



# Pig Breeding and Improvement of Living Conditions of Rural People: Case of the Zone of Rubirizi in Mutimbuzi Commune in Burundi

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## Abstract

Our study focuses on pig breeding and improving the living conditions of rural communities, specifically in the Rubirizi zone of the Mutimbuzi commune in Burundi. The aim of this research is to analyze the contribution of pig breeding to enhancing the socio-economic conditions of rural residents in the Rubirizi zone. We will examine the socio-economic status of the people in Rubirizi, identify the challenges faced by beneficiaries in pig farming, clarify the role of the Association for Assistance to Vulnerable Women and Children in improving the living conditions of people benefiting from its interventions, and make recommendations on the practice of pig breeding. This research will be supported by one main question and four secondary questions. The main question is: "What is the contribution of pig breeding to improving the socio-economic conditions of rural populations in the Rubirizi zone? Secondary questions are: What were the socio-economic conditions of Rubirizi beneficiaries? What are the constraints of the beneficiaries of the Rubirizi zone in the practice of pig breeding? What is the contribution of the Association for Assistance to Vulnerable Women and Children (AFEVBU) in improving the living conditions of rural populations? What are the recommendations formulated around the practice of pig breeding aimed at the autonomy of breeders assisted by AFEVBU? Our study population is made up of all people of seventy-two households who form all beneficiaries of support in pigs granted by AFEVBU since 2019. The primary objective is to verify whether pig farm affects breeders from a socio-economic point of view, and the second objective is to determine if there is a difference between the socio-economic living of breeders before and after their activities (investment). We responded with a hypothesis, which confirms that pig breeding has improved the lifestyle of breeders in this study environment. Based on our analysis, we found that most of the breeders in our sample have schoolchildren, spend more than before to meet the needs of their household, and constitute stocks of food. In the end, we conclude by confirming our hypothesis which stipulates that there is an improvement in the lifestyle of rural people of the Rubirizi zone on annual income, food, clothing, schooling and education, communication, and medical care. In view of the data on the field that we were able to analyze, we analyzed and commented on the main hypothesis as all the secondary hypotheses have been verified and confirmed.

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## Keywords

Breeding pigs; Living conditions; Living conditions' improvement; Rural people

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## 1. Introduction

In the life of human communities, development actions occupy a preponderant place with a view to improving living conditions. Different authors have already tried to define in their own way the concept of "development". It seems to be understood by everyone but often differently as it means a lot at the same time. It includes several definitions according to the authors and institutions. The definitions are legion so we could not expose them all at this level. It emerges that it is a concept that lends to ambiguity by its definitions and its characteristics.

For Henri Bartoli (1999), development is not limited to human growth, it adds to it by improving material well-being in low-income countries, whether it be food, health education, duration, and dignity of life, that is to say, elements that do not inevitably accompany him (...).

He seeks in all latitudes, the establishment for all men of fundamental conditions for the maintenance and development of life (Marc, 2021).

For Jacques Brasseur (1993), development is a cumulative ascending process since it allows an improvement in human capacities and therefore an increase in productivity favorable to knowledge. The development concept implies an ascending process of change towards the ultimate stage which relates to material, financial, educational, and psychological aspects ... Development is also a lifestyle that manifests itself by a model of existence being found everywhere in society.

At the individual level, development can be considered as satisfaction of basic individual needs to improve personal skills and income, which results from an improvement in the well-being of the individual and the family. This should also apply to freedom and individual ability to participate in the life of society in a broad sense and to be part of it.

Development therefore constitutes a multidimensional process, which implies not only improvements in income but also changes in the structures of educational, and administrative institutions and to a certain extent popular attitudes, customs, and beliefs. Breeding is an essential economic activity in most agricultural systems in Africa.

Livestock is of capital importance in the eyes of poor farmers, due to the multiplicity of its production and protection functions it can offer against bioclimatic and socio-economic vagaries (Roeleveld, 1999). As part of our study, we are talking about development in reference to improving the living conditions of communities. Efforts to promote sustainable development or appropriation of development actions are indissolubly linked to the environment but they are based above all on the will.

In each of these levels, problems of appropriation of development responsibility. Our reflection mainly concerns the last level, that of basic groups or rural communities in the Rubirizi zone.

## 2. Methodology

According to G. Delandsheere, "To make a choice of the sample is to choose a limited number of individuals, objects or events whose observation makes it possible to draw conclusions or inferences applicable to the whole population inside which the choice is made" (Delandsheere, 1982).

In statistics, a sample is a set of individuals representing a population. The sampling aims to obtain better knowledge of one or more population (s) or subpopulation (s) by studying a number of samples deemed statistically representative. The use of a sampling plan generally responds to a practical constraint (lack of time, space, destructive evaluation of production, financial cost, etc.) prohibiting the exhaustive study of the population.

As for this paper, no need to define sampling because it corresponds to the set of seventy-two (72) beneficiaries in pigs of AFEVBU in its perspective of the fight against poverty in Burundian rural areas.

## 3. Data Collection

Our data collection is dependent on the methodological approach (both qualitative and quantitative) that we have adopted in order to better carry out our study. To understand it, apprehend his point of view, and grasp his activities, it turns out to be relevant to understand how others understand, interact with him, and condition his thoughts and his

activities (Charlier & Camenhoudt, 2014; Hugo *et al.*, 2023).

### 3.1 Qualitative data collection

The aim of the research is to develop concepts that help us to understand the social phenomena of natural contexts (rather than expression), emphasizing the meanings, experiences, and points of view of all participants (Mays & Pope, 1995).

Unlike the quantitative study, the objective is not to obtain a large amount of (quality) background data. The qualitative method is an untreated method in the form of a figure (Henri, 2007). The qualitative method does not consist in measuring the data collected; it often makes it possible to analyze verbal data (Isabelle, 2008). According to Laflamme (2007): qualitative analysis, in particular, that which looks at the textual data does not serve to measure central trends properly speaking, it creates categories which are information groups, comments, or Example statements.

### 3.2 Quantitative data collection

It is a research method using mathematical and statistical analysis tools, in order to describe, explain, and predict phenomena through operational concepts in the form of measurable variables. In other words, it aims to explain the phenomena by a systematic empirical investigation of the phenomena observable by the collection of digital data, analyzed through methods based on statistics or IT (Dubois, 2007).

## 4. Results

### 4.1 Distribution of respondents by gender

We have retained this variable because, as for the populations of all environments, it is not realistic to find only one that is homogeneous.

The following table presents the distribution of the number retained according to gender.

**Table 1. Distribution of respondents by gender**

N°	Gender	Effective	Frequency	Percentage (%)
01	Female	24	<b>0.33</b>	33
02	Male	48	<b>0.67</b>	67
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>72</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>

Having a number of men higher than that of women is justified on two points. Firstly, data from the 2018 Burundian population census (Republic of Burundi, 2011) reports 35,809 men against 33,716 women for Mutimbuzi county. Secondly, the socio-cultural factors seem to assign the responsibilities of the head of household more to the man than to the woman. It is true that widows and orphans constitute the target population of AFEVBU but our descent on land allowed us to realize that several orphans live in host families where men are also the majority as responsible.

This is what prompted us to ask our respondents the question "How many dependent children?" "Instead of" How many children do you have? ». It is remarkable that in the Burundian rural environment, in general, and in Rubirizi in particular the responsibilities of household chiefs are more recognized for men than when it comes to women.

### 4.2 Distribution of respondents according to matrimonial status

The matrimonial status criterion was also retained because of its influence on our investigation. This is justified by the fact that a perception of the prevalence of poverty manifests itself differently in the lives of people given their responsibilities.

The preceding table indicates the state of the matrimonial situation of the beneficiaries of the AFEVBU. In our study environment, declaring being separated or divorced seems to be a state of unhappiness. It is better to understand that the single category would include the separate and divorced. The married are more represented, with an estimated number of around 57% of our respondents; and the widowed accompanied by singles complement the statutes declared by our respondents. The newlyweds host certain orphans targeted by AFEVBU following the prevalence of

poverty. Some widows would prefer to declare themselves single justifying this attitude by the fact that they could still engage in marriage if the opportunity arose. We then understand that these widowers and singles are also responsible for households and in addition eligible for support from AFEVBU in its strategy to combat poverty.

**Table 2. Distribution of respondents according to matrimonial status**

N°	Matrimonial Status	Effective	Frequency	Percentage (%)
01	Single	21	<b>0.29</b>	29
02	Married	41	<b>0.57</b>	57
03	Separated	00	<b>0</b>	00
04	Divorced	00	<b>0</b>	00
05	Widow(er)s	10	<b>0.14</b>	14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>

### 4.3 Distribution of respondents according to the age group

The age criterion was retained because of its influence on our investigation. Indeed, the responses to the investigation still vary. It would be inappropriate for us to neglect the age criterion because it can also influence the responsibility of the head of the AFEVBU support.

**Table 3. Distribution of respondents according to the age group**

N°	Age group	Effective	Frequency	Percentage (%)
01	18-25 years	21	0.29	29
02	25-30 years	24	0.33	33
03	31-45 years	17	0.24	24
04	45-60 years	10	0.14	14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>

We realize that our survey universe is relatively young because around 86 of our respondents are under forty-five years old.

With reference to the Burundi National Development Plan, we realize that this study is part of the support framework for mainly three of the eleven pillars; namely: modernization of agriculture, strengthening of human capital, diversification, and promotion of a competitive and healthy economy.

### 4.4 Schooling of dependent children

“After bread, education is the first need of a people,” said Georges Jacques Danton (2007) in his Discourse on Education. Even if this statement dates back a very long time, it remains relevant in our study environment.

**Table 4. The situation of children’s schooling**

N°	Schooling	Households size	Frequency	Percentage (%)
01	Full schooling	58	<b>0.81</b>	81
02	Partial or no schooling	14	<b>0.19</b>	19
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>

Being theoreticians and practitioners of development, our visit to the field should in principle allow us to fully understand the development context on a specific site.

The compilation of data collected in the field tells us that 81% of respondents (i.e. 58 of 72) send their children to

school and 19% (i.e. 14 of 72) do not send them to school at all or do so partially. It seemed appropriate to identify the different causes of the non-schooling of the children of beneficiaries of AFEVBU support. This concern attracted our attention in order to try to better focus development stakeholders on other current issues around the real needs of the population.

#### 4.5 Duration of AFEVBU support in pigs

**Table 5. Accuracy of the duration of pig support from AFEVBU**

N°	Duration support	Effective	Frequency	Percentage (%)
01	For a year	0	0	0
02	For two years	0	0	0
03	Between two and three years	72	1	100
04	For more than three years	00	00	0
	<b>Total</b>	72	1	100

A quick glance at this table leads us to understand that all the beneficiaries received their support at the same period. Our consultation of the documentation available at the AFEVBU level really proved to us that it was since the year two thousand and eighteen that the distribution of pigs took place. This consultation of the documentation therefore confirmed the information that the field provided us. We specify that at the time of writing this text, they are all in the process of totaling two years and ten months.

#### 4.6 Number of animals that made up the AFEVBU contribution

After realizing that the duration of support for pigs from AFEVBU is very specific to allow the reproduction of the animals, we tried to find out about the content of this support. In other words, how many pigs had been allocated to each beneficiary household?

**Table 6. Accuracy of the number of animals, which constituted the AFEVBU contribution**

N°	Number of pigs having constituted support from AFEVBU	Effective	Frequency	Percentage (%)
01	Once	0	0	0
02	Twice	72	0	0
03	Three times	0	0	0
04	Four times	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	72	1	100

After comparing these primary data with the secondary data available at the level of AFEVBU which is the organization responsible for support, we realized that 100% of our respondents actually received support from two sows (female pigs). It is in the logic of promoting the autonomy of populations that AFEVBU aimed at reproduction. Therefore, she gave each household two pigs. Our research has indeed proven to us that AFEVBU had distributed one hundred and forty-four (144) animals at the rate of two animals (sows) per household. To encourage the reproduction of the animals given to the beneficiaries, the supporting organization kept the boars (male pigs) and sent them in rotation to the beneficiaries. We said to ourselves that if we distributed a sow and a boar, the tendency would be to keep the sow to consume the boar's meat.

#### 4.7 Breeding of animals granted to beneficiaries

Because the breeding of the animal also constitutes a significant factor in its reproduction process, our investigation placed us on the path of seeking information on the breeding of beasts that constituted the support.

As AFEVBU had sufficiently informed itself about pig breeding before the launch of the project, only the improved

breeding was preferred to local and hybrid breeding, which are less prolific.

**Table 7. Types of breeding animals granted to beneficiaries**

N°	Breeding Types	Effective	Frequency	Percentage (%)
01	Local	0	0	0
02	Improved	72	1	100
03	Hybrid	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>

#### 4.8 Estimation of the average of piglets registered for the first two farrowing

Given that reproduction depends on the number of piglets farrowed, our investigation led us to seek to know the number of farrowing already recorded during the support period. In fact, we realized that on two occasions already, the sows allocated to the beneficiaries had already undergone two farrowing. Furthermore, as the numbers of the second birthing are naturally higher than those of the first birthing, we can declare the objective of improving the living conditions of the populations can be achieved if certain exogenous factors were not present in this project. The economic profitability of this project can be estimated based on the possible number of piglets that the beneficiaries can sell in order to generate income.

**Table 8. Estimated numbers of piglets recorded during two farrowing**

N°	Farrowing	Average of registered piglets
01	First Farrowing	between 7 and 9
02	First Farrowing	Between 10 and 14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>

The data in the table above sufficiently proves that the products from pig, breeding, once sold, can contribute to improving the socio-economic conditions of beneficiaries of AFEVBU support in Rubirizi. Starting from the estimates according to which all the hundred and forty-four animals have reproduced by giving the numbers at the end of each interval, we will have the following situation: Production achieved at the first birth:  $144 \times 9 = 1296$  animals produced or 18 additional animals for each beneficiary because he will have 9 pigs  $\times$  2 barrowings. Add the piglets to their mother sows; we will have twenty animals available for each breeder if we eliminate any risk that could contribute to the elimination or premature death of the piglets.

Production achieved at the second farrowing:  $144 \times 14 = 2016$  animals produced or 28 additional animals for each beneficiary because he will have 14 pigs  $\times$  2 stakes.

By ruling out any possibility of death or theft of the animals and following the possible self-discipline of not selling immediately, each beneficiary will have in addition to their two animals received at the time of granting the support of the AFEVBU a number of 46 animals (forty-six).

The possible individual total to be reached is therefore 48 animals (forty-eight).

Identification of the Type of Breeding practiced in Rubirizi by the Beneficiaries of the AFEVBU interventions

#### 4.9 Composition of livestock feed

The composition of the diet must also be taken into account in the reproduction of animals; especially when it comes to animals of improved breed, as is the case in our study. As the pig has an omnivorous diet, the composition of its diet is multi-element. The survey really confirmed to us that the components of the diet of animals raised in Rubirizi are numerous and demanding given the fact that we must have the means to be able to practice breeding better.

All kinds of foods mentioned in Table No. 14 above are available at Rubirizi.

The main pitfall faced by breeders of pigs granted by AFEVBU to Rubirizi remains the financial means that each breeder must have in order to acquire the components in sufficient quantity, especially as the reproduction of animals is increasing.

**Table 9. Elements of pig feed granted by AFEVBU to Rubirizi**

N°	Kinds of food	Effective of responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
01	Grasses	72	1	100
02	Palm kernel cakes	72	1	100
03	Soybean meals	72	1	100
04	Sweet potatoes	72	1	100
05	Rice brans	72	1	100
06	Wheat brans	72	1	100
07	Maize brans	72	1	100
08	Food residue	72	1	100

#### 4.10 Livestock health care administration

The animals require proper care for good growth. Said care must be administered by services capable of providing it. Our field research also led us down this significant avenue. As the animals raised are of improved breed, their health monitoring is essential so that the benefits to be derived from breeding are significant. As health is a plate whose head side is preventative and tail side is curative, AFEVBU has not forgotten to remind the beneficiaries of its actions that monitoring the health of animals is more than necessary. The following table shows us the details.

**Table 10. Vet Health Care Administration**

N°	Care sources	Effective of Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
01	Hill vet	67	0.93	93
02	Others	5	0.07	7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>

The number estimated at 93% of our respondents use the services of the hill vet while 7% use the services of other resource people who can help them better ensure the growth of their animals. Among the others, we could cite friends and relations of friends with qualifications in this field of breeding. It is true that AFEVBU had recommended the hill veterinarian to its beneficiaries but there are some who think they can do without the support of the services of the hill vet, which is supposed to be difficult to access for all beneficiaries. Out of ignorance, some beneficiaries think that seeking support from the hill veterinarian seems to be synonymous with seeking an additional financial commitment.

#### 4.11 Comparison of the number of meals per day and per household before and after the AFEVBU intake

One of the elements that must also be checked when improving the living conditions of a community is the number of meals that its members can consume per day. Indeed, the allocation of a portion of income to the meal can constitute one of the indicators of the prevalence of poverty. We really cannot help but satisfy one of the fundamental needs of all living beings if we have the necessary means. We present the situation before and after the AFEVBU intervention.

According to the results of the survey we conducted, it appears that 100% of our respondents either ate once a day but after support from AFEVBU, approximately 100% ate three times a day and approximately 15% twice a day. If a large number of people have experienced an increase in the number of their meals, it should be noted that a portion of respondents has not increased to three times but rather to two times.

From the concern of knowing whether the beneficiaries are building up food stocks, it followed that all of the 72 respondents had food stocks. This is a sustainable situation because they affirmed that, before the intervention of AFEVBU, they obtained supplies on a daily basis. Food stocks consist of cassava flour, corn flour, beans, rice, cassava, sweet potatoes, potatoes, sorghum, wheat, etc.



**Table 11. Number of meals per day and per household before and after the intervention**

Meals/day	Before support from AFEVBU			After support from AFEVBU		
	Effective	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Effective	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Once	72	1	100	0	0	0
Twice	0	0	0	19	0,26	26
Three times	0	0	0	53	0,74	74
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>

#### 4.12 Allocation of annual income arising from the sale of livestock products

The analysis of the improvement in living conditions also led us to find out about the allocation of the annual income of breeders while comparing the situation before and after the AFEVBU intervention. Comparing annual income seemed more plausible to us because we would not be able to have data on monthly income for a long time. Referring to the data in Table No. 12 on the first and second births and the responses of our respondents in relation to the livestock products they practice, we realized that the only products that 'they sell are the pigs coming from reproduction. Manure is not marketed because those who have the fields use them and those who do not have them dispose of them in the wild because there is no practice favoring the sale of such a product, as we were able to identify.

**Table 12. Allocation of annual expenditures before and after the intervention**

Expenses	Estimated average in BIF before investment	Estimate after average investment	Observation or explanation of the discrepancy
Food	500.000 BIF	1.000.000 BIF	Increased income through the sale of products and the possibility of access to loan
Medical care	30.000 BIF	100.000 BIF	Increased income through the sale of products and the possibility of access to loan
Clothing	30.000 BIF	300.000 BIF	Increased income through the sale of products and the possibility of access to loan
Education/Schooling	25.000 BIF	100.000 BIF	Increased income through the sale of products and the possibility of access to loan
Communication	25.000 BIF	100.000 BIF	Increased income through the sale of products and the possibility of access to loan
<b>Total</b>	<b>610.000 BIF</b>	<b>1.330.000 BIF</b>	Increased income through the sale of products and the possibility of access to loan

Annual income grew by more than 100% because of the main explanation we show in the table. Achieving growth of over 100% in two years is a more remarkable change in the life of a community. This could be explained by the fact that not only are the products from the sale available and marketable but also, as an old African saying goes: "You only lend to the one who has wheat", means that Access to credit, however minimal, depends only on the borrower's ability to repay the debt. In the survey, we were able to realize that certain beneficiaries are eligible for microcredit because to try to broaden the range of activities that could allow them to strengthen their autonomy, the most flexible confirmed to us that they had used credit.

#### 4.13 Sources of loans

The sources change but only microfinance institutions seem to support these breeders. This would be justified by the



fact that the credit repayment rate is more accessible compared to that set on average by commercial banks. Another major argument is also that commercial banks require mortgages of greater financial value in terms of guarantee before granting loans. We specify in passing that with the concern of identifying the sources of financing, 91.7% of our respondents who already have access to it confirmed to us that it is only the Mutual Savings and Credit that supported their activities.

#### 4.14 Possible loan allocations

We have come to realize that the credits requested from microfinance institutions only aim to improve the socio-economic conditions of the beneficiaries of AFEVBU support who recognize that it is the support received from this organization, which gave them the possibility to access financial support. It is therefore, for them, the trigger for their escape from the situation of poverty, which prevailed in their environment. AFEVBU is called “**UMUVYEYI**” (this word means **parent** in English).

**Table 13. Possible loan allocations**

Loan allocations	Effective of responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
House building	21	0.29	29
Buying a plot/house	10	0.14	14
Buying a bicycle/motorcycle/ a used car	10	0.14	14
Creation of a production unit	14	0.19	19
Small business	17	0.24	24
Total	72	1	100

This research on improving the living conditions of populations benefiting from AFEVBU supports the curiosity to identify the possible allocations of the requested credits arose. Certainly, not all the beneficiaries of AFEVBU support requested funds; it turned out that in a rural environment, like Rubirizi, everyone knows everyone and that is what made 'in terms of purchasing transactions for high-value goods, instead of going to see a notary as is customary in westernized environments, people meet with people who are close to them to serve as witnesses. The table above, therefore, does not mean that all of our 72 respondents received credits. Some took it while others did not. Nevertheless, improving living conditions remains in the sights of the vast majority of them. This can only encourage any natural or legal person who loves development. Having accommodation that meets one's tastes (29% of respondents) is something that every legal person wants and it is the concern that comes first. In the second place, we notice that it is the practice of small businesses (24% of respondents) to try to increase their income. The third assignment, which consists of creating a production unit (19% of respondents), is also part of the register of empowerment. Even the purchase of a plot (14% of respondents) can be registered in the same register because the plot can constitute a significant mortgage in the event of a credit request. Finally, the purchase of a means of transport (also 14% of respondents) fits well with the improvement of living conditions and empowerment because you can do your own private shopping as well as your own shopping.

#### 4.15 Identification of constraints/difficulties arising from breeding practice

The results of our research are of several orders. We first begin by presenting the constraints linked to this pig breeding in the Rubirizi Zone. These constraints are observed at five levels. They would be socio-economic, environmental, food, health, and technical. The following table (No. 20) is a compilation of all the concerns related to these constraints.

Each activity has its requirements and an African adage supports that you cannot grill the banana and avoid your fingers experiencing the heat produced by the fire. Even if the AFEVBU stakeholder and its partners have opted, precisely after participatory identification of the livestock distribution project in Rubirizi, the activities related to the project necessarily meet a series of requirements. In other words, to improve the living conditions of a population, there is always a price to pay. It is the identification of this price to pay that led us to place particular emphasis on these constraints taken up and explained below.

**Table 14. Constraints/Difficulties encountered in breeding practice**

Contraintes	Effective	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Socio-economic constraints	21	0.29	29
Technical constraints	14	0.19	19
Food constraints	10	0.14	14
Health constraints	17	0.24	24
Environnemental constraints	10	0.14	14
Total	72	1	100

#### 4.16 Socio-economic constraints

The social organization of livestock farming is often complex and difficult to understand. It happens that the same animals are kept by some, maintained by others, and cared for by still others. This obviously has important consequences for the collection of information. Galloping population growth implies a reduction in the space necessary for good breeding practices. Animals provide their economically valuable product types such as meat and manure. Among these products, one (meat) is only supplied once during the life of the animal and the other (manure) is involved in intermediate production and is used as an input in agricultural production. It is generally difficult to qualify it and assess its economic value or its relative importance for agriculture.

Even the marketing of piglets does not seem to be well organized because the breeder does not know how to estimate the cost price of his animal after all the expenses he would have incurred before its sale. The sector requires the attention of more than one stakeholder for proper expansion.

#### 5. Conclusion

We are at the end of our research entitled “Pig Breeding and Improvement of the Conditions of Rural Populations: Case of the Rubirizi Zone in the Commune of Mutimbuzi in Burundi”.

The results of our analyzes showed the impact of pig farming on the income of beneficiaries and its allocation to cover household expenses. Among these expenses, we can cite: schooling, food, housing, medical care, etc. The objective was to know firstly, whether pig breeding affects breeders from a socio-economic point of view; secondly, if there is a difference between the socio-economic life of breeders before and after their activities (investment). Based on our analyses, we noted that most of the breeders in our sample have children in school, spend more money than before to meet the needs of their households and build up food stocks. Testimonials from our survey population also proved that their income has significantly improved.

Socioeconomic conditions were less unfavorable before the introduction of technical support aimed at producing broodstock as well as improving income. The constraints linked to pig breeding in the Rubirizi zone would be recorded at five levels. They are indeed socio-economic, environmental, food, health and technical level. The contribution of the Association for Assistance to Vulnerable Women and Children (AFEVBU) is limited by the granting of parents and the monitoring of activities on the ground lacks a good reference framework and both public and private actors.

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