

**Project on Skills training and Job Obtainment Support for Social Participation of
Ex-Combatants and Other People with Disabilities**
**Umushinga wo gutanga ubumennyi n'ubushobozi bigamije gufasha abantu bahoze
ari abasirikare n'abandi bafite ubumuga kwihangira imirimo**

Wonderful Women in Rwanda **Abagore bahawe agaciro mu Rwanda**

Do you know Rwanda is the world high percentage of women in Lower or Single House of parliament? Rwanda ranked First at 56.3 % with 45 out of its 80 Lower House seats held by women (2012, Inter-Parliamentary Union). Gender mainstreaming by national policy in Rwanda is remarkable and estimated highly by other countries. After the Genocide in 1994, women have come to play a more important role in the formal sectors such as politics, economic, education and so on to contribute the development of own country. Rwanda's new Constitution (2003) also promoted the advance of women with assertion "a state governed by the rule of law, a pluralistic democratic government, equality of all Rwandans and between women and men reflected by ensuring that women are granted at least thirty per cent of posts in decision making organs."

Female trainees of ECOPD Project are 205 persons (20%) among 1023 trainees (as of July, 2012). They might face many difficulties by being woman and disabled. Now, they met peer who have same experience and learn together in the training center, and they are getting much robust and brilliant day by day. In this ECOPD newsletter, we introduce nice women in ECOPD Project.

Uzi ko u Rwanda ari rwo rufite umubare munini w'abagore bari mu Nteko ishingira amategeko, umutwe w'abadebite ku isi yose? U Rwanda ruri ku mwanya wa mbere aho abagore 45 bari mu Nteko ishingira amategeko umutwe w'abadebite ku bantu 80 bose hamwe bayigize, ni ukuvuga ku ijanisha rya 56.3% (Inter-Parliamentary Union, 2012). Gahunda y'u Rwanda yo gushyira Uburinganire mu nzego z'iterambere iragaragara kandi ishimwa cyane n'ibindi bihugu. Kuva nyuma ya Jenocide yo mu 1994, abagore bagize uruhare rukomeye mu nzego za politiki, ubukungu, uburezi n'izindi bityo bagira n'uruhare mu iterambere ry'igihugu cyabo. Itegeko Nshingira rishya ry'u Rwanda (2003) na ryo ryateje imbere abagore mu ngingo ivuga ko "Leta igendera ku mategeko, demokarasi ishingiyeye ku bitekerezo by'abantu benshi, uburinganire bw'abanyarwanda bose hagati y'abagore n'abagabo bikagaragazwa n'uko abagore bahabwa nibura mirongo itatu ku ijana by'imyanya yo mu nzego zifata ibyemezo."

Abanyeshuri b'abagore b'Umushinga ECOPD ni 205 (20%) mu banyeshuri 1023 (muri Nyakanga 2012). Bahura n'ibibazo byinshi kuko ari abagore bakaba bafite n'ubumuga. Ubu, bahura na bagenzi babo bahuje ibibazo kandi bakigana mu kigo cyigisha imyuga, kandi buri muni bagenda barushaho gukomera no kunguka ubumennyi. Muri iki kinyamakuru ECOPD, turababwira abagore bateye imbere bahuguwe n'Umushinga ECOPD.



Graduation ceremony
Female trainees were very beautiful with colorful traditional wear.

Mu muhango wo gutanga impamyabumenyi, abanyeshuri b'abagore basaga neza bakenyeye umwambaro w'amabara.

Tailoring Cooperative by Ex-Trainees / Cooperative y' Ubudozi yashinzwe n' Abigishijwe Imyuga



Handle/ Igikoresho cy'intoki

Ms. Mwamini participated in the tailoring training of AGHR in 2011. Firstly, she could not operate ordinal pedal style sewing machine because it was difficult for her to pedal due to her disability. Therefore, ECOPD Project fixed "handle" on her sewing machine so as to operate by hand and she enjoyed the training during 6 months.

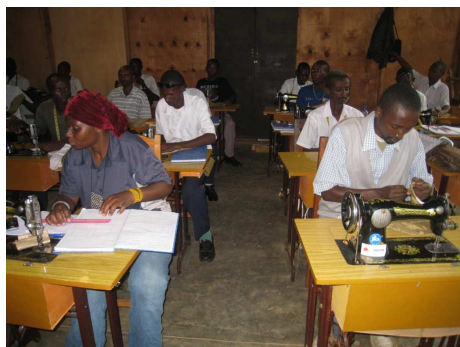
She created tailoring cooperative with her female friends after the completion of training. The advantage of cooperative is to start business smoothly and to develop a member and community trough helping each other. For example, they contributed when a member have trouble with urgent need of money such as funeral expense and school fee for family.

Before the training, Mwamini felt loneliness and didn't have any confidence. But, after she got the tailoring skills, she doesn't feel alone and gained confidence in her skills. Now, she thinks "I am valuable person who can teach tailoring skills to my friends." She is active in her community such as attendance of disability organizations meeting, visit PWDs to encourage them so as to join cooperative and skills training.

Madamu Mwamini yakurikiranye amahugurwa y'ubudozi muri AGHR muri 2011. Agitangira kwiga, ntiyashoboraga gukoresha imashini yo kudoda isanzwe y'amaguru kubera ubumuga bwe. Bityo rero, Umushinga ECOPD wamushyiriyeye ku mashini ye "igikoresho bifashisha iyo badodesha intoki" kugirango akoreshe intoki kandi yakurikiye neza amahugurwa mu mezi 6.

Yashinze koperative y'ubudozi hamwe n'abagore b'imshuti ze nyuma yo kurangiza amahugurwa. Akamaro ka koperative ni uko ituma ubucuruzi bukorwa neza kandi igateza imbere abanyamuryango n'abaturage kuko bafatanyaga. Urugero : batanze umusanzu wo gufasha umunyamuryango wagize ikibazo kigomba gukemurwa byihutirwa nko gushyingura umuntu wo mu muryango n'amafaranga y'ishuri y'abana .

Mbere yo kuza mu mahugurwa, Mwamini yumvaga yigunze kandi ntiyigiriraga icyizere. Ariko nyuma yo kubona amahugurwa y'imyuga, ntiyumvise acyigunze kandi yifitiye icyizere kubera umwuga yize. Ubu aratekereza ati "Ndi umuntu ufite agaciro ushobora kwigisha bagenzi banjye umwuga wo kudoda." Akora imirimo inyuranye nko kwitabira inama z'imiryango y'abafite ubumuga, gusura abantu bafite ubumuga abashishikariza kwitabira kujya mu makoperative no mu mahugurwa y'imyuga.



(Left photo) Mwamini participated in the training earnestly with men classmates.

(Ifoto y'ibumoso) Mwamini yari mu mahugurwa y'imyuga hamwe n'abanyeshuri b'abagabo biganaga.

(Right photo) With the cooperative members

(Ifoto y'iburyo) Ari kumwe n'abanyamuryango ba koperative



RDRRC Staff support Ex-Combatants / Abakozi ba RDRRC bafasha Abasezerewe mu ngabo

There are 3 women of 763 demobilized combatants in 2011, Rwanda. Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (RDRRC) support Disabled ex-combatants, Child ex-combatants and Female ex-combatants as special target groups.

Rwanda is composed of 4 Provinces plus Kigali City. 5 Province Reintegration Officers (PROs) of RDRRC are stationed at each province including 2 female PROs in charge of Kigali City and Northern Province, i.e., Ms. Verra and Ms. Clemance. ECOPD Project staff ask their assist when the staff have some trouble in the field because the PROs know very well about ex-combatants. Since Ex-combatants have challenges in the process of reintegration to the community, the PROs support and coordinate among ex-combatants, their family and community. Verra and Clemence are like mother, sister and friend for ex-combatants.

Mu mwaka wa 2011, mu basezerewe mu ngabo 763 harimo abagore 3 mu Rwanda. Komisiyo y'Igihugu yo gusezerera abasirikare no kubasubiza mu buzima busanzwe (RDRC) ifasha abasezerewe mu ngabo bafite ubumuga, Abana n'Abagore basezerewe mu ngabo nk'abagenerwabikorwa bihariye.

U Rwanda rugizwe n'Intara 4 wongeyeho Umujyi wa Kigali. Abakozi 5 ba RDRC ku rwego rw'Intara (PROs) bashinzwe gusubiza mu buzima busanzwe abasezerewe mu ngabo bakorera muri buri Ntara barimo abagore babiri bashinzwe Umujyi wa Kigali n'Intara y'Amajyaruguru ari bo Madamu Verra na Madamu Clémence. Umushinga ECOPD urabitabaza iyo abakozi bawo bahuye n'ibibazo mu kazi kuko ba PROs bazi neza ibyerekeye abasezerewe mu ngabo. Iyo abasezerewe mu ngabo bahuye n'inzitizi ziyanye no kubasubiza mu buzima busanzwe, ba PROs bahuza ibikorwa byo kubafasha hamwe n'imiryango yabo ndetse n'abandi baturage. Vera na Clémence bameze nka nyina, mushiki n'inshuti b'abasezerewe mu ngabo .



(Left photo) Northern PRO in the screening at ETEFOP, Ruhengeri (Ifoto y'ibumoso) PRO wo mu Majyaruguru mu ijongora ry'abanyeshuri muri ETEFOP Ruhengeri

(Right photo) Kigali PRO in the meeting with ex-combatants (Ifoto y'iburyo) PRO wo muri Kigali mu nama hamwe n'abasezerewe mu ngabo



Of course! Male PROs also are strong partner for ECOPD Project.

(Left photo) Mr. Jean Bosco, Western PRO (Middle) Mr. Jonathan Kirabo, Eastern PRO (Right) Mr. Flodouard, Southern PRO Ni byo! Ba PROs b'abagabo nabo ni abafatanyabikorwa bakomeye b'Umushinga ECOPD.

(Ifoto y'ibumoso) Bwana Jean Bosco, PRO mu Burengerazuba (Hagati) Bwana Jonathan Kirabo, PRO i Burasirazuba (Iburyo) Bwana Flodouard, PRO mu Majyepfo

Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) Umuryango w' Ubufatanye w' Abakorerabushake b' Abayapani (JOCV)

Female JOCV account for 58 % of JOCV all the world (as of July, 2012). There are 19 female of 38 JOCV in Rwanda. Ms. Miho HAYASHIDA is JOCV in vocational training center as tailoring trainer for ECOPD trainees. At first, she made her effort to transfer techniques how to tailor more exact and beautiful. But, these techniques are not so high priority for the trainees because community market don't require so high quality product. Miho persevered and communicated with the trainees and trainers to find appropriate teaching method. Fortunately, she met good counterpart, Ms. Collete and they worked together to train in the tailoring course.



Miho started to consider on the trainee's life after their graduation and support cooperatives which were created by the trainees. She trained the trainees to make shopping bag by traditional African cloths. Many customers liked and bought the bags as Rwandan souvenir. Now, she is supporting the cooperative to make small pouch for coffee in collaboration with local coffee company. Miho and Collete assisted the cooperative when they had first business meeting with the coffee company. The coffee company plan to sell the coffee at major supermarket and expect the collaboration business with the cooperative. Miho hope the development of cooperative and she will finish her term of JOCV and leave Rwanda in September.

Shopping bag / Igikapu cyo guhahiramo

Abagore bari muri JOVC ni 58% by'abayirimo ku isi hose (imibare yo muri Nyakanga 2012). Mu Rwanda hari abagore 19 bari muri JOVC ku bantu 38 bose bayirimo. Miho HAYASHIDA ni umu JOVC ukorera mu kigo cyigisha imyuga nk'umwarimu wigisha imyuga abanyeshuri ba ECOPD. Mu ntangiriro, yakoze uko ashoboye yigisha ubuhanga bwo kurushaho kudoda neza. Ariko, ubwo buhanga ntabwo ari bwo bw'ibanze cyane ku banyeshuri kuko ku isoko abaturage ntibakeneye ibicuruzwa byo ku rwego rwo hejuru. Miho yakomeje kuganira n'abanyeshuri hamwe n'abarimu kugirango bumvikane ku buryo bunozwe bwo kwigisha. Ku bw'amahirwe, yabonye uwo bafatanyaga mwiza, Madamu Koleta kandi barakoranye mu kwigisha isomo ry'ubudozi.

Miho yabanje gukurikiza ibijyanye n'ubuzima bwa buri munyeshuri nyuma y'aho barangirije kwiga kandi afasha na koperative zashinzwe n'abanyeshuri. Yigishije abanyeshuri uko bakora igikapu cyo guhahiramo hifashishijwe imyenda ya kera yo muri Afurika. Abakiriya benshi bakunda kandi bagura ibikapu nk'urwibutso rwo mu Rwanda. Muri iki gihe, hari koperative afasha gukora udufuka duto bashyiramo ikawa afatanyije n'uruganda rutunganya ikawa. Miho na Koleta bafashije koperative mu gihe yakoranaga bwa mbere inama n'uruganda rw'ikawa yari igamije gukora ubucuruzi. Uruganda rw'ikawa rurateganya kugurisha ikawa mu iduka rinini rikomeye hamwe no gukorana muri ubwo bucuruzi na koperative.

Miho arizera ko koperative izatera imbere kandi azava mu Rwanda muri Nzeri 2012 nyuma y'uko igihe cyeye cyo gukorera JOVC kizaba kirangiye.



They were all happy to conclude well the business negotiations. (From Left) Collete, President of company and the cooperative members

Bari bishimiye kumvikana ku buryo bazakora neza ubucuruzi. (Uhereye ibumoso) Koleta, Umuyobozi w'uruganda n'abanyamuryango ba koperative



Miho and Madamu President

They had coffee pouch which was made by the cooperative. Miho hamwe na Madamu Umuyobozi wa Koperative Bari bafite udufuka bashyiramo ikawa dukorwa na koperative.

We can learn from history of gender mainstreaming for the promotion of disability mainstreaming. In a decade ago, people said "it is ridiculous and impossible for women to work in society like men because women are inferior and no power." But, you must be laughed if you would say that at the present time. Disability issue similar to gender issue. Now, if someone says "it is impossible for People with Disabilities (PWDs) to obtain a job and be employed.", many people don't deny that. But, in future, people must become aware that PWDs have equal opportunity for employment like other people. Rwanda showed good policy and practice on gender mainstreaming. We hope that disability mainstreaming is promoted like a gender mainstreaming in the near future. We recognize difference of each other and respect each other irrespective of woman or man, PWDs or non-PWDs. ECOPD Project expect to raise this kind of awareness in the society.

Dushobora kwigira ku mateka yo kwinjiza uburinganire mu nzego z'iterambere kugirango hatezwe imbere kwinjiza abafite ubumuga mu nzego z'iterambere. Mu myaka icumi ishize, abantu baravugaga bati "birasekeje kandi ntibishoboka ko abagore bakora nk'abagabo kuko abagore nta ngufu bafite." Ariko baguseka uvuze ibyo muri iki gihe. Ikibazo cy'ubumuga gisa n'icy'uburinganire. Ubu, iyo umuntu avuze ati "ntibishoboka ko abantu bafite ubumuga bahabwa akazi.", abantu benshi ntibabihakana. Ariko, mu gihe kizaza abantu bagomba kumenya ko abafite ubumuga bafite amahirwe angana n'ay'abandi mu kubona akazi. U Rwanda rwagaragaje gahunda nziza n'ibikorwa bigamije kwinjiza uburinganire muri gahunda z'iterambere. Turizera ko abafite ubumuga bazashyirwa muri gahunda z'iterambere mu gihe cya vuba kimwe n' uko uburinganire hagati y'abagore n'abagabo bukorwa. Tuzi ko umugore n'umugabo banyuranye kandi bagomba kubahana, kimwe n'abantu bafite ubumuga cyangwa abatabufite. Umushinga ECOPD urateganya gukora ubukangurambaga muri urwo rwego.