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Social Economic Resilience of Poor Households in Rwanda: VUP 2020 and Girinka Program

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Abstract

Rwanda is a landlocked country, situated in central and east Africa. It is one of the poorest countries in world, 166th in 186 classified (IDH, 2012). The poor households poverty are shown decreasing from 58.9 % in 2000/01 (EICV1) to 44.9 % in 2010/11 (EICV3) . At the same period, extreme poverty shows similar patterns; on national level it fell from 40 % in 2000/01 to 24.1 % in 2010/11. This paper analyses the contribution of the social protection programs to poverty reduction of household beneficiaries: (1) The Vision 2020 Umurenge Programme (VUP) – an Integrated Local Development Program which has three components: (i) Direct support (DS) for the poorest people who are not able to work. (ii) Public Works (PW) – this component promote the rural employment on productive community assets development projects and (iii) Financial Services (FS) – which increase the access to financial services for the poor for providing loan at low interest rate. (2) The Girinka programme as known “one cow per one poor family”. The programme aims at enabling poor household to own and manage an improved dairy cow which would help the family to better their livelihood through increased milk and meat production and to improve soil fertility of their land for their crops using the available manure.

After presenting briefly the achievements, we will compare the socio-economic conditions of genocide windows before and after launching these programs in Munyiginya Sector in Rwamagana Districts.

Keywords: Poor households, Rwanda, social economic resilience, VUP and Girinka programs