



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

“Towards a dignified life”

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A woman wearing a red beanie, a red jacket with a white collar, and an orange t-shirt is working in a potato processing facility. She is holding a wooden tray filled with small, round potatoes. The background shows rows of similar trays and wooden pillars. The word "actionaid" is written in red in the top right corner.

actionaid

A large red geometric graphic element consisting of a triangle pointing downwards and a rectangle to its right, forming a larger shape.

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

“Towards a dignified life”

This report presents our journey, the stories of change from the communities as well as give a glimpse into our future in Rwanda. These achievements are attributed to the commitment and cooperation of all our partners, stakeholders, supporters and the Government of Rwanda.

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ACRONYMS

AA:	ActionAid
AAR:	ActionAid Rwanda
CD:	Country Director
CMR:	Country Model Review
CSP:	Country Strategic Paper
CRSA:	Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture
ECD:	Early Childhood Development
GBP:	Great British Pound
GBV:	Gender Based Violence

HRBA:	Human Right Based Approach
LRP:	Local Right Program
SGBV:	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SRHR:	Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights
SWRA:	Strengthening Women Rights Advocacy
POWER:	Promoting Opportunities for Women's Empowerment and Rights
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
VSLA:	Village Saving and Loan Association
UCW:	Unpaid Care Work
WROs:	Women Rights Organizations

43,626

Direct
Beneficiaries

28,026

Women

15,600

Men

We are pleased to share with you our '2022 Annual Report: Towards a dignified life'

FOREWORD

1. MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Together fighting poverty & injustice

Dear Readers,

We are so pleased to share with you our '2022 Annual Report: Towards a dignified life' with key transformative initiatives and achievements throughout the year.

We hope you will enjoy reading about the realized successes and impact made towards reduction of violence and enhancing resilient livelihoods. The Organisation undertook several interventions including but not limited to prevention of violence against women and girls, more specifically, family conflicts and teen pregnancies, unpaid care work with increasing access to time-saving facilities including energy-saving cooking stoves and setting up childcare centres to facilitate women sufficiently engage in the productive economy.

In line with our holistic livelihood approach, ActionAid Rwanda also implemented interventions aimed at contributing to building community resilient livelihoods, such as empowerment of smallholder farmers with hands-on skills on agroecology, facilitate access to improved seeds and small scale irrigation to adapt to adverse effect of climate change with the main purpose of improving food security in the target communities but also to boost farm income through gender-sensitive

access to markets to accelerate women's economic empowerment.

In a move to influence policy actions on existing gender inequalities, AAR conducted a number of campaigns including a national policy dialogue on unpaid care work, community sensitizations, radio and TV talk-shows on the Recognition, Reduction and redistribution and Redistribution of the burdens of unpaid care work and climate change loss and damage to advocate for enhanced enforcement of GBV prevention and response and quality gender responsive public services (GRPS) which address unpaid care work and promote resilient livelihoods.

The leadership of ActionAid Rwanda takes this opportunity to extend thanks to our sponsors, donors, partners and all our stakeholders towards these achievements and thank you for your continuous collaboration.

We equally thank our National General Assembly, Board of Directors and ActionAid International Federation for their continued support and guidance throughout the year.

It wouldn't be possible to realize these milestones shared in this report without your contribution.

Enjoy Reading!



Francoise K. TENGERA
Board Chair



Ines MWANGAVU
Ag. Executive Director

2. COUNTRY CONTEXT

Rwanda is an East African country with a population of 13,246,394 people, of whom 52% are women. It shares borders with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to the West, Tanzania to the East, Uganda to the North, and Burundi to the South.

Rwanda had made significant progress until the outbreak of COVID-19, which, like elsewhere globally, threatened to reverse this trend. However, Rwanda received commendation for its effective management of COVID-19. The World Health Organization applauded Rwanda for “instituting a strong system” that enabled the country to “effectively confront” the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rwanda is also credited with maintaining political stability and general security, characterized by a low level of corruption since the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi. Nevertheless, Rwanda is still categorized as a low-income country but aspires to achieve Middle-Income Country status by 2035 and High-Income Country status by 2050. It plans to achieve these goals through a series of seven-year National Strategies for Transformation (NST1), supported by sectoral strategies focused on meeting the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The NST1 followed five-year Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategies (EDPRS) for the periods 2008–2012 and 2013–2018, during which Rwanda experienced robust economic and social performance.

Despite being classified as a low-income country, Rwanda recorded significant economic growth, accompanied by substantial improvements in living

standards. This progress was achieved through a strong emphasis on homegrown policies and initiatives that contributed to improved access to services and human development indicators. Aggregate demand continued to expand in 2022 Q3, with the Composite Index of Economic Activities (CIEA) growing by 17.2% after 11.1% and 10.0% in 2022 Q2 and 2021 Q3, respectively. This indicates robust economic growth in 2022 Q3, despite an unfavorable global environment.

The Rwandan economy has demonstrated a strong recovery from the negative impact of COVID-19. Real GDP grew by 7.7% in the first half of 2022, following a growth rate of 10.9% in 2021 and a contraction of 3.4% in 2020. This positive momentum continued in 2022 Q3, as indicated by high-frequency indicators that recorded significant growth rates (BNR, Monetary policy report November 2022).

In Q3 2022, headline inflation accelerated to 16.4%, up from the 12.1% recorded in the previous quarter. The acceleration in headline inflation was mainly reflected in the core and fresh food components. The uptick in core inflation is consistent with both imported and domestic costs, while the rising trend observed in fresh food inflation is attributed to a reduced supply of fresh food production. Over the same period, energy inflation stabilized. An increase in liquid fuels inflation, following the hike in international oil prices in Q3 2022, was outweighed by a decrease recorded in solid fuels (BNR, Monetary policy report November 2022).

Rwanda has adopted both public and private sector-led development models and believes that stronger dynamism in the private

sector will help sustain high investment rates and accelerate growth. Rwanda continues its efforts to improve the quality of infrastructure (water and electricity) and essential basic services (education, health, and social safety nets), as well as provide effective support for entrepreneurship and private-sector job creation.

In 2022, the main challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and other factors affected resource mobilization, leading to limited and diminishing funding capacities, thus impacting AAR’s financial sustainability.

Rwandan society has been characterized by a patriarchal social structure that has traditionally not been seen as unjust but as the social norm, despite the harmful impacts on women and society as a whole.

Due to intersectional factors that may exacerbate pre-existing vulnerabilities or determine new ones, women and girls are disproportionately affected by crises, including pandemics and climate change impacts. These factors include the power imbalance between men and women, limited access to education and decisionmaking power among women and girls, coupled with individual factors such as age, disability, and marital status. This situation is exacerbated in rural areas where resilience levels are low, and women have limited access to knowledge about their rights and limited support to meaningfully enjoy them. Economic resources are also scarce and unfairly distributed.

These shocks, coupled with climate change impacts, have affected recorded achievements and may exacerbate inequalities, slowing inclusive and sustainable development.

3. ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND

ActionAid began operations in Rwanda with a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government signed in 1982. In 1986, the MoU was amended in agreement with Aide et Action for ActionAid to shift to Burundi to avoid duplication. ActionAid resumed operations in response to the aftermath of the post genocide emergency. It operated as a cross boarder initiative under ActionAid Uganda in 1996, mainly focusing on relief and emergency work.

In 1997 became a fully-fledged Country Programme working in Nyanza as the first Local Right Program Area focusing on reconstruction work on shelter, education and water. From 2003 to 2005 ActionAid in Rwanda was part of the pilot of the regionalization process under the Great Lakes initiative which was disbanded in 2006, leading to the resumption of the status of Country Program with national leadership.

In 2017, ActionAid became Associate Member of ActionAid International (AAI), an anti-poverty agency working with the poor. In 2017, ActionAid became Associate Member of ActionAid International (AAI), an anti-poverty agency working with the poor.

In 2020, ActionAid is an affiliate member of International Federation, an anti-poverty agency giving assistance to poor people and communities.



EQUITY AND JUSTICE:

We work to ensure that all people irrespective of gender, ethnicity, location, political affiliations, social class, health status, religion, sexual orientation have fair and equal opportunities.

HONESTY AND TRANSPARENCY:

We are committed to being accountable at all levels for the effectiveness of our actions and open in judgments and communication with others.

COURAGE OF CONVICTION:

We are committed to be open, creative and constructively engage without fear - in pursuit of making the greatest possible impact on the causes of poverty and gender inequalities.

OUR VALUES

SOLIDARITY

With the people living in poverty (women, children and youth) In the fight against poverty we align ourselves with the powerless, marginalized and excluded to empower them to be the drivers of change.

MUTUAL RESPECT:

We recognize and appreciate the inherent value of each human being and the significance of diversity.

INDEPENDENCE:

Independence from any religious or political affiliation Humility In all our actions and behaviour, we acknowledge and recognize that we are a part of a wider alliance against poverty and injustice.

4. OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

Change is possible, and it is rooted in the individual and collective empowerment of those most affected to know, claim and defend their rights over the long term through coalitions, alliances, cooperatives, and associations.

OUR APPROACH

Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA)

We incorporate the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) in all of our operations. HRBA is made up of three pillars which include Empowerment, Solidarity, Advocacy and Campaigns.

In addition to HRBA, Feminist and participatory Approaches are applied as AAR continues to build power from below as we mobilize women, girls and socially marginalized to organize themselves into cooperatives, networks and social movements in solidarity and collective strengthened voice, to engage and challenge deeply entrenched inequalities informing adequate policies at local, national and international levels while supporting equitable practices in favour of people living in poverty and exclusion upholding their rights to effectively graduate from poverty and drive transformational change.

Empowerment

Through capacity building, we empower women, girls and other marginalized people to assert for their basic needs and fundamental rights, modelling sustainable service delivery alternatives that strengthen their rights while holding duty bearers to account.

Solidarity

Through building networks of rural women farmers and building of coalitions at different levels to enable effective lobby and advocacy for policy change.

Advocacy and campaigns

This is done through engagement with policy decision makers at local, national, regional and international levels.



**Top Ten
Basics of**
Feminist
Leadership
in **actionaid**


Zero tolerance


Self awareness


Self care & caring for others


Inclusion

Dismantling bias


Sharing power


Responsible & transparent use of power


Accountable collaboration


Respectful feedback


Courage

5. COMMUNITIES SUPPORTED, PROJECTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Where we work

Currently, AAR's operations include LRPs and grants projects in 6 Districts namely Gisagara, Karongi, Musanze, Nyanza, Nyaruguru, and Gasabo. AAR anticipates expansion of coverage within Districts as well as moving into new locations of need.

In Nyanza District, ActionAid Rwanda operates in three sectors:

1. Busasamana
2. Rwabicuma
3. Mukingo

In Musanze District, ActionAid Rwanda operates in two sectors:

1. Shingiro
2. Muko

In Karongi District, ActionAid Rwanda operates in three sectors:

1. Gitesi
2. Murundi
3. Rugabano

In Gisagara District, ActionAid Rwanda operates in three sectors:

1. Gishubi
2. Muganza
3. Kibirizi

ActionAid Rwanda also runs a grant project on "Empowering Young People to Prevent and Fight SGBV in Rwanda" in Gasabo and Karongi Districts in the Sectors of:

1. Kinyinya
2. Rusororo

in Gasabo District:

1. Rugabano
2. Gitesi

in Karongi District.



Legend

- - - - - National Boarder
- - - - - Province
- District
- Sector

Programmes and grant projects implemented in 2022

- A Transformative Approaches to Recognize, Reduce, and Redistribute the burdens of Unpaid Care Work in Women's Economic Empowerment Programming.
- Empowering Young People to Prevent and Fight SGBV in Rwanda
- Strengthening the effectiveness of Smallholders Farmers' Advocacy to Advance Agriculture for Sustainable Development and Rights to Food.
- Baseline survey on the impact of COVID-19 on the participation of special interest groups financed by International Center for Not-for-profit Law (ICNL)
- Strengthening Community Based Structures to Address Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Nyanza.

Partnerships

We recognize that fighting poverty and injustice requires collective participation of all communities, women movements, and other like-minded organizations. AAR primarily works with people living in poverty and the marginalized, especially vulnerable women, girls, youth and children; while reinforcing strong partnerships, networking, and other working relations with various key strategic stakeholders and partners including communities, Community-Based Organizations, Non-Governmental, Civil Society Organizations, International Development Partners, Corporates, Media, Research and Academic Institutions in addition to other key duty bearers including the Government of Rwanda.

Our Implementing Partners in 2022

To achieve our mission, we work with local implementing partners including:



Our Allies

ActionAid Rwanda is partnering and networking with various partner organizations and supporters through networks, coalitions and alliances for broadening support, voice and actions to strengthen the power of people living in poverty and the marginalized. Our allies include the following:

The Government of Rwanda



Civil Society Organizations



Academia and Research Institutions



Our Donors



UNITED KINGDOM



ITALY



GREECE

We are grateful to our supporters from UNDP, UNWOMEN, EU, Vi-Agroforestry, RGB, People's Postcode Lottery, supporters from Italy, UK, Greece, and the European Union, for their support, without which our work would not be a success.

6. INTRODUCTION

The plans for 2022 were informed by and aligned with AAR Country Strategic Paper II (2018-2023), Strategy Implementation Framework (SIF 2), and the Global strategy; Action for Global Justice 2018-2028. Additionally, the design of the 2022 plans was informed by the conducted needs assessment known as PRRP, which collected the views of stakeholders and the issues presented by targeted communities during PRRP discussions. The Country Strategy Paper II of ActionAid Rwanda is named "Transformative Development based on Rights and Dignity Together for Social Justice", and has 2 priorities; "Address the Structural Causes of Violence Against Women and Girls and Secure Women's Economic Justice" and "Strengthen resilient livelihoods and secure climate justice ensuring women smallholder farmers' access to market and credit for increased agricultural production and food security."

The 2022 Annual report highlights key achieved results toward the reduction of violence and the enhancement of resilient livelihoods, including, but not limited to, the prevention of violence against women and girls, specifically family conflicts and teen pregnancies. The report also summarizes the achievements in reducing the burden of unpaid care work by increasing Rights Holders' access to time-saving facilities, including energy-saving cooking stoves and the establishment of childcare centers to allow women to engage more fully in the productive economy.

Furthermore, the implemented interventions contributed to building community resilient livelihoods, such as empowering smallholder farmers with hands-on skills in agroecology, providing access to improved seeds, and offering small-scale irrigation to adapt to climate change. The main purpose was to improve food security in the target communities and boost farm income through gender-sensitive access to markets to accelerate women's economic empowerment.

Regarding policy influencing on existing gender inequalities, AAR also conducted a number of campaigns and policy dialogues, including national policy dialogues, community sensitization programs, and radio and TV talk shows. These efforts aimed to call for action to address women's time poverty and promote policy action on climate change loss and damage through quality Gender-Responsive Public Services (GRPS).

2021 Planned Activities

7. CSP II PRIORITIES

Priority 1: Address the Structural Causes of Violence Against Women and Girls and Secure Women's Economic Justice

- **Focus area 1:** Address the structural causes of Violence Against Women and Girls
- **Focus area 2:** Recognition, Redistribution and Reduction of Unpaid Care Work for women's economic justice.
- **Focus area 3:** Women and girls participation in leadership and decision- making positions and policy influence.

AAR Campaign against GBV during 16 Days of Activism



AAR Support to communities with ECDs



Women's participation in community sensitisation against GBV and Unpaid Care Work



Priority 2: Strengthen resilient livelihoods and secure climate justice ensuring women smallholder farmers' access to market and credit for increased agricultural production and food security.

- **Focus Area 1:** Access to land, resilient livelihoods, and food Security.
- **Focus Area 2:** Agro-ecology & sustainable Environment.
- **Focus Area 3:** Access to market and financial services.



AAR supported women's cooperatives with seed now showcase their harvest



AAR supported women small holder farmers to access the market




AAR supported women with cows to boost agricultural production

8. ACHIEVEMENTS OF PROGRAMME TARGETS

Priority 1: Address the Structural Causes of Violence Against Women and Girls and Secure Women's Economic Justice

Hierarchy of Objectives	Indicator	Planned target	Achieved target	% Achieved
 <p>Focus area 1: Address the structural causes of VAWG</p>	<p>DAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community trainings and awareness raising on SRHR, GBV, Family conflicts Supporting community to acquire school-based facilities; playgrounds, girls' rooms, classrooms, and toilets. 	600	621	103%
		27	41	151%
<p>Focus area 2: Recognition, Redistribution and Reduction of Unpaid Care Work for women's economic justice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of the burdens of UCW through the construction new ECDs building, fencing, additional classrooms, kitchens Families of sponsored children supported with energy-saving cooking stoves to reduce the burdens of UCW. 	5	5	100%
		230	270	117%

Hierarchy of Objectives	Indicator	Planned target	Achieved target	% Achieved
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation of Water Supply and Distribution at Kabaya Early Child Development Centre Line in Murundi Sector. Facilitate girls to increased access to materials: TVET equipment, Girls room materials. 	<p>10.00Km</p> <hr/> <p>413</p> <hr/>	<p>10.00Km</p> <hr/> <p>460</p> <hr/>	<p>100%</p> <hr/> <p>57%</p> <hr/>
<p>Focus area 3: Women and girls' participation in leadership and decision - making positions and policy influence.</p>	<p>Promotion of women, girls, and children participation: Girl's camp, girls debates and the national children summit, Dissemination of performance contracts.</p>	<p>349</p> <hr/>	<p>200</p> <hr/>	<p>57%</p> <hr/>

Priority 1: Address the Structural Causes of Violence Against Women and Girls and Secure Women’s Economic Justice

Hierarchy of Objectives	Indicator	Planned target	Achieved target	% Achieved
Focus area 1: Access to land, resilient livelihoods, and food Security.	Facilitate women’s participation to policy change influence: Participate in regional engagements on land issues, dissemination of summarized version of Land reference prices.	1,158	1,980	170%
# Infrastructure	Facilitate women cooperatives to access input: practicing climate resilient sustainable agriculture.	73,34990	6,544	88%
Focus area 2: Secure climate justice through Agro ecology & sustainable environment	Increasing women’s knowledge and skills on agroecology practices.	2,280	2,880	126%

Hierarchy of Objectives	Indicator	Planned target	Achieved target	% Achieved
Focus area 3: Access to market and financial services	Increasing women's knowledge and skills on financial literacy.	1800	1609	89%
Focus area 3: Access to market and financial services	Increasing women's access to post harvest facilities and marketing of the production.	350	320	91%
Sponsorship activities	Maintain standards of sponsorship operations.	100%	100%	100%
Sponsorship activities cont...	Build capacity of sponsorship community facilitators.	101	101	100%

9. ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST PRIORITY AND EACH FOCUS AREA

Priority 1: Address the Structural Causes of Violence Against Women and Girls and Secure Women's Economic Justice

Focus area 1: Structural causes of VAWG

With the aim of addressing all structural causes of violence against women and girls, ActionAid Rwanda closely collaborated with other human rights organizations and local authorities.

These achievements were realized through funds from regular giving and projects income. Through various campaigns, 43,101 community members from the seven Local Rights Programmes (LRPs) were sensitized to combat any form of violence perpetrated against women, against the planned target of 46,160 individuals.

These campaigns included activities such as community meetings, radio programs discussing anti-GBV laws



AAR joined Nyanza Residents to Campaign against GBV in Nyaruguru, March 2023

and policies protecting women, the celebration of International Women's Day, International Rural Women's Day, the 16 Days of Activism, and the Day of the African Child.

Throughout these campaigns, both national and international themes were conveyed to the communities, urging them to take necessary measures to address the structural causes of all forms of violence against women and girls. Awareness-raising efforts on women's rights during these campaigns encompassed the fight against GBV, marital rape, teenage pregnancy, and the promotion of Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR).



ActionAidRwandasupported women from seven LRPs in organizing the campaigns. During those campaigns, AAR supported the most vulnerable families with goats, cows, and energy-saving cooking stoves. It was an opportunity to celebrate their achievements, examine the challenges in gender equality, and suggest strategies for addressing these issues in the future.

It was also an opportunity to investigate the existing challenges in gender equality vis-à-vis climate change adaptation, mitigation, and resilience as enablers of transformation. Community members raised awareness to ensure

AAR supported Rights Holders with livestock to get fertiliser and boost agricultural productivity

that mitigation and adaptation efforts also address the sources of gender-based vulnerability, gender inequality, and poverty.

In addition to sensitizing communities about women's rights, ActionAid Rwanda organized an Inter-School children's competition in games, drawings, songs, poems, and drama related to

raising awareness of children's rights and issues affecting children in the community during the Day of African Child celebrations and fun events. AAR also organized girls' camps to learn and discuss issues affecting girls, such as SRHR, teenage pregnancies, leadership skills, etc.

Project 1: Baseline Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 on the Participation of Special Interest Groups in the Decision-Making Process

On October 25th, 2022, AAR organized a Validation Workshop on the "Baseline survey on the impact of COVID-19 on the participation of special interest groups." This baseline study aimed to assess the impact of COVID-19 on the participation of special interest groups in the decision-making process.

The baseline study was commissioned by ActionAid Rwanda with funding from the International Center for Not-for-profit Law (ICNL) to inform efforts to increase the participation of special interest groups in shaping the response and management of the COVID-19 pandemic in Rwanda.

Special interest groups defined for this project include women and youth, church leaders, people with disabilities, informal sector workers, children, adolescents, and the elderly, among others.

The survey revealed that the COVID-19 pandemic worsened the participation of women and the elderly in the decision-making process. Firstly, the elderly were identified as the most vulnerable group to new infections, and they were recommended to limit their interactions with other people, including not attending meetings where decisions are made. Secondly, due to the urgency involved in the decisions made during the COVID-19 pandemic, many people, including women representatives, were not invited to participate in the decision-making process.



Validation workshop on Baseline Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 on the Participation of Special Interest Groups in the Decision-Making Process

2. Speak Out Project: Addressing Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and Gender Based Violence in Rwanda.



AAR Photo, Official Closure of Speak Out Project, 29th July 2022

On 29th July 2022 at Chez Landon Hotel in Kigali, happened AAR Speak Out Project Official Closure. The four-year project focused on Addressing Sexual Re- productive Health Rights and Gender Based Violence in Rwanda. The project was funded by UKAID Direct through DFID and implemented by ActionAid Rwanda in partnership with Faith Victory Association and Association des Guides du Rwanda.

The project was implemented in four Districts in nine sectors: in Karongi (Murundi and Gitesi sectors), in Nyanza (Mukingo, Busasamana and Rwabicuma sectors), in Gisagara (Muganza, Kibirizi and Gishubi sectors) and in Nyaruguru (Ruheru sector). The Project recorded significant successes, including but not limited to supporting survivors of violence particularly teenage pregnancies with the set-up of community Safe Spaces for women and girls' victims of violence; engaging and sensitizing boys about sexual reproductive health rights and violence against women and girls (VAWG) through school clubs, etc

Speak Out had school based and community engagement activities. Among the school-based activities there are safe spaces where girls meet weekly during weekends and sessions are delivered by mentors. Mentors are young girls between 18-25 years who completed senior six.

They were trained on curricular used in the project and methodologies to use in delivering the sessions. School clubs also meet weekly, and sessions are delivered by teachers and are referred to as club facilitators. Community engagement activities include quarterly community awareness raising on GBV and SRHR through parents evening forums and



Photo by ARR, July 2022: support of goats to Right Holders in Gitesi & Murundi on 25th - 29th July 2022.

community gatherings and Violence Against Women and Girls quarterly coordination meetings, psychosocial support of teen mothers, linking SGBV survivors with Isange One Stop Centres, police and RIB and trainings of Male Change Agents.

On the dates of 25th & 29th July 2022, in the context of Speak Out Project Closure, AAR provided goats to teenage mothers across all AAR areas of operations to support their socio-economic reintegration.

Highlights of Speak Out Project achievements

Capacity Building



Speak Out Project contributed to the capacity building of **14 Women Rights Organizations** in Human Rights-based Approach, gender analysis and mainstreaming, disability inclusion as well as policy analysis and advocacy.

Male Change Agents at the forefront in Gender-Based Violence advocacy

Summary of **Speak Out project achievements**



Over 200 peer mentors were trained and actively supported to empower girls in school clubs and safe spaces, with knowledge regarding to Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR).



2,600 boys engaged and sensitized with knowledge regarding to Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG), through school clubs.

Teenage Pregnancy cases declined due to Speak Out Project

Summary of **Speak Out project achievements**



14 women's rights organizations improved knowledge on disability and inclusive VAWG programming through project support.

GBV Survivor, now an advocate of Change

Summary of **Speak Out project achievements**



28 Safe spaces were established and each group of survivors of violence was linked with women's rights organization. They received legal support, awareness, information, and vocational skills.

Enhancing Reproductive health education through school clubs

Summary of **Speak Out project achievements**



At least 46,000 community members (men and women) and leaders were engaged through awareness raising meetings and events. They were sensitized on GBV and SRHR, for their children.

Speak Out Project empowers children with Sexual Reproductive and Health rights

Summary of **Speak Out project achievements**



360 change agents and key influencers improved knowledge and skills about SRHR, and VAWG. These include men champions of gender equality, religious leaders and local leaders.

Safe Houses, a haven for transforming girls' lives

Summary of **Speak Out project achievements**



Over 430 survivors of violence, including teenage mothers, received support from mentors' and access to safe spaces. They were supported to join teen mother's credit and saving groups.

Speak Out project bringing back harmony in families

Summary of **Speak Out project achievements**



424 girls who are survivors of violence got access to VAWG services from the Rwanda National Police, through project support.

Project 3: Strengthening community-based structures project to address sexual and gender-based violence in Nyanza District.

The issue of SGBV (Sexual and Gender-Based Violence) and child rights abuse remains a prevailing problem in the Rwandan community despite gender-sensitive policies, ongoing prevention measures, and laws that have been put in place for almost three decades. It is reported that in the age group of 15 – 49, 35% of women and 39% of men have experienced physical violence, while 22% of women and 5% of men have experienced sexual violence in their lifetime. On the other hand, it is reported that over 50% of children in Rwanda are victims of sexual, physical, or emotional violence. Among the 13 – 17 age group, physical violence was reported to be more prevalent against boys at 42% compared to 26% against girls, while sexual violence is predominant against girls at 12% compared to boys at 5%.

In an attempt to address this issue, the government of Rwanda has implemented innovative programs such as the Isange One Stop Centers (IOSCs) at district hospitals, community-level initiatives like Umugoroba w'Imiryango

(family gatherings that address the well-being of families, including SGBV), and Inshuti z'Umuryango (friends of the family) to ensure SGBV prevention and response, civil society has also initiated projects such as Indashyikirwa (Agents of Change) to engage couples and survivors in reducing SGBV and improving the response to SGBV survivors. While the existing initiatives have produced tremendous results, SGBV remains widespread in Rwanda.

In the same perspective, AAR has designed a project entitled 'Strengthening Community-Based Structures to Address Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Nyanza'. The project's objective was to empower the community in Nyanza District with knowledge, skills, and attitudes.

To eliminate sexual and gender-based violence by challenging social and cultural norms, promoting positive values, and responding appropriately to cases of SGBV, the project targeted the communities in three

sectors: Busasamana, Mukingo, and Rwabicuma. The results chain was designed as follows: firstly, 30 change agents would be identified from the existing anti-GBV structures and trained on GBV prevention and SRHR; secondly, these 30 change agents would carry out sensitizations on SGBV in their communities and constituencies, reaching at least 50 people from their respective communities; and the knowledge/skills dissemination strategy aimed to reach a minimum of 1,500 people.

Project 4: Community trainings and awareness raising on HR, GBV and family conflicts.

In 2022, ActionAid Rwanda successfully trained 621 women in the areas of human rights, gender-based violence prevention, and conflict resolution, surpassing our initial target of 600. These comprehensive training sessions utilized a two-pronged approach: training trainers and empowering the "National Women's Council" (CNF) to disseminate the same knowledge to women in their respective Local Rights Programs (LRPs). The curriculum covered a wide range of topics, including policies and laws related to these critical issues.

Promoting women's and children's rights involves a multifaceted approach. It includes conducting community scorecards to assess the effectiveness of responses to GBS and GBV) Additionally, it necessitates advocating for laws that safeguard women's rights and distributing simplified booklets summarizing various legal provisions, including the 2021 Land reference prices. Moreover, it encompasses initiatives focused on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, and enhancing social and financial literacy. Furthermore, offering support in business proposal writing is crucial to empower women economically.



AAR trained 621 women in the areas of human rights, gender-based violence prevention, and conflict resolution.

Project 5: Empowering young people to prevent and fight SGBV in Rwanda

With the aim of promoting sexual and reproductive health as fundamental components of the universal right to the highest achievable standard of physical and mental well-being, the Union, in collaboration with AAR, executed an EU- funded project entitled “Empowering Youth to Prevent and Combat SGBV (Sexual and Gender-Based Violence) in Rwanda.”

This project was initiated in February 2022 and was executed in Karongi and Gasabo districts, specifically targeting Rugabano, Gitesi, Kinyinya, and Rusororo sectors. In these regions, young individuals confronted significant challenges related to their sexual and reproductive health and rights, stemming from gender disparities, educational deficiencies, and other factors.

To empower the youth and help them overcome various challenges such as information gaps, unwanted pregnancies, and limited access to health services, ActionAid Rwanda, in collaboration with Faith Victory Association, collaborated with local and educational leaders to establish youth clubs. These clubs were designed for both in-school and out-of-school youth. In total, we established 60 clubs, comprising 1800 members, with 1200 females and 600 males. These clubs provide a platform for children to convene on a weekly basis and engage in a range of activities.



AAR organized an awareness campaign on SRHR in Karongi District

To ensure the effectiveness of these clubs, we trained 120 peer educators, consisting of 80 females and 40 males. These educators received comprehensive training in sexual and reproductive health rights, facilitation skills, and the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence. Through these efforts, AAR equipped young people with the knowledge and skills necessary to address the challenges they face, fostering a more informed and empowered youth population.

Youth played a significant role in driving the implementation of the Project’s initiatives. We successfully established two district-level networks connecting youth with civil society organizations. Through their persistent dedication to promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) as well as addressing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), this collective effort impacted a substantial audience of 10,000 individuals (5,000 females and 5,000 males) through various awareness-raising campaigns and advocacy initiatives.

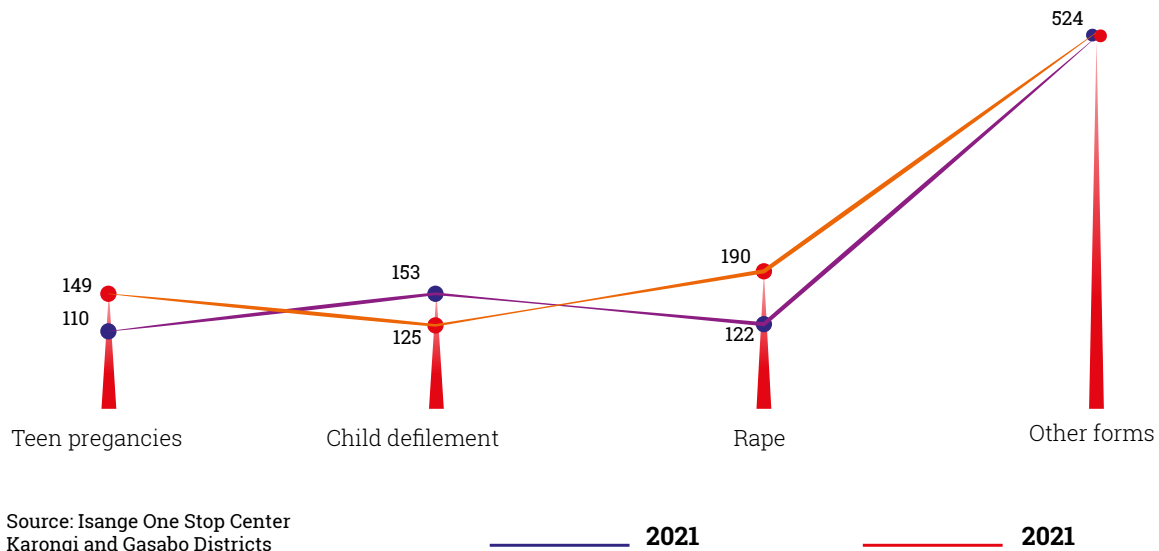
In the specific Districts highlighted in the chart below, there was a notable surge in teen pregnancies, rising from 110 cases in 2021 to 149 cases in 2022. Similarly, incidents of rape increased from 122 cases in 2021 to 190 cases in 2022.

This rise in reported cases of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) was anticipated during the initial phase of our intervention. This increase can be attributed to our comprehensive awareness-raising efforts, which aimed to empower parents, guardians, and community members to pro-actively report instances of SGBV.



AAR organised an awareness campaign on SRHR in Karongi district

Reported SGBV cases in Gasabo and Karongi District Year 2021-2022



Project 6: Empowering young people to prevent and fight SGBV in Rwanda

To foster a conducive environment for girls and children in general, ActionAid Rwanda successfully facilitated improvements in 41 schools, surpassing our initial plan of 21. These enhancements included the expansion of classrooms, the construction of playgrounds, and the addition of toilets.

As a result of the increased demand within the communities and overcrowding in classrooms, we extended our support to more schools than originally intended. This proactive measure significantly bolstered the protection of children's rights, with a particular focus on girls.

One notable improvement was the construction of dedicated girls' rooms, which created opportunities for girls to attend classes without interruption during their menstrual periods. These rooms provided a safe and private space for girls in need, allowing them to resume classes feeling more comfortable. Importantly, this initiative also raised awareness among school teachers and leaders about the importance of allowing girls to utilize these rooms, ensuring their uninterrupted education.

Furthermore, the expansion of rest room facilities had a positive impact on girls' safety and comfort. By increasing the number of toilets available for girls, we effectively reduced congestion and provided a more secure environment for them when they needed to use these facilities.



AAR organized an awareness campaign on SRHR in Karongi District.

ActionAid Rwanda remains committed to creating inclusive and safe learning environments for all children, particularly girls, as part of our ongoing efforts to protect their rights and support their education.

**National level
advocacy
workshop on
SRHR**



In February 2022, ActionAid Rwanda, in partnership with Faith Victory Association started the implementation of a 2-year project: Empowering Young people to prevent and fight SGBV in Rwanda. This project is funded by the European Union and its aims to empower Civil Society Organizations and young people to promote and protect their sexual and reproductive health rights and support in the fight against sexual and gender-based violence, leading in the long-term to a vibrant civil society contributing to social justice, a decrease in teenage pregnancy and communities that do not condone SGBV of marginalize its victim.

Following the establishment of in and out of school youth clubs in Gasabo and Karongi District, ActionAid Rwanda worked with Faith Victory Association with the support of local and school leaders to select and build the capacity of

youth representatives on leadership and advocacy. The task of this new committee was to go back to their communities, work with their peers to identify protection and SRH issues affecting young people's lives.

This was concluded by youth themselves who subsequently developed an advocacy plan of all identified issues. In this view, On 7th February 2023, ActionAid Rwanda convened the National level advocacy workshop on SRHR with the objective of this event is to advocate for the issues identified by Youth and CSOs around GBV and SRH services. The workshop gathered different stakeholders from the public, private and civil sectors including the Ministry of Health, Ministry Gender and Family Promotion, Gender Monitoring Office, Rwanda Investigation Bureau, National Police, District Officers, Gender and family promotion officers (Karongi and Gasabo), Youth

representatives (Karongi and Gasabo), Friends of Family: IZU sector coordinator (Karongi and Gasabo), National Women's Council, National Youth Council and 8 Civil Society Organizations. The workshop resolved to strengthen engagement of youth, CSOs, and service providers, continue work with national leaders to remain supportive in terms of health services and in the fight against social injustice. Government services that were present in the workshop committed to positive actions by making, among others, GBV and SRHR data available.

AAR considers Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights as important rights mainly for the youth. It empowers young people to make informed choices about their health & reproductive rights & increase demand for quality reproductive health services.

FOCUS AREA 2: Recognition, Redistribution and Reduction of Unpaid Care Work for Women's Economic Justice.

1. Increased communities' access to Early Childhood Development), to reduce women's burden of Unpaid Care Works.

In the Participatory Review and Reflection Processes conducted by ActionAid at the conclusion of the 2021 fiscal year, community members highlighted the ongoing issue of substantial burdens placed upon women due to Unpaid Care Work. During this assessment, Rights holders expressed a pressing need to enhance their access to Early childhood Development services in response to the prevailing challenges within their localities.

In 2022, ActionAid Rwanda took steps to address these concerns by supporting 5 schools. This support included the establishment of Early childhood Development (ECD) classrooms, the installation of protective fencing around existing ECD facilities, and the construction of sanitation facilities and kitchens for these ECD centers.

The infrastructure improvements have played a pivotal role in benefiting communities, providing kindergarten-aged children with a conducive environment for learning. Moreover, it is anticipated that these enhancements will create increased opportunities for rural women to engage in paid work, as they now have access to a safer and more secure place for their children during the daytime.



Newly constructed ECD Nyakabuye in Mukingo sector, Nyanza District.

AAR organized the National Dialogue on Unpaid Care Work

On 27th September 2022, ActionAid Rwanda organized a National Policy Dialogue on Unpaid Care Work & its impact on Women's Economic Empowerment at Park Inn Hotel in Kigali.

The rationale behind that event was that even though the Government of Rwanda has developed great gender responsive policies and strategies to support women's empowerment and advancement of gender equality, there still exists gender inequalities ingrained in Rwandan context and culture that feminizes unpaid care work.

As matter of fact on average, women spend approximately 26.7 hours per week on unpaid care work compared to only 16.1 hours spent by men. In rural areas, women spend 6 hours against 2 hours for men while in the urban areas women spend 2 hours against 1 hour for men.

In rural areas, women spend 6 hours against 2 hours for men while in the urban area women spend 2 hours against 1 hour for men. ActionAid Rwanda in partnership with UN Women organized the National Dialogue with policymakers and other stakeholders to share experiences and discuss on existing policy support and needed improvements for increased Recognition, Reduction, and Redistribution of UCW to accelerate Women Economic Empowerment.

In his welcome remarks, ActionAid Rwanda Convener stated that the "Unpaid Care Work affects mostly women and becomes more challenging in rural areas where they have limited financial capacity



National policy dialogue on unpaid care work 27th September 2022

to access, and use needed facilities or to pay for care services”.

One the recommendations of the research conducted about UCW in Rwanda emphasized that investing in time & labour-saving technologies in care and domestic work is key to reduce and redistribute the burden of unpaid care work especially for the most vulnerable women in rural areas.

Mr. Silas NGAYABOSHYA, Director General for Gender Promotion and Women Empowerment in the Ministry of Gender

and Family Promotion commended ActionAid and UN Women support of awareness raising and advocacy efforts towards increased support for gender-responsive public services which recognize, reduce, and redistribute the care workload across all sectors at all levels hence accelerate the desired WEE in Rwanda. He pledged a continued Ministry support to address effects of unpaid care work on women economic empowerment through addressing negative social norms and gender stereotypes.

2. Support vulnerable families including families of sponsored children with energy saving cooking stoves to reduce the burden of UCW on their mothers.



AAR supported Rights Holders with energy saving cooking stoves in Ruheru LRP.

With the aim to Recognition, Redistribution and Reduction of Unpaid Care Work for women's economic justice, ActionAid Rwanda promoted the use of energy-saving stoves among 273 families against 210 that were planned. Families were sensitised about the benefits of the stoves especially the aspect of allowing women to do other economic

activities while cooking as the stoves have the options of preserving heat hence allowing women to keep the food warm for long time, this also reduced firewood used and hence contribute to the protection of environment. The support was very much appreciated by the families as well as the local authorities.

3. Increased access to potable water for community members from Murundi Local Rights Programmes

Deficient access to potable water among community members in Murundi Local Rights Programme has been indicated among major cause of UCW burdens. To respond to the need of the communities ActionAid Rwanda rehabilitated a 10 kilometres water pipeline in Murundi Local Rights Programme area which serves more than 400 pupils and 900 community members to access potable at Kabaya ECD. It is expected that the water pipeline will contribute to reduced cases of water bone diseases caused by unclean water to the communities neighbouring Kabaya ECD and students at GS Kabaya. Women will also gain time to engage in paid activities as they will save time they spent to fetch water before the rehabilitation of the water pipeline. During handover of the pipeline, ActionAid Rwanda took advantage to sensitize community members on Recognition, Redistribution and Reduction of unpaid care work, reduce teenage pregnancies and family on legal marriages.

4. Transformative approaches to recognize, reduce, and redistribute unpaid care work in women's economic empowerment programming



Opinion leaders participated in the training on unpaid care work 3Rs.

In collaboration with UN Women Rwanda, ActionAid Rwanda secured funding for a project focused on “Transformative Approaches to Recognize, Reduce, and Redistribute Unpaid Care Work in Women’s Economic Empowerment Programming.” Originally slated for a six-month duration, running from May to October 2022, the project was later extended until December 2022.

This initiative targeted 60 opinion leaders across two districts, with 30 participants in each district. These opinion leaders included local leaders, religious figures, women representatives, and development partners from Musanze and Gasabo districts.

Notable achievements from the project include:

1. Community Member Training: A total of 591 community members, consisting of 486 females and 105 males, were trained. This diverse group included opinion leaders, religious figures, local leaders, and women representatives.
2. Community Dialogues: The project facilitated community dialogues that engaged 179 individuals, with 92 females and 87 males participating. These dialogues brought together local leaders and other influential figures to discuss gaps in addressing unpaid care work for women.
3. National Dialogue: A national dialogue was convened, with 133 participants, comprising 69 males and 65 females. This dialogue brought together policymakers from various government departments such as MIGEPROF, MINECOFIN, GMO, NCDP, among others. The aim was to review and discuss issues identified in the districts and the gaps revealed by research on the effects of unpaid care work on women’s economic development.
4. Awareness Campaign: The project conducted an extensive awareness campaign using social media, National Radio, and Television. The campaign was designed to highlight the impact of unpaid



Journalists participated in the training on unpaid care work 3Rs.

care work and to advocate for policy makers and duty bearers to take concrete actions to recognize, redistribute, and reduce unpaid care work for women. This message was broadcast for 12 days, totaling 36 airings on national television and radio, reaching approximately 10,000 people, with an equal distribution of 5,000 females and 5,000 males.

5. **Journalist Training:** In Gasabo and Musanze districts, the project trained 73 journalists, including 45 males and 28 females. The training focused on unpaid care work and the three Rs (Recognize, Reduce, Redistribute), as well as sharing best practices. Journalists were equipped with the knowledge and skills to support advocacy efforts on existing issues related to unpaid care work.

In summary, this project achieved significant milestones in terms of community engagement, policy dialogue, and media advocacy, all aimed at recognizing and reducing the burden of unpaid care work on women, ultimately contributing to their economic empowerment in Rwanda.

Focus area 3: Women and girls 'participation in leadership and decision-making positions and policy influence.

1. Facilitate women and girls' education on SRHR, life skills and children's rights.

In 2022, ActionAid Rwanda conducted various awareness-raising events aimed at educating children about their rights and promoting girls' involvement in leadership, decision-making, and policy influence. To ensure the broadest participation of children in the Local Rights Programs (LRPs), ActionAid organized several activities:

1. **Girls' Debates:** ActionAid organized debates specifically for girls, allowing them to discuss and showcase their knowledge of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and life skills they had acquired. These debates empowered girls to express their views and claim their rights when their families and communities failed to protect them.



AAR Right Holder Claire M. Mukamusoni presents her success story

2. **Children's Talent Development Competitions:** The organization arranged talent development competitions for children, fostering their creativity and self-expression. These competitions not only encouraged children to explore their talents but also served as platforms for them to demonstrate their understanding of their rights.
3. **Children's Fun Events:** ActionAid hosted fun events for

children, creating an enjoyable environment in which they could learn and engage with their rights. These events aimed to make learning about rights an enjoyable and memorable experience for children.

Throughout these events, both girls and children demonstrated their comprehension of their rights and their ability to advocate for them when necessary. Through mediums such as debates, poems, songs,

and drama, participants used these opportunities to express their gratitude for the support provided by ActionAid Rwanda and to communicate their rights to parents, teachers, and other children attending the events.

These events also allowed ActionAid Rwanda to recognize and appreciate the valuable contributions made by girls and children in educating communities about their roles in leadership and decision-making processes. These initiatives not only empower children but also promote awareness and positive change within communities regarding children's rights and their active participation in shaping their futures.

Claire M. Mukamusoni, hailing from Gisagara District, Kibirizi Sector, DUWANE cell, served as the Moderator during the celebration of International Women's Day. She expressed her joy at the celebration taking place in her village and her role as the Moderator. Claire attributed her confidence and ability to express herself to the self-esteem training she had received as a woman.

During the event, various dignitaries, including the Mayor of their District and members of parliament, were present. Claire highlighted the significance of this occasion, as it provided women with an opportunity to voice their needs and concerns directly to these authorities. She expressed optimism that these efforts would yield positive results for women in their community.

1. Facilitate women and girls' education on SRHR, life skills and children's rights.

ActionAid Rwanda heightened awareness among girls and women regarding their rights and bolstered their sense of dignity through various campaigns and educational events. This increased community awareness about Sexual and Reproductive Health and

Rights (SRHR) and underscored the need to enhance girls' access to essential infrastructure at schools to safeguard their rights.

In 2022, ActionAid Rwanda took steps to support communities within Local Rights Programs (LRPs) by establishing



HAGENIMANA Mbabazi, 15years old seated in Girls room at EP MUKAKA, in RUHERU LRP

two girls' safe rooms: one in Ruheru LRP and the second in GISAGARA LRP. Additionally, efforts were made to augment the availability of classrooms, toilets, and hand washing stations at Mukaka and Kirwa Primary schools in Ruheru LRP. Furthermore, five playgrounds were established to facilitate basketball and volleyball games.

These initiatives contribute significantly to the holistic development of girls and their communities.

Not only do they support access to education, but they also establish secure environments and opportunities for physical activity and social interaction, thereby nurturing the well-being and empowerment of girls and women.

These programs enhance girls' talents and self-esteem, solidifying their status as valued members of their communities. For instance, following the games, the victorious team delivers speeches to the audience, enabling girls to cultivate their communication skills and advocate for their rights.

During the Participatory Rapid Rural Appraisal (PRRP) exercise conducted in Ruheru LRP, it was discovered that Gahotora primary school faced challenges due to outdated classroom infrastructure, accommodating 110 children.



AAR promotes mentorship on SRHR and safe spaces for that effect

AAR stepped in by adding three classrooms, thereby enhancing the learning conditions for the girls attending the school. Furthermore, the construction of 12 latrines served the dual purpose of safeguarding girls

from potential accidents, particularly during the rainy season, and ensuring the protection of girls' Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) rights while at school. To protecting girls' SRH rights at school.

10. GIRL'S CAMP AS A CHANNEL TO DISSEMINATE MESSAGES ON SRHR

In September 2022, a remarkable event unfolded as 200 children participated in a girls' camp that spanned three consecutive days. These girls, originating from Kabere School in the Muko community, embraced not only what they learned but also the spirit of sharing knowledge. Together with their matron, who had accompanied them throughout the youth camp, they dedicated time to convene with other young girls who couldn't attend the camp. In this way, they selflessly imparted the valuable insights they had gained.

The topics covered during this empowering girls' camp were diverse and inclusive. They ranged from discussions on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, with a specific focus on Teenage Pregnancy, to an introduction to the laws safeguarding the rights of children and women. Additionally, the program encompassed engaging activities such as gift raising, creativity exercises, cognitive skill development, games, and traditional cultural dances, among others.

In the photograph, you can see Mrs. Justine, identified by her attire of white and pink, standing alongside two girls who were participants in the girls' camp. Together, they are seen actively teaching a group of 48 girls, sharing the valuable knowledge and skills acquired during the camp.

This admirable commitment to knowledge-sharing extends beyond this singular occasion. The girls and



AAR empowered Girls' camp in Muko with knowledge on SRHR in Muko LRP

their mentor continue to meet at least once every two weeks with a selected group of girls, ensuring that the impact and benefits of their learning experience ripple through the community. Their dedication is a shining example of the power of education and mentorship in fostering positive change.

Priority Area 2: Strengthen resilient livelihoods and secure climate justice ensuring women small holder farmers' access to market and credit for increased agricultural production and food security.

Focus area 1: Access to land, resilient livelihoods, and food Security.

1. Facilitate women's participation towards influencing policy change.

ActionAid Rwanda significantly enhanced women's awareness of their rights, particularly their land rights, through a comprehensive training program. In the past year, ActionAid Rwanda successfully trained 1,980 women on their land rights. Additionally, 66 women smallholder farmers gained a deep understanding of various laws safeguarding women's rights, along with a concise summary of the 2021 land reference prices.

This knowledge acquired through the training has empowered women representatives to effectively address various critical issues, including Gender-Based Violence, family disputes, the under-representation of women in decision-making processes, and other



Women's consultation towards influencing policy change.

challenges that impede the development of their communities.

Moreover, women are now well-informed about the current land prices in their specific regions, as outlined in the 2021

Rwanda land reference price official Gazette. This new-found awareness has significantly contributed to women's ability to manage and assert ownership over their resources effectively.

Project 1. Strengthening the effectiveness of Smallholders Farmers advocacy to advance agriculture for sustainable development and rights to food.

During the year, ActionAid Rwanda collaborated with Vi-Agroforestry and secured funding to execute a project titled “Enhancing Smallholder Farmers’ Advocacy Effectiveness for Advancing Sustainable Agriculture and the Right to Food.” This initiative worked in partnership with smallholder farmer cooperatives, women, men, youth, and one Community-Based Organization. Throughout the project’s duration, a total of 7,477 smallholder farmers were organized into three farmers’ cooperatives and one Community-Based Organization.

These beneficiaries received comprehensive training programs that equipped them with essential skills and knowledge on effective networking within their districts. Moreover, they gained valuable advocacy skills and knowledge, enabling them to engage with local and national leadership.

This empowerment initiative transformed smallholder farmers into catalysts for positive change within their communities. They achieved this by implementing Agroecology and sustainable agriculture practices, promoting a more sustainable and equitable approach to agriculture and food security

Among the significant achievements, the following highlights stand out:

A total of 119 farmers actively participated in and received training on conducting community scorecards and analyzing issues pertaining to sustainable agriculture. Notably, Farmers trained



Farmers trained on community scorecards.

on community scorecards. 59 of these participants were females, and 60 were males.

In terms of the number of farmers originally planned for training, we exceeded the target by an impressive margin of 59 farmers. This means that we not only met but exceeded the project’s objectives by a remarkable 198%.

Representatives from six core cooperatives across six districts were successfully mobilized, leading to the formation of a robust farmers’ network. This network is poised to advocate for the resolution of farmers’ concerns and engage in policy discussions. It’s worth noting that all members of these six targeted

cooperatives were duly represented in the elected committee.

Additionally, we conducted a baseline survey to assess the impact of agroforestry on food security across the six districts.

The report has been completed and shared to inform future planning and programming.

In addition, field visits were conducted to the cooperatives in Rulindo and Kamonyi Districts. These visits served the purpose of monitoring the status and sustainability of the cooperatives, as well as assessing the needs of the farmers’ cooperatives for future planning

Advocacy for food security, WASH and Agricultural budget accountability.

AAR advocates for policy change to reduce hunger and food insecurity through increased public support for climate change adaptation initiatives include agroecology. On 25th September 2022, ActionAid Rwanda joined the National Child Development Agency and participated in a Radio Talk show on Radio Rwanda program to advocate for to advocate for sustainable food security and WASH issues in the communities.

ActionAid Rwanda informed that food insecurity conditions persist in Rwanda currently standing at 33% nationally and are driven, among other things, by climate change, mainly drought, which limits the growing in all agricultural seasons and create conditions of low crop yields which result in food shortages, rise of food prices and potentially leading to malnutrition.

He also indicated that Climate change imposes inaccessibility to clean water, poor sanitation, and hygiene. Food insecurity also results from unpaid care work since it constrains women to participate in productive activities that might help to meet their food security needs. Mrs. Irène Uwonkunda from National Child Development Agency reiterated that Rwanda has experienced impressive economic growth, resulting in considerable improvements in living standards but despite these gains, progress on reducing the level of stunting mainly in smallholder rural families, continues to be a concern that should be given a lot of attention.

The talk show also emphasized the issue of mindset change especially about food security and malnutrition. There are instances where people who are affected by malnutrition despite having sufficient food due to their food habits and lack of knowledge on food nutrition. Nutritious food



AAR Photo: Anatole Uwiragiye from ActionAid participate in TV/Radio Talk show on Food security and WASH issues, September 2022

like fruits, vegetables, chicken, and eggs do not constitute their regular food recipes. The speakers advocated for increased support mainly for rural communities to access water harvesting technologies including rainwater harvesting, irrigation, watering, water reuse, etc. In conclusion, ActionAid Relatedly, on 2nd October 2022, ActionAid Rwanda in partnership with Vi Agroforestry engaged the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI) in a TV and radio live talk show to discuss on agricultural budget accountability through the increase of farmers' participation in the agricultural planning and budgeting processes. The representative of farmers asked questions and community members were also facilitated to remotely ask questions on their level of satisfaction with regards to national

agricultural budget and ministry services in response to their demands.

The talkshow informed the publish all the processes of agricultural planning and budgeting and the Ministry urged local government entities to sufficiently allow farmers participate in the local-level planning and budgeting sessions to ensure ministry level plans respond to farmers' demands. The Ministry's Director General of Planning has responded farmers' questions mostly related to limited services of agricultural subsidy program particularly irrigation facilities and improved seeds. The audience has increased understanding on their role to participate in budgeting processes on processes to influence more budgetary allocation to sustainable agriculture and climate change adaptation.



AAR supported 72 Women cooperatives in Muko to initiate Agro-forestry trees seedlings to combat the impact of climate

In a view of strengthening a resilient livelihood and food security, on 2nd February 2023, AAR supported 72 Women cooperatives in Muko with Agro-forestry trees seedlings that can be planted along with other crops to combat the impact of climate change. They also contribute to minimizing the effect of soil erosion, being used as animal feeds, sell them for cash as well as using them as stakes for climbing beans.

This comes after AAR had supported Right Holders in Muko with a community tree nursery bed in 2022.

This came also to address the needs of the Muko community members and contribute to Muko's implementing its performance contract of distributing 123,400 agroforestry trees seedlings in 2023. One of the success stories associated with establishing that community tree nursery bed is that it

is cost effective as with only 5.3 million the community will benefit 200,000 agroforestry trees seedlings, which could not be possible if ActionAid Rwanda would have used tender processes to purchase the trees planting materials. ActionAid Rwanda will continue to work with different stakeholders to advocate for establishments of community tree nursery bed to enable the citizens to minimize the effects of climate change and combat soil erosion.

Focus Area 2: Increasing women's knowledge and skills on agroecology

As ActionAid Rwanda actively promotes the adoption of agroecology among local Rights Holders, significant progress was made during the reporting period of 2022:

1. AAR successfully facilitated the establishment of six farmers' field schools (FFS). These FFS initiatives played a crucial role in extending knowledge about agroecology.
2. Impressively, 2,880 women were educated on agroecology, surpassing the initial target of 2,220 women.
3. AAR provided support to two cooperatives in establishing their own farmer's field schools (FFS). These cooperatives were assisted with inputs, contingent on their commitment to contributing to the FFS.
4. Beyond agroecology training, women participants were also equipped with financial literacy skills. This knowledge enabled them to generate capital that they could invest in their farming activities.



Small Holder Women Farmers showcase the Irish potatoes production and seeds for future seasonal farming

5. Notably, among the trained women were teen mothers actively involved in farming activities and also members of women's cooperatives.

This comprehensive approach reflects ActionAid Rwanda's commitment to empowering local communities, especially women and teen mothers, in sustainable agricultural practices and financial independence.

Increasing women’s access to inputs to adopt agroecology practices.

In addition to providing training on agroecology, ActionAid Rwanda has actively facilitated women in cooperatives by supplying them with necessary inputs to implement their agroecology-related activities. These women have been sensitized to apply the practices they’ve learned not only on cooperative land but also in their own family farming endeavours.

To further enhance the adoption of agroecology practices among women, ActionAid Rwanda has undertaken several initiatives:

1. Provision of Organic Manure: A total of 1,814 families with sponsored children and graduating children were provided with goats/sheep, contributing to the production of organic manure. This effort aimed to boost agricultural production sustainably.
2. Access to Vegetable Seeds: Approximately 930 households were supported in accessing vegetable seeds, ensuring a diverse and nutritious range of crops for their cultivation.
3. Agroforestry Tree Production: A cooperative comprising 22 members was awarded a tender to produce various species of agroforest trees, contributing to environmental sustainability.



AAR supported two cooperatives with irrigation materials



AAR supported Ruheru community resident with irrigation materials

4. Irrigation Support: ActionAid Rwanda extended support to 72 members from two cooperatives by providing irrigation materials. This assistance enables them to irrigate during dry seasons and effectively manage the challenges posed by climate change.

Notably, two cooperatives initiated vegetable production in marshlands in Gishubi sector, an area where irrigation was a critical issue. These cooperatives experienced difficulties with inconsistent rainfall patterns, leading to crop losses during droughts. The support provided helps address these challenges and promotes more reliable agricultural production in the region.

FOCUS AREA 3:

Access to market and financial services.

1. Increasing women's knowledge and skills on financial literacy.

In pursuit of the goal to enhance access to markets and credit for women smallholder farmers, thereby increasing agricultural production and ensuring food security, ActionAid Rwanda made significant strides in 2022. Key achievements include:

1. **Financial Literacy Training:** ActionAid Rwanda prioritized increasing women's knowledge and skills in financial literacy. As a result, 1,200 women received comprehensive training in this domain.
2. **Village Saving and Lending Associations (VSLAs):** A total of 40 VSLAs were initiated, with 1,200 women sensitized and supported to join these associations. These VSLAs serve as vital platforms for women to access financial resources.
3. **Savings Group Coaching:** Another group of 180 women, organized into six VSLAs, were provided with coaching on best practices for managing their savings groups. This guidance focused on effective savings and borrowing strategies, especially in the context of



AAR trained women in Ruheru on financial literacy



AAR supported women in Nyanza with a selling point



Women From NYANZA LRP exhibiting during JADF Open day

investing in small-scale income-generating activities.

4. Inclusive Farming Engagement: All 1,380 women who received support are actively engaged in farming activities. They were sensitized and encouraged to collaborate with local financial institutions. This collaboration enhances their capacity to secure capital for investment in profitable farming

ventures. The ultimate aim is to produce an abundance of crops to ensure household food security while also generating surpluses for sale

These initiatives reflect ActionAid Rwanda's commitment to empowering women in agriculture by equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary for sustainable farming practices and financial independence.

5. Increasing women's access to post harvest facilities and marketing of the production.

Women who received support from ActionAid Rwanda have significantly increased farm productivity, ensuring household food security and generating surpluses for the market. This success story has been facilitated by several key initiatives:

Capacity Building: ActionAid Rwanda organized training sessions focused on value addition and marketing of agricultural produce. This training helped women recognize the importance of not only having access to markets but also the necessary facilities to enhance the value of their products, making them more appealing to profitable markets.

Participation in Joint Action Development Forum (JADF): AAR actively supported women in showcasing their agricultural production during Joint Action Development Forum events across various districts. These forums play a crucial role in promoting accountability among service providers and duty bearers. They also foster a culture of mutual learning, experience sharing, and improve service delivery practices for all relevant institutions. Furthermore, these forums provided an opportunity for women smallholder farmers supported by ActionAid to highlight their achievements, emphasizing ActionAid's role in community development.

Market Access: Notably, 96 women from Gihisi in Busasamana sector in Nyanza LRP were provided with support to access markets through a new selling point constructed.

CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

Baseline Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 on the Participation of Special Interest Groups in the Decision-Making Process

On October 25th, AAR organized a Validation Workshop on the “Baseline survey on the impact of COVID-19 on the participation of special interest groups.” This baseline study aimed to assess the impact of COVID-19 on the participation of special interest groups in the decision making process.

The baseline study was commissioned by ActionAid Rwanda with funding from the International Center for Not-for-profit Law (ICNL) to inform efforts to increase the participation of special interest groups in shaping the response and management of the COVID-19 pandemic in Rwanda.

Special interest groups defined for this project include women and youth, church leaders, people with disabilities, informal sector workers, children, adolescents, and the elderly, among others.

The survey revealed that the COVID-19 pandemic worsened the participation of women and the elderly in the decision-making process. Firstly, the elderly were identified as the most vulnerable group to new infections, and they were recommended to limit their interactions with other people, including not attending meetings where decisions are made. Secondly, due to the urgency involved in the decisions made during the COVID-19 pandemic, many people, including women representatives, were not invited to participate in the decision making process.

AAR Support to Busasamana community with a market.



AAR supported women in Nyanza with tailoring machines

During the reporting period, various cross-cutting activities were effectively implemented across different Local Rights Programs (LRPs). These activities played a vital role in advancing our mission:

1. Participation in Joint Action Development Forum (JADF): ActionAid actively engaged in JADF meetings, where discussions revolved around district development and the signing of Imihigo performance agreements for 2022-2023. These forums not only served as platforms for

collaborative planning but also provided an excellent opportunity to advocate for policy changes that would benefit our rights holders.

2. Participatory Review and Reflection Processes (PRRP): PRRP constitutes a fundamental component of ActionAid's approach to continuous monitoring and evaluation of our work. This approach encompasses ongoing participatory monitoring mechanisms and periodic, in-depth reviews. PRRP allows us to assess progress and outcomes effectively, ensuring that our interventions align with the

needs and aspirations of the communities we serve.

These cross-cutting activities exemplify ActionAid's commitment to holistic and participatory approaches in its mission to empower communities and advocate for positive policy changes that benefit our rights holders

Key stakeholders were regularly informed about the progress of our work through a robust monitoring and evaluation process. Data collected through these monitoring activities were carefully gathered, analyzed, and consolidated to promote learning and ensure accountability. ActionAid Rwanda conducted Participatory Review and Reflection Processes (PRRP) in all Local Rights Programs (LRPs). These PRRPs served as invaluable opportunities to gather information that would inform our plans for the following year.

Moreover, we presented our achievements within the community to foster transparency and accountability. In addition, ActionAid Rwanda extended support to 26 families of sponsored children facing human security issues. These families were provided with 2,831 iron sheets and 700 kilograms of nails. Some of these families lacked adequate housing, while others had homes in dire need of renovation, and they lacked the means to address these challenges. One of the persistent challenges faced during this period was the limitation of funds to respond comprehensively to all community needs. This constraint underscores the ongoing commitment to striving for a life of dignity for all.

Visit of Mr. Dario Lo Cicero and Early Child Development Centers



AAR Photo, visit and witnessing by Dario Lo Cicero of Nyanza ECD, 5th July 2022



Mr. Dario Lo Cicero supported also the ECD with school materials including, children learning, gaming, and sporting items.



AAR Photo, visit and witnessing of completion of Nyanza ECD by Lo Cicero, 5th July 2022

On 5th July 2022, Dario Lo Cicero and his team both from Italy visited and witnessed the completion of Early Child Development Center (ECD) he sponsored in Nyanza District. The Center was established to provide young children with foundation in their education and allow their parents enough time to attend to other income generating activities.

The daycare facility is located in Kavumu community and has 3 classrooms, 2 bedding rooms with beds where children shall sleep at their leisure time, playground with playing materials and wash rooms. The childcare center does not only provide early childhood development but also the programme encompasses a range of approaches for nutrition, care, and other early learning support needs, etc. The center allows mothers to gain more time to sufficiently engage in socio-economic opportunities.

During the visit, Dario Lo Cicero, commended ActionAid Rwanda for the successful completion of construction activities and reiterated that "Every child deserves the best start in life and the opportunity to thrive". He added that he wanted to provide young children with foundation in their education through a conducive learning environment.

The parents commended ActionAid Rwanda and Dario Lo Cicero support of childcare center: "We are happy for this daycare center

as it will facilitate our children to have a good start in life as it will also provide high quality early child- hood care especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children", Said Emerita Mukandatenguha, one of the parents whose children studying at Kavumu village. We thank Action Aid Rwanda and Dario Lo Cicero because his childcare center will support our children well transitioning to primary school. It will also prepare children in both informal and formal ways, such as engaging in a range of transition to school activities and will enable them to experience a positive transition to school which will also motivate to learn"

Erasmus Ntazinda, the Mayor of Nyanza District commended ActionAid Rwanda and Dario Lo Cicero for supporting the establishment of the ECD and committed that the district authorities will remain close to parents and School to ensure its sustainability. The ECD adds value to the National Early Child Development policy and Action Aid Rwanda remains committed to supporting the establishment of more ECDs as a platform for ensuring the fulfilment of the rights of children to achieve social justice, gender equality and poverty eradication. Dario Lo Cicero and his team proceeded to Murundi Primary School where Paola Maceroni of ActionAid Italy visited Chantal whom she supports. She also visited her home and had discussion with her parents and surrounding community members.

UK Volunteers build classrooms in Muko community, Musanze District

On 1st and 5th August 2022, ActionAid Rwanda in collaboration with UK Volunteers through “First-hand Experience” initiated the construction of 3 classrooms & 10 door pit latrines in Muko community, Musanze District. This is in line with the ActionAid Rwanda’s intent to promote access to quality education for all especially girl’s education.



AAR Photo, UK Volunteers through “First-hand Experience in Musanze District, August 2022.



AAR Photo, UK Volunteers through "First-hand Experience initiating the construction of classrooms in Musanze District, August 2022

11. SPONSORSHIP ACTIVITIES

In the year 2022, AAR was assigned a total of 902 profiles, and each one was diligently gathered and subsequently delivered to the respective funders. Moreover, we curated and shared four compelling child sponsorship stories, known as Community Voices, from each Local Rights Program (LRP), which includes Shingiro, Muko, and Ruheru. These narratives were thoughtfully submitted to the Stories Hub for wider dissemination and recognition.

AAR organized comprehensive training sessions for community facilitators in every Local Rights Program (LRP) with a focus on creating high-quality child messages and capturing impactful photos. During two specific time frames, we successfully gathered a total of 18,033 child messages. These messages were meticulously logged into our Child Sponsorship (CS) system (SK) and then efficiently dispatched to the respective funders through DHL.

Furthermore, AAR took the opportunity to express our gratitude to the sponsored children who had reached an age where they were no longer eligible for the program. They were commended for their valuable participation and adherence to the sponsorship principles, marking a significant milestone in their journey.



Children supported with livestock.



Families of sponsored children have been supported with livestock.

12. CHALLENGES

The persistent silence among women and teenagers when it comes to reporting cases of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) can be attributed to various factors. These include adherence to cultural norms that discourage speaking out, the fear of being stigmatized by their community, as their actions might be perceived as bringing disgrace or shame to their community. Additionally, there is apprehension about the potential imprisonment of the perpetrators of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), who often serve as the primary bread winners for their entire family or bear the responsibility of supporting children.

In the year 2022, the community faced an extended period of dry spells, resulting in a significant reduction in food production. This, in turn, exacerbated food insecurity among community members, adding to the challenges they were already facing.

Cultural and religious beliefs continue to exert a significant influence on the progress towards recognizing, reducing, and redistributing Unpaid Care Work (UCW). To effectively address this, it is crucial for stakeholders to incorporate discussions about UCW into their regular discourse. This approach will expedite the transformation of mindsets and facilitate policy changes in this context.

However, it's important to acknowledge that limited financial resources stemming from the global economic crisis, inflation, and the Ukraine war have hindered our ability to reach a wider audience and provide support to those in need. These economic challenges have added to the complexities of our efforts.

13. LESSONS LEARNT

Access to household-level tap water has proven to be one of the most impactful time-saving interventions, significantly reducing the burden on women and the time they devote to unpaid care work.

The engagement of media houses and religious leaders in raising awareness about the recognition, reduction, and equitable distribution of unpaid care work (UCW) and the prevention and response to violence against women and girls (VAWG) has been remarkably effective. This collaboration has enabled us to reach a broader in-person audience and expedite the transformation of mindsets.

Furthermore, the implementation of collective farming practices and the establishment of gender-sensitive access to markets have empowered targeted women smallholder farmer groups. This empowerment has led to increased income from their agricultural produce and handicrafts, fostering economic independence and sustainability.

STORIES OF CHANGE

1. Supporting women smallholder farmers to practice agroecology

Ruth UWAMAHORO, hailing from GISAGARA District, specifically GISHUBI Sector, with ties to both NYERANZI and MUDUHA cells, embarked on her journey with ActionAid back in 2013. At the time, she was a rural woman, and together with her fellow community members, they initiated a savings group with the shared goal of assisting each other in acquiring mattresses.

Ruth vividly recalls how ActionAid's presence in their community became a turning point in her life. She underscores, "When ActionAid came into our community, I received an abundance of training, and they became the foundation of my life."

Among the training she received, Ruth particularly cherished the ones related to agriculture and business development. Armed with this knowledge, she ventured into cultivating a banana plantation. This initiative proved highly fruitful, allowing her to acquire a cow, which later gave birth and now yields over 10 litres of milk daily.

Ruth also highlights the immense support provided by ActionAid in establishing a cooperative. Through this



Success story by Ruth UWAMAHORO, from Gisagara, Gishubi Sector

cooperative, they began cultivating soya and reaped financial gains amounting to 200,000 Frw every season.

She further elaborates, "Previously, my children had to wake up at 4 am to fetch water before heading to school. However, today, thanks to ActionAid, we have a water tank that has been a tremendous help. It not only provides water for the cow but also supports small-scale irrigation near my house."

Ruth's banana plantation plays a pivotal role in funding her four children's secondary school education, while the cows contribute by providing fertilizers for her agricultural endeavours. With deep gratitude, she expresses, "I wholeheartedly thank ActionAid for this invaluable support that has transformed our lives."

Case study: Robert and Meline couple changing from family in conflict to role model family.



SUCCESS STORIES IN ADDRESSING THE STRUCTURAL CAUSES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS AND SECURE WOMEN'S ECONOMIC JUSTICE

HABIMANA Robert (61 years old) was married to KAMANZI Meline (58 years old) in 1986. They are residents of Nyarusange cell/Rwabicuma sector/Nyanza district. Since their union, they had never lived peacefully following recurrent disputes and multiple reciprocal violent behaviours including beating, harassment, insults, greed, etc. Their children were traumatized and could not live together with the parents for long, they usually preferred to leave the family and seek a comfortable relative family to live in including their grandparents. Robert testified being uncertain of what motives led them having children meaning an implicit marital rape. He also reported being always drunken and squandering household's property including portions of lands, goats, cows and calves he sold without his family (wife) consent. In turn, her wife, testifying, could sell harvest such as beans, green banana, etc. and go drinking beer too.

Robert got imprisoned (for 3 years), got liberated, and he never changed. He had been visited by local leaders who advised them, but they never changed; as they said, they had become impossible and a famous conflicting family. (On right/photo: Robert & Meline).

The Project for 'strengthening community-based structures to address sexual and gender-based violence in Nyanza District was introduced in 2022. It identified and trained the agents of change including the IZUs. The couple testified having been visited by a certain IZU [named Murangira Festus] several times. He was very patient, they said. Slowly, the couple managed changing starting by the wife, then the husband. Today, Robert and Meline manage their household jointly; they share everything, they walk together on streets which was rare before this intervention, as they testified. They now live peacefully and in harmony with their younger children [some are married]. The couple begin enhancing their property and the local leadership confirms this couple being suddenly a role model in the community. Meline shared us a story that neighbouring women approach her and ask her the success trick thinking that she has consulted witchcraft.

Due to the extensive community mobilization and awareness campaigns against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), organized through various community gatherings, such as Inteko z'abaturatione and home visits, a significant impact has been achieved. Over 12,774 community members have gained enhanced knowledge and skills in SGBV prevention and response.

This achievement is attributed to the diligent efforts of 30 dedicated Community Change Agents who were trained in community forums, including Inshuti z'Umuryango, Umugoroba w'imiryango, Village leaders, and Youth Committees. These agents subsequently shared their knowledge with other community members, thereby promoting widespread awareness and competence in SGBV prevention and Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights among the youth.

Furthermore, this comprehensive initiative facilitated the resolution of family conflicts and the mending of broken marriages. Families experiencing conflicts were visited and provided with the necessary support, resulting in the successful resolution of 120 cases, including 10 couples who reinstated their marital commitments. Additionally, the campaign contributed to a reduction in the stigma faced by teenage mothers. Parents embraced their responsibilities, allowing 60 teen mothers to continue their education with the support they needed.

The impact of the Community Change Agents and their affiliated forums, namely IZU, Umugoroba w'imiryango,



Community Change agents in session to identify the root causes of Violence

Village Leaders, and Youth Committees, has been substantial. They have not only expanded their own knowledge and skills but have also empowered themselves to challenge SGBV within their communities. They have learned how to support survivors of SGBV, encourage prompt reporting, and preserve vital evidence. Equally important, they have demonstrated their ability to rebuild fractured families and provide essential support to teen mothers.

Moreover, 100 Community Trainers of Trainers (ToTs), including members

of community forums and influential figures such as village leaders, cell leaders, CNF, CNJ, and Religious leaders, have undergone training and gained an improved understanding of GBV and family conflict management and prevention. These participants have enhanced their skills in conducting community scorecards and have become adept at identifying issues within their communities and actively contributing to their resolution.

Espérance NIYONAGIRA, a young unmarried mother from Rwabicuma Sector (Mubuga Cell), has shown remarkable dedication in changing the fortunes of girls facing challenging circumstances similar to hers. NIYONAGIRA shared her inspiring journey, stating: "Having gained invaluable knowledge from the training sessions provided by AAR, coupled with my personal experience as an unmarried mother living with my parents in dire conditions, I took a small loan from a local savings group and ventured into vegetable farming.

Prior to AAR's intervention, I served as a member of the 'Umugoroba w'Imiryango' Committee (UI) and worked as a health worker (umujyanama w'ubuzima). Thanks to the support of AAR's project, I received comprehensive training in various aspects related to preventing and responding to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). The incentives I received from AAR's training programs significantly expanded my farming endeavours. Empowered by AAR's project across diverse areas through these training sessions, I gained the confidence to begin working with and supporting young unmarried mothers within our Cell."

She continued, "I successfully united 21 young unmarried mothers and 4 young men into a self-help group (SHG) with the primary objective of educating them on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). Subsequently, we transformed the already established Self-Help Group into a savings and credit group. This



Community members enhancing their incomes and livelihoods upon a coaching of a trained agent of change

transformation has empowered them to engage in income-generating activities, primarily focused on farming and small-scale businesses." (See NIYONAGIRA's photo on the right).

NIYONAGIRA emphasized that the approach used to train and unite young unmarried mothers into a single group has yielded remarkable success.

Consequently, apart from forming a supportive network, they are no longer a financial burden on their respective families. Moreover, they have acquired a comprehensive understanding of SRHR, which is of paramount importance in preventing unexpected pregnancies and the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases.

3. Supporting women smallholder farmers with small livestock

Mr. Ndiyubashye Vedaste and Mrs. Mukamuhoza are esteemed members of ActionAid Rwanda's community of rights holders, and they have a child enrolled in the Sponsorship Program. As part of our commitment to enhancing resilient livelihoods and exploring avenues for increased agricultural production, we have embarked on a project to support sponsored children with livestock through their parents.

In February 2022, Vedaste received a sheep from ActionAid, marking a significant moment for the family as it was their first experience owning a sheep. Unlike cows, which typically take around two years to reach reproductive age, sheep have a shorter gestation period. In the case of this family, the results were particularly swift and joyous. Their given sheep, within a remarkably short time, produced not one but two lambs simultaneously. This heart-warming development brought immeasurable joy to the family, and they enthusiastically shared their story with great excitement.

"We had never owned a sheep before, nor a goat or a cow for that matter. To our surprise, when ActionAid provided us with a sheep, it not only marked our first experience with sheep but also brought us the delightful surprise of two newborn lambs. We are committed to providing the best possible care to these animals to ensure their well-being and to enable them to reproduce. Our goal is to expand our sheep herd and eventually sell some of them to acquire a cow. Having a cow will not only provide us with milk but also valuable animal manure to enhance our farm's productivity."



4. Success of working in cooperatives

An impactful Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been officially established between ActionAid Rwanda and the Intwari Mubikorwa Cooperative in the Shingiro community. This partnership is geared towards creating a model farm school with a specific focus on the cultivation of Irish potatoes.

ActionAid has demonstrated remarkable generosity by providing financial support totalling 2,200,000 Rwandan Francs. These funds have been thoughtfully allocated for various essential purposes, including procuring seeds, covering farm rent, acquiring essential manure, and obtaining other necessary resources.

During the initial harvest, each member of the cooperative received 10 kilograms of Irish potatoes to take home. Furthermore, these dedicated members collectively contributed to the “ejo heza” initiative. This collaborative effort bore fruit as they subsequently sold their harvest, generating a total revenue of 2,819,540 Rwandan Francs. To ensure future productivity, they wisely reserved some seeds for the upcoming planting season.

Given the one-year land rental agreement, the cooperative made the prudent decision to reinvest in the same land where they previously cultivated wheat. With the funds they had saved, they embarked on another round of Irish potato cultivation, as beautifully captured in the accompanying photos. Their eagerly awaited harvest is anticipated in just one month's time.

The cooperative members wish to extend their heartfelt gratitude to ActionAid for their invaluable contribution to fortifying the resilient livelihoods of women in the community. This collaborative initiative represents a significant stride towards sustainable agriculture and the empowerment of local women.



AAR support women farmers cooperative and accompany until their production is ready.



5. Access to safe shelter

In the Gitesi Sector, there are vulnerable individuals residing in extremely impoverished and dilapidated houses that pose a significant risk of collapsing, potentially leading to accidents. ActionAid Rwanda, as a human rights organization, aligning with its second priority of strengthening resilient livelihoods and securing climate justice, is dedicated to ensuring that women smallholder farmers have access to markets and credit to enhance agricultural production and food security, in line with its CSP II.

Recognizing the urgency of addressing issues affecting the well-being of these communities, including the lack of proper shelters and latrines for sustainable livelihoods, ActionAid Rwanda took action.

In this context, ActionAid Rwanda provided support to 37 vulnerable families in the Gitesi Sector, equipping them with 960 iron sheets to roof their houses. Mukashema Philomene, an elderly woman residing in Munanira Cell of Gitesi Sector, who received this support in the form of iron sheets, expressed her heartfelt appreciation. She shared, "This means the world to me. I have never had the privilege of sleeping under a roof covered by new iron sheets like these. I had never imagined that this would happen in my lifetime. That's why I extend my heartfelt gratitude to ActionAid and its supporters for this incredible support, which will enable me to live in a safe and well-roofed house."



AAR supported 37 vulnerable families from Gitesi sector with 960 iron sheets - Story Mukashema Philomene

Mukashyaka Franciose from Ruhinga Cell, Gitesi Sector, also conveyed her sincere thanks to ActionAid, recognizing the profound impact of the iron sheet

support. This compassionate initiative by ActionAid Rwanda signifies a significant step in improving the living conditions and safety of these vulnerable families.

6. Provision of time and energy-saving cooking stoves to reduce unpaid care work

Many women in Rwanda find themselves burdened by the demands of Unpaid Care Work, which often confines them to their homes, attending to household chores such as childcare, wood collection, water fetching, and cooking, among other domestic tasks. This situation impedes their ability to engage in productive paid work, leading to poverty, financial dependency, and, in some instances, abuse. The challenge is particularly daunting for women with young children, as they must dedicate their entire day to childcare.

According to a survey conducted by ActionAid and its partners, women are overwhelmingly engaged in care tasks, accounting for 94 percent of such responsibilities, while men's involvement stands at a mere 2.8 percent. Globally, as per an ILO report, women shoulder 76.2 percent of the total hours spent on unpaid care work, which is more than three times the contribution of men.

In the Murundi area of the Karongi district, the condition regarding access to energy-saving cooking stoves was notably worse than in other rural areas. Women in this community were compelled to spend approximately 90 minutes collecting firewood, consuming about 3 hours each day on this task alone. The cost of energy-

saving cooking stoves posed a significant barrier for women in this area, as they found them to be prohibitively expensive. The repercussions of this scarcity were most acutely felt by the women and children who had to walk for two to three hours daily to collect firewood.

Having access to an energy-saving cooking stove has been a transformative advantage for the women in Murundi. It has significantly reduced the time they spend collecting firewood, freeing them to engage in more productive endeavours. Previously, they devoted 3 hours every day to this arduous task, but now they spend

only 6 hours in a week on it. This new-found time is a precious resource that can be redirected toward other productive work, ultimately enhancing their quality of life.

Mukashyaka Franciose from Kamina Cell, Murundi Sector, expressed her gratitude, stating, "I am immensely thankful to ActionAid for the support with this cooking stove." The provision of these stoves is not just about improving cooking efficiency; it's about empowering women to reclaim their time and participate in more economically and socially rewarding activities



AAR supported women with energy-saving cooking stoves to reduce unpaid care work

14. FUNDRAISING PERFORMANCE

Approximately 26.6% of ActionAid Rwanda's resources are sourced from institutional, high-value donors, and individuals. While this is not an exhaustive list, our main donors include:

- PPL funded the "Speak-out! Project on Gender-Based Violence (GBV)" with a total funding amount of 248,000 GBP. This funding comprises 201,000 GBP received from the Post Lottery Fund for the Speak Out Project, 9,000 GBP for the climate change project, and 12,000 GBP for the Community Women-led training.

The "Empowering young people to prevent and fight Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)" project, funded by the European Union (EU), has been active

- From February 2022 to January 2024, with a total funding of 222,000 Euros.

Vi-Agro Forestry and AAR have established a partnership since the previous year, where AAR has been

responsible for implementing research and

- Advocacy activities with Agro Forestry smallholder farmers cooperatives. The partnership amount was 38,000,000 RWF, and AAR had a cost recovery rate of 30%. Unfortunately, Vi-Agro Forestry is winding up its operations in Rwanda by the end of December 2022.

The "Strengthening community - based structures to address Sexual and Gender - Based Violence in Nyanza" project is funded by RGB/UNDP, with a Budget of 25,000,000 FRW for the one-year project. UN Women is supporting the project titled "Transformative approaches to recognize, reduce, and redistribute women's Unpaid care work burden for women's economic." However, specific funding details for this project are not provided in the text.

- Since May 2022 to October 2022, AAR has been actively engaged in the "Transformative
- Approaches to recognize, reduce, and redistribute women's Unpaid

care work burden for women's economic programming." This initiative has been supported with a budget of 68,738,906.76 Rwandan Francs.

Additionally, the International Center for Not Profit Law (ICNL) has funded a project titled "Baseline study on the impact of COVID-19 on the participation of special interest groups in

- Decision - making processes." This project has been ongoing from April 15th to December 30th, 2022, with a budget of \$14,955.

In the realm of Early Childhood Development (ECD), a project in Kibinja Nyanza has made significant progress. The first phase has been successfully completed, and funds for the second phase, involving the construction of a dining hall and kitchen, have been disbursed to AAR. The construction of 3 classrooms and 12 latrines in Muko/Musanze District was also completed, with funding provided by UK volunteers, totalling 26,000,000 Rwandan Francs.

In response to an EU call for proposals, AAR, with technical support from AAGS, is in the process of submitting a full proposal for the "Boosting food

production and farm income" project. This 3-year project is valued at 770,000 Euros, including a 10% contribution from AAR. The project's title is "Improving Food Security and Boosting Farm Income for Women

- Smallholder Farmers in Rwanda-IFS Project."

Furthermore, AAR is collaboratively working with GMO, Profemmes - Twese Hamwe, and the Private Sector Federation/Specialized Cluster (focusing on women, youth, and people...). Additional details about this collaboration and its objectives are not provided in the terms. AAR has actively sought funding opportunities to support various initiatives. One such opportunity was identified in collaboration with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women (GrOW) East Africa. This initiative aimed to promote the empowerment of women in economic endeavours and care-giving responsibilities. The concept note submitted by AAR was approved, leading to the development of a full proposal that has been selected for funding.

Additionally, AAR, in partnership with CLADHO, drafted a concept note in response to the European Union's Call for Proposals (CFPs) focusing on the promotion of transparency, accountability, and the participation of youth-led organizations in public finance management policies within Rwanda. The concept note received approval from the EU Rwanda, and a full proposal with a value of 222,222 Euros was successfully submitted.

AAR has also formed a consortium with Tubibe Amahoro to respond to an EU call for proposals aimed at boosting food production in Rwanda. The concept note, with a value of 770,000 Euros, has been submitted and accepted. Currently, efforts are underway to develop a full proposal for this initiative.

15. GOVERNANCE & ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

ActionAid Rwanda is a non-governmental organization officially registered with RGB under the registration reference number: NO 61/RGB/NGO/2017. It is also affiliated with the ActionAid Federation. Furthermore, ActionAid Rwanda holds membership in Pro-femmes Twese Hamwe and is an active participant in the Rwandan civil society. The governance structure of ActionAid Rwanda is defined by a General Assembly, which serves as the supreme decision-making body, and a Board responsible for overseeing day-to-day affairs. The actions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Board are guided by the NGO Law of Rwanda, the AAR Constitution, and the AAR Governance Manual.

ActionAid Rwanda's governance structure consists of 20 General Assembly Members, with 9 women and 11 men, and 11 Board members, comprising 6 women and 5 men.

In the year 2022, the AAR Board convened the required quarterly meetings, and the General Assembly convened once in June 2022, as outlined in the Governance Manual. The Board also organized an end-of-year retreat in 2022 to conduct a self-review and plan for the year 2023.

Under the governance's direction, the management effectively carried out the recruitment process for remaining staff positions. Additionally, interns were occasionally hired to support various functions. Currently, ActionAid Rwanda has a staff structure with 19 positions filled by dedicated staff members. All new staff members, including interns, underwent thorough induction processes. The organization places a strong emphasis on effectiveness in program implementation and operations, ensuring strict adherence to federation standards and policies, particularly SHEA (Sexual Harassment, Exploitation, and Abuse) and Safeguarding practices, which have been diligently observed.

16. AAR 2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENT NARRATIVE.

INTRODUCTION.

This Financial year was characterized by prices of commodities that are still high, Rwanda is among the 10 countries whose commodities prices have increased by 30%, the inflation rate is 20%, the reason given is because of the Ukraine War and post COVID effect, the poverty has increased, and food security is at stake.

The increase in international commodity prices, related to the war in Ukraine combined with the poor harvest in Rwanda, have led to substantial increases in energy, transport, and food prices, with urban inflation rising to 21.7 percent as per November 2022.

Climate change is a problem, we do not have enough rain this year and last year, we have prolonged dry seasons, and shorter rainfall, therefore the crops have been affected and the production have reduced,

In Rwanda we have another problem of an acidic soil due to the heavy use of the farming land, it has no time to rest and the heavy use of the chemical fertilizer instead of the organic fertilizer which has affected the quality of the soil, all these make that Rwanda production is reducing and relies more on imports to feed its own population.

Rising food prices particularly affected the poor, who devote a large share of their spending to food and appear to have faced higher food inflation than richer households did.

1. INCOME

SECTION 1: INCOME PERFORMANCE	2022			2021	Variance		
	Actual YTD	Plan YTD	Forecast 2022	Actual YTD	Actual vs Plan	Actual vs Forecast	Actual vs 2021
Individual Giving - Regular	1,185	1,295	1,110	1,068	-14%	1%	5%
Individual Giving - Other	44	-	41	18	0%	5%	139%
Philanthropy & Partnerships	248	207	210	236	20%	18%	5%
Institutional	70	100	105	279	-30%	-33%	-75%
Other Income	19	-	-	8	0%	0%	138%
Total External Income	1,566	1,602	1,466	1,609	-6%	2%	-7%

Total income for the year ended 2022, was 1,566,000GBP, made of regular giving income of 1,185,000GBP, this the Income where the individuals commit to giving a regular amount each month, quarter, or year. It is analyzed further into: - Child Sponsorship (CS) products. This is income from regular giving products with a child profile e.g., Child Sponsorship, Big Step; Non-Child Sponsorship Regular Giving products – income from all non-regular products not linked to a child profile e.g. Next step, & 100% Unrestricted Regular Giving.

Individual giving-other:44,000 GBP, made of the income from the Project of Power in your Hand 9,000GBP, Transforming children's lives_Rwanda 2020 grant project 10,000GBP and Construction of Classrooms in Muko of 26,000GBP.

Philanthropy and Partnership income is All donated income other than from institutions which include Major Donors, Corporates, Trusts and Foundations. The total amount received in this category is 248,000GBP, made of Post Lottery Fund received of 201,000GBP for the Speak Out Project, Post lottery fund received of 9,000GBP for the climate change project and Post lottery fund received of 12,000 GBP For the Community Women led training; VI agroforestry project of 25,000GBP and ICNL project of 2,000GBP.

Institutional income is made of Income from bilateral and multi-lateral sources raised primarily through competitive processes and governed by a contract e.g., income from EC, DFID, UN Agencies etc. The total institution income is 70,000GBP, made of UN Women Funds of 52,000GBP and Income from RGB of 18,000GBP.

Total Other income of 19,000GBP is made of Exchange gain of 12,000GBP, and income of 7,000GBP.

2022 Total income has reduced from the plan by 6% due to the reduction of the regular giving income by 14% and the income have reduced from last year by 7% because of the reduction of Institutional by 75%.

2. EXPENDITURE

SECTION 2: EXPENDITURE PERFORMANCE	2022		2021		Variance		
	Actual YTD	Plan YTD	Plan YTD	Actual YTD	Actual vs Plan	Actual vs Forecast 2022	Actual vs 2021
Programme	1,569	1,613	1,495	1,155	-3%	5%	36%
Fundraising	100	86	58	100	16%	72%	0%
Governance	18	4	10	10	350%	80%	80%
Support	123	169	153	217	-27%	-20%	-43%
Total Expenditure	1,810	1,872	1,716	1,482	-3%	5%	22%

Total Expenditure is 1,810,000GBP, made of Program costs of LRP based activities appraisal, monitoring, profile collection, CM and photo update collection, training, PRRP etc.; Sponsorship coordinator’s costs at LRP; Sensitization materials development.

Fundraising costs of 100,000GBP, Printing and mailing of profiles; Reporting to supporters, including printing and mailing of standard and other communication; Mailing reports back to LRPs; M&E tracking of child profiles etc; CS Manager and CS team’s costs and the costs of raising high value income and partnership income.

Total Governance costs is 18,000GBP, is made of legal retention costs, external audit costs and trustees meetings costs as well.

Support costs are costs associated with running a national office are treated as support – because they are supporting multiple functions and incurred to support the whole organisation, these are cos of the Country Management, the Finance Unit, HR, IT and Administration, the total costs is 123,000GBP.

2022 Total Actual expenditure has reduced from the plan by 5% due to the reduced expenditures in Murundi and Shingiro LRP and they have increased from 2021 expenditure as the organization closed the year with higher reserve at LRP level due to the reduced implementation at the LRP as a result of the application of the change and the COVID 19, hence the reserve were used in order to bring them within the standards.

3. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

These are internal indicators that inform that the Organization expenditure are within the established standards and in the case of Rwanda, program costs is 87% while the minimum should be 65%, hence where doing good on that one, Fundraising cost are 6% which is a good ratio as the core business of the organization is program, support costs are at 7% which is less than the 15% as the maximum ratio that is accepted.

SECTION 3: RAF KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2022		2021				
	Actual YTD	Plan YTD	Plan YTD	Actual	Actual Vs Plan	Actual Vs Forecast 2022	Actual Vs 2021
Programme target > 65% of total spend on programme, policy advocacy, campaigns & commuications	87%	86%	87%	78%	1%	-1%	1%
Fundraising target 22% - 27% of total income invested in fundraising, voluntary + institutional	6%	5%	4%	6%	19%	62%	3%
Effeciency target > 15% of total spend will be support costs	7%	9%	9%	15%	-25%	-24%	-54%

4. RESERVES POSITION

SECTION 4: RESERVES	2022			2021		Variance	
	Actual YTD	Plan YTD	Forecast YTD	Actual YTD	Actual vs Plan	Actual vs Forecast 2022	Actual vs 2021
Reserves restricted at LRP level	261	268	251	476	-3%	4%	-45%
Reserves restricted at National level	202	38	180	123	432%	12%	64%
Unrestricted Reserves					0%	0%	0%
Total Country Reserves	463	306	431	599	51%	7%	-23%
Unspent donor project Balances	40	6	25		567%	60%	0%
Total Fund Balances	503	312	456	599	61%	10%	-16%

The closing reserve by the end of 2022 is 503,000GBP in terms of amount it is 4.2months,which is a good ratio by the Standard of Actionaid, the minimum should be 2 months while the maximum could be at least 4 months and above according to the position that the organization feels comfortable, the breakdown of the reserve is made of LRP reserve of 261,000GBP which is 2.7months while National reserve of 202,000GBP of 10months and unspent donor project balances of 40,000GBP.

2022 Closing reserve have increased from the plan due to the reduced implementation in the Murundi and Shingiro LRP and have reduced from last year reserve due to increased implementation at LRP level and spending of the project balances.

5. HEAD COUNTS OR NUMBER OF THE STAFF.

The number of the staff by the end of 2022 are 19staff, one vacant position of the ED

SECTION 5: HEAD COUT	30 DECEMBER 2022	31 DECEMBER 2021
Programme	12	9
Support	4	8
Governance		1
Fudraising	3	2
Total	19	20

17. WAY FORWARD

ActionAid Rwanda (AAR) maintains an unwavering commitment to implementing a comprehensive array of initiatives aimed at combating violence against women and girls. Our strategic efforts are channeled into key areas, particularly addressing family conflicts and teenage pregnancies. Concurrently, we are dedicated to tackling the challenge of unpaid care work, with the goal of empowering women to actively participate in the productive economy.

In alignment with our holistic livelihood approach, ActionAid Rwanda is taking proactive steps to enhance community resilience. This involves equipping smallholder farmers with valuable agroecology skills, providing Rights Holders with improved seeds, and facilitating small-scale irrigation to bolster their adaptability to the impacts of climate change. Our primary objective is to fortify food security within these communities while elevating farm incomes.

Furthermore, we are committed to facilitating women's access to markets, ensuring that this process is sensitive to gender considerations and leads to significant economic empowerment. To drive policy changes and address existing gender disparities, AAR will embark on a series of impactful campaigns and policy dialogues. This includes active involvement in policy discussions, organizing community awareness initiatives, and utilizing radio and TV talk shows to deliberate on reducing and redistributing unpaid care work, alongside strategies for mitigating the impacts of climate change.

Through these deliberate efforts, we will advocate for the robust enforcement of measures for the prevention and response to gender-based violence. Equally important is our commitment to providing high-quality gender-responsive public services (GRPS) that account for the demands of unpaid care work and promote resilient livelihoods.

ActionAid Rwanda will steadfastly continue to mobilize support and foster collaboration among sponsors, donors, partners, and all stakeholders. Our overarching goal is to uplift individuals living in poverty, with a distinct focus on women and girls, as we remain steadfast in our mission to eradicate both poverty and injustice.

2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The directors submit their report together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022, which disclose the state of affairs of the Organization.

2.1. Principal Activities

ActionAid Rwanda (AAR) is an associate of ActionAid International (AAI) - an anti-poverty agency working with poor, voiceless people, communities and similar-minded partners worldwide. AAR's vision is to have a country without poverty and injustice in which every person enjoys their right to a life of dignity.

AAR's mission is to work with people living in poverty with a focus on women and girls to eradicate poverty and injustice.

2.2. Results

The results for year are presented on page 9.

2.3. Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations and that the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and commitments will occur in the ordinary course of the organisation's operations.

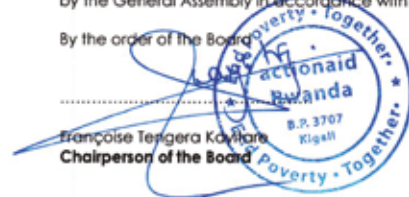
The directors believe that the organisation has adequate financial resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future and accordingly the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The directors have satisfied themselves that the organisation is in a sound financial position and that it has access to sufficient donors' funds to meet its foreseeable cash requirements. The directors are not aware of any new material changes that may adversely impact the organisation. The directors are also not aware of any material non-compliance with statutory or regulatory requirements or of any pending changes to legislation which may affect the organisation.

2.4. Terms of appointment of the auditors

Gpo partners Rwanda Limited was appointed as the auditors of ActionAid Rwanda in 2022 by the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of the laws of Rwanda.

By the order of the Board

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Françoise Tengera Kayihara
Chairperson of the Board



ACTION AID RWANDA
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

3. DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES AND APPROVAL

The directors are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which in all material respects, are in accordance with the accounting policies described under note 1 to the financial statements. The directors are also required to ensure that the organisation keeps proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of organisation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the organisation.

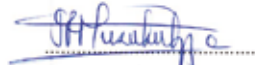
The directors accepts responsibility for the financial statements, which have been prepared using appropriate accounting policies supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates, in conformity with the accounting policies of the organisation.

The directors are of the opinion, based on the information and explanations given by management, that the system of internal control provides reasonable assurance that the financial records may be relied on for the preparation of the financial statements.

Nothing has come to the attention of the directors to indicate that the organization will not remain a going concern for at least the next twelve months from the date of this statement.

Approval of Financial Statements

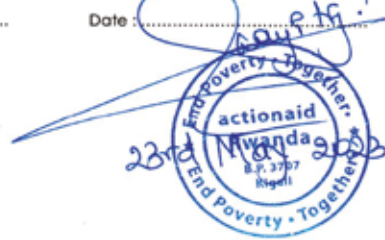
The financial statements were approved for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:



Names: Musuhuke Ruzindwa
Position: Treasurer to the Board
Date: 23/05/2023



Names: Francine Kayitare Tengera
Position: Board Chairperson
Date: 23/05/2023



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT - CONTINUED

- Conclude the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organisation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organisation to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate to those charged with governance regarding among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

FOR GPO PARTNERS RWANDA LTD



Patrick GASHAGAZA
Partner

...02/06.../2023

ACTION AID RWANDA
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

5. STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	Notes	2022 GBP	2021 GBP
Income			
Regular giving income	2	1,192,368	1,081,836
Partnership official	3	-	213,301
Partnership other	4	319,623	305,126
Other income	5	18,821	8,508
		<u>1,530,811</u>	<u>1,608,772</u>
Transfers in	6	35,734	91,485
Total Income		<u>1,566,545</u>	<u>1,700,257</u>
Expenditure			
Programme costs	7	1,501,189	1,137,967
Support costs	8	121,673	233,028
Fundraising costs	9	99,876	101,124
Governance costs	10	9,865	9,917
Total Expenditure before transfers out		<u>1,732,602</u>	<u>1,482,036</u>
Transfers out	11	77,991	72,359
Total Expenditure after transfers out		<u>1,810,593</u>	<u>1,554,395</u>
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year		<u>(244,048)</u>	<u>145,861</u>

Notes on pages 13 to 18 form an integral part of these financial statements

ACTION AID RWANDA
 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

6. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	Notes	2022 GBP	2021 GBP
Current assets			
Advances	12	16,561	9,955
Inter entity accounts receivables	13	445,308	570,935
Other sundry receivables	14	4,512	4,106
Cash and Bank	15	58,822	254,405
TOTAL ASSETS		525,203	839,401
NET ASSETS AND LIABILITIES			
Net assets			
Accumulated net assets	16	502,716	749,154
Total Net assets		502,716	749,154
Liabilities			
Non Current liabilities			
Amount due to employees	17	-	44,061
Current liabilities			
Other payables	18	22,487	46,186
Total liabilities		22,487	90,247
TOTAL NET ASSETS AND LIABILITIES		525,203	839,401

Notes on pages 13 to 18 form an integral part of these financial statements

The financial statements of ActionAid Rwanda were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 23/05/2023 and were signed on its behalf by:


 Names: MUSUHUKÉ RICHARD
 Position: Treasurer to the Board
 Date: 23/05/2023


 Names: FRANÇOISE UWIMANA
 Position: Board Member
 Date: 23rd May 2023



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