



Healthy People Rwanda

Action2015 Rwanda Report

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I. **Introduction**

As the date for achieving 2015 targets Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) has reached, engaged debate continues in order to prepare the content of the post-2015 development agenda and the global accountability framework. In January 2012 the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General established the UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda, co-chaired by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UNDP, to coordinate system-wide preparations for a new development framework in consultation with all stakeholders. In addition, the UN Development Group is leading efforts to catalyze a “global conversation” on the post-2015 agenda through national consultations in around 100 low- and middle-income countries, six regional consultations, and 11 global thematic consultations. The aim of these consultations is to bring together a broad range of stakeholders to review progress on the MDGs and to discuss the options for a post-2015 framework.

The 11 thematic consultations deal with topics identified by the UN System Task Team as being particularly important to the discussions: inequalities, governance, health, environmental sustainability, population dynamics, water, growth and development, conflict and fragility, food security and nutrition, education, and energy.

Rwandans have benefited from rapid economic growth, reduced poverty, more equality and increased access to services including health and education. This has been possible only through the hard work and dedication of millions of Rwandans supported by friends of Rwanda. Our progress strengthens the belief that our development ambitions towards the Vision 2020 can be achieved with our concerted efforts. Rwanda worked through the Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS I) from 2008 to 2012 and through 2013-2018; the EDPRS II was developed in order to build on the achievements of the EDPS I.

The long-term future of Rwanda will be built on the next generation whose development will impact on the pace of development in the next 25 to 50 years. Some of the most important Rwanda priorities are the Early Childhood Development and basic education with the vision that all infants and young children will fully achieve their developmental potential: mentally, physically, socially and emotionally. Conversely, higher calibers of new teacher recruits together with teachers who are better trained, better equipped and resourced, better supported and managed, are strategies, which will address the challenge of quality improvements.

Rwanda is on track to achieve the health related MDGs. Access to health has been a major achievement with over 90% of the population now covered by medical health insurance. The current EDPRS 2 will focus on improving the quality of health care services, including the management of hospitals, while continuing to expand geographical and financial accessibility through construction of health centers, support to the most vulnerable or extremely poor through social protection mechanisms, and increased availability of drugs, vaccines and consumables.

Rwanda’s economy is heavily dependent on its environment and natural resources, and the livelihoods of rural (and growing urban) communities depend on access, use and management of such resources. There is need for improvement, particularly in terms of the capacity to implement and enforce environmental policy, and to factor in complex, crosscutting environment and climate change issues into strategic planning. Priority needs to be made at (i) mainstreaming environmental sustainability into productive and social sectors; (ii) reducing vulnerability to climate change and (iii) preventing and controlling pollution

The Action2015 campaign aims at, informing the public about what is happening in 2015 and also at the same time encourage, stimulate and ensure concrete actions and ambitious agreements taken in 2015 exactly reflect local struggles around the world and leave no-one behind. Worldwide, 44 organizations are leading this action and in

Rwanda, Healthy People Rwanda led Action 2015 and is involving different youth organizations & associations as working groups to sensitize and represents the action 2015 in the whole country. In this campaign, representatives of all youth associations/organizations met decision makers at different occasions. They discussed the country's development agenda and provided their inputs for the post 2015 development agenda.

This is a global movement because it is made up of thousands of organizations, coalitions and partnerships that reflect the diversity of Activities. For three months now, the HPR has invited Rwandans especially young people to join hands for this movement. So far, we have brought together 32 youth organizations from all corners of Rwanda, through the campaign launching event and the women's day event to share understanding and offer them opportunity to discuss with decision makers about nowadays pertinent issues in Rwanda as well as the country's development agenda.

II. Inside Story

With financial support from CIVICUS this campaign "Action/2015Rwanda" was initiated in Rwanda from January-March 2015.

III. ACTIVITIES

- 1st January 2015: Launching of the campaign on mass media and social medias
- 15 January 2015: National event with 15 different youth organizations and decision makers.
- March 8th 2015: Women's day celebration event.
- 20 March 2015: Closing event and publication of campaign conclusions.



Launching event of the Action2015Rwanda



World women's day event/Action2015Rwanda

IV. Evaluation matrix

Objective	Target (s)	Progress made since beginning of the project implementation	Plans to reached at the end of the campaign
Objective 1: Create local Rwandan youth organizations coalition for action/2015	Initiating the Action2015 Rwanda coalition starting with 30 youth organizations	44 youth met on 15 th and the coalition was built and through districts activities many people were sensitized about action 2015 then on 8/3/2015 (IWD) we brought together 30 different University of Rwanda associations and we created youth platform for 2015 inputs	Youth provided their concerns about post 2015 country developmental agenda and it helped to create National youth networks for exchange and interaction with decision makers
Objective 2: Ensure national, public awareness of action 2015	Inform Rwandan youth especially about action 2015 and involve them in action 2015 campaign	After official launch, the campaign messages were broadcasted in social and mass medias; events in all districts with different organizations were organized. We visited the youth organizations participated in the launching event for evaluation of the implementation of the recommendation we agreed.	Sensitized youth networks now are discussing about their individual contributions for world' and country in general post 2015 developmental agenda. Everyone now knows what is happening in 2015 in the country and worldwide.
Objective 3: Offer good opportunity to youth to meet decision makers.	Representatives from ministries and youth council will sit with youth to discuss opinions about post 2015 agenda	Decision makers involved various events heard recommendations from youth for action 2015 and decided to put youth organization in decision making of the policies. We created discussion platform between different ministries/ higher institutions and involved youth organizations.	Ideas and recommendations shared now will influence decision makers at the country level and world leaders and will be shared and considered as youth contribution for post 2015 developmental agenda
Objective 4: Put together 15 youth organizations	To share experience and to develop a collaborative approach among youth organizations so as to facilitate their contribution to the 2015 UN summits through their leaders.	Youth have created a strong platform to share more about action 2015 campaign, discussions were conducted through four segments, Poverty reduction, good governance and human rights, health and climate change. Youth organizations were assigned to different segments according to their organizations field(s) of work	Networks will remain and youth will continuously interact. Respective segments reports will be shared for further inputs before submitting them to different stakeholders and gatekeepers.

V. **Key Accomplishments**

- The official launch that was the main activity kicked off on 15th Jan 2015, we had a total of about 50 participants from different local organizations who met representatives from Ministries (youth, Health, Gender promotion) and from Rwanda Governance Board, National youth council. It was a one-day event and the whole event was marked by discussions in four cluster groups.
- International Women Day, we met 30 different UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA ASSOCIATIONS, Rwanda Governance Board, National youth council and generated youth platform for 2015 inputs.
- We have visited some of the organizations so as to continue the coalition and work together to see that recommendations agreed are well put in actions.
- The action 2015 messages and talks were broadcasted on 4 different local radios and posted on 3 most visited websites in Rwanda and 1 among the frequently visited and on facebook pages as well as whatsApp. This made a huge impact on thousands of people reached with the help of mass Medias.

VI. **Building up the coalition**

Organisations that we worked with:

- ACTION FOR CHANGE INITIATIVE, with a task of identifying key local youth organizations and important guests.
- NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL: mobilization of participants and dissemination of information.
- Every participated organization was left with the task to disseminate the discussions report to their home area.
- UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA STUDENTS UNION with its affiliated associations (30) were put together
- We believe that with different contacts exchanged, young people will keep sharing their ideas and challenges at the same time this will allow us to assess the impact of our voices and decision makers will consider our recommendations for post 2015 developmental agenda.

VII. **Government institutions that participated**

- Rwanda Governance Board
- National youth council
- Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion
- Rwanda Environmental Management Agency

Different events across the country brought in common the following recommendations:

VIII. Segment of Human Rights and Good governance

Reduce malnutrition rate for Children, Elimination of hospital child mortality, Strengthening quality and equal education, Reduce the number of children who drop out of schools, Reduce unwanted pregnancies, Improve Security in the Region, Raising awareness on Gender and Family promotion

IX. Segment of Poverty reduction

- Reduce the interest rate on loans given by microfinances and Banks especially for new and small businesses.
- Mobilization of Youth on access to Finance, Promotion of land irrigation especially in mountains
- Sensitization and trainings on Job creation, Empower cooperatives, Help cooperatives to get loans easily, Reduce taxes on new businesses, Present officially available opportunities
- Establish insurance companies for back up to those with no warranty.

X. Segment of Environment and climate change

- Accelerate the Gas methane project, Investment in Solar and wind energy, Investment in water filtration system, Reinforcement of Law and sensitization on tree planting and replacement
- Fight deforestation, Investment in water harvesting
- More investment from private sector into energy and water protection
- Improve and increase safety of mining techniques in order to avoid eventual intoxication of natural resources and accidents

XI. Segment of Health

- Promotion of family planning and Men participation, Integrate sexual and reproductive health in education curriculum, Introduce Youth clinics, Avail condoms to Youth, Reintroduce "Savoir vivre" program in education: youth need to learn safe behavior as part of their educational package, Promote education on sanitation and Hygiene
- Increase awareness of NCDs, promote sports for all, and introduce NCDs clinics in Hospitals and training of healthcare providers on NCDs, Promote education on Healthy diet
- Increase numbers, infrastructure and capacity of health centers, Promote the Health insurance for all and its medication selling capacity
- Strengthen the community health workers, Mobilize the community to use health facilities
- Reduce child and maternal mortality, Strengthen the 1000 days program of child health

XII. Impact on Participants and Target

If we quote some of our participants a their testimonials

- " We are here to also share our views to the fellow youth on capacity building and poverty reduction strategies, as our own example we believe that as a young generation we can achieve bigger things together " MISS PAULINE MASENGESHO "KIATO AFADHALI ENTERPRISE".

- " Working with the young generation is such an important tool in the development of a nation and worldwide, hence why we are very impressed with this forum that has enabled us get their views on important global issues" MRS ROSETTE NKUNDIMFURA "GIRLS LEADERS FORUM RWANDA /MIGEPFROF (Ministry of Gender)"

XIII. Attachments

- Links to website, social media accounts that have been created to promote your action/2015 initiatives online
- http://www.igihe.com/amakuru/u-rwanda/article/urubyiruko-rw-u-rwanda-ruri?page=article_mobile
- http://www.umuganga.rw/amakuru_y_ubuzima_9380.html
- <https://www.facebook.com/hprwanda> We used our page for easy visibility and ability to reach more people.
- National radios: RADIO SALUS, CONTACT FM, VOICE OF AMERICA AND RADIO10

XIV. Lessons Learned/Key Challenges

Lessons learnt:

Early planning helped in a success of the event, i.e with several preparatory meetings.

Challenges:

Timeframe was relatively short for participants to get ready.

XV. Next Steps

- We plan to strengthen a good partnership with other organizations, hence with this partnership we look forward to a lot of dialogues on our set objectives
- We plan to strengthen the platform to continuing sharing ideas on social media, e;g Facebook group with all participated organizations.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

We have collaborated with local youth organizations in this campaign and government authorities. Our invitations to do regularly continue involving local organizations have influenced us to set up WhatsApp group and email group so that ideas continue to be shared.

XVI. CONCLUSION

- Youth community and government authorities appreciated the Action 2015 campaign. Thanks to our supporters we made a great change.
- In general Action 2015 campaign is a good moment for big number of people to realize that MDGs are ending also to think about achievements in MDGS and appreciate them especially in Rwanda (one of the countries which made a considerable progress in achieving MDGs). Further more Action 2015, this was the right time to let decision makers and world leaders in general hear about what every need to be done in Post 2015 agenda.
- In Action 2015/Rwanda, Youth met decision makers from different ministries and higher institutions to discuss the country's development agenda as well

giving them time to provide their inputs in post 2015 development agenda as described in the above recommendations.

- We hope that our voices are heard and will influence leaders in post 2015 development agenda as well as be considered during both UN summits.

XVII. Declaration

We, youth organizations who made coalition for Action 2015/Rwanda campaign headed by Healthy People Rwanda and in line with our obligations as mandated by the global Acton2015 campaign organizers, confirm that:

- The attached Final report represents an accurate description of the work carried out in the Action 2015/Rwanda campaign from January to March 2015.
- The project has fully achieved its goal and objectives within the campaign timeline.
- The public Website is up to date: <http://www.hprwanda.org> and <https://www.facebook.com/hprwanda>
- The information provided in this report was solely collected from different youth organizations throughout Rwanda that participated in this campaign.
- The use of the content in action/2015/Rwanda campaign materials in all forms of media throughout the world free of charge.
- The content contains nothing illegal, defamatory or indecent.
- Editing, adaptation or translations of the content are allowed.
- The materials can be shared with other action/2015 coalition partners for any purpose in connection with action/2015 activities.
- To our best knowledge, the information contained in the financial statement(s) submitted as part of this report is in line with the actual work carried out and consistent with the reported resources and with the certificates on financial statements.
- Recommendations detailed in the part are from young people and should be considered for the development of the Sustainable Developmental goals.

Dr Jean Christophe RUSATIRA, Healthy People Rwanda President

Date: 20th Mach 2015



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