



# YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF RWANDA (YWCA)

*"Transforming community, empowering women"*



*Annual Report*  
2018





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ASSOCIATION OF RWANDA (YWCA)**  
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# Foreword

It is with great pleasure that we present to you the YWCA-Rwanda's' 2018 annual report. We have seen remarkable progress in our efforts to promote gender equality and preserving the rights of girls and young women. Through our programs: Secure livelihoods, Girls' Program and Peace building, we promoted the socio-economic empowerment of girls and young women hence contributing to the future they want. YWCA has seen an increase in the number of staff from 40 in 2017 to 52 in 2018. Therefore, this means an increased diverse team with different skills to support our programs and hence increment of the targeted beneficiaries.

Thanks to the collective efforts of our stakeholders, we have been able to reach 136,084 beneficiaries who received services in the area of Early Childhood Development, food security, economic strengthening, nutrition, WASH, TVET, SRHR, HIV testing, Education support and GBV prevention and response. We are therefore, grateful to our donors, partners, staff, beneficiaries, the government and all well-wishers who have supported us in one way or the other. We look forward to continued partnership with you in the coming years. We wish you all a happy and fruitful year 2019.

**KALIGIRWA Ernestine**  
YWCA Chairperson



**UZAMUKUNDA Pudentienne**  
YWCA Executive Director



# List of Acronyms

<b>AGYW</b>	Adolescent Girls and Young Women
<b>BIAT</b>	Bio Intensive Agricultural Techniques
<b>CBNP</b>	Community Based Nutrition Programmes
<b>CBV's</b>	Community Based Volunteers
<b>CHAIN</b>	Community Health and Improved Nutrition
<b>CHWs</b>	Community Health Workers
<b>CIP</b>	International Potato Center
<b>CSOs</b>	Civil Society Organizations
<b>ECD</b>	Early Childhood Development
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FDS</b>	Farmer Demonstration Schools
<b>FFLS</b>	Farmer Field Learning Schools
<b>FFS</b>	Farmer Field Schools
<b>GALS</b>	Gender Action Learning Systems
<b>GBV</b>	Gender Based Violence
<b>GMP</b>	Growth Monitoring Promotion
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
<b>IGAs</b>	Income Generating Activities
<b>ISLG's</b>	Internal Saving and Lending Groups
<b>ISVP</b>	Improved Service for Vulnerable Populations
<b>JADF</b>	Joint Action Development Forum
<b>MAM</b>	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
<b>MEAL</b>	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
<b>MIYCN</b>	Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition

<b>MVC</b>	Most Vulnerable Communities
<b>OFSP</b>	Orange Fleshed Sweet Potato
<b>PD/H</b>	Positive Deviance/Hearth
<b>SAM</b>	Severe Acute Malnutrition
<b>SASA</b>	Start Awareness Support Action
<b>SIDA</b>	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
<b>SGBV</b>	Sexual Gender Based Violence
<b>SILC</b>	Savings and Internal Lending Communities
<b>SNV</b>	Netherlands Development Organization
<b>SRHR</b>	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
<b>TOT</b>	Trainer of Trainers
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>VAC</b>	Violence Against Children
<b>VNS</b>	Village Nutrition School
<b>VSL</b>	Voluntary Saving and Loans
<b>VOP</b>	Volunteer Opportunity Pathways
<b>WASH</b>	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
<b>YWCA</b>	Young Women's Christian Association



# 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.





# Vision

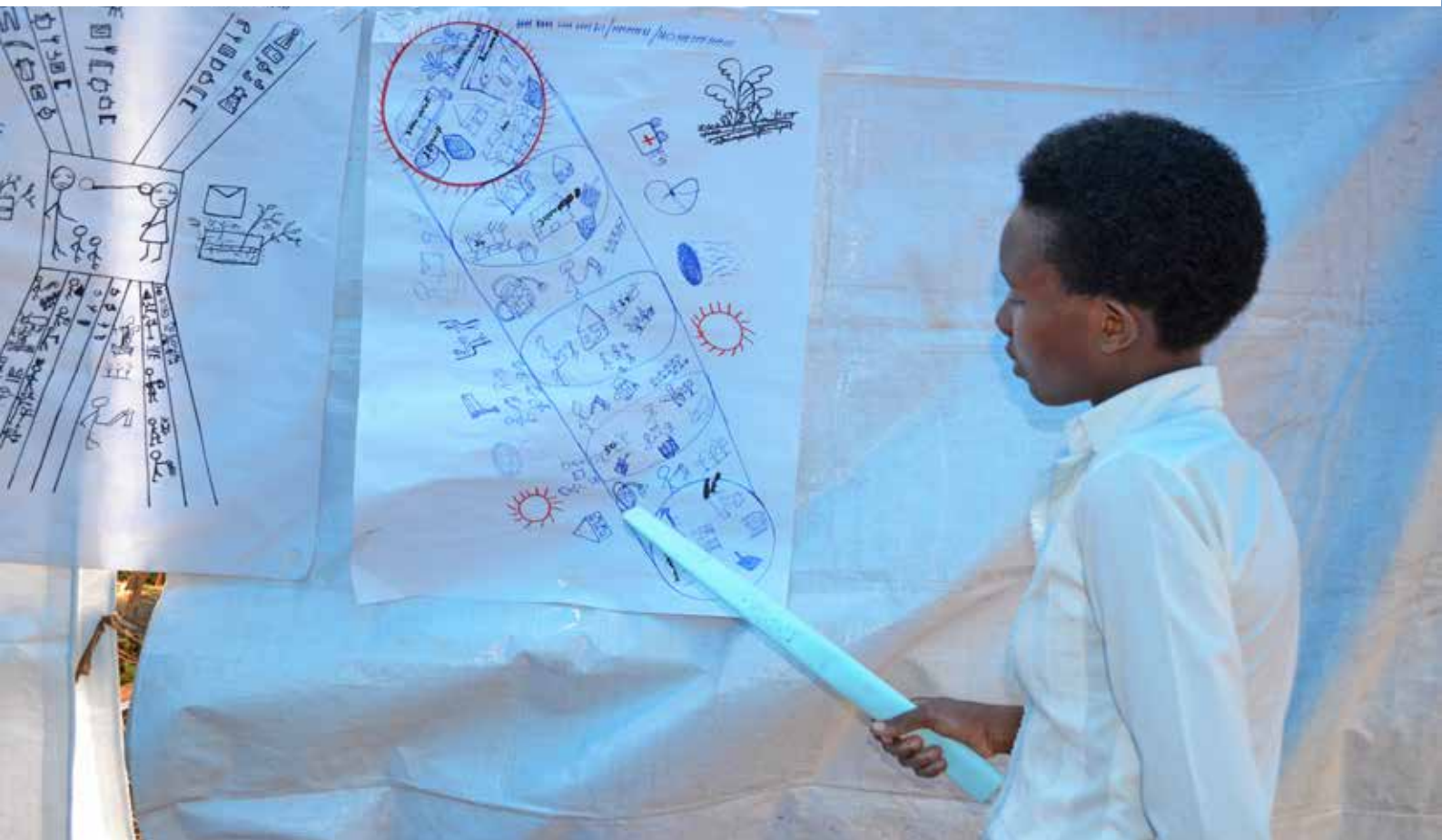
A world where all women live free from poverty and their rights are respected.





# Mission

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





## Our Values

- Empowerment
- Excellence
- Integrity
- Leadership
- Partnership



# Our Target Group



- **Girls and Young Women (10-30 years)**
- **Children under 6 years**
- **Vulnerable women (In Ubudehe categories 1&2, HIV+, Lactating women & refugees in camps)**



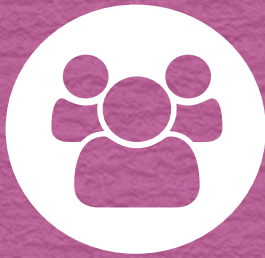
# Our Goals



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



1. PROFEMME /TWESE HAMWE
2. COCAFEM/GL (Concertation Collectifs des Associations Feminines de la Region des Grands Lacs)
3. Rwandan NGOs Forum on HIV/AIDS & Health Promotion
4. Anti GBV Network in Africa
5. IAVE(International Association for Volunteer Effort)
6. RENCP-Rwanda Education NGO Coordination Platform
7. CCOAIB-Conseil de Concertation des Organisations d'Appui aux Initiatives de Base
8. COP4G-Communities of Practice for Girls.
9. CIWG/ Community Involvement Working Group





## Beneficiaries Reached in 2018

**51,149**

Girls and young women (10-30 years)

**25,516**

Boys and young men (10-30 years)

**136,084**  
Total beneficiaries

**18,142**

Children Under 6 years

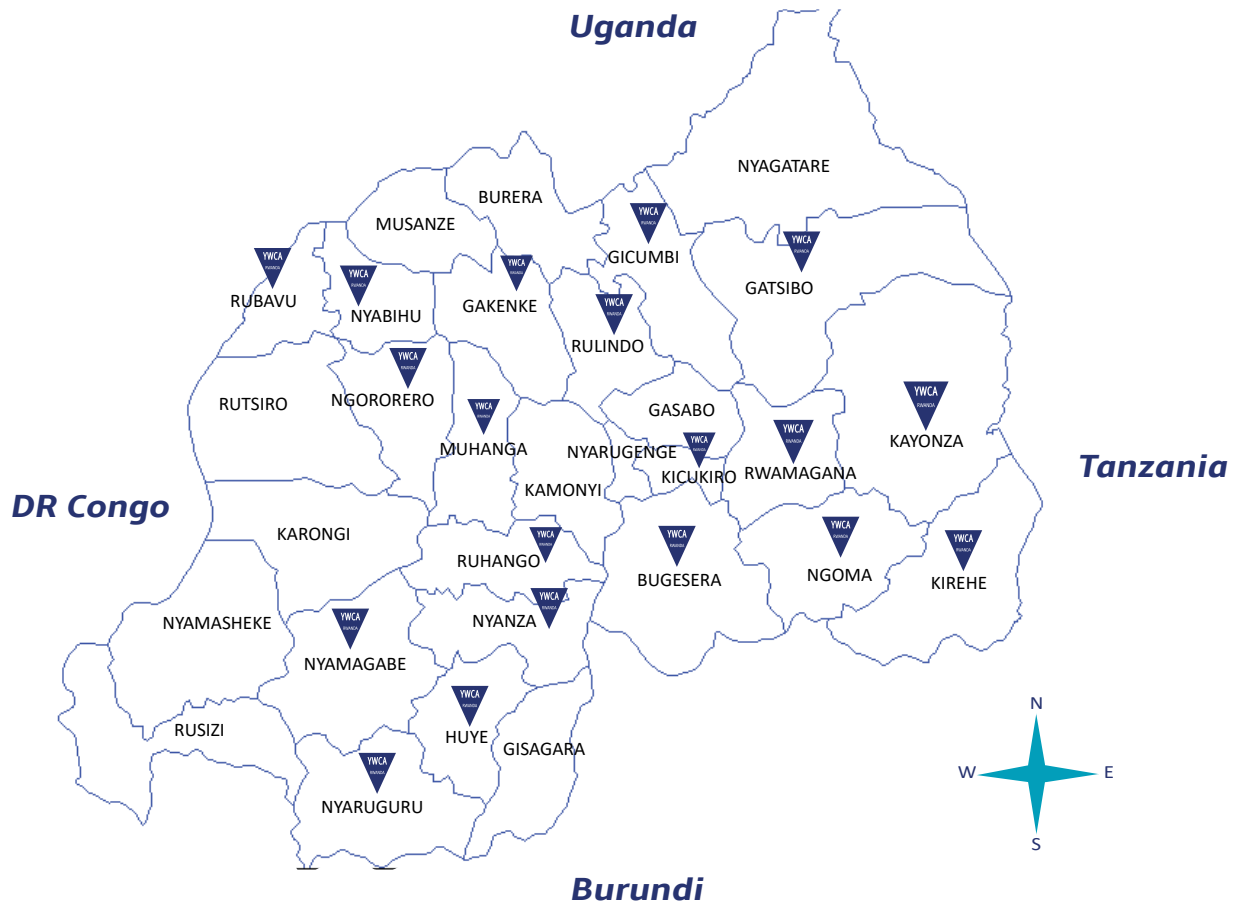
**6,358**

Men above 30 years

**34,419**

Women above 30 years

# Where we work



**In 2018 we worked in 20 districts:**

Rubavu  
Nyabihu  
Ngororero  
Muhanga  
Ruhango  
Bugesera  
Ngoma

Kirehe  
Kayonza  
Kicukiro  
Huye  
Nyaruguru  
Rwamagana  
Rulindo

Gicumbi  
Gakenke  
Nyanza  
Gatsibo  
Nyamagabe  
Kamonyi

# 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 Livelihood Program*



**Goal: To achieve economic capacity, self-reliance, food security, and nutrition of/for vulnerable**

## Projects under Secure Livelihoods

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

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

Accelerating Progress towards Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Rwanda **(JP RWEE)**, Project funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

**Social protection program**; A joint program between the Government of Rwanda and Civil Society organizations (CSOs) recently implemented by YWCA in partnership with Ngoma District.

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

**USAID Feed the Future Rwanda Orange fleshed Sweet potato (OFSP)** for Income and Nutrition project USAID funded program through CIP

Youth Employability in the Informal Sector **(YEIS) project**, a European Union funded project and co-funded by Austrian Development Cooperation and CARE International through the Association de la Jeunesse pour la Promotion des Droits de l'Homme et le Development (AJPRODHO)

**Youth Volunteer Initiative** to reduce school drop outs project funded by UNICEF

# Economic Strengthening



## Key Achievements

1

A total of  
**376,169,185 Rwf**  
was saved

and

**256,754,095 Rwf**  
were loaned out to 23,391 beneficiaries  
(17,490 female and 5901 male) all  
grouped in 976 supported Saving groups.

2

A total of  
**338,541,491Rwf**  
was shared out by 645 saving  
groups.

3

**860**  
saving groups opened bank  
accounts well a  
**10,462**  
saving group members(4927  
female and 5535 male) have  
individual bank accounts.

4

**10,113**  
beneficiaries  
(5819 female and 4294 male)  
are in mobile banking.

5

A total of  
**13,588**  
beneficiaries (8670 female and  
4918 male) started income  
generating activities(IGA).

The overall goal of Economic Strengthening is ensuring that Family economic vulnerability decreased 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, Internal Saving and Lending Groups(ISLGs) for USAID Twiyubake program as well as Voluntary Saving and Loan Association (VSLA) for YEIS project.

Through the Integrated Nutrition and WASH Activity (INWA) Gikuriro Program, a USAID funded program through Catholic Relief Services in Ngoma District, the following was achieved:

- A total of 116,486,538 Rwf was saved and 41,012,549 Rwf were loaned out to 12,070 beneficiaries (9,650 female and 2,420 male) who were grouped in 523 saving groups and this enabled them to have access to finance.
- A total of 523 saving groups accounts were opened in SACCO micro finance institution as well as 4,602 beneficiaries(1987 female and 2615 male) having bank accounts under the Gikuriro program and these enable rural women to have access to finance hence boosting their economic empowerment income Generating Activities(IGAs)
- Facilitated the share out activity for 302 saving groups whereby a total of 38,654,558 RWF was shared.
- The share out activity enabled our beneficiaries attain the following; 260 Households(HHs) paid health Insurance (Mutuelle de santé), 306 HHs bought Live stocks, 1378 HHs started agriculture related Income Generating Activities, 1 HH bought a bicycle, 9 HHs renovated their shelters, 2 HHs paid schools fees well as 5 HHs bought mobile phones amongst other achievements.
- The program facilitated 6,272 beneficiaries (3763 female and 2,509 male) to get engaged in handcraft Income Generating Activities.

Initially, most of our fellow women members did not have bank accounts because we believed that these were only for the men and the educated. But with the engagement in the economic empowerment activity, Now we have opened accounts and I have developed a lot of confidence when we go to the bank to make deposits." "Gikuriro beneficiaries in Ngoma District"



In partnership with OXFAM International Rwanda, we implemented the Market oriented livelihood programme, (PG II" the project) in 6 Districts: Kirehe, Nyamagabe, Rulindo, Gicumbi, Gakenke and Muhanga which impacted 6000 beneficiaries in the following ways.

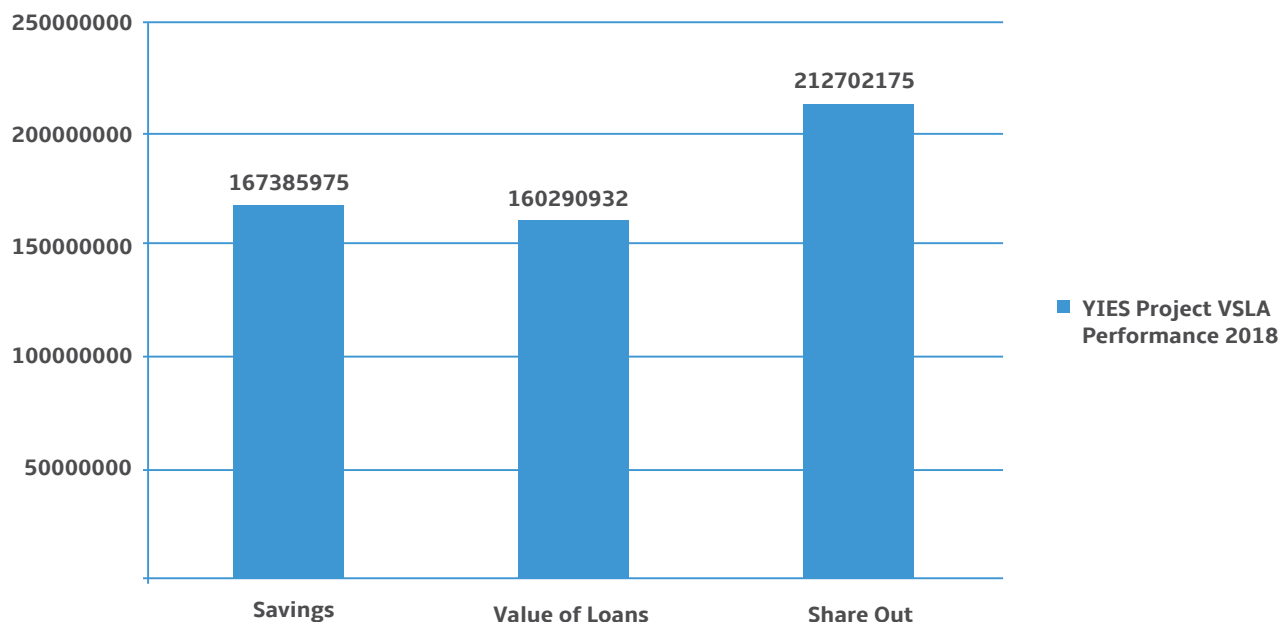
- 80 SILC groups (40 in Kirehe and 40 in Gicumbi Districts) were supported with saving kits like saving boxes, ledgers, rulers, pens, passbooks, padlocks with training to all their Community volunteers about the saving methodologies which improved the group members' participation in the saving group hence a total of 20,825,655 Rwf was saved and 6,827,513 Rwf borrowed as loans by 2022 members 80% being women and youth.

Through the Youth Employability in the Informal Sector (YEIS) project, a European Union funded project implemented in Nyabihu, Ngororero and Rubavu Districts, the 4050 project beneficiaries benefited in a number of ways;

- An impactful training session delivered to 4050 beneficiaries and linkage process, boosted 3,296 beneficiaries to access financial services On the other hand, a total of 293 beneficiaries took loans from these banks, 2,580 opened bank accounts well as 3,296 started using MoMo, Tigo cash and Airtel money. This improved their economic empowerment activities
- 77.7% beneficiaries are results from positive perception of beneficiaries received training on saving and investment methodology, enterprise development and investment. 3,545 beneficiaries invested in productive assets, among them, 800 managed to hire staff (employed others) during the course of investment.
- A total number of 4,050 beneficiaries were reached in awareness process activities of relevant laws, policies and social protection Programs.
- 162 peer educators (54 from each District) were trained on the importance of labor unions and labor laws.
- 2,702 beneficiaries benefited Business Development services like business registration, SMEs coaching and business plan development.

- During the year, 137VSLAs with 4,050 members (70% women) were regularly monitored which improved their saving activities as illustrated in figure below.

## YEIS Project VSLA Performance 2018

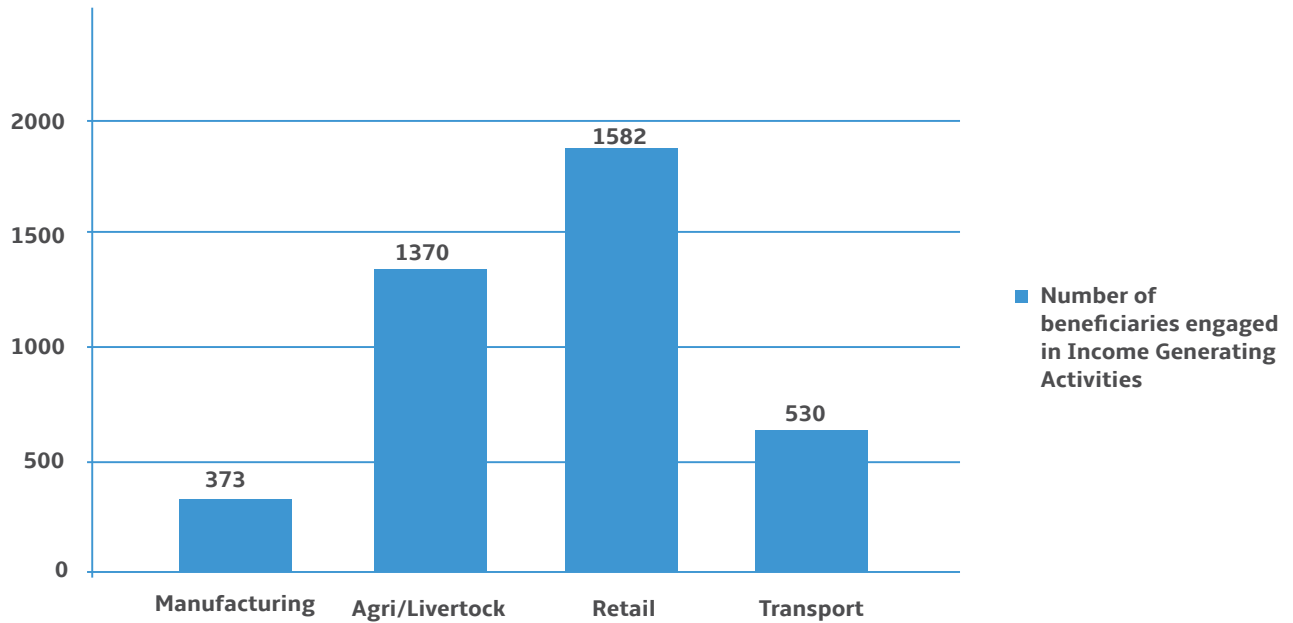


- 87 value chain based cooperatives were formed and functioned with a total number of 1,748 members; 512 being TVET beneficiaries supported by the YEIS project.
- The established cooperatives received start up kits to support their initiative of value chain added to their livelihood activities. Henceforth, all the 1,748 members of cooperatives are operated in formal registered cooperatives which are a good result to project to assist in process of informal businesses to formalization.
- On the hand, 12 cooperatives participated in national trade fair and 12 in provincial trade fair at RUSIZI. Additionally, 24 cooperatives were assisted in the process of market linkage with private sector actors.

In partnership with Global Communities, we implemented the Improved Services for Vulnerable Populations (ISVP) known as (USAID TWIYUBAKE Program) in Kayonza District and the following was achieved.

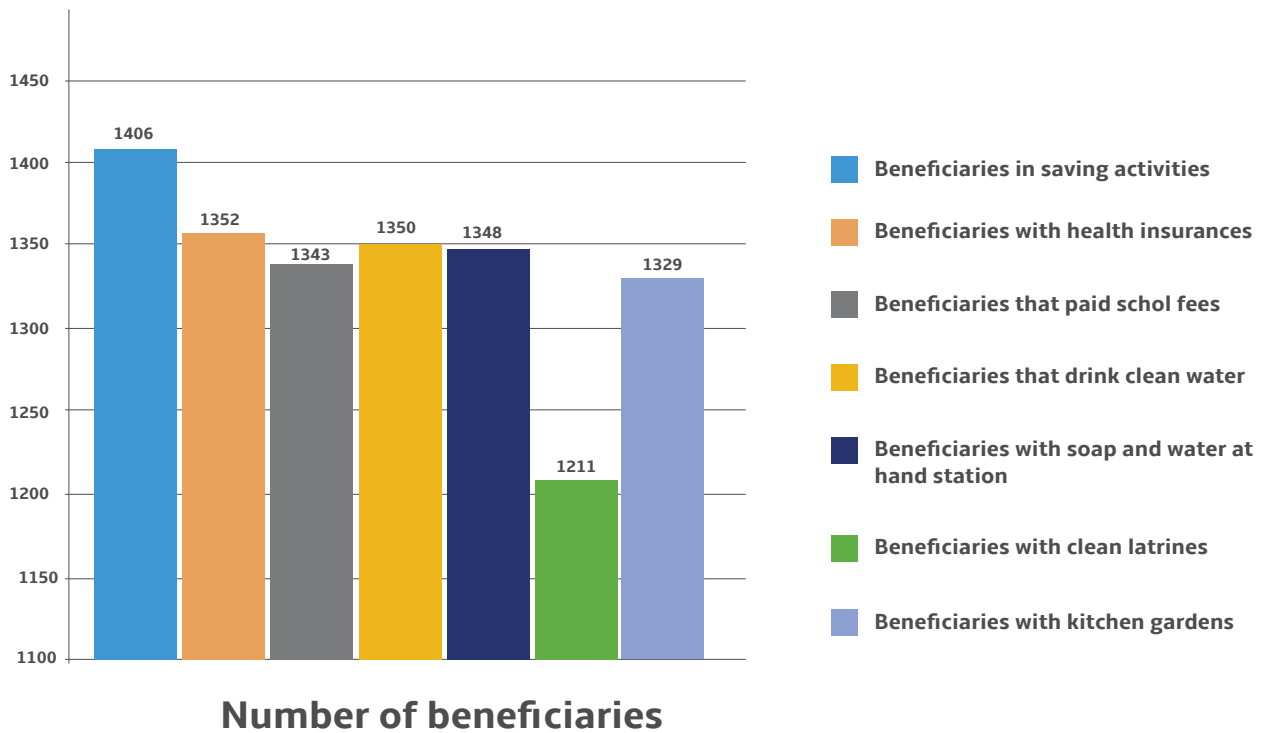
- 1,857 beneficiaries in saving groups acquired health Insurances (Mutuelle de santé) which facilitated them in accessing health services with ease.
- 183 program beneficiaries (109 female and 74male) started businesses due to the skills about Business development: Generating business idea; Assess business environment; Market and marketing; Recordkeeping; Balance sheet and income statement; Business plan development that was cascaded to them by their trained Community Based Volunteers (CBVs).
- 196 out of the 235 saving groups opened bank accounts in SACCO MFI effective from the period they had received knowledge to good bankable business development hence increasing their chances of having access to loans.
- 238 beneficiaries graduated from the program and are moving towards becoming economically resilient.
- Supported the activities of 236 saving groups in Kayonza District through which 5249 members(3,268 female and 1981 male) accumulated total savings of 71,471,017Rwf and 48623,101 Rwf was loaned out to the saving group them hence eased their access to funds.
- A total of 5031 saving group members from 222 ISLGS under the USAID Twiyubake program shared out a total 87,184,758 RWF(US 97,522) whereby on average each member moved away with (17,329Rwf) which facilitated them to engage in income generating activities such as manufacturing, retail, Agriculture/livestock, as well as transport which generated them money for saving as indicated on the graph below;

## Number of beneficiaries engaged in Income Generating Activities



- 1765 beneficiaries (836 from Kabare and 929 from Mwiri sectors) were supported with Mobile Phones through which the conditional House hold grant was given to them. This has led them attain their house hold performance set contracts locally known as (Imihigo) as illustrated on the graph below.

**The graph below showing the attainment Family Performance indicators by the beneficiaries who received the conditional household grant**

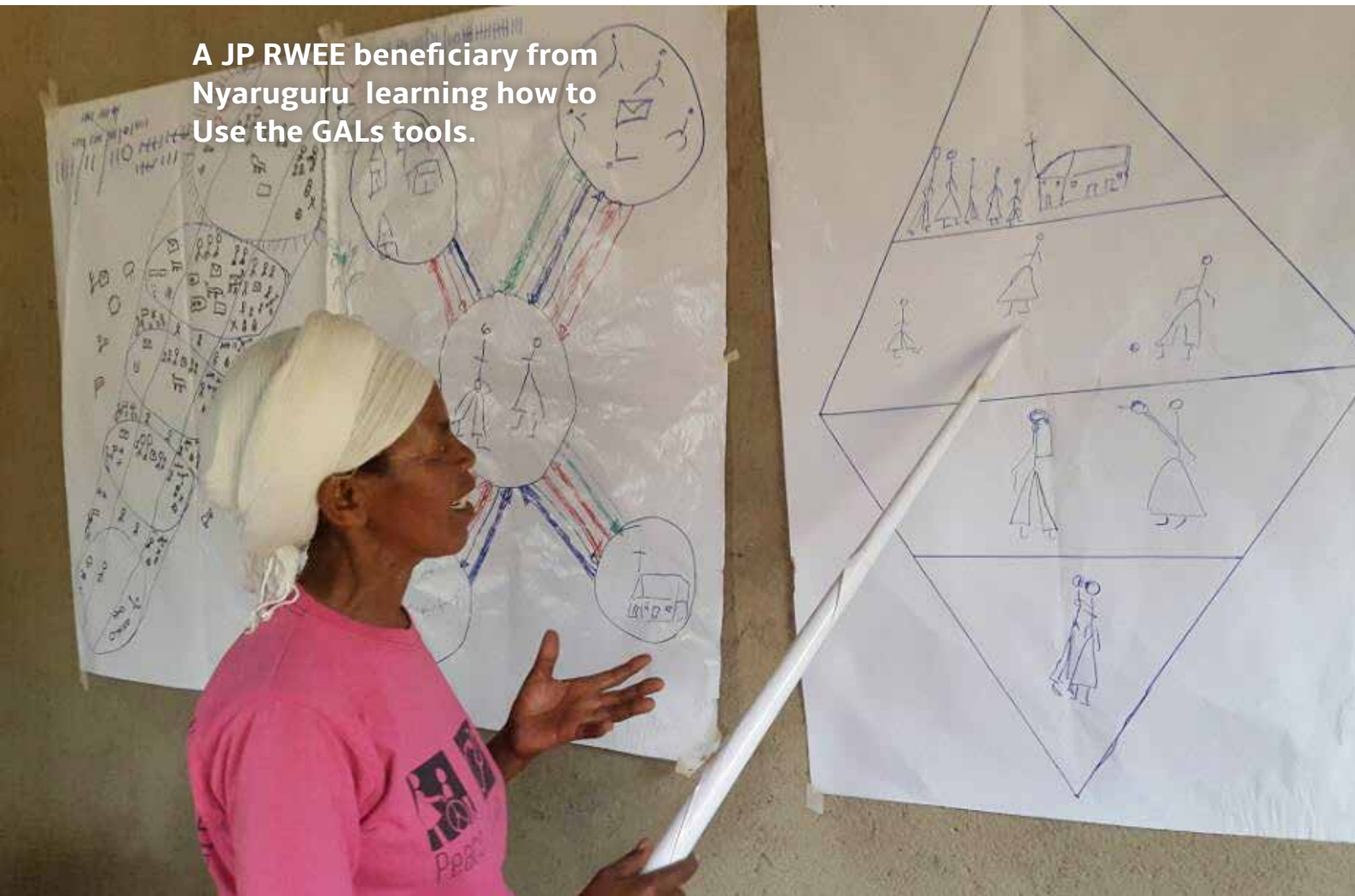


Through Accelerating Progress towards Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Rwanda (JP RWEE), Project implemented in Ngoma and Nyaruguru Districts,

We applied the **Gender Action Learning Systems (GALs)** methodology to empower 450 rural women farmers and their households.

- 100 champions were trained on GALs methodology adapted to climate change (80 from Nyaruguru and 20 from Ngoma Districts) all representing their cooperatives. The skills gained were cascaded to fellow beneficiaries which resulted in 179 beneficiaries increasing their household and productive assets especially through saving, 83 households purchased live stocks, 21 purchased land, 7 households constructed their houses. 50 households increased agricultural produce, 140 households increased savings, 11 women had access to land and 108 women took part in decision making in their households especially on expenditure

A JP RWEE beneficiary from Nyaruguru learning how to Use the GALs tools.



## Social Protection activities in Ngoma District

**In the Implementation of the Social protection program; a joint program between Government and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Ngoma District with the objective of ensuring that all poor and vulnerable men, women and children from Zaza Sector are guaranteed a minimum standard of living and access to core public services.**

### Activities conducted:

- As far as the Girinka program was concerned, we monitored the distribution process of the cows where 55 cows were distributed to the most vulnerable people.
- 10 para-vets were trained on animal feeding storage (hay and Silage techniques) and animal feeding using by hay and Silage
- 5 meetings were organized to deliberate on the Girinka program.
- A total of 44 Girinka beneficiaries benefited from the 3 trainings conducted on livestock management (Girinka process, feeding, diseases control and IGAs).
- 62 kitchen gardens were established
- 800 beneficiaries were trained on Hay technique and Silage techniques.
- 128 (90 being female) benefited from the VUP Direct Support scheme which aims at to protect the households with no worker from extreme poverty.
- 838 beneficiaries comprised of 428 females and 410 males benefited from the public work service which required them to maintain the Zaza Sector-Nyagisozi road.
- Financial support of 9 million RWF was granted to 26 Projects (2 million RWF for the individual projects and 7million for the group projects) with a training package on financial management.

# Food Security



## Key Achievements

1

**553**  
Farmer Field Learning  
Schools(FFLS) monitored

2

**119**  
cooperatives supported

3

**15,093**  
small live stocks including  
goats, hens, rabbits , pigs  
were bought by

**14,424**  
beneficiaries of FFLS

4

**272,230**  
cuttings of orange fleshed  
sweet potatoes vines rich in  
vitamin A were distributed.

5

**17,371**  
Improved seeds including  
tree tomatoes, passion  
fruits, and iron fortified  
beans were distributed to  
vulnerable households.

6

**1246**  
small live stocks including  
hens, pigs, and goats  
were distributed to our  
beneficiaries.

7

**80**  
Farmer Field School  
volunteers trained on  
organic pesticide production

8

**20,000**  
farmers trained on new  
agricultural techniques

9

**2,212**  
households adopted  
Agricultural Bio-intensive  
techniques



As far as securing livelihoods, resilience and nutrition of households is concerned, we focus on ensuring that the most vulnerable households have improved food security and Nutrition by promotion of Bio-Intensive Agricultural techniques, conducting village Nutrition cooking demonstrations, distribution of small live stocks to our target groups. In the year 2018, the interventions ensured households having a balanced diet especially the pregnant mothers and children under the age of 5 hence tackling the dual burden of malnutrition. Our Intervention also helped to build resilience as well as contributing to the economic empowerment of vulnerable groups especially youth and women.

### **Through the Gikuriro Program;**

- We monitored the daily activities of 473 FFLS which acted as space spaces for the participation of 12,736 beneficiaries (7,347 female and 5,389 male) from whom a total of 6939 beneficiaries adopted the bio-Intensive Agriculture techniques like kitchen gardens within their households.
- With the Program funds, 3,180 households bought 7,992 hens and 2,223 rabbits well as 318 farmer Field Learning Schools (FFLs) groups bought 380 pigs.
- 318 goats were distributed to beneficiaries who adopted FFLS best practices well as 30 pigs were awarded to FFLS groups with high level of adoption.
- A total of 444 beneficiaries received 98 pigs, 343 hens and 13 rabbits through provision of off springs by the beneficiaries who had bought live stocks during the Animal fair methodology in fiscal year 2017.
- We supported the launch of agriculture season A and B distributed 272,230 cuttings of orange fleshed sweet potatoes vines rich in vitamin A to be planted on 272.23 acres of land in the 12 sectors in Ngoma District as well as training 24 Leaders of Community Health Workers for cooperatives on agriculture techniques and value chain.
- Identification of 14 water sources in 7 sectors for springs construction in January 2019 was a key activity in 2018 which will boost the agricultural production.
- Fruit tree seedlings totaling to (4,603 tree tomatoes, 3,332 passion fruits and 5,506 papaya) were distributed to 1,565 beneficiaries in ubudehe category 1 to boost their nutrition status within their households as well 2,365kgs of iron fortified beans were distributed in all sectors of Ngoma to boost farming.

- Through the PGII project, 32 horticulture cooperatives/informal groups were trained on cooperative creation and management and informal groups started the process of registration. 32 cooperatives were also provided with agricultural input and materials.

## **The Feed the Future (OFSP) project led to the;**

- Establishment of 17 Ha of OFSP root production was a key activity in 2018.
- Provision of new agriculture technics to 20,000 farmers by organizing community sessions or Field to field visit with the support of farmer promoters in their respective communities.
- Linkage of farmers to markets which increased their income to 32,000,000 Rwf by selling OFSP planting materials , OFSP roots and OFSP processed products like Mandazi, Cakes, Breads.
- OFSP Vine distribution to 20,000 households.
- Identification and training of 5 Decentralized vine multipliers (DVMs) for production of good quality planting materials.
- On the other hand, 1,662 beneficiaries (654 male and 1,008 female) were enrolled in 80 Farmer Field groups(FFS) under the **USAID Twiyubake program** which enabled the participation of 1,653 beneficiaries (647 male and 1,006 female) gaining knowledge on compost manure making, organic pesticide hence improved agricultural production.
- Additionally, 2,212 households (677 from Gahini, 747 Kabare and 788 Mwiri) adopted BIAT techniques within their households. This did not only improve household nutrition, but also increased their daily income.
- On the other hand, 1,662 beneficiaries (654 male and 1,008 female) were enrolled in 80 Farmer Field groups(FFS) under the USAID Twiyubake program which enabled the participation of 1,653 beneficiaries (647 male and 1,006 female) gaining knowledge on compost manure making, organic pesticide hence improved agricultural production.
- Additionally, 2,212 households (677 from Gahini, 747 Kabare and 788 Mwiri) adopted BIAT techniques within their households. This did not only improve household nutrition, but also increased their daily income.

**UWAMAHORO Jacqueline is a 38 year old beneficiary of Gikuriro Program in implemented in Ngoma District. She is a mother of two girls and a member of the farmer Filed Learning Schools. Upon acquiring the skills on Bio-Intensive Agricultural Techniques from her FFLS, she adopted some of the techniques like kitchen gardens in her household which improved their well-being.**

**“Not until I joined the Gikuriro Program, that I realized that I could stand up for myself and do something for myself” Narrated Uwamahoro. Through our FFLS we received small live stocks where I was given a pig and this produced 6 piglets that I sold and earned 60,000 RWF the money I used to purchase 3 goats and a duck. The animals have produced me with manure that I used to ferlies my plants on both the kitchen garden and the rest of the crops in the garden which has increased the yields harvested. I lot of vegetables are produced for both my household consumption and for selling as an Income Generating Activity. Malnutrition was curbed in my household.**

**I already have plans of growing my small livestock into a bigger business; I also look forward to being involved in poultry income generating activity to become economically self-sufficient and resilient. Great thanks to Gikuriro Program that empowered me.**



# Nutrition



## Key Achievements

1

**1685**  
children were rehabilitated

2

**9272**  
hens were distributed to  
households with malnourished  
and stunted children to boost  
their growth.

3

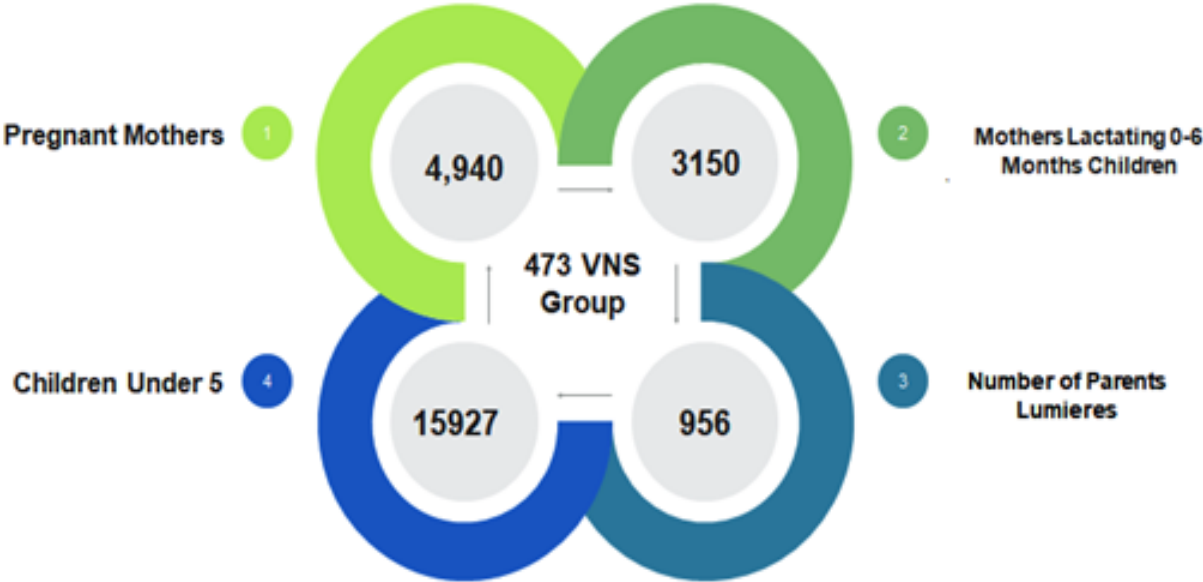
**20,000**  
farmers received  
messages on nutrition

4

**15,927**  
children under 6 years,  
**4940**  
pregnant,  
**3150**  
lactating mothers and  
**956**  
parent lumieres were  
reached with the Village  
Nutrition School activities

During the year, our major focus was put on curbing malnutrition among our beneficiaries especially pregnant mother and children of 5 years and below. Emphasis was put in the sanitization of parents on the 1000 days and Growth Monitoring, distribution of Orange Fleshed sweet potatoes rich in vitamin A through cooking demonstrations in the Village Nutrition Schools (VNS). The intervention led to the following;

Through the *Gikuriro Program* the VNS activities attracted the following categories of beneficiaries as Illustrated on the figure below;



- A total of 1685 children were rehabilitated as a results of attending the growth monitoring and rehabilitation session.
- In a bid to promote Nutrition practices 9,140 chicken and 132 rabbits were distributed to 7 vulnerable families in each village with major focus on those facing malnutrition and stunting.
- On the other hand, through the Feed the future project, Identification and training of 24 CHWs (Community Health workers) for facilitating in Nutrition message and counseling Education to 20,000 farmers was a key activity in 2018.

# Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



## Key Achievements

1

**15,759**  
households were reached  
by the hand washing,  
clean and covered  
latrines and drinking  
safe water hygiene and  
sanitation messages.

2

**200**  
Water filters were  
distributed to  
**200**  
households

3

**950**  
Iron sheets were  
distributed to 475  
households for latrine  
renovation

4

**472**  
Community Hygiene  
clubs were established

5

**4,344**  
Basic latrines and  
**2,700**  
improved latrines were  
constructed in Ngoma District.

- The WASH component aims at enabling vulnerable households have access to clean water and improved sanitation facilities, and good hygiene practices. During the year the following was achieved;
- 4344 households constructed Basic latrines in Ngoma
- 2700 households constructed improved latrines Ngoma District all which promoted hygienic practices within their communities.
- Awareness sessions and campaigns on WASH were conducted and these aimed at sensitizing the beneficiaries on the importance of using clean water, having soap at a hand washing station as well as having clean and covered latrines an intervention that reached reached 3,559 households (1,127 in Gahini, 1,068 in Kabare and 1,364 in Mwiri) Kayonza District.on the other hand, 200 Water filters were distributed to 200 households which enabled them to drink clean water hence reduction in the water born diseases.
- **Behavior Change Communication(BCC):**Through the Gikuriro program, a youth health fair football tournament was organized a competition that attracted all sectors of Ngoma District and the tournament was won by Kazo sector Girls' club.



# Early Childhood Development (ECD)



## Key Achievements

1

**89**  
Home Based ECD,  
**13**  
Community Based ECD and  
**6**  
Play Groups

2

**2,455**  
Children (1157 boys and  
1298 girls) Under the age  
of 6 were supported

3

**60**  
Community Based  
Volunteers trained on ECD  
methodology including the  
five pillars

4

**956**  
parents lumieres from  
Gikuriro program were  
trained on positive  
parenting and  
**57**  
out of them conducted  
a study tour to USAID  
Twiubake program in  
Kayonza

As far as the implementation of the ECD component was concerned the following were the major achievements;

- 60 Community Based Volunteers trained on ECD methodology including the five pillars. These supported to disseminate ECD messages to households through identified channels, including Inshutiz'Umuryango (IZU), ECDC, UWA, CHWs, and other community events an intervention that reached reached 1,489 parents/ guardians (580 from Gahini, 382 Kabare and 527 Mwiri).
- Supported 108 ECDs (13 community, 89 Home based and 6 play groups) which acted as safe spaces for the participation of to 2,455 Children(1157 boys and 1298 girls in ECD sessions. The interventions that were all supported by USAID Twiyubake Program in Kayonza.
- On the other hand under the Gikuriro Program,
- 956 parents lumieres were trained on positive parenting for them to train VNS members and help then in facilitation of home based ECD (Safe spaces) to be initiated in the FY 19
- 57 Parents Lumieres conducted a study tour in Kayonza district to learn from what USAID Twiyubake Program had achieved in as far as the application of home based ECD approach was concerned.





## Key Achievements

1

**350**  
youth were supported  
by USAID Twiyubake  
program and graduated  
from TVET programs and  
8 among them got jobs  
right away

2

**117**  
AGYW were supported to  
choose trades.

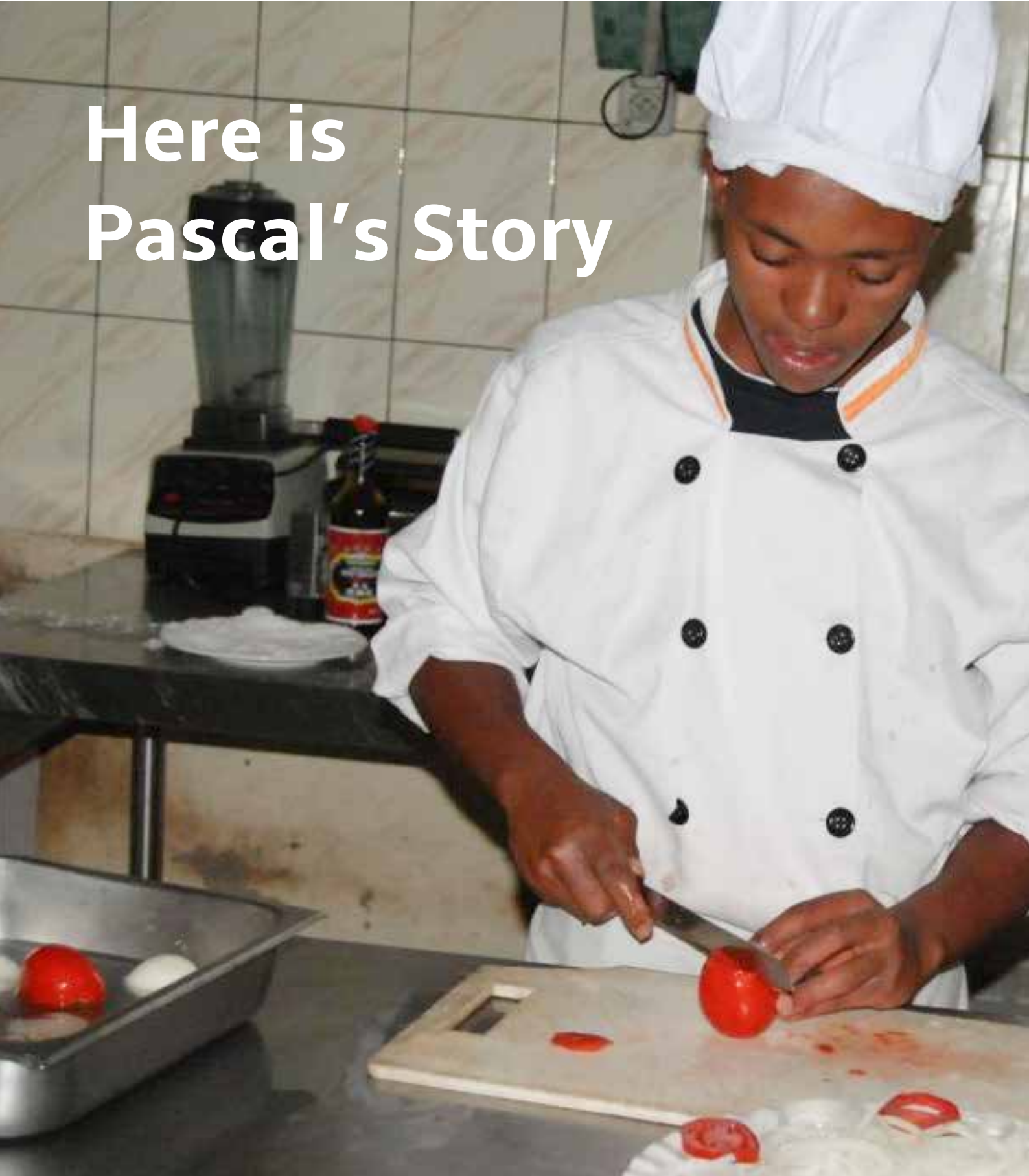
3

**30**  
youth cooperatives were supported  
with startup materials including  
welding machines, sewing machines,  
carpentry, hair dressing machines  
among other all which boosted their  
businesses

- 80 youth were provided training on work readiness. 60 CBVs (20 females&40 males) from Gahini, Mwiri, and Kabare sectors were refreshed work readiness with reference to the Akazi Kanoze module.
- Through the Youth Employability in Informal Sector project, 30 youth cooperatives were supported with start up materials including welding machines, sewing machines, capentry, hair dressing machines among other all which boosted their businesses
- Supported 117 AGYW to choose trades under the DREAMS program.
- 8 among the 50 TVET graduates supported by USAID Twiyubake got employed in different institutions like hotels.



# Here is Pascal's Story





**BIZIMUNGU Pascal is a 21 year old TVET fresh graduates who was lucky to secure a job immediately upon his graduation. He is currently employed at Amith institute as a chef in charge of food production. He says that he learnt food production, housekeeping and entrepreneurship during his TVET session. He quickly got an internship opportunity in Midland hotel from where he was recruited by Amith. "**

**I am employed here at Amith where am in charge of food production and I earn 50,000 francs per month. I feel proud of my current status. I have paid for the health insurances for my 4 siblings and give support my mother who is a widow." I plan to buy a goat and start my own restaurant from where all my siblings would be employed." Said Pascal I extend my sincere gratitude to USAID Twiyubake program and YWCA for the support.**

# 2. Girls' Program



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

**Girl Safe Schools** in partnership with Plan International funded by Plan International Japan

**USAID DREAMS-Like Activities** funded by USAID through Global Communities

**Right to protection and participation** funded by Sida through Plan International Rwanda

**Umwana ni nk'Undi Project** implemented in Rulindo District by YWCA in partnership with UNICEF

**Supporting Girls Future** through Education and Financial Education Training project in partnership with Plan International funded by Credit Suisse.

**Enterprise Development for Out-of-school Adolescent Girls** funded by Nike Foundation through CARE International Rwanda.

**Safe School for Girls** project in partnership with CARE International Rwanda funded by Patsy Collins Trust Fund Initiative

Through our Girls' Program, the major focus is put on financial literacy, sexual and reproductive health and right's (SRHR) education, Leadership, mentorship, Violence against Children prevention and response, HIV prevention, implementation of Family Matter program and promotion of positive masculinity.



# Key Achievements

1

**71,834**  
youth (80% girls and  
Young women) were  
directly reached with  
SRHR, Financial Education,  
Leadership, mentorship  
knowledge.

2

**2208**  
youth saving groups were  
set up and supported by  
our programs

3

**149**  
youth SRHR safe spaces  
were supported

4

**6,026**  
Adolescent Girls were  
tested for HIV

5

**1,248**  
Adolescent girls received  
school fees

6

**2,182**  
Adolescent girls received  
Scholastic materials

7

**92,610**  
condoms were distributed  
to youths in their safe  
spaces

8

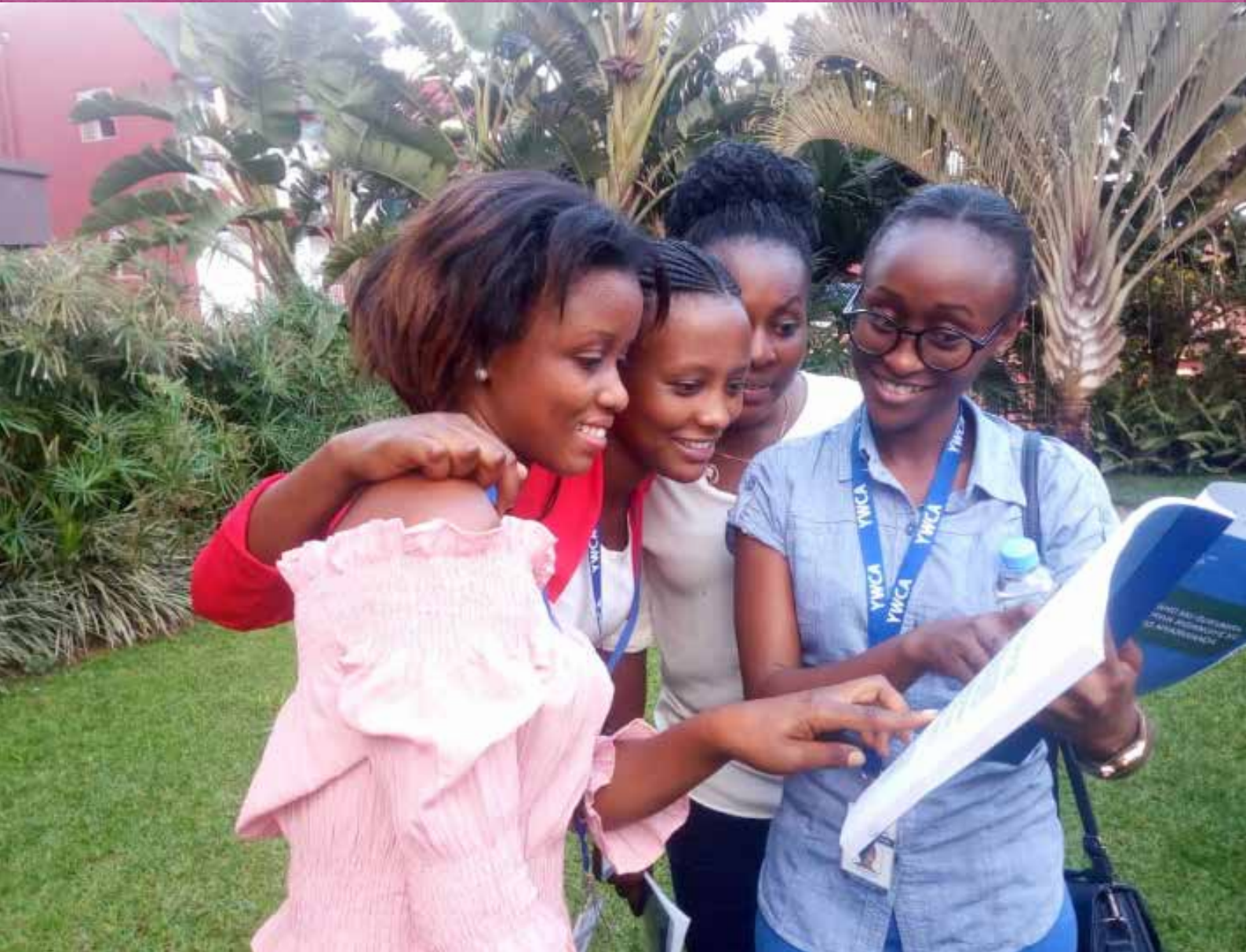
**10**  
GVB prevention and  
response mechanisms were  
set up

9

**10**  
girls' rooms were  
equipped with sanitary  
hygienic materials

10

**390**  
parents graduated  
with the family matter  
program



# USAID DREAMS-Like Activities

The **USAID Twiyubake DREAMS-Like Activities** is being implemented by YWCA-Rwanda in partnership with Global Communities in Kicukiro funded by 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).The program made the following intervention outlined below during the year 2018.

## F

### Financial Education

- 5026 AGYW Enrolled in the program and supported
- 3030 AGYW participated in the saving activities of 150 Internal Saving and Lending Groups (ISLGs) from where financial education was received.
- 150 ISLGs were supported with saving kits including Passbooks, saving boxes, rulers among others

## S

### SRHR

- 40 safe spaces were created which facilitated 217 AGYW group-SRHR sessions
- 40 AGYW mentors were trained on SRHR methodologies
- 5026 AGYW received messaging on SRHR
- Promotion and adoption of contraceptive method mix among AGYW
- 92,610 condoms were distributed to 30,87 AGYW

**H****HIV Prevention**

- 5026 AGYW assessed during the HIV Risk Assessment to ascertain their HIV status.
- 3625 AGYW tested for HIV and now aware of their HIV status (HIV Negative or HIV positive)
- 4080 AGYW reached with Inspirational talks about HIV care and treatment
- Conducted male sexual partner characterization for 15 and above AGYW.
- Organized an interface with 51 school head teachers where deliberations on school HIV prevention mechanisms were conducted.

**E****Education Support**

- Education needs assessment was conducted for 5026 AGYW which ascertained the AGYW's needs.
- 2216 AGYW (1296 in primary and 920 in secondary) received scholastic materials which motivated them to study.
- 1248 AGYW received school fees from the program which kept them at school.

**G****GBV Prevention**

- 5026 AGYW were reached through the GBV prevention messaging at their respective safe spaces.
- GBV cases were referred to Isange One Stop Centers from where they were attended to.
- DREAMS program team trained on Start Awareness Support Action (SASA) GBV prevention module.

**F****FMP**

- Family Matter Program (FMP) that seeks to empower parents about SRHR was successfully implemented.
- 2 FMP were certified out of the 6 trained on the FMP module.
- 26 FMP groups for parents were set up that attracted the participation of 910 parents.
- 360 out of the 910 parents in the parents' groups graduated from the FMP program.

# Supporting Girls' Future through Education and Financial Education training project

**1066**

(532 girls and 534 boys)

in **45**

saving group clubs were provided with a safe space to practice financial education and life skills(FELS)hence augment their leadership qualities.

We improved the hygiene practices for girls within

**5 schools**

(2 in Bugesera and 3 in Nyaruguru Districts) through equipping the girls' rooms with sanitary materials like sanitary pads, towels, soap all which supported the girls' education.



# Economic Empowerment for out of School Adolescent Girls (EDOAG)

Trained

**133**

business coaches who have improved the business skills of

**500**

young women especially in business management skills.

**500**

young women and teen mothers started income generating businesses like salons and welding leading to a reduction in teen pregnancies as well as socio- economic empowerment for the teen mothers.



# Safe School for Girls Project

**52,392** club members (30,484 girls and 21,908 boys)  
all grouped in **2,044** clubs received financial Education.

**1060** copies of the revised training manual were distributed to all  
the trained mentors in **174** schools hence eased their daily club  
activities.

**194**  
students from sampled schools have transitioned to higher level.

**862** teachers including **521** females and **341** males  
demonstrate increased knowledge in IGAs, life skills and SRHR.

**348**  
teachers (198 female and 130 male) demonstrate capacity to  
support their peer and girls clubs in saving, leadership ,SRJR and  
life skills.

We applied the school score card approach which enabled students  
to voice their issues related to studying with the support of their  
mentors and steps were taken to respond to the issues raised.



Imyitwarire idafwitse mu rabyiruko n'ingaruka zayo



# Right to protection and Participation project

**150** children and youth (92 girls and 52 boys) were refreshed on Gender equality and nonviolent behaviors.

**583** youth and children (school dropouts) were taken back to schools.

**113** families with high GBV and VAC cases were supported by the Anti GBV club members and received messages about children's rights.

**10** GBV prevention mechanisms were created. 3 of them operate at the district level and 7 at the sector level. These are platforms where all the actors in the field of fighting against GBV meet and take action.

**44** Anti GBV clubs for parents and youth were formed which helped in curbing GBV cases.



# RIGHT TO PROTECTION AND PARTICIPATION PROJECT

Addressing specific barriers to the organization of and youth's participation through stakeholders and right holders



Handwritten text on the paper (written from right to left):

- UMURANGE WA
- KIRAMURUZI
- CARABU MENE
- IBYOTWAGE
- MUMRENGE
- E NUTUGARI
- RUKO. P. 1

**150**

parents of whom (57 male and 93 female),

**120**

teachers and

**60**

local leaders (police officers, directors of good governance at the sector and District level, sector officials in charge of social affairs and education) from Bugesera, Gatsibo and Nyaruguru Districts received training on positive parenting.

The knowledge led to 7 children who had been rejected by their parents to be brought back home, creation of 6 safe spaces in a bid to curb teen pregnancies.

Home visits were conducted to

**67**

families living in disputes and these were inculcated on consequences of the GBV and VAC and how they hinder the households development hence peacefully environment and reconciliation of other conflicting families.

Referral of **7** children who were victims of violence as well as education support to **16** children with scholastic materials.

# Umwana ni nk'Undi Project

In partnership with UNICEF, **43** VSL groups of teenage mothers were supported by training on financial education enterprise development and life skills.

Support was given to VSL groups with startup kits composed of pens, ledgers member passbooks, stamps, ink stamp, saving boxes all which that eased the functionality of the groups' activities.

**70** beneficiaries got loans from the groups which helped them to initiate the small businesses.

The project activities contributed to the reduction in teen pregnancies and stigma among the beneficiaries.

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

YWCA Rwanda in partnership with UNICEF is implementing Youth Volunteer Initiative to reduce School Dropouts (Tugane ishuri) in 13 sectors of Ngororero district. The initiative is mainly focusing on reduction of schools dropouts using youth volunteering approach.

Youth volunteers will thereafter benefit from Technical and Vocational Education training (TVET) after six months of volunteering. 150 youth volunteers are already on board and they are ready to contribute to the reduction of the dropouts throughout the whole district. The district leaders are also cooperative to make this initiative successful.



# GirlSafeSchoolProjectinpartnership with PLAN Internatioanl

**180**

beneficiaries within 9 leadership clubs increased their understanding about sexual reproductive health and rights knowledge.

**180**

children were motivated to stay in school with the provision of scholastic materials that included 180 school bags,540 pens and 720 books.

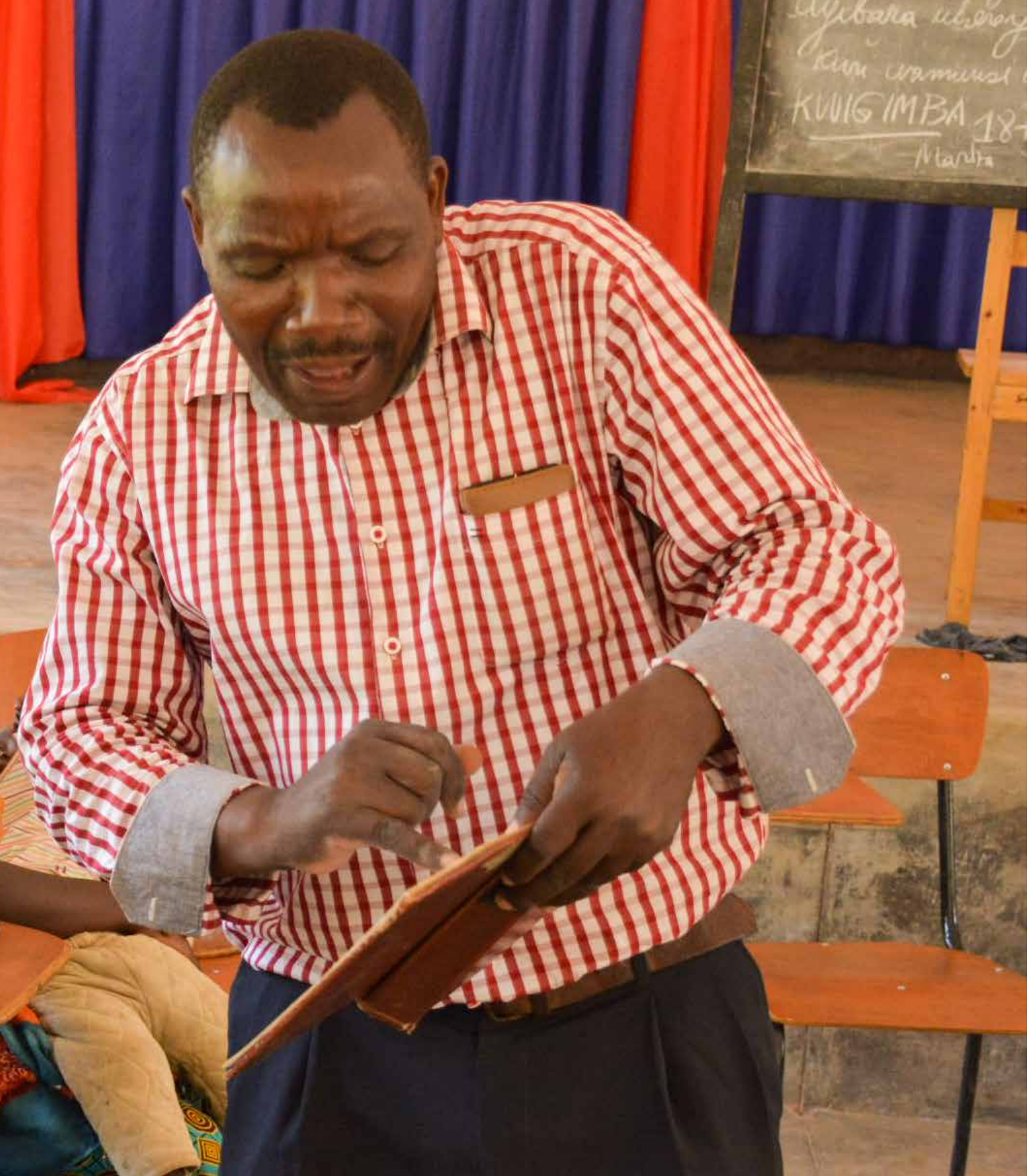
Equipped

**3**

girls' rooms with sanitary materials which facilitated the girls' school attendance.

# *3. Peace Building Program*





Uyoga wa utabiri  
Kwa wamuzi  
KUUIGIMBA 18  
Mtarba

**Goal: To build a harmonious society where girls and women are free from violence and where there're no negative attitudes or stereotypes**

YWCA Rwanda intervention focuses on improving GBV Prevention and response mechanisms to enable women and youth attain Gender Equality and Equity.

- Through the **Market Oriented Livelihood programme, PG II" project** that targets 6 Districts, namely Kirehe, Muhanga, Rulindo, Gakenke, Gicumbi, and Nyamagabe to promote greater gender equality, 60 beneficiaries including women peer educators and district officials made a field visit to Isange One Stop Center-Kacyiru to understand operation and available services for GBV prevention response and ten victim's rehabilitation.
- Distribution of 100 goats to teen mothers 50 from Rulido and 50 from Gakenke Districts.
- As far as **Gender Equality and Equity** is concerned; **Promotion of positive masculinities to fight Gender Based Violence** was a key activity
- Through the USAID- Twiyubake program 108 male champions all grouped together supported the program by promoting positive masculinities. These are role models within their communities. They mobilized their fellow men for behavior change measures to reduce gender based violence. Families at risk of GBV cases were mapped out and dialogues were conducted by the male champions all which led to harmony within these families. Additionally, 130 boys for change role models supported the USAID Twiyubake 109 SRHR youth clubs in preventing and responding to GBV cases for youth.
- The male champions and boys for change also used role plays and street theater to convey GBV prevention and response messages to 2,500 program beneficiaries about zero tolerance for wide-ranging and prevalent forms of GBV during the lunching of sixteen days of activism campaign in Kayonza District.

- An awareness raising campaign of the community during the International Day of the Girl Child International Rural Women's Day in Kicukiro and Rulindo Districts on GBV and gender equality by women peer educators which brought positive changes in knowledge and behaviors to the community was conducted. The event acted as a platform for the dissemination of laws on against GBV. Approximately 4300 (800 in Rulindo and 3500 in Kicukiro district) participants attended the campaign.
- Additionally, an advocacy meeting with 43 participants (24 females and 12 males) including those from National women Council, gender Officers and Isange one stop centers on gender mainstreaming and women leadership was conducted which enabled all participants to increase their understanding of gender mainstreaming and women leadership and how to apply it in all their work, Key survey results on women leadership and gender mainstreaming are shared , discussed and harmonized/ Validated for participants to have a common understanding on the situation around women leadership and gender mainstreaming and GBV, participants have got friendly venue/space to share their experiences and best practices to improve gender mainstreaming.



# Collaboration

- 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.
- Additionally, in a bid to prevent stunting among the infants, Kayonza District 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 ECD support of 50Kgs of maize flour were received from the Improved Foods (Notre mama company) well as a public toilet was constructed for the Kabare sector in Kayonza district in collaboration with four private manufacturing companies – Ruliba Clay Ltd., Cimerwa Ltd., Petrocom Ltd., and Steelrwa Industries Ltd due to the mobilization made by the USAID Twiyubake team in the promotion of the WASH component.



**USAID Twiyubake ECD Care giver feeding Porridge to the ECD beneficiary in Kayonza District**

- Dreams Program organized and conducted a one-day coordination meeting with stakeholder to explain to them the purpose of DREAMS Program and the expectations from stakeholders. Participation in Chain meeting and district open days was central during the year which helped to show case of our program interventions. 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).
- We have collaborated with health centers to conduct massive HIV testing for all our AGYW as well as referring them GBV cases identified during the program implementation.



**The Public Toilet that was constructed  
for Kabare Sector**

- We also collaborated with USAID and Global Communities Rwanda in welcoming the congressional delegations from the United States (US) including the senators accompanied by the US Ambassador to Rwanda visited the USAID Twiyubake program. The visit that took place on 3rd Oct 2018 at Igihozo community ECD center found in Cyarubare cell kabare sector. This engaged representatives from USAID, Global Communities, Kabare local authorities, YWCA-Rwanda staff, ECD parents, ECD volunteers and care givers as well as the ECD children. On the other hand, the US Congress members visited Safe School for Girls project in Kamonyi district in 2018. The delegation got more insights about YWCA interventions in both Districts.
- Participation in CHAIN and SUN was paramount which protected the implementation of integrated Early Childhood Development in Kayonza and Ngoma Districts.



# Organizational Development and Team Building

The Start Awareness Support and Action (SASA!), is an approach used in Mobilizing Communities to Inspire Social Change. It is also a methodology used for addressing the link between violence against women and HIV/AIDS. Sasa! Will be used in the USAID Twiyubake/DREAMs program in Kicukiro District.



# YWCA Family





# Success Story

## Naomi's Journey to Leadership and Social Change



ISEZERANO Naomi is an 18 year old girl who lives in Rwanda, Kicukiro District, Gikondo Sector. She comes from a humble background in a family of eight members (both parents and 6 children). She is among the 5026 beneficiaries of the of the USAID Twiyubake DREAMS-Like program. "Before the introduction of the program in 2018 in Kicukiro district, I had dropped out of school in 2017 when I was in my first term in senior 4 at "Saint Joseph Le Travailleur" studying economics, and accounting because my family could not afford to pay my school fees.

In about 2 months after I had dropped out, I heard that YWCA-Rwanda in collaboration with the local authorities were going through our village telling people about the new program that would help young adolescent girls who had dropped out of school and those who were not attending school for different reasons to join the program. Upon hearing the news, I went to Kanserege cell where the program mentors were registering names of girls who wanted to be enrolled in the program.

During the process, a questionnaire was used which contained questions that revolved around (the different problems the girls face in their daily lives, family status, Sexual Gender Based Violence (S/GBV), the education level, the level of school someone had reached, to mention but a few). After answering the questions, we were told to wait for the selection process and that those who would have attained the selection criteria scores would be contacted.

One week later, I received a call from YWCA- Rwanda field staff informing me that I had been selected and enrolled into the program. Hearing this good news was so exciting. After a week, I joined the rest of the girls who had been selected. We were put in a Safe Space at Kinunga primary school to meet with our mentor, (Fiona).

This Safe Space is where all enrolled adolescent girls meet and learn. We learn about Sexual Reproductive Health and Right (SRHR), we get sessions about HIV/AIDS, S/GBV, and prevention of unwanted pregnancies. Besides that, I was able to go back to school and I have completed senior 4. I and the rest of the adolescents participated in the HIV voluntary testing and counseling as well as the HIV risk Assessment and now know our HIV status. The most exciting moment in my life as a USAID Twiyubake DREAMS-Like program beneficiary, was the trip I had in **Amsterdam in Netherlands** in July 2018.

We were told that they needed Adolescent girls to participate in an International meeting on AIDS. After a tight interview; I was selected to be one of the three girls who were supported to attend the conference. The conference enlightened me a lot about different topics such as (HIV prevention, prevention of unwanted pregnancies, how to use ARTs if you're HIV positive).

On the other hand, delegates who were HIV positive shared their experiences of how they have overcome the discrimination they face in society as well as treatments they undertake to benefit them in their society. I learnt a lot on how to take care of and living with HIV positive people without getting infected.

The most profound benefit was improving my household financial status. During my stay in Netherlands, YWCA-Rwanda provided me with the mission fees that I used to cater for myself throughout the conference period. Fortunately, before traveling, my safe space mentor had briefed us about the importance of saving even starting from 100 francs. With that knowledge, I used to save 200,000 Rwandan francs from the mission fees I had been given. Upon returning to Rwanda, I and my family sat and discussed about the best small scale business we would start using the money I had saved from my trip.

My mother who was jobless by then suggested a business of engaging in selling carrots in big quantities. I gave her the money and she started by buying 3 sacks of carrots which she bought at 50,000 each from Gisenyi and selling them in Nyabugogo market in Kigali city.

The business is progressing well and now our capital has increased to 400,000. This has been a turning point for the social economic status of my family; for instance; we have paid for the health insurance for all the members in my household, all my siblings have gone back to school, my parents are in position of paying for our house rent. I am also empowered and I gained a lot of respect from my village. I have also extended the knowledge I gained from the conference to 25 peers in my safe space.

My great thanks go to YWCA-Rwanda for supporting me to be enrolled into the USAID Twiyubake DREAMs-Like program but also to grant me the chance to attend the conference and also for their tremendous work of empowering young women and girls. I now work towards being resilient” Said Naomi.

<http://shespeaksworldywca.org/naomis-journey-to-leadership-and-social-change/>

# Our Partners

OUR WORK IS MADE POSSIBLE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



WE THANK YOU





**YWCA**

RWANDA

**YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION**

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