

ASSOCIATION DE LA JEUNESSE POUR
LA PROMOTION DES DROITS
DE L'HOMME ET LE DEVELOPPEMENT
(AJPRODHO-JJUKIRWA)



YOUTH ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS PROMOTION AND
DEVELOPMENT
(AJPRODHO- JJUKIRWA)

PROJECT NARRATIVE REPORT

PROJECT TITLE: *RIGHTS AWARENESS RAISING AND LEGAL AID TO THE
VULNERABLE YOUTH.*

**LOCATION OF THE PROJECT: KAYONZA DISTRICT OF THE
EASTERN PROVINCE**

Project Duration: 2013-2016

Funder: IRC/ RWANDA

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I. INTRODUCTION

AJPRODHO-JIUKIRWA positions itself to be a youth organization striving for social justice and to ensure that young people are given opportunities to fully enjoy their rights. One of the approaches that the organization has adopted is to raise awareness on rights and facilitate the access to justice for youth and vulnerable people by working with and through existing structures such as MAJ, Abunzi, local leaders, community members and networking with other actors that advance access to justice.

With that regard, AJPRODHO- JIUKIRWA with financial Support of International rescue Committee (IRC) and in partnership with the Legal Aid Forum (LAF) in Rwanda is implementing a project aiming at rights awareness and providing legal aid to vulnerable youth and that, through engaging youth and providing them with required knowledge about their rights and necessary skills to claim them and access to justice.

From 2013 to 2016, the project activities reached the population of Kayonza districts of Eastern province: (7 sectors: Ruramira, Murama, Rwinkwavu, Kabare Ndego, Mwiri and Murundii). From September 2013 to December 2016, project activities began to be implemented only in Kayonza district in all 30 cells of 7 sectors of this district.

This year's activities advance the overall goal of the 3 year framework which is Access to justice for vulnerable youth in rural communities especially in 7 sectors of Kayonza district. Three year's target was to increase knowledge of 41359¹ people of whom 65% are youth in 30 cells of 7 sectors of Kayonza district in fundamental rights and the national laws related to common disputes resolution and provide the first legal aid to 60% of community members from 30 cells of 7 sectors of Kayonza district who are in conflict with the law.

Identification and training of "Legal focal person" in each cell of intervention area is one of strategies which contributed on achievement of project objectives. Engaging community members in "community sensitization where community debates were engaged for issues indentified" "gender working groups" and "anti-GBV clubs" with support of community based "Legal focal persons" and local leaders is the major strategy that AJPRODHO-JIUKIRWA has adopted in order to sustain the momentum for change

7.5% of the total population of the target sectors (178,430 people according to provisional results of 2012 population census) as the whole project targets 7.5% of the people in the target area.

after the end of the project. Legal focal persons with support of Legal officer organized also community mobilization and sensitization sessions in various villages and cells. The Legal focal Persons worked closely with local leaders, especially at cell and village level to organize the community meetings. Through these sensitizations meetings, it was an occasion for local leaders to be updated on the work done by Legal Focal Persons and which they highly appreciated. “Clients forms” was used to assess special cases of GBV incidents in villages. Cases and marital conflicts were received by Legal Officer in accordance with laws. The predominant forms of cases were related to economic, land, successions, and GBV issues, and conflicts related to sexual issues among couples. The support offered by Legal Focal Persons was: Advocacy, Orientation of cases to the Legal Officer and Counseling. The main activities of orientation were done by the project Legal Officer, and 30 Legal Focal Persons trained on different Laws, Counseling methodology and techniques of hearing (Technique d’ecoute).

During the period of 3 years, efforts of collaboration between local leaders and project implementers were highly prioritized. From district leaders to chiefs of villages on one hand, and from AJPRODHO headquarters. There is a good collaboration, with the focus on interests of community members and client. The increase of orientation of conflicts clients from local leaders and Legal Focal Persons to the Legal Officer, it was observed the decrease of case orientation to the local leaders during implementation of this project. However, the close collaboration in problem solving and sharing information are the key of all interventions. Those effects justify the effectiveness of community sensitization and abilities of Legal Focal Persons in fighting against those incidences and promoting peace in families as well as supporting good governance.

I. ACTIVITIES OF THE PROJECTS

During 3 years of project implantation the following main activities were done:

1. Identification of Legal Focal Persons;
2. Training for 30 legal focal points on key legal provisions and key techniques for rights awareness using the manual developed by the LAF
3. Be-annual legal aid week
4. Legal representation for selected vulnerable people

5. Training of local authorities on GBV law, civil procedures, penal procedures and techniques and methods of sensitization , Judgments of court's decision and child rights
6. Training of people with disabilities on their rights , land Law and child protection law
7. Training of CPCs on child rights and their protection
8. Awareness raising sessions for population from 7 sectors for Kayonza on gender basic violence, Child protection law, family law and organic law related to functioning, competencies and organization of Abunzi
9. Organise Mobile clinic at cell level to meet people who need legal aid.
10. Receive clients at the office and through telephone line to provide them legal assistance
11. Conduct a legal aid week organized locally by AJPRODHO in collaboration with Kayonza district
12. Provide legal representation to 5 selected vulnerable people in courts

II. EXPECTED RESULTS

From 2013 to 2016, the project activities reached the population of Kayonza districts of Eastern province, planned activities were done through five expected results as follows

1. Legal focal points and communities are equipped with skills on legal provisions and key techniques for rights awareness;
2. Local authorities are involved in awareness creation and legal aid mobile clinic;
3. People with disabilities and child protection committees;
4. Community awareness raising structures are decentralised;
5. Project activities are monitored and lessons learnt and experience are documented and shared with other stakeholders.

III. BENEFICIARIES

3.1. Direct:

The project increased the access to justice for vulnerable people in 7 sectors of Kayonza district. It is especially targeting normally people with disabilities, committee of children and people in general of sensitization in different laws.

Ignorance of the laws and rights, their vulnerability fuelled by the virtue of their age and dependence to their families as revealed by both the JRLOs situation analysis for the juvenile justice policy and AJPRODHO's working experience over years were among others reasons that drive AJPRODHO to continue the rights awareness raising campaign through the current project; The number of people with sensitization in different laws is 41359 person's in 2years and 6 monthly.

3.2. Indirect:

The intervention of project implemented influenced behaviours of the wide community in 30 cell of 7 sectors of Kayonza District as far as the respect of people's fundamental rights, families harmonised and freedoms as well as the knowledge and use of the national laws in sensitization of targeting groups.

IV. REALIZED ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR 2013-2016

Result 1: Legal focal points and communities are equipped with skills on legal provisions and key techniques for rights awareness.

From 2013 to 2016 30 Legal Focal Persons from 30 cells of 7 sector of Kayonza District have been selected and trained on key legal provisions (Succession law, land law, enforcement, civil law, criminal procedures, family law, Abunzi law, Child protection law and GBV law) and key techniques for rights awareness using the manual developed by the LAF. During trainings Participative approach contributed on achievement of objectives of the training, since it has been possible to deal with local realities of participants.

30 Executive Secretaries of cells from 30 cells of 7 sectors of Kayonza District participated in a training organized by AJPRODHO-Jijukirwa in collaboration with IRC. The main objectives of training was to empower local leaders on enforcement laws for execution of Judgment from

courts and facilitation of ES to collaborate with Legal Focal Persons to the community dialogue and sensitization on how judgments should be resolved peacefully. In the same way 35 disabilities committees have participated in two day workshop organized by AJPRODHO and IRC in December 2015 on GBV law. The purpose of this workshop was to strengthen disabilities committee to be aware of the rights of people with disabilities in their community and how fight against the abuse done vis-a-vis people with disabilities.

During the period of project implementation 35 child committee from 7 sectors and at district level participated in two days training organized by AJPRODHO-Jijukirwa in collaboration with IRC on child protection law. The purpose of training was to empower child committee on child rights and fight against the abuse done vis-à-vis children. The involvement of local leaders from cells, disabilities committee and child committee contributes positively on engagement of those committees on fighting against people abuses for promotion of human rights and fight against GBV.

Result: 2. Local authorities are involved in awareness creation and legal aid mobile clinic

From 2013 to 2016 30 Local authorities and Legal focal point are involved in awareness reusing event in different village and cells of community sensitization of laws, the Legal officer create mobile clinic; local leaders is involved in mobile clinic is participates to debates of people for resolution of different problem of legal aid need, this organization mobile clinic has change the mentalities of people to resolve the problem..

The mechanism of to resolve in problem to supposed collaborates of local leaders to resolve problems of people.

Secondary to refer the problem how has given the legal service need for example: TO MAJ, COURT, DISTRICT LEADERS etc.....

Result: 3 People with disabilities and child protection committees;

Up to 2015 are organise four days training of 70 representative of child protection committees and people with disability from 7 sectors for Kayonza on gender basic violence, Child protection law after training as organise awareness raising sessions for vulnerable groups in GBV Law for fundamental rights ; committees of children protection cupid fundamental rights in children protection this two groups as informed is fundamental rights and informed groups with right need and presuppose right to protection of minor.

Result: 4 Community awareness raising structures are decentralised;

After training in different module is organised awareness raising in village and cells leave this organisation as supported by local leads chef village and executive secretaries of cells this awareness as moderate supervision

REALIZED ACTIVITIES

Expected outputs	Activities	Indicators	Means of verification	Risks & Assumptions	Achievements
Result 1. Legal focal points and communities are equipped with skills on legal provisions and key techniques for rights awareness	1.1 Conduct a three day training for 30 legal focal points on key legal provisions and key techniques for rights awareness using the manual developed by the LAF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of legal focal points trained. - Improved level of understanding of the legal focal points about the legal framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training report - List of participants - Training modules - Pre and post test results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training module is available on time. 	30 legal focal points trained on key legal provisions and key techniques for rights awareness in the 7 targeted sectors of Kayonza District
	1.2 Conduct be-annual legal aid week (one week organized locally by AJPRODHO in collaboration with Kayonza district, and the national legal aid week)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of legal aid weeks organized - Number of participants - Planning and evaluation done. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal aid reports - Monthly and annual implementation reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community based legal aid support provided - Judicial conclusion are provided 	National legal aid week was conducted in Mwili sector. Around 30 persons received legal services.
	1.3 Provide legal representation to selected vulnerable people in courts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of vulnerable people legal represented(supported) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monthly and annual reports - Supports documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Availability of legal representation for Vulnerable people 	3 selected vulnerable people were provided with legal representation in courts

<p>Result 2: local authorities are involved in awareness creation and legal aid mobile clinic</p>	<p>2.1 Conduct two day training of local authorities at cell level on GBV law, civil procedures, penal procedures and techniques and methods of sensitization and child rights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of people trained - List of participants - Training manuals - Improved level of understanding on existing laws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training report - Number of people trained - List of participants - Training manuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local authorities are active in legal and human rights promotion 	<p>30 local authorities at cell level were trained on GBV law, civil procedures, penal procedures and techniques and methods of sensitization and child rights, and on enforcement of those laws.</p>
<p>Result 3: People with disabilities are equipped with skills their rights and child protection law.</p>	<p>3.1 Conduct 2days training of people with disabilities on their rights and child protection law</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of people trained - List of participants - Training manuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training report - Number of people trained - List of participants - Training manuals 	<p>People with disabilities are aware of their rights and child rights</p>	<p>35 people with disabilities were trained on their rights, child protection law and GBV law.</p>
	<p>3.2 conduct two day training for CPCs on child rights and their protection law</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training report - Number of people trained - List of participants - Training manuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training report - Number of people trained - List of participants - Training manuals 	<p>Availability of local support on promotion of child rights</p>	<p>35 members of CPCs were trained on child rights, child protection law and GBV law.</p>
<p>Result4. Community awareness raising structures are decentralised</p>	<p>4.1 Organize meetings with LFPs within their zones top set up joint mechanisms to carryout community awareness campaigns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of meetings organized - Number of participants (males and females) filled in format of sensitization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of participants - Monthly and annual reports 	<p>Collaboration between LFPs and Legal Officer in community sensitizations</p>	<p>515 meetings with LFPs were conducted within their respective zones to set up joint mechanisms</p>

					to carryout community awareness campaigns; and in total 64879 community members participated
	4.2 Facilitate LFPs during the community-based sensitization campaigns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of sensitization campaigns conducted - Number of participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monthly and annual report - Sensitization template filled 	Close collaboration between LFPs and communities Availability of local support	LFPs community-based sensitization campaigns were facilitated through issues of transport fees; and mobilization of people was facilitated with local authorities.
Result 5: Project activities are monitored, Key lessons learned Are followed, monitored, documented and shared. with other stakeholders	<p>5.1 Conducts three field visits per week to monitor activities of legal focal points,</p> <p>5.2 Organise session to share lessons learnt to be supported by IRC</p> <p>5.2 Receive online complains, fills client forms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of sessions conducted - Number of session conducted by legal officer - Number of calls received 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report - field visit report - forms filled 		5.2 An average of three weekly field visits were conducted to monitor activities of legal focal points,

				Online complains were dealt with, and client forms' were filled as they were coming up.
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3. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FROM 2013 TO 2016

The “Rights awareness and legal aid to vulnerable youth project” implemented by AJPRODHO-JJUKIRWA in KAYONZA District 7 targeted sectors namely Mwiri, Rwinkwavu, Murama, Murundi, Ndego, Ruramira, and Kabare Sectors for the period from 2013 to 2016>.

The project has for overall objective the “Access to justice for vulnerable youth in rural communities” and, for specific objectives:

- To increase the knowledge of more than 41.000 people of which 68% are youth in 7 sectors of Kayonza district in fundamental rights and in the national laws related to common disputes resolution;
- To provide with the first legal aid to the members of community members from 7 sectors of Kayonza district (Mwiri, Rwinkwavu, Murama, Murundi, Ndego, Ruramira, and Kabare) who are in conflict with the law.

To achieve the above said objectives of the project, from 2013 to 2016, the following activities were achieved throughout 30 legal focal point selected from 7 sectors of kayonza Districts (Mwiri, Rwinkwavu, Ndego, Murama, Murundi, Kabare and Ruramira) trained on key legal provisions and key techniques for rights awareness; and many sessions were conducted in different cells for community sensitization on different law. In total **64879** community members attended in 515 sessions.

- We celebrate together the project achievements and handover the trained legal focal persons to the local authorities who are expected to work with the later trained by AJPRODHO on various laws and rights beyond the project life for sustainability . This is in accordance with the project design.
- During that event Ajprodho present to the participants as well as to the District authority the achievement of the project.

Participants attend the closing event in Kayonza District.



The IRC Rwanda Country coordinator, The acting mayor of Kayonza and Ajprodhho ES were present during the closing ceremony.



Trained people with disability receive the certificate and legal focal person.





For the first legal aid, a cumulative number of **456** cases captured in the data base were received in the sub-office of Kayonza town from the members of community members of the targetted 7 sectors of Kayonza district (Mwiri, Rwinkwavu, Murama, Murundi, Ndego, Ruramira, and Kabare) who were in conflict with the law. Those received cases include **398 civil cases** and **58 penal cases**. **287** of those cases were closed through mediation by Focal Points and Legal Officer including cases taken as closed because they were dropped by their owners as revealed by the follow up.

In April 2016, we have conducted the project assessment; many questions asked to the beneficiaries, within 3 sectors visited about 75% of the respondents confirms the importance and the achievements of the project, the citizens confirms the improvements get from this project be it in terms of living and understanding the Rwandan legal flame work.

Success stories

1. A domestic violence case involving MUKABUGINGO Patricia. The case was represented and pleaded at RUKARA Primary Court. The case ended up with the divorce as wished by MUKABUGINGO Patricia and community property was divided equally between her and her husband in the interest of their children.

2. A case of violence on the person of NYIRAMATABARO Cesarie who was beaten by people charging her to be a witch. The project conducted advocacy and the case was taken by the prosecution. The case was prosecuted before the court and the perpetrators were condemned and order to pay to NYIRAMATABARO Cesarie damages amounting to 2 millions of Rwandan francs.

3. A couple from Murama sector, Rusave cell was separated for two months due to some misunderstandings within their household. It was reported that the wife used to constantly beat up the husband especially when she got drunk. The Legal Focal persons identified the case and together with the legal officer visited these partners. Later on, the couple was made to meet a chat out the issue. They were advised and the wife asked forgiveness from her husband and committed to give peace to the partner. Currently, the couple reports to be leaving in harmony.

4. In May 2014, we supported in primary court a Mrs MUHAWENIMANA Chantal from Ruramira sector Ruyonza cell. She was claiming for her 2 plots located in Nyamirama sector, Musumba cell. These plots claimed were taken by her sister in law who live at Gikaya cell in Nyamirama sector, Kayonza district. This lady was very poor and she won by now she has all the plots claimed. This claim was no: RC0016/11/TB/KDO.

4. CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The project period of implementation was a success in terms of achieving the set objectives. However few challenges were encountered and they were indicated as follows:

- Late release of funds. This late release of funds caused to project to start late and by the way the partial completion of the project activities. AJPRODHO had no means for financing and the project had to wait the availability of the funds.
- Many complainants coming from the operational area. The project operates in seven sectors of Kayonza District, but a huge number of cases received either on a toll free and at the office were being reported outside the coverage. This was a big challenge especially in making follow up of the case and moreover affects the project targets. In fact, such cases could be received, and oriented.
- The change for some local leaders who were less collaborative should be underscored because it affected the smoothness of the project.

5. CONCLUSION

This project entitled” *Rights Awareness and Legal AID to the Vulnerable Youth*” has much contributed to the community in regard of right awareness, Education on legal framework, counseling and other relevant laws, through sensitization and mobilization activities conducted in 7 operational sectors. This has reduced conflicts of procedure in law and promoted their knowledge on Rwandan legal framework.

As the project has closed, for sustainability of its achievements, the stakeholders should see how to dispatch a one stop center at the region for helping the local community as the project has been doing it.