



RUKARARWE PARTNERSHIP WORKSHOP FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT – RPWRD

Vision:

RPWRD is the model how to live in this World not perfect but learning from the mistakes and encouraging one another, sharing spiritual life and work in Projects.

Mission:

Unity in Diversity-Sharing and learning how to live together (Injustice against the gap between the rich and poor and against corruption)

About us

Back ground.

Rukararwe Partnership Workshop for Rural Development (RPWRD) is a local Non-Governmental Organization which started in 1986 by the Late, the Hon. Ambassador Samson Nyine Bitahwa. It is situated in Nyakabirizi Division, Bushenyi/Ishaka Municipality in Bushenyi district of Western Uganda. It operates within the districts of Greater Bushenyi (Buhweju, Rubirizi, Mitooma, Sheema and Bushenyi.)

The NGO is composed of different associations including; women groups, youth, farmers, traditional medicine healers, religions among others. It was founded in order to improve the situation of poverty, hunger, and other social issues, thus help the rehabilitation and reconstruction of communities also saving nature and education for self reliance are main aims.

Since inception, Rukararwe has collaborated well with the local organizations including Religious/schools/institutions/Universities and

other international organizations especially in Germany in implementing its programs/Projects.

The organization was formed to tackle the above problems through the following ways;

-Enhancing community based health care and integration of traditional medicine (herbal medicine clinic.)

-Encouraged tree planting in the region and promote environmental protection (Tree nursery)

-Promote women emancipation (women group craft shop, goat rearing, bee keeping, revolving fund/SACCO....)

-Promote sustainable development through the use of available raw materials and technical knowhow (renewable energy Technologies)

-Alleviate poverty and induce better living standards of the rural population as a whole.

Sometimes the NGO extends its services to the neighboring districts of Mbarara, Kasese, Ntungamo, Isingiro, Kiriuhura, Ibanda among others. These neighboring districts benefit by accessing especially indigenous seedlings of trees and primary health care under the traditional herbal medicine.

Projects of Rukararwe PWRD which have transformed the project into one of the important development instruments within Greater Bushenyi in South Western Uganda.

The Project has had tremendous impact in transforming the lives of different communities and it is now looking forward to tackling even more complicated issues in the environment to mitigate the global effects of climate change, job opportunities especially for young generations through equipping them with different skills for self reliance.

Since inception Rukararwe has been implementing in these areas;

-Environmental protection;

Rukararwe spearheaded and championed the campaign of tree planting across the region by setting up the tree nursery bed (the 1st of its kind) to propagate indigenous species of trees. It's an NGO which established an artificial forest at Rukararwe which is now helping the communities in different ways including generating income through Eco travelling.

- Earth brick technology;

Rukararwe introduced this technology and constructed classroom blocks for demonstration purposes in 10 schools.

-Establishment of projects in organic farming, agro forestry, zero grazing, pottery, sewing and knitting, traditional healing and community based health care, village technology.

-Women groups;

Rukararwe engages women in different activities; training them in income generating activities, caring for widows, single mothers, promoting saving culture amongst women, traditional hand crafts.

-Grieving and counseling group;

This group helps those who lost their dear ones to regain hope and cop up with the situation (they meet every Sunday, projects done by this group include bee keeping and savings group, Music dance and drama to help them on stress management....) They fully participate in the anti HIV/AIDS campaign.

Youth groups

With support from development partners especially in Germany, Rukararwe has trained and is still training youth in different skills development.

The Youth are engaged in sports activities in villages, schools, learning and sharing experiences (Germany has organized several exchange visits especially for the youth to learn and appreciate the different cultures hence volunteer programs between Rukararwe and Germany institutions.....)

Rukararwe Mobilizes the youth to engage themselves in activities of making them self reliant. These Projects include goat rearing, piggery, bee hives, poultry.....and solar energy technologies.

1. Save water campaign

In addition to its environmental protection programs, Rukararwe is currently carrying out a campaign for rain water harvest. It is **intended** to sensitize the public about issues of climate change and shortages of water.

-Targeted activity is construction of rain water harvesting tanks especially in public places like church, schools, health facilities, commercial buildings, vulnerable families (widow and orphaned headed families).....and later to homesteads.

-Promotion of inter-religious dialogue and understanding through workshops between all religions among others.

2. Eco Travel project

Rukararwe is promoting local and international travelling. This is to promote the different cultures of different communities/countries and to help rural people to tap and learn from travelers Vis. The project is helping the communities to appreciate that the World is now a Global village and

making Rukararwe to become self sustaining and networking with development partners.

-Health/Traditional medicine/culture

Rukararwe values culture and traditions a reason why we still uphold the traditional herbal medicine. We have a proven anti-malaria herb, skin diseases, ulcers, allergies.....

-We have a shop/pharmacy at Rukararwe and in Bushenyi town. The forest we planted is where we harvest these herbs.

-Rukararwe signed a memorandum of understanding between government of Uganda and Rukararwe in health promotion and Rukararwe was given an out-reach.

-Rwanshetsya orphanage centre

-The centre is a home for orphans and other vulnerable children supported by friends/partners in Germany and coordinated by Rukararwe.

Some of the above activities are running while some are not.

The strength/opportunities of Rukararwe:

-It owns 22 acres of land where projects can be carried out

-It has a fully fledged community centre including a multi-purpose hall for workshops, a kitchen, hostel and cottages for seminar participants.

-Established seed-bed (capacity 500000 seedlings) and demonstration forest.

-Some Furniture

-A network of nuclear Associations (farmers, youth, women, men, disabled, widows, elderly, technologists, traditional/culture groups, students...)

Challenges

Despite the achievements and the above strength; Rukararwe is faced with the challenge of limited resources. Our efforts in environmental protection are crippled by the ignorance of the population on issues of environment, increasing levels of poverty, lack of indigenous tree seedlings to give out to public/communities.

“Tree planting is saving Nature and life”

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT US AT;

P.O. BOX 275, BUSHENYI, UGANDA

WEBSITE; www.rukararwe.org

+256-392 840814, +256 701 086722 +256 700627227