



LEAD ANNUAL REPORT OF IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

I. Introduction

The genesis of **Leadership, Entrepreneurship and Accountability for Development** (or LEAD, in acronym) stemmed from the 44th US President Barack Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI). In 2014, the first 6 Rwandans were selected to participate in one of the YALI programs, the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders. The following cohort of Mandela Washington Fellows joins their predecessors to implement a Menstrual Hygiene Management project in four secondary schools across the country. This project and several other projects that followed strengthened the collaboration and built the relationship of the fellows.

Rwanda YALI alumni's eagerness to stay together and apply the training from YALI to impact their communities birthed the creation of LEAD, a growing non-profit making organization that currently brings together all alumni from Rwanda who participated and successfully completed distinguished programs of the United States Department of State for African Emerging Leaders.

The creation of LEAD creates more credibility, opens more windows of opportunities for collaboration and sustains the legacy of leadership. In 2017, a cross-section of Rwanda's chapter of the YALI program came together and officially founded LEAD. A steering board was elected and a notarized statute was adopted.

Current members of LEAD are presently carrying out the Rwanda Governance Board's process of local non-government organization registration. This process has fostered a new vision of leadership to emerge with an ongoing plan of sustainability.

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II. Activities Implementation and achievement

No	Planned Activities	Budget in (Frw)	Achievements
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing farming clubs and recruitment of participants students. 	150,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three schools were recruited, (Mutunda secondary school, Mwurire secondary school and Imbazi primary school) and 150 students were recruited as member of the clubs.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trainings on Good Agricultural practices and Establishment of vegetable garden. 	1,500,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theory and practical training were conducted in all our partner schools and 3 gardens were established from each school and 5 vegetables were chosen to farm (Carrots, spinach, amaranthus, beetroot and onions).
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning Visits between Clubs from three schools and a visit to a youth-led agribusiness. 	500,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GS Students from Mwurire Secondary school had a learning visit from Mbazi Primary school and both students were taken for a field visit to a nearby youth led agribusiness.
4	<p>Organizing U.S Exchange awareness campaign with the aim of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing awareness of the U.S. Exchange Programs among students and staff, particularly on the benefits of the programs and how to apply for them. Understanding how the exchange programs help students and professionals to comprehend more about themselves and the world around them. In addition, how they can gain an opportunity to 	3,000,000	<p>U.s exchange awareness campaign were organized in the university of Rwanda Huye campus and in PIASS (Protestant institute of arts and social sciences) and the following were achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 700+ young students around UR Huye campus and PIASS and their administration were engaged. Promoted the understanding of educational and cultural programs and how they support personal growth of global citizens.

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	<p>exchange ideas with their fellows for a lifetime.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning about how the educational and cultural programs support personal growth and lead to a deeper understanding of foreign cultures and improve international relationships. • Learning about the benefits from additional opportunities such as being part of a large community of the International Exchange Alumni that offers support to alumni of U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs through resources such as International Exchange Alumni, a global online community for current and former USG-sponsored exchange program participants; Alumni Associations in every region of the world; Alumni related events; and Opportunities to give back to your community via volunteering, projects, or mentor programs. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created the space for students and staff to interact to and connect with the program alumni for future engagement. • Shared online resources such as YALI online courses that support their personal and professional growth. • Established a strong relationship with the campus administrators and other stakeholders that shall enable future engagements.
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant 2,000 trees (1,000 regular and 1,000 fruit trees) in a selected area in Huye District to increase reforestation and conduct a discussion with the community afterwards to raise their awareness in climate change and environment conservation. 	3,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2000 Trees (Edible and other Agro forestry trees) were planted via UMUGANDA organized by LEAD in sectors of MBAZI and NGOMA in Huye District, trees were distributed in communities to plant them in their households' farms but also, we planted some in the schools that we are partnering with.

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6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct workshops (1 day workshop per school) for the girls in STEM fields to further their skills in their respective courses, and cultivating in them the spirit of research. 	600,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 high school students (studying at Groupe Scolaire de Butare, Ecole Notre Dame de la Providence Karubanda, Groupe Scolaire de Parents: CEFOTEC, Centre Scolaire Elena Guerra, Groupe Scolaire Mwulire) were trained.
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize workshop on disability rights Provide supportive tools (ex: wheel chairs) to the children, youth and women living with disabilities. 	5,400,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 300 children, youth and women living with disabilities benefited from this program.
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching sign language to Legal practioners in an effort to improve access to justice for the people living with disabilities (including children, youth & women). 	5,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About 500 People including disability rights groups that work in the field of legal aid and advocacy benefited from this program.

III. Key challenges encountered and measures taken to overcome them.

Throughout this campaign, we have faced numerous challenges including:

- Internet connections – as some of the participants and panelists were engaged virtually.
- Effects of COVID-19 as potential participants from High school were not able to participate in the first round of engagement.
- Dry season have affected some of the gardens at Schools. To overcome these challenges, manual irrigation techniques were adopted (use of watering cans);

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- Irrigation of school gardens during the holidays in some schools. Since we started the project a little bit late, students will go in vacation before their crops are mature and harvested, consequently there will be none of the students to water the plants in vacation. So, the projects will look for a part time worker (Preferably the student neighboring the school) for irrigation activities.
- Some seeds did not germinate due to pests and diseases from the soil;
- Limited time for practical activities by students due to the very packed students schedule at their schools.

IV. Lessons Learned

- Theoretical and practical sessions from this project raised students' interest towards opportunities in agriculture.
- Schools are in full support of this project and willing to provide more lands for the activities of the project.
- his project has the potential to contribute to the national school feeding program through the provision of nutritious vegetables to the schools.

V. Way Forward.

- Sharing resources with the campus administration to be shared with their students and staff for future reference.
- Hosting similar workshops in the future and invite more A alumni to share more of their experience e with the potential programs' participants.

VI. Annex / Photos



Photo: Beetroot and Spinach planted in schools



Photo: Student learning the application of fertilizers.



Photo: Both Primary and secondary school students were equipped with knowledge on hygiene and sanitation.



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Photo: LEAD Member giving remarks to university students



Photo: Tree Nursery at our partner schools



Photo: Awareness campaign at PIASS (Protestant institute of arts and social sciences).



Photo: Dragon Jamie, Deputy Public affairs from US Embassy in Rwanda in Kigali planted trees with participants.



US Alumni in Rwanda introduced this program in order to be engaged in Education, Health and environmental program of the country.

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**Photo: Old people appreciated the program
, and carry trees to plant at home**

**Photo: LEAD IS Engaging children in
environmental protection.**

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