



*Concertation des Collectifs des Associations
Féminines de la Région des Grands-Lacs*

COCAFEM / GL

IIDEA PROJECT: INFORMEL CROSS BORDER TRADE CHANGES HER LIFE

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About us

The Consultative Women Umbrella of Associations in the Great Lakes Region, « COCAFEM/GL » is a sub-regional network associations established in 2001 comprising of 11 umbrellas and organisations, including 3 in Burundi (CAFOB, DUSHIREHAMWE and RFP), 5 in the DRC (CAFED, CFPD, COFAS, CONAFED and UFCOD) and 3 in Rwanda (Pro Femmes TWESE HAMWE, YWCA/Rwanda and RRP+). The 11 umbrella organizations combine 1,861 associations altogether working at the grassroots. The COCAFEM/GL's mission is to contribute to the promotion of the culture of peace, tolerance, non-violence, equality between men and women and the improvement of living conditions of women and children in the Great Lakes Region

The overall objective of COCAFEM/GL is to contribute to : the respect of human rights in general and the rights of women in particular, peace and security in the Great Lakes region, promoting harmonious and sustainable development of the population





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Areas of intervention :

COCAFEM/GL has adopted a strategic plan for the period 2016-2020, in 4 interventions areas :

- Communication and advocacy
- Promotion of gender
- Strengthening peace and security
- Organisational and Institutional Strengthening of COCAFEM/GL



The project the **Incubator for Integration and Development in East Africa (IIIDEA)** started under the contract signed on May 11th 2018 between the GIZ Burundi office and COCAFEM/GL. Activities were implemented from June 2018 to January 2019

A total of 113 people reached is 87 women and 26 men for participating in the workshop validation of reports produced by consultants in the project areas, identifying women champions and documentary on success stories , best practices , lessons learnt and challenges in the informal cross-border trade has changed her life

The benefits are:

Sharing Information on the activities of informal cross border trade

Creation of space for women to share their success stories , challenges and visiting their business as well as how it impact their lives for better life for their households members

Creation of space of dialogue between women involved in trade women with border officials and bordering authorities.





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Concrete impact on beneficiaries:

The project contribute in the making known the work of women involved in the cross border trade and how their life has been impacted by cross border trade . In additional the local authorities recognize the contribution of women in cross border trade by paying taxes for community development as it was revealed by conducted baseline and produced reports. Finally , the project created space of exchange and dialogue between women in the cross border trade and border officials as well bordering authorities to know the challenges faced by those women and how it contribute to poverty reduction in the households and in the conflict resolution within their households due to economic dependence of the women.



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