

Throughout year two, program participants became more financially autonomous as financial support decreased to cover 75% of school and medical costs. The third year of the program began in July 2008. In year three, families will be expected to cover 50% of their expenses.

In the first quarter of 2008, the following accomplishments were achieved:

- 84% of IGAs are functioning well or very well, allowing participants to meet their subsistence needs and save money.
- During this quarter, no cases of malnutrition were experienced by participants.
- All HIV positive individuals who need treatment are receiving it.



Student members of the Anti-AIDS club.

School Support

Primary school students' performance has dropped considerably, with average grades declining from 76% at the end of 2007 to 50.5% in early 2008. To identify the root causes of this issue and prevent failure during the second quarter, the IBS Rwanda staff is conducting thorough in-home follow-ups, focusing on child well-being and encouraging parents to provide moral support to their children.



We are excited to report that graduates from the vocational training program now own a tailor/ sewing shop equipped with five

sewing machines and basic materials. There are ten women working in the business and they have elected a president and treasurer. IBS Rwanda paid for the store's rent for six months, as well as for a professional license for 2008. Group members are currently saving 500Frw per week to cover the long-term costs, ensuring that the business continues to thrive.

HIV/AIDS Prevention

During this quarter, the FXB HIV prevention officer concentrated on HIV/AIDS prevention in schools: 103 students from the professional training center of Mushubati and 646 secondary school students have been educated about HIV/AIDS. Reproductive health and family planning have been important features of these trainings. In addition, 120 adolescents from youth anti-AIDS clubs carried out peer trainings about HIV/AIDS with 1,680 individuals from their schools and communities.

Medical Support

The health status of beneficiaries continues to be extremely satisfactory: no supplementary care was sought during the first quarter of 2008. All beneficiaries continue to implement basic health measures such as improved hygiene and the use of insecticide-treated mosquito nets. All families understand the importance of using clean drinking water. The IBS Rwanda staff distributed de-worming treatment for all children under five years of age.

Income-Generating Activities (IGAs)

Twelve families in particular have experienced great success with their enterprises. They were able to sell piglets three times during the past year. Their profits enabled them to buy land and/or cows, as well as improve their homes.

IGA	#	Status of IGA	Comments
Pigs	76	Very Good	Animal rearing proves to be an efficient and sustainable venture.
Goats	20	Good Goats take more time to rear	Livestock not only represent secure capital (the animal itself can be used as a food resource), but the animals also reproduce quickly, which provides steady income when offspring are sold.
Bicycle	1	Good	The bicycle is used for merchant transportation. The beneficiary found regular clients who provide daily income.

Primary IGAs for all 80 families in the Gatenzi Village.

To date, all heads of households have opened bank accounts where they regularly deposit a portion of their income. The average amount in savings has declined since the previous quarter, as many participants have begun to repay loans from micro-credit institutions. Additional contingency planning includes IGA diversification.

Beneficiary Story:

I was born in 1944. I married Henri in 1964, and we had 8 children but two died. My married life was very unhappy because one year after my marriage, my husband would not stop beating me. When this happened, I would always go to my parents' house with my children, and then I would come back. I was always coming and going and this was the real cause of our poverty.

Our family was very marginalized in our community. I was living on food given to me by my neighbor in exchange for cultivating their field and that continued until July 2006 when I became one of the beneficiaries of FXB.

They visited us very regularly and counseled us to live in harmony as a family. We were integrated into the groups and we regained familial and social consideration from our neighbors. I began to cultivate our own fields surrounding the house because my husband was no longer beating me. I became increasingly active and the harvest helped us to feed the family and the surplus allowed us to save. Because of FXB, I recognized that I was getting a second chance at life.

In October 2007, my husband was imprisoned and now I am alone with my children. I am trying to continue life with the help of FXB and the members of my group.



Our heartfelt thanks to each of you for your contributions. The stories we are hearing directly from the beneficiaries, along with reports from the field staff, are

showing the positive, life-changing results of the work that is being done for the beneficiaries of IBS Rwanda. Your support is helping restore hope and health to our families in Gatenzi, and we are most appreciative of your giving.

IBS Rwanda is a partnership between IBS and FXB International. IBS provides 100 percent of the funds required to support the activities of the IBS Rwanda village. FXB International supplies trained staff that design and carry out the activities of the village and provide the human caring so necessary in the success of the village's families.