

# RWANDA

## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

**80%**

OPERATIONAL  
SUSTAINABILITY

**63%**

FEMALE  
CLIENTS

**13,228**

ACTIVE  
BORROWERS

**35,395**

CHILDREN  
IMPACTED

**8,407**

JOBS  
IMPACTED

**\$3.6M**

TOTAL  
PORTFOLIO

## BUILDING BUSINESSES AND IMPACTING LIVES

Microfinance is the practice of providing microloans, micro-savings, micro-insurance and other financial services to the poor. It breaks the cycle of poverty by providing services to those who do not have a credit history or assets to borrow against, and are therefore ineligible for traditional financial services.

Small loans provide the working capital to grow a business, allowing the poor to create a sustainable livelihood and exert greater control over their financial future as they improve their lives and the lives of their families.

We began serving Rwandans in 1997 and have since grown to become one of the largest regulated microfinance institutions in Rwanda. We work primarily with women, youth and smallholder farmers, offering small loans and training to help businesses succeed. Financial security means that women in Rwanda can feed, clothe, educate and buy medicine for their children and the orphans they care for.

Photo Caption: Jacqueline grew up in one of the poorest of villages and lost her brothers and sisters to sickness and war. Two things changed her life - a loan and a sewing machine. She now has a successful tailoring business.

## VISIONFUND INTERNATIONAL

The VisionFund global network is made up of 28 microfinance institutions (MFIs) across four continents.

### GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

- 3.5M children positively impacted
- 1.1M clients/borrowers
- 1.4M jobs created/sustained
- \$694M worth of loans disbursed
- 97.1% repayment rate
- 71% female clients
- 63% clients living in rural areas
- 37% clients who are smallholder farmers

Data as of 30 September 2019 (FY19) and figures in US dollars.

### OUR VISION

Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness;  
Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.

### OUR MISSION

We believe in brighter futures for children where they can experience the love of Christ, building lives free of need and full of promise.



## WORKING IN RWANDA

Rwanda is known as a country of a thousand hills. Over two decades ago, the country was plagued by genocide that killed millions and impacted the world.

Many Rwandan families were left homeless due to the genocide. Widows were left to care for the children of others, as well as their own, but with no funds to meet even the most basic human needs.

Women affected by the genocide are particularly vulnerable because they have little or no formal education and were left with no land or assets. The 5th 2016/17 Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey (EICV5) shows that 38.2% of the population was poor as compared to 39.1% in 2013/14. During the same period, extreme poverty reduced from 16.3% to 16.0%. This is modest progress compared to previous survey rounds when the percentage of Rwandans living below the poverty line was reduced from 45% in 2010/11 to 39% in 2013/14.

This creates huge potential for our microfinance institution to provide services to a growing need, especially in the agricultural field. When businesses grow, they generate the revenue needed to sustain families and households across the country.

## LEADERSHIP



**Grace  
Dushimana  
CEO**

Grace has been with VisionFund Rwanda since 2006, holding various roles in the finance department, and took over as the CEO in November 2019.

We have a board of directors, a leadership team and a management team that oversees the work of the organization. We are an affiliated MFI of VisionFund International.

## FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Over the past year, our loan portfolio grew from \$3.3 million to \$3.6 million and PAR 30 was under budget at 3.01%. During the same period, our number of active borrowers grew from 11,052 to 13,228. Of these clients, 8,333 are women, representing 63% of our client base.

Recent efforts have been focused towards attaining and maintaining quality portfolio performance and increasing clients' numbers. At the same time we ensure social impact is being achieved amongst communities that are most in need.

In 2015, we were recognized and awarded as the best MFI in Rwanda for Social Impact and Client Protection by the AMIR.

We serve in 29 out of 30 districts in Rwanda, through our 8 offices spread over four provinces.

Our branch offices often serve in existing World Vision Area Programs.

To read more about our work in Rwanda, please [CLICK HERE](#).

## FUTURE INNOVATION

Our microfinance institution strives to provide first in class financial services to some of the poorest communities in Rwanda. Our new initiatives and programmes include:

- Scaling up savings groups model on a digital platform with different partners in addition to existing ones (CARE & World Vision).
- Increasing outreach using our new Mobile Banking Technology called Vision MHano.



Chantal is a mother of two and is part of a savings group formed by World Vision. The group received loans from VisionFund to develop their various agriculture-related businesses; from purchasing seeds, seedlings, fertilizers, insecticides, and tools, to paying laborer costs.

For Chantal, the loans meant that she was able to invest in her eggplant cultivation, and grow enough to be able to take her produce to the marketplace.

An increased income meant that her family has been able to pay for the things that her children needed for school, and to also renovate their house.

## GET CONNECTED

You can help us to empower families to build brighter futures for the children in Rwanda.

Connect with us to learn how you can transform lives through VisionFund.

Email: [WeAre@VisionFund.org](mailto:WeAre@VisionFund.org)  
Visit: [VisionFund.org](http://VisionFund.org)