RAISING THE VILLAGE

IMPACT REPORT

24-MONTH STUDY OUTCOMES

THE RESULTS / 2016-2018
EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR

$293 of annual household income was earned by the average family from employment and personal business activities outside of their farms, nearly 11x the amount earned in 2016, and over $143 more than their peers.

ACCESS TO CREDIT

74% of village households accessed a business or personal loan in the past 12 months compared to only 9% at baseline, a fundamental building block for business start-ups.

*In the previously published 12-month impact report, incomes were over adjusted for inflation which understated RTV’s program impacts, the 24 month figures reflect the corrected figures. An additional $54 of income was earned from livestock sales, rents, and remittances. $174 of household earnings were retained as residuals for replanting and household consumption.
Families participating in RTV programming built wealth at a faster rate compared to their peers, increasing their income generating assets by $60 in the past 24 months when compared to their peers adding $12 of assets during the same period.

**Agriculture Income**

Improved farming practices and seeds, along with better access to markets has helped partner families increase more than double the average annual income earned from their farms.

$33 → $74

$31 → $37

81% of families are rearing livestock for sale and savings vehicle, an increase of 18% since program inception.

**Grameen Progress Out of Poverty Density Index**

RTV applies the Grameen Progress Out of Poverty Index as a measure and indicator of realized benefits from increased income and assets. Since program inception, a 13-point gap has developed between partner households and their peer group. While partner villages have reduced the effects of poverty in their communities, their peer group has been unable to handle development shocks, leading to increased levels of poverty.

For a RTV partnered family of five, the one-time investment of $75 dollars, created $454 in household income and assets, making a return of 575% over the past 24-months.

90% of all households are saving as compared to only 69% of their peers. Most common savings goals included children’s tuition fees, buying livestock and land, paying for medical emergencies and building a home.

Resources have been set aside specifically for the future engagement of control group villages should these communities choose to partner with RTV.

In 2016, 83% of households with children aged 6–12, were attending school. At the end of 24 months, 95% of all children were attending school – an increase of 12%, while control households saw no increase in attendance.

In 2016, 88% of households had toilet facilities; by 2018 100% of all 6,000 families had functional toilet facilities at home, bringing an end to open defecation at the household level.

RTV Partners: at baseline, 39% of households had at least one mobile phone at home. Today, 72% of all homes own a mobile phone, while the control group saw a 5% drop in ownership of working phones.

The average distance travelled to collect water by partner households was halved from 1.67 km to 880 m in the past 24 months.

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The Math

How We Measure

We aim to practice the highest level of statistical accuracy within our means to present the clearest possible picture of RTV’s impact to its supporters. Whether the results are good or bad, we prioritize transparency, integrity, and accurate results which will contribute to finding real solutions to end extreme poverty.

1. We had a 3rd-party evaluator* review and validate our calculations to verify the accuracy of our figures.

2. To find the average household result, we sample for a normal distribution at the 95% confidence level with a confidence interval of +/- 5%.

3. Visit 1 out of every 3 households we come across to keep results random.

4. We surveyed 1,607 households representing 7,698 individuals across RTV partner villages and future partner villages to achieve statistical significance for comparison purposes.

5. We remove outliers to avoid a ‘heavy-tailed’ distribution which may distort findings.

6. Adjusted figures to take inflation into account and converted to U.S. dollars for our Western copy.

*Dr. Rohit Ramchandani, Antara Global Health Advisors

Going Forward

At the 24 month mark of our study, we are pleased at the progress our partner villages have attained and celebrate in their achievement and continued progress out of poverty. We look forward to tracking with these communities over the next 36 months, and providing updates on progress and successes along the way. We will continue to evaluate our results to find ways of further refining our approach and finding ways to better serve the needs of last-mile rural communities. With the coming graduation of our second cohort, we will see the completion of our work in the Kisoro district and the launch of an ambitious plan to scale our programs across southwestern Uganda and beyond.

Who We Are

Raising The Village empowers last-mile villages in rural Uganda through a comprehensive livelihoods development program providing communities with the tools, trainings, and inputs needed so communities can manage self-directed projects with the aims of rapidly increasing family incomes, consumption, and building wealth.

The RTV approach aims to be easily adaptable and replicated by others within the global development sector because of its low-cost, high-impact structure. Our target is to raise household incomes above the $1.90 per day extreme poverty line within a 24-month timeframe, through a one-time investment of $15.