



**SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES
BURUNDI**

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ANNUAL REPORT

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SECTION 1 – ANNUAL REPORT

1.1 SUMMARY OF SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES ACTIVITIES IN BURUNDI

Since April 2015, Burundi has been enduring a serious crisis resulted from the disputed candidacy of President Pierre Nkurunziza's third term. Extrajudicial executions, torture, targeted kidnappings and rapes of women have become daily realities, especially in the areas of Bujumbura City that have taken the lead in protests against the third term of President Nkurunziza. This situation has forced 230,000 Burundians to exile mainly into Rwanda, Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda.

In addition to the political opposition and civil society in exile, gathered together in "CNARED" (National Council for the Restoration of Rule of Law), armed groups demanding respect of Constitution and Arusha Peace Accords are born and sometimes carry out raids. Convinced that the problems of Burundi will find a solution through dialogue, bilateral and multilateral partners continue to push involved parties to dialogue.

The insecurity which is prevailing in Burundi also pushed some NGOs and business people to close their offices or to relocate their activities in neighbouring countries. Main financial partners such as Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, England and USA have decided to freeze their aid to cooperation. As a consequence of all these problems, there is an increasing panic and a growing population impoverishment.

Economically, the annual inflation rate, which was 4.2 in January reached 5.3 in November. From November 2014 to November 2015, the consumer price index has gone up to 5.8%. During this year, the official rate for the BIF has positively been appreciated in comparison to the Euro while it depreciated slightly against the Dollar. The annual average rate of the Euro was 1,743.11 while the Dollar was 1,572.42. These rates are lower than those in the budget which are BIF 1,972.50 for 1 EUR and BIF 1,578 for 1 USD.

The crisis affected SOS Children's Villages Burundi particularly SOS Units Bujumbura. The SOS Children's Village, the Kindergarten, the Medical Centre and Primary School are located in Nyakabiga, a "protester area". People live in a traumatizing situation. Faced with this situation, a special supervision programme for child and young people is set up with the Regional Office support.

The SOS kindergarten stopped pre-school activities. As for the primary school, it had to be relocated to another school in a relatively safe area. Fifty-six (56) children, including 28 in primary school and 28 in Secondary School have dropped out. It should also be noted that the Family Strengthening Programme was carried out in a snail pace from April to September and the Medical Centre's activities were significantly reduced.

Despite all these difficulties and insecurity, the staff of SOS Children's Villages Burundi managed to get to their substantive work positions. The National Office, to facilitate access to workplaces, arranged transportation of co-workers. The work schedule was also rearranged taking into account security conditions. The Regional Office continually provided encouragement and solidarity to SOS Children's Villages Burundi.

In the care for children in need, SOS Children's Villages Burundi has initiated a Programme called “Foster Care” in Gitega one year after it had been launched in Bujumbura. It is in this context that 9 full orphans are assisted in 6 volunteer foster families identified hand in hand with the community. The total number of children in “Foster Care” is currently 41. The 5 Children's Villages care for 1,328 children and young people including 703 children living in family houses and 625 young people living in youth facilities. It is worth pointing out that a database programme on SOS children and young people has been set up.

Regarding employment of young people, SOS Children's Villages Burundi continues implementing the socio-professional reintegration strategy updated in 2014. In the same light, educators and young people were trained on entrepreneurship and management of self-employment projects. As a result, 11 projects have been developed and are already operational.

The 5 Family Strengthening Programmes assist 3,035 orphans and other vulnerable children (OVCs) living in 960 families. This year, 112 families have been phased out, 87 by autonomy and 25 because they did not comply with regulations. In order to better prepare empowerment of families and communities, a saving and credit groupings system within community was introduced so as to promote family self-financing.

As far as education is concerned, SOS Children's Villages Burundi has five kindergarten institutions that supervise 580 children, 5 primary schools with a total of 1, 838 children and a high school that has 615 pupils by the end of December. With the year 2015, the implementation of the National education policy extending primary education from 6 to 9 years has been underway. After SOS HG Primary School Gitega in 2014, SOS HG Primary School Muyinga has just started implementing it in September 2015.

In terms of exceptional school performance, it is worth noting that two SOS young people were admitted into the SOS HG International College Tema (GHANA) in June 2015. We currently have 14 young people already admitted into this renowned institution. In addition, SOS HG Primary Schools are ranked 1st in their provinces in the National competitive examination giving admission to the 4th cycle of primary school. Note that 18 young people are attending foreign universities in the USA, Canada, Morocco, Hungary, China, Rwanda, Kenya and Benin.

In 2015, SOS Children's Villages Burundi has experienced happy and unhappy events. Indeed, nine weddings of SOS adults have been celebrated and 44 high school diplomas awarded to young people. Regarding higher education, 18 young people have graduated from local and foreign universities. However, we deplore the death of 2 SOS children, 2 SOS young people and 2 SOS adults. Both the SOS young people and SOS adults were murdered during the crisis the country is going through.

By the end of 2015, SOS Children's Villages Burundi has restructured the guarding system. Thus, night watchmen of all facilities have been replaced by security guards from private companies.

To conclude, the year 2015 ended with 4 major challenges namely insecurity, young people unemployment, high cost of living, and implementation of the new education policy in SOS Primary Schools Rutana, Cibitoke and Bujumbura.

1.2 SCHEDULE OF MAIN ACTIVITIES IN 2016

Month	Activities
January	Transmitting annual reports 2015 + Annual plans of activities 2016
February	Transmitting the 4 th quarter management report 2015 + 4 th review of the Action Plan 2015 with the data base LUCY
March	Transmitting the supervision and evaluation report of SOS projects Bujumbura
April	Transmitting report of the study trip in Ivory Coast (common understanding of CVPP and its various applications: Children's Villages of Tomorrow, alternative forms of care, de-institutionalization, etc.)
May	Transmitting the 1 st quarter management report 2016 + 1 st review of the Action Plan 2016 with the data LUCY
	Holding the first meeting of the National Management Team
	Transmitting the external audit report
June	Transmitting mid-year village sponsorship letters to sponsors
	Transmitting SOS child/young people progress letters to sponsors
	Celebrating the African Child Day & the SOS Children's Villages International Day
	Transmitting the internal audit report to SOS projects Bujumbura
	Assessment of education facilities (KG, SL1 Muyinga, SL1 and SL2 Bujumbura).
July	Orientation of Board Members on the organisation and functioning of SOS Children's Villages Burundi
	Transmitting the half-way evaluation report of performance agreements 2016
August	Transmitting the 2 nd quarter management report 2016 + 2 nd review of the Action Plan 2016 with the data base LUCY
September	Working out the National Action Plan 2017 and 2017 budget
	Transmitting the internal audit report to SOS projects Muyinga
	Holding the 2 nd meeting of the National Management Team
	Approving the Action Plan and 2017 budget by Board Members
October	Transmitting the Annual Action Plan 2017 + the budget
	Transmitting supervision and evaluation report of SOS projects Rutana and Muyinga
	Transmitting report of preparatory activities of the Programme DGD 2017-2021
November	Transmitting the 3 rd quarter management report 2016 + 3 rd review of the Action Plan 2016 with the data base LUCY
	Transmitting end-of-year village sponsorship letters to all sponsors
	Transmitting the internal audit report to SOS projects Cibitoke
	Holding Peace Global Games for Children and Young people
	Celebrating the International Child rights Day
December	Celebrating the HIV/AIDS World Day
	Transmitting the decentralisation report of NAV utilisation in projects
	Transmitting the supervision and evaluation report of SOS projects Cibitoke

SECTION 2: STATISTICAL DATA

2.1 FACILITY STATISTICAL DATA (See Navision)

2.2 SUMMAY OF STATISTICAL DATA (See Navision)

SECTION 3- FACILITY REPORTS

3.1 SITE BUJUMBURA

3.1.1 SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE BUJUMBURA

Since April, a political and security crisis occurred in Burundi because of the candidacy of President Nkurunziza to vie for a third term. It began with peaceful demonstrations organised by the civil society and political opposition in different areas of Bujumbura city and in some countryside areas. Protesters were mainly made up of young people. SOS Children's Village Bujumbura being located in Nyakabiga area, one of the most active protest areas has experienced difficult and traumatizing times especially, as the demonstrations often took place near the Village.

Faced with this situation, measures to protect and supervise children and young people living in the village were taken. These include experience exchanges on what to do in case the situation would get worse, development and implementation of a special programme for supervising children and young people by the SOS Kindergarten and SOS HG Primary School. The Village also equipped family houses and youth facilities with digital television sets and paid for subscription at STAR TIMES (a digital channel distributor) offering entertainment programmes.

Despite these efforts, behavioral disturbance has been observed in some children. It was displayed through violence in games. It should also be noted that a five-year old girl lost her voice until she was transferred to a specialized hospital in Nairobi, Kenya. Fortunately, the child recovered her voice.

In economic terms, essential food commodity prices continue to increase. As an illustration, the price of beans that cost BIF 900 per kilogramme in December 2014 increased to BIF 1,400 in December 2015 and that of rice increased from BIF 1,200 to BIF 1,800. To cope with price increase, family house allowances have been increased since August and strategic stocks of dry food were set up for three months. Also, family houses have been equipped with gas stoves because charcoal was becoming increasingly scarce and expensive.

It should be noted that efforts made by the staff with the support of the National Office have solved most of the crisis-related difficulties.

Regarding statistics, the Village is taking care of 134 children in 13 family houses and assisting 3 others in their families of reference. During 2015, the number of children transferred from the Village to SOS youth facilities is 5 while 10 children have been admitted into the village. Of these, there are 4 full orphans and 6 semi-orphans (mother deceased).

It is worth mentioning that the "Foster Care" Programme, which was initiated in 2014, is currently taking care of 32 children, including 19 newly-admitted and living in 17 identified volunteer foster families.

Regarding education, despite instability that has been prevailing, children achieved good results with a success rate of 84.3% while it was 78.75% last year. In addition, 10 candidates to the national competitive examination giving access to the 4th cycle of Primary school succeeded and 4 of them are attending SOS HG Secondary School.

As far as promoting child rights is concerned, a survey of compliance with child rights was conducted among children and young people. Findings showed that compliance with child rights is satisfactory. Children suggested to be given more expression and training opportunities on their rights.

As for capacity building, 4 new SOS mothers attended the second sequence of their initial training at the SOS HG Training Centre in Kigali. In the same line, the Social Worker and Pedagogical Advisor have completed their initial training. They have also received training on Database Programme for SOS children/young people.

As far as significant events are concerned, the Village commemorated the SOS Day and Christmas Eve. Both events were opened with Mass livened by the choir “Equinox” of the Village.

In April, the village welcomed a delegation of several NGOs working in Burundi led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. On this occasion, food gifts were offered to the Village.

In terms of fulfillment, 45 village children participated in a television programme called “Questions- Answers” in connection with Christmas party at the National Radio and Television Station. The TV station offered them gifts to share with their SOS brothers and sisters. Children enjoyed very much this event.

Finally, it should be noted that the Administration and Finance Officer, one SOS mother and two SOS aunts resigned while all night watchmen were dismissed following the restructuring of the guarding system.

3.1.2 SOS YOUTH FACILITIES

Since April 2015, Bujumbura city is shaken by political and security troubles causing many deaths. Young people living in so-called “protesters areas” were the most affected. SOS young people were not spared because those who have been reunited mainly reside in these less safe areas. It is therefore deplored that an SOS adult was killed in November. Some young people also left their homes for SOS Youth Facilities or at their relatives or friends’ located in relatively secured areas. The Village has just carried out a census of SOS young people “Youth II” living in “protester areas” of the 3rd presidential term to get accommodated temporarily in safer areas.

As regards to education, a total of 151 young people, one still attending primary school, 79 are in high school, 52 are attending university while 13 are awaiting final results of the state examination giving access to university and 5 others are attending vocational training. However, a young person mentally disabled still resides in the youth facility and she cannot be resettled.

Despite the crisis, school performance of young people is encouraging. Indeed, the rate of high school pupils' success was 94.25% while it was 81.40% last year. In addition, 11 young people have got degrees including 1 master degree in accounting, 4 BA degrees and 6 juniors'. Moreover, one of the graduates is taking her master degree in banking and finance at the DR NGUAME MBASSO International Polytechnic University of Cotonou in Benin with funding from the African Association of Schools and Universities (ORAGEU).

In capacity building, 4 youth leaders and 3 SOS young people have received training on entrepreneurship and management of micro projects from 31 August to 2 September 2015. Thus, 6 young people initiated self-employment projects.

There are 80 young people in Youth I, including 52 boys and 28 girls living in 7 Youth Facilities and the SOS HG Secondary School boarding. It was 89 young people by December 31st, 2014. This year, five young people have been transferred to youth facilities while 14 others have been reunified with their families of reference. Young people that are assisted outside SOS facilities are 71 including 63 living in their families of reference and 8 others studying abroad. It is worth noting that 12 young people have been resettled.

Finally, the village celebrated wedding of two young people. One of them does not have a known family of reference and has not been easily reintegrated. The wedding was celebrated with great emotion. His SOS mother could not believe her eyes so much that tears of joy run from her eyes while saying: *“You honoured me, my son! In any case, this is the best day of my life since I have been in the Organisation. It is such a great encouragement for me.”*

3.1.3 SOS KINDERGARTEN BUJUMBURA

With the start of the protests against the third term of the current President of the Republic in April, Kindergarten activities, mainly focusing on intellectual, socio-emotional and psychomotor development were abruptly stopped due to insecurity that was prevailing in Nyakabiga, an area where the Kindergarten is located. Thus, unlike previous years, the closing of the school year was not solemn.

Following the closing of Kindergarten activities, the SOS Kindergarten held sessions to support SOS mothers and aunts in the supervision of children living in the Village.

As for capacity building, teachers received training on IT by a volunteer external resource person. In July, all the teachers participated in a national workshop held in Gitega under the facilitation of the National Coordinator of Education so as to update Kindergarten curricula.

By the end of 2015, SOS Kindergarten Bujumbura had 204 children against 217 last year. Among them, 33 are from the Village and 171 children from the community including 1 from the Family Strengthening Programme.

At the opening of the school year 2015-2016, newly admitted children were warmly welcomed. In fact, small gifts were offered to them so as to sooth and help them to gradually adjust to the new environment.

The celebration of Christmas was not held as usual because of the prevailing insecurity in the school vicinity. The day was marked by Santa Claus offering children gifts and the giving of school results to child's parents.

Along with these festivities, Kindergarten children and the staff in collaboration with parents committee held a farewell ceremony for an educator who was retiring after 30 years of service. Flowers and various gratitude gifts were offered to her. The following testimony shows that she had good relationship with her former kindergarten children: *"I would like to thank you dear Odette for it is partly thanks to you that I am what I am today. May the Almighty bless you! I am proud of you."*

3.1.4 SOS HG PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS BUJUMBURA

Burundi is going through a political and security crisis since April particularly in Bujumbura. The school system has not been spared either and SOS HG schools Bujumbura have been enduring consequences until today. Among other effects, one can mention relocation of Primary School Bujumbura from Nyakabiga area to Gikungu, a relatively safe area for a month after it had stopped its activities for two months. The school did not complete the school curricula. We also recorded dropouts of 33 primary school children and 45 high school pupils. Some children were not able to sit for the National competitive examination and they were given another opportunity a bit later. We also noted late publication of the state examination's results.

Despite all the difficulties, the Primary School has recorded a success rate of 100% at the National Competitive test giving access to secondary education. At lower classes, a success rate of 94.68% was achieved while it was 92.25% last year. As for the Secondary School, there was an overall success rate of 95.61% against 92.75% the previous school year.

In final classes, only 1 candidate out of 98 did not get a diploma. In the competitive test giving access to the senior level, the High School is ranked 6th among 1,153 schools nationwide. In addition, it is worth mentioning that two SOS young people attending the SOS HG high school succeeded admission tests to the HG International College in Tema, Ghana.

In terms of statistics, SOS HG Primary School has 483 pupils including 82 children living in the village and 3 children from the Family Strengthening Programme. As for the Secondary School, it has 615 pupils in total including 134 village young people and 9 from the Family Strengthening Programme. It is also noted that there are 6 scholarship beneficiaries in Primary School and 2 in the secondary school.

Regarding para and extracurricular activities, the Primary School conducted a field trip for the 3rd grade pupils to a water and electricity distribution station. The purpose was to learn about water collection, processing and distribution. An outing was also carried out for the Secondary School boarders. They namely visited the Revolution Square, the Independence Square, the Bujumbura Museum and the beach of Lake Tanganyika. The Secondary School has also made contest consisting of speaking and writing in English and French. Certificates and prizes were awarded to winners. The High School finally set up new clubs of music, DIY, English and road safety.

In terms of capacity building, teaching staff of both schools attended training on nonviolent communication. Secondary School teachers were also trained on teaching methods, assessment techniques and teacher-learner relationship.

3.1.5 SOS FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME

The Family Strengthening Programme performance 2015 was not satisfactory in Bujumbura. The political and security crisis that occurred in Burundi since April disrupted the implementation of planned activities. Since demonstrations were taking place in some areas of Bujumbura and especially in the intervention area of the Family Strengthening Programme, field activities were interrupted for 5 months.

We deplore the death of a caregiver who was killed during the crisis, the rape of a young girl, a four-year girl hospitalised due to serious injuries caused by a grenade explosion, 2 caregivers and 10 children sought shelter in neighbouring countries.

Taking into account economic difficulties caused by the crisis, SOS Children's Villages Burundi has granted provisions covering at least two months to 104 families supported by the Family Strengthening Programme.

The Family Strengthening Programme Bujumbura assists 410 Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs) in 120 families including 16 admitted in December against 329 OVCs living 99 families in 2014. In 2015 twenty-three families reached autonomy and were therefore phased out.

In the education domain, there are 11 children at Kindergarten, 249 at primary school and 26 at Secondary School. It should be noted that 124 children do not have the required school age. The success rate was 66.5% against 75.9% in 2014 for primary school and 91.6% against 88.23% in 2014 for the high school. With the 2015-2016 school year, all children of school age were admitted in Kindergarten thanks to parent awareness raised by the Family Strengthening Programme's staff and Community Volunteers.

As far as family empowerment is concerned, a support for chemical fertilizers (2,264 kg) in plant protection products (15 liters) and seeds (830 kg of rice) was provided to families and groupings to increase their agricultural production. In addition, the Family Strengthening Programme has helped 5 saving and credit groupings composed of parents/caregivers to develop regulatory texts. With these, the groupings have been approved by local administration.

Still in this area, 104 caregivers have received training on ***team work, financial management and resource mobilization*** to diversify their income generating activities. In order to improve well-being of children and their families, 18 houses have been renovated.

Finally, so as to keep beneficiary information updated, a Database Programme was introduced to facilitate FSP monitoring and reporting of activities.

3.1.6 SOS MEDICAL CENTRE BUJUMBURA

The year 2015 was marked by political and security troubles caused by disputed candidacy of the President of the Republic Burundi. In Bujumbura, Nyakabiga area, in which the SOS Medical Centre operates, is among the “protest areas”.

Activities at the SOS Medical Centre Bujumbura were severely disrupted. Blocking roads, traumatizing insecurity, departure of some households, population’s economic difficulties and staff destabilization have significantly reduced the Centre’s visits. All services, except those related to prevention were affected by the crisis.

Concerning statistics, as of 31 December 2015 there was a total of 24,042 people in curative consultation and 546 people in hospitalisation against respectively 28,310 and 879 in 2014. In the laboratory, 28,324 analyzes were carried out for 13,463 people against 35,180 analyzes for 17,479 people in 2014.

With regard to preventive activities, 3,897 immunizations were administered to infants in accordance with the national schedule and 1,124 tetanus vaccines for childbearing age women or attending antenatal consultations. One thousand one hundred twenty-three consultations were also done for the national planning under appropriate method.

Concerning the fight against HIV/AIDS, 534 people living with HIV/AIDS including 434 under antiretroviral treatment are followed at the Medical Centre. A total of 1,825 people made voluntary screening with 68 cases HIV positive: that is a rate of 3.75% against 3.4% in 2014. Six hundred and eighty-two (682) pregnant women were HIV screened and 52 women have regularly been followed up in the context of HIV/AIDS mother-to-child transmission.

Furthermore, in this less conducive working environment, the new ultrasound service has not been attended as expected. From April to December 2015, only 31 ultrasound and 140 gynecological consultations were done.

As part of the computerized management of the Medical Centre, equipment and operating software have already been installed. In addition, a medical and administration staff training relating to it was held.

3.2. SITE CIBITOKÉ

3.2.1 SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE CIBITOKÉ

The beginning of 2015 was characterised by violence. An unknown armed group coming from Democratic Republic of Congo attacked the province of Cibitoke. It was fortunately immediately defeated by security forces. The province did not experience any other trouble until the end of the year even if other parts of the country, the capital city in particular were subject to a recurrent political and security crisis subsequent to the controversial President's third term candidacy since April.

The village has admitted 16 new children totaling 147 children under the SOS care. Among those children, 34 are attending secondary school, 80 are at primary school, 27 at kindergarten and 6 others below school age. The village is supporting 10 young people including 1 who is attending the SOS Hermann Gmeiner high school in Bujumbura and receiving scholarship from the same school.

As far as Child Protection is concerned, training on child immunisation was carried out training core care co-worker in October 2015. Participants were reminded about diseases that threaten little children health, symptoms, and vaccines for prevention as well as immunisation calendar.

In order to ensure a good monitoring of child health, a medical check was carried out for each child living in the village. Results were given to SOS mothers in December 2015.

Even if children were not having serious diseases, one can however worry about a high rate of anemia; 46 in total. Based on this fact, the village in collaboration with the Medical Centre organised a training for core care co-workers in the end of December. The training participants were taught about causes of anemia and types of food that can help to deal with the lack of vitamin B9, B12, and iron in the blood.

In the same framework, 3 children who were admitted with valgus legs were transferred to the "Saint Kizito" Centre in Bujumbura. These physical deformities were progressively treated and now the handicap has been corrected for both children.

In order to evaluate the level of child right compliance in the village, a questionnaire was given to 44 children old enough to answer to the questions. The survey revealed that there is still work to be done in the area of child protection and respect of child right in the village. A dissemination of lessons learnt in the training for child-trusted people was organised for core care co-workers in order to refresh them on child abuse and how to avoid it.

As far as the psychosocial care is concerned, 30 children attended a 10 bible-based trauma healing session and everyday life-based lessons. Those teachings were completed in December 2015. It is worth mentioning that the same lessons were taught to 35 children in 2004. A "letter to

God” helped each child to express his deepest inhibited feeling. This helps the core care co-workers to identify children’s problems and to work out appropriate solutions.

Concerning local trainings, SOS mothers attended training from 25 to 28 September. It was focusing on competences of SOS mothers in the care of vulnerable children at long run. SOS mothers learned 3 dimensions of the competence which are: attitudes, knowledge and capacity of an SOS mother in the implementation of the acquired knowledge. Commitments were then formulated by each SOS mother in order to make sure these competences will be implemented in the best interest of the child. One SOS mother took part in the second sequence of initial training organised for SOS mothers and aunts in Kigali from 21 September to 16 October 2015. Before winding up this chapter, it is worth informing that 8 SOS mothers have just finished refreshing training organised in Kigali from 23 October to 04 November on the topic: “Tumumenye, Tumukunde, Tumwiteho” (Let us know him/her, Love him/her, Care for him/her).

At Christmas Eve 2015, children, aunts and SOS mothers received Christmas gifts mainly composed of toys. Those gifts were given by “Eglise Vivante de Jesus Christ”; one of the Village community churches. The Village Support Association members joined the Village community during the ceremonies.

3.2.2 SOS KINDERGARTEN CIBITOKÉ

The SOS Kindergarten Cibitoke has 94 children including 27 children living in the Village, 7 from the Family Strengthening Programme and 60 children from the community.

The level of liveliness in all preschool activities is satisfactory taking into account their oral expression in French and their level of participation in games and psychomotor activities. It is the same for pre-writing and pre-numeracy activities. In fact, 90% of 2nd and 3rd kindergarten children can do various exercises on subtraction, addition and those on the notion of sets and counting from 1 to 20. In pre-reading, the Kindergarten is already equipped with observation and building games equipment such as lotto sets, domino, puzzle and draughts. Children follow carefully rules that demand a lot of attention, concentration and reflexion.

Regarding Psychomotor, all children are comfortable while moving: running, jumping and climbing. On the socio-affective aspect, children are acquiring good manners such as mutual respect, sharing, and team-work through different games.

As far as staff capacity building is concerned, two educators and the head of the kindergarten attended training on good practice sharing at the SOS kindergarten Gitega in April 2015. In July 2015, all the staff participated in a workshop aiming at harmonising Kindergarten curricula. In December, educators started training on Microsoft Office (Word and Excel) and Internet. The training continues until the end of January 2016.

The closing day of the first term of the school year 2015-2016 was marked by the visit of Santa Claus on 23 December 2015, bringing presents to all kindergarten children. All the children performed different exhibitions. It was an occasion for them to show to their parents acquired knowledge through recitations and conversations in French as well as dances and songs.

3.2.3 SOS PRIMARY SCHOOL CIBITOKÉ

SOS HG Primary School Cibitoke has been operating for 7 years. It had 238 pupils at beginning school year 2015-2016. Seventy-nine (79) children among them are under the living in the Village, 5 scholarship beneficiaries, 2 supported by the Family Strengthening Programme and 152 children from the community.

At the end of the first term 2015-2016, the school recorded a success rate of 90.1%. Children living in the Village scored an overall rate of 81.5% while those from the community scored an overall rate of 93.9%.

In the 2015 National competitive test that took place in May, the success rate was 100%. Out of 35 participants, 21 children are from our target group. Among them, 10 got the best grades and were guided towards SOS HG secondary school Bujumbura.

In order to promote merit mind set, pupils from grade 3 made excursion in Ruhwa (the border between Burundi and Rwanda) in May 2015 because this class got the highest score in the 2014-2015 second term SOS inter-school examination among all SOS schools nationwide.

In order to improve the smooth running of kindergarten and primary school curricula, an exchange workshop on curricula was carried out between teachers of primary class 1, 2 and 3 and kindergarten educators. Moreover, with support from a Red Cross branch Cibitoke team, the school organised in December training on first aid techniques for teachers, kindergarten educators, SOS mothers and aunts. It is also worth mentioning that a National evaluation workshop on English and French curricula for grade 3 and working out grade 4 curricula for the subjects was held in Gitega in August 2015. SOS primary school Cibitoke teachers who are relevant also took part in the workshop.

In order to deal with water shortage, the school has set up a 4,000 litre-water tank equipped with a rain water recycling and decantation system. The water is used for hygiene and watering a school garden.

3.2.4 SOS FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME CIBITOKÉ

Family Strengthening Programme Cibitoke (FSP) launched its activities in 2015 with 800 children from 246 families. During the year, 36 families with 111 children have been phased out of the Programme because they have reached autonomy whereas 13 families with 33 children have been withdrawn due to non-compliance with agreements. It would also be noted that 144 children from 52 families have been admitted into the Programme for replacement of those who had been phased out.

Family Strengthening Programme Cibitoke also sensitized communities on self-development and efficient care for Orphan and other vulnerable children. In order to achieve the goal, the Programme carried out field visits for follow up of the family development plans implementation. Ninety-one (91) Development Plans were developed for newly phased in families.

Concerning capacity building for vulnerable children care, 2 networks made of 10 community groupings and 22 groupings of caregivers have been supported by renting 11 collective lands of 7 hectares in total. They were also provided with 700 kg of seeds and 4,596 kg of fertilisers.

Moreover, 17 caregivers and 3 young orphans attended professional training on sewing. A retraining of 15 community volunteers and 6 people involved in teaching community to read and to write allowed them to teach 171 beneficiaries reading and writing.

The number of the community groupings for saving and credit has increased from 30 to 45. Those groupings do different activities such as agriculture, small business and breeding goats and sheep. From 2013 to the end of 2015, capital in circulation of those 45 groupings was BIF 29,931,308; divided as follows: collective income generating activities with BIF 8,337,158; individual income generating activities with BIF 19,144,150 and income generating activities from 2 grouping networks with a capital of BIF 2,450,000.

Regarding education, out of 8,00 children, 441 children are supported by the Programme. Among them, 41 are in secondary school, 7 attend SOS kindergarten, 393 are at primary school including 2 attending SOS primary and 391 attending public primary schools. All the children are given a school kit and school fees. The 359 children are still too young for school.

Regarding access to medical care, 69 caregivers newly-phased in the Programme were offered health insurance card.

In child protection and child right framework, the Programme has carried out registration of 101 children at the registry office and 36 couples have officially legalized marriage.

Concerning psychosocial support, 307 cases with psychological and social problems including 189 children and 118 caregivers benefited from counselling sessions. In addition to trainings, FSP team Cibitoke has attended an experience exchange in Rwanda and Togo.

3.2.5 SOS MEDICAL CENTRE CIBITOKÉ

In 2015, the Medical Centre recorded an increase in attendance of 33.2% thanks to the repair of the haematology device and medical check-up done for children under the Family Strengthening Programme's care. In fact, the number of consultations which was 10,769 in 2014 has augmented up to 14,339 in 2015. Among these visits, 1,034 are children under SOS care and 13,305 from the community of which 5,591 children and 7,714 adults. In total, 46.2% of the total consultations are children.

In the laboratory, 12,750 samples from 5,698 patients were analysed in 2015 while it was only 11,239 in 2014. So, the Centre recorded an increase of 13.4%. The most frequent para clinical tests are malaria test, cytobacteriological of urine, stool, Felix and Widal serology as well as blood sugar tests.

Concerning preventive and promotional health, 369 children supported by the Family Strengthening Programme (FSP) were brought to the clinic for malnutrition diagnosis and 79 sessions of Information-Education-Communication workshop on health were carried out for 3,612 participants. The Centre also recorded 7,191 children who were immunised including 7,008 received during the national campaign called "Mother-Child health" and 135 antenatal consultations. As far as family planning is concerned, 218 condoms for males were distributed and 156 women opted for the use of contraceptives.

Regarding HIV/AIDS fight, the Medical Centre carried out follow up for 10 HIV/AIDS positive people including 3 under antiretroviral treatment. Moreover, 966 people were checked for HIV/AIDS and 14 cases were positive, that is 1.4% seroprevalence.

Concerning partnership, the Centre carried out two training sessions on balanced diet and hygiene for 30 people in charge of the "Youth for Christ Orphanage" Cibitoke. A contract was also signed with Alpha Security Company for its personnel medical care.

3.3 SITE GITEGA

3.3.1 SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE GITEGA

The Province of Gitega has slightly been affected by the crisis that the country has been undergoing since April 2015 when President Pierre Nkurunziza announced his candidacy for a third term challenged by the opposition and civil society. A group of young people in Gitega has joined those of the capital City by initiating a protest movement in the capital of the province, but it was quickly stopped by the police. Since then, the population lives in fear because security situation in the country keeps deteriorating. Faced with this situation, the already precarious living conditions get worse and worse. Food prices are soaring on the market.

Concerning statistics, on 31 December 2015, the Village was taking care of 130 children living in 13 family houses. Following the transfer of 9 young people in youth homes and boarding schools, the Village admitted 9 children. Of these 130 children, 33 attend the SOS Kindergarten Gitega, 85 are attending the SOS HG Primary School Gitega while 11 children do not yet have the school age. It should also be noted that 1 child has temporarily interrupted classes due to illness and he under medical treatment in Nairobi in Kenya. In connection with child school performance, the success rate is 90.80% at the end of the 2014-2015 school year against 94.5% the previous school year.

To strengthen children and youth emulation mind set, the Village has held an outing for 31 children and young people who were ranked among the top 10 of their classes. Thus, they enjoyed discovering some areas of public interest such as hydroelectric Station of Rwegura in the North of the country and the Farm of Mahwa in the South. This was both a fulfillment and learning opportunity for them.

In order to perpetuate family relationships between the Village and young adults, former Village children, gathered in an association called “Collectif des Adultes SOS de Gitega” (Association of SOS Adults of Gitega) have become real advisers of their little brothers and sisters. They celebrated the New Year 2015 at the Village which bright them up from their childhood. Ceremonies began with a variety of games. Each child, from the youngest to the eldest, enjoyed doing an activity and children got a great opportunity to have fun. Testimony sessions enabled children and young people to learn from their elders' experience.

In addition, the Village staff joins SOS adults in happy or unhappy events. Thus, five young people who got married have been assisted while another young person was assisted during his biological mother's funerals. We regret the death of an SOS adult who was assassinated and the Village staff sympathized with the bereaved family.

Two other events have really marked the Village. An SOS adult together with his wife and his biological family paid a visit to his SOS family a week after their wedding. In turn, the Village offered him a sheep in recognition of this exceptional visit. Another event worthy to be

mentioned is the pre-bridal price giving ceremony initiated by the bridegroom's family engaged to an SOS young lady.

In order to promote child rights, the Village has conducted further social surveys in collaboration with local administration. Thus, two houses were given back to 4 children in the care of the Village. These houses had been usurped by a local administration officer after the death of parents and after the admission of the children into the Village. In addition, following another survey, 2 other children retrieved allowances that were grabbed by their paternal uncle. Finally, a piece of land belonging to a young SOS has just been legally protected while it was also about to be stolen.

In terms of major events in the Village, the celebration of the Mother's Day which coincided with the SOS Children's Villages International Day on 23 June. At the same time, a new programme for orphans and other vulnerable children care through voluntary family was launched. This is "Foster Care". Therefore, 9 children are being cared for in 6 volunteer foster families. The African Child Day and the Global Peace Games for Children and Young people, 2015 edition have been vividly celebrated. The year 2015 ended with farewell ceremonies for an SOS mother and a driver who were retiring. Farewell also concerned night watchmen whose contracts were terminated following restructuring of the guarding system. Heads SOS units at the location have taken advantage of this opportunity to wish a Happy Year 2016 to children, young people and SOS employees.

In terms of capacity building of the village employees, the social worker and the pedagogical adviser attended the last sequence of their initial training in Kigali from 17 to 21 August 2015. They also participated in a National Training Database Programme on Villages children/young people from 9 to 13 November 2015. The pedagogical adviser, two youth leaders, an SOS mother and a mother-trainee attended meanwhile from 11 to 14 August 2015 a national training on child/youth psycho-emotional problems. It is also important to note that three SOS mothers and 1 SOS aunt participated in a second sequence of the initial training in Kigali, Rwanda from 21 September to 16 October 2015. Among the topics discussed, the most important are: "therapeutic use of daily life events", "what to do when a child exhibits psychological and learning difficulties", "Introduction to FENIX project for school resilience of children with learning difficulties", "sponsorship programme, Administration and household economy", "planning of child development" and "collaboration with child biological family".

3.3.2 SOS YOUTH FACILITIES GITEGA

Since protests against the third term of President Nkurunziza began in April, SOS young people Gitega, residing in Bujumbura for study reasons; often spend nightmarish nights because of guns crackling and grenade explosions. Most of these young people would like to move to quieter areas, as repression of the protest movement mainly targets young people. Beside unemployment, survival has become the main concern for young people.

In 2015, youth care facilities sheltered 146 SOS young people. Transfers in the same year occurred as follows: 9 young people have been transferred from family houses to Youth I while 7 others have been reunited with families of reference and 9 others resettled. The number of SOS young people at the end of the year therefore amounts to 137 including 82 young people in youth facilities and 55 reunited.

The practice of reuniting young people with their families of reference led to reduction of the number of young people in Youth I. Estimates show that the trend in Youth I will remain stable over a period of 5 years. Thus, the Village combined two young girls' facilities reducing the total number of facilities to five.

In the educational domain, the school year 2014-2015 has been disturbed because of the prevailing crisis in the country since April. Nevertheless, of 84 secondary school young people having sat for final examinations, 69 advanced; that is a success rate of 82.1% while it was 90.9% last year. In addition, one young person was admitted into the International College of Tema in Ghana in July. Note that in March, two other young people were enrolled in a University in China, under an SOS merit scholarship, as they both had been ranked first at the state examination among SOS young people.

With regard to young people who complete their education, one young person finished his secondary education at the SOS HG technical school Kigali in Rwanda and he is preparing a state examination in the same country, 8 young people obtained their diplomas while 3 others have presented their graduation work.

Regarding co-worker capacity building, 2 youth leaders participated in training on psycho-emotional care of children and young people with learning difficulties while two others participated in a training on entrepreneurship and micro project management. Let's mention that three young people also took part in it. One of them, who had already initiated a self-employment project, shared with participants his experience.

In terms of leisure activities, a football match of Village Gitega young people versus those of Muyinga took place at Muyinga. It ended with a score of 3 goals to 1 in favour of young people from SOS Children's Village Muyinga.

3.3.3 SOS KINDERGARTEN GITEGA

By the end of 2015, SOS Kindergarten had 93 children receiving an intellectual, socio-emotional and psychomotor development-centred education. Among them, there are 33 SOS Village children and 60 children from the neighbouring community including 3 of them have been granted a scholarship by SOS Children's Villages Organisation.

As far as pedagogy is concerned, educators developed a collection of pre-reading exercises and produced educational aids from local materials to supplement the already existing ones.

Regarding co-worker capacity building, the staff attended an exchange workshop on techniques to detect learning difficulties in November at the Kindergarten. In July, a workshop to update kindergarten curricula was carried out in Gitega for all SOS Kindergarten educators of the country under the facilitation of the National Education Coordinator.

As part of partnership with other Kindergarten institutions, four educators including 2 from Rumonge in the South of the country and two others from the surrounding community attended an introductory course for pre-school teaching methods at SOS Kindergarten Gitega. In June, kindergarten children and educators from "Future Hope School" visited SOS Kindergarten Gitega. On this occasion, a competitive game between children of both kindergarten institutions was held and prizes were awarded to the best. It was a joyful occasion for the children. In addition, Kindergarten Gitega received a donation made of educational materials from UNICEF through the Provincial Department of Education. Dolls were also offered by the Kindergarten head teacher called "The Pelican".

To gladly close the first term, Kindergarten solemnly celebrated Santa Claus. Varied and funny games enlivened that day. On the same occasion, Santa Claus that children had eagerly been awaiting offered them gifts. Children, parents and other guests who took part in these ceremonies were all delighted.

3.3.4 SOS HG PRIMARY SCHOOL GITEGA

By the end of 2015, HG SOS Primary School Gitega has 436 pupils while it had 421 last year. There are 109 children of our target groups of whom 4 from SOS Children's Village Cibitoke to continue 7th and 8th forms as well as 12 children granted a scholarship by SOS Children's Villages Organisation. The other 327 children are from the neighbouring community.

Regarding school performance, 58 candidates sat for the 2015 edition National competitive test giving access to the 4th cycle of Primary School and all of them succeeded. The school had a mean of 80.03% and has been ranked first at the Province level since 2010. The school success rate by the end of 2014-2015 school year is 97.3%.

In order to improve writing and speaking skills in English and French, teachers and the principal participated in July in a National evaluation workshop of grade 3 new curricula of SOS HG primary schools. The workshop also provided an opportunity for development and impregnation of grade 4 new curricula of the same branches. The workshop was held in the SOS HG primary school Gitega premises.

In terms of capacity building, teachers have received training in professional ethics and usefulness of pedagogical materials in teaching. Grade 3 teachers, assisted by the head teacher, shared the content of the new French curriculum with other teachers and SOS aunts. The teacher of mathematics in 7th and 8th forms participated in a training on Basic Education organized by the Ministry of Education in Gitega, in July. The school Director on his part received trainings on "Result-based management" in June, and "Project Cycle Management" in November, respectively in Gitega and Bujumbura.

Concerning partnership with other schools, an exchange of the national competitive examination preparation tests is still carried out with three private schools and one public school. SOS HG Primary School has materially supported that school and its success rate at the national competitive examination shifted from 81.1% last year to 94.4% this year.

In the context of leisure activities, a pedagogical trip was conducted for the fifth graders at Gitega National Museum. Football and basketball matches between the Gitega 7th and 8th form pupils' teams and those of two schools from the community were organised. SOS Primary School won in both matches.

3.3.5 SOS FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME GITEGA

During this year, the Programme has phased out 30 families with 100 Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs). Of the 30 families, 20 have been phased out by autonomy, 8 beneficiary families have been withdrawn for non-compliance and 2 because they left the Programme area. To replace families that have left, the Programme has admitted 35 families taking care of 100 OVCs. By the end of the year, the Programme is currently taking care of 1,000 OVCs living into 367 families.

Regarding education, 22 children are attending kindergarten, 536 in primary schools, 182 in high school and 10 others are attending vocational schools. One of them got a diploma in Mechanics while 4 obtained certificates from a Mechanics vocation training centre. 197 children have not yet reached school age. It is worth mentioning that 53 newly- admitted children who had dropped out will resume the next school year.

To promote the rights to OVCs' protection, provision and participation, the Programme has been coaching 42 child rights clubs operating in 42 schools from the community. The Programme also held four awareness raising sessions on gender-based violence through the competition games. In total, 5737 people were reached out. Thanks to capacity building of peer educators and the child protection committee members, child rights are ensured: 11 children were legally recognized by their biological fathers and 51 families have freely legalized their marriages.

Training and awareness raising workshops about community development have been achieved. Thus, all the Programme beneficiary families are active members of 97 credit and saving groupings initiated at community level. An amount of forty-seven million four hundred and fifteen thousand three hundred (BIF 47, 415,300) was collected during the year. Thanks to funds collected by the community, 107 children were provided with school supplies. Note also that 275 community members were taught how to read and write by community volunteers and 482 others are being trained.

Regarding sustainability of the Programme' actions, eight focal points were initiated in 4 areas in the fields of education, health, nutrition, advocacy, gender-based violence, savings and credit, child rights and farming. In the same light, eight homeless households had their houses constructed by community members.

As far as partnership is concerned, the African Child Day and International Child Rights Day were celebrated in collaboration with partners. The former participated in self-evaluation and activity planning sessions of the Family Strengthening Programme Gitega.

3.3.6 SOS MEDICAL CENTRE GITEGA

By 31 December 2015, the total number of patient visits amounts to 23,825 including 21,658 outpatients and 2,167 in-patients. The Medical Centre sensitized 414 people in family planning and 983 patients have been treated in minor surgery service. Nineteen thousand four hundreds and six (19,406) laboratory analyses for 9024 people were done. Note that the Medical Centre offers free care to 700 vulnerable people.

Regarding HIV/AIDS fight framework, the Medical Centre has conducted 2,048 screenings including 40 voluntary HIV positive cases; that is a seroprevalence rate of 1.95%. The Medical Centre is currently assisting 99 HIV/AIDS positive people. Fourteen of them are under Bactrim, 73 under Antiretrovirals and 12 women under protection of Mother-to-Child Transmission. Among the 12 women, 8 have given birth and their children are under the protocol Mother to Child Transmission. The Medical Centre provides to HIV/AIDS positive people a complementary package consisting of medicines, laboratory tests and food not covered by the Intensification and Decentralization Programme (PRIDE) via the CNLS (National Council for the Fight against AIDS). In the field of psychosocial care of HIV/AIDS positive people, home visits were carried out for 26 people, 2 exchange sessions and 1 therapeutic weekend were held respectively for 33 and 38 people living with HIV/AIDS.

Regarding the advanced strategy, 2 sub-stations have been set up and two people living with HIV/AIDS were followed at the sub-station Mubuga. Furthermore, 88 awareness raising sessions were held for 9, 811 people including 1,533 men and 8,278 women on various themes related to endemic and epidemic diseases, deficiency diseases and reproductive health. The Medical Centre was awarded the “Friend of youth health Centre” in implementing the project BIRATURABA.

In terms of training, an exchange workshop on HIV/AIDS, sexually- transmitted infections and drug addiction was held for 1,614 young people including 88 SOS young people. SOS mothers and aunts have received training in June on the prevention of domestic accidents, habitat and environmental hygiene. Another training on health and nutrition in favour of the focal point was conducted by the Family Strengthening Programme.

With the Medical Centre computerisation, 7 co-workers were trained on ICT. As far as capacity building is concerned, 4 employees of the Medical Centre were trained on project cycle management, 3 on HIV/AIDS, 6 on sexual and reproductive health of young people and adolescents, 2 on the care of sexual and gender-based violence. All medical staff has been trained on the right to health.

Note that 2 employees were recruited of whom 1 doctor and 1 Socio-economic Assistant.

3.4 SITE MUYINGA

3.4.1 SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE MUYINGA

Following insecurity prevailing in the country, Bujumbura capital in particular since April, the village received in June and July all the young people boarded at SOS HG high school and those from different youth facilities located in Bujumbura. Due to the crisis, children did not go on holidays in their respective families of reference as usual and were supervised in the village through games and football with the help from a coach-trainer from an organisation called "Right To Play".

SOS Children's Village Muyinga has 148 children in total including 4 young people, living in 15 family houses with a maximum capacity of 10 children each. This year, the number of children increased with 17 newly-admitted children in April and September: 1 full orphan, 13 semi-orphans and 3 foundlings.

SOS mothers and aunts warmly welcomed the 17 new children. The children were really in need of affection and care. In fact, due to the loss of parental care and severe poverty that is threatening the intervention zone, children were showing very serious health problems including severe malnutrition. Once in the Village, the children progressively adapted to their new environment thanks to diverse games and affection that the Village offers.

The most interesting case is of a 6 year girl who had experienced very hard living conditions before being admitted in the Village. When her mother died, she was shortly after abandoned by her father and stayed with her paternal grand-mother and her elder brother. As the grand-mother was bedridden, the child had to take over and play the role of family breadwinner. Today, she and her brother are enjoying childhood again in the Village; a safer and loving environment. Nevertheless, we regret the death of two children who passed away respectively in July and November 2015 due to sickness.

Regarding education, the Village has 144 children who attend school including 37 at kindergarten, 101 at SOS HG primary school, 4 at Mukoni public primary school and 2 young people attending St. André high school. As far as school results are concerned, all the 9 SOS children who attended the National competitive examination giving access to the 4th cycle of Primary School succeeded. In addition, the overall success rate of Primary School children in the 2015 edition competitive national test was 81.37% while it was 82.17% last year.

Concerning follow up of children with psycho-emotional problems, 15 children have regularly attended trauma healing sessions carried out by a youth leader trained by the Bible Society. Those sessions consisted of reading a text and answering to questions related to it, role play games, drawing, etc. Satisfying results were recorded. In fact, children who used to be scary shy, and less expressive are now well-adjusted and can freely express their feelings.

It is worth mentioning that the second phase of renovation and reconstruction of the waste water evacuation system and valves was completed in November for 4 family houses (Construction of the new cesspool, emptying of the septic tank and construction of 3 manholes). This contributes to hygiene conditions, health and welfare of children living in the family houses.

Concerning protection and advocacy for child's rights, meetings were organised in order to help children express their wishes and suggestions. A watch committee was established.

Together with ICR, World Vision, SWAA Burundi Muyinga Branches and local authorities, the Village took part in the African Child Day celebration in June.

In order to build co-workers capacity, SOS mothers and aunts took part in the training session on the "role of motivation in learning" organised by SOS HG Primary School Muyinga and SOS Kindergarten on 22 October 2015. Likewise, two sessions aiming at upgrading implementation of the Child Development Plan/Youth Development Plan were carried out in February and March for SOS mothers and aunts as well as SOS youth leaders. SOS aunts also attended 6 training sessions in February and March on the elaboration and planning of performance agreements and individual action plans. In August, two SOS mothers, two aunts and two youth leaders attended training held in Bujumbura on the care for children with psycho-emotional and learning problems.

In the same light, three SOS mothers took part in the 2nd sequence of initial training in Kigali from 21 September to 16 October 2015. The social worker and the pedagogical advisor attended training for trainers on nonviolent communication and peaceful conflict management in August in Kigali.

The Village ended the year with joyful seasons' celebrations. For the first time, one of the Village neighbours joined the SOS Village community and he donated for the New Year celebration.

3.4.2 SOS YOUTH FACILITIES MUYINGA

Following the insecurity prevailing in the country especially Bujumbura city since April, the Village deplores the death of 2 young people: a young woman studying at university was killed in a grenade attack near the former central market in Bujumbura and a high school young man who got kidnapped and killed thereafter. Another young man also passed away due to a prolonged sickness.

At the end of 2015, SOS Village Muyinga has 217 children (108 boys and 109 girls), while it had 221 in 2014. The Village counts 7 youth facilities housing 82 young people and 43 others boarded in different high schools including SOS HG high school. Moreover, 92 other young people were reunited with parents or relatives while 11 were resettled.

Concerning education, the Village has 16 young people studying abroad: 2 at SOS HG International College of Tema in Ghana, 3 at SOS HG Technical School of Kigali in Rwanda, and 11 at different Universities such Morocco, China, Rwanda, USA, Canada, and Hungary. Unfortunately, one of those students has misbehaved and therefore lost his SOS KDI scholarship. He has then interrupted his studies. Another student who has earned an International school leaving certificate from Tema has been admitted to Kalamazou International University in the USA. In 2015, the young people's success rate is 7% lower than the one of the previous year, falling from 93.8% to 86.40%, while 19 young people earned diplomas.

Regarding young people's individual performance, an SOS young lady, beside her studies at MC Gill University in Canada, took part in a fundraising campaign which was exhibiting SOS Children's Villages Burundi' achievements.

As for leisure activities, sports involving young people and Village children were organised during holidays. A football match of children and young people from our Village versus those from the SOS Children's Villages Gitega was organised in April at Muyinga. The match ended with 3 goals for Muyinga and one goal for Gitega.

Concerning young people employment, 3 SOS young people out of 52 job seekers have been hired. One has been hired by a public sector and 2 by a private sector despite the scarcity of job opportunities and socio-economic difficulties. Note that 2 youth leaders and 3 SOS young people were trained on entrepreneurship and micro project management from 31 August to 2 September 2015 in order to promote youth self-employment.

As far as upholding good relationship between young people and SOS families, young people often spend their holidays in their former SOS families. Some among them help their SOS Mother with supervision of their SOS young siblings, share joy and difficulties with the latter along with different events occurring in their family houses such as parties, baptism, death, etc. Let's end this paragraph by informing the Village rejoiced in the weddings of two SOS adults that took place in Bujumbura.

3.4.3 SOS KINDERGARTEN MUYINGA

SOS Kindergarten Muyinga has 94 children including 46 boys and 48 girls. Among them, 37 are from SOS Village and 57 from the community, including 7 under the Family Strengthening Programme, and 2 holding an SOS scholarship.

In order to make learning practical, pedagogical material on different themes taught were multiplied. These includes: visual aid of the human body, parties, wild animals, and means of transportation. Moreover, two exchange days were organized on the folding and on elaboration of the collection of pre-numeral exercises techniques. In July, the Kindergarten teaching staff attended a national workshop on validation of Kindergarten programmes which was held in Gitega.

In addition, the head of the Kindergarten attended training on Kindergarten management which was held from 23 to 27 November. This workshop was organised by a bishopric organisation for the solidarity and integrated development of Muyinga (ODEDIM). The Kindergarten head teacher got opportunity to share experience in teaching songs, short stories and recitations.

In order to raise the level of liveliness for 3 children of the Village with psycho-emotional problems, a talk session was organised with SOS mothers in order to discuss about children backgrounds and strategies that were worked out are yielding positive results. Those children who could communicate neither with SOS siblings nor with their educators ended up by being able to express themselves. In collaboration with SOS mothers, the Kindergarten made use of close follow up by encouraging those children to talk more often through songs and recitations. It is very fortunate to notice that the situation has improved and that children do no longer have communication problems.

As far as child protection activities are concerned, an explanation session of child right was carried out in February for parents whose children were newly admitted in Kindergarten.

Concerning partnership, the Kindergarten head teacher visited another pre-school institution called 'KAZEBIBONDO' for experience exchange in June 2015.

On the 'Christmas for children' party, an outing was organised on 23 December at 'ICIZANYE' Hotel, the best one in Muyinga. Children were given opportunity to present various games to their parents and gifts were distributed by educators.

3.4.4 SOS HG PRIMARY SCHOOL MUYINGA

In September 2015, SOS HG Primary School Muyinga opened grade 7th of the 4th cycle. Consequently, the teaching staff increased as two new teachers were recruited to teach sciences and languages while other minor subjects were taught by youth leaders. It is worth mentioning that all those teachers are university graduates.

On 31 December 2015, SOS HG Primary School has 441 pupils including 108 children from the Village and 333 children from the community. Among them, 10 are beneficiaries of the Family Strengthening Programme and 14 are SOS scholarship holders. It is worth reminding that the number was 436 in the 2014-2015 school year.

School results for 2014-2015 were satisfactory compared to those of the previous school year. In fact, the success rate was 94.1% while it was 93.9% in the previous year.

As far as the National competitive examination giving access to high school is concerned, all the 59 candidates who sat for it succeeded. Thanks to the good results, the communal education office awarded prizes to 10 top students and their class teacher. A certificate of honor was also awarded to our school for being always ranked first among Muyinga Province schools.

In July, teachers of grades 3 and 4 and the English teacher attended an evaluation session of French and English for class 3. On the same occasion, they worked out new French and English curricula for grade 4 and they immersed themselves in them.

In order to develop children's talents, multidisciplinary clubs were put in place and are chaired by teachers, each according to individual professional aptitude.

In order to build the capacities of Kindergarten, Primary school and Village's pedagogical staff, the principal of the SOS Primary school organised a workshop on the topic: "The role of motivation in learning" in October.

Last but not least, the 1st grade teacher trained his colleagues from another primary school backed by Catholic Church in September on pedagogical management and teaching French in 1st form.

3.4.5 SOS FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME MUYINGA

Family Strengthening Programme Muyinga operates on 3 administrative Zones of the Muyinga commune and 1 in the Gasorwe commune. At the end of 2015, it has 395 children from 123 families while it had 350 children living in 106 families in 2014. In fact, 23 families with 60 children in total were phased in whereas 6 families sheltering 13 have been phased out including 2 having reached autonomy and 4 others for breach of agreement.

On the education side, at the end of 2015, the programme is assisting 288 children including 22 attending Kindergarten, 221 attending primary school and 45 at secondary school. The success rate is 79% at primary school while it was 76% in 2014. At secondary school it is 89% while it was 88 in the previous year. It is worth mentioning that 3 young people are studying mechanic and car driving.

The Programme strengthened care givers' capacity and 50 people from community-based organisations in child care. The main topics that were dealt with are: The SOS child protection policy translated in Kirundi, the Burundian Code of people and families, management and finances.

The beneficiary families were encouraged to partake in the loan and saving groupings in order to reach autonomy. Some among them were able to set up income generating activities such as: selling bananas, avocados, beans, banana wine, etc. thanks to loans incurred from those groupings. So, 10 income generating activities have prospered and are supporting 10 families. In the same light, 105 families have received 2,120 Kg of beans seeds for the first agricultural season from September to December.

Concerning accommodation conditions, 18 neediest of the beneficiary families who had made bricks for building their houses were given doors, windows, iron sheets, nails and labour expenses payment.

With regard to advocacy and partnership, the Programme facilitated a planning and evaluation session of child right clubs operating in 13 primary schools and 4 secondary schools located near Muyinga town. In addition, sensitisation against early marriages was carried out during the African Child Day celebration. On the Child Right International Day, a workshop was carried out on Child Right International Convention, school dropout and the child-parents separation phenomenon.

Let's conclude by deploring the death of 2 young girls 15 and 16 years old who passed away in December due to sickness.

3.5 SITE RUTANA

3.5.1 SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE RUTANA

During 2015, the political and security crisis that was prevailing in the country did not spare children from Village Rutana who were victims of rumours. This caused decrease children and young people attention towards school activities.

The Village has now 141 children including 8 newly admitted children. Among them, 24 are registered at SOS Kindergarten, 63 at SOS HG primary school, 47 young people are attending secondary school and 1 young person is studying at professional school. Let's mention that 6 children have not yet the school age.

Regarding school results, 68 children from SOS HG primary school were promoted to next classes, which represents a success rate of 95.7% while it was 98.48% last school year 2014-2015. The success rate for young people still living in the Village is 80.6%. In order to improve those results, strategies have been worked out. These include the instauration of remedial classes and individual talks in favour of children with learning difficulties. Note that 1 young person has succeeded the competitive test for admission to the International College of Tema in Ghana, which makes a total of 3 SOS Children's Village Rutana young people admitted at that school.

Concerning events, the International Village Day, the African Child Day, and the International Mother Day were celebrated on 3 July 2015 and the day saw the participation of the SOS Village Rutana support association members, local authorities as well as other guests from the community. During this ceremony, dances, song, and games by the Village children and young people livened the day up. In the same light a drawing and composition competition was organised with the following topic: 'Let us eliminate early marriage and undesired pregnancies undermining African children'. At the end of the ceremonies, 3 drawing kits were offered to the best 3 drawers.

Talking about the World Peace Games for Children and young people 2015 edition, the Village organised different activities in November. They consisted of Football matches tournament for SOS and Family Strengthening Programme young people, cycling competition, oral questions on child rights, sport and a drawing contest with the topic: 'Where there is peace, children and young people can participate in various activities'. At the end of the ceremony, prizes were awarded by the Village Director and the representative of 'Right to Play' organisation to the best performers. They were composed of watches, foot balls, T-shirts, sweets and biscuits. Messages of peace, tolerance and fair-play were delivered by the SOS Children's Village Director and by the communal representative of « Right to Play ». In addition, 163 participants made commitment for peace upholding by signing the peace statement.

Speaking of co-workers capacity building, 4 SOS mothers and 2 youth leaders attended training on the care of child and young people with psycho-emotional and learning difficulties.

The training took place in August in Bujumbura. Note that 1 youth leader and 1 SOS mother also attended training on child protection with the topic: “Let’s protect children in or outside our programmes”. This training was organised in April in Bujumbura.

It is worth mentioning that the pedagogical advisor also attended training on project management and result based management in June in Gitega, the project cycles management in November in Bujumbura and non-violent communication and peaceful conflict management in August in Kigali. In the same light, 2 SOS mothers attended the second sequence of the initial training from 21 September to 16 October in Kigali.

Concerning partnership, the Village has received gifts composed of Foot balls, Volley balls and Hand balls from “Right to Play’ International organisation.

3.5.2 SOS YOUTH FACILITIES RUTANA

Since the beginning of demonstrations against President's third term candidacy, SOS young people living in Bujumbura for education reasons were disrupted by insecurity that was prevailing in the capital city. So, 5 reunited young people living in the "protest areas" would like to move to more secure areas of the capital because the repression is targeting young people mostly.

The number of youth facilities has moved from 5 to 4 after combining two youth facilities. This was due to the decrease of the number of young people living in those youth facilities. For the moment, the Village has 67 young people including 38 boys and 29 girls. Reunited Young people are 18.

Concerning education, during 2015-2016 school year, 64 young people attend secondary and technical school, 2 attend the HG International College of Tema in Ghana and 1 girl has interrupted her studies due to undesired pregnancy. Out of 18 reunited young people, 9 are dealing with higher education, 2 are waiting to be registered at university, 2 girls are still attending secondary school, 1 has dropped out due to undesired pregnancy while 4 young girls have completed vocational schools including 2 in car mechanic, 1 in metal construction and another one in hotel management.

With regards to 2014-2015 school year results, the success rate for young people attending secondary and professional schools was 69.56% while it was 82.6% the previous year. For reunited young people, their success rate was 90.9% while it was 100% the previous year.

Regarding child protection, a youth leader carried out advocacy activities for a young man who was rejected by his father. In fact, the youth leader had noticed the young person lack of motivation towards school activities and interaction with other people. After counselling sessions with the young person, the youth leader discovered that he was suffering from the absence of his father. The youth leader managed to get in contact with the boy's relative who knew the boy's father. This youth leader contributed very much in contact and advocacy with the father who ended up by accepting his son.

Concerning capacity building, 2 youth leaders and two SOS young people received training on entrepreneurship and micro project management from 31 August to 2 September 2015.

Regarding important events in youth facilities, 2 secondary school diplomas and 4 professional school certificates in cars mechanic, metal construction and hotel management were celebrated.

3.5.3 SOS KINDERGARTEN RUTANA

SOS Kindergarten Rutana has 95 children including 24 from the Village and 71 from the surrounding community among whom 7 from Family Strengthening Programme and 1 SOS scholarship holder. They receive education focussing on intellectual, socio-emotional and psychomotor development.

In order to build staff capacities, Kindergarten educators received training on chairing techniques related to empathic listening and on Microsoft Word software. In the same perspective, one of the educators carried out an experience exchange visit in another school of excellence. Once back, she organised a dissemination session on best practices. Moreover, the Kindergarten head teacher and educators attended a national workshop on evaluation and validation of the Kindergarten programme that was held in Gitega in July.

Regarding child protection, SOS Kindergarten organised 6 sessions on child rights for Kindergarten 3 children. Besides, the Kindergarten supervised 5 children from Family Strengthening Programme during homework. In addition, 4 vulnerable SOS primary school pupils holding SOS scholarship were provided with breakfast at Kindergarten. In the same light, an alarm system was elaborated and explanation sessions were organised for children. As far as protection of environment is concerned, a code of conduct was developed and explained to children.

Concerning leisure activities, Kindergarten organised in May an excursion in Rutana town centre. This activity was organised in collaboration with the parent committee. In December, the Santa Claus offered gifts to children. The latter, their parents and other guests expressed their joy.

With regard to experience exchange, SOS Kindergarten opened doors to neighbouring Kindergarten institutions for knowledge sharing. The Kindergarten head teacher trained 4 Kindergarten educators from one of Makamba pre-school institution on child rights, school management and classroom management. Kindergarten also organised supervision for 19 children from the community during holidays.

3.5.4 SOS HG PRIMARY SCHOOL RUTANA

SOS HG Primary School ended the year with 240 pupils including 63 from SOS Village, 2 from the Family Strengthening Programme and 13 SOS scholarship holders. The 2014-2015 school year results were satisfactory. In fact, the school success rate was 95.6% while it was 94.6% the previous school year. In the first term examination, the success rate for SOS schools and the target group are respectively 96.25% and 96.15%. In order to improve those results, the school organised a retraining of teachers on different topics such as school failure, teacher-pupil relationship, the special teaching methodology of languages and mathematics problems. In the National competitive examination giving access to the 4th cycle of primary school, all the 35 children who sat for the examination succeeded and the school maintains the 1st place in the Rutana province.

On the child protection aspect, the school organised an exchange day aiming at improving supervision of “Child’s Rights” and “STOP HIV/AIDS” clubs. On these occasions, pupils are given opportunity to think and have free talk on issues related to child protection. Moreover the school organised 3 parents general assemblies in order to sensitise them about child abuse. The school principal who is also chairperson of the child protection local committee carried out a survey on the child right compliance in the Village. The principal worked out a report with recommendations for the child protection improvement.

As far as partnership is concerned, the school approached a local NGO called FLORESTA in order to request for tree plants. This organisation promised to offer the Village 100 tree plants. Football matches were organised with other nearby public primary schools. Coaches and spectators highly appreciated the player’s fair-play. Pupils also participated in the Global Peace Games for children and young people.

3.5.5 SOS FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME RUTANA

The socio political and economic instability that was prevailing in the country did not spare vulnerable families of Rutana. This fact caused the weakening of solidarity and dislocation of the loan and saving groupings. In order to address this situation, the Programme intensified community strengthening activities on team work, which is one of the helpful factors of community development and solidarity.

The programme assisted 350 orphans and other vulnerable children living in 87 families in the beginning of 2015. The phasing out of a six children family in April, their replacement and phasing in of 86 new orphans and other vulnerable children in September made the total number of beneficiaries to 350 versus 430 OVCs from 104 families.

Concerning education, the Programme offered school material and uniforms to 330 children and young people. It also paid school fees for 22 children and young people from the most vulnerable families, and remedial class fees for 47 primary pupils with learning difficulties. Among 330 children with school age, 14 OVCs are registered at Kindergarten, 240 at primary school and 76 at secondary school.

As far as school results are concerned, the success rate moved from 77% in 2013-2014 to 79.8 % at primary school and from 95% to 80 % at secondary school in 2014-2015. The success rate encountered a decrease of 15% at secondary school due to the crisis that disrupted learning conditions both at school and at home.

In order to strengthen beneficiaries and communities capacities, the Programme conducted 16 sensitisation, information, communication and education sessions for 1,177 community members on team working, founding loans and saving groupings and the community approach in OVCs care. In addition, 329 care givers, 4 child protection committees, 13 school management committees, 20 local authorities, 26 coaches of child rights clubs, 4 from Community –Based Organisations and 90 Loan and saving groupings leaders participated in a workshop on child right, socio economic empowerment and OVC care by the community.

Regarding partnership, the Programme offered technical and financial support to the celebration of African Child Day and the International AIDS Day. As for the child protection, the programme collaborates with the local authorities and the “Centre for Family and Communities Development”. The programme also works closely with FLORESTA in the family economic empowerment, by providing management tools to loans and saving groupings founded and supervised by the Family Strengthening Programme. The CEPRODELIC (An Anglican church local NGO acts in agriculture area and supports 3 of the Community–Based Organisations partners by providing chemical fertilisers.

3.5.6 SOS MEDICAL CENTRE RUTANA

At the end of 2015, the Medical Centre recorded 13,163 visits while it carried out 12,789 in 2014, which implies an increase of 2.8%. Among those visits, 1,697 carried out by SOS children and young people and 11,466 composed of 4,246 children and 7,220 adults from the community. Ten thousands five hundred seventy-eight (10, 578) samples were also tested in the laboratory.

Regarding prevention medicine, 387 women opted for modern contraceptive methods. In addition, 385 attended pregnancy follow-up while 598 children were immunised. In addition, 60 sensitisation sessions on health promoting activities were organised in the neighbouring communities. The nurses and community workers insisted on most frequent sickness in the community such as malaria and dirty-hands diseases.

As far as the fight against HIV/AIDS is concerned, 632 people willingly did blood test after counselling sessions. So, 13 new patients were put under antiretroviral treatment. The seroprevalence rate is 2.05 %. The Centre has 205 HIV positive people including 106 who are under antiretroviral treatment and 99 are taking prophylaxis and Cotrimoxazole.

In September and December, the Centre carried out an annual medical check-up of the 225 SOS children and young people's health including 8 newly admitted in the Village. The results show that there has not been any particular case or serious diseases.

Concerning staff capacity building, the Socio-Medical Centre Director attended training on result-based project management in June in Gitega. She also attended training on project's cycle management in November in Bujumbura.