



News from Great Lakes Outreach

Thank you for your generous support towards the work of GLO. It is making a tremendous impact in Burundi!

General Update

The people in Burundi are still facing very challenging issues: an influx of refugees due to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo, inflation price rises, and a shortage of fuel which makes life very difficult. But the people have hope and we pray that the Lord will move to change this nation, from the poorest to those at government level.

Foundation Charles Nkazamyampi (FCN)

FCN held an event - *Empowering Youth Through Agropastoral Entrepreneurship* where they trained 60 young people. FCN also ran a project - 'Sport as an Essential Tool' for strengthening peace, social cohesion, and inclusive development - in the Matongo commune.

Youth also learned essential techniques for producing quality onion seeds, a valuable skill for boosting local agricultural livelihoods; participants were trained in practical, scalable rabbit farming methods, strengthening their capacity to generate sustainable income.

There was also a spiritual renewal - where an evangelistic outreach session was held. More than 200 students made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour!

In addition, a widow who had been living in extreme vulnerability received a newly built home thanks to the active involvement of youth from Mpanda.



Testimony from Kanyana:

"We are grateful for how FCN collaborates in harmony with the local administration. We note that the youth are now very joyful; they play together and have understood the importance of peace and have improved their behaviour. Their good appearance and discipline show they are excellent ambassadors of peace in their community through the teaching of the values written on the peace commitment cards."

Heritage TV

Martine Dushime, CEO of Heritage TV (The only Christian station in Burundi) reports that there is noticeable progress in achieving their vision- encouraging Christians and proclaiming the gospel. This is evidenced by the increasing number of testimonies from the audience. Martine says: "It is reassuring to see more people understanding and aligning with our goals."

Progress was made on translating 'The Chosen' series into the Kirundi language, involving detailed planning and preparation for the translation work.

Staff were thankful for the financial gifts at Christmas and encouragement received from GLO, which helps them with food and bills during this time of increased cost of living.

Testimony from Moïse (Gospel singer with Aletheia Truth Revealed Church):

"I love Heritage TV because it is a platform that lifts up Jesus and highlights artists who carry an authentic message. Through the program INTAHE, God has spoken to me a lot. I listened to testimonies from servants of God who went through difficult times but remained faithful to their calling. This strengthened me, and it convinced me that television can be a powerful means to touch hearts and proclaim the Gospel far beyond our churches".

The Children's Ministry Project is a cornerstone of UCCD's mission. Recognising that nations cannot be transformed without investing in children, UCCD equips children with biblical values from an early age.

From November to December 2025, 20 training sessions were conducted for over 7,000 Sunday School teachers. Additionally, 69 graduation ceremonies were held, involving almost 60,000 children. These achievements were made possible through strong partnerships and have significantly strengthened children's ministry across Burundi.

Updates on our other projects

Pastors' retirement home:

5 people are currently being cared for at this centre. They receive spiritual care, healthcare, food, clothing, and psychological support. Faithful and compassionate staff members are available to serve them. These pastors are now ending their life in peace, dignity and joy.

Hope farm:

We have developed a 13 hectare plot of land dedicated to a diversified crop production. This initiative supports the pastors'



Beautiful maize ready for harvest

retirement home while contributing to the well-being of surrounding communities.

In addition, the innovation centre produces high-quality selected seeds. Furthermore, 14 students have benefited from academic internships here, strengthening the practical skills acquired during their studies.

Igniting Communities for Jesus (ICJ)

Here are some highlights and achievements from ICJ-

- 17 goats have been bought in the communities of Ciya and Murwi;
- 4 houses have been built in the communities of Ndava and Ciya;
- 2 children received academic assistance;
- We celebrated Christmas with our beneficiaries in their communities, providing treats/gifts of food.
- 15,000 secondary students are participating in a bible study training programme in various schools across Bujumbura and Gitega provinces;
- 9,000 church members are running bible study training in different churches in 2 provinces;
- 10 church leaders have graduated after the Discipleship Training Programme.



Daniel and his family in front of their new home.

The Story of Séraphine- My Journey with ICJ

"I am a widow with five children. Before joining the organisation, my life was tough. After the war, my children and I lived in deep suffering. We had no home and survived on the streets due to the effects of the conflict. I became a person with a disability and as a result, I was no longer able to work properly. We moved from place to place, asking for shelter, but we were often chased away. Life was full of rejection and humiliation. If I did not find work on a particular day, my children and I would go hungry.

One day, I heard that some people had come to share the Word of God. I decided to go and listen to their message. Through this encounter, I felt a renewed sense of hope and chose to join ICJ. From that moment, my life began to change. ICJ supported us by building a decent house for my family, where we now live in safety and dignity. They also gave us land to cultivate, something we had never had before. Today, we can grow our own food, and my children eat three meals a day. They also go to school, and our living conditions have greatly improved."

**Once again, thank you so much for your support.
If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to get in touch
with steve@greatlakesoutreach.org, and I would be delighted to help.**