

## **Unpol Supports Female Farmers' Cooperative In North-Kivu (Canoki)**

On 10 March 2018, International Women's Day was celebrated in an unusual manner by the Farmers' Cooperative in the North Kivu province known as CANOKI, comprised of 800 displaced women from RUTSHURU and victims of sexual violence.



The female members of the cooperative graciously received substantial donations in kind by UNPOL Women's Network and representatives from other MONUSCO Sections (Gender, Conduct and Discipline, Radio OKAPI) consisting in agricultural inputs worth five hundred US dollars (US\$ 500), 60 litres of gas for farming activities, 100 loincloths, tee-shirts with MONUSCO's effigy. On top of the above, 100 CANOKI members received a training from UNPOL SALMOU on how to make local soap which will help them generate fund to cater for some of their needs.

During the ceremony, UNPOL Female Network leader Seynabou DIOUF took the opportunity to do counselling in favour of the victims of sexual violence to help them stand up against acts likely to dishonour women and young girls.

At the end of the ceremony, the joint team visited the area to see for themselves the challenges faced by the farmers.