



**FOOD FOR
THE HUNGRY**



BURUNDI

Kabarore

**Year-End Community Summary
Fiscal Year 2023**

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Walking with **Kabarore**



2015

2025



Communities:
20



Total Households:
8,381



Total Population:
38,456



Program Participants:
6,144

BURUNDI

Kabarore just completed their eighth year of partnership with FH Burundi and their accomplishments are multiplying! The communities have made trend-breaking strides in childhood literacy. As the poorest country in the world, Burundi faces huge challenges in malnutrition, food insecurity, access to clean water, and education. Through a program called Let's Learn to Read, schools in Kabarore saw tremendous success during the last national exams. Kabarore—the poorest area in the province of Kayanza—came in 10th position at the national level!

Initiatives like the Nayandaro swamp irrigation system, seed distribution, livestock farming, entrepreneurial cooperatives, and Savings and Loans groups are all working together to achieve sustainable livelihoods and food security. Families who received livestock from FH continue to pass along their first offspring to those still waiting. This year, 23 goat kids and 31 piglets were “paid-forward” in this way. The recipients of these animals will then pass along their first offspring to the next families, and so it goes until the last household is reached.

Kabarore is leaving no one behind as they move forward. Members of the Batwa minority group are being equipped with agricultural and livelihood skills, as well as integrated into the larger community through equality training and leadership empowerment.

As FH continues to work with communities to relentlessly combat poverty in all its forms, we expect that the communities of Kabarore will build strong resilience and be equipped to lead their community development after the completion of their partnership in 2025.



Anne-Marie bravely participates in a reading competition!

IMPACT STORY

Nayandaro Swamp Development Leads to Increased Food Security

Story collected and written by Pascal
Photos by Nestor, Ngoma Hilltop, Kabarore

The Ngoma Hilltop area where Laurent and his family farm has fertile soil, but the terrain is rugged and difficult to access, causing low crop production which resulted in a lack of food and income.

Laurent says, “My house was not insulated and our hygiene was not satisfactory—our latrine had a wooden slab and no lid, and we had no way to wash our hands after going to the bathroom. We had a problem feeding the children. Paying school fees and purchasing school materials for our children was a burden for me.

“Emotionally, every day, in my thoughts there was a question of how I will overcome this problem? First, how will I have sufficient production from my farming to feed my whole family—mainly our five children—and, second, cover the other burdens in the family, like sending them to school?”

Laurent’s Farming Triumph

The answer to Laurent’s questions came in the form of an FH funded development of the Nayandaro Swamp, including irrigation. Laurent quickly rose as a passionate leader in this project, working closely with the lead FH agronomist.



“The community has benefited by producing more than before, especially those who use this marsh. We learned good agricultural practices and the use of irrigation works during the dry season.”

— Laurent

Laurent and the other farmers learned how to practically increase their production through leveraging the new irrigation system, using better seeds, following a crop rotation schedule, and working together to improve the Nayandaro Swamp. With the new irrigation system, farmers can grow crops all year round—even in the dry season!

Laurent’s production improved! “I used to plant 20 kilograms of bean seeds and only harvest 40 kilograms. Now, I planted 10 kilograms of better seeds provided by FH and harvested 300 kilograms!” Laurent’s family’s diet has dramatically improved and they have income from crop sales. Laurent can afford to pay his children’s school fees! They fixed their home, upgraded their latrine, and now have a permanent handwashing station, resulting in better health for the whole family.



Laurent’s maize field is thriving—his harvest is 30 times greater, helping him provide for his children’s education.

EDUCATION

Ramping up literacy for kids



"I participated in a reading competition and was the best Grade 2 pupil of my school and the other schools! When I told my parents, they couldn't believe it. Then our teacher came to [my] home to congratulate me. I was very proud that day and encouraged and motivated to study hard."

— Solange, nine years old

58

teachers trained in early grade reading (Let's Learn to Read) **benefitting 2,048 Grades 1 - 3 students**

512

Cascade group leaders trained in early childhood stimulation; they **trained 6,144 parents**

2

classrooms constructed and 120 desks provided to Karma School

419

desks distributed to 7 schools

120

children Grades 1 - 6 participated in a **reading competition** as seen in the photo 📷

1,969

children received **school materials**



HEALTH

Fostering healthy kids



123

lactating mothers received health education sessions on **exclusive breastfeeding**



50

children assisted with **fees for ophthalmologic services** including medicine and glasses

20

health volunteers and **20 Leader Mothers trained** to monitor children 0-59 months for malnutrition as seen in the photo 📷

10

gender-segregated latrines constructed at Yandaro school



Training parents on providing a balanced diet.

"I participated in a refresher training for community health volunteers. FH revamped and supported us; today we are monitoring the [growth and] nutrition of children. Due to FH's empowerment, we will continue to monitor the growth of our children ourselves with little support from outside of the community. We extend our deepest appreciation."

— Philippe, Community Health Worker supervisor

LIVELIHOODS

Farming their way out of poverty



"I am among the Lead Farmers in the Nayandaro Swamp. Before being trained by FH on good agricultural practices I used to sow 16 kilograms of maize seed and harvest 370 kilograms. But after I adopted practices like using selected seed, row sowing, and mulching, I harvested 600 kilograms of maize after sowing just 2 kilograms of seed!"

— Philippe, a Lead Farmer

635 farmers received **925.5 kilograms of maize seed** and **200 kilograms of bean seed**

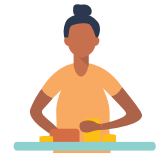
160 farmers received **tools** to enable them to maintain the irrigation infrastructure at the Nayandaro Swamp for years to come

60 farmers learned how to **plant two new varieties of rice** and saw a good harvest

187 Savings and Loans groups with 4,670 members reported a cumulative **savings of \$70,000 CAD**

32 youth personally benefited from their **sewing cooperative** and continue to turn a profit

21 members of a **beekeeping cooperative** produced 53 kilograms of honey and sold it for a profit



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Training and follow-up



40 church leaders and 40 youth trained on leadership, conflict resolution, and gender equality

80 church leaders and youth met **quarterly** to assess how they were applying their training

Batwa engaged in an exchange with Kirundo peers, acquiring skills to **start a cooperative and craft high quality stoves**

Batwa people, church leaders, and youth **trained on business skills** and entrepreneurship

137 people participated in a **gender equality training**



"After several training sessions, members of the Batwa group have started some livelihood activities like crop production and rearing small livestock. Thanks to FH for raising awareness, training, provision of improved seeds, and accompanying us. This is the first of its kind to our people."

— Pascal, representative of the Batwa minority group of Ngoma community

Spiritually, my family members have hope for the future because we see progress in our living conditions. Our nutrition has been improved, especially by eating vegetables since we acquired knowledge on how to layout kitchen gardens. Socially, our relationships have improved!

— Immaculée



The new irrigation system in Kabarore ensures that Burundian farmers and their families have bountiful harvests, even in the dry season!

Thank You

FH Canada and FH Burundi, together with the families of Kabarore, thank you for your generous gifts toward their goal of ending poverty in their communities! With two years of FH partnership to go, they are truly grateful for your support and all that you've helped them to accomplish.