



UNFPA BURUNDI



# ANNUAL REPORT

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2023

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Our 3

# TRANSFORMATIVE RESULTS

2020-2030



**Zero**

preventable  
maternal  
death



**Zero**

gender-based  
violence and  
harmful practice



**Zero**

unmet need  
for family  
planning

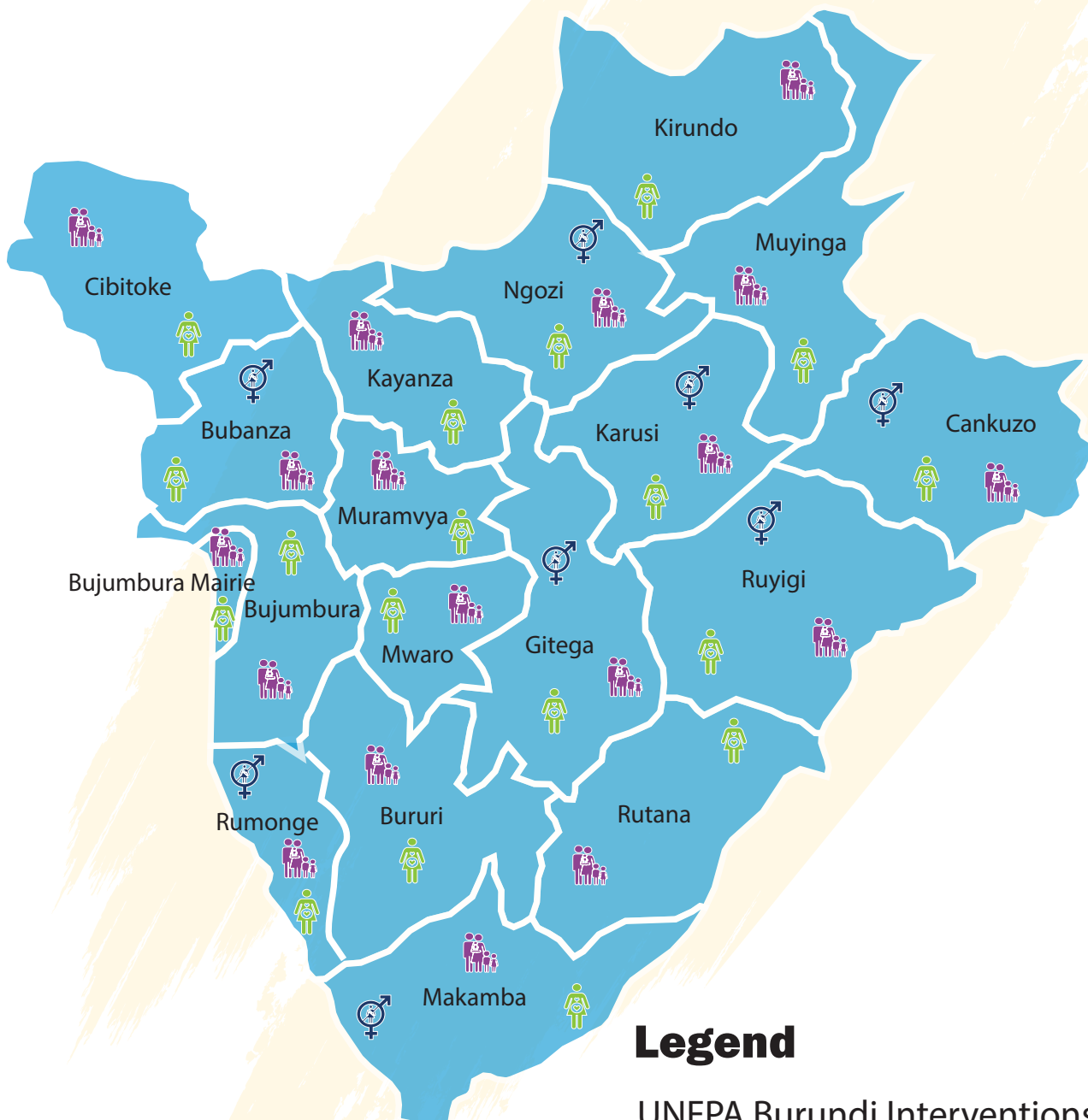


**Zero**

new HIV  
infection



# Our AREAS OF INTERVENTION



## Legend

### UNFPA Burundi Interventions



Zero gender-based violence and harmful practice and humanitarian actions



Zero preventable maternal death



Zero unmet need for family planning

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# 1. A MESSAGE FROM THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE



**Judicael ELIDJE**  
Resident Representative  
UNFPA Burundi

The year 2023 is the final year of the 8th country program cycle which started in 2019 and required time, continuous efforts and joint dedication from all stakeholders. This year coincides with the approval of the new country program 2024-2027 which aligns with the national priorities and is as inclusive and participatory as possible in such a way to leave no one behind.

Our program aims to transform lives with special attention to the mapping out of a multi sector strategic plan of family planning 2023-2027, the improvement of the supply chain management for family planning and reproductive health products, the coordination of family planning and maternal health interventions to reduce unmet need in family planning, the organization of contraceptive technology mentoring as well as support towards the health information system.

In terms of maternal health, the focus has been on monitoring obstetric and neonatal care in emergencies, building the capacity of providers through mentoring, the surgery campaign for women suffering from obstetric fistulas, their socio-economic reintegration and the post-operative monitoring of women.

In the fight against gender-based violence and harmful practices, the interventions were focused around supporting the coordination of provincial interventions to promote gender equality, prevention through awareness-raising, the response to GBV, the management of GBV cases and socio-economic reintegration of GBV survivors, the distribution of dignity kits to displaced persons and refugee camps, and support for national and international events to promote gender equality, human rights and the fight against GBV.

Notable progress has been made in the area of young people through the provision of services adapted to their needs, capacity-building for children and young people in sexual and reproductive health, and the enhancement of pupils' knowledge and skills in life skills and age-appropriate sexual knowledge through the incorporation of the subject into school curricula.

With regards the organisation of the fourth general census of the population, housing, agriculture and livestock, to support the national planning process, significant results have already been achieved which include the mobilisation of international expertise to strengthen the capacities of the national team, the completion of the major preparatory phases, the pilot mapping, the pilot enumeration, the pilot EPC, the computer equipment and the analysis and processing software as well putting in place the logistics needed to carry out the census. The program places particular emphasis on aspects relating to communication and innovation through social networks, the media and documents that can be easily understood in order to share results and ensure greater awareness and visibility of the organisation's mandate.

These results would not have been possible without the support of our partners from NGOs and the civil society, as well as the contribution of our bilateral and multilateral donors under the leadership of the government. We have succeeded in taking well-targeted action which, despite some persisting challenges, has made it possible to curb the effects of maternal mortality, improve access to family planning and accelerate the fight against gender-based violence. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all these partners for their commitment, the work done and the results achieved as well as the staff of UNFPA Burundi.

The new programme, which starts in 2024, aims to improve the quality of care and services, strengthen national mechanisms and the capacities of institutions and players to combat discriminatory social norms and people, and build the skills and capacities of young people and improve the production and use of data to support their full national planning.

I invite you to join me and celebrate, as I look forward to the renewed commitment of everyone - government, donors, defense, civil society and the private sector - to achieve the objectives set out in this new country programme.

## ENJOY YOUR READING !



# 2. 2023 KEY PRPROGRAMME RESULTS





**MATERNAL HEALTH  
AND FAMILY PLANNING**





## 2.1. Maternal Health and Family planning



**210 000**

unintended pregnancies are averted through the use of modern contraception



**570 000**

users of modern contraceptive methods



**54 000**

high-risk abortions prevented through the use of modern contraception



**537**

providers, 41% of whom are women, working in 179 health facilities were mentored to improve reproductive health commodities management



**870**

maternal deaths averted



**87.2%**

of clients met stated that they are satisfied with the quality FP services received



**18.3%**

of women in union currently have unmet needs for family planning



**59**

doctors working in 42 hospitals were trained in voluntary contraceptive surgery

♀ **230**  
vasectomies performed

♂ **239**  
tubal ligations performed







**3.9 %**

of women received modern contraception before discharge from maternity wards in the 112 health facilities providing EmONC\*



**31**

survivors of obstetric fistulas benefited from socio-economic reintegration with small livestock and tan rabbits



**130**

women, of whom 21.5% were under 25 years old, underwent obstetric fistula surgery at the Urumuri Center in Gitega



**35.7%**

of the 112 health facilities provide all EmONC\* functions for managing emergency obstetric and neonatal complications



**98.8%**

of clients met stated that they are satisfied with the quality FP services received



**25.4%**

health facilities have all 7 mothers' life-saving drugs



- Existence of a multi-sectoral strategic plan for family planning 2023-2027 (budgeted needs for contraceptives and life-saving drugs for the mother)
- Development and configuration of the Medexis Solution (e-LMIS)
- Two ICPD30 review reports and the Addis Ababa Declaration on Population and Development produced



**77.2%**

health facilities without stockouts of contraceptives in the 3 months preceding the 2023 survey of reproductive health commodities





Forced to leave school at 13, she married at 17, became pregnant and developed obstetric fistula after giving birth. Annonciate Nshimirimana lived in shame and isolation for 10 years. Before she could find a cure, her mother suggested that she a sorcerer to find a solution. He gave her potions to swallow, but to no avail but to no avail, as she continues to pass urine and stools involuntarily.

Annonciate is one of those women who dare to talk about it. They are breaking the taboo the ordeal of suffering from obstetric fistula.

*"I could dress up to go to mass, because I like to pray. But once I got there, I'd go straight home, because each time I'd realize that during the journey I'd already I'd already soiled my clothes and relieved myself. Oh, what a shame!"*

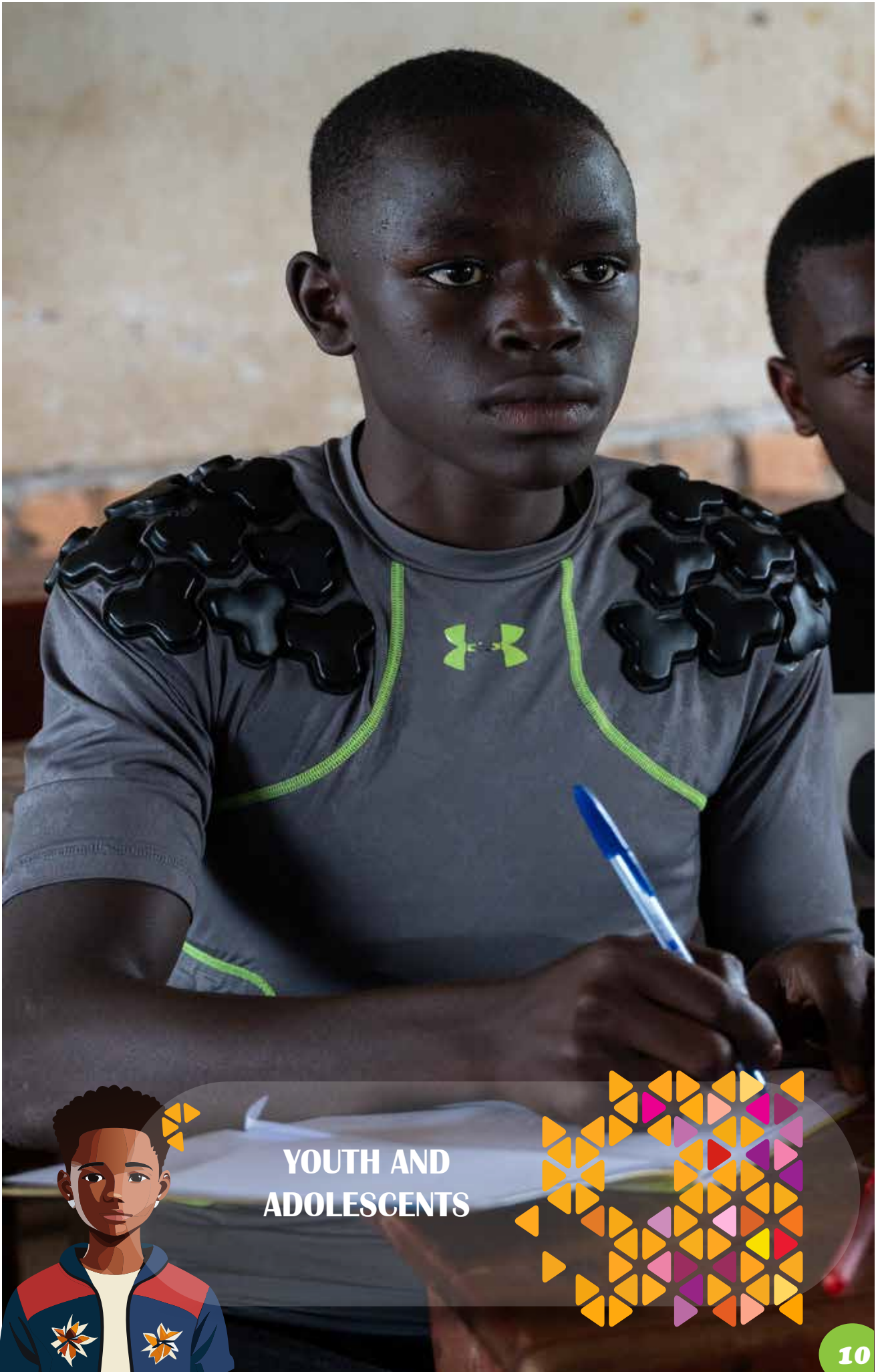
Annonciate, covering her face as she imagines the humiliation. Ten years later, Annonciate learns that she hasn't been cursed, but is in fact suffering a treatable and curable disease. She hears this on the radio and can only rejoice. Today, in good health, she is more than grateful.

How can ICTs be used to empower Muslim women? women? How can these women also use ICTs to combat gender-based violence (GBV) and promote family planning?

*"I have 4 children, the afnic was born in 1985 and the last in 1996. The shortest interval between pregnancies was 3 years, otherwise it was 4 years. You can understand that between two births, I could go about my business and look after my family. Today, we're in 2023, and life is even more expensive and more difficult. The woman we've just portrayed portraying, carrying children everywhere while pregnant, will she go any further?"*

Family planning is necessary not only to preserve women's health women's health, but also to enable them to pursue other occupations social and economic development.






**YOUTH AND  
ADOLESCENTS**





## 2.2. Youth and Adolescents

 The integration of AYSRH into the school curriculum has allowed that :

**694 912**



students in 3rd and 4th grade have acquired age-appropriate sexual education skills.

**294 507**



students in 7th, 8th, and 9th grade have acquired age-appropriate sexual education skills

**30**



officials from the Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research (MENRS) are trained as trainers (ToT) in sexual and reproductive health for students.

**10**



focal points from Provincial Education Directorates use the reusable sanitary pad manufacturing guide to support schools.

**50**



university association students have knowledge on HIV prevention, STIs, unintended pregnancies, and menstrual cycles, and they share this information with their peers

**5**



provincial Education Directorates in Kayanza, Muyinga, Rumonge Bujumbura Mairie, and Gitega have materials for manufacturing reusable sanitary pads

**250**



young people living with HIV benefited from projects aimed at empowering them and combating stigma during the National Forum

**200**



young people were engaged in a conducive environment for the leadership and the empowerment of young girls



**129**



youth organizations received support in project development and management to achieve the demographic dividend

**124**



young people improved their employability, with 59 benefiting from internships in companies

**8**



young people participated in international conferences to share their experiences

**100**



mentors of contraceptive technology integrated AYSRH into close training for health care providers

**600**



women leaders contribute to the promotion of family planning, nutrition, and AYSRH under the leadership of the Office of the First Lady for Development (OPFD)

**120**



sex workers enhanced their skills in HIV prevention, screening, family planning, and entrepreneurship, promoting better health and autonomy

**200**



visually impaired individuals are aware of bodily changes related to their growth and the menstrual cycle, strengthened their self-confidence by valuing their potential





Alberic Karesha is a young participant in the National Forum for Young People Living with HIV/AIDS: “Before, I used to isolate myself from others, because I didn’t know that there were other HIV-positive young people like me. Meeting them at this forum gave me the courage to continue my treatment and plan for the future. I was able to find the strength to do so thanks to this forum,” says Alberic Karesha.

« Thanks to the capacity-building I received at the previous forum, I was able to open a hairdressing salon that uses solar panels and batteries as a source of energy and batteries. I even employed two other young people to help me in my hairdressing salon »

Salha Ngendakumana, 16, says she really appreciated the awareness-raising session:

« I learned a lot. I especially understood why I have to concentrate on my studies, and to encourage my friends to do the same do the same, to avoid anything that could distract them and cause them and cause them harm, such as getting pregnant and contracting sexually transmitted diseases. On the other hand, I know a friend who got pregnant and is very sick. I’m going to use this example and the information I’ve gained in this workshop to raise awareness among my friends».

Salha Ngendakumana took the opportunity to call on parents to engage in dialogue with their children on similar topics, which would surely be beneficial for all.





**GENDER, GBV AND  
HUMANITARIAN  
ACTION**



## 2.3. GENDER, GBV AND HUMANITARIAN ACTION



**78 504**  
individuals who have accessed programs to fight against GBV :

- Prevention and mitigation of risks for women and girls
- Non-formal education
- Case management
- Psychosocial support
- Legal assistance and aid
- Economic support / livelihoods
- Referral to other services
- Socioeconomic reintegration



**1**  
mobile clinic set up for GBV cases



**Number of people** sensitized



**56 404**  
people sensitized in GBV

70% of women and young girl



30% of men



**810**  
individuals from 27 groups received a grant for the integration of GBV survivors and young mothers



**288**  
humanitarian workers trained in GBV in :

- Psychological first aid
- Pocket guidelines on GBV and GBV references
- Survivor-centered approach
- Development of GBV SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures)
- GBV Case Management
- Data collection and Information management
- Minimum Emergency Response Package



**62%**  
of conflicts resolved by community relays through their mediation





**3 423**



dignity kits distributed :

- In refugee camps
- Internally displaced persons sites
- Vulnerable women and girls in the community
- Persons with specific needs and indigenous populations

**9**



of safe spaces for women and girls supported

**5**



Strategic documents :

- Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for GBV
- Mapping of GBV care services available
- GBV services directory
- Referral pathway
- Five-Year Strategic Plan for Prevention and Response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

**75%**



of public hospitals and specialized centers offer comprehensive services for addressing GBV

**22 100**



people trained in protection against sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (PSEAH)

**2 531**



cases of GBV treated

**173**



survivors of sexual violence treated

**9**



events and strategic dialogues to influence and advocate supported :

- Forum of women leaders from ICGLR
- International Women's Day
- 67th Commission on the Status of Women
- International Day of Indigenous Peoples
- 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Day of the Girl
- International Human Rights Day
- 16th Session of the United Nations Forum on Minority Issues
- 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence



Mapping VBG services





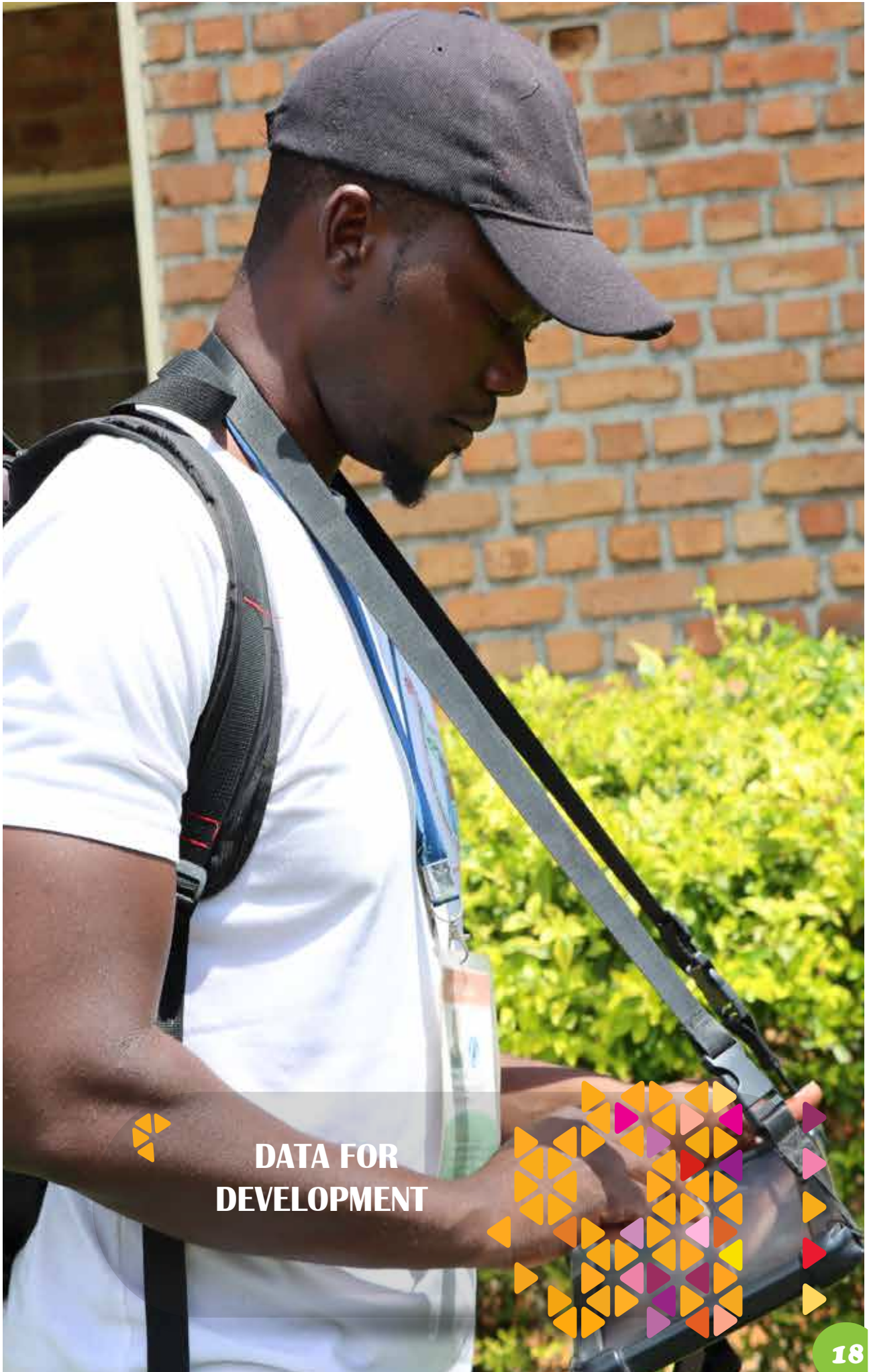
There is no greater shame for a woman or girl than to have her period and not have everything she needs to cover herself. Thank you for these dignity kits, only we can understand the importance of this gift more than anyone else,” says Adeline Kankindi. She is a 35-year-old woman she met on Friday June 09, 2023, when the United Nations Population Fund, UNFPA, organized an event for her population, UNFPA, organized humanitarian assistance at the Sobel site in Gatumba.



This humanitarian assistance was provided in collaboration with the GBV Sub-Group coordinated by UNFPA Burundi, which mobilized around 20 partners of the GBV Sub-Group to provide assistance to this population affected by flooding caused by the overflowing of the Rusizi river. Indeed, as the situation worsened in the months of April and May 2023, led to the displacement displacement of the area's inhabitants to the surrounding hills. As a result, 450 dignity kits were offered to women and girls of childbearing age to meet their most basic their most basic needs women and girls.

“I’m glad to receive this gift; we really need it. really need it. I was particularly touched to receive sanitary towels. It’s really difficult during menstruation menstrual period, I often don’t even go to school school and hide. The whole kit will be very useful,” testifies Sarah Tuyishime, a young 15-year-old, with her dignity kit in hand in her hand.





**DATA FOR  
DEVELOPMENT**





## 2.4. DATA FOR DEVELOPMENT



Substantial support (technical and financial) for the preparatory phases of the General Census of Population, Housing, Agriculture and of Population, Housing, Agriculture and Livestock, scheduled for August 2024 :

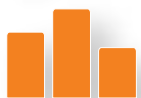
- Pilot mapping
- Pilot enumeration
- Pilot survey of REGGAE complementary modules
- Start of preparation for pilot post-census survey
- Census mapping data collection



National statistical system strengthened by training national experts in charge of piloting the census and other surveys/studies



Use of demographic projections at national, provincial and provincial and communal levels to support decentralized planning and decision-making by the authorities



Survey on the Security of Reproductive Health Produits de Santé de la Reproduction (SPSR)



Secondary analysis of DHS 2016-2017 data



Analysis of the Investment Framework for the 3 results processors



ICPD+30 and AADPD+10 assessment





## 5. ADVOCACY AND POLICY DIALOGUE

During 2023, we intensified our efforts in strategic partnerships, policy dialogue, and advocacy to achieve our common goals. Through close collaboration with non-governmental organizations, civil society, and under the leadership of the Government, we were able to accomplish several key actions such as :



In collaboration with civil society organisations, the private sector, development partners, religious and traditional leaders, artists and influencers, universities, communities and the media.



High-Level Forum of Women Leaders on the theme: 'The Contribution of Family Planning to Achieving Good Nutritional Status and the Demographic Dividend.



Advocacy with the private sector, NGOs, the United Nations system, and bilateral and multilateral partners to mobilize funds for the general population, housing, agriculture, and livestock census (RGPHAE).



International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) to advocate against persistent conflicts, exacerbated by poverty, injustice, and violence, which continue to cause serious humanitarian crises.









Consideration of FP/Maternal Health, GBV/PSEAH issues in the context of women's football in collaboration with the Burundi Football Federation (FFB).





### 3. CHALLENGES

- 01  The Weight of persistent socio-cultural norms and perceptions (rumours about modern contraception, women's status, which does not make it easier for them to make decisions, inadequate communication within the couple about family planning).
- Poor integration of FP in post-partum/post-abortum care, ANC, paediatrics, vaccination, nutritional care and HIV  02
- 03  Insufficient of health facilities (FOSA) providing all basic and comprehensive EmONC functions
- The coordination of all the players in ARVS needs to be strengthened in order to develop better synergies  04
- 05  Need for better synergy between all stakeholders in the GBV sector
- Environment not conducive to mobilizing additional funds  06








## 4. PERSPECTIVES 2024

**01** Improving the production and use of data to support national planning 

**02** Improving the quality of care of RH/FP/GBV services 

**03** Creating an environment conducive to the optimal use of data, particularly from the RGPFAE through digitisation 

**05** Strengthening the skills and capacities of young people, women and organizations run by young people and women. 

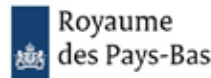
**06** Strengthening national mechanisms and the capacities of institutions and stakeholders to combat discriminatory social and gender norms 





We thank our donor countries for believing in our mission and standing by us as we deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. Thanks to your support, we have made significant progress in protecting the rights of women and girls, improving access to reproductive health services, and promoting gender equality around the world.

Local donors :



Partners for the 8th CPD (2019-2023) :







**UNFPA**

**ICPD 30**

International Conference  
on Population and Development



**DÉCENNIE  
D'ACTION**



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