



COALITION UMWANA  
KU ISONGA

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

# TABLE OF CONTENT

FOREWORD .....	4
BACKGROUND .....	5
REALIZED ACTIVITIES BY KEY AREAS OF INTERVENTION.....	6
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE COALITION UMWANA KU ISONGA .....	8
BEST PRACTICES .....	8
CHALLENGES & MITIGATION MEASURES .....	9
LESSONS LEARNT .....	9
FINANCIAL STATUS .....	9
PARTNERSHIP & NETWORKING.....	11
SUCCESS STORIES .....	11
CONCLUSION .....	12

## FOREWORD

The Coalition Umwana ku Isonga (CUI) has increased its range of activities of child rights promotion and child protection in Rwanda.

The present annual report is developed as compilation of what the Coalition has realized during the year 2020-2021. CUI recognizes the efforts of each and every member, partner and stakeholder who contributed to the achievements which Coalition is proud of.

This report is partitioned in the following important parts that are linked with the key areas of intervention of the CUI:

- Policy analysis and Advocacy in Child Rights,
- Child Protection and Participation,
- Capacity building in child Rights.
- Reporting on and monitoring the implementation of UNCRC, ACRWC and UPR
- Research on child rights related issues

During the realization of activities contained in this report we have encountered some challenges which were mostly aligned with consequences of Covid 19. We are grateful for the contribution of our partners, Save the Children International, Plan International for which financial support provided for the realized activities.

Other potential partners were interested to work with CUI, our thanks are also addressed to ECPAT International and EACRN respectively global and regional network which the Coalition Umwana ku Isonga is a member.

The Coalition is committed to continue its advocacy work at National level and will continue the assessment works that lead to the improvement of the implementation of the UNCRC and the ACRWC and their periodic recommendations received by our country.

We wish to readers of this report and to our partners to maintain their good collaboration with the CUI in the promotion and protection of children's rights. Together we will succeed.

## BACKGROUND

The Coalition “Umwana ku Isonga/child at the forefront” (CUI) is a Non -Governmental Organization registered under the certificate n° 219/RGB/NGO/LP/04/2018 with the Rwanda Governance Board (RGB). CUI has been created with the purposes of networking and alliance building with a mandate to assess and report on the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC), on one hand, and to coordinate all activities carried out by individual member organizations within the parameters of advocacy, implementing and reporting on mentioned treaty bodies, on the other hand , Currently CUI is composed by 23 organization members.

### 1. Vision

The coalition expects to get all the children, boys and girls, living in full enjoyment of their rights and fulfil all their duties without any hindrance, and exempted from any form of discrimination.

### 2. Mission

The Coalition’s mission is to coordinate and increase capacity among member organizations to defend and protect the rights of the child.

### 3. Objectives

- Coordinate the efforts of member organizations in capacity building, experience sharing, reporting, and evidence-based advocacy in the defense and protection of child rights;
- Provide a framework for discussions on the rights of the child and to promote cooperation in the fight against violence against children;
- To assess the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and welfare of the child and carry out advocacy in favor of that implementation;
- Promote the principle of equality of rights and duties between the children of both sexes.

### 4. Areas of Intervention

- Policy analysis and Advocacy in Child Rights,
- Child Protection and Participation,
- Capacity building in child Rights.
- Reporting on and monitoring the implementation of UNCRC, ACRWC and UPR
- Research on child rights related issues

## REALIZED ACTIVITIES BY KEY AREAS OF INTERVENTION

### Policy analysis and Advocacy in Child Rights

The Coalition Umwana ku Isonga appreciates the collaboration and involvement of different stakeholders that gave opportunities to the CUI of providing its support in policy analysis and advocacy around child rights.

Under this area, the Coalition Umwana ku Isonga realized different activities including the provision of inputs in the revision of National Gender Policy, together with Rwanda Civil Society Platform and Profemmes Twese Hamwe, CUI provided inputs in the Education Policy which is under revision process. CUI has also conducted a National Budget analysis of four consecutive years (2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021) focusing on Education, Health and Social Protection which was shared to different concerned public institutions such as MINECOFIN, MINEDUC, Ministry of Health, MIGEPROF, NCDA, MINALOC, PARLIAMENT. This was in line of advocating for increase of budget in the identified areas to address child rights related issues observed in these sectors.

### Child Protection and Participation

The Coalition Umwana ku Isonga appreciates the collaboration and involvement of different stakeholders that gave opportunities to the CUI of providing its support in addressing issues around child protection and participation.

#### 4. Child Protection

In line of child protection especially on the right to health and survival the Coalition Umwana ku Isonga has paid community health insurance (mutuel de santé) to 100 children from Gatsibo District.

The Coalition Umwana ku Isonga actively intervened in the case of a child who has 12 years old today but has been defiled at 3 years by her step father and this caused her the physical disability. The Coalition Umwana ku Isonga found this child hosted in a center called AVEH UMURERWA which takes care of children with mental disability while she had no mental disabilities. From this, the Coalition took initiative of following up her case through advocacy at different concerned institutions including NCHR, NUDOR, Humanity and Inclusion and took actions like consultations and diagnosis to the Orthopedic Specialist of Gatagara Hospital towards her medical treatment and appropriate education.

In partnership with GASABO district, under "Operation Usafi" the Coalition Umwana ku Isonga as a member of GASABO Child protection network, played its role in unifying a street child with his family.

#### 5. Child participation

CUI has facilitated 1 female child to attend an exchange learning tour in Malawi about child participation in decision making, where she shared experience with her fellows from Malawi where she has been given an opportunity to share experience of participating in different processes including decision making, national budgeting process, development of child rights related alternative reports, advocacy around child rights issues at local and national institutions.

CUI in collaboration with Gasabo District engaged 30 children from Gasabo children's forum

and 19 from CUI member organizations including children with disabilities in providing their views on National Budget Framework Paper 2020-2021. CUI engaged 22 children from its member organizations, 16 were girls including 1 with disability and 6 boys including 1 with disability to provide their views in CUI UPR child focused alternative report.

In addition to that, CUI appreciates the participation of children in its initiative of breaking the silence about providing SRHR information between parents and children and fighting Sexual and Gender Based Violence. For example, two girl children participated in TV and Radio talk shows organized by CUI on breaking the silence about the sexual reproductive health and rights information among children and parents and fighting SGBV in Rwandan Society.

## 1. Capacity building in child Rights

The Coalition Umwana ku Isonga appreciates the collaboration and involvement of different stakeholders that gave opportunities to the CUI of providing Capacity building in child rights to its member organizations, children forum committee and other CSOs members.

The Coalition Umwana ku Isonga has trained 59 Civil Society Organizations members on child rights based monitoring, child protection and international instruments on child rights including its 19 member organizations, 18 CSOs members (6 females and 12 males) working on child rights in Gatsibo District, 22 members (9 females and 13 males) of Rwanda Youth Organizations Forum. In addition to that, CUI supported its member organizations to gain skills in engaging regional mechanisms on child rights through participation in trainings.

106 media practitioners including 77 males including 1 with disability and 39 females were trained on child rights promotion and child protection.

257 teachers including 135 males and 122 females from Burera, Kirehe, Nyarugenge and Ruhango Districts were trained on positive discipline in every day teaching and every day parenting. 76 children from Nyaruguru Children Forum Committee including 45 females and 31 males were trained on child rights advocacy focusing on their role in the implementation of the Children's Summit resolutions.

As far as capacity building is concerned, CUI after translating the ACRWC recommendations and Agenda 2040 organized training sessions to children and CSOs members in order to increase their knowledge and carry out evidence based advocacy.

CUI has shared different tools to its member organizations and other stakeholders such as routers with Mango 4G internet, posters and rulers with positive discipline message to teachers from Burera, Kirehe, Nyarugenge and Ruhango.

## 2. Reporting on and monitoring the implementation of UNCRC, ACRWC and UPR

In line with its mandate of assessing and reporting on the implementation of the United Nations Child Rights Convention (UNCRC), the African Charter on the Right and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), Coalition Umwana ku Isonga has prepared and submitted alternative reports to the concerned treaty bodies. In addition to that, CUI has collaborated with public institutions in monitoring the implementation of the above mentioned child rights instruments such as the evaluation of the level of implementation of the ACRWC recommendations given to the Government of Rwanda in 2019.

CUI has prepared and submitted the child focused UPR alternative report 2020. More to that CUI as a member of National Task Force on Treaty Bodies reporting, has contributed in the elaboration of the national road map of the implementation of received UPR recommendations by the Government of Rwanda. Furthermore, CUI will continue to strengthen collaboration with key institutions including MIGEPROF and NCDA in setting national road map of implementation of UNCRC, ACRWC & UPR recommendations given to the Government of Rwanda.

## 6. Research on child rights related issues

The Coalition Umwana ku Isonga in order to carry out evidence based advocacy and interventions, conducted different researches and assessments on child rights issues such as Research on factors contributing to child defilement in Bugesera, Gatsibo, Nyaruguru and Kigali City (Gasabo, Nyarugenge and Kicukiro) and an assessment on child rights status in Rwanda focusing on right to education, health and social protection in collaboration with National Commission for Human Rights.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE COALITION UMWANA KU ISONGA

- Consideration of the CUI inputs in the revision of the National Gender Policy which was approved by the Government in February 2021.
- CUI is proud of its interventions in the case of a child with disability has resulted in taking actions like consultations and diagnosis to the Orthopedic Specialist of Gatagara Hospital towards her medical treatment and appropriate education.
- Children whom their capacity were strengthened by the Coalition, have benefited of an exchange learning tour in Malawi. From this tour, they have acquired information from their fellow children and experienced the capacity of conducting a regional discussion on child rights issues with a comparative analysis of both countries.
- CUI and different stakeholders including youth, CSOs, media practitioners and children have adopted a framework which will help in coordinating their efforts in child protection and participation.
- Consideration of CUI recommendations by OHCHR in UPR recommendations given to the Government of Rwanda in 2021. Among the 160 UPR recommendations accepted by the Government of Rwanda around 10 recommendations are talking about children's rights, 4 among the 10 were also proposed by the Coalition UMWANA KU ISONGA alternative report.

## BEST PRACTICES

- Engaging CUI member organizations in different activities
- Engaging children in CUI activities
- Team work
- Sharing our work with different stakeholders including international, local, public and private institutions
- Lobbying and collaboration with policy makers

## CHALLENGES & MITIGATION MEASURES

During the reporting period, CUI encountered challenges that hindered the implementation of activities due to restrictions measures of Covid 19 pandemic such as lockdown, prohibition of social gatherings including meetings, trainings, etc. There have been new priorities which needed CUI interventions during the pandemic period ,however CUI didn't respond due to lack of emergency funds.

Nevertheless, CUI managed to cope with the situation by:

- Conducting meetings, trainings online, using small groups of people to gather them.
- Engaging media through radio and TV talk shows

## LESSONS LEARNT

- Engagement with leaders and decision makers from different institutions including public, and private with respect and transparency in CUI advocacy activities contribute to the achievement of aspired positive changes in child protection.
- Having facts based information as a tool contributing to the successful advocacy work.

## FINANCIAL STATUS

### CUI FINANCIAL REPORT 2020 & 2021

PERIOD	Year 2020	Year 2021
OPENING BALANCE	3,900,116	22,669,577
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Grants from donors		
Save the Children International	91,460,765	53,357,443
Plan International	65,640,784	71,138,065
ECPAT International&EACRN	17,234,590	0
Total revenues	174,336,139	131,495,508
Other revenue		
Membership fees	150,000	250,000
Total Other revenues	150,000	250,000
Total (Revenues & Opening balance)	<u>178,386,255</u>	<u>154,415,085</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Administrative costs		
Staff costs		
Net salaries	31,991,809	33,424,028
Taxes & RSSB Contributions	17,000,241	17,761,312



Total Staff costs	48,992,050	51,185,340
Travel	5,573,125	5,398,000
Consummables	9,614,441	10,026,308
Other Expenses(OCD,Insurance)	6,588,765	7,684,765
Total Administrative costs	70,768,381	74,294,413
Programme Activities		
<b>I.Child Rights Governance Project/SCI</b>		
Outcome 1.1. Civil society organizations and children are effectively monitoring child rights in Rwanda	23,311,156	13,491,834
Outcome 1.2: Government of Rwanda strengthen Child rights institutions and puts in place systems to fulfil children's rights.	4,942,040	3,726,929
Outcome 1.3 Public budgets are more child sensitive and equitable for all children in Rwanda	12,321,040	734,500
Objective 2: Child protection systems are strengthened to prevent and respond to violence against children		
outcome 2.1: Strengthened legal framework protects children from physical and humiliating punishment in all settings	6,205,597	5,107,433
Outcome 2.2: Community-based child protection systems are strengthened and prevent violence against children.	2,036,895	3,019,560
<b>II.Strengthening Child Protection and SRHR Project/PLAN</b>		
2.1. Conduct research on root causes of child defilement in zone of operation .	-	19,240,285
2.2.Conduct training of Coalition members on Child right based Monitoring for Advocacy work and Reporting on the International treaty bodies ; UNCRC, ACERWC, UPR , CESCRC.	11,683,709	5,778,484
2.3 Training of CSOs on Planning , Monitoring & Evaluation of child rights activities and How CSOs apply the Istanbul principles in their daily work,	12,452,009	3,021,000
2.4. Support the coalition to produce,submit and present alternative reports to UN and AU treaty bodies and engage in Regional and international child rights meetings (UNCRC, ACERWC, UPR , CESCRC)	-	14,886,072
2.5.Conduct training of media practitioners on SGBV/VAC, news production and publication with regard to child protection issues	5,870,500	-
2.6.Organize media talk shows (radio and TV) with children, adolescent, young people, teen mothers, policy makers and Journalist for exchanging on fighting SGBV, VAC, Stigma and discrimination of children with disability.	-	1,388,236
<b>III.ECPAT Activities</b>	<b>6,125,351</b>	<b>6,344,691</b>
<b>Total Programme Activities</b>	<b>84,948,297</b>	<b>76,739,024</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>155,716,678</b>	<b>151,033,437</b>
<b>Variance</b>	<b>22,669,577</b>	<b>3,381,648</b>

## PARTNERSHIP & NETWORKING

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS	UN AGENCIES	INTERNATIONAL NGOs	REGIONAL NGOs	LOCAL NGOs
MIGEPROF	UNICEF	Plan International Rwanda(with an agreement)	EACRN (with an agreement) with short term MoU	RCSP
NCDA	UNWOMEN	Save the Children International (with an agreement)	ACPF	RYOF
NCHR (with an MoU)	UNDP	Humanity and Inclusion	Graça Mashell Trust(GMT)	NUDOR
MINIJUST		SOS Children's Village Rwanda	CSO Forum	IRDP
MINALOC		ECPAT INTERNATIONAL (CUI is a member) with short term MoU		GLIHD
MINICT				PTH
MINECOFIN				REFAC
MYCULTURE				LAF
PARLIAMENT				Prison Fellowship
MINEDUC				RMC
MoH				
MIFOTRA				

## SUCCESS STORIES

"A girl child was defiled at 3 years by her step father consequently this caused her the physical disability. In addition to that, the child was placed in a center which takes care of children with mental disabilities while she had no mental disabilities. The Coalition Umwana ku Isonga got this information from one of its member organization and took initiative of following up her case in order to the needed interventions to address the case. Therefore, after visiting the center and carrying out different analysis, CUI took actions like consultations and diagnosis to the Orthopedic Specialist of Gatagara Hospital towards her medical treatment and appropriate education. Currently, the child is hosted in Gatagara and she is being cared for in an appropriate way."

## CONCLUSION

Coalition Umwana ku Isonga expresses great appreciation to all its partners and stakeholders including government institutions, international and local NGOs, media practitioners and particularly children who contributed to the CUI's achievements.

Though the Covid 19 pandemic hindered CUI implementation of planned activities including participation in the physical meetings of different international treaty bodies such as presentation of child focused alternative report on UPR, participation in State report presentation, and other meetings planned at regional and continental level, the Coalition continued to collaborate with the Office of High Commission of Human Rights, ACERWC etc and CUI with its member organizations have been able to participate virtually in different planned meetings.

**+250 788319614 (HQs Phone)**  
**Po Box: 6549 | Kigali-Gasabo**  
**E-mail: [cuirwanda@gmail.com](mailto:cuirwanda@gmail.com)**  
**[www.cuirwanda.org](http://www.cuirwanda.org)**