

**POST CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT  
IN MUHANGA DISTRICT, REPUBLIC OF RWANDA**

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### **Abstract**

This study assessed the contribution of post conflict reconstruction in enhancing women empowerment in Muhanga district, republic of Rwanda. This study specifically focused on the following objectives which included; to evaluate the role of the Rwandan government in post conflict reconstruction efforts in Muhanga district; to assess the factors that influence women empowerment; and to establish the relationship between Post conflict reconstruction and women empowerment in Muhanga District, republic of Rwanda. Using a descriptive and correlational designs, data generation comprised questionnaires (n=196); 10 focus groups (n=60) and 21 key informant interviews. Pearson Correlation Coefficients was used to analyze the relationship and thematic analysis for the rest of the data. According to the research findings, this study found that the government has been instrumental in coordinating donor efforts; rebuilding service delivery capacity of the state and encouraging women participation in politics; security greatly affected women empowerment; Education is an instrument of personal development, even women empowerment. The statistics from Pearson Correlation Coefficient analysis found that the coefficient  $r$  equals to 0.776. The null hypothesis was rejected. This study offers new contextual information about the understanding of women empowerment within a post conflict context. Rwandan politics is cited as a model of gender inclusiveness. Even though, Rwanda is arguably the most pro-woman country in the world, feminism is not seen as a good thing. The government should acknowledge women' as a 'social category'; recognize fully gender inequality issues; and then formulate laws designed to expand women's autonomy.