



We promote education, participation and steps to independent life

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (2 PAGES)

1. National context and stakeholders (½ page)

Besides insecurity caused by armed groups, Burundi has been severely affected by rains and floods that have caused displacement and damage to people and property. These events are mainly caused by the rising water of Lake Tanganyika and the overflow of adjacent rivers. SOS Children's Villages in Burundi has not been able to assist people affected by natural disasters due to a lack of emergency budget.

The number of COVID-19 positive cases has increased, bringing the overall positivity rate to 2.72% in December 2021, compared to 1% in 2020 in the same month. The 3rd wave of infection, particularly from variants in Africa, remained a major concern. Moreover, according to figures from the Burundi Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (ISTEEBU), an already precarious economic and social situation was characterized by very high annual inflation. It will be 8.3% at the end of 2021 compared to 7.5% at the end of 2020. This will be reflected in higher prices for necessities, low growth rates and widespread poverty.

In 2021, SOS Children's Villages in Burundi worked with 7 main partners for the implementation of its programmes, mainly focused on capacity building and financial support. These are mainly the Government of Burundi, the DGD via SOS Belgium, the Global Fund via PNLS/IST (a national programme fighting against HIV/AIDS), the Ministry of Public Health via District Hospital of Kibimba, Red Cross Burundi, KIYO and DHL.

2. Member association analysis (1 page)

Strategy implementation status [see 2.1]

Achievements

As part of the programme development, a new option of kinship care for children has been initiated to meet the ever-increasing need for care. In total, SOS Children's Villages in Burundi has provided alternative care to 1,627 children and young people, including 607 in SFC, 361 in FFC, 50 in Kinship and 609 in YC.

In the aim of implementing the recommendations of the RAP, 47 young people were reunited with their families of origin in 2021. To contribute to the development and employability of young people, they have been professionally oriented and strengthened in entrepreneurship. In the same vein, 71 young people exited the programme. Family Strengthening also supported 5,895 children and young people in 1,641 families. A new programme DGD 2022-2026 has been developed and submitted to the donor for funding. The latter has been evaluated at 84% and the donor's final decision is expected on 15 February 2022. Note that the DGD programme "Sanô" which started in 2017 was closed on 31 December 2021. The international sponsorship programme has started registering children from Family Strengthening Bujumbura and Rutana. Thus, out of 40 FS children registered, 21 are already sponsored. To better support the young people in our programmes, a national youth development concept was developed with their participation. The national assessment of childcare facilities carried out by the Ministry of Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender has shown that the SOS Children's Villages meet required standards. The educational and health facilities of SOS Children's Villages have provided quality services to the children/young people of our target group and the neighbouring community. A total of 3210 pupils attended SOS HG schools, of which 2795 were in EDU and 415 in Early Childhood Development. In the SOS medical centres, 10109 service days and 155287 Single services were recorded. To facilitate

good management of the member association, the new manual of administrative, financial and accounting procedures was disseminated to the staff. Regarding staff development, 153 staff members improved their skills through training in various areas including youth development, child protection, gender and results-based management, as well as in success story writing, photography and re-branding. In ICT, access to secure digital technology was improved by increasing internet speed in key programme units following the connection to a second internet provider. Finally, to improve visibility and increase revenue, a strategic communication and fundraising plan (2021-2025) has been validated and is being implemented.

Challenges

- The imbalance in children's development linked to the untimely departure of mother trainees
- The soaring prices of necessities cause problems in the management of the family budget of children and young people whose annual forecast does not consider the fluctuation of prices on the market.
- The disgust and failure of children at school sometimes lead to drop-outs, an imbalance between age and school level, early marriages, etc.
- Unemployment among resettled young people remains a major challenge. Indeed, out of 71 resettled in 2021, only 18 have had a job, i.e. 25.3%. We intend to continue to support young people to follow further training and to establish partnerships with companies that can provide work professional training for our young people.

Lessons learned [see 2.2]

- The moments of fulfilment constitute opportunities for exchange and learning, and strengthen the participation of children/young people and their socio-affective cohesion;
- Economic strengthening allows families and communities to meet basic needs before starting self-development activities;
- The visits made by the medical centres to family houses allow the nurses to monitor the evolution of the health status of children under treatment;
- Awareness-raising among young people on financial education has enabled them to create savings accounts to prepare for their reintegration.

Cross-cutting topics [see 2.3]

- The development of the new programme DGD "Children for Change" considered the specific needs of men and women of our intervention communities.
- The population of FS intervention zones has been sensitised on environmentally agricultural techniques, including the use of organic manure, contour marking and the planting of agroforestry trees for livestock feed to combat erosion.
- The national "environment" strategic plan will enable the implementation of SOS Children's Villages programmes in Burundi integrating this dimension.
- Staff have been sensitised and trained on the child protection policy.
- The official launch of Results-Based Management has enabled ND and programme managers to improve results-based programme management. Each programme assessed its level of RBM implementation, which helped to determine what the national priorities are and what plan to follow throughout the cycle.

Sustainability actions [see 2.4]

- The strengthening of community-based organisations will enable them to take over family strengthening activities. Also, the focal points and other programme relays (volunteers, child protection committee) continue to raise awareness among community members.
- The ongoing and active search for new partners will contribute to the support of more vulnerable children and the modernisation of the management of the Programme Units.

3. Overview of programme (s) (¾ page)

In the objective of providing quality services and care to children and young people, all programmes organised capacity building and skills sessions for SOS and foster parents, parents/guardians and other key staff. In terms of alternative care, 187 new children from our target group were admitted, of which 70 were admitted to SOS families, 67 to foster families and 50 to the new care option known as Kinship. FS helped 1278 families exit the programme, of which 1144 families exited by autonomy, a rate of 89.5%. This massive exit is explained by the closure of the São Paulo programme which operated in 3 out of 5 locations. During the year, 1461 members of 57 CBOs mobilised an amount of BIF 117,925,750 which enabled them to carry out family and collective agro-pastoral & commercial IGAs. Part of the income generated contributed to supporting 1,325 children and young people with school materials and uniforms.

To increase their employability opportunities, 118 young people have acquired skills in English, driving, computers, photography, humanitarian logistics and project monitoring and evaluation. As part of community development, 100 young people were trained in leadership and resource mobilisation. All programmes participated in the celebration of International Women's Day and the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign.

1. NATIONAL CONTEXT AND STAKEHOLDERS (2 PAGES)

General description of national context (1 page)

In 2021, the country was relatively calm although grenade attacks were reported in Bujumbura city and ambushes in the countryside. The heaviest toll was reported in Muramvya, where 8 people died in May and 15 people in June in ambushes. In addition, there were reports of fires. In the Ngozi market, a dozen kiosks were completely burnt down. The Gitega prison was burnt twice: the first fire, which did not cause too much damage was reported in August, and the second one in December. According to official sources, this fire caused 46 deaths and 69 prisoners were injured.

In addition, 143,000 Burundians have been repatriated from Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda and the DRC in 2021. On the environmental side, heavy rains and winds have left families homeless, with 498 houses affected in various parts of the country. The rising water of Lake Tanganyika also made roads along its shoreline impassable.

The COVID-19 situation worsened in January when land borders were closed. A quarantine was required for incoming travellers to limit the spread of the disease. In the same vein, a campaign "Ndakira, Sinandura, Sinanduza" literally "I am cured, do not contaminate myself or others" was launched by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi. Screening centres have been multiplied and screening has been made compulsory for all boarding school pupils after the holidays.

In June, the land borders with the DRC and Tanzania were gradually opened and the compulsory quarantine for incoming travellers was abolished. However, travellers are still subject to Covid19 testing on entry, whether by land or by airport. The number of positive cases in Burundi has been rising and exploded in the third quarter. As of 31 December 2021, the Ministry of Health recorded a total of 36,785 positive cases and 38 deaths at the national level, compared to 756 positive cases and 2 deaths on the same date in 2020.

As far as SOS Children's Villages in Burundi is concerned, 96 co-workers and 204 beneficiaries have been tested positive and no deaths were reported. Families in our programmes have focused on improving meals to strengthen children's immunity.

The first doses of the covid-19 vaccine were administered from 18 October 2021. Note that thanks to the advocacy of the Belgian Embassy, 17 ÂsanÂgo programme staff received their vaccine dose at the IOM Clinic.

The Covid-19 pandemic has worsened an already precarious socio-economic situation. Indeed, according to Burundi's Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies, the overall annual inflation is +8.3% in December 2021 compared to 7.5% in 2020 in the same month. The prices of basic foodstuffs have increased from 10.5% in 2020 to 12.6% in 2021. For example, the consumer price index is up by 10.0% for December 2021 compared to an increase of 8.0% for December 2020. Therefore, we will work on the revision of the salary grid to be submitted to the budget 2023.

Key partners at national level (1 page)

Table 1.2 Key partners

Name of partner	Description of (Purpose partnership)	Progress in last year of (key actions taken)	Effectiveness of partnership (contribution to results)	Formal agreement signed
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The Government of the Republic of Burundi	Support in the implementation and monitoring of the Organisation's programmes and capacity building.	Subsidies totalling BIF 106,743,273 and donations in kind worth BIF 3,934,397 were offered by the government. In addition, 43 co-workers were strengthened on various themes and according to fields of action, namely : - Education (the new programme for the 2nd year of basic school, creation and management of youth enterprise). - Health: Tuberculosis surveillance, HIV care for children, contraceptive methods for people living with HIV, mental health and epilepsy care. - Child rights: Case management in child protection.	Contribution to the implementation of SI7	Yes
DGD Via SOS Belgium	Support to Family Strengthening Cibitoke, Gitega and Muyinga through the Funding of the Five Year Šanĝo programme "Strong Children Change the World" 2017-2021	1298 families and 4407 children and young people were supported under the Šanĝo	Contribution to the achievement of SI2 and SI7	Yes
Global Fund via PNLS/IST	Financing of care activities for PLHIV	Lots of medicines and other kits used for the treatment and follow-up of PLHIV were granted in addition to the salary of the pharmacy manager. Thanks to the 2021-2023 funding agreement, the SOS MC provided follow-up for 845 PLHIV for an amount of BIF 11 375 230 in 2021.	Contribution to SI7	Yes
Ministry of Health via Kibimba	Performance-based financing	An amount of BIF 34,637,670 was granted to the Gitega Medical Centre to support health care activities for	Contribution to SI7	Yes

District Hospital		13,378 cases, including 10,140 infants and children under 5 years of age as well as 3,338 pregnant and/or breastfeeding women.		
Red Cross Burundi	Operational partnership in the implementation of the <i>Êsanô</i> programme	Exchange of experiences and good practices in the field of support to vulnerable families, mutual capacity building of staff	Contribution to the achievement of the SI2	Yes
KIYO	Operational partnership in the framework of the <i>Êsanô</i> programme	Exchange of experiences and good practices on community-based care for OVC; capacity building in monitoring child abuse cases in the community.	Contribution to the achievement of the SI2	Yes
DHL	Capacity building in employability and autonomy for young people	128 young people received vocational guidance and entrepreneurship training under the GoTeach programme.	Contribution to the achievement of the SI3	Yes

2. MEMBER ASSOCIATION ANALYSIS (5-7 PAGES)

2.1 Strategy implementation Status (2-3 Pages)

2.1.1 Alternative care

Achievements

As part of the development of the programmes and to meet the ever-increasing needs for care, a new option for the care of children by relatives known as Kinship has been initiated. SOS Children's Villages in Burundi provided alternative care to 1,627 children and young people, of whom 607 were in SFC, including 70 new ones, 361 in FFC, including 67 new ones, 50 in Kinship and 609 in YC. During this year, out of 65 Foster Family Care children registered in 2020 in the International Sponsorship Programme, 5 got sponsors in 2021.

To improve the quality of care, a national alternative care strategy was developed in line with the one that was adopted by the government. It was subsequently validated by the Regional Office and implemented.

A self-assessment of the implementation of recommendations made by a specialist who consulted children/young people with psycho-emotional and learning problems was conducted to promote the psycho-emotional and mental well-being of children/young people. The results showed that out of 131 children and young people identified, 76 children are improving well. They were able to clear their minds, accept their painful past and improve their concentration in class.

Two hundred and fifty (250) children and young people from the 5 SOS children's villages took part in an exchange visit for self-fulfilment. They were able to take advantage of moments of relaxation, discovery and fraternisation to build lasting relationships with each other and break the life monotony in the children's village.

In the aim of improving the quality of care for the children and young people in our target group, SOS Children's Villages in Burundi assessed the level of implementation of the SOS Care Promise. A self-

assessment of the level of satisfaction of the children and young people was also carried out about their development, their participation in decision making and their preparation for reunification/resettlement. The results of these assessments are generally satisfactory.

However, weaknesses, gaps and challenges were identified. For example, recommendations to improve the development and participation of children/young people in decisions affecting them and in preparing for reunification/resettlement were formulated by young people and a plan for their implementation was developed.

Parenting skills were acquired by 103 SOS parents and 160 foster parents for the quality care of children and young people. In addition, 41 mothers and aunts were certified after the initial training. They were able to acquire the theoretical knowledge that is essential for their profession. This training also enabled them to acquire practical knowledge (computer skills, culinary arts, creative arts, etc.) for quality supervision and appropriate support for children.

It should also be noted that the children/young people participating in our programmes have been strengthened in child rights and participation to help them claim their rights.

To implement the RAP recommendations, 47 young people have been reunited with their families of origin in 2021.

Challenges

- Imbalance in children's development due to untimely departure of mother trainees
- The increase in prices of necessities cause problems in the management of the family budget of children and young people whose annual forecast does not consider the fluctuation of prices on the market.

Family Strengthening

Achievements

The implementation of an updated training plan has enabled the capacity building of 1641 parents and guardians on topics that respond to the needs expressed by the programme participants. These include building parenting skills, social entrepreneurship, up-to-date agricultural production techniques, and the establishment and support of community solidarity chains.

The implementation of the updated child/youth training plan resulted in building the life skills of 5,895 children/young people through improving their knowledge on child rights, entrepreneurship and sexual and reproductive health. Most of the trained children/young people have shown leadership by getting elected to the governing bodies of children's rights clubs, while others have committed to getting elected to the National Forum of Burundian Children, postponed by the government to 2022.

Throughout the year, 1461 members of 57 CBOs fundraised an amount of BIF 117,925,750 which enabled them to carry out family and collective agro-pastoral & commercial IGAs. Part of the income generated contributed to supporting 1325 children and young people with school materials and uniforms. In the same vein, 9,894 members of the Community Savings and Credit Associations (CSCAs) fundraised locally an amount of BIF 3,696,183,237 which financed the IGAs of programme participants and other community members in the intervention area. Within the framework of community initiatives to support children in need, these CSCAs have supported 1,580 children through savings made in favour of vulnerable children.

At the community level, the leaders of 57 CBOs, 421 savings and credit associations, 64 school clubs for children's rights and their 133 supervisors, 1004 focal points, 383 peer educators and 31 Child Protection Committees have understood their roles and responsibilities towards OVCs and vulnerable families thanks to pieces of training on different topics such as administrative and organisational management, development and management of social enterprise business plans, local fundraising, etc.

As far as autonomy is concerned, among the 1278 families which left the programme, 1144 families left after having become autonomous, which is a rate of 89.5%. This massive exit of families is explained by the closure of the *Ŝanĝo* programme on December 31, 2021, which had been operating in 3 out of 5 locations.

A final assessment of the *Ŝanĝo* programme, commissioned by SOS Belgium, was conducted by an external consultant. The preliminary results are satisfactory and the final report is expected. To develop the new programme DGD 2022-2026, two studies have been commissioned; one on the overall assessment of beneficiaries' needs and the other on the analysis of gender-specific needs "*Gender Analysis*".

Challenges

The disgust and failure of children in school sometimes lead to dropouts, age and grade mismatches, early marriages, etc. We plan to collaborate with school volunteers to increase the success rate. We will also sensitise the stakeholders (parents, children, local administration) on the role of each.

Illiteracy combined with low household incomes hinders the economic strengthening of CBOs and CSCAs. The response to this challenge will be to initiate both individual and collective IGAs that contribute to the diversification of resources and financial support to social enterprises.

Access to university studies for young people from the FS Programme remains a major problem. Indeed, the FS young people who finish secondary school are not supported to pursue higher education. To overcome this, SOS Children's Villages in Burundi will strengthen community advocacy towards administrative and institutional authorities.

2.1.3 Youth care and employability

Achievements

The youth development guide was adapted to the national context through the development of a national youth development concept.

As part of the GoTeach programme and in partnership with DHL Burundi, 42 young people improved their basic computer skills during a training session conducted for them. In addition, 29 youth-initiated entrepreneurial projects were submitted to the competition and the best 3 were awarded. The first project "**SANEZA NAWÉ**" consists of the innovative manufacture of clothing and decorative products, the second was the breeding of laying hens and the third was the manufacture of leatherette balloons. The initiators of these projects received incentives of BIF 2 000 000, BIF 1 750 000 and BIF 1 500 000 respectively.

The summer camp which took place in Kirundo, the northern province of Burundi, was attended by 99 young people from the five programmes. Through awareness sessions, the camp participants developed a spirit of solidarity and tolerance. They also improved their knowledge on various topics related to their empowerment, including participation, entrepreneurship, sexual and reproductive health, drug abuse, and employability.

A total of 118 young people acquired skills in English, driving, computer skills, photography, humanitarian logistics and project monitoring and evaluation through additional pieces of training to increase their employability opportunities. Concerning community development, 100 young people were trained in leadership and fundraising. They developed action plans for the development of their associations.

Challenges

Unemployment among resettled young people remains a major challenge. Indeed, out of 71 resettled young people in 2021, only 18 have got a job, representing the rate of 25.3%. We plan to continue to support young people to follow additional pieces of training and to develop partnerships with companies that can grant professional internships to our young people.

Advocacy **Achievements**

SOS Children's Villages in Burundi has been working in close collaboration with the government of Burundi through the Ministry of Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender throughout the year 2021. It is within this framework that the Ministry has associated it in the validation and popularisation of the National Policy of Alternative Care as well as the development of the National Strategy to Fight against street children.

The national assessment of childcare facilities carried out by the Ministry of Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender showed that the SOS Children's Villages meet the standards required by the Ministry. Residential centres that did not meet the required standards were closed. Based on its experience, SOS Children's Villages in Burundi provided technical support to the Ministry in identifying the profiles of the children living in the 10 centres that were closed in order to determine an appropriate care option for each of them. Thus, 6 children under the age of 5 who had lost parental care were admitted to the SOS Children's Villages.

Challenges

The impossibility to hold meetings and public gatherings due to the Covid-19 pandemic has negatively impacted our advocacy activities.

Human resources

Achievements

To face the problem of instability of the care co-workers, especially that of the SOS aunts which is mainly due to marriage, a workshop was organised. Among the recommendations made was the creation of a Family Assistant position starting in 2022. The file was submitted to the Regional Office for approval.

The new guide of administrative, financial and accounting procedures has been disseminated to co-workers and we are waiting for its approval by the IOR. In order to comply with the provisions of this guide, 20 job descriptions requiring modifications have been updated.

A concept note for the restructuring of the position of cleaner and the calculation of end-of-service benefits for employees in this category have been submitted to and approved by the International Office. In the same vein, an update of the concept note for the handover of the EDU Bujumbura is underway. Discussions are underway with the donor and the IOR.

Regarding staff development, 153 co-workers have improved their skills through pieces of training in various domains including youth development, child protection, gender and results-based management as well as in success story writing techniques, photography and branding.

Challenges

It is getting late to include the result of the calculation of the debt towards co-workers in the finances of SOS Children's Villages in Burundi.

Internal processes and digitalisation

Achievements

Access to secure digital technology has been improved by increasing internet speed in key programme units following connection to a second internet provider.

More than 100 co-workers are effectively using Teams and SharePoint after training on the collaboration tools.

Since ICT development is one of our priorities, 58 children and young people in alternative care were taught basic computer skills. To address the problem of access to technology for our programme

participants, one of the SOS Children's Village Bujumbura rooms was equipped with 14 computers connected to internet. The children/young people can now get access to them for their self-training and research. In addition, a computer centre was opened at the SOS school in Muyinga thanks to a donation composed of 11 computers and their accessories (giant screen, inverters & batteries, printer) received from the "promoting human life by bridging the digital divide" association. Through an agreement with this association, a training of 10 trainers in computer science took place. The social workers of the Family Strengthening *Sanô* programme make use of the tablets at their disposal in developing and updating Family Development Plans - FDPs.

Challenges

Difficulty in finding local partners to fund ICT4D projects.

The problem of data quality and the discrepancy between the statistical data reported and those entered in the database remain. We will focus on capacity building for PDB users and regular checking of statistical data.

Fund development

Achievements

Out of an amount equivalent to BIF 244,642,370 planned, revenues worth a total of BIF 333,222,255 were collected, representing an increase of 23%. This overrun is mainly due to the remittance of VAT equivalent to BIF 142,090,121.

Traditional and potential donors were informed about the activities of SOS Children's Villages in Burundi during donor loyalty day.

Other fundraising initiatives were carried out. The co-workers' commitments to local sponsorship raised an amount equivalent to BIF 32,145,700 compared to BIF 14,038,300 in the previous year. The sensitisation of individuals and companies and the fundraising campaign called "at least BIF 1000 so that no child grows up alone" has allowed us to collect BIF 47,446,564 including BIF 6,402,350 from sporadic donations, BIF 8,635,714 paid by important donors and BIF 32,408,500 from in-kind donations mainly made up of computers and their accessories offered by SANCTUS company, food and non-food items. In addition, 40 new donors have been recruited; some of them have signed commitments and some old ones have renewed them. Moreover, a strategic plan for communication and fundraising (2021-2025) has been approved and its implementation is underway.

To meet the needs of youth employability, in partnership with DHL Burundi, an amount of EUR 3,000 is granted each year for the implementation of the GoTeach programme. A memorandum of understanding has been renewed for five years of 5 years. As a result of advocacy with the government, grants equivalent to BIF 106,743,273 and in-kind donations worth BIF 3,934,397 have been granted. The implementation of the partnership with the Ministry of Public Health through performance-based funding has enabled the fundraising of BIF 11,375,230 for medical care offered to children under five years and pregnant women by Medical Centre Gitega.

Challenges

Fundraising opportunities remain limited and institutional fundraising is weak. To address this challenge, innovative activities are being considered, including organising a charity evening, raising awareness among co-workers to recruit new donors, and improving our external communications strategy.

The high cost of living makes it difficult for donors to meet their commitments.

Lessons learned (1 page)

Table 2.2 Lessons learned

Type	Lesson learned	Action(s) to be taken	Status of action
fulfilment and recreational activities	The moments of fulfilment constitute	Develop fulfilment activities because they	Recreational fulfilment

for children/young people in alternative care and family strengthening are regularly conducted.	opportunities for exchange and learning and reinforce the participation of the children/young people and their socio-affective cohesion.	build social cohesion between children/young people from different locations on the one hand and self-esteem and participation on the other hand	activities for SFC and FS children are conducted each year
Young people pass the Tema International College admission test in English despite being French-speaking	Sufficient preparation and support for children/young people candidates promote their success	The involvement of all stakeholders would allow many young people to pass the test.	100% of the SOS young people (5/5) presented for the admission test at Tema International College in Ghana passed.
The identification of beneficiaries in collaboration with the local administration and the presence of the community is regularly carried out.	Involving administrators and the community in the admissions process helps to identify the most eligible beneficiaries.	Conduct admissions in collaboration with local administrators and the community.	The participatory methodology is applied to identify and admit children to our programmes.
Young people have developed the savings mindset	Raising awareness of financial literacy among young people has enabled them to create savings accounts to help them prepare for reintegration.	Supporting youth initiatives	All young people have created annual interest-bearing savings accounts
Economic strengthening of families and communities is needed for at least the first two years for new FS participants in addition to capacity building	Economic strengthening allows families and communities to meet basic needs before starting self-development activities	Considering the identified needs in future actions.	The formulation of the next DGD programme "Children for Change" has considered the economic strengthening of families and communities

Cross-cutting topics (¾ page)

A gender analysis of the "SANGO" family strengthening programme was conducted. The recommendations resulting from this analysis were taken into account in the formulation of the new DGD programme **"Children For Change"**.

The International Women's Day was celebrated in all programmes. It was especially marked by visits to 28 women incarcerated in Rutana prison and 28 vulnerable women who gave birth in Cibitoke hospital by co-workers from the two programmes. They were assisted with food and non-food items.

Talking about environmental protection, the FS families have been made aware of environmentally-friendly farming techniques. These include the use of organic fertiliser and the tracing of contour lines. They were discouraged from cultivating on the slope and encouraged to plant agroforestry trees for livestock food, such as leucaena and caliendra because they are rich in proteins. The

implementation of SOS Children's Villages programmes in Burundi will now integrate the "environment" dimension thanks to the development of the national strategic plan for the integration of this theme.

In terms of child protection, awareness and training sessions in favour of co-workers on the child protection policy have been carried out in all our programmes. As part of the strengthening of reporting and response, reporting boxes have been systematically set in all programmes. In this context, 29 members of the local child protection committee have acquired knowledge on the techniques of reception, exploitation and referral of child abuse.

In order to increase the level of civic participation of children and young people of the target group, 29 co-workers improved their knowledge on the principles of child/youth participation and leadership with their development. This has resulted in the selection of trusted persons by the children/young people themselves and the child protection committees have been renewed.

The year 2021 was also marked by the official launch of Results-Based Management for our MA. In addition to 23 co-workers trained at the launch workshop, other 47 co-workers received feedback training and 28 were certified online. Each programme assessed its level of RBM implementation, which helped determine what the national priorities are and what plan to follow throughout the cycle. Each of the five programmes developed a results framework and an indicator monitoring plan.

Sustainability actions (¾ page)

The strengthening of community-based organisations will allow them to take over the family strengthening activities. Moreover, the focal points and other programme relays (volunteers, CPCs) continue to sensitize community members on various themes such as education, gender-based violence, personal and environmental hygiene, children's rights, and fundraising without the support of the organisation. Compliance with the Organisation's policies and standards allows the building of internal skills based on the SOS Children's Village Programmes' models. The permanent and active search for new partners will contribute to the support of more vulnerable children and the modernisation of the management of the Program Units.

3. OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME(S) (½-1 page per programme)

3.1 Programme location: BUJUMBURA Concerning alternative care, 56 new children were admitted, including 26 in SOS families, 20 in foster families and 10 in kinship. Thus, there are 395 children/young people in the Alternative Care Units, including 123 in SFC, 119 in FFC, 10 in the new Kinship option and 143 in Youth care. The health check-up was made for the newly admitted children. Among them, 8 children showed signs of malnutrition and received appropriate care. To overcome the problem of access to information technology for the participants in our programmes, a room in the SOS Children's Village Bujumbura was equipped with 14 computers connected to the internet. Thus, 15 children, 8 young people and 6 SOS parents have acquired basic computer skills and the other children/young people can get access to them for their self-training and research. For better integration of the alternative care in the community, 2 children from the family care have joined their reference families, 1 of whom is resettled. In addition, 7 young people who graduated from the general and technical secondary schools were reunited with their families of origin and 11 left the programme. Unfortunately, 63.6% of these young people are unemployed. To face this situation, awareness sessions for entrepreneurial activities have been conducted. Thus, 2 young people have already

implemented their self-employment projects. The foster families have been sensitized to develop income-generating activities. Monitoring and evaluation of the physical, psychosocial and emotional well-being of 395 children/young people in alternative care have been carried out. As a result, 51 children are receiving psychosocial care sessions, 10 of whom have made remarkable progress. Similarly, activities of parental capacity building have been carried out in favour of 21 SOS parents and 50 volunteer foster parents to improve the care of children/young people. In addition, 2 SOS mothers and 5 SOS aunts have been appointed after receiving initial training. 54 young people in the alternative care programme have also improved their knowledge of sexual and reproductive health. Furthermore, the vacation camp for young people and the fulfilment day for children from SOS families with their SOS parents, held in Kirundo and Gitega respectively, enabled 70 children and young people to strengthen their participation and social and emotional cohesion. As far as the Family Strengthening concerned, 743 children and young people in 184 families are supported by Bujumbura Programme. In order to know how far families were to reach autonomy and thus to plan their exit, 63 sample families were assessed. Out of those 63 families, 53 reached a satisfactory level of autonomy, representing 84.1%. The parents and children/young people participating in the FS Programme acquired knowledge on the children's rights, gender and sustainable development, the right to education, hygiene and sanitation. After the awareness sessions, it was noted that all the school-age children living in the supported families were admitted to school together with the reintegration of 23 children and young people who had dropped out of school. Finally, 20 children have been registered in the international sponsorship programme and all of them already have sponsors. At the school level, EDU-Bujumbura had a total of 1357 students. It recorded a school success rate of 92.7% compared to 91.2% the previous school year. The SOS Secondary School HG of Bujumbura put forth 5 candidates for the admission test to the International College of Tema during this past school year and all of them passed. It is worth mentioning that 3 candidates are from the Bujumbura Programme. A 2022-2026 development plan for EDU Bujumbura has been developed to align with the directives of the government and SOS Children's Villages International. In the health domain, the Medical Centre recorded 105,764 single services compared to 101,625 visits the previous year, representing an increase of 4%. This is due to the quality services offered at the centre. Furthermore, 3,392 service days were recorded. **Lesson learned:** The fulfilment moments and recreational sessions for children/young people constitute opportunities for exchange and learning, and strengthen their social and emotional cohesion. **Sustainability action:** The permanent and active search for new partners allows supporting more vulnerable children and the modernisation of the management of the Programme Units.

Programme location: CIBITOE

The programme provides alternative care for 260 children/young people, of whom 109 are in SOS families, 49 in voluntary foster families, 10 in the new option "Kinship" and 92 in Youth

care. The programme recorded 20 new children admitted into SOS families, 11 into voluntary foster families and 10 in kinship. Key staff have improved their knowledge of the psychosocial care of children with psycho-emotional difficulties. For better care of the children, 6 SOS aunts were promoted to the position of mother after having received initial training. In addition, 39 volunteer foster parents and 8 Kinship parents have been trained in parenting skills. As part of the implementation of the Rapid Assessment of Programmes (RAP) recommendations, 10 young people were reunited with their families of origin. The children's fulfilment opportunities were diversified through sports and cultural activities, excursions and visits to exchange experiences for the benefit of the children. In addition, 19 young people took part in a holiday camp organised for the young people of SOS Children's Villages in Burundi. This allowed them to develop their talents, self-esteem and to build good relationships with children from other SOS Children's Villages. In order to promote responsible sexuality education, 45 children/young people have improved their knowledge of sexuality education thanks to the coaching they received from members of the local and provincial sexuality education committees. To maximise the chances of getting a job, 53 young people received additional training in driving, entrepreneurship and project development. Of these, 6 have already obtained temporary driving licences and 38 have already developed their project ideas each. In addition, 44 young people have been able to set up deposit accounts thanks to the awareness-raising sessions they received on financial education. With regard to Family Strengthening, 1,500 children and young people in 382 families are supported by programme Cibitoke. It builds the capacity of 8 partner CBOs to be able to take care of the children of the target group in their communities. To support out-of-school young people, 37 among them have acquired skills in hairdressing and 34 in sewing. They are practising these professions thanks to the start-up kits provided by the programme. In order to meet the administrative needs of the programme's partner CBOs, advocacy with the local administration has enabled them to acquire 8 plots of land with an estimated value of BIF 24,000,000 for the construction of their offices. The school at SOS CV Cibitoke is attended by 248 children, of whom 71 come from the SOS children's village, 10 from the target group and 167 from the community. Regarding the extension of the school to meet the government standards for the completion of the basic level, a concept note was approved and the contract for the construction of the premises was granted. Early Childhood Development is provided for 90 children, among them 27 are from the SOS children's village, 5 from the target group scholarship holders and 58 from the community. The medical centre at Cibitoke recorded 18297 single services and 1441 service days. In order to align the medical centre with the rules and standards of the Ministry of Public Health, a concept note for the construction of a maternity ward was drawn up and submitted for approval and funding. As part of the implementation of RBM, 4 co-workers have been trained in RBM during the launching workshop. Furthermore, the knowledge acquired was passed on to 30 other co-workers and 2 others were certified

online. Thanks to this knowledge, a 2022-2024 results plan as well as a monitoring and evaluation plan for the indicators were drawn up. The results of the self-assessment carried out on the situation of child rights in SOS families and schools enabled various stakeholders to know the situation of child rights at the location level and to adopt strategies to improve the respect and promotion of child rights. The mechanisms for promoting child rights were varied. Posters indicating the child rights have been put up in the village gardens, the children's parliament has been reactivated and knowledge of children's rights has been acquired for co-workers and young people. In addition, an amount of six million forty-three thousand Burundian francs (BIF6,043,000) was raised through both internal and external fundraising campaigns. **Lesson learned:** Follow-up visits by nurses to sick children/young people in family houses leads to the improvement of children/young people's health. **Sustainability action:** Establishing partnerships with local administrative authorities allows the strengthening of the monitoring of FFC, KINSHIP and FS children and families; Strengthening partner CBOs to take over FS activities; Developing partnerships with NGOs working in community development sectors allows beneficiaries to get additional services not offered by our programme units

Programme location: GITEGA The programme admitted 24 new children for alternative care and protection, bringing the total number of children and young people to 298: 123 from SFC, 120 from YC, 45 from FFC and 10 from the new option "Kinship." It should be noted that after the profiles of the FFC children were completed, 5 were registered in the sponsorship programme and have already been assigned sponsors. A database of 79 volunteer families willing to welcome children without parental care has been established. In order to implement the recommendations of the 2017 Rapid Assessment of Programmes, the programme reunited 13 children and young people with their biological families. Regarding psychosocial support, 20 mothers and aunts have been trained in techniques for identifying and supporting children with psychosocial and learning problems. The psycho-affective situation of 62 identified children has, therefore, improved thanks to psychodrama, trauma healing, discussion and creativity groups set up for them. They developed their resilience, self-esteem and resolved their effects. The children of the SOS families participated in a fulfilment activity and had a useful exchange with their SOS siblings on the conditions of care and fulfilment. In terms of youth development and employability, 13 were formally resettled and 4 got a job. Two young people have benefited from excellence scholarships and are currently studying at universities in Cyprus and India. It is also worth noting that one young boy was admitted to TEMA International College in Ghana. In addition, 39 young people acquired skills in English, driving, computer sciences, photography and humanitarian logistics to increase their employability possibilities. For the Family Strengthening Programme, support was provided to 636 families and 9 Community-Based Organisations to improve the protection and care of 1979 children from these families. 1037 Children/young people in the programme and 672 adults in

contact with them are aware of the children's rights as well as the reporting and response process. 1103 children in the programme and 90 co-workers know the principles of children/young people's participation in making decisions that affect them. As part of community building, 21 business plans were developed and updated. In the same vein, 54 collective IGAs and 631 individual IGAs were initiated in the 9 intervention communities and an amount of BIF 1,035,638,525 was raised for savings and loans by Community Savings and Loan Associations. This enabled them to support 478 school children with materials and uniforms for the start of the 2021/2022 school year. To address malnutrition in the deprived households, "myciculture" was initiated in the households of the 9 communities in the intervention zone. To promote the employability of young people, 48 young people from the FS have acquired skills in income-generating activities such as sewing, welding and car mechanics. Thus, 3 associations initiated by the learners are functional thanks to the support in the start-up kit received from the programme. These are one association for welding and two for sewing. In terms of education, the Gitega school is attended by 433 pupils while the Early Childhood Development Centre is attended by 119 pupils. The school celebrated its silver jubilee and presented certificates to the first 21 high school graduates. Concerning health, the MC of Gitega recorded 19649 single services and 4714 service days. In addition, a maternity ward was built and an emergency room was renovated. As part of the digitalisation process and to cope with the current challenges, a digital room has been built and equipped with furniture. In addition, gender analysis and a needs assessment were carried out for the formulation of the next "Children for Change" programme. In terms of staff capacity building, co-workers have improved their skills in various areas, including 11 on child safeguarding, 10 on youth development and 11 on information security. 1 co-worker was trained on the initiation and management of youth enterprises, which will boost the quality of support/coaching for young people. In addition, 2 SOS mothers and 4 SOS aunts have been appointed to the position of mother after receiving initial training. **Lesson learned:** Child/young people fulfilment activities involving care staff significantly improve the parent-child relationship and the quality of support provided. **Sustainability actions:** The introduction of myciculture in the households of the communities participating in the FS is a sustainable response to the problem of malnutrition in deprived households.

Programme location: MUYINGA

The Programme Muyinga provides alternative care for 384 children and young people. These include 142 children from SFC, 142 young people from YC, 90 children and young people from FFC and 10 children from the new option "Kinship." Of these programme participants, 37 children are newly admitted, 12 to SFC, 15 to FFC and 10 to Kinship. As part of the implementation of the recommendations of the 2017 Rapid Assessment of Programmes, 7 children and young people were reunited with their families of origin. The level of satisfaction of the children and young people on the

participation and fulfilment is 67%. This is the result of a self-assessment carried out with them. Also, 51 children and young people in alternative care improved their knowledge of sexual and reproductive health and the harms of drugs and narcotics through an information, education and communication session held for them. A self-assessment of the situation of 32 children with psycho-emotional and learning problems identified by a specialist revealed that 23 children had improved significantly as a result of the psycho-social support techniques used. Concerning youth development and employability, 23 young people left the alternative care programme and 8 got a job. The temporary results of the survey carried out in July show that young people are satisfied with their monitoring and preparation for a successful transition to independent living, with a satisfaction level of 63.5%. In addition, 70 young people who participated in the summer camp and the exchange visit between children/young people from different locations acquired knowledge about the importance of solidarity and tolerance in the associative development of young people. These opportunities allowed the children/young people to develop and build relationships with each other. To improve the capacity of key care staff, 6 SOS mothers and 7 SOS aunts were made permanent in the position of mother after receiving initial training. As far as São Paulo programme is concerned, the FS supported 279 families as well as 6 CBOs for the community-based care of 927 children and young people established in 6 locations of the intervention area. Also, 104 children and young people participating in the FS improved their skills in sexual and reproductive health, self-esteem and entrepreneurship. Thanks to the discussion groups organised for 24 children and young people with psychosocial and learning problems, they have increased their self-esteem. In addition, 255 families out of the 279 FS participants engaged in Income-Generating Activities in agriculture, animal breeding and small-scale trade (91.3%). Also, 265 families out of the 279 participating in the FS kept their children in school, that is, 94.9%. To improve their participation, 700 children acquired knowledge about their rights and responsibilities. 6 CBOs, a network and CPEs whose organisational, institutional and financial capacities have been strengthened, contribute to the community care of OVC and denounce abuse and violation of children's rights cases. The homes of 16 families participating in the programme have been improved as a result of metal sheets offered to them by the programme. Three CBOs and the network of 6 CBOs have built their offices at their own expense and have benefited from the metal sheets to finalise them. As for RBM, 18 co-workers have acquired skills in this area, including 3 during the launch workshop, 7 during the feedback workshops and 8 online. The level of RBM implementation at the local level is 29% basic and 30% standard; results framework and a 2022-2024 indicator monitoring plan have been developed. Two co-workers have improved their knowledge of youth development and child protection through online training. As far as education is concerned, the SOS school Muinga is attended by 558 pupils, including 445 from the EDU and 113 from the ECD. As regards to digitalisation, a computer centre has been opened at the SOS school in Muinga thanks to a donation of 11 computers and their accessories received from the

association "promoting human life by bridging the digital divide". Thus, 10 trainers in computer sciences received training from this association via an agreement. The gender analysis contributed to the formulation of the next DGD programme, considering the gender-specific needs of the FS Muyinga intervention communities. The needs assessment helped define the target group, the strengths of the intervention communities and that SOS Children's Villages in Burundi is best suited to intervene in these communities. **Lessons learned:** Direct support is necessary for at least the first two years for new FS participants in addition to capacity building; regular recording of expenses allows for good monitoring of financial management; opportunities to meet for children/young people from different locations promote the development of programme participants. **Sustainability actions:** The association of resettled young people of Muyinga contributes to the supervision of their younger siblings; the focal points and other programme intermediaries (volunteers, CPEs) continue to raise awareness among members of the community on various themes after the end of the *Sanô* programme.

Programme location: RUTANA

Programme Rutana provides alternative care for 290 children and young people, of whom 110 are in SFC, 112 in YC, 58 in voluntary foster families and 10 in the new option "Kinship." Thus, among the 29 new admissions, 3 children are in SOS families, 16 in voluntary foster families and 10 in kinship. As part of the implementation of the recommendations of the 2017 Rapid Assessment of Programmes, a reunification of 9 young people with their families of origin was done. Concerning psycho-affective care, out of 15 children/young people with psycho-affective problems identified and accompanied by the local psychosocial support team, 12 have improved their mental health. They open up and their feelings are freed up. To ensure quality care for children and young people, 24 SOS parents, 37 foster parents and 3 "Kinship" parents have acquired parenting skills thanks to the support and exchange sessions organised for them. To enable access to health care for children admitted to foster and kinship, 23 families out of 44 have joined community health insurance organisations. Concerning youth development and employability, 25 young people from the programme who are members of the "Association des Jeunes Visionnaires pour l'Emploi et le Développement" (Association of Young Visionaries for Employment and Development) "AJEVEA-MBONIYONGANA" acquired skills in entrepreneurship, project development, leadership and project management. Following this training, 2 projects were developed to seek funding. Furthermore, 43 young people were certified in different complementary fields, including 6 in English, 15 in driving and 22 in computer sciences. In addition, 11 young people acquired knowledge about their rights and duties as well as participation in making decisions that concern them. It should be noted that 23 young people left the alternative care programme and only 2 got a job. To develop ICTs among our children and young people, 15 children/young people have acquired basic computer skills following training

carried out for them. Regarding the FS programme, care is given to 791 children and young people in 161 families and supports a group of 10 Community-Based Organisations. It should be noted that 62 new families are participating in the programme, replacing 63 families, 59 of which left for reaching self-reliance. For effective participation of children and young people in the Family Strengthening Programme, 445 have acquired knowledge on the concept of participation. In the same vein, 300 vulnerable children from the community received assistance in school materials from a coalition of CBOs called "TUREREHAMWE" (meaning together for education). It should be noted that 20 children from the FS have been registered in the International Sponsorship Programme but only one is already sponsored. In terms of staff capacity building, 3 co-workers have improved their knowledge through online certification training on youth development; 14 co-workers have acquired RBM skills, 4 of them online. Also, 22 SOS aunts and mothers improved their knowledge on child protection, child/young people development planning, nutrition and a balanced diet. After an initial training for new SOS aunts and mothers, 6 SOS mothers and 3 SOS aunts were appointed to the position of mother. In addition, 5 co-workers were trained in the principles of child/young people participation and successful socio-professional integration into their community. There are 405 children/young people enrolled in school, of whom 174 (42.9%) are from the target group. The success rate of the 2021 national test giving access to post-basic education is 100%. The total number of laureates was 27. The primary school SOS HG is aligned with the national policy and that of the organisation in terms of education. At the medical centre, 11577 patients received simple services and 562 cases of hospitalisation were recorded. Four MC staff members were trained in pharmaceutical management.

Lessons learned: Teamwork in the implementation of activities ensures that the work is done well and on time.

Sustainability action: Membership in savings and loan associations enables foster and FS parents to have the means of developing IGAs and thus become self-reliant.

ANNEX

ANNEX 1: HYPERLINKS TO RELATED MATERIALS

Topic	Person responsible	Source information	of MA file should be saved to:	Hyperlink
Actual statistics of the MA	Any Compass user	Compass report accessed via the following path: Compass -> Federation Steering -> Statistical Key figures -> SKF Beneficiaries / SKF staff -> filter for MA and year	N.A	Compass
List of board members	National director	MA fills in template list of board members	Federation planning & steering: MA annual reports	No board
MA mid-term plan	National director	MA fills in template for mid-term planning	Federation planning & steering: Mid-term & annual plans	<i>Insert hyperlink of the mid-term plan</i>
MA annual plan	National director	MA fills in template for annual planning	Federation planning & steering: Mid-term & annual plans	<i>Insert hyperlink of the annual plan</i>
MA website	National director	Member association website	Not applicable: provide link only	https://www.sosburundi.org
Online directory page for MA	National director	SOS Online Directory	Not applicable: provide link only	<i>Insert hyperlink of specific page for the MA</i>

ANNEX 2: SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF THE MEMBER ASSOCIATION

Major activities of the MA	Date	Corresponding national mid-term objective	Results
An internal audit took place at the FS Gitega, Bujumbura and Cibitoke as well as the alternative care facility Gitega and Cibitoke	March, June, August, Nov 2021	Simplify SOS	The audit made it possible to identify the weaknesses and risks involved and to jointly define actions to implement the recommendations made to rectify the situation
The implementation of recommendations from external audits, national and regional internal audits was monitored	From Jan - Dec	Simplify SOS	The monitoring has provided a comprehensive picture of the level of implementation. The implementation of recommendations increased from 41.7% to 93.0% for the external audits from 2013 to 2020; from 62.0% to 91.0% for the regional internal audit 2016 and from 69.2% to 95.6% for the regional internal audit 2018. For the 2019 investigation report, the level of implementation of recommendations was 67% at the end of December 2021. For the national internal audits, the average implementation level was 83.0%. New deadlines have been set to reach a higher level.
The National Office and programme senior staff participated in the official launch workshop of the Results-Based Management (RBM)	March 2021	Simplify SOS	Participants used the acquired skills to improve the coordination of programme units thanks to the new RBM implementation tools
41 mothers and aunts received initial training.	08-28 August 2021	Innovating in alternative care for children	Mothers and aunts use the new knowledge acquired to meet the specific needs of the children in care as well as their own needs.
Field support-supervision was provided to programme units	June-December	Innovating in alternative care for children Strengthening young people's autonomy	The programme teams have an overview of the weaknesses to improve the quality of activities/interventions for children in our target group and receive the necessary support.

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		Strengthening the family Increasing income	
National workshop for the exchange of experience and good practices between heads of SOS kindergartens	August	Sharing good professional practices to improve pre-school care for children	Good practices in pre-school care were shared between the heads and educators of the SOS kindergartens. Therefore, the SOS kindergarten educators should be further strengthened in terms of methodology to fill some of the gaps that have been pointed out.
Adapting the curriculum of the whole first-year programme	April, September and December	Aligning the 1st and 2nd-year curricula with the newly revised Government curriculum in terms of subject content and teaching methodology.	The subject contents translated into French of the 1st year (3rd term) and 2nd year (1st and 2nd term) curricula are adapted and approved
The drafting of the new DGD programme "Children for Change."	March-July	Increasing income	The new programme has been developed and submitted. It was then assessed at 84%, we are waiting for the final decision from the donor.
Exchange visits between children/young people from the 5 SOS children's villages	November	Innovating in alternative care for children	The children/young people had an opportunity to relax, discover and bond with each other, which allowed them to build lasting relationships with one another and to break the routine of life in the children's village.
Support and supervision visit of the CVI Rep and the MSA	October	Providing support to the MA	The MA has received support to improve programme management
Reflection workshop for young leaders from associations of young people in alternative care and Family Strengthening	December	Developing and employing young people	The participants identified weaknesses and challenges related to employability and developed an action plan to address them.

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Workshop to reflect on the sustainability of the work of SOS mothers and aunts	November	Innovating in alternative care for children	At the end of this workshop, a marital status that guarantees the stability of the SOS mothers and aunts at work was decided upon, the options that are suitable for SOS CV in Burundi allowing the stability of the SOS mothers and aunts were defined and the new strategies for the supervision of the children/young people of our programmes responding to the accepted options were proposed
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