

Twubakane

Decentralization and Health Program

Let's Build Together



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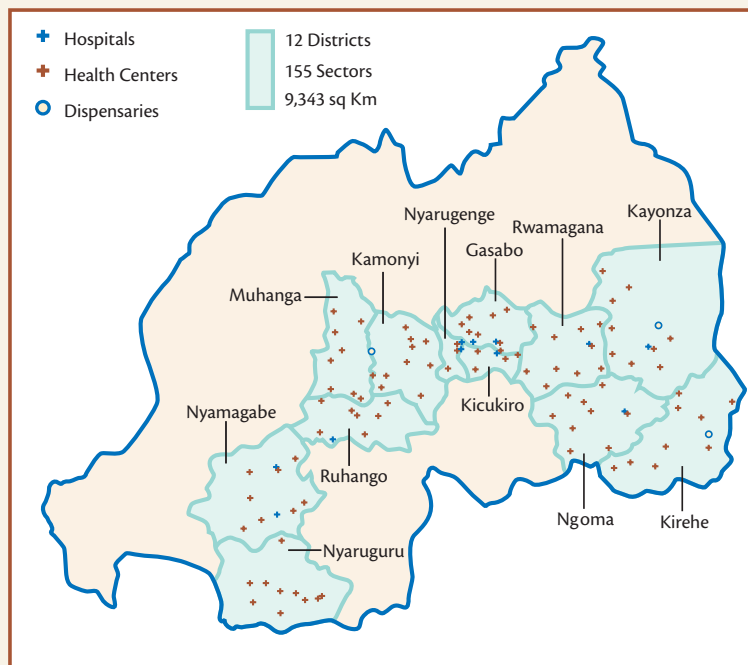
Twubakane, the Kinyarwanda word meaning “Let’s build together,” unites many partners—the Government of Rwanda, USAID, nongovernmental organizations, health care providers and communities. Launched in 2005, the Twubakane Decentralization and Health Program supports the Government of Rwanda in addressing the many challenges it faces in meeting the growing population’s priority health care needs. Twubakane focuses on:

- Increasing the use of quality family health services in health facilities and communities
- Strengthening the capacity of local governments and communities to support improved health service delivery at decentralized levels.

High rates of maternal and child illness and death hinder social and economic development and burden a health care system also suffering from resource gaps, inconsistent quality of care and a need for improved community health services.



Working in 12 of Rwanda’s 30 districts—**Rwamagana, Kayonza, Ngoma and Kirehe** in Eastern Province; **Gasabo, Kicukiro and Nyarugenge** in Kigali City; and



Kamonyi, Muhanga, Ruhango, Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru in Southern Province—Twubakane’s approach to building a solid foundation for effective, decentralized health care includes six integrated components:

1. Increasing accessibility, quality and use of **family planning and reproductive health services** in health facilities and communities
2. Increasing accessibility, quality and use of **integrated child health services** in health facilities and communities, with a focus on malaria and nutrition
3. Improving the capacity of the Ministries of Health and Local Administration to put policies and procedures in place for **decentralization, with a focus on the health sector**

4. Strengthening **districts’ capacity to plan, budget, mobilize resources and manage services**, with an emphasis on health services
5. Strengthening **health facilities’ capacity** to manage resources and promote and improve the functioning of the Community-Based Health Insurance (*mutuelles de santé*)
6. Increasing **community access to, participation in and ownership of health services.**

This five-year, US\$24-million program is funded by the US government through USAID and collaborates with Rwanda’s Ministry of Health, Ministry of Local Administration, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning and Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion. Led by IntraHealth International, Twubakane’s partners are RTI International, Tulane University, EngenderHealth and VNG (Netherlands International Cooperation Agency). Local partners include RALGA (Rwanda Association of Local Government Authorities) and Pro-Femmes.



District Incentive Funds

One mechanism the Twubakane Program uses to build districts' capacity for health service management and financial support is District Incentive Funds (DIF), whose purpose is to mobilize district-level resources for community-level health facilities. These funds are awarded on the basis of the strength of districts' action plans and demonstrated capacity to plan, budget and manage health activities in line with Twubakane Program objectives and principles.

Qualifying plans incorporate emphases such as gender equity, sustainability, data-based decision-making, community participation, transparency and results orientation. The DIF represent an important partnership: DIF-supported activities are implemented by the districts themselves, and the districts must mobilize funds equal to at least 15% of the value of the grant.



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***“Abishyize hamwe
nta kibananira”
Join our efforts to
help communities
safeguard
members' health:
TWUBAKANE***