



Mr. Fodé Ndiaye  
UN Resident Coordinator

### FOREWORD

Dear Esteemed Partners and Readers,

I welcome you all to our 4th edition of the quarterly One UN in Rwanda Newsletter which is the last for 2020. This publication provides an insight into what the One UN in Rwanda has been doing during the quarter – working collectively and **delivering results as one for the benefit of the people in Rwanda, leaving no one behind.**

It is almost the end of 2020! Challenging year in many ways but also a year of shared responsibility and solidarity. The entire One UN Family appreciates your contribution towards the tremendous results registered despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year will be remembered in human history as a period where to stay at home, to keep a distance, to wear a mask, and to wash hands regularly were a necessity and a rescue mission. Thank you to all Rwandans and people in Rwanda for adhering to the COVID-19 preventive measures which resulted in low transmission rate. In the same spirit, we extend condolences and sympathy to those who lost their loved ones and express best wishes and speedy recovery to those who are sick.

We continue to commend the Government of Rwanda for the strong leadership and commitment to containing and effectively responding to the pandemic and yet ensuring that measures are in place that also support Rwanda's socio-economic recovery. The UN in Rwanda has worked and continues to work closely with the Government of Rwanda to respond and recover better from the economic and social shocks triggered by the pandemic through provision of both financial and technical support to respond to the pandemic. The One UN is positioning itself to support the Government to rollout the national COVID-19 vaccination programme.

In this quarter we had memorable events; UN in Rwanda celebrated the UN 75th Anniversary under the theme: **UN75:2020 and Beyond Shaping Our Future Together**; celebrated the International Volunteers day with National Itorero Commission, International Day of people with disabilities, and the UN jointly with the Government of Rwanda, the National Human Rights Commission celebrated the Human Rights Day under the theme **"Recover Better, Stand up for Human Rights"**. The decision to jointly commemorate shows continued commitment to work together as a team.

Globally and in Rwanda, UN is very proud to be a trusted partner of the Government and the people of Rwanda in the remarkable trajectory of transformation in all areas: in governance, in economic transformation, in social transformation and in the improvement of the well-being for the people of Rwanda leaving no one behind.

In solidarity with the Government in this critical year, the UN family remains committed to continue providing technical and financial support to COVID-19 Health Preparedness and Response Plan and Economic Recovery Plan and the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines. Let us keep on aligning our collective contributions detailed in the United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP 2018 – 2023) to the national priorities as stated in the National Strategy for Transformation 2017 - 2024 towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to build a better world for all, leaving no one behind. Thank you all for making it possible in 2020 and looking forward to continued collaboration and partnership to deliver more and better for the people we serve.

Happy festive season and Prosperous 2021 to you and your family.

***Mwarakoze cyane! Umwaka Mushya Muhire!***

# THE YEAR 2020 COMES TO AN END BUT NOT THE PANDEMIC

It has been nine challenging months for everyone in Rwanda and their loved ones abroad. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought unprecedented social and economic disruptions, while case and death numbers scaled up. Rwanda concludes the year 2020 with over seven thousand confirmed cases and 60 deaths.

With the expectation that the pandemic may continue throughout the festive season and beyond, the Government of Rwanda has adopted a series of new measures. The prevention measures published by the Prime Minister's Office on 14 December include the ban of social gatherings and a tightening of the already existing curfew that will last until January.

In spite of the recent spike in infections in the country, looking back at Rwanda's response to COVID-19 there has been some wins. These wins were documented during an Intra-Action Review (IAR) conducted at national and provincial levels between 27th October 2020 and 9th November 2020 with technical and financial support from the World Health Organization (WHO).



Modelled after the WHO after-action review, the COVID-19 IAR was developed to guide countries to conduct periodic reviews of their national and subnational COVID-19 response, so countries do not miss critical opportunities.

A total of 311 people from the Ministry of Health, Rwanda Biomedical Centre, Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Local Government, Rwanda Directorate General of immigration and Emigration, Rwanda National Police, National and international organizations participated in the IAR workshops at the different levels (64 in Kigali City, 50 in Eastern province, 40 in Northern province, 49 in Southern province, 55 in Western province and 53 at the National level).

*"Since the WHO declared the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak, the Government of Rwanda implemented several public health and social measures aimed at slowing down the spread of COVID-19. With the IAR, we were able to learn from best practices and areas of improvement identified across pillars." Dr. Elizabeth Mgamb, Emergency Team Lead, WHO Rwanda.*

Opportunities for learning and improvement to better respond to the COVID-19 outbreak.

According to the IAR findings, the focus of Rwanda's response had been on prompt detection of cases, scaling up testing capacities, isolation and treatment of confirmed cases and contacts tracing. A robust coordination structure with functional District, Provincial and National Level Public Health Emergency Operations Centres (PHEOCs) allowed the prompt implementation and enforcement of interventions.

The findings of the Intra-Action Review were used in updating the national COVID-19 preparedness and response plan and will serve in informing future decisions.

# FAO DELIVERS RULINDO'S FIRST SOLAR-POWERED IRRIGATION SYSTEM



*Farmers in Rulindo irrigating their vegetables using the solar-powered system.*

©FAO/Teopista Mutesi

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is currently implementing in the district the project “Knowing water better: towards a fairer and more sustainable access to natural resources - KnowWat” with the financial support from the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

The project is working with the local government of the Rulindo district and communities to address water allocation and productive water uses in the Yanze basin which provides part of the water supply of Kigali city.

In October this year, FAO through the KnowWat project supported the district with solar-powered irrigation systems.

## **Solar-powered irrigation and water management**

The first ever solar-powered irrigation system introduced in Rulindo district were delivered to farmers grouped under the Yanze Horticulture Production Cooperative (YAHOPROC) of vegetable growers in the Yanze catchment.

“We’re excited to use the sunlight solar pumps. Unlike other irrigation equipment like motorized pumps, farmers don’t have to incur expenses to buy fuel to run the solar irrigation system,” said Olive Uwizeyimana, a vegetable farmer.

“We’ve been using treadle pumps that require at least three people to peddle and irrigate. This has been a challenge for women to peddle the treadles, as it requires a lot of energy.

Sometimes you have to wait for a man to help you peddle to be able to irrigate. The solar-powered irrigation is easy to use, you just turn it on and start irrigating. I can even irrigate my crops without the help of the man,” said Marie Chantal Akingeneye.

The Vice Mayor of Rulindo district, Prosper Mulindwa, said the introduced solar-powered irrigation system is a model for the district with respect to small scale irrigation.

The KnowWat project has contributed to the creation of the Yanze catchment Water Users committee and trained the members on proper water management. The project also constructed dams to store the water for irrigation.

The solar-powered irrigation system handed over to the farmers, each has a capacity (total dynamic head) of 40 meters, the discharge of 40 liters per minute, and the panel can collect up to 500 watts per day.

More on this story: <http://www.fao.org/rwanda/news/detail-events/en/c/1315231/>

# IOM USING RADIO AND OUTREACH CAMPAIGNS TO TARGET SHOPPERS AND TRAVELLERS WITH COVID-19 MESSAGING IN RWANDA

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is using radio as well as risk communication messages and materials as part of efforts to intensify community outreach efforts to stem the transmission of the coronavirus. More than 1 million people have been reached to date in the western part of the country.

Among the campaign's early supporters is a famous local artist. "We need to fight this together; very grateful to be part of this campaign fighting this pandemic," said Joshua Tuyisheni, known to his music lovers as Jay Polly.

- This comes as many were travelling for school, business and to join family for the festive season. The campaign is funded by the Government of Japan and implemented in partnership with a local media organization, Easy and Possible, that operates Isana Radio at markets and bus stations. Such facilities are among the high COVID-19 super spreaders during the festive season, especially because of the many people that visit markets to shop or use bus stations at the beginning and at the end of their journeys.

Beatrice Ayinkamiye a fish vendor at Gisenyi Main Market said, "It is my responsibility to enforce COVID-19 measures to protect myself and others from the virus. That's why I always remind my friends here to wear their masks and to take this message home too. I also urge my clients to pay me with mobile money."



*IOM IP speaking to a shoe vendor about COVID-19 at Kaningi Trade market in Musanze District. Photo IOM 2020.*

# UN RWANDA AND PARTNERS LAUNCHED A JOINT DISABILITY INCLUSION INITIATIVE



*Students with disabilities at a HVP Gatagara school*

On 30th November 2020, the One UN Rwanda, the UNDP, the National Council of Persons with Disabilities (NCP) and other partners, in partnership with HVP Gatagara launched a disability inclusion initiative to promote innovative learning for children with disabilities. The initiative aims at empowering persons with disabilities in Rwanda for them to achieve their full potential.

The launch of this initiative took place at HVP Gatagara which is the main rehabilitation Center in the Country. It is part of the celebration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities celebrated every December. The initiative echoes this year's theme **"Building back better: toward a disability-inclusive, accessible and sustainable post COVID-19 world."**

The Disability Inclusion Initiative is aligned with the UN's principle of "Living no one behind" streamlined in Agenda 2030.

Introduction of smart boards and internet in HVP Gatagara schools

On the occasion, UNDP partnered with Liquid Telecom to provide 10 smart boards to HVP Gatagara schools as well as free internet as a way of scaling up the smart classroom\* promoted by the Government of Rwanda.

The Director of HVP Gatagara, Frere Kizito Misago said that smart boards and internet connectivity are of great importance for both the children with disabilities and their teachers.

"As technology advances, people with disabilities should not be excluded. We are appreciative of this support because the internet will help children and teachers to do research on various subjects and stay connected," said Kizito adding that "When teachers use a chalk-board, children, especially those with mental health problems are distracted; the smart board are the right tools do tackle this issue for students will be more attentive and curious to follow their teacher."

Frere Kizito commended the continued support of UN agencies, especially UNDP to promote disability inclusion and ensure that rights of persons with disability are respected and protected.

Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Maxwell Gomera, the UNDP Resident Representative in Rwanda echoed Frere Kizito's statement on how these innovative tools are going to positively impact of education of children with disabilities. "Being connected can make a difference in the lives of Rwandans living with disabilities in the way they access broadband, they access the education materials. So, I am pleased that together with Liquid Telecom, we are committing to provide access to the benefits of the internet to children at HVP Gatagara," said Mr. Gomera. With the support of the Rwanda Education Board, the smart boards will enable easier access to national curricula online modules hence ensuring equitable access to education for all particularly students with disabilities.

Children with disabilities require not only adapted learning tools but also ensuring that these children basic needs are duly catered for. Therefore, through the disability inclusion initiative, UNFPA Rwanda handed over 3000 sanitary pads to HVP Gatagara to ensure adequate menstrual hygiene and improved access to sanitation for young girls with disabilities.

Read the full story here: <https://www.undp.org/content/rwanda/en/home/presscenter/articles/2020/News0/News.html>

# RWANDA MOVES FROM COMMITMENTS TO ACTIONS.

The Ministry of Health in collaboration with UNFPA organized a high level multi-sectoral stakeholders meeting to disseminate the Rwanda ICPD25 Commitments made at the Nairobi Summit, review the progress made since November 2019, and validate the National Action Plan to fast track the implementation of commitments towards achieving the universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights by 2030.



In 1994, 179 governments met during International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo, to reach global consensus that sexual and reproductive health and rights are a bedrock necessity for growth and prosperity.

The adoption of the ICPD Programme of Action marked the beginning of a new era of commitment and willingness on the part of governments, the international community and civil society to integrate population concerns into all economic and social activities, recognizing that reproductive health, women's empowerment and gender equality are the pathway to sustainable development.

Last year, the World converged at the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 from 12-15, November 2019, to mark the 25th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD25) to take stock of the tremendous progress and reflect on the next decade of action. Over 8,300 people from 172 countries and territories participated, debated and celebrated at the Summit, including Governments, development partners, civil society organizations, academia, private sector, faith-based organizations, international financial institutions and grass roots organizations in pursuit of sexual and reproductive health and rights.

The meeting was chaired by the Hon. Minister of Health, and in attendance were the Minister of Education, Minister of Justice, Minister of State in the Ministry of Local Government, Members of Parliament, the UN Resident Coordinator, UN Heads of Agencies, Global High-Level Commissioner for ICPD25 Commitments Prof Senait Fisseha, Development Partners, CSOs agencies and Academic institutions involved in SRHR for all.

In his opening remarks Hon. Minister of Health Dr. Daniel Ngamije emphasized that 2020 is the year Rwanda moves from Commitments to Action despite the challenges encountered due to COVID19 pandemic. He called on the various stakeholders to work together, individually and collectively to support the implementation of the Rwanda Commitments on ICPD25.

*"We call upon all stakeholders to strengthen collaboration for accurate SRH information including a contextualized Comprehensive Sexual Education with a focus on parents and creation of evidence on best practices for the prevention of teenage pregnancies to address the silence and enable women speak up against violence." Said Dr. Ngamije*

The stakeholders meeting took place a day after the dissemination of the 6th Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (DHS 2019-2020), that highlighted significant improvements in maternal health and expanded access to voluntary family planning.

*"As the new DHS 2019-2020 figures affirm, we have much progress to celebrate, but also some unfinished business to achieve - that we will achieve, together. The reproductive rights of women & girls are not up for negotiation. We shall protect and uphold them" Said Mark Bryan Schreiner, UNFPA Representative.*

Key progress includes increased mCPR from 47,5% in 2015 to 58% in 2020; decreased unmet need for Family Planning from 19% in 2015 to 14% in 2020 and teenage pregnancy reduced from 7,3% in 2015 to 5,2% in 2020, among others. The validated Rwanda Action Plan prioritize achieving zero unmet need for family planning, zero preventable maternal deaths, and zero gender-based violence and practices that harm women and girls, all by 2030. UNFPA reiterated its full and continued commitment to support the Government of Rwanda and all partners in advancing the ICPD agenda.



*Mugombwa: Refugee children study the same national curriculum along with host community children in the school close to the camp. ©UNHCR/Eugene Sibomana*

The one-year mark of the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) held in Geneva, allows us to reflect upon the nine pledges made by the Government of Rwanda to improve the lives of refugees hosted here. The GRF was the largest consultation in the history of UNHCR, with more than 3,000 registered participants, four Heads of State, 90 officials at the ministerial level, 70 refugees, 300 international organizations, NGOs, academic institutions and 130 private sector representatives. In all, 770 pledges and USD 5.5 billion USD in commitments over the next four years, were made in support of refugees and their hosts.

Rwanda had made eight commitments at the High-Level Segment on Statelessness in October 2019; and together, this makes 17 pledges, the highest in the East, Horn of Africa, and Great Lakes region.

There are approximately 146,000 refugees mostly from Congo and Burundi, residents in Rwanda, and some 260 evacuees from Libya at the Emergency Transit Centre (ETM) in Gashora. The ETM has often been described as an *"African solution to an African problem"*

And it is with the same generosity of spirit that the Government of Rwanda made impressive commitments through the pledges that focus on education, livelihoods, protection, environment, energy and health.

The pledges build upon earlier commitments made at the Leaders' Summit in 2016: (i) graduating camp-based refugees out of assistance programs and increasing formal access to work opportunities as part of a joint livelihoods strategy; (ii) ensuring that 100% of refugees are in possession of valid refugee identity cards issued by the Government (NIDA); (iii) integrating 100% of refugee students in secondary school and 50% in primary schools into national education systems; and (iv) ensuring that 100% of urban refugees will have the opportunity to buy into national health insurance systems.

Energy and Environment is a new pledging area but is a top priority for the Government which is committed to clean energy and a green future.

The banning of plastic countrywide and the banning of firewood for fuel are important steps towards this goal. Working together with the Ministry of Environment, visits were made to all six refugee camps, to assess environmental damage and the impact of hosting refugees on local host communities.

Impressive progress on the 2016 commitments - more than 90% of refugee students are integrated into national education systems; 68% of urban refugees were enrolled in the Community Based Health Initiative (CBHI)— form the foundation for the pledges made at the Global Refugee Forum (GRF).

Despite the challenges of COVID-19 -an unprecedented pandemic, all nine pledges have on-going activities. Donors such as the World Bank, IKEA Foundation, the EU, and the Danish Government are supporting UNHCR, the Government of Rwanda and its partners on initiatives such as classroom construction, linked to the pledge on education; agricultural projects linked to the livelihoods pledge, and on a feasibility study on ravine rehabilitation in the camps for environment preservation.

*Full story:*  
<https://www.unhcr.org/rw/15853-rwanda-1000-hills-and-a-big-heart.html>

# UNICEF PROCURES \$1 MILLION IN ESSENTIAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR NEWBORN HEALTH AND THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19 IN RWANDA



*Honourable Minister of Health Dr. Daniel Ngamije thanks UNICEF Representative in Rwanda Julianna Lindsey for the handover of US\$ 1 million in essential medical supplies and equipment.*

Although Rwanda has made tremendous progress improving child survival in the last few decades, the rate of death is still high among children in the first 28 days of life. In Rwanda, over 40 per cent of deaths among children under 5 occur during this neonatal period.

To support the Government of Rwanda to improve the quality of care during this neonatal period, and to respond to COVID-19, UNICEF has procured nearly \$1 million in essential medical equipment and supplies for infection prevention and control. These will be delivered to targeted health facilities and community health workers around the country. UNICEF will also support installation of the equipment and will help train health workers on its use and upkeep.

This equipment, procured with support from the Government of Japan and other donors, includes continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) machines, ventilators, ultrasound machines, cardiocotography machines, oxygen concentrators, dopplers, humidifier bottles, and oxygen concentrators. UNICEF, with support from Rockefeller Foundation and other donors, is also awaiting delivery of additional bottles of hand sanitizer, masks, and helmet liner masks,

which will help over 58,000 community health volunteers in the frontline fight against COVID-19.

*“UNICEF is determined to keep every child alive and thriving, so supporting the Government to reduce neonatal deaths is a top priority for us. We are happy to support the Government’s efforts to improve the quality of health care in Rwanda through procurement of this essential equipment,”* says Julianna Lindsey, UNICEF Representative in Rwanda. *“We hope this equipment will also complement our other efforts in the 22 hospitals and 75 health centres we support, including establishment of new Neonatal Intensive Care Units.”*

*“The Government of Rwanda is grateful for this UNICEF donation, especially in this period where provision of services is critical due to the COVID-19 pandemic,”* says Hon. Dr. Daniel Ngamije, Minister of Health. *“Reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health is high priority for Rwanda and the health sector aims to support universal access to sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health and ensure reduction of maternal mortality-*

*under 5 mortality, unmet needs for family planning, teenage pregnancy, elimination of the transmission of HIV from mother to child and gender-based violence.”*

In addition to this equipment, UNICEF supports a partnership with the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health and the Rwanda Paediatrics Association. Through this partnership, Rwandan doctors, nurses, and midwives receive mentorship from experts in neonatal care from the United Kingdom and other specialized hospitals in Rwanda.

This new equipment will help monitor and care for mothers during and after labour, and will provide respiratory support to infants in 22 hospitals. The additional equipment will also provide respiratory support for COVID-19 patients when needed.

UNICEF has also provided over \$100,000 of supplies for COVID-19 infection prevention and control (IPC), including over 12,000 N95 masks and three tonnes of chlorine powder for disinfection.



# WFP & PARTNER UN AGENCIES EMPOWER WOMEN AND TRANSFORM GENDER RELATIONS IN RURAL RWANDA DURING COVID-19.

As the international community observes the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence from 25 November through 10 December 2020, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) jointly with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) and UN Women work to empower rural women in Rwanda through the Joint Programme on Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (RWEE).

The programme uses the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) to transform gender relations among rural community members and contribute to reducing gender-based and intimate partner violence.

The Joint Programme on Rural Women's Economic Empowerment provides women in rural areas of Rwanda with the tools to lift themselves and their families out of extreme poverty. Women are supported to participate in small-scale savings groups, learn new skills and engage in income generating activities. The combined efforts of WFP, FAO, IFAD and UN Women encourage participating women to think big and work for progress within their communities.

Isabella Uwizeyimana, a maize farmer from the Coopabinya farmer cooperative in southern Rwanda derives success from RWEE's training on improved agriculture practices and post-harvest handling. The programme drastically increases farm productivity and further supports farmers with infrastructure such as drying sheds to maximize the quality and quantity of produce to be sold at the market. "After being trained, I applied what I learned and was able to increase my maize production from less than 200 kilos a season to nearly one metric ton and now without post-harvest food loss," Isabella added. This has directly resulted in an increase of income for Isabella and her family.

"RWEE also gave me financial planning skills to further improve my household income," Isabella highlighted. "With this, I was able to save and buy a cow" she said. "My cow already has had two calves, so that I now have three in total. My children drink milk every day and I have enough manure to use as fertilizer for my maize field, further improving my yields," Isabella added.

## Gender Action Learning System (GALS)

The RWEE programme also utilizes the Gender Action Learning System (GALS). "GALS is an approach which inspires both women and men to plan together, create jobs and diversify incomes to end the cycle of poverty among rural communities," said Jeannine Kabanyana, RWEE coordinator at IFAD. This initiative enables both men and women to gain knowledge on gender roles in family management to transform gender relations and contribute to reducing gender-based and intimate partner violence.

RWEE through GALS has significantly impacted the way Isabella thinks about gender norms, such as the tradition of thinking that land belongs only to men.



Isabella gives water to the cow she bought with her increased earnings and savings. The cow provides milk for her children to drink and manure for her garden. Photo: WFP/Daniel Kibsgaard

Isabella and her husband are one of many beneficiaries of the joint programme inspired to opt for a marriage settlement based on joint ownership of their property for the good of their family. "My spouse and I have equal rights to our land, we plan together for our family and we have equal say in making decisions for our family's progress," Isabella said.

As a result of their economic empowerment with the support of RWEE, participants have also gained self-confidence. Many have taken up leadership positions in local councils and women's councils at the community level, contributing to decision making up to the district level. Isabella has been president of the Coopabinya cooperative since 2018. "I chair meetings and contribute to making good decisions towards my community's development" said Isabella.

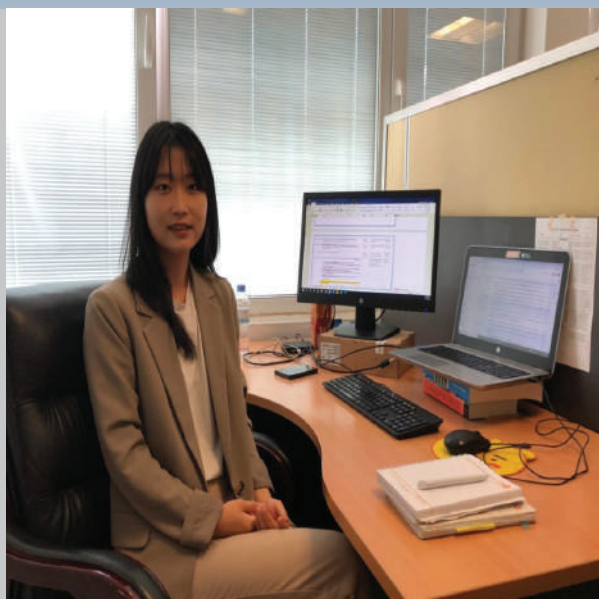
The skills gained from RWEE have been particularly critical for participants coping with the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in rural areas of Rwanda. The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women reports that globally the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in an alarming increase in multiple forms of violence against women and girls, especially physical, psychological, sexual and economic forms of domestic violence. The rise is fuelled by household economic challenges, food insecurity and confined living conditions due to lockdown and social isolation measures.

"The situation was very challenging as we were not allowed to leave our homes due to the pandemic," said Isabella. However, her newfound economic empowerment and the subsequent transformation of household relations gained through RWEE supported Isabella and her husband to be able to work together to meet the family's challenges during this period. "I am happy because I experience gender equality with my husband. During the height of the pandemic when we were in lockdown, we were both at home supporting our children and jointly contributing to the family," she said.

# I AM HYUNYOUNG JADE KIM WORKING AS AN ADOLESCENT SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SPECIALIST IN UNFPA RWANDA.

Serving as an International UNV, I work to secure and protect adolescents and youth's Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). One of the exciting programmes that I support is Innovation Accelerator (iAccelerator) which is a mentorship-driven programme, supporting young entrepreneurs with seed funding, training and entrepreneurship skills development, to generate innovative solutions responding to issues around SRHR and other population development-related challenges.

iAccelerator programme enabled me to observe key challenges that young people in Rwanda are faced and their own innovative solutions to fight against them. Being part of the journey is absolutely amazing as the solutions which stemmed from youth always inspire me.



**HYUNYOUNG JADE KIM**  
IUNV

Witnessing young people stand up for their basic rights and body autonomy through the capacity building programmes that I supported, is such a proud and fulfilling moment as a fellow young person.

As I work with different agencies under One UN, I learnt the paramount role of fellow UNVs here in Rwanda. Seeing UNFPA, there are already 7 UNVs at the moment serving under the common mandate and more are planned to join.

Taking an opportunity of celebration on International Volunteer Day in December 2020, I would like to convey my sincere appreciation to my fellow UNV colleagues under One UN by congratulating on each and everyone's efforts and achievements. Although COVID-19 pandemic is sweeping everywhere of the world, our efforts toward the sexual reproductive health and rights for women, girls and young people will never halt. With gratefulness that I can serve as an International UNV, I will continue to advocate and support for young people in Rwanda and beyond.





***UN in Rwanda joined the global UN to celebrate the UN Day which is celebrated every 24th October. The COVID-19 pandemic made this year's celebrations different, UN Colleagues and partners could not get together to celebrate as usual, but celebrated individually and in smaller groups at Agency level.***

