

## **Kigoma Rural District**

Kigoma Rural is one of the 7 districts of the Kigoma Region of Tanzania. It has a population of 2,127, 930, with residents practicing diverse livelihood and economic activities, key among them being fishing, agriculture, cattle rearing and tourism.

The district has a total of 95 primary schools and 16 secondary schools. Total primary school enrolment for the district in 2014 was 50,058 students (25,008 boys and 25,050 girls) while that of secondary school was 5,309. 1,319 primary school teachers (764 male and 555 female) serve the primary schools in Kigoma Rural District.

HakiElimu works with 5 primary schools in Kigoma, namely: Mkabogo, Ruhobe, Bigabiro, Kiganza, and Bitale; and 4 secondary schools, namely: Luiche, Kagongo, Bitale and Mkabogo.

Among the key changes we have noted from our engagement with these schools include greater parental and community participation in helping improve school facilities (e.g. construction of 2 teachers' houses at Mkabogo Primary School, toilets for students at Kiganza and Bigabiro primary schools). On average, there is improvement in pre-primary enrollment, with a rise from 278 (2013) to 373 (2014). Collaboration between HakiElimu and community members also saw the completion of the Mkabogo community library in the year.

However, problems with congested classrooms still persist compared to the national norm of 1:25. The ratios in the program schools in 2014 were as follows: Mkabogo (1:82); Bigabiro (1:76); Kiganza (1:56) and Bitale (1:104).