First Lady Madam Jeannette Kagame on Wednesday praised Kepler College for advancing inclusive education that reaches refugees and students with disabilities, urging graduates to use their knowledge to address global challenges.

Mrs Kagame delivered her remarks during a graduation ceremony for 293 students who completed bachelor's programs at Kepler College. The class included 43 graduates from the Kigali campus and 250 from the Kiziba campus in a refugee camp in Karongi District, western Rwanda.

"As someone born and raised in exile, I am deeply moved by Kepler's inclusive education model," the First Lady said. "There are people who are often forgotten in the struggle for survival — refugees and persons with disabilities among them. I know what it means to live outside your country and miss the opportunities others enjoy."

The First Lady said education plays a key role in empowering young people, especially those from marginalized communities. She commended Kepler for creating learning opportunities that help bridge inequality.

"What you have achieved represents more than earning degrees," she said. "It shows that every student deserves a chance to learn and access quality education regardless of background."

Mrs Kagame highlighted Kepler's focus on practical skills and workforce readiness, saying it prepares graduates for opportunities both in Rwanda and abroad.

"What Kepler has accomplished is commendable," she said. "Its curriculum equips graduates to collaborate, lead with integrity, and respond to global challenges. The fact that many find employment within a year shows the quality of education offered here."

She encouraged the graduates to apply their skills to create solutions for their communities. "You have the opportunity to be part of the change our world needs. Use your education to innovate and make a difference," she said.

Education Minister Joseph Nsengimana congratulated the graduates and said their achievement reflects Rwanda's commitment to inclusive, high-quality education.

“Our objective is to equip young Africans with the knowledge and confidence to compete globally and address shared challenges,” Nsengimana said. “This graduation demonstrates that our education system produces tangible results.”

Kepler College gained full university accreditation in 2022 and offers programs in project management, business administration, and short professional courses aligned with job-market needs.

Graduates come from Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Eritrea, and Gabon.

The First Lady closed by urging students to lead with courage and integrity. “These are the values the world needs most today,” she said.