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## TURI KUMWE WE ARE TOGETHER

This activity aims to invigorate entrepreneurship and peacebuilding among Burundian youth with the goal of promoting reconciliation in their respective communities. This activity is an example of peace capitalization in action, as it lays the foundation for sustained and durable development outcomes for Burundi.

Turi Kumwe follows the “people to people” model, where activities are led by the beneficiaries themselves. The youth from the local community are empowered and trained to work with their peers, encouraging entrepreneurship, enhancing access to finance, and sharing the messages of peace.

The target group of Turi Kumwe are youth aged 18-35, especially those who are unemployed or under-employed. The activity focuses on supporting marginalized groups’ participation in the economy, governance, and reconciliation, therefore including a significant number of returnees, internally displaced people, people living with disabilities, people living with albinism, Twa and single mothers.

### OBJECTIVES

- Increase youth-led peacebuilding and violence prevention interventions,
- Train youth co-facilitators of peacebuilding dialogues,
- Enhance youth access to finance and economic opportunities.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

- Support youth to create Village Savings and Loans Associations,
- Support youth to start a business and become actors of peace in their community,
- Hold business plan competitions to fund the most promising business ideas,
- Issue microloans through JJB - Twiyunge microfinance,
- Support discussions around youth needs, reconciliation and conflict resolution through various dialogue and exchange sessions with local governments, inter-communal youth exchanges, inter-generational dialogues,
- Provide specific training for vulnerable groups to support their full participation in community life including the economy, governance and reconciliation.

## RESULTS ACHIEVED TO DATE

- Over 2,000 youth joined 65 Village Savings and Loans Associations, and received training in entrepreneurship and soft skills,
- VSLAs pooled around USD 55,000, and issued loans worth around USD 70,000, with a repayment rate of 84 percent,
- Facilitated access to around USD 15,000 in microloans for 128 youths, with a repayment rate of 82 percent,
- 71 group businesses benefitting 308 youth have received a total of USD 41,561 in startup funds,
- 79 groups were selected through six business plan competitions to receive \$46,313. To date, \$32,765 has been issued to the winning groups,
- 12 youth co-facilitators of dialogue were trained,
- Six youth and government advocacy meetings involved 96 participants,
- Four radio shows were broadcasted,
- 14 theater shows organized for a total audience of around 1,700 people.

## KEY INFORMATION

- Implementation period: August 2020 - May 2022
- Budget: \$1,629,086
- Implementing partner: Counterpart International, in cooperation with Jumelage Jeunesse pour le Bien-être des enfants et des jeunes (JJB)
- Geographic focus : Mairie de Bujumbura: commune Ntahangwa ; Ngozi: communes Kiremba and Nyamurenza ; Ruyigi: communes Gisuru and Kinyinya ; Rutana: commune Giharo.