

# USAID/HIGA UBEHO “Be determined and live.”

improved  
health  
resilience  
economic  
strengthening  
determination  
capacity  
building



Through the new USAID/Higa Ubeho Program, CHF International and its partners will support 72,000 Rwandan families—orphans, vulnerable children and people living with HIV and AIDS—to develop sustainable strategies for responding to health and economic shocks.

Building on the success of the 4-year, USAID/PEPFAR-funded Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Program (CHAMP), the new USAID/Higa Ubeho Program will support stability and resiliency among 72,000 HIV/AIDS affected and other vulnerable Rwandan households, across 20 districts and 5 provinces.

The strategic objectives of USAID/Higa Ubeho include:

- Increasing vulnerable households’ access to quality health and social services
- Improving household resilience through economic, nutritional and educational investments
- Strengthening local government and civil society capacity for health and social service provision

The program name, USAID/Higa Ubeho, means ‘be determined and live’ in Kinyarwanda. The concept of determination is linked to the idea of resilience, a key feature of USAID/Higa Ubeho. Determination directly involves the program beneficiaries, not only in receiving program support but in leveraging this support against their household strategies for improving health and economic outcomes.

USAID/Higa Ubeho beneficiaries are called ‘abahizi’ — another Kinyarwanda word that refers to people committed to participating in achieving a goal. Abahizi play an important, active role in improving their quality of life—not only receiving services but taking initiative in defining elements of service delivery and household resilience response.

USAID/Higa Ubeho is comprised of 17 Rwandan Partner Organizations (RPOs) and 3 international partners. Over time the consortium will also include a cadre of private sector partnerships leveraged both for in-kind resources and technical expertise.

**CHF International** will lead the USAID/Higa Ubeho consortium, providing overall technical, administrative management and monitoring & evaluation, as well as technical leadership for OVC care and support, economic strengthening, health and social services and capacity building.

**Catholic Relief Services** (CRS) will lead the program’s food security, nutrition and education activities.

**CARE International** will manage sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) prevention efforts and ensure that the program appropriately accounts for gender issues – including male engagement – in a mainstreamed fashion.

**17 RPOs**, many of which partnered with CHF International under CHAMP, come with a range of technical specializations and will manage field level implementation and monitoring of all USAID/Higa Ubeho activities, directly connecting to abahizi through Community Intermediaries.

USAID/Higa Ubeho is a partner of the National AIDS Control Commission (CNLS) but will also work in close partnership with the Ministries for Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF), Health (MINSANTE), Agriculture (MINAGRI) and Education (MINEDUC), as well as with the Rwanda Cooperatives Agency (RCA).



**USAID**  
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International  
Rwanda

## Donors

- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

## Program Timeframe

- October 2009-October 2014
- Phase I: Oct. 2009-Apr. 2011
  - Phase II: May 2011-Oct. 2014

## Geographic Coverage

20 districts, 5 provinces

Bugesera	Rwamagana
Gatsibo	Nyagatare
Gicumbi	Rulindo
Gakenke	Gasabo
Kicukiro	Kamonyi
Muhanga	Ruhango
Nyamagabe	Nyaruguru
Karongi	Ngororero
Rutsiro	Nyabihu
Rubavu	Nyarungenge

## Program Consortium

- International Partners:
- CHF International
  - Catholic Relief Services
  - CARE International

## Rwandan Partner Organizations

- ARCT-Ruhuka
- ADEPR
- AEE
- Caritas
- DUHAMIC ADRI
- EPR
- FAWE
- HAGURUKA
- ICYUZUZO
- IMBUTO Foundation
- PAMASOR
- RRP+
- RWAMREC
- SWAA-R
- URUNANA DC
- WE-ACTx for Hope
- WIF



## Program Structure

### Health & Social Services

USAID/Higa Ubeho will provide a range of psychosocial, life skills, public health promotion, HIV/AIDS and SGBV prevention and educational services to abahizi.

### Building Household Resilience

This technical area includes economic strengthening, food security & nutrition and formal education assistance, through which USAID/Higa Ubeho will provide holistic support to abahizi household’s most critical resource needs.

### Capacity Building

Building upon existing tools and practices, USAID/Higa Ubeho will provide organizational development and technical support to RPOs and district government entities implementing program services for abahizi.

### Crosscutting Activities

CHF/Rwanda and its partners have identified 4 crosscutting themes that will provide greater depth and coherence to USAID/Higa Ubeho activities.

- **Orphan & Vulnerable Children (OVC) Care and Support** — Assist OVC through educational, psychosocial, nutritional, economic strengthening and agricultural services.
- **Behavior Change Communication** — Promote knowledge, attitude and behavior transformation among abahizi through a series of mutually-reinforcing messages, linked to program services and distributed through mass communication channels.
- **Gender Mainstreaming** — Fully integrate men and women into program services. Promote non-discriminatory social norms among abahizi, based upon existing positive deviant practices.
- **Monitoring & Evaluation** — Use both qualitative and quantitative tools to assess program progress, using a data-for-decision-making approach.

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