CHILD PROTECTION

Every child has the right to live in an environment free from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation where they can reach their full potentials. UNICEF is among the Government of Rwanda’s key partners in preventing and responding to all forms of violence with a particular focus on the most vulnerable, including children with disabilities and refugee children. Ensuring protection for the most vulnerable boys, girls and their families will be essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

**SITUATION**

- **37%** of females and **60%** of males aged 18-24 had experienced physical violence prior to age 18.
- **24%** of females and **10%** of males aged 18-24 had experienced sexual abuse before the age of 18.

**TARGETS**

- By 2023, **100%** of girls, boys and their families can prevent and respond to violence, neglect, abandonment and exploitation.
- All children living in institutions live with families.

**CHALLENGES**

- Strong need to change attitudes and gender norms that encourage violence.
- Violence is often not reported – children often believe it’s not a problem, or that it’s their fault.

**VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN**

- **2,900 children** (out of **3,233**) have been placed from institutions into families.

**QUALITY SOCIAL WORKFORCE**

- **30** professional social workers and psychologists in districts.
- **29,674** child and family protection volunteers (Inshuti z’Umuryango / Friends of the Family) in every village.

**STRENGTHENING FAMILIES**

- **203 boys and 6 girls** in conflict with the law detained at Nyagatare Rehabilitation Centre.

**JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN**


1. Violence against Children and Youth Survey (VACYS) 2015-2016
2. March 2017 RCS