



BUGESERA Diaspora Village

“BYE BYE NYAKATSI PROJECT”

« Diaspora To Build a Model Village for Disadvantaged and Poor Families
in Bugesera District”

General outlook of the Diaspora Model Village



1. Background

After the successful completion of One Dollar Campaign Project, an initiative by Rwandan Diaspora to help Genocide Survivors, the Members of Rwandan Diaspora have initiated another Community Development Project named **Bye Bye Nyakatsi Project** aiming at building a model village for disadvantaged and poor families in Bugesera District as a contribution to a government campaign to eliminate grass-thatched houses in the country. The initiative has been adopted during IV Diaspora Global Convention held in Kigali on 13-15th of December 2009.

That initiative has been triggered by the policy adopted by government to have all grass thatched dwellings phased out not later than this year in 2010.

The Rwandan Diaspora registers an evolving important role in the national development of their nation. This importance is envisaged in various sectors of Rwanda such as; Education, Health, Private Sector Development, Business and Investment, Knowledge transfers, Image building, Culture development, Unity and Reconciliation, Community development, Remittances, mobilization of foreign investments etc.

Particularly in regards to the sector of Community development and poverty alleviation, Rwandan Diaspora in partnership with JCI Rwanda (Junior chamber International) have manifested interest in supporting disabled and vulnerable communities in Rwanda in areas of housing, education, empowering the vulnerable in small scale businesses and infrastructure development mostly in rural areas.

At the end of their Global Convention, Members of Diaspora got time to tour rural communities in Bugesera district and to visit over 500 disadvantaged families below the poverty line (almost 3000 people) living in grass thatched houses and sheets of banana trees. Their living situation is really lamentable.



The above figures are Nyakatsi sample houses in Bugesera district

In the whole District, almost 11.869 families are living in such houses. The problem of the habitat of those poor families in BUGESERA District is expressed in various ways: certain families under huts in sheets of banana trees, others are piled up in an exiguous part (promiscuity) of houses out of cob covered with straw, sheets or in tents.

2. WHY BYE BYE NYAKATSI project.

Bye Bye Nyakatsi project is a pure community Development and poverty alleviation Project, aiming at achieving following objectives through collective efforts:

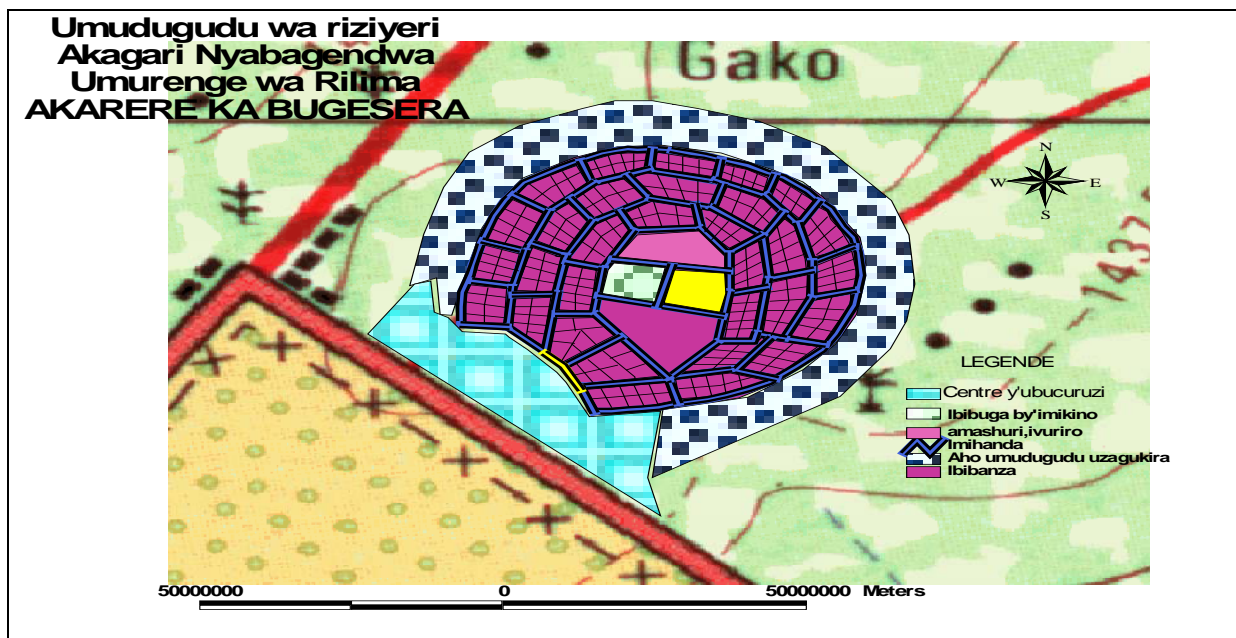
- √ To help local poor families overcome poverty and disadvantages
- √ To support local communities to build sustainable futures and to improve their own live

- √ To build social justice, individual wellbeing and thereby reduce negative impact of poverty
- √ To mobilize Diaspora for socio-economic development of their motherland
- √ To promote partnership relations (jumelage) between Rwandan Districts and Diaspora, as the 6th Province overseas of Rwanda.
- √ To contribute to the government campaign to eliminate grass-thatched houses in the country.

3. PLAN AND STRUCTURE OF THE PROJECT “BYE BYE NYAKATSI”

The concept of **Bye Bye Nyakatsi Project** is to build a model village named *Bugesera Diaspora Village*, in Bugesera District, Rilima sector, Nyabagendwa cell, Village of Riziyeri, in a distance of 16km from Nyamata Center. In that place, Diaspora has been allocated 36 hectares and infrastructure roadmaps have been marked.

The site of the project



The project aims to construct 504 modern low cost houses built in panel system by **Lodestar company** an American company specialized in panel system building, according to required construction standards of model villages in Rwanda. According to sample houses developed by Lodestar, each house, placed in a plot of 600 sqm, will be equipped with at least 3 bedrooms, a kitchen, and bathroom with a toilet, and all houses will be connected to biogas systems, water and electricity. The village will have also basic infrastructure and public utilities such as public gardens, health centre, school and commercial areas,

Bye Bye Nyakatsi project will cost over Frw 2.5 billion.

4. IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING OF THE PROJECT “ BYE BYE NYAKATSI’

Implementation period is 2 years (2010-2012): Year 1 for public awareness and fundraising mobilization. Year 2 for construction works.

For the purpose of better implementation of this project, inside and outside partners (Rwanda) will be needed. Rwandan Diaspora, JCI Rwanda and Bugesera Population should own the campaign, should be sensitized about and act accordingly without forgetting the friends of Rwanda. All Rwandan embassies and consuls abroad will play a big role in sensitizing the Rwandan Diaspora and the Rwandan friends to collect needed fund in their host countries respectively and JCI Rwanda will sensitize JCI Members all over the world to participate to that cause as we believe in our values that earth’s great treasure lies in human personality and that service to humanity is the great work of life.

Diaspora in partnership with JCI Rwanda will mobilize also celebrities, corporations and individuals for sponsorships, grants and endorsements to boost net income and revenue of Bye bye Nyakatsi campaign.

Sample houses of Lodestar Company



5. STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT

- a) **MINAFFET:** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Rwanda particularly the **Diaspora General Directorate (DGD)** will coordinate activities of sensitization of all Rwandan Diaspora and friends of Rwanda to take part in action.

- b) **Rwandan Embassies and High Commissions abroad:** They will be key actors in sensitization and funds raising activities. They will also play a significant role in coordinating & facilitating the money collection operations, as the case was during One Dollar Campaign.
- c) **RDGN and Diaspora Associations:** This project is for Rwandan Diaspora and they are very keen to implement it. They are crucial channels for an easy sensitization operation within the Diaspora members and friends of Rwanda because they are very close to them. Particularly, RDGN will open a general account in Rwanda in partnership with MINAFFET and Bugesera District. Members of Diaspora originating from Bugesera will be encouraged to play vital and leading role.

This project intends also to involve experienced diaspora members specialists in Community Development Work, who will help to identify and analyse problems, human needs and investigate others concerns.

- d) **JCI Rwanda:** JCI is a worldwide community of young active citizens ages 18-40 who share the belief that in Order to create positive change, we must take collective action to improve ourselves and the World around us. Engaging in activities ranging from community development to international Projects, members demonstrate their social responsibility and improve themselves through participation, leadership and action. JCI Rwanda will play a role to sensitize JCI Members worldwide to make their contribution in order to fulfil our mission and values by reacting positive change in the community.
- e) **BUGESERA District, Public & private Institutions in Bugesera as well as Bugesera Population:** District Authorities will provide land for the project construction, Installation of the infrastructure facilities and make advocacy for the project. Above all, they will mobilize people to participate in community work (UMUGANDA) especially the future owners of the houses. Prisoners serving their last mandates (abaTIGisiti) will also give assistance. People originating from Bugesera as well as **Public & private Institutions operating in Bugesera** will be encouraged to play vital and leading role.
- f) **Lodestar company**, an American company which has panel building systems for the construction of low, moderate to high-end housing. **They have also pledged to donate** a house after completion of 40 houses and this makes a total of 12 houses free of charge to the project.

g) OTHERS

A taskforce in charge of the preparation and follow-up of the implementation of the project composed of aforementioned stakeholders will be established with specific activities each.