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Female Leaders Mentorship Programme for Co-operatives (FLEP-COOP Initiative)

In collaboration with
DGRV
German Co-operatives and
Rural Development

FLEP Coop Mentee Name: Purine Glavida Sum
Co-operative / Organisation: Migori County government
Residence: Migori County

Who I am: Purine is a female Coop officer ensuring effective governance in various coop societies in Migori county. With an educational background in rural economics and development, my aspirations has always been to elevate the living standards of my community members. One way being through them having financial sustainability skills. It is with great pleasure that I believe this mentorship program will help me realize this objective in helping develop our rural communities.

At the end of the my FLEP Coop mentorship this is what I wish to have achieved:

- *Be able to change the notion/norm about the male dominated leadership structure through multi sector engagements with individuals that influence such Coop policies*
- *Be a mentor of upcoming and aspiring female leaders by being a role model.*
- *Be able to improve on my communication skills build the confidence levels of our female leaders out there*

My leadership aspirations in the co-operative sector are: *I would wish to be an emotionally intelligent leader being able to relate and communicate effectively with the people/community members. I would as well wish to be a mentor to the future female generation to be able to take up such leadership roles.*

These are my most prevailing challenges I experience in co-operatives:

Being a male dominated sector , it becomes difficult to have male colleagues understand my expectations and even need for my professional development. Even though it is an overwhelming issue I have learnt to master my ability and express my opinion with confidence.

This is why I want to be a leader in the co-operative space:

Cooperative leadership always determine the success or failure of such societies. In order to realise this good management forms need to be put in place. As a cooperative officer, I would want to be able influence the kind of leadership/that is put in place. I want to be able to inspire other female member of a cooperatives to be able to pick up leadership roles.

