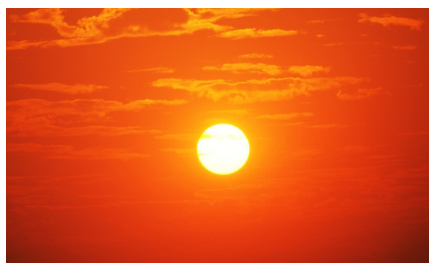
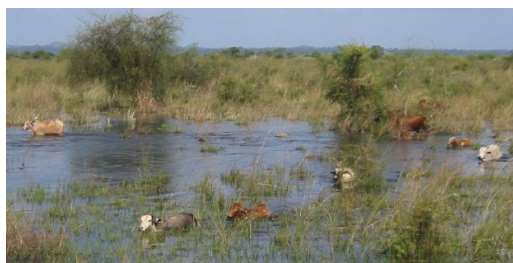


Climate Change Adaptation

Climate change is likely to have significant economic and health effects on the people of Rwanda.



Rising faster than the global average, temperatures in Rwanda are projected to increase 2.5° C by 2050.



Since 1995, 7 major floods caused loss of life, crops and livestock, and property. The 2007 flood cost Nyabihu and Rubavu Districts some \$22 million.



An increase in infestations, such as the coffee berry borer, could devastate cash crops and reduce household income.



More frequent droughts have increased food insecurity, particularly in the eastern part of the country.

By
2030
climate change impacts
may cost up to
1%
of Rwanda's **GDP**
annually.



With increased temperatures, mosquitoes are spreading malaria at higher elevations.

Opportunities for action

These
**policies
&
procedures**
can empower
**immediate
action:**

Environmental impact assessments
Master plans
Land use and tenure procedures
Land use planning law
Land consolidation ministerial order
Government policies on environment, land, forestry,
housing and human resettlement

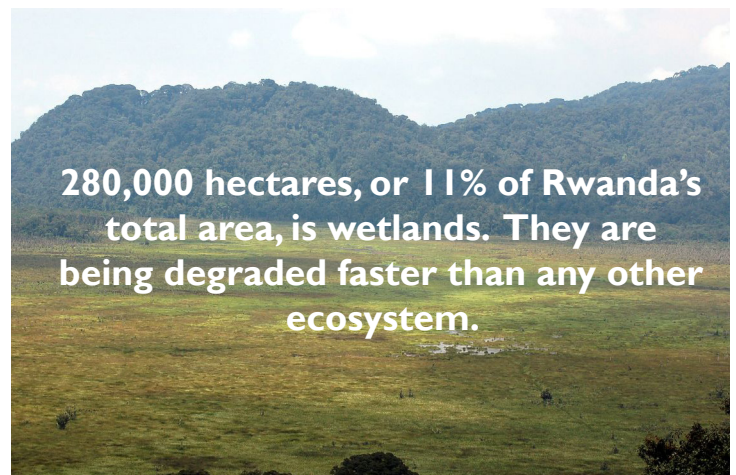
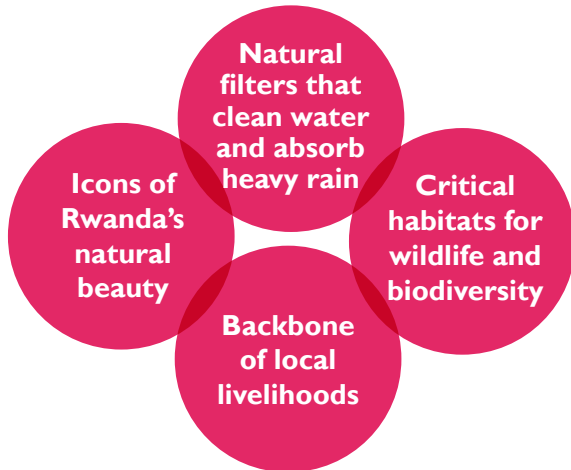
Strengthen early warning systems, mitigate disasters, and improve relief efforts
Protect people living in vulnerable areas
Limit sprawl, soil erosion and wetland pollution
Promote sustainable forest management and climate-friendly agriculture practices
Mandate buffers for wetlands and lakes
Design to minimize energy use and promote storm water retention

The 2010 National
Forestry Policy
aims to increase
nationwide
forest cover by
10%
by 2016, to total
coverage of
30%.



Sustainable wetlands management: an opportunity for climate action

Why wetlands matter



As Rwanda formalizes sustainable wetlands management, leaders can balance human land use needs with wetlands protection by addressing these issues:

- Strong monitoring and enforcement of sustainable wetlands use
- Fair, consistent user system with incentives for protection and penalties for degradation
- Financing of wetlands management through lease fees and penalties
- Established rights for existing users
- Wetlands classification and standard definitions across official languages
- Clear competitive bidding and open proposal processes
- Established wetlands values based on productivity, tourism and ecological benefits
- User and public engagement in wetlands management
- Consideration of community impact
- Integration of local knowledge

This document is based on two briefs, *Climate Change Adaptation within Land Use and Tenure Reforms in Rwanda* and *Balancing Wetland Sustainable Use and Protection through Policy in Rwanda*, both produced by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Rwanda Land Project. Download these reports at www.rwandaland.org.

This document was made possible by the support of the American people through USAID. The contents do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.



Ideas for strengthening the national response

- High-level coordination: unite ministries in a climate change taskforce
- Data for decision making: empower agriculturalists, foresters, planners and other land use managers with information packaged in accessible, usable formats
- Guaranteed resources: dedicate national and district resources to climate change and disaster mitigation/management. Fund adaptation projects.
- Improved planning: integrate climate projections and map vulnerable areas
- Public engagement: promote climate adaptation and disaster preparedness

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