



AEE Rwanda Annual Report

2023

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Our Country Director's Message

Dear Friends,

2023 was my twenty-fourth year with AEE and my fifteenth as Country Director. I consider it a privilege to have seen the huge changes in Rwanda over those years, more so knowing that AEE Rwanda has played its small part through working with our donors, partners, and the people of Rwanda. Once again, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks, on behalf of the Rwandese people in our many projects, to the organizations and individuals who continue to keep AEE Rwanda relevant and rising to the evolving challenges of today. As Rwanda and her needs change, AEE must change too.

In 2023, our projects touched seven development sectors, including Education, Health & Nutrition, WASH, Resilience & Livelihoods, and Humanitarian & Emergency Relief. Rwanda remains a heavily agricultural country with economic and social disadvantage prevalent in the rural areas. To build household incomes, resilience, and food security, through 2023 we continued to support smallholder farmers to develop the capabilities to engage in agricultural value-chains beyond subsistence farming and village markets. We are grateful to the Government of Rwanda for her encouragement and support in developing regional and international export markets for Rwandan produce and improving farmers' earnings, which in turn builds their families and communities. Many of our value-chain projects are building on savings and self-help groups we established in earlier projects and that are still operating. I am particularly satisfied that we have leveraged the investments of previous projects in creating sustainable community institutions that can both continue their members' journeys out of disadvantage and help to start new participants on their journeys.

We will continue to develop these value-chain projects in 2024, identifying local comparative advantages in crops and livestock to expand the scale and intensity of market driven agriculture. With this focus, it is appropriate that AEE Rwanda is integrating climate change adaptation into our programs. As rains become less reliable and extreme weather events more common, we are embracing technologies to advise farmers on irrigation and warn of possible climate events, working smarter in a changing world.

Digital transformation an area that we are exploring all spheres, consulting with our community members on how affordable digital technologies can benefit them.

AEE Rwanda itself is modernizing. Video meetings are now commonplace since the COVID-19 pandemic. Our back-office systems are cloud-based and available across our laptops and mobile phones. In 2024 we will be embarking on capability building to lift our people's skills in essential office and communications technologies with a particular goal to engage better with our partners.

Thank you again for your support in 2023. I am confident that we will keep building Rwanda and AEE through 2024 and beyond.

JOHN KALENZI AEE RWANDA COUNTRY DIRECTOR

John graduated from the University of Rwanda in 1999 with a Bachelor's in Public Administration. Since then he has completed Masters degrees at Uganda Management Institute (2005), Maastricht School of Management (2006), and the University of Rwanda (2016).

John joined AEE in 2000 and was appointed the AEE Rwanda Country Director in 2008.



**31
Programs**

Operating in 2023.

16 Partners

Working with AEE to improve the lives of Rwanda's most vulnerable.

US\$8.5 Million

Total AEE budget in 2023.

29 Districts

Of Rwanda's 30 districts benefit from AEE projects and programs.

**241,600
Households**

Supported through an AEE program.

**93%
Mobile Money**

93% of program participants now use Mobile Money, up from 78% in 2022.

29 Missions

Evangelistic missions conducted in all districts of operation.

**1,152,851
Reached**

With the gospel in 2023.

**25,636
Saved**

Through AEE missions in 2023.

Our History

African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) Rwanda was legally established in 1987, with Israel Havugimana as our first leader. Israel was a man committed to peace building, healing, and reconciliation in Rwanda. AEE Rwanda remained a small organization with only seven staff up to the time of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi.

Israel and two other AEE Rwanda staff were murdered during the genocide. The Havugimana Israel Guest House, based at the Kabeza campus of AEE Rwanda, stands in honor of our first leader.

AEE Rwanda rebuilt after the 1994. We revamped existing and established new programs while staying committed to evangelizing Rwanda in “word and deed in partnership with the church”.

For more than thirty-five years, AEE Rwanda has helped to transform lives, lifting people – regardless of their faith or background – from spiritual and material poverty. Over the decades, often in partnership with local churches, we have changed the lives of hundreds of thousands of

Rwandans while spreading the love of Christ through the great nation of Rwanda.

We have supported people in their darkest hours with what they most needed and integrated our faith in ways that were responsive and sensitive to the context and culture while remaining true to our Christian values.

In 2023 AEE Rwanda employed 208 full-time staff, and 1,715 part-time associates and community volunteers working in fourteen offices throughout the country.



Israel Havugimana - Founder of AEE Rwanda



AEE Rwanda is registered by the Rwanda Governance Board as a charity, number 04/08.11
AEE Rwanda is registered for tax purposes with the Rwanda Revenue Authority as 'AEE,
(AFRICAN EVANGELISTIC ENTERPRISE)'.
Tax Identification Number (TIN) is 101331473.

This Annual Report has been produced to comply with Government and donor requirements,
and to share successes and the stories of our beneficiaries.

Photographs within this document are the property of AEE Rwanda and the respective
photographers. For copies of any photos, please contact AEE Rwanda for permission.

See more of our work at:

 www.aeerwanda.ngo

 [aeerwanda](https://www.instagram.com/aeerwanda)

For inquiries, including partnerships, how to make donations, or opportunities to work with
us, please contact:

 aee@aeerwanda.ngo

208

Total staff working in AEE across all offices and roles.

1,715

Volunteers working in communities under AEE projects in roles including community facilitators, mentors, and linkage coordinators.

18

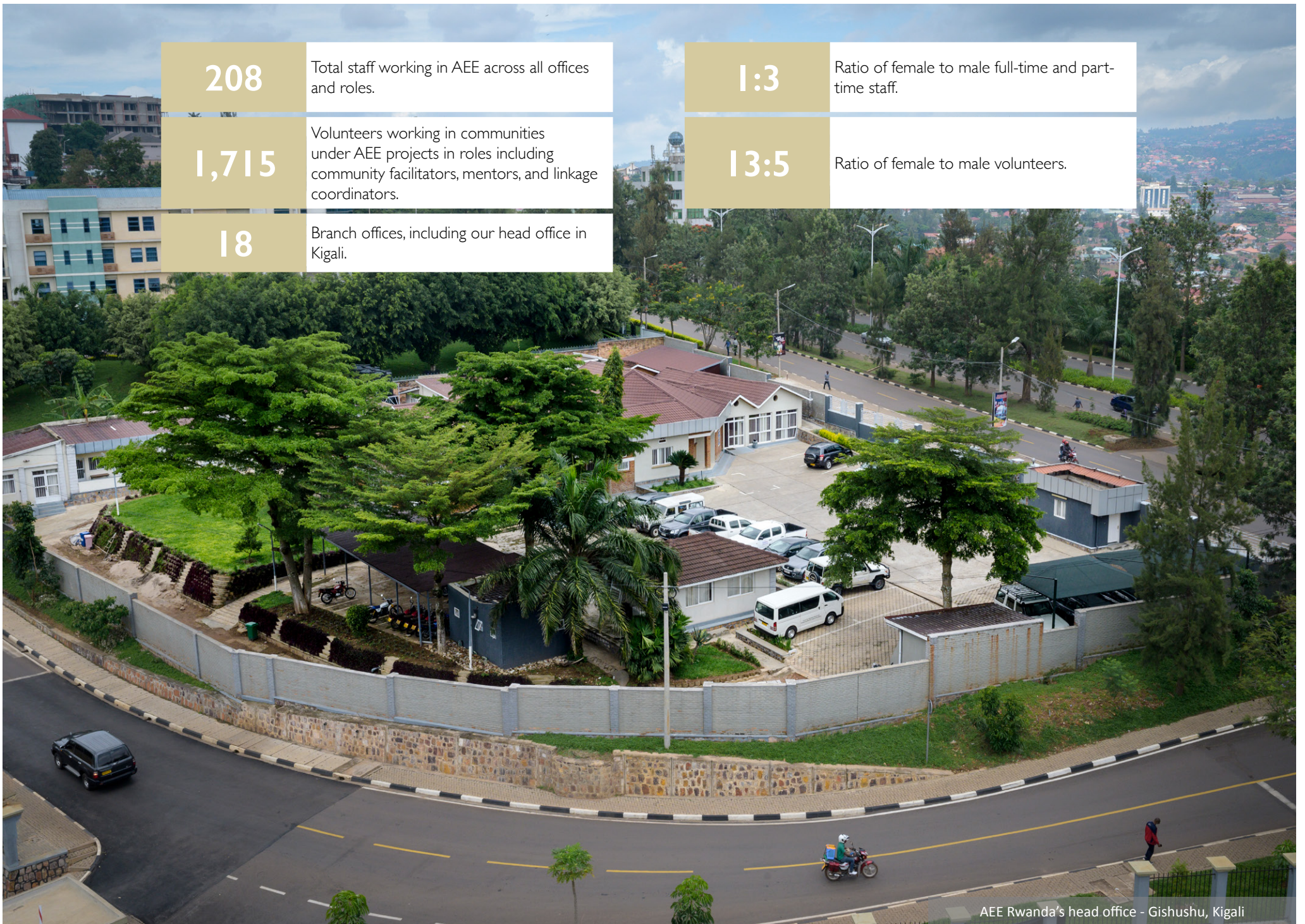
Branch offices, including our head office in Kigali.

1:3

Ratio of female to male full-time and part-time staff.

13:5

Ratio of female to male volunteers.



AEE Rwanda's head office - Gishushu, Kigali



Rev. Kaligirwa Liliose (Board Chairperson)

Senior Pastor Omega Church



Let me introduce myself, I am Liliose Kaligirwa Tayi, the Founder of Omega Ministries and Senior Pastor of Omega Church in Rwanda, and since May 2023, the AEE Rwanda Board Chairperson. As a long-time AEE member, I am so happy to be entrusted with this new role in this wonderful organization. As the Board chairperson, I am fully committed to advancing AEE Rwanda's calling of changing lives and transforming communities for God.

I want to express my sincere gratitude to my predecessor, Rev. Canon Dr. Antoine Rutayisire, for all the great work he has done for AEE, and to let him know that I will try to walk in his footsteps!

I also want to thank very much all the partners of AEE Rwanda for their immense support, without which AEE could not have achieved so much.

As Board chairperson for AEE Rwanda, I'm eager to work with the AEE Rwanda Board and staff, church leaders, leaders of Government institutions, and our grassroots partners to implement our programs and projects that enable the Rwandan people to honor God, live at peace with each other, and have their needs met holistically.

I am deeply grateful to God and to all the people who have supported AEE Rwanda in transforming communities, making them better places for people to live, especially the vulnerable and marginalized. This transformation of community members, helping them to believe in their God given potential, is the transformation of our nation as a whole. I am ready to keep up the good work and I believe that our dear partners will continue to have growing and fruitful partnerships with AEE Rwanda. Together we will see the Rwandan people rise to greater heights!

Thank you very much and May God bless you!

OUR BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD COMPOSITION

Rev. Dr. Manasseh Gahima (Vice-Chairperson)

Bishop Gahini Diocese, Anglican Church of Rwanda

Claudine Dushimimana (Secretary)

Lawyer at Ministry of Justice, Rwanda

Froduald Munyankiko (Treasurer)

Self-Employed (fmr. Managing Director of a Rwandese Bank)

Marie Chantal Umutoni

Private business Person

Alfred Nkwaya

Private Sector Entrepreneur

Rev. Canon Emmanuel Kayijuka

fmr. Director Bible Society Rwanda (Rtd.)

Ezechiel Rukema

Head Economic Empowerment at Women for Women International

Stephen Rwamulangwa

SPIU International Fund for Agriculture Development

Claudine Nishimwe

Public Affairs Specialist, US Embassy

Our Board is comprised of Rwandese religious, civil, and business leaders providing a broad representation of experience.

The Board is elected by AEE Members who join by paying an annual subscription. There are currently 35 members. People choose to be members to support AEE's vision and mission and their subscription fee contributes to AEE's operational costs.

The Board Charter was revised in 2013. A particular change was the length of the terms Board member can serve. All board members are considered to have commenced March 2013 when the revised Charter commenced.

Program Sectors

AEE is a child-focused organization. As such, all our programs are oriented to ultimately ensure that children's rights are met in the present and that they have the best possible opportunities to flourish. AEE recognizes that for children to flourish their families and communities must be strong, secure, and supportive. Therefore, AEE takes a holistic approach, integrating interventions from multiple sectors into our programs.

In 2023 we used seven sectors to categorize our interventions:

- Education
- Youth Empowerment
- Health & Nutrition
- Resilience & Livelihoods
- WASH
- Evangelism & Discipleship
- Humanitarian & Emergency Relief



Education



- Education focuses on early childhood (ages 3 - 6), primary (ages 7 - 13) and secondary (ages 14 - 19). Our interventions include:
- Promoting early childhood development (ECD) through ECD centers and building the capacity of parents and teachers to care for children in this age group.
 - Empowering children in primary and secondary schools to advocate for themselves through child protection clubs in schools and communities.
 - Supporting children from poor families to fully participate in the formal education system.
 - Ensuring that children with disabilities are able to participate in education with their peers.
 - Helping parents to acquire the literacy skills needed to support their children's education and ensure that inclusive materials are available in community.
 - Encouraging a culture of learning through play.

Early Childhood Development (ECD)

93,019

Children enrolled in ECD in 2023 through AEE programs and projects.

1,351

ECDs built or refurbished, providing children under six with a safe and stimulating environment.

4,150

Teachers, caregivers, and parents **trained in ECD**.

Primary and Secondary Schooling

95,904

Children enrolled in primary or secondary schools through AEE programs and projects.

1,208

Teachers provided with **refresher training** in topics including learner-centered teaching and competency-based curriculum.

39,600

Primary and secondary aged children received **school materials** including notebooks and pens, uniforms, text books, and bags.

1,373

Reading clubs established in ten districts to encourage a culture of and pleasure in reading. 12,000 books distributed to the clubs.

200

Teachers trained in **teaching English** as a second language.

Community Learning Support

280

Parent peer-support networks created to support children's wellbeing, language and literacy, and social and emotional development.

14,280

Parents and community members trained to **support children's literacy**.

12

Safe and accessible **community libraries** established.

60

Community members **trained in library management**.

2,045

Children with disabilities assessed for referral to medical and rehabilitation services. 840 children were referred.



Youth Empowerment

AEE recognizes that today's youth are tomorrow's parents and leaders.

We aim to ensure that youth have the life, employment, and financial skills to actively participate in their communities. Our programs include: TVET, savings and job groups, and training and assistance to start small businesses.

Vocational Training

1,699 Youths **placed into TVET** courses.

1,687 Youths **graduated from TVET** courses.

29,496 Employed youths participated in short-courses in **vocational and entrepreneurial skills**.

Financial Training

33,293 Youths entered **savings groups**.

31,252 Youths trained in **personal financial management**.

Gender and Anti-GBV

36 **Anti-GBV campaigns** run by AEE in project districts.

95,014 Youths **trained against GBV**.

91,391 Youths trained in **gender promotion and social inclusion**.

Employment and Income

5,039 Youths placed into **on-going employment**.

6,356 Youths started a **small business**.

11,359 Youths placed into **micro-enterprise employment opportunities**.

416 **Producer groups created** and linked to private sector organizations. The groups enabled 11,924 youths to earn an income and supply needed produce to their communities.

Rights and Obligations

2,155 Youth **speak-out groups created**.

2,155 **Teenage mothers supported** with reintegration into education, family, and work.

56,049 Youths provided with **sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)** services.

Health & Nutrition



AEE Rwanda is committed to ensuring that all boys and girls in her target communities are healthy, well-nourished, and live fuller and freer lives. We work closely with other health and nutrition stakeholders and the community to ensure good health and nutrition for the people in the communities we serve. AEE Rwanda focused on improving the number of well-nourished children during the year 2023. We supported several home-based early childhood development (ECD) centers by equipping them with hygiene and sanitation materials to prevent diseases in children that can arise from poor hygiene.

Infant & Maternal Health

368,543

Children **monitored for growth and development** in ECDs.

3,870

Pregnant and lactating mothers trained in early child care and nutrition.

4,500

Community health workers received refresher training on **health and nutrition**.

25,691

Kitchen gardens created to provide a nutritious and diverse diet for children, mothers, and pregnant women

37

Community events held to **promote child nutrition**.

4,785

Malnourished children identified and restored to health.

280

Health facility staff trained in providing quality health services.

HIV Prevention

82

HIV awareness campaigns run by AEE projects.

100,099

Community members encouraged to **test for HIV**.

26,381

Youths **tested for HIV**.



Resilience & Livelihoods

Children will thrive when their families and communities are prosperous and secure. AEE works to build the resilience of families and communities through improving their economic well-being. AEE's integrated package of interventions include:

- Promoting and fostering agriculture-based micro-enterprises.
- Linking program participants with affordable credit services.
- Promoting self-reliant savings and self-help groups, and facilitating the creation of long-term community-level people's institutions.
- Training participants in the necessary skills to run micro-enterprises, manage their finances, and care for their families.
- Training participants in improved agriculture techniques.
- Providing direct assistance - including cash, livestock, seeds, or food - to enable participants to engage with programs and services.

Financial Resilience

6,716

Savings and self-help groups created comprising 134,320 women and men.

\$1.87M

US dollars **saved by groups**.

\$1.85M

US dollars of **loans accessed** through savings groups.

502

Savings groups adopted **digital savings technology**.

5,716

Individuals linked with micro-finance institutions for **business and households loans**.

Infrastructure

8

Local **market selling-points constructed** for the sale of farmers' produce.

450

Energy access events held to promote access to **off-grid electricity**.

450

Households supported to install **solar-powered lighting and charging**.

Income Generation

27,760

Small businesses or other income generating activities started.

Agriculture and Food Security

1,514

Farmer producer groups created with 30,072 members engaging in value-chain agriculture.

34

Different **types of crop** grown by farmers in AEE projects.

\$2.84M

US dollars of **farm produce sold to local markets** by farmers in AEE projects.

€1.1M

Euros of **farm produce exported** by 18 agricultural collectives.

30,000

Tree seedlings grown and distributed to 600 small farmers for agro-forestry.

Climate-Change Resilience

30,000

Households involved in **climate-resilient agriculture** through small-scale irrigation and environmental protection.

WASH



AEE projects improve the access to and utilization of safe sustainable drinking water and effective sanitation services through interventions including:

- Integrated water resource management.
- Community lead total sanitation
- Supporting small-scale independent sanitation goods and services providers.
- Community-based environmental health promotion.
- Participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation.
- WASH in schools.
- Disability inclusive WASH.

Campaigns and Training

106

District and Sector staff trained to **build capacity in WASH.**

26,023

People received a **WASH finance strategy.**

315

Sanitation and hygiene clubs established in 304 schools.

Hygiene

12,023

Hand-wash stations fabricated and distributed to project participants.

160

Schools and ECDs with at least one improved toilet and hand-wash facility for people with limited mobility.

Sanitation

2,235

New latrines constructed after AEE awareness campaigns.

5,404

Latrines improved after AEE awareness campaigns.

191

Shops and sales-agents equipped to showcase and supply **improved toilets and cleaning materials.**

51

Sanitation centers and showrooms created.



Evangelism & Discipleship

AEE's Stratified Evangelism Model aims at proclaiming the gospel to every level (strata) of society. We are committed to ensuring that as many people in Rwanda as possible hear the gospel where they are, and in a language and through an approach that resonates most with them, be they senior government leaders, business leaders and corporate executives, university professors and students, open air market traders, unskilled laborers, the unemployed, or prisoners.

To do this, we work with the local church within each district of operation through a 14-step approach built on Preparation, Proclamation and Preservation.

Mission

1,152,851

People **reached with the Gospel.**

118

Missions conducted at AEE branch offices and 22 mission sites.

16,636

Gave lives to Christ.

Strengthening Communities

3,308

Church and community members trained in **financial literacy.**

312

Church leaders and community facilitators trained in community assessment.

Strengthening Churches

349

Pastors trained in Church and Community Transformation, Healing and Reconciliation, Evangelism and Discipleship.

321

Lay ministers trained in discipleship.

240

Gospel ministers trained in discipleship, evangelism, and preservation of new converts.

106

Church facilitators trained in mission and the culture of Bible reading.

150

Prayer mobilizers trained.

97

Pastors and lay ministers trained in Consistent Bible Reading

9,128

Church and community self-help group members trained in conducting Bible study.

340

Students trained in effective evangelism.

Humanitarian & Emergency Response

Rwanda hosts long-term refugee and displaced persons communities. AEE collaborates with the Government of Rwanda and local and international partners to enhance the wellbeing of children and their families in these communities.

With the increasing incidence of natural disasters - including flooding, landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, epidemics and pandemics - AEE works with the Government ministry of in charge of emergency management to supply financial and material support to affected communities in areas where AEE has a presence.

Our Humanitarian & Emergency Response interventions include: WASH support, education, child rights, and economic empowerment.



Emergency Response

68,900

People supported with **water, sanitation, and hygiene campaigns** in internally displaced persons camps.

3,375

Kilograms of **nutritional SOSOMA porridge mix** distributed to pregnant and lactating women.

26,500

Children in internally displaced persons camps provided with support and **school materials for ECD, primary, and secondary education.**

36,000

Iron roofing sheets distributed to 1,200 households to repair homes after devastating flooding.

3,100

Children, youths, and adults taught about child rights and available child referral services.

Refugee Support

96

Youths in refugee camps took part in **vocational training** and were supported to **setup small business.**

200

Savings groups with 4,000 members **established** in refugee communities.

From Our Projects

In 2023 AEE had thirty-one projects in twenty-nine of Rwanda's thirty districts. The individuals participating in these projects all have their own stories, telling why they are in the project and how the project helped them to improve their lives, families, and communities. These stories are the reasons AEE exists and the reasons our donors and supporters partner with AEE. We can only collect a tiny proportion of these accounts, and publish even fewer. The stories here give voice to just a handful of the hundreds of thousands of people who participated in AEE's programs and projects in 2023.

ECD Feeding

Education

Health & Nutrition

Early childhood centers (ECD) provide a safe environment for children from three to six years old to socialize, learn, and play. Parents can go to their work without worrying about young children left alone at home or having to bring them to the fields.

A large proportion of ECDs connected with AEE projects now offer feeding programs, ensuring that the children get a healthy morning meal, prepared by a roster of parents. This ensures that the children are well nourished and have energy for ECD activities and presents an opportunity for parents to learn and share their knowledge about early childhood nutrition.



Theodosie

"When I start at 7 AM, the porridge is ready for the children to eat a few minutes past 8 AM. We make it by mixing maize flour, sorghum flour, and soya flour with water and boil them together

"There are more than 40 children, but it doesn't take me too much time to cook for them. I don't do this every day, all of us as parents take turns to make it - other mothers prepare it when it is their turn.

"I enjoy doing this because we cook the porridge for our children, including mine. That is why I never hesitate to do it. Working with others, exchanging ideas and advice when there are things I might not know, those are the things that I like and get me motivated."

— NYIRANSANGIMANA Theodosie, mother of ECD student



Theodosie cooking porridge



Vestine

“We had an AEE community facilitator come to teach us how to prepare a healthy meal, that includes body-building foods, energy-giving foods, and protective foods.

“It is usually the parents who bring the food. Some parents may bring bananas. Others may bring cassava or potatoes, vegetables, or small fish. We then prepare everything and mix them in one pot to make a healthy meal. Every parent brings what they have. We try to make a balanced mix of all the food.

“The children always eat porridge in the morning. Even when lunch is delayed, they have at least taken that porridge because if they have to wait for lunch, some try to sneak out and go home.

“They usually eat lunch between 11 AM and noon, depending on when the parents have been able to bring the ingredients. But they never go beyond noon without eating.

“There are times when I can only afford cassava. But when I bring the cassava that I have, someone else brings the banana or small fish, another person brings potatoes. That way, my child is able to benefit from the diverse nutrients from the mix, and the other parents’ children benefit from the food that they didn’t have in their home. That’s what keeps our children in good health.”

— UWIZEYIMANA Vestine, caregiver, parent, and cook



Vestine, second from left, preparing vegetables with other parents



Farmer Producer Groups and French Beans

Farmer producer groups formed through AEE projects have experienced success in working together to grow, harvest, process, and sell marketable crops. In recent years, AEE has brought the farmer producer group concept to savings groups established under previous projects. The Jjukamubyeyi (“Parent, Leave Ignorance Behind!”) and Umucyo (“Light”) savings groups moved to collective farming in 2020 and 2021 respectively, and have found success in their ventures. In 2023, they planted and harvested a crop of French beans, Rwanda’s fourth highest vegetable export by revenue (\$US2,850,684 total exports for Rwanda in 2023).



Jjukamubyeyi Producer Group

“The savings and lending group we started in 2017 opened up our minds. We learned to do business and to invest our money in business activities.

“But in 2020 when the value-chain project for fruit and vegetables came, this was really something special. For example, the French beans business, it cost a lot of investment, but with this high investment, we get high profits. If we invest one million francs (RWF) we will make a profit of 1.2 million francs. Had we not had an insect problem, we could even have made a profit of 2.5 million francs in just 45 days.

“Through the project, I also get to meet with different market players and local leaders, which gives me a chance to have influence in my local community.”

— MUKANDEMEZO Jean d’Arc, Jjukamubyeyi producer group leader



Jjukamubyeyi member carrying harvested French beans

Umucyo Producer Group

“Our group is fourteen women and four men. We started our savings group in 2013 and have kept the same members ever since. In 2021 AEE came promoting value-chains around fruit and vegetables and we started this horticulture project. We have kept on with our savings, but now are engaged in the business of farming because it is profitable.

“For example, French beans: we grow French beans and in 45 to 50 days they are ready for harvest. Then we plant another crop.

“Before, we were saving one RWF1,000 per week each, but now after starting the agribusiness, we save RWF 2,500. We are better able pay for our children’s education. As we plant, we already know where school fees are going to come from. Some of our members have renovated their houses, putting in a ceiling in or constructing an extra room.”

— Esperance MUKANDEKWE, Umucyo producer group leader.

Members of the Umucyo producer groups, Esperance center



Social Inclusion

Health & Nutrition Education

Youth Empowerment

AEE is increasingly working with our partners to ensure that people with disabilities are included in our projects. Especially so in education and youth empowerment projects.

Most of rural Rwanda's primary and secondary schools are on rough unsealed roads. For children with mobility disabilities this is an almost insurmountable problem. Most children will walk more than a kilometer to school and wheelchairs that can cope with the terrain are very expensive.

Children with learning disabilities are increasingly being included into our ECD projects, benefiting from increased socialization and stimulation at the ECDs and the feeding programs and their parents are connected with supporting services for their children.

More needs to be done, but AEE and her partners are making a start on bringing more children and youth with disabilities into our education programs.



Ushindi

Ushindi is one of the older girls in her class. Her entry to primary school was delayed after having lost a leg as a young child - the 2km walk to school was too much for her. Now, with crutches, she easily manages the journey to an from her local school and loves her school life.

“My favorite games are Ikibariko and Nyiramakemwa**. With the crutches from the project, I can move around independently and attend Safe Spaces where I socialize and play with my friends.*

“I can now dream further, of becoming a great person and supporting others. I trust that my dreams will come true. I dream of being a medical doctor in the future. I will work hard to see my dreams realized.”

— UWAMAHORO Ushindi. 16 years, Primary 5.

* Ikibariko is a Rwandese version of the patty-cake song and hand-clapping game

** Nyirmakemwa is a variant of hopscotch. The player must hop into a square and nudge a stone to the next square.



Ushindi demonstrating Nyirmakemwa

Joseph

“Joseph started at this ECD when he was three years old.

“Before that, at home, I was playing with him just using materials I could find such as stones and sticks for counting, just trying to activate his brain as I was seeing something abnormal. He was very shy and could not speak.

“There is no specialized center that cares for him, except the health center if I have a crisis. But here at the ECD, the teachers especially care about him. For example, he is taken care of by being given toys to play with. I also know the teachers go out of their way to help him.

“I learned how to make a kitchen garden from the kitchen garden we made here at the ECD and I know vegetables are good for the nutrition of children especially.

“I have noticed changes. He has become a little bit sharper because he plays and socializes with other children, but he still suffers from an illness that looks like epilepsy.”

— MUKANYANDWI Valentine, mother of Joseph, 6 years.

Joseph, left with his mother Valentine and younger sister



Market-Based Sanitation

Resilience & Livelihoods

WASH

Of the household toilets in Rwanda 95% are pit latrines*, with 89% being improved with a concrete floor. Only 3.4% of households have a flush toilet. Nonetheless, despite the high adoption of improved household toilets, further progress in sanitation is limited partly by lack of knowledge around better toilets but mostly by the availability and expense of alternatives to an open-pit latrine.

AEE is addressing these gaps through the promotion of market-based sanitation projects. Creating community hygiene clubs from savings groups established by previous projects, AEE is delivering sanitation training to increase the demand for better toilets and at the same time helping local businesses acquire the knowledge and stock to supply sanitation products at shops close to the groups' homes. The toilets, designed by the SATO social enterprise, are installed into the common pit-latrine structure but, being durable plastic, are easy to clean, equipped with a self-closing flap to exclude flies and odors, and come in variants that accommodate people with mobility restrictions who cannot easily use a squat style toilet.

*National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR); The Fifth Rwanda Population and Housing Census, Main Indicators Report, February 2023



Alphonsine

"I have noticed a change after starting the adoption of better sanitation and hygiene practices. Before, my children would fall sick from hygiene-related diseases, even be admitted to hospital. So, the benefits I see is my children are sick less and I'm not spending time and money taking them to the hospital for treatment. When I took my children to hospital with diarrheal diseases, I once spent 20,000 RWF. Our toilet has cost around 70,000 RWF.

"Our toilet is clean now! What we do here at home, we take care of hygiene by cleaning the toilet and everybody at home has the responsibility to clean the toilet. Everyone also has to clean their hands after using the toilet. We also wash our hands before preparing meals. And now, my husband knows well that when I attend the savings group and the sanitation group, I come back with new ideas.

"Some of our neighbors have not yet improved their toilets. Some have just bought into the idea and are in the process of starting to improve their toilet while others simply do not have the means or still resist the idea. I worry that children from families that have not yet adopted good sanitation and hygiene behaviors and improved their toilets could contaminate my children, and this is actually motivating me to continue my efforts to tell them about sanitation."

— MUKAMURERWA Alphonsine community hygiene club member



Pelagie

"In the training, we were taught to have an improved hygienic toilet that is always clean and has hand-washing next to it, that we should boil water for drinking and keep it in a safe container, that we should clean our clothes and bathe ourselves, and keep our children clean. These practices have improved our health. We have clean toilets, our homes are clean, and our children are clean, too. Poor sanitation- and hygiene-related diseases have tremendously reduced, especially in our children.

Before buying a SATO, my toilet was bad, the slab was made of timber and children were scared of using it. I took a loan from my savings group to buy the SATO and other kits for 10,000 RWF. We tell our neighbors about it and they are interested too."

— MUKAMUSONI Pelagie, community hygiene club member



Pelagie using a hand-wash station constructed after AEE training





Augustin, former army instructor

Augustin and Consolate

Augustin is a former army drill instructor, and at 96 years is still ready to show off his drill skills. But the simple toll of age has made using an older style pit latrine very difficult for both him and his wife Consolate, 63 years. Consolate tells,

“I have improved our toilet. Its slab was before made up of timber, so I have improved it and have installed a SATO stool which helps my husband who is a person with a disability. It is also helpful for me in my advanced age. Our previous toilet’s slab was made of wood and it was not easy to use for either of us. This toilet has really changed our lives. It is now clean. Flies no longer get out of the toilet and flood our compound, making us sick. So, the toilet with a SATO stool has helped us a lot.”

— MUKANTAMATI Consolate, 63 and KANYARUGURU Augustin, 96



Augustin and Consolate



A SATO stool toilet for mobility impaired



Aristide showing a SATO pan in his shop

Aristide

Easy access to sanitation products from a store within walking distance is essential to long-term improvements in community sanitation. AEE connects with store owners local to project areas who are interested in expanding their business to the supply of toilets and cleaning products. Aristide is one of these business owners.

“Before the project, I was selling school materials and stationery. Then AEE provided training on different sanitation and hygiene products. The SATO products were new to me. So, I brought these SATO products and the toilet cleaning chemicals. I invested my own money, but AEE provided the demonstration kits for us to learn about and market the sanitation products. Even the training AEE gave us was a great contribution to our business.”

“The products most customers buy from this shop are bar and liquid soaps, toilet cleaning chemicals, sanitary pads, and toilet paper. The fact that we continue selling out of these products indicates that we make profits. Again, AEE continues to mobilize and our customers continue to contribute to our sales. And, the products we are selling are the basic products needed by every member of the community.”

— MUTSINDASHYAKA Aristide, shop owner

Aristide outside his store



Flood Relief

Humanitarian & Emergency Response

WASH

Rwanda is experiencing more frequent natural disasters, caused by a combination of environmental degradation and changing climate patterns. In the early hours of 3 May, 2023, residents around Rubavu were woken by flood waters rushing through their homes. At least 28 people died during the flooding event, many more were injured and thousands of people had to relocate to emergency internally displaced persons (IDP) camps.

In 2006, AEE introduced a self-help group project to Rubavu. The People's Institutions (PIs) created through this project quickly coordinated local disaster relief and were acknowledged by the District authorities as significantly contributing to the flood relief efforts. AEE worked with the District authorities and our People's Institutions to understand the immediate needs and we then sought financial aid from our international partners to meet those needs. We are grateful for the generosity of our partners in promptly offering help and are proud of the initiative shown by the People's Institutions built through our projects.



Beatrice

“These floods were a complete surprise! What we did first was share information. We shared information about how the situation was.

“After collecting information and learning about the situation, as a CLA [cluster-level association] we conducted community visits to establish who of the affected people were part of PIs and who were not, and with this information we started to advocate for relief.”

The Duhuzimbaragamubyeyi (“We Are United as Parents”) CLA was closely involved in coordinating the immediate response to the floods, providing material support, comfort, and counseling to those in the Kanyamatembe village, Nyundo sector, where the CLA is based.

“Because we thought maybe support for the affected families would be delayed, we resolved there is something we could do on our own as a CLA. So, we collected and distributed the emergency support we could afford. For example, we supported families with soaps and porridge flour for younger children. Also clothes, as most of their things had washed away in the floods.

“Most of the residents had gone to IDP camp, but some had stayed and we managed to approach them and comfort them. Because of what they had experienced, they were traumatized. Comforting and counseling them is the great thing we did as this crisis came unexpectedly, destroying houses, damaging property, and killing adults and children. Rains would fall again, and immediately they were again traumatized! So, we counseled them and told them not to accept being held back by what had happened, that whenever you are faced with a problem, it's necessary to face it and find a solution, that a person has them-self to find a solution to the problem. So, comforting them first we told them ‘even though you have faced a crisis, do not give up!’”

— Beatrice, caregiver and CLA member





Beata

Beata is a community facilitator for nine self-help groups in Nyundo sector and a community health worker. Beata attended the training in psychosocial support provided by AEE to assist those affected by the floods, especially children and youths.

“On 3rd May 2023, we really experienced a terrible crisis! It was really terrible. I live in one of the affected communities.

“As a caregiver and at the same time as a community health worker, I received a four-day training workshop from AEE. The training covered childcare, child nutrition, protection, counseling, and how to support those who had crisis trauma.

“After the training, we went to IDP camps to care for children, educating them about their rights and responsibilities, best hygiene and sanitation practices, etc. We kept on supporting them in their communities of relocation [after the children left the camps]. We also cared for them by taking child growth metrics to monitor whether they are growing well.

“The training was really helpful to us as we were given skills to support survivors, particularly children both within the IDP camps and afterwards in the communities the surviving families relocated to. We monitor how well the children are growing as part of our regular efforts to collect metrics of child development.”

— MUKEHSIMANA Beata, community facilitator and community health worker, Nyundo sector, Rubavu

Marcelline

Marcelline is the chairperson of the Inzirayokwikuramubukene (“The Way Out of Poverty”) federation. A significant People’s Institution (PI) in Rubavu, the Inzirayokwikuramubukene federation quickly and independently mobilized its networks and resources to help after the flood. Marcelline explains how the PI structures worked in an emergency:

“Immediately after the flooding, I convened a meeting with all federation representatives to discuss the situation. From this meeting we resolved to urge the members of PIs who were not affected to play a role in supporting the survivors as they can use the means they had.

“The mobilization of PIs was possible through the way PIs are structured: SHGs-CLAs [self-help groups - cluster level associations] and the Federation. So, when resolutions are made at the federation level, CLA representatives in the federation will carry the information to their CLAs and down to the SHGs. During the emergency, mobilization was done through convening an emergency meeting with the federation representatives. Also, information flow in times of emergency will not follow the structure as it is, but members of PIs at the SHG level can immediately call the federation using their mobile phone without passing through the CLA for a timely response to emergency situations.”

Through the Inzirayokwikuramubukene federation’s network, members of the SHGs and CLAs collected clothing and food to give to people in the IDP camps and lent direct help in the search and rescue efforts and the cleaning up.

“We mobilized our PIs to support the survivors and comfort them. We visited those who were in the IDP camps, providing food support to all affected, regardless of whether they were members of our PIs.

“One example, in my area in Burushya Cell, we also experienced flooding but not as terrible as it was in this area. One family in my neighborhood lost two children who died in a house collapse during the flooding. I mobilized the members of PIs in the neighborhood to join with other community members in the search for the bodies of the children and we helped with their burial.”

— NYIRAHABIMANA Marcelline, Federation chairperson.



Our People at Work

Our people work hard implementing AEE's programs, year after year. That work happens in our offices and in numerous locations around Rwanda where the people participating in the programs live and work. While AEE is adopting digital technology in our offices to improve our productivity and efficiency, to working with our participants requires our field coordinators and officers and project officer to go to where our participants live and work, talk with them about their lives and form the enduring relationships that make for sustainable successful projects.

AEE Field officer Etienne with Augustin, a project reporting officer, looking towards Tanzania across Lake Rwakibali, near an AEE ECD project



AEE staff Augustin and Prosper share a joke with beneficiaries of AEE's flood relief project in Rubavu.



AEE staff use one of the head office conference rooms to share a spreadsheet. AEE head office has two dedicated video equipped conference rooms to facilitate hybrid meetings with partners and branches.



Prudence, a field officer with the Rubavu branch, takes a photo of project participants.



Members of the DUHUZUMUTIMA self-help group and ECD committee members (back row) pose with AEE project staff (front row) at the GIRUBUZIMA ECD in Gatsibo.



Rwamagana field Officer Gerard with store owner Aristide and community facilitator William.

Aristide is participating in an AEE WASH program in Rwamagana.



Thank You!

To our partners who make everything possible...



Donors

Who fund our programs and operations

Murakoze Cyane!



Churches

Who support our congregations and annual mission

Thank you!



Government of Rwanda

Who provide the environment in which we operate, and financial and administrative support

Merci!



Friends and volunteers

Who provide technical and moral support to AEE

Danke!



Financial Statement



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3 Independent auditor's report

To the management of African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) Rwanda

We have audited the financial statements of African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) Rwanda, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2023, Statement of Income and Expenditure, Statement of Changes in Net Assets, Statement of Cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements including material accounting policy information.

In our opinion, proper books of accounts have been kept and the financial statements which are in agreement therewith, give a true and fair view of the state of financial affairs of African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) Rwanda as at 31 December 2023 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Policies applicable in Rwanda and the provisions of AEE Rwanda's financial management policy and procedures manual.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) Rwanda in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) and we have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other information

The management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the management report but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In accordance with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and in doing so consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the AEE Rwanda's accounting policies and for such internal controls as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the AEE Rwanda's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, applicable matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting. Management is responsible for overseeing the entity reporting process.

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Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with International standard on Auditing (ISAs), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the planning and performance of the audit. We also:

- Identified and assess the risks of material misstatement of the project financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtained an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of AEE Rwanda's internal control.
- Evaluated the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Evaluated the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicated with management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is;


 Obed Rugara
 Partner



Date: 28 MAR 2024

African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) Rwanda Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

4 Financial Statements

4.1 Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2023

Assets	Note	2023 Frw	2022 Frw
Non-current assets			
Property and equipment	4.5.1	4,417,855,281	4,435,860,345
Investment in ACB Shareholding	4.5.2	86,580,751	81,560,751
		<u>4,504,216,032</u>	<u>4,497,221,096</u>
Current assets			
Accounts receivable	4.5.3	155,959,993	226,014,677
Cash and bank	4.5.4	1,791,419,908	921,254,584
		<u>1,947,379,901</u>	<u>1,147,269,241</u>
Total Assets		<u>6,451,595,933</u>	<u>5,644,490,337</u>
Accumulated Funds and Liabilities			
Accumulated funds			
General Fund	4.5.5	1,901,934,326	1,101,321,099
Restricted funds	4.5.6	187,073	17,900,422
Revaluation reserve	4.5.7	3,872,962,448	4,007,262,847
		<u>5,775,083,847</u>	<u>5,126,184,368</u>
Non-current Liabilities			
Borrowings	4.5.8	-	-
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable	4.5.9	676,512,086	518,305,969
Total Accumulated funds and liabilities		<u>6,451,595,933</u>	<u>5,644,490,337</u>

The financial statements were authorized for issue on and signed jointly by:


 Chief Finance and Operations Director
 AEE Rwanda

Date: 28/03/2024


 Executive Secretary
 AEE Rwanda



Date: 28/3/2024

	Note	2023 Frw	2022 Frw
Grant received	4.5.10	10,209,899,418	9,481,157,559
Other Income	4.5.11	649,023,134	71,877,385
		<u>10,858,922,552</u>	<u>9,553,034,944</u>
Expenditure			
Direct project costs	4.5.12	5,900,750,088	6,313,610,771
Operating and administrative expenses	4.5.13	1,546,181,010	1,143,897,703
Personnel Costs	4.5.14	2,536,974,318	2,015,080,535
Finance cost	4.5.15	3,623,191	4,463,920
Depreciation charge	4.5.16	196,859,678	188,329,087
		<u>10,184,388,285</u>	<u>9,665,382,016</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for the Year		<u>674,534,267</u>	<u>(112,347,072)</u>

