

RWANDA 1994 Tutsi Genocide

- **What happened**
- **Consequences**
- **Resilience (Unity and Reconciliation)**
 - **Rebuilding the country**
 - **Our role**



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Bring hope and Peace to all people



Rwanda 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi and its consequences

- **Within a period of three months in 1994, one million and of people were killed as a result of genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. Large numbers were physically, emotionally and psychologically afflicted for life through maiming, rape and other trauma; over two million fled to neighboring countries and maybe half as many became internally displaced within Rwanda. The agony and legacy of the violence create continuing suffering, economic loss and tension both inside Rwanda and in the Great Lakes Region.**

- The nations developing and over-burdened health-care system collapsed at the time of genocide. For example, over 80% of Rwandans health and mental health professionals either fled the country or were killed Many community-level support structures disappeared, leaving citizens traumatized and vulnerable in the absence of protective civil institutions. The conflict between the Survivors, victims families and killers families was high! The offenders families, Psychosocial problems associated with circumstances like poverty and the plight of the most vulnerable children, widows, victims of rape remain high priorities, suicides, the early pregnancy, use of drugs, a big number of prisoners, family conflict and domestic violence ...

- **The attack destroyed not only specific cultural characteristics (desecration of holy places, destruction of cultural objects) but also the culture in its most fundamental sense, i.e. that which gives human beings their humanity.**

HEALING, UNITE AND RECONCILIATION,
BRINGING HOPE AND PEACE TO PEOPLE
THAT IS OUR PRIMORDIAL ROLE AND THE
ROLE OF PARTINERS

Brief history of our service (TFT & PDS)



TFT & PDS is a psychosocial service of Byumba Diocese. Since 2011, the Diocese of Byumba has set up a listening and psychosocial support service that works closely together with other commissions including CARITAS, Justice and Peace, Pastoral Family, Widows and Orphans. Its main objective is to improve the livelihood of the people affected by psychosocial issues. The domain of its intervention is mostly health (HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Mental Health), education, psycho-support and education, poverty reduction, child protection, child development, women empowerment etc. From Trauma to sustainable development.



In Rwandan society, the problem of trauma persists and remains a major challenge to sustainable development of the country. The victims of the trauma suffer enormous consequences including 1994 Genocide, poverty, the HIV / AIDS pandemic, malnutrition, human devaluation, despair, depression, relationship problems etc. All of these problems hinder them to development.



TFT and Psychosocial support diocesan service (TFT IZERE – RWANDA) is mainly performing its activities in Byumba Diocese. This diocese includes the entire Gicumbi district, Nyagatare district, Gatsibo district, the main part of Rulindo district, and the part of Burera. This area is known to have affected by the army conflict about 29 years ago and the genocide against Tutsi as well. It is in this area where Gihembe DRC refugees’ camp is located.



GOAL, VISION, MISSION, VALUES

Goal:

To increase the well being of people affected by trauma from conflict of different kinds.(Genocide, Conflicts, Violence, Poverty, family natural disaster etc.)

Vision:

To provide treatment, counseling, educational, psychological and social opportunities which support the well being of people affected by trauma of conflict or natural disaster in Rwanda.



Mission:

Our mission is to provide a preferential option for people in need. By establishing long-term relationships with other organizations based in settings of poverty in general and psychosocial issues in particular.

Values:

- Love to people with problems***
- Team spirit***
- Integrity***
- Efficiency***
- Service Excellence***

Specific objectives



- Promote within the country a network between the actors intervening in the field of psycho-social assistance.
- Offer technical support to parishes, districts, sectors, services and commissions working in the field of protection and social promotion
- Build the capacity of diocesan staff and other national and international institutions in psychosocial care. (prisons, churches, schools, police, ...)
- Maintain the mental health and psychosocial well-being of vulnerable and disadvantaged people.
- Capitalize and spread the techniques of mastery of psychic disturbances including TFT, EFT, ...
- Advocate for awareness of the community and for taking into account the cause of the vulnerable and disadvantaged.
- Increasing the livelihood of our beneficiaries (FROM TRAUMA TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT)
- Provide basic needs to people (education, access to water, access to health service, access to justice, access to food for good nutrition)



DESCRIPTION OF TFT BENEFICIARIES



BRIDES OF CHRIST (WIDOWS)

Widowhood is an inevitable phase of the life cycle. Widowhood is development phase that is neglected due to the lack of research in its domain.

Note that because of the Genocide, Rwanda has now many widows and orphans.

Many of them new the violence and rape during the Genocide

These wives are not able to assume family responsibilities themselves. (education of their children after the death of their partners and other family problems. Most of them suffer from the grief and then manifest the signs of depression, loosing the self-esteem, and some of them live with the stigma linked to HIV/AIDS.



The Brides of Christ
(WIDOWS) in social
therapy, and dialogue on
social topic.



COMMUNITY TREATMENT





PRISONERS/INMATES:

The psychosocial sufferings these people before and after prison's persist and can cause some other problems. It is necessary to approach them and make a follow-up to each other individually as they face different problems. They need psychosocial support before prison, in prison and after prison for their reintegration and rehabilitation.





TFT & PDS helps the inmates in Nyagatare and Musanze prisons by training them and treating them, then giving them vocational trainings that will help them in their integration in the society after release!



Prisoners learning the agriculture and tayloring (Women and Girls)



PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



We help children with disabilities by keeping them in Centre IZERE. adopt rejected and maltreated children in their families. By these exclusion they are more traumatised and any assistance rendered to them save their lives with very high impact. Our intervention are done through:

- Active listening (individual therapy)/**daily**
- Family visits/**once in a week**
- Psychological maintenance in group/**daily**
- Community treatment day/**once in a trimester**

TEEN-MOTHERS (INSHUTI ZA KRISTU)



Teen moms might face a number of mental health conditions related to child birth and being a new mom. Examples of these conditions include: **Baby blues, Depression, Postpartum depression**



GENOCIDE SURVIVORS



- The 1994 Tutsi genocide in Rwanda destroyed not only the cultural specificities (desacralization of the holy places, annihilation of cultural objects) but also the "culture in the first sense", that is to say what allows the human being to be Man (Baque, 2002). The consequences of this genocide are unprecedented and manifest at both the individual and community levels:
- 79.4% of the population has experienced a traumatic event in the course of their lives
- 28.4% of the population suffer from trauma
- 53.93% of the population suffer from depression and trauma

This trauma is manifested now among young people which is dangerous for the sustainable development of Rwanda

Additional symptoms for all beneficiaries include:



- Bonding with your baby
- PTSD
- Overwhelming fatigue
- Feeling worthless
- Anxiety
- Panic attacks
- Try to commit suicide
- Hard to enjoy your existing achievements.
- Deasorder



Other beneficiaries include:

- Refugees and survivors
- Homeless or street children
- Veterans
- HIV (Children and adolescents infected and affected by HIV / AIDS)
- Families affected by domestic violence
- Prisoners and penitents guards

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF TFT & PDS



1. TFT in school
2. Assist the Vulnerable in a punctual way
3. Intervention during the commemoration of the genocide perpetrated against the Tutsi
4. Assist the elderly
5. Psychosocial to the teen mothers
6. Assistance to the Victims of Domestic Violence!
7. Assistance to the prisoners and ex inmates for their integration

IMPACT ON SOCIETY



Due to our support some of our stakeholders are now more productive.

Note that our main objective is to help people to overcome the problems related to trauma and psychosocial issues for their resilience and sustainable development.



Bishop Servilien
NZAKAMWITA
addressing to Mutete
Christians, talking about
the problem of trauma
and ways to
reconciliation.



POWER (Results of our work) (Testimonials)





*«My name is **MUKANDANE Bibiane**, 65 old years. I am coming from Gicumbi district, Rukomo sector, Kinyami cell and Gahondo village. I am the member of bride of Christ named Abaterambere Nyinawimana, in Nyinawimana parish.*

Regarding my past, I lost my two children and my husband, as well as 6 members of my family during the genocide against Tutsi in 1994. Therefore, I felt exhausted, anxious, isolated and I did not like anyone. I was traumatized and I did not think about my future.





*“My name is **MUKANKAKA Francine**, from Gicumbi district, Mutete sector, Kabeza cell, Merezozo village. I have one husband and two daughters.*

I am a member of Icyizere group and a model farmer, Mutete Parish, beneficiary of the TFT/PDS

Regarding my experience, after losing many family members in the Genocide perpetrated against Tutsi in 1994, ...



I was so exhausted, underrated, traumatized, isolated and depressed for being alone this pushed to be married very early at young age.

I lived in mourning early, grief and I saw death near me and I wondered who I was?

Thanks to God, I found a flight, I say a flight ... ahh it's the TFT psychosocial service that helped me to regain the taste of living, to think about the future, to recover my mental and physical strengths and now I'm not ashamed of myself as before due to the project promoting the use of biodigesters for small holder women farmers in Rwanda.

I participate in income-generating activities and I am now a model farmer and a trained therapist who can help others with mental distress and trauma linked experiences.



I am very grateful to Byumba Diocese via this project,” from Trauma to the sustainable development” which supported me by giving me the pig, biogas and some training. The pig that I received from the project gave birth 3 times and at the first time I gave two small pigs of 7 that were born to my neighbors on the pass on principle and I sold one to get money for helping me to buy food of my pigs and now I have many pigs that helps me in getting manure to plant vegetables and get money for school fees of my kids. With the money from the sold pigs, I have also repaired my house and put in it the electricity. Sometimes I used to clean my pigs before I clean myself ahhh “laughing”.

With biogas, now I have time to participate in Umugorobaw’ababyeyi, Isibo and other development activities. Before receiving the biogas from the project I used to suffer for chronic headache and eyes due to bad air that we used to cook food. I am now very happy and proud of whom I am and I use to help others daily so as to reach together the development.”



With the project activities provided by Byumba diocese via its service of *TFT/PDS: accompaniment / counseling, group therapy and dialogues on the social topics I benefited from, I opened my eyes to think about my life, my future and my daughter.*

After accepting my past, I focused on educating my child for his future. I did a small marketing project for bulls via our subgroup of Abaterambere Kinyami, Via the advocacy of TFT/PDS I received 80,000Frws as a micro-credit I bought a little bull at the price of 80,000Frws, and after 5 months of breeding, I was given 135,000 francs. The profit of 55,000 francs helped me to do the small business. I am very happy and I thank TFT&PSD very much for helping me to regain a taste for life and for giving me the means for micro-credit.



Finally I was able to take my daughter to school in the 3rd year of university while before I was told that investing in girls education is a waste of money. I am confident to testify that all children are equal, girls or boys.»



Sustainability

- For the self sustaining of our services, we provide the capacity building of our beneficiaries and the service itself:(from trauma to sustainable development!),Livelihood projects; Hand crafts,...We need also the TFT Center in Rwanda, in which we shall offer TFT trainings and treatments open to all people from all continents. In this center we plan to offer humanitarian services, solidarity and TOURISME FACILITATIONS,



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Caroline E. Sakai, PhD.

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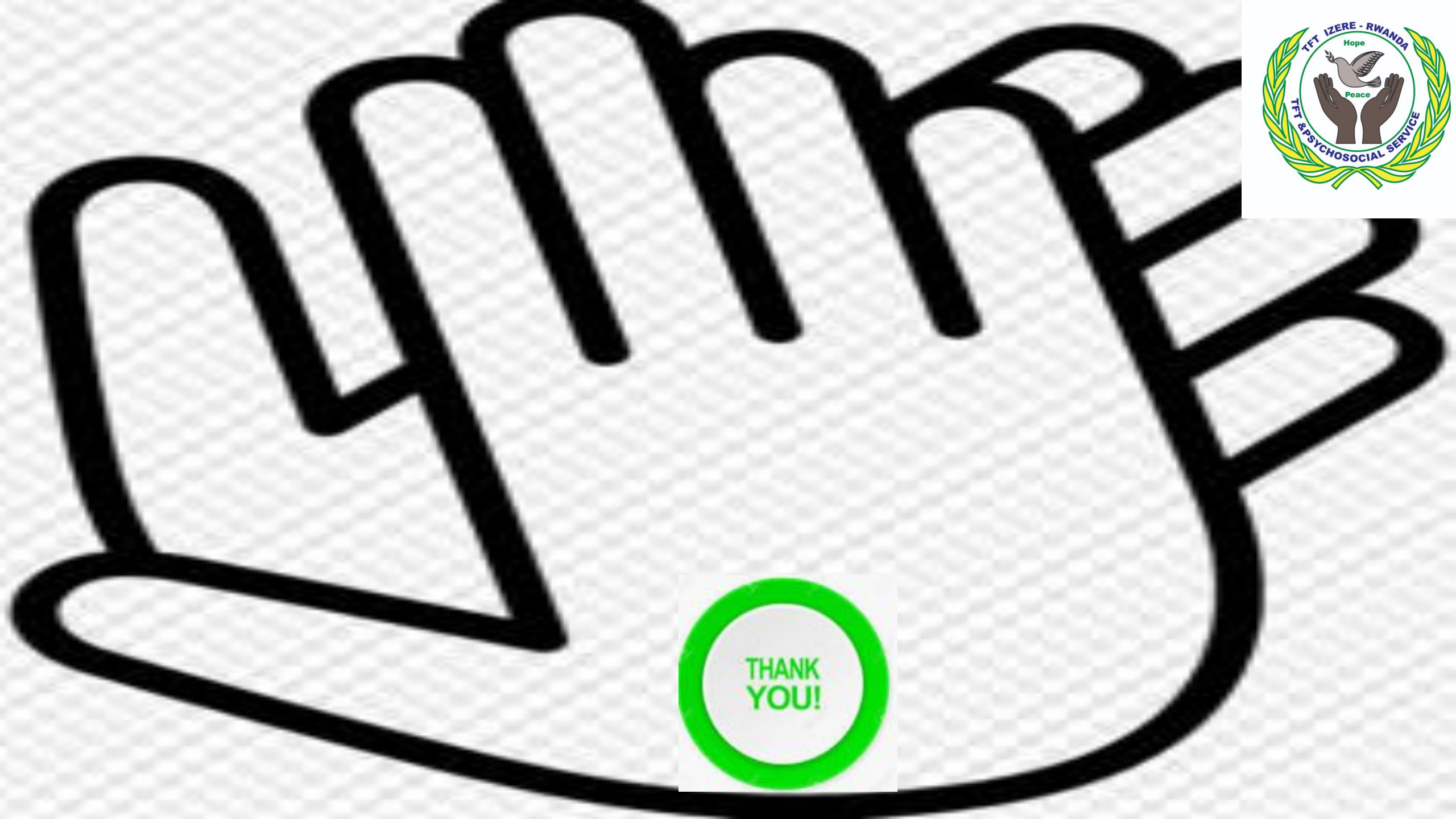
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THANK
YOU!