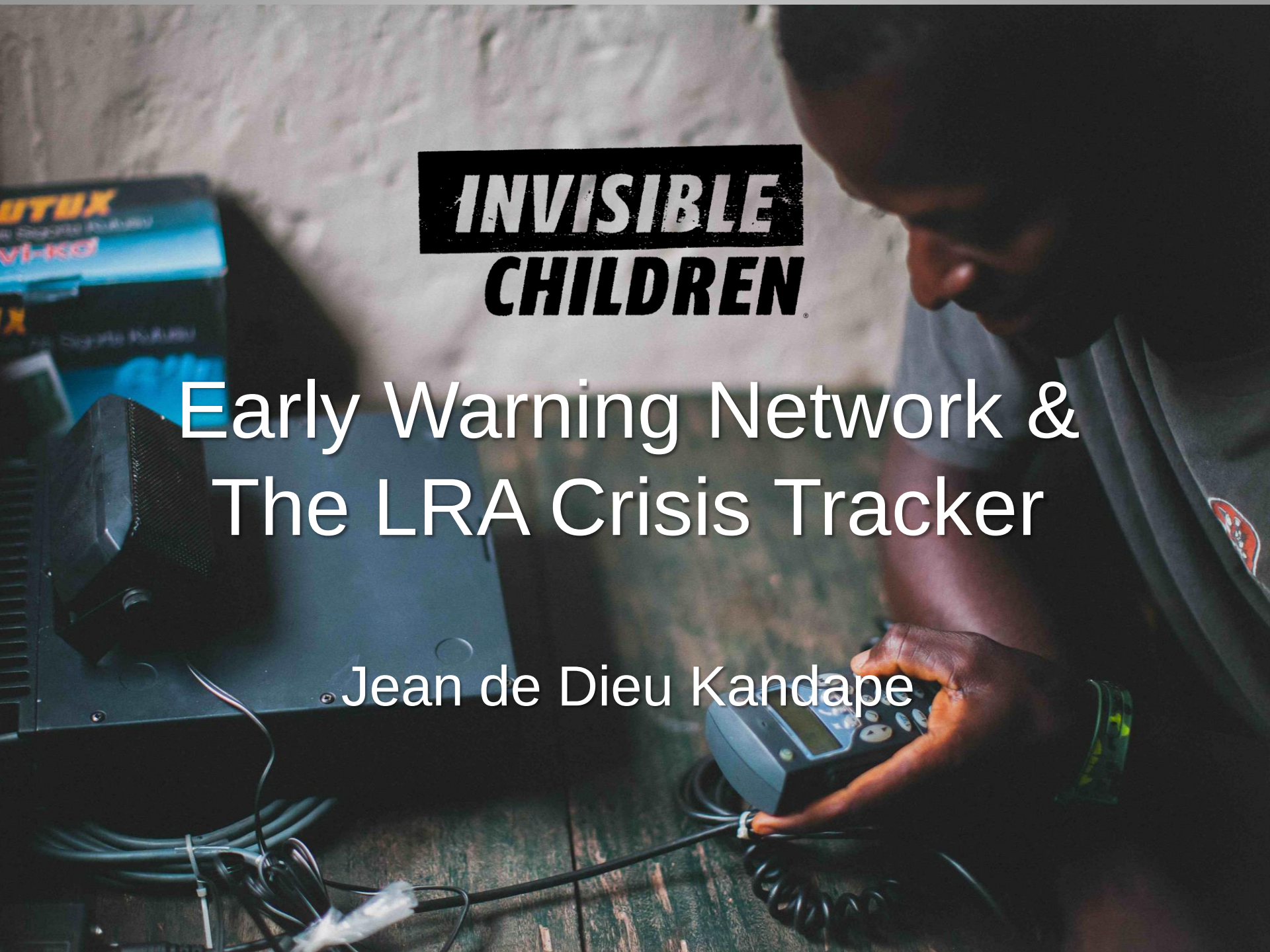


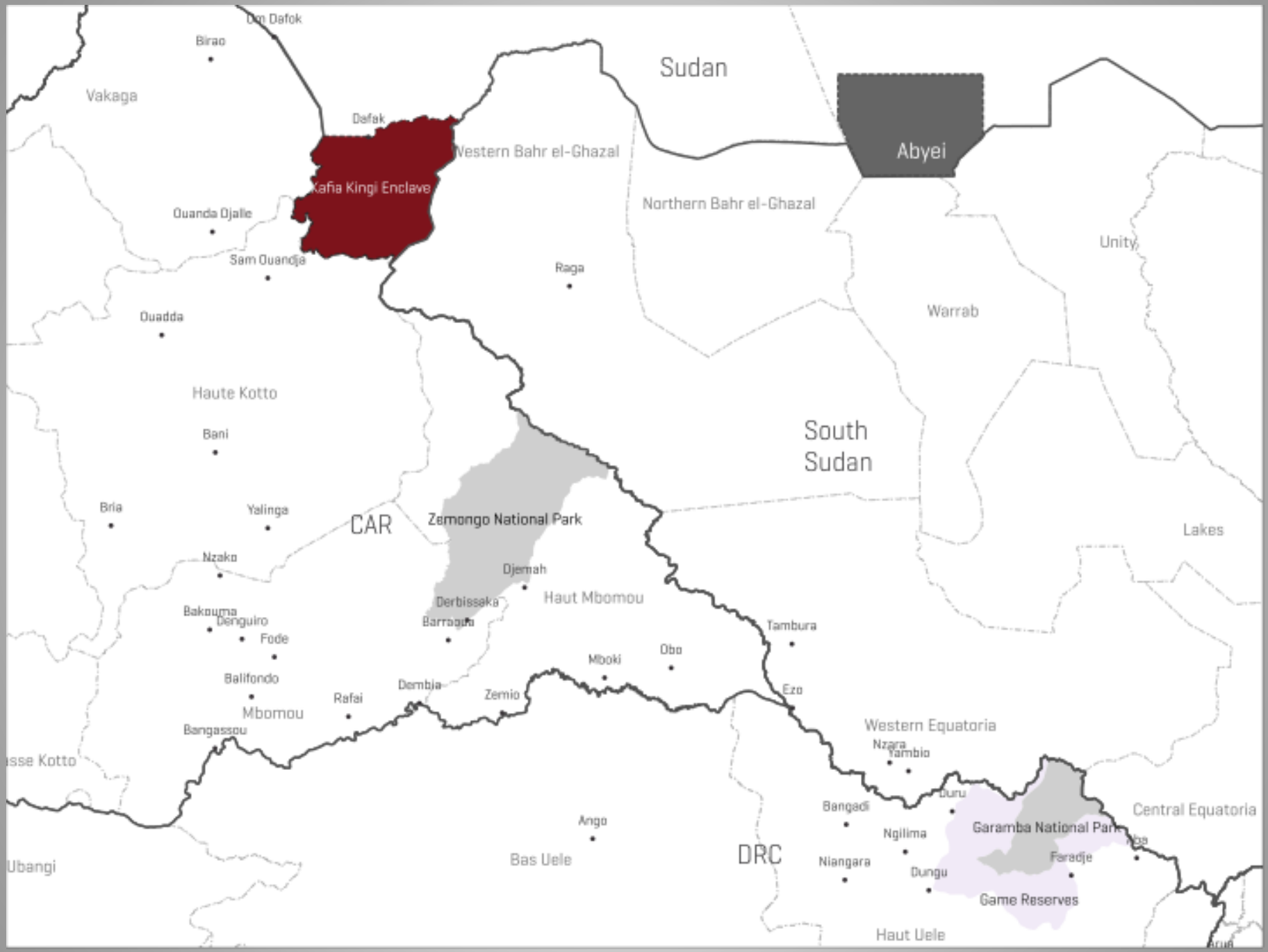
Early Warning Network & The LRA Crisis Tracker

Jean de Dieu Kandape

Source: Human Rights Watch, March 2010

Invisible Children

- Founded in 2005 with a mission to permanently end LRA violence
- Operational in highly remote areas of central Africa
- Our initiatives include:
  - Community-based protection
  - Security reporting & analysis
  - Defection rebel combatants
  - International political advocacy
- Our work is increasingly addressing insecurity and exploitation beyond the LRA (including poaching)


Am Dafok
Birao
Vakaga
Sudan
Dafak
Western Bahr el-Ghazal
Abyei
Kafia Kingi Enclave
Northern Bahr el-Ghazal
Ouanda Djalle
Unity
Sam Ouandja
Raga
Ouadda
Warrab
Haute Kotto
South Sudan
Bani
Bria
Yalinga
CAR
Zemongo National Park
Lakes
Nzako
Djemah
Derbissaka
Haut Mbomou
Bakouma
Barroguia
Tambura
Denguiro
Fode
Mboki
Obo
Balifondo
Dembia
Zemio
Ezo
Rafai
Mbomou
Western Equatoria
Bangassou
Nzara
Yambio
Bangadi
Duru
Central Equatoria
Ango
Ngilima
Garamba National Park
Ubangi
Bas Uele
DRC
Niangara
Faradje
Dungu
Game Reserves
Haut Uele

Early Warning Network

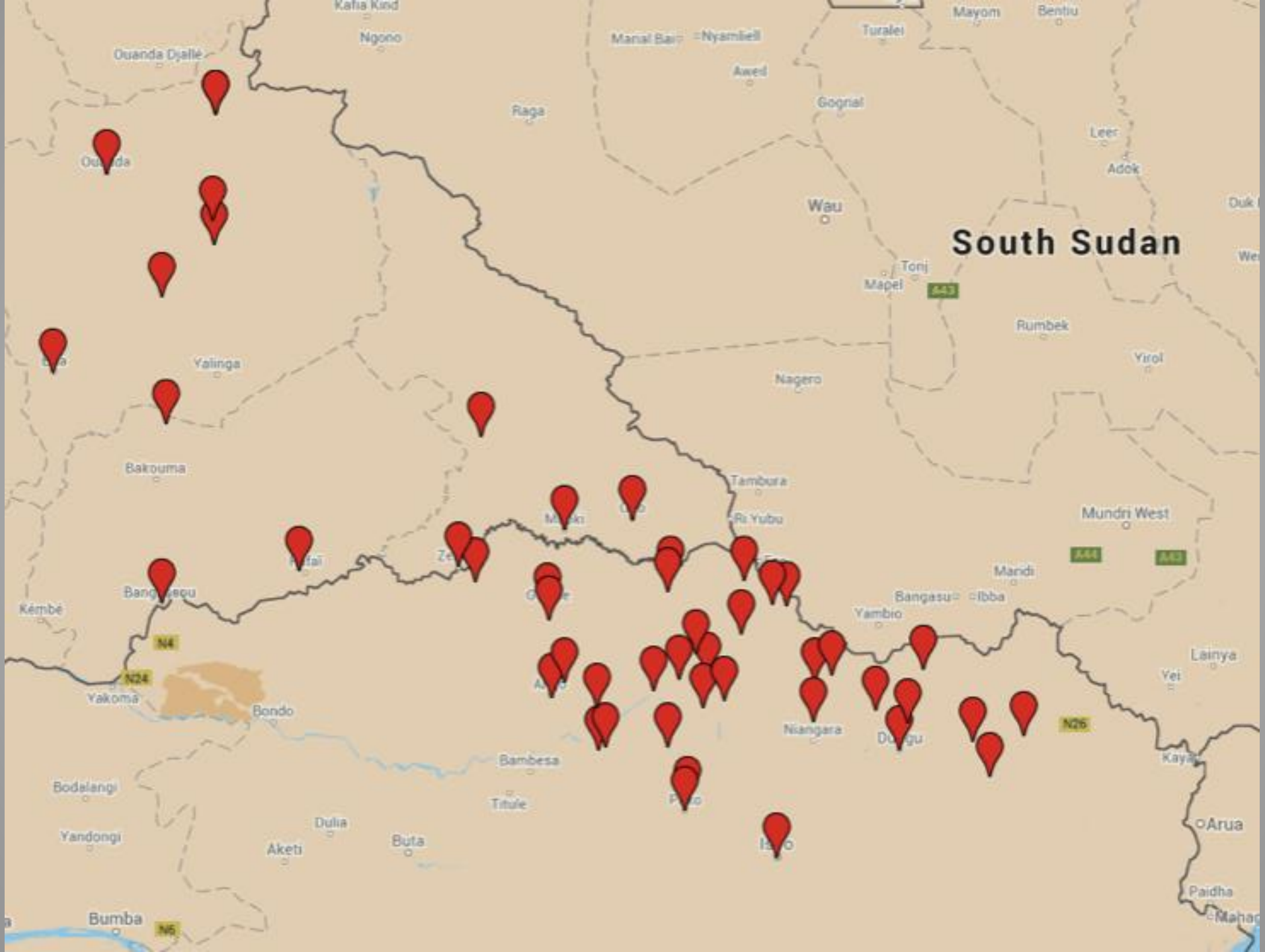
- Built upon an existing local network run by Catholic Church
- Designed to address the severe isolation between communities
- Became a way for communities to talk to the "outside world"
- Now a "vertically-integrated" pipeline of information and analysis

How It Works

- High frequency (HF) two-way, long range radios
  - Communicate via a shared frequency
  - Multiple radios can communicate at once
- Managed by Local Protection Committees
  - Diverse spectrum of community volunteers.
  - Includes at least 2-3 HF radio operators
  - Trained by Invisible Children & partner organizations
- Requires thorough training of community volunteers
  - HF radio maintenance
  - Quality information collection & reporting
  - Contingency planning in the event of security threat

Scope of the Network

- About 50 communities across DRC and CAR.
- In CAR: Combination of HF radios and satellite phones due to insecurity and logistical difficulties
- Currently expanding further into Haute Kotto CAR, and east of Garamba Park
- Would like to add more radios in the Bas Uele area of DRC (Bili Uele forest)


South Sudan
Kafia Kind
Ngono
Ouanda Djallé
Manal Bai
Nyamliell
Turalei
Mayom
Bentiu
Awed
Raga
Gogrial
Leer
Adok
Wau
Tonj
Mapel
A43
Rumbek
Yirol
Yalinga
Nagero
Bakouma
Tambura
Ri Yubu
Mundri West
A44
A43
Maridi
Bangasu
Ibba
Yambio
Kémbé
N4
N24
Yakoma
Bondo
Lainya
Yei
Niangara
N26
Bambesa
Bodalangi
Titule
Dulia
Yandongi
Aketi
Buta
Arua
Paidha
Bumba
N6

Early Warning Reports

- Incidents reported during twice-daily security calls
  - All communities on the call hear each report
- Reports aggregated by hub radio operators
  - Hub operators clarify and document all reports
  - Morning calls are usually the initial incident reports.
  - Afternoon calls provide additional information and updates.
- Hub operators send reports to Crisis Tracker analysts
  - Actionable reports immediately shared with security actors in the field (Military, Park Rangers, Peacekeepers)
  - All vetted reports are translated, shared via an EWN listserv

Early Warning Reports

- Step 1: Incidents reported during twice-daily security calls
- Step 2: Reports aggregated by hub radio operators in DRC and CAR
- Step 3: Hub operators send reports to our team of analysts
- Step 4: Vetted reports are distributed daily via our EWN listserv and the LRA Crisis Tracker.

INVISIBLE
CHILDREN

LRA **CRISIS** TRACKER INVISIBLE CHILDREN + RESOLVE

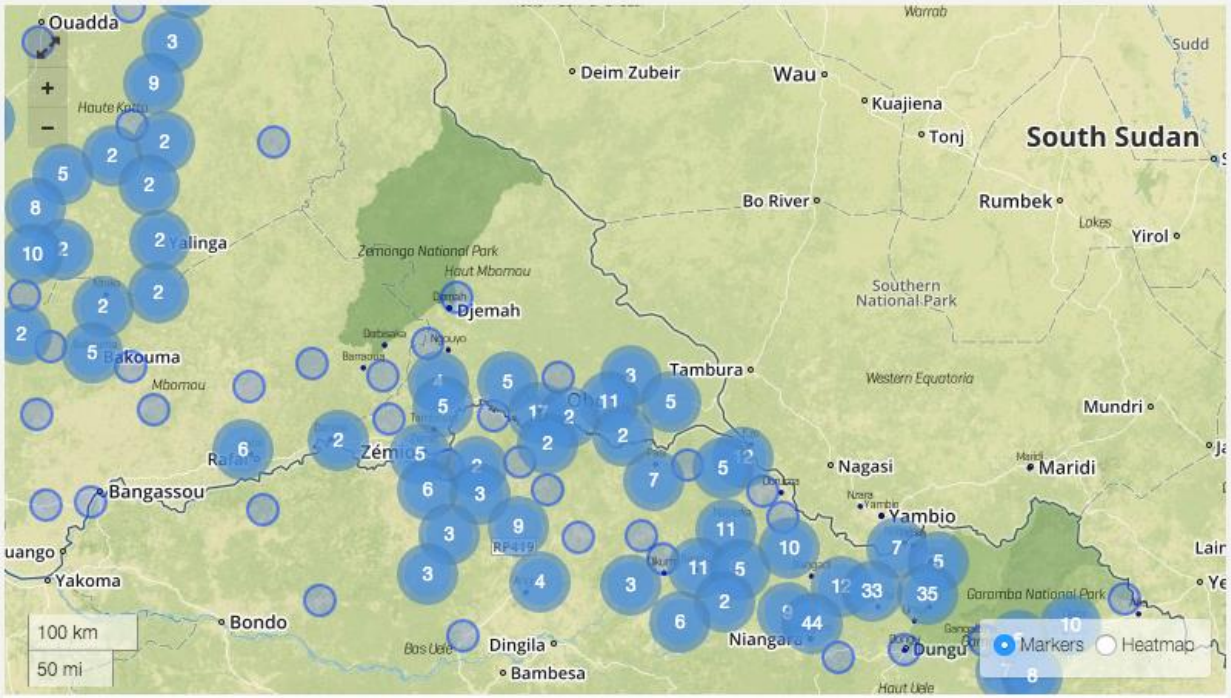
- Database | Online Mapping Platform | Analysis Publications

- The Core Team:
  - HF Hub in the field level
  - Project Coordinator based in the field
  - 3-4 analysts stationed internationally

- Designed to inform policymakers and practitioners.

LRA CRISIS TRACKER

Dashboard | Violence Against Civilians | Inside the LRA | About



460
Total Incident Reports

30
Total Civilian Fatalities

1519
Total Civilian Abductions

LRA Attack **February 29, 2016** | Gongolo, Haut Uele, DRC

2 motorcyclists were looted by 5 LRA forces near Gongolo, DRC The assailants looted rice, peanuts, phones, money and other non-food items. The assailants wore military clothing, 4 of them were armed with AK-type weapons while the 5th assailant had a gun.

Verification Rating: **3** *LRA Verification Rating:* **Low**

LRA Attack **February 27, 2016** | Bulumasi, Bas Uele, DRC

6 civilians were looted and abducted by LRA forces near Bulumasi, DRC. The assailants reportedly spoke Sango, Zande, Lingala and Acholi.

Verification Rating: **4** *LRA Verification Rating:* **Medium**

Stream LRA Violence Against Civilians

Attacks, killings, and abductions committed against civilians by the LRA.

Filter

PRIMARY ACTOR: Lord's Resistance Arn

ATTACK TYPE: All attacks

KEYWORD: Keyword

START DATE: 2014-01-01

END DATE: 2016-03-08

COUNTRY: All countries

REGION: All regions

COMMUNITY: Community

SEARCH RADIUS: ex: 20 km

Export

Export CSV

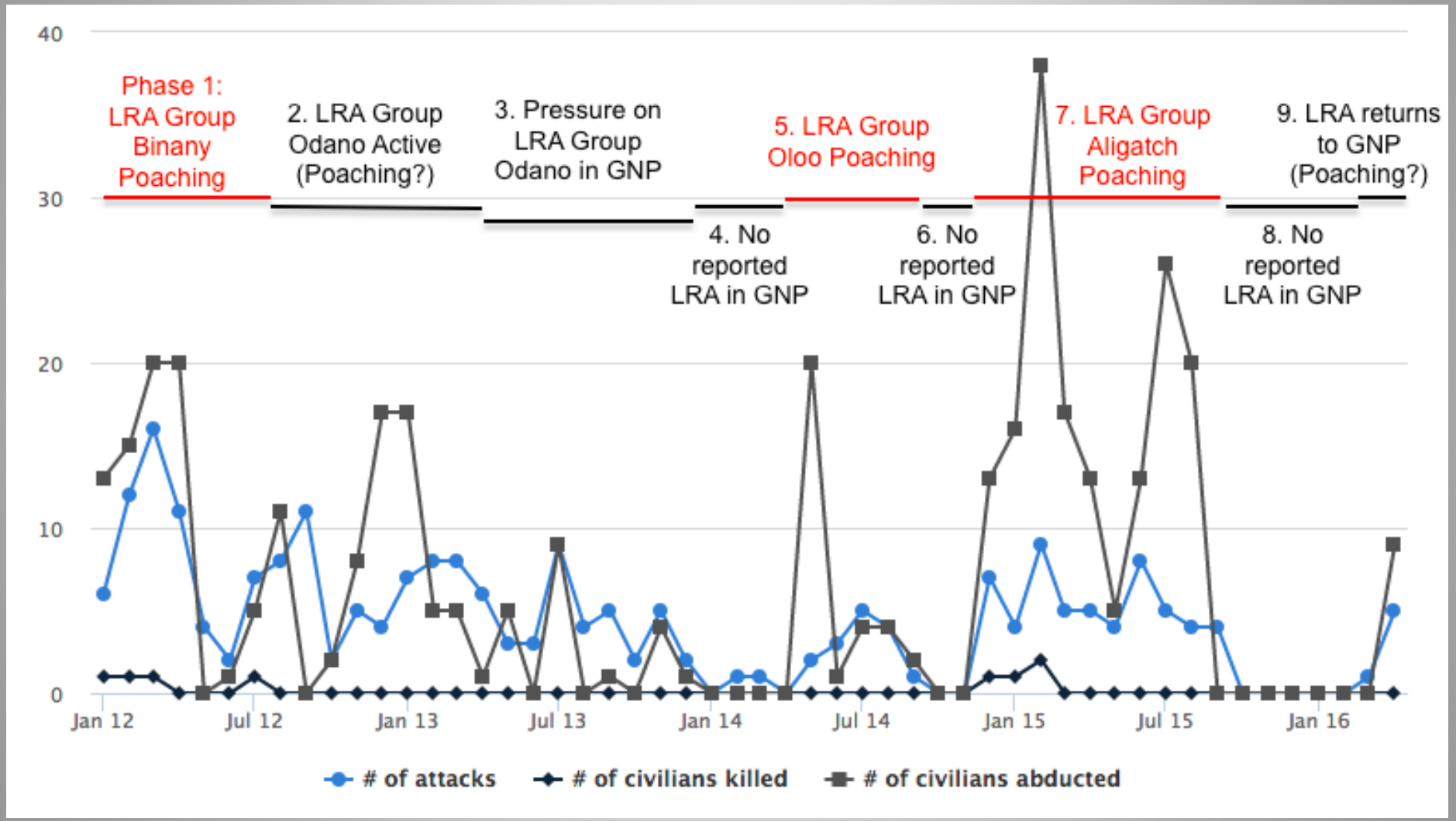
Supporting Wildlife Protection

- The LRA is a poaching actor in DR Congo and uses ivory trafficking as a means to sustain itself

- Communities report poaching information over the Early Warning Network

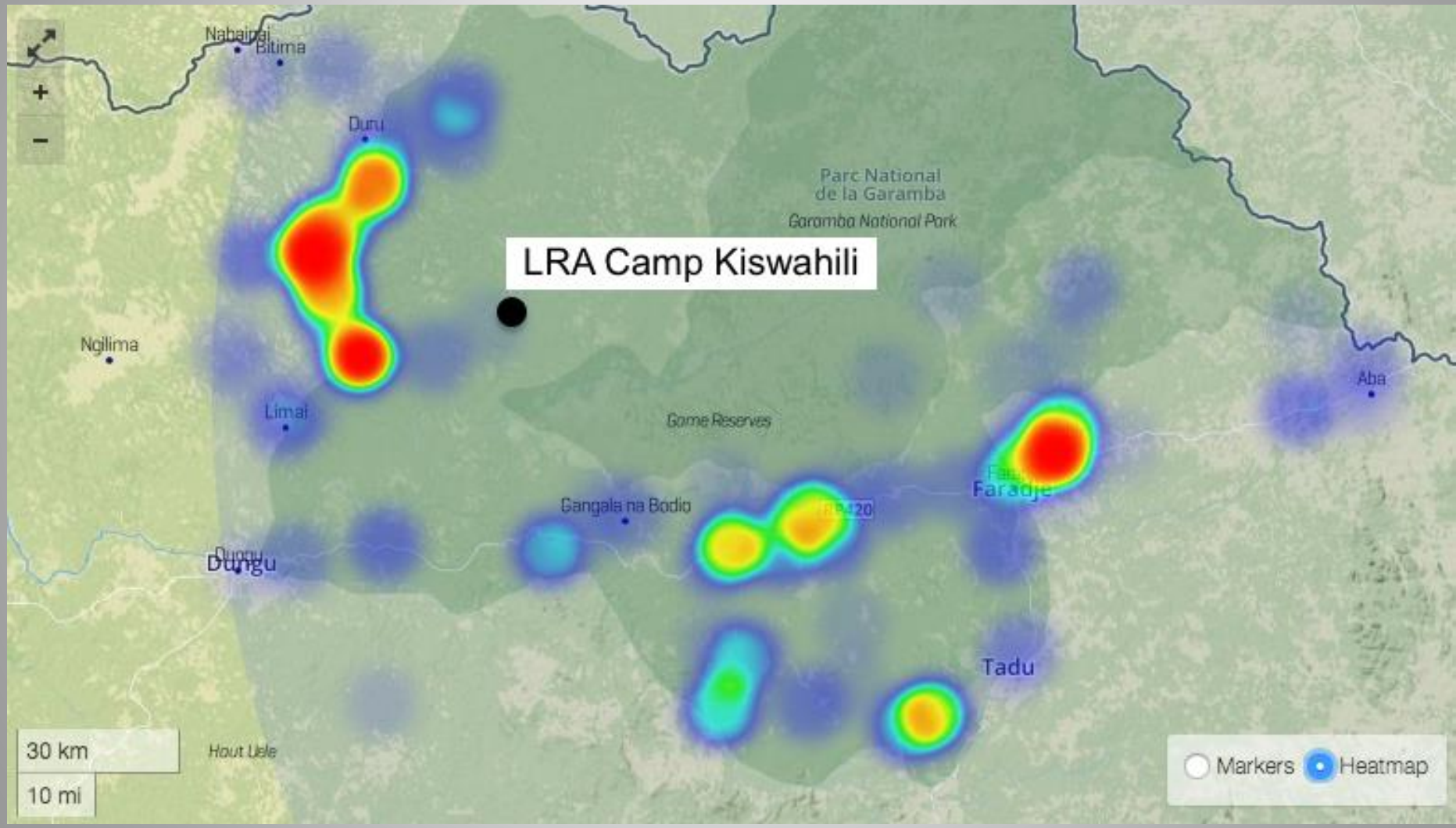
- The armed groups that pose the greatest threat to human security in the region are all engaged in poaching and wildlife trafficking as a source of revenue which funds more violence

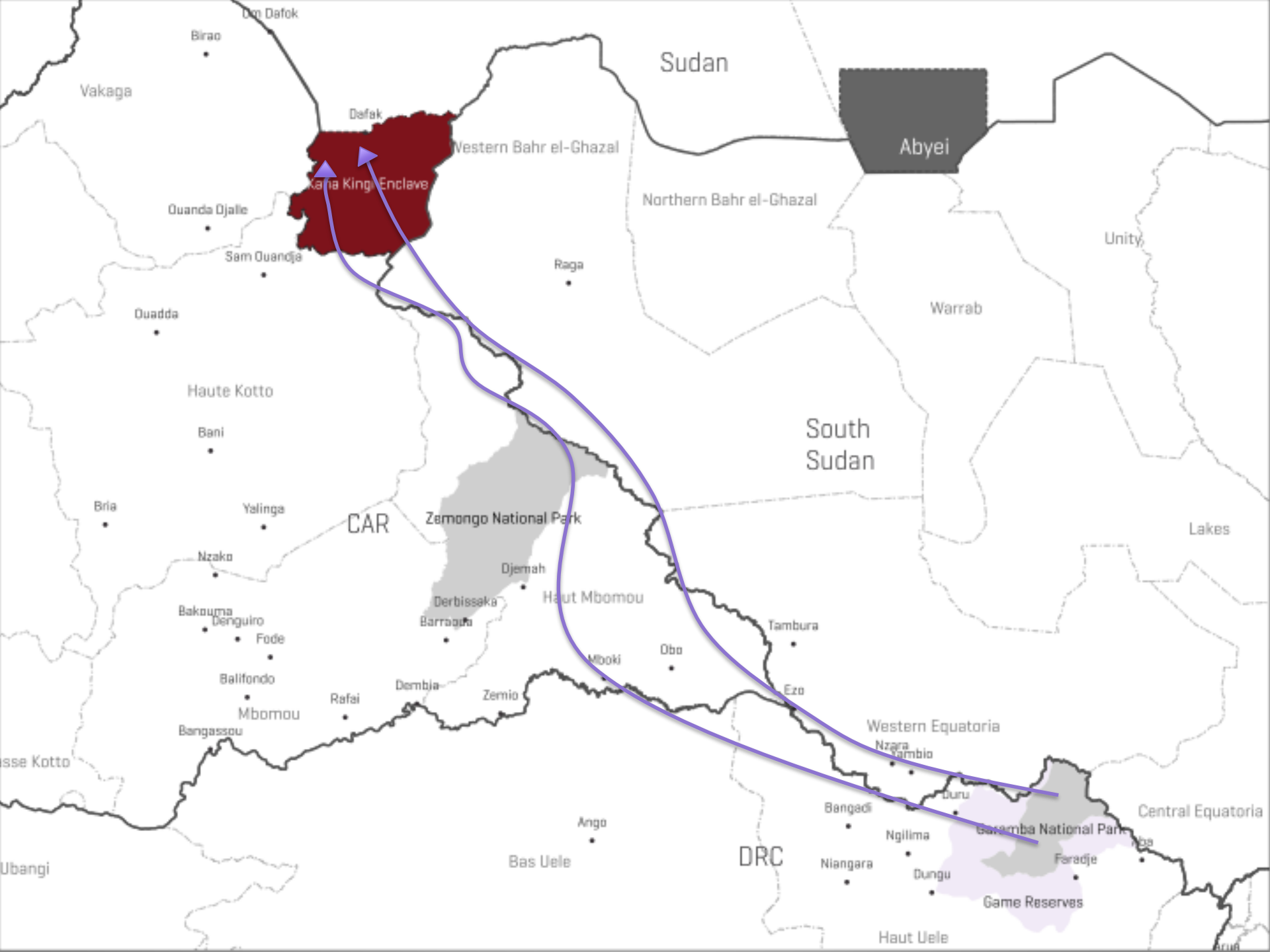
Correlation of LRA poaching & violence against civilians in Garamba, DRC (2012-2016)



Map of LRA Attacks in Garamba Park Vicinity

January 2012–April 2016




Birao
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Ouanda Djalle
Sam Ouandja
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Haute Kotto
Bria
Bani
Yalinga
Nzako
Bakouma
Denguiro
Fode
Balifondo
Mbomou
Bangassou
Rafai
Dembia
Zemio
Mboki
Obo
Tambura
Djemah
Derbissaka
Haut Mbomou
Zemongo National Park
CAR
Sudan
Abyei
Western Bahr el-Ghazal
Northern Bahr el-Ghazal
Raga
Unity
Warrab
South Sudan
Lakes
Western Equatoria
Nzara
Yambio
Ezo
Bangadi
Ngilima
Niangara
Dungu
Faradje
Central Equatoria
Game Reserves
DRC
Ango
Bas Uele
Haut Uele
Ubangi

Cross-Cutting Best Practices

- Community Participation
  - Requires trust and buy-in.
  - Self-selected, diverse community mechanisms
- "Vertical Integration" of Information
  - "Low-tech" context-appropriate communications infrastructure + "high tech" analysis platforms
  - Have a presence at every level
- Information-sharing must be *reciprocal*

Fin!

Merci beaucoup,

Asante sana,

Matondo mingi