From May 2017, AVSI Rwanda Sub-award to EDC Inc. is contributing to the implementation of the USAID-funded Huguka Dukore project that is providing employment, entrepreneurship and coaching skills; access to financing, family planning, and reproductive information promoting the Gender equality and Social inclusion for youth with disabilities, and holistic health programming.

The overall goal of the Huguka Dukore Project is to contribute “Preparation of Vulnerable Youth to Participate in Rwanda’s Vision 2020 Economic Growth”, targeting the Rwandan Out-of-School youth with 16 to 30 years old who have between six and nine years of basic education. Huguka Dukore will connect its over 40,000 participants with relevant job skills training, so they can find stable employment, start their own small businesses, and/or pursue further education.

1. Rwandan Workforce Development Context

- Population of 11.6 million (83% living in rural areas)
  - Approximately 50% below 20 years of age
  - 25% decline in fertility rates since 2012: 6.1 in 2005 to 4.6 in 2010
  - Demographic window of opportunity, need skilled youth workforce
- Between 2000 and 2015 Rwanda grew on average at 7.7 percent annually, outperforming its neighbors.
  - Rwandan economy is largely informal - 95 percent of all firms operating in Rwanda are informal
  - The poverty rate among youth is almost 70%
- GOR focused on filling skills shortages in both public and private in order to achieve Vision 2020 goals.
  - TVET enrollment has increased by almost 80 percent from 2010 to 2014
  - Only 58% school age children completed primary school in 2012

"Huguka Dukore Youth in WRN! and BYOB Trainings in Nyanza, (Photo: ©AVSI Rwanda, August 2017)"

"Huguka Dukore provides some hand-on Technical skills and Training. (Photo: ©AVSI Rwanda, August 2017)"

"Huguka Dukore Single Mothers in Hospitality and Modern Basket Making in Ruhango District (Photo: ©AVSI Rwanda, September 2017)"
II. Huguka Dukore – General Scope of Work

**Program Areas:** Employment and Self-Employment Preparation; Work Readiness; Family Planning and Reproductive Health; Social Inclusion; Youth Service Delivery Systems for **40,000 Youth Enrollment** across 19 of 30 Districts Geographic Scope for **5-year USAID CoAg** (December 2016 – December 2021) with a Budget of US$22,550,594 of USAID Education & Econ Growth in **Consortium of EDC, AKA, Connexus, CRS, SoukTel, TIG & 30 Local Implementing Partners including AVSI** in Rwanda.

Recognizing the local labor market demand, the context of Rwandan vulnerable youth backgrounds and communities; Under Huguka Dukore, AVSI Foundation is offering a multiple range of services and programs including below:

- The **Work Ready Now WRN!** Skills and trainings for Youth employment preparation;
- The **Technical Trainings; Transition to Work Programs (TTW)** and **Work Based Learning (WBL)** services such as job placements, internships and Own-job creation and Business development for youth initiatives (BYOB!- Be Your Own Boss)
- **Individual and Youth cooperative coaching** through Self-Help groups in SILC and Financial Institutions Linkages,
- Local communities and authorities capacity buildings to sustain the intervention after the project life
III. Project Life, Geographic Targets & Priority in Year 1 AVSI Districts Zone

Huguka Dukore project will be implemented in 19 districts from 2016-2021. Under the Year 1 of project implementation, AVSI enrolled 620 of 3,500 youth from 4 of 10 districts in Kamonyi, Muhanga, Ruhango and Nyanza of the Southern Province.

IV. External links for more learning about Huguka Dukore

- https://www.facebook.com/AVSIrwanda/
- https://rw.usembassy.gov/usaids-program-huguka-dukore/
- https://www.edc.org/huguka-dukore
- http://www.newtimes.co.rw/section/read/214209/
- http://mineduc.gov.rw/media/news/details-news/?tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=590&cHash=542f708cd378bf65779c26ced7d7680