



Opening of Maternity Unity Nyembuye Clinic Rutana

'Rema' Supporting reintegration of refugees and peace building in Burundi

Programmes include advocacy, empowerment and development of 'sustainable livelihoods'. Issues for returning refugees remain great in terms of acceptance, land ownership, education, and sustainable income generation - if peace is to grow in Burundi. Rema is seeking to establish and represent needs from the grass roots to provincial, national and international levels. Much prayer is needed that through God's love, true peace may be a lasting reality. www.remauk.org

Rema News

Rema UK Registered Charity No 1118650

Autumn 2017

NYEMBUYE CLINIC (Rutana)



Opening of the Maternity Unit and Nyembuye Clinic (Rutana) funded by Rema UK. Sally Botteley reports - I was privileged and humbled to be asked to officially open the unit accompanied by all the Rema staff and the Chairperson of the board. There was much celebration and after the speeches and cutting the ribbon the ladies followed me into each room singing, dancing and praying!



Rema UK have just sent further funds to equip the rooms with beds etc. creating an environment to insure mother and child healthcare. Health needs are very great and the Rema clinic is increasingly busy as others do not have access to essential resources and supplies.



Other News:

In July a dental team from Mission International again visited the clinic to support Rema Ministries develop oral health care.

In August Pastor Hugh from Mission International attended the inauguration of the water supply pipeline supplying clean water to neighbouring Bangu village 3.5 km from Nyembuye Clinic. (This was reported on in the last issue of Rema News).

BURUNDI NEWS Update...

Since the beginning of September, Burundi, in partnership with the Government of Tanzania and UNHCR, has begun to bring voluntary returnees home. They also confirmed that the movement will continue until December 2017. Many refugees are still hesitant to return, but the Government of Tanzania has made a firm decision not to forcibly return them - an initiative fully supported by Rema. The country is facing the shortage of essential goods; resulting in price increases in the market and the devaluation of the Burundian currency. Nevertheless, thanks to the return of the rains, since the beginning of September, people started planting so that within two to three months there could be some hope for getting more food.

INCOME GENERATION

The income generating activities are doing well. People are repaying loans with a small interest of 1% per month (12% per year). Women and vulnerable people are always priorities for selection. Beyond paying back the loan, nothing is more satisfying than seeing families able to live their lives with dignity, having food on the table, being able to send their children to school and bringing present and future hope!

Cake Making: Virginia was about to give up everything and go with her family (8 children) to a refugee camp as she felt her situation was so hopeless with no means to feed the family. With a small loan she is now making cakes (bit like doughnuts as there are no ovens) and sells 2 sacks a day in the local market. She has now paid off her loan and is encouraging others.



PASTORS TRAINING

The Rema Ministries team is continuing the training programme for church pastors in the centres of Muzye, Cankuzo, Nyanza-Lac and Bukeye. This task is carried out with enthusiasm and determination. Indeed, in addition to the translation of the training manuals produced by ECLEA from English to Kirundi, it continues tirelessly the mission of teaching at grass roots level.

It is important to equip church leaders with sound doctrine in order for them to confront the challenges, which the church is facing. Top of the list come the rapid advancement of Islam, poverty, and severe environmental degradation.

In May training took place in Muzye re 'Integrating Women in Church Leadership'. While women form the majority in churches and make invaluable contributions in church discipleship and church community involvement most church traditions do not allow women to take leadership roles. It is hoped evaluation of the training will show plans for increased inclusion of women.



Rema Ministries management team

Lobbying and Advocacy

Rema completed the project entitled "Helping the landless through Church Leaders capacity building in Makamba province", with funding from Feed the Minds. The project aimed to help church leaders to develop and implement a theological approach to help repatriated women and orphaned children gain access to ancestral lands in the province of Makamba.

'Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed, defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.' Isaiah 1:17'

STAFF NEWS

Felibien Ndintore (former director) has moved on from Rema Ministries to take up the post of Provincial Secretary with the Eglise Anglicane Du Burundi. We are very grateful for all his work with Rema Ministries over many years and wish him well in his new role.

PRAISE and PRAYER

Praise for:

1. Opening of the Maternity unit at Nyembuye
2. Ongoing opportunities for Pastors training . income generating activities and community dialogue

Pray for:

1. Peace in Burundi - the political crisis has not been resolved and is having a detrimental knock on effect on the economy
2. Rema team as they try to serve people during very difficult political circumstances and economic hardships.
- 3 Ongoing resources to maintain and further develop the ministry of Rema.

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