

ASSOCIATION DE LA JEUNESSE POUR  
LA PROMOTION DES DROITS

DE L'HOMME ET LE DEVELOPPEMENT  
(AJPRODHO-JIJUKIRWA)



YOUTH ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN  
RIGHTS PROMOTION AND  
DEVELOPMENT

(AJPRODHO- JIJUKIRWA)

## **YAGEVFA PROJECT QUARTERLY REPORT**

**Name of the Organization: AJPRODHO-JIJUKIRWA**

**Project title: YAGEVFA**

**Reporting period: July - September 2014**

**Period's targets/objectives:**

- Capacity building for existing Gender Focal Persons, anti GBV committee members, Evening parents forums committees, and youth human rights clubs on Gender concepts, GBV laws to fight against GBV.
- Community mobilization (couples in marital settings, Young people in age of marriage, Local leaders, GBV interveners in the area, Religious bodies, Youth in and out of schools) for the fight against GBV in 14 sectors of Nyagatare District.
- Assistance, accompaniment and reference of GBV victims to the appropriate institutions and psychosocial rehabilitation of GBV victims.

**Submission date: 6/10/2014**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

To raise youth awareness on gender equality and violence free families is one of strategies adopted by AJPRODHO-JIJUKIRWA in order to promote human rights.

The purpose of youth awareness on gender equality and violence free families project (YAGEVFA) which is being implemented in Nyagatare district is that citizens, specifically couples in marriage settings, youth in marriage ages, youth in and out of school, and local leader actively participate and are engaged to advocate for social justice and fight gender based violence using existing anti GBV mechanisms.

The big struggle in this period has been to collaborate with local leaders for creation of operational evening parent's forums "imigoroba y'ababyeyi", the space where can be easily handled problems related to conjugal life. The monitoring of this activity show us that is progressing very well. However, the need to empower local leaders, especially at cell and village level for an effective collaboration with evening parent's forums committees is crucial.

## II. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT AND OUTCOMES

Planned Result (as in the proposal)	Indicators (as in the proposal or as updated)	Planned activities to deliver the result (as in the proposal)	Activities outputs (What was done, by who, where, when, with who, with what strategies, = paint a picture of what happened)	Outcomes (changes resulting from activities implementation tracked through monitoring based on indicators)	Data source
<p>1. Selected gender focal persons, anti GBV committee members, and youth human rights clubs acquire skills to fight for social justice and against gender based violence.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of participants who can name GBV types and possible preventive and rehabilitative mechanisms.</li> </ul>	<p>1.1. Conduct a three days training for 82 new selected gender focal persons on gender concepts, GBV law, men engaging in fight against GBV, community mobilization, advocacy, gender supportive laws and policies, trauma counseling (trauma resulting from GBV).</p> <p>1.2. Organise a one day training on gender concepts, GBV law, gender supportive laws and policies for 30 representatives of school youth human rights clubs (1 representative per 30 human rights clubs).</p> <p>1.3. Conduct monthly orientation and planning meetings with 106 gender focal points as a platform to share experience and discuss challenges.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow up on application of skills earned during the training which took place in the previous quarter (Cfr quarterly report); strengthen these skills and their adaptation to the reality of each GFP.</li> <li>Contacts have been done for all 30 schools which are involved in the program.</li> <li>3 monthly meetings with 106 GFPs from 14 sectors have been conducted. They are organized in 5 regions according to the neighborhood of sectors, and each group of GFPs has a site of meeting.</li> </ul> <p>1. Mimuli site: Mimuli, Mukama and Katabagema sector;</p> <p>2. Gatunda site: Gatunda, Rukomo, Karama and Kiyombe sector;</p> <p>3. Ryabega site: Karangazi, Nyagatare and Rwimiyaga sector;</p> <p>4. Matimba site: Matimba and Musheli sector;</p> <p>5. Tabagwe site: Tabagwe and Rwempasha sector.</p> <p>On the agenda of these meetings, GFPs present the situation on</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interventions of GFPs in their communities are admired by local leaders and community members. This is confirmed by the increase of support requested to them in conflicts resolution (especially couples), GBV prevention and other activities aimed to promote human rights.</li> <li>Best practices and strategies are shared between GFPs and are known by staff of project. In fact, challenges encountered by GFPs are discussed and strategies to overcome these challenges are drawn. It is in that perspective that it has been discovered that the recommendation from executive secretaries to chiefs of villages (“abakuru b’imidugudu”) facilitate the process of creation and strengthening evening parents forums.</li> </ul>	<p>Database containing list of GFPs,</p> <p>Attendance lists,</p> <p>Monthly and quarterly reports,</p> <p>Testimonies of GFPs and community members</p>

		<p><b>1.4.</b> Providing 106 GFPs, 106 anti GBV committees and 30 youth human rights clubs with booklets about the law on Prevention and punishment of GBV (One copy per group for anti GBV committees, and youth clubs and 1 copy to each GFP).</p>	<p>prevention and fight against GBV activities in their intervention area (village, cell and sector level); the progress on establishment of functional evening parents forums at village level (“imigoroba y’ababyeyi”); their collaboration with local leaders; mediation of couples experiencing conflicts; orientation and advocacy for GBV victims. Apart from these diary activities, discussions on improvement of reporting system and effective intervention of GFPs are conducted. In other words, GFPs meetings are an opportunity to learn how to ameliorate their work. Internal organization of GFPs in their respective sectors, communication between them and with other stakeholders, as well as creation and management of their cooperatives is a topic which has been always developed during these meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Booklets about laws and policies preventing and punishing GBV, or aimed to harmonize marital status (“kubaka ingo z’amahoro”) have been given to GFPs and stakeholders (especially evening parent’s forums “imigoroba y’ababyeyi” committees). These manuals have been produced by partners (Rwanda Women Network and ADTS) with the support of NPA.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Particular GBV cases are presented by GFPs in order to receive advice on how to handle them. These cases serve as model for other GFPs in solving similar problems. Frequently, it is sufficient to remind them the appropriate law or a practical counseling principle (active listening for example).</li> <li>• 106 GFPs are grouped in 7 groups which will be transformed into cooperatives. Each group has opened an account in the nearest microfinance institution (Umurenge SACCO) and every member makes a deposit of 3, 000 RWF per month.</li> </ul> <p>These groups are the followings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Katabagemu, Mukama and Mimuli: 20 GFPs</li> <li>2) Gatunda, Rukomo, Karama and Kiyombe: 26 GFPs</li> <li>3) Rwempasha and Tabagwe: 17 GFPs</li> <li>4) Matimba and Musheru: 16 GFPs</li> <li>5) Karangazi: 12 GFPs</li> <li>6) Nyagatare: 7 GFPs</li> <li>7) Rwimiyaga: 8 GFPs.</li> </ol>
--	--	--	---	---

<p>2. GFPs, youth human rights clubs members and anti GBV committees members transfer acquired skills to community members in their respective areas for the fight against GBV.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of sessions GFP, youth clubs members and GBV/CPC committees members have organised to transfer knowledge and skills to fight GBV (disaggregated by type)</li> <li>• Proportion of citizens participating in conducted sessions (by sex, and age)</li> </ul>	<p>2.1. GFPs, anti GBV committees and youth human rights clubs supported by field officers organise on a weekly basis community dialogues meetings in 630 villages of Nyagatare District to raise citizen awareness for the fight against GBV.</p> <p>2.2. GFP identify model couples from 630 villages and organize them to accompany conflicting couples.</p> <p>2.3. Organise protest marches at sector level (in 14 sectors of Nyagatare District) for the fight against GBV during the 16 days campaign of activism.</p> <p>2.4. Organise competitions in form of songs, poems and theatres by the community groups and the youth human clubs over specific themes for the fights against GBV during the 16 days campaign and celebration of the International Women's Day.</p> <p>2.5. Organise mobile clinic in 14 sectors by the field officers to provide legal counsel to GBV during the 16 days campaign of activism against GBV period.</p> <p>2.6. Organize one Radio talk show per quarter at Nyagatare community Radio for sharing of testimonies and massive community education.</p> <p>2.7. Rewarding one model couple per sector that demonstrated commitment to transform conflict couples to peace.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 625 meetings have been conducted at cell and village levels (respectively 212 and 413 meetings). Besides other topics which would be discussed in these meetings, “umugoroba w’ababyeyi” has been one of priorities to be discussed, as a government program integrated in performance contracts (“imihigo”) at different levels. 35627 persons (19740 women and 15887 men) attended these meetings. It was an opportunity to talk about gender, GBV issue, and human rights in general.</li> <li>• 7 sessions of youth mobilization have been conducted in 4 schools: 2 sessions in GS Rwimiyaga, 2 sessions in GS Nyagatare, 1 session in GS Rukomo and 2 sessions in GS Katabagemu.</li> <li>• 311 established evening parent’s forums have committees which help community members to handle marital problems and to promote gender equality. Each evening parent forum committee is composed by 5 members, including men and women. These committees sometimes meet at the request of community members in order to solve their problems in secret.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meetings of evening parents forums (“imigoroba y’ababyeyi”) have been separated from ordinary meetings in almost all villages where these forums are functional.</li> <li>• The approach of parenting “Kubyarana muri batisimu” initiated in Rwempasha contributed on raising solidarity of community members through “umugoroba w’ababyeyi”.</li> <li>• Evening parents’ forums became “school of good relationship” between married persons, and a forum for resolution of conflicts between them.</li> <li>• Evening parents’ forums are contributing on community behavior change like drunkenness, irresponsibility of family members (men who refuse to pay health insurance for family members), fight against concubinage and adultery, etc.</li> </ul>	<p>Reports, testimonies, database containing list of evening parent’s forums &amp; community mobilization activities.</p>
---	---	--	--	--	---

<p>3. Community members in Nyagatare District take actions to fight gender based violations in their respective areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of testimonies for couples recovered from GBV.</li> <li>• Number of GBV cases reported disaggregated by organs reported to.</li> <li>• Number of community actions taken either collectively and individually to combat GBV.</li> </ul>	<p>3.1. GFPs and the field officers facilitate the organization of community meetings at the village level to assess GBV situation in their area and decide on actions to address identified issues.</p> <p>3.2. Develop and disseminate to 106 GFPs and 106 Anti GBV committees forms to report GBV cases and tracking successful testimonies.</p> <p>3.3. GFPs and anti GBV committees submit on a monthly basis reports on GBV with specific indication of actions taken by the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 311 evening parents’ forums (“imigoroba y’ababyeyi”) are functioning with the support from GFPs (Cfr Annex 2/ Master file/database for YAGEVFA Project in September 2014). According to the monitoring done, 180 evening parent’s forums have regular meetings (weekly meetings), 34 have almost regular meetings (often), instead meetings for 87 are not regular (sometimes). For 10 villages, they no longer have evening parent’s forums meetings. Main topics discussed during this period are education of children: their rights and duties of parents, disappearance of children in their villages, inadequate attitudes among family members like drug abuse, alcohol, management of family property, sexual issues in couples, etc.</li> <li>• “TUZUBAKE” is a strategy for GBV mapping introduced in evening parents’ forums. However, the strategy is not yet used by all GFPs.</li> <li>• 388 cases have been received. 274 cases have been solved (means are closed); instead 114 cases are pending. Among these pending cases, 52 need an intervention of other stakeholders: public institutions like police, local leaders, or courts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 165 cases have been solved during evening parent’s forums.</li> <li>• “TUZUBAKE” is contributing on expression of hidden GBV forms. This strategy help especially men who are frequently shamed by expression of their problems (to be GBV victims), as well as sexual violence in couples which is culturally kept secret. This method of assessment on the frequency of GBV cases and their types in the community contribute on identification of GBV cases which were not known as they are: sexual violence among couples and different types of GBV against men. The prevalence of these forms of GBV is high according to results from this assessment. We regret that this approach is not yet applied in all villages.</li> </ul>	<p>Reports, Master file &amp; database, clients forms, testimonies</p>
--	---	---	---	---	--

<p>4. AJPRODHO share learning and best practices from experiences and processes with other stakeholders to facilitate replication of successful initiatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of AJPRODHO initiatives shared with other stakeholders</li> <li>• Number of AJPRODHO initiatives replicated by other stakeholders</li> <li>• Number of inputs from other stakeholders to AJPRODHO to improve their strategies</li> </ul>	<p>4.1. Writing stories for the good practice of the project and sharing them on the Organisation’s website, NPA website.</p> <p>4.2. Presenting successful initiatives during the YAGEVFA IPs quarterly review meeting.</p> <p><b>4.3.</b> Replicating good practices done by other stakeholder for the fight against GBV.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From 3 to 5 August 2014, the staff of YAGEVFA project participated in the conference organized by LIWOHA (Life Wounds Healing Association) AND AIIP (African Institute for Integral Psychology) for experience sharing with other partners intervening in fight against GBV.</li> </ul>		
---	--	---	--	--	--

### **Important comments:**

- GFPs are becoming experienced in their work. Even if there is misunderstanding for some chiefs of villages, the collaboration with local leaders is good. The interventions of GFPs are appreciated, especially at cell and sector levels.
- Internal organization of GFPs and their willingness to perform their work will contribute on sustainability of YAGEVFA project. Fortunately, the judgment show us that they like increasingly their job. In addition, their solidarity is motivating.
- The problem of combination of saving money and evening parent’s forum program must be managed carefully. If not, it can cause problems.
- GFPs mentioned the case of old men who are no longer respected by their wives and children and became victims of economic violence (Abasaza bimwa burundu ijambo ku mitungo yabo, bikoze n’abagore n’abana babo, bikaba bigaragara nk’ihohoterwa).

### **III. CONCLUSION**

There is a hope that the objectives of YAGEVFA project will be achieved, since there is a good collaboration with different stakeholders. However, efforts are needed to sensitise local leaders (especially cell and village level) so that they take evening parent forum program (“umugoroba w’ababyeyi”) and fight against GBV as the priority in their governance, as they do for “mutuelle de santé”, agriculture, hygiene, sanitation and other programs. This is a wish always expressed by all gender focal persons.

Done at Nyagatare, on 3/10/2014

Narcisse Ntawigenera & Gafupi Ngabire

Field Officers/YAGEVFA Project

AJPRODHO-JJUKIRWA

Approved by Aline MUREKATETE

HR&AJ Program Coordinator

## **ANNEX 1: SUCCESS STORIES**

### **A. SOCIAL CHANGES AT COMMUNITY LEVEL**

#### **A.1. Contribution of “Evening parents forums” on eradication of drunkenness culture (“Ubusinzi”):**

##### **Case of Musheru sector**

In Musheru sector, the drunkenness culture and drug abuse are one of basics of gender based violence. In fact, women and men go in ‘cabarets’ and buy alcoholic drinks without thinking on family needs. The worst is that no man can go with his wife, and no wife can go there with her husband. This behavior is often the beginning or preparation of adultery or concubinage. When they go back in their families, it is the fights which follow. When community members discovered this situation, they took decision to punish every woman who will be in “cabaret” after 19h00. This decision is applied through the collaboration between National Women Council and Evening parents forums members, especially committees. It is also being planned how to punish men (“chiefs of families”) who spend money in “cabarets” without satisfying basic needs of family members (health insurance, school fees for their children, etc). To be mentioned that punishments which are given are in general social or psychological (kubanenga, kubirukana mu kabari, etc.).

#### **A.2. Youth committed to fight for their rights and rights of their colleagues**

One of components of YAGEVFA project is creation of youth human rights clubs (anti-GBV clubs) in schools. Groupe scolaire Katabagemu is one of these schools, where youth is educated on basic human rights, gender concept and strategies to fight against GBV and to promote gender for sustainable development. They are mobilized to contribute on raising awareness of community members. During a meeting of parents who have their children in that school, one of members of this club (Vice president) took the speech and taught parents on basic rights of children, including basic needs and right to study. Then, he requested parents to facilitate their children to study by payment of school fees, providing schools materials, and to pay lunch which is given at school. The problem is that some parents are not motivated to encourage their children to continue their studies, so that they refuse to support them. It is very interesting to see how this youth is committed to claim for their rights and how school leaders are interested by the work done by these clubs and expected results: youth awareness on gender issue, as well as their contribution in fight against GBV and other human rights violation in their communities.



## **B. BEHAVIOR CHANGES AT FAMILY LEVEL**

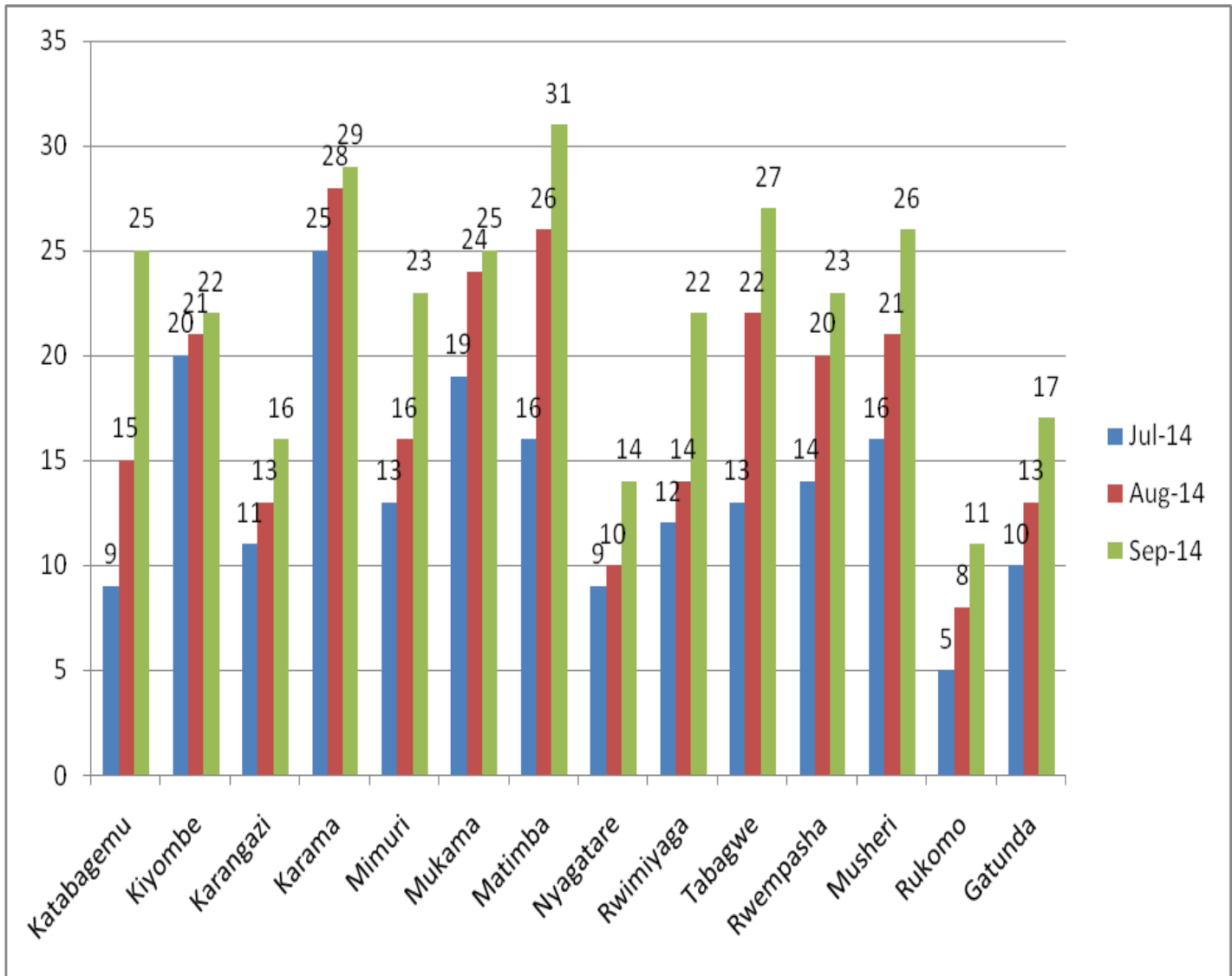
### **B.1. The case of GBV against her wife (Mukama sector, Bufunda cell)**

A (the man) is legally married with B (the wife). At their village, they are considered as rich. However, the man used to control all their properties, so that the wife is not satisfied with how their property is managed. Due to these misunderstandings, dysfunction has been extended in all dimensions of couple life: social, economic, psychological and sexual dimensions. The man accused her wife the lack of respect and the wife accused him wickedness. Really, their life as couple was becoming worse: from 4h00 am, the wife would be at work (“mu biraka”) in order to satisfy her basic needs and needs of her children. For the man, he would look for something to sell (banana, cassava, beans, etc) and to buy something to eat directly (brochette, amandazi, etc). His life was not of a married person, who respects himself. The same for the wife who were considered as an unhappy women “indushyi” instead she has a rich husband. They became at the level where the man decided to take another wife (concubinage). Due to analysis and counseling done by GFP and field officer to them, changes are happening in their couple: the man stopped to get another woman and gave to her wife keys for their second house which would serve him for concubinage; he gave to the wife the permission to use their bananas (urutoki), cassava fields and 2 bags of beans (200kg) in satisfaction of basic household needs (guhaha, imyambaro, kwishyura imyenda arimo, etc.). The wife also accepted to change her negative view against her husband and to believe that the change is possible.

### **B.2. The case of a man who decided to leave his concubine (Nyagatare sector, Ryabega cell)**

He is not yet married with his wife with whom they have 4 children. Recently, he decided to get another wife. When local leaders have been informed, they decided to use power in order to send away this second wife. The local GFP made analysis of the case and saw that the solution is not to use power in that situation. So, she approached concerned persons and made “counseling” until when the man decided himself to send away this second wife. He had already given 300,000 RWF as dowry for this second wife. The next step now is to legalize their marriage, since the man decided that he will no longer plan to get another wife. The couple lives in Nyagatare sector, Ryabega cell.

**ANNEX 2: PROGRESS IN CREATION OF OPERATIONAL EVENING PARENTS FORUMS**



### ANNEX 3: EFFECTIVENESS/ REGULARITY ON MEETINGS OF EVENING PARENTS

#### FORUMS

