



ANNUAL REPORT

2018 – 2019



FOREWORD

Girl Guiding is focused on giving girls and young women opportunities and space to grow, learn and explore so they can be equipped for all that life will bring them. As you read this annual report for 2018 it is evident that Girl Guides across Rwanda have had some wonderful adventures, shared the joy of friendships, and experienced great fun. Volunteer leaders are providing inspiring and relevant programs.

There remains a focus on the Girl Guide Method whereby there is learning by doing in small groups where members support each other, negotiate, make democratic decisions, assert their needs, solve problems together and take the lead. As an organisation that has a history of more than 30 years, it is critical we remain relevant to today's/the contemporary world.

Our district committees play a vital role in maintaining this relevancy by managing, leading and supporting the growth of Guiding. We all work together to empower girls and young women to grow

into confident, self-respecting, responsible community members.

As part of a worldwide movement, Guiding in Rwanda continues to raise awareness of international issues (e.g. Gender Based Violence and water consumption) and provides once in a lifetime opportunities for its members to travel to diverse countries. The General Assembly held in Kigali in June 2018 was a platform for decision making, discussions, learnings and the sharing of challenges with representatives from all 30 districts and an opportunity to launch our revised educational programme, welcome our Friends of Guiding.

Guiding would simply not exist without our dedicated Leaders, volunteers, supporters and staff who share a passion for the development of girls within our community. To each of you, the Board of Association des Guides du Rwanda, I say Thank you!

Pamela Ruzigana
Chief Commissioner



REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

I am pleased to report throughout 2018. The Association des Guides du Rwanda (AGR) demonstrated our determined focus on building our national reputation and creating new experiences for our members, while delivering strong governance and a collaborative approach across the country.

We held our annual General Assembly in Kigali in June 2018 and June 2019, bringing together more than 30 strong Guiding leadership teams, together with more than 10 Friends of Guiding. We were delighted to launch our new educational programmes for Bergeronnettes (5 to 12 years old) and Guides (13 to 18 years old), done thanks to/with the help of IOGT Movement International. Strengthening our international relations, we warmly welcomed the International Catholic Conference of Guiding in July 2018, an event that resulted in a highly positive report and encouragement for us to continue to build on our solid foundations and excellent governance.

Throughout the year, we continued to develop and deliver programmes which are relevant to girls and young women. We joined the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion to deliver the *Voices Against Violence* programme. With more than 20,900 youth across higher learning institutions and high schools, the anti-teen pregnancy campaign enabled powerful conversations about sexual reproductive health, gender

equality and gender-based violence, and the identification of institutions' and individuals' contributions to make a difference. With funding from IOGT Movement International, Girl Guides ran an alcohol and drug prevention programmes in nine districts of Rwanda to raise awareness on the harmful use of those substances. We sent three Girl Guides in Uganda, Madagascar and Malawi through the Youth Exchange South to South (YESS) programme, and at the same time welcomed four Girl Guides from Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi and Bangladesh to boost their leadership skills in advocacy and issues that affect their lives. Under the UK Aid Direct funding, we have kicked off « *Speak Out! Addressing girls' sexual reproductive health and rights and gender-based violence* », a four-year mentorship programme for 5,600 girls aged 9 to 18 in four districts.

I would like to acknowledge the contribution of our National Board who continue to provide wise counsel and strategic expertise; the volunteer community of Rwandan Guiding led by the District Commissioners and our staff for their ongoing support. Thank you to everyone in Guiding who committed to progress, keeping/replicated the traditions that strengthen us and opened themselves to the future with hope and positivity.

Pascaline Umulisa
Executive Secretary

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I. ABOUT GIRL GUIDING IN RWANDA

Guiding in Rwanda began in 1962 with the help of members of the Guides Catholiques de Belgique. However, due to the lack of support from local leaders, interest in the Movement dwindled after independence later that year. In 1967, Guiding was revived as a branch of the Scout Association. The Girl Guides set up their own organization, the Fédération des Guides du Rwanda in 1972 with a small team responsible for administration.

The Federation was composed of two Associations, the Association des Guides Catholiques and the Association des Guides Protestantes. A proposal was made in 1974 to form a single association, and the first National Assembly accepted this idea two years later. In 1977, the Constitution was accepted at a general meeting, a permanent national team was appointed, and a work plan was drawn up. The Association des Guides du Rwanda (AGR) received official government recognition in 1980.

Unfortunately, many Rwandan girl guides were killed during the 1994 Tutsi Genocide, and obviously, the organization's infrastructure was destroyed. Thanks to Pfadfinderinnenschaft St. Georg, the Guides Catholiques de Belgique and other partners, the AGR resumed its work in Rwanda in 1995. With the Peace Campaign (Campagne d'Action pour la Paix), the Guiding movement revived, reunited members and continued to empower girls, young women and the Rwandan community. In 2002, the AGR became a full member to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. It currently has more than 15,000 active members.

Across all 30 Districts of Rwanda, more than 700 skilled volunteers deliver non-formal education, at the core of which is the empowerment of girls to understand the way that they can achieve positive change in their community.

Our Vision

All girls and young women are responsible for their socio-economic development and participate in the change of the country.

Our mission

Enabling girls and young women to acquire skills leading to their development and autonomy and to become agents of positive change as responsible citizens.

Our Goals

1. Offer girls and young women an independent adventure to develop moral character based on their beliefs.

2. Encourage girls and young women to be agents of positive change within their communities in Rwanda and around the world.
3. Maintain a girl-centred organization founded on Girl Guiding values.
4. Improve girls' and women's socio-economic lives.

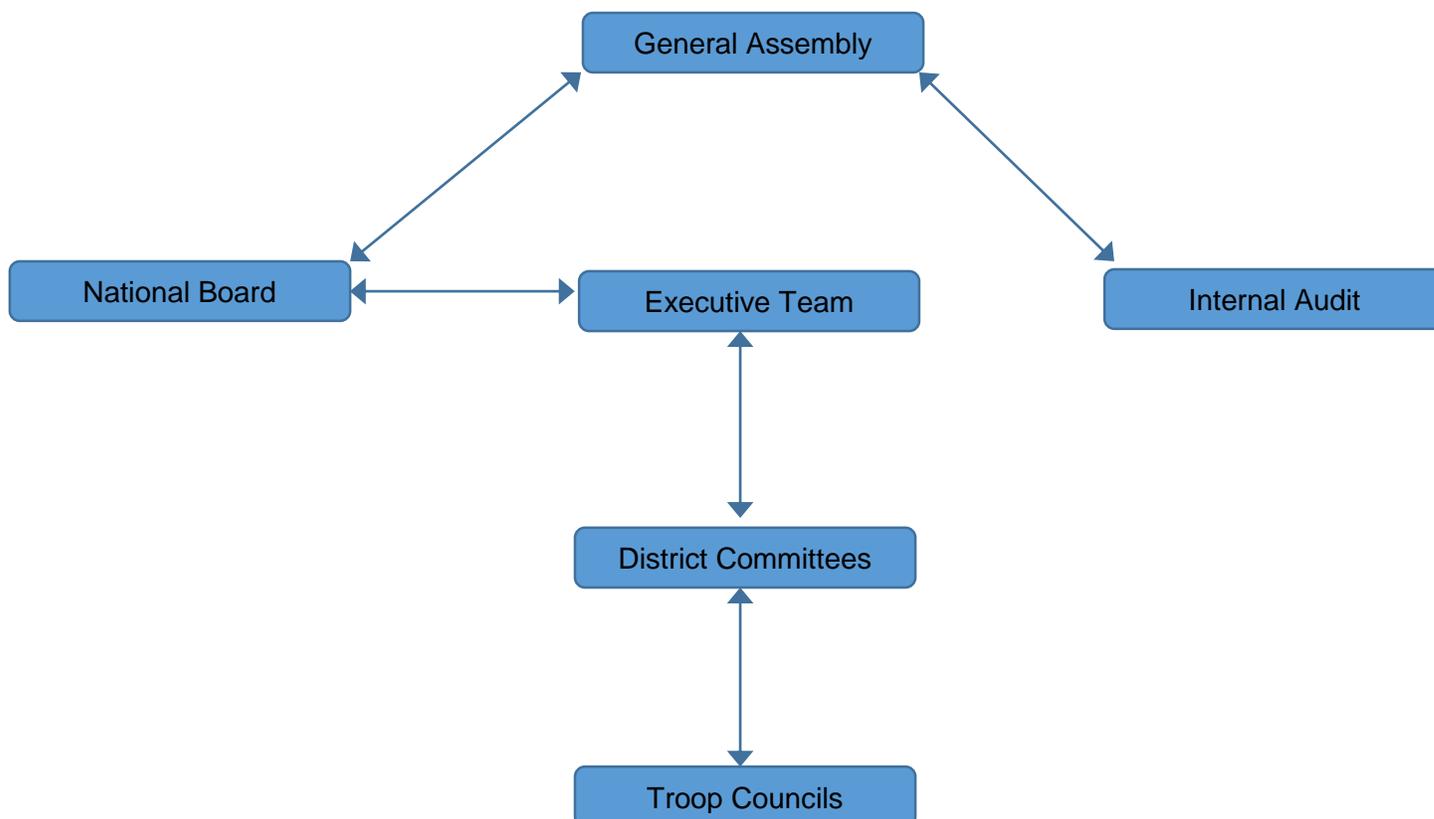
Members

The AGR currently counts over 15,000 members across the country, divided into four branches:

- Bergeronnettes: 5 – 12 years old
- Guides: 13 – 17 years old
- Routières: 18 – 35 years old
- Cadres/ Trefoil Guild: 36 years old and above

Leadership structure

Girl Guiding is established across all 30 Districts of Rwanda. The AGR does not operate in a "command and control" style, relying instead on teams of staff and volunteers. The following organigram allows the AGR leadership team to manage growth and change more effectively and allows employees and volunteers to better fit into the AGR's overall scheme.



II. STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 – 2021

Our Strategic Plan for 2021 was created through extensive consultation with our key stakeholders across Rwanda. As a powerful statement for our vision of the future, this strategic plan is designed to set up Guiding in Rwanda for success.

The 5 year-strategic plan relies on the following pillars:

- Strategic Objective 1: Strong and Growing Membership
- Strategic Objective 2: Dynamic Girl Guiding Programming
- Strategic Objective 3: Brand Recognition
- Strategic Objective 4: Financial Sustainability
- Strategic Objective 5: Facility Management

III. RESULTS BY STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. STRONG AND GROWING MEMBERSHIP

General Assembly

The General Assembly exercises deliberative, supervisory, financial, and elective functions relating to any matter within the scope of AGR. The General Assembly convenes annually and elects new board members when required. During the General Assembly held from 22nd to 24th July 2018, AGR fiscal year was moved from June to July of each year. Also, 12 new members were elected to join the National Board. These members are:

No	Names	Position
1	Josine Nkusi Ingabire	Deputy Chief Commissioner
2	Irene Nyiraneza	National Commissioner in charge of Development
3	Grace Uwamurera	Adult Learning and Training Commissioner
4	Solange Tetero	Board Secretary
5	Christelle Karekezi	National Commission in charge of Youth Programmes
6	Gisele Mutembasoni	National Commissioner in charge of Spiritual Life
7	Alice Mukarugwiza	Internal Auditor
8	Gisele Nsengiyumva	Conflict Resolution Committee
9	Adra Batamuriza	Conflict Resolution Committee
10	Sandrine Tuyishimire	National Commissioner in charge of the Bergeronnettes branch
11	Nicole Umutoniwase	National Commissioner in charge of the Guides branch
12	Angelique Boneza	National Commissioner in charge of the Cadres/Trefoil Guild branch

During the General Assembly, the new educational programmes were launched in the presence of all leaders of the organization, the Friends of Guiding and various stakeholders.



The programmes were revised with the support of IOGT NTO Movement in order to integrate a component on alcohol prevention among youth and children in the Guiding movement. The programmes, designed for the Bergeronnettes and Guides branches, focus on providing them with an amazing experience in Guiding, which will build their character, confidence and courage. They include sessions reflecting Rwandan girls' current needs in the health sector, education, financial literacy and social life skills.

As part of their mandate, the National Board met quarterly to get updates from the secretariat, check the progress in the action plan, and monitor as well as advise on the organization's overall management. Also, in order to support volunteers at the grassroots level, and as requested by the General Assembly, the Board conducted field monitoring visits in various districts including Rusizi, Rubavu, Kicukiro, Huye, Bugesera, Rwamagana, Nyagatare, Ngoma and Burera.

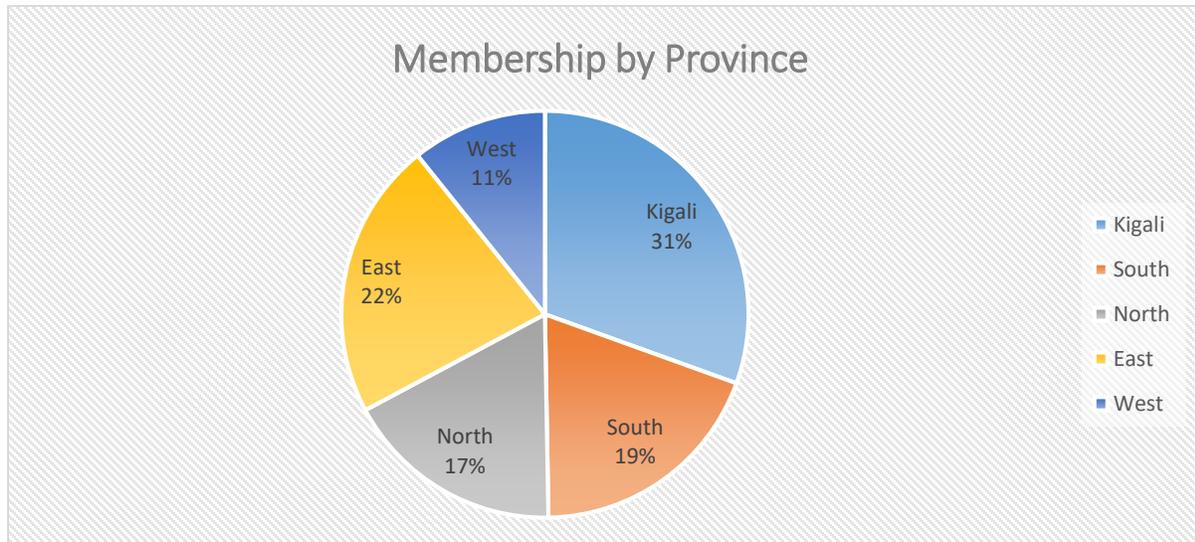
The same year, AGR hosted a second General Assembly from 21 to 22 June 2019 at Centre St Vincent Palotti, Gikondo, in which some board members were re-elected including the Chief Commissioner. This is the full list of new and re-elected members.

No	Names	Position
1	Pamela Ruzigana	Chief Commissioner
2	Albertine Mukankundiye	National Treasurer
3	Nicole Nyiraneza	International Commissioner
4	Marie Claire Uwera	National Commissioner in charge of the Routes branch
5	Hosiana Uwizera	Internal Auditor

The General Assembly also recognized best district performers and awarded them accordingly. The 2018 Best Performers are Muhanga and Nyagatare for their incredible membership growth and overall best initiatives. Rusizi District comes at the 3rd place for their community engagement. Amongst other best performers include Rulindo, Huye, Nyabihu and Kamonyi. The awards included cows, chickens, goats and Guiding flags with the purpose of supporting local troops in farming.

Membership

Rwanda-wide, our dedicated volunteers make Guiding happen, inspiring girls and young women to be their best in a non-competitive environment. In 2018, we provided leadership training and support for our volunteers to gain a range of skills which they can transfer to other areas of life. AGR membership grew by 3% in 2018 thanks to their commitment and passion, and today we have 16,086 members of all ages based in 187 troops countrywide.



2. DYNAMIC GIRL GUIDING PROGRAMMING

The Girl Guide program encourages and supports girls and young women in and out of Guiding to discover, plan and connect with their community to make a difference. Our individual programmes offer informal and relevant learning for girls and young women in a safe and fun environment.

RESULTS BY PROGRAMME

a. Youth Exchange South to South – Girls Movement



Youth Exchange South to South (YESS) – Girls Movement in a WAGGGS exchange programme for young women that enable them to travel in another country for six months to see, learn, practice and bring back what is done elsewhere; in turn bringing to their host organizations strengths and experiences from their home Associations.

All six selected Rwandan Girl Guides flew to Uganda in January for their preparatory course, and after 2 weeks left to go to their host countries.

In 2018, the AGR have received participants from Nepal, Malawi, Madagascar and Kenya. In 2019, the AGR received eight participants from Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Malawi, Madagascar, Bangladesh, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. For six months, each team's role has been significant. They have recruited new Girl Guides (enrolling 2,198 new members in 2018 and 1400 so far in 2019), conducted campaigns on anti-teen pregnancy and anti-alcohol and drugs, worked with Ni Nyampinga Ambassadors to create new Girl Guiding troops, and conducted an online campaign for a healthy environment known as "*Green Tech Generation*" among other activities.

These initiatives have contributed to raise awareness about the Girl Guiding movement in Rwanda and attracted numerous potential partnerships. During the home coming seminar in 2018 in Zambia, the AGR was awarded three times for its compliance, membership growth and for possessing the most supportive YESS team.

b. Umuhoza Programme

We are grateful for UNESCO for providing funds to buy new sewing machines, a knitting machine and a serigraphy machine that can also be used to paint on stationaries. This programme was created in 1995, right after the 1994 Tutsi Genocide to help girls and women survivor move past their struggle and create small income generating activities. Besides supporting the community, it also generates Girl Guides with uniforms, t-shirts and stationaries.

This year, the Umuhoza Programme developed and added trainings in the existing vocational skills package. Apart from sewing and tailoring, the programme has started serigraphy and branding for the youth. Throughout 2018, two cohorts were taught: the 38th cohort, comprising 27 girls and 2 boys which followed the trainings and graduated in July; anthe 39th cohort which graduated in January 2019.

c. Ni Nyampinga

Girl Effect Rwanda partnered with the AGR to distribute their quarterly magazine “Ni Nyampinga’ . Through Ambassadors, the magazine reaches up to a million of girls across the country, each distribution round. In some areas, these ambassadors play a big role in recruiting new members into Guiding and reinforcing the Guiding movement’s visibility. It is also an opportunity for them to grow their leadership skills and self-esteem. In 2018 new 30 Ni Nyampinga ambassadors were recruited to give more young women a chance to excel through this amazing youth brand.

From January 2018 to June 2019, six issues of Ni Nyampinga reached out to more than 5,500,000 girls and boys through our Ni Nyampinga Ambassadors all over the country.

d. Amahoro Amani

Amahoro Amani is a programme that promotes peace in the Great Lakes through peace clubs. It is implemented by the Scouts and Guides associations of Burundi, North Kivu, South Kivu and Rwanda. With the aim of supporting and strengthening Peace Clubs, the AGR rolled out the new educational curriculum for the community mediators to enrich their experience as club supporters and expand the reach of the programme, while fostering its impact on young people’s lives.



In September, the Rwandan Scout Association hosted a joint training of Training of Trainers in peace in Musha Sector. Both scouts and guides exchanged on their own successful practices concerning the promotion of peace and held peace keeping sessions in guiding/scouting units and the community in general.

In October, the AGR also hosted the Gender Equality conference in partnership with Rwanda Scouts and guest speakers, invited to inspire the audience. All the attendees left determined to promote gender equality because/as it is one of the main ways to get/obtain sustainable peace.

The project came to its end in December 2018, though some reporting activities continued. We are looking forward to more opportunities where Girl Guides can contribute to peace building.

e. Diabetes awareness and prevention programme

The AGR, in partnership with the Rwanda Biomedical Centre, the Rwanda Diabetes Association as well as the National Youth Council, and under the funding of the World Diabetes Foundation, is implementing a two year project. Its aim is to prevent the rise of type 2 diabetes and promote healthy lifestyles among the youth in 14 districts (Kicukiro, Nyarugenge, Rubavu, Gasabo, Musanze, Ruhango, Muhanga, Rusizi, Nyagatare, Kirehe, Kayonza, Huye, Bicumbi and Burera).



The programme kicked off in January 2018. Since, activities have been carried in five schools per district, adding up to 70 schools in total. The first part consisted in training school clubs on type 2 diabetes and implementing strategies to prevent getting diabetes. As a second step, trained clubs interacted with the community by conducting activities which informed the youth on healthy eating choices and lifestyle which prevents diabetes.

After carrying awareness activities in schools and in communities, students organised a competition in order to assess the clubs' level of awareness. The final competition was held in 4 sites to facilitate student transportation. After presenting their activities, the five best performing clubs were awarded.

Early 2019, a refresher training for peer educators was organized to evaluate the project's progress and introduce new strategies to deliver more effectively the work in each districts.

f. Right to Water Project

In partnership with the Girl Guides of Germany (Pfadfinderinnenschaft St. Georg – PSG), the AGR launched a programme entitled “Right to Water”. Aiming at raising awareness on the importance of water as a resource, it also advocates for its sustainable consumption.

Participants first attended the national camp and project meetings in Germany in August 2017. Once back in Rwanda, they formed a pool of young leaders from 16 districts which implemented /a national action plan. These young leaders further participated in a two-day training in March and are currently sensitizing districts to water protection.

The project's first phase ended in July. The PSG team came to Rwanda for a summer camp during which a mutual exchange of information and experience with Rwanda Girl Guides took place.

Apart from the camp, both Guiding teams, accompanied by a trainee from Gicumbi, participated in activities focused on the right to access water in Gicumbi. This activity was carried outdoors and involved the local community. We had discussions about ways to harvest rainwater and provided equipment for water storing. This visit was planned in response to Gicumbi team member's discussion with the local authority through which the pressing issue of the community's lack of knowledge on the sustainable consumption of rainwater arose.



By providing water harvesting equipment, we expect a growth in the community's sensibility to rainwater as a water resource and as a source of growing erosion.

g. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Among Youth

During the past four years, the AGR has been implementing the anti-alcohol and drugs project in nine districts (Rwamagana, Kicukiro, Burera, Nyagatare, Kirehe, Rusizi, Bugesera, Rubavu and Huye) in partnership with the IOGT NTO Movement. Targeting the youth, the project's main activity consists in the mainstream of alcohol and drugs prevention modules in the Guiding educational programme.



Apart from tools and curriculum revision, the project also had a mandate to sensitize the population through community meetings (*Umugoroba w'Ababyeyi* and *Inama y'Umuganda*). Such meetings were conducted in nine targeted districts. Two sensitisation campaigns to the effects of drugs and alcohol were held in each of the targeted districts. Combining community meetings and the three roadshows, the project has reached around 6,000 people.

Sensitization was also carried out through door to door campaigns held twice in each of the nine districts. Such campaigns allowed the project to reach over 450 houses. Further, a regional staff member participated in one of the door to door activities in Kicukiro district, which we see as a success

The IOGT regional office also hosted two monitoring visits in 2018 to track the progress of the programme and advise AGR when necessary. The AGR staff also participated in the annual partners meeting in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, and the Uganda National Alcohol Alliance Conference. All these helped us to learn about other initiatives, providing us with valuable advice concerning the project implementation.

h. Speak Out! Addressing Adolescent SRH and GBV



Speak Out, starting in 2018, is a four years project focused on the fight against sexual Gender Based Violence (GBV) among teenagers. It briefs the youth on sexual reproductive health (xSRH), Human rights and other life skills such as leadership. It is funded by UK Aid Direct through action Aid Rwanda and implemented by the AGR and the Faith Victory Association in four targeted Districts: Karongi Nyanza, Gisagara and Nyaruguru.

The AGR organised sessions in spaces, empowering 5,600 girls from 45 schools in four districts with the help of 280 mentors. The programme kicked off in July 2018 and

started with staff training with the objective of achieving a common understanding on the project amongst all parties involved. The 280 mentors also received a specific training in session delivery and regarding their mentoring role.

From July to December 2018, the project has managed to recruit 280 mentors, equip 280 safe spaces with necessary materials, register 5,600 girls in their safe spaces and deliver one session per week. Each safe space accommodates twenty girls and is hosted by one mentor.

i. Free Being Me – Action on Body Confidence

In 2017, WAGGGS launched the next phase of Free Being Me, its advocacy programme Action on Body Confidence, a co-educational programme for young people aged 7 - 25 which supports young people to plan and run their own body confidence advocacy projects.

Through, exciting and engaging age-appropriate activities, the biggest body confidence issues in their community are identified, and participants work together to plan a project which raises awareness and asks local decision makers for change.



To learn more about the Action on Body Confidence programme, two volunteers attended the first ever ABC training in Nairobi, Kenya. Then, volunteers made the programme available to leaders and girls throughout Rwanda by training two other volunteers per district. Action on Body Confidence provides Rwandan girls and boys with the opportunity to make a lasting change to the way their society works, working towards a world where there is no pressure put on one's looks/appearance .

Numbers of boys and girls attained by Action on Body Confidence in 2018

Measure	Total lives reached
Girls & boys that completed Action on Body Confidence programme/ Badges distributed	5,556
Young leaders under 25 trained as peer educators to run the Action on Body Confidence Programme	8
TOTAL	5,564

j. Nursery school

In the framework of promoting Early Childhood Development, the AGR has ran a nursery school since 1990. The school initially intended to support communities by providing quality and affordable education to their children.

The school is now registered at the Ministry of Education. In 2018, 115 students have graduated and the school grew by three classes (a baby class, a middle class and a top class).

NUMBER OF LEARNERS BY CLASS

Class	Number of learners in the beginning	Drop out	Students at the end of year
Baby class	41	2	39
Middle class	37	0	37
Top class	37	2	35
TOTAL	115	4	111

In agreement with the parents' committees, the school fees will increase by 5% in 2019. The last annual meeting with parents agreed that the school greatly contributes to the kids' future performance, as graduates are easily admitted in primary schools.

k. AGR Youth Friendly Centre

Since 2010, the AGR made its youth centre available to the Kicukiro District. It now serves as "YEGO Centre" for Kicukiro District, delivering HIV prevention and Reproductive Health Promotion programmes aiming at improving the health of Rwandan youth. The centre offers effective, behaviour change communications, and comprehensive, youth friendly VCT, sexual and reproductive health services. The centre also mobilizes, builds capacity and advocates for youth initiatives that lead to economic and social development as well as to a productive and patriotic Rwandan youth generation.

The centre intervenes in has three main sectors:

Education and work:

We want to build/enhance young people's performance in the education system, their employment competency and leadership skills. The centre offers computer and internet skills to facilitate CV writing and online job hunting. We also provide vocational training opportunities and encourage the youth to take advantage of government funding opportunities as well as business-oriented and entrepreneurship opportunities existing opportunities. Youth cooperatives are also encouraged to meet the demands of their communities and adapt to a changing world market by creating their own micro-enterprises.

Health and wellbeing:

We focus on the improvement of young people's health and wellbeing. The centre provides health services including HIV/ AIDS screening, family planning and counselling in Sexual Reproductive Health. The centre also encourage development of long-term healthy habits and lifestyle choices. The centre thus has created open access clubs including adventure, basketball, football, handball, karate, volleyball, fitness sessions and mentoring programmes.

Community engagement:

Every day, young people attending the centre show their amazing gifts, talents and social skills in various activities. We boost their volunteering opportunities, enabling them to develop the confidence and social skills that are required to exert positive change in the community and society as a whole.

The centre served 42,268 youth between 16 – 35 years old from July 2018 to May 2019:

No	Activity	Male	Female
1	Sports, leisure, talent detection and promotion	34	30
2	Voluntary counselling and testing Services	2,090	1780
3	Outreach Communications	8,560	6716
4	Pregnancy test		
	<i>Negative</i>		344
	<i>Positive</i>		59
5	Entrepreneurship, youth economic empowerment and employment promotion		
	<i>Trainings on entrepreneurship and job creation</i>	211	98
	<i>Job desk</i>	1,791	
6	ICT and Computer skills training	753	317
7	Vocational Trainings		
	<i>Sewing/Tailoring/Knitting</i>		44
	<i>Handcrafts</i>	20	
	<i>Handmade carpets</i>	11	9
8	Youth mobilization and civic education		
	<i>HIV and Sexual Transmissible Infection prevention</i>	12,023	8,671
	<i>Anti-drugs and unwanted pregnancies prevention</i>	7,543	5,255
	<i>Other risky behaviors prevention (Prostitution and sex work)</i>	58	89
9	Library	1,983	1,892
10	Blood group testing	30	26

I. Other capacity building activities

The National Youth Camp

The 2018 annual camp was held in Rwamagana District, Musha Sector, at St Kizito Technical School between August 12 and 16. 404 girl guides attended, including ten members of Pfadfinderinnenschaft St. Georg (The German Girl Guides) and six members of GirlGuiding UK as part of their overseas programme “GOLD”).



Sleeping under the tent, morning workout (Mucaka), flag ceremonies, games and fun were all on the agenda. The campers did a good turn, as the motto requires: five houses in Musha were rehabilitated, a huge milestone for the youth under 25 who have traveled from far to enjoy the Guiding experience.

For the first time in the last ten years, the campers contributed with a small fee, paid their annual membership and covered all transportation expenses from home.

The participants felt the joy of being part of the movement, got lots of opportunities to network among themselves, and benefited from a range of sessions including SRHR, GBV, Body Confidence, sanitary pads production, water protection, etc.

AGR is grateful to St Kizito for hosting such a memorable event, and to all local authorities that showed up at the camp – Rwamagana Vice Mayor, Police Spokesperson in Rwamagana District, Executive Secretary of Musha Sector – to give words of wisdom to the youth in Guiding.

Umurunga Season 1

On 22 December 2018, the National Youth Committee launched a new event entitled “Umurunga”, which will take place every year to allow youth in Guiding to celebrate their successes while identifying issues to work on in the following year. The first edition was held at the AGR Centre and involved talent competitions such as dances, fashion shows, drama and arts. The event was grazed by over 200 young people from across Kigali and celebrities such as Kalimpya, 2nd Miss Runner Up 2018.



Our Local CSW

As members of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), the Rwandan Girl Guides have been attending the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) annual gathering for over ten years now. In 2019, WAGGGS selected Rwanda to host the Local CSW to extend this CSW opportunity to young women who cannot travel to New York, US in March 2019.



The local CSW took place on February 27, 2019 at Centre St François d'Assise, Kicukiro, in Kigali City. It enabled young women to experience different roles, hone their negotiation and public speaking skills, and to get a glimpse of what the WAGGGS delegation does at the CSW. It was also an opportunity for participants to come up with a draft paper of resolutions to present at the real CSW in New York. The event was attended by 76 participants, including former AGR CSW participants, AGR national leaders and 30 young women representing each district of Rwanda.

At the local CSW, participants identified gender inequality issues affecting them in their communities and developed lobbying/advocacy including leadership and communication skills to influence relevant decision-makers. This opportunity expanded their knowledge of UN processes, conventions and agreements related to gender equality. Further, it prepared them for a future, more direct engagement with the CSW.

As per their evaluation feedback, the participants expressed their readiness to attend future CSW, and are now confident to lobby and advocate for issues that affect them.

Lead to Inspire



“Lead to Inspire” was an initiative led by YESS alumni and 2019 Helen Storrow participants. The event, held on May 10, 2019 at the AGR National Centre, convened 73 young leaders with the aim of inspiring them on their leadership journey. It involved panel discussions from former and current AGR leaders and other personalities in the government, public and private institutions. Participants had opportunities to exchange experiences with the guests, particularly on

leadership tips, skills, and principles in and outside of Guiding, as well as on the development of projects benefiting the community.

INTERNATIONAL GUIDING

Attending an overseas adventure as part of a Girl Guiding experience offers unique opportunities missing from other forms of local travels. Twelve members journeyed overseas in 2018 and 2019, taking advantage of the international connections that Guiding offers to its members. Many members feel that this is a life changing experience which gives them an incomparable insight into life and communities in different countries.

International events which Rwandan Girl Guides attended in 2018 and 2019 included the Helen Storrow Seminar, Be the Change: Global Goals, Gift for Change, Scouts and Guides of France meetings, Roverway 2018, Stop the Violence training

In collaboration with the US Embassy in Rwanda, five delegates under 18 and one chaperone participated in the annual Pan-African Youth Leadership Programme for three weeks. Through workshops and visits, the delegates were empowered in various themes such as leadership, gender based violence, entrepreneurships etc. At the completion of the programme the Rwandan delegation's project won the second best prize and will be implemented back home.



3. BRAND RECOGNITION

In 2017, AGR launched a brand image as part of the ongoing evolution of our organization's visibility and the work we do to enable Rwanda's girls and young women to develop their fullest potential as responsible citizens of the world. This new identity satisfies all the existing expectations of our strategic plan, while simultaneously moving the brand forward to acknowledge the unity, service and diversity of Girl Guiding movement.

The new brand also came with new uniforms, but after the pilot phase, the 2018 General Assembly decided to bring old uniforms, as most of girls couldn't afford to buy new uniforms.

In order to increase the internal and international image of Guiding in Rwanda, Girl Guides have also organized and participated in various meetings and events to showcase the values of the Girl Guiding and enrich the members' experience.

WORLD THINKING DAY

The AGR celebrated the WTD for a week, with various activities in the community, including, but not limited to, sanitation, visits to patients in hospitals, building schools and supplying school material to disadvantaged girls. The official ceremonies of Thinking Day took place on February 25, 2018 in Rulindo. At the same occasion was launched a national campaign against teen pregnancy, in which were discussed strategies to prevent adolescent girls' pregnancies and abuse with the community.



Apart from the Girl Guides of Rwanda, headed by Chief Commissioner Pamela Ruzigana, we were once again joined by the Africa Region committee representative Larissa Byll Cataria and the Rulindo District Vice-Mayor in charge of Social Affairs, who congratulated the Girl Guides for their valuable contributions to the country's development.

The 2019 National World Thinking Day celebrations were held in Mushishiro Sector, Muhanga District, on 24th February 2019. 160 local Girl Guides took their oath during a Holy Mass, which attracted the local community. The church was full, to say the least! Thanks to YESS Girls, local Girl Guides painted a Girl Power mural to remind every girl in Mushishiro that she is valued, capable of taking the lead in her own life and to have a positive influence on those surrounding her. Girl Guides shared their amazing testimonies on how Girl Guiding, especially their leadership journey, built their life skills. They also donated sanitary pads and other sanitary products to a local school to support female students that use the Girls' Room.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

On 3rd March 2018, the AGR joined the whole country to celebrate International women's day in Muhanga District, an event organized by the National Women Council. It was a time to reflect on the progress that has been made, to call for change and to celebrate acts of courage and determination of ordinary women who have played an extraordinary role in their community's history.

COMMEMORATION OF THE GENOCIDE AGAINST TUTSI

On 25th May 2018, the AGR organized a commemoration to remember the victims of genocide against Tutsi, especially Girl Guides, and raise awareness on Human Rights values while promoting unity and reconciliation. The event started with a visit at Gikondo Genocide Memorial, where Girl Guides from all over Kigali laid flowers on mass graves. Thereafter, they participated in a Walk to Remember towards AGR National Centre, where discussions followed. Delegates from IBUKA and the National Commission for the Fight against Genocide (CNLG) and other officials joined Girl Guides in the commemoration.

On 14th April 2019, over 80 Girl Guides in Kigali convened at Nyanza-Kicukiro Genocide memorial, to honour over 12,000 victims of the Genocide against the Tutsi who were killed at Nyanza and surrounding areas, including those who were abandoned by UN Peacekeepers at the former Kicukiro Technical School. The group also donated to the memorial to contribute to the memorial garden under construction.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL 2018

The AGR celebrated the International Day of the Girl in Muhanga District with more than 800 girls and boys in the district. Under the theme "Achieve Gender Equality and Empower Girls and All Women and Girls", girl attendees practiced how to produce reusable sanitary pads, were educated on SRH and hygiene management as well as on GBV. Among the attendees were the Vice Mayor in charge of Social Affairs, the National Police Spokesperson and the Chair of the National Women Council in Muhanga.



Moreover, the AGR was invited to attend the national IDG celebrations in the Rwandan Parliament, an event led by MIGEPROF to launch the Girl2Leader and the Family campaigns.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST VIOLENCE

On 24th November 2018, Girl Guides joined 5,000 people across Kigali in the national launching of the 16 Days of Activism against Violence to galvanize action to end violence against women and girls around the world. Girl Guides all over the country also joined other activities in the same framework such as walks, workshops and media talk shows. Additionally, the AGR partnered with MIGEPROF in the campaign against GBV and education of SRH in 14 higher learning institutions

and 44 secondary schools. So far, the campaign has reached out to more than 8,000 male and female students.

CICG - ICCG World Council and Meeting

All members of the International Catholic Conference of Guiding gathered in Rwanda from 11th to 16th July 2018 for their triennial world meeting and council. Under the theme "Let's Open the Doors of the Future", the AGR was honored to host 40 countries at the Cenetra Hotel, located in Masaka, with 150 participants.



The opening ceremonies started with a Holy Mass led by their Excellences the Apostolic Nuncio and the Bishop of Byumba, who is also the President of the Commission of the Lays. After the mass, participants tasted food from other countries while enjoying Rwandan cultural festivities. During the rest of the week, participants visited different women's organizations downtown of Kigali and Kigali Memorial Centre.

YOUTH CONNEKT AFRICA 2018

50 young women attended the Youth Connekt Africa 2018 from 8th to 10th October 2018 at Kigali Convention Centre. The summit aimed at empowering young Africans and connecting them with opportunities in the public and private sectors and civil society. Themed "Connecting Youth for Continental Transformation", the summit was an opportunity for Girl Guides to own the journey of African transformation and learn from others to achieve their personal and professional dreams.

4. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

With the Paterson Project: Leadership & Sustainability in Africa, the AGR was able to launch its Fund Development Strategy in 2017. The project's core focus was to give tailor made and hands on Fund Development Leadership and income sustainability capacity building support for five selected Member Organizations of WAGGGS in Africa including Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Madagascar and Rwanda.

In March 2018, the AGR benefited from a WAGGGS grant of 3,000 USD to start a social enterprise. By December, the AGR had earned almost the double and managed to refund the grant.

As the AGR relies on external funding at 80%, 2018 was a year of exploring new income generating activities. It is in this regard that the polyvalent hall for rent was given completely to a local church to generate regular funds on a monthly basis.

A two-year external audit was also conducted to give an overview of the financial stability of the organization. Recommendations included the use of a more professional accounting software, the revision of some guidelines in the accounting and HR manual, as well as digital archiving. We are glad to announce that since October 2018, all data were migrated to the new software and are currently operational. However, the AGR is still searching for a reliable, cost-effective and flexible digital archive software.

5. FACILITY MANAGEMENT

On this outcome, the One Brick Campaign was also launched to help the AGR renovate the national centre located in Kicukiro District. The campaign is still ongoing with the target of raising 50 million Rwandan francs by 2021.

The campaign will be supported by other fundraising activities in 2019 which include maintaining the Guiding shop and seeking donations online through [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com).

AGR has renovated some facilities from the national centre, and added paves at the main backyard. The value of these facilities was upgraded up to 183,100,000 Frw.

IV. NETWORKS AND PARTNERSHIPS

AGR sincerely thanks our supporters who have provided assistance, resources and expertise pro bono to our organisation in 2018 and 2019. These organisations have been a part of supporting the growth of our organisation and importantly supporting the empowerment of girls and women across Rwanda. We would like to acknowledge:

- Ministry of Youth
- Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion
- UK Aid Direct
- Girl Effect Rwanda
- National Union of Disability Organizations in Rwanda
- World Diabetes Foundation
- World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts
- IOGT NTO Movement International
- Pfadfinderinnenschaft PSG
- Scouterna
- FK Norway (Fredskorpset)
- Rwanda Diabetes Foundation

- National Youth Council
- Rwanda Scouts Association
- Pro-Femmes Twese Hamwe
- Rwanda Alcohol and Drugs Abuse Prevention Partnership (RADAPA)
- Dynamique des Scouts et des Guides des Grands Lacs – Amahoro Amani
- Conseil International des Guides Catholiques (CICG)
- Child’s Rights Coalition Umwana ku Isonga
- Rwanda Youth Organizations Forum (RYOF)
- Smart Design Ltd
- Nyungwe Investment Ltd
- Rwanda National Commission for UNESCO
- Plan International Rwanda
- CARE Rwanda

V. KEY CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED IN 2018 – 2019

- Absence of a recruitment and retention strategy
- Volunteers turnout, which decreases membership greatly
- High demand of Girl Guiding programme exceeding the capacity of the volunteers
- Staff overloaded with work and unable to meet all volunteers’ needs
- Weak Monitoring and Evaluation strategies to demonstrate impact and evidence
- Financial constraints to support district initiatives and troops

VI. STAFF

None of the above achievements was possible without the regular support of AGR personnel. In 2018 – 2019, AGR counted

- Youth Centre: 3
- Umuhaza: 1
- Nursery school: 3
- Finances: 2
- Administration: 1
- Programmes: 5
- Part time: 1
- Interns: 2

VII. SEE US IN PHOTOS



Photo 1 Bergeronnettes and Cadres of Gatsibo District in their weekly meeting before breaking out into activities



Photo 2 Nyanza Girl Guides after the walk against violence during the 16 Days of Activism against Violence



Photo 3 Rusizi District Committee during their monitoring visit to a local Guides troop



Photo 4 Girl Guides in Huye District joined AGR stakeholders during the launching of the 16 Days of Activism 2018



Photo 5 Girl Guides of Karongi District with ActionAid Rwanda delivered SRHR sessions to 100 girls in the camp



Photo 6 Rwamagana Girl Guides started an initiative to educate women on saving and agribusiness



Photo 7 Boys and girls are waving their badges after completing their Free Being Me sessions, by Huye District Girl Guides



Photo 8 The National Board celebrating the reappointment of Alphonsine Kabagabo to the position Lead of Regions and Head of Africa Region within WAGGGS



Photo 9 Nyarugenge Girl Guides have been busy energizing existing troops while reinforcing their leadership skills



Photo 10 If you don't like something, change it! In Nyagatare, Girl Guides burning Kanyanga with the Police.



Photo 12 "Girl Guides of Kicukiro after supplying stationaries, sanitary products and money girls in need of Gatenga



Photo 11 Nyagatare Girl Guides constructing toilets to families during the Guiding week in February 2019.



Photo 13 Huye District Commissioner, Florence Sibomana attended the 62th CSW in New York representing WAGGGS



Photo 14 YESS Girls 2019 educating Bergeronnettes how to prevent Malaria



Photo 15 AGR was nominated among the 2019 Best Partners of the Western Province during the annual partners' exhibition, attended by the Governor and other officials



Photo 16 In June 2019 Solange Ingabire, Representative of the National Youth Committee attended The Voices against Violence curriculum review in Ghana



Photo 18 Kirehe Girl Guides with the Chief Commissioner



Photo 17 Though young, Nyanza Girl Guides put a smile on someone's face



Photo 19 Gicumbi Girl Guides in the combat against teen pregnancy



Photo 20 Gasabo Girl Guides provided household items to a family whose house was caught on fire



Photo 22 With their own means, Burera Girl Guides rehabilitated two houses for vulnerable families



Photo 21 After a fun day, Rubavu Youth Committee with their District Commissioner



Photo 24 If it's not fun, it's not Guiding. Gakenke Girl Guides in their weekly meeting



Photo 24 Rutsiro District prioritized recruitment of new members



Photo 25 Nyabihu District, one of the fastest growing district in 2018-2019



Photo 26 Ruhango District also increased membership in schools



Photo 27 Muhanga Girl Guides performing at the International Day of the Girl 2018



Photo 238 The new District Commissioner of Bugesera meeting some of her girls

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