

RYAF Quarterly Newsletter:

April–June 2026



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RYAF NEWSLETTER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (RYAF) was established in 2016 to serve as a nationwide forum of youth involved in agriculture. Formed under the Government of Rwanda's initiative, RYAF, was founded through the collaboration of five key ministries: the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), the Ministry of Youth and Culture (MYCULTURE), Ministry of Public Service and Labour (MIFOTRA), Ministry of Education (MINEDUC), and the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MINICOM) with support FAO.

RYAF Mandate

RYAF was established to promote youth employment and entrepreneurship in agribusiness by offering a platform aimed at establishing business linkage opportunities and changing the youth's mind-set on agribusiness.

RYAF operation is based on coping with potential challenges hindering youth come and do profitable agribusiness, including limited knowledge, skills, information, and communication, limited access to finance to boost their investment, limited access to land to boost their production potential, limited access to market due to limited investment and quality compliance and so on. Most intervention goes on through practical advocacy and young people influencing in the agriculture policies review to create an enabling environment allowing young people to be strong and competitive market actors, after accessing all possible factors of production.

Coverage area

RYAF operates in all 30 districts of Rwanda and brings together different youth organizations, individual young farmers and entrepreneurs engaged in agriculture sector; specifically, the youth in agriculture primary production, livestock production, agro-processing, inputs and agro-services and ICT for Agriculture.

Objectives

1. Change youth mindset vis-à-vis opportunities in agribusiness for job creation and economic development,
2. Ensure development and promotion of youth in agribusiness sector at national and international level;
3. Facilitate and collaborate with youth operating professionally in the agribusiness sector across the country;
4. Ensure compliance with collective international agreements and conventions regulating agribusiness sector;

Our Vision

A future where youth are inclusive leading agribusiness ecosystem at national and regional level.

Our Mission

To sustainably promotes, informs, advocates, mobilizes and empower Rwandan youth to engage in agribusiness resulting on a stable food availability, market access, decent jobs and sustainable and inclusive development.

RYAF NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM RYAF CHAIRPERSON

YOUTH LEADING THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE

Innovation • Resilience • Partnership
From Local Impact to Global Influence

Dear Friends, I am reminded why this work matters by the young woman rebuilding a coffee chain, the young man flying a drone, and the coop that became a business. Rwanda's youth are the present of agriculture.

Welcome to the RYAF Newsletter (April-June 2026).

We celebrate young Rwandans transforming agriculture into an engine for national growth and climate resilience. This quarter, we moved:

💡 **Financing Youth Innovation** RWF 65 million was awarded to Rwanda's top agri-tech minds at AYuTe Africa Challenge 2026. Every franc is well placed.

☕ **Transforming the Coffee Sector** Youth like Muhorakeye Annet rewrite the value chain from the inside creating sustainable change, stronger markets, and a generation that drinks from the cup it built.

🌿 **Agricultural Value Addition** Mutoni GoodLuck's story proves organic innovation is a viable livelihood strategy. Processing, packaging, purpose: this is agribusiness done right.

🐄 **Skills and Livestock Development** 50 youth from Kayonza District turned training into a viable livestock enterprise. From classroom to cowshed; that is the RYAF spirit.

🚁 **Youth-Led Drone Innovation** Smart pesticide spraying and data-driven farming reduce pre-harvest crop losses countrywide.

🏛️ **New RYAF Governance Leadership** The RYAF General Assembly elected a new Board of Directors and Technical Committees to drive ..

accountability and deepen grassroots representation.

🕊️ **Preserving Our History Without Compromise**
In partnership with the National Youth Council (NYC), under the auspices of the Ministry of Youth and Culture, RYAF convened a powerful commemoration event calling on youth to actively resist the denial of the Genocide against the Tutsi because memory is not passive.

It is an act of solidarity, resistance and national unity.

We honor survivors not only with words, but with the quality of future we choose to build.

These milestones are not checkboxes.

They are proof of a generation stepping fully into its power.

To every young agripreneur reading this: the challenges ahead are real but so are you. View them not as walls, but as soil. Things grow in difficulty.

Keep building. Keep leading. Keep showing up preferably with a drone



Sakina Usengimana /RYAF Chairperson

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



New RYAF Leadership Elected

RYAF General Assembly elects a new Board of Directors, Audit Committee and Conflict Resolution Committee to strengthen youth representation and agribusiness leadership.



AYuTe Africa Challenge 2026

Young innovators awarded RWF 65 million for groundbreaking agritech solutions transforming Rwanda's agriculture.



Youth Success Story: PYAM

How a youth enterprise in Kayonza is turning quality fodder production into a thriving business while creating hundreds of rural jobs.



Drone Technology for Smart Farming

Ampere Vision Rwanda is using precision drone spraying to reduce crop losses, improve productivity and modernize agriculture.



Agricultural Value Addition

Mutoni GoodLuck transforms locally grown crops into high-value natural beauty products, creating new markets for farmers.



Coffee Skills for Employment

Elite Cafe Training Center equips young people with professional coffee and barista skills, opening pathways to jobs and entrepreneurship.



Improving Dairy Health

RYAF, RAB and partners strengthen milk quality through mastitis awareness campaigns, farmer training and veterinary capacity building.



Building Inclusive Coffee Value Chains

Proximity Coaches trained to improve coffee production, promote Farmer Field Schools and strengthen sustainable coffee farming.



OUR COMMITMENT

RYAF continues to:

- ✓ Empower youth through agribusiness innovation and entrepreneurship
- ✓ Promote climate-smart and technology-driven agriculture
- ✓ Strengthen agricultural value chains and market access
- ✓ Build youth leadership, partnerships and policy engagement
- ✓ Create decent jobs and sustainable livelihoods for young agripreneurs

RYAF General Assembly Elects New Board of directors and Committees to Strengthen Youth Agribusiness Leadership

On Saturday, June 20th , 2026, the General Assembly of the Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (RYAF) met at the Gasabo District Headquarters located in Kigali for electing new Board Members, Audit Committee Members and Conflict Resolution Committee Members.



Group photo of RYAF General Assembly

Sakina Usengimana was re-elected Chair of the Board of Directors of Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum. The people who will assist her are first deputy chairperson, Abdu Usanase and Cyuzuzo Anitha as second deputy chairperson.

The General Assembly also elected members of the Board to be Advisors to the Board: Rwibisara Alexis, Mukeshimana Rosine.

For the Audit Committee, the members elected Manirafasha Jean Marie as Chair, Munezero Clarisse as Vice Chair, and Sibobugingo Evariste as Secretary. The members of the Conflict Resolution Committee are Bikorimana Emmanuel, Mundekere Ishimwe Ange, and Mutoniwase Jacqueline.

When speaking after her re-election, Usengimana Sakina thanked the outgoing leadership for the dedication and contribution to the growth of the organization. She said, the newly elected team will work closely with the district committees, to strengthen RYAF and also to advance professional agricultural production among young people.

"I am truly honored to be re-elected as Chairperson of RYAF. Thank you for the continued trust. This renewed mandate is a call to deepen impact, to scale youth-led agribusiness and unlock greater opportunities across the sector. I carry this responsibility with gratitude and full intention."

She went on saying that, the mandate belongs to every young agripreneur in Rwanda, those who kept



RYAF Board of Directors

going even with challenges, and that the Board remains committed to building more openings for youth in agribusiness.

Finally, Usengimana recognized the support of RYAF's partners including Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Ministry of Youth, AGRA, Trade Mark Africa, FAO Rwanda and CECI Rwanda, for their continued collaboration in empowering young agripreneurs across the country.



Audit Committee



Conflict resolution Committee

Youth Entrepreneurs Awarded RWF 65 Million in AYuTe Africa Challenge Rwanda 2026



Group photo of young innovators, government officials, and organizers at the AYuTe Africa Challenge Rwanda 2026 finale held at Camp Kigali.

On April 30, 2026, Camp Kigali hosted the grand finale of the AYuTe Africa Challenge Rwanda 2026. The finalists showcased their tech-based solutions aimed at reshaping the agricultural landscape in Rwanda. The total prize pool for this year's edition reached an impressive RWF 65 million.

During the awards ceremony, organized by Heifer International, the Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Dr. Telesphore Ndabamenye, assured the youth that the government remains fully committed to supporting innovators. Dr. Ndabamenye stated, "Our objective is to connect these young innovators with partners who can assist them in scaling their business ideas, and help them reach larger market sizes." He added that technical mentorship and capacity building would be provided to ensure sustainable expansion.

Top Innovations and Highlights of the Year

The national competition drew over 1,200 applications. Following a rigorous screening process, 12 top entrepreneurs advanced to a 5-day intensive bootcamp to refine their business models before making their final pitches.

Mutoni Goodluck, founder of Goodness of God, emerged as the Grand Prize Winner, taking home RWF 30 million. Her company manufactures organic hair products derived from ginger and garlic.

She noted that the prize money will fund team expansion and help scale her partner farmer network.

Isidole Niyigirimpuhwe from Techplus Trust Ltd secured the first runner-up spot, receiving RWF 20 million for his smart incubation technology. His system provides poultry farmers with rapid access to high-quality chicks, driving modernization. Axel Muyombano of Ampere Vision won RWF 15 million as the second runner-up. His project utilizes drones to spray crop pesticides, mitigating pest infestation and cutting financial losses. With 4 active drones, he aims to scale his reach significantly this year.

Verena Ruzibuka, Country Director of Heifer International Rwanda, emphasized that agricultural transformation is impossible without youth-led technology. The AYuTe platform links innovators, investors, and policymakers to address challenges. The prize growth from RWF 50 million in 2025 to RWF 65 million in 2026 reflects rising confidence in young Rwandan agripreneurs.

PYAM Youth: Leading Strategic Agribusiness Solutions for Livestock in Kayonza District



Securing Dry Season Feed: Harvested livestock fodder ready for conservation in Kayonza.

Acquiring practical knowledge from short courses is an important step, but transforming that knowledge into tangible results is what truly sets visionary youth apart from those who simply wait for opportunities. This is what characterizes the members of PYAM, a youth company made up of 29 young men and 21 young women, a total of 50, operating in Kayonza District, Mwiri Sector, Nyawera Cell. This enterprise was established in 2022 after its members completed a short-term training course in irrigation and livestock development technology, aiming to transform their classroom knowledge into highly practical, modern activities within the agricultural sector.

Initially, PYAM started by providing standard irrigation services to local farmers, but later recognized a critical commercial opportunity in their operational zone. The region is heavily characterized by livestock farming but suffers from critical fodder shortages, especially during severe dry seasons driven by ongoing climate change. That is where the strategic decision to enter the professional grass farming and forage processing business came from, with the ultimate goal of solving the problem of green grass shortage and making it easier for cattle farmers to get animal feed at an affordable price.

In starting this commercial hay farming business, PYAM did not choose to grow grass in a traditional way. Instead, they selected specific types of high-

quality forage based on the exact nutrients that animals need for milk production.

Chloris and Brachiaria were grown as high-energy grasses, while Mukuna and Desmodium were selected to help livestock obtain critical body-building proteins and structural nutrients.

Through a strong partnership with the Rwanda Agricultural Board (RAB) and the Rwanda Dairy Development Project (RDDP), PYAM secured access to 52 hectares of land provided by RAB as a starting point for their initiative. The production journey began in September 2025, when the team began preparing the expansive fields, purchasing quality seeds and fertilizers, and planting the forage crops. In March 2026, the PYAM youth enterprise successfully launched its first professional harvest.

So far, they have sold 26 trucks of fresh green fodder directly to Nandi Farm, accumulated 4 tons of premium dry Chloris hay, and are currently building a large hangar to store extra hay safely for the dry season. Beyond boosting local livestock productivity, PYAM has also become a vital source of rural employment. Every single day, its field operations employ between 100 and 400 people, of which at least 70% are local youth.



Eric Murenzi, the director of PYAM

Youth Urged to Lead the Fight Against Genocide Denial and Maintain National Unity



Youth representatives and leaders in a group photo for #Kwibuka32 at the Kamonyi Genocide Memorial, during a remembrance event organized by Ministry of Rwanda Youth Arts, NYC, and RYAF.

On June 4, 2026, the Ministry of Youth and Arts Development, in collaboration with the National Youth Council and the Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (RYAF), joined together to commemorate the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi. The commemoration event took place at the Kamonyi Genocide Memorial in Kamonyi District, where 47,963 victims of the Genocide against the Tutsi are laid to rest.

During the event, a powerful message was delivered to the young generation, calling on them to take active responsibilities in their daily lives:

- Learn from history: Understand the tragic past of the nation to ensure that such atrocities never happen again.
- Promote unity and reconciliation: Strive to uphold the unity of Rwandans as the pillar of sustainable progress.
- Fight Genocide ideology: Actively combat divisionism and hatred wherever it may manifest.
- Preserve historical truth: Guard the accurate history and stand firm against those who deny or minimize the Genocide against the Tutsi.
- Support survivors: Master the history of the country and continue providing support and comfort to Genocide survivors.

Chairperson of RYAF, Sakina Usengimana, emphasized the specific role of the youth on social media platforms. She challenged young people to use their digital voices to counter deniers and revisionists of the Genocide against the Tutsi, while continuously championing unity and reconciliation among Rwandans.

The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Youth and Arts Development, Ngabo Brave, thanked the youth representatives who traveled from all districts of the country to attend. He reminded everyone that the history of the Genocide against the Tutsi is bitter, and emphasized that the youth must study it deeply. This knowledge, he noted, is the primary tool required to strongly defeat those who deny and minimize the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

In line with putting these words into action, the commemoration concluded with a support and rehabilitation initiative (Kuremera) to assist a family of Genocide survivors residing in Rugarika Sector, Kamonyi District.

Remember, Unite, Renew.



RYAF Chairperson and CEO laying a wreath at the Kamonyi Genocide Memorial

Youth-Led Drone Innovation Transforming Agriculture and Reducing Pre-Harvest Crop Losses in Rwanda



Muyombano Happy Axel showcasing Ampere Vision Rwanda's precision agricultural spraying drone at the AYuTe Africa Challenge Rwanda 2026.

In 2024, Muyombano Happy Axel co-founded Ampere Vision Rwanda, initiating a journey into agritech. Motivated by traditional farming limitations and major crop losses in Huye District in 2017, Axel sought to bridge heavy labor and farm productivity. He saw that farmers were burdened twice paying for costly, inefficient inputs while suffering harvest losses due to pest pressure and outdated application methods.

The reliance on manual knapsack sprayers is a major bottleneck. This method forces farmers to walk through fields while carrying chemical tanks, which is exhausting and inefficient. The delay in coverage allows insect pressure to mount, undermining the application.

Furthermore, operator exposure to harsh chemicals and environmental damage from pesticide drift present health and ecological risks. Ampere Vision tackles this through drone precision spraying. By hovering at controlled heights, their drones apply a fine mist of chemicals or fertilizers exactly where needed. This approach slashes labor hours, improves coverage efficiency, and ensures resources are conserved, reducing burdens while optimizing crop health and yield.

Overcoming skepticism was paramount. Farmers were wary of unmanned vehicles flying over fields..

Axel used hands-on demonstration events and cooperative partnerships like KOUBITE to build trust. By seeing the tech work, farmers witnessed reduced costs and increased yields. Currently, with one 10l drone serving 107 members, Ampere Vision is scaling operations. The RWF 15 million AYuTe Challenge prize will fund two 40l drones, enhancing remote service capacity. Through alliances with Heifer International, YARA, and Hello Tractor, they provide an affordable bundled service model that integrates drone spraying with mechanization.

The five-year vision focuses on expansion within Rwanda and East Africa. Axel will integrate drone imagery and data analytics for real-time crop insights. For youth, Axel's message is clear: action outweighs perfection.



The future of Rwandan agriculture is taking shape in Drone .

This is one of the early drones deployed by Ampere Vision Rwanda. Following their recent success in the AYuTe Challenge, Axel plans to expand the fleet with even larger drones, bringing remote service capacity and advanced data analytics to farmers across the region. Their vision is scaling, one precision flight at a time.

Mutoni GoodLuck's Journey of Innovation and Agricultural Value Addition



Youth representatives and leaders in a group photo for #Kwibuka32 at the Kamonyi Genocide Memorial, during a remembrance event organized by Ministry of Rwanda Youth Arts, NYC, and RYAF.

Adding value to agricultural products is a key sector with immense potential for job creation and youth investment in Rwanda. The story of Mutoni GoodLuck, founder of Goodness of God Ltd, demonstrates how knowledge, research, and innovation can turn crops into high-value items for local and international markets. Her company processes onions, cucumbers, garlic, and rosemary into a natural hair oil called KURA, which effectively combats hair loss, poor growth, and scalp issues. This venture proves that agricultural products can be transformed into high-demand beauty products.

In 2026, the project won first place and a prize of 30 million Rwandan Francs in the AYUte Africa Challenge Rwanda, organized by Heifer International Rwanda. This achievement highlighted the vital role of youth in transforming agriculture into a modern business. Mutoni's journey began in 2019 while seeking sustainable solutions for hair damage caused by chemical products. To expand her knowledge, she traveled to Tanzania to study hair care formulation. Upon returning, she noticed that herbal options were scarce in Rwanda, prompting her to research local plants. Her studies revealed that onions, garlic, ginger, and rosemary significantly prevent hair breakage and stimulate growth, turning KURA into a viable business by 2024.

"What started as a personal solution has now helped many people and opened new markets for local farmers," Mutoni says. Beyond cosmetics, Goodness of God Ltd addresses market shortages for onion and crop farmers, preventing post-harvest losses and low pricing. The company provides farmers with quality seeds, yield-boosting training, and pest-control technologies. "Agriculture should not be limited to cultivation and selling; value addition drives industrial development," Mutoni notes, encouraging youth to embrace agribusiness. The AYUte Africa Challenge Rwanda award validates their dedication and professionalism. Mutoni attributes this success to her team and the farmers. The funds raised from the award will be specifically used to increase the overall capacity of the processing factory, purchase advanced equipment to increase production and improve operational efficiency, as well as expand the sustainable market for local farmers working with Goodness of God Ltd. Market expansion is underway to export KURA to Nigeria and Canada markets. Within five years, Goodness of God Ltd aims to become a leading agro-processing hub in Africa. Mutoni advises young entrepreneurs: "Capitalize on your opportunities. Start, innovate, and seize today."



KURA Product

How Muhorakeye Annet is Transforming Rwanda's Coffee Sector for Youth



Muhorakeye Annet the founder of Elite Cafe training Center

Rwanda's coffee sector keeps opening ways for youth to move ahead, and young entrepreneurs use this reality to build professional routes for others. One is Muhorakeye Annet, founder of Elite Cafe Training Center. Started in 2022 in Niboye, Kicukiro, it became a place for focused training and coffee services for people wanting deep knowledge. Annet's path came from personal enthusiasm discovered while working in hospitality. Interacting with coffee enthusiasts daily, she saw how coffee links people and creates lasting memories. She noticed that not everyone understands what goes on behind the cup.

"I got interested in the coffee value chain, from growing to roasting and brewing the right cup," Annet explains.

At the time, proper knowledge was scarce because many practitioners had simple serving know-how. To fill that gap with expert guidance, Annet created Elite Cafe Training Center.

In the beginning it was not smooth due to limited capital, pressure around equipment access, and earning market trust. But the center grew and now provides professional Barista training, coffee roasting, event catering, packaged specialty coffee, and natural juices.

What makes Elite Cafe different is the learning path, taking learners from basic entry to professional mastery. "Our intention is that each graduate becomes market-ready, with practical technique and theoretical clarity," Annet notes. Training includes soft skills like ethics, customer care, and communication, helping youth find jobs or create enterprises. Since the start, the center supported almost 1,000 young Rwandans. Several graduates found roles in hotels and cafes, while others started coffee businesses. A major highlight was winning the YouthConnekt competition by the Ministry of Youth, receiving RWF 25 million, which was key for upgrading equipment and expanding operations. Annet encourages youth to invest in agribusiness, starting with what they have. "Don't fear to start small, because small beginnings turn into big achievements."



Coffee processing at Elite Cafe Training Center.

RYAF and Partners Launch Mastitis Awareness and Screening Campaign to Boost Milk Quality in Burera and Nyabihu



Talk to farmers belonging to L-FSS Group (Butaro; Cyeru and Rusarabuye site)

Through RDDP 2, RYAF II, and stakeholders, conducted mastitis awareness, prevention, and screening campaigns in Burera and Nyabihu Districts. The initiative aimed to address the growing challenge of subclinical mastitis and improve milk quality across the dairy value chain. The campaign was conducted by empowering private veterinary technicians under the Veterinary Sanitary Mandate (VSM) and livestock Farmer Field School (L-FFS) facilitators.



Empowerment of Burera Vet care company ltd

This was done by coaching them on the different forms of mastitis, with an emphasis on subclinical ..

mastitis, highlighting common risk factors, advising on best preventive practices, and equipping them with the practical skills of the California Mastitis Test (CMT).

During the campaign, the participants were guided to self-evaluate the common poor practices that contribute to higher ...



participants examine a California Mastitis Test (CMT) paddle, focusing on practical diagnostic skills to detect subclinical mastitis early and improve milk quality across Burera



On farm mastitis screening and risk factor identification

mastitis prevalence. The participants from Burera District acknowledged that poor farm..

hygiene and milking once a day are the main factors, while the participants of Nyabihu District acknowledged that low ownership among farmers is the main cause of mastitis because the farms



RYAF and RDDP teams train L-FFS facilitators in Nyabihu District.

are cared for by herders who do not pay attention to good milking practices and do not stay long on one farm.

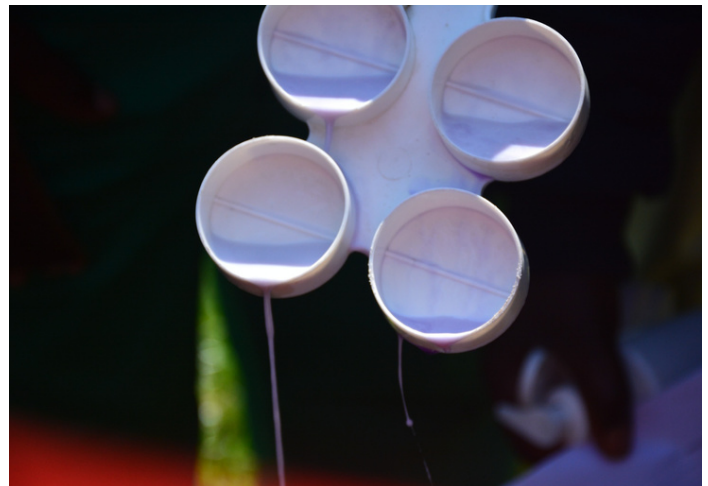
Through coordinated efforts with local authorities and dairy stakeholders, the campaign contributed to identifying the role of L-FFS facilitators, who committed to always mobilizing farmers to adopt best preventive practices through L-FFS groups and community village meetings. Meanwhile, private vets also committed to focusing on preventive practices rather than treating the disease as a first priority.

They agreed to collaborate with farmers on regular mastitis screening to monitor the reduction of mastitis prevalence and help farmers find sustainable solutions.

RDDP 2 is a partnership programme implemented by the Government of Rwanda through the RAB/SPIU and jointly supported by IFAD and Heifer International,



Vincent Niyigaba from RDDP trains L-FFS facilitators at Bigogwe site.



The California Mastitis Test (CMT) is used to detect mastitis in milk samples from cows.



RYAF and RDDP trains L-FFS facilitators at Jenda site.

the latter being an implementing partner and co-financer.



L-FFS facilitators are observing how to test milk samples using the California Mastitis Test (CMT).

RYAF Concludes Intensive Training to Strengthen Coffee Value Chain Through Proximity Coaches



Group photo of RYAF Proximity Coaches during field-based coffee training.

From June 22 up to June 26, 2026, at the Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB) Rubona Station in Huye District, Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (RYAF), through the PSAC project implemented by Rwanda Agriculture Export Development Board (NAEB) successfully conducted a 5-day intensive training for Proximity Coaches.

The training aimed to equip participants with strong technical and practical skills to support the implementation of the Farmer Field School (FFS) approach among coffee farmers. The session kept circling around improving coffee production know-how, reinforcing the use of FFS methods, and also developing abilities in group facilitation, communication, and how to keep farmers engaged in a steady way.

During the whole training, participants also got practical exposure, including Agro-Ecosystem Analysis (AESAs), using demonstration plots, and adopting community-based learning approaches that actually fit local realities. There was also a strong focus on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI), so women, men, youth, and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) can participate equally and get real opportunities, not only in coffee farming activities but also in the decisions that shape those activities.

Besides that, the training brought in safeguarding principles, geared towards protecting farmers and nearby communities from harm, abuse, or exclusion while project activities are being carried out. These skills are expected to be used right from the moment farmers are enrolled into FFS groups, and they will continue during all learning sessions, so the process stays safe, inclusive, and meaningful.

Participants said the training was truly mind opening, and that it notably improved their ability to support coffee farmers more effectively, while also encouraging sustainable farming practices at the community level.

At the closing remarks, RYAF CEO Jean Marie Vianney Rwiririza asked the Proximity Coaches to show commitment, professionalism, and accountability in their daily work. He stressed that the knowledge and skills they gained should turn into visible outcomes on the ground, especially when it comes to raising both coffee productivity and the quality of the harvest.

The initiative is expected to place Proximity Coaches as real agents of change within coffee-growing communities. If they apply what they learned, they can help drive higher productivity, better coffee quality, and stronger resilience for farmers across the different implementing districts.

RYAF continues to stay focused on empowering youth in agribusiness and strengthening agricultural value chains, through capacity strengthening, innovation, and inclusive development approaches, without leaving anyone behind.



Group photo taken at the closing of the training session.

RYAF Interventions under KIIWP II Strengthen Cooperatives and Farmer Support



A view of the fruit tree nursery located in Gishanda Cell, Rwinkwavu Sector. Monitored and supported by a RYAF/KIIWP horticultural technician,

During the intervention, a RYAF/KIIWP Cooperative Officer provided technical support to COCURIKA Cooperative, contributing to the cooperative's successful application for a Matching Grant under the Kayonza Irrigation and Integrated Watershed Management Project Phase II (KIIWP II).

Working closely with cooperative members throughout the application process, the Cooperative Officer guided the cooperative in meeting the required application procedures and documentation. Through this support, and in collaboration with project partners including CORDAID, COCURIKA successfully secured a matching grant for the construction of a storage facility (storehouse), an investment expected to strengthen the cooperative's storage capacity and improve its operations.



Construction of the COCURIKA Cooperative storehouse is progressing under the KIIWP II Matching Grant Scheme.

During the same period, the RYAF/KIIWP horticultural technician also monitored and supported the establishment of a fruit tree nursery located in Gishanda Cell, Rwinkwavu Sector. The nursery is being developed by KIIWP II to produce

tree seedlings that will be distributed to farmers within the KIIWP II project intervention area.



Steady progress in the construction of the COCURIKA Cooperative storehouse under KIIWP II.

tree seedlings that will be distributed to farmers within the KIIWP II project intervention area.

These activities form part of RYAF's implementation of the KIIWP II Project in partnership with the Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board through its Single Project Implementation Unit (RAB/SPIU). Through field-based coaching and technical support, RYAF continues to contribute to strengthening cooperatives and promoting sustainable agricultural development within the project intervention areas.



RYAF/KIIWP Cooperative Officer conducting a coaching session with COCURIKA Cooperative members.



RYAF
Rwanda Youth in
Agribusiness Forum

Since 2016, to challenge and change the mind-set among the youths vis-à-vis agriculture, to influence transformation of agricultural business landscape,

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