



Contribution of mentorship programme to support youth for achieving personal and professional development in Rwanda

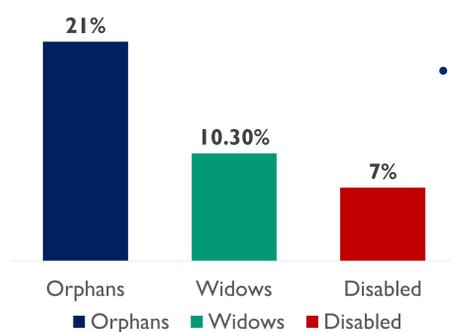


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Issues

- More than 1 millions people lost their lives during the genocide perpetrated against the Tutsi, not only the lives of people but also their properties were looted, their homes were destroyed or burned.
- 309,368 survived with the following effects: orphans, widowers with physical wounds and broken hearts, hopeless and homeless people.



- 66% of genocide survivors was young aged between 13 to 35 years old, for the status of vulnerability 21% was orphans, 10.3% widows and 7% disabled.

- 24% of orphans had lost both parents, while 47.5% were single orphans (had one parent either a mother or a father) and 28% had both parents.
- In the period post genocide, the government of Rwanda and partners initiated various programmes to support genocide survivors to rebuild their lives financially and psycho-social to be fully reintegrated into the society.
- Due to this cause, Imbuto Foundation initiated girls and boys mentorship programme to support government/national goals and respond to the needs of community.

Description

- Mentorship programme was initiated in 2013 in a joint collaboration with Imbuto Foundation and Association des Etudiants Et Éléves Recaps du Genocide (AERG).
- Aim to support young genocide survivors, members of AERG to achieve personal and professional development.
- Mentorship programme engaged mentors to guide beneficiaries (mentees) in the journey to overcome consequences of genocide toward a prosperous/bright future.
- Mentorship programme mainly focus on psychosocial (mental health), career guidance and professional development.
- **Programme requirements:**

Match length: A period where Imbuto Foundation and , AERG and GAERG can help foster an impactful relationship lasting beyond the program's length.

Match frequency: The mentorship program requires mentors and mentees to meet at a minimum once per month, in a face to face meeting

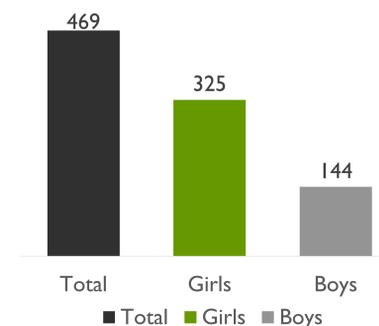
Duration of visits: The duration of the face to face meeting must be at a minimum one hour and should focus on the goals and expectations set out between the mentor and mentee,.

Missing a visit: Although we hope mentors and mentees will make all scheduled meetings, unexpected circumstances may occur resulting in a missed scheduled meet.

Terminating a match: In instances where the mentor or mentee wish to terminate a match for any particular reason, they are encouraged to contact the mentorship program contact as soon as possible who will assist in following with the request.

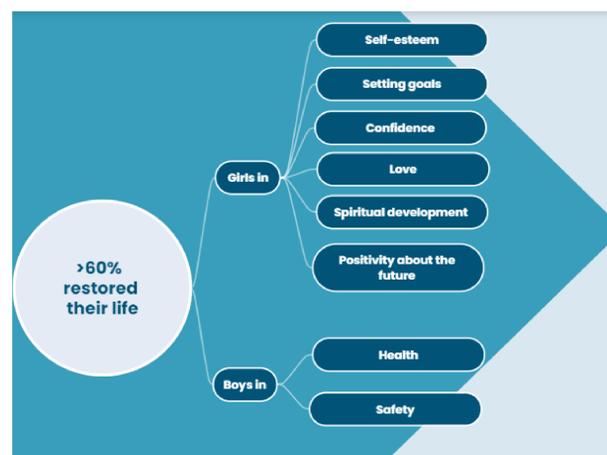
Lessons Learned

- **# of mentorship programme beneficiaries disaggregated by gender.**



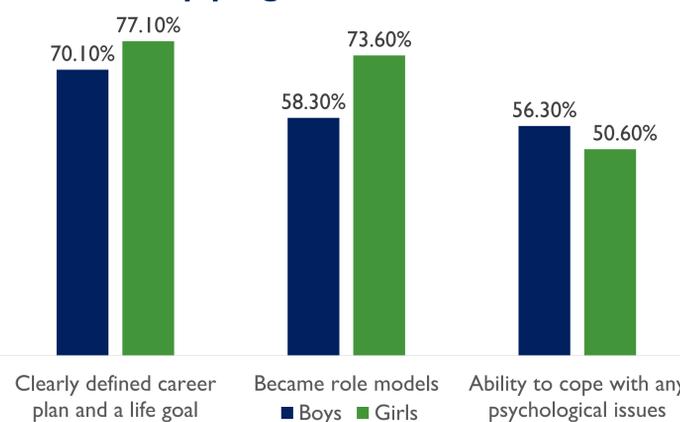
- In total, 469 young Rwandans benefited mentorship services. Among them, 144 (30.7%) were boys and 325 (69.3%) were girls.

- **More than 60 percent of girls and boys restore their life respectively in the following areas.**



- The life of young men and women has been restored at the rate above 60%.

- **Improvement in the life of beneficiaries and the community due to mentorship programme.**



- Mentorship programme improved capacity of its beneficiaries to cope with any psychosocial problem at 24.7%, to define career plan and to set life goals clearly and to became role models to others.

Next Steps

- Mentorship programme significantly contributed to the personal, social and professional development of young Rwandans and it empowered them to become role models for others surrounding them, even though still there is a big gap in these area.
- A huge number of youth around the country in and or out of schools should be mentored, in this regards IF in partnership with partners will continue to investing in this area in order to empower youth with capacity building, to eradicate mental health issues and expand this programme to the general population.
- **Key words:** Young, genocide survivors, mental health, mentorship, personal and professional development.
- **For more information:** www.imbutofoundation.org

