Youth Awareness on Gender Equality and Violence free Family (YAGEVFA) project

Location of the Project: NYAGATARE District of the Eastern Province

Project commencing Date: 2012

Project ending date: 2015

Period covered by the report: 2012-2015

Submission date of the report: Jan 2016

Funder: Norwegian Peoples Aid - RWANDA

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I. INTRODUCTION

AJPRODHO-JIJUKIRWA is a youth organization striving for social justice and to ensure that young are people given opportunities to fully enjoy their rights. One of the approaches that the organization has adopted is to raise youth awareness on gender equality and violence free families in collaboration and partnership with local leaders, community and networking with other partners involved in gender equality and Gender based violence issues.

The Youth Awareness on Gender Equality and Violence free Family (YAGEVFA) is a project implemented with financial Support of Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA).

The objective of this project is to contribute to the promotion of social justice and fight against Gender Based Violence (GBV) through community engagement and strengthen existing anti GBV mechanisms in the Eastern Province aiming at promotion of gender equality and prevention of domestic violence from its root causes, through engaging youth and providing them with readiness for marital life.

Since 2012 to 2013, Phase one the project activities covered and worked in 3 districts;

- Nyagatare under four sectors (4 sectors: Karangazi, Gatunda, Rukomo and Karama),
- Gatsibo under three sectors (3 sectors: Rwimbogo, Rugarama and Gitoki).
- Kayonza (5 sectors: Gahini, Rukara, Mwili, Murundi and Mukarange).

Phase two; 2014 and 2015, the project activities scaled up to all sectors of the district.

Implementation strategy

Identification and training of “a gender focal person” in each cell of intervention area is one of strategies which contributed on achievement of project objectives. Engaging community members in “gender working groups” and “anti-GBV clubs” with support of community based “gender focal persons” and local leaders is the major strategy that AJPRODHO-JIJUKIRWA has adopted in order to sustain the momentum for change after the end of the project. GFPs with support of field officers organized also community mobilization sessions and Parents’ Evening Forums (“Imigorobay’Ababyeyi”) in various villages and cells. The GFPs worked closely with local leaders, especially at cell and village level to organise the community meetings and the Parents’ evening forums. Through these meetings, it was an occasion for local leaders to be updated on the work done by GFPs and which they highly appreciated. “Tuzubake” methodology used to assess GBV incidents in villages were combined with visual materials used as didactic materials during Parents’ Evening forums sessions. Additionally, GBV cases and marital conflicts were received by GFPs in accordance with laws and mechanisms aimed at fighting against GBV. The predominant forms of GBV were related to economic issues (“gusahura/gusesaguraumutungow’urugo”), concubinage, conflicts between parents and their children or with former partners, drunkenness associated to infidelity, and conflicts related to sexual issues among
couples. The support offered by Field Officers and GFPs entails largely: counselling, orientation, advocacy and social support for GBV victims. The main activities are implemented by the project coordinator, 2 field officers and 106 trained gender focal persons (GFPs).

The main achievement in the last 2 years (2014-2015) focused on engaging local leaders for creation of operational Parents’ evening forums “umugorobaw’ababyeyi”, the space to significantly handle problems related to conjugal life. The monitoring of this activity shows a promising progress. However, the need to empower local leaders, especially at cell and village level for an effective collaboration with parents’ evening forums committees is crucial.

As main project results, physical violence cases have been reduced as well as Parents evening forums (PEF) became functional in Nyagatare district. In addition, concubinage which was considered as an acceptable practice in many areas of Nyagatare district has been eradicated in some communities (like in Rurenge cell, Rukomo sector). However, other communities are remaining only at the stage of solving problems which are associated to this main problem (economic issues, social conflicts, etc.), without attacking the root causes of concubinage.

Collaboration between local leaders and project implementers were highly prioritized. From district leaders to village chiefs on one hand, and from AJPRODHO headquarters to Parents’ Evening Forums (PEF) committees on the other hand, there is a good rapport for all parties including interests of community members and GBV victims. The increase of orientation of marital conflicts and GBV victims from local leaders to PEF and GFPs, and the decrease of orientation of marital conflicts from PEF and GFPs to local leaders are observed effects during implementation of this project. However, the close collaboration in problem solving and sharing information are the key interventions in the struggle against GBV. Those effects justify the effectiveness of PEF and abilities of GFPs in fighting against GBV and promoting harmony in marital relationships.

The decrease of received GBV and marital conflicts cases during PEF sessions brought community members to strengthen activities aimed at socio-economic cohesion and development. It is in such way that 162 PEF expanded their activities on socio-economic activities, instead of considering PEF as a conflicts resolution mechanism only. Guidelines are given to PEF members in order to avoid transformation of PEF into “Voluntary Saving and Loans” groups or cooperatives, and to maintain their aspect of PEF sessions. Those activities contributed on the regular attendance and the increase of community members attending PEF sessions, especially men. In addition, those activities brought solutions to community problems which once they are solved, family well-being is promoted. Health insurance, hygiene in households, water and sanitation and owning a livestock are the main problems solved by these socio-economic activities. In some villages, they learned arts (embroiderries, manufacturing soaps, etc) which help to create income generating activities. As a result GFP started literacy program teaching reading, innumeracy and writing in areas of (Kabungo cell, Kiyombe sector). In
the same way Kijojo cell (Musheli sector), a GFP initiated training of youth groups (a group of 12-17 and above aimed at promoting successful and health marital relationships.
## II. ACHIEVEMENTS VIS-A-VIS RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planned results</th>
<th>Indicators (how do you know whether the result is achieved)</th>
<th>Planned activities</th>
<th>Activities outputs (What was done, by who, where, when, with who, with what strategies, = paint a picture of what happened)</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Data source</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Result 1:</strong></td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>• Number of participants who attended trainings and their views on relevance and usefulness of the training for them and for the community.</td>
<td>• Conduct a training for 106 gender focal persons on gender concepts, GBV law, men engaging in fight against GBV, community mobilization, advocacy, gender supportive laws and policies, trauma counselling (trauma resulting from GBV).</td>
<td>• Trained GFPs are contributing to the creation of generation which is gender sensitive. • Discussions conducted with participants contributed on the change of their mentalities related to gender concept and gender promotion. For example, the right of women on the property was considered negatively by some participants before the training. • Awareness on existence and gravity of GBV in their communities and commitment to fight against it. • For the majority of participants (about ¾ of participants), it was the first time to be informed on the existence of laws preventing and punishing GBV (land law, heritage and succession law, and anti GBV law). • From their training, interventions of GFPs in their communities are admired by local leaders and</td>
<td>• Attendance lists • GFPs testimonies • Event report formats</td>
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<td>1.1. Conduct a training for 106 gender focal persons on gender concepts, GBV law, men engaging in fight against GBV, community mobilization, advocacy, gender supportive laws and policies, trauma counselling (trauma resulting from GBV).</td>
<td>• 72 gender focal points (15 GFPs from Gatsibo, 33 from Kayonza and 24 from Nyagatare district) have been selected and trained on building peaceful families to end domestic violence in the period of 14-15 May 2013. They have been tasked to mobilize the community and create community based gender working groups. • From 10th to 12th of June 2014, the training for 82 “new” selected GFPs in Nyagatare district was organized and conducted. Different topics related to human rights, gender concept, GBV, men engaging in fight against GBV, community mobilization, advocacy, gender supportive laws and policies, trauma counselling (trauma resulting from GBV) and mediation of couples have been developed during this training. Participative approach contributed on achievement of objectives of the training, since it has been possible to deal with local realities of</td>
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- GFPs capacity in Nyagatare is strengthened to fight against GBV in their community through the following strategies: Umugorobaw’ Ababyeyi, Tuzubake, men engage.

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<tr>
<th>Number of participants in dialogues committed to strengthen parents’ evening forums</th>
<th>Number of reported cases by GFPs and field officers.</th>
<th>Number of participants committed to sensitize youth and community for gender equality, men engage</th>
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<tr>
<td>70 GFPs from 14 sectors of Nyagatare district participated in a 2 days refresher training organized from 26 November to 27 November 2015.</td>
<td>106 GFPs have participated in one day workshop organized by AJPRODHO and NPA in March 2015. The purpose of this workshop was to strengthen GFPs in their community mobilization strategies, and how to use monitoring, reporting and evaluation tools. These tools include village monthly self-assessment format, Event report format, and Village GBV barometer format which is used in “Tuzubake” methodology.</td>
<td>106 GFPs participated in the meeting organized by district leaders on 11/05/2015 and chaired by Vice-Mayor in charge of Social Affairs. During this meeting, GFPs presented to district leaders the results of the project and challenges encountered during project implementation:</td>
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<td>70 GFPs from 14 sectors of Nyagatare district participated in a 2 days refresher training organized from 26 November to 27 November 2015.</td>
<td>106 GFPs are committed to prevent and fight against GBV in their communities.</td>
<td>Trained GFPs became role models in their communities, due to their practices and behaviour change with regard to gender equality in their households.</td>
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<td>Increased knowledge on data collection, reporting tools as confirmed by GFPs during training. This was confirmed by questions and comments given by GFPs comparing the information given on the first form and the new one.</td>
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<td>Number of participants committed to sensitize youth and community for gender equality, men engage</td>
<td>The new tools filled the gaps encountered during reporting, where real information was missing.</td>
<td>Recognition, valorisation and support of AJPRODHO’s initiatives and activities aimed at the fight against GBV and promotion of gender equality by other stakeholders, included local leaders. Those activities include creation and strengthening PEFs.</td>
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1.3. GFP and Field officers conduct dialogue session on men engage in the community and strengthen Tuzubake methodology in parents evening forums. Collaboration with local leaders (cell and village level), poor participation of community members in PEF sessions especially men, dysfunctional PEF committees and lack of information and communication on activities conducted by GFPs to local leaders in some cells. Vice Mayor in charge of Social Affairs has appreciated the impact of the project, confirming that the number of GBV cases which were received in administration institutions (local leaders, MAJ, Police, etc.) has decreased since the training of GFPs, who started immediately to establish functional Parents’Evening Forums in their villages.

- GFPs from the same sector always work together as the team in order to influence local leaders and other stakeholders in decision making regarding prevention and fight against GBV.
- All 106 GFPs have received a manual prepared by RWAMREC in order to promote “men engage approach”. This manual helps them to engage men in fighting against GBV. In addition, men are motivated to participate effectively in PEF sessions.
- Social change brought by PEF motivated men to participate in PEF activities. Women are...

- The good collaboration between local leaders and GFPs at all levels has been concluded and is supported by district leaders. This includes exchange of information, mutual support and complementarity in the fight against GBV through Parents’Evening Forums and other mechanisms.
- Particular strategies have been drawn for some issues. For instance, the training and mobilization of local leaders in Rwimiyaga and Karangazi sectors on land law in order to prevent conflicts related to land property were planned. This activity is being executed through collaboration between AJPRODHO and local leaders. Gatunda and Tabagwe need a particular attention for fight against concubinage.
- As testified by GFPs, the number of men who are victims of GBV requesting for support from GFPs and PEF has increased. They do no longer hide their experience of being victims of GBV.
- Even if the number of men participating in PEF sessions remains low, community members are aware that gender promotion and the fight against GBV is not the mission of women only.
motivated to invite their husbands in PEF sessions, and men are directly motivated to participate in PEF and other activities aimed at the fight against GBV. Community meetings and community works (“umuganda”) are opportunities of such motivation. The involvement of local leaders (sector, cell and village level) contributes positively on engagement of men in gender equality promotion and fight against GBV.

- Tuzubake methodology is used for assessment of GBV incidents in villages. It has been introduced in PEF sessions from 2014 and was used in almost all villages of Nyagatare district. However, there is resistance on the regular use of this methodology for some villages. In some areas, community members told GFPs that they cannot accept this approach, because they don’t want to hide their experiences. Another challenge expressed in is the poor attendance of community members in PEF sessions, as well as the change of community members attending these sessions.

- “Tuzubake” methodology has contributed on demonstration to community members that GBV is the reality. The predominant forms of GBV among women in many villages were physical violence (gukubitwa), mismanagement of family property (gusesaguraumutungo) and psychological violence (guhozwakunkeke). For men, the most expressed issue is refusal of intercourse by partners (“kwimwa service mu buriri”). Discussions conducted after presentation of results from “Tuzubake” exercise help community members to discover the link between their behaviors and GBV form experienced. Then they decide to change before asking the change to their husbands or wives. There are testimonies from couples
1.4. 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

- GFPs and stakeholders (included evening parent’s forums committees) received booklets about laws and policies preventing and punishing GBV, or aimed to harmonize marital status (“kubakaingoz’amahoro”). These manuals have been produced by partners (Rwanda Women Network and ADTS) with the confirming that comments given after “Tuzubake” exercise have contributed on their change.

In summary, “Tuzubake” plays the following roles:
- Community members become aware of predominant forms of GBV in their villages.
- Orientation and planning of PEF activities is based on particularities of community members.
From experience, community members experiencing various GBV types come near the Field Officer or GFPs who has conducted the session in order to request a particular support. They often clarify about results. Some of them indicate that symbols that have been seen come from them and request particular interventions (household visits) from field officers or GFPs. In addition, this methodology incites participants to think about what they can do for those who have various GBV forms in their families and don’t attend PEF sessions.

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for anti GBV committees, and youth clubs and 1 copy to each GFP).

1.5. Providing kits (Registers and pens) to the parents evening forum to make a records of the progress and impacts of Tuzubake strategy.

1.6. GFPs and PEF committees submit on weekly basis reports of GBV cases with specific indication of actions taken by the community to field officers.

1.7. Conduct monthly meeting putting together 106GFPs

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<th>Support of NPA.</th>
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<td>X PEF have received Kits (Registers and pens) which help them to make records of PEF activities.</td>
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<td>A total of 719 GBV and marital conflicts cases have been registered (CfrAnnex 2). Among these cases, 518 were closed 36 pending by the end of September 2015. 144 referred to other institutions..</td>
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<td>Monthly meetings with 106 GFPs from 14 sectors of Nyagatare district have been organized and conducted</td>
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<td>All 106 GFPs have been organized in 5 regions and each group of GFPs has a site of meeting place.</td>
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1. Mimuli site: Mimuli, Mukama and Katabagema sector
2. Gatunda site: Gatunda, Rukomo, Karama and Kiyombe sector
3. Ryabega site: Karangazi, Nyagatare and Rwimiyaga sector
4. Matimba site: Matimba and Musheli sector
5. Tabagwe site: Tabagwe and Rwempasha sector.

On the agenda of these meetings, the main topics which are discussed are:
- Progress in implementation of project activities;
- Self-assessment regarding performance in implementation of Network and ADTS) with the support of NPA.
- Community members have seen that PEF is a supported program by various stakeholders.
- Decisions taken by PEF are well recorded and used as reference for other decisions.
- Among 719 received cases, 518 have been solved (closed) while only 36 still pending at the end of September 2015. 144 cases have been oriented in suitable institutions: 38 cases in police, 96 cases in local leaders (cell and sector level) and 5 cases in courts. 5 cases have been oriented in other institutions, including religious bodies, health institutions and families of conflicting couples.
- Best practices are shared between GFPs and are known by staff of project.
- Particular GBV cases are presented by GFPs in order to receive advice on how to handle them. These cases serve as model for GFPs in solving similar problems.
- The need to collaborate with local leaders has been emphasized. Through exchange of experiences, GFPs learned strategies which are effective for collaboration with
and 14 in charge of social affairs and 2 project staff in order to forge strategies for successful implementation of these activities mentioned above.

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<th>Stakeholders, especially local leaders. GFPs testified that there are many changes related to the effectiveness of their interventions due to the collaboration and support from local leaders.</th>
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<td><strong>TUZUBAKE</strong> methodology and use of visual materials have been discussed. It was an opportunity for GFPs who are not yet familiar with these methods to know about them. In addition, exchange of information and experiences contribute on the improvement of the use of these methods.</td>
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<td><strong>Through the monthly meeting,</strong> GFPs have been explained on the need and importance of reporting. An overview of various forms used for reporting was done. In addition, they were motivated to share some reports with local leaders (cell and sector level), in order to inform them about their activities. Information contained in their reports has been ameliorated.</td>
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<td><strong>The level of internal organization and communication between GFPs is appreciable.</strong> They are organized from sector level to site level (2, 3 or 4 sectors) and they communicate and support each others. Their “cooperatives” are functional and contribute on this cohesion. Monthly meetings with GFPs contribute to “socialization...</td>
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process” and social integration of GFPs. Their groups became strong, with positive values (integrity, self-reliance, mutual support, etc.) and contribute effectively to social change.
Result 2: GFPs, youth human rights clubs members organize the community to fight against GBV and community take action to fight against GBV in their respective areas.

- Number of Community sensitization sessions conducted in 14 sectors and number of participants.
- Number of operational parents’ evening forums.
- Number of model couples identified and equipped with the necessary skills to accompany conflicting couples.

2.1. GFPs, with the support of the field officers facilitate the organisation of weekly community meetings in 636 villages to assess GBV situation in their area and decide on actions to address identified issues.

2.2. Conducting Community sensitization sessions on GBV laws, succession law, land law, building peacefully families, Men engage strategies and human Rights fundamental principles targeting 397800 community members in 14 sectors of Nyagatare District.

2.3. GFPs, youth human rights clubs supported by field officers organise on a weekly basis community dialogues meetings “Imigorobay’ababyeyi” in 636 villages of Nyagatare District to

- Several community meetings in 14 sectors of Nyagatare district have been conducted at cell and village level. In general, these meetings were chaired by local leaders at cell and village level (executive secretaries and chiefs of villages); and GFPs requested the occasion to talk about GBV and laws preventing and punishing GBV. These meetings were attended by men and women.
- From May 2015, PEF sessions became the main and almost the only channel of community sensitization in the field of fight against GBV and gender promotion in Nyagatare district. In July 2015, PEF has been integrated in district performance contract (“imihigoy’akarere”). Subsequently, the PEF is the performance contract (“umuhigo”) of all administrative units: from village to district level. In almost all sectors, local leaders (sector and cell level) took the decision to establish a coordination committee for PEF. GFPs and National Women council members are the main members of these committees.
- As testified by community members, their awareness on consequences of GBV and how to prevent it has increased. For example, the culture of “mediation” between families of sexual violence perpetrator and the victim without reporting the case is about to be eradicated, since they have known that the purpose of reporting such cases is not only punishment of perpetrator: the victim must have access to health services for his/her wellness. Another sign of awareness raised is how community members know very well different categories of GBV (physical, psychological, economic and sexual) and they identify such cases on their villages, in order to change such situation.
- Functional parents’ evening forums have been created. Following the field experience, the area covered by the PEF is not always the same as the area covered by village administrative area. It is in such way that we have about 20 villages having more than one PEF, instead for other villages (about 8), PEF sessions put

- Database containing community mobilization activities
- Event report formats
- Village GBV barometers formats
raise citizen awareness for the fight against GBV.

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. These Parents’ Evening Forums (“Imigorobay’ababyeyi”) are operational in their respective villages. They have regular meetings in which they learn about marital relationships, as well as laws preventing and punishing GBV. Following the assessment conducted in August 2015, 322 PEF were functioning well, while 104 PEF were in the need of a particular attention for improvement of their functionality. On the other hand, many efforts were needed in order to improve the functionality of 72 PEF which were working badly. 8 PEF have been created in September 2015, after the mentioned assessment. To be mentioned that the target was to establish a well-functioning PEF in each village of Nyagatare district.

– Community sensitisation activities are conducted through the sessions of 506 PEF. Tuzubake methodology, lessons from “Duhanirekubakaingo’amahoro” manual, anti-GBV and succession together community members from more than one village. To be mentioned that Nyagatare district has 630 villages, meaning that at least 124 villages have not operational parents evening forums. The reason behind that ineffectiveness is in general the lack of collaboration between local leaders (chief of villages) and GPPs, individual interests of local leaders (especially chiefs of villages) who may be challenged by PEF sessions about their behaviors, as well as those wishing corruption while solving social problems like those concerned by PEFs. However, it remains always difficult to mobilize community members from villages located in town areas for PEF sessions.

• 506 parents’ evening forums created are functioning. Following the ranking based on the analysis of functionality for 498 established PEF which has been conducted in August 2015, 322 had a high standards of functionality: functional committees, regular meetings, attendance of participants (men and women), discussion on topics related to fight against GBV, gender promotion,
2.4. GFPs identify model couples from 636 villages and organize them for testimonies in their community during community mobilization to change conflicting couples. Laws, as well as visual materials, are used during these community mobilization sessions. The materials expressing conflict between goats and how it has been solved, the material expressing separation in bed in marital setting and the sorrowfully man have been used in parents evening sessions and contributed on the increasing of the number of community members attending these sessions. The socio-economic dimension is integrated in 162 PEF.

- In 14 Secondary schools, youth human rights clubs intervening in anti-GBV activities have been created: GS Nyakigando, Nyagatare collaboration with local leaders and other stakeholders in gender promotion and fight against GBV, as well as resolution of marital conflicts.
- Among 719 received cases, 518 have been solved (closed) while only 36 still pending at the end of September 2015. 144 cases have been oriented in suitable institutions: 38 cases in police, 96 cases in local leaders (cell and sector level) and 5 cases in courts. 5 cases have been oriented in other institutions, including religious bodies, health institutions and families of conflicting couples.
- Positive values are developed through PEF: integrity, forgiveness, peaceful resolution of conflicts, etc. These values contribute effectively to social change.
- Drunkenness behavior, mismanagement of family property, physical violence against women are practices which are being eradicated through PEF.
- Evening parents’ forums became “school of good relationships” between married persons and a forum for resolution of conflicts between
2.5. Organizing 16 days campaign of activism against GBV:

- Organizing protest march in 14 sectors to fight against GBV,
- Rewarding model couple changing family violence to free living family
- Competition of youth human right clubs in forms of songs, poems, theatres related to the given theme.

2.6. Organising radio talk shows sessions for community mobilisation.

Secondary school, GS Rurenge GS Katabagemu, SOPEM (Rukomo), GS Nyagatare, SS Nyagatare, Bright school, GS Musheri, GS Tabagwe, GS Ryabega, GS Rukomo and GS Rwimiyaga. These clubs were the space where theyouth discussed gender, human rights and GBV issues.

- AJPRODHO has participated in organizing and celebration of the International Women’s Day, as well as the 16 days campaign of activism against GBV. With reference to the annual theme of the 16 days campaign, community groups and youth human rights clubs prepared competitions in form of songs, poems and theatres. Competitions were organized from village level, cell level and sector level, so that “best” creations would be used in the campaign and rewarded.

  - In 2012, .......
  - In 2013 the campaign was marked mainly by:

    - The recognition and celebration of role models in the fight against GBV whereby two model women were awarded in Nyagatare while one man was awarded in Kayonza.
    - Celebration of marriages for couples who have been cohabiting: 108
    - Anti-GBV mechanisms became functional at community level (village and cell), so that GBV victims have opportunities to be assisted and oriented in suitable institutions.
    - Evening parents’ forums contributed on reduction of cases which would be solved by local leaders: “before creation of evening parents’ forums, there were always many problems at cell offices”. But now, problems are few: confirm all local leaders when you try to assess the contribution of these forums.
    - Debates conducted in schools raised awareness of this youth on gender issues. They took decision to continue their activities for gender promotion during holidays, even after their studies.
    - Community members received information related to fight them. In addition, they contribute on community behavior change like drunkenness, irresponsibility of family members, fight against concubinage and adultery, etc.
couples got married in Rugarama sector, Gatsibo district.

- Protest against violence against girls especially early and unwanted pregnancies amongst young girls and adolescents: the protest march has been organized in Kayonza and Gatsibo district.

- One hundred (100) good Gender working groups were selected and competed for poems, songs and theatres that contribute to fight against GBV and promotion of gender equality. 31 best gender working groups from Gatsibo, Kayonza and Nyagatare performed well and have been awarded during the closing ceremony of the 16 campaign of activism.

- In 2014, the theme was “Positive Parenting: a solution to GBV and human trafficking”. Approximately, about 150 groups had different creations (songs, poems and theatres). Protest marches have been organized in all 14 sectors of Nyagatare district. Those which are in the same region have organized together the protest marches. 14 Best Human rights clubs groups have been selected to celebrate official ceremonies of 16 days campaign and these groups were rewarded.

- In 2015,
Radio talk shows have been organized from July to December 2014 at Nyagatare community Radio. Panelists were YAGEVFA project staff, the coordinator of MAJ in Nyagatare district, the delegate from Nyagatare district hospital/Isange One Stop Center and the Agent in charge of gender promotion and child protection in Nyagatare district. The points which have been developed in these radio talk shows are respectively:

1) Explanation on GBV, how and why to prevent it and institutions supporting GBV victims.

2) Rights of children in the family and their protection against GBV;

3) Planned activities during 16 days campaign and the theme of the campaign: “Positive Parenting: a solution to GBV and human trafficking.”

4) Services given to GBV victims for their reintegration.
**Result 3:** Project activities and implementation experiences are monitored, documented and shared.

- Number of reports produced
- Number of questionnaire distributed.

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<th>3.1. Produce monthly report and plan</th>
<th>3.2. Producing quarterly progress report and share it with other partners.</th>
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<tr>
<td>3.3. Developing project phase out strategies</td>
<td>3.4. Handover of 106 gender focal points to local leaders and provide Certificates to GFPs</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.5. Conducting project impact assessment.</td>
<td>3.6. Conducting project final evaluation</td>
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</table>

- The monthly report has been produced.
- The close collaboration of GFPs and local leaders and community members, as well as the feeling of ability to solve themselves their problems is a strategy developed in order to improve ownership for community members.

- Monthly reports
- Quarterly report

- Monthly report
- Quarterly report
III. IMPORTANT COMMENTS:

- GFPs appreciate the collaboration of various stakeholders in strengthening the functionality of PEF. The commitment of PEF committees, the support and prioritization of PEF sessions by local leaders, as well as the impact of PEF are the key elements contributing to the effectiveness of PEF sessions.
- Registered tremendous decrease GBV cases. This can be considered as a positive impact of the project. This hypothesis can also be confirmed by community members who testify the change attitude within the community.
- PEF are not only playing the role in resolution of marital conflicts and fight against GBV. They are also contributing on socio-economic development of Nyagatare community.
- Adoption visiting couples practice. This practice foster good relationship within the community and hence reducing conflicts.
- Sensitisation forums are created in the community.

- The remarriage is the practice which is on the basis of conflicts in families. It becomes worse when the person who becomes remarried is the widow (the woman).

IV. CONCLUSION

The manifestation of good collaboration between local leaders and GFPs is the key and ingredient to the success of YAGEVFA project. Collective and engagement of youth and men in the fight against domestic violence contribute and foster promotion of gender equality and act as a tool in reduction of gender based violence. Introduced “Tuzubake” and visual materials used as didactic materials, Parents’ Evening Forums became the space for prevention of marital conflicts and promotion of gender equality as well.

For sustainability, continued sensitisation, mobilisation teaching, exemplary practice, collaboration with local leaders, GFPs, and other partners need to be strengthened.
ANNEX 1: FUNCTIONAL PARENTS' EVENING FORUMS (PEF) FROM MARCH TO SEPTEMBER 2015

<table>
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<tr>
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**Figure 1: Functional PEF compared to villages by sectors**

Villages, Katabagemu, 47 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Kiyombe, 67 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Karangazi, 54 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Karama, 59 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Mimuri, 37 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Mukama, 39 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Matimba, 40 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Nyagatare, 40 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Rwimiyaga, 45 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Tabagwe, 41 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Rwempasha, 28 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Musheri, 33 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Rukomo, 54 Functional PEF in September 2015
Villages, Gatunda, 44 Functional PEF in September 2015

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ANNEX 2: EFFECTIVENESS OF PEF IN AUGUST 2015

Figure 2: Effectiveness of PEF

Comments:

- The functionality of the PEF is measured on the basis of following characteristics: the functional committee composed of 5 members, regular meetings (at least 2 times per month), attendance of participants (men and women), discussion on topics related to fight against GBV, gender promotion, collaboration with local leaders and other stakeholders in gender promotion and fight against GBV, as well as resolution of marital conflicts.
## ANNEX 3: GBV AND MARITAL CONFLICTS CASES RECEIVED FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTOR</th>
<th>GBV Cases received</th>
<th>Solved/Closed cases</th>
<th>Cases referred to local Leaders</th>
<th>Cases Referred to police</th>
<th>Cases referred to MAJ &amp; in Courts</th>
<th>Cases referred elsewhere</th>
<th>Pending cases</th>
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<td>B</td>
<td>C</td>
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**N.B:**
- A: represents July 2015
- B: represents August 2015
- C: represents September 2015
ANNEX 4: PROJECT STORIES

A. SEXUAL ABUSE AGAINST YOUNG GIRLS AND RAPE IS NOT YET ERADICATED!

Despite many efforts for eradication of sexual violence against children, this form of GBV is not yet eradicated in Nyagatare district. The following cases can contribute on illustration of this reality:

- **Rape of 2 young girls by shepherds in Gabiro forest (Karangazi sector, Rubagabaga cell)**
  
  In September 2015, 2 young girls have been raped by shepherds in Gabiro forest. Their colleague (the third child) who escaped from this violence called neighbours (included the local GFP) in order to save these children. They intervened in their favour and those GBV perpetrators have been arrested. They are prosecuted by justice institution.

- **Rape of a six years old child by a forty years old man (Matimba sector, Bwera cell)**
  
  A six years old child has been raped by an old man (about 40 years old) when her mother were in Uganda for a family visit. When the mother came back, the child has the pain in genital organs. Then, the mother asked to the child what happened and the child explained that she has been raped. This information has been hidden until when the mother went in PEF session, where various forms of GBV were explained. This lesson brought the mother to come near the GFP and to ask what to do. Immediately, the GFP advised the mother to bring the child to the hospital and to the police. The perpetrator and members of his family started to stop the process by corrupting local leaders and GFP. However, they have not been able to stop the process so that the suspected criminal decided to disappear. Thereafter, the suspected criminal called the GFP with an outside phone number (Kenya), searching for information about the progress of dossier, and requesting his intervention for stopping the prosecution. The child is being treated at Isange One Stop Center/Nyagatare hospital, while the dossier is in National Public Prosecution Authority services (Parquet).

- **2 Young students girls in GS Ryabega, karangazi sector abused sexually by 2 men**
  
  There were 2 men in Ryabega city (house builders) who collaborated with a women “living as a prostitute” in the same city in searching for young teenagers to abuse sexually. They used always to meet in the home of this woman with those young girls students. Neighbours were always assisting what happen in that house. Thanks to the raised awareness to fight against GBV through parents’ evening forum, they decided to pursue these criminals. The first step has been to inform parents of these young girls and to talk about the situation with the local Gender Focal Person (GFP). Then, the GFP asked advice to the Field Officer about what would be done. The decision has been to inform the police about the situation. Kindly, the chief commandant of police insured to intervene once called for intervention, when they will see that criminals are in the act. It took only two days to catch the 2 criminals. They came as usually, met young girls (14-16 years old) in break time (13h00-14h00), and planned to come back in the evening. About 19h00 pm, 2 men and 2 young girls came back for
appointment. After about 30 minutes, they closed the house. Community members who were assisting came immediately and put the lock (“ingufuri”) on the door. As the convention stipulated, they called police which intervened immediately. Criminals have been arrested, “victims” have been conducted to “Isange One stop Center” for medical examination, and the dossier is now in justice.

The similar case is suspected In Rwimiyaga sector, Nyarupfubire cell, near Rwimiyaga Diary (Bugaragara). However, criminals are not yet captured.

- **In Mukama sector, Bufunda cell**, a young student girl has been raped by an unknown man, when she was coming from school. That child was alone, because she has received permission to go home early (10h00) due to sickness. The incident took place in August 2015.

### B. CONTRIBUTION OF PEF IN ERADICATION OF CONCUBINAGE

In August 2015, PEF members in Karama cell (Karangazi sector) collaborated with local leaders (cell and village level) to repudiate 3 “new” concubines. On the same time, one “new” concubine has been repudiated in Kabeza cell, Rwimiyaga sector. Those practices are appreciated by community members (especially women) and testify the power and willingness of PEF to eradicate marital conflicts and GBV.

### C. SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF YAGEVFA PROJECT

In many villages, community members decided to contribute a small amount of money when they meet for PEF sessions called voluntary social savings (VSS). This sum of money is used for either development activities, or for social inclusion.

- In Ruziranyenzi village, Musenyi cell, Karangazi sector, they contribute 100 RWF. This money is given as a loan to community members who pay back with interest of 5%. In July 2015, they decided to buy 25 goats which have been given to 25 community members. The contract is that these goats remain the property of PEF, and when they will give birth, the shepherd will take the smallest and give back the received goat. Finally, everybody will have a goat.

- In Rurimbi village, Kabare cell, Rwempasha sector, they contribute 200 RWF. In January 2015, they gave 13 goats to most vulnerable members of the group. In June 2015, they gave goats to other 23 families. In September 2015, other 22 goats have been given to other 22 families. In total, 58 goats have been given to members of this PEF from January to September 2015. As testified by adherents of this PEF, lessons related to gender promotion, fight against GBV and advices given by the local GFP have greatly contributed on the progress of this PEF.

- In Gacungiro village, Musenyi cell, Karangazi sector, participants in PEF decided to pay health insurance through weekly savings. In July 2015, each household in Gacungiro village has a health insurance due to their internal organization. This cell is actually ranked the first in Musenyi cell, due to behaviour change resulting from lessons given in PEF sessions.

- In Remera, Rebero villages, Nyendo cell, Rwimiyaga sector, the project proactively engaged citizens purposely to increase awareness on VSS, now citizen from Nyendo cell understand what project is
trying to achieve and how PEF is stabilised as testified by PEF lessons related to gender promotion, fight against GBV. In Nyendo cell 90 goats were given in Remera and Rebero villages. In Nyamirama village 72 tents were given for dams sheet.
ANNEX 5: PHOTOS ILLUSTRATING IMPLEMENTATION OF SOME ACTIVITIES

A PEF session in Karangazi sector, Musenyi cell, Ruziranyenzi village
Celebration of payment of health insurance for all households of Gacungiro village, Musenyi cell, Karangazi sector
A PEF session in Mimuli sector, Mimuli cell, Byimana village

A couple is testifying change in their marital relations due to participation in PEF sessions (Mimuli sector, Mimuli cell, Byimana village)
Participation of Field officers and Project Coordinator of YAGEVFA project in PEF sessions in Gakoma cell, Mimuli sector (Gisenyi and Rusoro villages)