



Caritas

RWANDA



125TH
Celebration
YEARS
Evangelization





Caritas Rwanda

the poor at the core of every intervention

As part of the celebration of the **125th Jubilee** of Evangelization, Caritas Rwanda, ever since its establishment in last **66 years**, has been contributing to the development, health and well-being of Rwandans, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable, thanks to the collaboration with the Government of Rwanda and various development partners.



THE CONTENT

1.	Table of contents	01
2.	Chairperson Statement	02
3.	About Caritas Rwanda	03
	• Our History	04
	• Our Mission	05
	• Our Leadership Succession	06
	• Our Territory and Network	08
	• Our Interventions and Departments	09
4.	Key Accomplishment and Impact	10
	• Social Welfare	11
	• Development	15
	• Health	20
5.	Financial Contributors	25

Chairperson Statement



This double jubilee of 2025th anniversary of Christ's redemption to humanity and 125th of evangelization in Rwanda, Catholic Church is proud of Caritas Rwanda's 66 years of services to Rwandans, especially its contribution to the socio-economic development, health promotion, paying particular attention to the poor, the sick, the elderly, people living with disabilities, refugees, etc., as well as building a just and resilient society.

This booklet takes us through Caritas Rwanda's history, initiatives implemented, and achievements. It is a living testimony to the mission of the Church received from the Gospel, which is to make God's love concrete through charity acts. We express our sincere gratitude to Rwandan government and leadership at all levels, Caritas networks at all levels, churches and their leadership at all levels, and non-governmental partners, not to mention the thousands of volunteers and beneficiaries (participants) who, together, embody communion in love. To all of you, we offer a heartfelt thank you!

May this booklet be not only a reminder of the past, but above all an invitation to continue the mission of charity and service to the poor, so that the Gospel may continue to be Good News for every Rwandan. May the Lord abundantly bless those who are part of the great family Caritas, and may He help us to always remain instruments of His Mercy and Peace.

H.E. Mgr. Anaclet Mwumvaneza

Bishop of Nyundo Diocese

Chairperson of Caritas Rwanda

Solidarity
Equality
Lifesaving
Word of God
Resilient
Prayer
Human
Love
Health
Social Welfare
Partnership
Compassion

Service
Hope
Life

Protection
Social
Faith
Poverty Eradication
Education
Family Wellbeing
Solidarity
Advocacy
Voices of Poor
Caritas Rwanda
Empowerment
Justice
Education
Environment
Protection

Stewardship
Humanity
Inclusion
Awareness
Welfare
Partnership
Compassion

Integral Help
Development
Empathy
Safety
Equity
Caritas
Health
Care

Partnership
Safety
Care
Subsidiarity
End Hunger

Accountability
Right for All

Human Dignity

Our History

Caritas Rwanda as NGO

Registered as National Non-Governmental Organisation, by the law number 04/2012

2012

Membership

Becomes member of Caritas Internationalis (CI), a confederation of 162 National Caritas across the world

1965

Changes Name

from **Secours Catholique Rwandais** to **Caritas Rwanda**, by Prime Minister's Order No. 75/08

1963

Legal Registration

Secours Catholique Rwandais, a non-profit organization, by Prime Minister's Order No. 488/08

1960

Creation

Secours Catholique Rwandais established by Catholic Bishops of Rwanda

1959

1000
Evangelization
1700



Our
Leadership
Succession

Chairperson

1972



H.E. Mgr. Jean Baptiste
Gahamanyi

1997



H.E. Mgr. Thaddée
Ntihinyurwa

2022



H.E. Mgr. Anaclet
Mwumvaneza

Secretary General



Father
Roger Pien



Father
Carles Maria Giol



Father
Callixte Twagirayezu



H.E. Mgr. Anaclet
Mwumvaneza



Father
Oscar Kagimbura

1961



Father
Arthur Dejemeppe

1972

1973



Father
Cyriaque Munyansanga

1977

1978



Father
Michel Descombes

1995

1996



Monsignor
Oreste Incimatata

2013

2016



H.E. Mgr. Jean Marie
Vianney Twagirayezu

2023

Our Territory & Networks

Caritas Rwanda expanded from two (2) to ten (10) Diocesan Caritas* as follows:



Nyundo Diocese



Ruhengeri Diocese



Kibungo Diocese



Byumba Diocese



Gikongoro Diocese

November 10,
1959

September 11,
1961

April 10,
1976

November 14,
1981

February 14,
1952

December 20,
1960

September 5,
1968

November 5,
1981

March 30,
1992



Kabgayi Diocese



Butare Diocese



Kigali Archdiocese

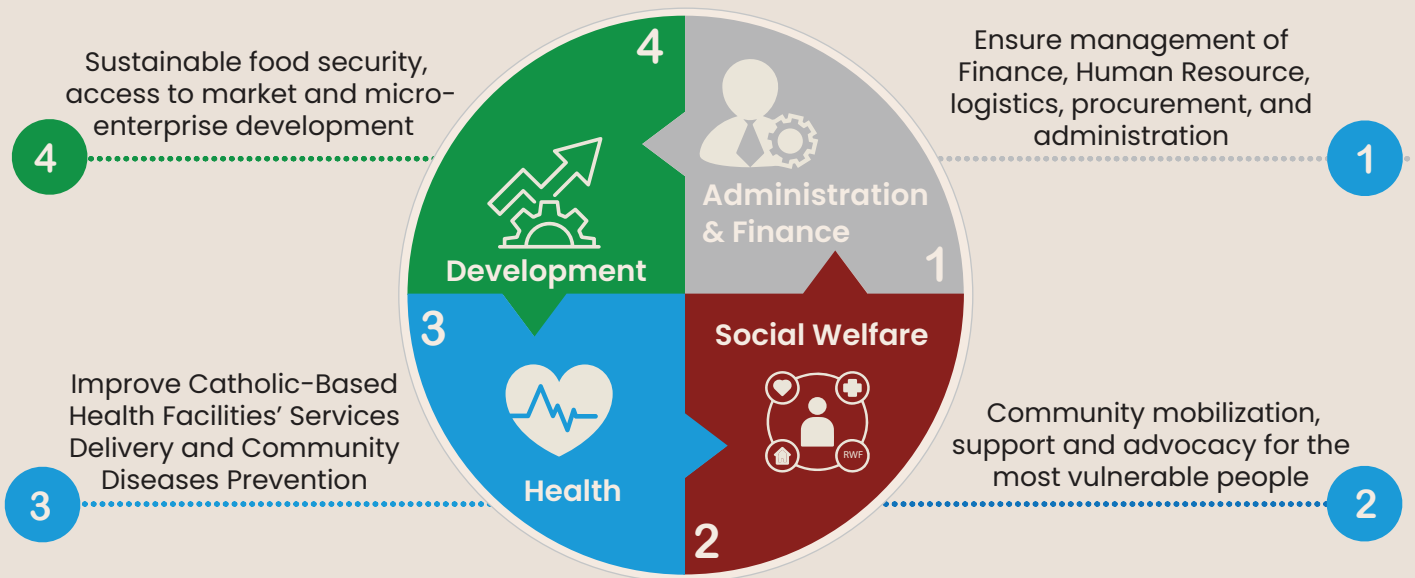


Cyangugu Diocese

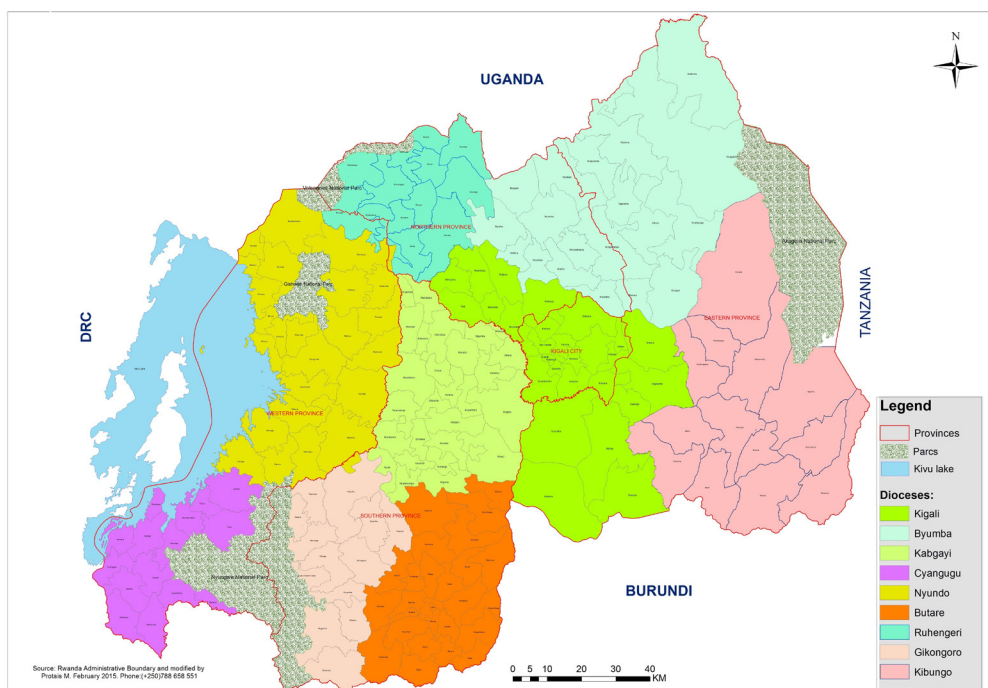
*Nyundo Diocese split into two Diocesan Caritas in accordance with its two pastoral zones (Gisenyi and Kibuye)

Our Interventions & Departments

Caritas Rwanda's interventions are designed, implemented, monitored and reported following four departments:



Administrative Map of Dioceses and Parishes



10 Diocesan Caritas

236 Parish Caritas

1,016 Sub-Parish Caritas

34,080 Basic Christian Communities

56,345+ Volunteers

Key Accomplishment & Impact



Until 1994, all Caritas interventions primarily focused on social welfare, but following the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, they were expanded to include Health, Development and Finance and Administration departments.

The key achievements per areas of interventions are presented below.



Over 7 Million People

have participated and benefited from Caritas Rwanda program's interventions.

Data source: <https://www.egliseecatholiquerwanda.org/>



Social Welfare

Since 1959, Caritas Rwanda has operated through the department of Social Welfare, known as the “Heart of Caritas Rwanda”, addressing the basic needs of vulnerable groups, including refugees, the elderly, people facing hunger, street children, orphans, prisoners, those suffering from illnesses, among others; addressing the consequences of poverty (SDG2) and disaster as well as advocating for human rights.

SOCIAL WELFARE IMPROVEMENT KEY INDICATORS

Over the past 10 years



Provision of Miscellaneous Support



15,642

Elderlies supported with clothes and received decent treatment



+331,148

People provided with food and non-food assistance



18,942

Prisoners visited and assisted in their basic need



95,155

People with PTSD* provided with psychosocial support



14,178

PWD** supported with assistive devices, medical care, and rehabilitation services



+9,456

Street children supported to reintegrate school and family



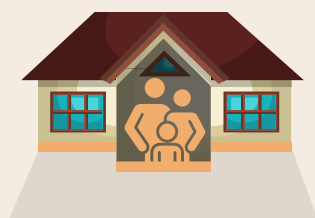
+8,211

Teen mothers assisted to achieve self-reliance



47,923

On case by case management support to bed-led and those with mental health issues



- **499,979** Vulnerable families supported with housing, construction materials for their decent shelter

- **18,969** Vulnerable families provided with cash grants totaling 4.8 billion Frw for their income generating activities



Promoting Access to Education



284,038

Children received school fees and essential learning materials

AaBb Cc Dd Ee
Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk
Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp
Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu
Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

48,477

People improved their reading and writing skills through adult literacy programs



345,502

People mentored and counselled to improve their well-being

* Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

** People with Disabilities

Success story



«Prayer, work, discipline, perseverance and focus allowed to achieved what I wanted, to get where I wanted to be.

I always aimed at being useful to myself and family members».

From Beneficiary to Benefactor: The Inspiring Journey of a Dedicated Teacher

Michel NDATIMANA

Michel NDATIMANA from the Diocese of Kibungo: after passing his primary school exams, his parents were unable to afford his school fees. Thanks to the help of Caritas, he was able to continue his fourth year at TTC Zaza. He worked hard and achieved good results, and in his fifth year he received a grant from the Imbuto Foundation.

At the end of his secondary education, he started working at Saint François Primary School, Kibungo Diocese, where he currently teaches, and attends Mount Kigali University during the holidays. He supports his own university studies and contributes to those of his brothers and sisters.

He came to thank Caritas and asked for a child he could help too. And now, he is assisting another vulnerable child, Hahirwuwizera Jean Paul.



Iyamuremye Soleil: A Journey of Resilience and Hope Thanks to Caritas Support

The child Iyamuremye Soleil, eldest in family of two, was born in 2012 in the district of Rwamagana, Fumbwe sector, Nyamirama cell, and Agasaro village. He was born with legs disability, left by his mother to the care of his grandparents. Soleil's family (grandparents) moved to the Gatsibo district in 2017 in search of a better life. His grandfather tried to get the child treated in Gatagara and at Gahini hospital. One day, a Catholic Christian advised the family to go to the Nyakayaga physiotherapy center.

In 2018, the priest of Nyakayaga asked Caritas Byumba for help after transporting the child to Gahini Hospital, and on September 27, 2019, the child underwent amputation. Gahini Hospital gave him a wheelchair, which he used until the end of the COVID-19 period, after which he was given a prosthesis. In 2021, Soleil started primary school in Gahini, where neighbors helped him get to school. He is currently in fifth grade and is one of the best students in his class, and continues to receive assistance from Caritas.



Development

Through the Department of Development Caritas Rwanda focuses on promoting sustainable agricultural practices through agro-ecological interventions, improving access to finance, protecting the environment (SDG 13, 15), and strengthening entrepreneurial capacities to foster inclusive and self-reliant communities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IMPROVEMENT KEY INDICATORS

Over the past 10 years



Enhancing Agricultural Production

Improved Agricultural Techniques



1,033,514 farmers trained on improved agricultural techniques, including climate-smart practices, soil fertility management, post-harvest handling, and agro-processing techniques to enhance productivity and value addition.

Agricultural Inputs

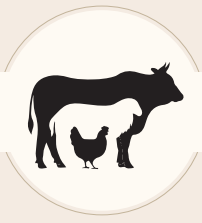


2,014,165 farmers received improved seeds and various agricultural inputs toward food security

Drying and Storage Warehouses



115 drying and storage warehouses constructed to improve food preservation, and reduce post-harvest losses among farming communities.



Enhancing Livestock Productivity

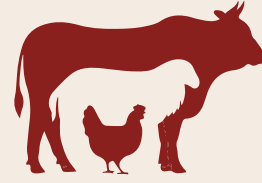
Training and Coaching



1,250,960

farmers trained and mentored in animal husbandry, breeding, animal health, and biosecurity

Revolving Credit Scheme



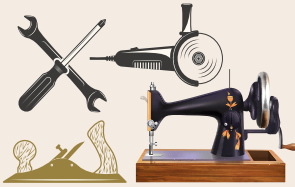
434,748

vulnerable households provided with cattle and small animals to improve soil fertility and nutritional status especially for children under-five



Financial Inclusion, Entrepreneurship, and Employment

Job Creation



163,375

young people received TVET support and created their own jobs or joined existing companies

Youth Entrepreneurs



175,374

youths trained on soft and technical skills, digital literacy and entrepreneurship to improve their businesses

Financial Inclusion



- **45,903** savings and lending groups with +979,882 people supported and trained in financial literacy, management, etc and 47% of all members were supported to start their business
- **169,654** individuals supported through cooperatives to improve farming practices, access to storages and collective marketing



Climate Resilience and Sustainable Resource Management



1,098 vulnerable families supported with solar panels (clean and sustainable energy)



184,601 people trained and supported to access clean water, becoming resilient to climate change and water scarcity



65,151 people benefited either from radical or progressive terraces, and +434 hectares of land were protected



83,862,170 agroforestry and fruit trees planted to improve nutrition, promote and protect the environment



Success story

From Vulnerable to Entrepreneur - Story of Léodomir Tuyisenge

Tuyisenge Léodomir, a 24 young entrepreneur from Bugungu village, Gasheke cell, Bushenge sector, Nyamasheke District, dropped out of school at the level of senior 3, due to financial issues and joined Ubumwe-Bugungu Saving Group supported by Gera Ku Ntego youth project in 2021, where he applied for a loan worth Frw 380,000 invested in MTN Mobile Money, Tigo Cash, and airtime selling services in his community.

After paying back the first loan, he applied for a second one worth Frw 200,000 and added the profit made from the previous to increase the investment up to Frw 2,500,000, invested in motorbike driving school and can now have a monthly income worth Frw 250,000 and has already paid back his loan.

“Despite having dropped from school due to poverty, I am determined and committed to boosting my wealth and impacting positively my community.” Said, Léodomir.





Health

The overarching mission of Health Department is to coordinate equitable health care across the country through Catholic Health Facilities, ensuring the availability and accessibility of affordable and quality preventive, promotional, curative, palliative, and rehabilitation health services that complement the efforts of the Government of Rwanda through the Ministry of Health, and to contribute meaningfully to the achievement of Universal Health Coverage.

IMPROVED HEALTH OUTCOMES KEY INDICATORS

Over the past 10 years

Key Information



Up to date, Caritas Rwanda coordinates **120** catholic-based health facilities, including **7** District hospitals, **4** specialized hospitals, and **110** health centers



2,352 health professionals, including doctors, nurses, midwives, and lab technicians and **1,497** support staffs, who deliver health services to in/out-patients



4,775,047 people across the country received both clinical and community health services



Nutrition and Early Childhood Development (ECD)



45,122

ECD centers established, equipped, and provided comprehensive nutritional support and care for children aged 3-6 years



1,794,595

children accessed ECD services that improved their well-being and laid a strong foundation for lifelong health and development



3,585,673

caregivers trained and cascaded knowledge on ECD 6 pillars (nutrition, health, WASH, early learning stimulation, child protection and positive parenting)



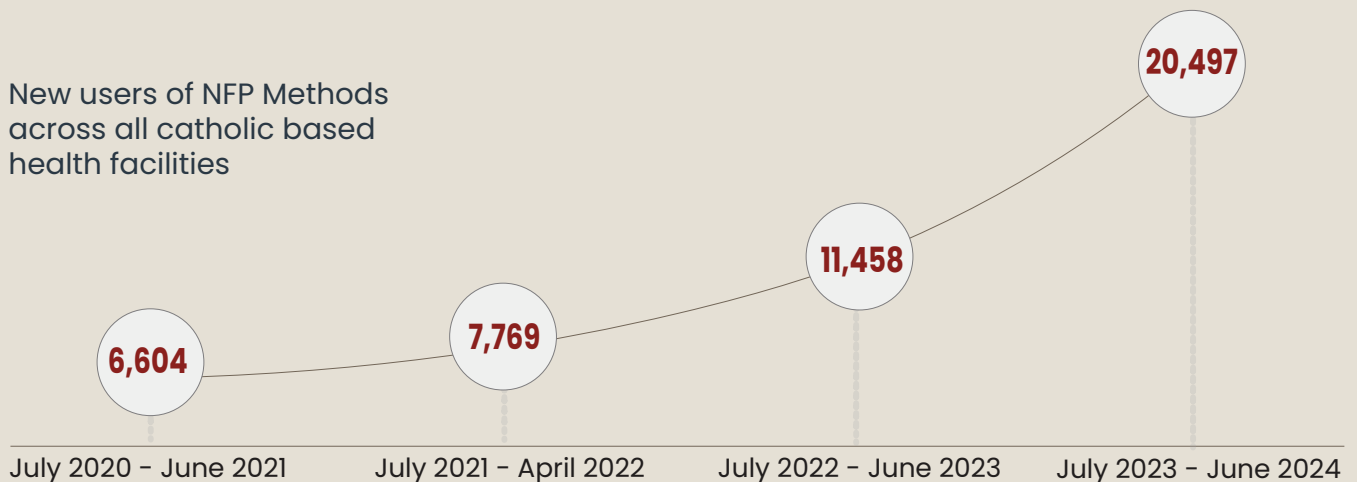
79,570

malnourished children treated and rehabilitated through 2,724 Village Nutrition Schools (VNS)



Enhance the Uptake of Natural Family Planning (NFP)

New users of NFP Methods across all catholic based health facilities



+3,734,778 people sensitized on natural family planning as of 2024, and 442,205 couples adhere to NFP methods



Prevention of Communicable and Non-communicable Diseases

Malaria Prevention and Control



A remarkable decline in reported malaria cases from **570,161** in 2020 to **129,423** in 2023, a 77% decrease.

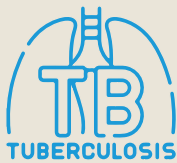
TB Prevention and Control



220 healthcare providers from both health centers and district hospitals trained in TB prevention, diagnosis, and treatment to improve quality of care



2,760 community health workers trained and mobilized to support TB detection, referral, and follow-up at community level



15,792 suspected TB cases identified and referred for diagnosis, 849 confirmed TB positive and received treatment following the National TB Protocol

HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control



Each year, **+85,000** individuals are tested across Catholic-based health facilities, and receive pre/ post-test counseling and psychosocial support



100%-100%-98% (HIV testing, treatment and viral load suppression) was achieved on 2024 targets of 95-95-95.

- More than 33,800 people living with HIV are on ART, and receive treatment adherence, routine viral load monitoring, and continuous follow-up and care.



Over **45,000** Adolescent Girls and Young Women reached with education on sexual and reproductive health, HIV prevention, and gender-based violence (GBV)



Success Story

Families' Integrated Support for the Improved Childcare and Healthy Nutritional Status

With the support of USAID Gikuriro Kuri Bose Program, The U RWANDA RW'EJO and TWITEZE IMBERE respectively Village Nutrition School and Saving and Internal Lending Communities groups of Kabindi Village, Gahunga Sector, Burera District, have blossomed into a fully integrated nurturing Care Hub, self-supported and driven entirely by the community. To the center, 59 parents along with their children under the age of six, access integrated services, including nutritional education, savings and lending, life skills, income generating activities and early childhood development (ECD) among others.

This village nutrition evolved from supporting 30 household members on recommended maternal, infant, and young child nutrition to the integrating early learning activities, parental engagement sessions, and child development monitoring into the program under the guidance of USAID Gikuriro Kuri Bose Program.

The parents and caregivers volunteer their time and resources and parent committees play the leadership roles to ensure center's ongoing success. This success story is a powerful testament of the impact of community ownership and inclusive support to the programs' participants. By fostering self-sufficiency and nurturing local leadership, the USAID Gikuriro Kuri Bose Program has empowered Kabindi Village to create a sustainable resource for generations to come.

"This site is more than a place for meals and growth check-ups; it is a vibrant, Village-owned space for early childhood learning and development. The site now offers a nurturing environment where children not only receive nutritious meals but also participate in educational activities that stimulate cognitive, social, and emotional growth"

NAMAHORO Dyna, a Maman Lumière, ECD Caregiver.



Financial Contributors

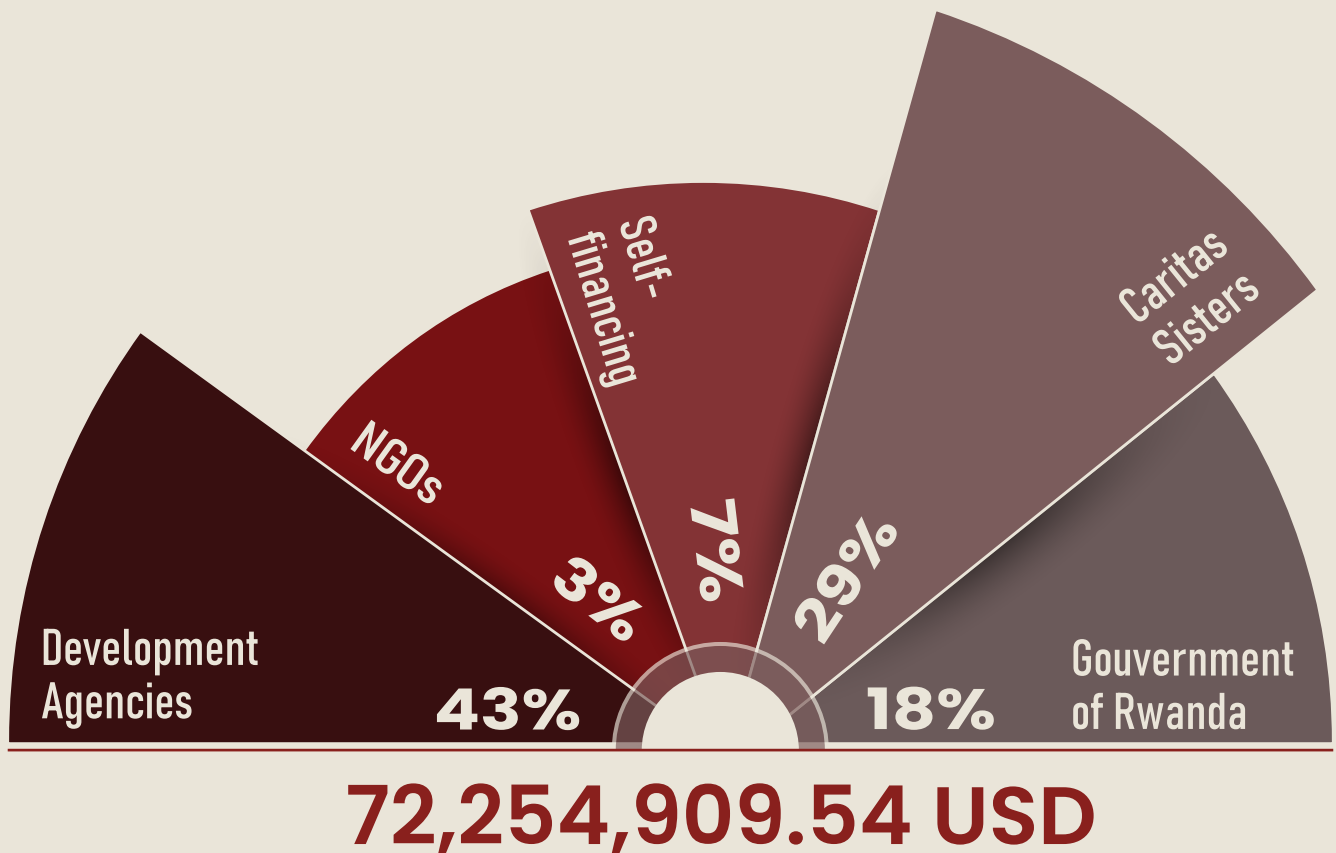
The achievements reported in this booklet have been possible through strong collaboration and active participation of various financial contributors, including local communities as per the distribution below


Month of Charity and Mercy



Locally Caritas Rwanda and its network, during August of each year campaigns on Charity and Mercy (Ukwezi kw' Impuhwe n' Urukundo), mobilized over **1.5 billion** Rwandan francs between 1999 and 2024, to support the most vulnerable people.

Caritas Rwanda Total Incomes and Budget 2015-2024





We extend our sincere gratitude to all of you, for unwavering support, generosity, and encouragement, which have been and will continue being instrumental and driving factors to the success and impact of Caritas Rwanda work to most vulnerable people.

Father
Oscar KAGIMBURA
Secretary General



PARTNERS



Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of Health





Get Involved

 KN 76 AV 3

 info@caritasrwanda.org

 [@CaritasRwanda](https://twitter.com/CaritasRwanda)

 www.caritasrwanda.org