



Country card

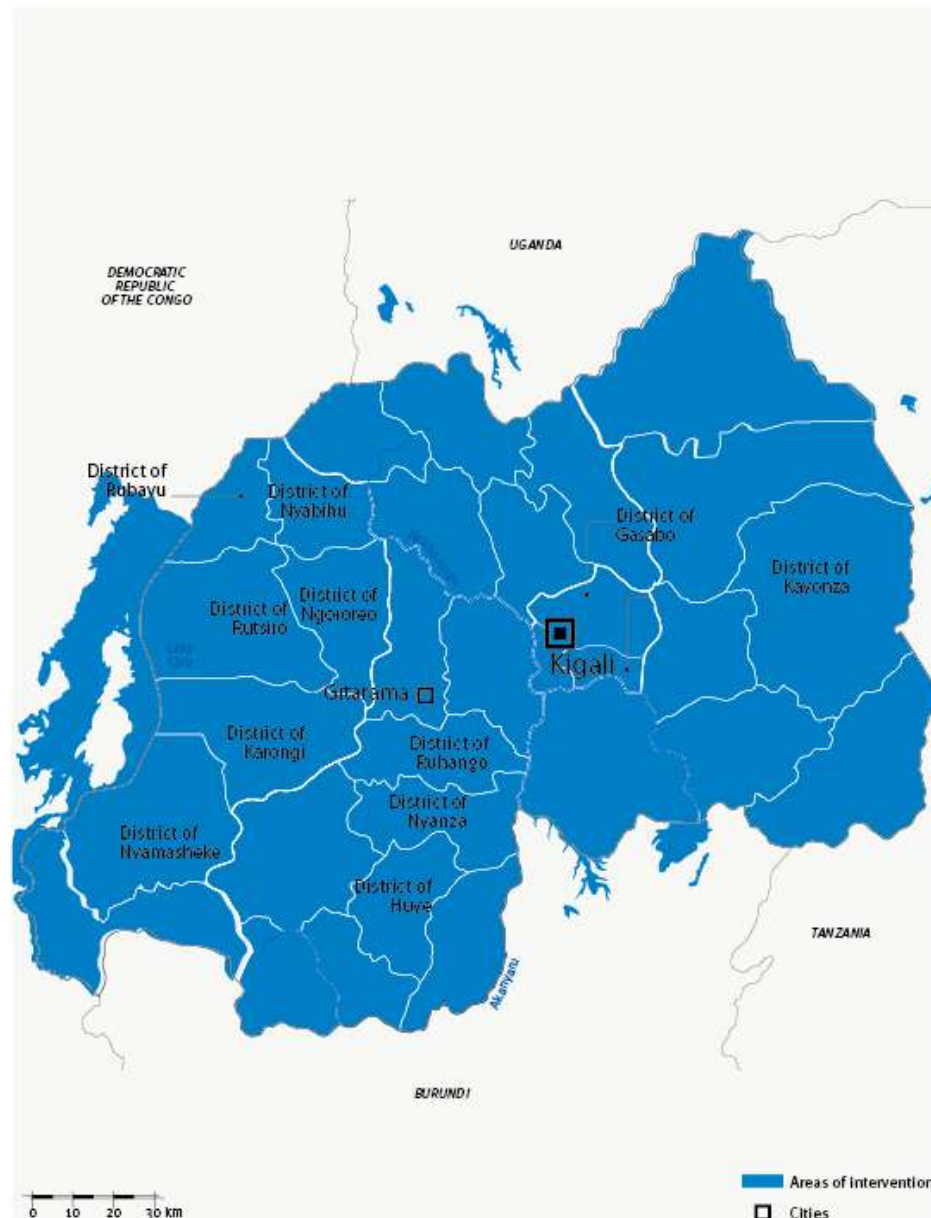
Rwanda



HI Team and intervention areas

The HI Rwanda program has 118 staff members and is part of the EAR Program.

Rwanda



General data of the country

a. General Data

DATA	Rwanda	Kenya	Belgium
Population	12.9	53.7	11.5
IHDI	0.54	0.60	0.93
Gender-related Development Index	0.945	0.937	0.974
Maternal Mortality	248	342	5
GINI Index	43.7	40.8	27.4
Population within UNHCR mandate	145,360	421,248	42,168
INFORM Index	4.2	5.9	1.9
Fragile State Index	86.03	90.32	27.10
Public social protection	7.3	2.3	29.2
Net official development assistance received	1332.3	3244.8	0

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	ratified in 2002
Convention on Cluster Munitions	ratified in 2011
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	ratified in 2008

c. Geopolitical analysis

1. Geographical/Demographical elements

Small in size (26.338 square kilometers) and landlocked, Rwanda is hilly and fertile with a densely packed population of about 12.46 million people (2018). Rwanda is located in Central/Eastern Africa, and is bordered by the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the west, Uganda to the north, Tanzania to the east, and Burundi to the south. The central and western part of the country is dominated by a portion of the Albertine Rift Mountains that give way to forests, savannahs, plains and swamps as you move eastward. Despite its proximity to the equator, Rwanda has a moderate climate.

2. Political context

The political, social and economic context of Rwanda was profoundly affected by the genocide against Tutsi perpetrated in 1994. Ever since, the country continues to deal with the consequences even though a rapid growth is noted throughout. Rwanda has guarded its political stability since 1994. In terms of governance, Rwanda has a semi-presidential regime, ruled by Rwandese Patriotic Front, the massively recognized party. In 2018, for the first time, two opposition parties, the Democratic Green Party of Rwanda and Social Party Imberakuri, won two seats each in the parliament. On 16 March 2021, a new opposition party known as "Rwanda Platform for Democracy (RPD)" was formed by Dr Christophe Kayumba but is not yet legally recognized by the Government.

Two legislative chambers are put in place: the Senate and the Parliament. In these two organs, women fill 64% of the seats. In December 2015, an amendment to the constitution paved the way for the re-election of President Paul Kagame in August 2017 now in his third 7-year term in office.

3. Socio-Economic elements

Rwanda's long-term development goals are defined in "Vision 2020," a strategy that seeks to transform the country from a low-income, agriculture-based economy to a knowledge-based, service-oriented economy with middle-income country status by 2020. In order to achieve this, the Government of Rwanda has come up with a medium-term strategy: the second Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS 2). The latter aimed to: raise gross domestic product (GDP) per capita to \$1.000; reduce the percentage of the population living below the poverty line to less than 30%; and reduce the percentage of the population living in extreme poverty to less than 9%. These goals build on remarkable development

successes over the last decade that include high growth, rapid poverty reduction and reduced inequality. Between 2001 and 2015, real GDP growth averaged at about 8% per annum¹ .

Despite the Government's commitment to ensure a strong and sustainable economic growth, poor infrastructure and a lack of access to electricity are some of the major constraints to private investment. Investment relies heavily on foreign aid, with stable inflows critical to keep the current investment rate high at about 25% of GDP. Reducing the country's dependency on foreign aid through domestic resource mobilization and promoting domestic savings is viewed as critical.

¹ World Bank report, 2016

Summary of HI presence in the country

HI started operating in Rwanda after the aftermath of the genocide perpetrated against Tutsi in July 1994. From 1994 to 1996, HI worked alongside many other NGOs to provide emergency assistance to a population plunged in extreme distress, misery and poverty. From 1996 to 2000, the country experienced a period of relative social, political and administrative stability, during which HI engaged in long-term activities and aimed at improving the living conditions of vulnerable people, particularly those with mental health problems, HIV / AIDS, by providing them with appropriate support.

Since 2001, HI has been contributing to the development of the country, expanding its activities and developing projects to prevent violence through a community-based mental health approach, promoting education for all, community-based rehabilitation, promoting rehabilitation and of occupational therapy, fighting against gender based violence, protecting children from abuse and violence - especially children with disabilities, mental health in the refugee camps and caring for people with epilepsy.

Following the reduction in the volume of the "HIV and Disability" project from 2010 and the decision to concentrate the program activities in a more limited area, particularly in the West of the country, the number of districts where HI Rwanda intervened directly or via its partners decreased from 25 to 13 at the end of 2012 (out of 30 in the country).

Since 2019, HI covers the 30 districts of Rwanda. This increase was due to the addition of two new projects: the Leave No One Behind project in the camps and the Exacte Inclusive Education project in the schools.

From 2013, the geographic area of HI interventions in Rwanda has evolved as follows:

End 2013: 9 districts

End 2014: 11 districts

End of 2015: 15 districts + 6 refugee camps

End 2016: 24 districts + 6 refugee camps

End 2017: 24 districts + 7 refugee camps+ 2 urban areas (Huye & Kigali)

In 2019-2020: 30 districts + 7 refugee camps + 2 urban areas (Huye & Kigali) + Gashora Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM).

In 2021: 30 districts + 7 refugee camps + 2 urban areas (Huye & Kigali) + Gashora Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM). With effect from Mid-September 2021, the camps will be 6 because Congolese refugees from Gihembe Camp (Northern) will be sent to Mahama Camp (Eastern) because the former Gihembe is being closed.

Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Main sectors of intervention and project title	Objective of project in the sector	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Final beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project and Donors
Maternal, Newborn and Child Health	Prevention, detection and management of epilepsy is improved, integrated into Maternal and Newborn Child Health, and the social participation of people with epilepsy and their families in the communities is increased.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for the supply of anti-epileptics to hospitals and health centers • Training of health professionals on prevention and management of epilepsy • Monitoring children at risk of developing epilepsy • Strengthening of the referencing system support for people with epilepsy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 72 Health providers of Rutsiro & Karongi districts trained • 170 Health providers trained on care and epilepsy • Treatment of 2,706 people with epilepsy supervised and receiving psychological social support • 290 Troupe Handicapée Twuzuzanye members trained • Care givers and other groups trained on epilepsy integration • 228 leaders from 122 psycho-educational groups trained • 5 early childhood development programmes supported to enroll children with epilepsy • 62 children with epilepsy enrolled in 5 early childhood development centers • 21 associations of people with epilepsy from 21 districts formed and supported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9,648 Community Health Workers from 5 districts • 72 Health providers trained • 364 health providers of 5 districts trained on care and epilepsy treatment • 2,800 people with epilepsy supervised • 130 caregivers from 5 Early Childhood Development Centers trained • 12,993 students and their teachers of 12 schools sensitized on epilepsy • 5 early childhood development programmes • Number of children with epilepsy enrolled • 16 associations of people with epilepsy from 16 districts supported • 122 Psychoeducation groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Health • Biomedical Center • Global Epileptic Connection • Rwanda Organization for Epilepsy 	Rutsiro, Karongi, Rubavu, Nyabihu and Ngororero districts (Western Province).	01.2017 – 12.2021 Belgium Development Cooperation

<p>Physical and functional Rehabilitation</p>	<p>The Functional Rehabilitation project aims at providing more accessible and better quality functional rehabilitation services in Rwanda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to the University of Rwanda College of Medicine and Health Science to offer quality teaching • Contribution to the follow up of the quality teaching and to the development of the Occupational Therapy profession • Support Rwanda Occupational Therapy Association in organizing awareness raising sessions • Capacity building for HVP- Gatagara Nyanza and Gikondo, Masaka and Murunda • District Hospitals and Support to work in synergy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational Therapist students • 2 Occupational Therapist expat lecturers • 2 Occupational Therapist Rwandan assistant lecturers admitted to Master in South Africa • 2 Occupational Therapists working at Rwanda Military Hospital • New registered students (25 in Years 1 & 2) • 28 professionals at Murunda and Masaka District hospitals • 46 staff of HVP-Gatagara • 63 users of functional rehabilitation services • 10 health workers from 10 sites of clinical placement • 1 staff Physical Therapist of Murunda supported with salary • 34 Maternal health workers in Nyanza 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 41 Occupational Therapist students • 3 Occupational Therapist expat lecturers • 2 Occupational Therapist Rwandan Lecturers • 2 Occupational Therapist working at Rwanda Military Hospital • 21 professionals from Masaka and Murunda District Hospitals • 41 staff of HVP- Gatagara • 70 health professionals at Health Centers • 72 Community Health workers and maternal health workers • 32 Maternal health workers • 40 users of physical functional rehabilitation • 10 health workers at 10 sites of clinical placement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Health • University of Rwanda College of Medicine and Health Sciences • Masaka District Hospital • Fracarita/HVP Gatagara-Hospital • Fracarita/HVP Gatagara-Gikondo • Fracarita/HVP Gatagara-Nyanza • Murunda District Hospital • Rwanda Occupational Therapy Association 	<p>Gasabo, Kicukiro, Rutsiro and Nyanza districts Gikondo Rehabilitation Center in Kigali City; Fracarita / HVP Gatagara-Nyanza Rehabilitation Center, Nyanza District (Southern Province)</p>	<p>01.2017 – 12.2021</p> <p>Belgium Development Cooperation</p>
<p>Inclusive education (EXACTE IV)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children with disabilities enrolled in schools have access to improved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops for learners with intellectual delays and lessons / to adapt and validate textbooks / develop and validate storyboards / for Sign Language development / for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 District Referral and Assessment Teams operating in 5 pilot districts • 720 teachers • 3,000 children with disabilities 	<p>In total, 3,000 children with disabilities enrolled in 60 inclusive education model schools and 150 cluster schools.</p>	<p>MINEDUC REB District schools</p>	<p>Countrywide in all 30 districts</p>	<p>08.2021 – 08.2022</p> <p>UNICEF</p>

	<p>learning mechanisms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children with disabilities are assessed by well-functioning district Assessment and Referral teams and are referred to social services • Children with disabilities have access to quality learning and inclusive basic education as results of effective community participation • 420 children with disabilities have access to adequate early stimulation, learning, development and protection opportunities 	<p>multimedia authoring and textbook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce the capacity of 50 District Referral and Assessment Teams members • Support referral and assessment for 100 new children with disabilities • Support 100 children with severe health conditions • Conduct educational needs assessment for children with disabilities • Provide individual support to children with disabilities • Reinforce the capacity of 720 teachers on inclusive education • Adapt 30 schools' facilities • Organize large public awareness and learning events • Build capacity of educators/teachers and early childhood development caregivers on early stimulation activities and fabrication of early childhood development materials and toys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 children with disabilities assessed and referred to relevant social services • 1,800 peer support club members supporting learning for children with disabilities • 420 children with disabilities enrolled in early childhood development surrounding 60 inclusive education model schools and 12 community-based early childhood development centres • 216 educators/teachers and early childhood development caregivers skilled on early stimulation • 900 Inclusive Education Activists • 1,500 parents / psycho-educative support group members actively supporting education of their children at school level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 children with disabilities assessed and referred to relevant social services • 1,800 peer support club members supporting learning for children with disabilities through 60 clubs. • 420 children with disabilities enrolled in early childhood development surrounding 60 inclusive education model schools and 12 community-based early childhood development centres 			
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<p>Inclusive Governance (DLI-RBC: Développement Local Inclusif- Réadaptation à base communautaire)</p>	<p>To ensure better access to services (education, employment, sports & leisure) for people with disabilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct awareness campaigns at community level and service providers' level • Provide a personalized social support • Support to local and national Disabled People Organizations and parent groups • Accessibility support to service providers: accessible playground for people with disabilities • Institutional support to Rehabilitation Based Communities and National council of person with disability to develop Community Based Rehabilitation guidelines and reinforcement of the national Technical working group • Support to National council of person with disability leaders – Disability Management Officers at district and sectors level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 theatre clubs formed • 18 awareness campaigns conducted at community level • 85,509 Persons sensitized on inclusion and access to services • 773 people with disability sensitized on access to services, advocacy and inclusion • 27 Disability Management Officers trained on access to services • 22 Disabled People Organizations of 973 members supported for implementing advocacy plan • 1 Community Based Rehabilitation Guidelines developed • 58 volunteers identified and trained • 1,900 parent's members of 62 parents groups • 124 parents trained on inclusive education • 674 National council of person with disability leaders trained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 groups of 194 members created • 42 awareness campaigns • 62,405 persons community members in 17 sectors • 31 Disability Mainstreaming Officers at district level • 133 leaders of National council of person with disability leaders at district and sectors level • 510 persons with disabilities members of self-help group • 58 volunteers identified and trained • 1,860 parents members of parents groups 62 parents groups • 124 parents trained on inclusive education • 1 Community Based Rehabilitation Guidelines developed • 674 National council of person with disability leaders trained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Local Government • Troupe de personnes handicapées de Twuzuzanye • Association Générale des Handicapés du Rwanda • National Union of Disability's Organizations in Rwanda • Action for Inclusive Education Development in Rwanda 	<p>4 sectors of Kayonza District (Eastern Province) and 13 sectors of Rutsiro District (Western Province).</p>	<p>01.2017-12.2021</p> <p>Belgium Development Cooperation</p>
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<p>Mental Health & Psychosocial support (VBGAH III)</p>	<p>The project "Prevention and management of gender, age and disability-related violence through a community mental health approach" aims to fight against violence based on gender, age and disability through a community mental health approach.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empower communities' mechanisms for prevention and protection of vulnerable people • Providing victims with holistic care and supporting actions to reduce risk factors for vulnerability to violence based on gender, age and disability 	<p>9,553 beneficiaries: 6,255 women and 3,299 men. There are 1,086 minors and 122 people with disabilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 366 rape survivors - 308 received full care • 39 new cases of accompanied rape in 2021, of which 19 had access to medical care • 20 new cases of rape, including 18 having benefited from psychological care. 15 cases were filed by the police and brought to court. • 209 perpetrators of violence supported • 4,300 beneficiaries are members of 198 self-help groups 	<p>5,800 beneficiaries (65% women, 10% children and 25% males) of whom 5% are elderly people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fondation Tumurere • Association pour l'Encadrement Sûr des Enfants Orphelins et autres enfants vulnérables de KIVUMU 	<p>Districts of Rutsiro and Gasabo</p>	<p>01.2018 – 12.2021</p> <p>Switzerland Development Cooperation</p>
<p>Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (Ubuntu Care III)</p>	<p>End sexual violence against girls and boys, with or without disabilities, through the deployment of the inclusive child protection safety net to strengthen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fight against children's abuse and violence • Supporting survivors and their caregivers for immediate assistance and longer-term rehabilitation and inclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,439 children at risk of sexual violence • 135 children: 55 survivors from sexual violence and 80 isolated children with disabilities, 402 members of the child survivors or isolated children with disability families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,482 children at risk of sexual violence • 210 child survivors from sexual violence (120) and/or children with disability isolated (90) • 630 family members of children survivor of sexual or isolated disable children 	<p>DUTERIM BERE ONG</p>	<p>4 sectors of Rutsiro District: Mukura, Manihira, Rusebeya and Murunda</p>	<p>03.2019 – 01.2022</p> <p>AFD</p>

	prevention and response strategies and mechanisms for children, girls or boys, survivors and / or at risk of sexual violence.						
<p>Inclusive Humanitarian Action</p> <p><u>Project 1:</u> Inclusion of Persons with Specific Needs, Mental Health and Psychosocial Needs in Humanitarian Programs</p> <p><u>Project 2:</u> Strengthening inclusion and participation of Persons with Specific Needs in Humanitarian Interventions</p>	Optimize resilience, community participation and inclusion of persons with specific needs and persons with mental health and psychosocial issues in both humanitarian and national programmes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Support persons with disabilities to get assistive devices / specialized medical care services •Providing basic functional rehabilitation services and early detection of impairments •Organize therapeutic sessions for persons with mental health issues •Organize experience sharing sessions with service providers on inclusive practices •Support persons with mental health issues and drug users to get specialized health care •Social support to particularly vulnerable persons •Clinical supervision of the Psychologist Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •14,862 persons with mental health and psychosocial issues benefited from psychotherapy services •8,635 persons with specific needs received assistive devices •6,588 children with disabilities benefited from community-based rehabilitation •3,729 persons with disabilities and 4,906 older persons benefited from community-based rehabilitation services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7,302 persons with disabilities • 9,006 older persons • 8,443 persons with mental health and psychological support issues 	MINEMA UNHCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mahama camp • Nyabiheke camp • Gihembe camp • Mugombwa camp • Kigeme camp • Kiziba camp • Gashora ETM • Huye urban • Kigali urban (Kicukiro, Gasabo and Nyarugenge districts) 	<p>05.2020-12.2021</p> <p>GFFO</p> <p>01.2021-12.2021</p> <p>UNHCR</p>

	<p>children with severe disabilities and persons with mental health issues under neuroleptic drugs to get supplementary feeding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Strengthen the capacity of community volunteers •Refresher training for community resource managers •Engage the beneficiary's participation in empowerment services •Support project beneficiaries to organize sensitization campaigns •Support for the senior citizens' committees •Support youths with disabilities and young people who have overcome their psychological and psychosocial problems to access vocational training •Organize art activities with the beneficiaries regarding the implementation of the project •Follow up and information sessions on child protection, sexual and 					
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		<p>gender based violence and human rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist sexual and gender based violence partners in providing psychosocial support services with disabilities and elderly • Establish a forum for older people and visits to the host communities 					
<p>Inclusive Governance</p> <p>HELASIA: Health, Education & Livelihood Africa: a Sustainable Inclusion Approach</p>	<p>Effective participation in the Development / amendment and implementation or follow-up of policies, programs, and services at local, national and regional level allows persons with disabilities to sustainably improve their rights and quality of life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-grants, notably to foster the effective collaboration between organizations of people with disabilities and civil society organizations • Development of inclusive policy reforms and their application • Expand community mobilization for the inclusion and autonomy of persons with disabilities • Creation or updates of directory identifying all local services accessible to persons with disabilities • Increase capacity of local actors to refer persons with disabilities to adequate and quality services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 disabled people organizations receive capacity building training on organizational management • 20 Persons with disabilities receive rehabilitation services • 2 Districts receive a directory identifying all local services accessible to persons with disabilities • 28,000 citizens are aware of inclusion and autonomy of persons with disabilities as well as their families within communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 disabled people organizations receive capacity building training on organizational management. • 4 policy implementation / reforms supported • 105 Persons with disabilities receive support in rehabilitation services / vocational training. • 2 Districts receive a directory identifying all local services accessible to persons with disabilities. • 28,000 citizens are aware of inclusion and autonomy of persons with disabilities as well as their families within communities 	<p>National Union of Disability Organizations of Rwanda</p>	<p>Nyamasheke and Rutsiro districts</p>	<p>01.2020 – 12.2022</p> <p>NORAD</p>

<p>Inclusive Education EDUFAM- PGL</p>	<p>Increased empowerment through education of girls, adolescent girls and women victims of conflicts in the Great Lakes region.</p>	<p>Support to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Conduct a context analysis on access and quality of education for women and girls with disabilities in program areas •Revise project activities for adaptation and embedding inclusive approaches •Train project teams on the management of an inclusive education project •Train local partners on development of educational tools for inclusive education. •Ensure monitoring and evaluation tools are inclusive. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •12 partners' staff trained on disability inclusion •50 educationalists trained on inclusive education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23,739 girls, adolescent girls and women who are victims of conflicts, in particular refugees, displaced, returnees and people with disabilities • 350 girls, adolescent girls and women who are victims of conflicts, in particular refugees, displaced, returnees and people with disabilities enrolled in inclusive schools 	<p>CARITAS FAWE Maison Shalom Fondation Paul Guérin La Joie</p>	<p>Kirehe district (Mahama camp)</p>	<p>03.2020 – 03.2022</p>
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Donors

<p>Directorate-general Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid</p>  <p>Belgique partenaire du développement</p>	<p>GFFO</p>  <p>german humanitarian assistance DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE</p>	<p>UNICEF</p> 
<p>UNHCR</p>  <p>UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency</p>	<p>Switzerland Development Cooperation</p>  <p>Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra</p>	<p>AFD</p>  <p>AFD AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT</p>
<p>NORAD</p>  <p>Norad</p>		