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Acronyms

Covid-19 : Corona Virus Disease 2019
CSO : Civil Society Organization
DRC : Democratic Republic of Congo
NGO : Non-Governmental Organization
ECN : Digital citizenship education
CEREM : Centre for Expertise, Research and Multisectoral Evaluation
CoE : Council of Europe
HakiConf : Haki Conference
SNEL : National Electricity Company
REGIDESO : Water Supply Company
Executive summary

Today, the world is moving towards the digitalization of all areas of life. Organizations and development actors cannot remain observers of this emerging trend. This perception opens up a reflection on the link with the idea that digital technology is increasingly used, widespread and indispensable in everyday life and in all areas of life. Rudi International has observed in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and in some African countries a problem of low information and use of digital in various areas of life as well as the under-information of many on digital rights, which means that these rights are hindered and violated without people realizing it, and the platforms that should be bringing this issue to the fore are almost non-existent. Governments and policy makers who should also play a leading and regulatory role in the digital rights area have not been very committed to the promotion of technology and even less so to digital rights.

Based on the observation that digital technology is now part of the daily life of associations and activists, and that it is taking an increasingly important place in social relations, Rudi International has developed ideas and initiatives that have led to the establishment of an annual programme of exchanges and discussions on digital technology and the rights that are attached to it, called the "Haki Conference", which aims to be the "Conference on Human Rights in the Digital Age in the DRC", a framework for exchanges which, in particular, address the key issue of individual responsibility in the face of the anonymity that information and communication technologies seem to offer. The Digital Citizenship Education (DCE) exchanges aim to instill responsible attitudes in young people and other professionals in their increasingly connected lives. As the consequences in the digital world are seen as less serious than in the real world, the ECN is a good opportunity to promote the use of digital technology.1

Through a rapid online evaluation survey, CEREM, commissioned by Rudi International, sent out a questionnaire targeting participants, applicants, organizers and speakers for the three previous editions of HakiConf (2018, 2019 and 2021). A total of 381 participants received questionnaires, 92 for the qualitative part and 289 for the quantitative part. This report provides the first results and an analysis of the perceptions, apprehensions, ideas and needs of the participants and non-participants of the different HakiConf editions, the opinions of the organizers and speakers, as well as recommendations for the Haki conferences in perceptive. As such, the participants evaluated the relevance at 60.49%, the effectiveness at 82.2%, the sustainability at 80%.

This survey met with a broad consensus that decision makers should understand the importance of digital integration and use, also the involvement of the public authority. Ger Graus explained that if we argue that EDC is paramount, states should allocate the same resources to it as they do to other subjects such as maths or science.

As already mentioned, policy makers need to engage in a real dialogue with all other stakeholders, be it civil society, the private sector or organizations, in order to define the scope of the use of digital technology and the factors that can propel it into all sectors of life.

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1 The Council of Europe (CoE) hosted the conference "Digital Citizenship Education: for responsible and empowered digital citizens" on 21-22 September 2017 in Strasbourg.
About this study

1. Background, study objectives and methodologies

In 2018, Rudi International hosted the inaugural edition of the Haki Conference, which is one of the major events related to human rights in the digital age in the DRC (and also in Francophone Africa). This conference has been renewed in 2019 and 2021 with subsequent editions (the 2020 edition was cancelled due to the covid 19 pandemic). These conferences attract an average of 300 physical participants for each edition and have been able to bring together different stakeholders, including policy makers (such as members of parliament and a provincial minister), civil society leaders (such as executives from major Congolese NGOs working on human rights or technology), lawyers, journalists and other human rights activists for meaningful conversations around digital rights in the DRC and the region. The conferences attracted participants from different countries in Africa, including West Africa (Ghana, Senegal), Central Africa and East Africa (Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi), giving them the opportunity to share best practices in internet freedom advocacy.

The conferences and trainings created opportunities to bring together a range of stakeholders (civil society actors, facilitators from state and non-state institutions) and to contribute to the development of a policy framework for digital citizenship education and advocacy (DCE), closely linked to the competency model for a culture of democracy, which aims to prepare citizens to live together as equals in democratic, multicultural and digitally literate societies.

The discussions between the different actors of the associative and State world together with experts in specific fields had thus been translated into the establishment of a roadmap, individual and collective commitments of the participants on the advances in the digital world through specific fields. The relationship between the private sector and other stakeholders should be based on trust to enable these actors to work together and exchange freely and as equals on ECN-related issues.

To better understand the results against the expectations and vision, as well as the strengths and areas for improvement and the perceptions of the organizers, participants and funders, an impact evaluation was commissioned by Rudi International with the support of its funders from an international consultancy firm, CEREM, in the period of September and October 2021.

The following criteria were analyzed, including (1) relevance of the conferences (the extent to which the conferences organized by Rudi International met the needs of the participants in their areas of work), (2) effectiveness (the extent to which Rudi International achieved the objectives set for the different conference sessions), (3) strengths that characterized the three editions and weaknesses, (4) selection of conference participants (method, quality of participants, etc.), (5) themes developed and the extent to which Rudi International was able to meet the needs of the participants, (6) the dissemination of the results (how are the results of the conferences disseminated), (7) how do the participants stay in touch, (8) the potential impact that the different themes developed in the three editions had on participants, and (9) the sustainability of the post-conference results.

The aim here is to verify the link between human rights and digital technology as intended and promoted by the Haki conferences and the satisfaction expressed by the participants on their understanding of this link to be established.

It should be noted that Haki Conferences are usually preceded by training workshops that target a specific category of participants. For the inaugural edition (2018), for example, a workshop on ICT policy and advocacy in Eastern and Southern Africa was sponsored by CIPESA, one of Rudi International's partners.
This workshop enabled nearly thirty participants from countries in the Great Lakes region to learn about the basics of digital rights and to be introduced to them. Another two-day workshop was organized on the sidelines of the 2021 edition, training lawyers on digital rights, which led to the establishment of the Congolese Lawyers' Network for Digital Rights. All the participants in these pre-conferences are now taking part in the conference itself.

2. Objectives of the study

The main objective of this study is to document and analyze perceptions through a questionnaire surveying various actors - in particular civil society (such as executives of major Congolese NGOs), humanitarian actors, policy makers, lawyers, journalists and other human rights activists, and participants and non-participants in the various Haki conferences already held, all from countries such as DRC, Rwanda, Burundi, Cameroon and Senegal, in order to be comprehensive in documenting achievements and results, as well as to inform the perceptions of the Haki Conference and feed into Rudi International's vision and mission on the use of digital technologies.

The specific objectives are as follows:

- Identify the attractions for Haki conferences, such as themes, time, setting, expert speakers and participants,
- Identify the challenges of adapting to the challenges of the digital age for the participants, whether it is resources, willingness, time, environment, different government regulations and rules,
- Assess the degree of collaboration that exists between participants in the post-conference period,
- Make available to Rudi International the elements of satisfaction and dissatisfaction with the expectations of the participants,
- To collect innovative and operational recommendations from the participants of the survey on the preparation and organization of the Haki conference,
- Identify the factors highlighted by the survey in relation to the sustainability of the achievements of the Haki conference editions.

3. Methodology of the study

In view of its objectives and the questions it was designed to answer, this study adopted a mixed methodological approach, using both quantitative and qualitative tools. The primary data was triangulated with the secondary data examined in the preparatory phase of the study. This review consisted of the analysis of the terms of reference submitted by CEREM and validated by Rudi International, the conference proceedings, the final conference communiqués and the terms of reference, these documents allowed the evaluation team to establish a clear and precise start-up guide giving more details on the methodology, questionnaires, participants and profile, zoning of data collection, analysis approaches, timeframe of the study, etc.

Due to the time constraints of the research, the dispersion of the survey participants and their profiles, also the COVID-19, the limited resources, and the need to reach the Haki Conference participants at a distance, the survey was organized online with 381 potential respondents targeted using the online survey software Kobo Collect.
Respondents entered their answers using smartphones, tablets and computers from their email addresses. The two survey questionnaires each included 21 general questions with up to 8 possible sub-questions for additional quantitative and qualitative information.

Subsequently, of the two questionnaires used in the data collection, one was for the panelists, experts and Rudi staff, with purely open-ended questions. The full questionnaires can be found in Appendix 1.

The target audience was composed of lawyers, consultants in various fields, human rights activists, computer experts, journalists and communication experts, members of movements and associative groups, national and international NGOs in countries such as the DRC, Cameroon, Burundi, Rwanda and Senegal, identified from the lists of participants held at the various editions of the Haki conferences, as well as Rudi staff. The respondents to the survey largely represent those who took part in the different editions of the Haki conferences and a small proportion had just registered without participating. This means that the respondents have an idea of what HakiConf is and have the most up-to-date information about the events. In selecting the participants for the survey, Rudi and CEREM sought to cast a wide net to obtain the most robust data possible.

The analysis highlights descriptive statistics (frequencies and percentages) for the respondent population to give a quick overview of their thoughts on the Haki conference and the digital age. The analysis also includes an inductive qualitative coding approach to group responses to short questions for analysis.

**Demographic data of respondents**

A total of 91 respondents completed the survey. The first set of questions asked for key demographic information, including gender, occupation, age and geographical location. The survey sample is not representative of the number of people who have registered for the various editions of this conference.

This analysis does not purport to represent the views of anyone other than the respondents, the survey collected fewer returns to the questionnaires sent out than expected, for a variety of reasons (some emails bouncing back, limited internet access for others, others just did not want to respond despite reminders.).

Overall, 61 respondents to the survey were male (67%), 30 were female (33%), the quantitative tool collected 47 male respondents (67%) and 23 female respondents (33%) while the qualitative tool had 7 female respondents (66.67%) and 14 male respondents (33.33%).
The DRC led the way in terms of the number of respondents to the survey compared to other countries, with 84 participants (92.3%) out of a total number of respondents (91), followed by Burundi (3 respondents) and Rwanda (3 respondents); Senegal and Cameroon contributed one respondent each.

The gap between the DRC and the other countries can be justified by the fact that Rudi International as organizer has its headquarters in the DRC, in the city of Goma where the conferences were held, and from the attendance lists it is easy to understand that most of the participants come from the major cities of the DRC. From the above table (Cfr Annex 1: Table 1: Geographical areas and respondents) we can have a clear and coherent understanding.

In the survey, young people represent the majority of respondents (61.5%), looking at the below table (Table 1: Age of Respondents) we see that the 2 age groups (21-30 and 31-40) cover more than half of the respondents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age groups/years</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21_30</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31_40</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41_50</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51_60</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Age of Respondents

To find the reason behind this difference, a question was asked about the means by which the participants get the information about the Haki conference; 55.95% said it is through social networks, 16.67% talk about the official website of Rudi International, the personal invitation gets 11.95% and the rest of the means are expressed below 10% of the trends in the answers. The top 2 means were mentioned mostly by the same age groups ahead in terms of participation (21-30 and 31-40 years).

Profession

The largest group of respondents, 26.37%, identified their profession as Lawyers. Journalists represent 16.48% and Humanitarians (International and National NGOs) cover 16.48%. The remaining categories such as Human Rights Activists, Researchers, ..., collected between 12 and 1%.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession of respondents</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human rights activist</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development agent</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications scientist</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrepreneur</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax specialist</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanitarian</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer scientist</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalist</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without occupation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>91</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 2: Profession of respondents*

Distribution of respondents by HakiConf edition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Edition</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>%</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Figure III: Respondents by Edition*

Out of a total of 91 respondents, 81 said they had participated in the Haki conference (89%) and 10 acknowledged that they had registered online but had not been selected for the activity.

The 2018 edition recorded a high score of respondents compared to the subsequent editions, namely 2019 and 2021, with seven percent of respondents reporting having taken part in all editions. 79% took part in the conference itself, 2% only had information on one edition, and 2% only took part in pre-conference activities.

When asked more about the quality (and/or role) of the people who participated in the different conferences, participants with no additional role represent 69% while Panelists (speaker/moderator) take 25% and Organizers 4%; the remaining 2% are classified as bloggers.

When asked how participants were selected, 70% said they had consulted the official Rudi website and filled in the registration form, 7% by individual invitation, the same score for those who were contacted directly by the organizers (7%). The others spoke of selection based on an organized test, work in the ICT field or in human rights, One percent (1%) said they could not remember how they had been selected. One person said that they had been asked by Rudi to take part in the conference.

A few suggestions were made by respondents to improve the selection process, including 1) Consider physical registration beyond the digital procedure (25%), (2) Involve ICT experts (25%), 3) Work on the criteria and expand the selection committee with outsiders (16.66%), 4) Consider organizations with a
national base (8.33%), Involve political leaders to whom recommendations are addressed (8.66%), 5) Involve past participants and their organizations by sending messages (8.33%), 6) Provide for participants’ snacks (8.33%).

Analysis of the evaluation: results and conclusions

1. Relevance

To better understand this need, we asked the respondents why they wanted to participate in the Haki conference, what are the main reasons, 60% said they were motivated by the topics and themes developed and which are often listed on the online Rudi page at registration. Others spoke of being driven by the need to improve their work (14%), personal development takes 15%, the opportunity to be in front of policy makers (7%) or other actors from different fields for networking and exchange of experiences (2%).

2) As actors in different fields, to be brought together in a network (6%), 3) To address recommendations to political leaders on aspects of digital and cyber crime (3%), 4) To be informed on the digital plan in DRC (9%), 5) How to become a panelist (3%) and 6) To feed our curiosity on digital technology (3%).

A part of the respondents (16%) say that their expectations were not met, they put forward as reasons: 1) the conference was more digital than legal, that IT people had more space to express themselves than lawyers, 2) the incompatibility between time and volume of the themes developed, some tools were not well detailed, a clear need for more time.

As to whether the topics developed during the Haki Conference were useful for the daily work of the participants, 97% of the respondents agreed that there was a positive difference between before and after the conference, and justified its importance by the fact that 1) They acquired notions on how digital
technology works (32%), 2) Thanks to the topics developed some went on to advanced training in online data security (11%), 3) integration between law and digital technology is possible (11%), 4) adaptation of interventions to the DRC’s digital plan (7%), 5) integration of digital into daily work (18%), 6) inspiration of the methodology used by the panelists (3.5%), 7) major digital gaps were filled (3.5%).

2. Effectiveness

The participants who responded to the survey acknowledge that at the end of each edition, there are commitments made and recommendations addressed to policy makers, organizers and the participants themselves, and that these are summarized in a final communiqué read out to, and with the support of, all participants. 85% of the respondents said that the final communiqué presents a faithful summary of the themes discussed and commitments made at the Haki conference. And 82.2% said that the final communiqué has an impact on the decisions and commitments of participants and decision-makers for the good of the community.

To understand the factors of success attributed to the Haki conference, the survey asked participants about organizational elements and short-term outcomes. Thus, respondents were asked to measure effectiveness through a satisfaction scale. With an illustrative graph and table below, the answers shared by the participants to the survey, the multimedia and visual aspects (21%), also the time given to the questions and answers had been appreciated by the respondents to the height of 20%, followed by the exchanges and networking (13%) and the choice of day of the activity (13%). Only the conduct of registration was rated below 10% by respondents.

Other elements cited by the participants as factors that make the Haki conference a success include the commitment and active participation of the participants in the discussions, the sharing of quality information, the diversity within the teams of speakers, the integration of regional aspects in the debates, the use of local manpower (for filming, communication, . .), the presence of important personalities, the presence of different actors from several fields and several regions and cities of the country, the exchanges, the experiences of each other, the relevant questions of the participants, the pedagogical character of the exchanges.

To make Haki conference even better in terms of organization, some suggestions were shared by the respondents, such as increasing the time allocated to the conference, integrating into the programme themes on personal data management and case studies, providing snacks for participants, punctuality
and good moderation to limit the number and length of interventions, reducing the number of participants and reaching out to more students in the selection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisational elements</th>
<th>Not satisfied</th>
<th>Satisfied</th>
<th>Very satisfied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The place where the event is being held (the city, the conference room)</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The organization as a whole</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>10.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The conduct of registrations</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>9.55%</td>
<td>12.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The duration (in days) of the event</td>
<td>6.55%</td>
<td>12.56%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The length of the breaks each day</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>12.56%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The choice of days for the activity (not weekends)</td>
<td>4.50%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchanges and networking</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catering services (meals)</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall logistics</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>8.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The time given to questions and answers</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multimedia aspects (projector, visuals, videos, photos, etc)</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 3: Respondents’ assessment of organizational aspects*

In relation to the content/topics for each edition, respondents say that the topics covered were clear and allowed for debate between participants, also between experts, they attribute this success to professionalism, the good choice of panelists and a very good choice of themes and topics.

![Figure VII: Respondents’ appreciation of the content/themes of the conference](image)

The panelists who facilitated the exchanges and debates around the themes developed were also evaluated by the respondents, who were invited to express their views on the facilitation mechanisms and information sharing within the Haki conferences; We can see that 19.30% of the respondents agreed with the space given to exchanges and interventions during the conference, as well as the clear communication of messages by the panelists (19.43% agreed). They also acknowledged that they had more time during the question-and-answer session (15%), which was contradicted by 9% of the respondents who said that they did not agree that the time was sufficient. Overall, the scores collected corroborate the results already shared in the previous sections in relation to the success factors of Haki conference, if we calculate the average of what the "disagree" answers (2%) represent in the results compared to the "agree" answer (18%).
With regard to the time given to the questions and answers, an issue that was appreciated by the respondents to the tune of 20%, it should be recalled that not all editions were of the same duration and were organized differently and moreover were organized under different themes as mentioned here:

- **The 1st Edition: 2018** (from 5 to 6 November 2018) is 2 days. Under the theme: "Digital Rights in the DRC: Where do we stand?" The activity was preceded by a pre-conference on ICT policy and advocacy in Eastern and Southern Africa. A preparatory activity that brought together 30 participants with the support of CIPESA;

- **The 2nd edition: 2019** (from 17 to 19 November 2019) is 3 days long but did not have a pre-conference. This second edition had as its theme: "Towards the construction of a common idea on the protection of human rights in the digital era in the DRC";

- **The 3rd edition: 2021**, although preceded by a pre-event, namely the training of lawyers on digital law, which led to the establishment of the Network of Congolese Lawyers for Digital Rights, lasted only one day and focused on human rights in the digital era in the DRC.

The survey also sought to understand whether there are added values for the participants who responded to the questionnaires, and beneficiaries of the Haki conferences, to know to what extent the latter have met the relevant and priority needs of its participants for all the editions organized; to find answers to this question; statements had been formulated and proposed in the form of proposals to the respondents with options of answers to be freely given (agree, disagree, strongly agree, ...).

Of all the aspects on which respondents disagreed, the time allocated to questions and answers came out on top with 6.43%, while the fact of bringing together actors from different fields and regions to share experiences came out on top in terms of satisfaction (24.56% agree), as did the presence of the authorities at the conference (19.30% strongly agree). Of these proposals made in the question, respondents gave an average score of 19% satisfaction, far higher than those who said they did not agree with the statements (2%). And of those who said they strongly agreed, the average collected is 11% of the respondents' rate.

**Some quotes:** One respondent said: "The methodology is good and if I may say so, for the next editions, I would recommend organizing the separate participants into small groups according to themes". And another saying "the local context was not taken into account because the activity was more interested in people from the digital domain, intellectuals, yet it should have more repercussions on all strata of the population which, as a whole, remains ignorant in digital matters".
The contents of the presentations were relevant to the general theme  
Not agreed: 2%  
Agreed: 16%  
Totally agree: 11,00%  

The contents of the presentations were interesting  
Not agreed: 0%  
Agreed: 20%  
Totally agree: 10,47%  

I have increased my knowledge thanks to the content of the presentations  
Not agreed: 0%  
Agreed: 18%  
Totally agree: 10,47%  

The time allocated to questions was sufficient  
Not agreed: 6,43%  
Agreed: 16,37%  
Totally agree: 4,68%  

The materials (media and handouts) were appropriate to the content  
Not agreed: 2%  
Agreed: 15%  
Totally agree: 10%  

The moderation of the debates was adequate  
Not agreed: 1,17%  
Agreed: 18,13%  
Totally agree: 10%  

The presentations gave me new leads, a different perspective  
Not agreed: 0%  
Agreed: 20,12%  
Totally agree: 11%  

I felt like relaying the information from these presentations  
Not agreed: 1,18%  
Agreed: 20,12%  
Totally agree: 8,28%  

I will take advantage of the information sharing and exchange of ideas that took place during the presentations  
Not agreed: 1%  
Agreed: 20%  
Totally agree: 10%  

I met new people with whom I stayed in touch  
Not agreed: 3%  
Agreed: 24,56%  
Totally agree: 18%  

HakiConf is more successful when policy makers are present  
Not agreed: 3%  
Agreed: 17%  
Totally agree: 19,30%  

Average  
Not agreed: 2%  
Agreed: 19%  
Totally agree: 11%  

Table 4: Responses to statements on Haki conference

3. Sustainability

80% of respondents would like to see Rudi International organize another Haki conference again. They believe that the issues of digital inclusion and management, as well as human rights, are still relevant and fast-moving, hence the need for continuous upgrading, while maintaining a culture of evaluating results and impact.

Suggestions for themes were made by respondents for future Haki conferences: 1) Digital security and management of social networks in relation to threats and vulnerabilities (13%), 2) RAM tax and experiences of other countries (13%), 3) Cybercrime (11%), 4) Entrepreneurship and online marketing (8%), 5) Sexual and reproductive health rights in the digital age (7%), 6) Impact of digital on human rights and development of a country (7%), 7) Digital integration in public administration, private companies and associations (5%), 8) Law in the digital age (7%), 9) Digitization of taxes (5%), 10) Access to and use of the internet, digital education (2%), 11) Gender, leadership and the digital (4%). Also, 2% of respondents said they had no choice, while 5% preferred the themes of previous conferences.

Quote: One respondent said “many of us participants, although lawyers, were not digitally literate, so we learnt how to integrate it into our work and how to keep our online correspondence (emails) safe”; and another said “I noticed the interest of the participants in issues related to privacy and legislation, for me, Haki Conf has created actors who are able to continuously advocate for the digital”.

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The survey looked at the relationships between participants during the post-Haki conference period, and respondents were asked how meeting other participants from different backgrounds and working in different areas during the conference continues to help them in their day-to-day work; and what the content of the exchanges is: 3.13% say they have not kept any relationship outside the conference, as opposed to 24.38% who say they continue with exchanges of expertise on digital and human rights issues; 7.5% say they are networking organizations.

Respondents proposed some innovations for future editions of the Haki conferences and its content in general, they cited: 1) Increase the number of partners by reaching out to French and English speaking countries (20%), 2) Revise upwards the duration of the conferences (30%), 3) Diversify the themes of the conferences (10%), 4) Organize online and face-to-face sessions (10), 5) Involve the digital working group for direct impact on legislation (10%), 6) Strengthen communication (10%), 7) Improve the preparation stages, support the production of scientific papers and broadcasts (10%).

42.8% of respondents said they needed additional information on how to become a member of Rudi International or the process for being selected as a panelist, and others asked about the purpose of the survey.

**Quote:** One respondent said: "I think that the activities of Haki conference have reason to continue, because it is the only Francophone meeting place on digital that we know in the region and as such the following editions should be held and be sustainable". Another added: "These kinds of events allow us to reflect on the different problems of society and our communities, and to find solutions.”

**Some quotes:** One of the respondents wrote: "I am very happy to be contacted to give my opinion, I am a big fan of this event and I hope that the next edition will be as fruitful as the previous ones", and another one added: "Digital today is like SNEL or REGIDESO, you cannot do without it. It is therefore important to ensure that the group of lawyers formed really plays its role; we remain committed to the defense of human rights, and are convinced that Rudi International, through its various activities, will never hesitate to invite us to benefit and bring something more". And another to add: "Ask partners like CIPESA, Paradigm Initiative, Facebook to support the organization of the Haki conferences by supporting the fundraising through a sponsorship system for the organization of the next editions to come.”
Conclusion and Recommendations

This study sought to document and analyze the perceptions of the participants of the Haki conferences, questions were asked through an electronic survey sent to the respondents; these questions were grouped into two categories which allowed for the collection of qualitative and quantitative information. Also, a category of people who showed interest in Haki conference activities, by taking the online registration but were not selected were also considered for the survey and their opinions were collected and analyzed in this exercise.

In terms of relevance, the results obtained show that a high proportion, more than half of the respondents (60.49%), appreciate the initiatives of Rudi International in relation to the organization of Haki conferences, its topics and themes developed are factors of attraction and seduction of the public. The survey also revealed that the participants had expectations before the conference which were met with Haki conference (80%).

In the preparatory aspects of the conferences, participants expressed negatively about the registration process: 9.55% satisfaction rate, while other factors collected more than 10% appreciation rate in the distribution of responses. It was also found that the themes developed during the conferences are considered clear, understandable and appreciated by the participants at 85% of the respondents, there is also a strong motivation of all categories of participants and panelists (experts) during the conferences, however the time allocated to the conferences activities remains critical for the participants, and considered not adapted according to the respondents. Given the importance and need, 80% of the respondents would like Rudi International to re-organize the Haki conference and propose a diversification in the choice of themes and topics to be discussed.

In terms of effectiveness, the following elements were cited by respondents as success factors attributed to the Haki conferences editions on: multimedia and visual aspects (21%), also the time given to questions and answers (20%), exchanges and networking (13%), the choice of day of the activity (13%), it should be noted that the registration process was less evaluated that in less than 10% of the respondents and judged as less adapted.

Other factors that contributed to the effectiveness of Haki conferences were noted in the responses, such as the commitment and active participation of participants in the discussions, the sharing of quality information, the diversity within the teams of speakers, the integration of regional aspects in the debates, the use of local labor (for filming, communication, etc.), the presence of major personalities, the presence of different actors from several fields and several regions and cities of the country, the exchange of experiences and the pedagogical character of the conferences.

In terms of sustainability, participants were convinced of the importance and need to make the Haki conferences sustainable, with 80% of respondents wishing that Rudi International would again organize other conferences within the framework of the Haki conference and propose a diversification in the choice of themes and topics to be discussed.

The following recommendations were made:

To Rudi International

- Although the majority of respondents stressed that their expectations had been addressed during the conferences, 16% of respondents said that their expectations had not been met because the conference was more digital than legal, and that computer scientists had more space to express
themselves than lawyers, the organizer should consider separate small group work according to themes for future conferences. In the next editions it would be better if Rudi took into account the specific needs of the professional categories present during the editions.

- 10% of the respondents said that the registration mechanisms at Hakiconf were not adapted, the online registration platform had been more privileged than the others, as a result certain age groups had less chance (40 to 61 years old) to be reached out to, the organizer should re-evaluate the system of registration of the candidates and consider making adjustments in the strategies by privileging a mixed method;
- 9% of respondents expressed dissatisfaction with the time factor, the organizer should work on the volume of the content of the sessions or adapt the time to the volume of the themes for future sessions,
- 10% of the respondents requested the involvement in all stages of HakiConf of the digital working group members for a direct impact on the legislative texts, Rudi should keep a close collaboration with the partners and state decision makers to give an impetus and consensus to the commitments and recommendations coming out of the HakiConf
- 42.8% of respondents said they needed additional information on how to become a member of Rudi or the process to be selected as a panelist, Rudi should make drafts and other sources of information on the functioning of HakiConf available to the public.

To supporting partners

- Other requests that came out of the respondents' quotes were for partners such as CIPESA, Paradigm Initiative, Facebook to accompany the organization of the Haki conferences by supporting the fundraising through a sponsorship system for relatively long periods of time in order to address all the themes in depth.
### APPENDICES

**APPENDIX 1: Table 1: Geographic Areas of Respondents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey areas</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bujumbura</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroun</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yaoundé</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RD Congo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goma - Nord-Kivu</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bukavu</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goma - Nord-Kivu</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>64,8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinshasa</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6,6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kisangani</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lubumbashi</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nyiragongo</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uvira</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kigali</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sénégal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dakar</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total général</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Appendix 2: Links to questionnaires**

https://cerem-international.org/docs/quest-quali.pdf

https://cerem-international.org/docs/quest-quanti.pdf