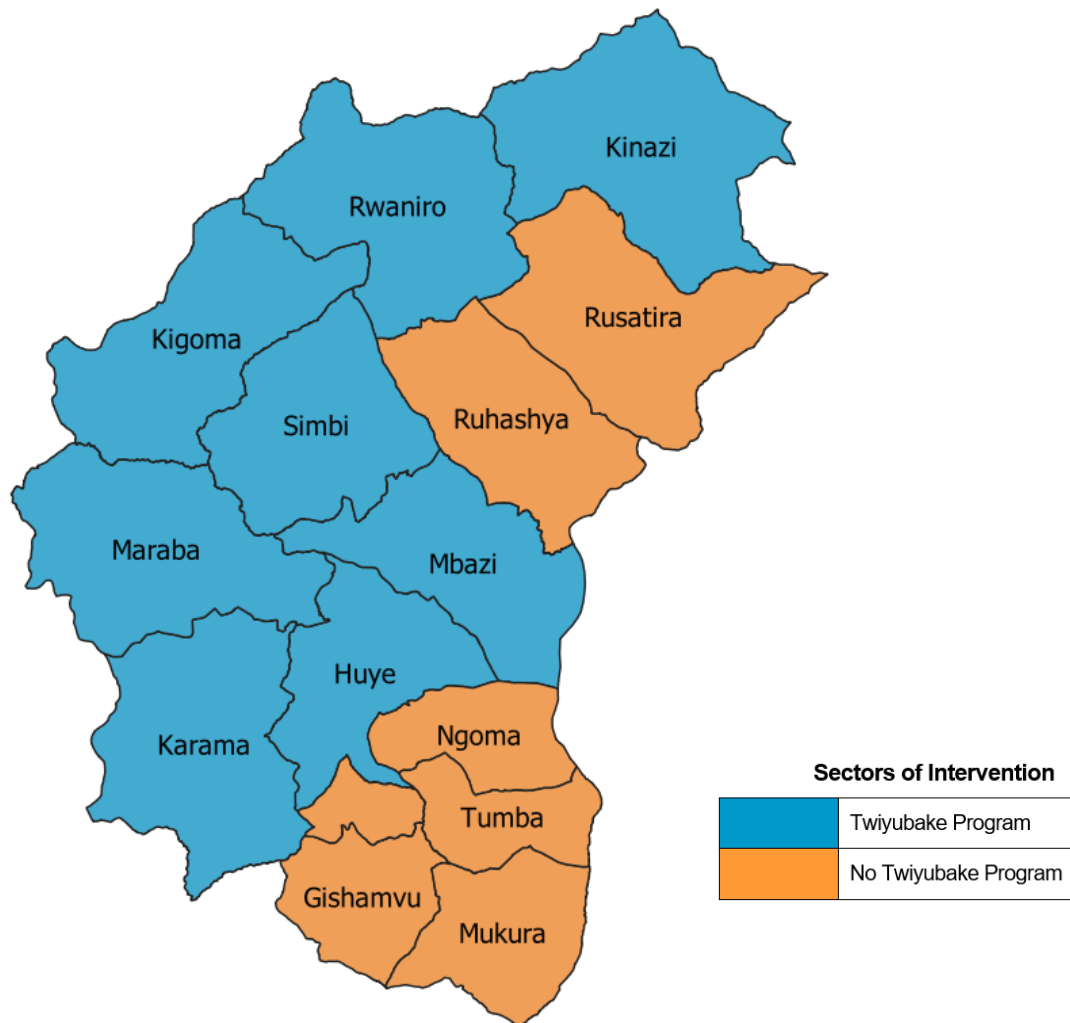


USAID/Twiyubake Program (2015-2020)

Huye district



Program overview

The USAID Twiyubake program is a five-year program implemented by Global Communities with funding from USAID/PEPFAR. The program aimed to support at least 50,000 vulnerable households in 12 districts of Rwanda to reduce social and economic vulnerability by empowering parents to make investments that meet the unique needs of their families, particularly young children and adolescents in ways that the Government of Rwanda and local communities can sustain over time.

In Huye District, Twiyubake program was successfully implemented in eight sectors which include Huye, Kigoma, Kinazi, Simbi, Maraba, Karama, Mbazi and Rwaniro. The program enrolled 3,879 households with 10,533 children and 9,612 adults to receive a comprehensive package of services. Program implementation in Huye District was managed by DUHAMIC ADRI – a Global Communities Rwanda Partner Organization.



NECDP National Coordinator, Dr Anita Asimwe, talking to children at USAID Twiyubake supported Teta Kibondo ECD center in Huye district, Huye sector, Nyakagezi cell, Mbuba village.

USAID Twiyubake program results

Family economic vulnerability decreased

- 220 adult integrated saving and lending groups (ISLG) were established with 4,183 members (1,220 males, 2,963 females) and trained on finance management and business development.
- 357,850,700 FRW value of accumulated savings were made by all the group members in a span of five years. 250,625,400 FRW loans were provided to the group members and recovery is at 84.2%
- ISLG served as a platform to reach beneficiaries with behavior change communication on HIV prevention, family planning, WASH, nutrition, positive parenting, HIV prevention, ECD and other improved health seeking behaviors.
- Conditional household grants of 146,166,000 FRW provided to 2,024 households. The grants enabled households to address different essential needs, including purchasing health insurance, education subsidies, WASH facilities and productive assets.

- Saving incentives to 94 saving groups of a value 26,600,400 FRW to encourage group members' increase their savings and to increase the groups' financial capacity to facilitate all the members to access loans to invest in income-generating activities.
- Business Incentives of 23,920,000 FRW provided to 104 saving groups to engage in common business activities mainly agriculture, livestock and transport. 67 saving groups engaged in common income generating activities estimated at a value of 15,075,000 FRW
- 277 integrated saving and lending groups (including 57 youth ISLG) provided with COVID-19 recovery grants of 35,664,500 FRW to enable the group members recover from the economic shocks caused by the COVID-19 global pandemic.
- 166 Farmer Field Schools (FFS) created with 3,121 members (2,083 females, 1,038 males) to promote the adoption of improved agricultural techniques. Over 86% FFS members have adopted program-promoted agricultural practices and have a kitchen garden.

Providing healthy and nurturing environments for vulnerable children

- 21 integrated community based ECD centers established with 809 children (441 girls, 368 boys) and 130 integrated homebased ECD centers established with 2,030 children (1065 girls, 964 boys).
- All the centers were supported with materials including playing and kitchen utensils for both CBECD and HBECDs of a value of 5,004,800 FRW,
- 2,416 caregivers trained on provision of integrated ECD services.
- 29,838 kg of highly nutritious porridge flour valued at 37,207,986 FRW distributed to all the integrated ECD centers to promote feeding at ECD centers and encourage parents to contribute to sustain the initiative.
- 151 vegetable gardens were created at ECD centers
- Provided scholastic materials to 6,090 (3,167 girls and 2,923 boys) children of a value of 123,838,920 FRW to support their education needs. The program continued to monitor school attendance for all school-age children supported where 77% children were regularly attending school.

Support adolescents to safely transition into adulthood

- 46 community-based youth clubs created with 1,141 members (654 females, 489 males) and 57 in-school youth clubs created with 3,529 members (1,018 females, 732 males).
- 4,670 youth clubs members completed training on nationally approved sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and a comprehensive life skills curriculums.
- Routine HIV risk assessments were conducted for all children between 2-17 years and all those found at high risk of HIV infection referred for HIV testing by the health facilities.
- TVET scholarships provided to 50 youths of a value of 8,750,000 FRW and linked to industrial attachments and job opportunities.
- 57 youth saving groups created with 1,152 members (628 males, 524 females) and trained on financial management, business development and work readiness.
- 92,625,000 FRW value of accumulated savings were made by all the group members in a span of five years. 78,238,500 FRW loans were provided to the group members and recovery is at 88.6%.

Providing essential preventative and protective services

- HIV risk assessments were conducted for 10,533 children aged 2 to 17 years and 1,776 referred for HIV testing services. 68 HIV positive children were supported and monitored for adherence to HIV treatment.
- 1,876 beneficiaries provided with healthcare referral services (ANC, PMTCT, GBV, HTS, HIV Care & treatment, family planning)
- 4,009 beneficiaries educated on best WASH practices and 70% of the households supported by the program have clean and covered latrines.
- 22566 most vulnerable households provided with 45132 iron sheets of a value of 27,079,000 FRW to construct improved latrines.

- 123 modern tippy taps valued at 6,765,000 FRW distributed to different public places, offices and health facilities to promote frequent handwashing as COVID-19 prevention response mechanism.
- 751 community based volunteers trained on provision of program services including case management, health promotion, economic strengthening, WASH, integrated ECD and gender mainstreaming.
- Successfully graduated 3,798 (97%) of the targeted households. These households were considered stable after carefully examining their case files and verifying that they had received all the services indicated on their care plans.

Success story

5 years old girl was tested positive during a HIV testing and counseling campaign

Esther is a 65 years old widow who lives with her 3 grandchildren (2 grand daughters and 1 grandson) in Kinazi Sector, Gitovu Cell, Hanika Village.

In 2004, her daughter Marie-Josee went to Kigali for job opportunities. When she returned in 2005 she was pregnant with her first daughter. After giving birth to Clemence, she returned back to Kigali and left her baby with the grandmother. She came back in 2008 to bear another boy and again in 2012 to give birth to her last born daughter. Two months after labor, Marie-Josee passed away and Esther was left alone with her 3 grandchildren. Nobody knew their fathers.

"I was devastated by Marie-Josee's sudden death and had very few financial means to care for the 3 grandchildren. My youngest grandchild used to often be sick and I did not know the reason. She often had fever, colds, and diarrhea and was a very passive child", explained Esther.

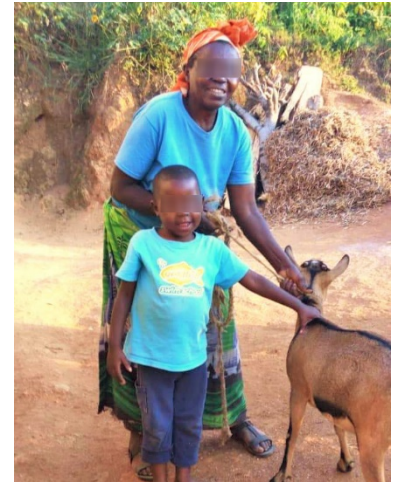
In 2016, Esther enrolled into the USAID Twiyubake program with her 3 grandchildren. She joined the program's supported Agaciro savings group, which helped her meet basic needs and she bought a goat. Two of her grandchildren received school materials and uniforms and the youngest enrolled into the ECD center.

In March, 2017 during a USAID Twiyubake broad voluntary HIV testing and counseling campaign held at Kinazi sector, Esther and her three grandchildren underwent an HIV testing and counseling session.

Unfortunately, her youngest grandchild was tested HIV positive. The child was referred to Ruyenzi Health Center to start ARV treatment.

"Our case management volunteer Yvonne supported me a lot and always accompanied us to the health center. I was devastated but she helped me to accept Josiane's test result. The program paid all transport fees to the health center", explained Esther.

Josiane adhered very well to the treatment. She continued attending the ECD center and her overall health improved. Today she is in Primary 1. The CMV continues to regularly support Esther and her grandchild during home visits. She checks if Josiane is taking her antiretroviral (ARV) drugs and reminds her grandmother of all appointments at the health center.



Esther with her grandchild and their USAID Twiyubake Case Management volunteer

Global Communities Rwanda collaborated with three international organizations, namely: Plan International, AVSI, and Partners in Health and has signed sub-agreements and contracts with six Rwanda Partner Organizations (RPOs) - Young Women's Christian Association of Rwanda (YWCA), DUHAMIC ADRI, Eglise Presbytérienne au Rwanda (EPR), Caritas Rwanda, African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) and Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Rwanda (FXB) - who implement the program in the targeted districts.

For more information: www.globalcommunities.org

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