Hello!
We hope you are doing well and staying safe and healthy this month! We are excited to share with you our monthly newsletter containing updates on our projects. You can also read our stories of hope and get to know our staff!
The trainers use the audio as a standalone teaching material which allows them to explore each part of the audio; WRN audio was integrated in the lesson and it was more engaging and grabbed student's attention; The trainers are becoming familiar with integrating audios into their daily lessons' delivery of E-lesson There is still connectivity issues in most schools which makes the class last almost two hours

General observations:

BRITE Project Updates

BRITE WRN audio program Monitoring

AKA team conducted field monitoring at five TVET schools (Kibisabo TVET, ESTB Busogo, Saint Martin Gisenyi TVET school, Kabutare TVET school and Nyanza TVET school with the purpose of follow-up and coaching on the use of and integration of Level 3 WRN audios and E-Lessons in the daily teaching sessions.
In January, in all 3 districts of intervention zone, youth from vulnerable homes have been selected to start technical trainings; 20 youth from Nyaruguru, 23 youth from Bugesera and 20 youth from Gatsibo. They will be trained in hairdressing and tailoring. The trainings period is 4 months and 2 months of internship.

**Youth Selection for second cohort**

In January, the selection of 750 youth across the 3 districts of intervention zone has started. It is for the second cohort of SDEPAY WRN & BYOB trainings scheduled to start end of February.

This selection is done with the collaboration of different partners namely Plan International Rwanda on district levels, local authorities on sector level (Education officer, social affairs and BDE staff).
UKB Project Updates

Identification of youth UKB beneficiaries for Cohort 3

AKA in partnership with EDC have agreed to train 100 youth with disabilities. In this regard, AKA has engaged Ubumwe Community Center in Rubavu district, and 45 youth new youth will start a 4 month WRN&BYOB soft skills training starting from February.
Story of Hope

Better Together...

Ingabire Delphine & Nyirabizeyimana Divine, Kiziguro sector Gatsibo district are both SDEPAY project graduates in WRN. They met during technical trainings which were supported by Plan International Rwanda.

Delphine and Divine received hairdressing trainings but they still lacked soft skills. “I learned about SDEPAY project trainings through our sector’s officials, I thought it was a great idea to learn about entrepreneurship and other skills that are helpful in everyday life” says Delphine. After the trainings Delphine and Divine decided to start their own business; a hair salon and as a way to bring their strength together.

“Before joining the Work Ready Now trainings, I used to be nonchalant with my clients, I did not know how to satisfy them or for instance make a small discount so they can stay and even come back another time. I learned all this in the module of retaining customers” Delphine adds.

One of the lessons I learned that has helped till now is to save money, I learned how I can avoid overspending, I used to buy stuff on a whim without weighing if I really needed them. Another lesson was taking care of our customers and listen to them” Divine says.

Their salon has a big hit in the neighborhood especially since it’s the only salon that does hair for both women and men. They plan to expand their business in Kiziguro city to reach a wider market.
1. What is your job title and how long have you been working with AKA?
I am an Accountant and I've been working at AKA for 3 years
2. What is your favorite thing about working with AKA?
My favorite thing about AKA is Team working
3. What is your favorite hobby?
I love movies and listening to music
4. What 3 items would you take with you to a deserted island?
I would take water, food and clothes
5. What was your favorite subject in school?
My favorite subject was Economy
6. Who inspires you?
The person who inspires me the most is my husband