The Organization of African First Ladies against HIV/AIDS (OAFLA) celebrated its 10th anniversary on 28th January, 2013 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. During this occasion, Mrs. Kagame joined 14 African First Ladies to review OAFLA’s achievements and challenges over the last 10 years.

The First Ladies re-committed to strengthening prevention efforts and implementing campaigns for the Elimination of Mother to Child transmission of HIV/AIDS.

The First Ladies discussed broadening OAFLA’s mandate to address issues like cancer, obesity and diabetes, which are increasingly affecting the African continent.

Mrs. Kagame shared Rwanda’s story of unity and reconciliation at National Prayer Breakfast side event.

“Begin with the end in mind” university girls Forum

Mubyeyi, Tera Intambwe! initiative

Celebrating Young Rwandan Achievers (CYRWA) Award nominations are open to the public

Mrs. Kagame shared Rwanda’s story of Unity and Reconciliation at an International Women’s gathering, on the sidelines of the annual National Prayer Breakfast held in Washington DC, on 5th February 2013. Mrs. Kagame also joined the National Prayer Breakfast attended by around 2,500 people.
Pro-Femmes Twese Hamwe celebrates 20th Anniversary

On March 1st, 2013, at the start of Women’s Month in Rwanda, Pro-femmes Twese Hamwe celebrated its 20th anniversary in Kigali. Pro-Femmes Twese Hamwe is an umbrella organization (consisting of 58 women’s associations) that promotes women’s rights, peace and development.

During the 20th anniversary celebrations, Mrs. Jeannette Kagame mentioned that Pro-femmes Twese Hamwe has received several awards due to their tireless efforts; however, the greatest reward is to see how much Rwandan women have achieved over the last 20 years.

Accompanied by Rwanda women leaders, the First Lady Mrs. Kagame addressed about 1,200 first and second year girls studying at the National University of Rwanda. The audience and speakers exchanged on the theme: “Begin with the end in mind”. The conversation aimed to encourage targeted university girls to think about their end goals and work towards achieving them. The girls were advised to be guided by values and confidence, amidst an ever challenging university environment.

“Begin with the end in mind” forum

On International Women’s Day, Mrs. Jeannette Kagame launched the annual Rewarding Girls and Guardian Angels campaigns in Musanze district. Imbuto Foundation promotes excellence by rewarding girls who have performed well at primary and secondary level. Guardian angels (Malayika Murinzi) who care for orphans are rewarded as a way to rekindle our African tradition of collective responsibility for children. 408 girls and 65 Guardian Angels were rewarded this year.

Rewarding Girls and Guardian Angels

First Lady holding an orphan taken care of by a Guardian Angel

First Lady rewarding Best Performing Girls

EDUCATE, ENGAGE, EMPOWER
“Week for True Love” campaign

In collaboration with community based organizations and Itorero ry’igihugu, Imbuto Foundation launched an awareness campaign on HIV prevention among youth aged 15-24 named “Week for true love” campaign.

The campaign aims to empower in and out of school youth with comprehensive knowledge on adolescent sexual and reproductive health to support HIV prevention, to mobilize youth on how to access the adolescent sexual and reproductive health services at the nearest health centre and to advocate for the provision of youth friendly services within health facilities.

Youth actively participating in Week for True Love Campaign

New maternity ward at Matyazo health center

On 31st January 2013 a new maternity ward was officially opened at Matyazo health centre in the Southern Province of Rwanda (Huye district).

In partnership with Zonta International and UNICEF, Imbuto Foundation renovated the maternity wing by adding three rooms for HIV/AIDS counseling and testing, a delivery room and a common room.

Mrs. Ndejuru with a new mother (picture on the right)

“Let us dream big and act” workshop

“Let us dream big & act” is a yearly workshop intended to continuously empower Rwandan girls and motivate them towards excellence. The workshop gathers girls that have been rewarded as Best Performers. 130 girls participated in this year’s workshop in the Western province in March 2013.

Ms. Kairaba, (2nd from left) Mrs. Ndejuru (2nd from right) and girls

“Imbuto Foundation will keep advocating for programs to promote good health within families, especially the health of mothers and children.”

Mrs. Radegonde Ndejuru, Director General, Imbuto Foundation

“Dream big and keep your dreams written down so that you are always reminded of where you want to reach.”

Ms. Josephine Kairaba, Workshop speaker

“What is abundantly clear is that investing in HIV prevention, treatment and care is not only the right thing to do; it is the smart thing to do. It has a positive effect in our social and economic development.”

His Excellency Paul KAGAME, UN General Assembly High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS New York, June 2011
Imbuto Foundation has entered into a partnership with Rwanda’s Football Federation (FERWAF) to sponsor The Peace Cup Against Malaria.

During football matches, messages on malaria prevention are disseminated to the audience. The key messages center on preventing malaria by using bed nets.

Imbuto Foundation also partners with other sports federations, such as volleyball and karate federations and takes advantage of large audiences present during these matches, to disseminate malaria prevention messages.

The Innovation for Education project, in partnership with the Governments of Rwanda and the United Kingdom, was launched in Gicumbi on March 14th, 2013. Under this new project, Imbuto will implement the Mubyeyi, Tera Intambwe! Initiative aimed at preventing school drop outs in rural, semi-urban and urban districts of Ngororero, Musanze and Gasabo, respectively.

Imbuto Foundation introduced an innovative strategy that involves identifying and training volunteers to become community education workers. These community education workers will be empowered to conduct outreach activities in the community, and strengthen community involvement and accountability.

We thank all our partners for their continued support!

The Celebrating Young Rwandan Achievers (CYRWA) Award was established to honor outstanding young Rwandans who strive towards excellence.


Minister of Sports, Protais Mitali (L) and Secretary General of Ferwafa, Michel Gasingwa (R) at a football match.