



Quarterly progress report

Title of the project: Youth Awareness on Gender Equality and Violence free Family (YAGEVFA)



Executive secretary of Gihuta cell addressing the community after introduction of YAGEVFA project

NPA Project number: 12722131

Location of the Project: KAYONZA, GATSIBO and NYAGATARE DISTRICTS of the Eastern Province

Project commencing date: 1/1/2012

Project ending date: 31/12/2012

Period covered by the report: April-June 2012

Submission date of the report: 12 July 2012

Funder: NPA

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AJPRODHO-JIJUKIRWA positions itself to be a youth organization striving for social justice and to ensure that young people are given opportunities to fully enjoy their rights. One of the approaches that the organization has adopted is to raise youth awareness on gender equality and violence free families, by working with local leaders, community members and networking with other actors working on gender equality and GBV issues.

With that regard, AJPRODHO- JIJUKIRWA with financial Support of Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) is implementing a project aiming at promoting gender equality and preventing domestic violence from its root causes and that, through engaging youth and providing them with readiness for marital life.

The one year project falls under the 4 year framework of contributing towards the promotion of social justice through gender equality and youth empowerment for rural population in the Districts of Nyagatare, Gatsibo and Kayonza of the Eastern Province.

Engaging community in gender working groups with support of community based gender focal points is a major strategy that AJPRODHO-JIJUKIRWA has adopted in order to sustain the momentum for change after the end of the project.

Goal and specific objectives of the project as well as achievements of the period under review are described in the following paragraphs.

Project Goal: Contribute towards the promotion of social justice through gender equality and youth empowerment for rural population in the Districts of Nyagatare, Gatsibo and Kayonza of the Eastern Province

Project Purpose:

6000 people of whom 65% are young men and women (between 18 years and 35 years) from VSL members and EDV associations are mobilized to advocate for social justice and reduce gender based violence at 30% in Gatsibo, Kayonza and Nyagatare Districts of the Eastern Province

Results:	Result 1: Gender focal points selected from VSL members, EDVAW associations and project staff acquire skills to fight for social justice through gender equity and youth empowerment.
	Result 2: Different events are organized at different levels through GBV partners' networks aiming at raising awareness on gender equality, women's rights and practices to fight gender based violence.
	Result 3: A referral system is established to ensure that GBV victims are assisted, supported, accompanied and advocated for.
	Result 4: Project activities and implementation experiences are monitored, documented and shared.

Results	Main Activity planned	Sub-activity planned (where applicable)	Activity realized / if not realized explain why?	Observations and recommendations
1	Activity 1: Selection of 72 gender focal points from VSL members and EDV associations.	Gatsibo: 15 gender focal points	15 gender focal points were selected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A number of village agents who are good community mobilizers were not qualified for Gender focal points due to the fact that some of them were experiencing domestic violence while for some others their families could not be taken as models to shine in the community. - As concerns locality, very big number of competent gender focal points were located in the same village. eg in GAHINI where 5 gender focal points are in the same cell. So the allocation of them to different
		Kayonza: 33 gender focal points	33 gender focal points were selected	
		Nyagatare: 24 gender focal points	24 gender focal points were selected	

				<p>zones could have been a problem. However due to their commitment and proper selection we managed to reallocate them. (see selection criteria)</p>
	<p>Activity 2: Training for 4 staff (1 project coordinator, 3 field officers) on gender and GBV concepts and practices to fight domestic violence was conducted during three days.</p>		<p>4 staff members were trained during 5 days. They were taken through concepts, techniques and methods of building peaceful families to end domestic violence. The training was organized by ADTS in Rubavu.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The training was key to prevent domestic violence starting from families. It made trainees to reflect on what is the family and ways to build health families. - Participants recommended having training where they will be participating with their spouses so that the change may start with the families. - The training module should be summarized so that it could be used by gender focal points to mobilize the community and train gender working groups.
	<p>Activity 3: Training of 72 genders FPs on gender and GBV concepts and practices to fight domestic violence was conducted during three days.</p>	Gatsibo:15 gender focal points	15 gender focal points were trained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gender focal points expressed their willingness to embark in the campaign but they also raised their worries about field facilitation like bicycles, jackets for visibility of organizations, communications facilities, etc. - The time was not enough according to the volume/content of the lesson as well as the capacity of the trainees. - Training conditions were also questionable since participants
		Kayanza: 33 gender focal points	33 gender focal points were trained	
		Nyagatare: 24 gender focal points	24 gender focal points were trained	

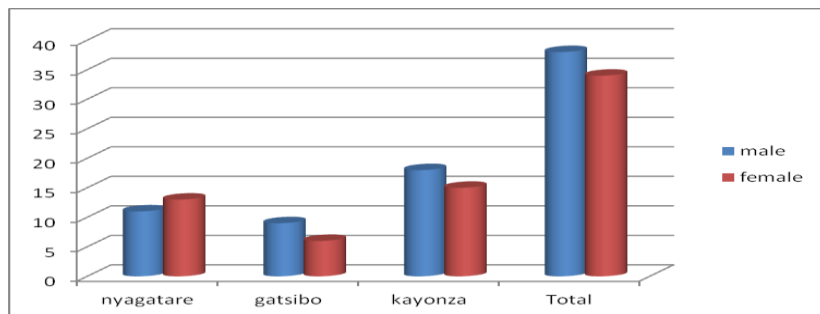
				<p>were not accommodated and had to go back home every evening and come back in the morning. That led to no respect of starting time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trainees were eager to make their contribution to the community to eradicate gender based violence.
	<p>Activity 4: Training by gender focal points of 70 gender working groups putting together 2100 people, out of which 70% were youth, , focusing on gender and GBV concepts and practices to fight domestic violence was conducted during three days.</p>	Kayonza: 35 gender working groups	36 GWG were trained in kayonza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group members were excited about the training and suggested to have their partners (spouses) on board. - Male partners were reluctant to respond positively to the invitations of their wives to join gender working groups, for the two first sessions. - GWG members see the group as an opportunity to make them to reflect on their relationship. - GWG are not yet on the pace we want them to be.
		Nyagatare: 30 gender working groups	32 were trained in Nyagatare	
		Gatsibo: 5 gender working groups	5 were trained in Gatsibo	
	<p>Activity 5. Training for 4 project staff (1 project coordinator, 3 field officers) on advocacy strategies was conducted during three days.</p>			<p>From the discussions held with NPA, right from the beginning of project proposal designing, YAGEVFA staff was supposed to participate in advocacy training organized by NPA under PPIMA project but when the training was organized the staff was not invited. There is a need of discussing with NPA to see how the training could</p>

				be conducted since it is very crucial for project staff to have skills on advocacy.
	Activity 6: Workshop to develop the action plan and discuss M&E and reporting tools was organized for 72 FPs and 4 project staff for one day		3 workshops were organized in three districts. And a total of 72 gender focal points participated in the workshops. What about the 4 project staff? How come three workshops instead of one?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GFPs discovered objectives of the project, which determined their contribution. GFPs gave their comments and inputs to the monitoring tools to be used in the project activity monitoring. - Gender FPs showed their commitment to the cause of the project. Among pressing challenges, FPs mentioned the fact that young people always move from a place to another which will make difficult to have them in gender working groups. While as key strategies, they insisted on close collaboration with local authorities.

Describe the results under the Result 1

This part was marked by activities aimed at capacity building, setting the basis of the project for the sustainable impact. The selection of gender focal points revealed the magnitude of prevalence of GBV amongst local community members. It also put more light on the the courage of rural women in the struggle to eradicate gender based Violence. Men also are more and more involved in the campaign which shows a positive note on the future work. (Nyagatare : 10 women &14 men; Gatsibo: 6 women & 9 men; Kayonza: 15 women & 18 men).

Chart 1: Gender focal points

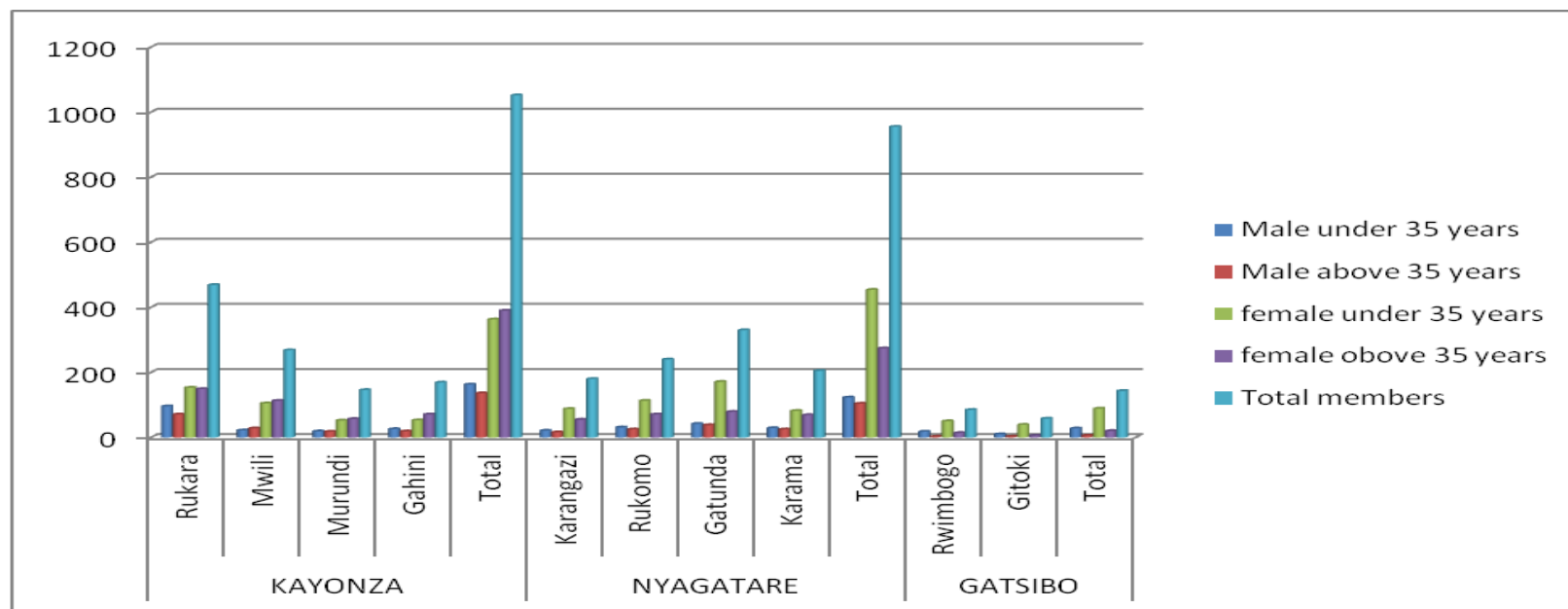


Another activity we are excited about, is the initiating and training of gender working groups:

Gender equality is a concept which has previously been misunderstood by community members. For some, gender equality means that women are taking power over men while for some others, gender equality equals to the fact that women have a say and are over protected. All those misinterpretation of the gender equality concept led to unceasing conflicts and resistance to change.

Gender working groups offered a comfortable space whereby men and women try to speak out and in frank manner what they believe are root causes of gender based violence and hence try to forge a way of addressing it.

Chart 2: Gender working groups



Distict	Sector	Number of groups	Male under 35 years	Male above 35 years	Female under 35 years	Female above 35 years	Total members
KAYONZA	Rukara	16	96	71	153	149	469
	Mwili	9	22	28	105	113	268
	Murundi	5	19	18	52	57	146
	Gahini	6	26	19	53	71	169
	Total	36	163	136	363	390	1052
NYAGATARE	Karangazi	6	21	16	88	55	180
	Rukomo	8	31	25	113	71	240
	Gatunda	11	42	38	171	79	330
	Karama	7	29	25	82	69	205
	Total	32	123	104	454	274	955
GATSIBO	Rwimbogo	1	5	2	18	5	30
	Il	1	8	1	15	3	27

	II	1	5	0	17	6	28
	Gitoki	1	4	1	20	3	28
		1	6	2	19	3	30
	Total	5	28	6	89	20	143
	GRAND TOTAL	73	314	246	906	684	2150

During the period under review, 73 gender working groups have been trained on the concept of gender equality, gender based violence, its forms, causes and consequences as well as the groups which are most exposed to the domestic violence.

We realize that women and children are the most affected. During the gender working groups, members should be accompanied by their spouses. However, as regard this aspect, the engagement of men in the groups was not as active as we would want it to be.

Results	Main Activity planned	Sub-activity planned	Activity realized / if not realized explain why?	Observations and recommendations
2	Activity 1: Community sensitization sessions targeting 20000 people are conducted by gender focal points under supervision of Field officers using songs, drama, poems, and posters.		Kayonza: 17 sessions were conducted and reached	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited time to cover the whole area of operation, - Some local leaders were not cooperative enough at the beginning and hence they did not easily accept to call for community meetings. - Failure to get local authorities to introduce the project and focal point on time, - Regular postponement of planed meetings by leaders. However, a long way we manage to get them involved and we hope to catch up in the coming quarter.
			Gatsibo: 6 sessions were conducted targeting a total of 1615 people (male:743 and female: 872)	
			Nyagatare: 8 sessions were conducted targeting a total of 1386 people (male:770 and female: 616)	

Describe the results under the Result 2:



The present aspect of the project aims at building networks with other actors in gender equality and prevention of GBV in the three districts. During the reporting period, three channels gave the foundation of upcoming activities. The community sensitization sessions resulted into introduction of the project to local leaders and local communities as well as introduction of gender focal points in the community. Introductory sessions in the community led to the commitment of local leaders to support the smooth implementation of the project.

On the other hand, the community was very excited about the project; community members are expecting the project to offer them the space for breaking the silence.” we really appreciate this meeting, we suggest to have at least one meeting of this kind per month” suggested one of the participants in a community meeting in Nyangara, Gatunda sector.

“It would be better if we came together with our spouses because one could not make a great change while his/her partner is not aware of this.”expressed a man participating in the community dialogue.

Results	Main Activity planned	Sub-activity planned	Activity realized / if not realized explain why?	Observations and recommendations
3	Activity 1: Counseling of 10 couples through couple therapy sessions.	Mediation of couples experiencing domestic violence	Nyagatare: 2 couples were mediated and are living in harmony	The mediation of family is a long process. It involves different people and a number of factors play. Even if those mentioned couples seem to regain their family harmony, there is still a need for follow-up and engaging the whole family to protect and sustain their harmony.
			Gatsibo: 7 couples Kayonza: 3 couples were mediated and are living in harmony	
	Activity 2: Orientation and accompaniment of 120 GBV victims to the suitable institutions	Receiving domestic violence cases	Kayonza: 4 cases of which 1 was completely solved Nyagatare: 11 cases of which 7 were completely solved Gatsibo: 19 cases of which 7 were completely solved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Different stakeholders were involved in solving problems (local leaders, police, courts, field staff) - Denial of access to property remains the most frequent cases - A number of cases were rendered perpetual by the fact that people in the community don't know which institutions are suitable for which cases

Describe the results under the Result 3

Gender based violence response is a critical component in any intervention aiming at eradicating gender based violence and domestic violence in particular. AJPRODHO is keen on assisting domestic violence victims whether within their own families or at the organization office.

Family visits conducted during the period under review saw the following results:

Over 35 cases received 17 were closed.

The denial of access to properties is the most frequent cases as you can see on the chart below

Preventing Violence from its root causes: Youth should not become perpetrators the community teaches them to be

Kellen's story:

Kellen, a 15 years old girl from Rwimbogo sector, used to threaten her mother to kill her. She has been arrested twice. One day, she went to the restaurant owned by her mother and was arrested when she was attempting to throw all the food. It is from that very moment when we met her and started accompanying her. "Our mother does not take care of us; she does neither give us food nor pay school fees" Kellen was complaining. We visited her family, her school and met her mother and her teacher respectively. Her mother was totally desperate. When visiting the school, we found out that everything was cleared with Kellen. It was during a session with Kellen when we learnt that, her parents were living in unceasing conflicts. The father used to beat the mother, harassing her for killing her. As days went on, they reached the point of separating bedrooms before the father left Kellen's mother with three children and went for cohabiting with another women in different area. "I had to kill her with a knife as my father did" replied Kellen when the field officer asked her why she was keeping the knife with her.

In the session with her at AJPRODHO office in Rugarama explaining to her child's rights and obligations vis-à-vis parents' obligations, Kellen realized the importance of the mother and the benefits of keeping her alive, loving her and living with her.

After the third session, Kellen promised to love her mother and make peace with her. For the moment, Kellen rejoined the school and did very well in the last quarter (3rd position with 71 marks), on the other hand, her mother testified a great change in Kellen's life." ...*She has completely changed. She does any task I assign to her such as cleaning house, making food.... I no longer close my bedroom as I used to do before; instead she cleans the room, makes my bed and takes care of her young brother. She is at a such level where we can sit together and discuss what we can do to move forward in our day to day life*" testified Kellen's mother

Chart 3: Received Cases

District	Type of case	No of received cases					Total cases still need follow- up	No of cases solved
		Male under 35 years	Male above 35 years	Female under 35 years	Female above 35 years	Total cases received		
KAYONZA	Physical violence							

	Denial of access to property		1	2		3	3	0
	Psychological violence							
	Sexual violence			1		1	1	0
	Total	0	1	3		4	4	0
NYAGATARE	Physical violence	2	0	1	0	3	1	1
	Denial of access to property	0	0	4	2	6	4	2
	Psychological violence	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
	Sexual violence	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
	Total	2	0	7	2	11	7	3
GATSIBO	Physical violence	0	2	2	0	4	3	1
	Denial of access to property		2	2	3	7	5	2
	Psychological violence			4	2	6	3	3
	Sexual violence			2		2	1	1
	Total	0	4	10	5	19	12	7

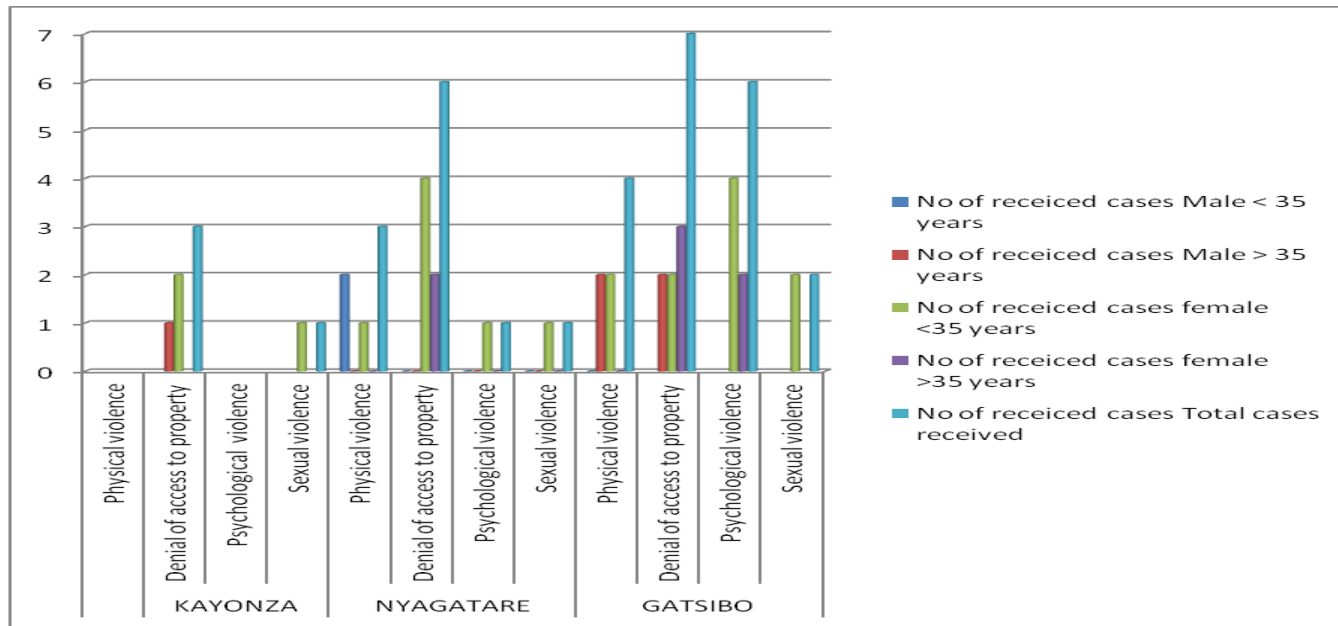


Chart 4: Received cases per Age category

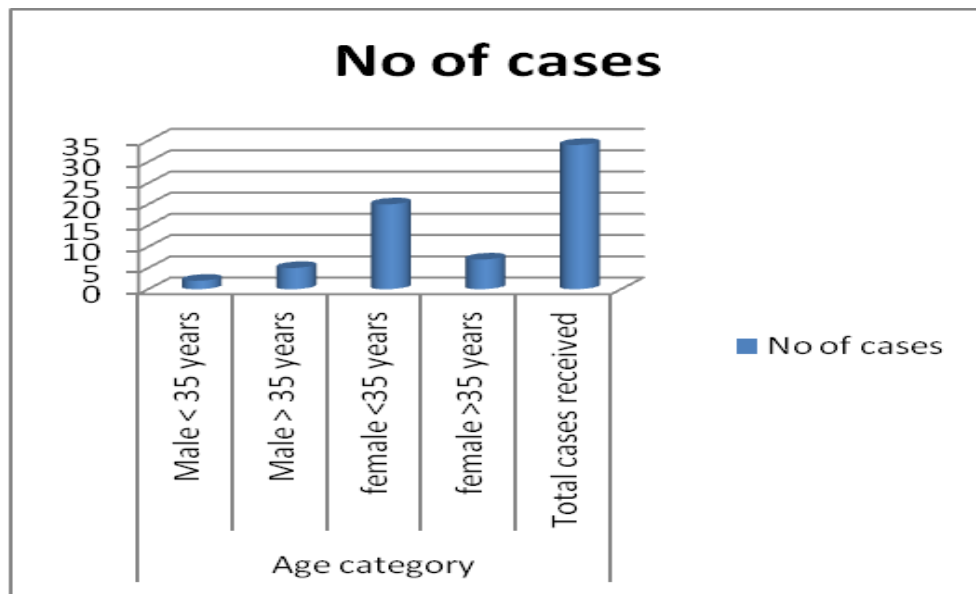
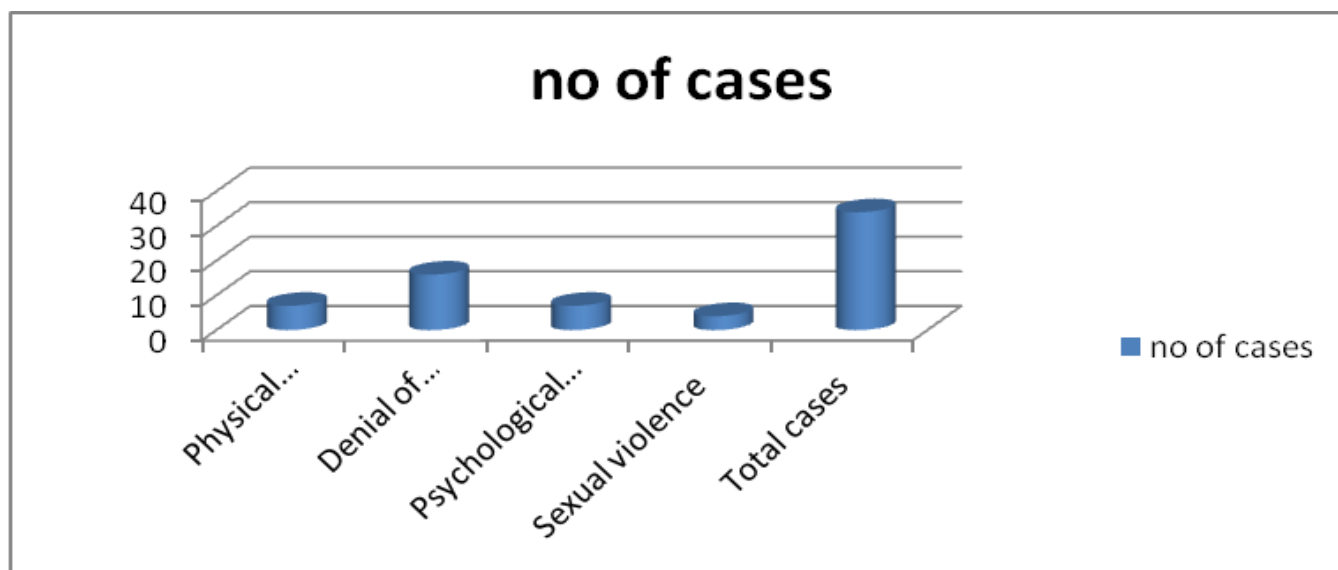


Chart 5: Received cases by type of violence



Results	Main Activity planned	Sub-activity planned	Activity realized / if not realized explain why?	Observations and recommendations
4	Activity 1: Monthly report and plans are produced at different project levels.		Monthly reports and plan were produced and shared with different senior staff of organization	The monthly plans and reports shed more light on the progress and allowed to timely strategize for effective implementation of the project.
	Activity 2: Quarterly progress report is produced by AJPRODHO and shared with other partners.		Quarterly report was produced and shared with partners	It would be better if there could be a joint project review which provide an opportunity for partners to share progress and learn from each other for more effective implementation
	Activity 3: Monthly meeting putting together 72 Gender focal points and 4 project staff FPs are conducted for planning and reporting.		One monthly meeting was conducted. All gender focal points from each district met and produced a joint plan for implementation of the project.	The transportation fees were a problem for the GFPs, as they have to cover the trip from their residence to the meeting sites themselves.
	Activity 4: Baseline survey is conducted during first six		AJPRODHO being part of steering committee members to conduct the baseline study. We participated in the whole process; from hiring the consultant to conducting	

	months of the project.		the baseline study.	
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Describe the results under the Result 4

Monitoring tools were developed and helped gender focal points to collect data even if some of them are not yet familiar with all tools. Using clients’ forms and simple reporting formats allowed project staff to have data on progress of activities on course. Close monitoring of gender focal point activities will increase their capacity and hence the impact in the community.

PWDs: People With Disabilities.

Which part of the implementation worked well (specify how and why)?
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Community sensitization: Local communities suggested having a fixed calendar for community dialogues around gender equality and GBV issues. Elders are eager to challenge the “harmful “traditions which have kept women as a person at second class.
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Key lessons learned during this period:
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Changing community norms is a process, not a single event2. Sustainable change is a result of identification of community’s capacity to make positive change and build up on those capacities to make social transformation.3. Power imbalance is one of the factors underlying the domestic violence4. Misuse of the power/opportunity of women increases the rate of domestic violence |
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What unforeseen challenges were encountered during this quarter? How were they met?
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Resistance of men to join gender working groups
Resolution: Keeping up, and insisting in a soft way buy using benefits-based approaches.2. Youth are mobile and inaccessible
Resolution: engaging them in Income generation groups and hence make them stable and accessible3. Monitoring and documenting of GFPs activities
Resolution: GFPs should submit all filled forms every week and get the feedback from the field officers |
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Additional Comments/Recommendations:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Speed up the baseline study so that the benchmarks are available and used |
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Action plan and Budget for the quarter from July to September 2012

Result	Activity	Expected results (clearly indicate expected changes for each activity)	Responsible
1	A three day training on men engaging in fight against GBV is conducted for 4 staff (1 project coordinator, 3 field officers)	4 project staff are equipped with strategies to engage men in campaign of promoting gender equality.	RWAMREC
	Three day training on trauma counseling (trauma resulting from GBV) is conducted for 25 partner organization staff.	25 staff from partner organization gain skills to understand and support GBV victims in their daily activities	AJPRODHO
	Three day training on men engaging in fight against GBV is conducted for 72 FPs and Village agents.	72 GFPs are equipped with skills to mobilize men to promote gender equality.	AJPRODHO
		72 trained gender focal points become role models in their families and village	AJPRODHO

		in supporting gender equality	
		72 trained gender focal points engage their spouses(where applicable) in the campaign to promote gender equality and prevent domestic violence	AJPRODHO
	72 FP's and Village agents are trained on gender GBV law in monthly meeting	72 trained GFPs apply provisions provided by the GBV laws to solve conflicts relating to domestic violence.	AJPRODHO
	6 radio listening clubs are created putting together 240 people (each club with an average of 40 people)	Radio listening club members apply new strategies from radio emission to mobilize community to speak out about domestic violence	AJPRODHO
	Training of 123 (existing 74 and 49 new) gender working groups on gender concepts, GBV and practices to fight domestic violence by Gender focal points.	65% of GWG members give testimonies of positive change towards mutual respect and understanding in their families	AJPRODHO
		70% of GWG members are engaged in community mobilization against domestic violence (by staging community theaters, songs, sketch,and storytelling)	AJPRODHO
		100% of GWG met regularly (fixed calendar) to discuss topics around gender equality and related values.	AJPRODHO
	Training of 50 gender working groups on GBV law.	70% of GWG members refer to articles provided by the law when raising awareness and solving conflicts as well.	AJPRODHO
2	Community sensitization on gender equity	Each cell has a fixed calendar for community dialogue around gender equality and GBV issues	AJPRODHO
		In each cell, there is a GWG composed exclusively by young people.	AJPRODHO

	Radio talk show with call in and SMS	SMS talking about the situation of GBV	AJPRODHO
		Feedback from people from different sectors of the 3 districts	AJPRODHO
		Feedback from stakeholders(police, local officials) and feedback from radio listening clubs	AJPRODHO
			AJPRODHO
3	Equipment of a recovery/mediation/counseling room for GBV victims	Room is equipped with 4 chairs, 1 single bed, 1 table, 1 single mattress	AJPRODHO
	Mediation of couples and households visit	120 householders are visited	AJPRODHO
		20 are mediated	AJPRODHO
	Orientation and accompaniment of 60 GBV victims to the suitable institutions	40 cases are solved	AJPRODHO
		20 cases are followed-up	AJPRODHO
4	3 Monthly meeting putting together 72 and 4 project staff FPs are conducted for planning and reporting.	Monthly plans are produced and reported on	AJPRODHO
5	Routine participatory monitoring	Project progress is monitored	AJPRODHO

ANNEX 1: Success story

Munyangabe, a 35 year man was cohabiting (not married) with Kaneza, a 28 year woman in Gahini sector. They have 2 children. Munyangabe used to beat her wife and denied neither her access nor a say on their properties. Their conflicts have grown at such point that the wife left her husband and go back to her family. It was 6 months, since the wife left her husband. After the training of gender focal points on building peaceful families to end domestic violence, one gender focal point visited the man who was left alone. They discussed the benefits of healthy relationship, how to build it and the role of each partner in that play. After three sessions, the man decided to go to the wife's family and ask for forgiveness. The wife accepted his request and forgave him. They decided to rebuild their family and they were married on July 13th, 2012.