

EPGA ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTION

Project Title:	Overall Project: <i>Enhancing Participatory Governance and Accountability of Local Leaders and Public Institutions towards Citizens, Particularly Women and Youth(EPGA)</i>
Project Reference No:	RWA1705-03
Total Duration of Project (months):	36months
Start Date:	April 13 th , 2017
Finish Date:	April 12 th , 2020

Rwanda remains among the world’s least developed countries, with a ranking of 151 out of 187 countries on the 2014 United Nations Development Program (UNDP) development index. The method of decision-making, especially with regard to the formulation of public policy, remains dominated by a top-down approach. Civil society and citizens, especially women and youth, are not effectively engaging in the decision-making process, particularly with respect to the agricultural sector.

In April 2017, Trócaire secured a USAID cooperative Award to implement the project entitled, “*Enhancing Participatory Governance and Accountability (EPGA)*” for a 3 year period. The project is oriented towards strengthening participatory and accountable governance through the participation of civil society and citizens, particularly women and youths, in the formulation, implementation and monitoring/evaluation of development policies and programs in the agricultural sector in districts of Rwanda.



The aim of EPGA activity is to strengthen the active participation of civil society organizations, local leaders and citizens in the development, implementation and monitoring of development policies and programs, especially those related to the agricultural sector. In addition, the project aims at enhancing the capacity of local authorities from the target districts to engage with citizens and civil society through the spaces developed by the Government through the decentralization process in order to enhance the culture of transparent and inclusive decision and policy making and accountable governance. In this regard, the project focus areas are raising awareness and enhancing the knowledge of citizens, especially women and youth on agricultural policies, programs and their related budgets; Increasing the capacity of civil society organizations in policy and budget analysis in general, and those related to agriculture in particular and supporting Local authorities in the 6 Sectors namely Kitabi, Uwinkingi, Gatara, Ruramba, Mata and Kivu for 2 districts of Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru. With funding from USAID and Trócaire, the EPGA in the above areas is implemented by UNICOOPAGI.



THE MAIN ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE TO BE IMPLEMENTED DURING THIS PROJECT PERIOD ARE THE FOLLOWINGS:

- a) Refresher training for 155 community committees members from 31 target villages in 2 districts (Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru) on policy, budget monitoring and advocacy;

Disaggregation of Community Committees Members

District	Sector	Cell	Number		
				M	F
Nyamagabe	Kitabi	Kagano	5	2	3
		Mujuga	5	4	1
		Mukungu	5	2	3
		Shaba	5	3	2
		Uwingugu	5	3	2
	Gatare	Bakopfu	5	2	3
		Gatare	5	2	3
		Mukongoro	5	2	3
		Ruganda	5	2	3
		Shyeru	5	3	2
	Uwinkingi	Bigumira	5	3	2
		Gahira	5	2	3
		Kibyagira	5	3	2
		Mudasomwa	5	2	3
		Munyege	5	3	2
		Rugogwe	5	2	3
	Sub total			80	40
Nyaruguru	Ruramba	Giseke	5	2	3
		Nyarugano	5	3	2
		Gabiro	5	3	2
		Rugogwe	5	3	2
		Ruramba	5	2	3
	Mata	Gorwe	5	3	2
		Murambi	5	3	2
		Nyamabuye	5	3	2
		Ramba	5	2	3
		Rwamiko	5	2	3
	Kivu	Cyanyirankora	5	3	2
Gahurizo		5	2	3	



	Kimina	5	4	1
	Kivu	5	3	2
	Rugerero	5	2	3
Sub total		75	40	35
General Total		155	80	75

b) Facilitate in the distribution of copies of booklets on citizen's role and responsibilities in policy and budget monitoring to agriculture;

c) Quarterly feedback meetings conducted with community committee members at village level in 31 villages in 2 target districts to share their knowledge with the rest of the community

The community committee members used existing fora such as *village meetings*, *Umuganda* and *Umugoroba w'Ababyeyi* (Parents' evening) to disseminate information and feedback on how issues related to agriculture that were identified are being addressed by relevant authorities at sector and district level.

d) Quarterly restitution meetings conducted with community committee members at village level in 31 villages in 2 districts (Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru)

e) Training of local authorities and community leaders in participatory planning and budgeting;

Table of participants disaggregated as per local leaders at Sector and District levels

District	Number of participants		
	Men	Women	Total
Nyamagabe	19	22	41
Nyaruguru	20	20	40
Total	39	42	81

Table of participants disaggregated as per local leaders at cell and village levels



District	Sector	Cell	Number			Youth		
				M	F	M	F	
Nyamagabe	Kitabi	Kagano	10	3	5	2		
		Mujuga	11	5	4	1	1	
		Mukungu	11	3	6	2		
		Shaba	11	3	6	2		
		Uwingugu	11	3	6	1	1	
	Gatare	Bakopfu	10	3	5	1	1	
		Gatare	10	3	5	1	1	
		Mukongoro	10	4	4	1	1	
		Ruganda	10	3	5	1	1	
		Shyeru	10	3	5	2		
	Uwinkingi	Bigumira	11	4	5	2		
		Gahira	10	2	6	2		
		Kibyagira	11	3	6	2		
		Mudasomwa	10	5	3	2		
		Munyege	11	3	6	1	1	
		Rugogwe	10	4	4	2		
	Sub Total			167	54	81	25	7



Nyaruguru	Ruramba	Giseke	11	4	5	2		
		Nyarugano	11	4	5	1	1	
		Gabiro	11	3	6	2		
		Rugogwe	11	4	5	2		
		Ruramba	11	4	5	1	1	
	Mata	Gorwe	11	4	5	2		
		Murambi	11	3	6	2		
		Nyamabuye	10	3	5	2		
		Ramba	10	4	4	2		
		Rwamiko	10	3	5	2		
	Kivu	Cyanyirankora	11	4	5	2		
		Gahurizo	11	4	5	2		
		Kimina	10	4	4	2		
		Kivu	11	3	6	1	1	
		Rugerero	11	3	6	1	1	
	Sub total			161	54	77	26	4
	General Total			328	108	158	51	11

- f) Facilitate in the production of radio broadcasts on citizen participation in policy monitoring especially in the field of agriculture and budget monitoring,



- g) Two Exchange of experience and learning meetings among stakeholders intervening in agriculture and budget monitoring through JADF economic commissions;

Table of participants in JADF Economic commission meetings in districts

<i>District</i>	<i>Total Number</i>	<i>Gender</i>	
		<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
NYAMAGABE	25	11	14
NYARUGURU	25	19	6

- h) One Annual policy dialogue and advocacy activities meeting for each year at district level between communities, civil society organizations and public authorities;

Disaggregation information of annual policy dialogue meetings in district:

<i>DISTRICT</i>	<i>MALE</i>	<i>FEMALE</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Nyamagabe	44	36	80
Nyaruguru	52	28	80
Total	96	64	160

- i) Two Accountability meetings for each year with local authorities at district level regarding the expressed needs of citizens and discuss agricultural issues raised by citizens

Table of participants during Accountability meeting:

<i>DISTRICT</i>	<i>MALE</i>	<i>FEMALE</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
NYAMAGABE	44	28	72
NYARUGURU	51	21	72
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>144</i>



- j) Exchange meetings between citizens and local leaders around citizen participation in planning especially in agricultural planning in 31 target villages of 2 districts namely Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru in the primary impact area,

Some of the issues affecting the implementation of agricultural policy submitted by citizens:

- Lack appropriate and selected seeds;
- Lack of fertilizers;
- Limited Market for their harvests;
- Absence of storage facilities;
- Soil erosion;
- Lack of food processing plants;
- Lack of pesticides and related materials

In different meetings with Citizens in our catchment areas, district representatives made a presentation to show the overall picture of the agricultural and livestock sector. The planned activities/Imihigo as well as the progress of the achievements. In making the presentation, the presenters outlined what were done about issues that the farmers in the area where UNICOOPAGI operate discussed in the district-level dialogue. The common issues in the five districts that needs attention are the delay of seeds and fertilizers

The tables bellow show the participation and Disaggregation of Citizens in these meetings

District	Sector	Cell	Villages	Men	Women	Youth		Number of target beneficiaries
						M	F	
Nyamagabe	Kitabi	Kagano	Uwintyabire	11	35	6	6	58
		Mujuga	Uwinka	11	35	5	7	58
		Mukungu	Gahira	11	35	6	7	59
		Shaba	Uwinka	11	35	6	6	58
		Uwingugu	Ruhanga	11	35	6	6	58



	Gatare	Bakopfu	Muhingo	11	35	6	6	58
		Gatare	Kiyovu	11	35	6	6	58
		Mukongoro	Kagano	11	35	6	6	58
		Ruganda	Rwangambibi	11	35	6	6	58
		Shyeru	Baziro	11	35	6	6	58
	Uwinkingi	Bigumira	Gakoko	12	35	6	6	59
		Gahira	Bunyunyu	11	35	6	6	58
		Kibyangira	Kabuga	12	35	6	6	59
		Mudasomwa	Sinduka	12	35	6	6	59
		Munyege	Nyaruramba	11	35	6	6	58
		Rugogwe	Mwishogwe	12	35	6	6	59
Sub total				180	560	95	98	933
Nyaruguru	Ruramba	Giseke	Matyazo	12	35	6	6	59
		Nyarugano	Nyarugano	12	35	6	6	59
		Gabiro	Nyamirambo	12	35	6	6	59
		Rugogwe	Titi	12	35	6	6	59
		Ruramba	Bugizi	12	35	6	6	59
	Mata	Gorwe	Rimbanya	12	35	6	6	59
		Murambi	Mata	11	35	6	6	58
		Nyamabuye	Tububuru	10	35	6	6	57
		Ramba	Ramba	12	36	6	6	60
		Rwamiko	Rwamiko	12	35	6	6	59
	Kivu	Cyanyirankora	Gakuta	11	35	5	6	57
		Gahurizo	Uwamiziriko	11	35	5	6	57
		Kimina	Uwisaga	11	35	5	6	57
		Kivu	Rusuzumiro	12	35	6	6	59
Rugerero		Nyarwotsi	11	35	5	6	57	
Sub total				173	526	86	90	875
General Total				353	1086	181	188	1808

- k) Distribute the posters to inform citizens on their role to plan in the budget making process focusing on issues of agriculture

THE MAIN OUTCOME IS:

With the help of UNICOOPAGI/EPGA Staff namely **BIENVENU Leon** (EPGA Project Coordinator) and **HATEGEKIMANA Emmanuel** (EPGA Field Officer), community and citizens have to be reminded about:



1. Their rights to be consulted on their roles and responsibilities in the planning process of the district and national budget focusing on agricultural issues such as the seed and fertilizers.
2. Their rights to demand accountability on the budget allocation and require prioritization of citizen needs and concerns,
3. Reminding local leaders on their role to involve farmers in the process of identifying priorities in the agriculture sector in their districts.

The recommendations made during the exchange meeting (District):

- Agronomists should work closely with farmers and educate them the use of manure
- Districts should avail seeds and in good quality and on time
- Set prices for artificial insemination and make them known to all cattle keepers

