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ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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## **Foreword**

The year 2021 has been a special year for IPROSARUDE despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year was particularly marked by the initiation of IPROSARUDE's own infrastructure acquisition process as well as the strengthening of IPROSARUDE's innovation projects. IPROSARUDE has continued to serve the country in these areas of intervention. Interventions focused on the provinces of Gitega, Mwaro, Makamba, Kayanza, Bubanza and Bujumbura Mairie. In this regard, IPROSARUDE was able to contribute to the sensitization of people through health education sessions and radio broadcasts in partnership with Radio Humuriza FM of Gitega and Radio Ubuzima of Kayanza as well as rapid SMS. These sensitizations focused on the prevention and management of COVID-19, malnutrition, chronic diseases, cervical cancer, oral diseases, eye diseases, malaria and sexual and reproductive health; the provision of 104845 health services including 48588 eye care, 30114 laboratory tests, 4864 dental care, 5776 ultrasounds and 15503 medical consultations; 600 savings and loan groups (13,800 VSLA members) who received technical support with a portfolio of 102,580 per month from VSLA (Village Savings and Loan Association); the development of 2 advocacy plans as the leader of the Family Planning and Nutrition advocacy group; the implementation of an innovation product: magara plus application, etc.

Our thanks go especially to the Government of Burundi, the Segal Family Foundation, Care International in Burundi, the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Burundi, Share Net International, the John Gould Foundation, Life Net International, the European Union via the Care International/Action Aid consortium and REJA, PSI, etc.

## **1. IPROSARUDE Presentation**

### **1.1. History of IPROSARUDE**

The Initiative for the Promotion of Rural Health and Development (IPROSARUDE) Asbl is a non-profit association created in 2010 and approved by the Ministerial Order No. 530/772 of May 29, 2013. It was recognized as an organization of public utility in January 2020. In August 2021 IPROSARUDE conducts its activities in the provinces of Gitega, Mwaro, Rutana, Makamba, Kayanza, Bujumbura- Mairie, Cibitoke and Bubanza. We carry out punctual activities in the provinces of rural Buja, Kirundo, Muyinga and Ngozi such as mass sensitization and periodic projects.

The Initiative for the Promotion of Rural Health and Development (IPROSARUDE asbl) was created by the fact that in rural areas, there was a high mortality rate due to the lack of health services in these areas. Doctors, especially specialists, had almost refused to work in rural areas. It was this situation, which seemed unacceptable to the founders, that pushed doctors to go to rural areas and train other doctors through IPROSARUDE.

### **1.2. IPROSARUDE Vision**

The vision is a Burundi where everyone has access to health care and development.

### **1.3. IPROSARUDE Mission**

IPROSARUDE's mission is to save lives and improve health in rural areas in general and among vulnerable people in particular through access to quality healthcare.

IPROSARUDE's organizational capacity

IPROSARUDE has 3 organs of governance: (i) General Assembly of members, which is the supreme organ of the association composed of all the effective members of the association, (ii) Executive Committee composed of 3 members including a president, a vice-president and a secretary general, which is the organ in charge of implementing the recommendations of the general assembly of members and (iii) Supervisory Board composed of 3 members: a president, a vice-president and a secretary in charge of supervising the executive committee and reporting to the general assembly. It is also in charge of mediation in case of conflict between the organs and finally in charge of ensuring the respect of the legislative texts of the association.

The technical coordination is ensured by the Executive Director in charge of implementing the activities of the association under the supervision of the executive committee.

At the level of human resources, the organization currently has 80 staffs including: an Executive Director, 3 heads of departments (programs, finance and administration, monitoring and evaluation), 4 medical managers who are assimilated to the heads of departments, an accountant, 2 administrative and financial assistants, a procurement officer, a communication officer, 2 project managers, 5 project managers, 6 medical consultants including specialists, 4 clinic managers, 5 cashiers, 4 senior specialized technicians, 5 technicians, 5 laboratory assistants, 20 nurses, a driver, 10 support staff

## **AXE I : COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT**

### **I.1 Awareness within the clinics**

Within the clinics, different sensitizations were conducted to educate patients on certain topics and to give them clear information on the most common diseases. Since the declaration of the first case of COVID-19 in Burundi, sensitizations on COVID-19 have been held every day in each IPROSARUDE clinic to sensitize the patients on certain topics. patients sur les mesures and clinical signs of COVID-19 so that they have reliable information. Other topics developed in the 4 clinics were:

- Awareness on cervical cancer screening
- Presentation of polyclinic services
- Awareness on diabetes and hypertension screening
- Severe acute malnutrition
- Prevention of oral diseases
- Clinical signs of malaria and their complications
- Benefits of HIV testing
- Symptoms of gastritis
- HTA in pregnancy: causes, risk factors and prevention

### **I.2 Raising Awareness on Covid Prevention -19**

- Through cell phones, smartphones and other mobile devices, IPROSARUDE is taking the opportunity to make verified information available so that people can make informed choices to protect themselves and others. In collaboration with Sacodé, and with the support of the Segal Family Foundation, IPROSARUDE has set up a system to facilitate access to information on Covid-19 through a technology that is accessible to all: SMS.
- SMS campaigns were launched to raise awareness among young people, members of savings and credit groups set up by IPROSARUDE, and health care providers about prevention methods and the symptoms of the coronavirus disease. Since the first confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Burundi, about 3800 people are regularly reached via SMS.



**Figure 1: Training session on COVID-19**



### **I.3 Awareness raising via radio stations**

In the provinces of Gitega and Kayanza, two local radio stations offer sensitization. The objective of this sensitization is to inform the population about preventive measures and the clinical signs of the most frequent diseases as well as to inform the population about the services available in the PEGI and PEKA clinics.

- Malaria and its complications
- Cervical cancer
- Eye diseases and their prevention
- Dental diseases and their prevention in adults and children
- Chronic diseases (diabetes, hypertension, ....)
- Prevention and treatment of tuberculosis
- Awareness of obstetrical ultrasound in the 1st and 2nd trimester of pregnancy

### **I.4. COVID-19 response project in IPROSARUDE intervention zones**

The COVID-19 crisis, which has become a global pandemic, continues to have a negative impact on the lives of the population. In Burundi, the epidemiological situation of COVID-19 since the notification of the first cases on March 31, 2020 until December 7, 2021 is as follows: 20,523 confirmed cases, 38 deaths and 2,834 deaths according to WHO data. The most exposed populations in terms of morbidity and mortality are the elderly, people with chronic diseases, the immunocompromised and people with bronchopulmonary pathologies. This virus, detected for the first time in the Chinese province of Hubei (city of Wuhan) in December 2019, has strongly impacted the global economy including that of Burundi.

Thus, IPROSARUDE with the financial support of the SFF has implemented a project entitled: "Project of response against covid-19 in IPROSARUDE intervention areas" in order to contribute to the improvement of the prevention of the pandemic of COVID-19 among the populations of the provinces of Gitega, Kayanza, Mwaro and Makamba .

With this project :

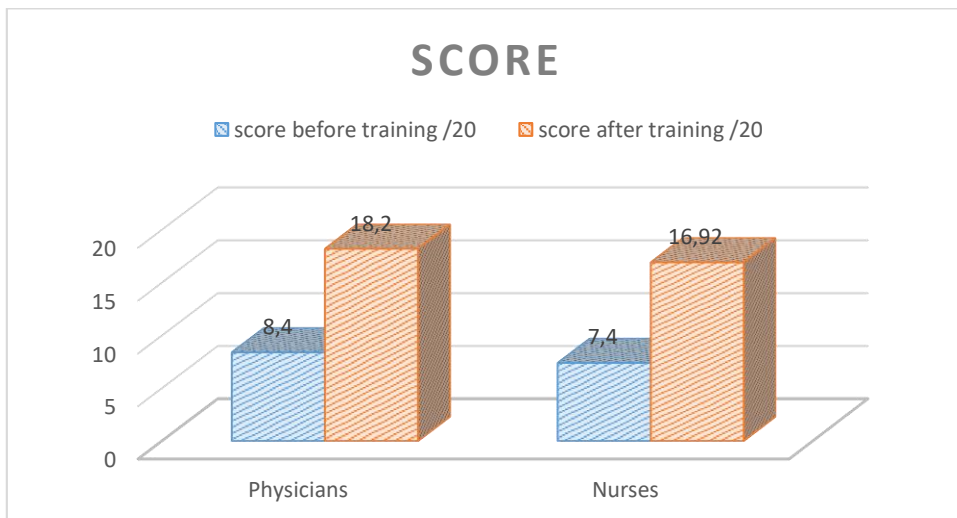
- ✓ 200 health providers trained
- ✓ 340 community health workers trained
- ✓ 236 VSLA leaders received a kit including masks, registers, an umbrella, boots and a backpack.
- ✓ Knowledge increased to 49% for doctors, 47.6% for nurses and 55.5% for community health workers.
- ✓ 32500 people were sensitized to COVID-19 prevention. 85% of beneficiaries adopted good attitudes and practices against COVID-19 diseases.



**Figure 2: Kayanza training session**



**Figure 3: Radio broadcast in Gitega**



**Figure 4: Histogram of the results of the training sessions on COVID-19**

For the group of doctors, the score ranged from 40.8% to 91% while in the group of nurses, the score ranged from 37 to 84.6%, which is a substantial increase for the training with new information..

## AXE II : ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES

IROSARUDE has 4 health structures, where quality care is offered:

- ✓ The Polyclinic Hope of Gitega: PEGI
- ✓ The Polyclinic Hope of Kayanza: PEKA
- ✓ The Hope Clinic of Mwaro: CEMWA
- ✓ The Centre Médical Espoir de Kayogoro: CMEK

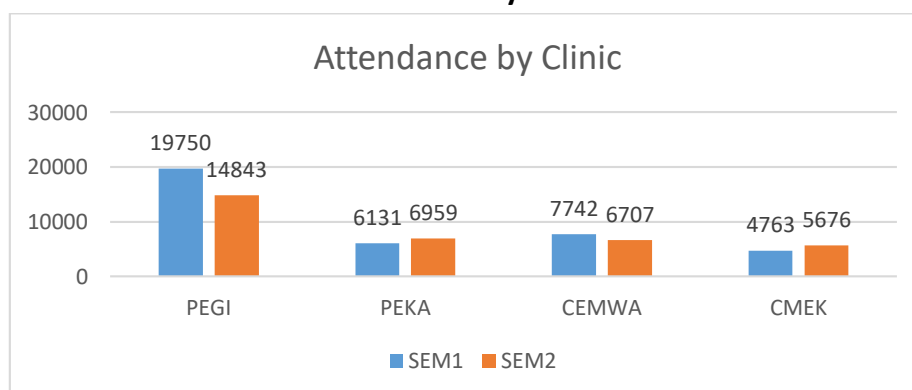
### II.1. Clinic attendance

**Table 1: Attendance at the various clinics**

Clinics	Children		Adults		Total
	M	F	M	F	
PEGI	2335	3723	7963	20572	34593
PEKA	813	981	4482	6814	13090
CEMWA	473	1240	2478	10258	14449
CMEK	386	1118	1238	7697	10439
Total	4007	7062	16161	45341	72571

During the year 2021, 72571 people were received in our care facilities. From this table, we can see that adults frequent our facilities more than children, with a predominance of women. This can be explained by the fact that public facilities offer free care for children under 5 years old. Another explanation is that our clinics offer specialized care (ophthalmology and dentistry), which are mostly visited by adults in general.

### II.2. Variation in clinic attendance by semester



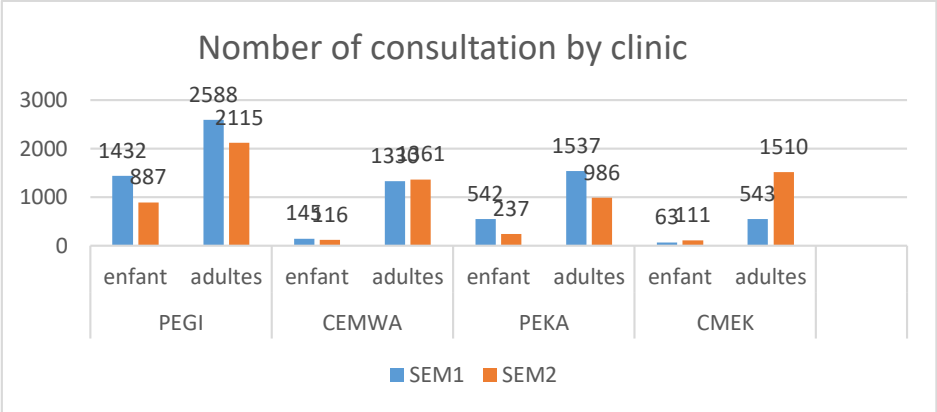
**Figure5: Attendance by Clinic and by semester**

In the clinics, PEKA and CMEK, there was an increase in the number of people attending these facilities in the second half of the year. For CEMWA and PEGI, there was a decrease in the

number of patients. Indeed, around these two clinics, other clinics have been created, thus causing a decrease in the number of patients.

**II.3 Offer of services**

**II.3.1. Patient consultations**



**Figure 6 : Histogram of consultations by clinic and by semester**

It can be seen that adults come for consultations more than children. This can be explained by the fact that free consultations are offered to children under 5 years of age in public health facilities. An increase in the number of adult patients was noted at the WCK, however, for PEGI, CEMWA and PEKA there was a decrease in the number of consultations during the second half of 2021.

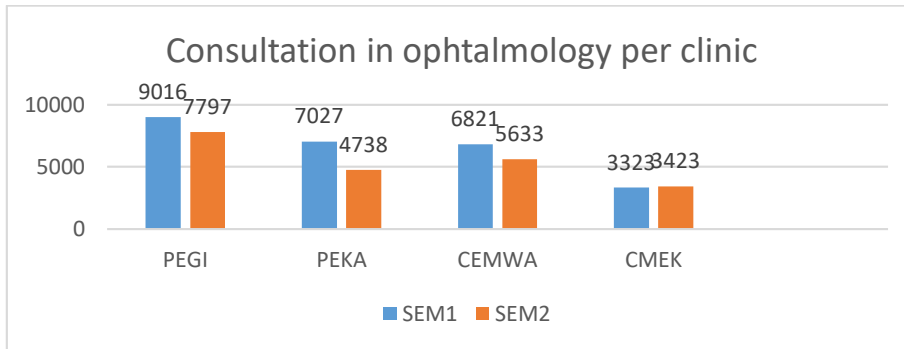
**II.3.2. Ophthalmology**

**Table 2: Procedures performed in ophthalmology**

Types of acts	PEGI	PEKA	CEMWA	CMEK	Total	%
Ophthalmology consultation	15 702	10681	13 100	5918	45 401	93,44
Extraction of intraocular foreign body	176	84	7	4	271	0,55
Suture of the eyelid	38	0	0	0	38	0,078
Background of the eye	259	175	67	78	579	1,19
Refraction	638	825	90	746	2 299	4,73
Other acts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total ophthalmic procedures	16 813	11765	13 264	6746	48 588	100

A total of 48,588 ophthalmological procedures were performed in the 4 IPROSARUDE care facilities. Ophthalmology consultations accounted for 93.44% of the procedures performed during the year 2021.

### II.3.3. Comparison of ophthalmology consultations by clinic



**Figure 7 : Histogram of ophthalmology consultations per clinic and per semester**

According to the graph, there is a decrease in the number of ophthalmology consultations at PEKA CEMWA, PEGI and there for the second half of 2021 of ,19.45%, 9.50%. 7.25 %. This would have been due to the fact that the free consultation stopped with the month of May.

On the other hand, during the 2nd Semester 2021, there was a net increase in ophthalmology consultations of 1000 clients, or 14.82% at the KCME.

#### **Cataract surgery**

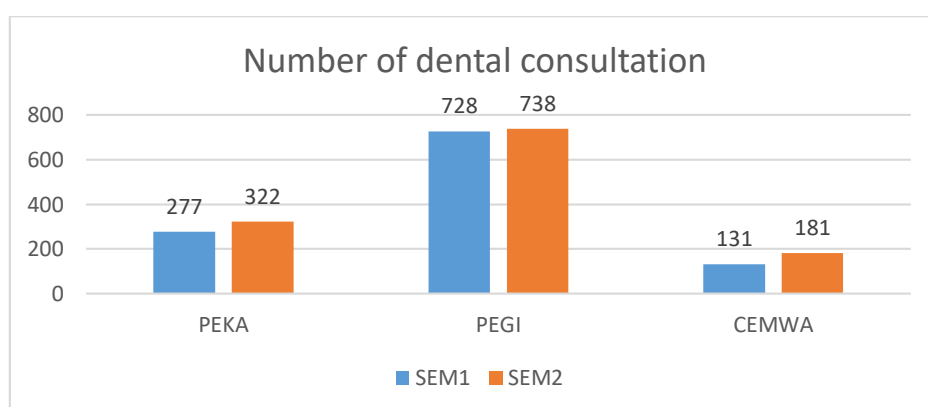
PEKA organized cataract surgery sessions 26 patients were operated during the year 2021.

### II.3.4. Soins dentaires

**Table 3 : Tableau des actes offerts en dentisterie**

Services	PEGI	PEKA	CEMWA	Total	Percentage
Extraction of baby teeth	200	165	28	393	8,08
Single tooth extraction	475	277	212	964	19,82
Extraction of root remains	79	43	71	193	3,97
Surgical tooth extraction	14	1	0	15	0,31
Incision of abscess + wick	1	0	0	1	0,02
Dental consultation	1466	599	312	2377	48,87
scaling	99	131	1	231	4,75
Dental filling	576	14	5	595	12,23
Dental prosthesis	32	3	1	36	0,74
Other dentistry act	44	3	0	47	0,97
operculectomy	3	1	0	4	0,08
dental sutures	6	0	0	6	0,12
frenectomy	1	1	0	2	0,04
Polishing	0	0	0	0	0,00
Epuletomy	0	0	0	0	0,00
Temporomandibular joint reduction	0	0	0	0	0,00
<b>Total Dental Procedures</b>	<b>2996</b>	<b>1238</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>4864</b>	<b>100</b>

During the year 2021, 4864 dental procedures were performed in 3 facilities. These dental procedures are dominated by dental consultations, representing 48.87% of the procedures.



**Figure 8: Variation in the number of dental consultations per clinic**

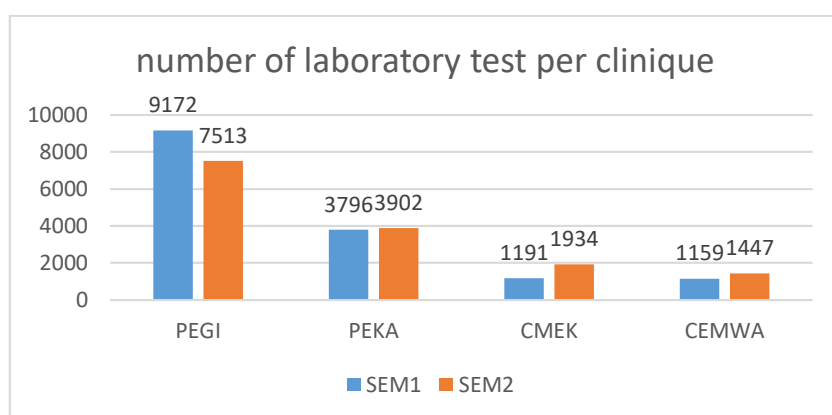
Dentistry consultations are carried out in 3 health care facilities. An increase in the number of dental consultations was noted in the 3 clinics, namely PEKA, PEGI and CMWA during the 2nd semester.

### II.3.5. Laboratory tests

**Table 4: Distribution of laboratory tests by clinic and semester**

Clinic	SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2	Total	%
PEGI	9172	7513	16685	55,41
PEKA	3796	3902	7698	25,6
CMEK	1191	1934	3125	10,38
CEMWA	1159	1447	2606	8,7
<b>Total</b>	<b>15318</b>	<b>14796</b>	<b>30114</b>	<b>100</b>

During the year 2021, 30114 tests were carried out in the 4 IPROSARUDE care facilities, with a constant increase in the number of tests compared to the year 2020. PEGI has performed a greater number of laboratory tests with 55% of the total.



**Figure 9 : Change in the number of laboratory tests**

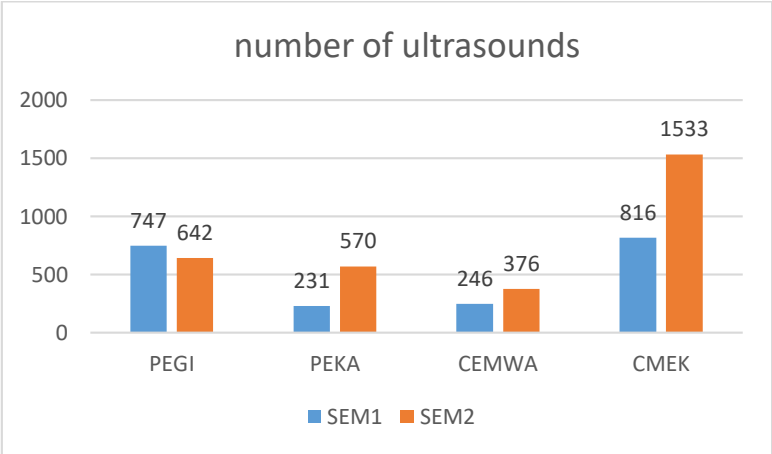
PEGI recorded more examinations in the first half of 2021 as a result of the balance of examinations carried out for BRARUDI affiliates. In PEKA, CMEK and CEMWA, the data for the second half of the year recorded an increase. In the CMEK and CEMWA clinics there were new examinations performed in the laboratory.

### II.3.6. Ultrasound

**Table 5: Distribution of ultrasound scans by clinic**

Types of ultrasound	PEGI	PEKA	CEMWA	CMEK	Total	%
Obstetrical ultrasound	1 389	801	622	2349	5 161	89,35
Pelvic ultrasound	320	48	31	27	426	7,38
Abdominal ultrasound	154	5	0	9	168	2,91
Muscle ultrasound	6	0	0	0	6	0,10
Testicular ultrasound	9	2	0	0	11	0,19
Breast ultrasound	4	0	0	0	4	0,07
Ultrasound of the superficial parts	0	0	0	0	0	0,00
<b>Total of ultrasounds</b>	<b>1 882</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>2 385</b>	<b>5 776</b>	<b>100</b>

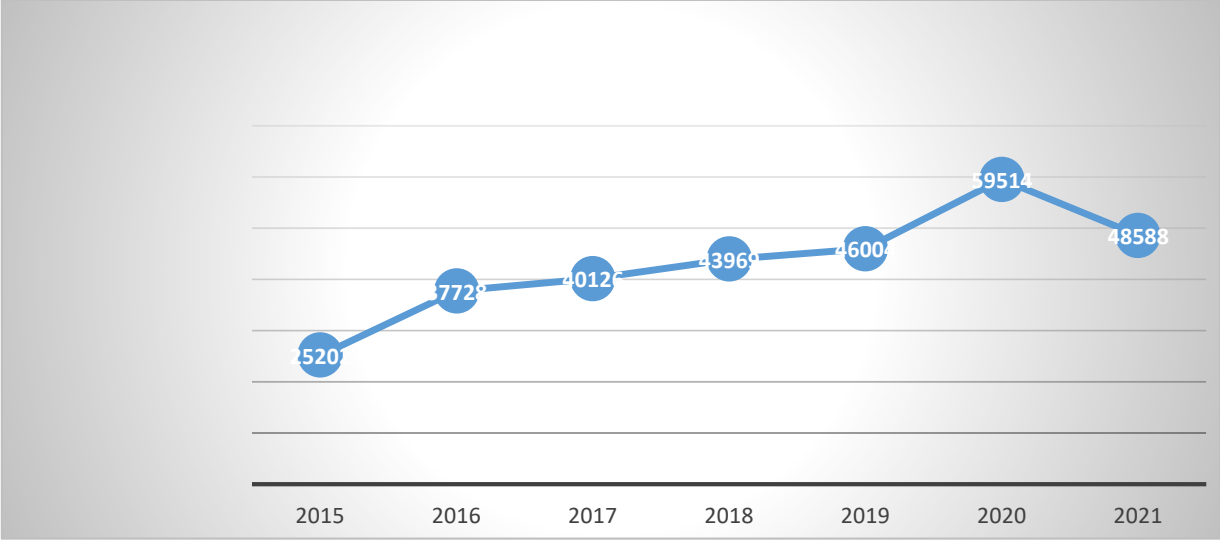
During the year 2021, 5776 ultrasounds were performed within the 4 structures of IPROSARUDE with a majority of ultrasounds done for pregnant women (obstetric ultrasound).



**Figure10 : Histogram Variation in the number of ultrasounds by clinic and by semester**

The variation in the number of ultrasounds is very appreciable at PEKA, CEMWA and CMEK for the 2nd half of 2021 in contrast to PEGI recorded a decrease in the 2nd half.

**II.4. Annual evolution of ophthalmologic procedures**

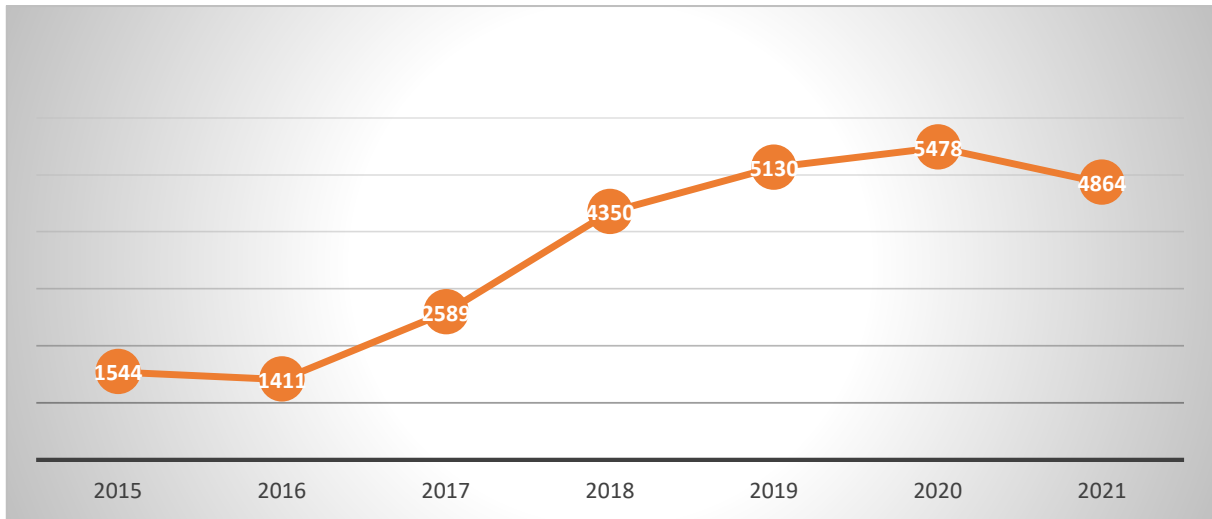


**Figure11 : Evolution curve of ophthalmologic procedures between 2015 and 2021**

We notice with a positive and very remarkable evolution in 2020 because during the period of 2019 and 2020 the consultation in ophthalmology was free.



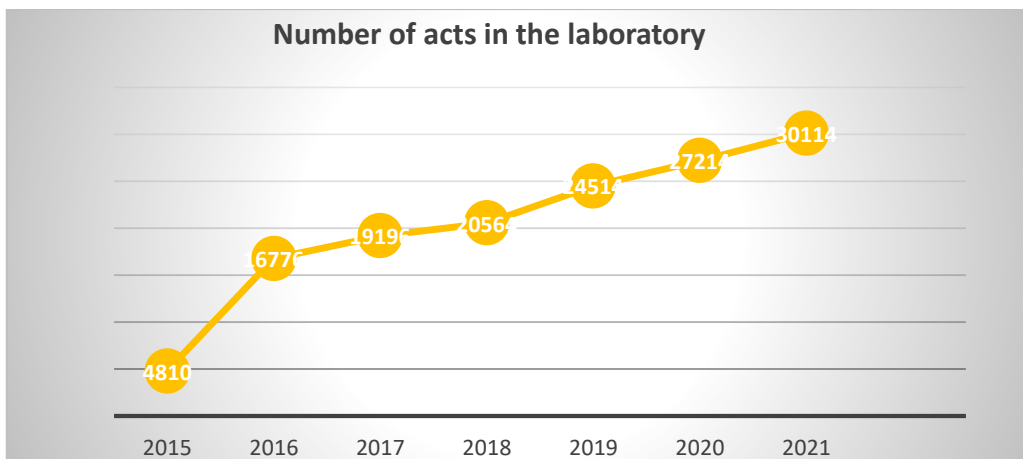
## II.5. Annual evolution of dental act



**Figure12: Dental procedures evolution curve between 2015 and 2021**

In 2021, there was a slight decrease in dental procedures following the covid-19 epidemic.

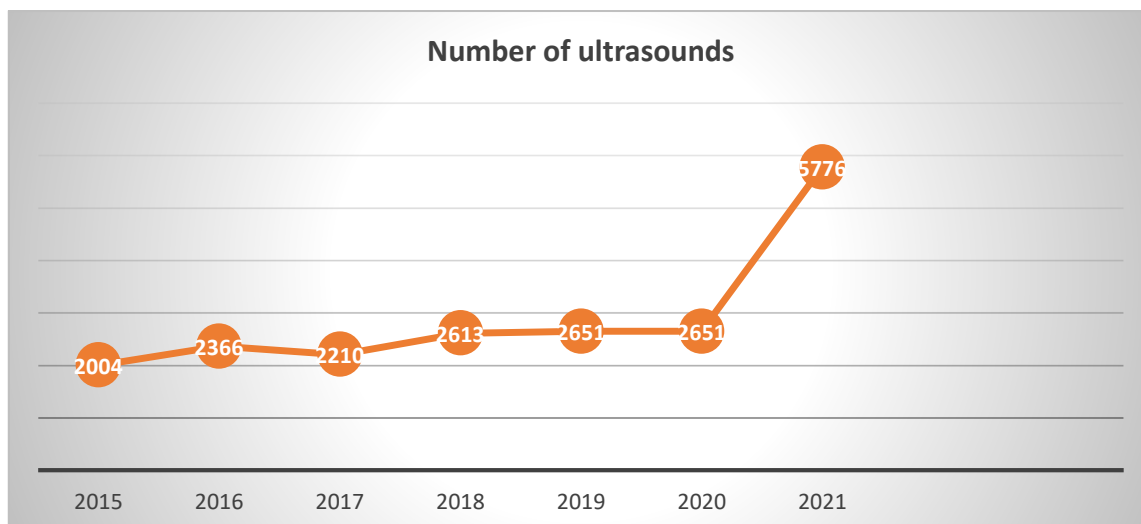
## II.6. Annual evolution of laboratory acts



**Figure13: Evolution curve of laboratory procedures between 2015 and 2021**

We note a substantial increase in cases of laboratory procedures performed in 2021 compared to previous years.

## II.7. Annual evolution of the number of ultrasounds.



**Figure14: Evolution curve of ultrasound procedures between 2015 and 2021**

We note an increase in ultrasound cases in 2021. This is due to the introduction of ultrasound at the KAYOGORO medical center.

## II.8. Fighting Glaucoma



**Figure15: Glaucoma screening of a patient at the Gitega clinic (PEGI)**

World Glaucoma Week was held this year from March 7 to 13, 2021, and aims to raise awareness of glaucoma, an eye condition that causes destruction of the optic nerve.

The third leading cause of blindness in the world, glaucoma is a serious and irreversible eye disease. Many people around the world have glaucoma, but most don't know it. In fact, the early stages of the disease are often not accompanied by any symptoms.

As part of World Glaucoma Week, Iprosarude (Initiative for the Promotion and Development of Rural Health) would like to remind you to take care of your eyes by having an eye exam with your optometrist.

In addition, Iprosarude is raising awareness by organizing free screening days for this disease in its clinics Espoir de Kayanza, Clinique Espoir de Gitega, Clinique Espoir de Mwaro and Kayogoro.

According to Dr. Adrien Bironkwa, a specialist in ophthalmology, glaucoma is an eye disease that damages the optic nerve by increasing the pressure in the eyeball. This pressure results from a build-up of aqueous humor, a fluid produced by the eye, which clogs the lymphatic drainage channels. Nerve damage results in progressive and irreversible vision loss. Unfortunately, glaucoma often goes unnoticed.

Glaucoma remains asymptomatic for a long time. This eye disease is often not noticed until a late stage, because the loss of central vision only occurs at an advanced stage. The damage to the optic nerve and the loss of vision it causes are unfortunately irreversible. If detected at an early stage, glaucoma can now be stabilized and blindness avoided, thanks to the progress made in ophthalmology.

There are two forms of glaucoma: open-angle glaucoma and angle-closure glaucoma. Open-angle glaucoma is the most common form, while angle-closure glaucoma occurs suddenly and is accompanied by pain. adds Dr. Adrien.

#### **II.8.1. What are the risks?**

According to Dr. Adrien, anyone can get glaucoma, but certain factors contribute to its development: high intraocular pressure, high blood pressure, family history, smoking, age (over 40), previous eye infections and high myopia. Myopia increases the risk of developing eye diseases such as glaucoma by 14 times. As a precaution, it is best to see an optometrist at least once a year for an eye exam.

#### **II.8.2. How to preserve your vision?**

For Dr. Adrien, although there are promising advances in glaucoma treatment, such as the use of stem cells or an ocular implant to reduce pressure in the eye, prevention remains the best treatment to date. During an eye exam, the optometrist can perform the necessary tests to detect glaucoma and prevent eye damage.

Healthy lifestyle habits are also important to reduce the risk of developing glaucoma, such as eating a balanced diet, playing sports regularly or quitting smoking.

Glaucoma is reported to be one of the leading causes of blindness in people over the age of 60 worldwide. Early diagnosis and treatment are necessary to fight

## **AXE III : PROMOTION OF SYSTAINABILITY**

### **III.1. SRH-AMAGARA MEZA Project**

The SRH-AMAGARA MEZA project is implemented in 3 provinces namely Mwaro, Gitega and Kayanza in order to promote sustainable development but also by offering counseling on sexual and reproductive health.

#### **III.1.1. Activities undertaken**

- Monitoring and supervision of VSLAs Supervision of GS activities in all areas of Kayokwe commune
- Supervision of project supervisors
- Compilation and analysis of data
- Resolution of conflicts between VSLA members in the hills and commitments in the repayment of credits
- Sensitization on the importance of hedge marking and erosion control

#### **III.1.2. Testimonies and wishes**

*"The Nawe Nuze program initiated by Iprosarude (Initiative pour la Santé Rurale et le Développement), a testimonial "When I need money immediately, I no longer need to go to all the neighboring households. It's easy and it's done in total privacy. I was even able to buy two goats thanks to the savings and credit system," said Mr. Laurent Mugwira, president of the Twitezimbere group. Kayoya Nestor, provincial coach (Mwaro), on the side of iprosarude said he was satisfied with the work of the savings and credit groups in Mwaro. "They are determined, it is easy to work with them. The majority have already invested in something," he added.*



**Figure16: Testimony of the VSLA member in MWARO who was able to buy a cow**

Burundian youth are affected by unemployment in general

Concerned about their future, the non-profit association IPROSARUDE (Initiative pour la Promotion de la Santé Rurale et le Développement) brings them together in a solidarity group to give them advice on how to become autonomous. Diane Munezero, from the solidarity group Tujijuke, commune Gitega, Birohe hill, has understood the message of IPROSARUDE. She inspires other young people not to cross their arms anymore. The testimony of a young girl Diane Munezero from the Tujijuke solidarity group, Gitega commune, Birohe hill



**Figure17: Exhibition of articles produced by young people supervised by IPROSARUDE**

To face the unemployment that haunts the youth in Burundi, IPROSARUDE (Initiative for the Promotion of Rural Health and Development), has developed projects, on the one hand aiming at the supervision of the youth in the VSLA, on the other hand, encouraging innovations among the youth. Indeed, a group of young people are recycling waste into art objects. To help these young people find customers, IPROSARUDE seizes every opportunity. These objects resulting from recycling are bought by its staff and exhibited in galleries in the town hall of Bujumbura.



**Figure18: Exhibition of articles produced by young people supervised by IPROSARUDE**

### **III.2. The Tubakarorero Project**

#### **III.2.1. Background and rationale**

In its 2019-2022 multi-annual strategy, the Netherlands Embassy in Burundi has placed particular emphasis on controlling population growth, combating GBV and youth entrepreneurship in its objective to improve social progress. It is within this framework that the Kingdom of the Netherlands, through its Embassy in Burundi, has granted a 42-month funding to the CARE International Burundi and Cordaid consortium to strengthen the entrepreneurial activity of young people in the community by grouping them around youth centers. In this intervention, this project will also ensure awareness on family planning, the fight against SGBV through households, religious structures, G50 groups and VSLA.

In relation to sensitization through communal youth spaces called New Generation Youth Centers or Multidimensional Youth Studios, the CARE-Cordaid consortium will intervene in synergy with the organization Bibliothèques Sans Frontières (BSF), which will provide young people with digital information tools, namely the idea cubes.

#### **III.2.2. Activities carried out**

- ✓ Identify and train evaluators on the data collection form
- ✓ Collect VSLA data in the hills
- ✓ Enter VSLA data into the kobo-collect software
- ✓ Organize data collection visits to youth centers
- ✓ Enter data into the appropriate software.
- ✓ Presentation and orientation workshop on the Tubakarorero project organized by Care
- ✓ Office work such as orientation sessions and coordination meetings, visits/supervision missions organized by the office members,
- ✓ Multiplication of copies of collection forms and recovery of rolling stock and computer equipment at the Care International office. -Participation dans les réunions organisées par supporting the development of the youth centers' management and services and

the integration of social impact programs (GBV, SRH and youth entrepreneurship) in the management and services of the youth centers

- ✓ Support for the youth competition called the Youth Innovation Hackathon on solution ideas for the sustainability of youth centers in their management and service and the integration of social impact programs (GBV, SRH and youth entrepreneurship).



**Figure19: Presentation of the TUBAKARORERO project by the coach of Gitega**



**Figure 20: Presentation workshop of the TUBAKARORERO project in Gitega**



**Figure21: Hackton youth competitions in the framework of the Tubakarorero project**



## **AXE IV : STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT**

### **IV.1. Increasing the visibility of IPROSARUDE**

For this project, different activities took place to improve the visibility of IPROSARUDE:

- Creation of a Newsletter at the end of each month
- The IPROSARUDE website was updated during the first semester
- Participation of IPROSARUDE in the International Labor Day in the provinces of Gitega, Kayanza, Mwaro and Makamba
- Participation in the women's day
- Participation in the international day of NGOs

### **IV.2. Capacity building for sustainable development**

The main objective of this project was to strengthen the capacity of IPROSARUDE staff to provide quality services at all levels and in all clinics.

- -A review was conducted during the first semester
- -Completion of data in the Quickbooks software
- -Moral chat sessions with women leaders and VSLA presidents were organized on the occasion of International Women's Day on the themes: "Mother-child relationship, female entrepreneurship and sensitization on COVID-19 (barrier measures) in Gitega.
- -Training sessions on entrepreneurship, nutrition, computer literacy, law and sexual and reproductive health of young people, first aid training, are on the program in its training, information and research center - HUB-IPROSARUDE in Gitega
- -Training for all health providers working in all its polyclinics located in the provinces of Gitega, Kayanza, Mwaro

### **IV.3. HUB-IPROSARUDE**



**Figure22 : Ceremonies to award certificates to young people who have completed the training in the IPROSARUDE Hub.**

On Saturday, May 1, 2021, IPROSARUDE (Initiative for the Promotion of Health and Rural Development) proceeded to the presentation of certificates to the laureates of the first promotion of the Innovation, Training and Research HUB located in Gitega. A total of 43 young people were certified and trained in the three sections of computer science, nutrition and entrepreneurship.

In his welcoming remarks, Dr. Jean Pierre Ndayirukiye, Executive Director of IPROSARUDE, expressed his satisfaction with what his organization has already accomplished and thanked all those who joined them for the presentation of these certificates. I thank all those who came to support the certification activity. The trainings we are providing in this Innovation HUB are in line with Iprosarude's objective to support sustainable development, reduction of youth unemployment, self-development. "It's time for young people to stop thinking that the government is the only employer. It is time they start to stand on their own two feet and create their own jobs based on the knowledge they received during the training in this Iprosarude Hub." said Dr. Jean Pierre.

Dr. Jean Pierre added: "We have trained the youth in nutrition because malnutrition is endemic in Burundi. We expect them to help others in their localities to gain knowledge on how to prepare their food and cope with malnutrition.

Dr. Toyi Gabriel, medical director of the Gitega health province, praised Iprosarude's efforts in promoting health, quality services and supporting sustainable development. For him, the innovation HUB that Iprosarude has established in the province of Gitega undoubtedly testifies to its interest in the self-development of youth.

In the speech of the legal representative, Dr. Joseph Bigirimana, expressed his feelings of gratitude to all those who have contributed to the success of these young laureates, from the beginning of their registration to the certification. Dr. Joseph, advised these young people to form development networks, to join forces to face the high unemployment rate in Burundi.

He then thanked IPROSARUDE's partners, especially Care International in Burundi, which supports this IPROSARUDE HUB by providing the necessary materials to facilitate the learning and development of the young people who attend it.