



2022 IN REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS



Foreword

Esteemed Partners and Readers,

It is my great honor to share highlights of the great work UN Women team is doing in Rwanda to support Government meet its gender equality commitments, in collaboration with Development Partners, Civil Society Organizations, Private Sector, Media, and colleagues from UN Sister Agencies.

Building on the momentum of previous years' achievements, the country office, continues to support initiatives that keep Rwanda holding the flambeau of gender Equality and Women's Empowerment high globally and regionally. Looking back at our work in 2022, we are happy with our contributions towards transforming lives of women and girls.

Within its normative mandate, UN Women is building on men engage initiatives which has contributed to positive masculinity, addressing negative social norms and raising awareness on reducing the burden of unpaid care work on women.

In moving towards the realization of Generation Equality Forum (GEF) commitments made by H.E Paul Kagame to bridge the gender digital gap, UN Women contributed to the development of a national multi-stakeholder action plan to accelerate the implementation of GEF Action Coalition commitment on technology and innovation to which Rwanda is a co-lead in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion for implementation in 2023.

Within the UN System, UN Women continues to leverage on the various coordination mechanisms to ensure UN's accountability to gender equality. The Gender and PSEA Group also rolled out the gender scorecard and will continue to monitor the implementation of the recommendations in collaboration with Inter-Agency Team.



Under its flagship programme 'Every Woman and Girl Counts', UN Women joined other UN Agencies and partners to support the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda to conduct the National Census as well as develop a dedicated report of the National Gender Statistics 2021 and the Gender thematic Report from the Establishment/Business census 2020.

In preparations for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) market opportunities, we supported the Ministry of Trade and Commerce to lead a delegation of women entrepreneurs to the investment and industrialization, Regional Integration of Africa's SMEs summit.

I take this opportunity to thank all our partners with whom we have worked collaboratively to mark these milestones over the last year. Together we will continue to support Government's efforts to make gender equality a reality for women and girls in Rwanda.

Wishing you a good read and look forward to a fruitful collaboration.

Jennet Kem,
UN Women Country Representative

Ending gender-based violence through men engage approaches



Hon. Minister of Gender and Family Promotion, UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Fode Ndiaye and other delegates visiting the Isange One Stop Center in Gatsibo. Photo Courtesy of RWAMREC.

UN Women contributed to the awareness raising of positive masculinity to address unpaid care burden on women in Gatsibo district in partnership with the Men's Resource Centre (RWAMREC). As part of monitoring and ensuring implementation, UN Women Team participated in a joint field visit to Isange One Stop Center and Indashyikirwa project, joined by Hon. Minister of Gender and Family Promotion, Prof. Bayisenge Jeannette, former UN Resident Coordinator Mr. Fode Ndiaye and partners to witness services provided to GBV victims and survivors. The visit also provided an opportunity for different couples to share experiences of how the training on men's engagement and women's empowerment has improved their well-being and livelihood status. [Read more](#)

Celebrating International Women’s Day 2022 in Rwanda: Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow



Minister of Environment, Hon. Mujawamariya Jeanne d’Arc handing over cows to select families at the national celebration of IWD in Gakenke district. Photo Credit: UN Women/Pearl Karungi

This year, UN Women Rwanda joined the government of Rwanda and partners in Gakenke District on 8 March 2022 to celebrate the international women’s day under the national theme “**Gender equality to address climate change**” which aimed to recognize the contributions and the distinct roles women play in leading the change on climate change adaptation, mitigation, and response, to build a more sustainable future for all. The celebrations offered an opportunity to examine the country’s progress on gender equality, climate change adaptation, and mitigation resilience efforts.



UN Resident Coordinator in Rwanda, Fode Ndiaye delivering his remarks during the IWD celebrations in Gatsibo district on 8 March, 2022. Photo: UN Women Rwanda/Pearl Karungi

In his remarks, the former UN Resident Coordinator in Rwanda, Mr Fode Ndiaye, called for the continuous and inclusive rebuilding of all sectors and engaging women and girls in decision-making discussions, especially on climate change actions at community, national and international levels to reduce emissions and increase resilience to climate change.

He commended the Government of Rwanda for undertaking several measures to address climate change, starting with the ratification of the UN Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1992, developing the National Adaptation Action Plan (NAPA) in 2000, formulating a low carbon growth strategy, being the first country to revise its NDC and for the leading role in COP26.

In Focus IWD: “Ring the Bell” highlights business case for gender equality



Former Deputy Central bank of Rwanda Governor in the centre ringing the bell at 'Ring the Bell' event in Rwanda together with other delegates. Photo: UN Women Rwanda/Pearl Karungi.

UN Women contributed to raising awareness on the pivotal role played by the private sector in advancing gender equality through the “Ring the Bell for Gender Equality” dialogue, which provided a platform for partners from the financial sector to discuss the role and opportunities for the private sector to advance gender equality and sustainable development. The event was held on 11 March 2022 in partnership with Rwanda Stock Exchange and International Finance Corporation in celebration of international women’s month. [Read more](#)

In Focus IWD: 19 private and public institutions recognized for implementing the Women’s Empowerment Principles in their workplace



Group photo of some of the private and public institutions receiving the golden seal award at the gender seal event at Kigali Serena Hotel. Photo: UN Women Rwanda/Pearl Karungi

In the efforts to support private sector companies to promote gender equality and accountability in their businesses, nineteen private companies and government agencies were recognized for instituting gender accountability mechanisms and promoting a gender-responsive work environment. The was implemented under the joint “Gender Equality Seal Program” initiated in 2017 by GMO with the support of UN Women and UNDP Rwanda.

“In the world of uncertainty and COVID-19 recovery, the role of the private sector in boosting Rwanda’s economy is paramount. As part of this vital work, UN Women appreciates not only the private sector companies’ commitments to gender equality and women’s empowerment, but also concrete actions taken in this endeavor by the companies that we are here to recognize today and award for their efforts in putting the commitments into actions,”

Carine Uwantege, UN Women Country Representative OIC. [Read more](#)



Emma Carine Uwantege, Acting Country Representative of UN Women in Rwanda delivering opening remarks. Photo: UN Women Rwanda/Pearl Karungi

In Focus IWD: A Conversation with Youth Change Makers from East Africa, leading climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives

GENDER EQUALITY TODAY FOR A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW

**29 MARCH
@4:30PM**
(Kigali time)

#IWD2022

Join us:
A conversation with Youth change-makers from East Africa,
leading climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives.



FRANCINE MUNYANEZA
Founder and CEO,
Munyax Eco.
**GUEST
SPEAKER**



JAMES OCHWERI
Communications Officer,
UN Women East and
Southern Africa.
MODERATOR



DELICIA MWANYIKA
Gender Rights Activist
and Climate Justice
Advocate - Tanzania
PANELIST



INEZA GRACE
Eco-Feminist and
Environmental
Engineer - Rwanda
PANELIST



JOSHUA OMONUK
Climate Activist and
Professional Economist
& Statistician – Uganda
PANELIST



ELISABETH BERABOSE
CEO & Founder for
Berabose Designs, an
eco-friendly fashion
brand -Rwanda
PANELIST

To harness young women’s voices and messages from the different parts of Africa and to inform advocacy for youth and gender responsive climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts, UN Women hosted a twitter space conversation in line with the 2022 Commission on the status of women 66 theme to discuss the role of youth in climate change adaptation and response. The platform provided a collaborative experience sharing opportunity to leading young climate change activists in East Africa and participation from over 2000 online followers.

The 8th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) held in Kigali, Rwanda



H.E Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda delivering his opening remarks at the 8th ARFSD was held in Kigali, Rwanda. Photo Courtesy: ARFSD

We also took part in the 8th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) held in Kigali, Rwanda on 3-5 March 2022, under the following theme: **Building forward better: A green, inclusive and resilient Africa poised to achieve the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063**. UN Women’s participation at the ARFSD aimed at putting a spotlight on the gender issues in climate change and green economy and the key priority actions which informed the Kigali Declaration and other outcome documents. Read the joint [Op-ed](#) by UN Women, ECA and UNFPA.

Representing the UN Women’s Regional Director, Ms. Jennet Kem, UN Women Country Representative of Burundi, now the UN Women’s Rwanda Representative [provided high level leadership for the coordination of the parallel session](#) themed “Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and Girls in Africa: Progress, Challenges, Opportunities, and key Priority Actions for Green, Inclusive and Resilient Africa Poise.

She noted in her statement that achieving equality, gender justice and empowerment for all, women and girls cannot be delinked from the interwoven 3‘Cs’ crises namely, climate change, conflict/violence and Covid19. She further underlined the need for increasing investments, partnerships and addressing the intersectionality of gender and climate change to make it possible for women and girls to benefit from these opportunities. Madam Kem reiterated that global and regional climate and disaster mitigation and response efforts must be centered around African women and girls’ needs if they are to be successful and sustainable. [Read more](#)



UN Women Representative Ms. Jennet kem assumes duty officially in Kigali Rwanda



Madam Jennet Kem(L) presenting her credentials to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Dr Vincent Biruta(R). Photo credit: UN Women/Pearl Karungi

The Country Office was pleased to receive Madam [Jennet Kem](#) as the UN Women Country Representative in Rwanda, upon receiving her accreditation from Rwanda’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on May 5 2022. Ms. Kem brings more than 27 years of experience in a wide range of gender and human rights issues including Gender-responsive governance, Gender Responsive Budgeting, Advocating for Women’s Human Rights using CEDAW and related instruments; Ending Feminized Poverty and Violence against women and Girls; Advancing Gender and Juvenile Justice; Mobilizing leaders and communities for Gender Equality, Peace, Justice, and Humanitarian Action, amongst others. She has a passion for equality, justice and community development and spends her spare time researching, training, and contributing to these ideals. [Read more](#)

Commonwealth Heads Of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 24 -27 June 2022 in Rwanda



Family photo of the CHOGM Heads of States. Photo Courtesy: CHOGM

In addressing the persisting gender inequalities and strengthening transformative efforts around women's leadership, economic empowerment, prevention of violence against women and girls, climate change, women's health, peace, and security as well as accountability for the implementation of GEWE commitments, UN Women Country office participated in the Commonwealth Heads of Government (CHOGM) Meeting held in Rwanda from 24-25 June 2022, under the theme of 'Delivering a Common Future: Connecting, Innovating,

Transforming'. At the sidelines, UN Women took part in the Commonwealth Women's Forum (CWF) on 20-21 June 2022 which adopted a Commonwealth Declaration on Gender and Women's Empowerment by Heads of States.

The UN Women Country Representative, Madam Jennet Kem emphasized the importance of bringing men on board in ending negative social norms, encouraging fathers to empower their girls. [Read more](#)

Some of the highlights from CHOGM



UN Women led social protection programme helped vulnerable women in Rwanda overcome impact of COVID-19



*Marie Rose Uwimana, a survivor of GBV sharing her testimony at the partner dialogue.
Photo Credit: UN Women*

Under the “Recovering Better and Inclusively from COVID-19 through Gender-Sensitive Social Protection System in Rwanda,” UN Women in collaboration with UNHCR contributed to the government of Rwanda’s national recovery efforts by equipping over 1774 women headed households in the border districts with entrepreneurial skills, providing small livestock and toolkits to 509 teen mothers, legal support as well as startup capital through cash transfers in collaboration with LODA to mention but a few.

In addition, UN Women partnered with Solid Africa, a non-profit organization to provide meals to over 1000 low-income patients in six public hospitals to reduce the care burden faced by caregivers during the pandemic. [Read more](#)

New home-based early childhood development centres launched in Nyaruguru district, unilever tea catchment area to increase mothers’ productivity



*From L-R: Nyaruguru District Vice Mayor in charge of social affairs, the Representative of Unilever Tea Rwanda and UN Women Project Manager Alice Rugerindinda interacting with children in one of the ECD centres.
Photo Credit: UN Women*

In the efforts to addressing women’s safety and economic empowerment under the “Safe Rural Public Space” project, UN Women Rwanda in collaboration with its partners Action pour le Developpement du Peuple (ADEPE) and Nyaruguru district officials, inaugurated three Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDs) in three sectors of Munini, Kibeho and Mata in Nyaruguru district. These come as solutions to addressing malnutrition and stunting in children as well as promoting young mothers’ productivity in the Unilever tea plantation. [Read more](#)

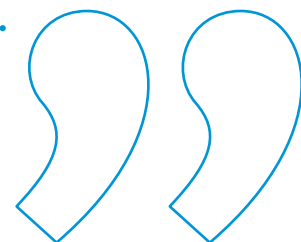


A mother with her children in the newly launched ECD project. Photo: Courtesy of ADEPE.

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Niyibivuga Nathalie, a full-time employee in the tea plantation said that she used to leave her three-year-old daughter alone at home **“I was always working under stress, telling myself that my child would get hit by a cyclist.”** From now on, Niyibivuga will leave her little one at the centre and focus on her work, a joy she shared.

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Strengthening gender responsive plans and budgets among public and private sector



Through the Gender Joint Programme, UN Women in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender launched a Gender Economic Policy Management Initiative training which contributed to the mainstreaming of gender in district plans and budgeting through equipping district staff with capacity building sessions and skills to make appropriate gender analysis. Participants included Directors of Good Governance, District Council members and the National Women Council Coordinators from Bugesera district as well as other relevant stakeholders from CSOs, the Private Sector Federation and media. [Read more](#)

Women MPs forum marks a silver jubilee with calls for a bold push towards gender equality



From L-R: Julianna Lindsey, UNICEF Representative, Jennet Kem, UN Women Representative, Prof. Jeannette Bayisenge, Minister of Gender and Family Promotion, Hon Mukabalisa Donatille, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the parliament of Rwanda and among other. Photo credit: UN Women/Pearl Karungi

On June 30th, UN Women joined Rwanda Women's Parliamentary Forum (FFRP) to celebrate its silver jubilee which was marked at a gathering at the Parliamentary Building, during which participants reflected on the achievements the forum has contributed to since its founding in 1996 as a cross-party women's caucus aimed at uniting women in parliament towards striving for common goals and championing gender equality, especially in legislation. UN Women has supported FFRP to advocate and influence gender responsive laws as well as enhanced capacity of its members on gender responsive budgeting and planning. [Read more](#)

Together holding the gender equality flambeau: UN Women staff retreat



In the efforts to collectively develop a common vision to drive impact for women and girls in Rwanda, UN Women Rwanda Country Office held a three-day staff retreat from 12-15 of July 2022 to reflect on the achieved results, challenges, and opportunities. Madam Jennet Kem resuming her new role as the Country Representative shared with the team her vision to create **One Office, One Team, One Programme, One Spirit**.

UN Women Country Representative, Jennet Kem sharing her remarks with staff at the retreat. Photo Credit: UN Women/Pearl Karungi



UN Women Staff during the retreat at the Kivu Serena hotel. Photo Credit: UN Women/Pearl Karungi

Reducing unpaid care burden through efficient time-saving energy kits



UN Women Country Representative, Ms. Jennet Kem and Vice Mayor in charge of Economic Development in Rubavu district, Ms. Deogratias Nzabonimpa handing over the tri-motor cycle to cooperative members. Photo: UN Women/Pearl Karungi.

To reduce the care demands on rural women, UN Women Rwanda in partnership with INADES and RDO through its 3R (Recognize, Reduce, and Redistribute) project on unpaid care work provided energy cooking kits to over 300 households from Nyange, Rwaza, Kimonyi, Muko and Kinigi sectors in Musanze District and 472 households in Rubavu. The kits included heat retention cookers, a food flask known as the 'wonderbox', sprayers, water tanks, harvesting crates and motorcycles. This ultimately reduced the domestic care work on rural women while saving time for women who were already spending significant time doing household chores.

The 3R project is funded by Global Affairs Canada and is implemented in eight Districts of Musanze, Muhanga, Rubavu, Kirehe, Ngoma, Gasabo, Nyaruguru, and Nyarugenge. [Read more](#)



Panelists during a discussion on the role of media and public influencers in promoting positive social norms.
Photo credit: UN Women/Nextline

Addressing negative social norms and gender stereotypes through dialogue

In the context of addressing negative social norms, gender stereotypes, harmful practices, and negative cultural beliefs which continue to condone gender inequalities that increase gender-based violence, UN Women held a media press breakfast with media, public influencers, reporters, journalists and members of the civil society organizations to discuss existing negative social norms that hinder gender equality promotion and define strategies to address them.

The Minister of Gender and Family Promotion and the guest of honor Prof. Jeannette Bayisenge urged the media to make full use of its powerful role to promote gender equality, adding that *“addressing social norms and gender stereotypes embedded in our cultural beliefs and patriarchal society cannot be done overnight. It’s rather a process that requires a mindset shift and concerted efforts by different stakeholders.”*

Speaking at the event, Madam Jennet Kem said that *“as we work towards dismantling patriarchal negative norms, it is important to reshape society to embrace and promote positive social norms that contribute to gender equality”*. [Read more](#)



Mme Jennet Kem,
UN Women Country
Representative
speaking at the
media and influencers
breakfast event.

Strengthening gender disability inclusive programming and budgeting among stakeholders



*Some of the participants from the workshop.
Photo Credit: UN Women/Jean De Dieu Ndacyayisenga.*

Regarding disability inclusion in programming, budgeting, and policies, UN Women in collaboration with UNDP strengthened staff capacity in gender mainstreaming for National Council of People with Disabilities (NCPD) and advocates through the Joint Program on strengthening disability inclusion, accountability, and coordination in Rwanda implemented by UN Women, UNDP Rwanda, UNICEF, Rwanda Local Government, National Union of Disability Organizations of Rwanda (NUDOR) and National Council of Persons with Disabilities (NCPD). This UN inter-agency and multi-stakeholder initiative aims to promote the inclusion of the rights of women and girls with disabilities and strengthening accountability for gender and disability inclusion in plans, policies, initiatives, and processes

UN Women convenes partners to discuss effective and impactful partnerships



Breakout sessions to discuss best practices, challenges, recommendations and commitments. Photo: UN Women/Jean De Dieu Ndacyayisenga.

As part of ensuring the quality of communication, effectiveness, and efficiency in programme management throughout the implementation of the Country Office Strategic Note 2019-2023, UN Women Rwanda organized a consultative meeting with Implementing Partners (IPs) and Responsible Parties (RPs) on 29th July 2022. The full day consultative meeting brought together close to 70 partners from Government, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) as well as the private sector.

The meeting enhanced partners' understanding of program implementation through UN Women interconnected triple mandates namely normative, programmatic and UN system coordination. Implementing partners were further encouraged to strengthen the alignment of their programs and strategies with national and UN Women Country Office priorities for impact on joint interventions.

This was also an opportunity for partners to network and reflect on ways to strengthen synergies and prevent overlaps in program implementation. [Read more](#)

Celebration of the International Day of a Girl



Young girls at the celebration of the international day of the girl in Musanze. Photo courtesy: MIGEPROF



UN Women Country Representative, delivery her remarks at the international day of the girl in Musanze district. Photo courtesy MIGEPROF.

On the 11 October, UN Women Rwanda joined the First Lady and the Minister of Gender and Family Promotion in the commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the International Day of the Girl Child held in Musanze district. The 2022 celebrations were dedicated to celebrating adolescent girl leaders in all their diversity.

The First Lady, Madame Jeannette Kagame, in her remarks said that celebration of the day of the girl does not ignore young boys, but rather to reflect progress achieved in the implementation of commitments that advance the rights and opportunities of young girls. [Read more](#)



Group photo of the participants. Photo courtesy: MIGEPROF

Madam Jennet Kem, UN Women Country Representative reminded the public that educating a woman is educating a nation, adding that collective efforts are needed to address the challenges and risks girls face. She called upon stakeholders to strengthen partnerships with the Government of Rwanda and the UN system for the realization of the priorities of the programs for the benefit of all Rwandan girls.

Bridging the gender digital divide in Africa through the UN Women’s connekted girls hub



In the context of bridging the gender digital divide in Africa, UN Women organized the third edition of the Connected Girls Hub on the sidelines of Youth Connekt Africa Summit on 14 October 2022 in Kigali, Rwanda. The intergenerational dialogue brought a specific gender perspective to the summit and provided a platform for young women and girls from 30 African countries including secondary, varsity students, youth from different AU member states and women leaders to discuss life challenges and probable solutions.

Gashora Girls School performing a sketch on the ingrained stereotypes and social norms that limit the girl’s ability to join STEM. Photo: UN Women Rwanda/Next line



H.E Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda officially opening the YouthConnekt Africa Summit at the Kigali Arena. Photo courtesy YouthConnekt.

Opening the summit, H.E Paul Kagame said that “we must do our part to recognize that young people are equal partners in our development agenda. You have ideas on how to trade more effectively, build stronger health systems, combat climate change, reduce inequality and much more. Our duty is to listen and work with you.” He added.



[watch the Connected Girls Hub 2022 Video Highlight Reel](#)

Rwanda celebrates International Rural Women's Day



Members of CNF Kigoma presenting a cultural dance at the International Rural Women's Day celebration. Photo: UN Women/James Ochweri

In celebration of International Rural Women's Day, UN Women joined the Government of Rwanda in Kigoma Sector Huye District, Kigoma Sector, Southern province of Rwanda to reflect, recognize and raise the voice of rural women on the vital role that they play in the sustainable development of the community and nation. The event was organized under the theme **"Development of rural women, a pillar of Rwanda's Economy"**.

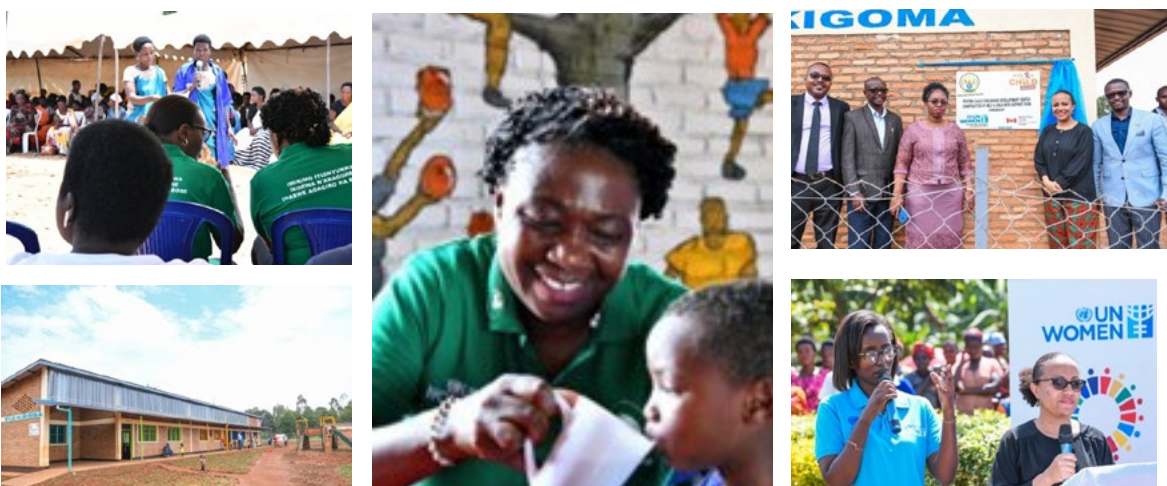
Prof. Jeannette Bayisenge, Minister of Gender and Family Promotion said that although much progress has been made in empowering women economically and socially, they still face challenges in accessing education, health, socio-economy opportunities including finance and carry the burden of unpaid care work and family conflicts. She called for strengthened collaborations among all stakeholders to address those key challenges. [Read more](#)

UN Women inaugurated ECD facilities in 3 districts



From L-R: AVSI Country Director, Mayor of Kirehe district and UN Women Country Representative officially opening Itetero ECD centre. Photo Credit: UN Women/Pearl Karungi

Under the UN Women’s mandate to reduce the care burden from teen mothers and increase women’s productive time gains, UN Women Rwanda through its 3R (Recognize, Reduce, and Redistribute) project on unpaid care work in collaboration with partners namely: AVSI and Help a Child, launched Early Child Development Centers (ECD) in different districts including [Nyaruguru district](#), [Kirehe district](#) and Ngoma district. The project also built the capacity of the ECD caregivers by providing trainings as well as teaching and learning materials to support cooperative members and nearby communities. [Read more](#)



Launch of different ECD centers in Ngoma, Kirehe and Nyaruguru districts

Placing women’s leadership at the center of sustainable nutrition in Rwanda



Panelists during the gender dialogue series. Photo Credit: UN Women/Next line

In recognition of women’s crucial role in fighting stunting and malnutrition in Rwanda, UN Women Rwanda convened key players in nutrition, food security, agriculture, media, as well as policy makers to discuss and reflect on policies that improve women’s productive capacity to curb malnutrition in their households.

Mme. Kem shared words of commitment to strengthen the Joint Programme on Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment jointly implemented by UN Women, WFP, IFAD, and FAO. [Read more](#)

The inaugural gender dialogue series aimed at crafting feasible home-grown solutions for rural women to valorize their indigenous knowledge in a bid to tackle issues around nutrition deficiencies.

“We must elevate women’s role in decision-making processes by dismantling gender stereotypes and harmful social norms, especially in rural areas,” said Madam Jenet Kem, UN Women Country Representative.



Gender Dialogue Highlight Reel on Placing Women at the Centre of Sustainable Nutrition in Rwanda.

A national stakeholders' briefing session on the Women Deliver 2023 Summit

In support of multi-sectoral convenings to advance gender equality, UN Women in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF) in collaboration with the Women Deliver Team co-hosted a briefing session on the upcoming Women Deliver 2023 Conference (WD23) in July 2023 in Kigali, Rwanda. The conference will take place on the African continent for the first time and will convene around 6000 people under the theme “Spaces, Solidarity and Solutions”. The WD23 objectives are to catalyze collective action to advance gender equality, hold leaders accountable, empower the feminist movement, reframe who leads and create space for dialogue.

The briefing session brought together all key stakeholders including the Women Deliver Team led by the President and CEO Ms. Maliha Khan, Government institutions, civil society organizations, NGOs, Embassies, UN Agencies, and International Organizations among others.

Speaking at the breakfast meeting, UN Women Country representative, Mme Jennet Kem, appreciated the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion for partnering with UN Women for the coordination of the national planning and preparation processes. She commended the theme saying that “the issues of space are huge, we have to create space for youth, PWD, and aged women and seek solutions around gender equality.” She emphasized UN Women’s commitment to continue working with Women Deliver and the Government of Rwanda to make WD23 and the implementation of its outcomes a success. [Read more](#)



Ms. Maliha Khan, President and CEO of Women Deliver, briefing partners on the upcoming WD conference. Photo Credit: UN Women



Madam Jennet Kem, UN Women Country Representative delivering her vote of thanks. Photo Credit: UN Women



Some of the delegates from the women deliver breakfast meeting. Photo Credit: UN Women



Breakfast Meeting on the Upcoming Women Deliver Conference 2023

16 Days of Activism: A public call to tackle GBV and its root causes



Activists during the 16days of activism solidarity run in Kigali, Rwanda.
Photo Credit: UN Women/Pearl Karungi



Participants exercising during the 16days of activism sports activities in Kigali, Rwanda.
Photo Credit: UN Women/Pearl Karungi

In the efforts to raise awareness to end gender-based violence and in showing support and solidarity towards uprooting this scourge for the good of families and societies at large, UN Women joined the government of Rwanda for commemoration of 16days days of activism in Nyamasheke District, in the Western Province of Rwanda under the national theme “#UNITE! Build a Violence-Free Society”, translated to DUFATANYE. Twubake Umuryango Uzira Ihohoterwa” in Kinyarwanda.

On the UN Women side, arrange of advocacy campaigns were organized including a two-day consultative and policy dialogue on GBV Prevention and Response forum in partnership with the Rwanda Bar Association. This provided an opportunity to share experiences, good practices, challenges and recommendations for actions by all stakeholders. Secondly, a ‘Car-Free Day Sports’ activity was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion to raise awareness on GBV prevention and response through mass sports with the participants dressed in orange. The solidarity run was attended by different key stakeholders including government officials, UN, CSOs, Kigali communities as a call to everyone to push forward and take action to end violence against women and girls. [Read more about the 16days commemoration in Rwanda.](#)



Hon. Prof. Bayisenge Jeannette, Minister of Gender and Family Promotion speaking at the car free day sports activities in honor of 16days

Photo Credit: UN Women/Pearl Karungi

Advancing generation equality forum commitments in Rwanda

In moving towards the implementation and realization of Generation Equality Forum commitments, UN Women Rwanda in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion hosted a reflection day at the Park Inn hotel on 13 December 2022, with all government stakeholders who have a strategy to implement Rwanda's GEF commitments made by H.E President Paul Kagame during the Generation Equality Heads of States' Forum held in Paris in June 2021.

Over 40 relevant stakeholders working towards the implementation of Rwanda's GEF commitments under four pillars, namely: Policy and Strategy, Program, Finance, and Advocacy took part in the reflection of the national implementation of GEF commitments, evaluated progress made in their respective sectors and developed a joint action plan for 2022. Within the framework of the regional post-Paris Generation Equality Strategy, the Country Office (CO) supported the Government and partners to put in place accountability frameworks for the implementation of commitments towards Technology and Innovation Action Coalition targets by 2026.

With Rwanda becoming a commitment co-leader for the Action Coalition on Technology and Innovation, H.E President Paul Kagame made seven concrete commitments during the Generation Equality Heads of States' Forum held in Paris in June 2021.

“GEF is a landmark global initiative introduced by UN Women and its partners to drive the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action commitments and putting GEWE as a central component of building back better from COVID 19. Today's reflection day is not only an opportunity for all stakeholders to strengthen existing gender themed coordination platforms into multi-stakeholder and cross generational partnerships but also a chance to reflect on strengthening accountability mechanisms at country level for the implementation of the commitments,” said UN Women's Programme Management Specialist, Ms. Tikikel Tadele. [Read more](#)



Ms. Tikikel Tadele, UN Women's Programme Management Specialist presenting GEF progress to participants. Photo Credit: UN Women/Nextline





Congratulations to our long serving colleagues, **Fabiola Kanobayire, Janviere Mukantwali** and **Dominique Kanobana** who were awarded and recognized at the UN Rwanda staff party for their long service (10 years) in the United Nation.

2022 IN PICTURES



2022 IN PICTURES





Voices from the field

In the following stories, we bring you testimonies from our beneficiaries across the country!



Take Five:

Engaging male champions in the fight to end gender-based violence in Rwanda

[Read full story](#)



In The Words Of Marie Chantal Niyonkuru:

“We have the right to choose what we want to do and who we want to be, regardless of our gender”

[Read full story](#)



Our aprons should have no gender:

Engaging men to alleviate the care burden for women in Rwanda

[Read full story](#)



UN Women provides time-saving energy efficient kits to reduce domestic care work for rural women in four districts of Rwanda

[Read full story](#)



22 old Yvonne Akimana, formerly a street vendor in Muhanga district is now an automotive mechanic

[Read full story](#)



From Where I stand: “I used to think saving was for rich people”

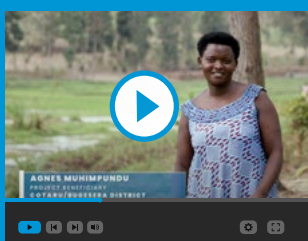
[Read full story](#)



UN Women in Rwanda relieving the care burden on caregivers in public hospitals in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

[Read full story](#)

Media Bay



UN Women Rwanda strengthening National Advocacy for an Increase response to HIV among women & girls.
WATCH



Accelerating Progress Towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women.
WATCH

UN WOMEN IN THE NEWS



FEATURED: UN Women programme sets out to restore hope among women most affected by Covid-19

#IWD2022: We need to see more women in decision-making positions

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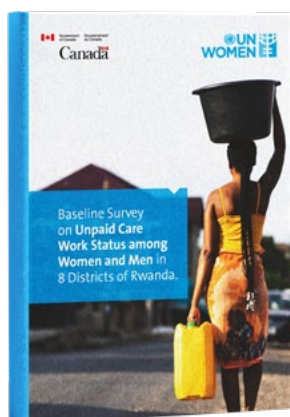
<https://www.ktpress.rw/2022/11/Rwanda-enters-16-days-of-activism-with-a-call-to-tackle-gbv-from-root-causes/>



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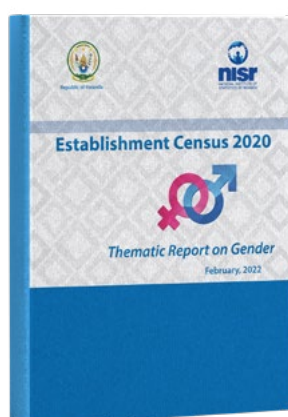
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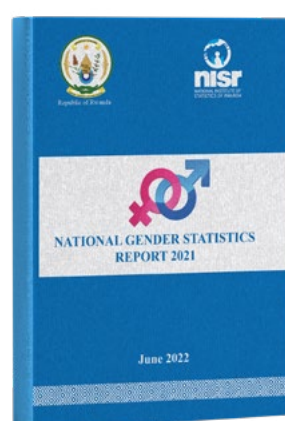
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