



THE RULINDO PROJECT

Building Foundations, Shaping Futures Together

Program Description

The **Kuza-Kids program**¹ focus on the well-being and overall development of children and young people in ECD Centre, Home-Based, pre-school and schools setting. The program will support state policies and vision "*Umwana wanjye ishema ryanjye*" (*My Child, My Pride*).

MAIN FEATURES

This support program **main features** are:

- Support the healthy development of young children.
- Improve the skills of providers to provide high-quality² childcare (including women already providing care in the community).
- Provide ongoing coaching beyond initial training.
- Increase access to high-quality ECD for families.
- Improve responsive caregiving via parent-provider relationships.
- Promote healthy beliefs and attitudes.
- Provide parenting and family empowerment.
- Early detection of global development problem.
- Encourage help-seeking (reference).

Goals and objectives

The **Kuza-Kids** program is part of a preventive approach with the mission **of mobilizing education and civil society professionals to make concrete gestures by prioritizing the well-being and optimal development of early childhood**. We start from the Rwandan proverb: "*Igiti kigororwa kikiri gito*"

In this respect, we propose the establishment of an innovative program to support the strengthening of the skills of early childhood workers and parents. This model will play a key

¹ KUZA-Kids is a service provided by PROTECT CITIZEN registered under R.N. 706/RGB/NGO/LP/12/2020, KN 75 ST 16, Kigali, Rwanda.

²**Defining quality:** a) Creating and maintaining a safe and nurturing environment; b) Building responsive relationships between providers and children; c) Engaging other caregivers in nurturing care; d) Adhering to a play-based routine that supports children through stimulating activities; e) Building on a child's culturally relevant experiences; f) Meeting any local standards, policies, and requirements.

role in implementing national policies at the grassroot level to deliver high-quality early childhood education.

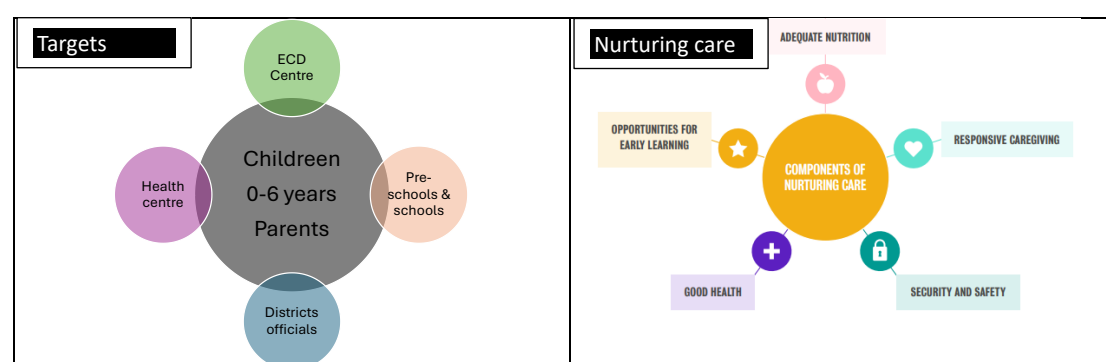
The program is aimed at all socio-economic backgrounds, especially those from lower-income backgrounds, in order to promote children's academic success and to offer an equal opportunity for everyone to start in life.

Targets and Intervention zone

The main targets of the **KUZA-kids** program are presented in the diagram below. **The main target is children aged 0-6 and their parents.** These targets are reached through various places of intervention: ECD centres and home-based, pre-school and schools (private, public) and health centers. The project will be implemented in both urban and rural areas (districts).

The pilot phase will be implementing in the **Rulindo District**.

Figure 1. Targets and Components of nurturing care



Approach and methodology

To ensure the gradual roll-out of the program, certain steps and methodological elements should be considered.

The program is divided into two successive phases with a total duration of 3 years. Phase 1 concerns the pilot phase where the program will be tested and **implemented in the RULINDO** district with half of which will be in urban and rural areas. Phase 2 will affect the gradual deployment of the program to reach about ten locations at the end of year 3.

Table 1. Program Phases

Districts	Pilot phase	Deployment phase	
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Rural	2	6	10
TOTAL	2	6	10

Keys components

- 100. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT
- 200. CAPACITY BUILDING
- 300. PARENTAL AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- 400. HEALTH AND NUTRITION SUPPORT
- 500. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Expected Results

The Kuza-Kids program will be successfully implemented with selected targets beneficiaries and area of intervention. The expected results of the intervention are as follows:

1. Increased enrollment of children aged 0-6 years in early childhood development programs.
2. The caregivers and entities trained will improved school readiness among children entering primary education.
3. Enhanced parental knowledge and engagement in supporting early childhood development.
4. Reduced instances of malnutrition and improved health outcomes among children in target communities.
5. Sustainable and scalable model for early childhood development that can be replicated in other regions of Rwanda.

Promoters

We are a group of professionals with over 20 years' international expertise in the education, health-nutrition and social services sectors. As a member of the diaspora, we have developed an expertise in capacity building for stakeholders working in these sectors.

Contact:

Founder and ECD Expert:	Ilibagiza M. Rose
Phone:	(+250) 798 975 271
Website:	www.kuza-kids.org
Mail:	Ilibagiza.mulindabigwi@gmail.com