

# 2020 Annual Report

### **Message from the Team leader**

### Dear Stakeholders,

I am pleased to present to you Raising Gabdho Foundation's annual report for 2020.

This has been a challenging year for everyone due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and our organization has not been spared from the effects of this crisis.

Nevertheless, we remained committed to our mission of empowering communities to improve their livelihoods by providing access to resources and tools that promote sustainable development.

One of the key lessons we learned from the pandemic is the critical importance of access to energy, especially in times of lockdown and economic uncertainty. Many households were forced to rely on expensive and dangerous traditional forms of energy that contribute to deforestation and environmental degradation.

As a result, our organization prioritized sustainable access to energy in vulnerable households in Uganda in 2020.

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, we were able to make significant progress in our mission. Our intervention included the promotion and adoption of improved cookstoves that are efficient and emit less smoke than traditional stoves.

This not only addresses energy poverty but also positively impacts health and the environment. In addition, we promoted the use of Zeed slow cooking baskets that save on fuel consumption and focused on promoting liquid petroleum gas (LPG) as a clean energy alternative.

We are proud to report that we powered 450 households with the Zeed energy kitchen kit, supported 100 households with Zeed easy cook pack 1, and provided support for 10 energy kiosks in 2020.

access to sustainable energy but also improved the livelihoods of vulnerable households in Uganda.

As we move forward, we will continue to adapt to the changing needs of our communities.

In 2021, we will adopt our programming to support people in improving

their livelihoods in the face of the ongoing pandemic. We will run a second pilot campaign to promote access to 6kg complete cylinders of LPG based on the lessons learnt from the pilot of 2020, which served 100 households.

In conclusion, we remain committed to our mission and will continue to work towards empowering communities to improve their livelihoods through sustainable development programing.

We thank our stakeholders for their continued support, and we look forward to working together to achieve our goals in the coming year.

Yours sincerely,



Basemera Sarah Team leader, Raising Gabdho Foundation

### Introduction

Raising Gabdho Foundation (RGF) is a social enterprise that was established in 2015 and registered with the Uganda Registration Services Bureau in 2016.

The name Gabdho, which means girls in Somali, reflects the organization's commitment to diversity and inclusivity in its approach to serving communities. Since its inception, RGF has been focused on addressing energy poverty by promoting access to affordable and renewable energy solutions in both urban and rural areas.

Over the years, RGF has worked tirelessly to provide last-mile communities with access to clean and reliable energy, with a particular focus on informal settlements and underserved areas.

RGF'S now has 7 program areas which include: Livelihood, sustainable agriculture, environment, renewable energy, Water sanitation and hygiene, Green Lens

### The RGF way.

At Raising Gabdho Foundation (RGF), our values are rooted in sustainability and go beyond just program outcomes. We are dedicated to supporting the most vulnerable communities in Uganda, including refugees and the host community, who face challenges such as poverty, resource scarcity, and marginalization.

Our approach prioritizes working in areas where our experience and expertise can make the greatest impact, particularly in those affected by poverty and climate change.

This focused approach has contributed to our success. Our decisions are guided by a clear strategy and a set of principles that emphasize sustainability, gender equality, diversity, and inclusion.

### **MISSION**

Our mission is to empower communities to improve their livelihoods by providing access to resources and tools that promote sustainable development.

We strive to promote economic growth, enhance social and environmental well-being, and build resilient communities.

### **Vision**

We envision empowered communities that are resilient, sustainable, and inclusive, where everyone has a voice and is able to participate in the decisions that affect their lives.

We are committed to working towards this vision with passion, dedication, and a deep sense of responsibility to the communities we serve."

### Goal

Our goal is to work with individuals, families, and communities to create positive change through inclusive, participatory, and collaborative approaches. We are committed to working with integrity, accountability, transparency, and building partnerships that enable us to achieve our mission."

## Areas where we worked in 2020

YumbeKampala

### Impact dashboard 2020

450

Households powered with the Zeed energy kitchen kit: fireless slow cooking basket and improved cookstove.

100

Households supported with Zeed easy cook pack 1: 3kg complete LPG pack.

10

Energy kiosks supported

Through our energy kiosks, we have not only improved access to clean energy but have also contributed to the economic empowerment of the communities we serve. By supporting the creation of local businesses and employment opportunities, we are helping to build more resilient and sustainable communities.

RGF remains committed to promoting sustainable livelihoods in the communities we serve, and we will continue to seek innovative approaches to achieve this goal

### **Environment**

At RGF, we are committed to environmental conservation, and this year we took an important step by organizing a tree planting exercise with children. Together, we planted 100 trees, which not only created awareness about the importance of environmental conservation but also taught practical gardening skills to the children.

As part of our ongoing efforts, we plan to establish environment clubs in schools to continue educating and empowering the younger generation about sustainability and environmental conservation. We believe that by involving children in such activities, we are nurturing a generation that is mindful of their impact on the environment, which is crucial for building a sustainable future

We are proud of our progress towards promoting environmental conservation, and we remain committed to our mission. We believe that our tree planting exercise and the establishment of environment clubs in schools are significant steps towards achieving our goals.

We look forward to continuing our efforts and contributing to a more sustainable future for all.

n 2020, RGF successfully powered 450 households with the Zeed Energy Kitchen Kit, which included a fireless slow cooking basket and an improved cookstove. RGF also supported 100 households with the Zeed Easy Cook Pack 1, a 3kg complete LPG pack, and supported 10 energy kiosks. Through these interventions, RGF was able to provide vulnerable households with access to clean, safe, and sustainable energy for their cooking needs.

In addition to these initiatives, RGF also prioritized the promotion of LPG as a clean energy alternative. This involved running a pilot campaign in 2020 to promote access to 3kg complete cylinders of LPG. This initiative served 100 households, providing them with access to safe, sustainable, and clean energy for their cooking needs.

Through the promotion of LPG and the provision of improved cookstoves and slow cooking baskets,

RGF is not only increasing access to sustainable energy but also creating income-generating opportunities for community members.

In 2020, this resulted in the emergence of five income-generating activities as people were trained and became distributors of LPG in their respective communities.

Overall, RGF's efforts in 2020 successfully increased access to sustainable energy and improved the livelihoods of vulnerable households in Uganda. By continuing to prioritize sustainable access to energy, RGF is helping to create more resilient and sustainable communities that are better equipped to address the challenges of energy poverty, environmental degradation, and economic inequality.

### RGF: Adapting to Challenges, Empowering Communities

The year 2020 was a year like no other, marked by unprecedented challenges and disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

At Raising Gabhdo Foundation (RGF), we were not immune to these challenges, but we remained committed to our mission of empowering communities to improve their livelihoods through sustainable development. In this report, we will highlight our achievements and challenges in 2020 and how we adapted to the situation to continue making a positive impact in the lives of vulnerable households in Uganda

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, RGF made significant strides in advancing our mission and objectives in 2020.

Some of our key achievements include:

Increasing access to sustainable energy: RGF prioritized sustainable access

To energy in vulnerable households in Uganda.

We promoted and adopted improved cookstoves that are efficient and emit less smoke than traditional stoves, which not only addressed energy poverty but also positively impacted health and the environment

In addition, we promoted the use of Zeed slow cooking baskets that save on fuel consumption and focused on promoting liquid petroleum gas (LPG) as a clean energy alternative. Supporting vulnerable households during the pandemic:

The pandemic exacerbated the economic challenges faced by vulnerable households, affecting their ability to invest in sustainable energy solutions. Despite this, RGF collaborated with other organizations to mobilize resources and support vulnerable households during the pandemic, providing them with food and other essential supplies.

The pandemic presented numerous challenges for RGF, including: Travel restrictions and social distancing measures: These made it difficult for us to carry out our fieldwork and interact with communities in person. We had to leverage digital technologies to continue engaging with communities

and providing support remotely.

The pandemic highlighted the importance of access to sustainable energy in supporting vulnerable households and communities during the lockdown. With people spending more time at home due to lockdowns and movement restrictions, access to sustainable energy became critical for cooking, lighting, and powering electronic devices for work and education.

RGF has recognized this and adapted its programming to support people in improving their livelihoods in 2021.

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, RGF remained committed

to our mission of empowering communities to improve their livelihoods through sustainable development.

We adapted to the situation by leveraging digital technologies and collaborating with other organizations to provide support to vulnerable households during the pandemic.

Moving forward, we remain committed to our mission and will continue to adapt and innovate to overcome challenges and make a positive impact in the lives of vulnerable households in Uganda.

