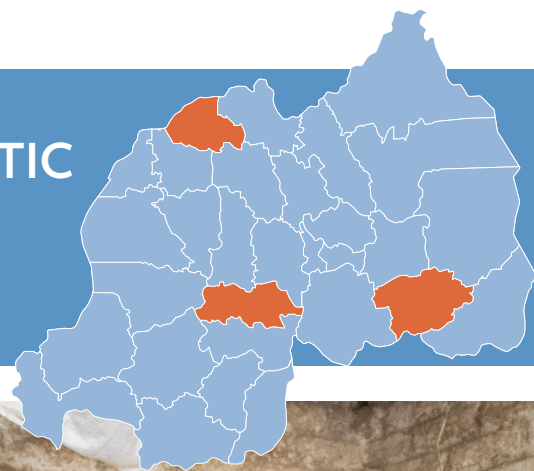


IMPROVING SKILLS FOR HOLISTIC EMPLOYMENT IN MODERN AGRICULTURE (ISHEMA)



SECTOR | Education, vocational training and employment

DURATION | 72 months (November 2024-October 2030)

TARGET GROUPS

- institutional Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) stakeholders;
- TVET students in crops and livestock production and processing;
- private sector actors benefiting from improved access to talent and agricultural innovations.

SECTORAL POLICIES AND REFERENCE STRATEGIES

- Rwanda's Vision 2050;
- National Strategy for Transformation;
- Education Sector Strategic Plan 2024-2029.

INSTITUTIONAL ANCHORAGE

- Ministry of Education;
- Rwanda TVET Board.

BUDGET | EUR 30 million



Rwanda's Vision 2050 aims to transform the country into a high-income nation with high living standards for all citizens. A key challenge is modernising agriculture, which employs 69% of the population, to increase productivity and sustainability while reducing reliance on subsistence farming. This requires significant innovation in agricultural practices and the development of high-quality agricultural TVET to equip workers with relevant skills. Empowering women and youth is crucial, as they represent a significant portion of the agricultural workforce and play a vital role in driving innovation within their communities.

OBJECTIVES

The project aims to transform Rwanda's agricultural sector by improving access to quality TVET and strengthening labour market integration. It focuses on establishing TVET Centres of Excellence (CoEs) with two key objectives:

- increasing access to certified agricultural skills;
- boosting innovation and employment linkages by setting up production units within TVET CoEs.

These units will provide hands-on training, foster entrepreneurship, and connect education with industry.

By aligning training with industry needs and fostering

connections between TVET CoEs and the economic ecosystem, the project seeks to empower graduates, support rural communities, and advance agricultural modernisation.

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

The project supports three TVET CoEs and the districts in which these are situated: EAV Gitwe Technical Secondary Schools (TSS) (Ngoma district), Mutobo TSS (Musanze district) and Kinazi TSS (Ruhango district).

BENEFICIARIES

Direct beneficiaries include government agencies and staff involved in improving agricultural vocational training, including over 150 teachers and administrative staff at targeted TVET CoEs. Final beneficiaries are current and prospective students, including school dropouts, who will access to high-quality training and support services. Adults seeking employment or new skills through short courses will also benefit, with special attention to women and persons with disabilities. Additionally, the private sector, including farmers and small businesses, will benefit from a more skilled workforce and innovative agricultural practices that enhance productivity.

EXPECTED RESULTS AND MAIN ACTIONS

- strengthened governance through capacity building of central and district institutions to review curricula, develop TVET CoEs standards and ensure alignment with economic needs;
- three CoEs established with upgraded infrastructure, modern teaching methods, and conducive learning environments for long-term training and short upskilling courses;
- production units created within the CoEs to provide practical training, link students to real-worlds agricultural practices, and generate income for school sustainability;
- assessment centres set up to certify existing skills through Recognition of Prior Learning;
- enhanced workplace learning and career guidance to support students' transition into the agricultural labour market;
- enhanced capacity of CoEs staff and management to deliver high-quality courses in crop and livestock production and processing;
- strengthened industry and research linkages through engagement of CoEs with local communities and research institutions to foster innovation and improve productivity.

ACHIEVEMENTS (2025)



Occupational profiles and standards validated with the industry

28
specialisations

in **4** occupational areas:
crop production and processing; livestock production and processing

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion strategy



Disability-Inclusive Job Matching Matrix



4,000
farmers interested to join innovative outgrower programme

Contracts with architectural design team for the infrastructure rehabilitation of

3
schools

100+
traditional crop varieties planted in 3 schools to support local seed production

16
already yielding seed

12 visits to stakeholders to build partnerships

Matrix approved for teacher assessment in

25 agricultural schools and for skills tracking in the CoEs

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