

Annual Report 2022-2023



CENTRE
MAREMBO



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What is our purpose?

Our Vision:

Rwanda is a country with zero tolerance for rape and other violence against girls, young women, and children, and that child homelessness and the stigmatisation they struggle with is eradicated.

Our Goal:

To transform girls from being considered a burden to society, to becoming a solution to society.

Our Mission:

To empower young female victims of GBV, drug abuse, and other kinds of violence by restoring their human dignity and sensitising the community to the crimes being committed against them.



How Do We Achieve Our Vision?



Education & Early Child Development



Justice & Advocacy



Rehabilitation
& Reintegration



Health



Socio Economic
& Development

Centre Marembo's 5 program holistic approach provides a flexible and adaptable route for each girl that is referred to us by local authorities, or who approaches us directly.

It enables the CMO team to identify the girls' primary needs while also considering their longer-term requirements allowing for a more sustainable impact. Centre Marembo has developed this strategy over a 10+ year experience; learning, evaluating and listening to the stakeholders concerned.

Alongside each program runs a schedule of counselling and workshops in areas of nutritional health, sexual health, and career guidance. These sessions are designed with young single mothers and street living and working girls in mind. They are encouraging, visual and repeated on a cycle to enable all beneficiaries access at different times of the day.

Justice & Advocacy

GBV Campaign: In November 2022 Centre Marembo took part in the Global campaign ‘**16 days of Activism**’ joining forces with the UNWOMEN’s annual campaign ‘Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence’. We started on the 25th November and concluded on Human Rights Day, 10th December. The theme was: “DUFATANYE. TWUBAKE UMURYANGO UZIRA IHOHOTERWA” (UNITE. Build a Violence-free Society).

The campaign began with a march to draw the public’s attention, then a steady program of radio interviews, social media engagement and local workshops followed, bringing the community into discussions and looking for solutions.

Imanzi radio station hosted our CEO and a panel of girls who wanted to share their firsthand experience of GBV.

Empowerment through Self Defence organisation (ESD Rwanda) visited our Ndera centre to demonstrate some useful techniques to a group of 30 girls in how to protect themselves and to be confident in their right to do so. They all found their voices as they were taught the number one tool in self-defence is to shout for help or shout 'no' to their attacker.

Legal assistance for children and adolescents is a new project we are launching soon at our Gikondo centre. There will be lawyers based there and reaching out to street children, listening to them and giving legal advice. There will also be a free phonenumber available for children.

So far, this new project has assisted 15 girls and their children to be legally registered and receive national ID enabling them to pursue training and to receive medical insurance.



Rehabilitation & Reintegration: 21-days to Overcome Malnutrition Project

Child malnutrition is linked to poverty, low levels of education, and poor access to health services. Sufficient and good-quality nutrition is therefore critical for development, health, and survival of current and succeeding generations.

Centre Marembo has developed a **21-day project** to overcome cases of malnutrition identified in the Ndera, Gasabo, and Nyarugenge Districts. It uses a 3-point strategy to achieve a sustainable outcome:

1. **Distribution of food** and hygiene packs on a weekly basis, handed out to teen mothers containing enough nutritious food for their family for that week. Typically, 2kg rice, 2kg maize flour, oil, 2kg sugar, salt, 2kg porridge, 2kg beans, eggs, fresh fruit and vegetables, as well as other essentials, sanitary pads and soap.
2. **Parenting skills and therapy** via a social worker and psychologist &/or workshops held at our ECD centre. For instance, nutrition, food preparation, family planning, SRHR, hygiene and how to identify and treat simple health issues quickly and effectively, and counselling sessions for the victims as a group and individually.
3. **Entrepreneurship and Savings:** The Centre Marembo's chicken farm coop raised about 1,000 chickens as a source of revenue and to treat 25 children from malnutrition due to lack of essential or protein-based foods. Looking at different income generating ideas, how to market and present their business, benefits of forming a group for mutual support, and how to open a bank account. The recent March 2023 session resulted in a new group of 25 young women electing a board and opening a bank account. Centre Marembo contributed a 500,000frw interest free loan each to help with start-up costs, repayable within 3 months.





Weekly Activity: distribution of food packages and other essential items.

Education & ECD Centre

School sponsorship: The budget allocation for the Education program has substantially decreased from 2022 to 2023 due to funding cuts, translating to less funded school places as you can see from the table below. Due to the sudden nature of the funding cut, Centre Marembo implemented a screening process to establish the most vulnerable that would benefit most from the new education support available, and selected 40 students, these students are receiving school fees and educational materials. One of whom is Aron, who is learning to walk again following surgery on his legs.

	First term/2023	Second term/2023	Third term/2023
School fees	40 students	24 students	24 students
School Materials	40 students	24 students	24 students

ECD – Early Childhood Development: "ECD refers to a comprehensive approach to policies and programs for children from conception to 6 years of age with activities involving the participation of their parents, community and caregivers for physical social, emotional, and intellectual development of a child" *MIGEPROF*

CMO already has one successful ECD centre in Ndera and is currently refurbishing the Gikondo Centre, previously used for accommodating victims of GBV, to provide a second ECD. Now the girls have been safely rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their families or rented accommodation, their children can benefit from a safe, nurturing, educational environment, while they look for work. The new ECD will bring our total of places up to 100. That's 100 3-6yr olds receiving two nutritious meals per day and their families benefitting from parenting workshops and other support such as monthly food and hygiene packages.



Gikondo Centre: New fences, toilets and classrooms have been built

Socio-Economic & Development: Women's Empowerment

Moto Taxi drivers: During March 2023 CMO resumed the training of a group of 30 teen mothers in riding a motorcycle. Within a month, 12 out of 30 participants completed the course and received their provisional licences. The remaining 18 struggled to attend due to cost of transport and work commitments that had come up in the gap between starting and resuming the training. This result has been noted and will be taken into consideration when beginning the next round of training. The next round of motorcycle training is supported by the French Embassy grant.

Construction, Tiling and Paving: During June 2023 a group of 30 teen mothers resumed training, practising their new skills ready for a formal TVET examination enabling them to compete with their peers. Afterwards a cooperative will be formed with the same group of 30 teen mothers.

Kirehe Girls' Empowerment Centre Progress Update: An MOU has been signed between CMO and the Kirehe District. Architects have been employed to help design the interior of the centre and the all-female staff of bakers, baristas, waitresses, craftswomen and tailors are being trained and prepared to deliver a high-quality service for all public and tourists crossing between Tanzania and Rwanda.

Emergency Food Distribution: A bi-monthly service to help bridge the gap when out of work. In For instance, in March 2023, a group of 37 teen mothers received packs containing with 2kg rice, 2kg maize flour, oil, 2kg sugar, salt, 2kg porridge, 2kg beans, eggs, as well as other essentials such as sanitary pads and soap. This group of teen mothers also benefitted from workshops to help them find employment as well as counselling and community outreach to ensure they are safe and well at home in their communities. The outreach also serves as a vehicle for delivering workshops to the community.





Construction, tiling, and paving: The group put their skills into practice while applying tiles to cover building's floor.



Inside of the Kirehe Girls' Empowerment Centre when construction phase 1 was completed.

Mobile Clinic: CMO is the proud owner of Rwanda's first mobile health clinic. It's been a long journey to get it here but in June 23 it arrived. It is fully equipped with the latest medical equipment. Initially a project for our funder who sadly reneged on their contract and left CMO to raise the funds. Despite the delays this obstacle has caused, CMO pushed forward, using its own funds and through the development of income generating projects. The impact has been felt in all of the CMO projects unfortunately, but we believe in this new initiative and are excited to see the impact of this clinic on harder to reach communities when it is fully operational.

Mutuelle de Sante: Along with every Food and Hygiene pack, is the registration of whole families into Rwanda's national health insurance scheme. 350 annual subscriptions were arranged with the local authorities to ensure that primary healthcare is accessible, reducing the volume of many secondary health issues.

Aaron: The nephew of one of the CMO beneficiaries developed rickets due to a diet of poor nutritional quality over a long period of time. He was in constant pain and had developed bone deformities. Aaron has now undergone multiple orthopaedic surgeries and is receiving physio to help him walk again.



Aaron, the son of one of our beneficiaries having physiotherapy.



Aaron during a health check-up.



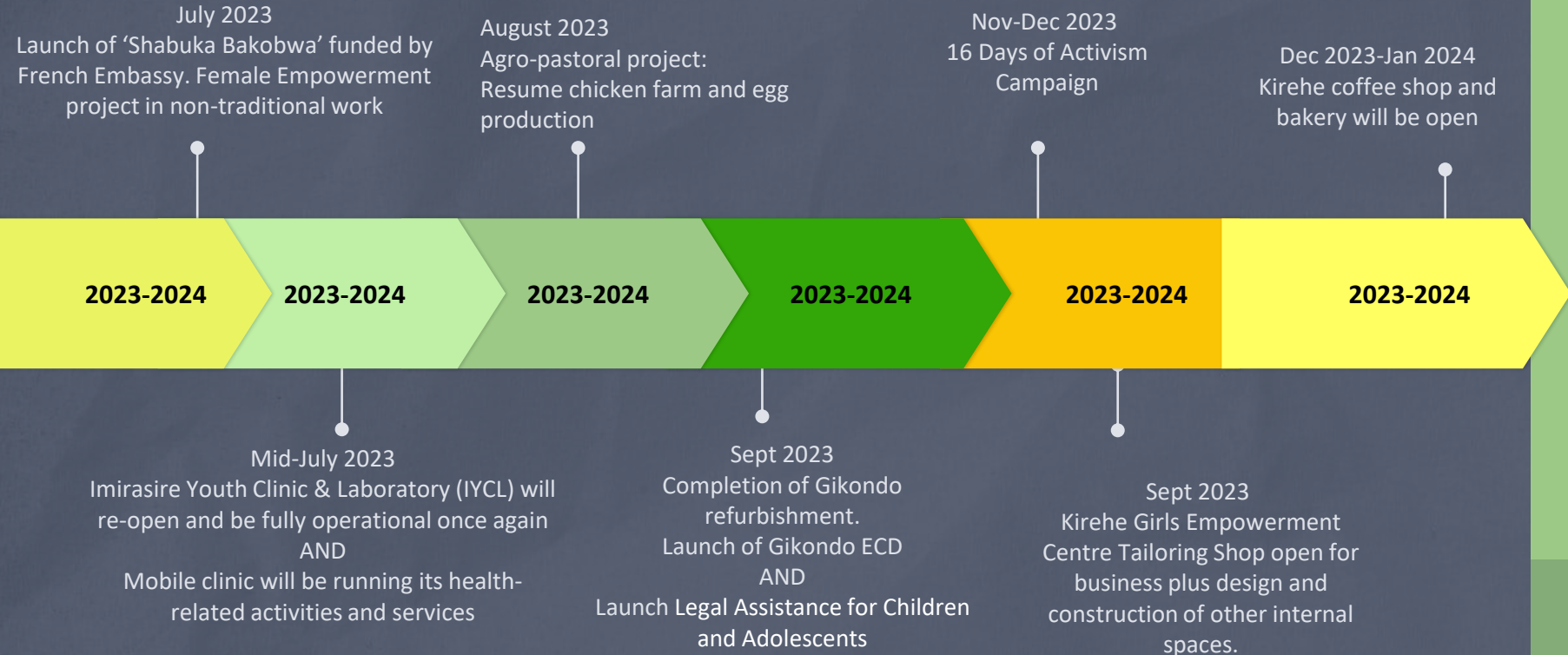
An example of medical equipment inside the mobile clinic.



More examples of other medical equipment and tools available inside the mobile clinic.



2023-2024 Timeline



Thank You



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Centre Marengo Organisation (CMO) is a National Non-Government Organisation that was established in 2012 with a vision of restoring dignity, empowering, and reintegrating girls who are victims of GBV.