

Association of Jesuit Fathers of Burundi

SERVICE YEZU MWIZA

"For people who want to live"



ANNUAL
REPORT | 2020

I. TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 Abbreviations

5 Editorial

8 Covid-19

10 Some milestones of the year

12 Glogal support

18 sensitization for bihavioural change

22 Socio-economic reinsertion

26 Data validation

31 Quality evaluation

33 World woman day

34 Visits

35 World aids day

36 Testimonies

40 Strategic Plan 2021-2025

41 Vote of thanks

42 Our partners

43 Annexes

45 Organizational chart

II. ABBREVIATIONS

• IGA	: Income Generating Activity
• AJAN	: African Jesuit AIDS Network
• ARV	: Antiretroviral
• CHO	: Community Health Worker
• HIC	: Health Insurance Card
• HC	: Health Center
• PNC	: Prenatal Consultations
• BRC	: Burundi Red Cross
• VL	: Viral Load
• FACSI	: Fundus Apostolicus and Caritativus Societatis Iesu
• HT	: Health Training
• GB	: Government of Burundi
• GIZ	: Deutsche Gessellsechafft für International Zusammenarbeit, GmbH
• CSG	: Community Support Group
• HBP	: High Blood Pressure
• IEC	: Information, Education, Communication
• STI	: Sexually Transmissible Infections
• WAD	: World Aids Day
• NUREM	: It is a project funded by the Jesuit Mission of Nuremberg
• OVCs	: Orphans and other Vulnerable Children
• WHO	: World Health Organization

•	ONUSIDA	: Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS
•	AAP	: Annual Action Plan
•	WFP	: World Food Program
•	PCR	: Polymerase Chain Reaction
•	LOS	: Lost of Sight
•	S	: Support
•	EIP	: Expanded Immunization Programme
•	FP	: Family Planning
•	NRHP	: National Reproductive Health Program
•	UNDP	: United Nations Development Program
•	SP	: Sex Professional
•	PMTCT	: Prevention of Mother-To-Child HIV Transmission
•	PLWHIV	: Person Living With HIV
•	RAFG	: Reaching an AIDS-Free Generation
•	SCR	: Strengthening Community Response
•	SRHR	: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
•	RH	: Reproduction Health
•	SRH	: Sexual and Reproductive Health
•	SRHYA	: Sexual and Reproductive Health of Youth and Adolescents
•	SYM	: Service Yezu Mwiza
•	ARVT	: Anti Retroviral Therapy
•	USAID	: United States Agency for International Development
•	GBV	: Gender-Based Violence

1. EDITORIAL



The mobile clinic, one hit for two!

The year 2020 which has just ended was marked by COVID-19 pandemic. Service Yezu Mwiza has not been spared from the repercussions of the pandemic. But, we can rejoice that we remained with our beneficiaries and never bent under the fear of COVID-19. Indeed, we continued carrying out our activities in favor of people living with HIV/AIDS, fighting against HIV/TB co-infection and supporting people affected and/or infected by leprosy or tuberculosis. Instead of breaking us, COVID-19 reinforced the commitment to strengthening our beneficiaries and I am pleased to present this report which reflects the growing dynamic that remained a reality at Service Yezu Mwiza.

The active list of Service Yezu Mwiza has increased from 1012 to 1050 persons living with HIV. This has been possible thanks to retention and index testing strategies to reach the three 95%¹. From the active list, one can proudly note that the viral load was taken for 965 PLWHIV on ARV treatment and results showed that the viral load was suppressed for 913 cases or 95.7%.

The Mobile Clinic supports 76.2% of all the persons on the active list of SYM. This year, the Mobile Clinic's activities on the field have been strengthened from three times to five times a week to decongest the headquarters of Service Yezu Mwiza. This has encouraged the compliance with the distancing measures to minimize the risks of contracting COVID-19 at SYM headquarters by the beneficiaries, while avoiding the catastrophic costs of moving to our structure. They are not to come to us, we are the ones who move to them. This allows us to know their context of life and to better understand them in order to support them better.

To fight against COVID-19, awareness-raising activities were carried out for our community relays and health care providers in SYM's action area. They were meant to ensure that our beneficiaries already weakened by HIV/AIDS are protected from COVID-19.

This year was also characterized by the development of a new strategic plan 2021-2025. It was a long-term work, considering several perspectives to constitute the roadmap for the qualitative and quantitative extension of all the activities of SYM. We are pleased that the previous Strategic Plan has brought us to a successful conclusion and that the boat of SYM did not sink under the blow of challenging

¹They are leveled as follows: 95% of PLWHIV know their serological status; 95% of those who know their status are under ARVT; 95% of people under ARVT have their viral load suppressed.



times and invisible enemies such as COVID-19.

The 2020 annual report shows that our organization has consolidated itself and is ready to go even further with its noble mission to serve the neediest. But if our organization stands up, it is because we are supported. I therefore take this opportunity to thank all those whose support is the vital force of SYM. All staff members of SYM contributed, each in his or her own way. The Ministry of Health and the Fight against HIV/AIDS has remained our special partner as the umbrella under which we operate.

I thank the local and international partners who are always on our side as well as Jesuit charitable missions, friends and benefactors who share and support our commitment to the promotion of integral health. The contribution of everyone has made a difference in the lives of our beneficiaries and I am honored to thank you all on their behalf.

COVID-19



The mission of promoting integral health for the Burundian population was severely challenged by COVID-19 pandemic which has captured the attention of the entire world. It was necessary to act to protect the staff members of SYM and thus protect its beneficiaries and contribute in the implementation of barrier measures taken by the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS.



In addition to the social distancing measures in SYM especially during the morning prayer which begins the activities of each day, SYM has set up washing stations in sites where SYM offers its services. With the support of Segal Family Foundation and Jesuit Missions United Kingdom,

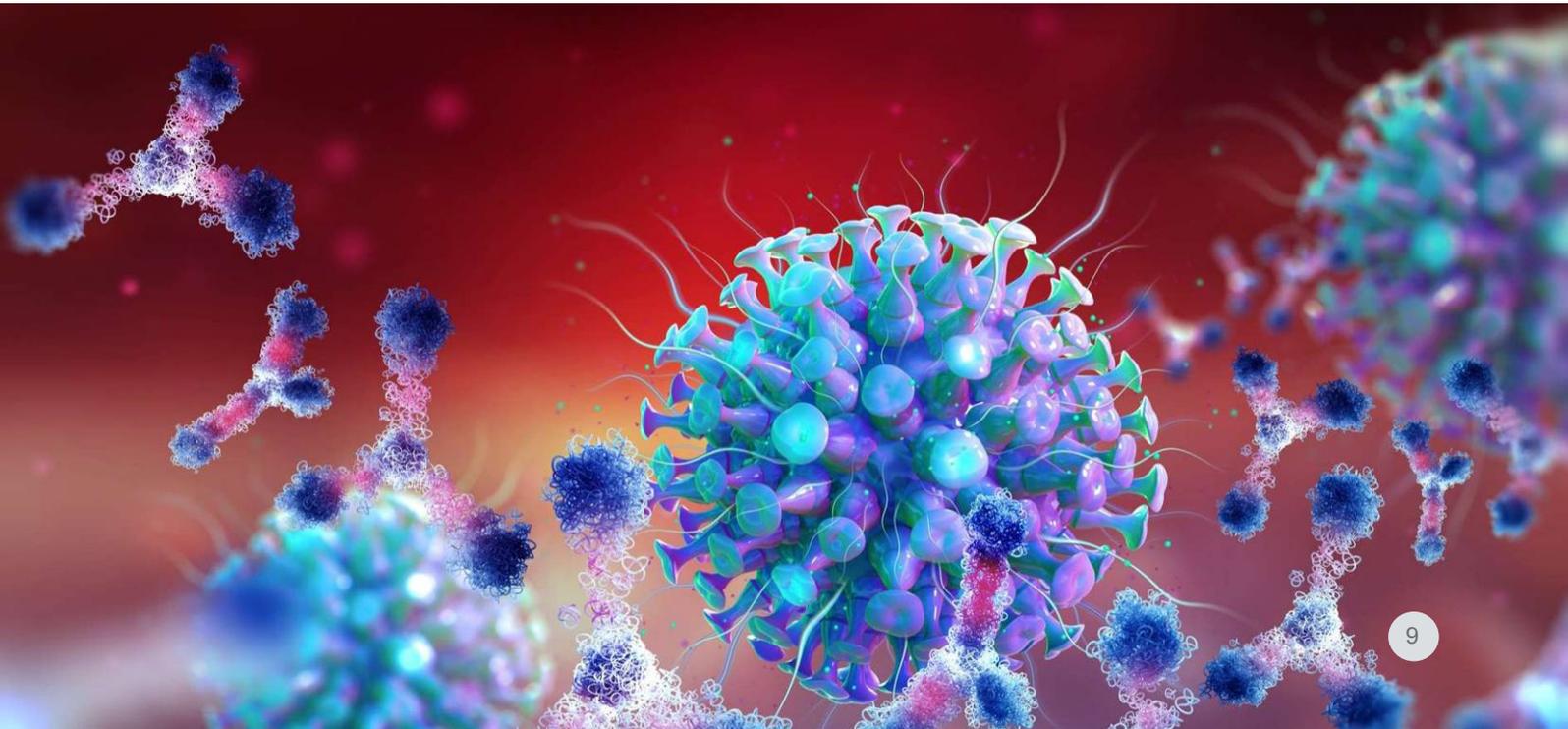
these washing stations were placed in Ruziba, Kanyosha, Gitaza, Buhonga, Kabezi, Rubirizi, Gatumba, Magara, Matara, Karinzi and in conviviality centers of

Rumonge, Makamba, Gitega and Muyinga provinces. Since May, SYM has also organized a series of training and awareness-raising sessions for 165 Community Health Workers and 100 health-care providers on barriers to the spread of Covid-19, so that they, in turn, may assist vulnerable communities they serve to implement these measures and inform them about appropriate behavior in

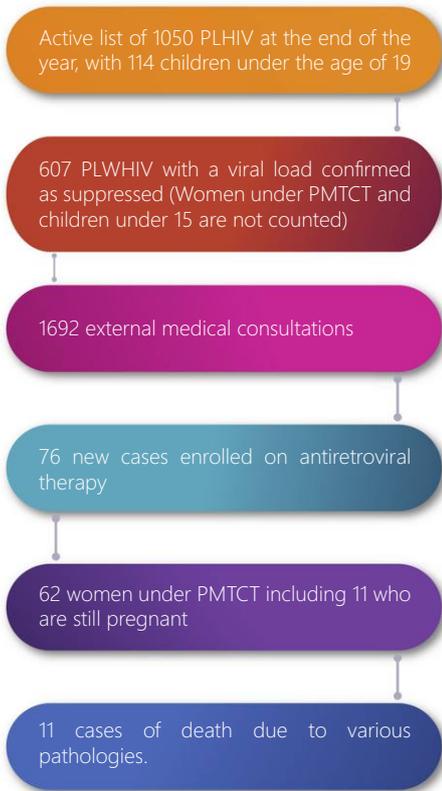


cases of clinical signs of the pandemic.

In addition, some of the most vulnerable beneficiaries were assisted with food to minimize the impact of COVID-19 on their already fragile economic situation. The mobile clinic was strengthened from 3 to 5 days a week in order to reduce the number of beneficiaries coming to SYM's headquarter and thus facilitate social distancing.



SOME MILESTONES OF THE YEAR



3028 OVC i.e. 1972 girls and 1056 boys

439 lepers gathered in 16 associations

136 beneficiaries under INH and 622 who have already completed the prophylaxis

85 community health workers and relays received training on the promotion of index testing, PMCT, FP and RSH

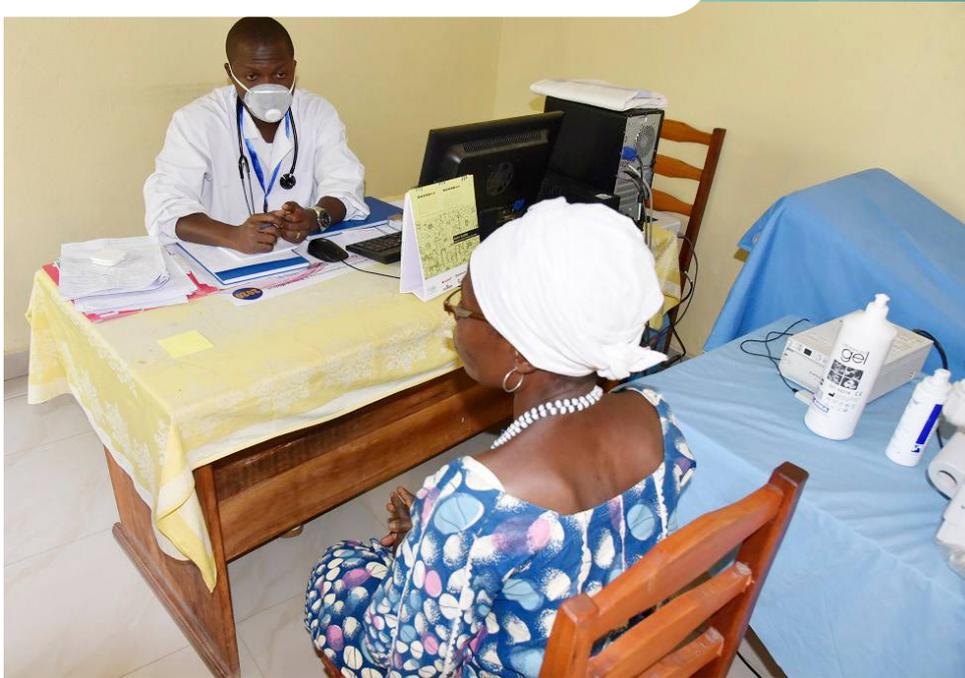
2073 laboratory tests for biological monitoring of PLWHIV

New IGAs were initiated for 263 vulnerable women.

Different teams of SYM made 45 hospital visits where our beneficiaries were hospitalized.

522 people received nutritional support in BRC project

GLOBAL SUPPORT



We offer a global support to PLWHIV including medical and psychological services. We consider that good health is not just the absence of disease or infirmity. It is much more about physical, mental and socio-economic well-being. Beneficiaries of SYM are assisted in the Martin Royackers Clinic which is located in the headquarters of the SYM, with the mobile clinic that brings services closer to the communities where our beneficiaries live; with home or hospital visits, nutritional support; and with RAFG ACTIVITY project which runs throughout all medical care interventions.



MOBILE CLINIC

The Mobile Clinic touched 76.2% of the 1050 PLWHIV beneficiaries of SYM. It makes life much easier for our beneficiaries because they no longer need to travel to SYM offices to receive ARVs for routine medical consultations or for biological monitoring tests.

Thus, beneficiaries of SYM who are mainly people of low economic condition, can save the usual transport cost to meet other needs. The Mobile Clinic is a great success for us as support providers, but also a real relief for our beneficiaries in favor of medical compliance as stated below:

- a sharp decline in cases of therapeutic failure;
- a considerable decrease in opportunistic infections;
- a decrease in the mortality rate due to HIV;
- 95% of our PLWHIV under therapy for more than 6 months have suppressed viral loads;
- a remarkable improvement in the living conditions of PLWHIV.

PSYCHOSOCIAL

Counseling is part of the PLWHIV support package. To intensify this therapeutic education, SYM has set up a special program to follow up closely how its beneficiaries take their medication. Thanks to the mobile clinic, the psychosocial support team reaches out to the person's community in order to counteract problems that prevent the individual from taking his or her medication regularly (therapeutic education) before giving them psychological support.

In addition, the psychological support team makes visits to hospitals for hospitalized beneficiaries. The team also organizes sharing groups with common challenges (sero-discordant couples; OVCs; adolescents; etc.) so that they may exchange their personal experiences.

PLWHIV	OVC	Persons supported through collective supervision (mobile clinic)	Persons supported through therapeutic education sessions	Persons supported through observance sessions	Persons supported by speech groups	Organised home visits
1050	3028	22872	325	54	1858	41

During therapeutic education sessions, the following themes are developed :

Developed themes	Nb sessions	Total of participants
EIP	38	689
HIV-AIDS	96	1690
TSI	42	659
Malaria	8	110
Tuberculosis	85	1457
Nutrition	36	489



Reproduction Health (FP excluded)	22	371
Family Planning	11	233
Hygiene/sanitation	50	862
Epilepsy	0	0
Diabetisis	13	261
High Blood Pressure (HTA)	13	261
Other chronic diseases (*)	30	539
Mental health, and fight against stigmatization	33	561
Alcohol consumption and psychoactive substances	14	284
Others (Parent responsibility)	42	488
Total	533	8954

NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT



At SYM, nutritional support is an important part of the overall support for PLWHIV. It contributes to the achievement of high-quality clinical results for people who would be suffering from malnutrition. Priority groups who benefit from this support are women and children under 5 years of age who are most affected by food insecurity. Most of these supported women are widows, other pregnant and/or nursing mothers, all living in acute poverty. Anti-TB beneficiaries and orphans are also eligible for this type of aid. With the support of the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender, SYM was able to assist 427 vulnerable people, 9 of them were in hospitals and 49 were taken care of directly by BRC.

MEDICAL SUPPORT WITH « RAFG ACTIVITY» ACTIVITY PROJECT

RAFG ACTIVITY project provides support in medical care towards the elimination of HIV. This project covers services such as HIV counseling and testing; notification of sexual partners and biological children of a person newly tested HIV positive, adherence and retention to ARVs treatment and suppression of viral loads.

In 2020, the project was implemented in the provinces of Bujumbura city, rural Bujumbura, Gitega and Rumonge in the implementation of the project. 46 community relays were trained in new testing strategies, including index testing and the use of self-testing methods.

- Index testing has become the leading testing strategy : out of 76 positive cases in 2020, 62 cases or 82% resulted from index testing;
- 15 cases of people who were lost of sight were recovered and returned to medical treatment due to the involvement of community relays;
- 965 PLWHIV under medical treatment have benefited from viral load test and 913 of them, which is 95% of all the tests made, had their viral load suppressed thanks to compliance sessions, speech groups reserved for patients with unsuppressed viral loads and therapeutic weekends for young people and adolescents which were organized quarterly.

Covid-19, which marked the year 2020, led to more delays in drug supply appointments. Some patients could not go to their respective medical structures, with the fear of contracting the disease. To cope with this, the Ministry of Public Health and Fight against Aids via CAMEBU (a Pharmaceutical and medical industry in charge of making essential medicine available in Burundi) offered stocks of ARVs for 3 months, which allowed patients to have medical treatment for 3 months. A total of 876 patients benefited from the multi-monthly dispensation. Added to this were follow up activities offered by SYM's mobile clinic to make sure that every patient is catered for.

SENSITIZATION FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

Activities related to Sexual and Reproductive Health sensitization are retrieved in three projects implemented by SYM, namely the Joint Program «MENYUMENYESHE» in partnership with CARE Burundi; The promotion of Sexual and Reproductive Health for Youth and Adolescents (SRHYA) in partnership with GIZ; and «Strengthening the Community Response to HIV and TB» with Red Cross Burundi.

THE JOINT PROGRAM «MENYUMENYESHE»



The Joint Program «MENYUMENYESHE» was implemented in four provinces: Rural Bujumbura, Bujumbura City, Kirundo and Muyinga. SYM trained 119 health care providers and 40 community health workers on improving youth-friendly services, including youth counseling and support in Health Care Centers friendly to the youth (Centre de Santé Ami des Jeunes: CDSAJ).

Training were also provided for 746 key actors in 32 schools and 898 key actors from 40 hills were trained by SYM on two strategies: School strategy targeting teenagers in schools and community strategy that is much more oriented towards out-of-school teens and teenagers in their workplace.

Following a situational analysis, all of these actors developed action plans for the promotion of SRHYA to raise awareness among more adolescents and young people aged between 10 and 24.

Outreach activities with the networking strategies have reached 504 key actors (directors, teachers and coaches) to implement the project activities in new schools. From a community perspective, mass sensitization facilitated by community leaders has yielded the following results :

Developed themes	Young girls trained	Young boys trained	Parents	Health service providers	Total
Youth exchange sessions	590	719	0	0	1.309
Intergenerational meetings	55	90	64	0	209
Action Plans monitoring and evaluation meetings	266	289	72	80	707
Coaching workshops in 8 health centers friends of the youth	57	85	8	8	158
Number of winners of loincloths, plastic containers, umbrellas and towels at the contest games	143	98	65	35	341

PROJECT TO SUPPORT THE PROMOTION OF SRHYA THROUGH CCOMMUNITY NETWORKS.

In MURAMVYA province (Muramvya, Bukeye, Rutegama and Kiganda communes), SYM contributed to the improvement of service demands about Sexual and reproductive health (SRH) for youth and adolescents through community networks around Muramvya, Rweza, Bugarama, Teza, Giko, Marumane, Rugari, Kivoga, Kaniga and Munyinya health care centers.

The following activities were accomplished:

1. Quarterly meetings of single mothers' groups. The primary objective of these meetings is to enable single mothers to share their psychosocial experiences.
2. Meetings of facilitators that help in the community mass sensitization. The communities are home to various aspects of SRH education: solidarity groups for young people who are not in school (these young people receive training on the module "The world begins with me"); meetings of hill chiefs; mass awareness-raising through sports games; etc.

This project has been very successful, most specially in reducing the incidence of unwanted pregnancies among teenage girls, leading to a decrease in the number of school dropouts often caused by pregnancies and the reduction of juvenile delinquency. 40% of young teenagers in school and 30% of young teenagers out of school acquired a good knowledge of STIs, HIV/AIDS and GBV.



SCR TO HIV/TB PROJECT



The Strengthening Community Response (SCR) to HIV and Tuberculosis project is funded by Global Funds through the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The Burundi Red Cross, selected as Sub-Recipient of funds for community activities, is the first interlocutor of SYM for the implementation of this project carried out in the provinces of Gitega, Makamba, Muyinga and Rumonge. It is about establishing peer education through evaluation and formative meetings, awareness-raising on HIV, TB, PMTCT, SR/FP and STI. 30.396 PS were sensitized on HIV/TB/STI. Also, 18.928 HIV test cases were reported and the results showed 358 HIV+ cases, representing a seroprevalence of 1.89%. All 358 HIV+ positive cases were referred to health care facilities of their choice for medical treatment and were placed under ARV treatment.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINSERTION

« ACTION DAMIEN » PROJECT



In RUMONGE, MAKAMBA, RUTANA, BUBANZA and CIBITOKÉ provinces, SYM provided psychosocial, economic and medical support to patients and/or former leprosy patients with the following activities:



- Training and retraining in IGAs and credit savings systems for members of 16 associations of people affected or infected by leprosy and/or tuberculosis.

- Making a wider mobilization about leprosy, establishment of «joint awareness committees» that bring together different stakeholders in community life: administrative leaders (commune administrators, zone and other local chiefs); health authorities from the provincial health office, from district health office and health centers managers; the education sector (communal administrators of education, school directors); and finally, religious leaders (at least five religious denominations were represented).
- Capacity-building for 32 health-care providers from health centers where leprosy patients receive treatment;
- Distribution of 436 medical insurance cards to members of the 16 associations to improve their access to health care. The advantage of these cards is that they extend over other members of the nuclear family of the card owner.
- While supervising activities of the associations, SYM, in partnership with AD, distributed 198 hoes, 198 machetes, 11 bicycles and 16 radios to members of the associations.

The positive results of the project are the following :

- All associations of persons with leprosy have legal recognition from their commune authorities. This gives them access to certain privileges, such as capacity-building workshops organized by administrative authorities for the benefit of local associations;
- All 16 associations have functional micro-projects;
- People with leprosy who are members of the associations are no longer stigmatized or discriminated in their living environments;
- Leprosy patients who have received training make home visits to help each other through self- administered medical care.

« NUREM » PROJECT

COMMUNE	Activity	Group according to activities	Number of given animals breedings	Number of beneficiaries
KABEZI	Goat breeding	42	84	124
	Pig breeding	1	2	3
KANYOSHA	Goat breeding	24	48	71
	Pig breeding	1	2	4
MUTIMBUZI	Goat breeding	17	34	50
NYABIRABA	Goat breeding	2	4	8
	Agriculture	1	1	3
TOTAL	Goats breeding	85	170	253
	Pigs breeding	2	4	7
	Agriculture	1	1	3

The «NUREM» project aims is to address socio-economic challenges faced by beneficiaries of SYM from most vulnerable families. Living with less than 3 meals every 3 days, such families need to acquire investment skills, savings systems and receive start-up capital in order to increase their family incomes. Supported financially by Jesuit Missions Germany in Nuremberg, SYM initiated Income generating activities for 263 most vulnerable women in the communes of Kabezi, Nyabiraba, Mutimbuzi and Kanyosha.



The activities of this project began with initial training that focused on profitable agricultural techniques, the management of microprojects and the establishment of solidarity groups. These vulnerable rural women learned how to work together and improve their living conditions. During this training, 214 former beneficiaries of the same project (2019) shared their personal experiences with the 263 new beneficiaries of the project.

After the training, sub-groups of 3 to 4 people were formed to encourage beneficiaries living in same places to collaborate and work together. Thus, each sub-group started mini-projects including the breeding of goats and pigs. In addition, each household received quality seeds for kitchen gardens (onions, eggplants and other vegetables)

BUILDING HOUSES FOR VULNERABLES



During different home visits, service providers of SYM noted that some of the beneficiaries did not have adequate housing. Considering that the right to housing is one of the fundamental human rights, SYM felt the need to support these people to improve their living conditions. As a matter of fact, the health of people living with HIV/AIDS is threatened by the lack of adequate housing.

SYM has therefore developed, in partnership with SELAVIP, a project to build 25 houses in the communes of Kanyosha and Mutimbuzi for 25 vulnerable families. Each house had two bedrooms and a living room.

Amazed by this gesture of compassion, a young girl from a beneficiary family speaks out:

«Having a decent home should normally be a right for everyone, but nature is sometimes unfair. Fortunately, there are benefactors to whom God has given a heart of compassion and who never cease to think about the happiness of others. By building a house for my parents, SYM and SELAVIP have restored dignity to our family. We used to sleep in very bad conditions, sometimes in the open air under the stars. Today we have our own room and our parents have their own. May the Lord continue to bless SYM and SELAVIP for this praiseworthy act.»



Justine ITANGISHAKA

DATA VALIDATION

In order to improve the quality of reports on the interventions made by SYM, the executive director of SYM appointed a commission to analyze and validate the data reported by SYM. It is composed of seven members of staff of SYM and a representative of Ministry of Health. The commission meets regularly every month to analyze, evaluate and validate the data that is transmitted to authorized and relevant institutions.

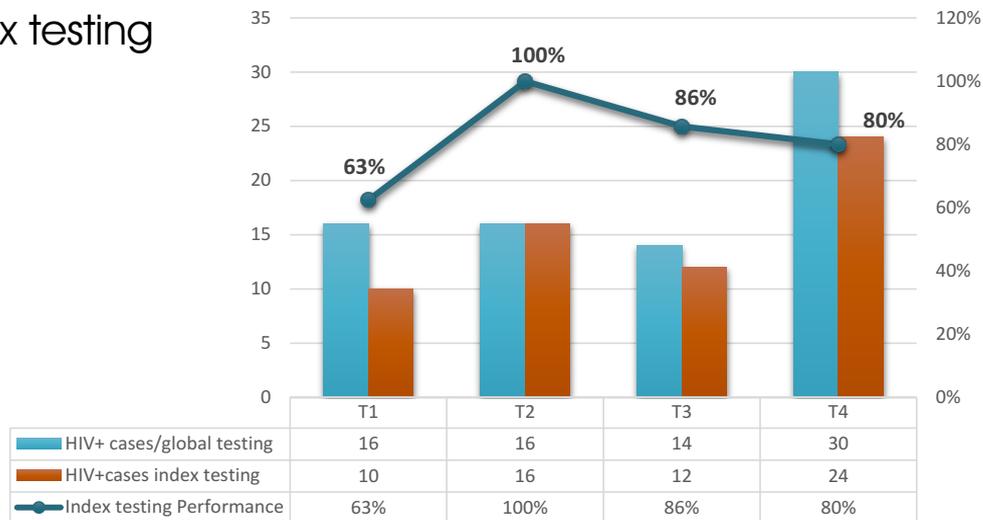


These reports are not produced solely for the satisfaction of our technical and financial partners. Statistics provide insight into the impact of our activities. The more we know where we come from, the better we adapt our different interventions to address the needs of our beneficiaries. For example, in relation to the supply in ARVs, if we note that there were many missed appointments in the previous month, then the mobile clinic and the RAFG project step in for home visits to help beneficiaries to catch up with medication. This practice has become an added value of SYM.

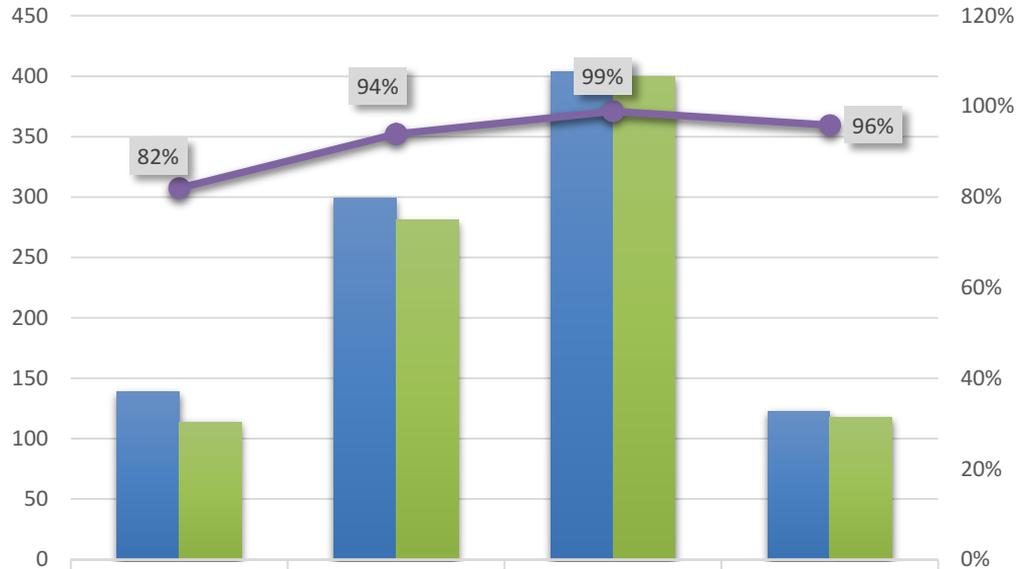
In addition to monthly meetings, the commission meets extraordinarily every three months to analyze the evolution of indicators deemed in pain so as to improve SYM's performance. The four indicators that were mostly at stake is here below:

1. Performance of index testing (compared to testing in general);
2. Suppression rate of viral loads;
3. Deadline for enrollment on ARV treatment;
4. Rate of recovery of lost of sight during the analysis period.

Efficiency of index testing

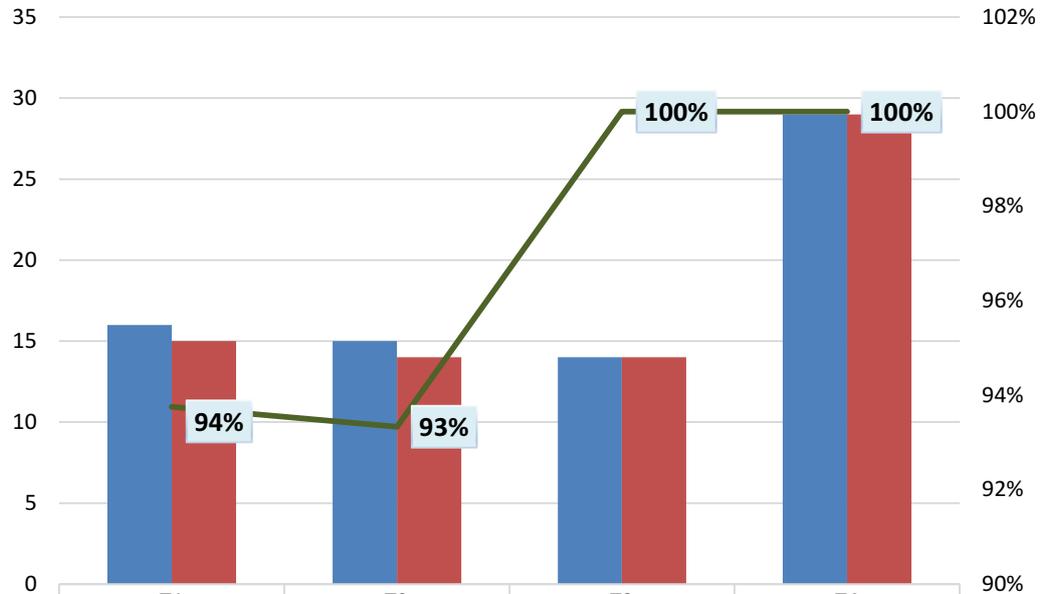


Suppression rate



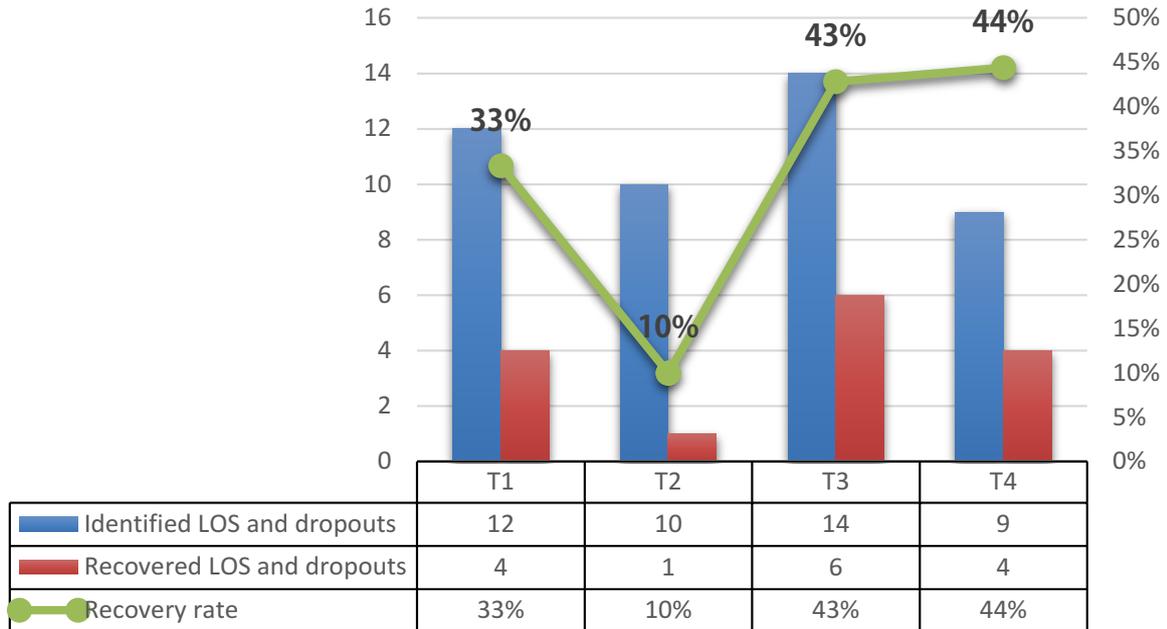
	T1	T2	T3	T4
Total of VL received	139	299	404	123
Suppressed VLs	114	281	400	118
Suppression rate	82%	94%	99%	96%

Rate of enrolment time



	T1	T2	T3	T4
N° of registered cases	16	15	14	29
Registered the same day	15	14	14	29
Registering rate	94%	93%	100%	100%

Recovery rate of LOS and dropouts



QUALITY EVALUATION



Carried out regularly every three months, this activity is sponsored by the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS. The Ministry sends a delegation to check if the structure meets required standards. Indeed, the Ministry has defined qualities that each structure must acquire in order to guarantee good service delivery. To encourage structures to keep a good

mark during this assessment, the Ministry grants “Performance-Based Funding” (PBF). Overall, this assessment covers the following areas:

- Administration (holding of management team meetings; development and monitoring of the Action Plan; the various monthly reports transmitted; maintenance of infrastructure; etc.);
- Finances (budget management; preparation and transmission of financial reports);
- Medical care service (maintenance of material and equipment)
- Pharmacy Supply (drug management; destruction of expired drugs; etc.
- Hygienic safety of the structure

For SYM, the assessment of quality evaluation resulted in our institution obtaining an average score of 89% in December 2020.

The background features a vibrant, abstract design with thick, diagonal brushstrokes in shades of blue, orange, and magenta. Scattered across the white space are several small, solid-colored dots in blue, red, and black. The overall aesthetic is modern and energetic.

EVENTS THAT MARKED THE YEAR

WORLD WOMAN DAY



Celebrating the 08th March known as World Woman Day has become a tradition at SYM. This year, the theme chosen at the international level was “Stand up for women’s rights”. At SYM, the event was celebrated on March 09, 2020 by all SYM staff members, men and women. The Chairperson of SYM’s Executive Committee, Fr Fidèle INGIYIMBERE, SJ joined in the festivities, but the executive director, Fr Védaste NKESHIMANA, sj was held in other duties.

In her speech on behalf of all the women of SYM, Mrs. KANYANA Consolate praised SYM for its respect for women’s rights. She then thanked the Jesuits who have always been sensitive to women’s rights and called on women to stop discriminating themselves.

P. Fidèle INGIYIMBERE SJ, Chairperson of the Executive Committee wished a good celebration to all the women of Burundi in general and to those of SYM in particular. He expressed his joy for the fact that SYM places great importance on women’s rights. He concluded his speech by urging all women in SYM to ensure that these rights are also respected in the communities and areas of intervention of SYM especially for those who need them most.

VISITS

VISIT BY NETHERLANDS EMBASSY

SYM received in March 2020, a visit from Madame Rasolo. N. Nicole, Counselor for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Burundi. She was accompanied by Dr. Jacqueline NINTUNZE, Team Leader of Joint Program «Menyumenyeshe». SYM is implementing this project in the provinces of Kirundo, Muyinga, Rural Bujumbura and Bujumbura City. It was a routine and friendly visit of SYM meant to consolidate the partnership of SYM and Care Burundi currently implementing the Joint Program funded by the Netherlands.



SUPERVISION VISIT BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



In order to assess the implementation of the Joint Program project which was in the process of completing its mandate (2016-2020), a delegation from the Executive Committee of SYM carried out a monitoring visit of the activities of this project in the provinces of Kirundo and Muyinga.

The delegation took the opportunity to meet with the administrative, educational and health authorities of the provinces of Kirundo and Muyinga who appreciated the collaboration with SYM's provincial agents for the success of this project.

WORLD AIDS DAY



At SYM, this year's World Aids Day was marked by the distribution of food received as a donation from the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender. Food consisting of rice, beans, sugar and porridge flour was given to selected poor beneficiaries. The keynote speech given by the Project and Program Coordinator at SYM was based on the theme of the day: «Global solidarity, shared responsibility». He called on everyone, from the staff to the beneficiary, to work for solidarity and responsibility in each one's sector.

On the same occasion, a delegation of SYM led by the Executive Director joined the celebration at the national level that was held in the province of Kayanza. This official ceremony was honored by the presence of Her Excellency the Burundi First Lady.



TESTIMONIES



BAYAHUNDE Sylvie
SYM direct beneficiary

I have been trained in business management, setting up solidarity groups through income-generating activities initiated by SYM which has changed my mentality and the way I live. I always wanted to do business but I was blocked by the lack of capital. I would like to thank SYM for having helped me get a micro-credit. As some in my neighborhood say they can't lend money to a vulnerable person, to fear that they die without having fulfilled their commitments. With the guidance and the help of SYM, I learned that working together in small solidarity groups can help us look after one another and strengthen social cohesion within our community.



Tutor of Solange

I'm a tutor for Solange, a single mother who is mentally ill and HIV/AIDS positive. As soon as I knew that Solange was pregnant, I immediately took her to SYM where she was regularly given ARVs. She was introduced under the PMTCT program to reduce the risk of HIV transmission to baby. At the birth of the baby, SYM continued to follow the infant by giving milk and porridge to her mother, without omitting regular medical follow-up. After the first HIV test, the serology of the baby was negative.

TESTIMONIES



SYM beneficiary

I was very sick for months, a community relay advised me to be tested of HIV and the test was positive. Therefore, I am under ARV treatment, supported by SYM. Today, I am healthy and I am doing my daily work. I thank SYM for their medical follow-up and advice on taking ARV medications on a regular basis as prescribed by physicians. Thanks to its Mobile Clinic strategy, SYM regularly comes with the whole package of services to Buhonga to follow-up our situations and the medicines reach us without having to travel long distances.



NDUWIMANA Edmond
DAMIEN ACTION project Manager at SYM

With this project, I work closely with people infected and affected by leprosy who are vulnerable, marginalized, discriminated against, isolated, stigmatized people. I myself, at the beginning of this project, was invaded by fear at the thought of contracting leprosy. The joy becomes immense when I see the fruits of our quarterly meetings. With socio-economic activities undertaken with them, they are no longer discriminated against in their living environments. These activities 'force' them to leave their homes where they usually hide because of stigma. The success of IGAs can be seen on the faces of these victims of leprosy who become radiant, smiling and happy to live. They find life again. This makes me forget the tiredness I get during long distances, with rough roads; and most importantly, that pride takes away my fear of catching leprosy.

TESTIMONIES



Jeanine NDUWAYEZU
project manager of the Nurem project

The objective of the Nurem project is to initiate IGAs with some of the most vulnerable beneficiaries of SYM. Thanks to IGAs, the living conditions of our beneficiaries have improved. When I look at the joy of the children of our beneficiaries who have found their way back to school after spending so many years at home for lack of means or the homes destroyed by the consequences of HIV and then people who have the hope of living a better tomorrow, all this warm up my heart, even if I have to travel long distances under the sun or the rain to make sure their micro-projects work. I do it with joy because it is worth continuing these initiatives.



Dr Derrick MFURANZIMA
Head of the Mobile Clinic

Taking care of patients in their communities is not easy. We, sometimes, go to places that are difficult to reach. But when I see the results of our efforts, particularly the improvement of the health conditions of our beneficiaries, I am delighted with the work done by the mobile clinic of SYM.

TESTIMONIES



NKUNZIMANA Floris
Head of Labo

In SYM laboratory services, more than 90% concern people living with HIV/AIDS. When I started working as a laboratory technician in this structure, I was very afraid of manipulating HIV samples. However, I found that in this structure, a working day is introduced by prayer, together with all the staff of SYM. These spiritual meditations gave me the strength to see, in each patient of whom I do a biological analysis, the face of a brother and a sister to love. My joy was even greater when, at the end of the year, the statistics showed that the mortality rate had decreased by 50% compared to previous years. I understood that I had put my contribution there.



Strategic Plan 2021-2025

The year 2020 marked the end of the Strategic Plan 2016-2020. Thus, before the end of this year, the procedures for the establishment of a new Strategic Plan were necessary. Based on the general guidelines issued by the executive Director, a team of SYM (all departments and sub-departments were represented) developed a plan with the help of an external consultant. The strategic plan was thereafter adopted by the Executive Committee.

This new strategic plan is divided into three strategic areas: prevention, medical and psychosocial support and the promotion of socio-economic empowerment in communities.

More specifically, these three axes are defined in six priority goals :

- Contribute to the reduction of new HIV/STI/TB infections through community-based prevention with RH integration in Burundian population;
- Provide prevention services for mother-to-child transmission of HIV to 240 women in reproductive age and their children;
- Provide adequate support to 2% of the national active list, i.e. 1,440 PLWHIV with easy access to medical care and services;
- Contribute to the reduction of the impact of HIV/TB and the determinants of vulnerability in 2% of the national active list, i.e. 1,440 PLWHIV, 2 915 OVCs and 250 households most in need through psychosocial, spiritual and economic support;
- Enhancing accessibility to other preventive and curative health services for SYM's beneficiaries and the population in its area of intervention;
- Improve the coordination, program management, monitoring and evaluation of SYM's activities.



VOTE OF THANKS

First and foremost, SYM would like to thank the Master of Life, the Eternal Father whose love and goodness inspire our activities and who has given us the grace to serve Him in SYM. We ask him to bless all those who supported us through their prayers, those who supported us technically through their experiences and all those who encouraged us materially through financial support. Here we would like to mention the Government of Burundi through the Ministry of Public Health and the fight against AIDS in its various programs; the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender; AJAN, FACSI, HUBEJE; Global Funds through the BRC, Segal Family Foundation, Gould Family Foundation; Jesuit Missions United Kingdom, SELAVIP, Jesuiten Weltweit Germany, GIZ, Care International Burundi, USAID via FHI360, Action Damien, and many others. Your support and generosity towards the people we serve is of great price to us.

Secondly, we would like to thank the Society of Jesus whose apostolic priorities for the poor, youth and environment continue to mark the activities of SYM as well as the Rwanda-Burundi region through its apostolic project. We thank the local Church of Burundi with which we share our core values and mission of being the salt and the light of the world, for justice, peace and reconciliation inspired by Jesus Christ.

Finally, we take this opportunity to renew our commitment to remain indebted to you so that any support that you give may arrive at its destination and serve those who must be served. We also count on each of you to ensure that the activities planned in the five-year Strategic Plan (2021-2025) that SYM officially inaugurated on the 29th of January 2021 may reinforce our mission both qualitatively and quantitatively. And may God bless the work of our hands!

OUR PARTNERS



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



SELAVIP
SERVICIO LATINOAMERICANO, AFRICANO
Y ASIÁTICO DE VIVIENDA POPULAR



MAGIS

jesuiten*weltweit*
www.jesuitenmission.de

action 
damien

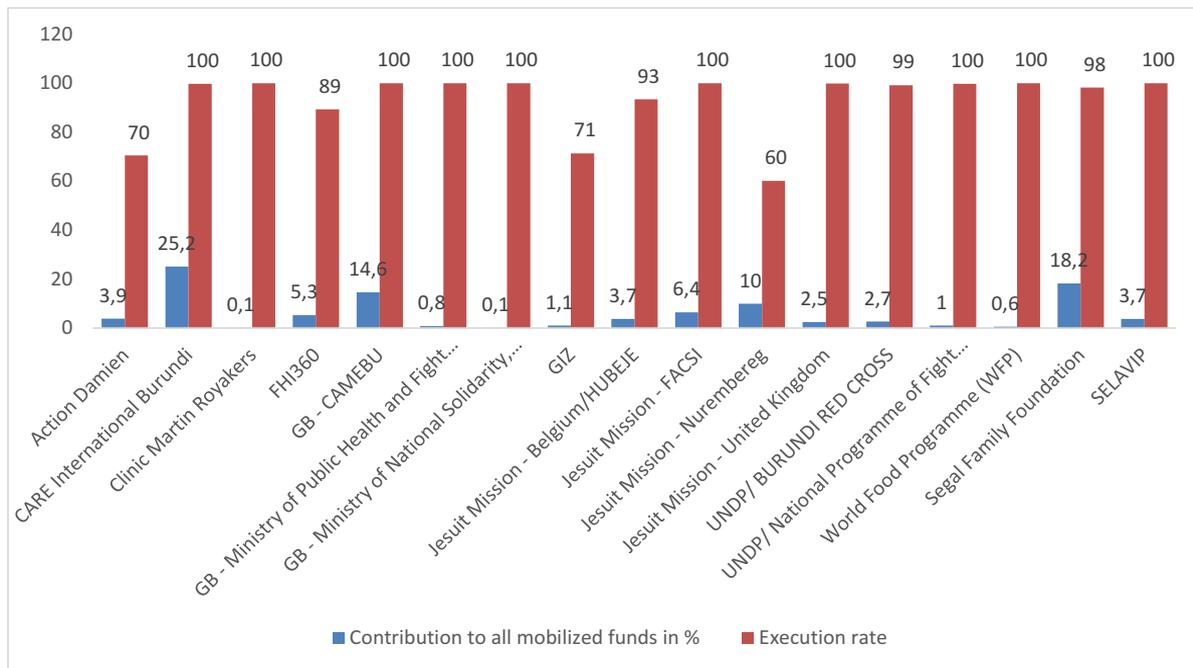
 **GOULD**
FAMILY FOUNDATION

ANNEXES

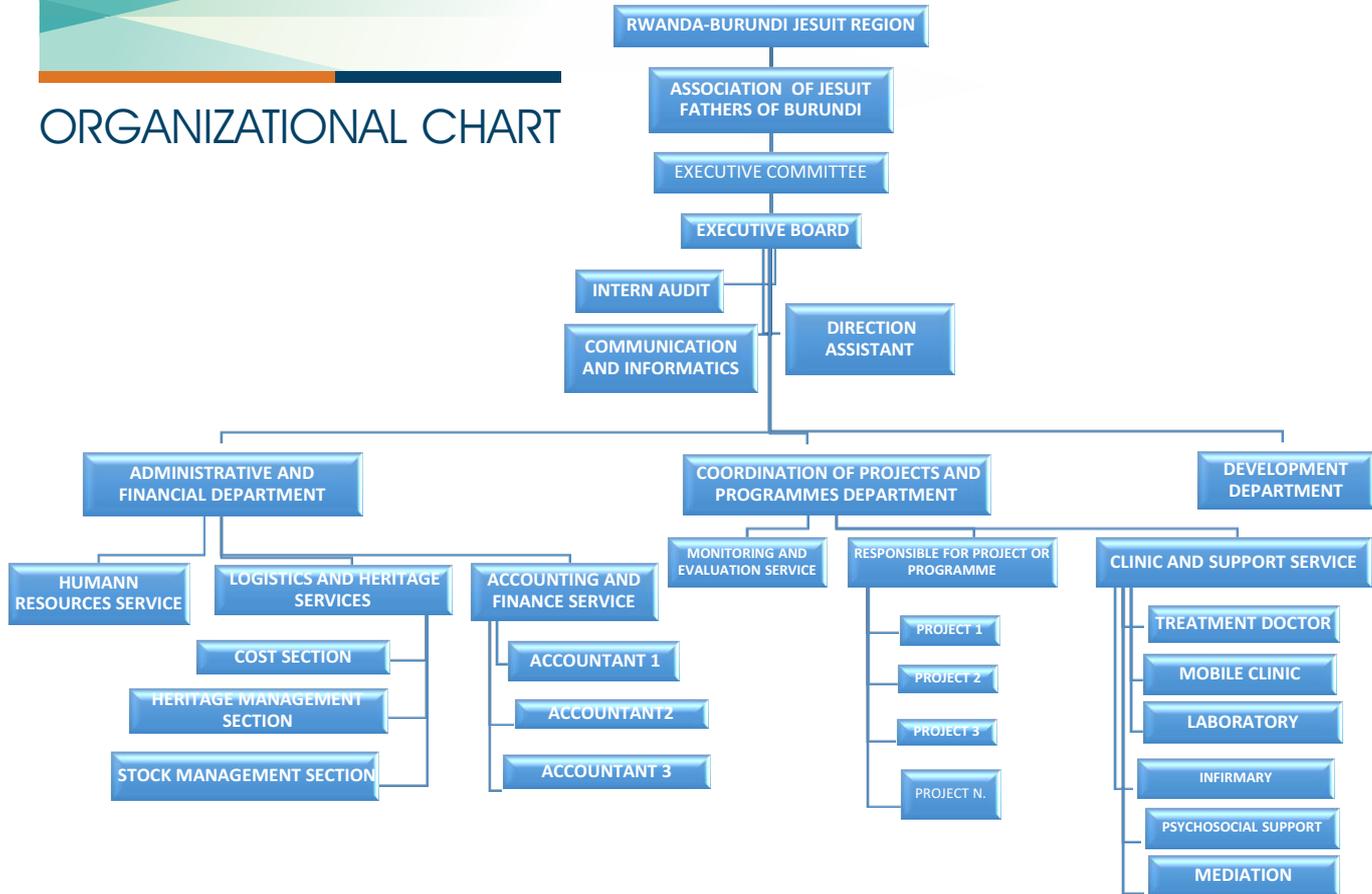
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Sources of Funding	Contribution to all mobilized funds in %	Rate of Execution
Action Damien	3,9	70
CARE International Burundi	25,2	100
Clinic Martin Royakers	0,1	100
FHI360	5,3	89
GB - CAMEBU	14,6	100
GB – Ministry of Public Health and Fight against AIDS [PBF]	0,8	100
GB – Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights and Gender	0,1	100
GIZ	1,1	71
Jesuit Mission - Belgium/HUBEJE	3,7	93
FACSI	6,4	100
Jesuit Mission - Nurembereg	10	60
Jesuit Mission - United Kingdom	2,5	100
UNDP/ Burundi Red Cross	2,7	99

UNDP/National Program of Fight against AIDS	1	100
World Food Programme (WFP)	0,6	100
Segal Family Foundation	18,2	98
SELAVIP	3,7	100
TOTAL	99,9	93%



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



PROUD TO SERVE

Rohero I, Avenue Bubanza n°15

PO Box : 509 Bujumbura-Burundi

Tel: (+257) 22 25 33 16, 22 25 90 34

E-mail: yezumwizasj@yahoo.com

infos@yezumwiza.org

Website: www.yezumwiza.org