

RWANDA TVET BOARD QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER (Q1 2026/2027)

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Rwanda and Germany Strengthen TVET Infrastructure and Inclusive Skills Development
- TVET Sub-Sector Working Group Reviews Sector Performance and Priorities for 2026/27
- RTB and Industry Associations Deepen Collaboration to Build a Skilled and Industry-Responsive Workforce
- Rwanda Launches First-Ever Plumbing Trade Test to Strengthen Professional Standards
- Swiss Delegation Explores Rwanda's Dual TVET Model and Future Prospects
- 11 Pilot Schools Demonstrate Progress in Blended Learning for Quality TVET
- Kura Nawe Programme Strengthens Healthcare Support for TVET Learners



Rwanda and Germany Strengthen TVET Infrastructure and Inclusive Skills Development

The Government of Rwanda and the Federal Republic of Germany inaugurated newly developed and rehabilitated infrastructure across six TVET schools under the RTB-KfW Phase III TVET Project.



Official inauguration Ceremony led by Hon. Claudette Irere and H.E. ambassador Heike Uta Dettmann

Inaugurated at Busasamana TSS in Nyanza District, the facilities including dormitories, dining facilities, classrooms and workshops are designed to provide improved learning and living environments for students. The event also marked the signing of an agreement between MINEDUC, RTB and KfW to implement the Skills4Girls TVET Project, which will expand support to additional schools and strengthen scholarships, with a focus on young women, girls and learners with disabilities.



Hon. Minister for education and H.E. ambassador during the inauguration ceremony at Busasamana TSS

TVET Sub-Sector Working Group Reviews Sector Performance and Priorities for 2026/27

The TVET Sub-Sector Working Group (TSSWG) convened its 2026/27 Quarter One meeting, bringing together key stakeholders to review sector performance and advance priorities for a quality, relevant and responsive TVET system.



Hon. Minister of state for education and other participants at the Q1 TVET SSWG Meeting

The meeting emphasized the importance of quality, relevance, stronger partnerships, accountability and industry engagement in translating investments into improved training and better outcomes for learners and the economy. Minister of State Claudette Irere also highlighted the need to strengthen institutional capacity, invest in the younger generation, and turn sector commitments into coordinated action with clear responsibilities and timelines.



TVET Stakeholders during Q1 TVET SSWG Meeting

RTB and Industry Associations Deepen Collaboration to Build a Skilled and Industry-Responsive Workforce

The Rwanda TVET Board (RTB) signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with four industry associations: the Rwanda Garage Association, Rwanda Wood Value Chain Association, Rwanda Tailors Association, and Rwanda Hospitality Association to strengthen industry engagement in TVET.



Photo of DG/RTB and representative from Rwanda Hospitality Association during the signing of MoU

The partnerships will expand opportunities for Dual TVET, workplace placements, internships, apprenticeships and industrial attachments, while strengthening workplace mentorship and in-company instruction. The agreements will also enhance industry participation in occupational standards, curriculum development, training, assessment and quality assurance. Together, the associations represent a network of more than 1,680 businesses and approximately 1,500 individual tailors, creating significant opportunities to strengthen Rwanda's skilled workforce.



TVET Stakeholders and representative from private association during the signing of MoUs

11 Pilot Schools Demonstrate Progress in Blended Learning for Quality TVET

The Rwanda TVET Board (RTB), in collaboration with the Luxembourg Development Cooperation Agency, hosted a Blended Learning Demonstration Event chaired by Minister of State for Education Claudette Ihere and Chargée d'affaires e.p. of the Embassy of Luxembourg in Rwanda Charlotte Helminger.



Hon. Minister of state for education and Chargée d'affaires e.p. of Embassy of Luxembourg in Kigali during demonstration of blended learning for quality TVET

The event brought together students, teachers and school managers from 11 pilot Technical Secondary Schools (TSSs) to demonstrate the practical application of blended learning. The event highlighted progress in integrating digital learning resources into teaching and learning and showcased the potential of blended learning to advance the digital transformation and quality of TVET education in Rwanda.



All participants during the demonstration of the blended learning

Swiss Delegation Explores Rwanda's Dual TVET Model and Future Prospects

Rwanda TVET Board welcomed Mauderli Ueli, Deputy Head of Cooperation at the Embassy of Switzerland in Rwanda, and Bieri Bernhard, SDC Programme Officer for the Great Lakes Region, for discussions on the progress, achievements, and future prospects of the Dual TVET Project, supported by the Embassy of Switzerland in Rwanda.



Photo of DG/RTB and Mauderli Ueli Deputy Head of Cooperation at the Embassy of Switzerland in Rwanda during the discussions

The engagement highlighted the role of Dual TVET in bridging the gap between training and employment by combining classroom learning with practical workplace experience. The delegation also visited Grand Legacy Hotel, one of the participating companies, to gain first-hand insight into the model's benefits for learners and the private sector.



Group photo of all representatives after discussions at the office of RTB

Rwanda Launches First-Ever Plumbing Trade Test to Strengthen Professional Standards

The Rwanda TVET Board (RTB), in collaboration with BluLever Education, launched the country's first-ever Plumbing Trade Test, marking a significant milestone in establishing a standardised framework for assessing and recognising plumbing skills and competencies. The initiative aims to strengthen quality, safety and professionalism in the plumbing sector and improve service delivery within Rwanda and beyond.



RTB Director General handling certification to the certified plumber for the first cohort

At the launch, RTB Director General Paul Umukunzi commended BluLever Education for its partnership and contribution to the initiative. The event also recognised the first cohort of 11 plumbers who successfully completed and passed the trade test, marking an important step towards stronger skills recognition and professional standards in Rwanda's plumbing sector.



Director General of Rwanda TVET Board delivering his remarks during the launch of Trade Test

Kura Nawe Programme Strengthens Healthcare Support for TVET Learners

On 24 August 2026 RTB received medical equipment donated by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), with support from the Embassy of Luxembourg in Kigali, under the Kura Nawe Programme, to strengthen the Kirehe TSS TVET Care Centre and linked health facilities.



Photo of TVET stakeholders during the donation of the health care equipment at Kirehe TSS TVET Care Center

Launched in 2025, the programme integrates primary healthcare, sexual and reproductive health, mental health support, gender equality, and life skills into TVET to promote the well-being and holistic development of adolescents and young people.



Group photo of all participants after the event at Kirehe TSS TVET care center

Rwanda Joins 11th African Technology Challenge in China

RTB Deputy Director General attended the opening of the 11th African Technology Challenge Competition at Weifang Vocational College in Shandong Province, China. Hosted by AVIC Innovation, the competition brought together 76 African international students from seven countries, including Rwanda, providing a platform to promote technology-driven skills development and industry collaboration.



DDG/RTB and other representatives attending the competition in China

In her remarks, the RTB Deputy Director General emphasized the importance of aligning TVET with technological advancements and labour-market needs while strengthening Africa-China cooperation in skills development and technology transfer. Over its first 10 seasons, the competition has reached more than 1,900 participants from 14 African countries.



DDG/RTB Delivering her remarks during the event in China

24 TVET Teachers Trained to Advance Cybersecurity Skills Development

As part of efforts to introduce Cybersecurity Skills at TVET level, 24 TVET teachers completed a 10-day Training of Trainers (ToT) delivered in partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the National Cyber Security Authority (NCSA), with support from the Government of Luxembourg.



RTB Director General delivering his remarks during the introduction event of the Cybersecurity Skills at TVET level,

The trained teachers will support the rollout of a new cybersecurity curriculum, which will initially be piloted in two TVET schools with 60 students. The pilot is expected to provide valuable insights into the potential integration of Cybersecurity as an additional TVET trade and contribute to building a skilled, future-ready digital workforce for Rwanda.



Group photo for all the Participants after the event

RTB and Italian Partner Explore New Investments to Advance Skills Development

RTB Deputy Director General welcomed a delegation from Fondazione Marcegaglia ETS, Italy, led by Secretary General Chiara Alluisini, to mark the organisation's 10th anniversary of operations in Rwanda. The meeting highlighted a decade of collaboration that has empowered more than 1,271 young people, supported 561 micro-businesses, and provided 278 enterprise toolkits.



All representatives after the discussions

Discussions also explored future investments in TVET, including the establishment of a Vocational Training Centre of Excellence in Bugesera District and expanded collaboration on quality short-course programmes. Both partners reaffirmed their commitment to equipping young people with market-relevant skills and expanding opportunities for employment, entrepreneurship, and sustainable livelihoods.

Stakeholders Unite to Expand Workplace Learning in Rwanda's Digital Economy

The Rwanda TVET Board (RTB), in partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and SOLVIT AFRICA as the implementing partner, launched the Quality Apprenticeship Pilot Programme during a high-level breakfast meeting with technology industry stakeholders.



TVET stakeholders during the launch

The programme aims to strengthen the transition from school to employment by providing Technical Secondary School graduates in Software Development with structured, high-quality workplace learning opportunities. Chaired by the Ministry of ICT and Innovation, the meeting brought together government institutions, private sector representatives, development partners, and participating companies, reaffirming a shared commitment to strengthening industry-TVET collaboration and developing a skilled digital workforce to support Rwanda's digital transformation.



All the individuals during the launch event

Dual TVET Awareness Campaign Strengthens Collaboration Across Rwanda's TVET Sector

The Rwanda TVET Board (RTB) conducted nationwide stakeholder dialogues from 18–25 August 2026, bringing together over 1,200 participants from all districts, including TVET school leaders, accountants, RTB staff and District Directors of Education. Held under the Dual TVET Awareness Campaign, the sessions strengthened understanding of Dual TVET, which combines classroom learning with practical workplace experience to equip learners with industry-relevant skills and improve employability.



Participants during the DUAL TVET Awareness Campaign

Discussions also focused on TVET quality improvement, training consumables management, co-curricular activities, institutional performance and accountability. Officially opening the dialogues, RTB Director General Paul Umukunzi emphasized the importance of quality, clear objectives, compliance with laws and stronger accountability in TVET delivery.



Participants during the DUAL TVET Awareness Campaign

New Vocational Training Centre Strengthens Professional Truck Driving Skills

The Association of Heavy Truck Drivers in Rwanda has launched the Heavy Truck Professional Driving Vocational Training Center (ACPLRWA VTC) in Masoro, Kigali, to strengthen professional driving skills, ethics, and road safety.



Delegates touring the premises during the launch

With more than 120 trainees enrolled in its first intake, the centre will equip aspiring truck drivers with practical knowledge in vehicle operation, road safety, cargo handling, basic vehicle maintenance, and professional conduct, while highlighting their important contribution to Rwanda's economic development.



Group of all delegates after the launch at ACPLRWA VTC

RTB and Chinese Engineering Firm Explore Partnership in Skills Development

On 16 July 2026, RTB Deputy Director General welcomed a delegation from AVIC INNO, a Chinese holding company specializing in engineering, including civil engineering and aviation infrastructure.



Group photo of all delegates after the discussions

The visit provided an opportunity to explore potential areas of collaboration to address TVET needs aligned with AVIC INNO's areas of expertise and operations. With extensive experience across Africa, including Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania, AVIC INNO's engagement with RTB opens prospects for strengthened industry collaboration and skills development in relevant technical fields.

New Horizon Ltd Supports TVET Education with Donation of 70 TV Screens



DG/RTB and a representative during the handover

The Rwanda TVET Board received a donation of 70 TV screens from New Horizon Ltd, through Kigali Marriott Hotel and Four Points by Sheraton Kigali, to support teaching and learning in TVET schools. The contribution will enhance access to digital learning resources, support more engaging classroom instruction, and improve the overall learning experience for TVET students.



All representative during the handover ceremony

Rwanda and Tanzania Deepen Cooperation Through TVET Knowledge Exchange



Deputy Director General charing the discussion meeting

On 11 August 2026, RTB Deputy Director General welcomed a delegation from the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT) of the United Republic of Tanzania for an experience-sharing visit aimed at strengthening TVET cooperation.



Representatives from the MoEVT of the United Republic of Tanzania

The engagement provided an opportunity to exchange good practices in curriculum management, apprenticeships and internships, labour-market linkages, and quality management of TVET training facilities, contributing to continued learning and collaboration between the two countries in skills development.