

USAID RWANDA AND CHF INTERNATIONAL – RWANDA

CHF International is implementing the new USAID Rwanda Integrated Improved Livelihoods Program (IILP) funded under the Feed the Future initiative.

Locally, the program has been named USAID Ejo Heza, which means “Brighter Future” in Kinyarwanda, and will be implemented over the next five years, from 2011 – 2016. USAID Ejo Heza will improve the livelihoods and food consumption of 75,000 of Rwanda’s very poor, particularly women, by building the capacity of low income households to access financial services necessary to grow their enterprises, as well as assist financial service providers to develop and deliver effective products to the rural market. As health and nutrition impact people’s ability to be productive, USAID Ejo Heza will also integrate nutrition messaging throughout its program activities as well as promote kitchen gardening and improved food handling to support more nutritious diets.



Rural households participated in livelihoods activities such as livestock rearing through CHF’s CHAMP program.



Through the USAID/Higa Ubeho program, CHF is supporting HIV-affected youth and vulnerable households to improve food security.

The goal of USAID Ejo Heza is to improve the livelihoods and food consumption of 75,000 of Rwanda’s very poor, particularly women. This will be achieved through the following four program elements:

1. INCREASED DEMAND FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES

USAID Ejo Heza will address the demand side issues that limit the use of financial services to improve livelihoods and food consumption by promoting savings and use of credit, financial literacy and basic literacy and numeracy, while expanding access to business development and agricultural extension services.

2. INCREASE SUPPLY OF FINANCIAL SERVICES TO RURAL POPULATIONS IN THE WESTERN AND SOUTHERN PROVINCES

USAID Ejo Heza will seek out, engage and provide targeted support to those financial service providers, including MFI’s SACCO’s and potentially commercial banks, with the interest and capacity to expand their outreach and develop products that meet the needs of the rural market, ensuring a more inclusive and holistic financial service sector. USAID Ejo Heza will work closely with donor programs and structures providing technical assistance and financial support to increase access to credit.

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3. BEHAVIOR CHANGE AND SOCIAL MARKETING

USAID Ejo Heza will integrate Behavior Change Communication (BCC) strategies across its program elements. This is central to increasing demand for all the program elements including sensitizing populations on the benefit of financial services, improving production practices, working cooperatively and improving access to health and nutrition service.

4. HEALTH AND NUTRITION

USAID Ejo Heza will implement complementary short-term and long-term actions to ensure that the most vulnerable populations attain skills and knowledge that lead to greater food security and greater understanding of diet, nutrition and hygiene.

CHF INTERNATIONAL IN RWANDA

CHF International's mission is to be a catalyst for long-lasting positive change in low- and moderate-income communities around the world, supporting them to improve their social, economic and environmental conditions. Since 2005, CHF has been working to support vulnerable Rwandans and help them improve their livelihoods. Through the PEPFAR-funded Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Program (CHAMP), which CHF implemented from 2005- 2009, nearly 40,000 orphans and vulnerable children received health and nutrition education, clinical services, and the supplies to help them continue their education. Additionally, over 1,000 child-headed households received vocational training because they were unable to return to traditional educational institutions.

CHF International Rwanda's USAID/Higa Ubeho program aims to assist over 70,000 of the country's most vulnerable families by partnering with 20 international and local partners and the Rwandan government.



Through CHAMP, vulnerable households received vocational training and educational support.

RWANDA PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

ADEPR - <http://adepr.org>

AEE - <http://aeerwanda.org>

DUHAMIC-ADRI - <http://www.duhamic.org.rw>

CARITAS - <http://www.caritas.org>

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

Save the Children - www.savethechildren.org

Food Economy Group - www.feg-consulting.com

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