

Association de la Jeunesse pour la Promotion des Droits de l'Homme et le Développement (AJPRODHO-JIJUKIRWA)





ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

Our Achievements in Statistics

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12/31/22

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We Are AJPRODHO JIJUKIRWA

Association de la Jeunesse pour la Promotion des Droits de l'Homme et le Développement (AJPRODHO–JIJUKIRWA) is a local Non-Governmental Organization founded in the aftermath of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi by students attending the National University of Rwanda to ensure that the youth become the spearhead of national reconstruction after their devastating role in the 1994 Genocide perpetrated against the Tutsi a result of manipulation by selfish leaders.

Since its founding, AJPRODHO has transitioned from a small student association to a Non-Governmental organization working to improve the rights of disadvantaged youth, women and children in Rwanda through Human Rights promotion and protection with 25 years of experience.



VISION

A peaceful society where there is youth participation for social justice and decent living conditions for all.



MISSION

To empower youth to claim and respect Human Rights and advocate for socio-economic betterment.

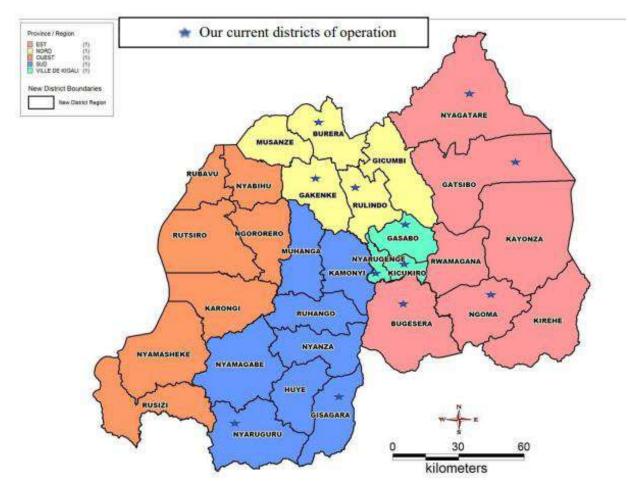


VALUES

Equality, Partnership, Sustainability and Equity.

We are present in

13 out of 30 districts in Rwanda



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ACCRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolutions
AJPRODHO	Association de la Jeunesse pour la Promotion des Droits de l'Homme et Développement
CFs	Community Facilitators
CSC	Community Scorecard
CSE	Comprehensive Sexuality Education
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DDF	District Dialogue Forum
DLM	District Level Meeting
FBOs	Faith Based Organizations
FO	Field Officer
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GFP	Gender Focal Person
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für International Zusammenarbeit/ International cooperation for sustainable development and international education work
GMO	Gender Monitoring Office
IZUs	Inshuti z'umuryango
JADF	Joint Action Development Forum
JRLOS	Justice Reconciliation Law and Order Sector
LAF	Legal Aid Forum
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAG	Monitoring and Advocacy Group
MAJ	Maison d'Access à la Justice
MIFOTRA	Ministry of Public Service and Labor
MIGEPROF	Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion
MINALOC	Ministry of Local Government
MINEDUC	Ministry of Education
MINIJUST	Ministry of Justice
MINIYOUTH	Ministry of Youth
NCC	National Commission for Children
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPA	Norwegian People's Aid
NWC	National Women Council
NYC	National Youth Council

PALAY	Promoting Access to Legal Aid For Youth
PD	Positive Discipline
PEF	Parents' Evening Forum
PPIMA	Public Policy Information Monitoring and Advocacy
PSF	Private Sector Federation
PWD	People with Disabilities
RGB	Rwanda Governance Board
SEO	Sector Education Officer
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAC	Violence Against Children
VAW	Violence Against Women
VSLAs	Village/Voluntary Savings and Loans Associations
WDA	Workforce Development Authority

2022 AT A GLANCE

In 2022, we implemented 6 Projects namely:

- Promoting Access to Legal Aid for Youth (PALAY)
- > Public Policy Information Monitoring and Advocacy (**PPIMA**)
- > Enhancing Livelihood For Youth (EL4Y)
- Integrated Support to End GBV and Enhance Safety and Security of Vulnerable Women and Girls- NDATEKANYE Project
- Empowering Young girls and women to take greater control of their sexual and reproductive health and rights 'TURI ABAGACIRO PROJECT''
- Post Covid-19 Relief Support for Teen Mothers in Nyagatare and Gatsibo Districts.

In a nut shell:

- We designed projects and interventions responded to the needs and priorities of our beneficiaries.
- ⊕ We continued to implement youth-centered projects.
- We built partnerships and collaborations with the government, CSOs and donors in line with our new strategic plan, to better serve our beneficiaries and deepen our engagement in the community.
- We built citizens capacities in participatory approaches for increased citizen engagement and participation in decision-making processes, district planning and budgeting processes.
- We promoted youth economic empowerment by creating opportunities for youth employability, enterprise development, life skills development, as well through policy advocacy to strengthen mechanisms, policies and programs for employment, job creation, enterprise development, and access to finance for youth.
- We engaged in addressing public policy barriers to youth and women startup businesses including advocacy for a responsive tax policy, access to finance, youth employability and workplace learning government policies and programs.
- We ensured our micro and small enterprise development support program for vulnerable youth includes an integrated model comprising organizing youth and women participants into VSLAs and eventually supporting their linkages with financial institutions.

- We provided access to justice services including; legal consultation, preparation of legal pleadings, orientation and referral of service seekers; and IEC on justice systems and procedures; teenage pregnancy prevention and teen mothers social protection; enhanced sensitization and communication on ASRHR; just to mention few.
- We provided training on alternative dispute resolution (ADR) to stakeholders (Cell ES, IZUs, CNF, Abunzi, and GFPs which positively impacted on forms of GBV within communities.

	Engaged people		
214.655		100%	
 100.888		47%	
115.788		54%	
98.867		46%	
Reached out		%	
Male	■ Female ■ Youth aged 35 & belo	ow <mark>–</mark> Tot.	

And, we engaged ...

(Drawn on basis of aggregated attendances from all projects)

Thus; **214,655 people** reached out through researches, Trainings, Workshops, Advocacy and awareness campaigns, Legal Aid provision, CSC and other events.

Pillar 1: Human Rights and Access to Justice

PALAY Project

 A carried out research on adolescent pregnancy revealed that 85% of prevail amongst school aged girls.

- 28 Paralegal were trained on legal assistance and facilitated providing legal assistance to families living with domestic violence, and advising youth on SRHR. 95% of the targeted population was assisted.
- **128** youth beneficiaries were engaged in sensitizations on SRHR, Children' rights and prevention of GBV.
- ⊕ Youth-led legal aid clinics reached out **466** people.
- ⊕ 26 likeminded CSOs and stakeholders from government were engaged for a roundtable discussing the early pregnancy research findings.
- ⊕ A policy brief on the early pregnancy issue was drafted and shared with relevant policymakers.

Pillar 2: Democracy and Governance

PPIMA Project

- AJPRODHO joined 17 policy advocacy coalitions of PPIMA and non-PPIMA partners for the joint advocac on participation issue, including advocating for the sign language use in teaching curriculum.
- ⊕ A training on gender mainstreaming was organised for AJPRODHO staff.
- 140,759 citizens (men, women, youth) gathered thanks to CSC process and were facilitated raising to leaders (at all levels) the issuesy affecting their socioeconomic wellbeing; 68 issues were included in imihigo of Ngoma and Nyagatare districts.
- Nyagatare district adopted the use of CSC approach in district planning; it signed an MoU with AJPRODHO clarifying its use after the PPMA phase out.
- General Strain Strai
- 2 radio talk shows on citizen participation were carried out interacting callers
 (64), SMSs/comments (42) and their leaders on the panel (in the studio).
- A research on citizen participation, youth empowerment, and access to justice was carried out in Ngoma; it outlined a low participation of youth particularly in planning and budgeting and in imihigo [Implementation of imihigo: 13.2% youth; in imihigo planning: 2.2% youth; in imihigo monitoring: 1.01% youth].

Pillar 3: Youth Economic Empowerment

EL4Y Project

- 4,000 youth were facilitated accessing financial services; firstly, 83% of the youth got loans from their formed VSLAs (134), then others from microfinance institutions (Umurenge SACCOs) their VSLAs were linked with. 342 youth beneficiaries (185 female; 157 male) improved their businesses and livelihoods.
- 800 youth [326 boys; 474 girls] were facilitated getting technical skills [through TVET]; 100 youth [51 boys; 49 girls] facilitated acquiring e-learning skills.
- AJPRODHO signed MoU with 16 companies (in Muhanga & Bugesera) in order to support youth beneficiaries easily accessing internship and get contacted with employers. 500 youth (117 boys; 383 girls) got internship following the agreement.
- 100 youth beneficiaries (27 boys; 73 girls) participated in the incubation program allowing them getting entrepreneurship skills.
- AJPRODHO secured a guarantee fund (25%) joining BDF fund support (75%) into Umurenge SACCOs to ensure eligible youth accessing loan to run their projects. 83 youth (37 male; 52 female already were provided the loans.
- So far, 408 youth (200 male; 208 female) transitioned from informal to formal employment.
- An advocacy was held gathering 15 stakeholders; it aimed at showing and advocating for the issues affecting beginning businesses and compromise youth self-employment.

Ndatekanye Project

- 300 street vendors were organised around 10 VSLAs, 30 business advisors and 20 peer educators trained on various themes pertaining small scale business (e.g., entrepreneurship, cooperative start-up and management...). The 10 VSLAs are on registration process to become cooperatives.
- The 20 peer educators were trained on VSLA methodology to strengthen their VSLAs functioning. The VSLAs were provided VSLA kits.
- Deer educators were trained on AfCFTA trade and opened to existing
 opportunities and were called for sharing these opportunities with the peers.
- For protecting street vendors from the rights abuse, a training on GBV prevention was organised for particularly security elements in target districts (Gasabo, Kicukiro, Nyarugenge).

The Post Covid_19 relief support for teen mothers in Nyagatare and Gatsibo districts.

The vulnerable teen mothers were provided tailoring machines (90 teen mothers), goats (250 teen mothers) and school materials (500 teen mothers). The support played a big role in rebounding their income generating activities from which they provide their babies and families, or to restart schools.

Pillar 4: Child Rights and Protection

Turi Ab'agaciro Project (Nyaruguru and Gatsibo)

- The project improved especially men's mindset and parents in general on SRHR; the sexuality is no longer a taboo topic between parents and adolescents.
- ⊕ In Nyaruguru; men champion of change sensitized **500** people on SRHR through 'Tuganire Mwana Wanjye'' talk session organised in umuganda of February 2022.
- Community level sensitizations about SRHR reached out 2950 people and 3403 people in Gatsibo.
- Holidays camps were organised and facilitated for 300 girls in Nyaruguru & Gatsibo; they serve as a safe space for girls to share their sexuality related issues.
- ⊕ The project trained **120** peers educators and they reached **4,000** youth in sensitizations around SRHR (held in schools and in the communities).

Message From Legal Representative

The year 2022 marked a key step ahead towards achieving our AJPRODHO's mission. It is my pleasure now to heartfully congratulate the Secretariat team of AJPRODHO-JIJUKIRWA Organization for their unprecedented efforts in furthering the human rights and the citizens' rights particularly the youth, children and women through meaningful and impactful projects which have been implemented this year.

Our efforts would be less impactful unless joined by the government institutions, I think of Ministries, specialized institutions, local government...and by the support of donors (International NGOs and UN agencies) and fellow CSOs we especially partner with. We appreciate your supportive right hand.

I congratulate every staff of AJPRODHO for the tremendous effort you have put in, and encourage you to do even more in your respective responsibilities. Together, let us continue to enhance AJPRODHO's programming, mission and vision to impact the community and our Nation.

MUSSA MUTSINZI

LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE

AJPRODHO -JIJUKIRWA

Acknowledgement

This consolidated report is a result of commitment and support from all AJPRODHO STAFF who provided their time during the implementation of activities and achievements entailed herein.Special appreciation to organization technical team under the leadership of programs management for overall guidance and coordination during report preparation.

Special thanks go to our development partners, European Union, Norwegian Peoples Aid (NPA), UNWOMEN, Legal Aid Forum (LAF), Plan International to mention but a few, for financial, technical and moral support that facilitated the achievement of our aspired planned livelihood change of the fellow Rwandan programs' beneficiaries.

We are much indebted to the government of Rwanda for the good collaboration and partnership through different institutions to achieve objectives of AJPRODHO's 2022 Action plan.

Last but not least, special thanks go to the entire leadership of AJPRODHO-JIJUKIRWA, the Board of Directors, CEC, Arbitration organs, and the members for continuous strategic guidance and oversight provided during the course of the operational year of 2022.

On behalf of AJPRODHO-JIJUKIRWA Secretariat we thank you all.

MUPENZI Ejid Executive Secretary AJPRODHO – JIJUKIRWA

In partnership with



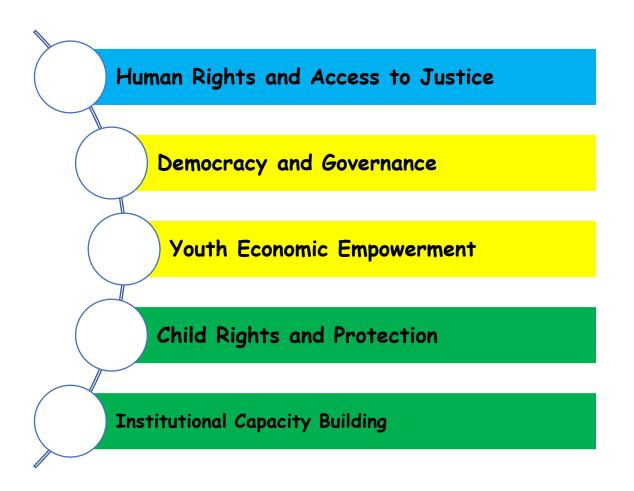








On Pillars...



We Achieved

he following summarized results.

Sections below capture key results documented for the FY 2022. However, it is worth mentioning that results presented in this consolidated report must always be viewed as themselves resulting from the previous cumulative ones.

Results have been presented project by project and following respective pillars projects fall under.

Pillars, Projects, Activities and Achievements

In 2022, projects and initiatives continued in line with our Strategic Plan (2021-2025)'s **four pillars** [mentioned above].



1. HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE PILLAR

t the heart of AJPRODHO's interventions is promoting and defending Human Rights in Rwanda. The Human Rights and Access to Justice Program aims to and focuses on enhancing empowerment of people with legitimate claims –namely youth, and accountability of those who are mandated or able to respond—that is, the duty-bearers.

In virtue of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights [art. 8], "Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law." As for the previous implementation periods, backed with our partners, we continued facilitating access to justice for the target and needy beneficiaries.



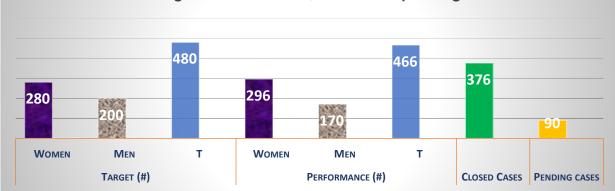
[Photo 1. Paralegal training. Photo 2. Once in the community: Para-legal services support couples conciliating).

Under this pillar, 1 project was implemented: Promoting Access to Legal Aid for Youth **(PALAY)**.

1.1. Main achievements under PALAY project

- **1** research evidencing teenage pregnancies. It indicated: approximately 85% of all adolescent pregnancies take place among adolescents attending school.

Routine legal aid provision: 97% of the target needy people assisted.



Legal issues received, closed and pending

(Source: PALAY annual report 2022).



(Data from PALAY Annual report 2022).

1 policy brief about teenage pregnancy was developed and shared with stakeholders and policymakers.



(AJPRODHO and stakeholders in a round table on teenage pregnancy. 12/07/2022).



2. DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE PILLAR

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims: "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights," which includes the rights of freedom of association, opinion, expression, assembly and movement¹. Overall, Rwanda has made substantial progress since 1994 in reforming government structures, ensuring security, promoting peace and strengthening the justice system. Despite progress, significant challenges remain including; limited participation of youth in decision making processes, limited consultation of youth in the design of laws and policies, poor access to essential services, corruption, effective civic participation and freedom of expression. AJPRODHO's Participatory Governance program seeks to create an enabling environment for youth to learn, to grow and to contribute towards national development through

¹ The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Articles 19,20,21

effective participation and influence of local and national level in order to effectively address youth needs.

The ultimate goal is to work collectively with other institutions, youth and policy makers to bring effective and equitable delivery of services to youth and citizens in aeneral. Also, the Participatory Governance program seeks to reinforce the rule of law through the design of appropriate policy, legal and regulatory frameworks as well as to strengthen local and national governance institutions which are responsive to youth needs and challenges.



(AJPRODHO & Nyagatare district signing MoU on sustaining the CSC approach to citizen engagement).

Main achievements under PPIMA

Among other achievements;

Outcome² (OC)1

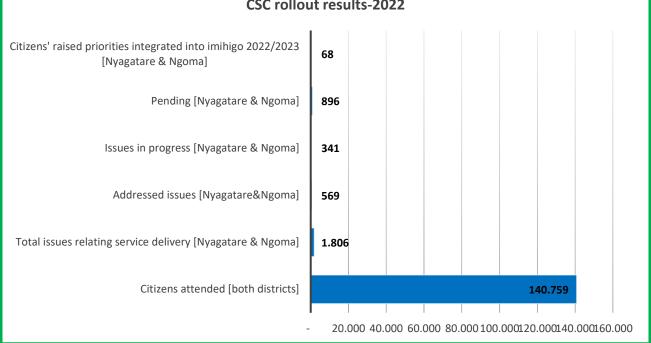
- AJPRODHO participated in **17 policy advocacy coalitions** gathered PPIMA and Non-PPIMA partners; namely Never Again Rwanda, CLADHO, PAX Press, HAGURUKA, Coalition Umwana ku Isonga with a purpose of influencing central government on policy reform.
- AJPRODHO Participated in **30 cross learning events** [Nyagatare, Gakenke, Ngoma] on PPIMA sustainability.
- **15 AJPRODHO employees** trained on 'gender' and 'gender mainstreaming' which improved their planning and delivery on projects.
- Advocacy on **sing language use** in education curriculum.

² Outcome 1: AJPRODHO is more effective in its work to influence and mobilize

Outcome³ (OC)2

[Ngoma district] 234 Duty bearers (whose 60 female)ⁱ trained on HRBA, CSC, ADR approach.

4 CSC rolled out in Nyagatare & Ngoma districts: leaders' engagement on citizens' raised priority issues & their inclusion in Imihigo.



CSC rollout results-2022

[Drawn basing on PPIMA annual report (2022)data].

- PPIMA phaseout and sustainability strategy nurtured through 28 GFPs initiated VSLAs [in Nyagatare & Ngoma]; so far, 3,225,000 Rwf saved on their savings account.
- CSC tool/approach institutionalization adopted through an MoU signedⁱⁱ October 2022 between AJPRODHO and Nyagatare district. The MoU defines the following responsibilities for signing parties:

³ Outcome 2: People and the communities from the target group acted and participated in decision making for their rights.

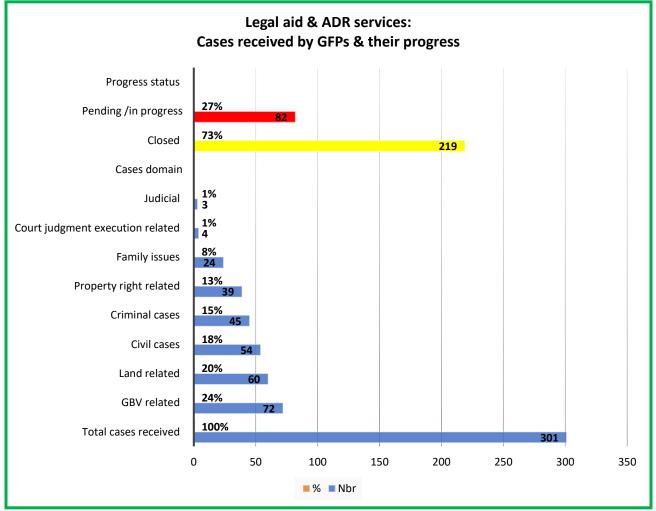
Box	1 Moll	AJPRODHO-N	vaaatare	District res	ponsibilities
DOX	1. 11.00		yagalaic	District res	

Commitments And Responsibilities of Partie	S
NYAGATARE District Responsibilities	AJPRODHO's Responsibilities
 Institutionalize the use of the community scorecard tool in all cell assemblies to identify citizens' issues or priorities to inform district planning and budgeting process as well as assessing the quality of service delivery. Sustain involvement of GFPs in the district Imihigo and budget formulation, community mobilization and feedback after PPIMA project phase out. Share with GFPs representatives and AJPRODHO the Imihigo and budget approved in every fiscal year for community feedback. Continue to share implementation progress of Imihigo in every fiscal year to AJPRODHO and GFPs to facilitate community feedback. To facilitate the 324 PPIMA project governance focal persons (GFPs - Imboni Z'imiyoborere Myiza) to continue the community scorecard (CSC) process in all cells of NYAGATARE District and to monitor Imihigo processes at sector and district level. Facilitate coordination and designate 2 focal persons for GFPs activities at District level (JADF Officer and Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer) and at sector level (Good Governance and specific programs Officer and Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer). Sustain linkage of GFPs structures and Mentors (Committee members) in public policy planning, implementation monitoring and evaluation and engagement with 	 Continued collaboration with NYAGATARE district during district planning and budgeting processes through GFPs collection, consolidation and elevation of citizens' priorities during the post project phaseout period; Support the GFPs to compile and share the community scorecard findings report to the district authority to inform district plans and budgets; Facilitate monitoring and coaching of the GFPs during the project post phase- out period; Continuous advocacy initiatives related to the citizens' issues raised throughout the CSC process at district and national level; Facilitate enterprise development support to GFPs' Voluntary, Saving and Loan groups and support them to evolve into cooperatives with which they will continue to promote civic engagement using the Community Score Card in the district; Provide capacity building on the CSC to youth, women and PWDs councils to enable them monitor identification, elevation and prioritization of issues uniquely affecting youth, women and persons with disabilities. Provide training of new leaders on the CSC and its sustainability Conduct a high-level workshop with the Nyagatare district management officials and NPA about the PPIMA post phase- out CSC sustainability Designate AJPRODHOs focal point that will continue the work with the responsible district officials on the PPIMA

existing with government community	proje
mechanism like Inshuti z'Umuryango	suitak
(IZUs), Umugoroba w'Imiryango (UWI),	
in preventing and resolving	
community conflicts	

project post phase-out process and suitability.

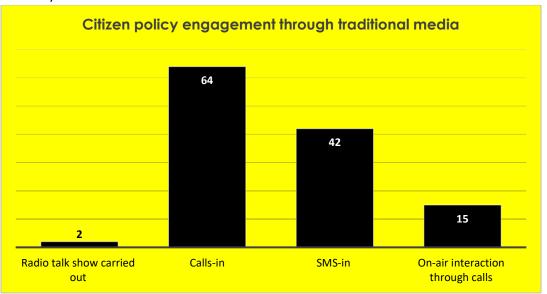
[Nyagatare] **301 people** received GFPs' legal aid support to resolve conflict, disputes, and/or violations of rights. Issues received & addressed disaggregate thus:



(Drawn on basis of PPIMA Annual report/2022 data).

Outcome⁴ (OC)3

- Effective AJPRODHO's support to local citizens' policy engagement through face-to-face district dialogues and through media. Specifically, **2 district dialogues** carried out successfully: **101 people** (mostly leaders) participated (whose 74 male, 27 female); and 2 on-air talk shows (see below).



⁽Drawn basing on PPIMA Annual Report 2022 data).



We conducted a **citizen participation baseline** survey, in Ngoma district, with an emphasis on youth which signaled deep gaps for youth participation. Findings demonstrate youth's role in **imihigo** process is played in the implementation with a score of **13.2% youth**; Youth's role in planning: **2.2% youth**; in monitoring: **1.01% youth**; **31% youth** can easily afford legal and justice services.

⁴ Outcome 3: Local and National government have formulated Policies and Plans that reflect the concerns raised by citizens.

Box 2. Key findings of the baseline survey on citizen participation, youth empowerment, access to justice in Ngoma district

Key baseline findings

- Citizens' Participation: 93.2% of the respondents reveal that citizens/cell assembly is the space in which citizens participate frequently followed by Umuganda at 71.3%, then socio- media at 42.1%, parents' evening forums at 38.5%, radio call-ins at 24.6%, umushyikirano at 4.4% and other forums (adhoc community meetings, NGOs) at 3.6%. And generally, they confirm that citizens always express themselves freely in these forums.
- ⊕ Knowledge, Attitudes, Practices (KAP) related to Gender and GBV and their implication on civic participation: The survey indicated that there are still serious challenges relating to citizens Knowledge, Attitudes, Practices (KAP) related to Gender and GBV. For example, findings reveal that 65.01% (34.4% F&30.5% M) believe that women should respect culture and religious belief and be submissive to men, 48.83% (25.7% F& 31.7% M) agree that men should go to look for money while women should take care of the home and children, 37.4% (11.4%F&18%M) believe that Gender equality is unrealistic and cannot be achieved in real life, 27.54% (13.6% &13.9%) believe that in community meetings, men always have strong ideas than women, 29.33% (14.9%F &14.4% M) believe that it is the responsibility of the wife to avoid getting pregnant,29.68% (13.8% F&15.9%M) believe that men should be responsible and the last decision makers about all household income, among others.
- ⊕ Youth participation in government programmes and government created spaces: Overall, it was perceived that youth's participation in government programmes and plans is very low. For example, youth's role in imihigo process is somehow played in the implementation with a score of 13.2% youth. Youth's role in planning was rated 2.2% youth, in monitoring at 1.01% youth while this category of citizens participates at 16.3% youths said to have not played any role at all.
- ⊕ Access to justice: 31% conformed to have afforded the services, citizens also get legal services and advocacy and in most cases for free/ probono legal services, one of the main challenges is that it is very difficult to report a case of corruption. Indeed, several key informants revealed that they rarely receive corruption related cases even though some of the respondents acknowledge having ever encountered or heard about a case of injustice or corruption from a close family member or friend. On the basis of the findings of this baseline study, not reporting is attributed to factors; such as fear for retribution because the corrupt leaders are at the same time decision makers to whom citizens are meant to report to and cover up of corrupt practices though such cases are very few.
- ⊕ Environmental protection, climate crisis and citizens' participation: 74.7% of respondents in the baseline survey reported climate change effects (Precipitations, draught, etc.), 41.6% indicated soil degradation and soil erosion, 4.4% indicated water pollution & access, 51.2% of respondents mentioned the issue of natural resources depletion, 44.2% evoked the issue of deforestation, 13.8% showcased the issue of loss of biodiversity, while 11.3% indicated urban pollution & natural resources pressures. Vis à vis these issues, recommendations were put forward to mention to mitigate the problem of deforestation, soil erosion, and landslides, it is

recommended that efforts be made to stimulate tree planting and extend access to energy-saving improved stoves and use of gas and awareness raising on climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies among community members in Ngoma district should be reinforced in order for these community members to also mobilize others.



Pillar Three

3. YOUTH ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PILLAR

he Article 23.1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, underlines "Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment." For Rwandan youth, unemployment is a major concern as the present labor market cannot absorb currently unemployed youth let alone meet the future need. Youth unemployment, underemployment and poor wages can have long term adverse impacts on other rights such as adequate housing, access to nutritious food, purchasing power for basic needs, etc.

Economic hardship coupled with a lack of opportunities to meaningfully participate in the society puts youth at risk of long-term social exclusion; which in turn compromises a countries' social cohesion and can lead to political instability (UNDP, 2014:14). Therefore, it is important to support Rwandan youth's right to favorable work and protection against unemployment as a fundamental human right.

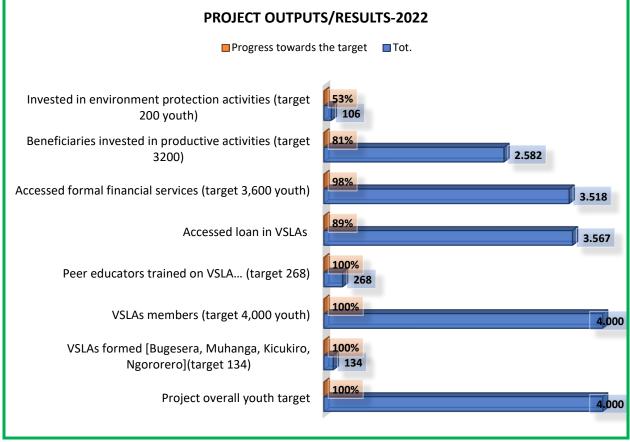


[Final event during talent detection competitions guest of honor Mr. Thibaut Moyar (Head of economic and Governance section EU delegation) providing awards to the winners (23rd September 2021)].

3.1. Main achievements under "Enhancing Livelihoods for Youth (EL4Y) Outcome⁵ (OC)1

Among other key results:

4,000 accessed financial services and improved their livelihoods through income generating activities.



(Drawn on basis of EL4Y Annual report-2022 data).

⁵ Outcome 1. 4,000 vulnerable youth (16-30 years, 70% women) have enhanced their livelihoods.

District	No. of VSLG	Members/ P	Members/ Project Beneficiaries			
		Women	Men	Total		
BUGESERA	42	874	376	1,250		
MUHANGA	42	814	436	1,250		
KICUKIRO	25	541	209	750		
NGORORERO	25	525	225	750		
TOTAL	134	2,754	1,246	4,000		

Formed VSLAs distribution

(Source: EL4Y Annual report)

950 youth (95% of the targeted youth) accessed skills development opportunities (TVET, e-learning, and additional technical skills). In this area;
 800 youth (326 male; 474 female) accessed skill in non-traditional TVET opportunities; 100 youth (51 male, 49 female) acquired e-learning skills. 50 youth(whose 38 female, 12 male) accessed additional technical skills.



[Bugesera Stadium: Youth competing during a 'talent detection' contest by which the 800 youth supported to enroll in non-traditional TVET were selected; over 1,300 youth contested (23 September 2021)].

The youth were supported improving the employability skills and were distributed as follows (table below):

Districts	Categories of Talents	Nbr of Youth	Male	Female
BUGESERA	Comedy and Theater	46	20	26
	Traditional dance	168	71	97
	Fashion	63	28	35
	Master of Ceremony (MC) and Amazina y'inka	6	6	0
	Poems	2	0	2
	Modern Dance	50	19	31
	Instrumental	26	21	5
	Vocal/Singers	17	10	7
	Computer, graphic design , photo passport ,video			
	coverage and Art	22	14	8
Sub-Total		400	189	211
MUHANGA	Comedy and Theater	55	34	21
	Traditional dance	90	29	61
	Fashion	30	17	13
	Master of Ceremony (MC) and Amazina y'inka	25	25	0
	Poem's	7	4	3
	Modern Dance	58	21	37
	Instrumental	21	12	9
	Karate	50	43	7
	Vocal/Singers	14	7	7
	Computer, graphic design, photo passport ,video			
	coverage and Art		37	13
Sub-total		400	229	171
Grand total		800	418	382

The table showing the number of youth who accessed non-traditional TVET in each trade

(Source: EL4Y Annual report 2022).

And the start-up materialsⁱⁱⁱ were provided to the selected trainees.

- 16 companies (from Bugesera & Muhanga)^{iv} signed MoUs with AJPRODHO to facilitate youth with opportunities for placement and career development. Consequently, 500 youth (whose 117 male, 383 female) were provided industrial internship for career development.
- 9 youth beneficiaries were supported to participate in the national trade fairs held at Gikondo expo ground which aimed at supporting youth to access markets for their products, engage in productive activities, and learn from others to improve their businesses as well as linking youth with relevant skills to employments.
- **221 youth beneficiaries (**152 female and 69 male) accessed coaching and mentorship services from business mentors with whom we signed MoU.
- **100 youth beneficiaries** (27 male, 73 female) participated in the incubation program in all districts of project implementation for them to acquire entrepreneurship skills.



(Training of youth on incubation programs at Muhanga and Ngororero Districts took place at YEGO Center Muhanga and BDF Ngororero Districts).

For ensuring sustainable access to financial services; AJPRODHO secured a 'guarantee fund' (25%)[∨] for the target youth and signed 16 MOUs with SACCOs on the management of the Guarantee Fund for youth in 4 districts of operation. Youth beneficiaries meeting the financing conditions reach out the SACCOs (apply for the loan) and get financed for their projects. So far, 83 youth (37 male and 52 female) have acquired loans equivalent to 28,000,000 Rwf. (See details below).

District	# Submitted projects to SACCOs	# Projects accepted by SACCOs	<pre># projects approved by BDF</pre>	# projects funded by SACCOs	Μ	F	Amount Approved
BUGESERA	55	30	24	23	14	15	12,600,000
KICUKIRO	53	22	8	11	3	8	4,500,000
MUHANGA	31	17	8	8	3	5	4,100,000
NGORORERO	52	12	12	41	17	24	7,100,000
Total	191	81	52	83	37	52	28,300,000

(Source: EL4Y Annual report 2022).

- **408 youth** (200 male, and 208 female) (82% of the target) have transitioned from informal to formal employment.
- **342 youth** (185 female; and 157 male)(86% of the target) have grown up their businesses [business trends' estimates for the past 2 years].
- 15 stakeholders from the 4 districts of operation attended a youth-led advocacy showcasing evidenced issues affecting start-up businesses and access to self-employment. This initiative at district level was followed by a national level roundtable for the same purpose; policy recommendations were taken.
- Project IEC materials were published on media outlets where 5 radio talk shows have been successively aired out through broadcasting media (like Voice of America, radio Izuba, Huguka radio) and on online newspapers (such as <u>https://umuseke.rw/</u>, <u>http://www.impamba.com/</u>, <u>https://rwandainspirer.com/fr/</u>, <u>https://www.hanga.rw/</u>, <u>https://muhaziyacu.rw/</u>; <u>https://www.facebook.com/ty1rwanda/videos/648095919730207</u>), and

https://www.facebook.com/tv1rwanda/videos/648095919730207) and on twitter and YouTube.

- AJPRODHO conducted in Muhanga and Bugesera a stringent community awareness campaign on gender-based violence during the 16 days of activism; the campaign facilitated youth to understand and challenge the negative social norms on gender with the potential of compromising the economic empowerment of youth.
- AJPRODHO conducted a **refresher training of staff on taxation and marketing**; the training not only improved their knowledge in the matter but also bettered their skills in coaching/mentoring of the youth engaged in

various small income generating jobs/businesses across the districts of operations.

3.2. Key achievements under "Integrated Support to End GBV and Enhance Safety and Security of Vulnerable Women and Girls-NDATEKANYE Project"

This **6**-month project was design in an attempt to address various violations of rights targeting particularly the street vendors across Kigali Town. The violated rights manifest in forms of lack of decent livelihoods, lack of decent shelter...The street vendors do unwillingly unlawful trade on the streets in Kigali which is followed by repeated confrontations — mostly marked by abuse of rights (beating, arrestations and transfers to transit centres...)— with security elements.

Despite its short implementation period, the project brought about the following key changes among the target beneficiaries.

- 300 women (street vendors) were identified from both Nyabugogo EJOHEZA Modern Market and ICYEREKEZO 2050 GASOGI Market and were supported to establish 10 Voluntary Saving groups (VSLGs) as beneficiaries. (Gasabo & Nyarugenge districts).
- Provided career development support and coaching/advisory services to strengthen their competitiveness in the job market.
- **30 business advisors**⁶ **and 20 peer educators representing the 10 VSLAs** were trained to support their fellows particularly in matters of marketing their products, market information including sourcing of products /supplies, pricing, customer care, among others. The peer educators coaching resulted in decreasing street vendors from unlawful business into formal business and their integration in the formal markets. It reduced their vulnerability to different forms of abuse too.



[Training of business advisors (peer educators) (31st November 2022)]

⁶ 20 participants representing local administration also were imparted to the training.

- **30** women business coaches/advisors were provided with coaching guide module and facilitation fees of **90,000** RWF per each.
- **30** women coaches received **4**-day training on entrepreneurship [emphasis: city beautification and green growth]. Gained skills were transferred to the **300** remained women associated in the VSLAs. 10 cooperatives were founded applying the gained skills; the founded cooperatives were provided with flower and tree seedlings on two sites including Kibagabaga site and Nduba Sites and they have been given startup toolkits all to facilitate them to conduct income generating activities that will promote city and home beautification while promoting the environment.
- The training was followed by a pilot of the beautification and greening practices held during 2 weeks in November through December 2022 for 330 women beneficiaries. After the training and practices, the women were provided with tools to be used for their gardening activities.



(Trainees piloting the greening practice; provision of materials used in greening or gardening practices).

 A simplified AfCFTA trade guide⁷ was developed and disseminated to keep refresh the 330 women beneficiaries with regard to tracking opportunities in African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The 20 women peer educators representing 10 VSLAs participated in one day training on AfCFTA simplified trade guide.

⁷ For Rwanda, the overarching objective of the national AfCFTA implementation strategy is to "complement Rwanda's broader development vision, especially in relation to effective The African Continental Free Trade Area [AfCFTA] implementation of the AfCFTA while enabling the country's integration into regional and continental markets''. The strategy is also informed by the views of various stakeholders that were gathered through national level consultations.

- 1 radio talk show about AfCFTA was conducted on radio 10 to raise awareness of the particular free trade.
- 1 four-day training was held for 20 women peer educators representing 300 beneficiaries on VSL methodology, life skills and environmental protection. Trainees transferred skills to their peers; it aims to improve their VSLAs functioning.
- The 10 groups/VSLAs of the 300 women beneficiaries were provided with VSLAs kits made of 300 passbooks, 10 bags, 10 pens, 10 rulers, 10 arrow stamps, 10 Registers, 10 ink pad, 10 ink were purchased and distributed to target beneficiaries. Trained women have established operational Saving and loaning groups.
- **20** women peer educators representing **10** formed groups were trained on Cooperative establishment and management. After this training, the peer educators are supporting their VSLAs transitioning to cooperatives.
- 1 training workshop on GBV prevention was conducted for 85 various people (including the security staff, sector & district leaders, CSOs...) having in their mandate relations with the street vendors; the training aimed at sensitizing them about the risks of violence against women and girls relating to women street vendors and responsibility to protect vulnerable women and girls engaged in micro and small businesses.



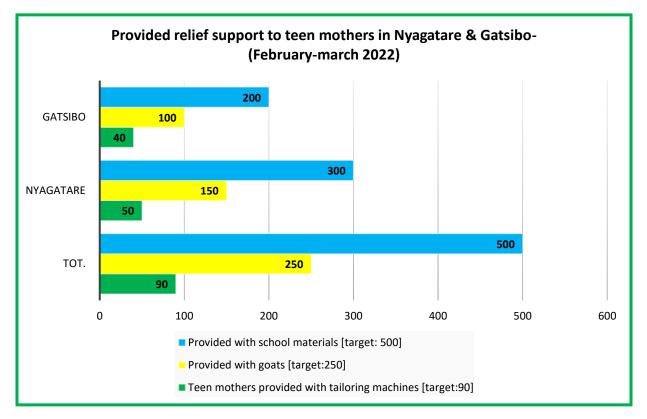
(Participants in the training on GBV prevention and response. November 2022).

3.3. Key Achievements Under Post Covid-19 Relief Support for Teen Mothers in Nyagatare and Gatsibo Districts.

The covid_19 pandemic hit the economic sectors and activities, from the smallest to the biggest businesses following sequential preventive measures set by the Government of Rwanda — like other governments worldwide—which included restrictions to travels/movement (including transborder travels), public gathering,

lock-downs and self-quarantine etc. It has affected people's lives in its all forms. Youth were the most affected cluster of the citizens whose sources of income critically lessened.

This 2-month project was designed to support teen mothers who actually count among the vulnerable youth — given their early and sometimes unplanned motherhood — to recover from the hardships induced by the covid_19 pandemic; the project targeted teen mothers in districts of Nyagatare and Gatsibo (Eastern province of Rwanda). The following chart summarizes the achievements.



(Drawn on basis of "Post covid-19 relief support for teen mothers in Nyagatare and Gatsibo districts" report 2022).



The support consisted of providing the teen mothers (the target beneficiaries) with tailoring machines (to 90 beneficiaries), goats (to 250 beneficiaries) and scholastic materials (to 500 beneficiaries)





4. CHILD RIGHTS AND PROTECTION PILLAR

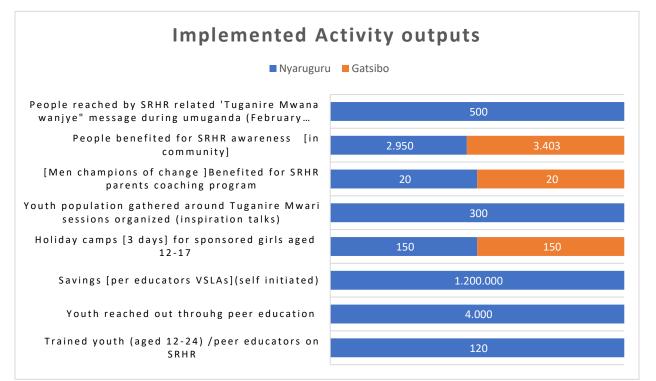
JPRODHO's Child Rights Programming is informed by national and international child rights instruments which also espouse the 4 principles underlying the child Rights convention (CRC) include best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation, and; survival and development of the child.

Under this particular pillar, children (Rights holders) are empowered to hold duty bearers accountable; they are empowered to claim their rights (participation), while duty bearers have a duty to respect, protect and fulfill human rights; and must be accountable and assume responsibility for the achievement of child rights.



[Photo 1. Male champions of change after coordination meeting (25/02/2023-Nyaruguru). Photo 2. A man Champion of change engaging with community members after Umuganda].

"Empowering Young girls and women to take greater control of their sexual and reproductive health and rights '**TURI ABAGACIRO**^{vi}'" was the core project run for 2022 under this pillar. Its results read thus:



4.1. Main achievements under Turi Ab'agaciro project

(Drawn on basis of Turi Ab'Agaciro project annual progress report 2022)

In sum;

- Youth aged 12-17 in schools **gained knowledge** on SRHR in Gatsibo (3 sectors) and Nyaruguru (3 sectors) which is upraising their self-control level.
- Parents—especially men—benefited for a coaching program on SRHR and were successfully taken on board to advise their daughters on sexual and reproductive matters and the community at large.



5. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING PILLAR [Business Development]

5.1. Proposal to Never Again Rwanda (NAR) - Passed through

AJPRODHO JIJUKIRWA has underscored that one of the key challenges of youth employment and job creation in Rwanda is inadequate access to workplace Learning [WPL]. This is so because institutionalization of WPL programs is still relatively a new concept in the Rwandan education and training system; the number of workplace learning opportunities provided by companies does not meet the growing demand; capacities of companies to appropriately train, guide and supervise interns and apprentices are underdeveloped.

Also, there are issues regarding the availability and appropriateness of the equipment at the companies, which are for some under-equipped to train apprentices efficiently these companies; there is lack/limited budget to incentivize their interns; many of the existing workplace learning schemes are not certified; and finally, necessary systems, structures and regulations to foster and manage workplace learning are absent or not effective, and minimum quality standards are missing. As a result, the policy has been limited in generating a coordinated impact that is necessary to achieve the objectives for the workplace learning system.

To bridge the gaps above-said, AJPRODHO JIJUKIRWA sought to contribute to Rwanda's Workplace Learning Public Policy effectiveness in Kigali City, Nyagatare and Gatsibo Districts through Enhancing Workplace Learning Public Policy Impact (Fit4Work) Project which will further appraise the basis behind inadequate access to Workplace Learning for youth including the 2015 WPL policy, as well as existing and previous WPL strategies and programs implemented by the government. The project will among other results attain the following key outputs: **Output 1.1:** Evidence based advocacy for Adequate Access to Workplace Learning (WPL) conducted and **Output 2.1:** Youth-led, youth-centered and youth driven advocacy for adequate access to workplace learning facilitated.

5.2. Concept note to Eurpean Union (EU) - Passed through

The overall objective of the Action/ Project is to promote free artistic expression and decent work for youth development leading to the reduction of youth unemployment and increasing their access to decent work in Rwanda (SDGs 1, 5, 8). Specifically, by the end of the Action, **1500** youth artists will have enhanced their livelihoods due to an increase in income of at least 60% and their control over resources. Specifically, the Action will strengthen artistic and cultural expression for enhanced youth employability and decent work and empower youth to use their talents for enhanced free artistic freedom on issues affecting them and the community at large.

By achieving the fore mentioned overall and specific objectives, the Action will contribute to the global objectives of the call for concept note thus enhancing the role of the applicant and the co-applicant, respectively AJPRODHO and RLRO- two Rwandan Civil Society organizations, to contribute to the country's development. The Action contributes the National Strategy for Transformation (NST1) of Rwanda pillars of economic, social and governance transformation, and to the National Employment Programme (NEP), through supporting initiatives that provide decent, sustainable and quality jobs for the Rwandan youth and providing more competence skills.

The primary target group of the "Action "project is: at least **2000** vulnerable youth of Bugesera, Rwamagana and Kigali city Districts [Nyarugenge, Gasabo and Kicukiro]. The target group will be composed of young males and females in arts and culture industry from age 16 to 30 years. They are unemployed or underemployed youth from the poorest households involved in art and cultural activities.

The Action/ project shall reach four expected outputs and one of them focuses on youth led advocacy strategy on barriers of artistic expression and related business development produced and implemented with regard to barriers to: (1) limited domestic market, restrictions against freedom of expressions, (2) lack of public spaces and little availability of formal education around art and culture, (3) limited youth talents development opportunities and access to markets, (4) access to jobs, finance and markets; (5) to start-up and expand businesses, as well as; (6) to transitioning from the informal to the formal sector, is developed and implemented for the protection of vulnerable youth, (7) unstable income and limited access to capital for youth artists, and (8) limited knowledge/information on existing policies and business development. Hence, the Action contributes to the specific objective of the call by providing the two

Rwandan Civil Society Organizations with opportunity to influence changes in government policies and their enforcement.

The Action/ project shall also incubate the development of skills in areas such as community art and music festivals, fine art, film, craft, theatre, handcrafts, music, sports (athletics, cycling), theatre, traditional dance, radio, visual arts, and modern channels e.g. multi-media, software and gaming - to stimulate creativity and free artistic expression among youth in Rwanda.

5.3. PPIMA project Proposal to NPA- Passed through

AJPRODHO will keep enhance the youth agency to facilitate youth-led, youthcentered and youth-driven public policy advocacy on challenges affecting them and empower to effectively inform public policy discussions and advocating for strategic and localized interventions to be prioritized at the community level by involving community members, local authorities, traditional leaders, religious leaders, and other key community members. The project will reinforce and / or create youth spaces to promote ongoing dialogue in the created spaces on youth development issues by providing youth friendly tools that will make it easy to elevate youth issues. The youth safe spaces and CSOs advocacy spaces facilitated under the project will serve two purposes: To enhance effective youth access to information on public policy processes and rights, but spaces will also serve as effective engagement and influencing spaces to voice their needs and challenges.

AJPRODHO will work to support citizens to actively participate in local planning and budgeting process will be facilitating platforms / spaces for elevating issues that will not have been considered at district level through existing PPIMA alliances and other appropriate collective avenues. In 2023-2024, the PPIMA project will continue to use the Community Score Card (CSC) tool as an alternative tool for collecting citizens' priorities and identifying community service delivery issues to influence decision making. CSC will be run through cell assemblies, which will make it a more citizens' centered mechanisms.

AJPRODHO will facilitate youth safe spaces and engagement on youth development and public policy issues through the Soccer4change in the 5 sectors in Ngoma District, **344** ADR beneficiaries (**192** GFPs, IZUs, UWIs, FBOs, CNF, NYC, Civil Status Officers, Cell Executive Secretaries, ABunzi etc) trained on the updated ADR policy and related key laws, mediation techniques and gender in Ngoma District, there will be improved knowledge on ADR mechanisms and its associated benefits in the community of Ngoma District, Over **30,000** citizens are expected to participate in local planning processes through CSC approach in Ngoma District and over **1000** community issues/priorities are targeted to be

collected and submitted for district decision makers' consideration while planning and budgeting in 2023 and 2024.

5.4. Proposal submitted to UNWOMEN- In progress

AJPRODHOs work will contribute to both two Impact areas of UNWOMEN: **Women** and girls live a life free from violence. (Impact (3), to achieve project outcomes and outputs related to the above said project impact focus areas above said, strategies and mechanisms will be developed to implement main activities prescribed under the terms of reference of the UNWOMEN call for proposal. The implementation of the project will therefore use impactful and self-sustained approaches as proven by evidence and experience.

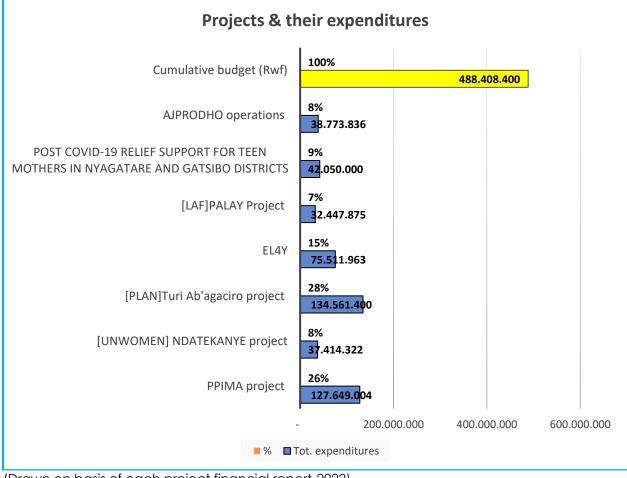
The approached to be used include: - Integrating key GBV prevention and response services in health centers - Home grown solutions such as Umugoroba w'Imiryango ("Evening Forums") and communitybased psychosocial support - Self-support groups for financial literacy and economic empowerment - Community dialogue to challenge cultural norms that perpetuate gender inequalities and gender-based violence and to raise awareness on gender equality in the community - AJPRODHO will facilitate ToT trainings for anti GBV champions on gender and GBV.

The ToTs / Anti GBV champions will in turn cascade acquired knowledge to the general community by facilitating by raising community awareness on the gender and GBV and related public policy. Men engage approaches will be used to encourage men and boys to partner with women and girls in deconstructing negative stereotypes and promoting positive masculinity using male champions. The strategy will clearly define men engage approaches that will be used to deal with the stereotypes and promote positive masculinity my male partners and coworkers, among others.

During the project execution/ implementation process, the project management team will have to ensure community and stakeholders acknowledge ownership and are involved in project implementation, management and monitoring. Continuous opportunities will be provided for review and identifying lessons learned from development interventions at the community level. This will enhance the efficiency, effectiveness, accountability and sustainability of the project. In addition, there will be a joint monitoring and advocacy including GBV survivors, Women rights organizations, Government stakeholders, and youth and women representatives, CSOs working on VAWG, consultative and information meeting, feedback mechanisms. The project is expected to reach to the following results: **Result 1**: Increased awareness among communities to prevent and respond to S/GBV including available services (health, social, justice, economic), **Result (2)**: Strengthened capacity of relevant institutions /service providers to provide quality services to S/GBV victims. Result (3): Transformative initiatives on GBV in public spaces developed and integrated into formal operating frameworks and procedures to increase safety for women and girls, men, and boys.

ANNUAL BUDGET SUMMARY

Six (6) projects were implemented; related expended budget is illustrated in figure below.



(Drawn on basis of each project financial report-2022).

References

- AJPRODHO, PPIMA Project Annual Report 2022.
- AJPRODHO, Enhancing Livelihood For Youth (EL4Y) Project. Interim Narrative Report, February 2021 to February 2022.
- AJPRODHO, Post Covid-19 Relief Support for Teen Mothers in Nyagatare and Gatsibo Districts, Annual Report 2022.
- AJPRODHO, Empowering Young Girls and Women to Take Greater Control of Their Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 'Turi Ab'agaciro Project'', Annual Report 2022.
- AJPRODHO, Legal Aid Civil Society Fund-Promoting Access To Justice For Youth (PALAY) Project, Annual Report 2022.
- AJPRODHO, Integrated Support to End GBV and Enhance Safety and Security of Vulnerable Women and Girls- NDATEKANYE, Annual Report 2022.
- AJPRODHO (June, 2022). Baseline Survey on Citizens Participation, Youth Empowerment and Access to Justice in Ngoma District. Final Report.
- UNDP Youth Strategy 2014-2017: Empowered Youth, Sustainable Future, 2014.

Endnotes

¹ <u>HRBA, CSC & ADR training</u> gathered: District officials (Head of department/Unity), ES sectors, Civil status and Notary officer, ES of cells, IZUs, Abunzi Representatives, CNFs, FBOs, Villages leaders Representatives, Youth Representatives participated actively in the training

ⁱⁱ The MoU signed between AJPRODHO and Nyagatare district is for 2 years renewable.

The start-up materials provided included: Music drums, guitar, piano, power amplifier, microphones, Bass speakers for music band. For Traditional dance, they have received lmishanana, amayogi, body, masai shoes, ingoma, imirishyo, computer and speaker. For fashion and medalist, they have received, fabrics Kitenge and others shoes as well as fashion they can used for their performance. For arts and design, they received different types of colour painting they can have used in art and painting in Muhanga youth gallery.

Companies facilitated youth during Industrial Internship				
District	Names of the company			
BUGESERA	La lacine saloon; Ingabire foundation; Atolier de couture Berwa Ruhuha; Ambara uberwe Nyamata; Ishema Rilima; Marayika Antionette; Umucyo saloon; Urwambariro Rilima; Ambara model Gashora; La doxa saloon Nyamata.			
KICUKIRO	Atolier Bayisenge			
MUHANGA	Atelier ishema; Cowamu LTD; Agakiriro Muhanga; Sifa saloon; Bureau Social Garage; Atelier de Couture Uwimana Fatuma			
NGORORERO	-			

iv The 16 companies are:

^v In their consultative meetings about establishing a guarantee fund, AJPRODHO and stakeholders (e.g., BDF, SACCOs, the donor...) agreed the following:

- One of the resolutions that were reached from these consultations was to sign agreements with SACCOs as financial institutions where this fund will be managed.
- Secondary it was agreed that once agreements are signed with SACCOs, AJPRODHO will disburse this fund to those SACCOs based on number of youth in VSLA groups in those sectors of operation in the targeted districts.
- Once the fund is disbursed in SACCOs, the targeted youth will be encouraged and facilitated through business coaching to apply for loans where the established fund will contribute to **the missing 25% of the guarantee provided by BDF**.

^{vi} Turi Ab'agaciro project is implemented within Nyagatare and Nyaruguru communities but especially for adolescent youth (under 18) in secondary schools.