

ReachOut™
YOUTH SOLUTIONS



**Country Leader
Dr. Gérard Cizungu**

2023 UPDATE

BURUNDI



A world in need of a Savior...

Reach Out's global impact in 2023



Reach Out Global Map

God moved mightily through our Reach Out team in 2023, more than we ever could have imagined! Investing into the training and equipping of youth leaders is crucial in spreading the message of the gospel to the younger generation. Our Country Leaders witnessed God's hand in allowing our team to train and equip more than **5,000 youth leaders** this past year who are now implementing the six essential characteristics taught through Jesus-Focused Youth Ministry into local churches in countries all over the world. Accounts were received about the impact of our JFYM Forums that brought newly certified Eagle Leaders (leaders who are now equipped to train other leaders), churches planted, and onlookers saved. Over **18,000 students were saved** through the ministries of those trained in **Jesus-Focused Youth Ministry**. And thousands more are currently being disciplined into disciple-makers for their generation!

JFYM Forums have sparked the establishment of **85 new churches in just one year**. These churches addressed crucial needs in areas where JFYM Forums were held. Thousands of students also participated in biblical training when our teams were allowed to enter schools in certain countries. Students were given the opportunity to participate in activities that impacted their spiritual, emotional, and relational growth. One of our Country Leaders has even been invited by their government officials to create such a program in their nation!

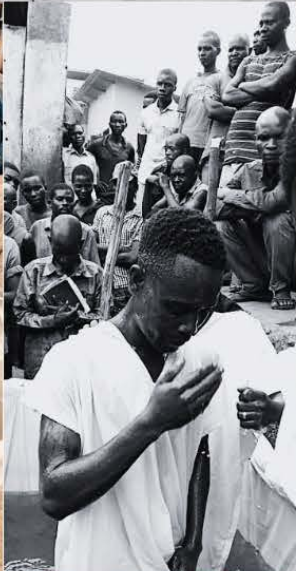
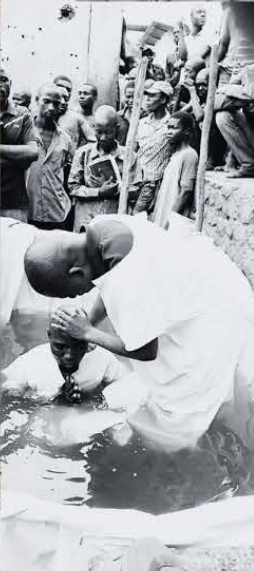
New opportunities were plentiful in 2023. Youth leader training started in **Pakistan** and **Belize**. Translations were completed in **Hindi** (India) and **Kirundi** (Burundi). And, we were able to add **Ukrainian** as an additional language to our JFYM online training platform! We also trained Links International missionaries from multiple countries in JFYM.

Reach Out hosted its First Annual Golf Tournament early in 2023, which was a great success and was enjoyed by all who participated. We were also able to highlight Reach Out Youth Solutions and Jesus-Focused Youth Ministry at the Southern Baptist Convention, the Texas Baptist General Convention, and Movement Day at Dallas Baptist University.

Thank you for your generosity, support and prayers throughout 2023 to help us extend God's love to the countries we serve. We would not be able to do it without you and your faithfulness in coming alongside us. **Thank you!**



**At Ulvira Prison in February,
our team shared the gospel
and 48 were saved and
baptized**



**The Good News brought
freedom to the least
expected**



**Jesus for the
chained...**

Soccer outreach provides another opportunity to **disciple youth, spread the gospel,** and **demonstrate the love of Jesus.** Inviting youth to join the team while incorporating JFYM principles enhances team dynamics and relationships. Our team invites them to church to provide spiritual connection and community building, and further strengthening bonds among team members. Most of these young men did not know Jesus before joining the team, but now have come to **receive Him as the Lord and Savior!**

Bringing youth to Jesus through sports...

Sports evangelism plays a large part in reaching the younger generation





Over 181 leaders were trained in Jesus-Focused Youth Ministry in 2023 from 71 different churches throughout the nation. We have **53 leaders who are being mentored** by our team to build their relationships with Christ and practice what they learned with the communities they serve.

Training and equipping for God's kingdom...

Giving them food and drink...

Whatever you do for the least of these..

Burundi is in the **top 10 poorest nations in the world**, number 187 out of 193 countries on the Human Development Index [see below]. That being said, our team has taken great care in **incorporating meals** at our JFYM Forums, so that the people are filled, watered, nurtured, and sent out trained and equipped to carry on Jesus' ministry principles.





Equipping for the future...

**Mentorship being
paid forward**

One of the principles taught at a JFYM Forum is ***mentoring leaders after they have been trained***. Going forward, our team will pour into and come alongside them to practice what they learned and demonstrate the ***6 essential principles and characteristics of Jesus' life and ministry***. Our team will disciple them and help them grow in their understanding by allowing them to teach at future JFYM Forums. They receive guidance and input to hone their skills for ministry. These photos depict another JFYM Forum from which several attendees are currently being mentored.





And last, but not least...

Here are photos from our third quarter training. Although you can see the **roof of the church missing**, they still meet in the church to worship the Lord! We are thankful that God moves mightily through each of them and through those whom they serve. We also thank all of you who have generously helped provide funding for them to continue these Forums in such an impoverished country and make a way for His word.

We appreciate your kindness, support, prayers and gifts to help the impossible happen in a nation that is facing great challenges. Thank you for being a part of this journey with us and for all that God is going to do through our team in Burundi as we follow His lead!

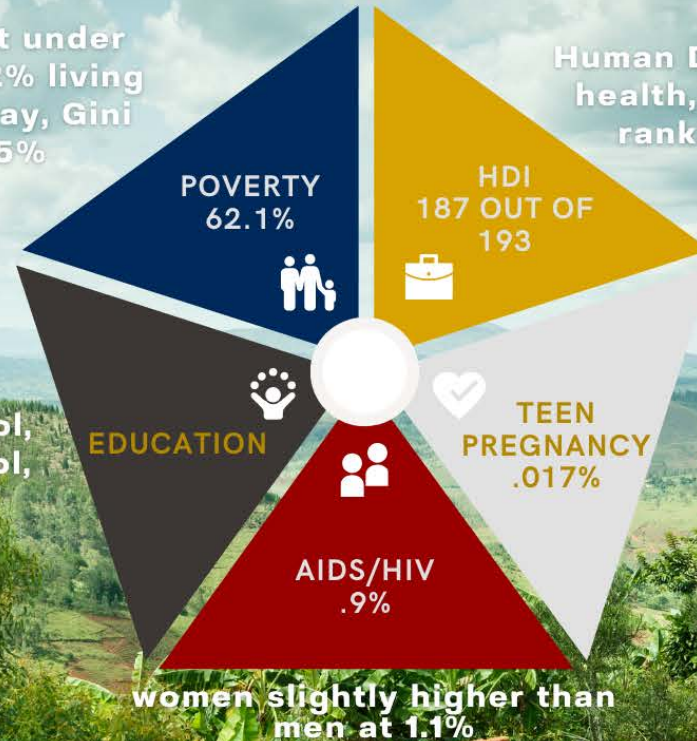


COUNTRY STATISTICS BURUNDI

POPULATION = 13.2 million

62.1% living at under \$2.15/day, 86.2% living under \$3.65/day, Gini Index 37.5%

Human Development Index = health, education, income rankings in the world



5.8% of girls ages 15-19

Challenges

- one of the most densely populated countries in the world
- 1% of the total population are IDPs due mostly to flooding and landslides
- 16% of the population are under 5 years old, 21% are ages 6-13, 14% are ages 14-19
- 5.3% under-5 mortality rate
- 58% of the population has drinking water available within a 30-minute walk
- over half of the schools lack toilets and drinking water
- 90% of children under 14 have experienced violence
- More than 1 in 10 females ages 15-19 have experienced sexual violence
- Agriculture contributes 40% to GDP and engages over 90% of the workforce, resulting in low productivity, high dependence on foreign aid, inadequate infrastructure, and limited diversification
- safe sanitation is not available, 46% have access to at least basic sanitation, no safe water is available, 62% have access to at least basic drinking water

Reach Out

- A gift of \$1,000 helps indigenous leaders train 50 youth pastors through an "in-person" forum in their country.
- A gift of \$500 helps provide scholarships to train and mentor 20 youth pastors online.
- A gift of \$200 (\$3.85 per week) helps us equip 1 leader for 1 year, with the goal of that leader moving from being introduced to JFYM to implementing and multiplying JFYM. As a result, that new leader will begin training 3 additional leaders, so that from those 4 new leaders, there are a total of 12 young people disciplined and praying for opportunities to influence 36 of their friends to follow Jesus.
- A monthly gift of \$100 helps us continue current ministry to leaders around the world who are trained and resourced through Reach Out.

Sources:
 Human Development Index: <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/country-insights/rankings>
 UNAIDS: <https://www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries/burundi>
 UNFPA: <https://www.unfpa.org/data/world-population/>
 UNHCR: <https://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/2023-06/EHGL%20Burundi.pdf>
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https://www.unicef.org/media/154688/file/Burundi_2023_COAR.pdf
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