**Summary**

Farming in Rwanda remains largely subsistence in nature. With a rapid increase in population, the pressure on ensuring food security is a constant challenge for the stakeholders. Significant progress has been made in Rwanda in the past decade with regard to overall agricultural production and animal husbandry.

However, operational efficiency and farm productivity, and, therefore, the prosperity of a very large proportion of the rural population, continue to be a concern.

The Women’s Rights to Sustainable Livelihoods project thus seeks to support women to overcome some of the challenges confronting their ability to adopt and practice sustainable agriculture. Some of these include; unpaid care work, inadequate access to farm inputs and other resources and low budgetary allocation to activities of women smallholder farmers

Those gaps are among roots of insufficient agricultural production and food insecurity observed in some rural area in Rwanda, especially Muko sector in Musanze District. Muko is one of Musanze District sector in the Northern province of Rwanda; it is one of the most insecure regions, suffering from chronic food insecurity and flooding. High unemployment coupled with limited vocational education opportunities result in extreme poverty. 52% of the 3,886 households in Muko live below the poverty line and struggle to provide basic necessities such as food, medical care, and school fees, and over 50% of children (six months-five years) suffer from chronic malnutrition. Therefore, knowing that women smallholder farmers produce the majority of food, the project is aiming to improve food security and economic opportunities in Muko sector by empowering women farmers.

This magazine comprises of a number of stories highlighting the achievements and challenges of women small holder farmers in Muko sector, Musanze district.