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Rwanda Demobilization and
Reintegration Commission
(RDRC)

**Project on Skills training and Job Obtainment Support for Social Participation of
Ex-Combatants and Other People with Disabilities**

**Umushinga wo gutanga ubumenyi n'ubushobozi bigamije gufasha abantu bahoze ari
abasirikare n'abandi bafite ubumuga kwihangira imirimo**

**"Cooperative Enterprises build a better
world" International Year of Cooperatives
" Amakoperative yubaka isi nziza"
Umunsi Mpuzamahanga w' Amakoperative**



Ex-trainees with disabilities formed welding cooperative and got award (See next page).

*Abahuguwe mu myuga bafite ubumuga bashinze koperative
yo gusudira kandi bahabwa n'igihembo (Reba ipaji ikurikira)*

The United Nations decided that 2012 would be the International Year of Co-operatives. Cooperatives are able to promote the fullest possible participation in the economic and social development of all people, including women, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples, and contribute to the eradication of poverty.

In Rwanda, the recognition of importance towards cooperatives is increasing. Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (RDRC), under this context, is promoting for demobilized ex-combatants to formulate cooperatives to reintegrate in their community. ECOPD Project also provides various support services so that ex-combatants and other people with disabilities form cooperatives to participate in social and economic activities. Up to now, superior than 90% of ex-trainees have formed cooperative activities. They formed 243 cooperatives all over the country. Here, we present two good practices.

*Umuryango w'Abibumbye wemeje ko 2012 uba Umwaka Mpuzamahanga w' Amakoperative.
Amakoperative ashobora guteza imbere abantu bose mu by'ubukungu n'imibereho myiza, harimo
abagore, urubyiruko, abasaza, abantu bafite ubumuga n'abaturage bakennye, zikagira uruhare mu*

kurwanya ubukene.

Mu Rwanda, akamaro k'amakoperative kararushaho kumenyekana. Muri urwo rwego RDRC ifasha abasezerewe mu ngabo mu gushinga amakoperative kugirango bongere kubana neza n'abaturage. Umushinga ECOPD kandi utanga inkunga zinyuranye kugirango abasezerewe mu ngabo n'abandi bantu bafite ubumuga bashinge amakoperative bityo bagakora imirimo iteza imbere ubukungu n'imibereho myiza. Kugeza ubu, abahuguwe barenga 90% bakorera mu makoperative. Bashinze amakoperative 243 mu gihugu hose. Aha, turabereka ibikorwa byiza bibiri.

Two Cooperative stories from Gicumbi and Rubavu Inkuru ebyiri kuri Koperative yo muri Gicumbi n'iyoyi muri Rubavu



Ex-trainee Jean Damascene shows the award to trainees.
Jean Damascene wahuguwe arereka abahugurwa igihembo

ONE: To encourage ex-combatants to form or join cooperatives, RDRC conducted a nationwide competition for ex-combatants' cooperatives to allow ex-combatants to showcase the achievements and benefits from working together.

One cooperative formed by ex-combatants with disability who participated in skills training was selected one of winners and received award. The President of cooperative, Jean Damascene, demobilized in 2004 due to disability, and has been jobless after that. He desired seriously to change his life and decided to participate in skills training to learn welding and formed cooperative with his colleagues in training and community people in Gicumbi. Nowadays the cooperative is respected from community members, contributing to improvement of community life, for example, refurbishing schools and houses, inviting other vulnerable neighbors to join, and training jobless youth. This is a reason why this cooperative was selected as one of the good practitioners.

IYA MBERE: Mu rwego rwo gushishikariza abasezerewe mu ngabo gushinga amakoperative no kuyakoreramo, RDRC yakoresheje irushanwa ku rwego rw'igihugu ry'amakoperative y'abasezerewe mu ngabo kugirango itume bahesha agaciro ibikorwa n'inyungu zituruka ku gukorera hamwe.

Koperative imwe yashinzwe n'abasezerewe mu ngabo bafite ubumuga bahawe amahugurwa y'imyuga yabaye imwe mu zatsinze irushanwa maze ibona igihembo. Perezida wa koperative, Jean Damascene, yasezerewe mu ngabo muri 2004 kubera ubumuga hanyuma abura akazi. Yashatse guhindura cyane ubuzima bwe maze yiyemeza gukurikirana amahugurwa yo gusudira, nuko ashinga koperative hamwe na bagenzi be bari hamwe mu mahugurwa bafatanyije n'abaturage bo muri Gicumbi. Muri iki gihe, koperative yubashywe n'abaturage, igira uruhare mu guteza imbere imibereho myiza yabo. Urugero : gusana amashuri n'amazu, guhamagarira abandi gufasha abatishoboye no guhugura urubyiruko rudafite akazi. Ni yo mpamvu iyi koperative yatoranyijwe nk'imwe mu zikora neza.

TWO: Other story comes from Rubavu District about a welding cooperative formed by Jean Marie and other ex-trainees. At the first stage they worked well, attracting many new customers in the community. However, unfortunately, some mindless members left that cooperative, taking away some equipment from the cooperative. That cooperative still did not have sufficient resources to repurchase those equipments. Sadly, that cooperative was seemed to be dissolved.

However, other colleagues in the training centre and formed other cooperative in near village proposed that Jean Marie and others to join to work together. They accepted their heartfelt offer and they are working together for development of their communities.



Two cooperative members work together.
Abanyamuryango ba koperative ebyiri bakorera hamwe

IYA KABIRI: Indi nkuru ni iyo mu Karere ka Rubavu yerekeranye na koperative yo gusudira yashinzwe na Jean Marie hamwe n'abandi biganye. Bagitangira bakoraga neza babona abaguzi benshi aho batuye. Ariko, ikibabaje ni uko bamwe mu banyamuryango batari inyangamugayo bavuye muri koperative banayiba ibikoreho. Iyo koperative ntiyakomeje kugira umutungo uhagije wo kongera kugura ibindi bikoreho. Birababaje ko iyo koperative yasaga n'igiye guseniyuka. Ariko rero, abandi bagenzi be biganye mu kigo cy'amahugurwa bashinze indi koperative hafi y'aho, maze basaba Jean Marie n'abandi ko baza bagakorera hamwe. Barabyemeye n'umutima mwiza kandi bakorera hamwe kugirango bateze imbere abandi baturage.

Mid-term review of the Project was done Isuzumabikorwa ry'Umushinga ryarakozwe

The mid-term review of the ECOPD Project was realized in the end of August. The mission which came from Japan visited various places such as training centres, cooperatives, and related Rwandan institutions to verify the achievements. Main points are as follows:

Isuzumabikorwa ry'Umushinga ECOPD ryakozwe mu mpera za Kanama. Intumwa zaturutse mu Buyapani zasuye ahantu hatandukanye nko mu bigo bitanga amahugurwa y'imyuga, amakoperative hamwe n'ibindi bigo byo mu Rwanda kugirango barebe ibyakozwe. Iby'ingenzi babonye ni ibi bikurikira :



Interview to ex-trainees and trainers
Kuganira n'abahuguwe hamwe n'abarimu



Signing to the Minutes of Meeting
Gusinya inyandikomvugo z'inama

- ☆ 8 skills training centres equipped or renovated barrier-free facilities (Some centres did it using their own resources).
- ☆ 1,025 ex-combatants and other PWDs joined the training by July 2012. 99% of them satisfied with the course. After training, 93% participate in cooperative. 85% testify that their quality of life has improved.
- ☆ Several awareness raising activities were carried out.
- ☆ The project is implementing efficiently by utilization of existing training centres and local resources and good relationship and ownership of RDRC.
- ☆ ECOPD Project demonstrates the direction of integrating ex-combatants with disabilities into other PWDs. The Project promotes the social participation of both ex-combatants and other PWDs through the formulation of cooperatives with other civilians, improving the social status of PWDs in general.
- ☆ Through interaction with other classmates during the courses and cooperative activities, they regained their self-confidence and the community improved the image of PWDs as members of productive social resources.

☆ *ibigo 8 byigisha imyuga byaguze ibikoresho cyangwa bivugurura inyubako zorohera abafite ubumuga (Ibigo bimwe byakoresheje umutungo wabyo).*

☆ *Abasezerewe mu ngabo n'abandi bantu bafite ubumuga 1,025 bahawe amahugurwa muri Nyakanga 2012. 99% muri bo barayishimiye. Nyuma y'amahugurwa, 93% bashinze koperative. 85% bemeza ko imibereho yabo yabayemyiza.*

☆ *Ibikorwa byinshi by'ubukangurambaga byarakozwe.*

☆ *Umushinga ushyirwa mu bikorwa hacungwa neza umutungo, bigakorwa hifashishijwe ibigo byigisha imyuga n'umutungo uboneka ino hamwe n'imibanire myiza ndetse na RDRC ikagira ibikorwa ibyayo.*

☆ *Umushinga ECOPD werekana icyerekezo cyo kwinjiza abasezerewe mu ngabo bafite ubumuga mu bandi baturage bafite ubumuga. Umushinga ufasha abasezerewe mu ngabo n'abandi bantu bafite ubumuga kugira uruhare mu iterambere bashingira amakoperative hamwe n'abandi baturage, uteza imbere abantu bafite ubumuga muri rusange.*

☆ *Bitewe n'ubufatanye bagirana n'abandi banyeshuri bigana mu gihe cy'amahugurwa ndetse no mu bikorwa bya koperative, bongeye kwigirira icyizere n'abaturage bahinduye imyumvire bafite ku bafite ubumuga nk'abantu na bo batanga umusaruro.*

ECOPD Project will continue to the effort until termination of Project in the beginning of March 2014, to establish a sustainable base for social participation of ex-combatants and other people with disabilities.

Umushinga ECOPD uzakomeza gushyiramo imbaraga kugeza urangiye mu ntangiriro za Werurwe 2014 kugirango ufashe abasezerewe mu ngabo n'abandi bantu bafite ubumuga kugira intangiriro y'uruhare rurambye mu iterambere.