

2025



# KUNGAHARA PROJECT CAPACITY STATEMENT

Improving Food Security and boosting  
income for women smallholders in Rwanda  
smallholder farmers

***Boosting food production in Rwanda***





**Project duration: 3 years  
From November 2023  
to October 2026**

**Main donor: European Union: 693,000 Euro  
Co-funding: CIPS Foundation through Actionaid  
Rwanda: 77,000 Euro**

**Project lead: Action Aid Rwanda  
Local partner: Tubibe Amahoro**

# 1.About ActionAid Rwanda

ActionAid Rwanda (AAR), a Non- Governmental Organization and Affiliate member of the ActionAid Global Federation, has been committed to combating poverty and promoting social justice since its establishment in Rwanda in 1982. With a focus on empowering marginalized communities, redistributing resources, and advocating for the rights of people living in poverty, particularly women and girls, AAR support communities in Improving Food Security and Boosting Farm Income for Women Smallholder Farmers in Rwanda

## 2. About Kungahara Project

AAR has secured a grant from the European Union to implement a 3-year Project entitled "Improving Food Security and Boosting Farm Income for Women Smallholder Farmers in Rwanda" (IFS). The "Kungahara Project" will be implemented jointly with TUBIBE AMAHORO. It will operate in Nyaruguru, Gisagara, Nyanza, Musanze, and Karongi Districts, working closely with women cooperatives to provide support. The project focuses on promoting access to land, building resilient livelihoods, enhancing food security, promoting agro-ecology, and ensuring a sustainable environment

## 3. Objective of the Project

The project aims to contribute to the increased food availability, improved nutrition and boosting of farm incomes in Rwanda.

## 4. Expected outputs



Women smallholder farmers will expand and improve their skills on agroecology and nutrition-sensitive agricultural practices, with better access to agri-inputs to increase their agricultural yields and diversify their food products.



Women smallholder farmers' cooperatives will have access to better ecological tools and technologies to allow them to reduce levels of post-harvest losses.



Agricultural food production will be boosted, allowing food security and farm incomes to be enhanced by selling food surpluses to local food markets and by participating in food supply to school-feeding programmes.

## 5. Our reach



**1.7 million people** will be reached through this project through strengthening food production systems



**3,300 women farmers** will be united in 110 cooperatives to improve their knowledge of sustainable farming and supply chains



**110,000 school children** will benefit from school-feeding schemes, with improved access for women farmers to sell their produce to these schemes

## 6. Project Areas

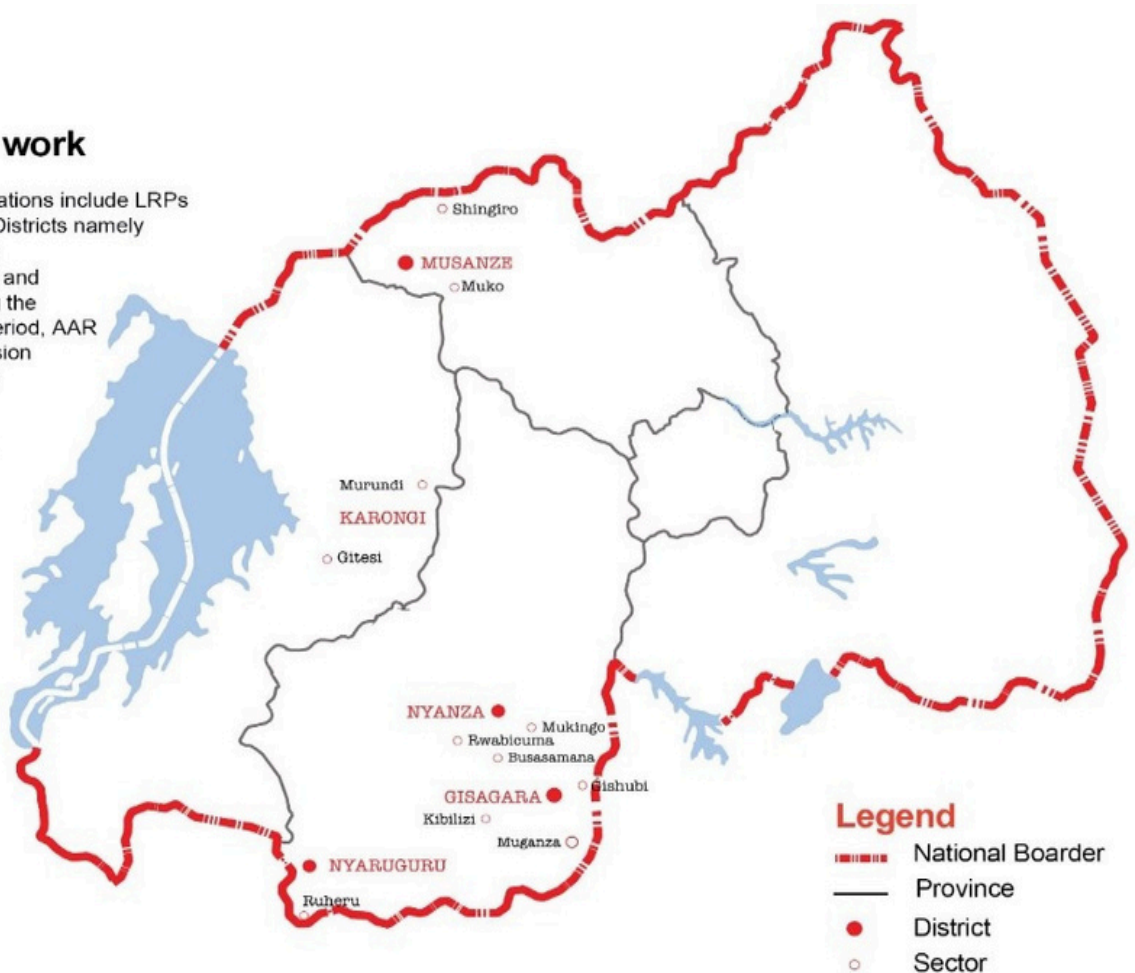
AAR currently operates in eight districts across three provinces of Rwanda:

- **Southern Province:** Nyanza, Gisagara, and Nyaruguru
- **Nyaruguru.** Western Province: Karongi Northern
- **Province:** Musanze City of Kigali: Gasabo



### Where we work

Current AAR operations include LRPs and Projects in 5 Districts namely Gisagara, Karongi, Musanze, Nyanza and Nyaruguru. During the current strategy period, AAR anticipates expansion of coverage within Districts as well moving into new locations of need.



## 7. Target groups

TG 1: 110 smallholder women-led cooperatives; (expected members: 3,300; reached: 8,356)

District	Number of cooperatives	Women	Men		Total
Musanze (2 sectors)	20	1,138	38		1,176
Karongi (2 sectors)	20	1,264	201		1,465
Gisagara (3 sectors)	30	2,820	834		3,654
Nyaruguru (1 sector)	10	619	-		619
Nyanza (3 sectors)	30	1,442	-		1,442
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>7,283</b>	<b>1,073</b>		<b>8,356</b>
<b>%</b>		<b>87%</b>	<b>13%</b>		<b>100%</b>

## 8. Achievements

**Women smallholder farmers have expanded and improved their skills on agroecology and nutrition sensitive agricultural practices**

Practical training, field visits, knowledge sharing on agroecology

Training on collecting biodegradable waste, compost making

Training on agroecology & incentives for farmers

Dialogue between cooperatives, schools and local leaders

1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>220 representatives of 110 cooperatives were trained on use/manipulation of human-powered irrigation pumps (in Musanze, 40 representatives trained, 16 for Shingiro and 24 for Muko)</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>220 representatives participated in learning tours</li> <li>In Musanze, 4 selected representatives (2 from Muko and 2 from Shingiro) participated in exchange visits in Karongi</li> <li>Practices of agroecology in agrishow (western Province)</li> <li>Spread the knowledge on agroecology through peer-to-peer learning in the community</li> <li>Application of agroecology to their farms: practice improved and given more importance</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sensitize farmers to collect and bulk biodegradable wastes; 220 selected participants; 70 leaders; 11,620 community members reached out (whose 8,100 women-led coop. members, +4,000 compost pit created)</li> <li>56 people led the activity where 2,700 community members were reached</li> <li>800 compost pits created in Musanze</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>330 selected participants; 70 leaders], 1000 community members, 2000 people reached by cooperative members and trained them on agroecology practices and 20 cooperatives received incentives: 2 hoes, tridents</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organize dialogues between cooperatives, schools and local leaders; [110 coop. with 200 school HT; participants: 310 (i.e., 110 coop reps &amp; 200 HT)]</li> <li>Facilitate cooperatives to participate in annual district agricultural shows; [35 coop reps. Participated</li> <li>Conduct reflection meetings with stakeholders</li> <li>-Project Management Team meeting</li> <li>-EU capacity building sessions</li> </ul>

## 9. Kungahara's support to VSLAs

VSLA 2023-2024			
District	Sector	Savings	Loans
MUSANZE	Shingiro	36,169,180	32,089,070
	Muko	17,550,750	14,114,300
	Murundi	22,997,880	15,023,227
KARONGI	Gitesi	56,311,945	39,340,555
	Gishubi	7,701,600	4,798,240
	Kibilizi	3,441,110	3,360,000
	Muganza	8,480,700	5,778,400
NYARUGURU	Ruheru	11,681,300	11,742,300
NYANZA	Busasamana	12,837,700	5,105,600
	Rwabicuma	29,500,500	15,401,000
	Mukingo	14,324,780	11,014,250
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>220,997,445</b>	<b>157,766,942</b>

## 10. Way forward

The way forward will focus on strengthening agroecology adoption through farmer-led learning platforms, documenting success stories, and scaling best practices, while deepening market linkages by finalizing school feeding contracts, expanding cooperative participation in agricultural shows, and promoting branded products. Post-harvest management will be enhanced through the distribution of equipment, zero-energy cooling chambers, and value addition facilities to reduce losses, alongside boosting financial inclusion by consolidating relationships with financial institutions, promoting digital finance, and increasing women farmers' access to credit. At policy level, the project will advocate for the integration of agroecology into national extension services and subsidy programs, while fostering partnerships with universities and local authorities to build evidence, anchor approaches in development plans, and ensure sustainability. Finally, the project will gradually transition activities to local leaders, cooperatives, and extension agents, strengthen environmentally friendly practices such as vermicomposting, and establish long-term monitoring and mentorship to consolidate gains beyond 2026.



