Rwanda’s Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Olivier Jean Patrick Nduhungirehe, on Thursday praised Israel’s role in supporting Rwanda’s development, highlighting growing cooperation in agriculture, technology, education and security during celebrations marking Israel’s 78th anniversary.

Speaking in Kigali, Nduhungirehe said relations between Rwanda and Israel are built on mutual respect, shared values and similar experiences of rebuilding after periods of national tragedy.

He described Israel as a global model of innovation and resilience, saying its ability to turn challenges into opportunities has strengthened bilateral cooperation with Rwanda.

Among the projects he highlighted was the Rwanda-Israel Horticulture Center of Excellence in Murindi, which provides training in modern farming practices. He also pointed to the Gabiro Agribusiness Hub in eastern Rwanda, a large-scale agricultural initiative expected to cover more than 15,000 hectares.

According to Nduhungirehe, the project is expected to improve food security, create jobs and increase Rwanda’s agricultural exports.

The foreign minister also said Rwanda and Israel continue to cooperate in security through training and partnerships aimed at promoting regional and international peace and stability.

He noted that Israeli companies are expanding investments in Rwanda in sectors including energy, technology and infrastructure, while Rwandan investors continue seeking opportunities and expertise in Israel.

Nduhungirehe also commended MASHAV, Israel’s international development cooperation agency, for supporting training and professional development opportunities for Rwandans, particularly young people.

He reaffirmed Rwanda’s commitment to strengthening ties with Israel and expanding cooperation on issues affecting both countries and the broader international community.