



UNITED NATIONS
RWANDA



(INTERIM)

**MPTF OFFICE
FUND LEVEL
CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL
PROGRESS REPORT
2021**



MPTF OFFICE

2021 FUND LEVEL CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

During the reporting period (2021), the Rwanda Sustainable Development Fund contributed to the results under the 3 pillars of UNDAP II: Economic Transformation, Social Transformation and Transformational Governance Pillar; the fund contributed to all 6 outcomes of UNDAP II:

- o By 2023, people in Rwanda benefit from more inclusive, competitive, and sustainable economic growth that generates decent work and promotes quality livelihoods for all. **(UNDAP Outcome 1)**
- o By 2023, Rwandan institutions and communities are more equitably, productively and sustainably managing natural resources and addressing climate change and natural disasters. **(UNDAP Outcome 2)**
- o By 2023, people in Rwanda, particularly the most vulnerable, enjoy increased and equitable access to quality education, health, nutrition and WASH services. **(UNDAP Outcome 3)**
- o By 2023, people in Rwanda, particularly the most vulnerable, have increased resilience to both natural and man-made shocks and enjoy a life free from all forms of violence and discrimination. **(UNDAP Outcome 4)**
- o By 2023, people in Rwanda benefit from enhanced gender equality, justice, human rights, peace, and security. **(UNDAP Outcome 5)**
- o By 2023, people in Rwanda participate more actively in democratic and development processes and benefit from transparent and accountable public and private sector institutions that develop evidence-based policies and deliver quality services. **(UNDAP Outcome 6)**

Through MPTF, the Rwanda SDF contributed to the following 6 Joint programs:

Joint program Leveraging the Full Potential of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment to Achieve Rwanda's Transformation

The main objective of the Joint Programme is to ensure that "Women and girls, especially the most vulnerable, participate in, contribute to and benefit from political, economic and social transformation in Rwanda". The Joint Programme on Gender contributes to the achievements of the outcomes 1, 4, 5, and 6 of the UNDAP II (2018/2023).

- The participating UN agencies that received funds through MPTF are UN Women and IOM. Other JP PUNOs are UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, and UNICEF.
- The Total approved budget per project document is USD 13,463,495 and the MPTF /JP contribution is USD 831,203. The total contribution including agencies' core funds, other donors and the government is USD 7,412,335

Achievements of the Fund ¹

Women's empowerment to lead decision-making processes

Under the JP on Gender, the UN has continued to support the increase of women's leadership representation at local level as it remains relatively low compared to the central government. In the face of Covid-19 imposed restrictions, the JP on Gender, through UN Women opted for

¹The consolidated annual report provides a summary of achievements. More detailed information and results can be found in JP annual reports 2021 and UNCT results report 2021

the use of media to mobilize and build the capacity of women aspirants. It supported the National Gender Machinery, through the National Women's Council to prepare and organize joint awareness-raising campaigns via national radio and TV, community radios, private radios and TVs talk shows to mobilize women from grass root levels and to increase their capacities to compete for leadership positions, as physical meetings were not allowed due to Covid-19 preventive measures.

In addition, 93 election gender observers (66 women and 27 men) were equipped with gender-sensitive monitoring and reporting skills. As a result, 655 (39.1%) women aspirants out of 1674 total aspirants applied for District councilor level positions as reported by the National Electoral Commission.

Out of the total applied, 535 women candidates (34.4%) were accepted to compete. 211 women (46%) were elected to the district council compared to 248 men (54%). As a result, in the elections of 2021, out of 27 elected Presidents of the Councils, women are 37% compared to 30.5% recorded in the 2016 elections. In the 2016 local elections, only 16.1% of councils' secretaries were men and 83.9% were women. Similarly, in 2016, the elected Districts Mayors were male dominated at 80.6% with only 19.4% of women elected as Mayors. With the 2021 elections, Women elected Mayors have increased to 30% from 19.4%.

Furthermore, in collaboration with MIGEPROF and RALGA (a membership organization that brings together local government entities in Rwanda), the JP on Gender supported a six-month internship programme to promote leadership for 120 young women university graduates. Among the 120 women selected, 99 women increased their leadership skills and experience and 20 of them earned seats in different councils in the 2021 local government elections.

Strengthening coordination capacities and mechanisms

A joint monitoring and evaluation field visit including donors was conducted on 12-13 October 2021 in Burera district (the project on socio-economic reintegration of GBV victims, including teen mothers) which gave the opportunity to witness some of the successful holistic approaches our implementing partners are using. For e.g., the Isange One-Stop centres provide holistic support to GBV victims and harmonize the service provision across the country.

The centres also contribute to availing harmonized GBV data through the GBV Information Management System. In terms of Leaving No One Behind, mobile clinics are an efficient means to reach the most vulnerable and marginalized groups including those in remote areas without financial means to afford transport, awareness of their rights, and/or available support services as well as women with disabilities.

Holistic support provision has been reported as an efficient method to create a great impact for beneficiaries. An example given is the support to teen mothers which includes not only psycho-support services but also family reconciliation and capacity building in income-generating activities. The beneficiaries have reported a great impact not only on their mental well-being and health but also on their return to schools and their parents' homes as well as their improved income due to the skills training.

Through the JP on Gender support, institutional capacities were strengthened through training, including in Gender-responsive Budgeting (GRB) and Gender Economic Policy Management Initiatives (GEPMI). 30 Gender Officers (18 women, 12 men) from districts were equipped with the necessary skills in effective GRB, gender analysis and mainstreaming skills to support and advocate for the implementation of gender-responsive policies and programmes. The UN through FFRP, equipped 89 members of Parliament (56 women, 33 men) with skills in GRB

and Gender Responsive Economic Policies Management (GEPMI) for evidence-based legislation and oversight. Each year, the districts are rated against their performance and starting in 2021, the districts will report against, and be rated on their progress in terms of gender equality.

Significant normative and commitments achievements

The year 2021 marked two important milestones for Rwanda in terms of reporting to the international human rights mechanisms. The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) country report was submitted and reviewed by the Human Rights Council's 37th session. Similarly, during the reporting year of 2021, the Government of Rwanda submitted the Tenth periodic report to the CEDAW Committee under article 18 of the Convention.

Gender Accountability Days

In the framework of increasing gender and GBV accountability at the local level and in collaboration with GMO, accountability day was conducted in Muhanga district (southern province) which helped to identify 535 teen mothers and their issues and helped to enhance the capacity of 781 people including 300 youth, 331 new elected local leaders (village leaders) and executive secretaries of cells as well as 150 teen mothers on how to fight, report and respond to GBV as well as referral pathways, especially to IOSCs and RIB. The participants have committed to increased collaboration, timely reporting of cases, and increased awareness of the community for negative social norms change and accountability towards GBV Prevention and response.

Operationalization and management of the GMIS

57 Technical staff (23 female & 34 Male) including GMO and district statisticians were equipped with the skills needed to effectively manage and maintain the Gender Management Information System (GMIS), including data entry as well as report production and wider dissemination of the information on the public portal.

Media involvement

Under the IP Gender, UNDP organized an annual conference on gender equality to enhance women journalists' voice in promoting the gender equality agenda. The annual conference was an occasion to kick off the "16 Days of Activism against Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)" an international campaign that takes place each year.

Furthermore, the JP on Gender, through UNDP supported ARFEM to build the capacities of its 115 members in two trainings. The first training was held for 75 women members of ARFEM (30 attended physically and 45 online) trained to increase their skills in innovation and entrepreneurship in the media sector. As a result, participants (media owners and journalists) are more creative in the media business and create content that is demanded and are financially sustainable. Most of the participants were engaged to improve their businesses and create new ones with confidence.

The second training was organized in partnership with RMC, ARFEM trained 40 of its members on the prevention and response to sexual harassment in their working environment during a two days workshop. Participants improved their skills in the identification of acts of sexual harassment in the newsrooms; reporting about sexual harassment to authorities and proposed solutions to end sexual harassment in newsrooms and reporting tools.

Changing the lives of teen mothers and strengthening family reunification

GBV mobile clinics were also supported and found to be a useful approach to bring all GBV-related services providers closer to communities, to respond, refer and give orientation to victims. Services provided under the GBV mobile clinics are Individual counseling, Investigative support through the Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB), Legal support through the Maison de Justice (MAJ), Childbirth registration, nutrition advice for young mothers, and nutrition status screening for their children.

During the GBV clinics, 21 new cases were submitted to RIB by the teen mothers, 80 cases were submitted to MAJ, 38 babies were officially registered (child registration), and 34 teen mothers benefited from individual counseling. Among them, 5 teen mothers were diagnosed with depression and some of them had suicidal thoughts.

The latter were urgently referred to Health centres for treatment and psychosocial counseling sessions. In addition, 30 teen mothers' babies were screened for Nutrition where 1 child was found malnourished, 4 were found moderately nourished and 25 were well nourished. In addition to the above, 67 teen mothers expressed their wish to go back to school.

Increasing awareness and strengthening capacities on Child Protection systems

The JP on Gender, through UNICEF continued to support the operationalization of IZU to prevent and respond to violence against children. Three training modules covering children in emergencies, disability, and violence against children (VAC) with a gender focus were developed during the year. Training of trainers has been conducted for all professional child protection workers in the districts, reaching at least 50 individuals per module. The total of 23,357 Inshuti z'Umuryango (IZU)/friends of families from 25 Districts have been equipped with skills to support children and their families in emergency situations.

Capacity enhancement of paralegals

The JP on Gender through UN Women and in collaboration with Haguruka has increased the capacity of 67 paralegals (55 women, 12 men) in GBV Law and GBV case handling to effectively support GBV victims with legal advice and referrals. Participants in the training have acquired knowledge on offenses of GBV and have been reminded that offenses of GBV are punished by law no 68/2018 of 30/8/2018 determining offenses and penalties in general.

Challenges and Lessons learned

Challenges

- o The JP on Gender faced budget constraints but with two years of implementation, the Steering Committee recommended a strategic review of the programme to identify and select the most transformative interventions and diversify implementing partners to speed up the implementation process. It is in that context that the total budget was downsized from USD 19 million to USD 13,463,495
- o Similar to 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic and its related preventive measures and restrictions continued to cause interruptions and delays to the implementation of the programme. However, the decrease in registered cases and subsequent lifting of certain restrictions has allowed for certain activities to resume.
- o There is still insufficient knowledge on GBV reporting pathways and limited awareness among victims, some service providers especially those at local levels on Isange One-stop centres, what they do and how to access their services. Many cases are still submitted to local leaders and are not always referred to either IOSCs or justice/security organs, which delays the justice process and leads to spoiled evidence and the escape of perpetrators to neighboring countries which requires interventions and collaboration with INTERPOL. The cost of legal filing of official documents is also still high for vulnerable victims (e.g., judgment copies, birth certificates, legal fees, etc.) which discourages victims to pursue legal processes.

- o DNA tests are only accepted to be collected once both parties at the same time (suspect and victim) are available. This becomes a major issue when one party is ready/willing while the other is not. Advocacy will continue with programme partners such as RIB, RBA and Haguruka to Rwanda Forensic Laboratory (RFL) to accept collecting DNA samples from the available party instead of conditioning both parties at the same time.

Best practices and lessons learned

- o The strong partnerships with the Government of Rwanda through the NGM (MIGEPROF, NWC, GMO, FFRP) allows for more institutional gender accountability checks by conducting joint planning, joint implementation and joint monitoring and reporting.
- o In a bid to prevent the spreading of the Covid-19 virus, virtual meetings were held with partners and beneficiaries during 2021 when possible. This has proven to be both cost and time-efficient and allows a large number of people to be reached.
- o Reinforce the partnership with CSOs and the Private Sector
- o Synergy with other sister agencies through Joint Programmes and GEWE normative support.
- o Strengthen socio-economic reintegration of GBV victims with a specific focus on teen mothers.
- o After years of advocacy, gender equality is now mainstreamed in Imihigo (performance contract for government entities) which will significantly increase accountability for GEWE not only at the national but at the local level as well.
- o The use of GBV mobile clinics and toll-free lines are effective approaches to serve GBV victims from remote areas but also increase the proximity of services to the most vulnerable and marginalized with limited financial means and those with disabilities. Below is a quote from one of the JP on Gender implementing partners appreciating the GBV mobile clinic approach:

"We use mobile legal clinics as a strategy of finding those vulnerable or underserved victims of GBV, girls and women with disabilities, teen mothers in their remote areas. This is the best impactful approach because the majority of those target groups are very poor to even have transport means to go and seek for legal aid. Again, the majority of them are uninformed about their rights, they are not aware of the available legal aid service providers who can help them. So, you understand that finding them in their localities is so useful in the project"

(Survey #2.4, 27 Aug. 2021, JP on Gender through UN Women Rwanda Strategic Note Mid-term Review).

- o The findings and recommendations from the "Gender assessment of the socio-economic response and recovery initiative against Covid-19 in Rwanda" and the "socio-economic impact of Covid-19 on women and men in informal cross border trades in Rubavu, Rusizi and Nyamasheke have facilitated evidence-based programming and continuous advocacy at all levels including by CSOs.
- o Due to family pressure, economic dependence and other support promised, some of the teen mothers are pressured to withhold the truth during investigations. For instance, a teen mother may report a case of GBV and identify a perpetrator and the RIB arrests him. However, due to influence by others (influenced to withdraw accusations or due to a promise of support or family relationships) they sometimes later withdraw their statements. Strategic awareness campaigns are still needed to educate teen mothers, young girls, the parents/caregivers and the community in general about GBV and the legal rights entitled to them.
- o The Covid-19 pandemic led countries and the UN in Rwanda to forge new partnerships in order to respond to the impact of the pandemic on women and girls. To that effect, the JP on Gender through UN Women and UNFPA and through financial support from the Japan Government-provided personal protective equipment to strengthen the prevention of Covid-19 and safety of the 44 GBV One Stop Centres and of GBV survivors. The equipment included 6,040 surgical masks, 10,240 respiratory masks, 2,400 examination gloves and 2,000 hand sanitizers.

Joint Youth Programme

The Joint Youth Programme has mainly 3 key objectives: (1) increased youth (girls and boys) access to decent jobs in Rwanda; (2) empowerment of youth to fully engage in policy-making and civic engagement; and (3) increased youth use of health services and adoption of healthy lifestyle practices. These objectives align the Programme with the UN's renewed Youth Strategy, contributing to the advancement in Rwanda of each of the Strategy's three pillars: peace and security, human rights and sustainable development.

- The Joint Programme on Youth contributed to the achievements of the outcomes 1,3,4 and 6 of the UNDAF II (2018/2023).
- The participating UN agencies that received funds through MPTF are UNDP and UNWOMEN. Other JP PUNOs are UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO and UNESCO.
- The total approved budget per project document is **USD 12,753,540** and the MPTF /JP Contribution is **USD 256,340**. The total contribution including agencies core funds and other donors is **USD 12,253,857**

Achievements of the Fund

YouthConnekt bootcamp/awards (national bootcamp, bootcamp for refugees, TVET Youth Challenges)

The Joint Youth Programme (JYP) contributed to the economic empowerment of young men and women with particular attention to the most vulnerable. In 2021, a total of 10,403 new jobs (6,374 women; 4,029 men) were created for the youth. A total number of 1,511 (313 Men and 1,198 Women) young entrepreneurs were trained, awarded/supported in different YouthConnekt boot camps/awards including the YouthConnekt Boot Camp/Awards for young entrepreneurs at the national level (121), the Bootcamp for refugees (100), the support to vulnerable youth (1,187) the TVET Youth Challenge (72) and 31 women (through Career centre).

Support to scaling-up of YouthConnekt across Africa (UNDP-UNFPA)

In 2021, the 4th edition of the YouthConnekt Africa Summit was successfully organized in Accra, Ghana under the theme "Positioning African Youth to cater for the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) Market." 3,500 participants (in person) and 4,100 (virtually) attended the YouthConnekt Africa Summit which was also attended by 23 Ministers/ deputy Ministers and Sates Ministers of Youth/ICT. In 2021, 24 countries are implementing YouthConnekt across the continent and 6 additional countries are in the process of joining the Hub.

Establishment and operationalization of the Rwanda Career Women's Centre:

The JYP supported the establishment and official launch of Rwanda Career Women's Centre which aims to provide innovative mentorship and coaching services to youth and women. Consequently, through the Centre 31 young girls benefited with knowledge of business development, employability skills as well as transformational leadership skills supported by UN Women which was launched officially by FAWE in 2021.

In terms of mentorship, the YouthConnekt post-incubation mentorship programme successfully provided mentorship and coaching services to 866 entrepreneurs (590 men, 276 women) with an objective of addressing the identified skills gaps, access to opportunities as well as the limited access to finance opportunities, therefore contributing to ensuring the sustainability of their business and the creation of sustainable jobs.

I-accelerator (UNFPA-Imbutu Foundation)

The Joint Youth Programme also contributed to youth empowerment and leadership through health innovations. The iAccelerator Phase 3 competition was successfully implemented and the awarded 4 solutions received seed capital of USD 10,000 each and a six (6) month mentorship programme which enabled them to further develop their projects and turn them into lucrative business start-ups.

In addition, in partnership with the University of Rwanda, specifically the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, a new phase – iAccelerator phase 4 was also launched late in the year. The conclusion of the new phase will bring the number of innovative startups to 15 with the potential to reach a greater number of young people with health information.

Support adaptation of WHO/ SRHR guidelines to mainstream Universal Health Coverage (UHC) (WHO)

Technical support was provided to review the technical guidelines for the provision of Sexual and Reproductive Health including Adolescent Sexual reproductive health to align to WHO guidelines and national law on the provision of abortion services. Health care providers' capacity was enhanced through training on the use of the adapted/reviewed guidelines on Antenatal care guidelines, Comprehensive Abortion Care and Post-abortion care.

Supportive supervision and quarterly reviews for Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive health service delivery were conducted in 86 Health centres in 5 districts of Burera, Gicumbi, Musanze, Nyabihu and Rubavu. Training of Teachers was conducted using the e-learning materials which included Nutrition, Non-communicable disease and sexual and reproductive health. 500 teachers were trained using the e-learning platform.

Increase access to HIV Self Testing among hard to reach vulnerable adolescents and young people (UNICEF)

In addition, 3,000 adolescents and youths were enrolled in HIV self-testing in 5 districts and 22,941 adolescent and young people (girls 13,347 and boys 9,594) received HIV testing services at health facilities, youth centres and designated community settings across focus districts.

Digital and Gender Expert:

The Joint Youth Programme also supported the development of the WEM-TECH strategy 2021-2026 aiming to address the digital gender divide which limits women's ability to fully participate in building an equitable knowledge-based society.

Establish youth savings groups and provide savings group kits and seed fund

UNICEF supported the establishment of new youth savings and lending associations in 4 districts and provided with VSLA (Village Savings & Loan Associations) kits, seed funding as well as training in VSLA methodology, smart spending and financial literacy. In the year 2021, in the third cohort of the Modelling Nutrition-Sensitive Social Protection Interventions project implemented through World Relief, 16 youth VSLAs were formed with 420 members (164 boys/men and 256 girls/women) in Burera, Gatsibo, Karongi and Nyamagabe districts.

Support youth networks and groups to be empowered and equipped with knowledge and skills for effective participation in agricultural value chains (FAO).

In 2021, 40 youth (20men,20 women) value chain actors benefited from the Four sessions of Fit for Finance training. Participants covered four modules on how to assess their own financial status, getting familiar with the existing finance options, knowledge of existing financial products and business formalisation as the key steps. In addition, with FAO's support, 68 youth (17women, 51men) graduated from the Green Agribusiness Fund (GAF) academy. The youth were trained online about food systems operations, agribusiness, value chains and access to finance.

Empower adolescents to understand and prevent protection related issues (including VAC, GBV and rights of children with disability) (UNICEF)

UNICEF worked with NCD Agency, NCPD and MINICT to conduct awareness activities on child protection including the inclusion of children/adolescents with disabilities. A total of 437,025 parents and caregivers were reached. In partnership with CLADHO and the NCD Agency, UNICEF trained 926 adolescents (520 girls and 406 boys) on the identification, reporting and prevention of violence against children in 11 districts. Trained adolescents have identified and reported 72 cases of abuse cases. They also conducted community mobilization which reached 250 parents besides the radio and TV talk shows.

Challenges and Lessons learned

- o The major challenge experienced by the project in 2021 is the COVID-19 crisis and the impact of the measures taken to address the crisis on the project implementation. The response measures have affected the implementation of the programme bringing uncertainty.
- o As all social gatherings were forbidden/strictly restricted in the second and fourth quarters of 2021 due to an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases; the implementation of the activities had to adjust to align with the COVID-19 measures.

Impact:

- o A reduced number of beneficiaries in face-to-face training and online training/mentorship were used to adjust to the situation.
- o As a countermeasure to the risks and challenges, the adjusted timeline for the implementation of the activities was established and the implementation method of the activities was modified mainly from in-person to virtual.

Lessons Learned:

The adaptability and flexibility of the UN agencies and donors are crucial to be able to respond adequately and in a timely manner to the urgent needs raised from the COVID-19 crisis. Through the Joint Youth Programme, the UN was able to be a reliable and flexible partner to support the the GoR to implement its COVID-19 resilience plan.

JP RWEE: Accelerating Progress Toward Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in (Rwanda)

The Joint Programme on Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (JP RWEE) aims to secure rural women's livelihoods and rights in the context of sustainable development, targeting four outcome areas:

1. Improved food and nutrition security.
2. Increased income to secure their livelihoods.
3. Enhanced leadership and participation in rural institutions and in shaping laws, policies, and programs.
4. A more gender-responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women.

The JP RWEE contributed to the results of outcomes 1,2,3,5 and 6 of the UNDAP II.

- The participating UN agencies that received funds through MPTF are WFP, FAO, IFAD and UNWOMEN.
- The total approved budget per project document is USD 4,248,246; and the MPTF /JP contribution is USD 209,096; the total contribution including the Global JP RWEE is USD 1,154,096

Achievements of the Fund

Rural women have Improved food and nutrition security

JP RWEE enhanced rural women's access to economic and productive assets where 80% of beneficiaries noted that their production increased, especially for maize, beans, vegetables, and fruits. 1,986 beneficiaries (1,653 women and 333 men) accessed integrated services including agriculture extension services, financial services, marketing linkages, business advisory services as well as capacity building services. Through supporting farming productivity of horticulture (vegetables and fruits) and livestock production like pigs, chicks, and rabbits, the programme contributed to enhanced food security and improved nutrition.

Rural women have increased access to and control over resources, assets and services critical for their food and nutrition security

10 cooperatives of rural women (909 women members) accessed credit for the first time to expand their micro-and agri-business projects. The programme has also enhanced women-owned saving and lending culture, with 77 VSLAs created among the 19² cooperatives/groups. US\$ 103,411 were mobilized as total savings from the VSLAs, providing a safety net to absorb livelihood shocks including the COVID-19-effects.

Furthermore, the programme has supported rural women to access improved agricultural inputs through improved capacity and farming techniques. Beneficiaries are now more food secure and have access to adequate food consumption. They have increased their participation in lucrative parts of agricultural-value chains because of increased access to agriculture

equipment, access and use of improved seeds, fertilizers and improved access to financial services.

Training in agriculture extension services with the aim to increase harvest and income for rural women was conducted. In total, 108 (107 female and 1 male) cooperative members were trained in environmental protection and horticulture production such as onion, carrot, green beans, and cabbage.

To improve women's knowledge of their rights to use, access and control over land, the JP RWEE in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion and the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources produced a video on women's land rights and a summarized booklet on Youth and Gender Agriculture strategy (8,150 booklets have been disseminated³).

Rural women have greater capacity to enhance and control local food security reserves and their production

All JP RWEE beneficiaries have been provided with hermetic storage bags and tarpaulins. In order to increase yields and reduce post-harvest losses, all the 19 cooperatives/groups were trained to produce vegetables using climate-smart technologies and agricultural techniques which have enhanced production. 7 cooperatives have been supported with the construction of drying sheds with a capacity of 25 tons per cooperative and 2 JP RWEE cooperatives now have been provided with equipment for maize and cassava/sorghum transformation (milling machines).

Rural women have increased income to secure their livelihoods.

The income generated by rural women's cooperatives from sales of their produce during the reporting period added up to more than US\$ 190,000. The 77 VSLAs created are now linked and working with micro-finance institutions.

²All the cooperatives/groups have been created by JP RWEE-initiative and support

³The booklet has been put in local language (Kinyarwanda) and dissemination have been extended beyond RWEE beneficiaries where even the local community is benefiting.

Rural women have greater organizational capacities to form, sustain and participate into Producer organizations (POs), cooperatives and unions.

The interventions of the programme have enhanced the confidence and leadership skills of rural women. A total of 855 (584 women and 271 men) champions were trained on the GALS methodology with a focus on GALS plus agriculture, climate change and nutrition. Champions subsequently disseminated the knowledge within their wider communities. More to this, 8,150 (6,112 women and 2,038 men) beneficiaries now have a better understanding of land rights and land management. 83% of all supported cooperatives and groups are led by women.

100 (79 women and 21 men) JP RWEE beneficiaries are part of local governance structures at village, cell and sector levels, as well as in National Women's Council (NWC) leadership structures and this participation has increased rural women's voice in decision making. This was attained due to capacity building, coaching and mentorship provided by the JP RWEE.

A more gender-responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women.

The Programme supported the development of a more gender-responsive policy environment for rural women, providing technical support to policy development and legislation, including the National Gender Policy; Women and youth mainstreaming strategy; laws governing land, succession and property ownership. The programme has contributed also to the development and dissemination of several studies in areas of rural women's economic empowerment, and this has created a strong engagement and partnership with key central government institutions (MIGEPROF and MINAGRI).

Furthermore, RWEE beneficiaries are provided with skills and knowledge on different laws/policies like the law on prevention of gender-based violence and the law on matrimonial regimes and succession on the property. As a result, rural women are aware of their rights to succession and inheritance of property and women are significantly contributing to economic production. RWEE will continue to provide support in this important area as a way of economic empowerment of rural women.

Challenges and Lessons learned

Challenges

Implementation of activities was hindered by COVID-19, where confinement, travel restrictions, and other measures were put in place. This also created some distress for the beneficiaries' food value chains and microbusinesses.

Lessons Learned

- o During this challenging period, beneficiaries contributed to the pandemic response in their communities (providing food and other necessities to the needy, conducted awareness and sensitization about the pandemic among other interventions). It was greatly appreciated by the local government which recommended similar interventions be scaled up.
- o The implementation of JP RWEE interventions in 2021 has been strongly built on partnerships between participating Agencies, the Government counterparts (Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Local Government) and Implementing Partners.
- o Also, commitment and involvement of beneficiaries in all RWEE activities have been very key and the involvement of men (men engage) created an inclusive engagement and acts as a strong pillar for women's empowerment.
- o The implementation of JP RWEE complements other projects implemented by Agencies⁴ and other partners and; this is creating spillover effects that are benefiting the target beneficiaries and the community at large.

One UN support to the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda for data generation and use of evidence-based planning

The purpose of the Joint Programme on data is to increase the technical and financial capacity of Government institutions and civil society organizations at the national and subnational level to generate, disseminate and use quality disaggregated data aligned to the SDGs to inform policies and programmes in development and humanitarian settings.

- The Joint Programme on Data contributed to the results of the outcome 6 of the UNDAF II.
- The participating UN agency that received funds through MPTF is UNFPA. Other JP PUNOs are UNWOMEN, WHO and UNICEF.
- The total approved budget per project document is **USD 5,648,550**; and the MPTF /JP Contribution is **USD 952,282**; the total contribution including agencies core funds is **USD 1,211,953**

⁴ Like WFP Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA), UN WOMEN projects to support the reduction of unpaid care work and other rural empowerment programs of IFAD and FAO

Achievements of the Fund

The Population and Housing Census (PHC) preparatory phases successfully conducted including the pilot census

The UN continued working closely with the NISR in the preparation activities for the 2022 Rwanda Population and Housing Census (RPHC 2022) i.e. finalisation of the census mapping exercises and conduct of the pilot census. The main census is planned to take place from 16-30 August 2022. The pilot census was conducted between 16th and 30th September 2021 and covered 64,000 households and 272,000 resident persons.

UNFPA provided technical assistance in the form of a GIS Expert, Data Expert, Institutional Capacity Assessment Expert and a communications firm to support the development of a census communications strategy, all of which will contribute to the strengthened capacity of NISR to successfully conduct the 2022 Census. Recommendations from the Capacity Needs Assessment were taken forward including through the procurement of 201 laptops and related software and accessories as part of the institutional strengthening of NISR, particularly with regards to data transmission and data analysis during and after the census. UNFPA further facilitated south-to-south learning between Rwanda and Ghana for experience and knowledge sharing between the 2 countries, particularly with regard to conducting a digital census.

Under the leadership of the RC and UNFPA, the One UN continued its advocacy and resource mobilization efforts in support of the Census. This include amongst Development Partners, both in-country and those without physical presence, and also co-convening Development Partners Meetings in partnership with MINECOFIN as part of the resource mobilization strategy for the census.

Final reports of the 6th Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (RDHS6) and the 2019-2020 Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey (EICV) published and disseminated

Key achievements in 2021 include the publication and dissemination of the RDHS 2019-2020 full thematic report and the Household Survey 2019-2020. Technical and financial support was provided for the process of developing, implementing and finalizing the RDHS 2019-2020 published in October 2021. The report forms the basis upon which further analysis will be undertaken including district profiles and the Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH) Index.

Planning Monitoring and Evaluation (PME) provided technical and financial support to NISR to build the capacity of national and sub-national government, CSO staff in data analysis, dissemination and data use targeting high school teachers, university lecturers, researchers, and students.

Gender statistical reports

UN Women in partnership with the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) produced **a gender thematic report from the 2020 annual labour force survey (May 2021)** with updated data on labour force participation rate of women and men, unemployment, unpaid care work, gender pay gap, and other economic activities by women and men. In addition, UN Women contributed to the data analysis of the 6th Demographic and health survey 2019/2020 in particular the domestic violence module, with data on physical, sexual and intimate partner violence, as well as its dissemination in December 2021. The findings from these publications help to inform policymaking, planning and advocacy.

CRVS system strengthened

In 2021, the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) system was strengthened at the community level by scaling up Verbal Autopsy (VA) which is one of the two main sources of mortality-related information along with the Medical Certification of Causes of Death (MCCOD) implemented at hospital level since 2018.

The latest CRVS system report registered 86% of births and 30% of deaths⁵. To improve mortality reporting, technical and financial assistance were provided to the Rwanda Biomedical Center (RBC) to integrate the WHO's 2016 VA questionnaire into the national integrated CRVS system and to procure 200 Android tablets to support VA scale-up in the community in 2021. NISR is also committed to strengthening the administrative data collection system including CRVS. The Vital statistics report 2020 was released in May 2021 and routine monitoring of CRVS continues to be improved; data collection to enable the compilation of the vital statistics annual report 2021 is regular with births registered at health facilities reaching 95% as of the end of December 2021.

GMIS system strengthened

To increase the availability and harmonization of gender data across the country, UN Women through MPTF funding has provided support to the Gender Monitoring Office to upgrade the Gender Management Information System (GMIS), including developing a handbook and training of the Gender Monitoring Office (GMO) staff. The new features facilitate the view of the GMO parametric report by the public, the data interpretation and infographics, data upload and validation by responsible institutions. Technical staff including GMO and district statisticians were equipped with skills to effectively manage and maintain the system, including on data entry as well as report production and wider dissemination of the information on the public portal.

⁵Rwanda Vital Statistics Report - 2020 | National Institute of Statistics Rwanda

Monitoring of Health SDGs Indicators strengthened

The Joint Programme on Data continuously provided technical assistance to further advance SDGs Monitoring in 2021. The capacity of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) staff from the Ministry of Health (MoH) to monitor progress toward the health-related SDGs and other national and subnational health priorities was strengthened through the development of a comprehensive metadata handbook for Health-SDGs indicators in Rwanda. Furthermore, 70%

of Health SDGs indicators had at least one data point to monitor these international health targets in 2020⁶.

With UNICEF's support, NISR in partnership with high schools conducted 'Reading Data with Youth' events in four high schools; these were attended by 208 youth (121 girls, 87 boys). In 2021, 31 journalists (7 female, 24 male) increased their knowledge and skills in evidence-based storytelling through NISR training with support from PME. University lecturers and researchers have improved their capacity in data analysis and evidence.

This helped them to make better use of statistics in their teaching, articles and papers which, in turn, have the potential to inform policy and programme formulation. There has also been a steady improvement in the quality of infographics and in 2021, NISR organized a coaching week for 30 university students (10 female, 20 male) working on trend analysis and data visualization of national surveys, covering socioeconomic indicators including children.

As well, the capacity of NISR to monitor the implementation of SDGs through administrative systems, data storage and analysis was strengthened. UNICEF supported NISR with a refresher training on the Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) approach through online and face-to-face sessions.

This increased the capacity of 26 statisticians to continuously measure child poverty trends and other vulnerabilities facing Rwandan children through survey data. The MODA report will contribute to discussions on evidence-based planning and budget prioritization. These efforts have been supplemented by UNICEF support to strengthen the SDG monitoring framework through administrative systems, data analysis and data storage capacities.

Support provided in piloting the Global SDG Dashboard Initiative

The review of all SDG indicators by NISR and DESA was initiated with an initial display of 23 indicators fully matching NISR and DESA indicators. Differences in methodologies between global data reported by custodian agencies and national data compiled by NISR were reviewed and clarified on the basis of the respective metadata analysis.

This will provide the basis to undertake further analytical work to unpack the Finalized Official Report data collected to strengthen policy analysis and decision making through briefs and other strategic communications materials to improve policy dialogue and debates.

Furthermore, with the technical support from UN Women, UNICEF, WHO and UNFPA, a new portal/hub for SDGs indic

ators including the gender-sensitive indicators with their metadata was developed on the NISR website to facilitate the monitoring and tracking the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). All the indicators have been updated with recent data showing Rwanda's progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development in all areas.

Challenges and good practices

Challenges

- o The implementation of innovative health information systems to monitor Health SDGs requires considerable resource mobilization. More efforts are also needed to strengthen the coordination, monitoring and evaluation system for SDGs and in addressing the prevailing data gaps across sectors.
- o Vital statistics, which include births and deaths, are linked to over 80% of the SDGs targets and therefore critical for SDGs monitoring. Mortality data are now collected in a standardized way at the hospital level since 2018 in Rwanda. However, over 60% of deaths happen in the community⁷. The scale-up of the CRVS system has therefore started using verbal autopsy to strengthen mortality reporting in the community.
- o There have been delays in implementation caused by the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, with UN support, NISR invested heavily in the use of online surveys and remote management and monitoring of census preparatory activities to conduct a digital census.

⁶ https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/documents/ddi/score/country-profiles/who_score_rwa_en.pdf?sfvrsn=87cc117c_13

⁷ Rwanda Vital Statistics Report - 2020 | National Institute of Statistics Rwanda

Good practices

- o The partnership with NISR has expanded to reach other partners and has created synergy with the potential to leverage capacities and resources for a greater benefit of the population, particularly children and women in Rwanda. Many universities, schools, media houses, the Rwanda Basic Education Board (REB) and government institutions are appreciating the partnerships with the UN in advancing evidence-based programming.
- o Tapping into regional expertise is good practice as always, UNFPA partnered with Economic Commission for Africa/African Centre for Statistics (ACS) to support NISR to streamline the digital census methodology and tools. UNECA supported the provisions and settings of the dashboard in the smartphones and worked with the local Mara phones company to load the application from the factory. Rwanda will be the first country to use mobile phone technology for data collection. If successful, ECA will be sharing the tools with other countries in the region to fast-track the 2020 round of censuses. UNFPA availed funding for the knowledge transfer and training of enumerators in the use of the digital census dashboard.

ONE UN Joint Programme on Enhancing Climate Resilient and Integrated Agriculture in Disaster Prone Areas of Rwanda

The objective of the Joint Programme is to improve women and men farmers' livelihoods and climate resilience through the adoption of agro-ecological production technologies, improved climate information-based planning and early warning in the selected drought and landslide-prone areas of the country.

- The Joint Programme on Climate contributed to the results of outcome 2 of the UNDAF II.
- The participating UN agencies that received funds through MPTF are UNDP and FAO.
- The Total approved budget per project document is USD 5,257,432; and the MPTF /JP Contribution is USD 1,453,312; the total contribution including agencies core funds is USD 3,120,933

Achievements of the Fund

Promote agriculture technologies that result in environmental and climate-resilient crop intensification and improved community livelihoods

The JP provided a cooperative of 250 farmers with clean energy for irrigation. Also, the JP supported the same cooperative farmers to adopt integrated crop, livestock, and fish farming practices. These practices helped farmers not only to improve the production but also to maximize the use of land resources and the production of organic manure.

In addition, Farmer Field Schools and other learning approaches were implemented to strengthen the knowledge and skills of 31 farmers from 12 FFS on different issues namely the climate-smart agriculture, value chain, gender integration, and sustainable agriculture intensification practices among others. Furthermore, bioenergy and food security assessments were conducted to inform future strategic interventions on the integration of bioenergy in resilient agriculture.

Strengthen the national capacity for the production of agriculture-related weather data and forecast products for various users including farmers,

The UN supported Meteo Rwanda to produce and disseminate reliable and accurate weather data and forecast products through radio programmes and social media that are accessible by farmers and other users in the agriculture sector.

Furthermore, through the Joint Programme, 44 vulnerable households ((including 34 women and 10 men) settled in Mudende Green Village, in Ruvubu District have increased their resilience because of improved livelihoods attributed to technical and financial support. This contributed to the management of the environment as households were equipped with green components and skills to manage scarce resources and the environment.

Integrated crop, livestock, aquaculture demonstrated adopting the Songhai Model livestock

The programme facilitated integrated farming through the distribution of 30 piglets and 15,000 fish fingerlings (Tilapia) to YAHOPROC cooperative vegetable growers in Yanze with more than 250 farmers. Testimonies from farmers are that not only will this boost their production but also will ease their agricultural works by providing organic manure.

Farmer capacity developed for climate smart agriculture and improved value chain through participatory learning with gender and youth fully integrated

Farmer Field Schools (FFS) are group-based adult learning approaches that teach farmers how to experiment and solve problems independently. 31 farmers from 12 FFS groups in Rulindo and Kayonza were trained in FFS on agro-biodiversity restoration, organic farming, natural pest control, IPM, agro-ecosystem analysis and pollination services. These trainees have acquired a wide range of skills in farming Irish potatoes and other various crops. Now recognized as FFS facilitators, they are helping other farmers in their communities to better farm, mainstreaming biodiversity and management of ecosystem services for better production, better nutrition, a better environment & a better life for all.

Sustainable Agricultural intensification and food security enhanced

To help the Government of Rwanda staff to access and use data from the water productivity open access portal (WAPOR), the Food and Agriculture Organization in partnership with Government organized an introductory training on Water Productivity Open-access Portal (WAPOR). 20 participants were given theoretical knowledge on WAPOR and shown how to manipulate data and interpret the information downloaded from the Portal. The trained people now, know better the importance of WAPOR information in integrated water resources management for sustainable farming

Greening Integrated Development Programme (IDP) Model Villages in critical areas

In 2021, the UN provided financial and technical support to Ishema Cooperative, composed of 44 households (34 women and 10 men); and to 27 youth (15 women and 12 men) of Amizero y'Ishema Cooperative to increase income-generation and job creation through the implementation of livelihood projects.

The JP supported the construction of a new cowshed for 24 cows and 6 calves, potatoes farming on the land of 2 ha, nursery seedbed establishment and fruit trees plantation. To increase milk production, hygiene and other benefits from livestock, households were provided with modern equipment for a proper handle of cowshed and milk storage (brushes, hand sprinklers, wheelbarrow, milk cans) as well as equipment for feeding (grass cutter machines).

In addition, beneficiaries increased their knowledge and skills on manure production, disease prevention and financial literacy through a series of hands-on trainings by the UN in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and local authorities. In total 32 (20 women and 12 men), HH representatives have benefited from hands-on training on manure production through composting techniques. After this training, the compost pit is one of the sources of income generation from the commercialization of organic fertilizer regenerated from waste from livestock and home garbage.

Furthermore, under the same output, the UN through MINAGRI provided financial support to start up 66 sustainable agri-business youth (26 women-owned; 40 men-owned) projects from Bugesera, Kayonza, Nyagatare, Rulindo and Gakenke Districts. The types of projects include among other horticulture, mushroom farming, and livestock (pigs, cows) projects among others. Furthermore, the UN scaled up the support for engaging youth entrepreneurs in sustainable agri-business. In 2021, 40 youth (28 men and 12 women) received financial support to start up projects in crop production, livestock, agroforestry, and beekeeping among others.

Strengthening the national capacity for production of agriculture-related weather data and forecast products: Through this Joint Programme, the capacity for Meteo Rwanda to produce reliable and accurate weather data and forecast products for agriculture and other sector was enhanced. The UN supported the rescue of about 201,717 numeric values of climate data (for 9 meteorological parameters) from weather stations. The rescued data were uploaded to the national climate database to improve the accuracy in forecasting hence informing sector decision-making based on weather and climate information where the agriculture sector is the most targeted due to its vulnerability to seasonal shifting and climate change.

Challenges and good practices

Challenges

- o COVID-19 lockdown and movement restrictions were the main challenges to the implementation of JP implementation. Fieldworks and many planned trainings and workshops did not take place while others were delayed. This has affected the timely planning and implementation of project activities.
- o In addition to COVID-19-related challenges, limited financial resources were also another challenge that affected the achievement of programme targets as planned in the project document.

Good practices

- o An inclusive stakeholders' engagement in all phases from the planning to implementation was a key factor for effective implementation. The UN worked hands in hands with different partners from national to local levels.
- o Also, the community-based approach was good. On one hand, it helped cost-saving in the effective implementation of project activities in green village.

Joint Programme on Sustainable Cities: Achieving Transformative Change In Rwanda Through Building Sustainable And Liveable Cities For All

The main objective of the joint programme is to increase the capacity of Rwandan cities to better manage their challenges in the areas of urban poverty and unemployment, poor housing and underdeveloped infrastructure, weak planning frameworks, exposure to natural and human-made disasters, constraints on productivity, safety and security, especially for vulnerable groups.

- The Joint Programme on Sustainable Cities contributed to the results of the outcome 1 of the UNDAF II.
- The participating UN agency that received funds through MPTF is UNEP and UNHABITAT. Other JP PUNOs are UNWOMEN, ILO and FAO.
- The total approved budget per project document is **USD 7,500,000**; and the MPTF /JP Contribution is **USD 209,095.66**; the total contribution including agencies core funds is **USD 3,809,095.66**

Achievements of the Fund

Urban Monitoring Framework and City Performance Monitoring Framework for the city of Kigali and secondary cities. The joint programme on sustainable Cities: Achieving Transformative Change in Rwanda Through Building Sustainable and Liveable Cities for All, initiated the implementation of the urban monitoring framework and City performance monitoring framework (UMF-CPMF) in the City of Kigali at the request of the Ministry of Infrastructure. This UMF-CPMF is a tool to enhance urban monitoring and informed decision making. The implementation of this initiative started with the City of Kigali and other secondary cities will be added as additional funds become available.

The achievement of the above objective will be attained through (i) compilation of indicators and building capacities of local technical staff to produce data on more than 60 urban indicators that are part of the UMF monitoring framework; (ii) Creation of a system to track progress and performance of indicators, as well as impacts of projects (CPMF) and (iii) Production of a UMF report, documenting the performance of Kigali against the 5 domains and 4 objectives of the UMF.

Prioritizing Awareness of Air Quality Management to Reduce Air Pollution from Urban Sources in Kigali-Rwanda

Under the Joint Programme on Sustainable Cities, UNEP in collaboration with REMA initiated a project dubbed Prioritizing Awareness of Air Quality Management to Reduce Air Pollution from Urban Sources in Kigali-Rwanda aligning with output 2.1 of the JPSC. This project's overall objective is to enhance the technical and functional capacities of the relevant agencies to sensitize and create awareness of generated air quality management information to various stakeholders in adherence to the relevant policies in Kigali.

Elaborate structured engagements with the implementing partner (REMA) and lengthy appointments of the project's focal point impaired the implementation schedules of the project. Additionally, the focal point was formally appointed on the 2nd of December 2021.

Challenges

During the reporting period, the project implementation was not yet started. The official letter approving the project and allowing to kick start the implementation was delivered on 22nd Dec 2021. With the revised work plan, the launch of the implementation was postponed to 15th Jan 2022 from the 1st October initially planned.

Three key activities relating to the reporting period; the appointment of the project's focal point, launching of the project and engagement of a national consultant to support project implementation all fell behind schedule.

The interrelatedness of the activities ensured that a delay in the first in order activity (appointment of the project's focal point) had a cumulative effect on the rest of the activities. Further, the project's focal point was appointed on the 2nd of December 2021, and this consequently delayed the launching of the project and the engagement of a national consultant.

To mitigate further delays, the project implementation and management team resorted to not only opening more communication channels that not only sought to flag out issues to speedily resolve them but also strove to disaggregate the activities as far as possible to eliminate the cumulative impact on activities. Additionally, the team enhanced inter and inter-organizational collaboration to further mitigate the impacts of delayed activities.

Human Interest stories

Men Engagement for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

The JP on Gender has supported MIGEPROF through the Rwanda Men Resource Centre (RWAMREC) to scale up Indashyikirwa ('agents of change' in English) designed to reduce levels of intimate partner violence, as well as to improve the response to survivors. The project shifts attitudes and behaviours at the individual and relationship levels, as well as transforms wider social norms that tolerate violence and underpin inequalities between men and women. Out of 350 couples, 335 were equipped with knowledge and capacity to drive change in promoting gender equality, preventing family violence, sexual and gender-based violence in communities, and workplaces, while supporting family economic empowerment.



"Before the training, I had no doubt that I was living in harmony with my family. After the 1st sessions and the exercises that we had to practice at home, I realized that I was not treating my wife properly. I discovered how much in some of my actions, there was violence against my wife. Since then, I made the decision to change, and this is visible. My wife here present can attest to this" explains Dominique- on the left side in the picture.

"Before the training, I was afraid of my husband. About decisions to be made in the family, I didn't have a say. He sold land and the family cows without telling me, and I didn't know what the money was used for. Today we live in harmony. I became the 'manager' of the house. My husband treats me with respect, and everything is going well. Currently, the members of our community take us for their role models" says the wife of Etienne – on the right side in the picture.



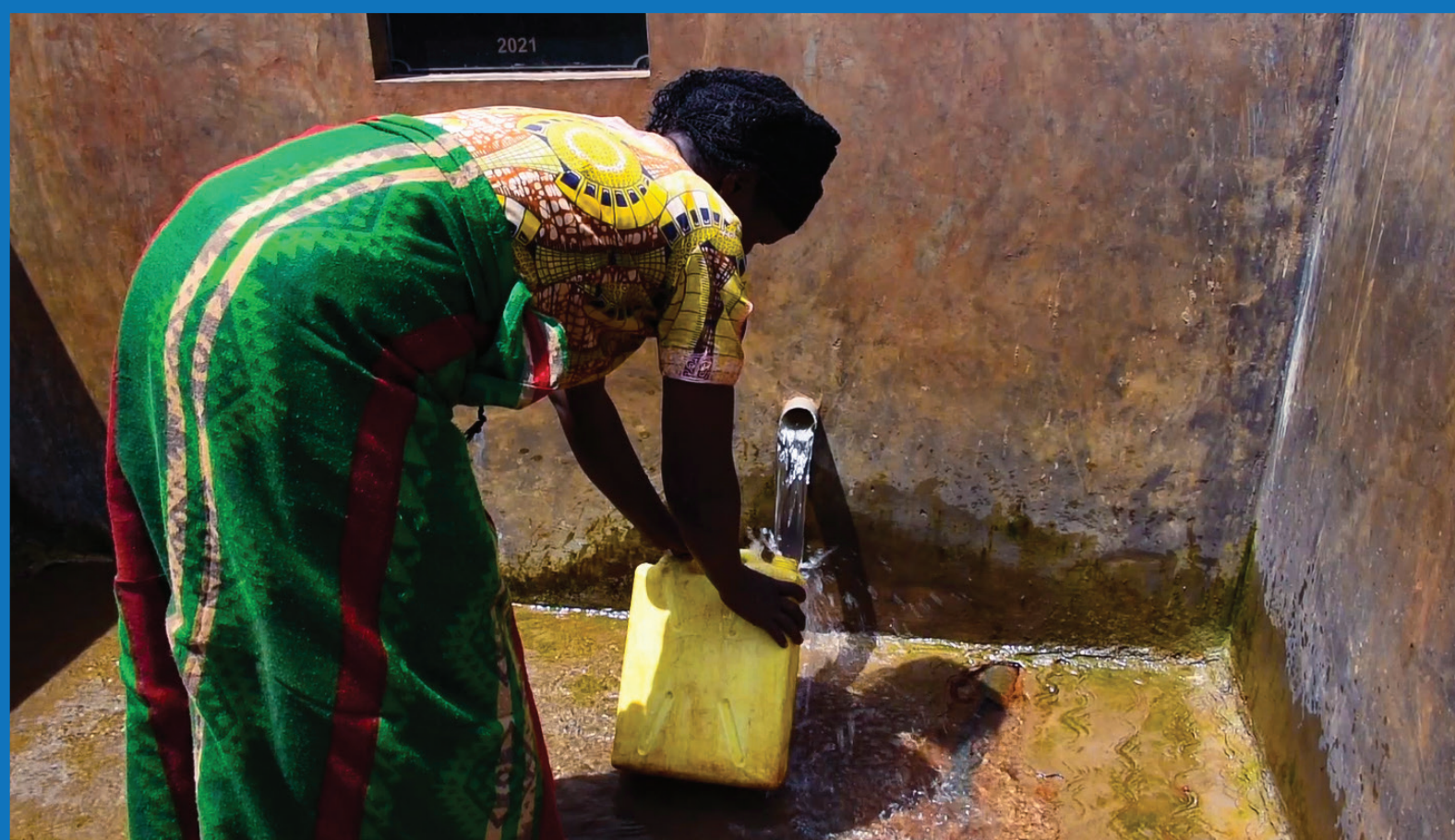
"I grew up with both parents and though they were loving, I was not free to talk to them about anything. Sometimes, I would desire certain material things and would feel embarrassed or shy to ask them from my parents. Little did I know that that was going to trap me someday.



GBV mobile clinic. Photo: UN Women Rwanda, Pearl Karungi

In my teenage years, boys started giving me gifts and in return asking me to spend time with them. Luring me to have sex with them was not that hard because I did not think that I could get pregnant. I thought there were no serious consequences to my actions until I got pregnant at 19 years old. I dropped out of school right away and though my parents did not chase me away, they were very disappointed in me.

With so much shame and regret, I gave birth to my child and life moved on. When I joined mobile legal clinics for GBV victims, I started to feel like I was not alone, and I began to build my self-esteem. Knowing that I was easily lured by gifts, I decided to stop looking to men or anyone else to give me material things that I desire, and I joined a trade school to learn about hair styling and hence be able to support myself and my child. Through mobile legal clinics sessions, I have been also empowered to take control of my body to avoid future unplanned pregnancies and other sexually transmitted diseases". Kayonza-Sandrine



JP RWEE two-fold contribution in rural women empowerment, Irrigation, and WASH

Alphonsine Mukeshimana is a farmer and mother of 8 children in Ngoma district, Eastern Rwanda near the Burundi border. Every day for many years she made a 3-hour journey to fetch water to use at home. The water wasn't clean. "My children and I had to fetch very dirty water, which always caused us intestinal worms." She said.

One day this struggle changed, thanks to the UN's joint project 'Rural Women Economic Empowerment (RWEE) implemented by four UN agencies. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, UN Women, World Food Programme, and International Fund for Agricultural Development.

JP RWEE supported the establishment of a spring catchment tap and now it only takes Alphonsine 30 minutes to get water. "But since you gave us clean water, we are healthy; we do not suffer from diseases related to dirty water because we now drink pure and clean water." Said Alphonsine Mukeshimana, one of the beneficiaries of the initiative.

The spring catchment was initially planned for irrigation, supporting the Nkabikorera cooperative which grows maize and tomatoes. "This spring catchment is one of the best achievements of the RWEE project and we specifically thank JP RWEE for the support where in the dry season, this spring catchment serves nine villages and around 300 people fetch clean water from here every day, said Elie Nsabimana, one of the beneficiaries.

"The leadership of Ngoma district highly thank RWEE for the tremendous and impactful activities the project continues to carry out for the betterment of people of our district especially of Jarama sector," said Nathalie Niyonagira, Mayor of Ngoma District.

ACRONYMS

ARCT:	Association Rwandaise des Conseillers en Traumatisme (National Organization of Professional Trauma Counselors)
ARFEM:	Association Rwandaise des Femmes Journalistes (Association of Rwandese Female Journalists)
CEDAW:	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CLADHO:	Collectif des Ligues et Associations de Défense des Droits de l'homme au Rwanda
CRVS:	Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
CSO:	Civil Society Organizations
DHS:	Demographic and Health Survey
DNA:	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
EICV:	Enquete integrale sur les conditions de Vie des menages
FAO:	Food and Agriculture Organization
FAWE:	Forum for African Women Educationalists
FFRP:	Forum for Women Parliamentarians
GALS:	Gender Action Learning System
GBV:	Gender-based Violence
GEPMI:	Gender and Economic Policy Management Initiatives
GEWE:	Gender Equality and Women Empowerment
GEWE:	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GIS:	Geographic Information System
GMIS:	Gender Management Information System
GMO:	Gender Monitoring Office
GRB:	Gender-responsive Budgeting
HIV:	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICT:	Information and Communication Technology
IFAD:	International Fund for Agriculture Development
IOM:	International Organization for Migration
IOSC:	Isange One Stop Centers
IZU:	Inshuti z' Umuryango (Friends of Family)
JP on Gender:	Joint Programme on Gender
JP RWEE:	Joint Programme Rural Women Economic Empowerment
JP:	Joint Program
MAJ:	Maison d'accès à la Justice
MIGEPROF:	Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion
MINAGRI:	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources

MINECOFIN:	Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
MINICT:	Ministry of ICT and Innovation
MINISANTE:	Ministère de la Santé (Ministry of Health)
MPTF:	Multi Partner Trust Fund
NBC:	NILE BASIN Club NGO
NCDA:	National Child Development Agency
NISR:	National Institute of Statistics in Rwanda
NWC:	National Women Council
NWC:	National Women's Council
PME:	Planning Monitoring and Evaluation
RALGA:	Rwandan Association of Local Government Authorities
RBA:	Rwanda Bar Association
RBC:	Rwanda Biomedical Center
RFL:	Rwanda Forensic Laboratory
RIB:	Rwanda Investigation Bureau
RMC:	Rwanda Media Commission
RWAMREC:	Rwanda Men Resource Centre
SDF:	Sustainable Development Fund
SDGs:	Sustainable Development Goals
TV:	Television
TVET:	Technical Vocational Education Training
UHC:	Universal Health Coverage
UN:	United Nations
UNDAP:	United Nations Development Assistance Plan
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA:	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR:	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF:	United Nations Children's Fund
UNWOMEN:	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UPR:	Universal Periodic Review
VAC:	Violence against children
VAWG:	Violence Against Women and Girls
VSLA:	Village Savings and Loan Association
WASH:	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WEM-TECH:	Women Empowerment through Technology
WFP:	World Food Programme
WHO:	World Health Organization
YWCA:	Young Women Christian Association



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