ABSTRACT

The research was carried out to evaluate the role of women for women international in Kayonza District in empowering women in rural areas in Rwanda. The research was a descriptive case study on women for women international in Rwanda, with quantitative and qualitative approaches. A total study sample of 130 respondents was used. Questionnaires and interviews were administered. Research findings revealed that women for women international has enhanced and empowered women to participate in local businesses such as road side business and acquisition of leadership skills. The possible ways of enhancing women empowerment was found to be; leadership workshops and seminars offering soft loans, and motivating them into leadership roles and handling their own problems such family management; including food security. The recommendations were that women should organize themselves into cooperatives so that the bargaining power is enhanced.