



## D.R. Congo: Scouts facilitate the reintegration of a former child soldier

Author: Euloge Ishimwe

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In the wake of atrocities that have ravaged the DRC ? home of the Fédération des Scouts du Congo (FESCO)? many youngsters are nursing both physical and psychological wounds. These children were kidnapped by rebels and used as fighters, labourers, porters and sex slaves in a war that has torn the mineral-rich ?sub-continent? apart for years. Nonetheless, dozens of youngsters have returned home. Unfortunately, reintegration has not been easy as some face death threats or may become idle, only to be re-enlisted into the rebellion. That?s why, as reported by AP, Congo?s Scouts Federation has intervened.

When they are back at home, the former child soldiers worry about their futures. One, who says he has always loved attempting to repair engines, has been lucky. Congo's Scouts Federation found him a job as an apprentice to a mechanic. The Scout fraternity across the globe has lauded this act by the Congolese Scouts.

Fédération des Scouts du Congo has undergone major changes since a recent AGM that saw the dawn of a new era in the organization. The new Chief Commissioner is Prof. Bertin Makolo Muswaswa and Senator Prof. Lombeya Bosongo is the Chair,

*Comité National* (National Council). Both leaders of FESCO have committed and promised to fulfill the dream (re-foundation) of a credible FESCO through unity and discipline.