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# Content





Burundi
President to
take over from
Uhuru as EAC
Chairperson

#### **EDITOR'S PICK**

I wish to sincerely thank the mebers of the Steering Committee comprising experts from the Partner States, EAC Staff in various capaciries."

Banque De credit De Bujumbura BCB is celbrating one hundred years (100 years) since 1922, under the theme: "Its All Thanks To You".

The EAC has maintained a steady and impressive economic growth of more than 5% in the last decate which makes it one of the fastest growing regions in the Sub-Saharan Africa.

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Burundi has strengthened collaboration with EAC partner states international trade: The role of standards.

**EU lifts sanctions** on **Burundi after** seven years.

The East African Community Magazine contributing, Design & Print.

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The East African Community Magazine 2022

## Foreword



Hon. (Dr) Peter Mathuki Secretary General East African Community.

I wish to sincerely thank the members of the Steering Committee comprising experts from the Partner States, EAC Staff in various capacities."

elcome to the The East African Magazine on the assumption of H.E Gen Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi to chairmanship of the East African Community.

The East African Magazine has made quite a number of references to the 6th EAC Development Strategy (2021/22–2025/26) and has presented vital contents on EAC journey for the next five years in a reader- friendly manner, starting with President Ndayishimiye as head of the EAC 2022/ 2023.

The process of formulating this 6th EAC Development Strategy (2021/22–2025/26) was a highly participatory and intensive process involving leaders and specialists at the EAC Organs and Institutions, and in the Ministries, Departments and Agencies in the six EAC Partner States.

The involvement of the stakeholders, their full participation and valuable contribution to the process guided the discussion and greatly assisted in reaching consensus on the most critical strategic objectives and priorities that the Community will focus on over the next five years.

In this regard, I thank the EAC leadership, for their commitment and dedication to the process of formulating the 6th EAC Development Strategy, in terms of providing the crucial initial strategic direction and continuous support and guidance to the entire process of formulating this strategy.

I wish to sincerely thank the members of the Steering Committee comprising experts from the Partner States, EAC Staff in various capacities.

May I, on behalf of the EAC fraternity, extend our gratitude to the EAC Partner States' coordinating Ministries and the Council of Ministers for their timely support to the Community's planning processes, especially in considering and approving the 6th EAC Development Strategy (2021/22-2025/26), which has guided some of the forecast projections referred to in this magazine.

I look forward to a successful implementation of the 6th EAC Development Strategy so that East Africans can realize greater benefits from the EAC integration.

Hon. (Dr) Peter Mathuki Secretary General East African Community















## BURUNDI'S PRESIDENT EVARISTE NDAYISHIMIYE ASSUMES CHAIR OF EAC

urundi's President Evariste Ndayishimiye has been elected chairman of the East African Community (EAC) during the 22nd Ordinary Summit of EAC Heads of State held in Arusha, which was attended by four Presidents, Samia Suluhu Hassan of Tanzania, Burundi's Evarist Ndayishimiye, Kenya's Uhuru Kenyatta and Uganda's Yoweri Museveni. Other members, Rwanda, DRC and South Sudan sent representatives on Friday July 22, 2022.



Uhuru Hands over to Ndayishimiye during the EAC Summit in Arusha, Tanzania

Ndayishimiye takes over from his Kenya counterpart, President Uhuru Kenyatta who assumed office in March 2021. Leadership of the EAC is rotational and Burundi will take lead of the regional trade bloc after 13 years. President Ndayishimiye's predecessor the late Pierre Nkurunziza headed the organ for a mandatory one-year tenure during 2010-2011.





Uhuru Kenyata hands over instruments of Power to Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE

He was announced as new EAC leader, by the outgoing chairman, Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta during the closure of the two-day summit held in Arusha.

Speaking shortly after he was elected, President Ndayishimiye thanked his fellow Heads of State for the faith they showed in him and promised to further the objectives of the bloc.

He said he will ensure that women and youth are given opportunity in the bloc but also will expand use of Kiswahili.



Chairman of EAC. Ndayishimiye Speaks at the EAC Summit

promised President Ndayishimiye improve the EAC common market but also to speed up the procedures for Somalia to officially join the bloc. "I would like to thank President Samia Suluhu and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania for their hospitality during the EAC 22nd summit. As I take over the EAC Chairmanship, I congratulate my brother Uhuru Kenyatta for his achievements during his tenure. Idumu iumuiva vetu', said Evariste Ndavishimiye.

Youth, women and Kiswahili language use are top priorities for Ndayishimiye

Admitting Somalia another target, and expanding Common market.

Burundi's President Evariste Ndayishimiye said that EAC was doing well in terms of inter-linking its markets through infrastructure development and allowing free movement of persons.



Ndayishimiye takes charge. Burundi joined the EAC on 1st July 2007, it has been 15 years this year.















The outgoing EAC chairman president Kenyatta thanked the cooperation he was given by the EAC Heads of State, the East African Council of Ministers and the secretariat of the community.

He said that the East African Community has gained many success and has done many great things and he is leaving believing that all that they have planned will be executed.

President Kenyatta said that among the great achievements of the bloc, is the establishment of the common market protocol which has stimulated the economy of the member states.

He mentioned other success as the implementation of several infrastructure projects that connect member countries in

Uganda and Kenya, Kenya and Tanzania, projects in Rwanda, Burundi and projects that connect the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and other EAC countries.

Kenyatta said that East Africa would only attain the Common Market if its citizens were able to communicate easily, and to move and ferry goods freely across the region.

He said that Kenya was keen to build transnational roads extending to all her borders, adding that the Multinational Bagamoyo-Horohoro-Lunga Lunga-Malindi Road stretching along the coasts of Kenya and Tanzania was currently under construction and would be launched soon.



Strong Bond. Samia Suluhu Hassan President of Tanzania shares a light moment with Uhuru Kenyatta President of Kenya

"Today is my last EAC meeting with Heads of State, I would like to say that we have been very successful and there are things to accomplish and one of them being the establishment of the East African Confederation and to officially admit Somalia as the bloc's new member," he said.

















## Some of the summary achievements of Uhuru Kenyatta





Samia Suluhu Hassan President of the United Republic of Tanzania

Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan called for intensive agriculture through irrigation and rainwater harvesting to double food production in the region and boost food security.

President Hassan emphasised the need to avail cheap credit to farmers to purchase inputs to boost agricultural production. Further, she observed that pre- and post-harvest losses were impacting negatively on agricultural production in the region, adding that proper storage was crucial to attaining food security. She thus called for the establishment of a food balance sheet for the region that would state what each country produces and on what scale.

President Hassan said that Burundi was a good example of agricultural transformation saying that the country had witnessed increase food production due to good governance and an improved security situation.

Suluhu Hassan disclosed that Tanzania was determined to increase its maize production from the 6 million tonnes for the current year to 18 million tonnes in 2023, adding that through proper planning, the region has the capacity to feed itself with a surplus for export.

Speaking at the retreat, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni said that there is no way a country or region could achieve prosperity if it doesn't solve the issue of market size.

"The more goods people can buy from you, the better," Museveni said, adding that the global trend over the past two hundred years was to expand markets to guarantee prosperity.



Gen Yoweri Kaguta Tibuhaburwa Museveni of the Republic of Uganda at the retreat















Museveni observed that Latin America was rich in natural resources yet its people were suffering and flocking to the US to escape poverty due to disorder in the region's economic policies.

On Covid-19, President Museveni said that it had been a mixed bag with a good and bad side. He said that Uganda was upgrading its ARV factory to produce vaccines for life-threatening diseases and conduct research. The Ugandan Head of State said the current fuel price crisis was another opportunity for the EAC and Africa to take charge of their destiny by shifting to cheap and cleaner energy sources. He disclosed that Uganda would upgrade its Kiira automobile plant to produce electrical cars that reduce fuel consumption.

In his remarks, Rwanda's Prime Minister Édouard Ngirente, who represented President Paul Kagame, said that the high cost of air tickets in the region would only be reduced by Partner States removing all restrictions on air transport services.

South Sudan's Presidential Affairs Minister Barnaba Marial Benjamin, who represented President Salva Kiir, said that South Sudan's Revenue Authority has improved collection of non-oil revenue. Benjamin said that the country was virgin territory with enormous resources including wildlife and livestock.

Somalia's President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud was a special guest at the EAC Summit. He made an appeal to the Heads of State to have his country admitted as a member of the bloc.



H.E Hassan Sheik Mohamud President of the Federal Republic of Somalia arrives for the retreat. Somalia is set to join EAC.

President Mohamud said that his country had made an application to join the bloc in 2014 but added that the circumstances did not allow the application to be processed. 'Somalia has had a long-time dream of joining the bloc wich she shares strong historical, cultural, linguistic and economic links', he said.



















Presidents Hassan Suluhu of Tanzania speaking to Hassan Shiek of Somalia

He thanked the EAC Partner States for the great efforts that they have made over the years to stabilise his country including peace-keeping. President Mohamud said that the future of Somalia and the EAC was interlinked, adding that Somalia had a lot to contribute to a stronger and more prosperous EAC including 10 million acres of arable land.

Road launched The 42.4km EAC Arusha bypass road was launched during the 22nd Ordinary Summit of EAC

The project was part of the Athi River - Namanga - Arusha Holili/Taveta - Voi Road; forming part of the 15,000 km of international highways & the Trans African Highways (TAH) No. 8 from Cape Town to Cairo via Gaborone.

Heads of State held in Arusha.



Heads of State of EAC witness the launch; EAC Partner States to benefit from the roads network















Infrastructure is critical in achieving our common objective of being a Common Market," said President Uhuru Kenyatta, former Chair of EAC.

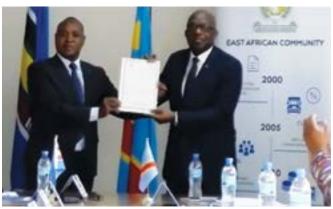
President Ndayishimiye of Burundi, Uhuru Kenyatta and Samia Hassan at the launch

#### Infrastructure across EAC has reduced the transit time

- ► Mombasa Port to Kigali through Uganda has reduced from 18 days in 2014 to 5 days average in 2021.
- ▶ Dar es Salaam Port to Kigali and Bujumbura has reduced from 22 days in 2014 to 7 days average in 2021.

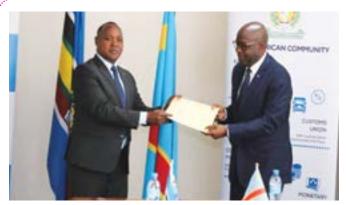
## DRC deposits Instruments of Ratification to EAC. Now full member

The Democratic Republic of Congo deposited instruments of ratification on the accession of the treaty for the establishment of the East African Community to the EAC Secretary General. This means that DRC now has full rights and privileges to participate in EAC's programs and activities and affirms to meet the obligations of the EAC.



DRC deposited instruments ratifying joining EAC and is a full member of EAC

Special thanks to the World Bank, AFDG, Japanese International Cooperation JICA, Trade Mark East Africa for supporting these infrastructure projects.



EAC SG Dr Peter Mathuki receiving the instruments of ratification from DRCs Foreign Affairs minister Christophe Lutundula at the EAC headquarter in Arusha, Tanzania on July, 11.2022



DRC's Flag being raised at the East African Community Headquarters in Arusha Tanzania on July 11 2022

## Burundi has strengthened collaboration with EAC partner states

BURUNDIAN PRESIDENT Evariste Ndayishimiye toured Tanzania on a three-day state visit to strengthen trade and investment. This was just three months after Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu paid a state visit to Burundi, resulting in several new infrastructure projects, including the construction of roads, and a renewed focus on the mining sector.

Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan with Burundian President Evariste Ndayishimiye at State House Dodoma



Ndayishimiye and Tanzania's Samia Suluhu at a UN function recently.

uring the visit, the two countries signed multi-billion dollar infrastructure projects, among them the construction of the standard gauge railway that will connect three countries up to the Democratic Republic of Congo, but whose financing is yet to be finalised.

We want to thank Tanzania for efforts to strengthen relations within the EAC," said President Ndayishimiye during his Tanzania visit.

In May, President Ndayishimiye made a two-day state visit to Kenya where, with President Kenyatta, they announced the use of Kisumu port as a transit route for goods destined for Burundi.



President Uhuru Kenyatta and his Burundian counterpart Evariste Ndayishimiye at Kisumu Port where they commissioned several projects among them the Kenya Shipyards Limited



Ndayishimiye in Kenya recently.

















Ndayishimiye in Uganda to strengthen ties with Uganda and EAC.

Museveni, Ndayishimiye discuss infrastructure connectivity, security cooperation, and many other regional cooperation issues.

President Evariste Ndayishimiye, said "Nowisatimefordevelopment to improve the lives of our people. We have natural resources; we are in a good region and we are good to do business with Uganda. We already see many Ugandans coming to Burundi. We want investors to come. We have many natural resources and tourism potential,"

President Ndayishimiye said Burundi and Uganda have a lot of business to do including in exchange in agriculture, Minerals etc.

His counterpart president

Museveni said "We know one another for a long time. Even before Europeans, Barundi were coming here from Kigoma Boha to look for work and some stayed. I am very happy that there is peace in Burundi now and that reconciliation is going on. What we need to do is deal with the economy'.

infrastructure Museveni said connectivity between the two countries is important, adding that the road from Kikagate-Morongo-Isingilo in TZ-Keisho to Kayanga an old murrum road if graded and tarmacked properly can be used to promote trade. He said the road from Mutukula-Masaka-Kampala and the road from Mutukkula-Kyaka-Kayanga to Ngara can be improved to enable people travel directly between the two countries.



Former Ambassador to Uganda H.E John Bosco Barege, former 2nd Vice president Joseph Butore meet President Museveni at State House in Entebbe.

He pledged to look for investors to support Burundi's iron ore industry.



Ndayishimiye and First lady Angelline at Statehouse Entebbe.

Trade between Burundi and Uganda increased from US40million dollars per annum to US59million dollars of exports from Uganda to Burundi, mainly for Iron and steel products, maize, tobacco vegetable oils and others while imports from Burundi to Uganda are US33.8million dollars largely from gold, raw hides and skins and scrap iron.



Ndayishimiye Woes Ethiopian Prime Minister HE Abiy Ahmed Ali in Addis Ababa recently



















President Evariste Ndayishimiye and DRCs Felix Antoine Tshisekedi at State House in Bujumbura



President of Rwanda in talks with Burundian Envoy recently



Bridging the gaps: Strengthening regional cooperation, Burundi delegates meet President Kagame



Burundi President Ndayishimiye with Uganda's Foreign Affairs Minister Okello Oryem at a UN function recently.



SE Ndayishimiye shares a light moment with Hakainde Hichilema of Zambia recently



President Ndayishimiye and Wife Angeline hand over a gift plaque to Pope Francis



Pope Francis in discussion with President Ndayishimiye at the Apostolic Palace.



unity Magazine

## EU lifts sanctions on Burundi after seven years

THE EUROPEAN UNION announced lifting of all sanctions on Burundi that were imposed in 2016.



Head of Delegation of the European Union in Burundi sign pact with HE Evariste Ndayishimiye in Burundi



n a communique, the EU said this follows a peaceful political process that started with the general elections of May 2020 that opened a new window of hope for the people of Burundi.

Since the 2020 elections, the EU has acknowledged the progress made by the Burundian government with respect to human rights, good governance and the rule of law, as well as commitments taken in its roadmap ('feuille de route') towards further improvements in those areas," the statement said.

In 2020, Burundi witnessed its first democratic transition of power from the late president Pierre Nkurunziza to the current chairperson of the East African Community, H E Gen Evariste Ndayishimiye.

President Ndayishimiye praised the EU decision, saying,

I salute the wise decision of the European Union and its Member States for having taken the step of lifting with immediate effect the economic sanctions against my country. Burundi is ready to cooperate with all partners. Together, anything is possible."

















## Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) joined the East African Community (EAC) becoming the 7th Partner State

ON 29TH MARCH 2022 , the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) officially joined the East African Community (EAC) becoming its 7th Partner State, after Tanzania, Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, and South Sudan.

integrating the EAC's trade infrastructure, intermodal connectivity, One-Stop Border Posts (OSBPs) and trade systems to reduce trade time and costs. Enhancing trade facilitation will enable formal and informal crossborder trade along the region's transport corridors.

H.EUhuruKenyatta,President of Kenya and Chairperson of the Summit commented that



The Summit of the Heads of State that took place virtually prior to the signing of the treaty by DRC's Tshisekedi

he Summit of EAC Heads of State at their 19th Ordinary Summit admitted DRC as it had met all the set criteria for admission as provided for in the Treaty for the establishment of the EAC.

The admission of DRC into the EAC comes with increased GDP and expanded market size making EAC a home to about 300 million people, which would be mutually beneficial to the people of both EAC and DRC by providing employment and investment opportunities that come along with this new development.

The EAC now spans from the Indian Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean making the region competitive and easy to access the larger African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

DRC's entry also requires

admitting DRC into EAC is historic for our Community and the African continent at large. 'It demonstrates the agility of the Community to expand beyond its socio-cultural boundaries to new people and trade-centered partnerships and collaboration, thus increasing trade and investment opportunities for the citizens', he said.

Welcoming his country's admission into the EAC, DRC President Felix Tshishekedi















DRC President Felix Tshisekedi and Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni commissioning road construction projects along the Uganda-DRC Border in Uganda in 2021

termed it a historical day for his country, stating that it paves the way for the harmonization of the country's policies with those of the EAC, and stressed that DRC was looking forward to increased Intra-EAC trade and reduction of tension amongst the EAC Partner States.

In his remarks, Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni said that DRC joining the Community was an event of great significance, adding that he had personally been waiting for the last 60 years for DRC to reconnect with EAC

DRC has strong historical, social and cultural links with the EAC Partner States. It is the onus of the EAC to now work on restoring peace and stability in Eastern DRC, a fete we can achieve by working together," he added.

On his part, President Paul Kagame of Rwanda hailed the EAC Council of Ministers and the Summit for fast-tracking the entry of DRC into the EAC.

I call upon EAC Organs and Institutions to accelerate the integration of DRC into the Community. Rwanda is committed to supporting the process," he stated.

Speaking at the event, Tanzania's President Samia Suluhu Hassan observed that DRC has a long historical relationship with EAC.

President Samia expressed hope that DRC would ratify the Treaty of Accession to ensure full integration of her people into the bloc and reaffirmed Tanzania's commitment to the integration process in East Africa.

On behalf of Burundi's President Evariste Ndayishimiye, Vice President Prosper Bazombanza hailed DRC President Felix Tshishekedi for the admission of his country into the Community.

**& &** EAC projects and programs are vital and their implementation critical for the integration process. As we move towards the Political Federation, we need to strengthen our efforts to protect our borders against terrorism, piracy, and other trans-national crimes," said the VP, as he reiterated Burundi's commitment to constructively contribute to promoting peace and stability in the region.

Speaking on behalf of South Sudan President Salva Kiir Mayardit, Hon. Barnaba Marial Benjamin, the Minister for Presidential Affairs, hailed the entry of DRC into the EAC and said that his country had fallen behind in its contributions to EAC due to the prolonged armed conflict in the country and the Covid-19 pandemic.

The President has cleared thewayforalloutstanding contributions to the Community," said the Minister, even as he praised efforts to employ South Sudanese nationals in EAC Organs and Institutions

















## Burundi President to take over from Uhuru as EAC chairperson

#### GEN. MAJOR EVARISTE NDAYISHIMIYE.

President of Burundi is set to take over as the new East African Community (EAC) chairperson.



Uhuru Kenyatta hands over EAC chair to Ndayishimiye. Photo taken at the heads of State Conclave on DRC

he soft-spoken, friendly and jolly President will succeed President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya.

Gen. Ndayishimiye will take lead of the regional trade bloc after 13 years. His predecessor the late Pierre Nkurunziza headed the organ for a mandatory one-year tenure during 2010-2011.

The Chair of the EAC Summit is tasked to convene meetings of the regional leaders and maintain constant communication with them. Eyes are set on the Burundian Leader to effectively steer the committees to achieve and fulfill the 6th EAC Development Strategy which

is the second of the series implementing EAC Vision 2050.



EAC Heads of State conclave on DRC peace and security held in Kenya recently. The region still has a number of unresolved political and economical issues. The tenure of the Chairperson of the Summit is one year and is held in rotation among the partner states. The coming into picture of the Burundi leader at the EAC helm after some years, means the country is fully active in the EAC.

President Ndashimiye's assumes this role at the time when the newest member of the trade block, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) joined the block.



Malaba- Uganda- border Truck drivers waiting to cross the border: Standoffs at border points between some countries still exist, but signs are showing to peaceful resolutions of issues

The giant country, which borders Burundi and four other EAC partner states, comes with its huge natural resources, big population and many unexploited opportunities.















## Key priorities for President Ndayishimiye and the next 5 years



Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of Burundi

THE KEY PRIORITY AREAS for the next five years which begin with President Ndayishimiye will include the following; strengthening of regional peace, security, political processes, emergency response mechanisms and good governance to create a stable business environment.

mproving political commitments in the partner statesaimedatdomesticating, regional, continental and international obligations, strengthening joint action in pursuit of common foreign policy interests and promoting regional peace and security are some of the priorities awaiting Burundi's Ndayishimye in office.

Collaborating with relevant international institutions to contain terrorism and piracy in order to stabilise the business

environment, strengthening democratisation processes within partner states so as to focus on good governance, with emphasis on ensuring sustainable peace, stability, peaceful electoral processes, and meaningful political commitments are areas of special interest in the coming year.

Furthermore, adopting a regional approach in response to emergencies, building on the regional political stability while participating in regional



Burundi's Ambassador meets with US president Joe Biden in Washington recently.

and African Union continental political and economic integration initiatives.

Expanding investment in emergencyresponsemechanisms that rope together all partner states concurrently is a priority, but a challenging one. Looking at the response of the different EAC partner states to COVID 19 global pandemic, having a unified modus operandi might prove a

















walk up a slippery slope.

Another priority area is building on the regional political stability to attract business and strengthening forecasting services to stave off conflicts.

It is planned that the next five years will prioritize provision of customs services that facilitate legitimate trade and investment in the region, while continuing to pursue harmonization of policies, laws and regulations, promoting cooperation with other regional blocs so as to spearhead beneficial changes in global matters that affect the region, promoting ICT facilitated customs management as well as trade facilitation services.



Ndayishimiye meets one of the foreign delegates

Strengthening public and private sector partnerships with a view to streamlining and strengthening trade and investment, upgrading skills within partner states, expanding the OSBPs in support of cross border trade, streamlining intermodal transport systems so as to achieve flawless trade and concluding the on-going African Continental Free Trade Area and TFTA negotiations to expand market access in the continent.



Trade deals: The First Lady of Burundi Angelline Ndayishimiye meets investors from Saudi Arabia recently.

What remains key in the EAC is taking a joint regional approach when negotiating with third parties so as to minimise disruption in the EAC regional integration agenda thus eliminating nationalistic tendencies and practices that



Hands On: Burundian President Ndayishimiye and wife Angelline lead from the top during the harvest of irish potatoes in Burundi



Burundi's First Lady, H E Angelline Ndayishimiye leading the immunization campaign in Gitega

Non-Tariff **Barriers** generate that limit access to the regional implementing market, and regional commitments and obligations to ensure smooth trading regional aligning integration commitments to World Trade Organisation (WTO) as well as other best practices for select sectors at the global level. These and more await the expertise intervention of Evariste Ndayishimiye in the first year, which will be a yard stick for the coming 4 years after him.



It is important to know both Tariff barriers and NTB and how to comply with them when entering new markets with a product

Strengthening the productive and social sectors to improve production and productivity, increase value addition, and domesticate regional











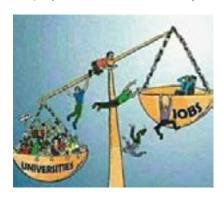




commitments to improve the welfare of East Africans still remain a priority for EAC.

Furthering regional trade liberalisation in the goods and service sectors, prioritizing intervention programmes for shared benefits of regional integration including efficient use of the natural resources to improve the wellbeing of the people of East Africa need to be worked upon.

Diversifying the industrial and service sectors so as to create improved earnings and employment opportunities for the youth of East Africa, improving agricultural productivity and resilience, value addition, and facilitation of movement of agricultural goods with a view to enhancing food security in the region and tapping into the blue economy to create wealth, employment and food security.



East African Countries have a big population of youth, most of them graduates but unemployed. Skilling these youth to become job creators rather than job seekers still

#### remains a challenge.

Enhancing regional industrial development through investment in key priority sectors, skills development, technological advancement, and innovation so as to stimulate economic development by prioritizing intervention programmes for shared benefits of regional integration, including efficient use of the natural resources will be looked into the next five years.



A trader selling fresh fruits and vegetables in Bujumbura Market.

Finally, reducing preventable deaths by strengthening health systems towards achievement of universal health care, framing policies that focus on universal primary and secondary education, with a minimum 40% of females transiting to secondary education.







Mpanda Hospital in Burundi

Last but not least, diversifying the tourism sector in light of the challenges brought about by the COVID19 pandemic, expanding of FDI and cross border investment, diversifying into green energy, employing sustainable utilisation of natural resources and maintaining containment measures against the COVID-19 pandemic will be the mandate of the 5year strategic plan.



**Bujumbura city street:** 

















## What you must know about the East **African Community**





EAC Secretariate ISO 9001: 2015 certified

THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC) is a regional organization mandated by the governments of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Uganda and now Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to spearhead the East African economic, social, and political integration agenda.

The headquarters of the EAC are located in Arusha Tanzania.

Fast African Community headquarters in Arusha

The scope of cooperation among the seven Partner States is clearly indicated in the East African Community Treaty, which was signed in November 1999 and entered into force in July 2000.

The regional cooperation and integration envisaged in the EAC is broad. Article 5 (1) of the Treaty states that "The objectives of the Community shall be to develop policies and programmes aimed at widening and deepening cooperation among the Partner States in political, economic, social and cultural fields, research and technology, defence, security and legal and judicial affairs for their mutual benefit."

To this end, the key pillars of integration include the ongoing implementation of the different stages of the Customs Union (CU), Common Market CM), Monetary (MU), and Federation (PF). To complement the key pillars of integration are the cross-cutting enabling and facilitating interventions in legal and judicial affairs, infrastructure, energy, social development, and institutional developments. The enablers are aimed at enhancing accelerated harmonious. balanced development sustained expansion of economic activities across the region



EAC Presidents committed to the principles of the regional integration: Attending a special conclave on the DRC peace and Security in Kenya this month

### Vision, Mission and Core Values of the EAC

The Vision of the EAC is, "to be a Prosperous, Competitive, Secure, Stable and Politically United East Africa", while the Mission of the Community is, "to widen and deepen economic, political, social and cultural integration, in order to improve the quality of life of the people of East Africa through increased competitiveness, value added production, trade and investments".

The Core Values of the EAC are Professionalism, Accountability, Transparency, Teamwork, Unity in diversity and Allegiance to the EAC ideals.

The objective of the Community, as stipulated in Article 5 of the Treaty, is to develop policies and programs aimed at widening and deepening cooperation among the Partner States in political, economic, social and cultural fields, research and technology, defence, as well as

security, legal and judicial affairs for their mutual benefit.

EAC's legal and institutional frameworks are mainly based on the Treaty for the Establishment

of the East African Community, and its Protocols as well as the Community laws. Its institutional framework consists of, inter alia, the Executive, Legislative and Judicial arms.

The executive arm is comprised of the Summit of Heads of State, the Council of Ministers, the Co-ordination Committee, the Sectoral Committees and the Secretariat, as well as EAC Institutions.

The East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) and the East African Court of Justice (EACJ) are the legislative and judicial arms of the Community, respectively.

The Council of Ministers is the policy Organ of the Community responsible for the general implementation of the Community's programs, projects, and activities. Details of the mandates and functions of the Organs and Institutions of the Community are duly spelt out in the EAC Treaty, Protocols, and Rules of Procedure. We will understand the objectives of these institutions in brief in the pages ahead.



EALA session in Progress: EALA enacted a law on "East African Legislative Assembly Elections Act, 2002 stipulating a quota of one third for either gender:" At least one third of the elected members shall reflect either gender"

















## **Burundi's President Evariste Ndayishimiye in DR** Congo to boost ties



Burundian Leader in DRC with DRC President Felix Tshisekedi

**BURUNDIAN** President Evariste Ndavishimiye made a three-day State visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in 2021 to strengthen relations between the two countries.

> e met with President Felix Tshisekedi for bilateral talks security and economic ties.

> The two leaders signed agreements on various cooperation including railway infrastructure project between Burundi's political capital Gitega and Kindu city in east-central DRC, a line that will facilitate the transit of products between the

> President Tshisekedi recently signed agreements between DRC  $and \, Uganda\, on \, the \, construction \, of \,$ infrastructure and between DRC and Rwanda on the exploitation

> The signed projects were a follow up on cooperation issues that were first discussed between president Tshisekedi and the late President of Burundi Pierre Nkurunziza, who passed away



DRC President Felix Tshisekedi in Bujumbura Burundi June 2022



Ntare House, State House Burundi

in June of 2020 before seeing the projects actualize. The new President of Burundi will see the project through.

The visit came nearly two

weeks after the Congolese President met with Burundian Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation Minister Ambassador Albert Shingiro in DRC's eastern border city of Goma in North

Congolese traders from South Kivu have requested President Félix Tshisekedi to help in the facilitation of trade between the two nations.

### **DRC's President** Felix Tshisekedi visits Burundi

The Democratic Republic of Congo President Felix Antoine Tshisekedi visited Burundi on a three day state visit in June this year. He was honoured at Burundi's State House (Ntare House) with a 21-gun salute and tree planting to mark his visit.

Afteraclosed-doormeeting,the DRC leader said the two countries are seeking to strengthen bilateral ties and economic cooperation in agriculture, defense and security, and railway project.

This was the first visit for DRC's President SE Tshisekedi to visit Burundi since his country's admission into the East African Community (EAC) in March 2022. He had last visited Burundi in June 2019.

The railway project is expected to connect Tanzania through the central corridor Uvinza to Musongati, Gitegaand Bujumbura in Burundi and Uvira and Kindu in eastern DR Congo.

At the time Burundi's President is taking chair of the East African Community, DRC is joining the EAC block. As much as there are a great many opportunities that the DRC joinder brings to the EAC, there are also pertinent issues that will have to be addressed by the East African Community Institutions and Organs to enable a smooth transition and joining of the DRC fully into the East African Community.

Burundi will have to work harder to ensure value addition to products, enhance marketing, and bring more products to the open market for trading so as to benefit from this EAC widened market.















## Musumba Holdings a revolutionary for Industries in Burundi



Audace Ndayizeye, Musumba holdings Director General

r. Audace Ndayizeye has until June 2022 been the President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries, CFCIB Burundi for over ten years, before that he served as the Vice president of the same institution for some years.

During the past two years, the global pandemic disrupted business across the whole continent and most businesses shut down. How did this situation go down with Burundi?

Transport costs went up for instance from \$2000 to \$7000 from Dar es Salaam to Burundi. The cost of materials also went up from \$700 to \$H1500. This affected the profit margin for the businesses

The purchasing power of the consumers also drastically detoriated, and we were experiencing shortages because people were not buying.

The profit margin reduced. The cost of production went high and it is still high. We expect the situation to improve, but if it doesn't improve, we have to look for alternatives without affecting the people we employ. During the covid times, we did not lay off our staff, none was released.

In Burundi today, there is lack of Sugar and Fuel. What is the cause of this and how can it be rectified?

The production capacity is not there, yet demand is increasing. The sugar company was established a long time ago and is now old, yet the population it is **Q&A** The East African Magazine met with the Director General of Musumba Holdings Burundi, Mr Audace Ndayizeye and asked him a few questions on private sector and manufacturing and below are the excerpts

supposed to serve is ever growing and the demand is high, that is the reason it is scarce because of demand and supply mismatch.

Importation of products like fuel is also constrained due to lack of the foreign currency. That is why you see there is deficiency of fuel in most stations and the drivers have to queue to get fuel.

Burundi joined the East African Community integration in 2007, it is 15 years down the road. What can you say have been the positive wins for Burundi during this time?

Working in isolation means missing a lot of opportunities. You can not work in isolation, as Burundi is a land locked country, it has benefited from the integration. Although the good results come in a process of time. It takes time to achieve the desired results, but I can say that there has been a benefit resulting from the intergration certainly.

Burundi needs to develop its industrial sector to benefit more from the wide market. Currently Burundi is a net importer. Burundi needs to increase its production to have more goods and services available for the community so as to compete in the region favourably. Burundi needs to come to the market in the EAC with competitive products.

When we work on our capacity to produce, we will have enough to export and we cease being a net importer. Only that way shall we be able to benefit more from the EAC regional integration.

The adjoining of DRC into EAC is a very good milestone.

Musumba Steel in the last year alone traded with DRC up to about \$6m. When doors are open, it means we mark our presence rather than when they are closed.

How can you describe the tourism sector in Burundi today?

Tourism was hit by the global pandemic. In 2010 more structures were put up targeting growth in tourism, but when it came to pay back time from the tourism investment, covid came in. The Agency in charge of Investment promotion enabled a lot of business startups but covid slowed growth greatly, but it is beginning to pick up again.

What is your take on Fake and substandard products on the EAC market?

Fake products are being brought in because of low prices. Majority of people go for them because of the low price. When you produce following the standard, people think that you are expensive. Many people look at the price that is the issue.

The capacity needs to be reinforced for institutions that are looking at the standards, in terms of knowledge, equipment's and enforcement. Monitoring the standard is a very complex process. To discover these substandard products, capacity needs to be improved by institutions like BBN, the body in charge of monitoring and ensuring standards in Burundi, and the national laboratory for public works is in place to over look at the buildings, and construction projects in the country.

Agency for Development of Burundi ADB is offering incentives to investors but I think that Burundi needs to offer more than what other neighbouring countries are offering for example for an investor to move from Dar es Salaam in Tanzania to Burundi, Burundi has to do more to attract them. An investor looks at the profit not the friendship.



















## MUSUMBA HOLDING

Company Profile

Republic of Burundi

Location: Quartier Industrial, Chausée de l'Agriculture

300m de la COTEBU B.P 40 Bujumbura, Burundi « Notre, motivation vous étes utile »

www.musumba-steel.bi

**Tel:** +257 22 230 597 | **Fax**: +257 22 230 597

















#### **ABOUT**

### **MUSUMBA HOLDING**





Francois UWIRAGIYE
Chairman and CEO Musumba Holding

We are A REVOLUTIONARY FOR INDUSTRIES IN BURUNDI, focused on creating jobs to the youths and also advancing the country's economy.

**Location:** Quartier Industrial, Chausée de l'Agriculture 300m de la COTEBU B.P 40 Bujumbura, Burundi

#### www.musumba-steel.bi

## Musumba Holding a revolutionary for Industries in Burundi

Musumba Holding is one of the leading companies in Burundi that has invested in a number of companies such as Musumba Steel the pioneer of manufacturing construction material in Burundi, FABRIMETAL BURUNDI, the steel rolling mill project that Musumba Holding is co owning with MMD international company.

Musumba Cargo project that is constructing a cargo ship for the promotion of maritime and Lake Tanganyika transport in Burundi. The project for the exploitation and processing of gold dumps by Societe De Traitement Des Terrilsd'or au Burundi (SOTB), Musumba Logistics company with over 100 flatbed trailers that commute Burundi to Dar es salaam and other parts of East Africa, Eden garden resort, a hospitality and leisure recreation centre and the Uwiragiye foundation is a philanthropy project that currently cares for 95 children with visual impairment, 40 boys and 51 girls.

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**Audace NDAYIZEYE,**Director General of Musumba Holding



#### **HE Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE**

signs the visitor's book on his tour of Musumba Holding looking on is the **CEO Francois UWIRAGIYE** 

**Tel:** +257 22 230 597 **Fax:** +257 22 230 597

#### **DIRECTOR GENERAL**

The Director General of Musumba Holding Burundi, Audace NDAYIZEYE recently concluded his mandate as the President of the Burundi Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CFCIB) where he served in the capacity of Vice President and then later President for over fifteen years. He has served on the board of many Corporate institutions and government agencies and he is currently the Chairperson of the board of FABRIMETAL Burundi, the multi-million dollar steel rolling mill project that is set to turn around construction industry in Fast Africa.

Musumba Holding is a group of companies that is very active in various sectors including energy, construction, mining, agriculture, tourism and ICT. One of the companies is Musumba steel which is active in manufacture of construction materials, another one Musumba Cargo is constructing a vessel that will be able to move over 1500 tonnes of goods from Congo, Kigoma, Bujumbura and vice versa.

Musumba steel turnover is over USD \$ 60 million. Overall, we provide direct employment to over five hundred (500) people this include qualified staff and causal workers but also in indirect course it goes to over one million people depending on seasons and also on activities.

### Musumba Steel is the leading quality steel manufacturer in Burundi

One of the subsidiaries of Musumba Holding is Musumba Steel, which is the leading manufacturer of quality steel products in Burundi. It is the first industry that manufactures and supplies steel in Burundi. Founded in 2014 and production started in 2016 the company supplies products like iron bars, nails, iron sheets, tubes and Rebars to the local consumers within Burundi and also exports to the neighbouring countries like DRC.

id.leetz-admuzum.www















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Quality standard. Iron bars of all sizes and length manufactured by Musumba Steel.



STANDARD products manufactured

he main factory is located in Bujumbura Burundi, and is expanding operations to steel rolling mill project in partnership with an international company, MMD that has operations in many countries in Africa. Musumba Holding is planning to start another factory at Kigoma.

Steel products are bulky in nature from the transportation of raw materials from the port in Dar es Salaam to Bujumbura and then later delivering the finished products to the various parts of the country and to export markets like neighbouring countries such as DRC is one of the challenges.

Globally, there has been high fuel cost, for both petrol and diesel which makes the cost of operations to become high and this reduces on the profit margin.

Musumba Holding has provided employment to over 500 employees directly and to enable these employees to improve their livelihood and invest the money they get, a microfinance institution by Musumba Holdings has been put in place to enable the workers borrow money to finance their individual dreams. This helps them to save and invest because Musumba wants to see the lives of the workers better improved.

















**Donatien NGENDAKUMANA,** General Manager of Musumba Steel

Some of the staff of Musumba Steel.

According to the General Manager of Musumba Steel, Donatien NGENDAKUMANA, power is one of the main challenges to industrialization in Burundi. We got our own step-up transformer to support the machines we have. "When the power is low or when it goes off we run the generator which is about 500 KV. But this generator is also not powerful enough to operate all machines, so we prioritize the works in sections that really need the power during outage phase", he said. However, we must note that the power is much more regular today than it was before he added.



Safety first. Staff of Musumba Holding



State -of-the art machinery for Musumba Steel



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#### **HALFANI SHAIBU**

The production and technical manager explains the quality of Musumba Steel products

"In general, the cost of power in Burundi is lower compared to other countries. You can imagine, this company with its power demands can pay almost less than thirty million (30m) Burundi francs, compared to maybe Tanzania where the same capacity would cost almost more than fifty million (50m)", said Halfani Shaibu the production and technical manager.



Packed Nails of different sizes ready for dispatch

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'Raw materials are another challenge where the cost is really high', Halfani Shaibu explains. "This is because we import them in foreign currency, in US Dollar, that is why foreign markets like the DRC where we sell and receive payments in US Dollars is really important to us.



Iron Sheets ready for export and deliveries







Some of the products manufactured at Musumba Steel



















### MUSUMBA NEW LOGISTICS COMPANY

Musumba new Logistics company, another sister company of Musumba group has got 100 flatbed trucks that help us to move raw materials from Dar es Salaam to Bujumbura, this makes it very cheap and very competitive compared to importation of finished products.





## FABRIMETAL BURUNDI

Machines and equipment being installed at the plant

The first of its kind in Burundi, FABRIMETAL project is a joint venture between Musumba Holding and MMD. MMD has over 13 rolling mills in Africa alone with manufacturing plants in DRC, Senegal, Mali, Angola, and several other countries. The company has a track record for projects like this and the construction project is expected to be completed by November of this year 2022.

The project, sitting on about 24 acres is located in the industrial area, has the plan to manufacture over 96,000 tonnes of steel rebars per annum that will be for the consumption of Burundi and export.

Over 300 people are currently working in the construction site which is direct employment to Burundians. Technical knowledge and expertise are also passed on by foreign experts to Burundians which will enable them fend for themselves after this project.

According to the Project manager of FABRIMETAL, Koushik Mondal, the steel rolling company will use scrap as the raw material, where it will be put in a furnace and then melted then the liquid metal will be transferred to a continuous Casting machine (CCM) where billet will be produced after wards. This will then be fed to the rolling mill, and as it passes through the rollers, it will take the shape of the pillars and the product will go to the quality machine EMT machine, to ensure that the product has asphalt quality so that it cannot break, after this we take it to the cooling bed when it cools naturally before packing it in the parking section. The rebars will be tested and retested for quality control before they are dispatched for delivery.



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Mondal explains progress to the Chairman of the Board and DG Musumba Steel Audace NDAYIZEYE





Equipment being installed in FABRIMETAL



Project Manager Koushik Mondal Explains the plan

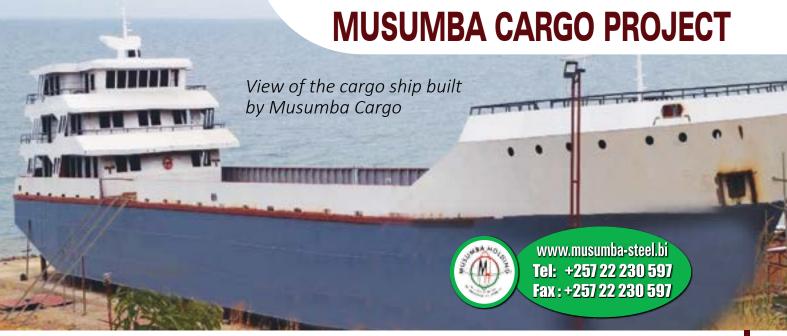












#### **MUSUMBA CARGO PROJECT**

Musumba Holdings company has a project that will solve the issue of transportation along the Lake Tanganyika. The Project is a ship/ ferry that is being built to transport capacity of about 1500 tonnes on board, and a premier lounge for tourists to sail on Lake Tanganyika to Kigoma in Tanzania, DRC, Zambia and other areas. The project is expected to be completed by December this year.

According to the project Manager for the Ship Theogene MINANI, only engine materials are left to be fitted in the ship and in the next three months, all work should be ready.

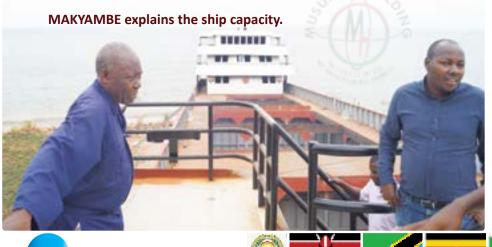
The ship was just an idea on the table, and a hish risk area that no one had ever ventured in. But with the professional hand of the designers of the ship, MAKYAMBE Patrice and Ponyo, and personally overseeing the construction of the ship Makyambe believes that this will be the greatest work ever done in Burundi maritime.



The aerial view of the ship. Over 24 containers of 40 feet can be safely transported by the ship.



Expected to start the first sail By December 2022.















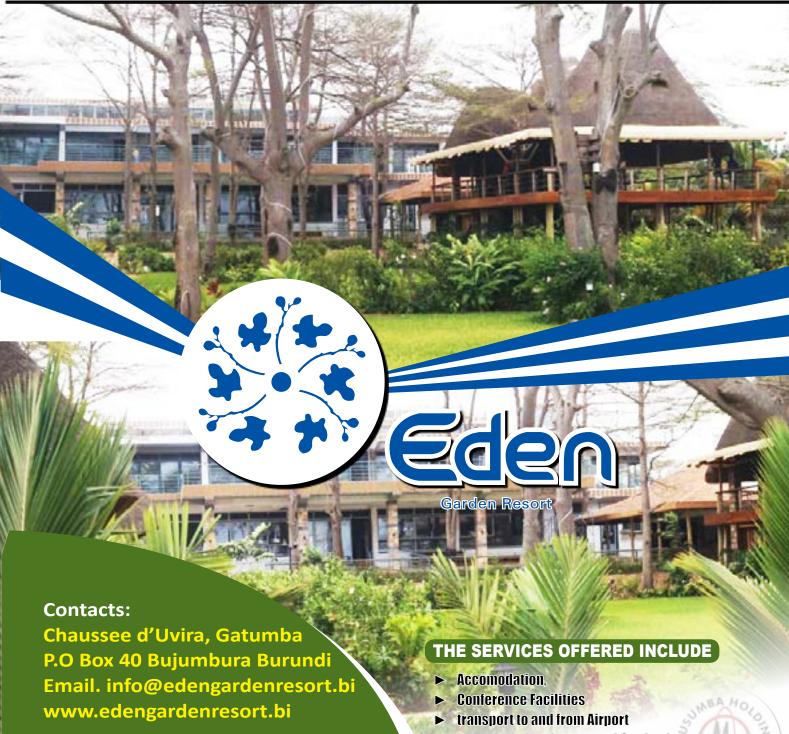




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- Free Wifi at the resort.









### SOCIETE DE TRAITEMENT DES TERRILSD'OR AU BURUNDI



Musumba Holding is also very active in the mining of gold in Muyinga province and we are expecting production to start very soon we are now conducting trial processes and the results are very positive and encouraging.

The project for the exploitation and processing of gold dumps by Societe De Traitement Des Terrilsd'or au Burundi (SOTB) is another company by Musumba Holding. It was motivated by the fact that studies revealed artisanal miners did not recover all the gold explored in the ores due to the rudimental processing methods. They could only recover visible gold mineral. The project is located on the Nyungu hill in Bwasare zone of the Gasorwe, Muyinga province.



H.E President Evarist NDAYISHIMIYE touring the site for the gold mine by Musumba Holding SOTB

















Uwiragiye foundation is a philanthropy project by Musumba Holdings that currently cares for 95 children with visual impairment, 40 boys and 51 girls.











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### Infrastructure Development in EAC



Shipyards and ports infrastructure needs to be developed in EAC

THE ROLE OF INFRASTRUCTURE in economic transformation and development cannot be over emphasized as it enables trade, movement of goods, services, and people across the region. In order to have a well-functioning infrastructure base, however, countries ought to have a robust plan that not only involves building, planning, mapping, but also financing such developments.

list of 286 regional projects in diverse sectors including railways, ports, roads, energy, and airports for development over a 10-year period from 2018 - 2028 to bridge the infrastructure deficit in the region.

Out of these, seventeen (17) projects were identified as high priority (Flagship) and their development was proposed be fast-tracked due to their importance in regional integration. These include the Standard Gauge Railways (SGR), the crude oil pipelines, power interconnectors and capacity enhancements.

Several of the projects have seen some progress and to date, the SGR project is underway with the Mombasa - Naivasha line (600 km) completed and the Dar es Salaam - Morogoro section (300 km) nearing completion. The section from Morogoro to Makutupora (722km) is in progress. Several sections of the Northern Corridor road are undergoing upgrading to dualcarriageway standards while Tanzania has prioritized the Chalinze – Morogoro Expressway on the Central Corridor.

Completion of construction of Terminal Three at Julius Nyerere International Airport and Bugesera International Airport construction works are in progress. Expansion of Entebbe International Airport is also work in progress.

a regional setting, such plans ought to synchronized and coordinated with collaborating countries to aim and achieve regional infrastructure objectives.

The East African region still several infrastructure challenges including limited infrastructure networks, poor infrastructure, high transport and energycostsandunder-developed logistical services, a host of which limits the competitiveness and slows the integration of both the land-locked and transit countries into regional and global markets.

During their 4th Retreat on Infrastructure Development and Financing held in February 2018, the EAC Heads of State prioritized a



Infrastructure plans. EAC has a lot to do in terms infrastructure development



















## BCB Celebrates 100 years of service delivery to Burundi

"It's All Thanks To You"

Banque De Credit De Bujumbura BCB is celebrating one hundred years (100 years) since it opened operations in Burundi in 1922, under the theme, "It's All Thanks To You".

NEL TOURSEN

BCB MD gives his remarks at the event

peaking during the launch centenary anniversary celebration at Zion Hotel in Bujumbura, Mr. Tharcisse RUTUMO the Managing Director of BCB said 'the celebration of an anniversary, 100 years for us, is a good opportunity to look back, to rejoice in the present and to examine the future of our Bank.'

It is thanks to you that we are solemnly entering into this celebration, and above all thanks to God Almighty who watched over our Bank, that the BCB has been able to go through the socio-political turbulences that Burundi has known during the 100 years of existence of the BCB in Burundi.

"AGATI GATERETSWE N'IMANA NTIGAHENURWA N'UMUYAGA" as the Burundian wisdom says, he added.

BCB also recognises that it owes its performance to its indefatigable staff, as well as to its enlightened leaders.

For this reason, on the one hand, in order to recognise all the contributions of senior



BCB customers and friends celebrate 100 years of BCB



BCB Staff at the function

















BCB Clients and staff at the grand dinner at Zion Hotel Bujumbura

staff, BCB has put in

place a system of free and quality health care for retired staff, and on the other hand, to face the future with serenity, BCB initiated in 2018, a training and hiring programme for young academics without professional experience. So far 112 young people who have completed this training are currently part of the BCB staff with a permanent contract. This initiative is continuing even this year, as the recruitment of the 4th promotion is underway.



Other guests at the function



Ladies dancing group entertain guests at the function





The grand cake that was cut to celebrate 100 years















### Assessing the success of the Common Market Protocol in the last years, and what Gen Ndayishimiye and the 6th development strategy have to address

THE COMMON MARKET PROTOCOL which was anchored on free movement of goods, people, labour, services, and capital within the region as well as the rights of establishment and residence, continues to make strides in deepening the regional integration agenda.



Due to the fertile soils and conducive climate, Agriculture still remains the back bone for EAC countries.

opportunities have been in the manufacturing, agricultural services sectors consequent of accelerating the implementation of the Common market protocol.

The key drivers opening the common market that have been implemented covered among other sectors; health projects, education, food security,

international e-passport, some joint marketing of tourism activities, promotion of cultural industries, and trade in services.

The social sector benefitted greatly from the Common Market, registering 67% of the achievements harmonization by partner states of laws and regulations governing the application and issuance of work permits further accelerating

and facilitating free movement of workers and persons.

In recognition of the centrality of education as a key enabler for the region to be able to meet new technical, development and business demands of the 21st century, the region has identified harmonisation of education curricula, fees in higher learning institutions, standards, assessment, and evaluation of education programmes as a priority issue to facilitate free movement of human resources.

With a performance of 85% of targeted interventions, frameworks for the harmonization of the EAC education systems and training curricula have been developed at pre-primary, primary and secondary education, teacher education, adult and continuing education, special needs education and Technical, Vocational Education and Training

Further, the development of the EAC Common Market Scorecard on free movement of workers and the rights of establishment and residence improved tracking achievements. The EAC e-Immigration policy awaiting approval by partner states for inputs will go a long way in improving immigration service deliverv.

Partner States have not fully aligned their curriculum to the approved regional structures and frameworks. Nevertheless, they continue to register high enrolment rates, making basic education achievable. The Inter University Council for East Africa has been central in working with Partner States on all matters related to higher education. Four Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) have been signed to facilitate mobility of professionals.

















EAC planned map, for free movement of people, goods and services. Comoros needs to sign up as well

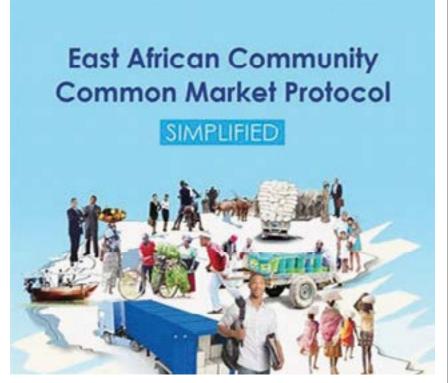


Image of a simplified Common market



Common Market will accelerate economic growth and development through free movement for all the factors of production between partner states



Makerere University Vice Chancellor Prof. Nawangwe meets Prof Gaspard Banyakimbona to discuss the IUCEA Strategic Plan under development for 2021-2026 and the prominent role of IUCEA member Universities to advance the higher education agenda for EAC

The challenge has been in the implementation of the EAC E-Learning Strategy, which could have been critical for learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, has not been operationalized in the Partner States due to funding constraints.

The management of COVID-19 has been a major challenge in taking a regional approach to management of health, labour, and migration issues in line with provisions in the common market on free movement of people, workers, and services.

Each country has adopted different containment measures, some of which have interfered with free movement of persons, service, and trade in goods.

Trucks waiting to cross the border due to covid 19 restrictions. This affected business greatly.

This still remains a challenge that new leadership will seek to address. Tanzania and Burundi did not implement a number of stringent measures such as lock down and stopping school going pupils and students from attending school during the Covid 19 pandemic period of 2020-2021. Uganda and Kenya implemented these hard and stringent measures. With Gen Ndayishimiye at the helm of the EAC, we await to see visionary leadership in such trying times.

















# Key Milestones for the past chair of EAC Uhuru Kenyatta, Successes and challenges of the 5th EAC development strategy

THE OUT GOING CHAIR of the East African Community H.E Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya had a very exciting yet challenging tenor at the helm of EAC.



The 3rd EAC Heads of State Summit on DRC peace and Security Situation in Kenya.

ith the economies of all partner states recovering from the stringent effects of the Covid 19 global pandemic in 2021 and 2022, drastic climate changes which included floods, increasing water levels, locusts invasion, elections in partner states, demise of past leaders in EAC HE Pierre Nkurunziza of Burundi and HE John Pombe Magufuli, crisis in the political and security affairs between partner states, refugee crisis, Russia and Ukraine wars, and several others, the tenure of Uhuru Kenyatta has been quite something to speak about.

However, at the top of the

successful activities is the recent conclave of Heads of state of partner states that convened in Kenya to address the the peace and security situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo DRC

This is one of the successful events where EAC partner states agree on cease fire and recommended the operationalization of the joint East African forces to calm the situation.

This summit happened months after the Heads of state of the EAC partner states admitted DRC into the regional block after fulfilment of all requirements for joining. The addition of DRC was a

major milestone for the EAC and President Uhuru in particular as this happened in his tenure.

The 5th EAC Development Strategy has been in operation for close to five years, with positive indicator performance across the pillars, sectors, and institutions. Overall performance stands at 61% of the indicators achieved. The Organs, support programmes and Institutions performed well, registering a performance of more than 60% while that of the social sector was equally supportive.

Theratification of the Tripartite and the African Continent Free Trade Area agreements by EAC Partner States is one of the significant achievements of the 5th Development Strategy because of the expansion of markets. These agreements will accelerate economic integration of the continent therefore achieving sustainable development that will alleviate poverty and improve livelihoods.

Despite the high levels of NTBs, the agriculture sector performed above the other productive sectors. The region is generally food secure, complemented with intra-regional food trade from food surplus Partner States. It is also the one sector with the highest performance in intra and external trade.

With these success and many more, the strategy faced a number of challenges and the Organs of the EAC still continue to face many challenges. The productive sector for example faced challenges which included delayed domestication of regional frameworks across the partner states, information gaps on regional initiatives, lack of awareness on the effects of signed polices at national levels,















The online summit that admitted DRC into the EAC

limited industrial development infrastructure, limited capacity in industrial policy knowledge and skills, research and development, understaffing at national and regional levels, disjointed policy and regulatory frameworks across partner states, limited and declining budgetary allocations at both national and regional

level, delays in ratification of adopted policy instruments, outdated policies, environment and climate change, low levels of awareness, and over dependence on donors in implementing most of the programmes among many others.

These bottlenecks limited trade and investment potential

Agriculture still remains East African Community major contributor to GDP



Trucks stranded at the One stop Border point



in the sectors that could expand economic activities and upgrade living standards.

Unilateral national actions for priority regional projects have undermined joint resource mobilization and timely implementation of cross border projects. This is exacerbated by delayed disbursement of budgetary resources at national levels.

Otherchallengesincludeweak supply capabilities, inadequate entrepreneurship, low-capacity fragmented utilization. underdeveloped regional capital markets, weak industrial synergies limiting exploitation of economies of scale in production, lack of coordination between private and public sector initiatives weak information and and institutional support frameworks. infrastructural Energy and bottlenecks, slow pace technological absorption due to weak research and technological capabilities, incoherent policies on value addition, inadequate skills for specific industries particularly at technical and technician levels, unfavorable business environment including counterfeiting and lack of financial schemes to support investment into the industrial sector are some of the other challenges.

These challenges collectively inform the core interventions in the 6th EAC Development Strategy, building on the deeper operational regional integration frameworks of the Customs Union, Common Market and Monetary Union, complemented with abundant natural resource endowments, а diversified base, economic relative functional political stability, institutions, technological advancements and supportive regional, continental and global initiatives, the aspiration of EAC regional integration to create a fully integrated, internationally competitive and unified region in which goods, services, capital and persons move freely will be achieved.

### Culture, Sports and Gender in the EAC

CULTURE AND SPORTS play a critical role in promoting social cohesion, solidarity, stability, identity, promoting unity and economic development, which in themselves are key aspects to ensure sustainable development, maintenance of peace, security, and healthy societies.



A united EAC through Arts and Culture



Corporal Edwin Wekoba boldly holds up the EAC flag ushering in 12th East African Military Games at Moi International Sports Centre Kasarani.

AC recognized this stance and was provided for in Article 119 (c) of the Treaty, in which Partner States are tasked to promote close cooperation amongst themselves in culture and sports, an understanding that premised the initiation of the Jumuiya ya Africa Mashariki Utamaduni Festival (JAMAFEST).

Embracing culture and sports as both enablers and drivers of a people-centred integration agenda through the promotion and enhancement of diverse sportsactivities and the promotion and preservation of our culture is of paramount importance.

Consequently, annual JAMAFEST platform for fostering regional socio-cultural integration in East Africa and Parliamentary and CPX USHIRIKIANO IMARA games play key roles in promoting unity in diversity, sharing crosscultural experiences, heritage, dialogues and cultural exchanges among the people of East Africa.

JAMAFEST platform, which is organized on rotational basis, show cases East Africa's cultural diversity with an intention to promote and drive regional sociocultural integration through arts and culture. JAMAFEST also offers a free platform to promote Kiswahili as EAC lingua franca, and popularize the EAC identity tools like the anthem.

Sports, on the other hand, is seen as an enabler and driver of a people-centred integration occurrence, and a number of editions of the East African Community Games (EACoG) have been hosted in partnership with the private sector, civil society, voluntary organizations, individuals, and development Partners.

In addition, military games also make it possible for regional security representations to serve in both the regional and international provision of security services. These take the form of inter-state sports, bringing together armed forces, students, among others.

















Ndayishimiye and first Lady arrive at the Nkurunziza peace park for the Inauguration

Nkurunziza Peace park Complex inaugurated in June 2022



Burundian Women in trade business.

Women's Participation in EAC activities

Burundian Women in Uniform. Burundi has performed well in the Gender equality equation

### Gender

As the Community strives to enhance the socio-economic development of its citizens, greater attention continues to adopt common approaches towards disadvantaged and marginalised groups, including women, children, the youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

Interventions in the gender, community development & civil society mobilization subsector targeted addressing gender disparities, empowering of communities, and creating an enabling environment for key stakeholders to participate in regional integration and development of the community.

Development of a roadmap on mainstreaming social protection in policies and programmes at the regional and national levels, adoption of a regional policy on gender aimed at guiding implementation of the Gender Equity and Development Bill and enhanced awareness creation on the simplified guide for MSMEs in partner states and the implementation of action plans for the EAC Child, Youth and Persons with Disabilities policies were achieved.

There is remarkable women political representation in all the Partner States. Burundi, Tanzania, and Uganda achieved the one third representation. Lower women political representations were recorded in Kenya and South Sudan.

The role of women in the economic, social, and lately political development of EAC region can no longer be ignored because of their importance in playing vital roles as producers and consumers of goods and services, keepers of family health, first teachers of the children and guardians of morals and culture.

Historically African societies were premised on patriarchism, reflecting the community as male dominated and led, keeping the women playing seemingly

contemptuous roles of backyard keepers.

Of course, this nurtured a notion of gender-based violence which is mostly associated with inflicting physical, emotional, verbal, psychological, and economic abuses to women.

Patriarchist led marginalization of women especially in the decision-making processes, access to education, information, finance, communication technologies. To address the above, EAC Partner States have taken several measures including the enacting and implementing of different policies and legal frameworks, starting with the treaty itself, which cover issues of gender mainstreaming into all EAC endeavours. Various EAC policy frameworks have operationalized Treaty provisions recognizing the vital role of women in driving EAC's regional integration process.

















### **Monetary Union still Work-in-Progress**

THE MONETARY UNION is expected to entrench the Single regional Market through a single currency while improving economic structures of Partner States to increase trade-integration.



The 23rd EAC Monetary Union committee meeting

o this end, two regional laws were established to support the creation institutions implement the Monetary Union by 2024 (East African Monetary Institute and East African

Statistics Bureau).

Financial Sector Development and Regionalization, Payments Settlements Systems Infrastructure in the Partner States are on-going. Adoption of clear measures to develop the interbank markets in all countries and harmonize monetary policy instruments were initiated. These include agreements to harmonize reserve requirement regimes in EAC countries by setting the reserve requirement ratio at 5%.

The national central banks in the region also agreed to design and implement a Common exchange rate mechanism, continually assess exchange rate misalignments in the region, develop capacity in modelling and and forecasting adopt

Forecasting and Policy Analysis System (FPAS) as well as a common monetary policy communication strategy.

In this regard, important achievements have been harmonized including payment and standards, svstem integration of payment and settlement systems, promotion of interconnectivity of payment cards switches, regulatory and institutional frameworks as well as cross border mobile money initiatives.

Regarding the financial system stability and development, focus was put on integration of financial systems and adoption of common principles and rules for the regulation and supervision of the financial system, development and harmonization of criteria of the Basel Core Principles (BCPs) and review, consolidation and harmonization of the existing financial stability assessment frameworks, and establishment of a working group on macro



The original East African Shilling acceptable in all **EAC** partner states

prudential analysis and stress testing (MAST).



Refresh the 1999. EAC leaders renew integration agenda on the big 4 goals that is Common Market. **Customs Union, Monetary** Union and a political **Federation** 

About 76% of the planned activities were achieved. However, lengthy approval processes, with some of the interventions falling under more than one Sectoral Council made it difficult to make final decisions. Further, understaffing and underfunding remain critical challenges. The slow progress in the financial markets developments, which is a prerequisite for adopting the forward-looking monetary policy framework, compromised target achievements. The process of developing the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) legal instruments has taken more time than expected, partly due to lack of funds and lengthy approval processes.















### Immigration and Refugee Management

THE EAC REGION has put in place several legal instruments which make provisions on common mechanisms for the management of refugees. Under Article 5(3) (f), of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, the Partner States agreed to promote peace, security and stability within and good neighbourliness among themselves.



Humanitarian Assistance saves lives. Displaced people who return are helped to settle back into their communities



Refugees received and screened. Uganda is said to host the biggest number of refugees in EAC

Article 124(4), States undertook to establish common mechanisms for the management of refugees. This is a general provision which enjoins Partner States to cooperate on all aspects of refugee management and protection. Article 125(5) of the Treaty also calls for the development of mechanisms common refugee management but for a limited purpose of maintaining and promoting security in their territories.

Articles 3(g) and 10(1) of the EAC Protocol on Peace and Security, 2013 also commit Partner States to cooperate on management of refugees and to establish common mechanisms for the management. The content and scope of the mechanisms to be developed under Article 124 of the Treaty for the purposes of maintenance of peace and security is outlined under Article 10(2) which imposes a mandatory duty on the Partner



Urban Refugee Women In Bujumbura participate in an activity last month.

States to:

Harmonize their policies, laws, strategies, and programmes on the management of refugees, incorporate the provisions of the 1951 UN convention on refugees and 1969 OAU convention governing specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa in their national legislation.

Establish and harmonise asylum procedures, network and share information regarding asylum seekers and refugees, institute mechanisms to facilitate family re-unions, establish systems for agencies involved with refugees within the community to share views and exchange experiences and develop joint training modules for stakeholders in refugee management.

Article 7(8) of the Protocol on the establishment of the East African Community Common provides that movement of refugees within the community will be guided by the relevant international conventions. Partner continue to host refugees from within and outside the region. It is estimated that Uganda, Tanzania, and Kenya are hosting about two million refugees from Somalia, South Sudan, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Burundi, and Eritrea. The bulk of these refugee and migrant population (approximately 1.19 million people) is in Uganda. As people flee civil war and famine, others look for work.















### Political Federation of The East African Community



**Political Federation Agenda** 

THE POLITICAL FEDERATION PILLAR of regional integration continues to register tangible progress. In line with the provisions of Article 123 of the Treaty, the Community has made substantial progress towards attainment of some critical building blocks towards achievements of Political Federation, by way of establishing the key legislative and judicial Organs-EALA and EACJ

urther, the continuing deliberations in the harmonization and coordination of regional policy frameworks, several protocols regarding good governance, democracy, peace, and security, defence, human rights and social justice, and international relations which set groundsfor political confederation

are under negotiation or awaiting ratification.

The key interventions placed emphasis on ensuring sustained stability, institutional strengthening for the delivery of a commonforeignpolicywhichisstill under negotiation, domestication of international obligations, political commitment, good governance, and accountability.

Improvements have been made in the electoral processes in the region with a policy document for the establishment of the Forum of Electoral Commission currently under review.

Similarly, electoral reforms are currently underway in Tanzania Burundi under various national initiatives. Other major achievements include centralized participation by the community in AU-RECs cooperation, increased support by the EAC for diplomatic missions in the implementation of the provisions of the Protocol on Foreign Policy Coordination and enhanced promotion of EAC integration objectives amongst external stakeholders with respect to alignment of EAC Vision 2050 to AU Agenda 2063, and UN Agenda 2030 on SDGs. Further, refugee, and e-migration and transboundary community security policies were also developed.

Consequently, the complementary enablers include shared political commitment,





Process to formulate a constitution for the East African Community (EAC) political federation was launched by Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni in 2019.

Kenyatta observes Salva Kiir of South Sudan as he ascends to the commitment.

anchored on harmonized policies and regulatory frameworks to manage expanded and diversified regional potentials.

In conclusion, some learned scholars assert that the objectives of the EAC can fully be achieved only if the political federation protocol is achieved. Once the goals of the community have been conceived by a centralized political federation, all partner states will comply without back-and-forth changes in resolutions.



Senior Principle Officer, in the **Department of Political Affairs** in EAC makes a presentation on Political matters status of Political Federation recently.

















### **Economic Growth in the EAC**

THE EAC has maintained a steady and impressive economic growth of more than 5% in the last decade which makes it one of the fastest growing regions in Sub-Saharan Africa.

the owever, regional economies continue to be dominated services and agriculture sectors. Several factors responsible for this trendincludeimprovementsinthe agricultural and manufacturing sectors, expanding EAC export baskets into the region and to the rest of the world. Other positive contributions arise from improvements in the services sector, ICTs, financial services, and construction. EAC's agenda to steadily create a friendly business environment, deepening regional integration,

widening cooperation, and a stable economic and political environment makes it a potential attraction for foreign investment and manufacturing destination.

With the addition of DRC onto this trade block, forecasts paint a bright picture for most EAC economies especially if the Partner States individually work on comparative key sectors and collectively work on the following:

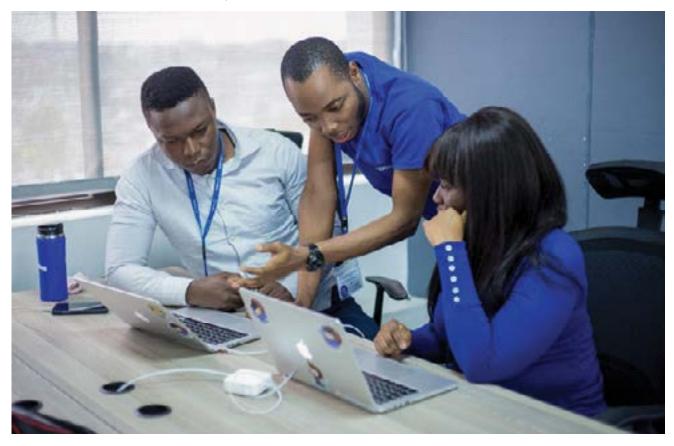
**Infrastructure:** The Roads, Railways, Aviation, Communications, and Inland waterways are key enablers

of successful integration and facilitating activities such as trade, agriculture, tourism, and the movement of labour and other resources across the region.

The EAC Treaty provides for it as it compels Partner States to provide basic infrastructure as one of the Operational baselines.

### Industrialization and SME Development:

The of industries role transformation of economies cannot be over emphasized as it currently contributes 8.9% - 10.1% to the various EAC economies, however the EAC target is to have 25% contribution by 2032. The industrial sector can significantly contribute to the economy by creating jobs and can stimulate the development of other sectors like agriculture and services, increasing foreign exchange earnings, and modernizing the lives of people.



Technology levels are still low in the East African Community. Low ICT uptake is among the major impediments to doing business in the region.















### Agriculture and Food

**Security:** Even when small holder farmers are the majority participants in the region's agricultural sector, they must be guided and must balance between cash economy and food economy. Food security is critical for a persistently growing economy.

**Others** are the livestock subsector which consists of cattle, sheep, goats, and camels, mainly for meat and milk production, pigs and poultry for white meat and eggs respectively, hides and skins for export and industrial processing

**Fisheries products** include both freshwater fish from rivers, dams and lakes and marine fish from the Indian Ocean.

**Forestry products** include fruits, honey, herbal medicine, timber, and wood for fuel. Forests are also a great tourism attraction for the region.

EAC therefore through its various and relevant structures must design or improve strategic interventions, map regional investment opportunities in the agriculture sector, tackle the constraints and challenges of the agriculture sector, livestock, and fisheries.



Uganda's Minister for EAC Affairs Rebecca Kadaga in DRC. Export Promotion Board of Uganda and the National Export Agency of DRC agreed to work closely to address the barriers to trade



Kenya has one of the highest agricultural productivity levels in the EAC region 70 per cent exports are agricultural.



Ndayishimiye and Family on a forest tour to boost domestic tourism in Burundi. Forests are a source of forex exchange in tourism













### **Cross Cutting Issues**

THERE ARE A NUMBER of cross-cutting issues which would need urgent attention to have a holistic development plan capable of moving all sectors in the same direction and at the same pace for an expedited integration process. Some of the most pressing issues include the youth and unemployment, the intra-state political wrangles, health issues, and environmental stress, among others.



A recent report noted

over 59% over 59% of youth in Kenya are unemployed. This number is higher in Uganda, Burundi and Tanzania.

Analyses have depicted some EAC Partner States as having made significant improvements while others are still struggling in several sectors, a situation that could be confronted by committing adequate collaboration and mechanisms for learning from global best

practices.

Targeted investment in skills development, especially of the youth, is necessary to produce a skilled human capital that is needed to address economic and social challenges of the peoples of EAC that will be relevantly absorbed in the labour market.

It should be noted that EAC has achieved key efficiency gains in health, reduction in the magnitude of preventable diseases associated with poor sanitation, hygiene, environmental, and nutrition factors, which take a great toll on healthcare resources.

Observable human resource gaps in health and education sectors will also need to be progressively narrowed to improve access to, and quality of service delivery.

The region expected to export to the international markets. The achievements on export and investment would largely depend on the region's level of competitiveness. Dedicated effort must take at both regional and national levels to make the business environment more attractive.

### Establishment of an EAC Single Market

EAC cardinal objective is to establish an integrated regional single market hence, its adoption of the pillars of integration of CU, CM, MU, and PF to incrementally implement a single market.

A more integrated market can stimulate the productive capacity required to develop regional value-chains by enhancing output of value-added products and assisting diversification as well as creating the jobs needed by the population.

Hence the motivation and desire of EAC as a platform for inclusive development and cooperation on shared goals for collective regional interest.







### C'est GRACE A VOUS.

Atteindre 100 ans n'est jamais l'œuvre d'une seule personne.

C'est grâce à vous que nous franchissons cette étape historique. Ensemble, nous sommes confiants de progresser et de léguer aux générations futures un héritage pérenne et plus radieux.

Rien n'est plus rassurant que de compter sur une clientèle fidèle, désireuse de construire son avenir avec une banque qui a pour raison d'être, grandir avec elle, en « compagnon sûr ».

### It's all THANKS TO YOU.

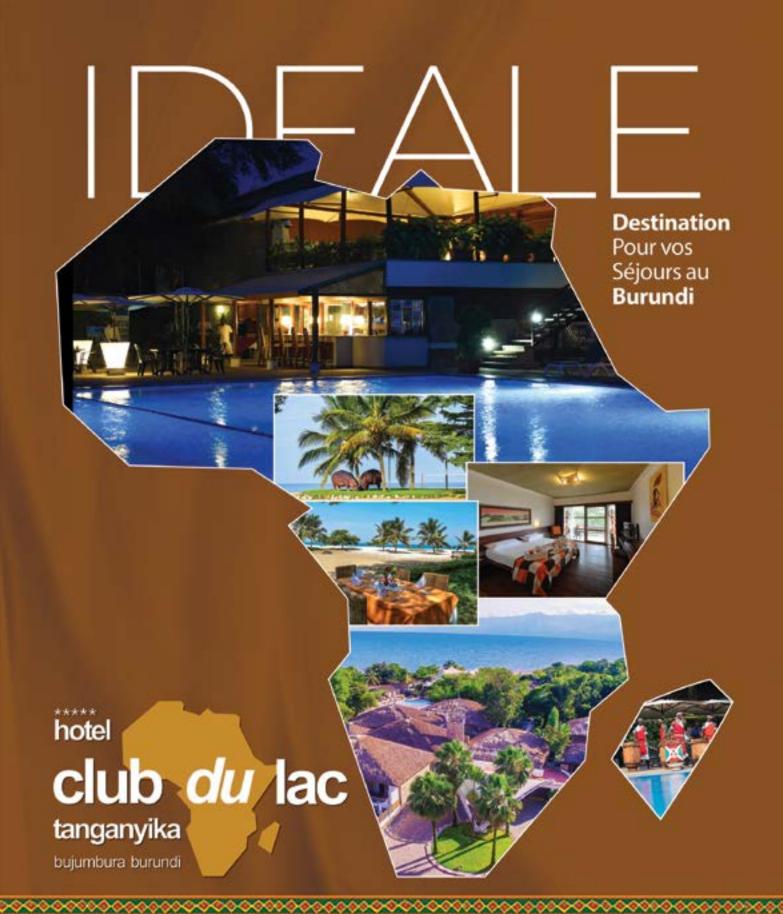
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