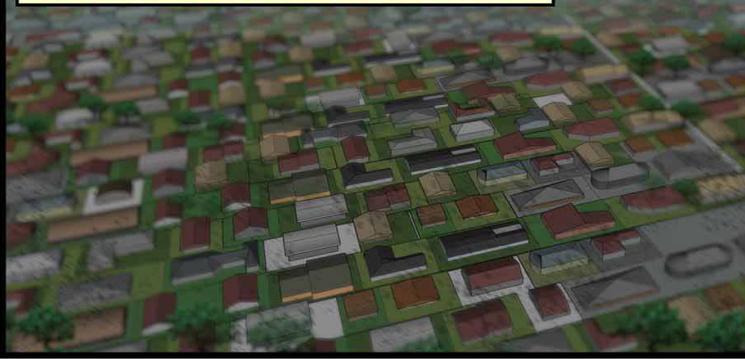


IT'S WHO YOU KNOW, **NOT HOW MUCH YOU HAVE**

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE, JUSTICE AND SECURITY IN THE EASTERN DRC



THIS IS A STORY OF TWO WOMEN IN RURAL MASISI TERRITORY, IN THE PROVINCE OF NORTH KIVU, EASTERN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC



THE MOST RECENT EPISODE OF WAR THE TOWN WITNESSED WAS IN 2013, WHEN IT WAS NEARLY BURNED TO THE GROUND.



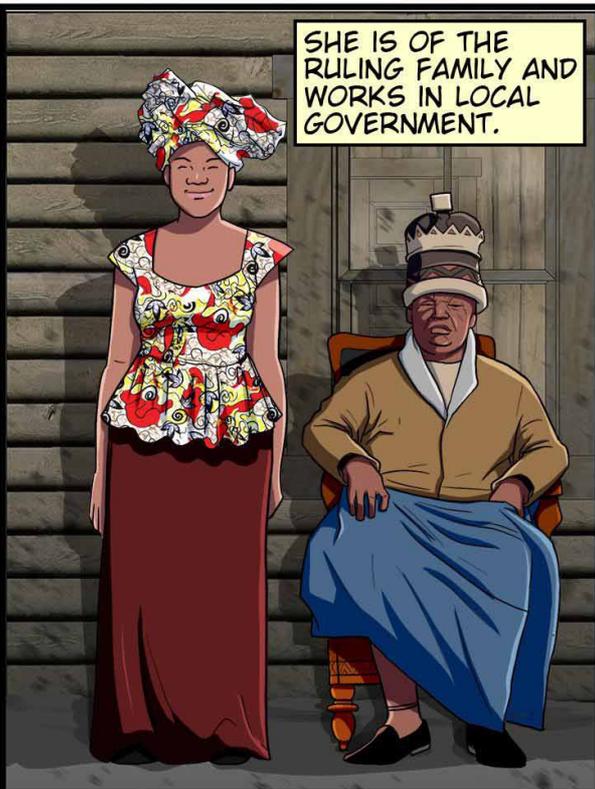
GOVERNANCE IS NOW AN ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN NATIONAL SECURITY FORCES AND A COMMUNITY DEFENSE MILITIA.



MAMAN NYOTA IS A SINGLE MOTHER OF SEVEN CHILDREN FROM THREE FORMER PARTNERS.



SHE IS OF THE RULING FAMILY AND WORKS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT.



SHE'S A REPRESENTATIVE OF A LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT. SHE'S ALSO A WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVIST.



THE WAR IN 2013 DESTROYED HER COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES. NOW, SHE STRUGGLES TO MAKE ENDS MEET WITH PROFITS FROM HER SMALL RESTAURANT...

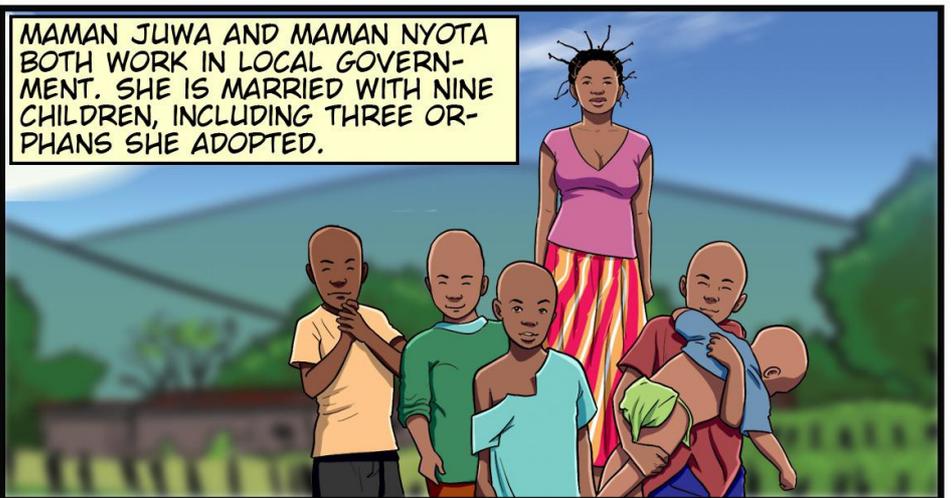


...AND CLOTH SALES AT THE MARKET.



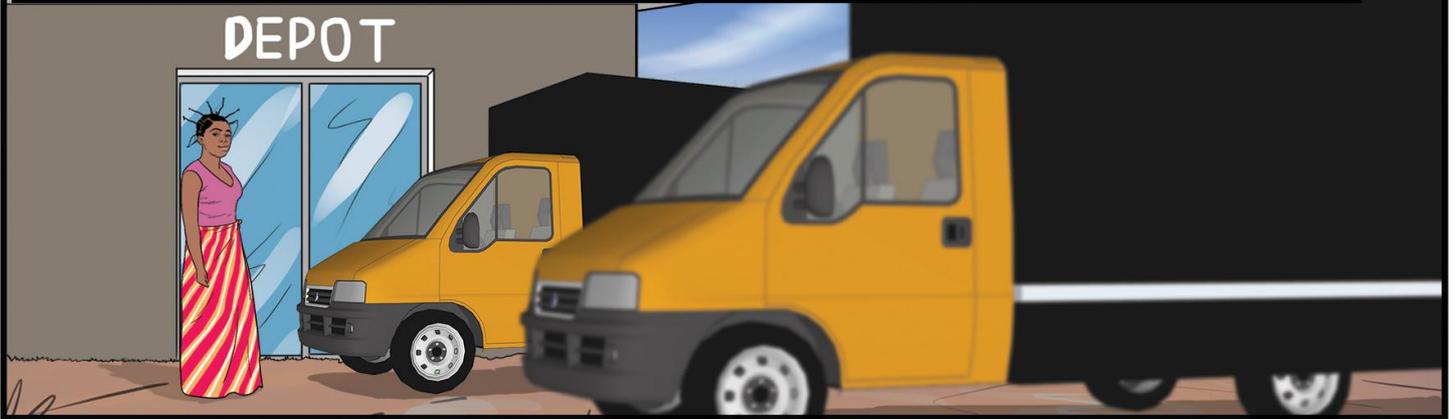
THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD PROVIDE SECURITY, EDUCATION, HEALTHCARE, AND EMPLOYMENT

SECURITY IS VITAL. IT IS THE CENTRE OF EVERYTHING. ONCE SECURITY IS RE-ESTABLISHED YOU WILL BE ABLE TO ACCESS YOUR FIELDS AND YOU WILL WORK IN CALM. CHILDREN WILL STUDY IN GOOD CONDITIONS AND TRIBALISM WILL NO LONGER IMPACT COMMUNITY COHABITATION.



MAMAN JUWA AND MAMAN NYOTA BOTH WORK IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT. SHE IS MARRIED WITH NINE CHILDREN, INCLUDING THREE ORPHANS SHE ADOPTED.

SHE HAS HER OWN DEPOT FROM WHICH SHE SELLS BEER AND SOFT DRINKS WHOLESALE. SHE ALSO OWNS TWO LORRIES AND A BAR-RESTAURANT IN TOWN.



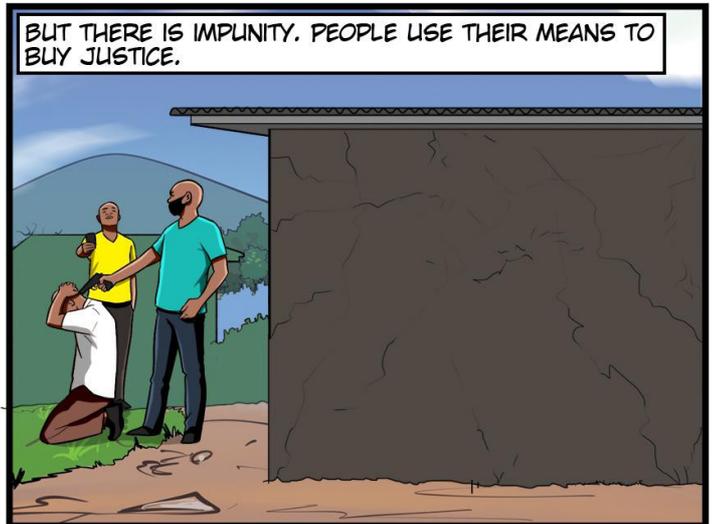
DEPOT



SHE LOST EVERYTHING IN THE 2013 WAR, BUT REBUILT HER COMMERCE BY WORKING AT MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (MSF).

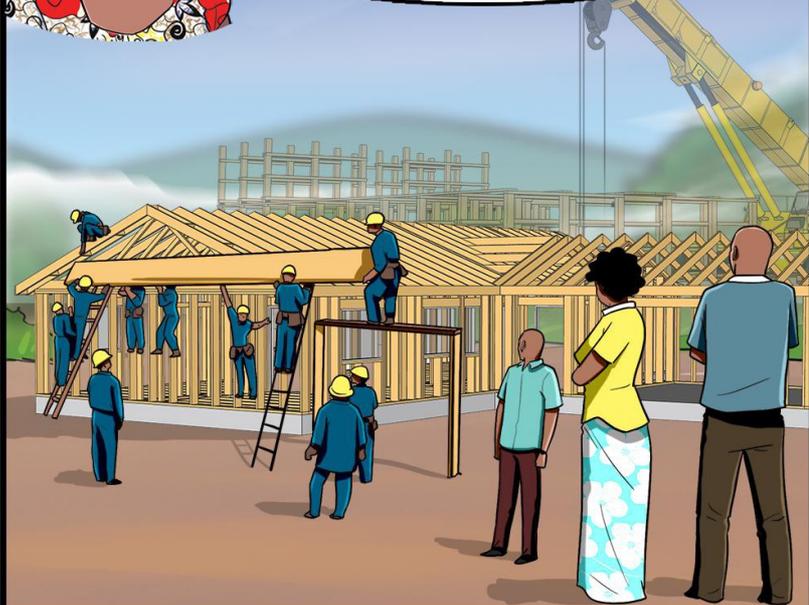


THE STATE SHOULD PROVIDE SECURITY, EDUCATION, HEALTHCARE, AND EMPLOYMENT, BUT ALSO INFRASTRUCTURE AND JUSTICE.





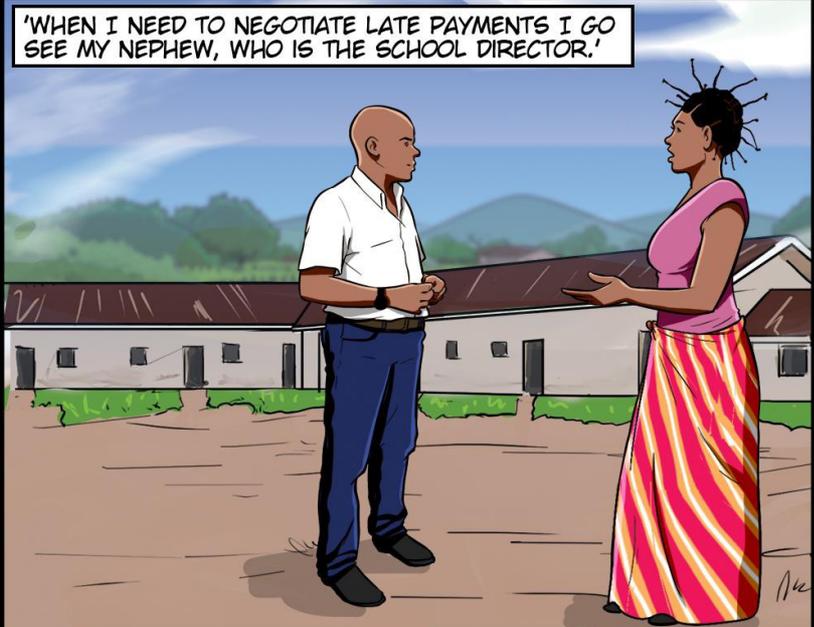
'THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASKED VARIOUS NGOS TO ASSIST WITH EDUCATION. THE NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL AGREED TO BUILD SCHOOLS AND PROVIDE EDUCATION...



...BUT ONLY FOR DISPLACED CHILDREN. THE LOCAL POPULATION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SCHOOLING THEIR OWN CHILDREN.



NO ONE IS TAKING CHARGE OF THE CHILDREN. SOME MUST PAY US\$38 PER TRIMESTER. OTHERS PAY US\$10 PER TRIMESTER. THIS COMES OUT OF THE PARENT'S POCKET; IF YOU DON'T PAY, YOUR CHILD CANNOT GO TO SCHOOL!



'WHEN I NEED TO NEGOTIATE LATE PAYMENTS I GO SEE MY NEPHEW, WHO IS THE SCHOOL DIRECTOR.'



'IF I NEED ADDITIONAL LEVERAGE, GET MY BROTHER, THE PASTOR OF TWO SCHOOLS.'



HE'S A PASTOR. AND MY BROTHER.

HEALTHCARE

SAVE THE CHILDREN
WERETAKE CARE OF
HEALTHCARE FOR
TWO YEARS, BUT RIGHT
NOW THEY DO NOTHING.
MSF IS BASED IN
MWESO, AND THERE ARE
NO AMBULANCES HERE.

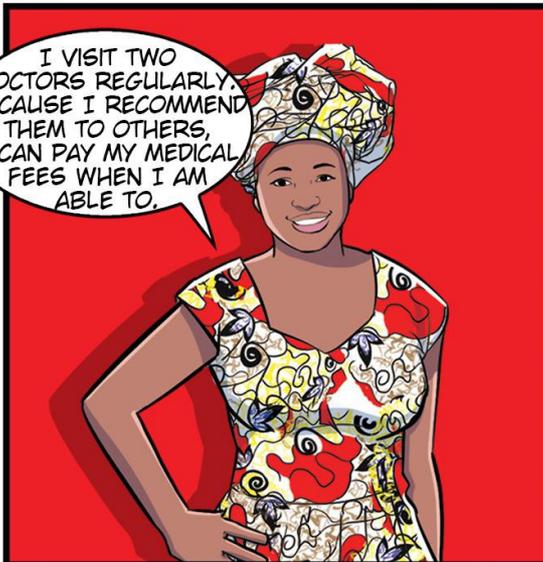


IF YOU NEED MEDICAL ATTENTION, YOU NEED TO GO TO MWESO.
SOME DIE ON THE ROAD TRYING TO GET THERE

YOU SUFFER IF YOU HAVE NO MONEY.



I VISIT TWO
DOCTORS REGULARLY.
BECAUSE I RECOMMEND
THEM TO OTHERS,
I CAN PAY MY MEDICAL
FEES WHEN I AM
ABLE TO.



MSF LEFT.
HEAL AFRICA
LEFT.

HEAL AFRICA
CAME JUST FOR THE
RAPE VICTIMS. THEY
COME AND IDENTIFY
THEM AND
TRANSFER THEM
TO GOMA



WE DON'T HAVE GYNECOLOGISTS HERE. WE NEED SPECIALISTS. WE
DON'T HAVE PROPER OPERATION ROOMS OR PRE-NATAL CARE.

THERE ARE
COMPLICATIONS. BUT
THERE IS NOT MUCH
WE CAN DO.



I MADE
FRIENDS WITH
TWO DOCTORS.
IT'S VERY
IMPORTANT TO
BECOME FRIENDS,
SO THAT WHEN
YOU ARE SICK
THEY WILL HELP
YOU WITH OR
WITHOUT MONEY.
YOU MUST GET
TO KNOW
PEOPLE
EVEN BEFORE
YOU NEED
THEM.



EMPLOYMENT & SOCIAL SERVICES

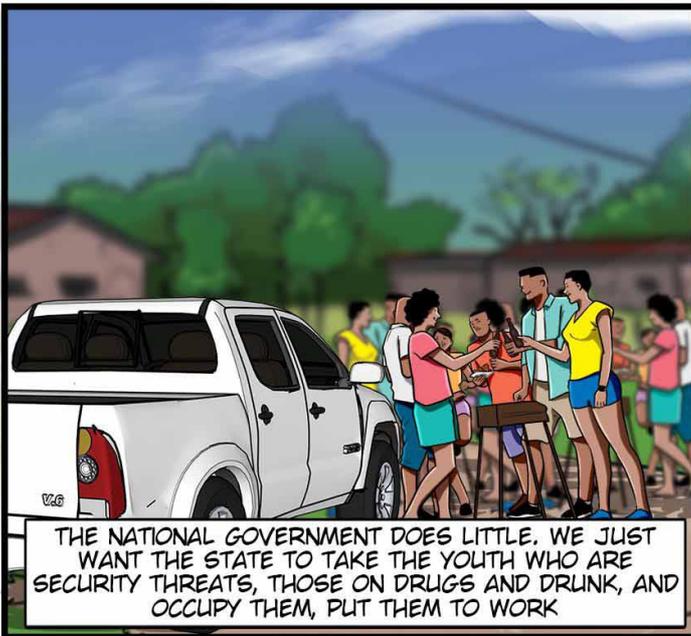


MONUSCO, THE UN MISSION TO THE DRC, PROVIDED DEMOBILISATION PROGRAMMES AND MERCY CORP SUPPORTED VULNERABLE FAMILIES. THAT WAS GOOD,

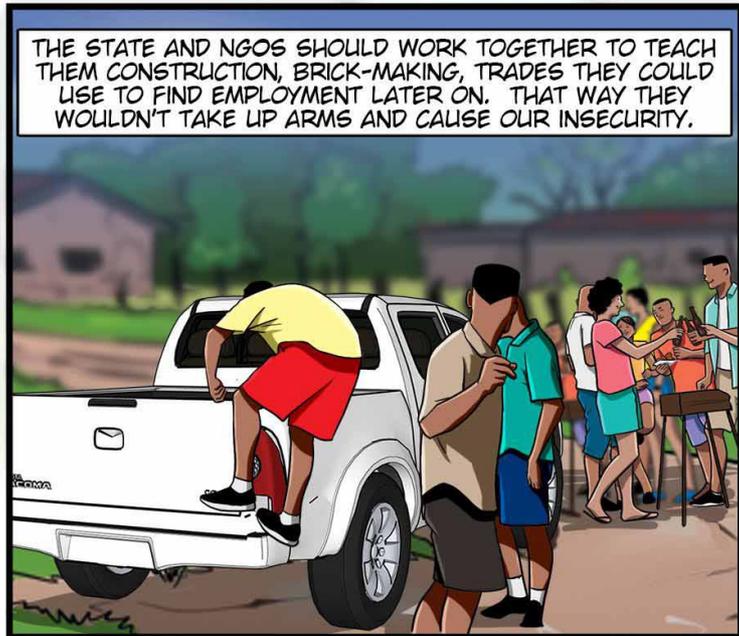
AND MY RESTAURANT PROFITED. BUT THIS WOULD HAVE NOT BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT AUTHORISATION OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.



THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT DOES LITTLE. WE JUST WANT THE STATE TO TAKE THE YOUTH WHO ARE SECURITY THREATS, THOSE ON DRUGS AND DRUNK, AND OCCUPY THEM, PUT THEM TO WORK.



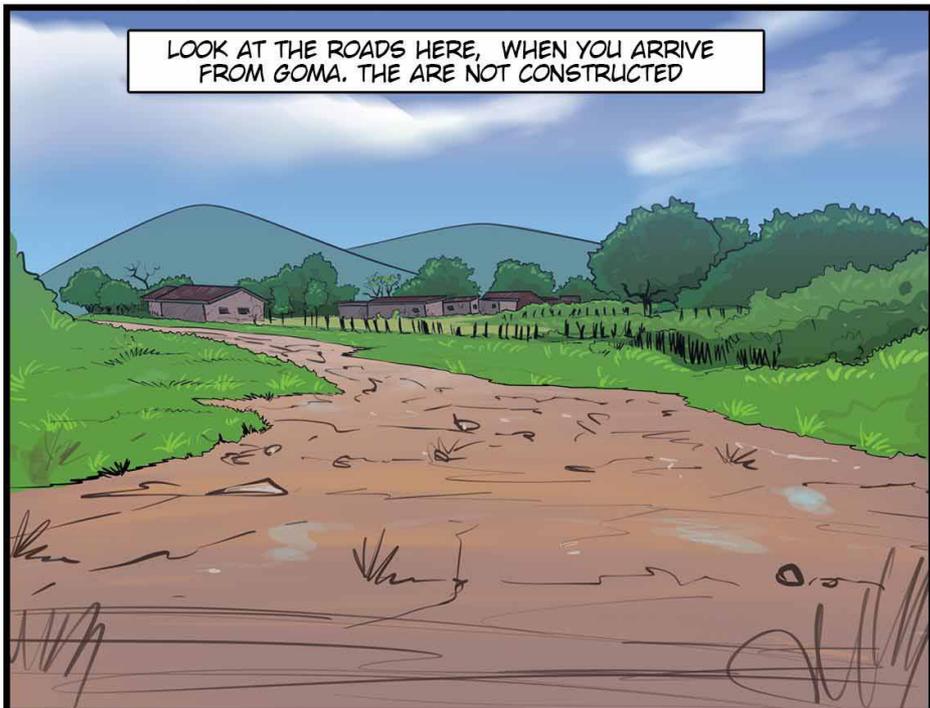
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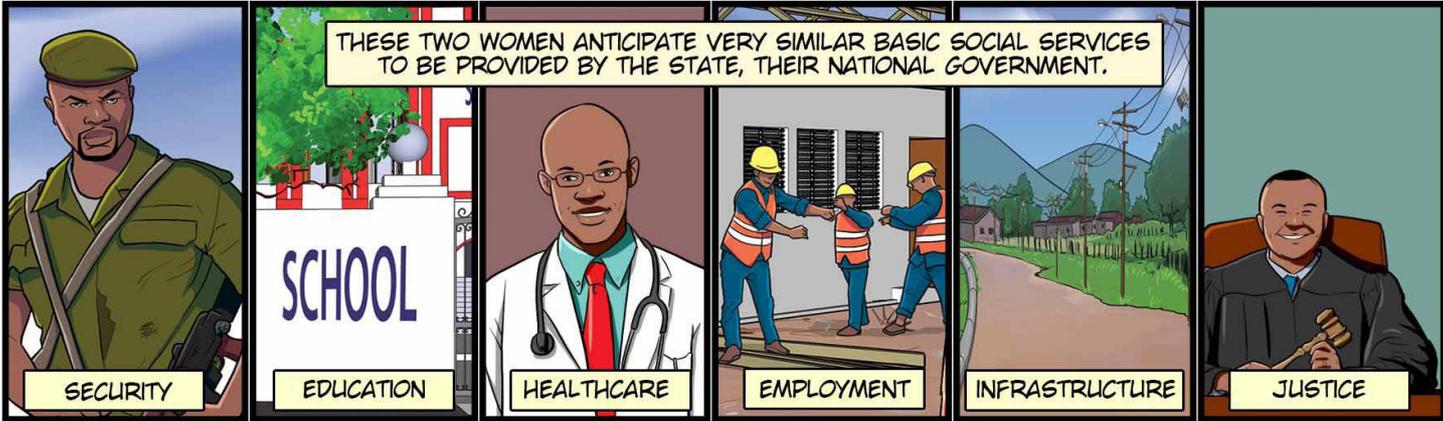
THE STATE AND NGOS SHOULD WORK TOGETHER TO TEACH THEM CONSTRUCTION, BRICK-MAKING, TRADES THEY COULD USE TO FIND EMPLOYMENT LATER ON. THAT WAY THEY WOULDN'T TAKE UP ARMS AND CAUSE OUR INSECURITY.



BUT THE STATE AND NGOS DON'T CARE ABOUT THIS PLACE.



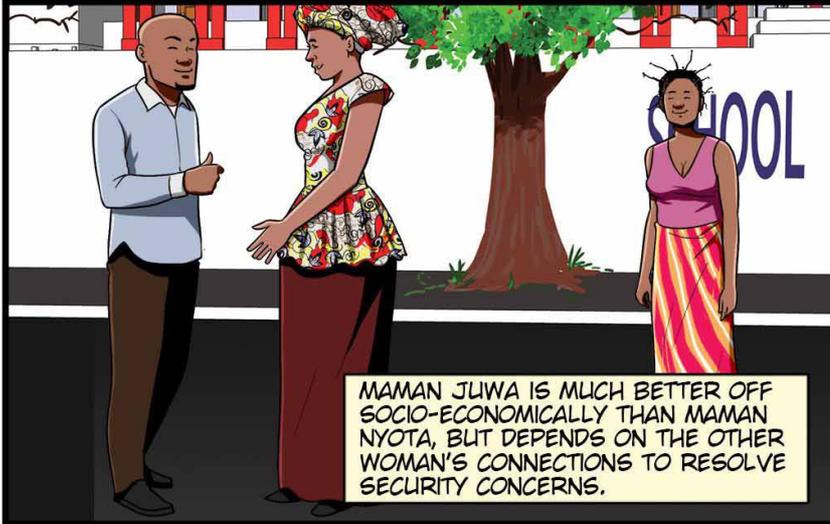
LOOK AT THE ROADS HERE, WHEN YOU ARRIVE FROM GOMA. THEY ARE NOT CONSTRUCTED



THESE TWO WOMEN ANTICIPATE VERY SIMILAR BASIC SOCIAL SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE STATE, THEIR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

BUT HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATIONS PROVIDE THESE SERVICES.

AND EVEN THEN, ACCESS IS BASED ON PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND CONNECTIONS



MAMAN JUWA IS MUCH BETTER OFF SOCIO-ECONOMICALLY THAN MAMAN NYOTA, BUT DEPENDS ON THE OTHER WOMAN'S CONNECTIONS TO RESOLVE SECURITY CONCERNS.

DESPITE LIVING IN THE SAME TOWN, BOTH WOMEN ACCESS HEALTHCARE, EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT, THROUGH DIFFERENT PERSONAL CONNECTIONS AND HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS.



THE STORY OF THESE WOMEN IS THE SAME AS FOR OTHER RESIDENTS. WHICH SOCIAL SERVICES YOU ACCESS BY WHO YOU KNOW.

YOU LOOK UNWELL. LET'S GO TO THE DOCTOR.

I CAN'T, I DO NOT KNOW HIM WELL



MONEY CAN ONLY GET YOU SO FAR...

HEY, HOW ARE YOU? LISTEN, I NEED A FAVOR...

...AND AT TIMES PALES IN COMPARISON WITH THE LEVERAGE OF THOSE YOU PICK UP THE PHONE WHEN YOU CALL.