

The majority of the population of Burundi is under the age of 18. Yet, there are around 2 million out-of-school children and youth, and those that do attend school often do not receive high quality education. There is also a high level of unemployment among youth, making them economically and socially vulnerable. However, Burundian youth are bursting with talent and have the potential to actively contribute to the human, economic and social development of their country, if only they are given the necessary opportunities to do so.



## Francine, 22 years old **Mwaro - KIYO partner BIRATURABA**

"As a young single mother, I was marginalised within my community and lived in isolation. By joining the Saving & Loan Group, I was able to open up to other youth of my age and feel again part of my community. Thanks to the group, I was able to set up a small business which allowed me to buy two goats and two rabbits. I feel empowered because now I have a space to express myself freely, without judgement."

Keep in touch!

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KIYO and BIRATURABA are partners since 2022. 'Biraturaba' means "it concerns us" in Kirundi. KIYO and BIRATURABA believe in a development approach that focuses on the ability of communities to develop themselves using their own means. KIYO and BIRATURABA learn from each other's youth empowerment work, as well as from other KIYO partners through KIYO's global programme. In the DGD 2022-2026 programme, KIYO and BIRATURABA will focus together on:

- Organising 24 school clubs in 6 schools to create an environment that is conducive
  to the participation of students. In these clubs students regularly come together to
  learn about their rights and discover and develop their talents. They also organise
  various activities in the school to raise awareness and mobilise students on a broad
  range of topics.
- Revitalising, structuring and supporting 13 School Management Committees. These
  Committees are mixed groups of students, parents, teachers and school authorities
  involved in the school governance. They contribute to creating an educational environment that fosters the empowerment of students.
- Establishing and supporting 100 Saving & Loan Groups through which youth learn to save together and access small credits, to develop and manage their own income-generating activities, to develop support networks and, above all, to become active and responsible citizens.

