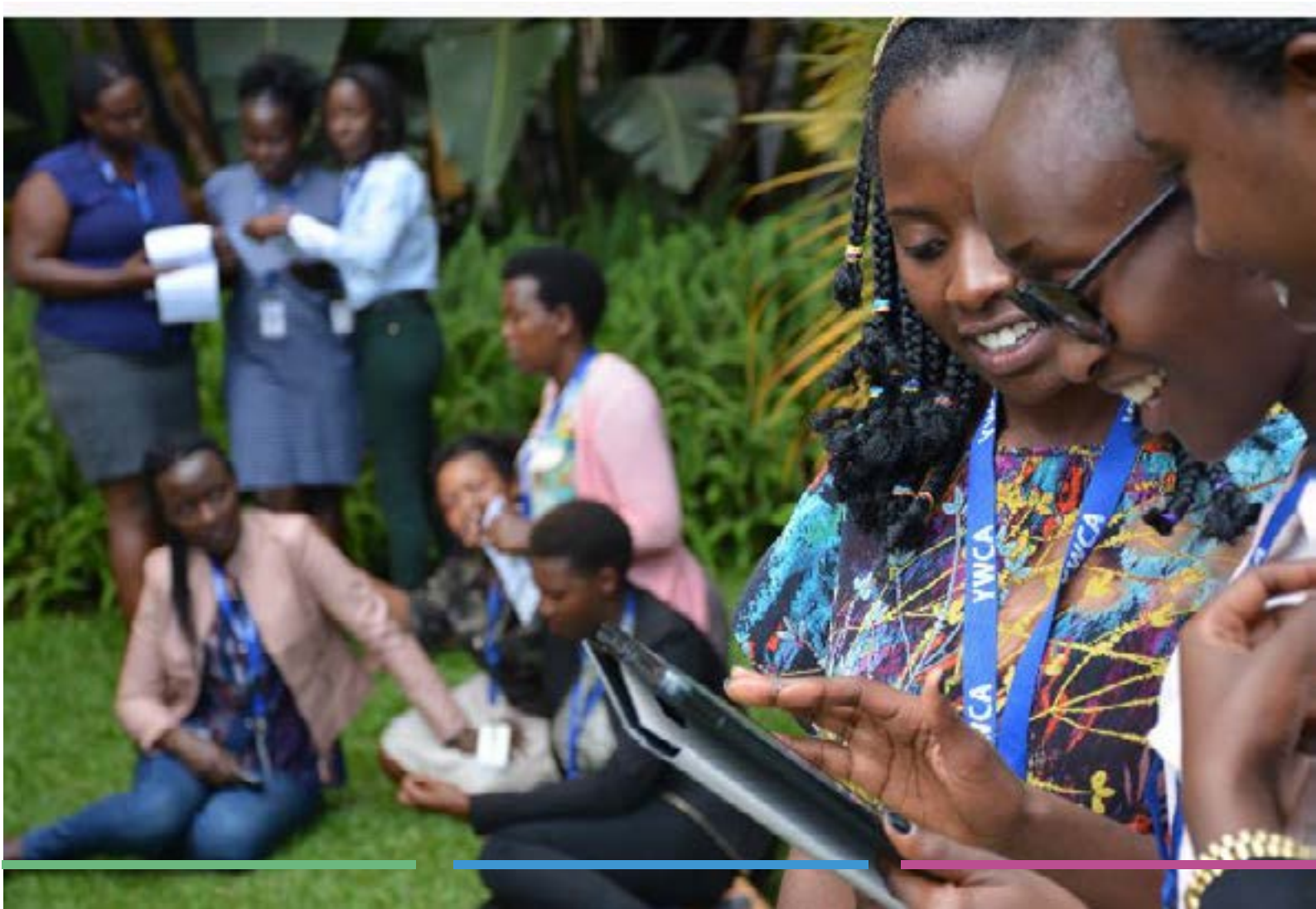




**YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN
ASSOCIATION OF RWANDA (YWCA)**
"Transforming community, empowering women"

ANNUAL REPORT 2019





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FOREWORD

It is with great joy that we share with you the 2019 annual report. This year, we have completed our 5 year strategic plan for the period 2015-2019 and the targets set have been largely achieved.

We have also started the participatory process of designing a new strategic plan that will guide our interventions for the next five years. This participatory process involving key stakeholders will ensure ownership and sustainability of our activities. Our interventions this year have been grouped under the GIRLS' PROGRAM, SECURE LIVELIHOODS PROGRAM and the PEACE BUILDING PROGRAM.

Throughout the years, a total of 84,791 beneficiaries was reached by our program interventions. YWCA Rwanda has focused on building the leadership skills of our beneficiaries, promoting gender equality, child protection, raising awareness on laws and policies against GBV and creating safe spaces and opportunities for girls and young women. We have promoted Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights education, peace building and secured the livelihoods for our beneficiaries to enable them to claim and make informed decisions.

KALIGIRWA Ernestine
YWCA Chairperson



We would like to send our deep appreciation to our partners, donors and the Government for supporting us in our mission of developing the leadership and collective power of women and girls in Rwanda to achieve high quality education, health and socio-economic conditions for themselves, their families, and their communities.

We would like also to extend our gratitude to our staff and volunteers for the incredible work done. Without your dedication and support for our work, we would not have been able to reach all our beneficiaries. In the coming year, we look forward to expanding our interventions to more districts so as to reach more girls and young women, children and other vulnerable women.

We hope that you enjoy reading this report and we invite you to support us in fulfilling our mission. We wish you all a HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020.

UZAMUKUNDA Pudentienne
Executive Director



LIST OF ACRONYMS

AGYW	: Adolescent Girls and Young Women
BDF	: Business Development Fund
BIAT	: Bio Intensive Agricultural Techniques
CBNP	: Community Based Nutrition Programme
CBV's	: Community Based Volunteers
CHAIN	: Community Health and Improved Nutrition
CHWs	: Community Health Workers
CIP	: International Potato Center
CSOs	: Civil Society Organizations
ECD	: Early Childhood Development
EU	: European Union
FDS	: Farmer Demonstration Schools
FFLS	: Farmer Field Learning Schools
FFS	: Farmer Field Schools
GALS	: Gender Action Learning Systems
GBV	: Gender Based Violence
GMP	: Growth Monitoring Promotion
ICASA	: International Conference on AIDS and STI's Africa
HIV	: Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IGAs	: Income Generating Activities
ISLG's	: Internal Saving and Lending Groups
ISVP	: Improved Service for Vulnerable Populations
JADF	: Joint Action Development Forum
MAM	: Moderate Acute Malnutrition
MEAL	: Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
MIYCN	: Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition
MVC	: Most Vulnerable Children
OFSP	: Orange Fleshed Sweet Potato
PD/H	: Positive Deviance Hearth
SAM	: Severe Acute Malnutrition
SASA	: Start Awareness Support Action
SGBV	: Sexual Gender Based Violence
SILC	: Savings and Internal Lending Communities
SNV	: Netherlands Development Organization
SRHR	: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

TOT	: Training of Trainers
USAID	: United States Agency for International Development
VAC	: Violence Against Children
VNS	: Village Nutrition School
VSL	: Voluntary Saving and Loans
VOP	: Volunteer Opportunity Pathways
WASH	: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
YWCA	: Young Women's Christian Association

A woman with dark hair, wearing a bright yellow shirt and a beige jacket, is seen from the side, looking towards a large, vibrant green plant with deeply lobed leaves. The background is slightly blurred, showing a yellow wall and a window.

WHO WE ARE

Young Women's Christian Association of Rwanda (YWCA Rwanda) is a non-governmental, non-profit organization established in Rwanda in February 1995.

YWCA Rwanda is affiliated to the World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA) which is a global movement working for women's empowerment, leadership and rights, leading social and economic change in 126 countries.

YWCA Rwanda was legally recognized by the Government of Rwanda in September 2005.



MISSION, VISION & VALUES

OUR VISION

A world where all women live free from poverty and their rights are respected.

OUR MISSION

To create the leadership and collective power of the women and girls in Rwanda to achieve quality education, health care and social-economic conditions for themselves, their families and their communities.

OUR VALUES

- 1 Empowerment
- 2 Excellence
- 3 Integrity
- 4 Leadership
- 5 Patrnership



OUR GOALS

1

To equip girls, vulnerable children and young women with the means to improve their own socio-economic conditions.

2

To improve women and vulnerable children's health issues affecting them and their ability

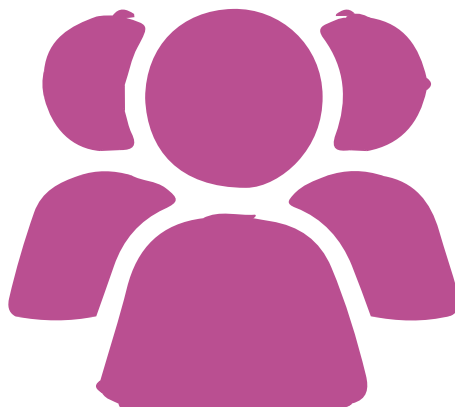
3

To encourage positivity and change negative attitudes regarding stereotypes, violence and exploitation.

4

To build a strong organization in which every part works actively together.





MEMBERSHIP

Women's National Umbrella Organisation Profemme Twese Hamwe.
COCAFEM/GL (Concertation Collectifs des Associations Feminines de la Region des Grands Lacs).
Rwandan NGOs Forum on HIV/AIDS & Health Promotion.
Anti GBV Network in Africa.
IAVE (International Association for Volunteer Effort).
RENCP-Rwanda Education NGO Coordination Platform.
CIWG-Community Involvement Working Group.
GEWG- Girl Education Working Group.
CCOAIB-Conseil de Concertation des Organisations d'Appui aux Initiatives de Base.
COP4G-Communities of Practice for Girls.
KWIGIRA Stay Alliance

BENEFICIARIES REACHED



19,146

Children Under 6 years

14,524

Men above 30 years

11,307

Girls and young women(10-30 years)

34,529

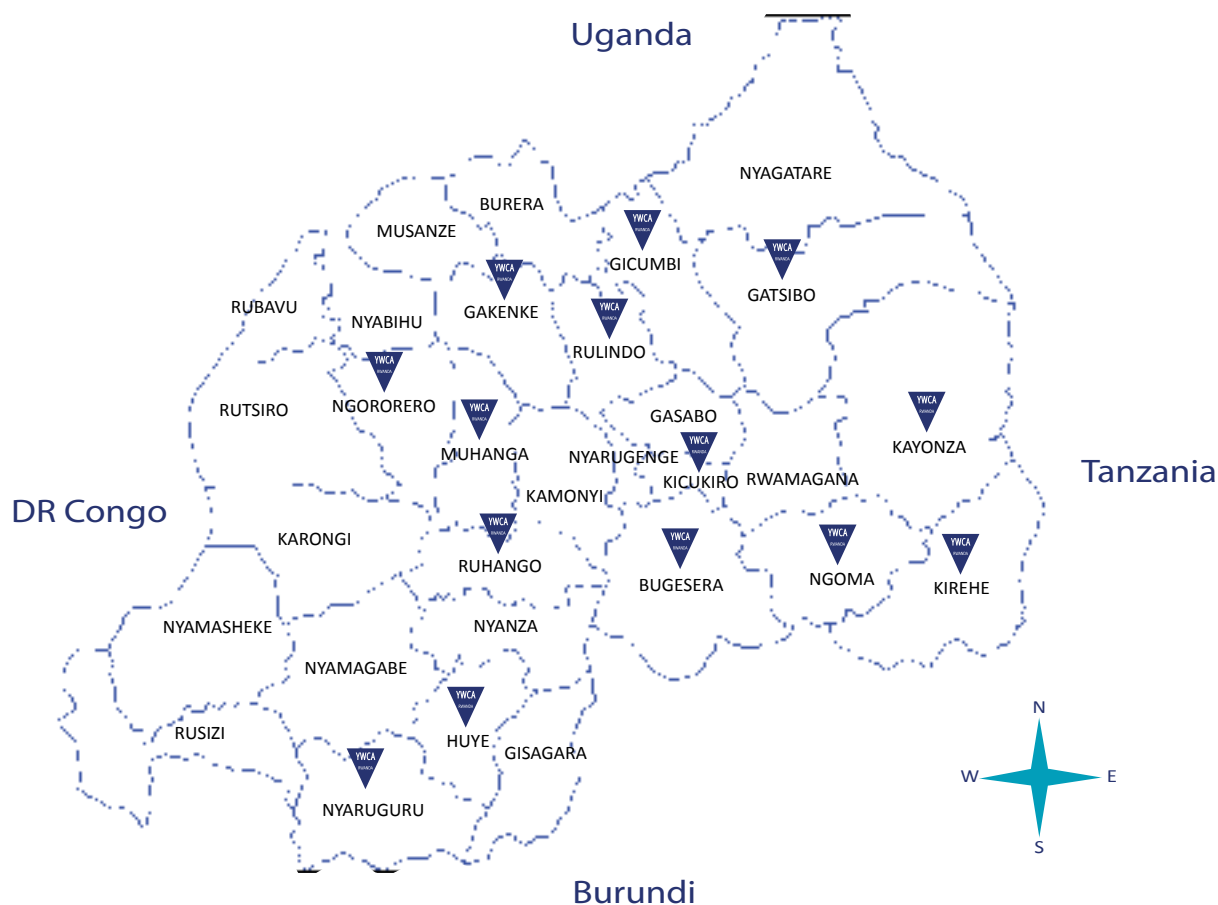
Women above 30 years

5,285

Boys and young men (10-30 years)

Total
84,791

WHERE WE WORK



In 2019 we worked in 14 districts:

Nyaruguru	Gakenke	Kayonza
Huye	Rulindo	Ngoma
Ngororero	Gicumbi	Kirehe
Muhanga	Gastibo	Kicukiro
Ruhango	Bugesera	

OUR PROGRAMS

Secure Livelihood

- Economic Strengthening
- Food Security
- Nutrition
- Early Childhood Development
- Emergency Response

Girls' Program

- SRHR
- Dream Drawing
- Financial Education
- Leadership
- Mentorship

Peace Building

- GBV Prevention
- GBV victim's care
- Advocacy
- Challenging Stereotypes



1. SECURE LIVELIHOODS PROGRAM

Goal

To achieve economic capacity, self-reliance, food security, and nutrition for vulnerable beneficiaries.





Projects under Secure Livelihoods

Improved Services for Vulnerable Populations (ISVP) known as **(USAID TWIYUBAKE Program)** a USAID funded program through Global Communities.

Integrated Nutrition and WASH Activity (INWA) **GIKURIRO program**, a USAID funded program through Catholic Relief Services.

USAID ISUKU IWACU Funded by USAID and implemented by YWCA Rwanda in partnership with SNV, World Vision and Water for People.

Social protection program; a joint program between Government and Civil Society Organization (CSOs) implemented by YWCA in Ngoma District.

Market oriented livelihood programme, PG II” the project funded by Irish Aid through OXFAM Rwanda.

Joint Programme on Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment in Rwanda **(JP RWEE)**, Project funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Youth Volunteer Initiative to reduce school drop outs project (Tugane Ishuri) funded by UNICEF

1. ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING





Key Achievements

1

A total of **368,291,708Rwf** was saved and **211,894,931 Rwf** were loaned out to **32,990** beneficiaries (22,587 female and 10,403 male) all grouped in **990** supported saving groups.

2

A total of **24,626** beneficiaries (15,000 female and 9,626 male) started income generating activities (IGA).

3

9,133 Households paid Health Insurance for their families which boosted their health.

The overall goal of Economic Strengthening is to ensure that family economic vulnerabilities decrease to enhance economic capacity, self- reliance for all the vulnerable households.

Therefore in a bid to reduce poverty among those households, our interventions addressed issues of lack of capacity of families to manage and generate income, limited access to finance, limited access to community-based health insurance (Mutuelle de santé) through our saving group approach that was applied as Saving and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) for Gikuriro program and Market oriented livelihood programme and Internal Saving and Lending Groups (ISLGs) for USAID Twiyubake program.

USAID TWIYUBAKE PROGRAM

Since October 2015, YWCA Rwanda has been implementing the Improved Services for Vulnerable Populations (ISVP) program in Rwanda locally known as USAID- TWIYUBAKE Program in partnership with Global Communities in Kayanza District. In Kayanza District, the program aim to identify 4350 and assist 15,000 youth and adults by reducing economic vulnerability and empowering parents to make investments to meet the unique needs of young children and adolescents.

The program also aims at increasing capacity, improving care practices and increasing access to services. The five year ISVP program is being implemented in Kayanza District in six sectors namely; Gahini, Mwiri, Kabare, Rukara, Murundi and Rwinkwavu.



Key Achievements

1

233 Internal Saving and Lending Groups (ISLGs) acted as entry points for economic strengthening component where a total of **5,302** members (3,340 female and 1,962 male) saved **94,167,892 RWF** and **62,626,120 RWF** was loaned to members.

2

88 saving groups that developed and implemented their businesses received incentives that helped them to boost and increase their capital. **2,219** income generating activities were started by the beneficiaries. For instance, **823** beneficiaries engaged in retail business, **789** in agriculture, **252** in manufacturing and **355** in transport. The profits gained helped them to take care of their household members' needs totaling to **28,333** adults of which **15,687** are children below the age of 18.

“

My name is Monique Mukamurenzi
a Case Management Volunteer (CMV) and mother of 4 children,
2 boys and 2 girls from Gahini sector.

I am a member of the Twiyubake supported saving groups that is composed of
33 members (12 female and 21 male).

The group is one of those that received business incentives amounting to
300,000Rwf from the program.

We bought 23 piglets and 2 goats for the members. I, myself received a piglet.
This was a dream come true.

I look forward to seeing it produce more piglets so that I sell them and generate
more income to help my family members.

said Mukamurenzi.

”

GIKURIRO PROGRAM



A cross-section of SILC group members in USAID Gikuriro program Ngoma District

is a USAID funded integrated nutrition and WASH activities; five year program which aims to improve the nutritional status of women of reproductive age and children under five years of age, with an emphasis on the 1,000 day window of opportunity from pregnancy until a child's second birthday.

To address food insecurity and strengthen household nutrition practices, Gikuriro supports scale up of CBF&NP in target districts through its Village Nutrition Schools (VNS), which combine nutrition (nutrition education, cooking demonstrations, and growth monitoring and counseling), Farmer Field Learning Schools (FFLS – bio-intensive agricultural techniques and kitchen gardens), and Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) to promote household savings, facilitating purchase of more nutritious, diverse foods as well as Water Sanitation and Hygiene activities through Community Based Environmental Health Promotion Program (CBEHPP) and Community Health Clubs(CHC).

CBF&NP's objective is to prevent malnutrition among children under five, with increasing emphasis on children under two.

Monthly community based growth monitoring, management and referral of children under five years of age are major and essential activities of the CBF&NP. Community Health Workers (CHWs) and / with support of parents lumieres under close supervision of the project staff with HC and District hospital staffs, implement CBF&NP and VNS activities at community level.

YWCA through CRS has been implementing the USAID-GIKURIRO Program in Ngoma district since September 2016; and has achieved among others the following key results:



Key Achievements

- 1** **527** SILC groups were supported by Gikuriro Program in their daily saving and lending activities and these supported **11,924** group members of SILC (**9,825** female and **2,099** female). A total of **187,517,380 Francs** was saved whereas **139,281,590** was loaned to group members in the year 2019 and **17,068,210** was social fund contribution.
- 2** **22,407** IGAs were initiated by SILC members including retailing, transport and small scale businesses.
- 3** **4800** Households paid Health Insurance for their families which boosted their health.
- 4** **44** PSPs (Private Service Providers) were trained on PSP network which enabled them to conduct regular quarterly meetings and to strengthen the partnership with beneficiaries.
- 5** **423** new SILC groups were created which contributed to increase IGAs.

MARKET ORIENTED LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME, ("PG II" THE PROJECT)

In partnership with OXFAM International in Rwanda, we implemented the Market oriented livelihood programme, (PG II" the project) in 6 Districts: Kirehe, Nyamagabe, Rulindo, Gicumbi, Gakenke and Muhanga which impacted 24,946 beneficiaries; (5,020 Direct and 19,926 indirect beneficiaries by responding to the two main objectives; two main objectives; Greater women and youth economic empowerment and Greater gender equality in the following ways.



The GALS methodology



PGII program beneficiaries drawing their vision journey



Key Achievements

Under greater women and youth economic empowerment objective;

1

YWCA equipped **160** SILC representatives (70% women) from 80 SILC groups in Gicumbi and Kirehe Districts with skills on business enterprise and financial literacy.

As a result of the skills obtained, the groups saved Frw **46,430,060** and **14,327,450 Frw** was loaned out to members.

2

The project also introduced Gender Action Learning System approach (GALS) to beneficiaries in Gicumbi and Kirehe District. GALS is a community-led empowerment methodology that aims to promote economic, social and political transformation to gender justice.

The training on GALS was delivered to **50** cooperative representatives, 8 men and 42 women, from Kirehe and Gicumbi Districts.

SOCIAL PROTECTION ACTIVITIES NGOMA

Since 2017, YWCA Rwanda entered into a partnership with Ngoma District to build the capacity of beneficiaries of the social protection activities support and to monitor the service delivery to the target beneficiaries.

The goal of the social protection activities is to contribute to reduce of poverty and vulnerability as well as to promote equitable growth which links directly to the National Strategy for transformation (NST1) and aims at ensuring a better quality of life for all Rwandans by promoting growth and reducing poverty.

It also ensures that poor and vulnerable citizens receive minimum standard of living and access to core public services.



The implementation of the project started in March up to December 2019.



Key Achievements

These are key achievements of social protection in Ngoma District implemented in three sectors of Zaza, Rukumberi and Mugesera:

1

100 beneficiaries of Girinka of Public Work and Direct Support were trained on the Gender Action Learning system to ensure that they understand the approach and create a clear vision of their household.

2

Monitor direct support, Girinka and expended public work and ensure that they have been paid on time and follow up with local leaders and SACCO managers.

3

Participate in community meetings and Selection of eligible beneficiaries to benefit social protection support is done in transparency way.

Through Joint Programme on Rural Women's Economic Empowerment in Rwanda (JPRWEE) Project implemented in Ngoma and Nyaruguru Districts,

The Joint Programme on Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (JPRWEE) Programme was conceived to address the challenges faced by rural farmers. The JPRWEE seeks to address gender inequities by tackling them across dimensions, using a dual accountability framework: JPRWEE improves women's access to and control over resources, women's agency to pursue her rights, and the institutional structures which have historically restricted women. Under this Program the following was achieved;

1

We convened a Participatory Gender Review (PGR) for 100 champions from 5 cooperatives involved in maize, soybean and vegetables value chain. (80 from Nyaruguru District and 20 from Ngoma) during which participants measured the socio-economic changes made at household, community and cooperative level by the use of the Gender justice diamond and multilane highway tools. Through PGR, the champions committed themselves to fighting gender based violence, sharing the Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS) tools with the partners, preserving the environment through planting trees, purchasing small livestock, supporting their children to stay in school, joint planning at household level, promoting sanitation and hygiene among other commitments.

2

In order to improving the knowledge and practices between champions supported by the Program and to reintegrate the experience gained, we supported a one day exchange visit of 30 champions from Kamonyi District, who visited 100 champions from Ngoma District. Through the exchange visit, participants shared experiences and discovered new viewpoints and approaches to alleviate Gender Based Violence. Participants learnt that GALS can be applied to all spheres of socio-economic life and it can support some other development initiatives initiated by the government. It was also noted that most of the champions in Nyaruguru need to invest in agriculture in order to reach to their goals while in Ngoma they need to invest more in breeding as they can easily access pasture for the animals.

3

We raised awareness on environmental protection and policies among 100 champions (17 male and 83 female) in Ngoma and Nyaruguru districts. They were briefed on laws determining the modalities of protection, conservation and promotion of environment. The knowledge obtained by the champions will enable them to support efforts in conserving the environment, people and their habitats.

4

77 champions in Nyaruguru and 8 from Ngoma district where we linked to biogas service providers and users.



2. FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION





Key Achievements

- 1** **97,095** seedlings including Grafted avocados, Mangoes Fruit trees were distributed to households.
- 2** **553** farmer field schools were supported during the year.
- 3** **719** small live stocks including chickens, Rabbits and Piglets offspring were distributed to **390** Beneficiaries.
- 4** **11,313** under-five children, **1,342** lactating mothers, **792** pregnant mothers and **443** men were supported through Village Nutrition School activities.
- 5** **43,665** children under 5 years attended the growth monitoring
- 6** **1,892** children Under 5 with malnutrition were rehabilitated through VNS.
- 7** **472** parent Lumieres (400 female & 72 male) were equipped with skills and knowledge on food processing.

YWCA Rwanda works with smallholder farmers to promote food security and nutrition in their households.

We support the use of bio-intensive agriculture techniques (BIAT) in Farmer Field Learning Schools (FFLS), promote nutrition using Village Nutrition Schools (VNS) and Early Childhood Development centers(ECDs) for Nutrition of children under 6 years.

We work with community health workers (CHWs) to identify children at risk or cases of stunting and support them through monthly growth monitoring. We provide trainings to farmers on sustainable agriculture, while providing modern agricultural seeds and agricultural tools like hoes and shovels.



The following were the key achievements; Through the Gikuriro program,



Key Achievements

1

64 FFS groups out of **473** received Iron sheets and polythene sheets to support in rain water harvesting water “small house system” and on demonstration plots during the dry seasons hence **40** water tanks were constructed.

2

446 farmer promoters attended and adopted **187** BIATs on **85** households for mobilizing beneficiaries and farmer promoters to maintain their home gardens during season C.

3

14 trees fruits nursery beds were established in all sectors (One per Sector) where **92,475** seedlings were distributed to **10,275** households

4

6 Junior Farmer Field Learning Schools were Created, Coached and monitored to implement gardening activities.

5

430 Chickens, **106** Rabbits and **183** Piglets offspring were distributed on **390** Beneficiaries who did not received small livestock.

455 farmer promoters and sector social affairs attended quarterly meeting where they shared experiences, challenges and how best to support the program to achieve its goal.

Through the Market oriented livelihood programme;

- The Community farmer promoters provided on farm technical support to 32 cooperatives in Kirehe and Gicumbi Districts in horticulture techniques and the beneficiaries are now able to apply techniques such as Nursery Preparation, Land Preparation, Sowing, Weeding, Pest and disease management and/or Control, Irrigation techniques, Harvesting techniques, Post harvesting practices and Crop rotation has contributed to improved cooperatives effective use of agricultural land and increased productivity.
- The project equipped 256 horticulture farmers in Gicumbi and Kirehe with knowledge and skills on seeds multiplication and handling. The increased knowledge and skills will help the farmers to increase their productivity and income.
- We organized demonstration sessions and trainings for 50 cooperative representatives in Gicumbi and Kirehe on diversified horticulture techniques (Cultivation techniques and storage) this will increase better use of the land; increase the quality of horticulture produces and decrease losses.

Nutrition component



	Supported through VNS activities	Equipped with skills and knowledge on food processing	Result
230 VNS groups	<p>11,313 children under-five</p> <p>1,342 lactating mothers</p> <p>792 pregnant mothers</p> <p>443 men</p> <p>470 Maman lumieres</p>	<p>472 parent Lumieres (407 female & 72 male)</p>	<p>This resulted into 1,892 children Under 5 with moderate acute malnutrition to be rehabilitated through VNS.</p>

99.1% of children Under 5 attended the growth monitoring efforts to fight stunting and malnutrition.

- 11,313 under-five children, 1,342 lactating mothers, 792 pregnant mothers and 443 men were supported through VNS activities. This resulted into 1,892 children Under 5 with moderate acute malnutrition to be rehabilitated through VNS.
- 43,665 children under 5 years were supported to attend the growth monitoring.
- 451 Community health workers participated in the quarterly meetings where they reviewed the program and closed existing gaps.
- 472 parent Lumieres (407 female & 72 male) were equipped with skills and knowledge on food processing to be able to support the beneficiaries better.
- 99.1% of children Under 5 attended the growth monitoring efforts to fight stunting and malnutrition.
- 1,892 children Under 5 were rehabilitated through VNS.
- We strengthened community mobilization and SBCC (Social Behaviour Change Communication) Nutrition week campaign/ MCH (Maternal and child Health) Support Breastfeeding week/MCH (Maternal and Child Health) at district level.
- 230 VNS groups were supported with 20,000RWF to strengthen VNS activities by reinforcing new skills introduced in FY18 on producing useful materials in household (sewing, production of bags, igiseke, imikeka, gufuma).
- We supported VNS exchange visits between sectors (Mugesera, Zaza, Rukumberi and Remera) which increased knowledge among other beneficiaries.
- 470 Maman lumieres were supported with 10,000RWF during the bi-annual cooking village demonstration at village level to demonstrate how to prepare a balanced diet and fight malnutrition among children.

Children 6 years and below attending ECD being served the nutritious meal under the USAID Twiyubake program in Gahini Sector Kayonza District.



Through the USAID Twiyubake program;

- 42 water tanks were constructed to facilitate the Farmer Field Schools in watering during the dry season enhance the agricultural practices during long dry seasons where group members should have vegetables at all seasons and fight malnutrition of their children and reach zero hunger in their households.
- 2,310 Grafted avocados and 2,310 grafted Mangoes Fruit trees were distributed to 1,764 FFS members (1,108 female and 656 male) in 80 FFS groups. This was conducted to support parents to not only have homes with fruit and being able to prepare a balanced diet to fight against malnutrition cases in future but also to promote the practice of having fruit trees at home towards accessing fruits easily at home.
- 80 Farmer Field Schools were established and 2,766 household members have adopted the bio- intensive agricultural techniques (BIAT) within their households which has boosted food security and nutrition.
- 1,948,675Frw was accumulated from selling vegetables from the FFS demo plots and the adopted fields in the households.



3. WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)





Key Achievements

1

21,900 beneficiaries (18,000 from Ruhango and 3,900 from Kicukiro) were enrolled into the ISUKU IWACU program.

2

In USAID Twiyubake Program, **237** households who received iron sheets for construction of improved latrines.

3

5,134 beneficiaries (1,944 male and 3,190 female) received WASH messaging through the saving groups.

4

28 water springs, **4** boreholes and **9** kiosk were constructed by USAID Gikuriro Program

Our WASH program seeks to improve access to safe water, sanitation facilities and encourage behavior change which leads to healthier families and communities.

We use the Community Based Environmental Hygiene Promotion Program (CBEHPP) approach and Community Health Clubs (CHC) to ensure hygiene and sanitation behavior at household level.

We support households by increasing access to WASH products and services including soap, toilets, iron sheets and water tippy taps.

We work with private service providers and encourage them to develop viable WASH business models that better respond to beneficiary needs.

We conduct campaigns to disseminate WASH messages in the community (including on special days like World Toilet day on 19th November, and hand washing day on 15th October each year).

We also organize WASH exhibitions and open days to disseminate WASH messages to the communities.



One of the kiosks that were constructed under the Gikuriro program in Ngoma District

USAID ISUKU IWACU PROGRAM

Since September 2019, YWCA Rwanda entered into a partnership with SNV to implement the USAID ISUKU IWACU Program in Kicukiro and Ruhango District. The Program aims to help 18,000 Households from Ruhango District and 3,900 from Kicukiro District to gain access to improved household sanitation.

YWCA will work to ensure that about 250 villages of target districts live in Open-Defecation Free (ODF) environments.



Key Achievements

1

Enrollment of **18,000** potential beneficiaries from Ruhango and **3,900** from Kicukiro in the program.

2

Recruitment of **48** sector and cell based volunteers (including 17 from Kicukiro and 31 from Ruhango) and **250** village based volunteers (including 125 from Kicukiro and 125 from Ruhango District) who will support in the smooth implementation of the Program at the Cell level, and **6** at the Sector level.

3

Conducted the ZOD (zero open defecation) trainings to village committee's members, Community Health Clubs Committees, and leaders of Amasibo at the Village level (**125** from Ruhango and **125** from Kicukiro) which will improve household sanitation.

Through the USAID Gikuriro Program;

- 472 out of 473 CHC facilitators were trained on Liquid soap production which will boost sanitation in the communities.
- 41 water user committees, 14 sector's staff, 1 District staff and 5 health center staff were trained on operation and maintenance of the water supply systems to increase their understanding and support.
- 9 water Kiosks and 4 bore holes were constructed and branded by YWCA Rwanda under USAID Gikuriro Program this year to boost sanitation in the community.
- 28 water springs were constructed by YWCA Rwanda under USAID Gikuriro Program to boost sanitation in the community.
- Installation of rain chains on nine water kiosks constructed in Ngoma District.
- 4 boreholes were drilled by YWCA Rwanda under USAID Gikuriro Program this year to boost water access in the community.
- 473 kid mats were distributed to all CHCs of Ngoma Districts in order to promote Hygiene during CHC meeting.
- 237 Households received iron-sheets for improving latrines

Through the USAID Twiyubake program;

- 5,134 beneficiaries (1,944 male and 3,190 female) received WASH messaging through the saving groups. Whereas households were sensitized on WASH practices through the home visit activity where 3,570 households have latrines, 2,520 households now have clean and covered toilets whereas 2,825 have water and soap at a hand washing stations.
- 140 CBECDs supported with iron sheets to construct toilets to boost hygiene.



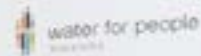
REPUBULIKA Y'U RWANDA



USAID
INKUNGA Y'ABANYAMERIKA



SNV



4. EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD)





Key Achievements

1

2,937 children(1,549 female and 1,388 male)were supported by YWCA interventions to participate in ECD activities

2

9,054 kgs of highly nutritious porridge were distributed to ECD centers to support in curbing stunting and malnutrition.

3

2,359 parents were sensitized on positive parenting including children's' rights



To promote the holistic growth and development of children, we work with parent support groups, local leaders, caregivers, facilitators and community based volunteers to champion both home and community based ECD centres for children aged between 3-4 and 5-6.

For those below 3 years support is given to their parents through parent support groups. The following was achieved;

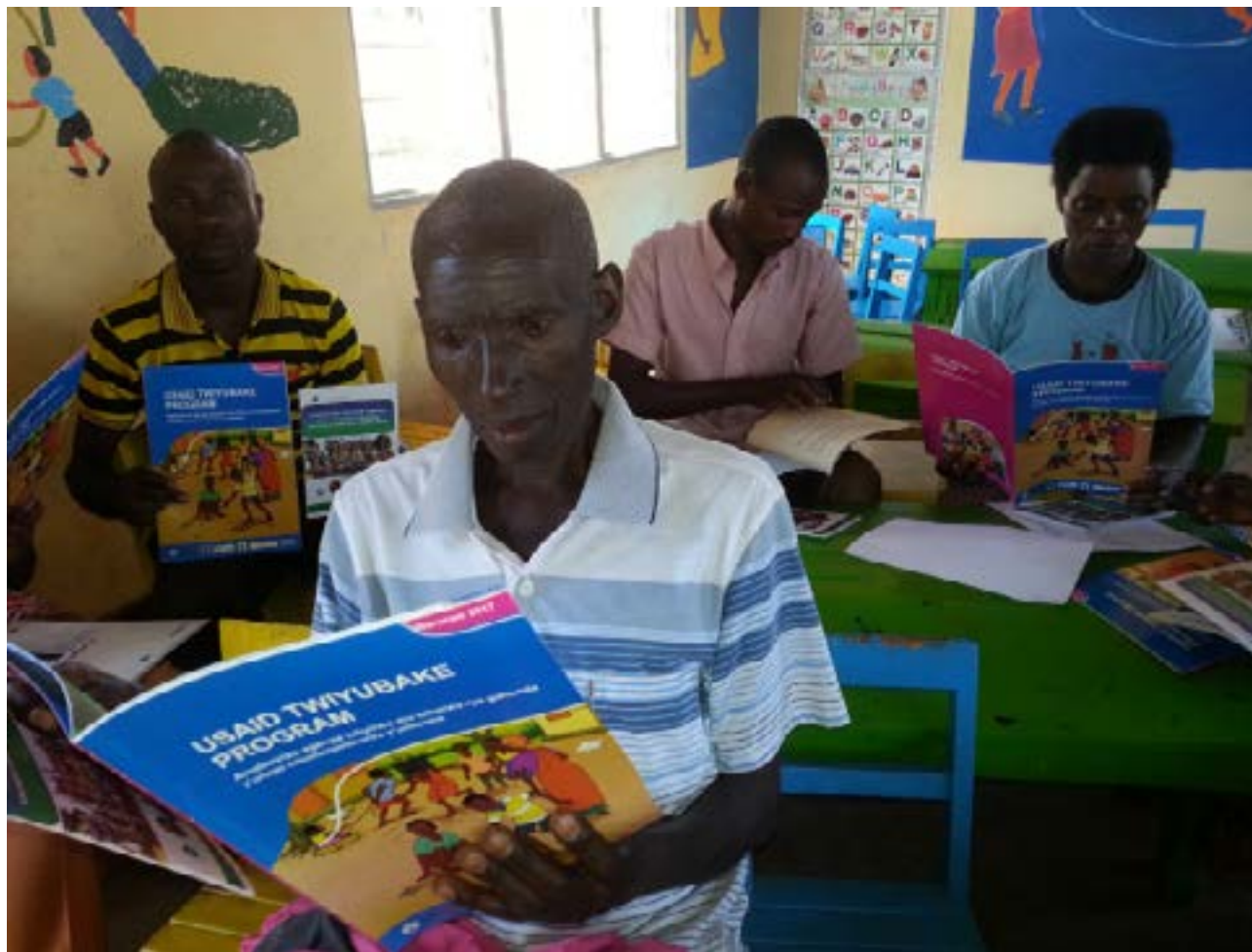
- Supported 35 Community based and 75 Home based ECDs which supported the participation of more than 3,219 children.
- 30 Sites with ECDs were provided with Play kits and toys which boosted the children's right to play.
- 30 swings were constructed near 30 ECDs for the children to play. 35 CBECDs were supported with 140 iron sheets for the construction of latrines at the ECD centers to improve hygiene.



Positive parenting

2,359 parents (60% female) were made aware of children's right and 2,563 (60% female) were sensitized on issues of gender equality. This education promoted child protection and gender equality in their respective communities.

The program supported the ECDs with 9,054 kgs of highly nutritious porridge, which boosted the nutrition status of the children at the ECD centers and improved participation in the program.



ECD Volunteers are given facilitation modules

A father of three is managing a community Based ECD in Kabare Sector.

Being a children's caregiver has always been a women's job in the traditional Rwandan culture; a man who would do this would be considered as weak and as somebody who acts under his wife's orders. However, in modern Rwanda that stereotype is slowly ending. Jean D'Amour made a change in the community; he takes care of 60 children in a Community Based ECD.

Jean D'Amour, 34 years, is married with 3 children and living in Kabeza village, Cyarubare cell, Kabare sector in Kayonza district, where he was born and grew up. His father was living with a strong disability. Although Jean d'Amour finished primary school, his parents were not able to finance his secondary studies.

Jean D'Amour who was living from subsistence farming always felt a strong urge to support the community he was living in. When he was 17, he volunteered to teach for 13 years adults living in Cyarubare cell how to read and write. He also volunteered for 8 years to teach children in the Sunday school at his church.

"During that period I developed a great love for kids and I later on discovered that taking care of children is my call," said Jean D'Amour. In 2016, Jean D'Amour joined the USAID Twiyubake program as a community based volunteer at the Cyarubare Community Based ECD. The same year in July, he attended his first training on early childhood development. Equipped with this knowledge, he conducted campaigns in the community to sensitize parents on the importance of Early Childhood Development and concurrently helped the program implement the IGIHOZO Community-Based Early Childhood Development.

The church he used to support with the Sunday school teachings, provided a room to host the children. The Community Based ECD started with 38 boys and 48 girls aged 3-6 years. Then the cell office offered a room next to their office to officially establish a community based ECD. As parents brought more and more children to the IGIHOZO CBECD. The program implemented with the support of Jean D'Amour 8 additional home-based ECDs to address the high demand of children in need of ECD services which could not be hosted at the IGIHOZO CBECD anymore. Being raised by a parent with disability, I sensitized parents with children with disabilities to bring them at the ECD. Currently the ECD hosts 8 children with Disability.

At the beginning, it was not easy for Jean D'Amour, community as many parents would wonder how a man could engage with children, as it is not usual in the community. Regardless, as he continued to sensitize parents and explain the importance of early childhood development, the community came to trust him.

Jean D'Amour in the parenting group



“Even children couldn’t understand how a man could be a caregiver working in the ECD center, as I do once a week. In their minds, this job is solely for women. [All] children even call me ‘Miss’ although I am a man”, he explained. “Still, not many men engage in childcare. In the CBECD we are only 3 men in a group of 16 caregivers,” he explained.

“Today, I am a professional in early childhood development and [have] gained so many skills. For example, today I can diagnose a child with malnutrition and know which foods could help him/her, I am able to build a kitchen garden, I know how to stimulate a child’s brain, and much more,” concluded Jean D'Amour.

5. TVET



In order to address the skills deficit and unemployment among the youth, we promote technical and vocational education training for the youth in the informal sector. We equip our beneficiaries with the needed labour market skills ranging from tailoring, carpentry, metal work among others.

We encourage the formation of voluntary saving and lending association groups (VSLA) among our beneficiaries where they are trained on financial education, skills, laws, policies and rights of workers engaged in the informal sector. We support linkages between the established VSLA groups and micro-finance institutions for them to access loans to set up businesses. We also support mentorship and coaching for our trained beneficiaries. Under the USAID Twiyubake/DREAMS program,

the following was achieved;



Key Achievements

- 1** A total **9** AGYW enrolled in TVET at CEFORMI were supported by the USAID DREAMS program to conduct a study tour at Radisson Blu on 28th June 2019 from where they got practical evidence of what they studied in class.
- 2** We provided start up kits to **28** youth under the USAID Twiyubake program including sawing machines, salon kits among others. The materials were provided through kit loan by Business Development Fund (BDF) through SACCO.
- 3** We supported **234** AGYW to attend Technical, Vocational, and Educational Training School (TVET) under the USAID DREAMS program where they obtained skills and knowledge which they will use to establish start-up businesses.

YOUTH VOLUNTEER INITIATIVE TO REDUCE SCHOOL DROP OUTS

Project (**Tugane Ishuri**) funded by UNICEF

The following are the key achievements of the Tugane Ishuri project implemented in Ngororero district;



Key Achievements

1

Enrolment of After **150** young boys and girls of which 83 were women and 77 men. This will increase school enrolment and attendance among the beneficiaries and the community in general.

2

Capacity building of young people on sexual and reproductive health rights, gender based violence prevention and response, community score and child protection which has increased awareness and protection of rights of young women, girls and children.

3

1,263 students were enrolled in primary and secondary schools in **13** sectors in Ngororero district. 479 are girls and 784 are boys.

4

We supported **140** volunteers to attend vocational and technical schools in Muramba and Hindiro sectors where they were trained in tailoring, mechanics, food processing, leather crafts and welding. They obtained skills that they will use to start technical and vocational start-ups.

Over 140 volunteers received professional certificates on community volunteerism received by UNICEF in partnership with YWCA Rwanda.



SUCCESS STORY



My name is UWANYIRIGIRA Clarisse, aged 24. I was born in a family of 7 children. When I was 17 years I got pregnant by my former classmate when I was in high school.

After getting pregnant, my life changed and turned into challenges and struggling, I was chased out of school and went to sit at home.

My parents were very hostile to me and chased me from home. I went and started living with my friend until I gave birth to my first born.

When the DREAMS program was looking for teen mothers to be enrolled, I was among the people who joined and I attended several SRHR sessions.

Those trainings changed my behaviour and I stopped cohabiting with men. I learnt different types of family planning which I was not aware of before joining DREAMS Program and I also joined the saving group and started saving the little I could afford.

Fortunately I was chosen to be sponsored in TVET and I chose to study hairdressing for six months.

It has been a golden opportunity to me and I studied hard and scored good marks from school. After completing my studies, the school sent us to find internship so that we can qualify for certification. Every business owner asked for internship fees and as I mentioned earlier, I had some savings from the saving group.

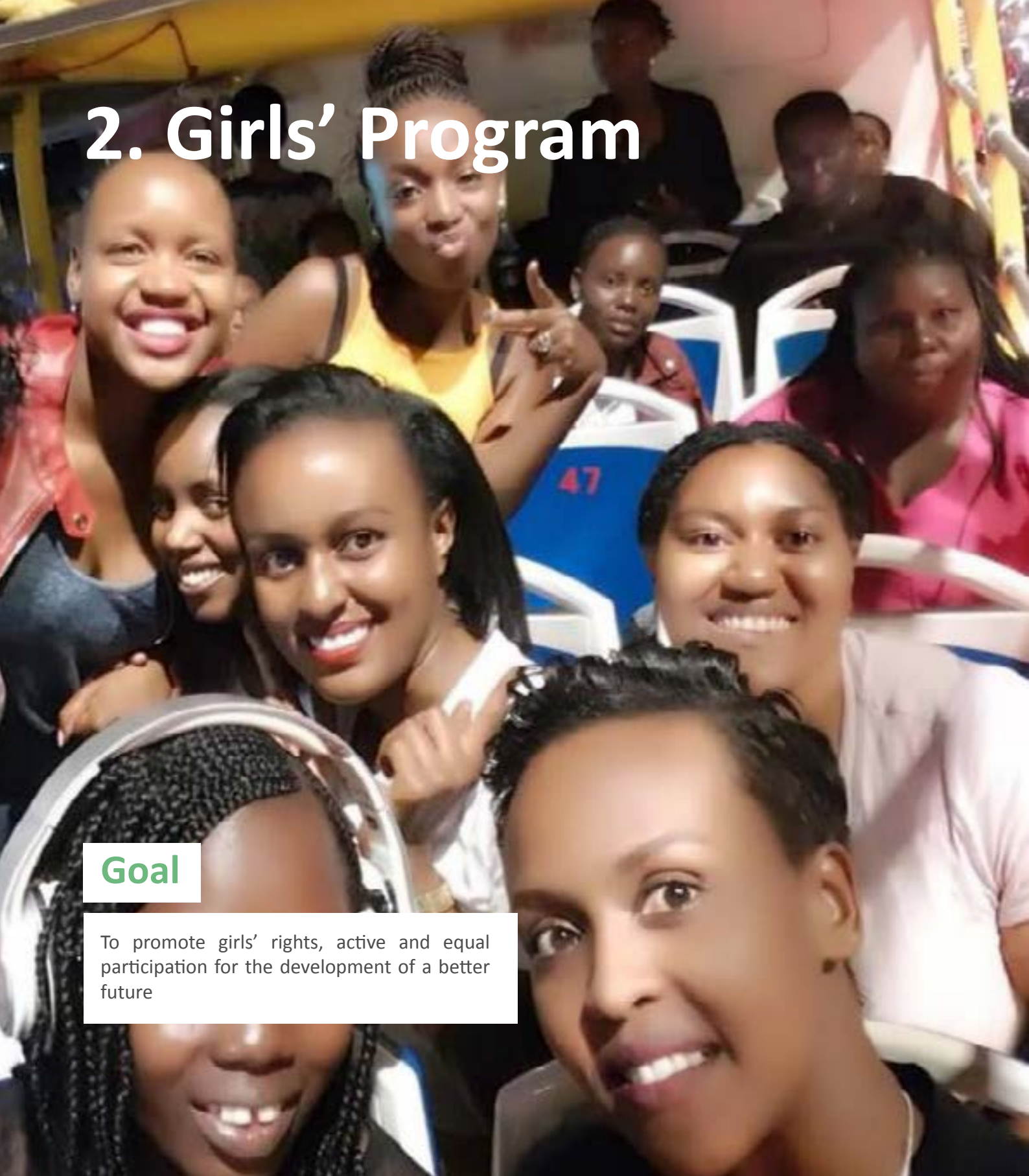
I received a loan of 15,000 RWF that I paid for the internship fees. When I started my internship, the aim was to work hard and impress my supervisor. After completing my internship my supervisor asked me to stay and I was employed.

I am currently working and supporting my children and my family as well.
I earn 90,000 RWF per month as my monthly payment which helps me to support my family.
SRHR has changed my life and I now take a lot of precautions.
I decided to work for my future and for my son.

Many thanks go to DREAMS Program which transformed my life and has made me to live a purposeful life.



2. Girls' Program



Goal

To promote girls' rights, active and equal participation for the development of a better future

Projects under the Girls' program

- **USAID TWIYUBAKE Program - DREAMS activities** funded by USAID
 - **Right to protection and participation project** funded by SIDA through Plan International in Rwanda.
 - **Strengthening Child protection and SRHR project** funded by SIDA through Plan International.
 - **My life in my hands project** (Ubuzimzbwange Mubiganza bwange) implementation in Huye district funded by UNICEF
 - **Firm Foundation Rwanda project**
 - **SRHR and Mental Health Advocacy project** with support from the World YWCA and the Government of Finland
 - **Empowering girls for equality project** in Gihembe and Nyabiheke Camps funded by Nike Foundation and Plan International Belguim through Plan International Rwanda
-
- **16,592** youth (68% girls and Young women) were directly reached with SRHR, Financial Education, Leadership, mentorship knowledge.
 - **2,248** youth saving groups were supported by our programs
 - **148** youth SRHR safe spaces were supported
 - **5,026** Adolescent Girls were tested for HIV
 - Education support for **1,672** AGYW
 - **118,200** condoms were distributed to youths in their safe spaces
 - **1059** parents graduated with the family matter program
 - **30** entertainment speakers were distributed to youth SRHR clubs
 - **987** AGYW and their family members were supported with health Insurances

USAID TWIYUBAKE

Program- DREAMS activities

YWCA Rwanda has been implementing the USAID Twiyubake DREAMS-Like program Activities since 2018 in partnership with Global Communities in Kicukiro district with funding from USAID.

The USAID Twiyubake DREAMS-Like program's goal is to foster the development of Young women and girls to be Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, and Mentored and Safe individuals with the ability to realize their full potential.

The program also aims at ensuring that adolescent girls transition safely to adulthood by promoting HIV/AIDS risk avoidance activities for 10-14 year olds, combination of both risk avoidance and risk reduction for 15-19 year olds, and a focus on risk reduction on HIV/AIDS for the 20-24 year olds. On the other hand, the program focuses on fighting unplanned pregnancies among the young women and girls between the ages of 10 to 24 including teen mothers, in and out of school as well as the female sex workers (FSW).

Financial Education

- **5026** AGYW were enrolled in the program and supported through financial education which will help them to make financially sound decisions.
- **3,386** AGYW participated in the saving activities of **150** Internal Saving and Lending Groups (ISLGs) from where financial education was received and **40,176,376 FRW** was accumulated as savings that they will use to start income generating activities.
- **150** ISLGs were supported with saving kits including Passbooks, saving boxes, rulers among others that were used to boost savings and promote transparency and accountability in the groups.

SRHR

- **40** safe spaces were created which facilitated **217** AGYW group-SRH sessions. The safe spaces were used by the AGYW to discuss issues affecting them and to make informed decisions about their lives. In addition, 15 school based clubs with 1071 members were supported.

- **40** AGYW mentors were trained on SRHR methodologies which they will cascade to other AGYW to increase their knowledge on SRHR.
- **5026** AGYW received messaging on SRHR which will enable them to make informed decisions. Program provided **4,691** sanitary pads to **3,335** AGYW aged between 12-24.
- Promotion and adoption of different contraceptive methods among AGYW.

Further, 118,200 condoms were distributed to AGYW between 18-25 age band at their safe spaces.

HIV Prevention

- **5026** AGYW were assessed during the HIV Risk Assessment which helped them to ascertain their HIV status.
- **4080** AGYW were reached with inspirational talks about HIV care and treatment which ensured that they have the right messages on HIV.



Further, we conducted male sexual partner characterization for 210 and above AGYW.

- **248** Male partners of AGYW were identified and referred to health facilities where they received HIV testing, VMMC and counseling.
- The program supported **987** AGYW including their family members with Health Insurances.
- Six Anti-AIDS clubs were formed in G.S Gahanga, G.S Kicukiro, G.S St. Vincent, Palotti, G.S Remera protestant, and G.S Rwiza.

Further campaigns on fighting against HIV infections and early pregnancies among adolescent girls and boys in the different schools were conducted through sketch plays, songs and poems. The campaigns reached a total of 3,582 students (60% girls).

Education Support

- **1,672** AGYW were given education support in form of school fees. This helped to increase school enrolment and attendance.
- GBV Prevention
- **5026** AGYW were reached through the GBV prevention messaging at their respective safe spaces which has helped to ensure that the rights of AGYW are respected and protected.
- **14** GBV cases were referred to Isange One Stop Centers from where they were attended to.
- **5** girls, young women and the USAID DREAMS-Like program Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) beneficiaries and program staff participated in the Women Now Summit 2019 at Serena hotel Kigali. The summit gave them more insights about women current issues.

FMP

- Parents were equipped with skills and knowledge on SRHR through the Family Matter Program (FMP). They will use the knowledge obtained to cascade SRHR messages to their AGYW.
- **1,059** parents in the parents' groups graduated from the FMP program. As a result of this, parents are now communicating to their children effectively due to skills acquired from FMP.

Through the USAID Twiyubake program in Kayonza District;

We supported the tracking and monitoring of school attendance for children in both primary and secondary school grades. The activity was conducted by CMVs through home visits.

- The results show that out of **3,374** children (1662 female and 1712 male) assessed throughout the year. This enabled the team to monitor school attendance and to follow up cases.
- We equipped **4024** beneficiaries (1704 male and 2320 female) who were enrolled in the 107 SRHR youth clubs with knowledge and skills on SRHR. Out of those enrolled, **1577** are youth between 10 to 14 years and **2447** are between 15 to 24 years as well as providing 30 entertainment speakers to youth SRHR clubs to boost their participation.

Right to protection and Participation project

The Right to Protection and Participation project is a Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) funded project implemented by YWCA-Rwanda through Plan International Rwanda in three Districts namely; Gashyamba, Nyaruguru and Bugesera Districts.

The project's main objective is to address specific barriers to the organization of children and youth's full potential through a multi-stakeholders and child right approach. The project is guided by the theory of change which asserts that "key barriers to protection and participation of children must be removed while building the assets of girls and boys to actively participate and protect themselves".



Key Achievements

1

118 anti-GBV clubs for parent, teachers children were created through which messaging on GBV has been delivered.

2

We built knowledge and skills of **120** teachers, **60** local leaders, **150** parents and **700** children/youth on GBV prevention and response, children's rights and the law, non-violent behaviour, positive parenting and Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS) methodology which they will use to promote gender equality and child protection.

3

We supported the peaceful conflict resolution of **32** families that had been having disputes.

4

Supported **57** children who had dropped out of school to go back by catering for their scholastic needs.

Strengthening Child protection and SRHR project funded by SIDA through Plan International

The Strengthening Child Protection and SRHR in Rwanda is linked to the Right to Protection and Participation Project. It is a five-year project that seeks to address specific barriers to the realization of children's/youth's full potential through a multi-stakeholder and child rights-based approach;

- It is funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) through Plan international Rwanda,
- It is being implemented in Bugesera, Gatsibo and Nyaruguru Districts. The project intends to reach out to 5,580 Youth/Children, 90 teachers, 150 parents and 60 local leaders

SUCCESS STORIES

Dukundane ISLG group is found in Niboye Sector in Kicukiro district. When the group members were trained on the importance of establishing small income generating activities, group members agreed to pay a certain fee to an agent who was willing to train them on making liquid soap.

- After paying the required fee, the **28** ISLG members were trained. They are now making liquid soap as a business and have the capacity of making 10 litres per day.

MY LIFE IN MY HANDS PROJECT IN HUYE DISTRICT



The YWCA Rwanda Executive Director giving her welcome remarks during the training of the 168 volunteers in Huye District

Since 2019, YWCA Rwanda has been implementing the **“Strengthening volunteer program to improve access to HIV prevention services for adolescent and young people project in Huye District.**

The project has been given a short name of” **UBUZIMA BWANJYE MU BIGANZA BYANJYE**” This project is funded by UNICEF and seeks to strengthen the capacity of district Youth Centres (YEGO centres) and selected peer volunteers for delivery of comprehensive HIV education and communication for behavior change and HIV testing, targeting high risk adolescents and young people in all 14 sectors of the district.

- Supported an HIV data/gaps analysis in Huye district that identified gaps in access to HIV services among adolescents.
- Supported the enrolment and training of 168 peer volunteers on HIV, GBV, SRHR and Gender, psycho social support, BCC and volunteerism. The volunteers will cascade the skills and knowledge obtained to other young people in the community.
- We handed over equipment to the Huye Youth Centre so that the 160 young volunteers could conduct community outreach on HIV prevention and treatment, reaching all adolescents in Huye District.

SRHR and Mental Health Advocacy project

With the support from the World YWCA and the Government of Finland, YWCA Rwanda implements the SRHR and mental Health Advocacy project. The project resolves around Young women changing narratives around sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and mental health.

- The project goal is to support **400** young women champions, through individual and collective action to transform key narratives at community, country, regional, and global level.



We organized a public speaking competition for girls and young women to give them a safe space to articulate their ideas focusing on how best girls and young women irrespective of their education level can better their lives and compete favorably with their male counterparts in this generation.

The best two candidates will serve as YWCA Rwanda’s Young Women Champions and Ambassadors in 2019.

A Quote from Girls and Young Women Champions

My name is Vanessa” a volunteer at YWCA Rwanda in the Girls’ program. Participating in the Girls and young women champions competitions has enlightened me a lot especially in as far as girls and young women’s empowerment is concerned. I have increased self-confidence and learnt a lot from my colleagues. I will apply the skills in my daily work.

Great thanks go to YWCA Rwanda for giving me this great opportunity to be part of the competitors. Conference in Kigali on SRHR/Mental health



A cross-section of Young women enjoying the safe space during the SRHR and mental health training.

With the support from the World YWCA and the Government of Finland, YWCA Rwanda organized a 3 day training in Kigali on advocacy and communications for a regional initiative on “Young Women Changing Narratives on SRHR and Mental Health” from Oct 8th to Oct 10th, 2019).

The training brought together brought together 29 young women champions from 13 African

countries including Malawi, Zimbabwe, Tanzania ,Burundi, Kenya, Ghana, Zambia, Uganda, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Ethiopia and Rwanda.

The training allowed the young men and girls to build their capacity and grow their knowledge of advocacy and communications in the area of SRHR and Mental Health including in being able to support young women in their community upon their return. As key young women leaders within the YWCA movement, their presence to the training was of utmost importance to its success.

In collaboration with the World YWCA, we supported three young women to attend the ICASA conference in Kigali. The Girls and Young women organised a workshop at the Community village where they shared more insights about SRHR and Mental Health among Adolescent Girls and Young Women project and the USAID DREAMS-Like program that seeks to reduce HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) in Kicukiro district.

This built the leadership skills and confidence of the young women to contribute to the discourse at the conference. Lastly, the conference was an opportunity for YWCA Rwanda to reaffirm our commitment to promoting SRHR and preventing HIV infections among our beneficiaries.



Young Women sharing about SRHR at the Community Village during the ICASA conference

Firm Foundation Rwanda Project

Firm Foundation Rwanda project was implemented in Kicukiro district in Kicukiro and Niboye sector where Adolescent Girls and Young Women were involved in interventions including saving, reproductive health education and life skills.

YWCA Rwanda in partnership with International Service organized five days' workshop that focused on business coaching for 3 coaches and 4 YWCA staff in order to build their capacity as far as this business coaching approach is concerned.

The trainees applied the skills by providing good entrepreneurship coaching for 28 young women micro entrepreneurs in the Firm Foundation Rwanda project. The application of the Goal-Reality-Option-way foreword "GROW Coaching Model" the trained coaches unlocked the beneficiaries' potentials to maximise their own performance in their business



3. PEACE BUILDING PROGRAM

A large crowd of people, mostly women and children, are gathered on a dirt basketball court. In the foreground, a man in a light blue polo shirt is looking towards the court. The court is marked with white lines, and a basketball hoop is visible in the background. The scene is set outdoors with trees and buildings in the distance.

Goal

To build a harmonious society where girls and women are free from violence and where there are no negative attitudes or stereotypes



Projects Under PEACE BUILDING

Market Oriented Livelihood programme, PG II" project

- Empowering Girls for Equality Project in Gihembe and Nyabiheke Camps funded by Nike Foundation and Plan International Belgium through Plan International Rwanda.



Key Achievements

1

Through the Market Oriented Livelihood programme, PG II” project that targets 6 Districts, namely Kirehe, Muhanga, Rulindo, Gakenke, Gicumbi, and Nyamagab with an objective of to promoting greater gender equality, 21,483 beneficiaries: direct and indirect (13,841 female and 7,642 male) were served.. On the other hand, champions (the peer educators) resolved 272 cases of family based conflicts including cases of economic related family conflicts and other kinds of GBV.

2

We engaged men in the fight against GBV using men engage and positive masculinities trough community outreach and the training on GBV with men engage approach which increased the men’s commitment to involve themselves in GBV prevention and response in their respective communities.

3

Awareness rising on laws and policies that promote gender equality, GBV prevention and response to the local authorities and leaders was key during the year. They were made aware of laws and policies including the law on prevention and punishment of gender based violence, the law determining offences and penalties in general, the law governing persons and family, law governing matrimonial Regimes, Donations and Successions, law Governing Land in Rwanda. Hence, improved skills and knowledge of local authorities in the prevention and response on GBV.

4

In partnership with OXFAM International Rwanda, we organized the closing ceremony of the 16days of activism against Gender Based Violence (GBV).The event took place in Muhanga district. We committed ourselves to ensuring that all forms of violence against women and girls are eliminated as the year’s campaigns theme called for “Fighting violence against women and girls is everyone’s responsibility. The campaign reached out to 1500 people.



YWCA Rwanda in partnership with Plan International Rwanda are implementing the **“Empowering Girls for Equality: Building the Assets of Adolescent Girls in Refugee Camps in Rwanda”** project. The project is designed to build critical assets for girls between 10 to 17 years to protect them from violence in two refugee camps in Rwanda – Gihembe and Nyabiheke.

This project builds on the successes of the Girls Take the Lead project (May 2015-October 2017), funded by the Nike Foundation and implemented by Plan International Rwanda, with the support from Plan International USA.

This project focuses on building protective assets for adolescent girls to sustainably increase both their safety and their dignity through increased knowledge of reproductive health, financial literacy and personal self-esteem, as well as building Parents, communities and local authorities are supportive attitude and action towards gender equality processes and contribute to girls’ empowerment and the prevention of gender-based violence.

We conducted assessments in Gihembe and Nyabiheke refugee camps which identified key issues girls face including GBV, teen pregnancies and defilement.

The assessment increased our understanding of the situation which will inform our future interventions.

We supported street theater script development reflecting the situation in Gihembe and Nyabiheke refugee camps. The developed script provided messages of change in an entertaining and educative way.

The message depicted in the script encouraged GBV prevention and response, gender equality and girls' empowerment and education.

In partnership with Plan International, we conducted street theater performances in Gihembe and Nyabiheke refugee camps. The performances were part of the 'Empowering Girls for Equality' campaign. Empowering Girls for Equality is Plan International Rwanda's campaign that aims at empowering girls through building their social skills, increasing their self-esteem and protecting them against Gender Based Violence.

COLLABORATION



ECD children taking milk that was donated by the National ECD Program(NECDP) to the ECD centers under the USAID Twiyubake program.

- In a bid to prevent stunting among the infants, Kayonza District and the provision of milk as a Government initiative in all ECDs as a strategy of reducing malnutrition and stunting among children, led to an increase in the number of children participating in ECD activities supported. 16 USAID Twiyubake program ECD centers with 510 children with approximately 100 liters of milk per ECD center milk to boost their diet. On the other hand, 13 children's Swings and 30 water filters were donated by USAID Gikuriro program to the USAID Twiyubake Community ECDs. Additionally, growth monitoring of 2900 children was conducted in collaboration with USAID Gikuriro program.
- 309 iron sheets were distributed to vulnerable households to facilitate them to construct toilets to boost hygiene the support that was received from USAID Gikuriro program through CHAIN.
- Monitoring and Evaluation of our programs was conducted in partnership with our partners. For instance, Site Improvement through Monitoring System (SIMS) and Data Quality Assessments were meant to monitor the capacity of PEPFAR funded program deliver quality services to beneficiaries across all program implementation sites. In general, the program YWCA excelled with a score of dark green to all sites assessed (USAID Twiyubake/DREAMs program: Kayonza and Kicukiro).
- JADF was central where YWCA officiated the signing of the district performance indicators by the mayor. This helped YWCA to understand their contribution towards the attainment of these set performance indicators through the implementation USAID Twiyubake especially on the components of the promotion of Early Childhood Development, youth empowerment and economic strengthening.

VOLUNTEER'S EXPERIENCE AT YWCA

YWCA Rwanda works with volunteers to improve the diversity and quality of our interventions by providing different skills and perspectives and ensuring that we are responsive to the needs of our beneficiaries. Meet Alex and Antionette from the Lutheran church who have been volunteering with us;



ALEX

At the beginning of my experience accompanying the YWCA Rwanda, I, Alex, expected to spend a lot of time 'on the field.' I had lofty visions

of trekking through forests and mud--delivering products, farming, constructing various structures--but what I have learned is that working for empowerment takes many forms.

While I expected to be constantly 'active,' I now see that offering a helping hand to record and profile beneficiary data, documentation of organizational interventions or simply learning more about the services of the YWCA are all essential components of the larger mission.

I have seen how impactful the construction of a humble Kitchen Garden can be for a community--a day of consultation and visitation can be for Saving Groups--and I have learned anew that simple acts of service go a long way!



ANTIONETTE

When I, Antionette, was first informed that I would be working at the YWCA, my thoughts were that I would be educating about HIV or be personally involved within their HIV projects.

Although my expectations were completely different than reality, I have learned a variety

of skills with beneficiary components. I gained skills in Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights through my interactions with adolescent girls and young women in the communities and the YWCA movement. I have improved my communication skills including creating concept reports for conferences, compiling project reports, documenting field experiences among others.

I commend all the girls and young women within the programs for their dedication to presenting sex education and sexual reproductive health and rights to other girls and young women in Rwanda.

We recognize the great work done by our mentors in the empowerment of Adolescent Girls and Young women

WORD FROM YWCA RWANDA FOUNDER

Ms. Rose Uwamugira the YWCA Rwanda founder who started the organization in 1995 paid a courtesy visit to the YWCA office and shared her impression about the organization; “I am pleased to visit YWCA Rwanda after so many years and to find that the organization still has the same vision of empowering young women and girls.

I have noted that the organization has expanded from 15 original members to more than 1000 members. It also gives me joy to learn that you have been able to reach out to more than 100,000 beneficiaries of which 80% are girls and young women. I thank the leadership and staff for the great work that they are doing and urge them to work tirelessly to ensure that your interventions reach all the girls and young women in all districts in the country.

I will continue to be an ambassador of YWCA wherever I go so that the good work that you are doing is known to the world.”



OUR PARTNERS

OUR WORK IS MADE POSSIBLE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Global Communities
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WE THANK YOU



YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

E-mail: info@ywcaofrwanda.org

www.ywcaofrwanda.org

P.o Box: 48 KIGALI