



Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of ICT
and Innovation

#TechHubChronicles

MINICT QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Welcome Note



On behalf of the Ministry of ICT and Innovation, I am thrilled to welcome you to this first edition of our TechHub Chronicles quarterly newsletter, where we share the latest milestones across Rwanda's digital ecosystem with you.

Rwanda is on a mission to shape a digitally inclusive and innovative future! In this first edition, we celebrate key achievements in our digital transformation journey —from AI leadership on the global stage to game-changing fintech solutions and youth-centred upskilling initiatives. You will also discover how we are making access to digital services more accessible and expanding opportunities for Rwandans in tech.

This March, as we mark International Women's Day, we reaffirm our commitment to closing the digital gender gap and ensuring that women are not only active participants in Rwanda's digital transformation, but are at its forefront. We are continuing to invest in expanding digital skills, financial inclusion, and tech-driven opportunities for women, thus creating pathways to social and financial independence that benefit not just individuals, but entire communities.

We are excited to have you as a reader and look forward to sharing more of these exciting developments with you in our future editions; developments that **you make possible**, be it through your policy contributions, your role in their implementation, your support and partnership, or your active participation.

Hon. Paula Ingabire
Minister of ICT and Innovation

Rwanda Takes Center Stage in Global AI Conversations



Image: Minister Paula Ingabire meets with Hon. Eng. Abdullah Alswaha, Minister of ICT of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the World Economic Forum in Davos.

January and February have been packed with game-changing moments for Rwanda's tech landscape! Minister Paula Ingabire kicked off the year by representing Rwanda at the World Economic Forum (WEF) from 20th to 24th January in Davos, where she championed AI's role in shaping Rwanda's future. With projections estimating AI could contribute up to 6% of the country's GDP, she emphasized its transformative potential in agriculture, healthcare, and governance. She also reinforced Rwanda's commitment to digital inclusion, ensuring no one is left behind in the AI revolution.

The conversation continued in Paris at the AI Action Summit from 10th to 11th February, where Minister Ingabire showcased Rwanda's strides in AI accessibility—most notably, the development of a Kinyarwanda large language model. From AI-powered agricultural solutions to signing the global pledge for ethical AI, Rwanda made it clear: we're not just adapting to AI, we're leading with it!



Image: Minister Paula Ingabire meets with French President H.E. Emmanuel Macron on the sidelines of the AI Action Summit, Paris.



As we think about Africa, we need to understand the priorities to focus on to accelerate AI adoption across the continent: data and infrastructure, investing in AI talent and ecosystem, ethical AI and policy frameworks, and international cooperation.” Min. Paula Ingabire at the AI Action Summit

Rwanda Hosts the Inclusive Fintech Forum



Image: Minister Paula Ingabire speaks on a panel on "Accelerating Affordable Remittances in Africa" At IFF 2025

The digital spotlight continued to shine on Rwanda as Kigali hosted the second Inclusive Fintech Forum from 24th to 26th February. Minister Ingabire joined a panel on "Accelerating Affordable Remittances in Africa," highlighting Rwanda's progress in digital payments and financial inclusion while making the case for harmonized regulations and stronger partnerships across Africa to further lower costs and enhance efficiency.

A highlight was the launch of the **Rwanda National Digital Payment System 2.0 (RNDPS 2.0)/eKash**, which enables seamless transactions across multiple financial providers. The platform - built by RSwitch -



Image: Blaise Pascal Gasabira, CEO of RSwitch announces the RNDPS 2.0 at IFF 2025

initially focused on person-to-person transfers and is now expanding to merchant payments, with bill, bulk, and government payments coming soon. Minister Ingabire underscored Rwanda's strategic use of open-source technology to create scalable, secure solutions—pioneering inclusive financial innovations with potential to transform lives across Africa.



eKash allows you to no longer need to move your money from one wallet or account to another to pay for any service." RSwitch CEO Blaise Pascal Gasabira at the Inclusive Fintech Forum

Space Tech for Rwandans: Transforming Rwanda from Above



Image: Dashboard of the Rwanda Soil Information System (RWASIS) developed by RSA

Rwanda's digital transformation isn't just happening on the ground—it's reaching for the stars! The Rwanda Space Agency (RSA) is using cutting-edge space technology to improve governance, urban planning, and agriculture.

In Kigali, Earth Observation (EO) applications help track unauthorized construction, ensuring buildings align with the city's master plan—saving time, costs, and resources. Meanwhile, **Huye District is leveraging EO tech to monitor Imihigo progress**, using spatial data to generate real-time insights for better service delivery.



Image: A satellite dish at the RSA Satellite Ground Station in Mbulire, Eastern Province

On the agricultural front, the RSA-developed Rwanda Soil Information System (RWASIS) is providing farmers with detailed soil data, crop recommendations, and erosion insights. With informed decision-making powered by space tech, Rwanda is **empowering farmers with data-driven insights** that boost productivity and sustainability.

These initiatives highlight Rwanda's forward-thinking approach—leveraging space innovation to improve lives nationwide!

Empowering the Next Generation of Coders



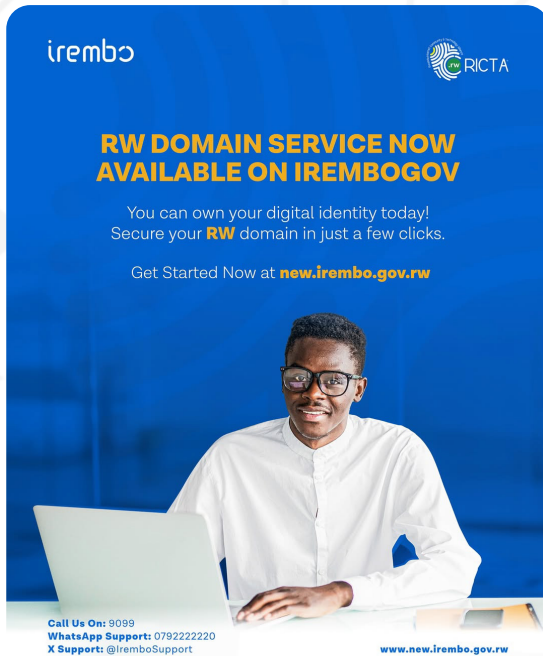
Image: MINICT Permanent Secretary Yves Iradukunda joins IHS Rwanda and partners for the launch of the Digital Talent Program (DTP) at Club Rafiki.

Rwanda's vision of training one million coders is gaining momentum through two exciting new partnerships!

On 27th February, the Ministry of ICT & Innovation, in collaboration with **IHS Rwanda**, launched the Digital Talent Program (DTP), aiming to **train 20,000 youth** in coding, web development, and digital marketing across 15 centres nationwide.

Meanwhile, our partnership with **The Gym** - launched on 1st March - is revolutionizing software engineering training, offering university students **25+ hours of intensive weekly mentorship** from industry experts, and hands-on experience. These efforts are shaping future tech leaders and preparing them for global opportunities. With Rwanda's digital workforce growing stronger, the future is bright!

Your .RW Domain Just Got Easier to Access!



Registering a .RW domain has never been easier as it is now seamlessly integrated into the IremboGov platform since 17th February, thanks to a partnership between Rwanda Internet Community and Technology Alliance (RICTA) and Irembo.

This game-changing development means individuals, businesses, and institutions can quickly establish their online Rwandan identity through a simple, accessible process. This initiative isn't just about convenience—it's about strengthening Rwanda's digital economy and amplifying local businesses on the global stage.

Whether you're an entrepreneur, startup, or institution, securing your online presence just takes a few clicks. Have you registered yours yet?

Identification Matters: NIDA's Biometric Campaign Success

From 8th January to 27th February, the National ID Agency (NIDA) carried out a nationwide biometric data capture campaign, ensuring that young Rwandans turning 16—and those who previously missed out—could secure their national IDs.

With staff deployed across **155 sectors** in all 30 districts, even remote communities had access to this essential service. **Over 200,000 individuals** were registered, reinforcing

NIDA's commitment to ensuring every Rwandan enjoys their full citizenship rights, and the importance of digital identity in accessing healthcare, education, voting, government services, and more.

By bringing biometric technology directly to rural communities, NIDA demonstrates that in Rwanda's digital transformation journey, truly no one is left behind.

Stay Tuned

From AI breakthroughs to digital empowerment, Rwanda is making bold moves in tech and innovation. Stay updated for future editions of our newsletter, as we continue to bring you the innovations and initiatives shaping our nation's technological future.

Do you have a digital success story to share or feedback on stories highlighted in our newsletter? We'd love to hear from you. Reach out to us at comms@minict.gov.rw.