

# RWANDA Dispatch

AN INSIGHT INTO RWANDA

JULY 2018, ISSUE 68 PRICE: RWF 1,000



## THE REMARKABLE JOURNEY OF LIBERATION

**RDF makes transformational contributions to Rwanda's development PG12**  
**Kayonza: Community outreach in enhancing service delivery PG21**

# CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF TELLING RWANDA'S SUCCESS STORY



10:08:18

Years of Operation First Issue is published Still going







..... WE HAVE  
**PROVEN** A POINT,  
 WE HAVE BEEN  
**TESTED** AND **TASTED**



**Dispatch**  
 AN INSIGHT INTO RWANDA

# Mount Meru Soyco Ltd

Made in Rwanda - Akorerwa mu Rwanda



Refined Blended  
Edible Vegetable Oils



**Ryoherwa n'urukarango rw'amavuta y'iwacu!**

**Tel: +250 788 535 114**

Email: [kayonzammsl@gmail.com](mailto:kayonzammsl@gmail.com)

[www.mountmerugroup.com](http://www.mountmerugroup.com)



# Publishing Credits

**PUBLISHER**  
**MANAGING EDITOR**  
**MARKETING MANAGER**  
**CONTRIBUTORS**

Gonzaga Muganwa  
Steven Nsamaza  
Joseph Mudingu  
Augustin Karangwa  
Joseph Mudingu  
Steven Nsamaza  
Geoffrey Wakibi  
Aimable Twahirwa  
Ruth Kagoyire  
George Barya  
Sserunkuma Moses  
Augustin Karangwa

**DESIGN AND LAYOUT**  
**LOGISTICS & CIRCULATION**

TO EXPRESS VIEWS WRITE TO:

**RWANDA**  
**Dispatch**  
AN INSIGHT INTO RWANDA

Rwanda Dispatch Limited  
Remera - Gisementi  
P.O. Box 453 Kigali Rwanda.  
Administration and Marketing: +250 788 412 083  
Editorial and Subscription: +250 788 426 994  
Email: [rwandadispatch1@gmail.com](mailto:rwandadispatch1@gmail.com)  
[www.thedispatchmag.com](http://www.thedispatchmag.com)

## DISCLAIMER

The content of RWANDA DISPATCH is protected by copyright law, full details of which are available from the publisher. While great care has been taken in the receipt and handling of material, production and accuracy of content of this magazine, the publisher will not accept any responsibility for any errors, loss or commissions which may occur.



## Table of Contents

Chinese, Indian and Mozambican leaders to visit Rwanda	9
Northern Corridor Integration Projects back	10
Rwandan assembled vehicles hit market	11
National budget Highlights 2018/2019	14
Q&A with the Kayonza Mayor	16
JADF's journey towards achieving sustainable devt in Kayonza District	18
New census for mountain gorillas promising	20
Kayonza District Special Report Community outreach in enhancing service delivery	22
Users say New Forests' Nyanza kiln dried wood is the best on the market	30
It was 'a day at the beach feeling' at Bugesera Summer Palace	36

## Publisher's Note

### 10 years of Dispatch

AT TIMES a long significant period passes so fast that it is not easy to take in its depth. This July marks ten years since Rwanda Dispatch magazine first published and what an interesting journey it has been.

The magazine was launched with a hopeful message reflecting on the country's past, the achievement by then and what the future promised to be. The magazine started in celebration of liberation day and we can report that stories relating to the liberation struggle have been by far the most popular with readers.

The debuting cover headline "From Dante's Hell to an Epitome of Hope" reflected the hopeful years that the 2000s were, given the past and inspired for the future. It is encouraging that a decade on that same hope endures and the country is shining with a leadership role on the African continent.

We can admit that while the country has continued to pursue its vision under the same stellar leadership, the heights envisioned for this media outlet have not been as stellar. The complicated media market in Rwanda has meant that growth has been slow and intermittent, nonetheless continuous.

The digital age means going forward, prioritizing and improving the digital copy will be the way to go. Let us hope the next decade delivers greater heights.

We take this opportunity to thank the partners that have encouraged us along that is readers, advertisers, critics and of course the staff and contributors for soldiering on with us.

Gonzaga Muganwa  
PUBLISHER



## said and Quoted



"We should strive for the rights of children and fight anything that could deter them from good growth."

**JEANNETTE KAGAME, THE FIRST LADY OF RWANDA**



"Together, we can beat plastic pollution and protect our health, and the health of generations to come."

**VINCENT BIRUTA, MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT**



"Healthy land is the primary asset that supports livelihoods around the globe – from food to jobs and decent incomes."

**JUAN CARLOS MENDOZA, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE UNCCD GLOBAL MECHANISM**



"Rwanda of today does not need authorities but want the leaders who care for the citizens' wishes."

**FRANCIS KABONEKA, MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**



"Stunting impedes cognitive development, educational attainment, and lifetime earnings," **YASSER EL-GAMMAL, WORLD BANK COUNTRY MANAGER FOR RWANDA**



## On the world scene

**SOUTHERN SUDAN** President Salva Kiir and former Vice President Riek Machar on June 27 signed a peace deal to end the nearly five-year-old conflict in Sudan. The agreement reached in the Sudanese capital, Khartoum was witnessed by Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir and Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni. However, barely a week after signing the peace pact it was violated when government forces and rebels launched attacks on each other's positions leaving 18 civilians dead.

## Numbers that speak volumes

**10.6**

**RWANDA'S ECONOMY EXPANDED BY 10.6% IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2018, THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP) AT CURRENT MARKET PRICES WAS ESTIMATED AT RWF1,985 BILLION, UP FROM RWF1,816 BILLION IN 2017.**

**1,004**

**THE POPULATION OF MOUNTAIN GORILLAS BELIEVED TO BE IN VIRUNGA MOUNTAINS INCREASED TO 604 AS OF JUNE 2016 UP FROM 480 IN 2010. COMBINED WITH THE 400 GORILLAS LIVING IN BWINDI IMPENETRABLE NATIONAL PARK IN UGANDA, THE TOTAL IS BELIEVED TO BE MORE THAN 1,004. THIS IS THE LARGEST NUMBER OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES EVER RECORDED IN VIRUNGA, THE POPULATION HIT AN ALL-TIME LOW OF 242 INDIVIDUALS IN 1981.**

**216,717**

**THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT TARGETS TO CREATE 216,717 OFF-FARM JOBS ACCORDING TO THE 2018/2019 BUDGET. INTERVENTIONS TO ACHIEVE THIS WERE ALLOCATED RWF46.7 BILLION. GOVERNMENT PLANS ARE TO CREATE OVER 1.5 MILLION JOBS IN THE NEXT SEVEN YEARS.**

**38,000,000,000**

**IN 2017 AIRLINES EARNED A RECORD \$38 BILLION (REVISED FROM THE PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATE OF \$34.5 BILLION). FOR THIS YEAR, THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION (IATA) EXPECTS FOR AIRLINES TO ACHIEVE A COLLECTIVE NET PROFIT OF \$33.8 BILLION. THE MAIN DRIVER BEHIND THE DOWNWARD REVISION IS RISING COSTS IN FUEL AND LABOUR, BUT AGAIN 1% OF WORLD GDP IS FORECASTED TO BE SPENT ON AIR TRANSPORT IN 2018, TOTALLING TO \$871 BILLION.**





DEAR EDITOR,

Allow me to use this forum to commend efforts by the government of Rwanda in fighting malnutrition. In this age it's a pity that many children still face chronic stunting yet its possible to have a generation of well-nourished children.

Although chronic malnutrition in children under 5-years has declined in the past years, reports show that Rwandan children are still affected and this should not be the case and requires concerted efforts to improve this challenge.

One way of reducing malnutrition is increasing the budgets such that more money should be allocated to fight against malnutrition because stunting is highest among the

poorest households but also to educate our society as we have seen that those living in rural areas are the mostly affected yet some may have the basics to avoid their children to suffer from stunting.

Other factors that lead to stunting are family difficulties such as conflicts which may affect the way children are cared for like ignorance or lack of financial stability which some of these can be solved through sensitizations and even to those that may see malnutrition as not a problem.

Therefore, I urge everyone to consider it a problem and use his/her available tool in combatting this problem.

**THEOPHILE MUSABYIMANA**  
- KIGALI.



a picture speaks more  
than 1,000 words

Photograph  
of the month

FORCING CARS TO THE LIMITS  
CAN BE DETRIMENTAL!  
THIS PHOTO TAKEN IN  
RWEZAMENYO, NYARUGENGE  
DISTRICT SHOWS YOUNG MEN  
HANGING ON A LOADED TRUCK  
TO SAVE IT FROM SWINGING  
OVER INTO A DITCH.

PHOTO/GEORGE BARYAMWISAKI



## Mushikiwabo gets strong support for 'Francophonie' job

**AFRICAN UNION LEADERS** added their voice to support Louise Mushikiwabo's candidacy for the top job at the International Organisation of La Francophonie (OIF), the world association of French-speaking nations

During the 31st AU Ordinary Session in Mauritania, African leaders asked all OIF member states to support Rwanda's candidate. "A decision of collective support" for her candidacy was made at an African Union summit in the Mauritanian capital Nouakchott, according to another Francophonie member state's

foreign minister.

Rwanda's Foreign Minister, Mushikiwabo, 57, launched a campaign in May to unseat Jean Michaelle, the current secretary-general. Michaelle's term expires in mid-October but is supported by her country, Canada for a second term.

Rwanda's top diplomat is strongly anticipated to lead the organisation after garnering support from different member states and President Emmanuel Macron, France is the biggest donor to the organization.

OIF elections are scheduled to take place in Rumania's Capital, Everan on October 11-12.



## Business community readies for trade fair



**THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY** is gearing for Rwanda's annual trade fair scheduled to run from July 26 to August 15. The 21st Rwanda International Trade Fair (RITF 2018) will be held at the usual expo grounds in Gikondo.

This year's expo will be longer than usual having been extended by a week. The trade fair is expected to attract over 500 local, regional and international exhibitors from at least 20 countries.

The Private Sector Federation which is the main organizer says that the expo provides an opportunity to sell, buy, but also provide a platform for marketing and linking local and international traders.

The exhibition also serves as a forum to attract foreign companies and investors, local manufactures are also expected to showcase their locally made products and link with international traders.

RITF 2018 will be organized by the Private Sector Federation in partnership with the Ministry of Trade and Industry.



## Chinese, Indian and Mozambican leaders to visit Rwanda



President Xi Jinping



Prime Minister Narendra Modi



President Filipe Nyusi

**RWANDA WILL PLAY** host to high level visits from the Chinese President Xi Jinping, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi in the coming days.

This was confirmed by the State Minister for Foreign Affairs Olivier Nduhungirehe, saying that the visits are aimed at strengthening

ties and the leaders will sign bilateral agreements to further cooperation.

President Paul Kagame has previously visited the three countries. Kagame was in China in March 2017 where he held bilateral talks with President Jinping, he has visited India twice and was also in Mozambique in October 2016.

## New adventure experience of paramotoring introduced



**ADVENTURES AND TOURISTS** in Rwanda will now be able to enjoy paramotoring after it was introduced by the Rwanda Development Board (RDB) in partnership with Rwanda Flying Club and Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority.

The latest tourism experience is the first of its kind in East Africa, paramotoring is a form of paragliding where the pilot wears a motor on his or her back (a paramotor) which provides enough thrust to take off using an adapted paraglider or paramotor wing. It can be launched in still air, and on level ground, without assistance.

"Rwanda is the best destination for adventurers seeking memorable, sustainable tourism experiences in Africa. We are happy to be soon introducing paramotoring, our new tourism experience," said Belise Kariza, the Chief Tourism Officer at RDB.

The new sport was recently demonstrated in Huye, southern Rwanda by members of the Rwanda Flying Club, Alain Julot and Sebastien Houben.

On the same day as paramotoring, RDB also announced cycling experience that can be enjoyed on 11 different trails across the country. The trails cover a combined distance of 760 Km and are found in every part of the country giving cyclists a chance to discover Rwanda.

## Rwanda's economy shows impressive growth



**RWANDA'S ECONOMY** grew by 10.6% in the first quarter of 2018, figures from the National Institute of Statistics (NISR) recently revealed.

**Yussuf Murangwa, the Director General of NISR** noted that agriculture grew by 8%, industry by 7% while

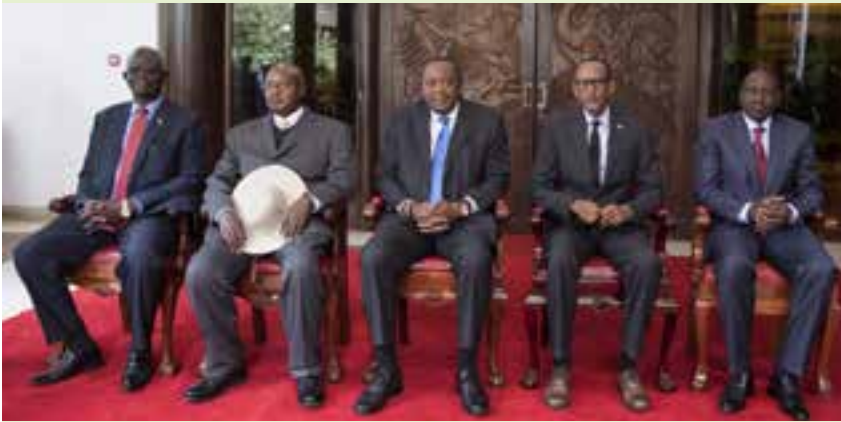
services registered 12% growth. Agriculture was boosted by a good harvest of food crops in season A of 6% while cash crops mainly Tea and Coffee exports grew by 46%.

In the first quarter this year, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at current market prices was estimated at Rwf 1,985 Billion up from Rwf 1,816 Billion in the previous year.

Figures show that the industry sector increased due to construction which is recovering from last year's very low growth while the service sector also performed very well which signifies the impressive growth of the economy.

According to IMF and Rwanda's Ministry of Finance, the economy is expected to grow by 7.2% in 2018.

# Northern Corridor Integration Projects back



ON JUNE 26, President Kagame joined his Kenyan and Ugandan counterparts Uhuru Kenyatta and Yoweri Museveni in

Nairobi for the 14th Northern Corridor Integration Projects (NCIP) Summit. The summit that has not been carried

out for two years wants to reinvigorate the projects and the leaders agreed to hold the meetings once every four months while their ministers will ensure that cluster meetings are held once every two months.

The summit reviewed the progress made in the implementation of various commitments since the break.

President Kagame said that there is work to do but also need to re-examine what has been done and what still needs to be done.

President Museveni instructed the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) to start working 24/7 on borders to avoid any delays. He also reported that the electricity line to Rwanda through Mirama Hills was 75 per cent near completion and expected to be fully operational by October.

The summit was attended by the presidents of Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda while South Sudan was represented by the Presidential Advisor Aggrey Tisa Sabuni. Tanzania, DR Congo, Burundi and Ethiopia also attended as observers.

## Government launches 6-year plan to enhance agriculture

**RWANDA LAUNCHED** the 4th Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation (PSTA 4) during the third high level stakeholders' meeting of Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme III (CAADP).

During the event, **Prime Minister, Dr Edouard Ngirente (pictured)** outlined the country's expectations in implementing PSTA 4. The 6-year plan running until 2024 is expected to add value to the Rwanda's agricultural goals as planned in the National Strategy for Transformation, 2017-2024 (NST 1).

To be fully food and nutritional secure, the country want to modernize and increase production of agriculture and livestock. Thus, the country will.

"The Government of Rwanda will continue to invest in agricultural research, extension, resilience, markets development, and in the creation of an enabling environment and responsive institutions," the Premier said.



## Rwanda, Singapore sign agreements

**RWANDA AND SINGAPORE** in mid June signed two agreements on Bilateral Air Service and an Agreement on the Promotion and Protection of Investments.

The agreements were signed in the presence of Rwanda's Premier Dr. Edouard Ngirente and the visiting Singaporean Deputy Prime Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam.

Dr. Ngirente emphasized the warm relations the two countries share in various areas of cooperation. "The good relations between Singapore and Rwanda are reflected in different mutual support and cooperation in various fields."

He underlined that Singapore supports Rwanda in different capacity building projects, advisory services, trade and investment cooperation, aviation and education.

The two countries established diplomatic relations in March 2005 and Rwanda's High Commission in Singapore was officially opened in 2008.





## Rwandan assembled vehicles hit market

**VOLKSWAGEN, THE GERMANY AUTOMAKER** this June rolled out vehicles assembled from its plant in Kigali, the first Integrated Mobility Solution in Africa.

President Paul Kagame himself drove one of the first vehicles assembled in Rwanda, a black VW Teramont to inaugurate the factory located at Kigali Special Economic Zone. The facility will incorporate sales and service retail outlet, vehicle assembly, training centre and mobility solutions.

President Kagame recalled that the Volkswagen car brand was among the



first cars to be used in Rwanda, and cited the event as history repeating itself, for Volkswagen to start assembling cars in the country.

The president hailed the move saying that, "some found it hard to believe that German cars could really be built in Rwanda. Yet today, the first vehicles are rolling off the assembly line. This facility undoubtedly represents a new chapter, in Rwanda's journey of economic transformation."

"Africa does not need to be a dumping ground for second hand cars, or second hand anything. In the long run, you end up paying a higher price anyway. If you can pay a high price for second hand, why not pay a high price for something new? It is a simple choice. Africans, Rwandans, we deserve better. This is one way of showing how we can afford it. For these and other reasons, this promising partnership with Volkswagen is off to a good start," Kagame observed.

**Regional CEO for Volkswagen Group, Thomas Schäfer** said that the company's



interest in Rwanda was mostly because of the country's great potential, a country that is young, modern and hungry for individual mobility. VW is investing \$20 million in the first phase where they will assemble three VW models; Teramont, Passat and Polo. The plant is expected to create 1,000 jobs which will mainly go to local workforce.



**Michaela Rugwizangoga, the CEO of VW Rwanda** said that they had already started offering some services. Among the first service is corporate car sharing to institutions, corporate companies and NGOs.



## African leaders convene in Mauritania

**PRESIDENT PAUL KAGAME** in his capacity as the Chairperson of the African Union (AU) on July 1 chaired the 31st AU Ordinary Session in Nouakchott, Mauritania.

President Kagame who also leads the AU reform process presented a report on the progress and implementation to date. He said that Africa's reforms are about achieving transformation and fulfilling the dignity of Africa and its people.

"The business-as-usual approach cannot continue, and indeed, as we are seeing, significant changes are beginning to take hold," Kagame noted.

Reforms undertaken by the AU have started bearing results like the signing of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) which was initially signed by 44 states and six countries have already ratified. The 0.2 % levy that will ensure the AU becomes financed by member countries is being implemented by close to half of the continent.

The summit welcomed the South Sudan peace process mediated by the IGAD-mandated Heads of State.

# THE REMARKABLE JOURNEY OF LIBERATION

## RDF makes transformational contributions to Rwanda's development

By Aimable Twahirwa

JULY 4TH is such a significant date for Rwanda because it was the day when the country was liberated from a dictatorial and divisive regime by the then Rwanda Patriotic Army (RPA) in 1994.

Twenty four years the liberation journey continues but today not an armed struggle but uniting Rwandans for the common cause improve lives and advance the country's development.

"We can learn from our history and build a better future," President Paul Kagame noted during the commemoration event of the 24th National Liberation Day. The president told thousands who turned up at Rongi sector in Muhanga District that the success of the liberation struggle on the battlefield was possible because of working together with citizens. Hence, transforming the country required the same spirit of unity.

As part of the 24th anniversary of the liberation struggle, a new model village comprising of about 25 housing facilities of 4 in 1 shape and which are fully equipped with electricity and running water was inaugurated in Horezo, a little village nestled in a valley between several hills in Muhanga District, Southern Province, as part of government's efforts to provide modest homes for poor communities in remote rural residents.

Rwandan official claimed that this particular remote model village with modern school and a modern nutrition service center is set to be replicated in other remote rural districts of the country as a move to achieve improved economic growth, prosperity, and inclusion for all.

The inauguration of such Integrated Development Project translates into national efforts to provide modest homes and other facilities to rural



communities living in high risk zones in improving their livelihoods.

Rwanda's "liberation war" broke out in October 1990, when the former military wing of the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) launched a major attack on Rwanda from Uganda with a force of 7,000 fighters.

Yet there are many encouraging signs of economic progress since the country was liberated on 4th July 1994, President Kagame has stressed





that the true liberation is that which addresses the socio-economic transformation of the people.

The President has encouraged people to be engaged in national development projects as a way of carrying forward the spirit of national liberation after silencing the guns which brought about the first victory.

According to the latest official forecast, Rwanda through the second phase of its Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy, is investing in key development areas in order to have Rwanda reclassified as a middle income country by 2020, with a per capita income of 1,240 dollars.

Currently, the per capita income of Rwanda's middle class is estimated to be \$ 774 dollars by the end of 2017.

Yet the country posted remarkable growth rates, since it rose from the ashes of 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi, President Kagame underscores the need to continue this liberation struggle towards achieving [socio-economic] transformation.

In a move to achieve this target, the Rwandan government is currently emphasizing to transform the country from a low-income agriculture-based economy to a knowledge-based, service-oriented economy with a middle-income status by 2020.

Currently, 16.3% of the Rwandan population

estimated at about 12 million still lives in extreme poverty, defined by the World Bank as less than \$1.25 a day.

The realization of the limitations presented in reaching out the poor and vulnerable in undeveloped remote rural villages, more than two decades after the liberation struggle, has pushed Rwandan authorities to prepare a scheme for creating model villages like the one constructed in Horezo, all over the country.

Now in Horezo village, every new built home has toilets; there are modern primary and secondary schools, a health centre, street lights and a drainage system.

The power connectivity project has also enabled to set up a water pumping facility which will supply clean water from Muhabwa water source to neighboring Nyabinoni and Rongi sectors in Muhanga district.

To mark the occasion, President Kagame noted that the achievements that Rwanda is registering since the liberation struggle came at a high cost.

"There is a need to safeguard what we have achieved and upholding our dignity and unity," he said.

### **The RDF contributes housing to vulnerable families**

As Rwanda continues to celebrate years of liberation struggle, Rwanda Defence Force (RDF) has defended the territorial integrity and ensuring national sovereignty. However, as this primary role has increasingly become assured, the RDF has therefore seized the opportunity to focus on contributing to human and national social economic development.

The Minister of Defense, Gen. James Kabarebe said that beyond liberation war, the liberation struggle continues not only to focus and deal the prevailing real national security threats but also in contributing to the country's socio-economic development, especially targeting human life advancement in different fields of health, education, agriculture, housing, infrastructures and other poverty alleviation policies.

This year RDF constructed 22 Integrated Development Programme Model villages across the country. The homes will benefit 2080 families, some of these are in Horezo and Kanyenyeri in Muhanga and Ngororero Districts respectively.

Through RDF's Citizen Outreach Programmes about 1,327 housing units have been constructed for vulnerable people to total 85,059 modern houses constructed for vulnerable families since 2009.

The housing initiative is one among the many, since 2009, over 438,000 people have benefited from RDF's medical outreach services while other initiatives in education, agriculture and infrastructures have supported thousands of citizens.

# National budget Highlights 2018/2019

COMPILED BY STEVEN NSAMAZA

**ON JUNE 14, 2018**, finance ministers from four East African member states presented their national budget to respective parliaments. Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda read their national budgets simultaneously while Burundi and South Sudan did not present their budgets on the same day.

Burundi's financial calendar which normally started in January has moved it to July in order to align its economy with other EAC members and also presented the budget before July. South Sudan, the EAC bloc newest member has not yet synchronised its budget reading with other member states.

However, South Sudan's cabinet adopted SSP81.6 Billion (\$584 million) for the 2018/2019, according to media reports. Government said it is an increase of 75% from the previous year and was yet to present it to parliament.

EAC governments adopted to start their financial year on July 1 and this coming financial year has a shared budget's theme as "Industrialisation for Job Creation and Shared Prosperity".

Like in the previous years a big chunk of the budget for the four economies will be allocated to infrastructure for sustained economic growth



**Presenting the budget to parliament, Dr. Uzziel Ndagijimana, Rwanda's Minister of Finance and Economic Planning categorized the allocations in three clusters; economic, social and good governance & justice transformational pillars.**

as the finance ministers indicated in their budget presentations.

Rwanda with the most ambitious budget of 17% increase from the previous fiscal year expects to grow its economy 7.2 per cent as well as Tanzania while Kenya and Uganda's economies are expected to grow by at least 5.8 per cent this year.

## RWANDA

Rwanda's budget for 2018/19 totals Rwf 2,443.5b (\$2.8 Billion) which is 328.2 b higher than the 2017/18 budget.

The budget will be financed by domestic revenues at 67% (Rwf 1,645.1 Billion)

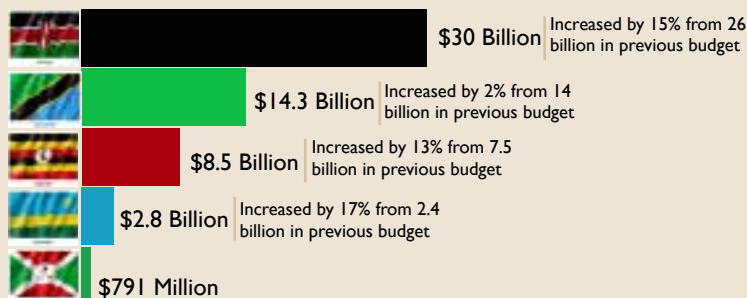
Tax revenue collections are projected at Rwf 1,351.7 Billion up from Rwf 1200.3 Billion while non- tax revenues are projected at Rwf 155.7 Billion up from Rwf 138.2 Billion for last year.

External loans are projected at Rwf402.2 Billion, which is 16.4 % of the budget.

Expected aid amounts to Rwf396.3 Billion (\$455m), which is 16% of the total budget

Paying public servants and running government agencies will take Rwf1,266.1 Billion representing 52%, government says

## EAST AFRICAN MEMBER STATES NATIONAL BUDGETS 2018/2019



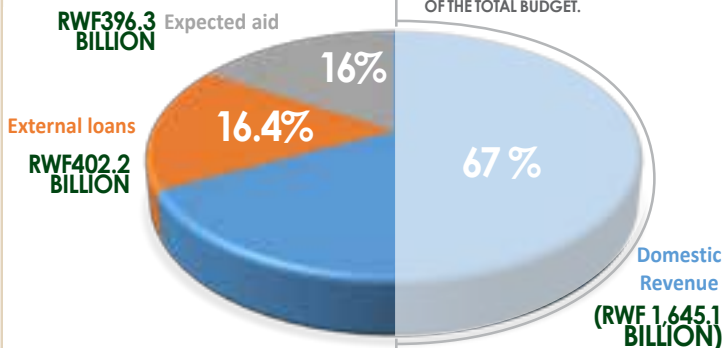


# 17%

**RWANDA HAS AN AMBITIOUS BUDGET OF 17% INCREASE FROM THE PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR EXPECTS TO GROW ITS ECONOMY BY 7.2 PER CENT**

**RWANDA'S BUDGET FOR 2018/19 TOTALS RWF 2,443.5B (\$2.8 BILLION) WHICH IS 328.2 B HIGHER THAN THE 2017/18 BUDGET**

## BUDGET FINANCING 2018/19



# 3

ALLOCATION WERE CATEGORIZED INTO THREE CLUSTERS;

1. ECONOMIC,
2. SOCIAL
3. GOOD GOVERNANCE & JUSTICE TRANSFORMATIONAL PILLARS.

**SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION PILLAR WAS ALLOCATED RWF668.2 BILLION**

**(27% OF TOTAL BUDGET. KEY PRIORITY INTERVENTIONS AND PROJECTS WILL INCLUDE:**



THE SOCIAL PROTECTION AND POVERTY ERADICATION ALLOCATED RWF104.9 BILLION.



HEALTH SECTOR WILL RECEIVE RWF205 BILLION.



EDUCATION SECTOR WAS ALLOCATED RWF272.8 BILLION.

**ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION IS A PILLAR WHICH IS INTENDED TO ACCELERATE INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WAS ALLOCATED RWF1,373.8BILLION THAT MAKES 57% OF THE TOTAL BUDGET**



CREATION OF 216,717 OFF-FARM JOBS WITH INVESTMENTS OF ABOUT RWF46.7 BILLION.



INDUSTRIALIZATION AND EXPORT PROMOTION ALLOCATED RWF253.5 BILLION.



ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND ACCESS TO ELECTRICITY WERE ALLOCATED RWF144 BILLION.



TRANSPORT SECTOR GET RWF238.9 BILLION.



**GOOD GOVERNANCE AND JUSTICE AS A TRANSFORMATIONAL GOVERNANCE PILLAR WAS ALLOCATED**

**RWF401.5 BILLION REPRESENTING 16% OF THE TOTAL BUDGET.**



**AGRICULTURE WAS ALLOCATED RWF124.7 BILLION WHICH IS 5% OF THE TOTAL BUDGET.**

this will include financing the on-going restructuring of government machinery.

The budget is expected to close with an overall deficit of Rwf436.8 Billion.

## BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

Presenting the budget to parliament, Dr. Uzziel Ndagijimana, Rwanda's Minister of Finance and Economic Planning categorized the allocations in three clusters; economic, social and good governance & justice transformational pillars.

**Economic transformation is a pillar** which is intended to accelerate inclusive economic growth and development **was allocated Rwf1,373.8Billion that makes 57% of the total budget for 2018/2019.** Main interventions planned here include:

Creation of 216,717 Off-farm Jobs with investments of about Rwf46.7 Billion.

Industrialization and Export promotion allocated Rwf253.5 Billion.

Transport sector get Rwf238.9 Billion.

Energy development and access to electricity were allocated Rwf144 Billion.

## DOMESTIC SAVINGS PROMOTION

**Agriculture was allocated Rwf124.7**

**Billion** to develop Rwandans into a capable and skilled people with quality standards of living and a stable and secure society, government will invest **Rwf668.2 Billion (27%) towards this social transformation pillar.** Key priority interventions and projects will include:

The Social protection and poverty eradication allocated Rwf104.9 Billion.

Health sector will receive Rwf205 Billion.

Education sector was allocated Rwf272.8 Billion.

**Good Governance and Justice as a Transformational Governance Pillar was allocated Rwf401.5 Billion representing 16% of the total budget.** Key priorities here include:

Reinforcing Rwandan culture and values

Sustaining Safety and Security of citizens and their properties.

Strengthening diplomatic and international cooperation.

Strengthening Justice, Law and Order.

Supporting the capacity, Service delivery and Accountability of public Institutions. Connecting 5,312 public institutions to the internet.

Promoting Citizens' participation, engagement and partnerships in development.



# Q&A with the **MAYOR** KAYONZA DISTRICT



IN MANY WAYS, THE DISTRICT MAYOR IS THE MOST ACCESSIBLE HIGH-RANKING PUBLIC OFFICIAL MOST OF US ARE LIKELY TO COME ACROSS. MAYORS MAY HAVE VARYING DEGREES OF POWER AND INFLUENCE DEPENDING ON MANY DIFFERENT FACTORS AND THE DISTRICTS THEY SERVE, BUT NEARLY ALL OF THEM ENGAGE IN THE SORT OF STREET-LEVEL POLITICS THAT PUTS THEM DIRECTLY IN TOUCH WITH THEIR CONSTITUENTS.

THEY OPEN NEW HEALTH CENTERS AND MAKE PERSONAL VISITS TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS. THE GOOD ONES, ANYWAY, ARE PLUGGED IN TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND SENIOR CENTERS. IF THEY WANT TO BE EFFECTIVE, MAYORS HAVE TO SHOW UP AND MEET THE PEOPLE.

RWANDA DISPATCH'S **JOSEPH MUDINGU** HAD A ONE ON ONE WITH THE DISTRICT MAYOR **JEAN CLAUDE MURENZI** ON WHAT THE DISTRICT HAS TO OFFER AND HOW THEY AT THE DISTRICT ARE WORKING TOWARDS UPLIFTING CITIZENS SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY.

#### **Q- ENHANCING DEVELOPMENT IS PART OF KAYONZA DISTRICT'S PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS HOW ARE YOU DOING THIS?**

**A;** Like you said, enhancing development is one of our goals and it tops the districts' priorities. What the district is doing, and by district I mean all the district employees plus all the development partners in Kayonza is ensuring that citizens are extricated from the pangs of poverty through good governance.

#### **Q- HAVE YOU MANAGED TO ACHIEVE THIS? I MEAN ARE THERE CITIZENS THAT HAVE BEEN EXTRACTED FROM PANGS OF POVERTY IN KAYONZA DISTRICT AND HOW WAS IT DONE?**

**A;** Well I can say yes to that. There are many poor people that have jumped from being very poor to relatively well off people. And I say this has been possible because of the efficient government programs, lives have been improved in different parts of the district.

#### **Q-HOW DO YOU WORK WITH DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS AT THE**

#### **DISTRICT?**

**A;** Here at the district we work as a team and this is very important if we are to achieve our goal. I really want to stress that development partners plus citizens (Baturage) are positive and cooperative which creates a good working environment. A lot is being done out there and the progress is positive which could not be possible without the good working relationship with the district staff, local authorities and the people of Kayonza.

#### **Q-WHAT IS THE MAIN ECONOMIC PRACTICE IN THE DISTRICT AND HOW IS IT SPURRING DEVELOPMENT.**

**A;** Many of the residents practice agriculture, growing cassava, rice, maize, sorghum, soya and beans. Last year, there was an increase in productivity and sustainability of agriculture and the number increased agricultural productivity to 80.2%.

Here Maize is the food crop that was selected to be grown on a large scale and our target was to plant 14,000Ha though we managed to plant 12782Ha achieving (91.3%) of our target.

#### **Q- RWANDA'S COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH INSURANCE IS ONE OF THE KEY ELEMENTS IDENTIFIED TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE, WHICH IS CENTRAL TO THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGY TO BECOME A MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRY BY 2020. HOW IS THE DISTRICT HANDLING HEALTH ISSUES?**

**A:** Well our target as the district is to have 100% of the people with community based health insurance.

Today, 274,893 out of 337,050 of people in Kayonza are covered with community health making it 81.6%.

Still under health, the district is working on increasing more health facilities like the recently inaugurated Maternity ward at Rwinkwavu Health Centre which is well equipped, plans are to have more.

We acknowledge that more mothers seek safe deliveries when maternity wards with skilled midwives are available and the number of deaths related to pregnancies, deliveries, infant deaths and under-five will significantly reduce over the years.

#### **Q-WHERE DO SEE THE DISTRICT IN THE NEXT TWO TO THREE YEARS AND WHAT MESSAGE WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE TO PEOPLE OF KAYONZA**

**A;** Well Kayonza is developing and I believe with continued dedication from the staff and development partners, the next three years will be fruitful.

My message to the residents out there is that together we can change the image of Kayonza both socially and economically. It is under cooperation and working as a team that we can manage to achieve so much and we are going to work much harder to live to people's expectations and to put the district on good track.

# JADF'S JOURNEY TOWARDS ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN KAYONZA DISTRICT

KAYONZA JADF IS A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM THAT HAS WORKED VERY CLOSELY WITH KAYONZA DISTRICT TO PLAN, INITIATE AND PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS IN THE DISTRICT.

**RWANDA DISPATCH** caught up with Edward Shyaka, the Chairman of JADF in Kayonza and discussed JADF's key development plans as Stakeholders to the district and how they are embedded into the District Development Strategy that enhances development in Kayonza.

"I can proudly say that JADF works in close partnership with Kayonza District to drive forward the district development agenda together. JADF is a consultative platform for information-sharing and cooperation among the many actors involved in districts' socio-economic development process," says Shyaka.

According to him, JADF-Kayonza is comprised of members or representatives from the Private sector, Public sector and civil society organisations. Current data show that we have 102 registered Stakeholders in the district.

He says that there are methodologies that they to support the development of the district and one of the major methodologies used is through conducting Joint-planning and consultative meetings between the District and different stakeholders.

"It's through such meetings that key district priorities are discussed and agreed upon and different Partners contribute towards the realization of set goals. In most cases, annual plans of different Stakeholders especially NGOs are based on existing community realities, thus it's though a JADF joint-planning meeting that major lines are selected to be integrated into the overall district annual plans and Imihigo," explains Shyaka.

As we continue to accompany Kayonza district in its journey towards achieving sustainable development, a number of major development projects have been accomplished through JADF contribution. Among these include the following:

A number of plants have been established in the district through the private sector, for example Rice processing factory (Kayonza Rice), SOYCO industries and a paper-bag making plant.



JADF in collaboration with the District organized a 3-day expo at the district headquarters to exhibit activities and services they extend to the residents of Kayonza

There has also been contributions made by JADF members to empower women economically through the establishment of a Women Opportunity Centre, a coffee processing factory in Rukara through a women cooperative, and other key projects across the district that have created employment for women.

Also the construction of a piped water line and borehole rehabilitation are contribution of a JADF member in Rwimishinya, Rukara sector.

To empower farmer groups JADF spearheaded the distribution of water pumping machines to various farmers to promote small scale irrigation. 63 moto pumb have been distributed in the district and mobilization is in the process.

Through the support from JADF, cows and goats have been distributed by a number of stakeholders to poor families in the district.

Health infrastructure has also been improved through the support of JADF. This includes the construction of health posts, maternity wards and ortho-

**"In most cases, annual plans of different Stakeholders especially NGOs are based on existing community realities, thus it's though a JADF joint-planning meeting that major lines are selected to be integrated into the overall District annual plans and Imihigo."**

EDWARD SHYAKA -  
KAYONZA JADF





Edward Shyaka, the Chairman of JADF in Kayonza

pedic centre to improve the quality of healthcare provision in the district.

Also in the education sector, there are many JADF members that helped to uplift the education of students in district through providing school fees and scholastic materials which has given opportunities to children from poor households.

Performance contracts are also being used by JADF where by JADF signs a performance with the Mayor.

“The performance contract entails key action plans from each JADF members. By this, we’re held accountable to what we signed with the Mayor and it’s our responsibility to ensure that it’s fully achieved. We’re also part of the team that carries out planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the overall district performance contract/Imihigo. It’s indeed a good tool to enhancing good performance and accountability in our society,” says Shyaka.

A number of feeder roads in villages have been rehabilitated to improve accessibility to goods and services in the district. There has also been improvement in rural electrification in Kayonza which has boosted the development of small scale and large scale food processing plants that are a source of employment in the district.

“In partnership with the district, JADF supplied cows to the beneficiaries of

the IDP model villages in Mwiri sector and also constructed a health post to serve the village which has been a major success towards achieving dignity among the poor household beneficiaries and the district in general,” says Shyaka.

In kayonza through sustainable land use, food security is being enhanced.

He however notes that there are some challenges that were faced while carrying out development activities and most of them are nature based.

“One of the main challenges we have faced in recent years is the long drought that has affected animal and food production mainly in the sectors of Ndego, Murundi, Mwiri, Kabare, Murama and Rwinkwavu. With low or no crop harvest at all, it’s difficult for the local community members to follow the development agenda as planned,” explains Shyaka.

Partly as a solution, JADF members have supplemented on the district effort by providing water-pumping equipment to some of the farmer groups in the affected sectors.

Another challenge is related to instability in funding. Some of the development partners are affected by funding instability which in turn affects the district set goals.

JADF as mentioned before does not operate separately from the district. In order to counter the challenges, we shall continue to work in close collaboration with the District as we join effort to move our district to another level in terms of development.

Shyaka underscored that, “as JADF, we will continue to support the district efforts in dealing with human security issues. District partners are now fully aware of this from meetings held before and we hope to gain more support from different stakeholders. The families affected by these issues are a concern to all of us, not just the district.

We also intend to strengthen the evaluation process of all JADF members. This is done periodically to ensure that what we have in our database does actually exist on ground,” he added.

JADF chairman calls upon fellow members, we acknowledge that good progress has been made towards sustainable development in Kayonza of which we’re proud to have been part. However much is still needed from us as we continue to accompany Kayonza District and our progressive government to achieve the strategic set priorities in the National Strategy for Transformation.

The vision of JADF is: “Active Rwandan Communities Participating in Sustainable and Inclusive Local Development Driven by Mutual Accountability”.

The mission of JADF is to ensure a sustainable socio-economic development, improved service delivery for Rwandan communities through active participation, dialogue, and accountability by sharing information and effective coordination of stakeholders’ interventions in decentralized entities.



# New census for mountain gorillas promising

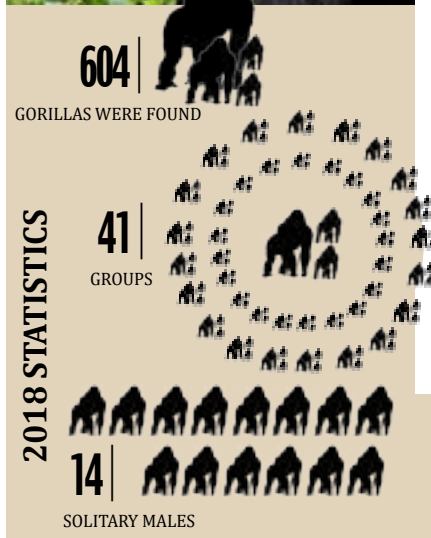
BY RUTH KAGOYIRE

**A RECENT SURVEY** documented 604 mountain gorillas, the largest number of these Great Apes ever recorded in the Virunga Massif encompassing the Mikenso Sector of the Virunga National Park in Congo, the Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda and Mgahinga Gorilla National Park in Uganda.

Fidele Ruzigandekwe the Deputy Executive Secretary of Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration (GVTC) said that “The 604 gorillas were found living in 41 groups and 14 solitary males. This is compared to an estimated 480 individual gorillas in 36 groups and 14 solitary males from a survey of the same area in 2010, when combined with the published figure of 400 mountain gorillas from Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, Uganda, as of 2011, an estimated 1,004 mountain gorillas existed in the wild as of June 2016.”

In 2010 census, survey teams walked pre-determined “recces” (reconnaissance trails) ensuring a thorough coverage of the Virunga Massif from the southwest to northeast searching for signs of gorillas, other key mammals, and illegal activities. When fresh gorilla signs were detected, the teams followed the gorilla trail to locate three recent night nest sites. At each of these nest sites, the teams collected fecal samples from nests.

Ruzigandekwe explained that the latest census doubled the sweep of Virunga Massif for 116 days between October to December 2015 and second from March to May 2016. A second sweep allowed finding gorillas that were undetected at first to provide more reliable numbers. Fecal samples were analyzed genetically to determine individual genotypes.



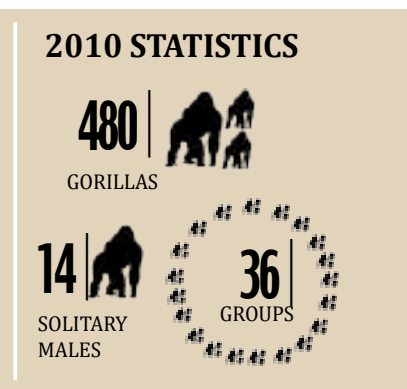
During the survey data was also collected on signs and sightings of select mammals, such as elephants, and illegal activities, such as snares. While exercising caution due to the limitations of the study, there were no indications of declines in populations for the select mammals surveyed since 2010.

The increase in mountain gorillas inhabiting the Virunga Massif is attributed to the effectiveness of conservation policies, strategies, notably regulated tourism, daily protection and veterinary interventions, intensive law enforcement community conservation projects, and transboundary collaboration among government institutions and NGO actors.

Ruzigandekwe calls upon all conservation institutions, organizations and the public to join efforts to conserve mountain gorillas and their habitat for future generations.

Efforts like the transboundary collaboration has greatly contributed to the successful conservation of the mountain gorilla population, as evidenced by the last census of these great apes only found in the Virunga Massif and Bwindi Ecosystems’.

The survey was conducted by the Protected Area, Authorities of DRC, Rwanda, and Uganda (l’Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature, the Rwanda Development Board and the Uganda Wildlife Authority, respectively) under the transboundary framework of the Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration and supported by various partners and donors.





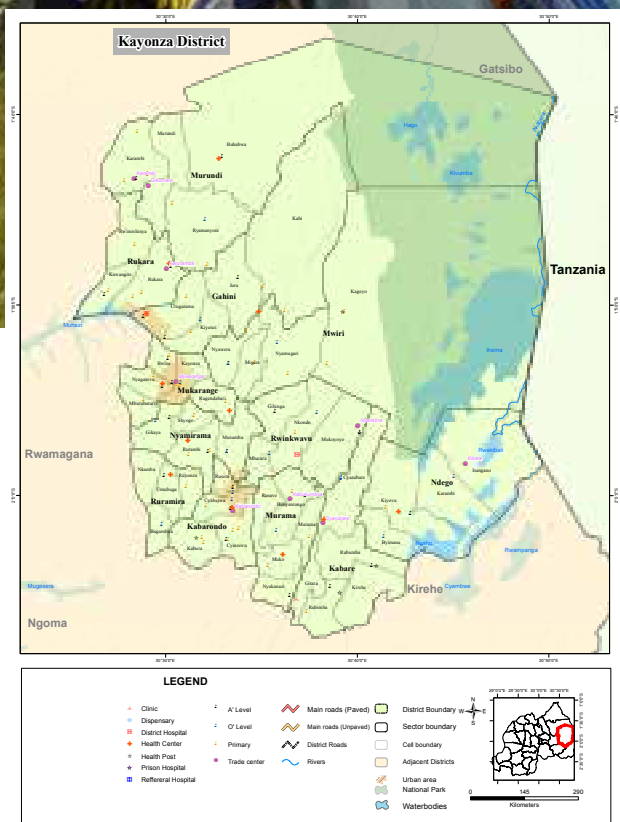
Special  
Report

KAYONZA DISTRICT

**COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH IN  
ENHANCING  
SERVICE  
DELIVERY**







LOCATED IN THE EASTERN PLAINS OF RWANDA, KAYONZA IS ONE OF THE SEVEN DISTRICTS THAT MAKE UP THE EASTERN PROVINCE. THE DISTRICT BORDERS GATSIBO TO THE NORTH, RWAMAGANA IN THE WEST, NGOMA AND KIREHE TO THE SOUTH THE NEIGHBOURING REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE EAST.

WITH A TOTAL SURFACE AREA OF 1,954KM<sup>2</sup> (754.55Q MI), KAYONZA HAS A POPULATION OF 346,751 INHABITING IN 12 SECTORS OF GAHINI, KABARE, KABARONDO, MUKARANGE, MURAMA, MURUNDI, MWIRI, NDEGO, NYAMIRAMA, RUKARA, RURAMIRA AND RWINKWAVU. THE DISTRICT HAS 50 CELLS WITH A COMBINED 421 VILLAGES.



**KAYONZA DISTRICT IS CHARACTERIZED** with a mixture of plateaus and undulating hills dominated by varying heights. The flora of Kayonza is generally made of afforested savanna vegetation and some forestry gallery. The area is relatively dense with small lakes that include Ihema, Rwibishuhe, Kabigabiro and Cyabatanzi, Kibare, Shakani, Muhazi, there are also many vast swamps and the famous River Akagera forms part of the district's boarderline in the east.

Home to Akagera National Park where a vast number of wild life, the region currently boosts tourism which now tops as Rwanda's top foreign exchange earner.

Tourism and industry are fast developing but the main economic activity remain as farming. The district is rich in marshlands alongside rivers; they cover an estimated area of 6,100 ha and are exploited at an average of 46.3 per cent.

Jean Claude Murenzi, the Mayor of Kayonza District says that, the District's vision is to bring and sustain improvements in people's welfare, infrastructures, economic development, wealth and health among others.



### PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS 'IMIHIGO'

For development efforts, the government adopted home-grown solutions like Imihigo (performance contracts) to reach at its vision. Kayonza has used this tool to its advantage to realize the planning and effective implementation of its development policies in economic development, social development and good governance.

The district has put efforts in working closely with the residents which has raised citizen satisfaction of public services. This is indicative where cases or complaints from citizens received in 2017/2018 have been handled and about 85.5 per cent resolved on course to achieve 100 per cent before end of the financial year.

The cases which are received and dealt by local councils shows an interactive participation of citizens where people are involved, actively participate in decision making of their own matters.

The Mayor underscores that, most cases are resolved in the presence of the public where local leaders meet with the people in their respective localities to understand and address





their issues which are more effective and saves time.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Farming continues to top the district's economic activities leading officials to focus investments in this sector that employs 79% of the working population, according to Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey (EICV3). To ensure food security the district committed to cultivate more land, in the 2017-2018 progress report main crops like maize were already in advanced stages with cultivation for maize standing at 91.3%, rice at 89% cassava at 70.2%, beans at 97.7%, soya beans at 51% while Banana plantations rehabilitated is at 73%.

To raise agricultural productivity better practices have been adopted like irrigation given that the region experiences long dry spells, employing mechanized farming, cutting down on post-harvest losses and proper storage of harvests. Out of 2,000ha marked for irrigation 1,604.6ha representing 80.2% was irrigated, 63 moto pumps were distributed in the mobilization in process, 912ha was cultivated under mechanization at 76% and 1,280 tonnes of maize was stored representing 85.6 of what was supposed to be properly stored.

Non-traditional cash crops have also been introduced and there is increased growth of exports, the district has already surpassed its target of tonnes produced after adding value. The mark was to harvest and wash 1,200 tonnes of coffee cherries which was achieved at 1,250 tonnes.

According to Mayor Murenzi, plans are to modernise agriculture for the whole district by using mechanised farming, apply irrigation to reduce

THE DISTRICT CONTINUES TO INCREASE ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER BY SUPPLYING WATER TO HOUSEHOLDS THROUGH CONSTRUCTING WATER TANKS, INSTALLING WATER PUMPS AND REHABILITATING BOREHOLES. FOR NEW COMMUNAL HOMES A WATER HARVESTING SYSTEM IS A MUST LIKE RUGEYO IDP MODEL VILLAGE WHERE ITS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.



relying on rain-fed agriculture and decrease on post-harvest losses by providing storage facilities.

Kayonza is a district known for livestock farming particularly cattle rearing and the eastern province produces most of the milk in the country. Increased animal resources productivity was achieved through mobilisation on artificial insemination where 2,302 cows were inseminated out of 2,500.

Through the Girinka programme 720 out 100 were distributed and 1,496

small stocks given to vulnerable families this year.

Jean Paul Mwizerwa, a resident of Nyagatovu in Mukarange Sector was given a cow which has already given birth to the first calf which he will away to another beneficiary. Mwizerwa now gets milk for family and sell, he is able to pay for medical insurance and gets manure for his banana plantation and other farming activities.

During this financial year, the district had committed to fighting animal diseases that can be a big danger to





## ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Julienne Mukamisha has been using biogas for over a year, she says there could have been no better alternative and it has improved her life immeasurably.

“The benefits of using biogas are many, I don’t need to look for firewood which is hard to get these days and not good for environment, I don’t suffer to light up firewood, my kitchen and utensils are much cleaner, and it’s much quicker to prepare food after some tiring work on the farm,” Mukamisha notes.

The district has continued to sensitize the population about the benefits of using biogas and continue to invest in it. During the 2017-2018 financial, about 60 new biogas digesters were bound to be constructed and there remains only four (4) which are under construction.

To reach the development potentialities there is need for power connectivity, the district’s aim was to connect electricity to at least 4,500 households, by May this year an estimated 4,703 household had been connected to both off and on grid electricity.

farmers. So far the district has vaccinated 66,823 cows out of 75,000 against common diseases like lump skin, black quarter and foot & mouth diseases.

The cows are also increasing in number, through the use of artificial insemination 634 calves were recorded by May 2018.

Plans to transform two milk collection centres into Business Hub Meeting is ongoing at 80% completion. The Business Hubs will be a centre for farming services including a milk collection section, an agro-vet shop, financial services and avail insemination facilities.



To give a new face to Kayonza town which is also the capital of the district 10Km of new roads were to be created and so far 9Km have been completed while under the feeder road programme the district rehabilitated various roads with some works already completed and other in the final touches, they include Kimodoka-Karubamba-Buhabwa (Mucucu) & Kageyo- Rwinkavu unpaved road is now operational while 70Km of feeder roads have been cleared and levelled through the VUP/PW. Upgrading of the 7Km Karubamba murram road in Gahini and Rukara Sectors has been levelled and compacted while construction of channels is ongoing.

Local markets have also been constructed in Kawangire which is already operational phase and in Nyankora is at completion phase (98%).



The district continues to increase access to clean water by supplying water to households through constructing water tanks, installing water pumps and rehabilitating boreholes. For new communal homes a water harvesting system is a must like Rugeyo IDP Model village where its under construction.

### RUGEYO IDP MODEL VILLAGE

As provided in the country's vision a proportion of at least 70% of households living in rural areas should settle in integrated viable settlements. At least 20 families of ex-combatants, comprising war casualties and vulnerable army retirees have already

been resettled in Rugeyo, Kageyo Cell of Mwiri Sector.

Celestin Uwimana, the head of Rugeyo village says that after completion of phase I, they are now in the final stages of phase II where 32 families will be settled in solar powered four-in-one houses that maximise land use. The model village infrastructure already has a kindergarten, health post, multi-purpose hall, roads, while water harvesting system and cowshed are still under construction.







The Mayor says that to ensure a sustainable economic development of his district they have to empower the young generation and particularly work closely with the youth through engagement and create jobs for them.

From the target of 6,219 off farm jobs the district had set to create, 5,578 were created, start-up toolkits were to 50 TVET graduates and about 200 youth were trained in developing bankable projects by Business Development Advisors.

Information and Communication Technology in Kayonza has been

enhanced availing internet to different parts and empowered local leaders with skills and ICT gadgets. This financial year, commitments to the ICT surpassed the targets, nine sector offices without internet were connected, Cell Executive Secretaries and Social-Economic Development Officers were trained in ICT and given 50 Laptops.

Ecosystems and forest resources has been increased and sustainably managed to optimize their economic as well as ecological functions. By May this year 1,682ha /1500 (112%) for agro-forestry and 262/262Ha (100%) for new forests had been planted.

## SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Kayonza District caters for the poor and vulnerable through social protection safety nets, 2,645 people were employed through public works (VUP) and their payments effected on time. Families (400) were supported with small stocks while FARG-DS and monitoring of VUP/DS&PW beneficiaries continue.

Ubudehe community projects were implemented by second quarter where all projects initiated and funds submitted to sector level. Four groups of PWDs in the district were also supported financially and the construction of eight houses for Genocide survivors.

The Mayor of Kayonza said that they have extended coverage of social protection safety nets like scaling-up VUP components to the extreme poor and vulnerable.

## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE GENERATION

Education as an important sector in Kayonza has been enhanced, equitable access to 9YBE and 12YBE for all children has been raised. Through mobilization school dropout has reduced from 13%-2% and current





class attendance stands at 100 per cent.

New classrooms and toilets have been constructed as set in Imihigo for 2017-2018 and the school feeding for 9YBE&12YBE students clocked 100% during the first term where about 15,725 students were fed as compared to 86.4% fed at the end of august 2017.

In line with all government programmes, the district also committed to raise adult productivity by training 2,246 out a target of 2,700 in adult literacy programmes.

### STRINGENT MEASURES TO DEFEND OFF DISEASES

To improve health especially mother and child health concerted efforts with partners has been strengthened. In May 2017 a new maternity ward at Rwinkwavu Health Centre was inaugurated, constructed by Partners in Health at a tune of about Rwf245 million (\$286,000).

Eugene Kajuga Kayijuka, the head of this Health Centre said that now an average of three women give birth daily here. "The new facility will greatly enhance maternal health care and we sensitize every mother on

family planning."

More health facilities have been completed and are operational like the health posts of Matinza, Rugoyo and Bugambira (completion at 98%) and Gahini CRF orthopaedic and woodwork workshop blocs have been completed.

Kayonza as a district with one of the highest malaria prevalence at 46 per cent was selected by the ministry of health to launch the planting of trees in the type of Artemisia repellent that ward away mosquitoes which cause malaria. The fight against malaria has also been taken to rice growers



in wetlands, mining concessions, students and other populations.

According to the Mayor, priority is put on disease prevention and ensuring that people are insured which is why they are strengthening community health based insurance. The district wants to see every resident insured and so far 274,893 people are under mutuelle de santé.

## PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNANCE

Good governance has been enhanced by local entities through putting up infrastructures like the construction of Ruramira Sector office at the completion stage and completed Cell offices in Muko, Kabura, Cyinzovu and Nyakanazi.

Jean Paul Rurangwa, the Director of Good Governance in Kayonza observes that improved service delivery is satisfactory because of community outreach programmes they conduct. He said that 85% of citizens' demands and complaints raised during weekly community outreach and other sessions in 2017-2018 have been resolved.

To improve good governance at local levels the district helped to coordi-



## CHALLENGES

nate Imihigo preparation, signing and evaluation at all levels.

Pierre Mugarura from Kinunga I in Rukara Sector explains that he has been educated on Imihigo whereby at the family level he signed his own Imihigo which helps to plan in his home. "These are resolutions that I tasked myself to achieve in a given period of time," Mugarura said. Adding that he had resolved to create other income avenues apart from agriculture, he set up a mechanical workshop for moto cycles.

Resident's participatory in local government activities have been improved for instance over Rwf387 million was realised through monthly Umuganda activities.

Much as has been achieved there are many hassles which the district authorities continue to battle. Most of the challenges observed in the implementation of Imihigo accrue from unstable procurement processes caused by delay of tender and contract signings.

The low speed of works, low capacity and mindset of beneficiaries lead to the delay in the implementation of Imihigo while the joint execution of activities and lack of accurate data prove to be very challenging.

Among projects that have decelerated include the installation of public lights on the 1.5Km Kayonza road, low recovery of loans which stands at 8%, two selected agribusiness projects for graduates still wait for support from BDF.







## Users say New Forests' Nyanza kiln dried wood is the best on the market

CARPENTERS are craftsmen who build things with wood. The occupation rewards those who can combine precise detail work with strenuous manual labor. Carpenters construct two categories of items: those used in the construction, maintenance, and aesthetic mix of structures, and those items used as furniture, art, or framing.

The ability to select high quality wood and to use all types of woodworking tools is important in this trade if carpenters are to enjoy a larger market for their services.

Currently New Forests Company's value addition wood plant at Nyanza is churning out kiln dried timber and Rwanda Dispatch caught up with Vicent Hitimana, a carpentry instructor at IPRC South that is using timber from the plant to discuss issues concerning carpentry and the tools needed in the trade as piecework carpenter.

**The New Forests Company Rwanda has provided 1.6 million high quality eucalyptus seedlings to nearly 2,100 farmers to plant over 1,100 hectares of forests.**

According to Hitimana, it is always good to make things that last and for a carpenter to do this, it requires the best raw materials available.

"The best thing about building things is that you know you can do a good job that will last for years. It's great to enter a place ten years after you furnished it and say 'Oh you know, I put up those wall units and those floors boards'."

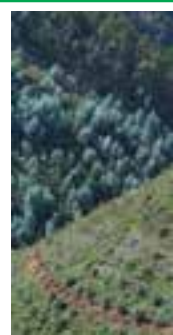
He however says that they have been having a challenge when it comes to the quality of timber they were accustomed to because most of it lacked the right percentage of dryness that they required. That is until they were supplied with timber from New Forest Company's new plant in Nyanza.

At IPRC South, Hitimana says that they mainly deal with training students in structural carpentry and to work on the production of multimate material products. Students work with wood cutting machines, use saws, tape measures, drills, and sanders in their jobs. They shape and join material to the specifications of blueprints or at the direction of their instructor, and this requires the best quality dried timber.

"Recently we were given an order and we were supplied with kiln dried timber from New Forests Nyanza to make furniture products for the Rwanda Defense Forces (RDF) that they were distributing to houses built for vulnerable families. This gave our students an opportunity to see and compare the difference between the kiln dried timber and the other air dried timber. They really liked the kiln dried timber and the products speak for themselves" said Hitimana.

He explained that kiln-dried timber can be machined to a superior finish than air-dried timber and therefore problems such as raised grain are virtually eliminated.

"Kiln dried timber can be installed with minimal acclimatization on site and is also suitable for finishing immediately with a paint or stain which means that the wood can be protected without delay and the product lasts longer" he







added.

According to Alex Madhinga the NFC Sawmill Business Manager at Nyanza, kiln drying can be thought of as controlled air drying. Modern dry kilns allow tight control of air flow, temperature and humidity so that all the timber dries uniformly and to the precise moisture content required.

"Kiln drying often means a more uniform product and the problems often associated with poorly air-dried timber are avoided. In our experience kiln drying is a superior process, especially when dealing with pine wood products and only by drying these species in state of the art kilns, can a superior quality finish and consistency be achieved" he added.

#### **NFC recommended for International Certification for responsible forest management**

Today forests are under threat and disappearing at an alarming rate, and deforestation accounts for 16% of all greenhouse gas emissions, which is more than the total annual global transport sector emissions.

Following a recent audit by an accredited third-party auditor, New Forests Rwanda is the first company in the country to be recommended for certification by a globally prestigious, sustainable forestry management assessment scheme. The certification is a very significant milestone, showing that New Forests Company has complies with all national and international laws, managed environmental values

**Following a recent audit by an accredited third party auditor, New Forests Rwanda is the first company in the country to be recommended for certification by a globally prestigious, sustainable forestry management assessment scheme**



and mitigated negative impacts, properly respected safety, worker's rights and employment conditions, and has contributed to and enhanced the well-being of communities.

Rwanda Dispatch caught up with Joseph Munyarukaza, the Corporate Social Responsibility Programme Manager at New Forests Rwanda Limited (NFRL) to discuss about internationally recognized forestry industry certification and why having certification is highly desirable for consumers.

According to him, achieving an accredited certification for responsible management represents an important milestone for any company that wants to deliver environmentally sound products. Committing to green practices requires concrete action as well as a corporate vision, and an increasing number of responsible consumers seek products with such accreditation.

"We are lucky to be recommended for certification because it holds us to a higher standard of operating. These standards ensure that environmental, social and economic needs are balanced, and that long-term forest management plans are implemented. New Forests Rwanda Limited is the first company in the country to be recommended for such a certification while at the same time NFRL's Nyanza pole treatment plant was certified for the ISO 9001-2015 standard in 2017. "This means a lot to the company and our clients", says Munyarukaza

"At NFRL, we are very focused on environmental protection in line with responsible forest management standards. This includes protection of water quality, prohibiting the harvest of rare old-growth forest and preventing the loss of natural forest cover, which are all unique aspects of the system" explained Munyarukaza

International certification requires community engagement on both public and private lands - to engage local community members and to protect customary rights of indigenous people.

"I believe New Forests Rwanda Limited was recommended for the certification because of its constant engagement with the local community and how this engagement creates positive impacts on them both socially and economically" says Munyarukaza.

The New Forests Company Rwanda has provided 1.6 million high quality eucalyptus seedlings to nearly 2,100 farmers to plant over 1,100 hectares of forests.

NFC's successful Shared Value Strategy, and particularly support for the out-grower programme was recently recognized in a letter to the Company from Mr. Erasme Ntazinda, Mayor of Nyanza District, who wrote: "Your performance while working with us proves that you are an excellent professional as well as a good partner. The District of Nyanza truly appreciates your contribution and is welcoming you again in the further activities that contribute to the development of our District".



# Increasing efforts to address stunting among children in Rwanda

FIGHTING stunting among children requires everyone's efforts if the country's target to reduce stunting from the current 38 per cent to 19% by 2024 is to be achieved.

This call was made by officials from Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF), and the Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC) last week.

Government has put in place several measures to fight stunting over the years, which has seen figures drop to 42 per cent in 2010.

Without more concerted efforts from parents, the campaign against stunting will be in vain. No parent should allow their child to become stunted. It is the primary responsibility of every parent to ensure that their child grows up normally and healthy.

During the second Early Childhood Development (ECD) symposium themed "Integrated ECD interventions for optimum child development (starting from conception)" which took place on 14 June 2018 at Kigali Convention Center, Sun Alliance an umbrella of NGO's engaged in health programs in Rwanda and the Nationally Early Childhood Development program directors have noted that challenges that still underlay the fight to end stunting and improving nutrition show need for more budget and parental engagement.

According to Venuste Muhamyankaka the Executive Director of Sun alliance, the primary purpose of the SUN Alliance is to strengthen the coordination between nutrition actors, through tracking results and aligning strategies, programs and resources of its members with country plans to eliminate all forms of Malnutrition.

"There is need for more intervention especially when it comes to commitment in the fight

against malnutrition. The budget for nutritional programs is still low and there is need to train more people on nutrition to end stunting in the country" said Muhamyankaka

In 2014, 79 Civil Society Organizations in the fight against malnutrition in Rwanda endorsed the establishment of the Alliance, and was legally registered in June 2016.



Minister of Gender and Family Promotion, Esperance Nyirasafari condemned people who engage teenagers in labour



Venuste Muhamyankaka the Executive Director of Sun alliance

Speaking in Gakenke District at the celebration of International Day of the African Child and the World Day against Child Labour the First lady said that the celebration of International Day of the African Child and the World Day against Child Labour should go along with fighting against all challenges that can hamper growth of a child.

The First Lady was accompanied by Minister Nyirasafari and other officials, as they toured Nemba ECD center to witness how children from 0-6 years receive health, nutrition, water and sanitation services; parenting education and early learning.

She thanked programme partners in ECD centres for the support in building havens of holistic growth to thousands of Rwandan children, and for giving them a chance to prepare for the world.

Madam Jeannette Kagame recommended that districts and other institutions should include ECD programmes activities when do-





Children served with nutritious porridge at the ECD



Kids playing as they learn at Mageragere ECD



Kids during break time at the ECD

ing their development planning saying that it is necessary because it is a good investment which will facilitate Rwanda to have a stable economy based on her children skills," she noted.

"The ECD centres that you have helped build, have become havens of holistic growth to thousands of Rwandan children, and have given them a chance to prepare for the world that they will one day, pioneer," Mrs. Kagame told ECD partners.

In Mageragera sector in Kicukiro District about 5km off the main road to Nyamata, the center is home to 132 kids between the ages of 3-6.

At the ECD, the top class is busy and it is evident that serious business was going on although it took me a while to realize what was happening. The kids were learning but playing at the same time.

For them it was a market day and the noise and activity was of people buy-

ing goods while others were selling and mothers were cooking and waiting for food to cook back home. I was told by their class teacher that this is part of their learning and one that the kids enjoy most.

"We teach them to learn about their environment and the value of money and counting through playing with different toys, bricks and colors and they enjoy it and still acquire a lot from it" says Nizeyimana

He says that the government has helped set up this center for early childhood development and that it is free for all the kids in the area which

is of much help because some parents are really poor and they can't afford putting their children in a private ECD centers.

According to studies on early childhood development, these interventions in the early years have the potential to provide young children with more opportunities and better outcomes in terms of access to education, quality of learning, physical growth and health, and, eventually, productivity.

"This early education that we give these kids is critical as delays in the early years are difficult and costly to reverse later in life. We make sure they love what they do here while we teach them in many ways possible" explains Nizeyimana

As he explains, the bell goes for break time and there is a rush activity as kids start gathering all the toys and stocking them in boxes and ferrying them to their respective places.

Wizeyimana Angelic a baby class teacher explains to me that the kids are trained to clean the class room before they are served porridge for breakfast.

"We serve them with a nutritious porridge which they love and look forward to every day. We avoid having stunted children and we make sure that they are well fed" says Wizeyimana

According to the ECD assistant coordinator Nyiramugwera Donatha, most cases of stunting are a result of negligence on the side of parents.

"Part of our program is to teach their parents to save and we sensitize them on how to best feed their kids.

Many households have the food but a poor mindset, and lack of skills to prepare a balanced diet and, in some cases, irresponsible parenting are the cause" says Nyiramugwera.

This also calls for more house to house sensitization campaigns to teach households, especially in rural areas about ensuring a balanced diet using the available food in households.

These interventions are among the most cost-effective investments a country can make in the human development and capital formation of its people (Heckman 2008) and the impact in poorer communities can be quite stark.

In short, expansion of ECD services throughout Rwanda has the potential to break the cycle of poverty and to act as a great social and economic equalizer.

The goal of the ECD Policy is to ensure all Rwandan children achieve their potential, are healthy, well-nourished and safe, and their mothers, fathers and communities become nurturing caregivers through receiving integrated early childhood development services.





# World vision in empowering vulnerable communities

THOMAS Ngomanzungu, a farmer from Rwimishinya in Rukara Sector of Kayonza District reluctantly joined a village savings scheme in 2013, to him it was more of getting together than savings group because of the contribution he thought were too little.

Ngomanzungu who was still a bachelor at the time when together with his neighbours started Abadahemuka Savings starting with contributions of Rwf150 per week. But at the start the savings scheme faced many challenges ranging from mismanagement to lack of skills on handling of the savings.

"When we started this savings scheme, I was not sure that we would achieve anything tangible and we faced challenges but when the World Vision approached us and started empowering us with financial management skills everything changed for us," says Ngomanzungu.

World Vision, a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to supporting communities in tackling the root causes of poverty and injustices also operates in Kayonza District under the Akagera Cluster with an office in Kiramuruzi.



In their areas of intervention, the Akagera Cluster of the World Vision promotes economic empowerment of vulnerable families and children with interventions in education, health and nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene.

Edward Muhorana, the Cluster Manager says that they support children and their vulnerable families through different initiatives.

Muhorana underlined that, the Akagera Cluster operates in six sectors of three districts of Kayonza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare. He

revealed that they are empowering initiatives like Abadahemuka and smaller cooperatives like Abatavogerwa Cooperative also found in Rukara Sector with skills so that they grow and help their members.

Appolinaire Gakuba, the secretary of Abadahemuka notes that they started small, but they are growing with the help of organisations like World vision. He revealed that they have 30 members in the cooperative and are now able to collect around Rwf130,000, can borrow any time and most importantly all their members can now afford mituelle health insurance.

Abatavogerwa Cooperative of beekeepers has also been supported by Akagera Cluster and it has both men and women members who say that it was not usual for women to be involved in beekeeping.

According to Godelive Mukamusugi, the vice president of this cooperative working together in the cooperative has empowered women introducing them to various economic activities which supports their families.

She explains that they are able to get earnings from the beekeeping and have started other activities like making body lotion, soap for house cleaning and washing clothes. "We are also able to give jobs to other women," Mukamusugi prides.

Uzziel Nigaba, the president of Abatavogerwa Cooperative underlined what has been achieved is because of the intervention of the World Vision which has supported them in their various activities.

"Before we were using traditional beehives only but World Vision bought for us modern beehives which has increased our productivity," says Nigaba. Adding that, they were also taught how to use the beehives, how to raise productivity and how to utilize the remains after extracting honey.

Nigaba said that the productivity was highly increased because you could only harvest 4-5kg from a traditional beehive but the modern bought by World Vision they are able to get at least 15kg from one beehive.

**GURA ISABUNE YA *Clear* UBONE AMAHIRWE YO GUTSINDIRA IBIHEMBO BITANDUKANYE**

**SHASHAGIRANA NA *Clear***

0788 313 601

[www.trustindustries.rw](http://www.trustindustries.rw)

This campaign is for CLEAR Blue Bar Soap  
\*Terms and Conditions Apply

**TRUST INDUSTRIES LTD.**

# Ma Colombe Shop



## Ma Colombe Shop

Tel: +250 788 687 304

+250 788 543 708

Muhima - Kigali, Rwanda

[www.macolombe.co.rw](http://www.macolombe.co.rw)

## ITETERO Nursery and Primary /Kayonza



Itetero Nursery and Primary School, Nyamirama branch was established in 2014 by Mr. Erick Habyarimana, the major aim was to contribute towards national building through education. The founders of the school envisioned a learned future generation by equipping children with a strong foundation.

The school is found in Nyakagarama Village, Shyogo Cell in Nyamirama Sector of Kayonza District.

Habyarimana says that they started when the area did not have enough schools and particularly no private schools to cater for the neighbourhoods. When Itetero Nursery and Primary School started it came as an answer to the residents in Nyamirama.

Itetero Nursery and Primary School teaches all subjects as provided in the national curricular from the Ministry of Education. The school also provides additional knowledge and skills not common in other schools like creative arts, drummer among others,

plus teaching children in languages like English, French, Swahili and Kinyarwanda.

### Contact Us:

Tel: 0788534177

E-mail: [habyarimana.erick@gmail.com](mailto:habyarimana.erick@gmail.com)







# It was 'a day at the beach feeling' at Bugesera Summer Palace

IT WAS INDEED 'a day at the beach' feeling at Bugesera Summer palace, thanks to its country side setting, the Palace is one of the most beautiful and only theme Water Park in Rwanda. It proves to be a delight for children and adults. But it's the rides that thrill the kids and give it another distinction: the country's favorite theme park.

Whether your family prefers hopping aboard thrill rides or chilling out on a lazy river, it's time to get up, grab your swimsuits and head out for a day at the water park. Today's slides, rides and splashy kiddie zones are better than ever, so take a look at this place.

Families desiring a cure for boredom can hit the road and head to Bugesera for a fun-filled journey at any day of the week. Nothing is more fun on a too-hot day than some water play—just ask the kids. And if you want to give them a big surprise, take them to a water theme park.

There are several activities and games in the Bugesera Summer Palace water park with large scale splash areas to please every kid from toddler to teen. It is fun to see the small children taking to the water playground with slides, a wading pool and even a shaded section for sun protection.

Whether you've got teens or tots, the Summer Palace has plenty for everyone. Little ones will love the park's 3 separate kiddie play areas where they can shoot water cannons, slide down an octopus and get soaked by a tipping bucket at a



tree house.

"This section is exclusively for kids under 48 inches tall, so it's not as crowded," says Nadison the manager at Summer Palace

As the kids have fun running around the water fountains, adults opt for relaxation after a long stressful week at the Spa Pool.

The water massage will give you a total well-being, the effects of bubbling water are incomparable for maintaining shape, promoting blood circulation and re-oxygenating skin cells, relieving tension, fatigue, rheumatism and arthritis. You can enjoy the benefits every day with at the Spa Pool.

Head to ocean experience and jump into the waves at the Giant Wave Pool, the largest in the country.

Combine wave pools, water slides and scenic

**The water massage will give you a total well-being, the effects of bubbling water are incomparable for maintaining shape, promoting blood circulation and re-oxygenating skin cells, relieving tension, fatigue, rheumatism and arthritis. You can enjoy the benefits every day with at the Spa Pool.**





views of the green Mountains and you've got Water World. Situated towards the end of the Summer Palace, the wave pool attracts adults who want to experience the feeling of floating and swimming in an ocean and battling with giants waves.

In case you didn't notice, Kigali's weather can get quite hot, so cool down with the whole family at these aqua playgrounds around the Summer Palace.

Joy, laughter and cheer are in the air at the water sprinklers and the kids really love it here. This one-of-a-kind event combines the magic and merriment and you can find the best sprinklers, bubblers and water fountains that are great for kids (and adults).

After spending hours in the water, the chances that you will be famished are 100% but have no fear. The food at Summer Palace is delicious and palatable and most of all affordable.

You can be sure to be availed with a variety of appealing foodstuffs plus a wide range of drinks to fill and quench your thirst.

The supervisor at Bugesera Summer Palace Romeo Ntagwabira advises that it is good to plan and prepare before setting off to the water park.

"Bring towels, water, hats, a suit for yourself (depending on the park and your children's ages, you may be required to accompany them, or you might get to try the big slides yourself), and

plenty of sunblock but no outside food" says Ntagwabira.

At Bugesera Summer park, we encourage wearing swimsuits with no buckles or other metal parts (including exposed zippers, buckles, and grommets), optional rash guards (not T-shirts), and no wetsuits.

"Remember the swim diapers for those still in diapers or under the age of three. Expect to watch your kids closely, and make sure their swimming levels are compatible with the rides and slides they want to go on, and the pools they want to play in. We may require and provide life jackets for kids under 8 in certain pools and on certain slides" he adds.

According to the Summer Palace manager Leonard Rumanyika, from initial research and design, to finished construction, there were so many details involved in building the Bugesera water park.

"From Simply determining the ideal size of the water park for your market, to making sure you have enough qualified life guards to cover all the blind spots, building a water park is at least as complex as any other amusement park project" explains Rumanyika.

He goes on to say that in addition to having the correct size of park, you need to have the right mix of water park equipment, rides and toys to make sure you appeal to the broadest segment of the market.

"No well-equipped water park would be complete without a slide of some sort – or six of them meaning more kids of all ages can play along" he adds.

At Summer Palace, the children's water playground will bring out entire families, even when there's only one child who'll actually use the water toys. Also it is a place for children of all ages

"Who doesn't like to get splashed by a 'pirate' or a 'penguin'? Just about everyone who visits water park can enjoy themselves in the children's area. And you can't say that about every other area in the park" says Rumanyika.

# Women urged for active participation in elections

BY CHARLES NDUSHABANDI

THE RWANDA National Women Council and media leaders held a meeting with members of the media to dialogue, share information about the gaps in women participation in political and economic spheres.

The discussions held during the 'Meet the Press' held at Rwanda Media Commission (RMC) called upon women to take part in the forthcoming parliamentary elections regardless of the 64% women representation in parliament, and 45% in cabinet because their participation in a key civil responsibility.

A report by Media High Council (MHC) shows that only 30.22% of people who provided information during 2016 local government election were women.

In the discussions it was highlighted that women have not only been reluctant in contesting for elective positions in political parties but also in other electoral related process.

It was also observed that despite the achievements at the policy level and affirma-



**A report by Media High Council (MHC) shows that only 30.22% of people who provided information during 2016 local government election were women.**

tive actions in place to promote gender equity, the political and civil spaces are still largely male dominated, perpetuated by socially constructed gender stereotypes.

"Many women still look at politics and media as fields for men and that they can only

participate in social activities, this needs to change" said Emmanuel Mugisha, the Executive Secretary of RMC.

It was noted that journalists have often bypassed women when looking for information related to politics.

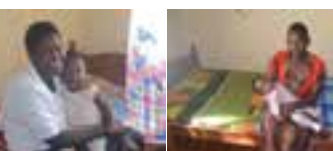
Anselme Majoro, the Director at National Women Council called upon women to take up their place in the political process through participating in elective politics.

Though the country has passed pro-women laws such as the new property law, which provides for a 50/50 split of property between husband and wife, the recently passed law that gives full compensation to women on maternity leave also came as a relief, but it was noted that issues around culture, poverty and mindset are still hindering women from attaining full empowerment.

Meet the Press is an initiative championed by RMC and ARJ, where experts, policy makers as well as implementers of public interest programs share an interactive platform with members of the media.



## Hope for Life Association



### OUR VISION

- Live for a brighter Future

### OUR MISSION

- Street children rehabilitation and integration
- Sponsorship program
- Providing health care and

- education
- Prevention of drug use and teenage pregnancy

### OUR CORE VALUES

- Respect & Dignity
- Honour and excellence
- Self actualisation & self-reliance

- Partnership & collaboration
- Responsibility and accountability

### OUR BENEFICIARIES

- Street and other vulnerable children
- Pregnant teenagers
- Poor families

### ADDRESS

Eastern Province  
Kayanza District  
Ruramira Sector

**Tel: 0788408401**

E-mail: [hopeforliferwanda@yahoo.com](mailto:hopeforliferwanda@yahoo.com)  
[josiane7@yahoo.fr](mailto:josiane7@yahoo.fr)





# STRENGTHENING RWANDA

SINCE 1984.



Learn more at [www.cimerwa.rw](http://www.cimerwa.rw)

    [cimerwappc](https://www.instagram.com/cimerwappc)

 3222



Strengthening Rwanda.

A PARTNER OF



PPC



Imigongo Art Center, a social business innovating Imigongo art as a way to generate employment for the youth and women in rural Rwanda. The center located at Kayanza, Eastern Province one hour drive from the capital Kigali also serves a great stop-over for people using the eastern highway, whether on

your business or field trip, visiting Akagera National Park, plan on stopping by and we will help you refresh in our beautiful and friendly artistic environment. We will guarantee you have a great cup of coffee, a locally blended smoothie, snack, use our free clean restrooms and wifi. We are looking forward to your visit!



**IMIGONGO  
ART CENTER**

For more info visit: [www.imigongoart.com](http://www.imigongoart.com).  
and facebook, twitter & instagram at [@imigongoart](https://www.instagram.com/imigongoart),  
Phone: **+250 782 073 369, +250 788 509 666.**