



**USAID** | **RWANDA**  
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INKUNGA Y'ABANYAMERIKA

# RWANDA FAMILY HEALTH PROJECT

**GRANTEE COMPLETION REPORT**

**CONTRACT NO. AID-696-C-12-00001**

**24 August 2014**

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**Rwanda Family Health Project  
Grantee Completion Report**

**I. General Information**

Grantee Organization Name: **IMRO (Ihorere Munyarwanda Organization)**

Grant Activity Title:

**“Obstetric Fistula Prevention and Repair Awareness Campaigns” (OFPRAC)**

Grant Number: ***RFHP-SGA-IMRO-001***

Date of submission: **24 August, 2014**

**II. Major activities and accomplishments**

**a. A summary of the grant activity objectives and achievements;**

The fact that many cases were reported referred to Kibagabaga hospital and up to 50% of people treated during the April 2014 sessions were from the targeted districts, is it evidence that Fistula awareness was very much increased in Nyagatare, Gatsibo, Kayonza and Rwamagana communities.

This was possible due to different implemented activities including theatre performances, radio programs, meetings and door to door outreaches among others.

Men, women and young adolescents know what is fistula, how to prevent it and where to find help when someone is in need for treatment. Were From the testimonies collected, we realized that stigma and discrimination is no longer an issue. Local authorities, health facility staff and community health workers were empowered with capacity to contribute to the prevention of fistula and refer new cases to the nearest health facilities.

**b. A summary of the activity implementation process, lessons learned and recommendations;**

The outreach campaign included various community and mass media activities, thus community theatre performances and dialogues, radio drama series, radio spots and door to door outreaches. We implemented various preparatory activities including a 3-day workshop to develop, pre-test and validate campaign messages, trained up to 536 Community Health workers (CHWs) on fistula prevention and organized orientation meetings at both district and community levels to involve all levels in the implementation of the campaign.

By the end of the campaign, we had conducted 12 theater performances and interactive quizzes on fistula related messages were we reached a total number of 18,800 people. The audience included community members, school teachers and students, opinion leaders and local authorities at the district levels, sector and the cell levels.

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The activity was also implemented in closed collaboration with the targeted districts but also with the Ministry of Health, USAID funded Rwanda Family Health Project, members of parliament as well as the local media.

Door to door outreaches involved 13,375 households to sensitize them on fistula prevention and identifying possible cases. That number makes 99% of our target. IEC materials including brochures, posters and banners with key messages were, developed, printed and distributed in the 4 targeted districts.

The radio spots were aired in each district to mobilize community members to attend the outreach events Ishyngiro, Izuba and Nyagatare Community radios also aired mini drama-series and live talk shows to increase awareness of fistula prevention. The talk shows were facilitated with technical support from the MoH and RFHP representatives.

**c. Description of project impact and results, based on the indicators presented in the application as well as any other anecdotal information, stakeholder or observer commentary;**

The implementation of the campaign was a success because we have been able to train 99% (536) of our targeted Community health workers, organized all 12 theatre performances and reached 18.800 people. CHWs were able to reach 99% of targeted households with key messages of fistula prevention and the impact of all that is the fact that Kibagabaga hospital have receded more cases in April 2014 sessions than during previous ones.

The positive impact of this project is that local authorities, CHWs and even community members at different levels are now all involved in prevention of fistula. And health facilities are collecting more cases because now people know the signs of fistula and the fact that it is a curable disease. The outcome from all these efforts is that the demand is very much increasing.

It is very important to recognize here the great collaboration IMRO had with the Ministry of Health, all targeted district authorities and all needed technical support provided by the RFHP team during the implementation of this campaign.

It was not easy for our team to work on the analysis of data from the pre and post knowledge survey.

**A discussion of how Chemonics' grants funding contributed to the objectives of the health facility.**



This Grant has contributed in strengthening the capacity of the targeted health facility staff through a training organized on fistula prevention.

The targeted health facilities were directly involved in the planning process of the campaign whereby they contributed to the identification of community health workers (CHWs) to be trained, identify strategic sites to organize theatre performances, community radios to use and who will be involved in each activity including mobilizing local authorities and community members to attend theatre performances, community meetings and door to door outreaches.

The health facilities were able to collect data regarding suspected cases with the support from CHWs, local authorities and IMRO field staff. This was very helpful because some of the cases were confirmed and treated at Kibagabaga hospital.

The good and positive think is that, the targeted health facilities are continuing to collect and send names and physical address so that they can all get the opportunity to be treated.

The campaign activities were included in the district JAF plans and it was then easy for every health facility to report all related activities Above all, Nyagatare, Gatsibo, Kayonza and Rwamgana district authorities were also very much involved in every single activity of the campaign from the planning to the implementation and reporting. The Mayor of Gatsibo participated in the official launch of the campaign; the Vice Mayors in charge of social affairs not only attended different theatre performances but also followed up other community mobilization activities including meetings and radio talk shows. This has contributed a lot to the great success of the campaign and they committed to make sure the districts continue increasing awareness on fistula prevention even after with the knowledge gained by the health facility staff and CHWs.

**On behalf of Grantee:**

Name of Grantee Organization/Nom de l'organisation: **IMRO (Ihorere Munyarwanda Organization)**

Name of Authorized Signatory: **Aimable MWANANAWA, LLB, MAIRD**

Title of Authorized Signatory: **National Coordinator of IMRO**

Date: **24<sup>th</sup>, August, 2014**

