



Republic of Rwanda
Southern Province

AUGUST RECAP

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER ,2026



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FOREWORD

As we enter the rainy season, forecasts from Meteo Rwanda indicate that our province will experience heavy rainfall in the coming weeks. This period requires vigilance and preparedness from all of us. I urge the residents of the Southern Province to take proactive measures: reinforce the roofs of your houses to withstand the rains, and dig protective trenches to prevent soil erosion. By doing so, we safeguard our homes, our land, and our livelihoods.

The agricultural season 2027 A also coincides with this rainfall. Farming remains the backbone of our daily lives, and it is therefore essential that every household participates actively in cultivating all available land. By doing so, we strengthen food security and increase productivity for the benefit of our families and our nation.

At the same time, the academic year has begun. Taking children to school is a responsibility of every parent, and we must ensure that they are provided with all the necessary materials to study effectively. Education is the foundation of our future, and investing in our children's learning is investing in the prosperity of Rwanda.

You are aware that all these efforts are driven by the need to live healthy and dignified lives. That is why I call upon everyone to maintain personal hygiene and cleanliness in our homes and communities. Clean bodies and clean surroundings are essential to preventing disease. Equally important is protecting our health by avoiding the consumption of substandard alcoholic beverages, which endanger lives and undermine our development.

Together, let us embrace discipline, responsibility, and solidarity as we build a Southern Province that is resilient, healthy, and prosperous.

Ms. KAYITESI Alice
GOVERNOR

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SOUTHERN PROVINCE CELEBRATES UMUGANURA DAY

On August 7, 2026, districts across Rwanda marked the annual Umuganura festival, a traditional day of thanksgiving and celebration of harvest. At the provincial level, the event was held in Ngera Sector, Nyaruguru District, where residents gathered alongside Governor Kayitesi Alice, members of the District Executive Committee, and security officials to rejoice in the achievements of the past year.

The celebration was characterized by unity, cultural pride, and recognition of the progress made in agriculture and community development. Residents showcased harvests and shared meals, symbolizing gratitude and solidarity.

In her address, Governor Kayitesi Alice emphasized the importance of collective responsibility in sustaining development. She urged citizens to strengthen cooperation, to share harvests with those who had not achieved the expected yields, and to avoid consuming illicit alcohol in order to safeguard public health. She further encouraged the community to embrace hard work and excellence, noting that diligence and discipline are the foundation of prosperity.

The Governor's message resonated strongly with the spirit of Umuganura, which is not only a celebration of harvest but also a reminder of shared values—unity, responsibility, and commitment to building a healthier and more productive society.

As the Southern Province celebrated this cultural milestone, the event reaffirmed the role of tradition in inspiring modern development and highlighted the collective determination to advance Rwanda's vision of growth and well-being.





SOUTHERN PROVINCE HOSTS PFM MEETING ON PROCUREMENT, PROJECTS, AND SCHOOL FEEDING

On August 14, 2026, the Southern Province headquarters hosted a Public Financial Management (PFM) meeting to review the implementation of procurement plans, assess district projects for the 2026/2027 fiscal year, and discuss strategies to strengthen tax collection.

The meeting also examined the school feeding program, focusing on nutrition and food management. Participants highlighted the need to improve food distribution and ensure that children benefit from balanced meals, recognizing the program's role in supporting education and health.

Attendees included Executive Secretaries of districts, District Internal Auditors, Procurement Officers, and project monitoring staff. The session was chaired by Vedaste Nshimiyimana, Executive Secretary of the Province, who emphasized accountability, efficiency, and collaboration. He reminded participants that effective financial management is essential for building trust with citizens and ensuring that resources directly benefit communities.

The discussions concluded with commitments to strengthen procurement systems, enhance project monitoring, improve tax collection, and upgrade school feeding programs. These priorities reflect the province's determination to align district initiatives with national development goals while promoting transparency and sustainable growth.





TURIMURUHANGO” FESTIVAL BRINGS TOGETHER THOUSANDS IN RUHANGO

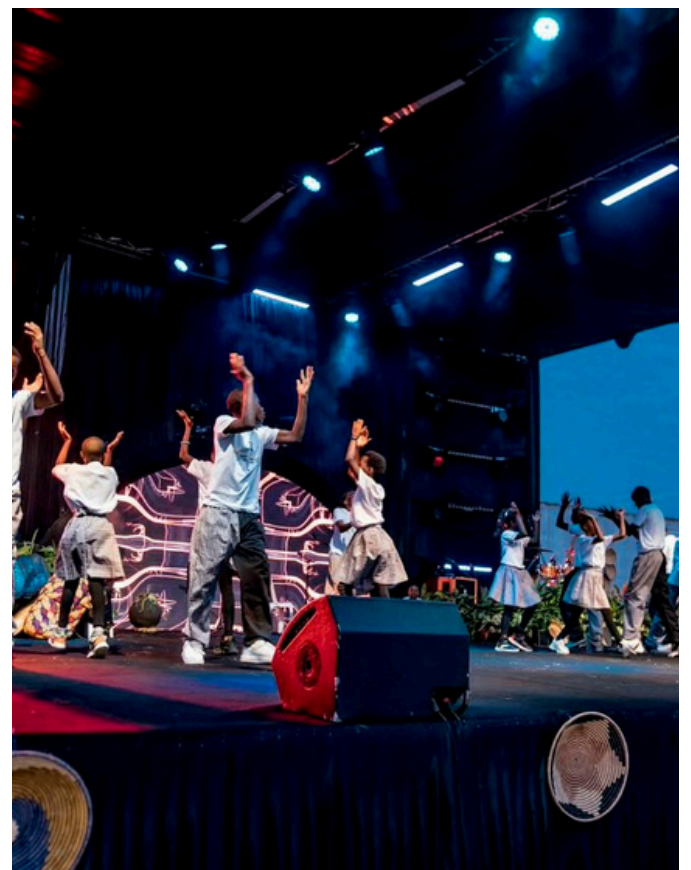
On August 16, 2026, Ruhango District hosted a major cultural event known as “TuriMuRuhango”, which attracted between 6,000 and 7,000 participants from across Rwanda. The festival combined discussions on Rwandan history and culture, exhibitions of innovations and development projects, as well as traditional dances and poetry. Its purpose was to preserve national cultural values while sharing the achievements of development with citizens.

The Governor of the Southern Province, Kayitesi Alice, joined residents and leaders of Ruhango District in the celebration. In her remarks, she emphasized that TuriMuRuhango is a program designed to support citizens who still need guidance, helping them to rise and achieve sustainable development.

She reminded participants that the progress made over the past 32 years has been possible thanks to solutions rooted in Rwandan culture and innovation. She added that the festival provided an opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved and to discuss how communities can continue to enjoy these gains, especially since the event coincided with the month dedicated to Umuganura, Rwanda’s traditional harvest thanksgiving. ment.

Governor Kayitesi further encouraged residents to celebrate the fruits of agriculture and industry, and to share the opportunities available in Ruhango, in line with the spirit of Umuganura.

She stressed that sharing and rejoicing in the country’s achievements is a pathway to strengthening unity and advancing national develop





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GISAGARA MARKS BREASTFEEDING WEEK WITH CALL FOR HEALTHY PRACTICES

On August 19, 2026, Gisagara District hosted the celebration of Breastfeeding Week under the theme “Breastfeeding Well, the Foundation of Good Health.” The event brought together leaders including Southern Province Governor Kayitesi Alice, the Director General of NCHD, district officials, health partners, and residents from various communities.

In her address, Governor Kayitesi Alice emphasized that proper breastfeeding is the starting point for a child’s health and the well-being of the entire family. She warned against the dangers of alcohol consumption by breastfeeding mothers, explaining that it can prevent them from providing adequate nutrients to their children, leading to growth and health problems. She stressed that this responsibility concerns both parents, as supporting one another and avoiding harmful practices is essential for family nutrition.

Health advisors and partners highlighted the importance of following medical guidance during pregnancy and breastfeeding. They reminded parents that exclusive breastfeeding from the first day until the recommended period is crucial for preventing disease and promoting healthy growth. They also encouraged families to adopt balanced diets, avoid alcohol and drugs, and seek health services whenever necessary.

Partners pledged to continue raising awareness, training parents and community health workers, and supporting initiatives that improve access to quality health services.

The celebration served as a powerful reminder that breastfeeding is the foundation of good health, and that avoiding alcohol and other harmful substances is vital to protecting children’s lives and ensuring a healthier future for families.



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RUHANGO: GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL HELD ON AUGUST,21

On August 21, 2026, Ruhango District hosted the General Assembly of the National Women's Council at the provincial level, bringing together leaders and partners committed to advancing women's empowerment. The meeting was attended by Vedaste Nshimiyimana, Executive Secretary of the Province, members of the Rwanda Parliament, the provincial coordinator of Rwanda Women, deputy district mayors, and several other stakeholders.

In his opening remarks, Executive Secretary Védaste Nshimiyimana underscored the urgency of collective responsibility in sustaining Rwanda's development. He noted that the assembly was convened at a time when the nation is engaged in the battle against degeneration, urging participants to embrace the cause as their own rather than observing passively. His words highlighted the importance of unity and personal commitment in safeguarding the progress already achieved.

The assembly provided a platform to review past accomplishments, identify persistent challenges, and set new strategies for the future.

Discussions centered on strengthening women's participation in economic growth, education, and health, while also addressing barriers such as limited access to resources and leadership opportunities. The provincial coordinator of Rwanda Women emphasized the need for sustainable initiatives that would enable women to benefit from vocational training, affordable financing for their projects, and inclusive governance structures.

Deputy district mayors and partners echoed these sentiments, stressing that the resolutions of the assembly should be extended to grassroots communities and schools. They called for intensified campaigns against gender-based violence, economic exploitation, and the promotion of equality in leadership.

The meeting concluded with firm commitments to establish a monitoring team to oversee the implementation of women-focused programs, prepare a comprehensive report for review in the next assembly, and strengthen collaboration among stakeholders to ensure inclusive and sustainable development.

SOUTHERN PROVINCE CONCLUDES AUGUST WITH COMMUNITY WORK | AWARENESS ON BEVERAGE SAFETY



On August 29, 2026, the Southern Province concluded the month with its end-of-August community work (Umuganda rusange). The activity brought together citizens and leaders in a spirit of unity and collective responsibility. Present at the event were Provincial Executive Secretary Vedaste Nshimiyimana, the Police Spokesperson in the Southern Province, local security organs, and the District Mayor, all of whom joined residents in hands-on development activities.

Beyond the physical work accomplished, the Umuganda served as a platform for public sensitization on the dangers of consuming substandard beverages. This awareness campaign emphasized the importance of safeguarding public health and ensuring that all food and drink products meet required standards.

In his address, Executive Secretary Vedaste Nshimiyimana called upon grassroots leaders to educate communities on the official guidelines regulating the production of traditional drinks. He underscored that individuals authorized to prepare food and beverages must strictly comply with the laws governing preparation and safety standards, noting that negligence in this area poses serious risks to both health and community well-being.

This end-of-month Umuganda demonstrated the dual role of community work: it is not only a tool for development and solidarity, but also a forum for educating citizens on issues that directly affect their lives, such as health, safety, and responsible production. By combining physical action with civic education, the Southern Province reaffirmed Umuganda as a cornerstone of community development, solidarity, and social responsibility.

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