



# HUMAN RIGHTS GOVERNANCE OBSERVATORY

Democratic Republic of Congo - North Kivu, City of Goma , Commune of Goma  
HIMBI district, BUTEMBO Avenue .

Tel : (+243) 995171740, +243899910846

Website: <https://ogdhasbl.org> Email: [ogdhnk@gmail.com](mailto:ogdhnk@gmail.com)



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## REVITALIZING INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES FOR IMPOVERISHED MEN AND WOMEN IN THE CITY OF BUKAVU AND ITS SURROUNDING AREAS

1. OBJECTIVE: To improve the living conditions of families
2. PROJECT DURATION: SIX MONTHS, RENEWABLE
3. AREA OF OPERATION: City of Bukavu
4. AMOUNT REQUESTED : \$ 30,000

### I. CONTEXT AND JUSTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT:

OGDH ASBL, through its program supporting income-generating economic activities for impoverished women and men, works with women in the areas of small businesses, small-scale livestock farming, agriculture, and handicrafts. This program aims to strengthen women's technical and economic capacities through a revolving credit system. To achieve this, GAAL has worked to reconcile traditional credit, known as LIKILIMBA or TONTINES, which women have traditionally organized, with modern credit using a formalized accounting system.

For two years, GAAL has been running a microcredit program for vulnerable women and men in the city of Bukavu. This program aims to strengthen their capital and boost their purchasing power, which is weakened by a lack of or insufficient means of production. With these revolving loans, women and men will engage in small-scale trade of food products, the processing of local agricultural products such as bananas, and the sale of manufactured goods in Bukavu and its surrounding areas ( Mbobero , Kagabi, Cirunga, Bushwira, Nyantende, Mudaka, etc.).

During the period of insecurity in the city of Bukavu caused by the proliferation of weapons in circulation in the city of Bukavu , invaded by armed groups, men and women lost their activities which were the source of their income and the survival of their families.

The way in which impoverished women and men lost their income can be summarized as follows:

- Some products were left behind during the leak, and some products spoiled.
- The loss of all hope for survival forced vulnerable women and men to lower prices before fleeing the city.

Some women, having become widows due to insecurity, find themselves obliged to play the role of both father and mother; this explains the entrepreneurship that is emerging in the agricultural sector and especially in small businesses...

In the city of Bukavu, vulnerable women and men had already achieved a high level of socio-economic activity. The insecurity caused them to lose all their capital, both agricultural and commercial.

In Bukavu and surrounding neighborhoods, there are approximately 1,000 women and 1,000 men working through GAAL, grassroots development associations, who have been operating for about five years. These women and men have not only lost their agricultural, livestock, and commercial activities, but most have also lost their spouses, leaving them with an average of four children to

support while still young (18 to 35 years old). This has led to a situation of social overload. At the start of the agricultural season and with preparations underway for the school year's end and beginning, these women are in dire need of support, particularly in their agricultural activities, but also in their small-scale trade of manufactured goods, which provides income between harvests.

## **II. OBJECTIVES**

- a) Global:
  - Improving the socio-economic conditions of impoverished women and men in the city of Bukavu and surrounding areas
  - Improving the nutritional status of vulnerable populations, namely women and children
- b) – Create income-generating activities for women (poultry farming, agriculture and small-scale trade)
  - Boosting the activities of small businesses that generate income for women and men
  - Strengthening women's socio-economic capacities through the revolving credit system
  - Reviving the activities of women and men through a revolving credit system
  - Strengthening women's technical and entrepreneurial capacities through training in small initiative management and microcredit management;
  - To reduce the risks of traffic accidents and drowning for women who ensure the distribution of food and manufactured goods.

## **III. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE AND BENEFICIARY POPULATIONS**

This project will cover the three communes of the city of Bukavu and six surrounding villages affected by insecurity and its consequences. It will benefit 2,000 people, each with approximately four to eight dependent children.

## **IV. EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Reduction in the number of malnourished children and adults within families supported by the project
- Increase in income for impoverished women and men
- Self-consumption of products from their markets
- Selling surplus production to local markets
- Improving the socio-economic conditions of impoverished women
- Increased capacity to manage their activities.

### **a) Inputs**

1. For small family farms:
  - Purchasing goats for breeding within families
2. For subsistence farming
  - Purchase of hoes and seeds
3. For small businesses
  - Credit fund for women and men through their associations.

### **c) Activities**

- Organize field visits for the restructuring of groups of women and men who are credit beneficiaries.
- Organize meetings to provide guidelines on the use of credit to beneficiaries
- Organize a training workshop on basic management and on credit management and support
- Granting of revolving credit
- Repayment of the loaned capital in 6 monthly installments at the interest rate of \$5 per month per beneficiary, to be deposited into a GAAL collective savings account.
- Interest can be recovered in six monthly installments.



not yet been served.								
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### VIII. DETAILED PROJECT BUDGET

No.	LABEL	QUANTITY	UNIT	PU (in \$)	PYT(\$)
	AGRICULTURAL SECTOR				
	Buy hoes	750	-	5	\$3750 USD
	Buy a machete	750	-	3	\$2250 USD
	Manuentio	10 people	1 day	15	\$150 USD
	Seed	1000kg of beans		1	\$1000 USD
	Seed	100kg Peanuts		0.5	\$500 USD
	Seed	1000 kg of corn		015	\$1500 USD
	Tax				850USD
	<b><i>SUBTOTAL</i></b>				<b><i>\$9150 USD</i></b>
	SMALL BUSINESS SECTOR				
	Granting of revolving credit	400 people	Six months phase 1	50	US\$20,000
	<b><i>SUBTOTAL</i></b>				US\$20,000
	<b><i>TOTAL GENERAL</i></b>				<b><i>\$30,000 USD</i></b>