



UNITED NATIONS
RWANDA



TURI KUMWE

Newsletter | 2023 Quarter 4



FOREWORD



Mr. Ozonia Ojelo
UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR

I am pleased to share with you the latest edition of our quarterly newsletter commonly known as TURIKUMWE, which highlights the tremendous work done by the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Rwanda.

In the past few months, we have had numerous thrilling initiatives and engagements that exhibit our continued assurance as the United Nations as we endeavor to serve Rwandans.

I had the pleasure to Co-Chair this year's Development Partners retreat with the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Dr. Uzziel Ndagijimana. With productive engagement from UNCT members, government cabinet officials, and civil society representatives, we charted a proper path on ways to strengthen our partnerships and enhance coordination in delivering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Rwanda, especially with our involvement in the next Country's National Strategy for Transformation (NST2)

We celebrated United Nations Day (UN Day 2023) where a series of activities were organized including tree planting, a friendly football tournament, blood donation, and a national event where,

together with government high-level representatives gathered to reflect on the theme "Equality, Freedom, and Justice for All"

To promote the creative industry, we received a delegation of Nigerian icons under the MITTA Centre who engaged with the government and local sector actors and am glad to inform you that several collaborative projects are already in the pipeline.

I strongly believe that investing in Africa's creative industry is a pathway to unlock the transformative power of culture, contributing to sustainable development goals and fostering inclusive growth.

With the efforts to continue advocating for a conducive human-rights environment, we celebrated the International Human Rights Day held in Bugesera eastern province.

This was a great platform to highlight the significance of working together with the government, civil society organisations, and other stakeholders to create a society where everyone can enjoy their inherent rights, regardless of factors such as race, gender, religion, or socio-economic status.

The UNCT was delighted to welcome The United Nations Under-Secretary-General and UN Development Programme Administrator, Mr. Achim Steiner who is also the Vice Chair of the United Nations Development Group.

He engaged in a series of high-level meetings with Ministers, the Private sector and civil society, senior government officials, and H.E. the President of the Republic of Rwanda President Paul Kagame where he acknowledged the country's socioeconomic progress and pledged for more transformative partnerships.

I am further thrilled to inform you that Rwanda hosted the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) to assess the security and stability in the region.

The five-day gathering convened foreign ministers and experts from 11 member countries to deliberate on the best approaches to promote and advocate for peace and stability across the region.

Your commitment to collaborate and Continuing to explore innovative ways to tackle development priorities demonstrates a forward-thinking and adaptable approach.

I am certainly optimistic that by adopting new technologies, implementing creative solutions, and staying responsive to changing circumstances, we will together make Rwanda her target.





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Pictures featuring UN Day events, encompassing activities like tree planting, blood donation, football games, and a town hall meeting.

UN DAY 2023: EMPOWERING UNITY, CELEBRATING RIGHTS, AND SUSTAINING DEVELOPMENT

United Nations Day 2023 unfolded with a profound focus on the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) under the theme "Equality, Freedom, and Justice for All." This theme resonated deeply with Rwanda's poignant history, emphasizing the shared commitment to safeguarding human rights.

An exceptional Umuganda tree-planting event took place in Mbyo (Bugesera) Unity and Resilient Village, bringing together UN Agencies, government partners, the Diplomatic Community, Development Partners, Prison Fellowship Rwanda (PFR), and the local community.

The event featured speeches by Mr. Richard Mutabazi, Mayor of Bugesera district, testimonies from both victims and perpetrators of the Genocide against the Tutsi, remarks by PFR Co-Founder Bishop John Rucyahana, and remarks by UN Resident Coordinator Mr. Ozonnia Ojielo. During this event, participants successfully planted 2000 trees in the sector to conserve the environment.

The closing remarks were delivered by the Guest of Honor, Minister MINUBUMWE Hon Minister Dr. Jean Damascène Bizimana. Symbolizing the power of collective action for sustainable development, this special Umuganda for Tree Planting in Mbyo became a tangible expression of the UN's initiative rooted in the resilient spirit of the village.

Mbyo Unity, Reconciliation, and Resilient Village stand as a powerful symbol of Rwanda's dedication to post-conflict recovery and sustainable development.

Born from a challenging past, Mbyo embodies the nation's commitment to unity and reconciliation, illustrating the transformative impact of community-driven efforts to heal and rebuild. As a "Resilient Village," Mbyo becomes a beacon of progress, harmony, and collective strength. The UN's tree-planting initiative in Mbyo further solidifies this commitment, symbolizing sustainable development rooted in the remarkable resilience of the community.

A friendly football match was organized at Kigali Pele Stadium on October 22, 2023, fostering camaraderie between the Government of Rwanda, the Diplomatic Community, the United Nations, and Development Partners. The event featured both adult and children's matches, providing a fun-filled experience for all participants.

Additionally, the match served as an excellent opportunity to showcase the branding materials of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and UN Day, effectively promoting these crucial global initiatives in an engaging and inclusive manner. The mini-tournament reached its conclusion with the United Nations team securing victory against the government of Rwanda team on 5-4 penalties following a goalless draw. Concurrently, as the football matches continued, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN Clinic collaborated with the National Blood Transfusion Centre, with several officials actively participating in blood donation and 22 participants donated blood. This underscored the importance of humanitarian initiatives alongside sporting events.

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A group photograph capturing MITTA Center members and Rwandan creatives following their meeting with the Minister of State for the Ministry of Youth and Arts, Hon. Sandrine Umutoni



FOSTERING CREATIVITY: RWANDA AND NIGERIAN CREATIVE INDUSTRY EXPERTS TO FORGE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS.

In alignment with Rwanda's dedicated commitment to nurturing its creative industry and empowering its youth, as underscored during the UN Deputy Secretary-General's visit to Art Rwanda Ubuhanzi on the sidelines of the 2022 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kigali, a collaborative effort has been initiated. UN Rwanda, Imbuto Foundation, the Ministry of Youth and Arts, and the Ministry of National Unity and Civic Engagement (MINUBUMWE) are jointly shaping the 'Unleashing the Potential of Youth through Creative Industry in Rwanda' Joint Programme.

This comprehensive initiative aims to equip Rwandan youth with essential skills and knowledge to establish sustainable creative enterprises, promoting innovation, professionalism, and inclusivity within the creative economy.

Additionally, it seeks to foster collaboration and network-building between the creative industries of Rwanda and Nigeria. As a part of this initiative, Rwanda hosted a delegation of six experts from Nigeria to assess progress, opportunities, and challenges within the Culture and Creative Sector.

Rwandan and Nigerian creative industry experts are set to chart a new path to create a platform for collaboration

and partnership in a new move to promote and strengthen the foundations of their respective creative landscapes. The first step happened after the productive visit by Nigerian icons to Rwanda where they held several engagements with Rwandan government officials, United Nations Rwanda, and the local industry practitioners and experts.

This partnership will mark a significant step toward nurturing cross-cultural exchanges, promoting talent, and unleashing the untapped potential of the African creative sector that is envisaged to create more job opportunities, especially among the African youth.

Adebola Williams Chairperson of AWWNetwork and founder of MITTA Centre who led the delegation of the Nigerian's icons expressed the willingness and eagerness to strategize on the new channels to enhance partnership.

"This sector has a huge potential and we want to come up with a roadmap that will help either catalyze or accelerate the creative economy to create jobs for young people, to protect their Intellectual Property, to upskill their capacity, share knowledge, and build structures that help them be their most effective experts", Adebola said.

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UNRC Mr. Ozonnia Ojielo, UNCT, together with The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Justice, Mr. Mbonera Theophile AND Chairperson of National Commission for Human Rights, Ms. Providence Umurungi visit a cooperative stand presenting their products during the celebration of International Human Rights Day.

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INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY: OFFICIALS CALL FOR COLLABORATION TO PROMOTE JUSTICE.

December 10, 2023, marked a momentous occasion in Rwanda as the United Nations in Rwanda, government agencies, and Civil society organisations came together to celebrate the International Day of Human Rights. Against the backdrop of a rich cultural tapestry and a history marked by resilience, Rwanda embraced this day as an opportunity to reinforce the principles of dignity, equality, and justice enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The day serves as a reminder of the importance of safeguarding and promoting human dignity, equality, and justice. It is an opportunity to highlight ongoing human rights challenges and encourage individuals, governments, and organizations to take action to protect and promote human rights for everyone.

The celebration of International Human Rights Day (IHRD) that took place in Bugesera district in the eastern part of Rwanda attracted UN high-level officials, Government representatives, civil society, and other stakeholders.

Officials highlighted the significance of working together to create a global environment where everyone can enjoy their inherent rights, regardless of factors such as race, gender, religion, or socio-economic status.

The United Nations Resident Coordinator Ozonnia Ojielo mentioned that International Human Rights Day serves as a reminder that the protection of human rights is a shared responsibility that requires continuous effort and cooperation on a national and global scale. *“Achieving equality between women and men and eliminating all forms of discrimination against women, girls, and persons with disabilities are fundamental human rights and key to realizing sustainable development goals. We can all agree that no country can develop by denying equal opportunities to a certain category of its population”* he said.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include a commitment to human rights, and human rights principles are embedded across various goals. Specifically, Goal 16 promotes peaceful and inclusive societies, provides access to justice for all, and builds effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.

This goal encompasses several targets related to human rights, such as ensuring equal access to justice, promoting the rule of law, reducing violence, combating corruption, and protecting fundamental freedoms. The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Justice Mbonera Theophile observed that the government of Rwanda always strives to ensure that the rights of the nationals are respected.

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(L-R) UNRC Mr. Ozonnia Ojielo, Hon. Minister of Gender and Family Promotion Dr. Valentine Uwamariya, Hon. Minister of Local Government, MUSABYIMANA Jean Claude, Hon. Minister of Finance Dr. Uzziel Ndagijimana and UNCT Rwanda, posing for a group photo after One UN Steering Committee Meeting.



GOVERNMENT AND ONE UN RWANDA ASSESS THE IMPACT OF COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS TOWARD ACHIEVING THE COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

The Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Dr. Uzziel Ndagijimana and the United Nations Resident Coordinator to Rwanda Mr. Ozonnia Ojielo chaired the 2023 One UN Steering Committee to assess the impact of the joint efforts aimed at achieving the Rwanda development agenda.

The One UN Steering Committee Meeting is an essential time to review and reflect on the progress that the UN system has made in the implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Plan Two (CF) which is fully aligned with the National Strategy for Transformation One (NST1).

The high-level gathering attracted government cabinet ministers from different sectors, Heads of UN Agencies in Rwanda, development partners, Civil society representatives, and Mr. Achim Steiner the UNDP Administrator who was on an official visit to Rwanda.

While officially opening the meeting, Minister Dr. Uzziel Ndagijimana underscored the significance of the meeting mentioning that it is a re-affirmation of the Government of Rwanda's commitment to Delivering as One Initiative or the "One UN" as commonly referred to, since 2007 when Rwanda became among the eight pilot countries with

the main objective of strengthening the effectiveness and coherence of the UN at the country level. *"The UN has been fully aligning its interventions with our medium to longer-term development strategies through the UNDP with the Leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator. Today we have the opportunity to review, assess, and commit ourselves to act together with the main purpose of ensuring that the One UN becomes a reality in Rwanda which I am sure can be replicated elsewhere in the World"*. He said.

Minister further mentioned that as the government focuses on achieving the targets in the remaining period of NST1 and preparation for the successor program "we will count on the UN's collaboration in this Journey and I believe that our Meeting today is relevant for this reason".

Through various agencies and the Resident Coordinator's office, the United Nations plays a crucial role in supporting Rwanda's socioeconomic development through a variety of programs and initiatives, especially in different areas like poverty reduction and economic development, health, education, youth, gender equality and women empowerment, environmental sustainability, and good governance among others.

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A group photo of the participants of the 56th Ministerial Meeting of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC) hosted by Rwanda

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



PEACE AND SECURITY AT THE TABLE AS REGIONAL COUNTRIES CONVENE UNDER UNSAC

Creating and sustaining peace and security in the Great Lakes region of Africa involves a comprehensive and collaborative approach, addressing both immediate and underlying causes of conflicts.

This was at the center of the discussion during the 56th Ministerial Meeting of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC) hosted by Rwanda.

The five-day gathering convened foreign ministers and experts from 11 member countries of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) to assess various topics focusing on security and stability issues in the region.

The United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG CAAC), Ms. Virginia Gamba, called on member countries to prioritize the issue of shielding children in conflicted areas as a vital aspect of human rights protection.

In his speech at the opening remarks the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Central Africa and Head of UNOCA, Abdou Abarry, echoed his Concern about the resurgence of coups d'état observed recently in Africa in general, he mentioned that it is *"imperative to reassess the prevention mechanisms that have shown their limits."*


The UN Leader commended the meeting mentioning that though it was generally focusing on human rights protection, it was also a great opportunity to advocate for children suffering in the conflicted zones in the region particularly girls who are raped by terrorists and armed groups.

During this meeting, Rwanda was elected to chair the Bureau of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa for the next 6 months.

In his remarks, Rwanda's foreign affairs Minister H.E Vincent Biruta called for joint efforts to address regional security issues. He stated that Central Africa is facing numerous security threats, ranging from the problem of small arms to questions linked to migration crises, climate change, terrorism, extremism, and unconstitutional changes, among others.

Minister Biruta further emphasized the need to identify and adopt coherent strategies to counter all potential threats to the stability of the sub-region while reiterating Rwanda's commitment to achieving the goal.

"I hope this meeting will give new impetus to the search for solutions to the security challenges facing our sub-region. I would also like to reiterate Rwanda's willingness to work with each of you to achieve this goal," he highlighted.

 [Interview with The UN Special Representative of the SRSG CAAC, Ms. Virginia Gamba](#)

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Shema Kayitare, a Congolese refugee in Nyabiheke camp, checking his soybean crops in the field.



SUPPORTING REFUGEE LIVELIHOODS IN RWANDA

Forced to flee from his native Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) due to war, Shema Kayitare, had to leave everything behind and seek refuge in Rwanda. Living in Nyabiheke refugee camp located in the eastern part of the country since 2013, it was not easy for the 35-year-old man to adjust to a new life in the camp.

But with different initiatives meant to support refugees' livelihoods in Nyabiheke, Shema can now rebuild his life. "We were living an isolated life in the camp. But we are now grateful to the Government and UNHCR for providing us with farming plots in Nyabicwamba marshland where we grow maize and soybeans," Shema explains.

He adds that in the marshland, they learned some good practices from their Rwandan hosts and vice versa. *"This doesn't only improve our friendship, but we also get yields from the marshland for home consumption, and we sell another portion of it to market to get some income,"* Shema points out.

He made the remarks during a recent X space that was organized in the lead-up to the UN Day celebration held on 20th October 2023. The online-based conversation focused on initiatives to support refugee livelihoods in Rwanda, and featured some refugees who have been supported through different initiatives by the UNHCR.

During his presentation, Shema shared the story of their cooperative dubbed "Koperative Duhuzimbaraga Gatsibo (CODIGA)," a thriving community of farmers from refugee and Rwandan host communities.

"Last season, I harvested 111 kg of soybeans. I took home 5kg to make porridge for my family and sold the rest of the produce, earning Rwf 80,000 (approx. US\$60). I shared the money with my wife so that she could buy other basic needs of the family," Shema says, adding that he knows colleagues who earned more than him.

Shema is part of the 466 Congolese refugees in Nyabiheke camp from neighboring areas who are supported to improve their livelihood through this farming project. Danya Kattan, UNHCR livelihoods officer, explained that the idea was to bring together refugees and Rwandans living in neighboring areas so they can work together and coexist. It is in line with a joint strategy for graduation and self-reliance by the Ministry in Charge of Emergency Management (MINEMA) and UNHCR.

Currently, UNHCR has over 135,000 refugees and asylum seekers registered in Rwanda. Most of these refugees come from DRC and Burundi – around 60% are Congolese while about 40% are Burundians. 90% of these refugees live in five camps across the country.

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One of the refugees departing for Canada embraces family and friends prior to leaving.



UN DAY X SPACES: DELIVERING EQUALITY, JUSTICE AND FREEDOM FOR MIGRANTS

In marking the 79th Anniversary of the United Nations, International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Rwanda, the UN held a public Dialogue to shed light on the crucial role of delivering equality, justice, and freedom for individuals on the move. The Dialogue which took place on X space, stressed the importance of affording migrants equal access to services and opportunities, recognising their fundamental rights.

A notable example highlighted during the discussion was IOM's efforts in skills development through collaboration with the Rwandan diaspora living abroad. Individuals from the diaspora engage in short assignments in Rwanda, sharing their expertise to contribute to the skills development and knowledge transfer of the local population.

One example is Jean Claude. He moved to Belgium in 2006 to earn a Bachelor's degree in Electronics. Upon completing the course, he quickly started a thriving career as a railway technology specialist. When 17 years into his Belgian chapter, Jean Claude heard about an opportunity to travel back to Rwanda to share his skills, he did not hesitate to sign up for the programme.

"Wherever Rwandans go, they are exposed to new technologies and knowledge. There is nobody better to bring it back to Rwanda than us." The discourse on X space, underscored the significance of access to justice as a fundamental right for migrants, emphasizing its essential role as a prerequisite for the realisation of all other rights.

This is particularly crucial in ensuring the labor rights of migrants from other countries are respected.

Moreover, the conversation acknowledged migration as an inherent expression of freedom. Rwanda's approach to managing migration was commended, citing policies and measures such as the registration of third national countries, open-visa policies, open-for-business policies, and free movement for East African Community (EAC) nationals. Notably, Rwanda was the first country to ratify the AU Free Movement Protocol of the AfCFTA, being one of only four countries to do so.

"Everybody deserves access to services, including migrants. While skills are widely distributed, opportunities are not," asserted Ash Carl, Chief of Mission for IOM Rwanda. "We work with Rwandans residing overseas to explore how they can transfer those skills back to their home country."

Migration is a cross-cutting issue in the 2030 Agenda, relevant to all of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Further, the SDG's motto to "leave no one behind" is a clear call for sustainable development to be inclusive, including for migrants. At least ten out of 17 goals contain targets and indicators that are directly relevant to migration or mobility. Ensuring equality, justice, and freedom for migrants is not only a moral imperative but also a fundamental commitment to building inclusive societies, fostering global harmony, and unlocking the full potential of diverse contributions to collective progress.

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During the World Food Day celebration in 2023, which focused on "Water is food, water is life," officials emphasized the urgent need to safeguard rainwater to support sustainable development goals.

WORLD FOOD DAY: FARMERS URGED TO PRIORITISE WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Every year on 16th October, the world marks the World Food Day. In Rwanda, this year's festivities were celebrated on 27th October, in the Eastern Province in Kayonza District, under the theme "Water is Life, Water is Food, Leave No One Behind."

During the event, the Ministry of Agriculture and, the UN's Rome-based Agencies reminded farmers of the critical role of water resource management in ensuring food security. Given Rwanda's heavy reliance on agriculture, the preservation and sustainable use of water resources are of paramount importance. Officials stressed the significance of implementing effective irrigation systems and promoting water conservation practices.

"Water is life; water is food; we use water in our daily lives; without water, even agriculture cannot survive. We need to protect our water resources and ensure their sustainable use for future generations," emphasized Minister of Agriculture Dr Ildephonse Musafiri. He added that by prioritizing water resource management, Rwanda aims not only to ensure food security but also to mitigate the impacts of climate change on agriculture.

Kayonza district is among the most drought-prone districts in Rwanda, with approximately 75 % of its total area highly susceptible to drought and an additional 25% classified as very highly susceptible.

The World Food Day celebrations in Kayonza included the inauguration of initiatives aimed at extending water resources and infrastructure. This encompassed the construction of 26 valley dams and 20 boreholes, among other climate-resilient projects funded under initiatives like the Kayonza Integrated Irrigation Water Shade Management Scheme.

Claude Tuyisenge, a resident in the Murundi sector, shared his experience: *"Personally, my livestock used to suffer during drought periods; we had to travel long distances in search of water, which posed health risks to the animals and hindered their productivity. With reduced stress in finding water sources, we can now focus on implementing modern farming techniques to enhance our livestock practices."*

SDG No.6 specifically focuses on ensuring access to clean water and sanitation for all. In line with this goal, the country has implemented various strategies to improve water management, including the expansion of water management infrastructure and providing dam sheets to farmers with subsidies, among other initiatives.

Officials pointed out that Rwanda has received sufficient rainfall to meet its basic demands from simple run-off-river systems. However, the country's hydrological system faces challenges in meeting the growing water needs of its recent development and changing climate. To address this, Rwanda has invested in reservoirs and dam projects.

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Hon. Minister of Justice, Dr. Emmanuel Ugirashebuja, engaging in a panel discussion by addressing questions and sharing insights.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

KIGALI CITY, RWANDA

NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON HUMAN RIGHTS 75 INITIATIVE: HUMAN RIGHTS PRIORITIES AND PLEDGES

Under the leadership of the Honourable Minister of Justice/Attorney General Dr. Emmanuel Ugirasebuja and with the support of the UN Resident Coordinator name, the Government of Rwanda held its national dialogue on human rights on 13th November 2023.

This dialogue brought together sixty (60) high-level representatives from the Government, the judiciary, the Parliament, the National Commission for Human Rights, civil society organizations, law enforcement and security organs, the United Nations, the diplomatic corps, development partners, trade unions, academia, and the media.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights played a crucial role in the organisation of this event, notably by co-chairing the organisation committee made up of the Ministry of Justice and the National Commission for Human Rights, and equally provided the necessary guidance for the elaboration of the priorities and pledges made by stakeholders.

The Resident Coordinator a.i name in her speech commended the High Commissioner for Human Rights for launching the Human Rights 75 Initiative calling for the organization of national dialogues on human rights by all States.

She mentioned that this call joins several voices notably that of the UN Secretary-General who in his call to action for human rights invites all actors to take urgent action by placing human rights at centre to our most pressing issues as a common humanity.

She also applauded the efforts of the Government which have facilitated great progress in promoting gender equality, inclusion, and sustainable development through the adoption of numerous home-grown solutions, showcasing the strong commitment of authorities at the highest level who have spared no efforts towards achieving success.

The Minister of Justice/Attorney General on his part emphasised the importance of this Dialogue which is *“informed by our nation's history which is marked by adversity, but through the lens of our past, we have learned the hard way that respect for human rights is not a choice but a moral imperative. It is the cornerstone upon which we build a just and equitable society.”*

He reiterated that Rwanda’s commitments extend beyond borders. We actively engage in international dialogues, contributing to the global discourse on human rights, learning from others, and sharing our experiences.

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Rwandan singer and songwriter Boukuru delivering an electrifying performance at Flytime Fest in Nigeria.

BOUKURU'S PERFORMANCE AT FLYTIME FEST IN NIGERIA: A GREAT STEPPINGSTONE TO HER CARRIER

Christine Uwase Boukuru a young Rwanda vocalist found herself in Nigeria, ready to perform for the very first time in her career on the global scene. It was a dream come true for her, as she had always admired the vibrant music scene not only in Africa but on an international level.

As she stepped onto the stage, she couldn't help but feel a mix of nerves and excitement. Little did she know that she would be sharing the stage with big icons like the famous David Adedeji Adeleke OON, who is professionally known as Davido among others.

Boukuru's performance in Nigeria was an immediate result emanating from the partnership between the government of Rwanda through the Ministry of Youth and Arts, Imbutu Foundation, and the United Nations in Rwanda to promote the creative industry.

"This was a dream come true and life-uplifting to me. I made a lot of connections and recorded three songs with Nigerian artists that will be released soon" the excited Boukuru narrated.

As the lights dimmed and the music began, she took a deep breath and let her voice soar. Her soulful melodies filled the air, captivating the audience from the very first note. The crowd was mesmerized by her unique blend of African rhythms and heartfelt lyrics, swaying to the beat and singing along.

The young artist's performance was met with thunderous applause and cheers. The audience recognized her raw talent and the authenticity she brought to her music. It was a proud moment for her, representing not only Rwanda but also the power of music to transcend borders and unite people from different cultures.

"Upcoming artists will always need opportunities like. We need to collaborate with other famous artists to grow our talents thank you the government of Rwanda and UN Rwanda for this opportunity I got",

The experience had not only elevated her artistry but also broadened her horizons. She was now more inspired than ever to explore new sounds, collaborate with artists from diverse backgrounds, and use her music as a tool for positive change.



[Interview with Christine Uwase Boukuru](#)



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