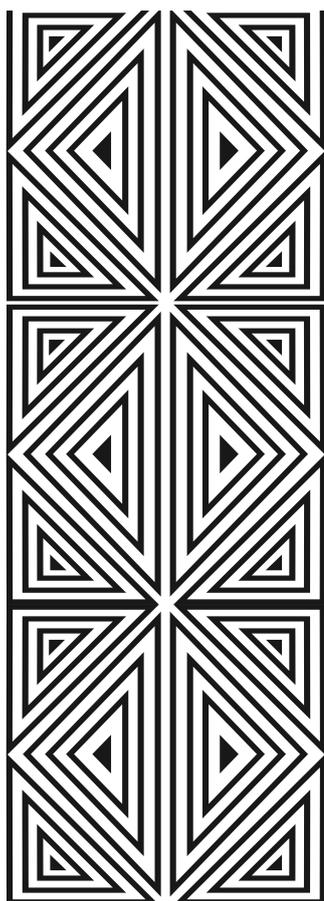


RwandaFul

Monthly Roundup of Rwanda's Stories



EMBASSY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS



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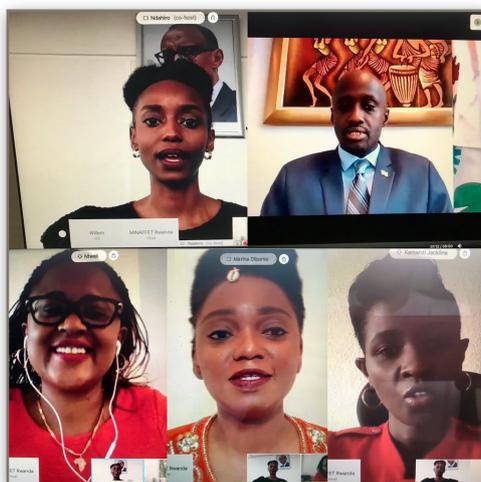
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**EMBASSY OF THE
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COVID-19 Vaccines Arrive In Rwanda



President Paul Kagame has expressed satisfaction that finally, Africa has got access to COVID-19 vaccines. The first batch of the AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine arrived in Kigali on the 3rd of March aboard a Qatar Airways flight.

COVAX, a global initiative aimed at equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines promoted by the World Health Organisation (WHO) played a big role in having the vaccines arrive in Africa. Currently, 172 countries, including the G8 have joined the initiative.

According to the Ministry of Health the vaccines were dispatched from the Rwanda Biomedical Center warehouse to District Hospitals and then onto all 508 health centers across Rwanda.

President Kagame, First Lady Get Covid-19 Vaccine

President Paul Kagame and First Lady Jeannette Kagame were vaccinated against Covid-19 on March 11, a week after the country received its first consignment of the vaccines.

“As part of the ongoing nationwide vaccination rollout that has seen more than 230,000 people vaccinated, President Kagame and First Lady Jeannette Kagame received their Covid-19 vaccines at King Faisal Hospital,” the Office of the President tweeted.



President Kagame and First Lady Jeannette Kagame receive COVID-19 vaccine

Click on the image to start the video.

President Kagame: 26th National Prayer Breakfast

On 28 March President Kagame addressed the 26th National Prayer Breakfast. The breakfast prayer brought together leaders from different institutions of the country and was held virtually due to Covid-19 pandemic. In his address, President Kagame urged the leaders to go about their duties with a heart for those they serve. President Kagame said he hopes that the prayer event will inspire all leaders to raise their collective ambitions for the country. President Kagame further thanked Rwandans for working hand in hand with leaders to avoid the worst consequences of the covid-19 pandemic. *Click on the image to start the video.*



26th National Prayer Breakfast

President Kagame Swears In New Ministers

On 19 March, President Kagame officiated the swearing in ceremony of newly appointed Minister of Trade and Industry, Hon. Habyarimana Uwamaliza Beata and Minister of Local Government, Hon. Jean Marie Vianney Gatabazi.

In his remarks of the day, president Kagame reminded all serving leaders that their work is to serve the citizens and the country, insisting on reminding themselves that they are working to transform citizens' lives for the better; and not working for their own gains.

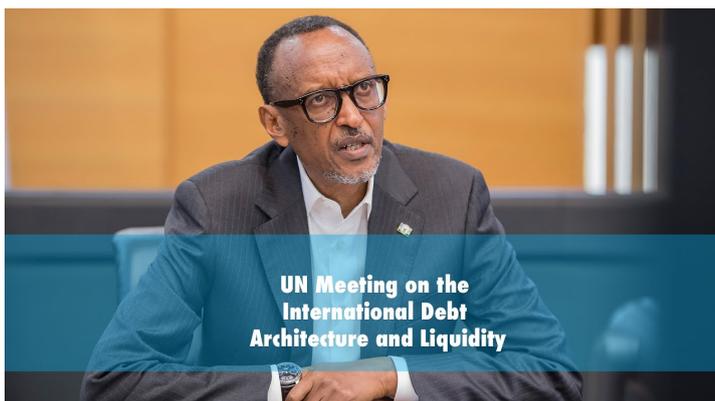
Click on the image to start the video.



President Kagame Addresses UN Meeting On International Debt Architecture & Liquidity

President Kagame attended the high-level meeting of Heads of State and Government on the international debt architecture and liquidity on 29 March. The meeting was jointly convened by the Secretary-General of United Nations, António Guterres, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada, and Prime Minister of Jamaica, Andrew Holness.

In his remarks, President Kagame said that modernizing the international debt architecture should not be seen as merely a Covid emergency measure. It is a long-overdue discussion that goes to the heart of the inequalities that continue to bedevil the world.



President Kagame proposed some measures that should be considered by the international community to ensure effective Covid-19 recovery and extending the G20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative and a new issuance of Special Drawing Rights would enhance liquidity.

Click on the image to start the video.

Prime Minister Presents Rwanda's Economic Recovery Plan To The Parliament

Prime Minister Dr. Edouard Ngirente presented to both chambers of Parliament two major Government of Rwanda initiatives to mitigate the economic impact COVID-19; the Economic Recovery Fund (ERF) and the Manufacture and Build to Recover Program

The [Economic Recovery Fund](#) was established to support the recovery of businesses severely affected by COVID-19 so that they can quickly resume operations and safeguard jobs. The fund was initially launched with Rwf 100 billion and is to be expanded to Rwf 350 billion by the end of 2021.

The incentives under the Manufacture and Build to Recover Program consist mainly of tax exemption on imported construction materials not available in the East African Community, as well as on construction materials sourced domestically, and reduction of tax credits on export revenues.”

Prime Minister Ngirente said: “All businesses highly impacted by the restrictions put in place to prevent the spread of the virus, or exposed to consumer discretionary spending, and those with global supply chains that have been disrupted, are eligible to apply for the support provided by the Economic Recovery Fund.”

“The [Manufacture and Build to Recover Program](#) aims to fast track private sector investments in manufacturing and construction. It will play a big role in reducing the cost of setting up industries of key essential products as well facilitating the expansion of small and medium industries.”

Sectors targeted by the ERF include but are not limited to tourism, manufacturing (including agri-processing), transport and logistics and SMEs linked to domestic and global supply chain.

Construction materials incentives are applicable to a minimum investment of \$10 million. Factory construction incentives are applied for a project whose investment is not less than \$1 million of construction value for companies opening a subsidiary in Rwanda, and not less than \$ 1 million or 20% of total investment when an entity purchases or leases an existing facility to begin new production in Rwanda.



Rwandans In The Netherlands Celebrate International Women's Day

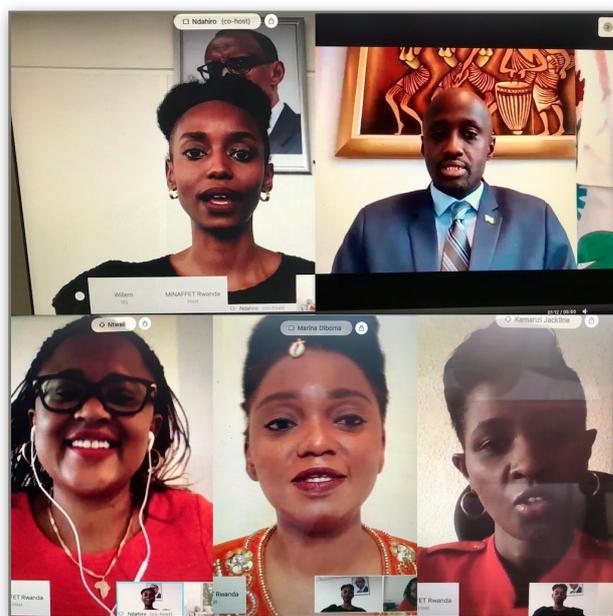
The Rwandan community and Friends of Rwanda in the Netherlands celebrated International Women's Day in a virtual ceremony held on 13 March and organized by the Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda in the Netherlands.

Ambassador Olivier Jean Patrick Nduhungirehe opened the virtual conference and indicated, among other things, that women's rights are equal to human rights. "Since March 2020, Rwanda and the rest of the world have been threatened by the COVID-19 epidemic and the current situation is difficult because it has affected our health and well-being," Ambassador Nduhungirehe said.

Women are at the forefront of medical care at all levels, with 70% of medical professionals, according to a study. The Rwandan government has come a long way in giving women the opportunity to take part in all activities and decisions. "A day like this is about thinking about women's rights and freedoms in everything we do in organizations that connect us with others but they also have a say and action at the national level," the Ambassador said.

Mrs Christella Mukamana is a member of the Rwandan community in the Netherlands and as a health care worker she was on the front line to fight Covid-19. She talked about how she experienced this as a Rwandan woman in the Netherlands. Mrs Mukamana told how she, as a woman working in these days in the homes of COVID-19 patients, was overwhelmed by what she saw, including caring for a sick person who died instantly, which has happened to many in these days.

Mrs Marina Diboma from Netherlands - African Business Council was also one of the speakers and she talked about the challenges related to corona in the past year. Most of the NABC management in The Hague consists of women. "Among our partners are many Rwandan investors and when you look at how they have worked in Rwanda to help Rwandans who have been affected by the epidemic, the administration is trying to be closer



to the people, providing them with the necessary resources that show Rwanda's progress," she said.

Mrs Jackline Kamanzi from Rwanda's National Women's Council talked about the impact of Covid-19 in Rwanda and in particular about female leadership in tackling Covid-19 and the role of women in decision-making processes. "In Rwanda, gender equality is something we are committed to, in the Rwandan Constitution, now 30% of women are in decision-making bodies," she said. As a result of the COVID-19 epidemic, women-led families were affected by 39.5%, while men-led households accounted for 37.6%, with women significantly affected. In her message, she advised women wherever they live to know the laws that protect them.

The entire session was expertly supervised this afternoon by Sandra Uwase, member of the Rwandan community in the Netherlands.

International Women's Day — The Women Of The Fossey Fund

In honor of International Women's Day on March 8, the Fossey Fund celebrated some of the many women who are in the field working to ensure that our critical conservation work continues. As a female-founded and female-led organization, they know that women can make a difference, and they want the world to see the impact of these amazing women who are on the front lines of conservation today!

One of them is Axelle Kamanzi, a PhD candidate at George Washington University (GWU) in Washington, D.C., started her research through the Fossey Fund in 2018. Axelle joined the doctoral program at GWU in 2017, where she studies primate feeding ecology, nutrition and conservation. "Never give up," advises Axelle. "You have to push on through in your education. I am happy to be among female conservationists and to have the opportunity to do research on mountain gorillas and contribute to their conservation." To read more about Axelle and other Fossey Fund women's stories, [click here](#).



Grace Ingabire Crowned Miss Rwanda 2021



Grace Ingabire was crowned Miss Rwanda 2021 during a colorful grand finale on 20 March. The glamorous event was held at the Intare Conference Arena, but with no physical attendance allowed due to the pandemic, the proceedings were streamed live.

Ingabire, who takes over the highly-competitive crown from Naomie Nishimwe, is a university graduate in Dance from Bates University in Mane, United States, won this year's beauty contest. She will work as the brand ambassador of Africa Improved Foods, one of the pageant's partners, in different initiatives and campaigning during her 12-month reign. In addition, she plans to implement a project that aims to promote dance as a learning tool that complements formal education.

A Green Future For Rwanda



Rwanda Development Board CEO Clare Akamanzi explains in *The Independent* about the transforming effect of tourism on local communities: "For the people of Kayonza district, home to Rwanda's Akagera National Park, the last decade has transformed their fortunes. Visitors from around the world are visiting the park for the rare chance to see the 'Big Five' (Lions, Rhinos, Leopards, Elephants and Buffalo) in their natural habitat.

The same is true of villages in Musanze in the north west of the country, where the Volcanoes National Park is home to Rwanda's world-famous mountain gorillas. For the children playing football on their school pitches at the foothills of the volcanoes, some wearing Arsenal shirts with 'Visit Rwanda' emblazoned on the sleeve, their future in an increasingly prosperous region is bright. The natural beauty of our 'land of a thousand hills' is rapidly becoming an ever more important part of Rwanda's economic growth, and strategy of recovery from the coronavirus pandemic."

[Read more](#) on the website of *The Independent*.

Top 5 Environmental Projects That Changes Lives Of Local Communities

TOP AFRICA NEWS selected some of Rwanda's environmental protection related projects that continue to change the lives of people in different parts of the country. The selected projects include some that focus on water conservation, reforestation and extending agroforestry species and of course these projects 'similarities are on the Landscape Restoration. These projects are linked to other key components that continue to contribute to the development of the community but are also expected to have other positive impacts over the long term. [Read more](#).



Rwanda Rising: Hope, Conservation And A Dream Realized

Forbes Magazine reported in March about Gishwati-Mukura, a protected reserve pulses with life. Lush with mist-covered forests, primates, waterfalls and native Umushwati trees, the area comprises the larger Gishwati and smaller Mukura, spanning 8,400 acres.



Nowadays it is a thriving habitat for the Eastern chimpanzees, and many other wildlife and avian species, a direct result of the dedicated work of the local community and the Forest of Hope Association (FHA).

The story of Gishwati inspires, brings hope in an otherwise bleak time and demonstrates how a community coming together can preserve their natural jewel. This off-the-beaten path UNESCO reserve is just what the soul needs to rejuvenate. Keep reading to find out how you can experience and help protect the youngest of Rwanda's national parks.

Going Green: Volkswagen Rwanda Unveils New Motor Charging Station

Volkswagen Mobility Solutions Rwanda unveiled a new charging station on 30 March thanks to a partnership between the company, Siemens and Radisson Blue Hotel. The new facility is located at Kigali Convention Centre and becomes the second of the kind after the one established in Kigali Special Economic Zone.

During the ceremony to launch the new charging station, Jeanne d'Arc Mujawamariya, Minister for Environment, commended Volkswagen's efforts towards green transportation. "This further advances Rwanda's transition to clean and green transportation," she noted. "For more than two decades, Rwanda has fostered a green growth approach to economic development through progressive environmental policies and the protection of our natural heritage. Investing in e-mobility is a continuation of this approach," she explained.



Five Years On, Garden Fresh Exports 20T Of Fresh Produce Every Week

Founded five years ago, Garden Fresh is evolving into a strong actor in production and exportation of fresh vegetables and fruits to international buyers in the Netherlands, the UK and other parts of Europe. “80% of fresh vegetables that are exported are grown in our own farms,” Garden Fresh Managing Director Aimable Gakirage says. With own farms in Kagitumba, Nyagatare and Kayonza in Collaboration with more than 600 out-growers and cooperatives, the company is capable of producing 30 tons with an average of 20 tons per week exportable. Before Covid19, the company was employing some 400 people on a regular basis. [Read more.](#)



Bella Flowers: From A Small Firm To Exporting Millions Of Fresh Cut Roses

Bella Flowers Ltd grows 18 varieties of roses at Gishali Flower Park. The pioneer rose farm was designed by the Government of Rwanda in 2016 as a strategic government investment to boost the Rwandan floriculture sector. The farm produces cut roses for export to international markets.



The initiative is implemented on a public private partnership basis. “We began humbly in 2016, cultivating intermediate standard rose flowers on 20 ha giving us an annual output of 20 million stems. Then we added another 20 ha, upping output to 40 million stems. In phase III, we are adding another 6 ha with the greenhouses already in place,” says Ephrem Kwitonda, Sales and Marketing Officer, Bella Flowers Ltd. Four years down the road, Bella Flowers Ltd produces 30-32 MT of cut roses exportable to the Netherlands, the UK,

Australia, South Korea and Japan with small quantities going to some Africans countries. [Read more.](#)

Announcement

7 April 2021

Virtual Commemoration

Kwibuka27



The Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, in collaboration with IBUKA-Netherlands, cordially invites you to the 27th Commemoration of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda.

Date: 7th April 2021
Time: 15:00 to 16:00

The commemoration will be live on  YouTube

#Kwibuka27



H.E. Olivier Jean Patrick Nduhungirehe
Ambassador of the Republic of Rwanda to the Netherlands



Mrs. Christine Safari
Chairperson of IBUKA-Netherlands



Mr. Paul Huijts
Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



Judge Carmel Agius
President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT)



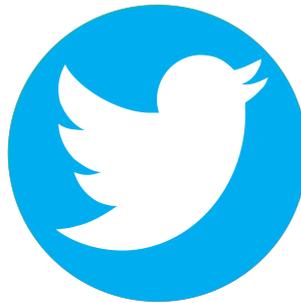
Mrs. Naila Clarisse
Genocide survivor

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We invite our followers on social media to like & share our posts, react to them and post relevant items on our social media pages. This way, you will help spread the emerging great story of Rwanda to those who do not yet know. Murakoze!



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