

## Juvenile Justice in DR Congo

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### BICE fights for restorative justice

BICE has worked in DRC since 1996, directly for 15 years, and currently in partnership with the [BNCE DRC](#), to promote an environment that is respectful of children's rights and towards an effective juvenile justice system.

In 2005, knowledge of children's rights was reinforced among state actors through the dissemination of a handbook of protocols, which presented the law applicable to child soldiers and victims of conflict as well as a set of good practices.

The "[Childhood Without Bars](#)" programme consists of the following actions:

- the acquisition of expertise on juvenile justice by civil society, government, media, children and their families,
- operation of the country's only centre offering an alternative to imprisonment for convicted children
- training and national advocacy on juvenile justice.

### Activities

- Awareness-raising and training of partners involved in the justice system
- Advocacy to support alternative measures to imprisonment and better support for children in conflict with the law
- Legal assistance for children
- Support for community-based organizations (Local Protection Committee)
- Support for children in prisons and centres

## **Key figures per year**

- 1000 adolescents in conflict with the law
- 4,000 members of the family circle of minors (parents, guardians, communities ...)
- 180 people involved in the juvenile justice system (judges, staff, police ...)
- 1000 social workers of closed centres
- 50 members of the media informed about juvenile justice (radio, TV, newspapers ...)