

Youth in action

ANNUAL
REPORT
2023



EXCITING NEWS

Jeunesse au Service d'un Burundi Meilleur (JSBM) is rebranding as **Spring Communities**, with the aim of enhancing its image and impact.



OUR BIGGEST MILESTONE

Here is our vision for the future of the NANJE NOBAHO Center - Buterere. The construction of this center is our greatest milestone, and with your generous support, we will bring it to life, providing a safe space for all members of the Buterere community, including children, youth, and women, to come together, learn, and build a better future for themselves.



A letter from our ED

Dear friends,

We are delighted to share with you the accomplishments of Spring Communities for the year 2023. This year has been marked by remarkable progress in our mission to enhance the social and economic status of marginalized communities by bolstering livelihoods for a more resilient community. However, it has also been characterized by significant challenges.

Furthermore, our major achievements have also been significant in expanding our areas of operation and in establishing contracts with new partners.

As we embark on 2024, we are resolute and committed to continuing this momentum with a five-year plan (2024-2028) centered around five key objectives, with marginalized communities remaining our primary beneficiaries:

- Promoting access to quality education for marginalized communities
- Facilitating access to good health and improved well-being
- Generating employment opportunities and enhancing the capacities of youth and women

- Strengthening communication and visibility for advocacy towards marginalized communities
- Enhancing partnerships and collaboration with stakeholders for greater impact

We would like to express our gratitude to our partners, donors, and volunteers for their excellent collaboration and support throughout the year 2023.

Ruremesha Hughes Harold

Founder & Executif Director
of Spring communities





Objective 1

Promoting Access To Quality Education For Marginalized Communities

We have implemented tailored interventions for children and youth, both within and beyond formal schooling, addressing the myriad obstacles they face in accessing education.

1. Ensuring Access to Education

650 children and youth, including **400** primary school children and **250** secondary school students from the Ntahangwa and Mukaza communes, as well as school clubs in the Nanje Nobaho center, received school kits, ensuring their access to education.



2. Strengthening the Quality of Education and Learning Environment.

- **Creation of a curriculum:** a multi-disciplinary learning tool (comic strip) has been developed by spring communities and validated by the Ministry of National Education to help reduce the school dropout rate and promote child rights. The comic strip will be used in 6 pilot schools from April 2024, with the aim of rolling it out to other schools in the country.

- **Hubs d'Inspiration (HI):** is an approach that has promoted the creation of 12 learning spaces in schools to strengthen extra-curricular activities. 6 schools supported have increased awareness, participation, protection and skills



- **Early Childhood Education:** 43 children aged 3 to 11 demonstrating confidence, wellbeing in school and at home through the digital platform AMA la Giraffe.



Objective 2

Creating Employment and Enhancing the Capacities of Youth and Women.

The year 2023 witnessed improvements in the economic status of youth and women through job creation and the development of transferable skills that enhance their livelihoods.

1. Job Creation

Value-adding Recycling: 25 jobs were created through the recycling of plastic waste, including 790 plastic bottles, 36 (5-liter) buckets, and 9 meters of PVC pipes recycled.

412 recycled products were sold, generating an annual income of \$2,038.75 USD. As a result of the increased annual income, the standard of living of the beneficiaries at the innovation hub improved, as did the quality of our products.

As part of its research, the innovation hub has developed a process for creating locally made pens from recycled plastics. Production is starting soon.



2. Vocational Center

We recognise that every child and youth has their own aspirations, so we developed approaches that provide young people with transferable skills to improve their livelihoods.

- **Confluence Art:** Three art groups involving **75** young people (50 boys + 25 girls) acquired skills in artistic creativity and innovation, earning 5,000,000 Fbu in revenue through art competitions.

- **ICT** (Information and Communication Technology): **150** youths (95 boys + 55 girls) were certified for the 2023 edition.

- **Sewing:** 11 girls were certified in clothing production techniques.



3. Financial Inclusion of Women

Six groups comprising **121** women and **63** men, with group capital ranging from 261.45 USD to 1,179.5 USD for the year 2023.

The members are organized into 103 individual Income Generating Activities (IGAs) and 5 collective IGAs. Out of 121, the monthly income of an individual IGA is estimated at 24.5 USD/month. The percentage of income for collective IGAs varies between 189.3% and 495.23%.

#COP28UAE

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The future of our planet depends on change initiated by us, with awareness that transforms into present commitment and action.

Hashimwiyaturagiye Arclaine,

Youth advocate for climate change - Spring Communities



Objective 3

Promoting Access to Good Health and Well-being for Communities

Good health and well-being are fundamental pillars of resilient communities, and we contribute to promoting preventive healthcare services to mitigate the challenges faced by marginalized communities.

1. Holistic Alternative Care

804 youths (416 boys + 388 girls) reached through our approaches contributing to improving access to information, health, and overall well-being.



- **477** children provided with psychosocial support, with 53% thriving and reintegrated into social, familial, and school environments.
- **65** children with disabilities (35 boys and 30 girls) (blind and visually impaired) express their traumas and integrate into the community.
- **262** youths educated on Adolescent and Youth Health and Wellbeing (ESBEAJ).
- **52%** decrease in absenteeism rate.

2. Access to Services

345 women referred to healthcare services for free consultations on Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and medications.

Objective 4

Strengthening Communication and Visibility for Advocacy towards Marginalized Communities

Our actions and interventions in the community have been disseminated across our digital platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube. In 2023, we published over 2,190 posts on our platforms, mobilizing \$10,000 for marginalized communities. Additionally, we produced and distributed 12 newsletters to our partners annually.



Our prize

The NANJE NOBAHO Acrobatics team achieved 3rd place at the Ya Ngabire competition, which was organized by Yaga Burundi and UNICEF Burundi, showcasing their remarkable talent and dedication in the field of acrobatics.





FINANCES 2023

In 2023, our revenue surged by 21,45% compared to 2022, reaching \$300,295 USD. This remarkable growth was fueled by the collective efforts of our dedicated partners, both longstanding and newly engaged. Together, we tackled unprecedented challenges and seized opportunities, from providing steadfast support to vulnerable communities, particularly women and children, to empowering over 700 students in schools. This revenue boost directly translated into expanded benefits for our beneficiaries and enhanced capacity within our team.

Expenses	Total in USD
Programme	248,711
Administration	42,424
Balance cash and cash equivalent	9,159
Total	300,294
Revenue	USD
Foundations	40,000
Individuals	2,450
Fundraising	10,985
International NGO's	190,635
Embassies	47,940
Income Generation Revenue	8,284
Total	300,294



83% ■ Programs
14% ■ Administration
3% ■ Balance cash and cash equivalent



13% ■ Foundations
1% ■ Individuals
4% ■ Fundraising
63% ■ International NGO's
16% ■ Embassies
3% ■ Income Generating Revenue



Objective 5

Strengthening Partnerships and Collaborations with Stakeholders for Greater Impact

Our partnerships with major donors, national and international NGOs, and government ministries are crucial to fulfilling our mission. We are committed to upholding the highest standards of transparency and accountability, ensuring that the communities and individuals we work with remain at the forefront of our actions.

Spring Communities extends its sincere thanks to:

- The Government of Burundi through the relevant ministries
- Segal Family Foundation
- African Visionary Fellowship
- KIYO
- Street Child
- FondazioneMUSEKE Onlus
- Clifford Change
- Save the Children
- UNDP
- Rutake Pascal Family
- Furero Fiacre Family
- Embassy of the United States in Burundi
- Ambassade de France au Burundi
- Global Shapers Community Bujumbura Hub
- IMANA VZW
- Rotaract Club Bujumbura
- Lionel UWINTWARI Institution
- ABUBEF
- ITEKA FM
- Hope for a better Burundi
- DICOBU

Partner schools

- Lycée Sainte Famille,
- Lycée Municipal Kamenge,
- Lycée Municipal Cibitoke,
- Lycée communal Kabezi,
- ECOFO Nyamugari et
- Lycée communal Migera

Child Sponsorship

- Ingabire Ange Bernice
- Irangabiye Lionel
- Tiroryinka Lysette Arlette
- Muberankima samantha
- Irambona Doina Carla
- Uwase Annick Claudia

SPRING COMMUNITIES

Contributes to the achievement of the following SDGs:



**Quality
education**



**Good Health &
well-Being**



**Decent work and
economic growth**



**Gender
equality**



No poverty



Climate action



In partnership with



U.S. Embassy

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Photo credits

Cover page and all pages: In the city of Bujumbura Mairie, in the heart of the Jardin Public, in Burundi, a young climate activist collects plastic bottles in a community clean up activity organized by Spring Communities as part of the PISCCA project funded by the French Embassy in Burundi.

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