Nations Information Center (UNIC)

#### 5. Report

A total of 174 people from aid agencies, NGOs, companies, media, the general public, and students participated in the seminar, making it a valuable opportunity to consider the conflict issue in DR Congo.

##### 5.1. Opening Addresses

###### **Kaoru Nemoto, United Nations Information Center, Director**

September 21 was the International Day of Peace. Director Nemoto touched on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations in September 2015 and introduced the UN Secretary-General’s message “The theme of this year’s Peace Day highlights the 17 Sustainable Development Goals—the SDGs—as Building Blocks for Peace. Conflict often starts when people compete over limited resources. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is our blueprint to prevent such conflicts from arising by making sure no one is left behind.” She also pointed out that the Goal 12 of the SDGs ensuring “responsible consumption and production” and the intent of the seminar is consistent, and stated her desire for solving the conflict in DR Congo.



###### **Junzo Fujita, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador for TICAD**

Ambassador Fujita described, occasionally including his experiences during his posting in Africa, how the 1994 Rwanda genocide led to the development of conflict in the neighboring country, DR Congo. He then spoke of the importance of discussing in Japan the conflict issues happening in faraway Africa.





## 5.2. Film Screening

To understand the relationship between the conflict resources issue and sexual violence in DR Congo, *The Man Who Mends Women*, a documentary film depicting the medical activities of Dr. Denis Mukwege in eastern DR Congo was shown. The film was made in 2015 in Belgium and Japanese subtitles were added by the Association on Sexual Violence and Conflict in DR Congo (ASVCC). It describes the current situation in eastern DR Congo where conflicts continue and sexual violence is occurring in a large scale, Dr. Mukwege's activities which are committed to physically and mentally rescuing the victims, and the strength of women recovering from the violence and striving to open up their lives.



## 5.3. Lecture

### Shigeru Tanaka, PARC, Director

Based on his visit to DR Congo in October 2015, Mr. Tanaka introduced the fact that control in eastern DR Congo mines is recently shifting from armed groups to the Congolese army, and emphasized the need to continue to grasp a situation that is changing every moment. He then called for people not to avoid minerals originating in DR Congo but instead to try to understand the goods that are making up their lives—where these products come from and who made them.



### Masahiro Yamazaki, JEITA, International Affairs Department, Manager

Mr. Yamazaki explained that as a result of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance and the U.S. Dodd-Frank Act established in 2010, an industrial network on the handling of conflict minerals was also formed in Japan, and that companies are implementing conflict mineral procurement surveys. He then introduced the survey method that the Responsible Minerals Trade Working Group employs using the Conflict Minerals Reporting Template.



### Hajime Ueda, Kyocera, Supply Chain Risk Management Section, Manager

Since Kyocera group is a U.S. listed company that manufactures and supplies tantalum

capacitors, Kyocera has been engaged in supply chain management accommodating OECD Guidance and Dodd-Frank Act from an early stage. Mr. Ueda introduced Kyocera's initiatives specifically and explained that securing a supply chain that does not include conflict minerals has become standard within the industry.



#### **5.4. Question and Answer**

In the Q&A session between panelist and participants, lively discussion was undertaken about the impressions of the movie and the circumstances surrounding DR Congo that were not described in the movie. As impressions of the movie, scenes of exploitation at mines in DR Congo and the functions of the government, that were not mentioned very much in the movie, were taken up. Mr. Tanaka, who conducted a local survey, made suggestions about corruption in the DR Congolese army and actions by Belgium which was involved in the production of the film. In answer to a question on the awareness of companies regarding conflict resources, Mr. Yamazaki gave his opinion from the perspective of corporations.

#### **5.5. Closing Remarks**

##### **Yasunobu Sato, the University of Tokyo, Professor**

At the closing of the seminar, Prof. Sato spoke about the global trend of stressing the importance of human rights due diligence in business. He likened it to the scene in the film where Dr. Mukwege asks village residents "What were the men doing?", and asked "What must we do?" before emphasizing the importance of each one of us thinking about what we can do.



### **III. Special Lectures of Dr. Denis Mukwege**

On October 3 and 4, 2016, two lectures, jointly organized by the GSDM and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF), were held featuring gynecologist Dr. Denis Mukwege who is committed to rescuing the victims of sexual violence in eastern DR Congo.

These lectures were timely in several aspects. Firstly, Dr. Mukwege, a Nobel Peace Prize nominee, is widely known in Western countries for his activities and received the UN Human Rights Prize (2008), the Hillary Clinton Award (2014), and the European Parliament Sakharov Prize (2014). However, it was his first visit to Japan and the lecture became a valuable opportunity to listen to his awareness of the issues in Japan.

Secondly, since regulations on the conflict minerals trade were introduced by the OECD and the U.S. in 2010, companies in developed countries, mainly in the West, have started to make the supply chain transparent, and conflict mineral procurement surveys have also been undertaken in Japan. However, in Japan, opportunities for companies, research institutions, and civil society to discuss this problem together have been limited.

In addition to Dr. Mukwege, Prof. Masako Yonekawa, a specially appointed associate professor of Rikkyo University and the former head of the UNHCR Goma office in eastern DR Congo, Prof. Kozue Akibayashi of Doshisha University Graduate School, who is a specialist in gender issues, and Mr. Hiroaki Yoshinaga, head of the Sales Department of Advanced Material Japan, which is engaged in the rare metals trade, were also invited and discussed how Japan should respond to sexual violence in eastern DR Congo and the conflict minerals issue.

#### **[Part 1]**

#### **Sexual Violence and Protection of Women's Rights under Armed Conflict**

**1. Date & Time:** 14:00-16:00, October 3, Mon., 2016

**2. Venue:** the Sasakawa Peace Foundation Building, 11F International Conference Hall

**3. Program**

- Opening Addresses

Hiroyuki Ishi, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF), Counselor

- Remarks

Masako Yonekawa, Rikkyo University, Specially Appointed Associate Professor

- Keynote Lecture

"Sexual Violence and Protection of Women's Rights under Armed Conflict"

Denis Mukwege, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Panzi Hospital, Doctor

- Comment

Kozue Akibayashi, Doshisha University, Professor

- Panel Discussion

Panelist: Dr. Mukwege, Prof. Akibayashi, Prof. Yonekawa

Moderator: Mari Kogiso, SPF, International Project Planning and Development  
Department, Director

- Question and Answer

#### **4. Organizers**

- Organizer: the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF)

- Co-organizer: Association on Sexual Violence and Conflict in DR Congo (ASVCC)

- Support: the University of Tokyo, Global Leader Program for Social Design and  
Management (GSDM), United Nations Information Center (UNIC)

#### **5. Report**

A total of 149 people of aid agencies, NGOs, companies, media, the general public, and students participated in the lecture.

##### **5.1. Opening Address**

###### **Hiroyuki Ishi, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Counselor**

Based on his experience of residing in Africa as Ambassador of Japan to Zambia, Counselor Ishi spoke about sexual violence under armed conflict and status of women in Africa. Sexual violence had occurred during the past world wars and subsequent civil wars in various regions and women have always been victims. However, it has for some time been recognized that the role of women is extremely important for the stability and economic development of countries. With these circumstances in mind, he talked about his hopes for the lecture to become a forum for consideration of gender in future international society.



##### **5.2. Remarks**

###### **Masako Yonekawa, Rikkyo University, Specially Appointed Associate Professor**

Prof. Yonekawa, who has experience of tirelessly serving to support refugees as the former head of the UNHCR Goma office in eastern DR Congo, spoke about the motivations of establishing the Association on Sexual Violence and Conflict in DR Congo (ASVCC) and inviting Dr. Mukwege in cooperation with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation and the GSDM of the University of Tokyo.



One of the motives for inviting Dr. Mukwege was to increase the recognition of the relationship between conflict minerals and sexual terrorism. The other motive was that she wanted to create an opportunity to look back on conflicts within DR Congo, as this year marks the 20th anniversary of the outbreak of the conflict. Many Japanese know about the 1994 genocide that took place in Rwanda. The genocide in Rwanda spread to DR Congo and conflicts occurred there in 1996. The number of deaths resulting from the DR Congo conflict amounted to six million in 20 years. This number is the largest in scale as victims of one region in the post-WW II era. Nevertheless, the conflict in DR Congo is little known. There are human rights and business elements behind this; that is, economic reasons are concerned, which is related to our everyday lives. There is a need to discuss these problems adequately.

Also, before Dr. Mukwege's lecture, Prof. Yonekawa explained three points as keys to understanding DR Congo's current situation. The first point was that even after the official "termination" of the conflict in 2003, violence by armed groups continued, and the distinction between wartime and peacetime has become obscure. The second point was the role of the state in DR Congo. Generally a state is believed to be in existence to protect citizens, but there are states where this is not so. There are cases where the state acts as a perpetrator of human rights violations, or where the distinction between the national army and anti-government forces is obscure and where the two are actually cooperating in the conflict area. The third point was the role of the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (PKO), the International Criminal Court (ICC), and other international organizations. The main duty of the PKO is the protection of civilians, but in reality there are cases where the PKO is taking part in the conflict by cooperating with the national army. Looking at the Congolese people who the ICC has prosecuted to date, almost all are small fish. Meanwhile the ICC has tolerated big-time criminals who have committed genocide and crimes against humanity.

In his lecture Dr. Mukwege talked about the problem of impunity behind sexual violence, but Prof. Yonekawa explained that there are "double impunities" at both the domestic and international levels.

### **5.3. Keynote Lecture**

#### **"Sexual Violence and Protection of Women's Rights under Armed Conflict"**

#### **Denis Mukwege, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Panzi Hospital, Doctor**

The problem of conflict resources due to multinational companies seeking profits is causing sexual terrorism. I would like to stress that this should be rectified. Many women in areas where tantalum is produced are victims. This mineral is used for mobile phones, missiles, and airplanes. In our pockets, in the mobile phones we have, there is the sexual violence suffered by Congolese women. Through the provision of funds and tax injections, nation states and corporations are also taking part in this conflict. The conflict in DR Congo

is not an ethnic conflict. It is neither civil war nor religious war nor terrorism. The Congolese conflict is an economic conflict. And its greatest victims are women and children.



Sexual violence is used as a low cost conflict weapon. When I treat the patients in the hospital I can tell which armed group members were the rapists in 80 percent of the female victims. This is because each group has a certain specific method of injuring the genitalia. Men are victims, too. In one act of collective sexual violence 200 to 300 women were victims and sometimes all the women of a village become the targets. The rapists' aim is to have a fatal impact on the community by raping women in front of villagers and "destroying" women and displaying brutality to everyone. Targets of sexual violence have ranged from a six-month-old baby to a woman aged 80. The brutal violence includes shooting genitalia with guns and penetrating women's genitalia with weapons. Sexual violence also spreads sexual diseases and the HIV virus. In addition to a population decrease, sexual violence spreads diseases beyond generations to the entire economy which women support and consequently has a great negative effect. Violence destroys social organization. The relationships between children who saw their mothers being raped and parents who saw their children being raped become disrupted. Children born of rape are referred to as a "snake-child" and no one in the community, including their families, takes care of them, thereby cutting them off from the society. In this way sexual violence is an extremely efficient weapon. Congo is regarded as a country with a large development paradox because in spite of being blessed with abundant natural minerals, it cannot emerge from its position as one of the world's least developed countries. Victims of sexual violence are alienated from families and society because of being victims of rape.

International society should act to end this situation. The provision of funds to armed groups should be stopped. The human rights abuses seen frequently in the mines should be eliminated. The traceability of minerals should be improved. Unless these problems are solved, the free economic activities of all companies should not be approved. We have to cooperate in challenging this issue although it is happening in a place far away. Taking U.S. and European legislation as models, I would like you to support the campaign by appealing to public opinion. I would like the Sasakawa Peace Foundation to contribute to this also. Things such as the human rights of residents, social welfare, and altruism must be prioritized over corporate profits. Corporations are not the enemies of human rights; they are supposed to be friends and partners. By investing in companies as partners, sustainable development will be possible. Happiness and affluence are things to share, and which will lead to the happiness of our global village—Earth.

## 5.4. Comment

### **Kozue Akibayashi, Doshisha University, Professor**

Prof. Akibayashi described how the awareness that during conflict sexual violence is used as a weapon has been formed over time in the international community.

United Nations, starting with the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, has been working on human rights violations against women, systemic sexual violence, sexual violence as a conflict weapon and tactic, and ending impunity. The UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1325 in 2000 which incorporates gender perspectives in peace and security policies. In the background to these gender issues handled as main problems of human security is the contribution of the feminist movement by civil society. Prof. Akibayashi explained that various NGOs continue to conduct activities to secure human rights and improve the status of women.



## 5.5. Panel Discussion

During the panel discussion, opinions were exchanged on measures to improve women's status and rectify gender inequality in DR Congo and in international society including Japan. Women's participation in politics is said to exert positive influences. However, under the current situation it is still quite difficult to reflect the voices of women and their opinions in politics. Dr. Mukwege has stated that women have difficulty getting to the negotiation table but that it is women who suffer the greatest damage during conflicts, and has pointed out the necessity of women joining the negotiations more.

Prof. Yonekawa and Prof. Akibayashi pointed out that rather than only focusing on a quantitative index like the number of female parliamentary members, it is more important to essentially increase women's abilities to achieve goals in society.



## 5.6. Question and Answer

During the Q&A, lively discussions took place on the following topics: (1) Human rights issue was not proposed in the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) held in August 2016. Does Dr. Mukwege have any message for Japanese political

and economic leaders? (2) I want to do something for DR Congo but is there anything I can do in Japan? and (3) What is needed to increase the number of female leaders in the future?

Dr. Mukwege expressed his opinion that although the Japanese government mainly talked about business including mineral resources in TICAD, there can be no sound development unless not only business but also human rights are globalized and universalized and proceeded together. Regarding the advancement of women in society he said that women's power demonstrates its true value during tragedy. Women have the power to face tragedy. It is women who do academically well in universities. There are statistics that banks managed by women prosper more. This is not lip service but a reality. It is necessary for women to demonstrate their true value and to execute their rights as women. It is said that things go better when women do them rather than when men do the same thing. Nothing is achieved if you give \$50 to men but if you give it to women they will make it into a house. The promotion of women's participation is extremely important.





## **[Part 2]**

### **The Relationship between Sexual Violence under Armed Conflict and Conflict Minerals**

**1. Date & Time:** 9:40-12:10, October 4, Tue., 2016

**2. Venue:** the University of Tokyo, Hongo Campus, Ito Hall

#### **3. Program**

- Opening Address

Hideaki Shiroyama, the University of Tokyo, Professor

- Remarks

Masako Yonekawa, Rikkyo University, Specially Appointed Associate Professor

- Keynote Lecture

“The Relationship between Sexual Violence under Armed Conflict and Conflict Minerals”

Denis Mukwege, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Panzi Hospital, Doctor

- Comment

Hiroaki Yoshinaga, Advanced Material Trading, Senior Director

- Question and Answer

- Presentation of a Commemorative Gift

\*MC: Kazuyo Hanai, the University of Tokyo, Project Research Associate

#### **4. Organizers**

- Organizer: Global Leader Program for Social Design and Management (GSDM),  
the University of Tokyo

- Co-organizer: Graduate School of Arts and Science, Graduate Program in Human  
Security (HSP) / Komaba Organization for Educational Excellence (KOMEX),  
the University of Tokyo / Association on Sexual Violence and Conflict in DR Congo  
(ASVCC)

- Support: the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF)

#### **5. Report**

A total of 177 people of aid agencies, NGOs, companies, media, the general public, and students participated in the lecture.

##### **5.1. Opening Address**

###### **Hideaki Shiroyama, the University of Tokyo, Professor**

Before the lecture GSDM program coordinator Prof. Shiroyama described the significance of the lecture. He explained that in the modern era of increasing globalization, there are many situations where the economic activities of citizens are unknowingly causing social problems in faraway areas. The theme of the lecture was one such social

issue. To think about the connection between the use of conflict minerals and violations of human rights in conflict mineral mining areas relates to Goal 12 “Ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns,” commonly called “responsible consumption and production” advocated in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations in September 2015. He hoped that the lecture on the relationship between sexual violence and conflict minerals issue by Dr. Mukwege from eastern DR Congo would be an opportunity to increase Japanese awareness of the social issue of human rights violations under global economy and to think about what the general public could do and how to proceed with such measures.



## 5.2. Remarks

### **Masako Yonekawa, Rikkyo University, Specially Appointed Associate Professor**

Before Dr. Mukwege’s lecture, Prof. Yonekawa spoke about the significance of inviting Dr. Mukwege to Japan in the year that marks 20th anniversary of the start of the Congo conflict. She explained the following three points as keys to understanding Dr. Mukwege’s lecture: (1) the nature and role of the state; (2) the obscurity of a distinction between wartime and peacetime; and (3) the double structure of impunity on domestic and international levels. (Refer to detailed description on P. 12.)



## 5.3. Keynote Lecture

### **“The Relationship between Sexual Violence under Armed Conflict and Conflict Minerals” Denis Mukwege, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Panzi Hospital, Doctor**

(Full text of the lecture is in the Appendix)

Mineral resources that are supposed to contribute to the development of countries are resulting in the generation of poverty and violence. This is particularly so in eastern part of our country, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo). The global economy requires the natural resources and they are located in poor countries. However, ethical values are lacking on the part of developing side. As a result, sacrifices have continued to be made for a number of decades. Today, I would like to think about the economic reasons and results of sexual violence.



There is a complex relationship between the development of mineral resources and sexual violence. Eighty percent of the world's tantalum reserves is said to be in DR Congo. In industries that use advanced technologies, tantalum is used as a material in condensers and mobile phones. As it is resistant to heat it is also used in rockets and missiles. This tantalum has inflicted suffering on women.

A peace agreement was formally signed in 2002 to end the armed conflict in DR Congo. We had hopes, but even after the "termination" of the conflict, the activities of armed groups did not end and systematic looting continued. Since DR Congo is not functioning adequately as a nation ruled by law, there are no regulations or minimum wage. Consequently firms can develop mines inexpensively. Purchasing resources from fragile states leads to cost reductions. Through ill intention or ignorance, citizens at the end of the supply chain are exposed to violence continuously.

Mineral development that generates violence is related systematically to sexual violence. Sexual violence has nothing to do with sexual desire; it is sexual terrorism. Sexual violence is used as a means of control by giving significant impact to the victims. The word "genocide" means to take people's lives but "gynocide" can be used as a word to mean the destruction of genitalia.

In my acceptance speech of the Sakharov Prize, I said "We have spent too much time and energy fixing the consequences of violence. It is time to take care of the causes." I called for legislation that has the objectives of cutting the relationship between illegal development and violence, cutting the funding of armed groups, and solving human rights violations. Optimization of the supply chain such as the introduction of traceability is required to solve the issue of conflict minerals. Some multinational companies say that it will deprive them of economic freedom, but such companies are lacking ethical values. Also consumers need to be conscious of what the contents of the products they are buying are and from where they come.

This is my first visit to Japan and I had a chance to get a little grasp of Japanese culture. I learned the word *rita* means not only to protect one's own interest but also the interests of other people, or altruism. I would like to see people unite and stand up together to realize a society rich in humanity.

\*During the lecture, a Congolese youth unexpectedly climbed onto the stage and made a personal statement. To this Dr. Mukwege replied that he was sorry as a Congolese citizen, but that young people are also feeling frustration and that the young man had made the statement under such circumstances.

#### **5.4. Comment**

##### **Hiroaki Yoshinaga, Advanced Material Trading, Senior Director**

Mr. Yoshinaga said that discussing social issues is a valuable opportunity for corporate

employees. He added that his company procures rare metals from various countries. Rare metals are called the Achilles' heel of industry and in advanced technology small amounts of rare metals are vital in realizing sophisticated functions. Regarding conflict minerals measures, he said that his company implements traceability in line with the Dodd-Frank Act Section 1502 established in the U.S. in 2010. First, the company dispatches monitoring staff to areas where there are no armed groups present and tag minerals to secure traceability from mines to smelters and refineries. Second, using the methods recommended by the U.S., the company confirms the exporting country government's certificate of origin and deals with smelters and refineries that have acquired approval from a Conflict Free Smelter audit.



### 5.5. Question and Answer

During the Q&A session, three points were mainly discussed. First, there were questions regarding the effects of conflict minerals trade regulations such as: whether or not U.S. and EU regulations are having effects in terms of measures against armed groups; and, if the UN Security Council resolution to stop violence by armed groups and the



Congolese army is actually having effect. To these questions Dr. Mukwege stated that there is problem as to the effectiveness of these regulations. It is not an issue of putting an end to resources consumption. Minerals export is important for the local economy. The formation of mine workers' labor unions and the enabling of them to trade without going through the national army which is acting as an agent, will lead to an increase in workers' income. He said he hoped that Japan would also introduce regulations.

The second point was on the intentions of sexual violence. It was asked whether there was an aspect of control by having victims pass on the perpetrators' blood, and whether by damaging genitalia the perpetrators were trying to control the population to allow minority groups to benefit. To this Dr. Mukwege said that one of the intentions of the armed groups is to strengthen their control and destroy community connections by introducing their blood into local communities. As for gender equality, laws exist in DR Congo but their effectiveness is a problem.

The third point included questions about the fact that the national army is known to be involved in the conflict minerals business also, so it is difficult to understand how sexual violence can be stopped simply by solving the issue of armed groups. At the same time a

view was given that DR Congo's armed groups seem to be practicing business. Rather than conflict minerals promoting armed groups' activities, the conflict is continued in order to obtain mineral resources. To this Dr. Mukwege stated that armed groups and the Congolese army have become businessmen rather than parties protecting residents. Collusion between multinational companies and the Congolese army is a problem, too, and because smelters are located outside the country there is a limit to traceability. He added that he wished that Japan which conducts police training as part of its official development assistance, would realize that in the DR Congo's police forces there are former soldiers who have been involved in the human rights abuse of residents and there are impunity problems existing.

### **5.6. Presentation of a Commemorative Gift**

At the closing, a bouquet of flowers and a commemorative gift were presented to Dr. Mukwege by students who had worked hard on the invitation project of Dr. Mukwege.



## IV. Follow-up Seminar

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**18:30-20:30, February 27, Mon., 2017**

### **Follow-up Seminar on the Business and Human Rights on the Issue of Conflict Minerals in the DR Congo**

In the follow-up seminar on February 27, panelists from various sectors were invited to verify what kind of awareness changes have occurred in business, academia, and media circles as a result of the film screenings and lecture, and discussed the future outlook.

**1. Date & Time:** 18:30-20:30, February 27, Mon., 2017

**2. Venue:** the University of Tokyo, Hongo Campus, Engineering Building 2-213

#### **3. Program**

- Opening Address

Kazuyo Hanai, the University of Tokyo, Project Research Associate

- Remarks

Masako Yonekawa, Rikkyo University, Specially Appointed Associate Professor

- Panel Talk

<Panelist>

Kaoru Nemoto, United Nations Information Center (UNIC), Director

Minori Nagaki, Hosei University, Graduate School of Global and Asian Politics, M1 student/ Japan Association for Refugees (JAR), Intern

Shigeru Tanaka, Pacific Asia Resource Center (PARC), Director

Masahiro Yamazaki, Japan Electrics & Information Technology Industries

Association (JEITA), International Affairs Department, Manager

Hiroshi Nakano, the Asahi Shimbun, Staff Writer

Yuta Moriguchi, Kobe City University of Foreign Studies, Student / *Kaihatsu Media ganas*, Writer

Jean-Claude Maswana, University of Tsukuba, Associate Professor

<Moderator>

Masako Yonekawa, Rikkyo University, Specially Appointed Associate Professor

Kazuyo Hanai, the University of Tokyo, Project Research Associate

- Panel Discussion

- Question and Answer

- General Overview

Ai Kihara-Hunt, the University of Tokyo, Associate Professor

\*MC: Akiyuki Masuda, the University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Engineering, D2 student

#### 4. Organizers

- Organizer: Global Leader Program for Social Design and Management (GSDM), the University of Tokyo
- Co-organizer: Association on Sexual Violence and Conflict in DR Congo (ASVCC)

#### 5. Report

A total of 96 people of aid agencies, NGOs, companies, media, the general public, and students participated in the seminar.

##### 5.1. Opening Address

###### **Kazuyo Hanai, the University of Tokyo, Project Research Associate**

In her opening address, Dr. Hanai described the outline of the project and the current situation in DR Congo. The two Congo conflicts that began in 1996 officially terminated in 2003, but conflict continues in eastern DR Congo and the two keys to understanding the situation are the issues of conflict resources and large-scale sexual violence. The actors involved in these issues are complicated and diverse, and comprehensive measures from multiple directions, including the United Nations, international organizations, NGOs, the media, governments, companies, and consumers are required to find a solution. In the seminar, Dr. Hanai stated her hope for a discussion of what we should do from now on.



##### 5.2. Keynote Remarks

###### **Masako Yonekawa, Rikkyo University, Specially Appointed Associate Professor**

Prof. Yonekawa first spoke about the motives for working to solve the problem, and then cited the impressions of some of the 3,000 people who had participated in nationwide screenings of the film *The Man Who Mends Women*, and demonstrated the impact this series of activities had on Japanese society. Furthermore, in response to the fact that there were many comments stating that people understood the conditions in DR Congo but did not know what they should be doing, she stated that she would like to give some hints to such comments in the seminar. She then introduced the political situation in DR Congo as of the end of 2016, and emphasized that although it is no easy job to identify measures for solutions due to the complexity of the problem, it is important to continue discussions and start with doing what we can do.



### 5.3. Panel Talk

#### **Kaoru Nemoto, United Nations Information Center, Director**

Since United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 was adopted in 2000, violence against women has been recognized as an issue that destabilizes international peace and security, and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict was established in 2009. The issue of conflict minerals is related to the Goal 12 of the SDGs “sustainable consumption and production” and the gender issue is a problem that is connected not only with the Goal 5 “gender equality” but to all 17 SDGs. She mentioned that the film *The Man Who Mends Women* is deeply involved with these issues and that she was honored to have been able to work with a film that leads to discussion of one of the UN’s most important issues.



#### **Minori Nagaki, Hosei University, M1 student / JAR, Intern**

Ms. Nagaki who has contacts with Congolese communities in Japan and was involved in the event operation as a member of the Association on Sexual Violence and Conflict in DR Congo, described the process of how she has become involved in conducting research on human rights and resources in DR Congo. She then explained the features of Congolese refugees. Refugees are emerging due to political factors in the capital and to persecution by armed groups in eastern regions, but the common factor for both types of refugees is sexual violence. As effects of Dr. Mukwege’s visit to Japan, she pointed out the impact on people who transmit information on human rights protection on social networking services (SNS) and changes occurring in the Japan Association for Refugees.



#### **Shigeru Tanaka, PARC, Director**

How should we regard the conflict minerals regulations introduced in 2010? Given the weakening of armed groups and the number of victims of sexual violence beginning to decrease, regulations can be evaluated as having had restrictive effects. At the same time, victims still exist and the problem cannot be solved by regulations alone. That does not mean that regulations have no effect. Regulations serve as cornerstones allowing room for other activities, and we can now expect preventive effects. It is necessary to aim for procurement that remains





close to communities and people so that residents who have lived by depending on minerals will not become subject to the regulations.

**Masahiro Yamazaki, JEITA, International Affairs Department, Manager**

Mr. Yamazaki said that in Japan the industry sector, centering on JEITA, is working on the conflict minerals issue. He added that as this is not an issue that can be addressed by a single country, Japan is cooperating with industrial circles around the world to promote and spread the Conflict-Free Smelter Program. Mr. Yamazaki introduced the survey method that uses a unified format to identify smelters and pointed out that conflict minerals procurement surveys require a lot of labor on the part of the corporations. Furthermore, he said that JEITA held a screening of the film *The Man Who Mends Women* at the Responsible Minerals Trade Working Group. Mr. Yamazaki cited some of the comments made at the time of the screening and explained the film's impact on the industrial world.



**Hiroshi Nakano, the Asahi Shimbun, Staff Writer**

Mr. Nakano described the difficulty of communicating African news in Japan and gave his thoughts on tackling coverage. When interviewing Dr. Mukwege, Mr. Nakano asked him mainly on the local situation and his activities. But in addition, he said that such coverage will not lead to social movement unless it communicates what actions are being taken in the communities to which readers belong and what each one of them should do. From now on, he said, there is a need to communicate to the readers what measures they can take as consumers, by rationally reporting the actual conditions of companies.



**Yuta Moriguchi, Kobe City University of Foreign Studies, Student / ganas, Writer**

Mr. Moriguchi explained the Web media *ganas* which specializes in developing countries and then described the strong response to the screening of the film *The Man Who Mends Women* and articles on Dr. Mukwege's visit to Japan. Taking note of the fact that the main readers of *ganas* were women in their late 20s to early 30s, an age group that can be actors to serve in international cooperation, he said that to continue offering information to these groups would serve as foundation for the resolution of the problem. Furthermore, as regards individual



problem consciousness, Mr. Moriguchi pointed out the necessity of increasing the number of people who know about the problem. He stressed that there is a need for people to first know about the problem in order to make action.

### **Jean-Claude Maswana, University of Tsukuba, Associate Professor**

Prof. Maswana expressed his gratitude that the visit to Japan by Dr. Mukwege, who is engaged in the rescue of sexual violence victims in eastern DR Congo, has been a fruitful one for the entire Congolese people. He expressed hope that Dr. Mukwege would convey the actual conditions of DR Congo to the world and draw international supporters' attention, while at the same time he expressed his wish to advance cooperative relations between DR



Congo and Japan in diverse sectors. He said he hoped that collaboration will deepen between researchers and civil societies, and that corporate initiatives will evolve into corporate global responsibilities. He added that in Congolese networks outside DR Congo, it is important to actively utilize SNS to increase awareness of citizens and report the situation of the problem on the Internet even more frequently.

### **5.4. Panel Discussion**

Discussion took place on such topics as the impact of the inauguration of President Donald Trump, what the form of DR Congo-Japan cooperation should be in the future, and what we can do.

Regarding President Trump's inauguration, multilateralism itself, centering on the United Nations, is facing a threat and the UN's significance is being tried and tested. From the perspective of the protection of women, the majority of refugees are women and the role the U.S. has played is huge and we have to continue to appeal its importance. As for the conflict minerals issue, even if the Dodd-Frank Act Section 1502 were abolished, it is unlikely that trade in conflict minerals will start immediately. However, regulations that will take its place are necessary and whether or not the attitude that responsibility for conflict minerals should be taken on by companies will be recognized widely in society is important. We are on the edge of this now, and the abolition of the law could influence this point. Concerning DR Congo-Japan cooperation, the need for collaboration between researchers and civil societies was discussed. There are only few political researchers in conflict areas in DR Congo but accurate knowledge is needed for the provision of assistance and it is important to continue the research.

### **5.5. Question and Answer**

During the Q&A session, active discussion took place on the following questions: why

conflict minerals regulations are useful for solving violence to women; if the government is a perpetrator also, would not the actions to stop such behavior be an interference in domestic affairs; is peace-building achieved by economic sanctions; are there movements like Fairphone in Japan; are not former colonial control by Western countries and multinational companies in the core of the issue; how are victims' voices being utilized; is regulation possible from the perspective of economic rationality; what is it that we should be conveying next with television, a media in which the volume of information is limited but gives strong impression to the great majority of people and is capable of creating motivation.

Lastly, Prof. Maswana emphasized that activists in DR Congo are fighting daily to find a solution to the problem and what is needed is the assistance from outside the nation. Regarding the opinion that activities closely oriented to the Congolese citizens should be conducted, Mr. Moriguchi said that supporting aid organizations that can be trusted and creating a flow of money with purpose is important.



## 5.6. General Overview

### **Ai Kihara-Hunt, the University of Tokyo, Associate Professor**

At the closing of the seminar, Prof. Kihara-Hunt stated that it was significant that people from various sectors have come together and that a network has been built to spread activities and make a big impact. She said that the role played by each actor is different but the responsibility to know and the responsibility to try to know is common to all. Prof. Kihara-Hunt herself has come to have an interest in this problem from the experience of conducting human rights investigations for the UN and the experience of researching on the individual criminal accountability of UN peace operations personnel. She concluded that this seminar should not end here, but that it should be a stepping stone for further effort in addressing the issue.



## V. General Overview of the Project

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This project was of great social significance for three reasons.

Firstly, by inviting Dr. Denis Mukwege to Japan, we were able to provide an opportunity for ordinary Japanese citizens to hear directly the voice of a Congolese person who is striving to solve the issue in eastern DR Congo. Dr. Mukwege conducts lectures every year in all parts of the world. However, this was his first visit to East Asia. Eastern DR Congo is an area where the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan has issued warning and advice to “evacuate and avoid all travel” and is a place that is difficult to visit even for Japanese support-related staff. Consequently, opportunities to listen to the voices of people involved in the issue are extremely limited. With Dr. Mukwege’s visit to Japan this time, it was greatly significant that we were able to learn about the local situation and the feelings of people involved and directly ask questions from the perspective of Japan, without going through the filters of Western media and NGOs.

Secondly, through the screenings of the film *The Man Who Mends Women* and Dr. Mukwege’s lecture, we were able to increase social interest in the conflict resources issue in DR Congo as well as sexual violence as a tactic of conflict, both of which were until today almost unknown in Japan. In Dr. Mukwege’s visit in October in 2016, a total of 326 people attended the lectures held over two days. During his five-day stay in Japan, 19 media came for interviews and reported the conflict issue in DR Congo through newspapers, TV news, Web media, and radio. In particular, a Web article distributed on the day of the lecture, received 100,000 hits in one week, gaining huge attention. Conflict issues in DR Congo, which until today have only been reported once or twice a year, have been covered widely. The significance of arousing the interest of general citizens is great. By knowing that even ordinary citizens in Japan, who live so far away from DR Congo, can play a part in the conflict by purchasing electronic devices that may be using conflict minerals, people have begun to be aware that DR Congo’s problem is not somebody else’s problem but their own problem. This seems to have increased the interest. Influenced by this, as of February 2017 a total of over 3,000 people had attended screenings of *The Man Who Mends Women* held with the cooperation of universities, NGOs, and the UNHCR at 29 sites in Japan. The fact that the GSDM played a core part in this social movement deserves acclaim.

Thirdly, through the series of lectures and the seminar, a platform was formed where UN and international organizations, companies, NGOs, the media, and research institutes could cooperate and discuss a single social issue. Until now, these entities had performed independently in Japan: UN organizations and NGOs engaged in educational activities taking this as human rights issues; companies worked on responding to conflict minerals trade regulations; and the media conducted interviews and reports as news from Africa. Opportunities for information sharing and opinion exchange have been limited. In this

project, by having the GSDM hold the seminar as mediator, we were able to create an environment in which relevant people from each sector could have dialogues and seek solutions together. Particularly in the follow-up seminar on February 27, the panelists who were engaged in conflict issues in DR Congo in the UN organizations, NGOs, industrial associations, the media, and universities exchanged views, followed by a Q&A session with participants from the floor. It deserves recognition that the GSDM, which advocates industry-government-academia-private collaboration, was able to implement such a forum where relevant people from diverse sectors could get together and discuss what they can each do from their own positions.

Simultaneously with the end of FY 2016, relevant people are already starting opinion exchange toward FY 2017. Regarding the social issues and human rights violations occurring in the global economy, namely DR Congo's conflict resources issue and sexual violence, the question is what can companies and consumers located in the downstream supply chain do? With FY 2016 projects, this project contributed to the deepening of the awareness of the problems by Japanese society. In the next FY we would like to continue discussions so that we can provide even more concrete solutions.

## Appendix

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### **Full Text of Dr. Mukwege's Lecture at the University of Tokyo, on October 4 "The Relationship between Sexual Violence under Armed Conflict and Conflict Minerals"**

I would like to thank the people from the University of Tokyo, everyone involved in planning and organizing this event, Prof. Shiroyama and Dr. Hanai from the GSDM of the University of Tokyo. Ladies and gentlemen, I am grateful for the opportunity to discuss an important issue today.

I hear that the University of Tokyo has recently celebrated its 140th anniversary. I am very happy to be able to talk to you on such an occasion. For 150 years, the University of Tokyo has been a cornerstone in Japanese history. Its researchers and alumni are active in world's top humanity and science fields. The university has been active as one of the highest institutions of learning since the Meiji period (1868–1912). I am truly happy to have been invited in this meeting and symposium, and I thank you very much.

Today I will talk about the relationship between conflict minerals and violence against women in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, my country.

Being rich in natural resources should naturally bring the possibility of development to an area. But on the contrary, in DR Congo it has created social fragmentation by inflicting poverty and sorrow on unfortunate citizens. That is what is happening in eastern DR Congo and the main victims are women and children. Natural resources are supposed to bring a developmental possibility, but, unfortunately, they have resulted in creating poverty, violence, and frustration. These problems are particularly occurring in eastern DR Congo, the area where I work. And the women are the main victims.

I believe it is the responsibility of all humanity to protect the human rights and happiness of all people in all places. The global economy increasingly requires natural resources, but natural resources exist in poor countries. Here rises the problem of ethics on the developing side. There are no laws to regulate these issues internationally and locally within the area. That is why blood has been spilled for many decades. In DR Congo, there is a complex relationship between the development of mineral resources and sexual violence. I cannot describe them all today so I will speak briefly about columbite-tantalite.

Columbite-tantalite is called coltan by industry and is obtained from the refining of columbite. It is said that 80 percent of the world's reserves of coltan are in DR Congo. Coltan is used widely in advanced technology industries, for example as material for computer condensers and mobile phones. As it is heat-resistant and corrosion-resistant, it is also used in rockets, missiles, and aircrafts. However, the very same tantalum that is in our mobile phones and tablets is giving terrifying suffering on Congolese women.

The Congolese conflict began in 1996. I frequently refer to DR Congo as a jewelry store without doors or windows. People from both inside and outside the country come and engage in plunder. A report by the International Peace Information Service states that in 2009 half of the mining sites in Kivu, where mineral resources are concentrated, were controlled by armed groups. Women and children are forced to do heavy labor. A very serious human rights violation is being committed.

Mineral resources associated to such circumstances are developed illegally. These resources are called conflict minerals or blood minerals. Gold, tin, tantalum (coltan), and tungsten are conflict minerals.

When peace agreement to end the conflict was signed in 2002 we had hopes that we could live in peace. But even after the official end of the conflict, the activities of armed groups did not end and systemic robbery goes on.

Let's think about what kind of economic results sexual violence is generating. I would also like to look at the economic reasons for and the results of sexual violence.

We have undertaken research using large samples. I would like to consider the mechanism where coltan and other minerals are turned into a development that accompanies even murder. DR Congo is not a state ruled by law. There are no regulations and laws. There is no checking system. So it is possible to develop mineral resources cheaply. This is because there is no tax and there is no minimum wage. Children are forced to do heavy labor and are used almost like slaves. Global businesses are exposed to extremely severe competition. As such, companies are struggling to reduce costs. This desire to cut costs leads to the purchase of resources from fragile countries. Because fragile countries have no rules and checks, the procurement of resources from such countries will be inevitable for cutting costs. Because multinational companies do not look at or do not know, from either malice or ignorance, what is happening at the end of the supply chain, women and other citizens are continuously being exposed to violence in the DR Congo. Companies can improve their competitiveness by obtaining raw materials at low cost. Because of this fact some multinational companies support local politicians or, sometimes even armed groups without any sense of shame or hesitation, and secure access to resources. Naturally corruption is spread in such an environment, contracts that are not adequately negotiated are concluded, and citizens are exposed to violence.

For example, one company bought a mine in DR Congo for \$15 million and then sold it after six months for \$100 million without carrying out any maintenance. This is exactly a result of corruption. The fact that this is not generally known is not because there are no reports on it. On April 16, 2001, the UN Panel of Experts on the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources and Other Forms of Wealth in the Democratic Republic of the Congo published a report for the first time on natural resource looting in DR Congo. There were views that the names of companies and countries that are illegally developing or benefitting should be listed and disclosed. Such details as which companies and countries

were involved and what kind of behavior was undertaken are all stated in the report.

For instance, *Le Monde* article in 2001 stated that, according to the UN Panel of Experts report, in a small village called Shabunda in Kivu, every day 64 airplanes transport 150 tonnes of coltan from eastern DR Congo to Europe, China, and Dubai.

After all you do not have to bring in conflict funding from outside; all you have to do is to maintain this sophisticated supply chain yourself. This mafia-like supply chain has turned into a hot bed for illegal smuggling, and has become funding resource for armed groups.

We publish research papers in the *Plos Medicine* journal. When we plotted the hometowns of 30,000 women who were subject to sexual violence and the location of mines and the UN peacekeeping operations the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DR Congo (MONUSCO), they corresponded surprisingly. The victimized women came from where the mines were located.

We have seen with our own eyes that an abnormal situation has been occurring in eastern DR Congo for over ten years. More than 40,000 people have come to the hospital to receive medical treatment. Looking at the statistics on mineral development generated from violence demonstrates to us a situation that makes us dizzy. It is systemic and of large scale and associated with sexual violence. Everything is connected.

This kind of rape does not come from sexual desire. It is a sort of sexual terrorism. It is done to impact victims severely. Through all kinds of methods, sexual violence is used as one way to show that "I have the power. I can control you in whatever way I want to." It is an action that is thought out. Each armed group has its own manner of carrying out violations and when I see a woman's genital wounds I can tell which group has done the rape. The fact that the entire group uses the same way of injuring women's genitalia means that someone is giving instructions; that there is some kind of training behind the action.

For example one group's method is to tear holes in women's vaginas. They cause the damage by using wooden bars and guns. They rupture the wall that separates the vagina from the rectum. By such acts they leave specific injuries that last for entire lifetime, without actually killing the victims. There is no sexual desire. There are various methods used but some victims are raped in front of all villagers. Husbands of women who are raped are made to participate, too. By having children watch the scenes of their parents being raped, the perpetrators plant terror to all community members. One, two, or three hundred villagers are raped in a single night. Such things cannot be done without plans and objectives.

The youngest girl I operated on was a six-month-old infant and her genitalia had been completely destroyed. My life was deeply injured too. The oldest person I operated on was an eighty-year-old woman and one percent of my patients were men. You can see that the whole thing is done systemically.

What is the purpose? Shown such violence, husbands and other residents leave their



villages. Armed groups then move in and control the mines. Residents left in the village are treated like slaves. These attacks are conducted systemically. Through extreme violence females are victimized, from babies to the elderly. The word “genocide” means to take people’s lives but the word “gynocide” can be used to mean the destruction of genitalia. These acts are done for economic reasons. They are done within a context of violence and conflict, and destroy the symbolic value of village, that is, women and families. By destroying the relationship between husbands and wives and parents and children the community is weakened. A researcher called Claudia Rodriguez has published statistics that show that three percent of women who were raped lost their lives and ten percent contracted AIDS.

There are many reasons for these acts but geopolitically speaking one reason is the lax management of mines. The way states manage natural resources is poor. According to Global Witness figures, the government of DR Congo’s natural resources management costs amount to \$1.36 trillion. This is twice the expenditure on education and health.

However, in regard to the circumstances where women are suffering violence, other countries are not just watching from outside. The EU has established legislation prohibiting the use of minerals from conflict areas and ensuring the traceability. To establish regulations restricting such minerals on an EU level required approval from the European Parliament, the European Commission, the European Council, and other entities, but after considerable effort the legislation was established.

In my acceptance speech of the European Parliament’s Sakharov Prize, I referred to human rights violations that are performed in a serious form and said that there is a need not only to fix the consequences of violence but also to take care of the causes. I have stated strongly that I wanted laws to be set in place. In developing these laws I want people to have the following three objectives.

First is to cut the association between illegal mine development and conflict. Second is to cut the relationship between mineral resources and financial resources to stop them from becoming funding sources for armed groups. And the third objective must be to prevent human rights violations that are implemented in mine areas, such as child labor and sexual violence toward women, the forced movement of residents, and the destruction of sacred places. The EU regulations calling for traceability of minerals from conflict areas are based on the U.S. Dodd-Frank Act Section 1502 which stipulates trade restrictions on conflict minerals.

This law, generated with pain, takes away some of the freedoms of multinational companies. At the same time, it is a law for ethics. I emphasized that it is everyone’s responsibility not to leave freedom unchecked and to protect human rights. With these regulations, downstream companies of EU that are importing products including these materials, will have duties imposed on them. Upstream companies that trade and smelt materials will be audited. Companies using minerals in their products will be imposed with

the duty to confirm traceability and to audit where the minerals come from. With these regulations, it is estimated that 880,000 companies will be involved.

What I want to call for lastly is that when using natural resources for legitimate economic demand, development is necessary but we must do it in a way that does not prolong conflicts or turn women's bodies into battlefields. We, the Panzi Foundation, have a heavy responsibility. In eastern DR Congo, an area rich in coltan, we are acting to defend women's and other people's human rights.

There is the ideal of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, but for people in eastern DR Congo the question is when and in what form that ideal will be realized. How can they get away from the barbarism and inhumane situation? When will a world come where peace, human rights, and justice are protected? And how can global business be conducted without taking account of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and people's human rights?

What I continue to say is that companies are not our enemies or the enemies of human rights. It is, rather, the opposite. They are our partners and more than that they are our friends. Companies are the levers of sustainable development that can realize peace and social justice. Accordingly, we have now reached the time to request each political leaders of our country. It is time to demand that we want them to work to create laws to regulate conflict minerals.

Now is the time to introduce appropriate supply chain system capable of realizing due diligence in each country. We have a responsibility to confirm as consumers what materials are used in the products we buy and where they come from. It is necessary for us to be able to buy products after confirming with the sales personnel whether the product was made through the destruction of women or human rights violations.

Since I have come to a university today, I would like to call on the students. Please create social networks that establish the traceability of the mineral resources that are connected with conflicts. If we can make those social networks serve as the role of monitors to make the entire process transparent on both national and international levels, and to make traceability possible; if we can get to know the methods and technologies to do this, we will be able to avoid the use of mineral resources that are associated with conflicts.

I have learned a little about Japanese culture through this visit. I think that Japanese culture is wonderful and I have developed a liking for it. One thing I learned was that we can together seek justice and create a world that is more comfortable for all of us to live in. This can be achieved if, rather than just protecting our own interests we also protect other people's interests and the interests of communities: I learned the Japanese word *rita* meaning altruism. It was a simple word so I was able to memorize it.

When determining whether a certain civilization is great, the main point is not abundance or how comfortable it is, but whether people are equal and highly conscious of

becoming affluent together with others in mutual dependence. A civilization that is high in such awareness is a superior civilization. If we are of one humankind, let's stand together. Let us stand for the dignity of women who are forced into subjugation and who are suffering from sexual violence. Let us raise our voices and condemn the evils and denounce the people who are profiting from this system. Let's speak out and bring about a society rich in humanity.

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Kazuyo Hanai