

ActionAid Rwanda Observed the 16 Days of Activism



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Newsletter

November – December 2022

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ActionAid Rwanda

KG 178S t 7, Kigali

P.O. Box: 3707 Kigali– Rwanda

Telephone: +250 280300142 (Landline)

E-mail: actionaid.rwanda@actionaid.org

Website: www.rwanda.actionaid.org

Facebook: ActionAid Rwanda **Twitter:** @actionaidrwanda

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Table of Content

Foreword	4
Overview	5
1. ActionAid Rwanda marks the 16 Days of Activism.....	7
2. AAR – EU partnership and advocacy for SRHR.....	9
3. Capacity building: SHEA & Safeguarding Investigator Network Training.....	12
4. Validation Workshops on Baseline survey on the impact of COVID-19 on the participation of special interest groups.....	13
5. AAR's 2022 review and readiness for 2023.....	14
6. Dissemination of findings of climate research on adaptation, loss and damage in Rwanda/Africa	16
7. Training of TOTs on GBV prevention and response mechanism for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Nyanza District.....	19
8. AAR promotes promote women & child rights to prevention & fight GBV in Ruheru community.....	20

Foreword



Ines MWANGAVU
Interim Executive Director
of ActionAid Rwanda

Dear Readers,

Welcome to ActionAid Rwanda's November - December 2022 Newsletter.

We hope you will enjoy reading about the realized successes and impact towards sustainable and dignified peoples' lives. We undertook several activities with a particular focus on marking 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence as an annual campaign that begins on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and runs through International Human Rights Day on 10 December.

In all these interventions, AAR aims to work to achieve social justice, gender equality, and poverty eradication by reaching out to the most vulnerable people in Rwanda to help them enjoy their rights with capacity to participate in making decisions that affect their lives.

Specifically, this newsletter presents the following interventions that were aimed at changing policies and practices and empowering target rights holders to enjoy their rights.

Let me use this opportunity to wish you a happy new year of 2023 full of new opportunities that will bring transformative impact on peoples' lives.

Enjoy reading and Best wishes in 2023!

OUR VISION

A society without poverty and injustice where every person enjoys the right to life with dignity



OUR MISSION

We work with people living in poverty and the marginalized to eradicate poverty by overcoming injustice and inequity that cause it.



OVERVIEW

1. ActionAid Rwanda marks the 16 Days of Activism

ActionAid Rwanda joined the rest of the World to observe the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, an annual campaign that begins on 25 November as an International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls, and it runs until 10th December, which marks Human Rights' Day.

2. AAR – EU partnership and advocacy for SRHR

The EU funded AAR for a 2-year project of “Empowering Young People to Prevent and fight SGBV in Rwanda”, with the aim of strengthening the capacity of CSOs in Rwanda to promote and protect the sexual and reproductive rights of teenage girls and young people, with a focus on increasing knowledge, access to appropriate health services and combatting sexual and gender-based violence.

3. SHEA & Safeguarding Investigator Network Training

From 21st to 25th November 2022, SHEA & Safeguarding Investigator Network members participated in SHEA and Safeguarding Investigation training in Kigali Rwanda at Park Inn Hotel.

4. Impact of COVID-19 on the participation of special interest groups in decision-making processes

ActionAid Rwanda held different consultative meetings with various stakeholders to collect views on the impact of COVID-19 on the participation of special interest groups in the decision-making process. This survey aimed at establishing benchmarks necessary to understand the status and progress in the participation of special interest groups in the decision-making process before, during the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery period.

5. Capacity building on GBV prevention and response mechanism for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Nyanza District

From 9th -11th November 2022, ActionAid Rwanda organized a 3-day training of TOTs on GBV prevention and response mechanism for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Nyanza District and was attended by 100 people, 52 females and 48 males.

6. Awareness campaign to prevention & fighting GBV in Ruheru LRP

On 15th Nov.2022, AAR's Ruheru LRP organised an awareness & education session to increase the capacity of 70 CNF/NWC members on policies & laws that promote women & children's rights to prevent & fight GBV in Ruheru community.70 educational books were distributed to them for that matter.

7. Training of TOTs on GBV prevention and response mechanism for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Nyanza District

From 9th -11th November 2022, ActionAid Rwanda organized 3-days Training of Trainers on GBV prevention and response mechanism for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Nyanza District and was attended by 100 people, 52 females and 48 males.

8. AAR promotes women & children 's rights to prevention & fight GBV in Ruheru community

On 15th Nov.2022, Actionaid Rwanda through its Ruheru Local Rights Programme organised an awareness & education session to increase the capacity of 70 CNF members of National Women's Council(NWC) on policies & laws that promote women & child rights to prevent & fight GBV in Ruheru community. 70 training manuals were distributed to them and they will use them as resource material while mobilizing the rest of the community members on GBV prevention and response.

1. ActionAid Rwanda marks the 16 Days of Activism

ActionAid Rwanda joined the rest of the World to observe the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, an annual campaign that begins on 25 November as an International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls, and it runs until 10th December, which marks Human Rights' Day.

Under the Global this year theme "UNiTE! Activism to End Violence against Women & Girls" and the national theme "Unite. For a Nation free from Violence" and Actionaid International theme "Ending Femicide", Actionaid Rwanda in solidarity with other stakeholders executed different activities to raise awareness on violence against women and girls and mobilized the general public and the community to understand their roles in combating GBV, child defilement and reduction of teenage pregnancy and to demand enhanced accountability for the protection of women and girls from all forms of GBV.

ActionAid Rwanda marked the 16 Days of Activism with the following activities: In Nyanza District, ActionAid Rwanda organized a walk for awareness against GBV, radio awareness spot against GBV, training of community leaders on GBV prevention and response mechanism for gender equality and social inclusion and home visits to assess the issue of families living in conflicts, etc.



AAR Marks the 16 Days of Activism in Nyanza District

In Gisagara District, ActionAid Rwanda marked the 16 Days of Activism by conducting mass sensitization campaigns on fighting GBV where during that campaign, 832 different local authorities from Cell to District levels and other stakeholders attended the event and delivered their messages which emphasized addressing violence against women and girls. During the event 60 teen mothers were also supported with scholastic and other home use materials.



AAR Marks the 16 Days of Activism in Gisigara District

In Nyaruguru District/Ruheru Sector, the activities to mark the 16 Days of activism also included the walk for awareness against GBV in which 2,070 community members participated. Sketches and drama were played to pass the messages to the community members about prevention and response to GBV.



AAR Marks the 16 Days of Activism in Nyaruguru District

As part of observing the 16 Days of Activism, ActionAid Rwanda in partnership with Nyaruguru District launched the campaign of 16 Days in Kivu Sector in which a GBV Clinic was conducted to receive cases and complaints from GBV victims.



AAR Marks the 16 Days of Activism in Nyaruguru District

In Musanze District, ActionAid in collaboration with District authorities organized a walk to raise awareness against GBV in which community members massively participated in the March displaying messages on different educational materials encouraging the community members to speak out and fight any form of GBV. During the campaign, ActionAid Rwanda supported 20 teen mothers who had dropped out of school with scholastic materials like school bag, notebooks, pens, etc., to go back to school.



AAR launches the 16 Days of Activism in Shingiro/Musanze District

ActionAid Rwanda message delivered during the campaign of 16DOA:

"GBV is still a persisting threat resulting in death, family dislocation, child defilement and teenage pregnancy, etc. This situation worsens when it intersects with other factors like poverty, family conflicts, patriarchal gender norms that may cultivate gender-based violence and climate change, health, energy, food crises, etc

In the continued move to combat GBV, ActionAid Rwanda will continuously advocate and strive to address the structural causes of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) through working with women's movements, school clubs, youth and women organizations to empower them with necessary capacities to combat all forms of GBV and promote resilient livelihoods to break the cycle of poverty and VAWG particularly in the most vulnerable communities.

We believe that justice, gender equality, freedom from want and dignified life for all people are achieved through empowering and educating people living in poverty, especially women, youth, children, and their agencies to challenge power structures and negotiate their interests with duty bearers aiming at effectively addressing the structural causes of poverty and all forms of GBV and injustices. For a sustainable change, it needs concerted efforts to shift and transform power, through empowerment, solidarity, campaign, and the generation of alternatives to ensure that women and girls enjoy a life of dignity and are free from all forms of oppression".

2. AAR – EU partnership and advocacy for SRHR

The EU funded AAR for a 2-year project of "Empowering Young People to Prevent and fight SGBV in Rwanda", with the aim to strengthen the capacity of Civil Society Organizations in Rwanda to promote and protect the sexual and reproductive rights of teenage girls and young people, with a focus on increasing knowledge, access to appropriate health services and combatting sexual and gender-based violence.

The project operates in two districts, Gasabo (more urban) and Karongi (predominantly rural) and its actions are delivered by ActionAid Rwanda (AAR) in partnership with Faith Victory Association (FVA). The project works with local and school leaders to set up SRHR clubs & groups in schools & communities: In Karongi & Gasabo Districts, 40 SRHR clubs were formed in schools & 20 groups of young people were formed in the community. Clubs' members have now reached more than 1800

young people among whom 67% are girls.

In the spirit of assessing where the project implementation has reached, on 20th Dec 2022, AAR hosted Amparo Gonzalez Diez and Mugeni Kayitenkore from EU delegation to Rwanda and discussed with the Management of AAR about the achievements of the project. A field visit was also arranged to assess the project implementation progress, which is now at 75% for the first year.



AAR hosted Amparo Gonzalez Diez and Mugeni Kayitenkore from European Union Delegation In Rwanda

As a result, the project provided a conducive platform to advocate for SRHR and SGBV and increased access to quality health and support services. In addition, the project did not benefit only the youth in the target districts but also increased awareness of other community members countrywide through physical mass campaigns and radio talk shows.

As a matter of facts, on 12th Nov 2022, ActionAid Rwanda organised a radio talk show on Radio Rwanda, on Sexual Reproductive Health and fighting against Gender Based Violence. It is estimated that the message passed reached a greater listenership due to the fact that Radio Rwanda's coverage is at 98%.



AAR Awareness Campaign on SRHR at Radio Rwanda

In the same view, from 11th up to 18th Nov 2022 ActionAid Rwanda under this project, conducted a campaign to raise public awareness on ways to combat GBV and teen pregnancies to increase the knowledge of parents or guardians around sexual and reproductive health rights and also to encourage young people to utilize available SRHR services. The campaign gathered more than 1000 people from Kinyinya and Rusororo sectors in Gasabo District and Gitesi and Rugabano sectors in Karongi District.

Moreover, the public was sensitized and educated on the issues affecting young people and youth and how to prevent children and women's rights violation. Youth and young people demonstrated that they are empowered enough to play a central role in ending violence against boys and girls in their communities.

Additionally, On 11th & 13th Nov.2022, AAR in conjunction with FVA conducted education & awareness programs for the Youth in Karongi District, Gitesi & Rugabano Sectors on SRHR & GBV. The youth were encouraged to also mobilize other community members in their respective residences.



AAR Awareness Campaign to combat SRHR in Gasabo and Karongi Districts

3. Capacity building: SHEA & Safeguarding Investigator Network Training

It is a culture at ActionAid to share best practices and build capacities of staff on new or existing policies. It is in this view that, ActionAid Global SHEA and Safeguarding Team supports countries to embed approaches to preventing sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse and other Safeguarding concerns (child abuse and abuse of adults at-risk).



Capacity building session on SHEA & Safeguarding during the training

In the same spirit, the Global SHEA and Safeguarding Team have, in recent years developed a feminist approach to SHEA and Safeguarding investigations, which upholds the dignity of survivors and protects the rights of all involved in an investigation.

In October 2020, ActionAid International Global SHEA & Safeguarding team, established a network of trained Investigators who can be deployed to support on SHEA and Safeguarding investigations across the ActionAid Federation. Known as the SHEA & Safeguarding Investigators Network, investigators have been working closely with other stakeholders such as: country SHEA and Safeguarding Stakeholder Panels who have responsibility to oversee and manage investigations, and the Global SHEA and Safeguarding Team.

In 2022, the Global SHEA & Safeguarding team planned to grow the SHEA & Safeguarding Investigator Network, across ActionAid to work with a new cohort of colleagues, to ensure that ActionAid has a consistent and robust approach to managing SHEA and Safeguarding investigations across the Federation and that those who have been harmed receive the same levels of support and access to justice.

It is in this regard that from 21st to 25th November 2022, SHEA & Safeguarding Investigator Network members participated in SHEA and Safeguarding Investigation training in Kigali Rwanda at Park Inn Hotel. The Global SHEA & Safeguarding team placed trained SHEA and Safeguarding Investigators in an Investigator Network and may be required to support with up to 3 investigations per year. The Global SHEA & Safeguarding team will also provide continuous training and development to the SHEA & Safeguarding Investigator Network, including support to ensure the wellbeing of those involved in the investigation process.



Participants contribute ideas during SHEA & Safeguardin training

The training reinforced the existing ActionAid Rwanda commitment to prevent and respond to any form of sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse as it also recognizes that these harms are gross violations of human rights, which are rooted in an imbalance of power, particularly gendered and sexualised abuses of power.

ActionAid Rwanda will also continue to encourage an organisational culture that upholds the rights and dignity of all; prioritise the voice and rights of survivors; respond to all allegations of sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse and embed SHEA and Safeguarding approach into every aspect of our work.

4. Validation Workshops on Baseline survey on the impact of COVID-19 on the participation of special interest groups in decision making

ActionAid Rwanda held different consultative meetings with various stakeholders to collect views on the baseline survey on the impact of COVID-19 on the participation of special interest groups in the decision-making processes. This survey aimed at establishing benchmarks necessary to understand the state of and the progress on the participation of special interest groups in the decision-making process before, during the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery period.



Ines MWANGAVU, the Interim Executive Director giving her remarks

The goal of this baseline study was to establish benchmarks against which the progress will be compared in the efforts of increasing participation of special interest groups in shaping the response and management of the COVID-19 pandemic in Rwanda.

In partnership with the International Center for Not-for-profit Law (ICNL), the survey was conducted in the districts of Nyanza, Karongi and Musanze. Information was collected from teachers, representatives of youths, people with disabilities, informal sector and national women's council. Others included representatives of cooperatives working with AAR, the elderly people, smallholder farmers, etc.

The report findings indicated that COVID-19 pandemic worsened the participation of women and the old people in the decision-making process during the Covid pandemic as the older people were tagged as the most vulnerable group to new infections, and they were recommended to limit their movements and interactions with other people, including not attending meetings where decisions were made. On the other hand, because of the urgency that involved the decisions that were made during the COVID-19 pandemic, some groups including women were not able to contribute to decision-making process due to restrictions on gatherings and movements but also due to increased burden of unpaid care work with schools closure

5. AAR's 2022 review and readiness for 2023

As part of its continuous self-assessment and effective planning, ActionAid organizes end of year review and sets targets for the new year. It is this view that on 18th December 2022, happened the End of Year AAR's Board meeting at Quiet Haven Hotel in Nyanza District to reflect on 2022 performance, check off important end-of-year activities & plans for the next year of 2023. The Board of Directors used that opportunity to wish Merry Xmas & Happy New Year 2023 to the Management and staff of ActionAid Rwanda.



AAR Board Meeting at Quiet Haven Hotel in Nyanza District, Dec 2022

On 19th December 2022, also happened end of year AAR's staff meeting to reflect on 2022 performance, check off important end-of-year activities & plans for the next year of 2023. The Management used that opportunity to wish Merry Xmas & Happy New Year 2023 to the entire staff of ActionAid Rwanda.



AAR End of year staff meeting, December 2022

On 20th December 2022, AAR management and staff proceeded with the retreat at the shore of Lake Kivu at Keysun Hotel in Rutsiro District. Staff retreat is an opportunity to take a step back from the day-to-day work and spend some time thinking about the bigger picture. Ines Mwangavu, the Interim Executive Director of ActionAid Rwanda "considers that staff retreat is also a time to rejuvenate the team, get everyone excited and involved around a united mission, set goals for the upcoming year, and build bonds between team members".



AAR staff Retreat at Keysun Hotel at the shores of Lake Kivu

During retreat, AAR staff were reminded about AAR transformative vision of a just world free from poverty, oppression and that patriarchy requires transformative feminist leaders: Here are 10 Principles of Feminist Leadership

Feminist Leadership Charter: 10 Principles:

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Transformative vision: A just world, free from poverty, oppression and patriarchy.

Transformative feminist leaders: Enable others to lead, building power with them instead of over them.

Our commitments to achieve this:

- 1. Self-awareness:** I will keep my ego in check, so that I can lead with empathy and an open mind. In order to do this, I will work towards accepting my vulnerabilities, as well as recognizing and valuing my strengths and those of others.
Our values: Humility
- 2. Self-care and care for others:** I will take care of my emotional and physical wellbeing, in order to renew my inner sources of inspiration and compassion so that I can continue to give of my best to my colleagues. I will encourage and support others to do the same, actively working towards a more flexible and supportive environment, particularly for those with caring responsibilities.
Our values: Mutual Respect
- 3. Dismantling bias:** I recognize that society gives me (and others) certain advantages that are not asked for or earned (for example, based on gender, class, race, caste, ability, sexual orientation, education, or other factors). I will help to uncover and challenge these forms of discrimination in my day-to-day workplace practices and policies. I will be aware of how my own privileges can harm others, but disadvantaged or inferior, as well as how I react to others' privileges, and deliberately change my behavior to treat all my colleagues as equals.
Our values: Humility, Equity, and Justice.
- 4. Inclusion:** I recognize that society gives me (and others) certain advantages that are not asked for or earned (for example, based on gender, class, race, caste, ability, sexual orientation, education, or other factors). I will help to uncover and challenge these forms of discrimination in my day-to-day workplace practices and policies. I will be aware of how my own privileges can harm others, but disadvantaged or inferior, as well as how I react to others' privileges, and deliberately change my behavior to treat all of my colleagues as equals.
Our values: Mutual respect, Humility, Equity, and Justice.
- 5. Sharing power:** I accept that the ultimate goal of my leadership is the space I create for others to lead, involving my team in setting shared goals. I will trust and empower them, to share leadership with me in reaching these goals. Likewise, I will trust and support those in position of authority to guide me in the best interests of our mission.
Our values: Courage of Conviction
- 6. Respectful feedback:** I will seek, give and value constructive feedback as an opportunity for two-way learning. I will seek for formal reviews instead I will practice continuous feedback sideways (to my colleagues) and bottom up (to my manager and those senior to me) as well as top down (to those I manage). I will look to raise my voice through active listening, timely intervention and promoting non-violent and respectful communication and behavior.
Our values: Integrity, Humility.
- 7. Accountable collaboration:** I will ensure that goals are clearly defined and mutually owned, and held all team members, including myself, strongly accountable for our individual and collective efforts to achieve them. I will measure my own achievements by the contributions I've made to team success. I will recognize and value successful collaboration, while addressing poor performance fairly but decisively.
Our values: Integrity
- 8. Courage:** I will consistently aim for transformative change, seeking out new ideas and learning from mistakes rather than fearing failure, and empowering team members to do the same. When I encounter deflection or cynicism in myself or others, I will strive to restore belief in our goals, where there is competition or insecurity over status and turf, I will build trust, and where I find complacency or inactivity, I will help to renew passion and creativity to excel in our mission.
Our values: Courage of Conviction, Humility.
- 9. Zero tolerance:** I will call out any form of discrimination and abuse of power that I witness or experience in the workplace, and safely enable and support those wanting to do the same. I will ensure my own conduct is free from any form of harassment, exploitation and abuse.
Our values: Equity and Justice
- 10. Transformative vision:** A just world, free from poverty, oppression and patriarchy.

Rwanda National Police / Polisi y'u Rwanda

- Emergency / Ubutabazi bwihuse: 112
- Child help line / Ubutabazi bw'abana: 116
- Fire Brigade / Kuzimya umururo: 111
- Anti-GBV / Kurwanya ihoterwa: 3612
- Isange One Stop Centre: 3029

Gender Monitoring Office (GMO) : 5798

MIGEPROF Toll Free Line: 2560

Office of the Ombudsman

Urwego rw'Umunyoni: 199

ActionAid Safeguarding Focal Persons

Safeguarding@actionaid.org

Safeguarding.Rwanda@actionaid.org

0788316665

0788742604

Safeguarding Focal Person (AAR Board):

0788755364

AAR contacts:

Email: actionaid.rwanda@actionaid.org

Twitter: @actionaidrwanda

Facebook: ActionAid Rwanda

Web: rwanda.actionaid.org

6. Dissemination of findings of climate research on adaptation, loss and damage in Rwanda/Africa

On 15th December 2022, ActionAid Rwanda organized a workshop for the Dissemination of findings of climate research on adaptation, loss and damage: How women and girls confront climate change, loss and damage in Rwanda.

The workshop took place at Snow Hotel in Musanze District & gathered different partners & stakeholders from community, public and non-state actors to bring them on board in addressing Loss and Damage.

Big part of in the following paragraphs is the content that was extracted in the executive summary of the report on findings of climate research on adaptation, loss and damage under the title: Women confronting loss and damage in Africa, November 2022.



Women in Rwanda confront Loss and Damage

This research was conducted in Rwanda, Kenya, Zambia and Nigeria and highlighted that in 2022, the losses and damages caused by climate change are escalating faster than predicted and with increasingly devastating consequences.

Climate change-induced losses and damages affect everyone, but not equally. In particular, women living in rural communities at risk of economic marginalisation in the Global South—who bear the least responsibility for greenhouse gas emissions but are experiencing the worst impacts of the climate crisis and the greatest losses and damages.

This is due in part to their dependency on natural resources for their income, sustenance, and health. It is also the result of pre-existing gender and other structural inequalities that prevent women from accessing the resources they need and from participating in decision making spaces. However, despite these challenges, women are on the frontlines of the climate crisis, are leading climate change responses and are central to effective climate action.

When disasters strike, women are often the first responders and play a critical role in rehabilitating their communities. Climate justice can only be achieved when based on the foundations of gender justice. A systemic and transformational approach is needed to shift power relations, safeguard

women's rights and enable women to equally take part in the decision-making pertaining mechanisms to cope with climate change.

Developing appropriate international, national and local policy frameworks to address Loss and Damage will depend on relevant evidence to understand the complex interplay between climate change related losses and damages and gender inequality.

However, a lack of research and data on the nexus of climate change and gender has been a hindrance to understanding the unequal impacts of climate change losses and damages on women and girls. There is also a significant gap in the systematic assessment of lived experiences of losses and damages across the globe, particularly from the perspectives of women on the frontlines of the climate crisis in the Global South.

Most studies (70 percent) on losses and damages come from institutions in Europe and North America, with only 7.1 percent originating from institutions in Africa. Moreover, existing literature documents women's adaptation and mitigation strategies but there is very limited literature on women's experience of losses and damages in Africa.

Most Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) that mention losses and damages focus on economic and physical losses and overlook non-economic impacts such as gender-based violence and deteriorating mental health. These gaps in the literature lead to the silencing of a diverse and rich pool of knowledge on climate change that should be instrumental to informing policy and climate action at all levels.

This research seeks to begin to narrow these gaps in the literature and contribute to ongoing and urgent policy discussions on climate impacts and how to operationalise action on Loss and Damage. Adopting ActionAid's Feminist Research Guidelines, the research incorporates a participatory, reflexive and intersectional feminist approach to investigate the economic and non-economic losses and damages and intangible harm experienced by women on the frontlines of the climate crisis in four African countries: Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda and Zambia.

ActionAid research teams in each of these countries were joined by local partners working with women on the frontlines of climate change in their communities to explore the lived experiences of women navigating the challenges of climate-related losses and damages, as well as the role they are playing in building climate resilience. This research takes a climate justice and feminist approach and seeks to create space for a Southern-led perspective.

Policy Recommendations include accelerating the establishment of a dedicated Loss and Damage Financing Facility (LDFF) Flexible, readily accessible and locally appropriate funding to enable communities rapidly respond to the losses and damages they are facing.

Policies and Financing for Loss and Damage need to be gender-transformative Climate justice and can only be achieved when based on the foundations of gender justice. A systemic and transformational approach is needed to shift power relations, safeguard women's rights, and enable women to equally take part in the decision-making pertaining mechanisms to cope with climate change. The following six key components, identified through the research and relevant to the research contexts, support such an approach.



"Climate change-induced losses and damages affect everyone, but not equally. In particular, women living in rural communities at risk of economic marginalisation in the Global South—who bear the least responsibility for greenhouse gas emissions—are experiencing the worst impacts of the climate crisis and the greatest losses and damages"

Ines Mwangavu, Interim ED, AAR

Women confronting loss and damage in Africa

AAR believes & reiterates that to "avert, minimise & address loss & damage are the way to go. AAR strives to support women as they are the most affected by climate change, but also the first responders who play a critical role in rehabilitating their communities from loss & damage", Ines Mwangavu, Interim Executive Director, ActionAid Rwanda.

7. Training of TOTs on GBV prevention and response mechanism for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Nyanza District

The objective of the training was to empower the Community Leaders with skills to address GBV and other associated issues like family conflicts in Busasamana sector. Key transferred knowledge during the training were around S&GBV prevention, detection, protection of GBV survivors, preserving evidence, GBV reporting procedures, etc.

The training also emphasized the role of community leaders in addressing GBV and empowering the community towards sustainable development.

Participants were also able to share their best practices basing on the issues in their communities ranging from family conflicts, GBV, mismanagement of resources, use of drugs, illegal marriages, teenage pregnancies, etc. Basing on existing family issues (more than 400 families are affected in Busasamana), they developed action plans they will operationalise in 2023.

It was noted that the following actions should be given priority:

- Continuous mobilization and sensitization about GBV should be strengthened,
- Establishment of community advisory committees (Ihanuriro n'ihaniro) that would facilitate in conflict management in families,
- Continued identification of families living in conflicts and home visits to couples living in conflicts will be emphasized,
- Stakeholders engagement and collaboration (District, RIB, Police, One stop center CNF, Sector leaders, Community change agents) about S&GBV prevention and family conflict management,
- Strengthening groups of teen mothers and supporting those who want to go back to school, etc.

Local leaders committed to provide support in the implementation of the set action plans and evaluation will be happening after every three months to track the impact in the community.

The Mayor of Nyanza District recommended that local leaders (sector and cell levels) need to monitor the implementation of the set action plans to ensure the challenges identified GBV issues are addressed. He reiterated the importance of working together with other partners and stakeholders in combating GBV and other issues that affect the community.

8. AAR promotes women & children's rights to prevention & fight GBV in Ruheru community

On 15th Nov.2022, Actionaid Rwanda through its Ruheru Local Rights Programme organised an awareness & education session to increase the capacity of 70 CNF members of National Women's Council(NWC) on policies & laws that promote women & child rights to prevent & fight GBV in Ruheru community. 70 training manuals were distributed to them and they will use them as resource material while mobilizing the rest of the community members on GBV prevention and response.



AAR trained CNF members on preventing GBV

Merry Christmas and happy new year

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The Board,
Management and Staff

wish You
Happy New Year 2023

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RWANDA

KG 178 St, Remera - Kigali | P.O. Box 3707 Kigali | Tel: +250 280 300 142
Email: actonaid.rwanda@actonaid.org | twitter.com/actonaid | facebook.com/actonaid

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ActionAid Rwanda Observed the 16 Days of Activism

25th November – 10th December 2022.