

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2010

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1. PREAMBLE

Rwanda has come a long way in rebuilding herself, after the 1994 traumatic genocide of the Tutsi. A lot of efforts have been put in the rehabilitation, not only of the infrastructure, but also of the hearts and minds of Rwandans. Unity Club is proud to have made its contribution in this regard.

Right from its inception, Unity Club's vision is to create a forum where members and other Rwandans are inspired to develop proactive dialogue, productive network and mutual responsibility to address social problems and participate in Rwanda's development. Members of Unity Club are serving and former Ministers and their spouses. Under the Chairmanship of the First lady of Rwanda, Unity Club is engaged in activities that enhance unity and peace as a foundation to sustainable development in Rwanda. Some activities are of an advocacy nature, but of recent, Unity Club is championing development projects in partnership with key stakeholders. This report highlights some of the major achievements of Unity Club during 2010.

2. PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION

- Unity Club activities in the year 2010 were covered in five projects as follows: Unity Club Seminars 3rd Edition organized in partnership with the Rwanda National Unity and Reconciliation Commission.
- A research project on family values and culture implemented in partnership with UNFPA and MIGEPROF.
- Integrated development community project in support to Cyanika genocide survivors implemented in partnership with World Food Programme, World vision, Hope and Homes for Children, RARDA and the Nyamagabe District.
- The goat project for Cyanika implemented in partnership with the Full Gospel Mission Foundation.
- Unity Club Christmas Campaigns 2010 Edition, where Korea International Cooperation Agency KOICA participated in a special way by donating an ICT training class to the Gisimba Centre in a bid to prepare the youth in that centre for social and economic integration in line with Government of Rwanda policy that every orphan will be raised in a family rather than an orphanage in the near future.

For each of these projects, a brief introduction of the objectives, a summary of achievements, and a way forward, are presented.

2.1. The Unity Club 3rd Seminar

2.1.1. Introduction

Unity Club Seminars is one of the flag ship events organized by the organization every year in a bid to foster dialogue and find solutions to all sorts of problems that might threaten the unity of Rwandans. Unity Club members as role models for unity must be at the forefront in building the unity of Rwandans, starting by the members themselves to also embrace the entire leadership of the country. The 3rd edition of these seminars was organized with the theme "The role of leaders to

spread the viable culture of consensus and truth at all levels of the society, seeking to reconcile Rwandans and improve their cohesion". The first meeting held had the theme: "Building the unity of Rwandans from the nucleus family" and the second had the theme "The role of leaders in building Rwandan citizenship."

2.1.2. Objectives

To reconcile and ensure that Rwandans live in a perfect social cohesion, building a culture of consensus and truth.

2.1.3. Achievements

The Unity Club 3rd seminar was held on July 2, 2010 and was organized for capacity building of its members in collaboration with the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission (NURC): "*The role of leaders to spread the viable culture of consensus and truth through all levels of the society, seeking to reconcile Rwandans and improve their cohesion*" was the theme of the day.

The First Lady and President of Unity Club opened and chaired the seminar. In attendance were Members of Unity Club, higher authorities, representatives of artists and journalists. His Excellency the President of the Republic and President of Honor of Unity Club was represented by the President of the Senate, Dr. Vincent BIRUTA.

Commitments for action, easily translatable into measurable actions had emerged from the seminar.

The 3rd seminar of Unity Club also provided a space for expression to artists and Rwandan journalists under the project: "100 days" "100 Celebrities" "100 Messages". These had taken a good initiative to use their talents to take an active part in the closing ceremonies of mourning for three months of the genocide of Tutsis and celebrate 16 years of victory and liberation, July 4, 2010. This was also an opportunity to present the book of a young Rwandan author, Edward Bamporiki whose title is "*Their sin, my shame*."

2.1.4. Way forward:

The forum was recommended as important and very critical for the Unity Club members and such kind of forums were therefore to be continued.

2.2. RWA 6G38A MIGEPROF-UNFPA

2.2.1. Introduction

Unity Club strongly believes that family values and culture are the fundamental pillars of development, in alignment with articles 27 and 28 of the Rwandan Constitution, the national anthem and the National Policy on Family. Therefore, the Rwandan culture has to be safeguarded in the perspective of the sustainable development of the nation.

2.2.2. Objectives

Addressing cultural values that will enable our future generation to learn, to know and respect human values which is the base for unity progress through education, sensitization and dissemination of information.

2.2.3. Achievements

- a. A documentary Study on the Analysis of the Rwandan Culture as an Engine to Sustainable Development has been done.
- b. The study identified best practices to be promoted and backward beliefs to be discouraged.
- c. The study report has been validated and it was an opportunity to strongly advocate for the Rwandan culture promotion. The event was attended by the Minister of Culture and Sport, the Minister of Gender and family Promotion accompanied by other Unity Club members and different important persons including the UNFPA and WFP Representatives. Other participants invited were 90 representatives from all the districts, 3 by district including the Vice Mayors

for Social Affairs, the Director in charge of Education and the CNF coordinator at district level, members of civil society (Pro-femmes Twese Hamwe Associations), religious leaders and the Medias. Those were identified as the key stakeholders in addressing these changes at the family and community levels.

d. The study report was elaborated, translated (French, English and Kinyarwanda) and 500 samples were printed and disseminated country wide. The report presented comprised of elements bellow presented:

- The “study” analyzed the essential elements of the Rwandan culture susceptible of influencing economic growth and sustainable development and contributing to the improvement of the general well-being of Rwandan families.
- The introduction states briefly the context and the framework which justifies the motivation and interest for this study and proceeds to an exploration of the context in order to bring about the main focus and the pursued objectives.
- Through this study, the concepts of culture and sustainable development prior to describing the Rwandan culture were defined. The characteristics of an ideal Rwandan Citizen and the principal cultural values which govern his or her behavior include civility, integrity, honesty, impartiality, of sworn honor and one’s given word, tolerance, equity, heroism, truth and good sense, unity and sociability, patriotism, hard work, perseverance, etc. The qualities and values that are specifically recommended for men, women, the youth and the children are placed in evidence. Also identified are changes that intervened in the Rwandan culture and the evolution factors that explain the observed gaps in the engaged efforts in favor of development.
- The study highlighted the essential qualities and positive values of the Rwandan culture that need to be rehabilitated and consolidated as well as the negative behaviors that Rwandans could modify in order to enforce the fundamentals of the country’s sustainable development, to promote healthy family and social relations, quality medical and education services, equality

and equity for the gender and productive health rights: sexuality, family planning and preventive services for the infection of HIV/AIDS.

- Lastly the study proposed strategies to be promoted and themes to be exploited for the mobilization, viability and sustainability of actions for behavior change in order to help Rwandans to realize in the short term (5 years), the middle and long run (10-15 years) the desired progress in the concerned domains of the study.

2.2.4. Way forward

Unity Club revealed the study report as a tool that can help the existing social structures to put in place development policies and to better implement a new code of conduct that will complement vision 2020. Unity Club has to continue its role of advocacy.

2.3 Integrated community project for Cyanika

2.3.1. Introduction

1994–2010, Sixteen years of the genocide memory have now passed since Rwanda's genocide against the Tutsi. The time of remembering is a time to be close to the survivors, so that we can assist them to be strong and to heal psychologically because of the wounds brought about by the genocide. Many among them were left with disabilities and incurable diseases plus poor living conditions.

The theme for the 2010 year's commemoration of the genocide memory states that "Let us remember the genocide against the Tutsi, striving hard in a combined effort to fight against trauma."

2.3.2. Objectives

To contribute towards the fight against trauma by providing support to survivors of the genocide.

2.3.3. Achievements:

Unity Club participated at the 16th commemoration of the genocide memory by a visit to Nyamagabe district survivors in Cyanika Sector on the 25th May 2010. This included the following activities:

- a. Laid a wreath on Cyanika memorial site.
- b. Handed over gifts packages to 88 genocide survivor families living in Birambo & Munyinya Umudugudu, Karama Cell. The package included beans, rice, drinks, clothes, mosquito-nets, soap, umbrellas, mattresses, saucepans, spoons, cups and plates. Those gifts were donated by MOH and Rwanda Foam. Others were donated by Inyange Industries and Bralirwa which included juice and soft drinks to facilitate the event organization.
- c. The construction of cowshed with 10 cows inclusive.
- d. Material and technical assistance for 6 months (guardians and cows feeding) were provided.
- e. An MOU was signed with the Cyanika sector authorities concerning the project implementation.
- f. Mobile telephones were handed over to Nyamagabe district health workers, in partnership with the Ministry of Health. More than 2,000 health workers benefited from the mobile phones for the improvement of their work, mainly in rapid communication which is crucial to save human lives in partnership with the Ministry of Health.
- g. An MOU was signed with World Food Programme and RARDA for 50 cows + 6months material and drugs support to be provided to Cyanika sector.
- h. A steering committee was set up in Nyamagabe District level to assist and follow up the implementation of the project. It includes partners like WFP, World Vision, Hope and Homes for Children and would be chaired by Nyamagabe District.

- i. A Songhai project in Benin was also visited by 2 Unity Club members accompanied by the Vice Mayor in charge of Social Affairs, in order for the model to be duplicated in Cyanika Sector.

2.3.4. Way forward

A development project for those beneficiaries has been launched. The project will include modern husbandry & agriculture, houses construction, improvement of the existing kindergarten, primary and the nine year basic education schools, a vocational training school to be rehabilitated.

There is a need to properly elaborate a comprehensive project with an integrative approach that puts emphasis on the biological, psychological and social aspects of the genocide survivors to allow them to have the strength and capacity to live a full and creative life, and also the flexibility to deal with other people in their communities.

The report document will be used as an advocacy and funds mobilization tool. In addition to that a preliminary and wide partnership to be established should be very important for the success of any interventions.

2.4 Goat project for Cyanika

2.4.1. Introduction

The project benefited 253 families out of a total number of families in Cyanika sector which goes up to 5,362. Of the total 5,362 households, 4,436 have livestock; the number of families with cows is 3,126; the number with small animals is 1,310 and the number of families without livestock is 1,159. This evidence shows that despite the efforts made by local authorities to assist vulnerable people in Cyanika sector, there is still lack of financial means of initiating projects in a more sustainable manner. Specifically, there is need to improve the animal husbandry in the area considering the figures above. Thus Unity Club in collaboration with the Full Gospel, Mission Foundation initiated this goat project to complement and provide sufficient support to the entire population of Cyanika, not just to the survivors of genocide.

Through this project, Unity Club promotes unity, reconciliation and the collaboration among all the people of Cyanika sector.

2.4.2. Objectives

The aim of the goat project is to increase community wellbeing by providing small scale farmers and developing their interest in savings, through support and sensitization.

2.4.3. Achievements:

- a. A total number of 253 goats given by Missionary Kim Bo Hye (Full Gospel, Mission Foundation) to the 88 survivors families and other poor families in Cyanika sector.
- b. In addition, other gifts were handed over to the identified poor families in Cyanika sector, including t-shirts, notebooks, pen and a pig-box to help them to keep in their savings. Following the initial assessment, a distribution plan has been continuously implemented to the identified individuals undertaken by the Full Gospel, Mission Foundation in collaboration with Unity Club and the Cyanika sector.

2.4.4. Way forward:

There is need for this project to scale up, thus there is a necessity to continue with the advocacy. The modern race of male goats has to be injected in the region to increase productivity.

2.5 2010 Christmas Campaign

2.5.1. Introduction

Christmas is an opportunity to think about vulnerable children such as orphans, the disabled, and children heads of family. It is also a time to call upon all the Rwandans to care for, love and give support to these children, as basic children's rights.

Some of children's rights include care for all children without any discrimination; to protect them and meet all their basic needs; to give priority to children's involvement in their decision making and to provide a safe environment for every child.

Children being the future of this country, there is need to be brought up in the best way possible, to be morally upright, with self esteem and confidence. These are assets that they can pick from responsible adults.

2.5.2. Objectives

To continuously sensitize all Rwandans on children's rights (love, meeting their needs) and educating children on Rwandan values.

2.5.3. Achievements:

a. *At Village Urugwiro.*

His Excellency the President of the Republic of Rwanda and the First Lady, annually celebrate Christmas with selected children from all districts. In 2010 Unity Club, under the leadership of the First Lady, hosted the event.

Three Children from each district were selected to attend the party including orphans living in orphanages and children from disadvantaged families or children living with disabilities. The total number from districts was 120 participants (90 children and 30 Vice mayors accompanying them). Also in attendance were 70 children from Unity Club families who had come to share and play with the delegates from the Districts.

All participants were conveyed for a delicious lunch and shared a special occasion cake. Christmas gifts were offered to the children.

b. At Gisimba Centre in collaboration with KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency)

As Unity Club activities are in the line with Government policies, the club agrees with, and advocates for, National Family Policy of One Child, One Family, which encourages the integration of children living in orphanages into foster families of willing Rwandans. For this reason, Unity Club advocated for an ICT training class at Gisimba centre to focus on supporting programmes that should facilitate children with life skills and financial contribution to their families where they can develop naturally like other children.

The Gisimba Centre has 4 children in Kindergarten; 44 at Primary school; 77 at Secondary school; 5 in University and 2 at Professional school. The total number of children living in the centre is 147.

- An ICT training class has been initiated and equipped with three new desktops & HP printer, 15 “screen”, stabilizers and other needed accessories.
- 1 laptop as was donated by Ministry of ICT as an institutional support to the Gisimba centre
- Training is organized and carried out for 56 children. The training is administered by a KOICA volunteer 3 days a week, for a period of one year.
- Christmas gifts for children were also distributed.

The hope is that when the trainees graduate, they will be able to gain skills in order to get access to the job market once reinserted within their communities, instead of being assisted endlessly.

2.5.4. Way forward. This is an annually event with ICT training activities ongoing.

3. PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

3.1 National Unity and Reconciliation Commission (NURC): Partnership in the organization of the Unity Club 3rd seminar and in funds mobilization for “New Dawn Forum”, an Imbuto Foundation initiative.

3.2 World Food Program (WFP):

An MoU with World Food Program and RARDA has been signed to supply 50 cows in Cyanika sector and 1 year institutional support which may be renewed.

3.3 UN WOMEN

An MoU with UN WOMEN has been signed for the Evaluation of Unity Club activities and elaboration of a strategic plan through consultancy.

3.4 MIGEPROF/UNFPA

An MoU between MIGEPROF and Unity Club as a sub-contractive party in order to implement activities of the 6th Country Programme of support to Rwanda by UNFPA, RWA6G38A _ Rwandan Culture Values - BCC.

3.5 Nyamagabe district: A steering committee was set up at Nyamagabe district level to advise on the Cyanika development project management which includes: WFP, World Vision, Hope and Homes for Children and Unity Club.

3.6 Goat project: An MoU with Kim Bo Hye representing the FULL GOSPEL, MISSION FOUNDATION was signed. The donation is expected to be done every two months (70 goats each turn)

3.7 One Dollar Campaign (ODC): follow up on funds mobilization (Total pledges: 394,979,182; recovered: 315,393,598; remaining: 79,585,584); Unity Club is member of ODC advisory board.

3.8 Advocacy done and funds mobilized for the “One hundred days, one hundred stars, one hundred messages” project: The event has been jointly organized with the 3rd Unity Club workshop held on the 2nd July 2010.

3.9 “Ngwino urebe” campaign: Participation in the campaign organized by MINAFFET and other stakeholders to inform the Diaspora and give space to dialogue and debates on governance related issues in search for a common understanding of the history of Rwanda as a nation.

3.10 “New Dawn” forum: Unity Club has also participated to the Imbuto Foundation Diaspora Forum “New Dawn” where Rwandans in Diaspora have been invited to Rwanda to discuss how to build the unity of Rwandans abroad and how to actively and positively participate to the country’s development and social cohesion.

4 RESOURCE MOBILISATION

4.1. Mobilised funds (Cash)

Activity & Projects	Partner	Amount received
16 th Commemoration of genocide in Nyamagabe District	MIGEPROF	15,574,000 Frw
Support to Nyamagabe	Nyamagabe Natives (living in Kigali)	1,344,000 Frw
3 rd seminar organisation and 203 text books bought (<i>By Edward BAMPORIKI</i>)	NURC	21,261,100 Frw
Institutional support (Administrative and finance officer’s salary)	World Food Program	9,120,000 Frw
RWA6G38A (project) including Executive Secretary’s salary	MIGEPROF - UNFPA	24,560,000 Frw
Institutional support for Unity Club management	Chinese Ambassador in Rwanda	14,367,485 Frw
Organisation of X-mass celebration (A gift of a Muvero)	MIGEPROF	1,500,000Frw
UC membership contributions	Members	8,117,299 Frw
Transport support to Nyamagabe	KIM (Full Gospel, Mission Foundation)	218,500
One dollar campaign	Pledges (UC advocacy)	11,440,000 Frw
TOTAL		107,502,384 Frw

Mobilized funds directly donated to the beneficiaries

Event	Donor	Equipments/Quantities	Equivalent in FRW
Christmas event Gisimba centre (ICT equipment and gifts)	KOICA	Computers and gifts to the children	7,020,000
Advocacy done for at X-mass celebration occasion, donation of a laptop to support centre management.	MINICT	Laptop	700,000
T. shirts	UTEXRWA	500 round neck T-shirts	1,250,000
Mattresses	RWANDA FOAM	20 pieces (small size)	160.000
Clothes, soaps, supa nets, Umbrellas, casseroles, beans, rice,.....	MOH	90 pieces each item	2,425,350
Juice & water	INYANGE	150 cartons of juice and 150 cartons of water	810,000
Soft drinks	BRALIRWA	50 crates	250,000
TOTAL			12,455,510

Equipments (fixed assets & others) mobilised

Event	Donor	Equipments/others	Equivalent in FRW
Institutional support	WFP	1 Computer, 1photocopier and printer	5,300,000
TOTAL			5,300,000

5. FINANCES AND ADMINISTRATION

5.1. General Assembly

- 1 Ordinary General Assembly held
- 3 Extraordinary GA (events preparation)
- Election of a new Executive committee
- Approval of the 2009 annual reports (narrative & financial) and the 2010 PoA.

5.2. Executive Committee

- A total of 9 Executive committee meetings done
- Preparation of the General Assembly meeting
- Staff recruitment
 - o Appointment of the Executive Secretary
 - o An Administration and Finance officer recruited
 - o Contracts signed
- New offices equipped and furniture provided
- Representation of Unity Club in meetings with high profile personalities inside or from outside the country
- Support to the secretariat in the Resources Mobilization
- Follow up on the implementation of the plan of action 2010
- Technical support to the overall management (finances and activities) of Unity Club.

5.3. Commissions

- The Executive Committee is assisted by four commissions:
 - o Advocacy Commission
 - o Planning and Economic Commission
 - o Mobilization Commission
 - o Social Affairs Commission
- Effective members of Unity Club have been proposed and have agreed to be member of one of the commissions in order to facilitate them easier and active participation to Unity Club activities.

- The commissions are presided by Heads of commissions who have been elected by the General Assembly. Each commission has met and elected a vice president and a secretary. Members of those commissions gave active support to the secretariat like technical support, events preparation, funds mobilization, meeting with partners and so on.
- The commission meetings:
 - The Mobilization commission held 2 meetings
 - The Advocacy commission held 6 meetings.
 - The Planning and economic commission held 1 meeting and the director committee actively support the secretariat for the elaboration of the plan of action, the design and functionality of Unity Club website, the preparation and facilitation of the study report on culture and behavior change, the staff recruitment among others.
 - The Social commission held 2 meetings. One of the social commission members hosted a Get Together function at her home.

5.4. Secretariat

- Introduction of the Executive Secretary to key partners
- 2010 PoA reviewed and finalized
- Activities and Financial reports done and submitted to partners
- Unity Club New Logo designed
- Unity Club Website designed and functioning
- Implementation of the 2010 PoA
- Payments
 - Employees Salaries, benefits and taxes paid
 - All supplies and services cleared
- Resources mobilization in collaboration with the Executive committee;
- Representation of Unity Club in events and meetings organized by partners.
- Annual activities & financial reports & and PoA 2011 elaborated to be presented to the GA for approval.

6 SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

6.1. Unity Club celebrated HE Paul Kagame`s victory on the 16th October 2010.

The celebration was held at Village Urugwiro, and Unity Club took this opportunity to inaugurate the Unity Award, which will be an annually award to recognize the effort of people who have promoted unity and reconciliation among Rwandans. The Unity Award 2010 was presented to His Excellency the President of the Republic of Rwanda accompanied by a citation. In addition to that, testimonies were moved by Unity Club members to highlight the key role played by the President in rebuilding the country and to thank the President for his able leadership, to also recognize the importance of good governance, built on the trust and confidence he has in all Rwandans.

6.2 A Get Together function organised by one Unity Club member at her home to strengthen unity and friendship among club members. More than 40 persons were present; they had fun and enjoyed the evening.

7 CONSTRAINTS

- Funds availability has been the biggest challenge for Unity Club. This has not only limited the number of projects implemented, but also the adequate staffing of the secretariat to deliver on different programmes was delayed.

8 OPPORTUNITIES

- The Commissions were committed to collaborate with the secretariat for the implementation of its activities while experienced Unity Club members generously gave their technical support.
- Unity Club benefited from the political will and commitment at the highest level of decision making, most of who are Unity Club members.
- Unity Club`s job was made easier because the national vision and development objectives are clearly set and policies and strategies well defined;

- Development partners were willing to be associated with Unity Club's success by financing a number of planned activities.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

There is a will among Unity Club members to see the institution progress, but the secretariat needs to be further strengthened to fulfill its mandate.

Some positive changes could be observed during the 2010 action plan, with the development of the new pilot project in Cyanika sector. To achieve this project, a wide range and committed partners is increasingly needed, thus strong advocacy.

A strategic plan is highly recommended as a basis of information sharing and a mobilization tool. Unity Club secretariat needs to have a clear way forward on how best to formulate its objectives in order to plan its interventions properly .

Unity Club secretariat needs to improve its monitoring and evaluation system. More efforts in information, education, and communication (IEC) are needed, and a communication strategy needs to be developed. Such strategy would be instrumental in resource mobilization.