

AU-AIP AFRICA WATER INVESTMENT SUMMIT 2025

13 - 15 August 2025
Cape Town, South Africa



AU AIP WATER INVESTMENT SUMMIT: PROJECT SHOWCASE

PROGRAMME/ PROJECT OVERVIEW	
Project name	Nature Based Flood Adaptation to Increase Community Resilience in Rubyiro Catchment
Location (Country, Region, Coordinates)	Rwanda, Rusizi District, Latitude: -2.698583 Longitude: 29.029361
Involved countries (if regional)	Only Rwanda
Sub-Sector (Water Supply, Sanitation, Irrigation, Flood Management..)	Flood Management
Project description (Goals and expected outcomes)	The main goal of the project is to enhance the resilience of the community and water infrastructure in the Rubyiro Catchment. The project will positively impact the community living in Rubyiro Catchment through decreased soil erosion risk, increased resilience to flood risks, and increased sustainability of water supply infrastructure.
Technological details/ innovation	The project aims at reversing the trend of negative climate change impact through the application of nature-based flood adaptation interventions in critical flood-prone sub-catchments of Rubyiro as well as promoting the adoption by the community of soil conservation measures.
Governance improvements / innovation	The project will be implemented by the RWB in close collaboration with the local community through Village Land Use Action Plan. All stakeholders in the project area will be involved in all stages of the project activities.
IMPLEMENTATION & KEY PLAYERS	
Lead institution	Rwanda Water Resources Board (RWB)
Implementing agent(s)	The RWB will be the implementing agency. The project will have a Project Steering Committee which will be established and will be composed of the Ministry Finance and Economic Planning, Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, RWB, and RUSIZI District.
Sponsors / Investors / Contractors / Advisors	The project is sponsored by the AfDB and the Government of Rwanda with the support of the Water For People in feasibility study.
PROJECT TIMELINE & DEVELOPMENT STAGE	
Year of preparation, estimated start & end dates	The project has been prepared in 2024. It is planned to start in September 2025 and ends in 2028.
Current development stage	Completed
PROJECT RATIONALE & STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE	
Alignment with national/regional plans, SDGs, Agenda 2063	The project aligns with the Second National Strategy for Transformation (NST2): Priority Area 12: "disaster reduction and management" and Priority Area 13: "sustainable natural resources management". The project also aligns with the African Union Agenda 2063, Under the first aspiration on "A Prosperous Africa, based on Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development", goal 7. The project also aligns with SDG6, "ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all"; SDG13, "take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts", and SDG15, "protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss".
Contribution to NDC's and alignment with NAPs / Adaptation and Mitigation measures	The project will contribute to Rwanda's NDC's Programmes of Action (PoA) such as Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and planning; Sustainable Forest and Agroforestry; Disaster prevention; and will contribute to the NAP's initiative of integrated water resource management to enhance resilience to climate change impacts.
Paradigm shift potential (scalability, replicability, policy or behaviour change)	This project is part of the greater Sustainable Land Management (SLM) program, which aims at achieving sustainable land management in the whole country. The success stories from this project will be replicable and scaled in other vulnerable sub-catchments in Rwanda.

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FINANCIAL & INVESTMENT DETAILS	
Total project cost, currency	The project cost is USD 22 million
Funding already raised (amount & sources)	The secured funds are USD 9 million from AfDB and the Government of Rwanda.
Proposed revenue model	Agricultural production, and economic activities growth.
Financial metrics (IRR, Payback Period, DSCR, NPV) available? Y/N, date	Yes. FIRR (base case)=0%, EIRR (base case)=0%, NPV (discount rate)= 8%
Economic performance (Benefit-Cost Ratio) Y/N, date	Yes. The benefit-cost ration of 2.01, at a discount rate of 8%
INVESTMENT ASK & WAY FORWARD	
Remaining investment required: project component & type (Loan/Equity/Grant/Guarantee/insurance)	The remaining investment required for the component of “climate-smart catchment restoration for watershed resilience” is USD 13 million.
Opportunity for bundling with other projects (Y/N, date)	Yes.
Next steps	Funds mobilization for the remaining investment gap.
TARGET GROUPS & SOCIAL IMPACT	
Direct beneficiary population per project component (if available, please provide estimated by income status, gender, ethnicity and/or other status, and numbers of each)	The direct beneficiary population for: The component of “Nature-based flood adaptation measures” is 16,000 people. The component of “climate-smart catchment restoration for watershed resilience” is estimated to 620,000 people. The component of “Climate information, Early Warning, and capacity building for community resilience” is estimated to 1,241,298 people.
Social & gender impact assessment (Y/N, date)	Yes. April 2025
Job creation estimate / local economic benefit assessment (Y/N, date)	Yes. April 2025
SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS	
Environmental compliance & climate assessment (Y/N, date)	Yes. April 2025
Environmental impact assessment (Y/N, date)	Yes. April 2025
ESG performance (Y/N, date)	Yes. April 2025
Safeguards & community engagement (Y/N, date)	Yes. April 2025
RISK MANAGEMENT	
Main risks & mitigation measures (Political, Legal, etc)	Procurement delays can negatively impact the project’s implementation. RWB has engaged the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to conduct advanced procurement to fast-track the project implementation.
Constraints or bottlenecks to finance	Insufficient budget to cover all planned activities.
CONTACT INFORMATION	
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