Literally translated imbuto [eem-bu-to] means ‘seed’.

“A seed well planted, watered, nurtured and given all the necessary support successfully grows into a healthy plant – one that reaches high and stands tall. Imbuto Foundation envisions this for all its current initiatives, and those in the future.”

First Lady of the Republic of Rwanda and Chairperson of Imbuto Foundation

H.E. Mrs Jeannette Kagame

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ENGAGE. EDUCATE. EMPOWER
# Table of Contents

## Education
- Early Childhood Development and Family (ECD&F) 08
- Promotion of Girls' Education 10
- Edified Generation 12
- Kacyiru Community Knowledge Centre Project (KCKC) 14

## Health
- 12+ 16
- Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (ASRH&R) 17
- Mountain Movers II 18
- Family Package 19

## Youth Empowerment and Mentorship Programme

## Support to Family Initiatives
- Imali 24

## Imbuto Foundation in the News
- Articles and Newsletters 26

## Financial Report
- Income and Expenditures 28
Every passing year brings about change, and for Imbuto Foundation, this has been especially true. In one year, we welcomed new staff members, and new management. These changes have given all of us at Imbuto, a great deal of vigour and a new drive to accomplish even more, following in the footsteps of our predecessors, who have laid the groundwork for us.

As the newly appointed Director General, I will continue to dedicate the same encouragement and drive as those before me did, to advance the goals set by Imbuto Foundation, with the support of my colleague, John Ntigengwa, who was appointed as Deputy Director General, after dedicating over 10 years to the growth and development of various programmes at Imbuto. Our commitment to working towards a better Rwanda is the drive that motivates all of us at the Foundation, and below are some of the highlights from this past year.

Under our Youth Empowerment and Mentorship Programme (YEMP), we introduced a project that focuses on challenging young people to find solutions to sexual and reproductive health issues. The project, suitably named Innovation Accelerator (iAccelerator), resulted from a partnership forged between Imbuto Foundation, UNFPA and UK Aid. The project provided an opportunity for the youth in Rwanda to showcase their ideas and to further develop their entrepreneurial spirit. The Top 4 teams were each awarded with seed funding worth $10,000, mentorship, and training to perfect their initiatives.

This project has inspired, and empowered, several young entrepreneurs, to become critical thinkers ready to share their ideas and concepts with Rwanda, and the world.

At Imbuto, we also believe that education provides a levelled playing field for all, and over the years, this has been proven true. Our Edified Generation—a programme developed to financially support bright but vulnerable students through their secondary education—celebrated a momentous 15-year anniversary. In those years, over 8,000 scholarships have been provided to students, affording them the chance to finish their education thanks to the support of generous sponsors, who committed to paying their school fees, living costs and health insurance. Through this programme, we hope to transform many more lives in the coming years.

In 2014, a programme looking to transform the lives of young girls was introduced at Imbuto. Implemented in 10 districts, 12+ is a programme that aims to guide and assist young girls aged 11 through a confusing and vulnerable stage of their lives. These young girls are provided with information on sexual reproductive health, and furthermore equip them with social, economic and leadership skills. Since its launch, over 30,000 girls have graduated from the programme.

As our motto at Imbuto Foundation is to engage, educate and empower those around us, we will continue to rely on a holistic approach, as we further this path we started 16 years ago, towards contributing to the betterment of lives in our communities. For us, the programmes highlighted in this annual report and their various achievements, are an illustration of what we do; but also what we wish to see have a multiplier effect around our nation, thanks to the valuable support of our various national and international partners, who continue to walk by our side.

Our dedication to the quest for dignified lives around us, is indeed calling upon all of us to explore more strategic ways to create more positive change in our communities, as we continue to draw inspiration, and guidance, from the passion and devotion towards a better Rwanda, from our Founder and Chairperson, Mrs. Jeannette Kagame.

On behalf of us all at Imbuto Foundation, I would like to welcome you to our journey, so far.

Sandrine Umutoni
In 2013, Her Excellency Mrs Jeannette Kagame launched the Early Childhood Development and Family (ECD&F) programme, as a means to support the holistic development of children aged 0 - 6 years old. The goal of the programme is to ensure that children are intellectually stimulated, healthy and safe, while their families and communities are trained to become nurturing caregivers.

The ECD&F programme is implemented in the following approaches: ECD centres (3 - 6 years old), home-based services (3 - 6 years old) and home-visits (0 - 3 years old). In addition, parents are trained on running Income Generating Activities (IGAs).

Imbuto Foundation currently offers the ECD programme in 12 districts, namely: Gasabo, Nyarugenge, Gakenke, Nyamagabe, Nyabihu, Nyamasheke, Kayonza, Rwamagana, Ngoma, Gicumbi, Kicukiro and Ruhango located in the City of Kigali, Southern, Western, Eastern and the Northern Provinces.
ACTIVITIES AND NUMBERS REACHED TO DATE

13 FUNCTIONAL ECD CENTRES IN 12 DISTRICTS

11,866 CHILDREN AGED 0 – 6 AND 11,817 PARENTS BENEFITING FROM ECD SERVICES

- 108 caregivers trained in quality ECD and other basic social services delivery
- 309 IGA groups with 4,929 parents are actively involved in Income Generating Activities (IGAs). Among them 250 IGA groups with 3,338 operate from home-based ECDs while the remaining 59 IGA groups operate from the centres
- Through IGAs, the 309 groups have a total income of 57,660,774 Rwf which is used for investments, providing loans and savings
Promotion of Girls’ Education

Started under the leadership of First Lady Mrs Jeannette Kagame in 2005, this project encourages high academic performance through the mobilisation of the community, parents, teachers and local leaders.

The campaign rewards “Inkubito z’Icyeza” or Best Performing Girls (BPGs) at different school cycles, while spreading awareness messages to encourage support for girls’ education.

Imbuto Foundation also calls on ‘role models’, a group of diverse and accomplished girls and women, to share inspirational experiences with BPGs.

For continuous empowerment, rewarded girls are divided into 3 chapters that regularly meet to learn basic IT, social and life skills through organized conversations, mentorship sessions and workshops. Girls in secondary schools have excellence clubs, while those in university and young professionals, have formed an alumni association that mentors younger girls.

ACTIVITIES AND NUMBERS REACHED TO DATE

4,665 GIRLS REWARDED FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

226 GIRLS RECEIVED IT TRAINING

20 INKUBITO Z’ICYEZA FORUMS FOR EXCELLENCE CLUBS

64,100 PEOPLE REACHED THROUGH AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

5 “LET US DREAM BIG AND ACT” WORKSHOPS
In Rwanda, 9 and 12-year basic education schools are tuition-free. With boarding schools, exclusively at the secondary-level, fees apply for living costs, exams, supplies and uniforms.

The scholarship programme was initiated in 2002 with an objective to financially support secondary-school students from economically vulnerable backgrounds, in their pursuit of education. Beneficiaries of this programme receive assistance of up to $300 per year, to help pay for their living costs, health insurance and their school supplies. Each year, through a holiday camp, the scholars are equipped with health and socio-economic knowledge, to prepare them for their professional and personal well-being.

Since its launch, more than 8,000 scholarships have been awarded to secondary-school boys and girls.

1. In Rwanda, 9 and 12-year basic education schools are tuition-free. With boarding schools, exclusively at the secondary-level, fees apply for living costs, exams, supplies and uniforms.
OVER 8,000 SCHOLARSHIPS WERE AWARDED TO 3,687 BOYS AND 4,379 GIRLS IN SECONDARY-SCHOOL.

$300 COST TO SUPPORT ONE STUDENT PER YEAR.

8 HOLIDAY CAMPS HAVE BEEN HELD TO DATE WITH OVER 8,000 STUDENTS ATTENDING.

ACTIVITIES AND NUMBERS REACHED TO DATE.
Launched in 2012, the Kacyiru Community Knowledge Centre Project (KCKC) organises trainings to empower the community with various information and communications (ICT) skills. The centre is equipped in such a way that it can be used as a library, but also as a for-profit internet café providing ICT services to the public, while using earned revenues for diverse community projects.

**ACTIVITIES AND NUMBERS REACHED TO DATE**

- **643 STUDENTS** trained in using Microsoft Word, Excel and other IT basic skills
- **359 TRAINED COMMUNITY MEMBERS** in using Microsoft Word, Excel, creating budgets, writing CVs and official letters
2 HEALTH PROJECTS
Launched in 2014, the 12+ project provides girls with information on sexual reproductive health at an early age, equips them with social, economic and leadership skills, along with career development advice.

This government project targets the most vulnerable 11 years old girls nationwide, but is implemented by Imbuto Foundation in 10 districts, namely Burera, Gakenke, Gicumbi, Karongi, Musanze, Ngororero, Nyabihu, Rubavu, Rulindo and Rutsiro.

Young women mentors aged 18 - 25 are selected and trained to empower the girls in an innovative and youth-friendly approach using “safe spaces”. A recruited district supervisor oversees the project implementation in each of the 10 districts.

ACTIVITIES AND NUMBERS REACHED TO DATE

13, 583 11 YEAR OLD GIRLS MENTORED BY 554 YOUNG WOMEN

OVER 30,000 GIRLS GRADUATED FROM THE 12+ PROGRAMME

- 283 safe spaces in 10 Districts
- 11,991 girls have kitchen gardens
- 3,189 girls opened bank accounts
- 23,404 (parents, local leaders and safe space representatives) reached through community outreach and learning journeys
Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (ASRH&R)

Started in 2010, the ASRH&R programme promotes positive behaviour among in and out of school adolescents aged 10 to 24 years old. The project pairs schools with health centres that provide youth-friendly services, and works with trained peer educators to promote positive behaviours among in and out of school adolescents, in regards to their sexual reproductive health.

ACTIVITIES AND NUMBERSReached TO DATE

1,035 FAMILIES
EQUIPPED WITH KNOWLEDGE
THROUGH PARENTS AND
ADOLESCENTS
COMMUNICATIONS FORUMS

5,674 TRAINED
PEER EDUCATORS

HEALTH CARE
PROVIDERS
TRAINEedin ASRH

• 107 schools and 156 out of school clubs
• 33 health centres providing ASRH youth-friendly services
• 242,874 youth received ASRH youth-friendly services
This programme is a continuation of the original Mountain Movers programme, which was launched in 2011. Mountain Movers II was launched in 2015 as a programme aimed at reducing HIV infections among youth aged 15-24 years old, as well as creating awareness on tuberculosis (TB). Parents and children are involved in special communication forums teaching them to have open and constructive conversations on sexual matters. The programme uses awareness campaigns to provide information on HIV and TB through services provided in health centres.

ACTIVITIES AND NUMBERS REACHED TO DATE

2,448 IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL PEER EDUCATORS TRAINED IN ASRH, HIV AND STI, GBV PREVENTION AND OTHER LIFE SKILLS

837 YOUNG HIV+ TRAINED IN INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION, HIV & STIs PREVENTION IN 7 DISTRICTS FROM THE WESTERN PROVINCE

- 2,209 young people aged 15 - 24 participated in Uwo Ndiwe & Agaciro Kanje awareness campaigns on HIV, teenage pregnancies, GBV and school-dropout prevention
- 11,846 young girls and boys reached by peer educators during community sensitizations on HIV prevention
- 13,730 young people aged 15 - 24 took part in HIV and STIs voluntary counseling and testing (VCT)
- 550 young men received Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision services
- 66,025 condoms distributed in 6 districts
- 3,352 children and adults affected by TB and HIV participated in community sensitizations on TB prevention and diabetes
- 235 men and women tested for TB
- 211 diabetics reached through health centres on TB prevention, in relation to diabetes and the importance of early screening
Launched in 2001 as a response to the severe HIV/AIDS epidemic, heightened by the mass rapes that occurred during the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, this programme provides various services such as family planning and elimination of mother-to-child transmission (EMTCT) of HIV/AIDS, nutritional balance, psychosocial support, and sexual reproductive health awareness among many others.

Since May 2015 Imbuto Foundation in collaboration with the government, UNICEF, Réseau Rwandais Des Personnes Vivant Avec Le VIH/SIDA (RRP+), health facilities, initiated the approach of working with members of the network of people living with HIV as a long term strategy to sustain retention, and adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART) and overall psychosocial wellbeing of PMTCT clients, and people living with HIV/AIDS in general.

**ACTIVITIES AND NUMBERS REACHED TO DATE**

- Retention rates in Prevention of Mother-to-child Transmission (PMTCT) were increased in 32 health centres with the support of 364 peer educators in 5 districts
- 17,481 PMTCT clients (HIV+ families) from the RRP+ trained as peer educators
- 104 PMTCT nurses trained to implement this project
- 270 out of school youth and 508 parents attended parent-adolescents communication forums for in and out of school youth
- 143,839 youths have received both ASRH services and messages in 2 districts (Rubavu & Ngororero) from 25 HCs
- 27,542 young people sensitised to voluntarily be tested for HIV
3 YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME
Youth Empowerment and Mentorship Programme

In Rwanda, the youth constitutes the largest demographic, with the 16 - 30 age category representing 40% of the population. Launched in 2007, the Youth Empowerment and Mentorship Programme (YEMP) organises an array of activities on a national scale, to fully engage, educate and empower the Rwandan youth. This is done through programmes that help groom the future leaders of Rwanda through the development of their critical thinking, communication and entrepreneurship skills.

Programmes developed over the years under YEMP include Rwanda Speaks via Toastmasters/Debates Mentorship programme, Youth Forum Series and Celebrating Young Rwandan Achievers (CYRWA), AERG Conversations, Yale Young African Scholars, and the recently launched Innovation Accelerator.

The Innovation Accelerator (iAccelerator) is a mentorship-driven acceleration programme, which aims to promote an entrepreneurial spirit among young people, and encourages them to think critically and creatively on issues related to sexual and reproductive health.
**Activities and Numbers Reached to Date**

**27 Youth Forum Series**

**9 Holiday Camps for Scholarships’ Recipients**

- 22 young women and 15 men awarded for their exceptional activities
- 240 young people engaged in debate and toastmasters sessions
- 2 Toastmasters clubs in Universities and 4 gavel clubs in secondary schools
- 9 holiday camps for scholarships’ recipients, involving sessions with various speakers for topics ranging from discipline, adolescent sexual reproductive health, financial fitness, human trafficking to leadership skills and public speaking, spread over 3 days
- 300 young female genocide survivors mentored and now 200 young men genocide survivors paired with 100 mentors

**4 Groups of Young Innovators Supported with Financial Grants, Business Development Training and Mentorship Under the Innovation Accelerator Initiative**

- 12 conversations with AERG (Association des Etudiants et Elèves Rescapés du Genocide) members, promoting various practical life skills with a focus on career guidance, patriotism, financial fitness, preventing drug and alcohol abuse, public speaking and leadership skills among others
- 18 debate clubs in the following districts: Huye, Nyanza, Nyamasheke, Muhanga, Rusizi, Bugesera, Ngororero, Ngoma, Rubavu, Rutsiro, Rulindo, Kabuga, Kayonza, Kiramuruzi, Nyamagabe, Kimisagara and AERG One Dollar campaign hostel in Gasabo
- 1 educators conference conducted for 29 educators from various secondary schools under the Yale Young African Scholars (YYAS) programme. Monthly workshops which empower, train, and provide knowledge on access to U.S. colleges were also held for 30 scholars.
SUPPORT TO FAMILY INITIATIVES
In 2007, the Imali project was launched to help improve the lives of widows and child-headed households through the use of pyschosocial support and income-generating activities. Beneficiaries receive start-up funds, seed funding, and greenhouses for agricultural activities. The Imali programme groups these vulnerable people in cooperatives and trains them in growing tomatoes in greenhouses, and cooperative management. Once harvested, the cooperatives make enough money for members to be financially independent and enter new business ventures.

ACTIVITIES AND NUMBERS REACHED TO DATE

22 COOPERATIVES, WITH 1,087 BENEFICIARIES
884 WOMEN AND 203 MEN, WHO HAVE 3,726 HOUSEHOLD FAMILY MEMBERS, LIVING IN 16 DISTRICTS

THROUGH AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES, THE 22 COOPERATIVES GENERATED AN INCOME OF 39,383,200 RWF (over $40,000).

420 TRAINED IN GREEN HOUSE, FINANCIAL AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT, MONITORING & EVALUATION AND MARKETING SKILLS
In the News
Financial Report
July 2016 - June 2017

INCOME PER PROJECT

Total incomes
3,350,669,071 Rwf
Financial Report
July 2016 - June 2017

EXPENDITURE PER PROJECT

Total expenditures
2,589,998,191 Rwf

28%
15%
10%
8%
6%
5%
5%
5%
4%
3%
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