

OFFICIAL CLOSEOUT OF USAID GIKURIRO PROGRAM IN KAYONZA District

1. INTRODUCTION

As everything has a start and end, on 14th July Gikuriro delegate staff at both Headquarter and Field office level headed by Chief of Party Dr. Alimayehu Gebremariam with district staff delegate headed by Mr. Murenzi Claude Mayor of the district and Beneficiaries conducted a visit to some activities achieved by USAID GIKURURO in KAYONZA District which happened in the 4 years and a half.



2. BACKGROUND

Since 2016, USAID Gikuriro program has started to operate in kayonza district, and has achieved a tremendous level as mentioned by both authorities at district level and Gikuriro headquarter.

Integrated Nutrition and WASH Activity (INWA) locally referred as GIKURIRO, it was a five-year, USAID-funded initiative, which aims to improve the nutritional status of women of reproductive age and children under five, emphasizing on the first 1,000 days of life between pregnancy and the child's second birthday. USAID Gikuriro supported the Government of Rwanda's efforts towards its national goal of eliminating malnutrition in eight Districts of Rwanda including Nyabihu, Nyanza, Ruhango, Nyarugenge, Kicukiro, Rwamagana, Kayonza and Ngoma Districts, through targeted nutrition sensitive and nutrition specific

interventions, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and through strengthening the capacity of Government and local civil society organizations to implement key actions and strategies set out in the National water supply and National sanitation policies.

Some achievements highlighted was a reduction of malnutrition cases whereas 42% reduced to 16% handwashing behavior changed ,improved basic latrines constructed, water infrastructures ,Kitchen gardens and saving behavior ,training of different volunteers in all 421 villages composed Kayonza district.

Gikuriro Program implemented **Agriculture intervention** in 10 sectors of Kayonza district. 409 FFLs groups have been facilitated by 372 Farmer Promoters whereby **97%** of Gikuriro beneficiaries were able to adopt Bio-intensive Agriculture techniques (BIATs) at household level. Gikuriro.

3438HHs have produced High iron beans and 2833 Women have consumed the Production whereas 2063 under 2years children have been feed the Production of High iron beans. Gikuriro have facilitated the beneficiaries to get the OFSP where 4386 HHs have been supported and as results 2518 have been able to consume the Production and 1632 children have benefited to improve their nutrition status

in WASH Component 421 CHCs established in Kayonza and 1,684 CHC Facilitators trained on CBEHPP and 300 CHC representatives trained on liquid soap production while 2901 HHs received iron-sheets to improve their toilets 36 CHCs , 3 per sector were awarded 21,600,000 Frw and 3745 CHCs were graduated to ensure the sustainability of WASH activities 228 SILC inserted in CHC and have been able to achieve 86,136,355 Frw of savings within their Groups.

Gikuriro increased the number of water infrastructures in where have constructed 8 Boreholes 13 Kiosks and 15 Springs as results 28,361Population are fetching clean water near their villages

In Economic strengthening **545** SILC groups created and linked to MFIs, 39 field agents graduated on SILC methodology as Private Service Providers+5Apprentices as results 7,429 SILC group members started income generating activities(small business in the markets and small shops ,agriculture value chain) and **7,686 HHs** have **been able to pay health insurance** as of June their Cumulative savings **180,316,880**, with social fund equivalent **11,945,850** where **members have been able to receive loans equivalent to 155,038,476** . SILC groups have contributed to fight malnutrition where HHs been able to increase their HHs assets and buy complementary ingredients where data from share out showed that reached groups 639 Chicken ,348 Rabbit, 237 pigs 208 goats and 8 Cows have been bought by members through share out event in 2020 FY.

In nutrition component, 472 VNS groups established in 10 Sectors where **9050 children (6 to 59 months)**, 1208 lactating mothers and 604 pregnant mothers have been reached and received nutrition education through VNS as results 1321 children U5 have been rehabilitated through VNS.

Messages HIGHLIGHTED

All of distinguished authorities thanked the program and agreed to build on the achievements towards sustainability of them and keep in mind that Nutrition and WASH activities should be promoted by everyone in whatever is doing, follow up beneficiaries and encourage volunteers to keep mobilization through house to house, support vulnerable families through existing channels and ensure wellbeing of family members especially children with under five ages.