



# AIMPO ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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In 2020, the African Initiative for Mankind Progress Organization (AIMPO) was delighted with its accomplishments of working with Rwandan poor and marginalized communities. Despite the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic that has interfered with our interventions, we are happy that AIMPO team, together with our partners we got along with our mission of promoting the individual and collective rights of Historically Marginalized People, facilitating their sustainable development, and their social, political and economic integration into Rwandan society.

Our team delivered innovative, community-centered development programs that empowered beneficiaries to be agents of change within their communities. Using our experience in the local context, we engaged in evidence-based research and advocacy with national policy-makers to increase Historically Marginalized People's access to land in order, education, healthcare, adequate housing, decent employment and standard of living.

AIMPO strived to find solution to Malnutrition, Hygiene and Sanitation in Vulnerable Communities of Musanze District, in Northern Province of Rwanda.

As part of contributing to creation of off-farming decent jobs, AIMPO has started a Modern Pottery Centre in Bugesera District in order to reduce unemployment among youth and Women from Historically Marginalized People (HMPs). We also donated Tailoring Machines to Persons with Disabilities in Masaka Sector, Kicukiro District so as to improve their hope and resilience, particularly women.

We could not forget that improved awareness of its beneficiaries is crucial to develop sustainable socio-economic resilience. In this light, AIMPO conducted various trainings and community awareness meetings to educate HMPs on their rights as enshrined in the Constitution of Rwanda, National laws/policies, in the regional and international human rights instruments. The specific issues of discrimination and rights abuse against HMPs were discussed and the holistic strategies of advocacy were proposed.

Capacity building meetings on International Human Rights Instruments and Advocacy were conducted for Civil Society and Local Authorities to enhance their contribution to Human Rights, Governance and Development Processes.

We are grateful to the Minority Rights Group International (MRG), the European Union (EU), Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), Lemon Aid ChariTea Foundation, Disability Rights Fund (DRF), PIASSO, Irish Aid, International Indigenous Women's Forum (AYNI), to mention a few. Last but not least, we are very appreciative of our community volunteers, focal points, beneficiaries, government and CSO officials, and all people who actively supported in achieving our goals.

Our wish is to see the African Initiative for Mankind Progress Organization (AIMPO) continuing to be an Organization that advances the cause and integration of Marginalized People in Rwandan society, where all citizens are equal in all aspects of life.

**Richard NTAKIRUTIMANA**

**Executive Director**

**African Initiative for Mankind Progress Organization**

# About AIMPO

## Vision

To advance the cause and integration of Marginalised People in a society where all citizens should be equal in political decision-making and live without

The African Initiative for Mankind Progress Organization, formerly known as African Indigenous African Indigenous Minorities Peoples' Organization, was created in 2001 by the people from Historically Marginalised People formerly as Batwa.

## Mission

To promote the individual and collective rights of Historically Marginalized People; to facilitate sustainable development in Historically Marginalized People communities, and to accelerate the social, political and economic integration of historically- Marginalized People into Rwandan society.

## Goal

To deliver high impact, cost effective, & culturally competent capacity building programs to Historically Marginalized People in our target region.

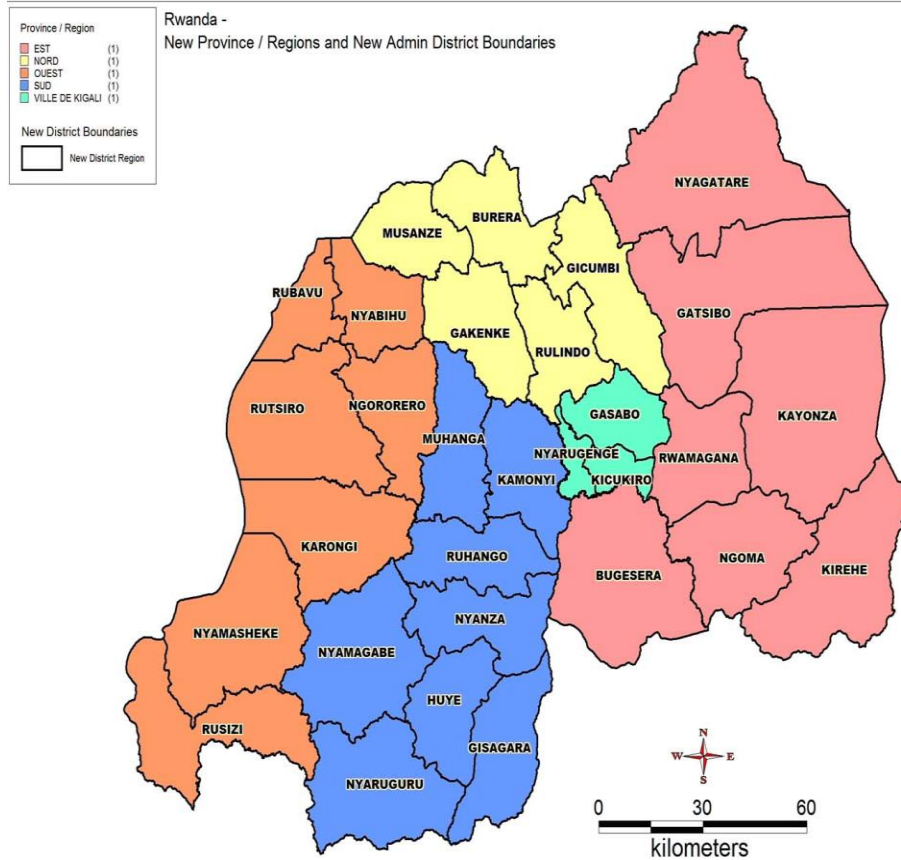
### **Specifics Objectives**

- To raise awareness, understanding and knowledge on fundamental human rights to the Historically Marginalized People in Rwanda.
- To provide basic skills on income generating activities, vocational education and trainings for the adolescents and youth in order to make them self-financing and empowered.
- To eliminate discrimination against Historically Marginalized People, ensuring achievement of social integration.

### **Approach**



# Intervention areas



BUGESERA  
GASABO  
GICUMBI  
KAMONYI  
KICUKIRO  
MUSANZE  
NYABIHU  
NYAGATARE

# 2020 in Review

## 2020 Highlight

In 2020, AIMPO adopted a multidimensional approach to supporting Batwa communities across Rwanda, centering on sustainable development, survey, Food security and agriculture, advocacy, disability section and support for the families in the critical period of COVID-19 Pandemic

## Research and Advocacy

AIMPO engaged in evidence-based research and advocacy with national policy-makers to increase Historically Marginalized People's access to land in order, education, healthcare, adequate housing, decent employment and standard of living.

## Food Security & WASH

AIMPO strived to find solution to Malnutrition, Hygiene and Sanitation in Vulnerable Communities of Musanze. As part of contributing to creation of off-farming decent jobs

## COVID-19 support

AIMPO donated food and hygienic support to beneficiaries in its intervention districts

## Development

As part of contributing to development of HMPs/Batwa, AIMPO supports in creation of off-farming decent jobs in order to reduce unemployment in that community

## Disability

It was important for HMPs with disability to know the rights of people with disability;  
Supported people with disability with development projects to improve their hope for life

# Development



## **PIASO PROJECT**

### **Project outcomes**

- ✓ 28 self-help groups of Persons with disabilities in Kamonyi, Kicukiro and Gasabo Districts were created.
- ✓ 12 Cooperatives got support
- ✓ Regular visits for the cooperatives where at least once a month, capacity building officer has to visit the selected cooperatives in Masaka Sector. The aim is strengthening the functional and managerial capacity of the cooperatives.
- ✓ training of the cooperative members on Management and principles of cooperatives, rights and inclusion of PWDs

### **Executive summary**

The project titled “Promoting Inclusive Access to Services and Economic Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities in Rwanda (PIASO)” is the project that led by Humanity & Inclusion and implemented by African Initiative for Mankind Progress Organization (AIMPO) and National Union of Disabilities Organizations of Rwanda (NUDOR) with financial support of Embassy of United States of America in Rwanda.

### **Specific Objectives**

1. Increased capacity of major local actors to refer PWDs to adequate and quality service in 2 districts
2. Expand community mobilization for the inclusion and autonomy of PWDs as well as their families within communities
3. Increase the capacity of PWDs to engage in livelihood activities through support to PWDs cooperatives towards sustainability

### **Goal**

To enable the development of People with disability by involving local community leaders and volunteers to serve as gatekeepers and reinforce the sustainability of our efforts.



## Lemon Aid Charitea Foundation



### Goal

Build capacity of Twa to start up small enterprises and expand their Modern pottery product to international market

To create employability and reduce poverty level in Twa community members

### Aim of the project

To support Batwa Community to Modernize and upgrade traditional pottery

### Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the project are to create employability, to reduce poverty and discrimination level in Twa community members and to Build capacity of youth Batwa to start up small enterprises and expand their Modern pottery products to international market.



### Project outcomes

- ❖ Pottery Centre set up;
- ❖ Website for marketing clay product established;
- ❖ Increase of Income among Twa community members;
- ❖ Improved livelihood of Twa communities achieved;
- ❖ Twa culture preserved and promoted;

# Food security and Agriculture

## Aim of the project

Improving nutrition, Hygiene and sanitation in vulnerable communities of Musanze District.

SWISS FOR DEVELOPMENT  
AND COOPERATION

## Project outcomes

- ✓ 20 Community mobilizers trained in WASH
- ✓ 60 Households given basic sanitation materials
- ✓ 5 latrines builds
- ✓ 120 children cured of acute malnutrition thanks to 40 community cooking sessions
- ✓ 60 Families owned kitchen gardens



## Goal

1. To improve hygiene of beneficiaries,
2. Improved nutrition in infants, lactating and pregnant women
3. To enable families, to adopt optimal nutrition and hygiene behaviours at community and levels

Disability unit

Disability Right Fund (DRF)

### Aim of the project

Increasing Disability People's Organizations capacity to participate in advocacy and decision-making processes regarding implementation of rights at local levels.

### Goal

Enhancing and promoting the Rights of Children with Disabilities from the Historically Marginalized Persons of Rwanda to quality Inclusive Education.

### Project outcomes

1. People with disability and DPOs were trained, acquired advocacy skills and decision making process,
2. People With Disabilities trained on Sexual Reproductive health and rights



# Advocacy

## Aim of the Project

To Contribute to the elimination of discrimination against Historically Marginalized people in Rwanda by empowering civil society organizations, Human right defenders and the Media so that they are able to effectively defend and promote their human rights.

European Union (EU)



## Project outcomes

1. CSOs and HRDs got refresher training on International Human Rights
2. 6 Community awareness meetings on their rights as enshrined in the Constitution of Rwanda, National laws/policies, in the regional and international human rights instruments conducted in Musanze, Gicumbi and Nyabihu

## COVID-19 Response

EU provided emergency support of food and hygiene materials to the AIMPO beneficiaries in Gicumbi, Nyabihu and Musanze Districts.

### **Aim of the project**

To reduce the gap and lack of political participation of Batwa Indigenous women in decision making positions

## **International Indigenous Women's Forum**



### **COVID-19 Response**

AYNI provided emergency support of food to the AIMPO beneficiaries in Musanze District

### **Project outcomes**

- 1) Batwa women's forum established
- 2) 30 Bawa Indigenous women trained and skilled in democratic mechanisms, grievance redress mechanisms, political and civil rights, and women's rights issues
- 3) Increased knowledge of political and civic rights among Batwa indigenous women

## Minority Rights Group International (MRGI)



### MRGI partnership

MRGI is the main partner of AIMPO in implementation of different projects such as advocacy and disability interventions

### COVID-19 Response

MRGI provided emergency support of food to the AIMPO beneficiaries in Nyabihu, Gicumbi, Musanze and Bugesera Districts

## Our partners



**LEMONAID<sup>+</sup>**  
**ChariTea<sup>•</sup>**  
Foundation



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC**



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Legal personality: No 53/RGB/NGO/2016, Official gazette: Year 56 no 16 bis, 17