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National Council for
Science and Technology

Rwanda's STI Policy and SDGs

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Overview

Official Name: Republic of Rwanda

Capital City: Kigali

Population: 11,262,564 (2015)

Surface Area: 26,338 sq. Km (~14 times smaller than Japan)

Nicknames: Land of a Thousand Hills
Land of Eternal Spring



Rwanda: Brief Overview

Rwanda - Pro Science and Technology Leadership

“In Rwanda, we put science at the very centre of our national development strategy, starting from 1997, when urgent questions of national reconstruction still, of necessity, consumed almost all of our attention. But it was clear, even then, that our pathway to prosperity lays in investing in productive capabilities of our people, which until then had not been given adequate attention”

H.E Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, ICTP, Trieste, Italy, 2014

Enabling soft infrastructure

- >Peaceful and secure nation
- >Good and transparent governance
- >Ease of doing business
- >Rule of law and zero tolerance to corruption

STI in National Vision and Strategies

Vision 2020 and Beyond

Transform Rwanda into a modern, knowledge based economy. Science, Technology and Innovation are enablers of that transformation.

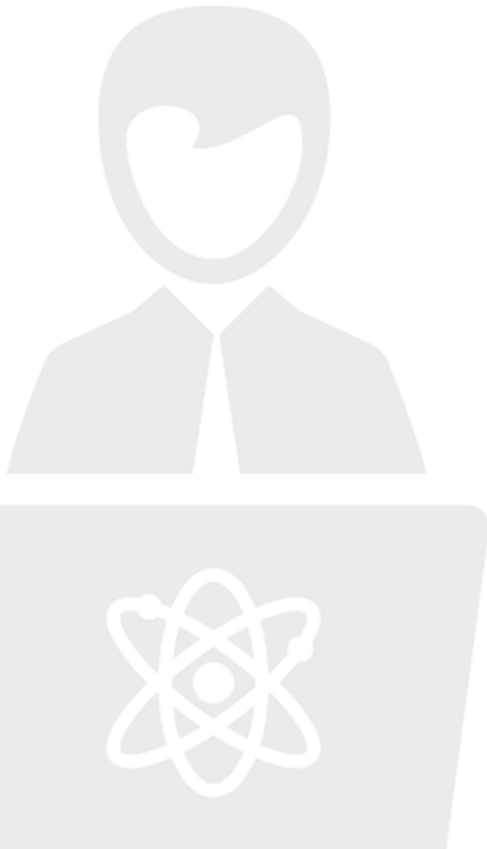
Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS - II)

Accelerating progress to middle income status and better quality of life for all Rwandans through sustained economic growth and poverty reduction.

Education Strategic Plan

Extension of the Nine-Year Basic Education (9YBE) to Twelve-Year Basic Education (12YBE). Make pre-primary, primary, secondary and higher education mode accessible and relevant to national needs.

STI Policy

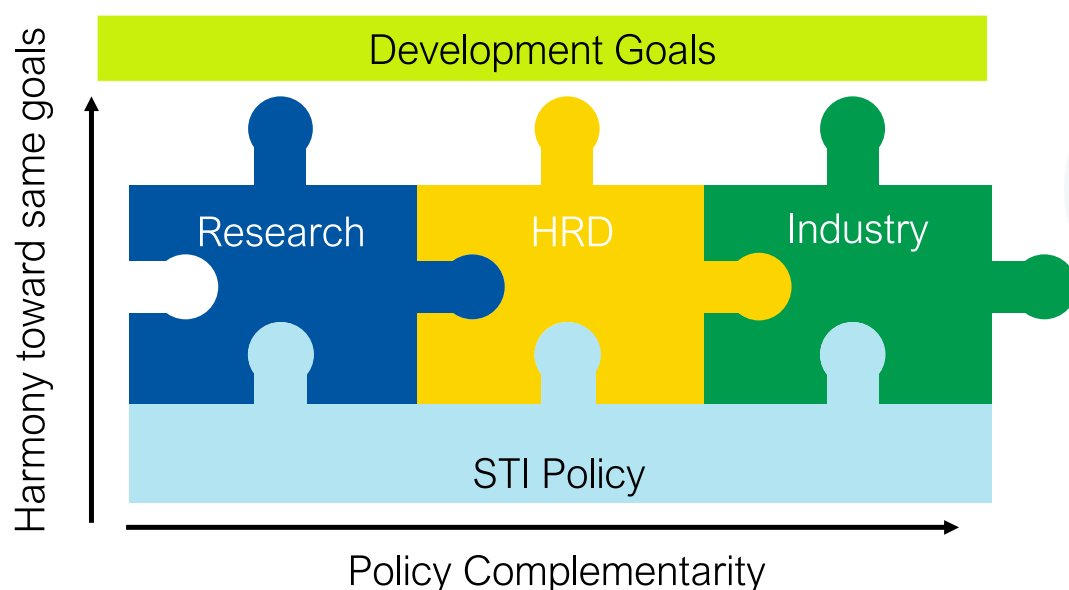


STI Policy Review

Mapping of Research and Innovation in the Republic of Rwanda

1. Exercise by the Global Observatory of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Instruments (GO -> SPIN), a UNESCO Initiative.
2. The review identified a number of issues:
 - Lack of coordinated research agenda
 - Shortage of qualified researchers
 - Low levels of funding for research and innovation
 - Lack of mechanisms to valorize indigenous knowledge
3. The review informed a review of Rwanda's STI policies

Approach to STI Policy Development



Strengthening Rwanda's National Innovation System

Train and Attract Competent Human Resources

1. Incentivize private partners to train scientists and engineers in Rwanda:

- Carnegie Mellon University - Africa
- Africa Institute of Mathematical Science (AIMS)
- Africa Leadership University
- University of Rwanda's Centers of Excellence

STI Coordination and Governance

1. Empower the National Council for Science and Technology
2. Setting up and fund a National Research and Innovation Agenda
3. Forward looking regulation (Eg. Performance based regulation for drones)

Thank you