

*By Jeje Muhinde;*

The first edition of the International Ironman Triathlon competition is set to take place in June 2022 Rwanda Development Board (RDB) has announced.

The development was confirmed by Clair Akamanzi, the Chief Executive Officer RDB on Tuesday during the virtual 2021/2022 budget hearing with the Chamber of Deputies' National Budget and Patrimony.

Akamanzi said that RDB is organizing a major international event "Ironman Triathlon" in which 1,500 people will come from abroad for the competition, expected to be held in June 2022.

"There is a tourism niche market in sports, and we will continue to make investments in infrastructure to develop sports tourism because that is an area with opportunity to attract people into our country," she added.

The competition will be part of the events aimed to speed up tourism recovery from the effects of the pandemic. The event will be organized under the countries marketing flagship 'Visit Rwanda'.

Visit Rwanda has been a sponsor of Tour due Rwanda, the Basketball Africa League (BAL) currently underway in Kigali Arena as well as the Kigali Peace Marathon set in October 2020.