

Musanze District



In collaboration with:



A message from the Mayor



I am happy to welcome you to the first issue of the Musanze District Health Newsletter. This quarterly newsletter will provide updates on our health sector progress and important information on key initiatives launched to improve the quality of Musanze healthcare, particularly related to Family Planning, HIV/Aids, Malaria, Maternal Child Health, and Malnutrition.

These issues will also be discussed through a monthly radio broadcast, with additional health resources available on our website at <http://musanze.gov.rw>.

Our goal is to keep you regularly and completely informed of our progress, and of the initiatives and programs being undertaken to improve upon this progress in the future.

The Office of the District Health Director and other partners are working very hard and have already made great strides toward achieving the Ministry of Health's seven major objectives for 2015.

This inaugural issue provides an overview of the progress we have made to increase health facility usage throughout Musanze. As you will see, Musanze has achieved dramatic growth across key coverage indicators. Though we remain below the targets we have set, I am confident with our continued efforts we will achieve our health related goals.

I hope you appreciate the information contained in this and future issues. I want to take this opportunity to thank all who have worked so hard to improve the health of Musanze's communities. I look forward to continuing to work alongside you and hope together we can achieve even more impressive future results.

Mayor Celestin KARABAYINGA



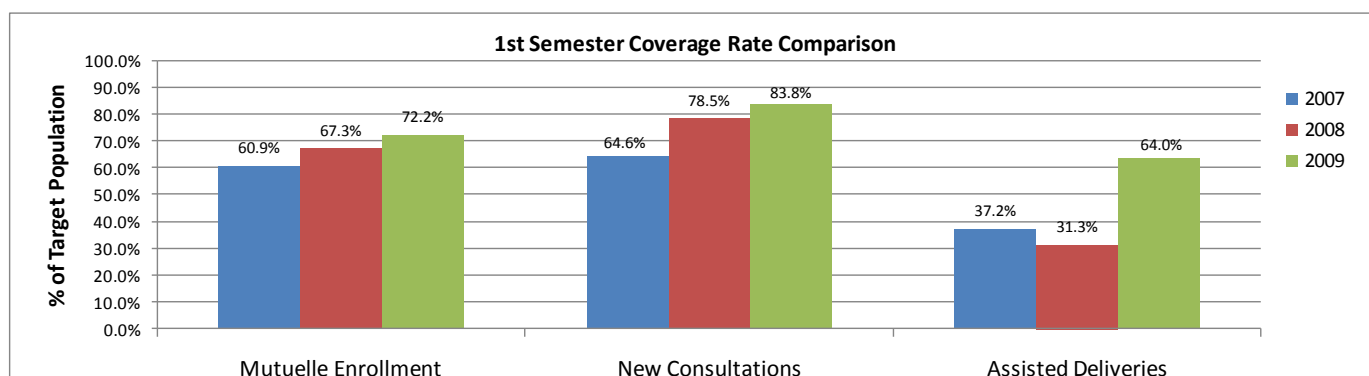
Kinigi Health Center before and after. Standing water presented a significant health problem; infrastructure improvements have improved both the appearance and the hygiene of the center.

Musanze Health Centers: Coverage Rates

Indicator	1st Semester 2008	1st Semester 2009	YOY Growth
Mutuelle Enrollment Rate	67.3%	72.2%	7.3%
New Consultations	130,051	141,893	9.1%
Assisted Deliveries	2,125	4,448	109.3%

Source: Hospital of Ruhengeri, Office of Statistics; 2009

The above table compares the 1st Semester (Jan.-June) results for Musanze Health Centers over three widely reviewed indicators. Results in all three indicators have improved dramatically over the past year, with the most significant improvement in the number of Assisted Deliveries, with the number of deliveries assisted at Musanze Health Centers over the first 6 months of 2009 more than double the number delivered over the same period in 2008. Even more remarkable progress has been made across these areas since 2007, shown in the graph below.



These numbers show that more people are using health centers to receive important Curative Services. Though these results are impressive, further improvement is required to reach Musanze District and Ministry of Health Targets. Particularly important is the promotion of Mutuelle. Mutuelle Enrollment reduces healthcare costs for Musanze communities and is essential to the financial sustainability of both the District and the National Health Systems. Through the combined efforts of District Health Officials and other partners, continued progress must be made to increase Mutuelle subscription rates and to continue to improve and promote health center usage to ensure all Musanze communities access vital Curative Services.

About The Access Project:

The Access Project improves the health of poor communities by applying a business management approach to public health systems, to improve health infrastructure and increase access to life-saving drugs and quality care. The Access Project works in partnership with the Rwanda Ministry of Health (MOH) to improve the health of poor communities through three major initiatives:

- Advancing Health Center Management;
- Developing Health Infrastructures;
- Controlling Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)

For more information please go to: www.theaccessproject.com

About CCHIPS:

Working in Partnership with the Ministry of Health and the Musanze District, Wyman Worldwide Health Partners launched CCHIPs to develop a comprehensive, replicable, and sustainable model for the effective delivery of primary healthcare to rural Rwandan communities. CCHIP is currently working to build this model at the Shingiro Health Centre.

For more information please go to: www.wwhps.org