

**COMMUNITY LED PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT FOR BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION AND RESILIENT
COMMUNITIES IN SOUTHERN RWANDA**

INTERIM REPORT FOR BIOCOOR

REPORTING PERIOD	Year 4: From July to 05 January 2024
BUDGET LINE	ACTIVITY
<u>Introduction</u>	
<p>The Presented report is highlighting the activities implemented in the last three months counted from July until 05 January 2024 under project entitled “Community led planning and management for biodiversity protection and resilient communities in the southern of Rwanda”. Despite some of the pending activities as per the below presentation others well achieved in line with their targets.</p>	
	6.1.1.2.2 Engagement with Media on conservation and provision of Media awards
	<p>Journalists from our platforms and media houses refresher talks were done , and some of them started sharing their articles and stories for Year 4 competition and consideration within the created WhatsApp group daily information are being shared and journalists are aware of all the upcoming ceremonies expect date, BIOCOOR staff been also conducting radio talks on biodiversity conservation on Radio Salus and RC Huye as a way keeping audience engaged in conservation but also to keep the media houses motivated to writing stories related to conservation.</p> <p>Media Awards and competition will be done in May 2024 on biodiversity day to reach the target.</p>
	6.1.1.2.3 Community awareness raising events

- One community outreach education session was conducted on 30th August 2023, BIOCOOR at Uwinzovu village of Nyamagabe District on agroecological practices to conserve biodiversity in their farms through which 62 people including 42 women and 20 men attended.
- **Another community awareness raising event** on raised shelters construction for the management of human wildlife conflicts was done on 29 August 2023 in Nyarwotsi Village of Rugerero Cell where 30 (20 females and 10 males) participants attended the event.

6.1.1.2.5 Outreach and awareness in community churches

- **In Uwinkingi Sector:** On 13th August, 2023 an outreach at Catholic Church in Nyamagabe District, Uwinkingi Sector was conducted where about 150 attended including 95 women and 55 Men.
- **In Kivu Sector:** On 30th July, 2023 an outreach at ADEPR Kivu in Nyaruguru District was conducted where about 112 attended including 72 women and 40 Men.
- **In BURUHUKIRO Sector:** On 3rd September 2023 we have been at AEBR RUGETI whereby an estimate of 80 attended including 65 Women and 15 men.

6.1.2.1.3 Exchange and learning visits for ANICOS

An exchange learning visit for ANICOS took place where by ANICOS explored and visited local farms and producers to learn from them how Agro ecological practices are being implemented as well to refresh their mind and remind them what we as an organization want from them and what the communities wants, ANICOS were notified that the project is at its last year of operation and that they need to prepared themselves to serve the communities even at the time the project will no longer be operating.

Three visits left will be conducted in January and February 2024.

6.1.3.2 Strengthening environmental clubs

All the Clubs were provided with vegetable seeds to grow at their school but the fact that they were in holidays we did not get a chance to revisit and see their standard but planning this as soon as the school reopen.

6.2.5.2.3 Dissemination of energy saving cooking stoves.

As in Year 3, 700 cooking stoves have already installed in 350 households. This year, 1100 other cooking stoves have been installed in 550 households, then 100 remaining cooking stoves are under production to reach 1900 stoves as planned and will be installed not later than mid-January 2024.

Apart from 30 trained communities in cooking stoves production from all targeted Sectors, there are 30 other communities being trained by the first trained communities in that activity.

6.3.2.1 Beekeeping strengthening

- On 31 August 2023, BIOCOOR has provided the beekeeping equipment to beekeeper's cooperatives from which CODAPE (Cooperative Pour le Developpement des Apiculteurs et la Protection de l' Environnement) received 10 hives.

This cooperative operates in Rugogwe Cell of Uwinkingi Sector. On that day, BIOCOOR has raised awareness on how to apply apiculture in biodiversity conservation, 20 (3 females and 17 males) beekeepers were participated.

- On 27 October 2023, 5 beekeeping cooperatives (CODAPE, Uruyange rwa Buruhukiro, KAUKI, Youth beekeepers cooperative and Inzovu) from 3 targeted Sectors (Buruhukiro,

Kivu and Uwinkingi) have been received different beekeeping materials. Each cooperative received 5 bee smokers, 10 hives, 5 gloves, 5 boots and 5 pants and jacket with local veils.

- BIOCOOR has been renovated 2 beekeepers offices (CODAPE from Uwinkingi and Uruyange rwa BURUHUKIRO).
- BIOCOOR will only renovate Kivu beekeeping cooperative office from 08 January 2024 to reach the target.

6.2.3.3 Predator-proof shelters construction and outreach

- **Twenty-five (25) other pilot predator-proof shelters** were added to 5 shelters constructed in Year 3 totalling 30 raised shelters constructed in different targeted villages namely Nyarwotsi, Gasezo, Kintama, Kintare and Uwamizirikano Villages of Kivu Sector
- **Twenty** other raised shelters have been installed to reach 50 raised shelters as planned, the only remaining work is to fix the doors on forty raised shelters.

6.1.4.1 Youth champions.

School fees and Living allowances for students were paid on time and now students being hosted at BIOCOOR for their internship placement whereby they are getting hand on training on conservation and ecotourism promotion.

AOB

- BIOCOOR hosted TROCAIRE Volunteers who were in Rwanda of for a short time visit whereby we shared our work through the support TROCAIRE office in Rwanda and whole team appreciated the hospitality.
- BIOCOOR also received at its center named Nyungwe village TROCAIRE partners and staff from abroad who were in one week workshop in Rwanda, to share experience but also to learn from each other.

Pictures



Photo: ANICOs Learning Visit



Photo: Community exchange learning Visit



Picture: Awareness raising on agroecological practices in Uwinzovu Village-Buruhukiro Sector.



Picture: Awareness raising on raised shelters construction in Kivu Sector





Provision of beekeeping materials to beekeepers





Raised shelters construction



Cooking stoves dissemination

Wild vegetables and fruits established by Youth champions during their internship.







