Rwanda Environment Management Authority



Updated Feasibility Study for Establishing Nyandungu Urban Wetland Eco-Tourism Park in Nyandungu Valley Kigali City, Rwanda





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Acronyms and Abbreviations

CBO Community-Based Organization

CC Conservation Capital

EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

ES Ecosystem Services **GoR** Government of Rwanda

IDPIntegrated Development ProgrammeIWRMIntegrated Water Resources Management

KCC Kigali City Council

KIST Kigali Institute of Science and Technology

MIDMAR Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs

MINIRENA Ministry of Natural Resources

NDC Nationally Determined Contributions

NG Net Gain
NP National Park
NNL No Net Loss

NUWEP Nyandungu Urban Wetland Eco-Tourism Park

NGOs Non-Government Organization

OSC One Stop Centre

PES Payment for Ecosystem Services
PPP Public Private Partnership
PRA Participatory Rapid Appraisal
RDB Rwanda Development Board

REMA Rwanda Environment Management Authority

RWF Rwandan Francs

SEA Strategic Environmental Assessment

STP Sewage Treatment Plants

tCO2e Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent

ToRs Terms of Reference UK United Kingdom

USD US Dollar

Executive Summary

Rwanda's population is close to 13 million, with an annual growth rate of 2.86%. Its urbanization rate is increasing, and Kigali city is predicted to have the highest population density in the country. The Government of Rwanda (GoR) has committed to a country-level strategy of sustainable development and green growth. The Kigali Development Strategy for 2050 outlines clear green growth targets. As Rwanda urbanizes, the GoR is committed to creating more urban recreation areas and green space for its citizens ensuring healthy and environmentally friendly lifestyles. The country's wetland system is part of this green development strategy.

Approximately 7,521 hectares of Kigali city (73,800 hectares) is wetland, which can serve to mitigate flooding, secure biodiversity, and provide recreational opportunities. As Kigali continues to expand, the resulting increase in impervious surfaces and its subsequent increase in rainwater run-off, threatens to damage infrastructure and cause loss of human life. Protecting wetlands to mitigating flooding is a priority for the GoR.

Recognizing the ecological, economic, and social benefits of wetlands, the Government of Rwanda has committed to protecting and restoring the city's wetlands. The Nyandungu Urban Wetland Eco-Tourism Park (NUWEP) is a 121.89-hectare protected area located in Kicukiro and Gasabo Districts, just north of the Kigali International Airport. NUWEP was a degraded wetland system that is now managed by the Rwanda Environmental Management Authority (REMA). The Government of Rwanda is in the process of developing NUWEP to:

- preserve the ecological function of the wetland
- provide flood mitigation
- provide space for education, recreation, and contemplation
- apply state of the art practices for environmental, economic, and social sustainability
- support low impact amenities and activities

In 2012, a feasibility study for the development of NUWEP was completed and in 2017, a second report on the proposed design was developed: Developing an Improved Design Plan of the Park and Construction Supervision of Nyandungu Urban Wetland Eco-Tourism Park. Since then, significant development has taken place under the leadership of REMA, with donor support, and following the design guidance of the 2017 report.

This report builds on the prior assessments and provides an update on the status of NUWEP, and outlines potential activities, revenue generating activities and management options. This report will be followed by a holistic conservation area business plan.

I. Introduction

Background and Context

The Government of Rwanda's development emphasizes the importance environmental protection, natural resource management and climate change preparedness. The GoR has endorsed a Green Growth strategy for the country. The Government's vision for Kigali, outlined in the Kigali Master Plan, mirrors this country-level strategy of Green Growth (Figure 1). In addition to developing Kigali and Rwanda in a way that secures the country's natural assets, Rwanda is also committed to creating accessible green and open spaces for its citizens and visitors. For example, Rwanda's Vision 2050 outlines a target for 25% of Kigali City to be turned into recreational spaces, and to create a park in every neighbourhood with 2,000 to 50,000 inhabitants.



Figure 1: Green Growth, Government of Rwanda Kigali 2050 Plan.

Rwanda's population is close to 13 million, with an annual growth rate of 2.86%. Its urbanization rate is expected to increase from the current rate of 18.41% to 35% by 2024 (Gubic & Baloi 2020). Kigali City is predicted to have the highest population density in the country (National Land Use & Development Master Plan 2020-2050). As Rwanda urbanizes, the GoR is committed to creating more urban recreation and green space for its citizens to ensure healthy and environmentally friendly lifestyles for its citizens. In Kigali, this includes the protection and sustainable development of Kigali's wetland system, which will also help significantly with flood mitigation from rainwater run-off.

Between 2013-2018 green space and recreational areas in Kigali decreased and the Kigali Master Plan outlines various measures to reverse this. Pillar 6 is about Green Growth and the vision of Kigali's Green city outlined in the plan includes:

- Acknowledging the natural landscape of the city
- Protecting sensitive ecological areas from urban growth
- Restoring damaged natural elements like waterbodies
- Adopting natural resource management system, green building initiatives
- Forest protection strategies
- Steep slope protection strategies
- Green and blue plan, hierarchy of parks, connectors etc.
- Sustainable economic development

Rwanda Wetlands

Rwanda's cities, and Kigali in particular, support expansive wetlands systems, which play a key role in the Government's Green Growth agenda. Approximately 75.1 km² of Kigali city is wetland (Kigali 2050 Development Plan). Across Rwanda, wetlands have declined due to development, encroachment, and other key threats (Table 1 and Figure 2).

	Dense	Moderat	Sparse	Wood	Closed	Open	Closed	Open	Perennial	Annual		Water	Settle	Other	Grand
	Forest	e Forest	Forest	land	Grassland	Grassland	Shubland	Shrubland	Cropland	Cropland	Wetland	Body	ment	land	Total
National 1990	84,151	62,891	942,347	9,922	16,867	71,168	83,465	362,945	10,694	613,527	109,838	153,643	11,633	3,560	2,536,653
National 2000	63,081	148,949	535,085	7,967	15,826	233,408	1,901	154,484	11,036	1,115,204	80,956	153,716	13,843	1,197	2,536,653
National 2010	48,298	114,669	575,873	472	20,907	88,060	34,416	255,806	10,995	1,105,713	102,689	155,294	20,945	2,515	2,536,653
National 2015	115,762	47,237	269,210	-	31,446	117,687	49,937	282,607	34,058	1,310,704	88,773	152,300	36,344	587	2,536,653

Table 1: National Land Cover Comparison, 1990, 2000, 2010, and 2015 (hectares) (Rwanda Natural Capital Account Report 2018).

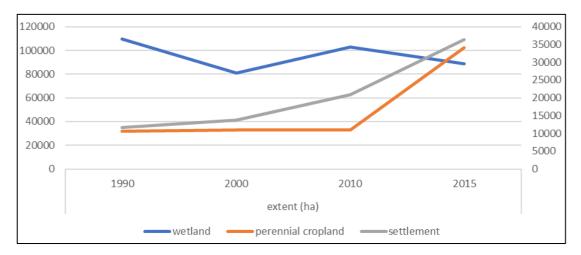


Figure 2: Decline in extent of wetlands relative to settlement and perennial agriculture. (Adapted from Rwanda Natural Capital Account Report 2018)

The GoR, through its wetland policies, development plans and commitment to various national and international conservation and development targets, aims to protect existing wetlands and restore degraded wetlands. As Rwanda develops and urbanizes in high rainfall and hilly terrain areas such as Kigali, the GoR recognizes the risk of increased runoff into the valleys and the need to protect wetlands to help mitigate flooding and support filtration. Once restored, the GoR aims to utilize the wetlands in Kigali for education about Rwanda's natural assets and to provide space for recreation and contemplation, and for some wetlands, managed agriculture.

Kigali is surrounded and traversed by several streams, rivers and lakes and is delineated into 25 watershed areas (Figure 3). Lake Muhazi lies along the border of the city northeast of Gasabo District. Nyabarongo River borders Nyarugenge and Kicukiro Districts along the southwestern edge of the city and is the river to which most of the city's other rivers and streams are tributaries. It flows to Lake Rweru and is part of the Nile River Basin via the Akagera River. The Yanze, Kibumba, Rwazangoro and Ruganwa Rivers all drain into Nyabugogo River, which flows into the Nyabarongo River to the west of Kigali (2050 Kigali Master Plan).

These waterbodies provide valuable water supplies, drain stormwater, and contribute to the physical beauty and character of Kigali. However, there are several challenges, including the turbidity of the Nyabarongo River due to high sediment load from soil erosion in the catchments and other polluting content inflowing from sewage and stormwater runoff. Agricultural areas are a source of sediment, pesticides, and chemical fertilizers, which further degrade the water quality of these waterbodies. Urban development and land cover change are increasing the impermeable surfaces in Kigali's catchments, leading to increased stormwater runoff and localized flooding. This compounds the already existent challenge of flash flooding and landslide risks associated with the hilly topography and steep slopes of the city causing significant damage, cost and loss of life. Flood risks are high in the

valley and wetland areas of Kigali to which the catchments drain, including along the Nyabugogo, Gikondo, and Nyabarongo Rivers. Preservation and restoration of the natural drainage channels across the catchments in Kigali is an important strategy for managing flooding, especially in the absence of developed stormwater drainage infrastructure in much of the city (2050 Kigali Master Plan).

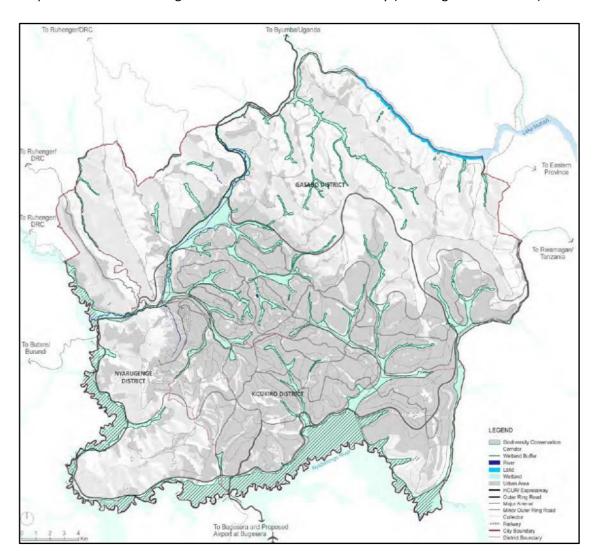


Figure 3: Kigali city wetlands and waterways (Kigali Masterplan 2050).

Wetlands are protected in Rwanda under various laws (Section III), including the Organic Law. REMA is responsible for enforcing wetland regulations; thus, any planned development activity encroaching on or impacting wetlands must be approved and coordinated with REMA. Through Prime Minister of Rwanda's Order No.006 of 13/02/2017 12, four wetlands in Kigali are to be designated as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention:

- Kitagurizwa Wetland (Gasabo and Kicukiro Districts)
- Rugende-Isumo Wetland (Gasabo and Kicukiro Districts)
- Nyabarongo-Aval Wetland (Nyarugenge and Kicukiro Districts)
- Nyabarongo-Amont Wetland (Nyarugenge District)

While Nyandungu wetland is not slated to be designated as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention, it is a priority conservation and development priority for the GoR and the city of Kigali.

To ensure the protection of wetlands, various land uses have been delineated in the wetland legal framework of Rwanda (Table 2). (2050 Kigali Plan).

The Kigali Development Plan outlines clear wetland protection (net zero loss) and restoration targets. Section 8.2 specifically mentions ecosystem rehabilitation focusing on urban wetlands (Nyandungu and Kimicanga). The sustainability framework (Tables 3 and 4) highlights wetland and highland conservation targets, and the plan includes specific spatial targets for wetland conservation (Figure 4).

	PROTECTION AND USE AS BY THE ORGANIC LAW (2005)
Total Protection wetlands:	Protection as its natural state no agriculture and other activities will be allowed. There are no natural wetlands left within the Kigali City limits except for a few patches of Nyabarongo wetland
Conditional use wetlands:	Allows continuation of existing agricultural activities and conditional use for projects (farming, clay extraction, recreational, etc.) with proper EIA assessment (wetlands mainly along the rural areas). Final authorization of such projects would be granted by REMA
Unconditional use wetlands:	Will not require environmental impact assessment but no development activities will be allowed. These wetlands could be used for recreation, parks, fishing ponds, horticulture etc. (wetlands mainly along the urban areas of Muhima, Kimihurura, Kicukiro etc.)

Table 2: Rwanda (2005) law on wetland protection and land use.

Table 3: Updated Sustainability Framework for City of Kigali prioritizing wetland conservation and restoration (bold added for emphasis) (Kigali Development Plan 2050).

KEY THEMES	Planning Approach & Strategies	TARGETS & KPIS
WET LANDS AND WATERBODIES	Development of Integrated Water Resource Management Plan (with Wetland, Water Bodies, Watershed and Stormwater Management Plans and Strategies). Development of Wetlands and Waterbodies Management Manual Awareness Campaign and Capacity Building Trainings Protect wetlands allowing for recreational activities, agriculture and local material extraction in agreement with authorities Participatory Programs and Action Plans Promotion of Sustainable Wetlands and Waterbodies Use and Leverage protected natural resources for economic activities Preservation and Restoration of wetlands and waterbodies encroached upon by human livelihood and urbanization activities Relocation/resettlement of households inhabiting restricted and hazardous areas including protected wetlands. Integration of Wetlands, Water Bodies and Natural Drainage Channel Restoration into design and development of green open spaces, urban parks and landscapes, and green city trails/corridors Promotion of Long-term Phased Reduction of Wetland Cultivation and Increased Upland Agricultural Area (including household kitchen gardens and green roofs)	Development of Integrated Water Resource Management Plan (with Wetland, Water Bodies, Watershed and Stormwater Management Plans and Strategies). Development of Wetlands and Waterbodies Management Manual A citywide Wetland Management Plan Plan for management of agricultural practices in wetland areas Zero net-loss of wetlands and waterbodies Om mandatory buffer for wetlands (Organic Law) I Om mandatory buffer for rivers and 50m buffer for lakes Restoration of wetlands encroached for urban uses Protect wetlands allowing for recreational activities, agriculture and local material extraction in agreement with authorities

 Table 4: Goals and strategy for the Kigali Green City wetlands and waterbodies (Kigali Development Plan 2050).

The Kigali 2050 Development Plan depicts target areas for wetland conservation (Figure 4).

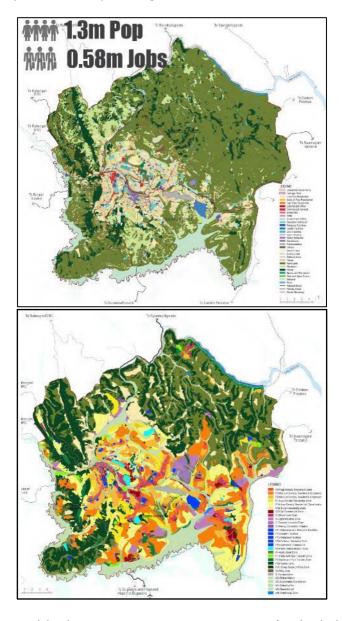


Figure 4: Top map: 2018 Kigali land use status. **Bottom map:** 2050 vision (wetlands depicted in light green). (Kigali Development Plan 2050).

Wetlands and Urban Parks

Rwanda's commitment to protecting and restoring its wetlands is clearly outlines in its national policies and strategies, and supported by the global recognition of the ecological, economic, and social value of wetlands.

Wetlands are rich in biodiversity and ecological goods and services and yet they are threatened globally. Due to development pressure in urban settings, there is increasing pressure on wetlands in cities and peri-urban areas for development space, agriculture, and overall use. In addition, flow of domestic sewage, pesticides, fertilizers and industrial effluents, encroachment of invasive species and eutrophication, threaten the quality of wetlands.

Urban wetlands are important globally in maintaining urban landscape by acting as the basic ecological infrastructure for the growing cities and studies have demonstrated that urban parks are immensely valuable for urban ecosystems and human well-being (Maller et al. 2005, Sherer 2006).

Urban Park Benefits

- Physical and psychological health
- Strengthening communities
- Make cities and neighborhoods more attractive places to live and work.
- Improve ecological conditions within cities.
- Protect local biological diversity
- Protect important ecosystem services such as water and air filtration, and pollination
- Garner conservation support
- Help people understand conservation

Urban parks contribute to the protection of biodiversity and play a major role in maintaining ecosystems. They help people understand the natural environment and provide citizens with the opportunity to engage in physical activity, cultural events, and quiet relaxation.

Studies have shown that urban parks positively influence quality of life for people of all ages (Maller et al. 2005). For example, spending time in or near nature lowers blood pressure and cholesterol levels, enhances survival after a heart attack, hastens recovery time after surgery, reduces anxiety and stress, and enhances one's ability to function effectively (Frumkin 2001). In addition, contact with nature has also been linked to reduction in crime and aggression (Kuo 2001). Contact with nature significantly improved the symptoms of children with attention disorders and teens with behavioural disorders (Frumkin 2001, Louv 2005).

Exposure to nature when engaging in physical activity is shown to enhance health (Bodin & Hartig 2003, Pretty et. al. 2007). Physical activity is an indispensable part of staying healthy, reducing stress, fighting obesity, and preventing chronic conditions. City parks enable citizens to maintain overall well-being by providing space for recreation and contemplation. In addition, studies have shown that volunteering for outdoor stewardship activities increases social connections and greater community cohesion (Maller et al. 2005; Moore et al. 2006; Pretty et al. 2007; Stone 2006), something that is very apparent in Rwanda through the practice of *umuganda*. Urban parks also facilitate community cohesion by providing meeting places where community members can interact.

Urban parks contribute to the aesthetic quality of cities and neighbourhoods by providing green spaces. Nature plays an important role in creating vital neighbourhood spaces that not only bring neighbours together, but that also strengthen neighbourhood social ties (Sullivan et al. 2004).

Nyandungu Urban Wetland Eco-Tourism Park

Recognizing the value of wetland parks, the GoR through REMA is working to establish the Nyandungu Urban Wetland Eco-Tourism Park, which is envisioned to support ecological function, environmental education, and space for recreation and relaxation for the population of Kigali. In addition, REMA is interested in developing the wetland in a way that provides an attraction for international visitors in Kigali. REMA wants NUWEP to contribute to the need for recreational space as outlined in the City of Kigali Master Plan and demonstrate that wetland conservation can have economic, social, and environmental benefits to the inhabitants of Kigali, Rwanda and visiting tourists. NUWEP will provide much needed recreation space in the city, improve the health and well-being of the population, educate citizens on the importance of biodiversity conservation and environmental management, and provide an important natural asset to future generations of Rwandans.

Aim and Objectives

In 2012, a feasibility study for the development of the NUWEP was developed for REMA. In 2017, a second report on the design of the proposed Park was developed: Developing an Improved Design Plan of the Park and Construction Supervision of Nyandungu Urban Wetland Eco-Tourism Park.

Since the publication of these studies, significant work has been completed by REMA and partners in developing infrastructure in the Park and restoring the wetland. This report aims to provide relevant updates, as well as highlight the Park's status and potential opportunities for development and sustainability. This study will be followed by a business and operations plan, and a market analysis.

The specific objectives of this study are to:

- 1. Assess the status of NUWEP.
- 2. Provide relevant updates since the 2012 and 2017 reports.
- 3. Assess the existing institutional, policy and regulatory framework relevant to wetland management, eco-tourism, and parks.
- 4. Consider how to improve the protection, conservation and ecological enhancement of NIIWEP
- 5. Assess potential activities, financing, and management options.
- 6. Provide relevant updates on the existing conceptual plan for NUWEP.

NUWEP Vision

This study is guided by the vision for NUWEP outlined by REMA and the Ministry of Environment. NUWEP should:

- preserve the ecological function of the wetland
- improve the air quality and other environmental health for surrounding community and Kigali city
- represent the high-quality brand of Rwanda
- provide space for education, recreation, and contemplation
- cover its management costs (no need to generate revenue for other conservation areas)
- apply state of the art practices for environmental, economic, and social sustainability
- support low impact amenities and activities

The desired return on investment for NUWEP is:

- Ecological function of the wetland
- Enhanced waterflow and water quality
- Flood mitigation
- Access to nature for citizens
- Access to urban recreation areas for visitors

Study Design

This study was developed using the following methodologies:

- 1. Site visit to NUWEP
- 2. In person discussions, Zoom call engagement, and on-line surveys with key stakeholders
- 3. Desktop analysis, including review of prior reports, maps, literature, strategies, newspaper articles laws and policies
- 4. Assessment of case studies and global best practice

This report builds off the prior assessments that were completed for REMA and purposely does not duplicate the information; therefore, it should be considered an addition to the work that has been done by:

- Afrilandscapes. 2019-2021.
- JV Gasabo 3D and Astrik International. 2017.
- Gakuba, 2012.

The ecological restoration in Nyandungu wetland and the infrastructure development work in NUWEP was funded through grant finance from:

- The National Fund for Environment (FONERWA)
- United Nations Environment Program
- Italian Government
- Global Environmental Facility (GEF) through UNEP

Conservation Capital did a site visit on Wednesday, 24 November 2021, with members of the REMA team and Afrilandscapes. Figure 5 depicts where the team visited in NUWEP. In addition, the team walked and drove the outside boundaries.



Figure 5: Site visit by Conservation Capital team to NUWEP, 24 November 2021. Area walked indicated in yellow and the perimeters visited via road.

II. Situation Analysis

Site location

Kigali City has 37 wetlands covering ~7,700 hectares. Eight wetlands are highlighted in Figure 6.



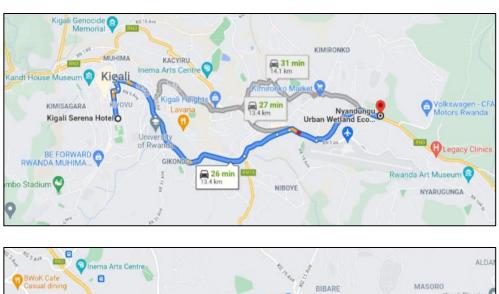
Figure 6: Eight of Kigali's wetlands. Nyandungu wetlands located in the centre of the map. Other Kigali attractions particularly pertinent to international visitors are highlighted in red.

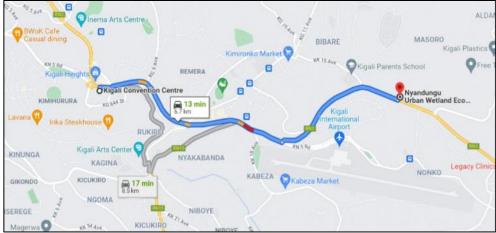
Nyandungu wetland is shared by the administrative sectors of Nyarugunga (Kicukiro District), Ndera and Kimironko (Gasabo District) in Kigali city. The wetland is approximately ~121.8 hectares and a total perimeter of approximately 6,730.8 meters (Figure 7). Nyandungu wetland is north of the Kigali International Airport. It is bordered to the south by the Kigali-Kayonza Road (RN3) and the road to the Adventist University to the west and the road to Ndera to the east. Kigali's industrial zone abuts Nyandungu to the north. Nyandungu wetland is drained by two streams: Mwanana and Kabagenda. Both flow into the Mulindi stream, a tributary of the Nyabarongo River.



Figure 7: Nyandungu wetland, north of the Kigali International Airport, Kicukiro and Gasabo Districts.

During moderate traffic, NUWEP is approximately 26-31 minutes from the Serena and Marriott hotels, 13-17 minutes from the Kigali Convention Centre and 23-27 minutes from the Genocide Memorial, all key areas in the city for tourists (Figure 8).





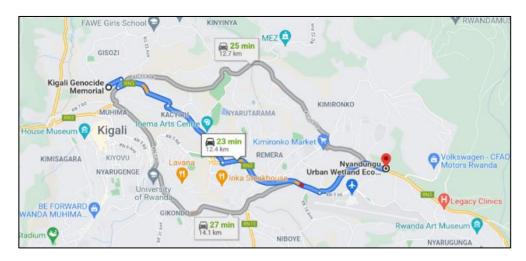


Figure 8: Distances from prominent tourism locations in Kigali to Nyandungu wetland during moderate traffic.

Background of Nyandungu Wetland

Nyandungu wetland was historically used for agricultural and pastoral activities. The wetland was polluted with sewage outflow from surrounding neighbours, as well as pollutants from road runoff, the industrial zone and urban development. The poor management of the wetland was leading to flooding of downstream areas. The site is flood-prone, which is due to three factors:

- 1. It is low land that receives water from the densely populated surrounding hills.
- 2. The soil is primarily clay, and the valley receives wastewater from various developments, such as the industrial zone, roads, and nearby households.
- 3. The Mwanana River is narrow and often flooded during heavy rainfall.

Historically, Nyandungu wetland was managed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources. In the 1980s, it was comprised of sugar cane fields and crop nurseries. Thereafter, the wetland was transferred to the Ministry of Defence. Following the Genocide Against the Tutsi in 1994, the land was used for agricultural farming by private individuals, and for sand quarrying. A coffee washing station and other infrastructure were also developed during this period. The Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources wanted to develop fishponds and a Chinese company proposed to develop a bamboo nursery. In 2018, the wetland was transferred to REMA for management under the Minister of Environment. Subsequently, REMA has rehabilitated the wetland, which represents an incredible ecological restoration story, that mirrors Rwanda's country-level commitment to conservation and restoration.

For planning and management purposes, the wetland is divided into five sections (also referred to as Sectors), which are referred to throughout this report and depicted in Figure 9.



Figure 9: Five zones (Sectors) that comprise Nyandungu Wetland, Kigali, Rwanda.

Physical characteristics

Topography

Nyandungu Wetland is located at 1,360 meters and is surrounded by hills (Figure 10).

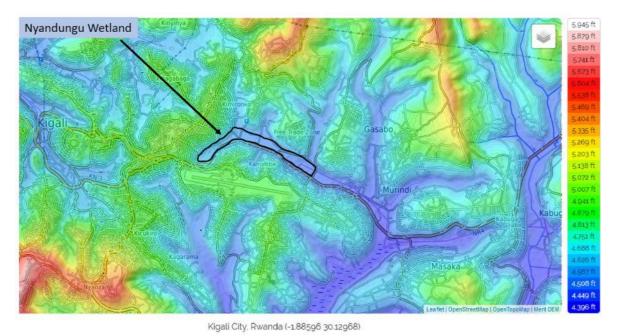


Figure 10: Topography surrounding Nyandungu Wetland, high elevation in the surrounding areas.

Nyandungu Wetland itself is relatively flat, with a linear ridge running along the north with hills at a maximum altitude of 1480 meters (Figure 11).

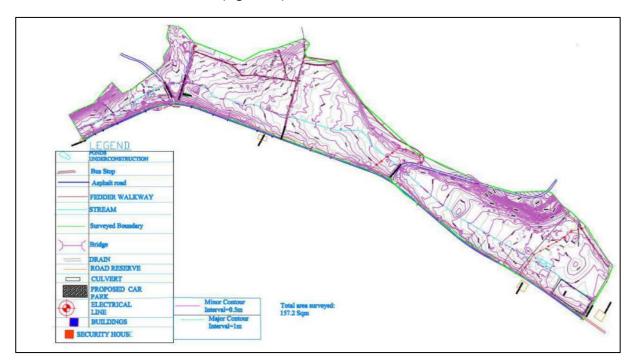


Figure 11: Topography of Nyandungu Wetland.

Geomorphology, Geology and Soils

The Nyandungu wetland is underlain by granitic rocks. The main parent materials from which the soils of the Nyandungu wetland area derived are quartzite, schist, granite, alluvia and colluvial (Figure 12).

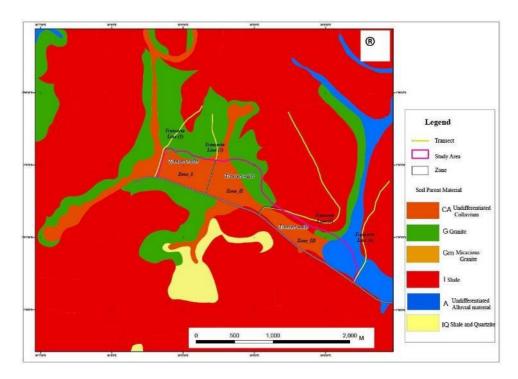


Figure 12: Soil Map in Nyandungu Wetland, depicting what was zone I, II, and III, now Sectors III, IV and V (Gakuba 2012).

The surface soils are dominated by alluvial soils typical for the marshlands, while the deep rock formation is dominated by granite with micas rocks. This type of rock formation is typical along the Nyabarongo River, which presents a fertile belt of alluvial soil suitable for agriculture and vegetation growth.

Two main soil series are Nyamatebe and Rwotsa. The Nyamatebe soil belongs to the taxonomic family of Fine, Mixed Iso-hyperthermic Cumulic Haplaquolls. These soils are developed from alluvial materials, their texture is clay, and they are yellow and present a Cambic development. They are poorly drained, deep, and not limited by a gravel pack. Their pedoclimate regime is aquic and/or iso-hyperthermic. The Rwotsa soil belongs to the family of Fine-silty, Mixed, Isothermic Aeric Umbric, Tropaquilts. These soils are developed from colluvium and alluvium materials, they are silty-clay, yellow, imperfectly drained, deep (non-limited by a gravel pack) and show a cambic development. The Rwotsa soil is found in audic isothermic pedoclimate regime. The soils of Nyandungu valley are clay, silt, and sand (Figure 12). The sandy soils are predominant in the granitic area (north of the valley). Nyandungu wetland is characterized by clay soil at the centre and silt-sand at the ridge of the wetland (Gakuba 2012).

The soils in the buffer zone below the hills are predominantly fine silt mixed with Isothermic Aeric Umbric, Tropaquilts soil. These soils are developed from colluvium and alluvium material, which are characterized by silt-clay, and are grey, imperfectly drained, and deep.



Photo 1: The clayey and sandy soils of Nyandungu Wetland (2012 Feasibility Report).

Climate and Hydrology

Kigali City (2°S), mean altitude equivalent to 1,500m, is located in the equatorial region. Its tropical climate is characterized by long wet seasons and relatively low temperatures as a consequence of its altitude (Tsinda, A, Ilunga, L.P. 2006). The monthly mean temperature is 21°C. The NUWEP area has relatively consistent temperatures throughout the year (16 - 17°C). Figure 13 depicts the average temperature and precipitation in Rwanda, and Figures 14 and 15 focus on Ndera, Masoro, Kimironko and Remera.



Figure 13: Average monthly temperature and precipitation in Rwanda between 1991-2020 (World Bank 2021).

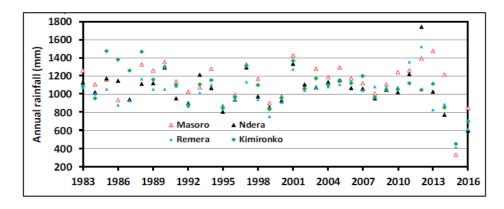


Figure 14: Annual rainfall for the Ndera, Masoro, Kimironko and Remera from 1983 to 2016 (Gasabo 2017).

The highest precipitation comes in March and April and October and November in Masoro, Remera and Kimironko (Figure 15).

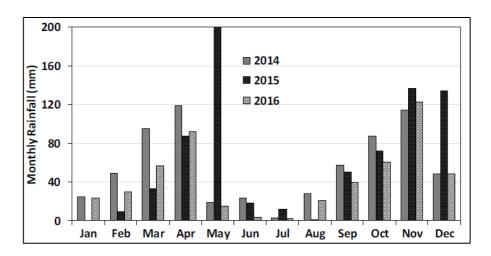


Figure 15: Monthly rainfall of Masoro, Remera and Kimironko, for the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 (Gasabo 2017).

While temperatures are relatively consistent, data between 1983-2016, show that temperatures are increasing (Figure 16).

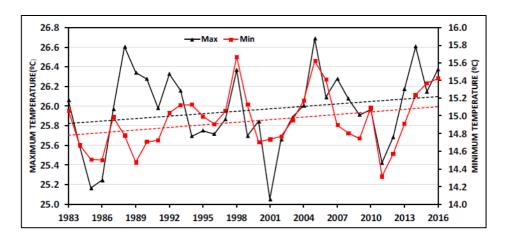


Figure 16: Trends of temperature variation in the Nyandungu Catchment, 1983-2016 (Average of Remera, Kimironko, Masoro and Ndera) (Gasabo 2017).

The Nyandungu valley is drained by two streams: Mwanana and Kabagenda (Photo 2). Both flow into the Mulindi Stream, a tributary of the Nyabarongo River. This catchment is an important contributor to the Nyabarongo wetland-river system that includes the Mugesera – Rweru wetland and the freshwater lake complex further downstream. It's somewhat low pluviometry annual module (996, 6 mm) and clayey sandy soils suggests relatively low runoff.

Photo 2: The confluence of Mwanana and Kabagenda streams (Ndera Road) (Photo: 2012).



There are catchment areas around the wetland, which supports drainage (Figure 17).



Figure 17: Water catchment of NUWEP.

Flora

An initial flora surveys was conducted in 2017, using a grid map of 25 x 25 meters for stratified sampling. The survey identified 96 plant species belonging to 38 families. It found the herbaceous layer as the most dominant with 53 species, followed by shrubs with 21 species. Lianas were less represented in the wetland with only four species. The most represented family was *Asteraceae* (14 species) followed by *Poaceae* (12 species). An updated survey was conducted in 2020 and shows the growth in species. There are 372 identified species belonging to 76 families. The most dominant families are now the *Fabaceae*, *Poaceae* and *Asteraceae* with respectively 59, 52 and 45 species. The lists of the different plant species observed in Nyandungu between 2017 and 2019 are in Annex I, Table 16 and Table 17, as well as a summary of the species per family in Table 18.

Following the ecological restoration work in Nyandungu wetland, it is recommended that REMA partner with local universities to engage their students and train them on ecological assessments and monitoring to track changes in vegetation and other ecological aspects particularly following the later restoration and reforestation work conducted by Afrilandscapes.

NUWEP's vegetation (Figure 18) includes native and exotic species, and is further delineated as:

- 1. Exotic woodland
- 2. Acacia savannah
- 3. Mixed woodlands
- 4. Wetland vegetation (native and exotic species)

The following definitions were considered for this section:

- **Invasive plant:** An invasive plant is a plant that is both non-native and able to establish on many sites, grow quickly and spread to the point of disrupting plant communities or ecosystems.
- **Exotic plant:** An exotic plant is a plant that is non-native to the continent on which it is now found e.g., plants from Europe are exotic in Africa.
- **Native plant:** A native plant is the balance of nature that has developed over hundreds or thousands of years in a particular region or ecosystem.

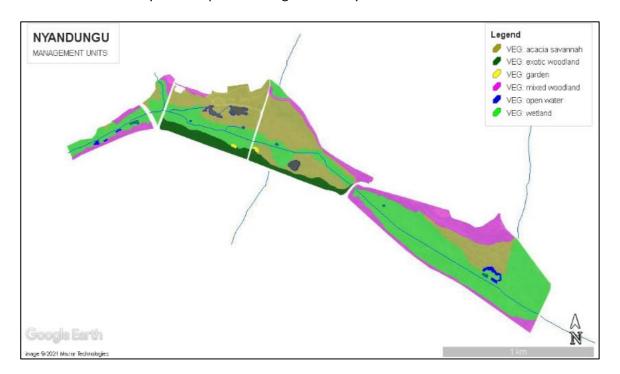


Figure 18: NUWEP vegetation cover (2021).

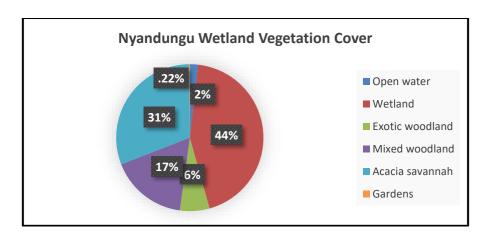


Figure 19: NUWEP vegetation cover percentage (2021).

The approximate vegetation cover is further broken down by Sector (Table 5). Sector V includes the largest area of wetland followed by Sector III.

	Open water	Wetland	Exotic woodland	Mixed woodland	Acacia savannah	Gardens
Sector 1	0.21	5.06	0	2.86	0.15	0
Sector 2	0	2.33	0	0.82	0.77	0
Sector 3	1.09	8.65	4.75	0.87	13.51	0.1
Sector 4	0.44	6.46	3.31	3.1	16.83	0.12
Sector 5	0.49	31.89	0	13.3	6.84	0

Total area (Hectares)	Total %
8.28	7%
3.92	3%
28.97	23%
30.26	24%
52.52	42%

Total Area (Ha)	2.23	54.39	8.06	20.95	38.1	0.22
Total %	2%	44%	7%	17%	31%	0%

123.95	
100%	l

Table 5: Breakdown of area of coverage (hectares) of different vegetation types / management zones per Sector. Note there is a discrepancy between the total hectares because of the use of Google Earth and maps, but this provides a general estimate.

Historically, Nyandungu wetland was highly utilized and cleared. Under the management of REMA, the area has started to recover with active ecological restoration. The vegetation types identified above are the primary landscape types and management units.

The wetland zone is dominated by reeds in the genus Typha with pockets of *Papyrus* which are adjacent to areas of sedges composed of various *Cyperus* species. Contiguous to the wetland zone, in most Sectors, are areas of open acacia savannah with quickly maturing specimens of *Acacia polyacantha*. Beyond the savannah areas are two types of woodland. To the southern side of the wetland in Sectors III and IV is a lush woodland of primarily exotic tree species including *Casuarina*, *Grevillea*, *Jacaranda*, and others, which are listed in the Annex. The dominant feature of this woodland, that effectively shades the cycle and walking paths, is the stands of exotic *Bambusa* (bamboo). For the time being, removal of these species is not recommended. The other woodland type is described as mixed woodland and has been specifically planted in the landscaping project to follow the boundaries and paved paths elsewhere in NUWEP. This vegetation type is currently most developed on the northern side of Sector I & V where stands of Podocarpus and Croton are already providing significant shade and forming a nascent woodland.

As an urban site that has been significantly disturbed over the years, alien plant species are to be expected. Some alien plants are evident at least on the fringe of the wetland and in other areas of NUWEP and include most significantly invasive species such as *Lantana camara*, *Ricinus communis* and *Psidium guajava*. *Lantana camara* is also the biggest threat to the savannah areas with some invasion of the areas north of the wetland in Sector V evident. Elsewhere on disturbed soils, *Datura* is relatively common. Of concern is the propagation of alien species in the medicinal garden, notably *Cassia* (*Senna*) *didymobotrya* (sometimes thought to be indigenous but is in fact introduced to Rwanda and is invasive²) and an *Opuntia* species³. Given the risk of some of these species being dispersed downstream by waterflow and impacting further ecosystems every effort must be made to remove them. There is also reference in a previous feasibility study to the planting of *Morus alba*, another invasive species that must be removed.⁴

Fauna

An inventory of mammalian fauna has not been completed and is recommended. A number of species, ranging from rodents to small carnivores, are very likely to occur based on their presence elsewhere in Kigali. Examples are marsh mongoose, blotched genet, and the striped weasel. There are reports of vervet monkeys occasionally visiting the site, as well. (Afrilandscapes *Per comm*).

More than 100 species of birds have been identified making NUWEP an interesting and exciting site for urban birdwatching by Rwandan citizens/residents as well as foreign visitors. It is expected that at least 130 species will be recorded as residents or regular / migratory visitors. The list provided in Annex I, Table 20 was generated over the course of a collective five visits by the Conservation Capital team and two well-known Kigali birders.

The restoration of Nyandungu wetland might result in the reintroduction of new species, such as birds, fish, and small mammals. Regular monitoring should be conducted to track the ecological recovery and restoration.

⁻

¹ This plant, propagated by birds, produces a fruit loved by birds, monkeys and humans, making it easily dispersed. *Psidium guajava* or Guava can be highly invasive. While it may not yet have been noted to be invasive in Rwanda, there is abundant literature attesting to its invasiveness in other African countries, such as in Kakamega, Kenya. CABI (once again citing Witt & Luke, 2017) regard it as invasive in Rwanda: https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/45141. See Kawawa et al 2016.

² The literature is unclear on whether *Senna didymobotrya* is indigenous or introduced to Rwanda. No doubt it is naturalised. While *S didymobotyra* was collected in Akagera in 1959, there are dissenting views on this collection.

See https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/20060234; Witt A, Luke Q,

^{2017;} https://www.prota4u.org/database/protav8.asp?g=pe&p=Senna+didymobotrya+(Fresen.)+Irwin+&+Barneby; and https://dp.la/item/11224048ed2066d66e9db8f6b34d5726.

³ While this species can grow without being invasive (Ruhango and in Akagera National Park), it has been known to be invasive and should be uprooted. It is better to err on the side of caution and avoid planting plants in the Opuntia genus since the cladodes allow for such easy additional growth.

⁴ *Morus Alba* or Mulberry was introduced in 1981 to Rwanda. Since it had been difficult to find mulberry in Rwanda until in 2000's when a project of growing silkworms was initiated in Karongi region. Mulberry was planted in Sector 4 approximately 5 years ago with the intention to feed silkworms producing silk. Mulberries are easily propagated by birds, saplings might soon be found growing in the wetland, in areas where they are hard to remove. This should be carefully assessed by botanists in coordination with the wetland ecologists.

Ecological Restoration

NUWEP was historically severely degraded. However, over the past few years, under the management of REMA and with support from donors, the wetland has been actively restored. The central feature of the Park and the design is the wetland and the water system.

The Nyandungu wetland and its hydrological system and restoration are described in detail in the 2017 report by Gasabo (Chapter 4). The main restoration features included:

- 1. Restoring water flow
 - a. Stream widening
 - b. Removal of debris
- 2. Reviving wetland function
 - a. Erosion control
- 3. Construction of ponds for flood control
- 4. Soil stabilization
- 5. Removal of 'unwanted vegetation', invasive species and replanting / and / or natural recovery of native vegetation

Provision of adequate flow of water (stream flow) (1 above) is a key driving force in the functioning of the wetland. The presence of excess water within a wetland can adversely affect its biodiversity and ecosystem. In terms of hydrologic design, Gasabo 3D considered:

- 1. the number of streams discharging to the wetland
- 2. slope of contributing sub-catchments
- 3. the soil moisture regime
- 4. the hill slope geomorphology

Other important design parameters considered include slope shape (uniform, convex, concave), slope gradient and length, streamflow characteristics (e.g., braided, dendritic), soil depth to bedrock, bedrock characteristics (e.g., fractured, hardness, bedding), soil texture and permeability. The slope morphology of the hills of the sub-catchments, which discharge to the Nyandungu Wetland are convex (e.g., wide ridges). These slopes tend to disperse water as it moves downhill and contribute to the build-up of a hydrostatic pressure (for example, the Masoro, Bibare, Kanombe and Ndera Hills). The other sub-catchments are characterized by concave slopes which exhibit swales and draw the valleys of Nyarugunga, Mwanana and Kabagenda Streams. The slope shapes presented in Figure 20 provide information on accumulation or dispersion of surface and subsurface waters toward Nyandungu Valley.

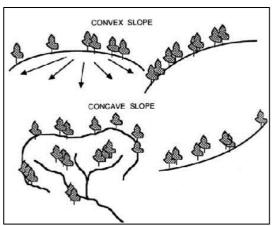




Figure 20: Typical slope morphology of the sub-catchments discharging to the Nyandungu Wetland (left) and a 2005 Google Map showing those sub-catchments (right).

The wetland restoration work was largely complete in 2020. The management team has experienced high rains during this period and therefore they are relatively comfortable that all the infrastructure, such as paths and buildings, can withstand the rains. Furthermore, they are confident that the water flow mechanisms developed to facilitate outflow (Photo 3) will mitigate flooding.



Photo 3: Restored drainageways developed to facilitate waterflow from NUWEP.

Socio Economic Activities in NUWEP

Although Nyandungu is legally protected and managed by REMA, residents have historically used the wetland. In the past, aside from agriculture, the area was used for cattle grazing, drinking water, collection of medicinal plants, materials for construction and collection of grass. Over the past few years, there has been a decline in use of the wetland by the neighbours. This is because a 'living fence' (a fence comprised of vegetation) has been planted, the area is no longer 'vacant' because of the workers in NUWEP, and there is greater awareness about REMA's management oversight. Nonetheless, use by neighbouring people continues.

REMA is trying to manage utilization of NUWEP by the surrounding population. Their main use is the collection of grasses. Registered farmers living around the area are permitted to utilize the area for vegetation collection (grass cutting). They are given orange vests to indicate that permission has been granted. While there is still illegal encroachment, it has decreased since the active restoration commenced.

To ensure that the adjacent neighbours support NUWEP, their continued ability to access certain resources in a managed way is important. In addition, there is land outside of NUWEP that might be used to develop a grass bank or tree plantation that could be managed and used by the local neighbours. For example, on the northeast section of Sector V there is an area that was slated for a parking area. In addition, on the plot where Afrilandscapes has their office, space might be maximized to include other use. This would alleviate pressure on NUWEP and create positive relations with the neighbours. Moreover, the carefully managed removal of 'excess' grass and reeds could potentially mimic the role of large herbivores and play a management / maintenance function within NUWEP.

NUWEP Infrastructure

Between 2019-2021, significant infrastructure has been developed in NUWEP following the 2017 designs. This section outlines the current infrastructure.

Throughout the Park, specific material was used to enhance the ecological restoration of the wetland and to develop and ensure the durability of the Park (Afrilandscapes).

- Foundation: the foundations of all buildings are made with RC footings, sub columns, ring beam and stone masonry infill.
- Walls: the walling is cement blocks cladded with volcanic cut stones and paintings interior.
- Finishing: made of stone cladding, paint, timber ceiling and floor tiles.
- Roofing: roof shingles are on all the buildings.

The selection of the material was based on the type, cost, the carbon footprint, life cycle and their ability to be recycled. Hence, the selection of volcanic stones cladding for walls, the construction the gates, the restaurant, some benches, and walkways as it is a recyclable and local material. These rocks are also known to facilitate natural ventilation and have strong resistance to different climate making it durable.

1. Two Entrance Gates

There are two entrance gates (Photo 4), one off the Kigali-Kayonza Road (RN3) and one off the road to the Adventist University. Each entrance has a:

- Green wall made of volcanic stones with hidden joint cement mortar
- A gate with a green metallic facial board
- Signage made of stainless and metallic cut with a silhouette of an acacia three, the logo of the Park
- A gate house, a masonry wall cladded with well-cut volcanic stones.
- An automatic boom gate
- A still 'U' shape gutter for rainwater collection





Photo 4: Main entrance gate on the Adventist Road.

2. Two Parking Lots

There is a parking lot at the main entrance off the Kigali-Kayonza Road (RN3), which has capacity for 60 cars, and a parking lot off the entrance on the road to the Adventist University, which has capacity for 50 cars. There was a plan to develop a third parking lot north of Section V, which was not pursued because of budget limitations.

Photo 5: Parking lot off of the Kigali-Kayonza Road and near the information center located off of the Kigali-Kayonza Road.



3. Information Centre

An information centre (Photo 6) is located just inside the entrance gate off of the Kigali-Kayonza Road. It is a three-room facility which includes an office space, a general entry way / atrium that is envisioned to have maps and other educational information, and a room for a shop. There are restrooms also at the information centre. The information centre is also equipped with fire alarms, a first aid nursing station and a CCTV room. The building has several ventilation louvers made of steel alternating with glass for lighting purposes.





Photo 6: Information Centre located just inside the gate off of the Kigali-Kayonza Road.

4. Restrooms

There are three restroom facilities at NUWEP: at the information centre; near the entrance off the road to the Adventist University; and at the restaurant. Mechanical and sanitation plans, and drawings were developed for REMA by Gasabo Design 3D Ltd. in 2017.

A septic design was completed by Gasabo 3D to drain all the water used in the different restrooms into one of the two Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) present in Sector 3 & 4. These seem to be well designed and function well and will need to be monitored when the Park opens and there is more use.

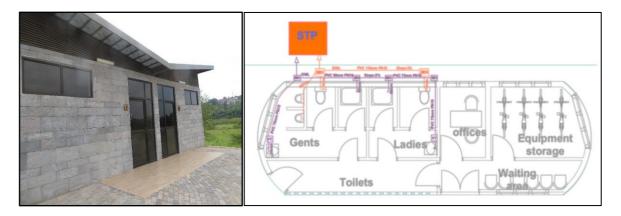


Photo 7: Restrooms located in the parking lot at the entrance located off the road to the Adventist University and the drainage water plumbing plan.

5. Bike paths and Footpaths

Paved and unpaved paths were developed in Sections III, IV and V (Figure 21 and Table 6). The paved pathways are wheelchair accessible. The bike and pedestrian pathways are parallel and separated by vegetation or stones, with clear signage, which prevents conflict between the different recreation users.

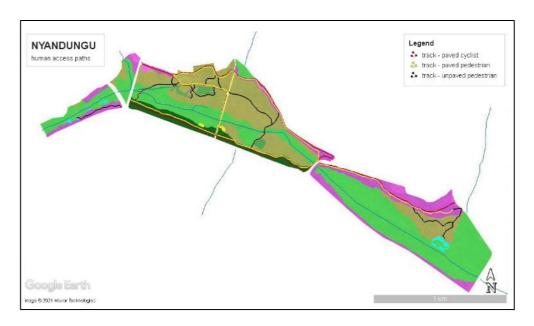


Figure 21: NUWEP Track map (cyclist & pedestrian).



Photo 8: Bike paths (left) and pedestrian paths (right), and solar lighting along the path.

In Sectors II and III, there are more than 13 km of walking path.

Trails and paths developed in NUWEP (excluding the paved roads)					
Sectors 3 & 4	Existing (m)				
Cyclist (paved)	3,601	686	168	0	0
Pedestrian (paved)	3,144	691	161	0	0
Pedestrian (unpaved)	88	298	136	131	102

Table 6: Trails and paths developed in NUWEP (m) in Sectors III and IV.

6. Roads

The public road to the Adventist University cuts through Sectors II and III of NUWEP, and KK 15 Avenue cuts through Sectors I and II. There is a high quality, paved maintenance road that runs between the two entrances (Photo 9). This can be used for recreation. It also allows easy access to the Park. The roads that cut through the Park however bring noise, pollution, traffic and could spread exotic species. Buffering the Park from the road with native trees is one way to mitigate these impacts as well as monitoring for exotic species. The other challenge for consideration is safety. If someone is passing from one Sector to another across the road, they need to be cautious when crossing. REMA may

consider working with the city of Kigali to install cross ways so that vehicles and pedestrians are cautious and away of the crossing.



Photo 9: The public road to the Adventist University that cuts through Sectors II and III of NUWEP.

7. Restaurant

A restaurant was developed in Section III, close to the entrance off the road to the Adventist University. It has an indoor and outdoor dining area, a counter for serving, restrooms, and a relatively well supplied kitchen. This was developed using donor funding. The coffee shop company, Bourbon, is currently using the restaurant under a short-term arrangement. The restaurant's indoor and outdoor space has a capacity of 30-50 people. A picnic area with benches and tables is located nearby. The walls are made of volcanic stones and the wooden parts (floor, stairs and ramps) are made of Muvula wood. There is green metallic signage with the NUWEP logo and some louvers for natural ventilation and lighting. The restaurant is equipped with a solar panel for energy, a plastic tank to collect rainwater and large folding aluminium doors that can be opened, pending on the climate.

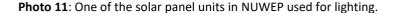




Photo 10: Entrance view and inside view of the restaurant, located in Sector III.

8. Solar

The pathways are lit with solar lamps. One of the goals is to power NUWEP completely by solar power to reinforce Rwanda's firm commitment to green growth and sustainability, and to create an eco-friendly park. There are also solar panels in the restaurant and the STPs.





9. Living Fence

Trees and vegetation have been planted along the boundaries to create a living fence. In areas where the vegetation is thick and uninviting, the living fence works and deters incursion. A full list of the plants used for the living fence is included in Annex I, Table 19. However, in areas where it is thin, young, and dry, it does not work and thus access cannot be restricted. The inability to manage access creates a serious risk for REMA and the future manager of NUWEP. Given the potential high use of Sectors 3 & 4, it is recommended that a proper metal fence be built to secure these Sectors and provide a safe and managed environment for users. It is recommended that the living fence continue to exist, to create a natural buffer for the fence, which is aesthetically pleasing. A fence is expensive, and management of the fence is required. These considerations will be included in the business plan.

10. Signage

Attractive, numerous and high-quality signage has been erected throughout the Park, clearly delineating the paths, roads, location of key features, and directions. These will need to be maintained over time and as the Park opens, one of the questions users should be asked is whether they felt the signage was adequate. Information and interpretive signs have not been developed and this is described later and will be recommended in the business plan.



Photo 12: Signs erected inside the Park for directions and orientation.

11. Security

Cameras will be installed in the different pathways and at strategic locations such as the restaurant. Unrestricted access due to the lack of an effective perimeter barrier is currently the most significant security concern.

Additional photographs of NUWEP and the infrastructure are included in Annex IV.

12. Maintenance building

The site also has a maintenance building that is currently used for equipment storage. It includes an office, storage room and a washroom. Like the other buildings, it is made of well-cut volcanic stones and has a set of fixed windows to light the hall of storage and wire mesh for natural ventilation.



Photo 13: Photo of the front of the maintenance building.

III. Legal, Policy and Institutional Framework

This section outlines relevant legislation that guides the development and management of NUWEP.

1. International Conventions

Rwanda is a signatory to various international and regional multilateral environment conventions, which are directly or indirectly relevant to NUWEP. These should be considered when further development and activities take place in NUWEP.

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands is an intergovernmental agreement that offers the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources (REMA, 2011). This convention requires Governments to avoid pollution in wetlands. Through its restoration, Nyandungu wetland now fulfils four out of nine Ramsar criteria. An assessment should be done to determine compliance with the other Ramsar criteria. For example, in 2005, the Rugezi wetland in Rwanda was restored and became a Ramsar site in 2006. Ramsar status brings recognition to wetlands, enhances Rwanda's profile as a proponent for wetland conservation and may help the GoR catalyse additional resources for wetland conservation in the country.

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS)

The CMS was adopted to conserve terrestrial and marine migratory species. The convention's agreement on the conservation of African-Eurasian migratory water birds is specific on the need to protect the feeding, breeding, and wintering habitats, the main ones being wetlands and open water bodies (REMA, 2011). The convention is relevant due to the presence of migratory bird species and other relevant species in NUWEP. Increasing the number of species will support the Government of Rwanda's goal in fulfilling its commitment to the CMS.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

The UNFCCC provides the basis for global action "to protect the climate system for present and future generations." The Convention on Climate Change sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. It recognizes that the climate system is a shared resource whose stability is affected by industrial and other emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

The ultimate objective of UNFCCC and related legal instruments that the Conference of the Parties may adopt is to achieve, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Under the Convention, governments:

- Share information on greenhouse gas emissions, national policies and best practices.
- Launch national strategies for addressing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to expected impacts, including the provision of financial and technological support to developing countries; and
- Cooperate in preparing for adaptation to the impacts of climate change.

Under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, part of UNFCCC, Rwanda committed to developing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). The Government of Rwanda has outlined clear climate change objectives and NUWEP will help the Government fulfil its obligations around climate mitigation and adaptation. Through its renovation, NUWEP helps sequester carbon, helps to filter air pollution, and mitigate the impacts of climate change. By measuring NUWEP's carbon sequestration the Government of Rwanda can use this towards its climate targets and fulfilling its NDC. The target for the reduction of the GHG emission by 2030 were set following two models⁵:

- Unconditional contribution: A reduction of 16% in the year 2030; equivalent to an estimated mitigation level of 1.9 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e) in that year. This is an unconditional target, based on domestically supported and implemented mitigation measures and policies.
- Conditional contribution: An additional reduction of 22% in the year 2030; equivalent
 to an estimated mitigation level of 2.7 million tCO2e in that year. This represents an
 additional targeted contribution, based on the provision of international support and
 funding.

The restoration of the Nyandungu wetland can contribute to both targets given the wetland sequesters carbon, and its engagement of domestic and international support. The wetland restoration also supports the objectives of Rwanda's NDC pertaining to water as show, in Table 7.

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https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Rwanda%20First/Rwanda_Updated_NDC_May_20 20.pdf

Water	1	To develop a national water security through water conservation practices,	
		wetlands restoration, water storage and efficient water use.	
2 To develop water resource models, water quality testing and hydro-relate			
		information.	
	3	Develop and implement a management plan for all level I catchment.	

Table 7: Rwanda NDC selected adaptation interventions by sector (Water)

East African Community (EAC) Protocol on Environment

The protocol was contracted by the EAC partner states on 29 November 2003. Article 5: Paragraph 4 states that countries should promote sustainable utilization of water resources and article 6, paragraph 1 puts emphasis on improving water quality and controlling pollution. Rwanda can utilize the successful restoration of NUWEP when reporting as a member of EAC on its commitment and success in water conservation and utilization, and pollution management.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Rwanda has adopted a roadmap for domestication and implementation of SDGs, which highlight economic development, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion. As part of this, Rwanda has developed an analysis of gaps in policy and indicators for measuring progress due to different measures and policies against baselines (MINECOFIN, 2016). Rwanda is committed to actions to increase resilience or adapt to and reduce emissions in the face of climate change. To this end, Rwanda has established a national environment fund, FONERWA (described below), and is accessing adaptation, mitigation, and resilience funding from all possible international sources, including the Green Climate Fund (GCF), multilateral development banks, and specialized climate funds, such as the Forest Investment Program, and the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience.

Rwanda is also developing a Result Based Monitoring and Evaluation (RBM&E) System as a tool for efficiently monitoring and assessing performance of environment quality and natural resources against development targets, and to help identify trade-offs between economics, environment, and natural resources plus constraints to development. Natural Capital Accounts (see WAVES below) are a relevant and important resource for developing indicators and tracking the progress on socioeconomic, environment and natural resources targets against baselines under many of these initiatives.

NUWEP helps the GoR achieve:















Gaborone Declaration on Sustainability

In 2012, Rwanda signed the Gaborone Declaration on Sustainability in Africa (GDSA) and determined to use NCA as a tool to inform national sustainable development. GDSA encourages countries to collect and monitor information across ecosystems, agriculture, fisheries, and human well-being to provide information at multiple scales so that actors can make decisions with a better understanding of both the environmental and socio-economic consequences. Rwanda's NCA effort can support the GDSA approach and objectives.

Global Partnership on Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES)

In 2013, Rwanda joined WAVES and accessed World Bank technical assistance to support its NCA efforts. Based on early scoping efforts in 2014 and 2015, the Government determined to focus NCA

development on land, water, and mineral accounts. Water was identified as a key resource for domestic household uses and for agricultural production and an important input to most sectors of the economy. This report describes the first iteration of the water accounts developed with support from the World Bank and the WAVES Global Partnership. NCA will help determine NUWEP's ecological ad economic value, and as REMA considers different payment for ecosystem service models in the future to support the management and conservation of NUWEP, the NCA will provide the relevant information to generate revenue from the ecosystem services.

2. Rwanda Legal Framework

Rwanda has a suite of legislation that aims to support the long-term conservation and sustainability of its natural resources. These need to be considered in the development and management of NUWEP.

The Rwandan Constitution

The Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda was introduced in 2003 following approval by a referendum held on 24 May 2003. The Constitution incorporates articles pertaining to protection of the environment. For example, article 4 states that each citizen has the right to a healthy and satisfying environment (Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda, 2003). The successful restoration and development of NUWEP is entirely consistent with the Constitution's article on environmental protection and, as per article 4, will provide citizens with a healthy environment at the Park itself and contribute towards creating a healthy environment through water and air filtration.

Law on Environmental Protection and Management

The Organic Law on Environmental Protection, Conservation, and Management is highly relevant to NUWEP. The legislation sets out the general legal framework for environmental protection and management and on avoiding and reducing negative impact on the environment (Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda, 2005). Article 65 further specifies that every project shall be subjected to environmental impact assessment prior to its commencement. Article 80 stipulates that buildings, various establishments, and motor vehicles and other movable properties that are publicly or privately owned, shall be constructed, exploited, and used in conformity with existing technical standards approved or indicated by implementation of this organic law.

According to Article 29, swamp land belongs to the state and no person can use the reason that he or she has spent a long time with it to justify the definitive takeover of the land (Tsinda and Abbott 2012).

The Use and Management of Land in Rwanda

Land use and management law determines how land should be used in Rwanda. It also establishes the principles that are respected on land rights as well as all other appendages natural or artificial. Chapter II of the law categorizes land according to its uses.

Article 12 of the law gives the state ownership over land as follows: land that makes up the public domain including lakes and rivers as listed by an order of the Minister having water in his or her attributions; shores of lakes and rivers up to the length determined; land occupied by springs and wells determined in accordance with an order of the Minister having water in his or her attributions; land reserved for environmental conservation composed of natural forests, national parks, reserved swamps, public gardens and tourist sites among others.

Article 29 gives the state control over swamps. The laws state that in order for the swamp land to be efficiently managed and exploited, a Minister having Environment in his or her attributions must give an order that shall determine a list of swamps and their boundaries. The law further requires that such a list shall clearly indicate the structure of the swamps, their use, how they can be organized so that they can be beneficial to Rwandan nationals on a sustainable basis. The ministerial order must

also certify the modalities of how swampland shall be managed, organized and exploited. The management and further development of NUWEP will need to take this land use framework into consideration.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations

Ministerial Order N°004/2008 of 15/08/2008 establishes the list of works, activities and projects that must undertake an environmental impact assessment and includes projects such as: construction and repair of international and national roads, plants, large bridges, industries, factories, hydro-dams and electrical lines, public dams for water conservation, large hotels and public building which accommodate more than one hundred daily, extraction of mines and public landfills among others (Official Gazette of the Republic of Rwanda, 2008). The manager of NUWEP will need to consider when and if any EIA is required for any further development in the Park.

The National Fund for Environment and climate change in Rwanda

FONERWA is a fund designed to support implementation of the "Green Growth and Climate Resilient Strategy" that was approved by Rwanda Cabinet in December 2011. FONERWA supports national priorities through the public and private sector, with a focus on key national objectives of poverty reduction and economic growth. FONERWA financed the development of NUWEP and has been a key partner.

FONERWA is a financing vehicle through which environment and climate change finance is channelled, programmed, disbursed, and monitored. As a national Basket Fund, FONERWA is an instrument to facilitate direct access to international environment and climate finance, as well as to streamline and rationalize external aid and domestic finance.

REMA's Operationalization of FONERWA Final Report⁶ established that FONERWA will have a national identity and implement diverse funds intended to support different priorities of REMA and the Ministry of Environment.

3. Policy Framework

Below are some of the relevant policies that need to be considered in the development and management of NUWEP.

Environmental Policy

The overall objective of the Environmental Policy is the improvement of man's well-being, the judicious utilization of natural resources and the protection and rational management of ecosystems for a sustainable and fair development (REMA 2010). The policy seeks to achieve this through:

- Rational management and utilization of resources and environment, integrating environmental aspects into all the development policies, planning and in all activities carried out at the national, provincial, and local level; and
- Improved health and quality of life for every citizen and promotion of sustainable socioeconomic development.

This policy seeks to conserve, preserve, and restore ecosystems and maintain ecological and systems functions, particularly the conservation of national biological diversity; optimize utilization of resources to attain a sustainable level of resource consumption; and create awareness among the public to understand and appreciate the relationship between environment and development, ensuring participation of individuals and the community in the activities for the improvement of

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⁶ Access report here:

 $https://rema_doc/pei/FUND\%20FOR\%20ENVIRONMENT\%20_FONERWA_FINAL_REPORT.\\pdf$

environment. The successful restoration of the NUWEP wetland and the conservation of the natural resources in NUWEP are entirely consistent with the Environmental Policy and any management activity will need to follow this policy.

Tourism Policy

The overall objective of the Tourism Policy is to increase tourism revenues in a sustainable manner and generate profits for reinvestment and jobs. This will be done by developing new and distinctive, market-led products that are clearly positioned and promoted in the marketplace, and social-economic balance with the distribution of tourism benefits. For Rwanda, sustainable development incorporates environmental, social, and economic elements.

NUWEP provides tourists with a new and exciting urban activity. Business tourists who have a weekend in Kigali may utilise NUWEP. This enhances Kigali's brand and the overall tourism product in Rwanda, by providing a diversified experience to offer visitors.

Land Policy

The policy calls for rational use and sound management of national land resources and is based on master plans (Ministry of Lands, 2004). The policy provides for the development of land use plans based on suitability of the areas/lands, thus distinguishing the different categories of land and their purpose. To achieve the land policy objectives, the policy calls for the maintenance of marshlands in the state's private land and establishment of clear regulations for their sustainable use to avoid farming with negative environmental consequences, undertaking an inventory of marshlands and clarification of their location and purpose, and promoting specialization of marshland farmers and introduction of measures to avoid the division of land in smaller units. The reference to master plans is relevant for the development and conservation of NUWEP.

National Water Resources Management Policy

The National Water Resources Management Policy aims at fair and sustainable access to water, and the improvement of the management of water resources through reforestation on hillsides and water catchments areas (REMA, 2011). Given REMA's focus on the restoration of the NUWEP's water sources, the water resources management policy is very relevant to the site.

Disaster Management Policy

The goal is to increase the resilience of vulnerable groups to disasters. This policy presents the institutional structures, roles, responsibilities, authorities, and key processes required. The restoration of NUWEP helps the GoR as it considers flooding disasters. The design and restoration of the wetland, and consideration of the highland areas around NUWEP is part of Rwanda's disaster mitigation measures.

National Wetlands Conservation Program

This program engages various government ministries in wetland conservation and ensures a holistic approach to wetland management (REMA, 2011). Involved authorities will have proper coordination of activities concerning wetland management. The National Commission for Development and Reform, jointly with the Ministries of Finance Education Scientific Research and Technology Environment Lands Water and Natural Resources and Agriculture launched this program, which was supposed to run from 2002 to 2030.⁷ The main goal is to make sure all decisions regarding the exploitation and management of wetlands are approved by REMA. This program is relevant given REMA's role in its development and management.

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 $^{^{7}\} https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/450511468009612926/pdf/E27810V30AFR0E00Box358357B00PUBLIC0.pdf$

National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

This strategy defines the objectives and priorities for the conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity. The plan includes hillsides and wetlands, and protected areas amongst others. The strategy focuses on five major areas including: improved conservation of protected areas and wetlands; sustainable use of biodiversity in natural ecosystems and agroecosystems; rational use of biotechnology; development and strengthening of policy, institutional, legal, and human resources frameworks; and equitable sharing of benefits derived from the use of biological resources. The successful conservation of the wetland and NUWEP helps the Government of Rwanda achieve various aspects of the strategy, such as protection of wetlands, improved conservation of PAs and sustainable use of natural resources.

National Land Use & Development Master Plan 2020-2050

NLUDMP is Rwanda's national land use and development plan that outlines a vision and road map for 2050. The plan recognizes that Kigali City is predicted to have the highest population density in the country and indicates that more urban recreational spaces will be needed for the larger population. Section 12.4 (Human settlement and urbanization) outlines that the increase of people living in cities must result in sustainable growth. Section 16.3 on water and wetlands suggests, "Opening up and leaving 183 Km² of the wetlands to be used conditionally for other uses, recreation, research, tourism" (page 109), which directly correlates to the conservation of the Nyandungu wetland. Additionally, Section 16.6 on green urban development proposes, "that every city/urban development provide 20-25% of green spaces" (page 111), which NUWEP helps achieve

Kigali Master Plan 2050

Rwanda's vision for Kigali outlines a green growth strategy (principle 5) for a highly liveable, productive, healthy, and sustainable city. The plan outlines a strategy to reduce car dependency, manage open sprawl, and accommodate open spaces (section 3.5), such as NUWEP. It calls for more open spaces, the establishment of networks of parks and natural areas across the city, and the formation of neighbourhood nature parks (11.4.5 Table 11.2 - Kigali Master Plan 2013 aims for:

- One neighbourhood park per 15,000-20,000 people (1 hectare)
- One sub-city park per planning area (6 hectare)
- One sports field per planning area (1.5 hectare)

NUWEP is the first public wetland park in Kigali and will help achieve the Master Plan targets as well as create a guide for further development of other parks in the city. Section 11.8, outlines the open space plan, which includes developing wetland parks as public open spaces for the following benefits:

- Utilizing natural city asset for benefit of residents
- Restoration of wetland
- Recreation/tourism venue
- Vegetation can be used sustainably
- Habitat for migratory birds
- Replotting for open spaces will have the following benefits:
- Encourage social equity through public participation
- Improved accessibility
- Improved quality housing
- Improved public health and quality of life

National Strategy for Transformation

Rwanda's National Strategy for Transformation, (NST1/ Seven Years Government Program (2017-2024) sets priorities for a Green Economy approach in its Economic Transformation Pillar that

promotes "Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Environment to Transition Rwanda towards a Green Economy." In addition, Rwanda's vision 2050 focuses on becoming a high-income economy, with high quality of life and standards of living for its citizens (NST1 2018). The pathway to achieving the vision will substantially depend on how the environment, natural resources and climate change are managed. NST1 targets five specific subsectors: Forestry, Land, Water, Environment and Climate Change. These will enable achievement of the SDGs as well as Rwanda's NDCs. A key innovation is the adoption of NCA practices to track the value of natural capital to the Rwandan economy to enhance evidence-based decision making. The development of NUWEP has been guided by green growth principles and in the future, the roles of NCA should be incorporated into its plans, so that there is awareness of the natural capital value, and this information can be used to catalyse revenue generation to sustain the Park.

IV. NUWEP Development and Activities

A. Concept

A conceptual design was completed for NUWEP in 2017 and much of the development has followed this plan. The design is centred around the restoration and maintenance of the wetland; provision of pathways for recreation; certain features that serve to attract key groups of citizens, such as the Pope's Garden and Medicinal Garden (Sector 3); and facilities, such as the restaurant and an information centre (Figure 22).

Parking with LAKE WETLAND paving and N RESTAURANT Acacia trees for ACACIA SAVANNA shade Restaurant with deck. RG FOREST WETLAND EDGE PLANTING LAWN AREAS AND LAWN PATH FAIRWAY PATH: ACCESS TO RESTAURANT PARKING AREA WITH PERMEABLE GRASS PAVERS ABLUTION BUILDINGS PROJECT BOUNDARY BICYCLE PATHWAY PEDESTRIAN PATHWAY EXISTING ROAD KIGALI - KAYONZA -EXISTING STREAM -Ponds' feeder channel GABION Pope's Garden 240 m2 Lawn Area SECTOR 3 with Gravel pathway **ENTRANCE GATE** AND INFO CENTRE The entrance gate consists of 1500mm high green plant walls on either side of the entrance SECTOR 4 road. There is a parking area with permeable grass pavers. The information centre is a square glass building. MEDICINAL GARDEN Medicinal / herb garden with parallel paths winding through the garden. A lawn area with trees and seating surrounds the medicinal and herb garden. 1000 (1km) 100 200 300

Figure 22: NUWEP conceptual design completed by Afrilandscapes in 2017 for REMA.

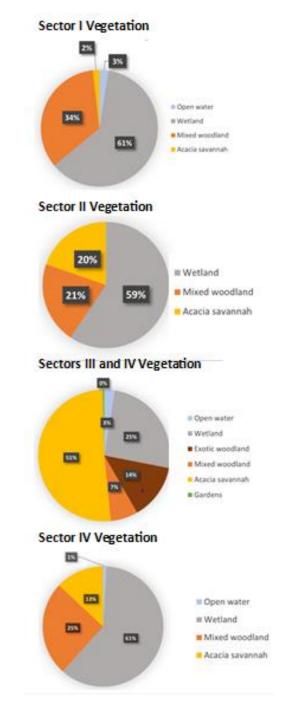
Each Sector in NUWEP was zoned for certain attributes and activities and the vegetation cover was estimated using Google Maps.

Sector I. The primary function of Sector I is its ecological function. In addition, there is an unpaved path, that runs parallel to the Kigali-Kayonza Road (RN3), which is used for walking, birding and as a catchment pond.

Sector II. The primary function of Sector II is ecological. There are currently no paths in this Sector due to the thick vegetation, wetland, and water.

Sectors III & IV. These two Sectors are most suitable for 'high use.' This includes recreation, picnicking, and access to the restaurant, both parking areas, the maintenance road, Pope's Garden, the information centre, and the medicinal garden. Approximately 25% of these Sectors include wetland and its ecological function should be maintained. Therefore, activities need to be designed in a way that do not negatively impact the wetland. Activities are outlined in Table 9 and will be expanded upon in the business plan.

Sector V. This is the largest single Sector and is zoned for recreation and conservation. The main bike and pedestrian paths run along the northern boundary. The eastern section includes a pond that is accessed by an unpaved path.



Figures 23, 24, 25, 26 (top to bottom): Approximate vegetation cover in each Sector.

Some other features might be considered and incorporated into NUWEP as outlined below.

Parks and Art and Culture

Arts can be a source of inspiration for the design of an urban park and can be used to attract people to public spaces. Rwanda has a very rich art history and culture, which can be reflected in NUWEP's design. For example, Kigali's conference centre auditorium is designed to reflect the inside of the King's Palace. Rwanda's art, such as sculptures, could be displayed in NUWEP, such as a sculpture garden, the information centre, and/or the restaurant. Rwanda is proud of its art and culture, and ways to showcase this should be incorporated in the design and management of NUWEP.

Green infrastructure

In keeping with Rwanda's firm commitment to conservation and sustainability, any infrastructure in NUWEP should be designed to maximize sustainable design. For example, rooftop gardens at the Ellen DeGeneres conservation Campus, reduce urban heat island effect, improve air quality, provide habitat for birds and insects, and promote urban biodiversity. The existing infrastructure in NUWEP took green principles into consideration, such as the use of volcanic rocks. In the future this should be replicated, and new green designs considered for any further infrastructure development. Given the location of NUWEP in Kigali and its high accessibility, NUWEP presents the GoR with a great opportunity to showcase some innovation around green infrastructure.



Figure 23: Green roofs at Ellen DeGeneres Campus, in Kinigi, Musanze District, Rwanda.

Where feasible, nature should be used in NUWEPs design. For example, if a barrier is needed to shield a building, rather than erecting a wall, a row of trees may provide the screen.

B. **NUWEP Uses**

Based on discussions with REMA and other stakeholders, while there are numerous activities that could be developed, the following can be considered most feasible and appropriate given the vision for NUWEP. All of these will be thoroughly vetted and included in the business plan. Case studies of other urban parks in Africa and Rwanda are included in Annex II.

Urban Biodiversity Protection

The primary use and objective of NUWEP is to restore and maintain the ecological health of the wetlands and protect biodiversity within its urban setting. The Park design has taken advantage of the wetland and water flow. However, it must be recognized that NUWEP is an urban park and that it has and will continue to be influenced by human factors inside and outside its boundaries and as a result is unlikely ever to be a 'pristine' ecosystem. However, urban biodiversity plays a key role in conservation. NUWEP, for example, protects key ecosystem services (ES) such as regulating temperature, capturing carbon from the atmosphere, reducing stormwater runoff, and flooding risks, preventing soil erosion, and protecting water quality (Daily 1997). While this has not been properly quantified to date, there is an opportunity to do so in the future, through Rwanda's NCA program and other means, and to track ES conservation.

Recreation

Urban parks provide space for a diversity of recreational activities that range from low to high impact, and passive to active. Recreational activities range from strolling, sitting, picnicking, running, biking, or observing nature, all of which are envisioned in NUWEP. The trick in developing recreational activities in a small, urban park is to ensure that one activity does not compromise another. This requires proper zonation and management. The Park has been zoned as noted prior into five Sectors. The pathways developed in each Sector will guide certain activities such as bike riding and walking. Each Sector, and their use are described in the beginning of Section IV.

Outdoor Play and Leisure

The definitions of play and leisure are included in Table 8. While they differ, both provide people with the freedom to simply have unstructured time outside and away from their daily obligations. In modern society there is very little unstructured time. Providing space for people of all ages to simply play outdoors is critical for human health. This is core to the GoR's vision of creating green space for citizens in Kigali, especially as the city expands and becomes more densely populated.

Concept	Definition
Leisure as time	Leisure is time free from obligations, work (paid and unpaid), and tasks required for existing (sleeping, eating).
Leisure as activity	Leisure is a set of activities that people engage in during their free time—activities that are not work oriented or that do not involve life maintenance tasks such as housecleaning or sleeping.
Leisure as state of mind	Leisure depends on a participant's perception. Perceived freedom, intrinsic motivation, per- ceived competence, and positive affect are critical to the determination of an experience as leisure or not leisure.
Play	Play is imaginative, intrinsically motivated, nonserious, freely chosen, and actively engaging. Play is typified by spontaneity, joyfulness, and inhibition and is done not as a means to an end but for its inherent pleasure.
Recreation	Recreation is an activity that people engage in during their free time, that people enjoy, and that people recognize as having socially redeeming values. The activity performed is less important than the reason for performing the activity, which is the outcome.

Table 8: Definition of play and leisure (2012 Feasibility Report).

Recreation and Health

Recreation, defined in Table 8, is essential for the health of individuals—physical and emotional. Recreation helps with prevention of health problems and in rehabilitation. Urban parks can create space for formal and informal recreation. For example, they may range from sports grounds where teams can play football to paths for walking. Rwanda's car free day is extremely popular in the city and illustrates the strong interest in outdoor recreation. NUWEP is envisioned to support informal recreation such as walking, jogging, and biking.

Social Interaction

Urban parks provide a place for social interaction of people. Parks create a space that ultimately results in the potential for people of different ages, cultures and with different interests to meet. Scheduled and spontaneous events may bring people together.

Education

There is an array of educational activities that occur in urban parks. If designed well, parks are a place where children and adults can learn about nature and the environment. This can be formal learning through programs and educational features, and informal learning through observation and immersion. NUWEP provides an exceptional opportunity for citizens to experience nature, learn about the natural world, and ideally become an ambassador for Rwanda's natural heritage.

Conservation Capital assessed different activities that could take place in NUWEP and outlined what additional resources are needed to support the activity. These are depicted in Tables 8 and 9. All of these will be further assessed in the conservation area business plan to determine feasibility, cost, and return on investment.

Category	Activity	Infrastructure		Comment	Specific
		Already	Additional		Revenue
		present?	Needed?		Generator?
Sport and health	Walking	Yes - Paved	Yes. For safety		Free - Covered
improvement		paths (5.4km)	purposes cross		by conservation
			walks across		fee
			roads linking		
			Sectors.		
	Running	Yes - Paved	Yes. For safety		Free - Covered
		paths (5.4km)	purposes cross		by conservation
			walks across		fee
			roads linking		
			Sectors.		
	Cycling	Yes - Paved	Yes. For safety		Free - Covered
		paths (5.4km)	purposes cross		by conservation
			walks across		fee
			roads linking		
			Sectors.		
	Fitness	No	Yes - Kinetic		Free - Covered
			fitness stations		by conservation
					fee
	Social sport /	Yes - Lawns	No	Zonation	Free - Covered
	Exercise (e.g.,			required	by conservation
	frisbee)				fee
Nature &	Bird watching	Yes - Paved &	Yes - Additional		Free - Covered
Contemplation	Ŭ	unpaved paths	unpaved paths,		by conservation
•			hide; wetland		fee
			boardwalk		
	Reading	Yes - Benches;	No		Free - Covered
	0	lawns			by conservation
					fee
	Meditation	No	No		Free - Covered
					by conservation
					fee
	Yoga / Tai Chi	No	No - Although an		Free - Covered
			open-sided		by conservation
			pagoda might be		fee
			used for yoga		100
			sessions as well		
			as a corporate		
			meeting space		
	Prayer	Yes - Pope's	No - Although		Free - Covered
	Trayer	garden	worth engaging		by conservation
		garacii	with catholic		fee
			church to see		icc
Social Recreation	Socializing	Yes - Picnic	No		Free - Covered
Social Recreation	Judializing	space; restaurant	INO		by conservation
		space, restaurant			fee
	Picnic	Yes - Benches	Yes - Tables	Zonation	Free - Covered
	PICTIC	res - Benches	res - rabies		
				required	by conservation
	Laster 10	NI-	V 181 :		fee
	Instagram selfies	No	Yes - 'Photo		Free - Covered
			frame'		by conservation
			celebrating		fee
			wetlands,		
			hashtags, etc.		
	Restaurant	Yes- Bourbon	Need to consider		Yes
		(temporarily)	satellite kiosks		
			for snacks; or		
			picnic baskets/		
	Ī	Ī	takeaways	1	

	Cocktail bar/Lounge	No	Yes - Attached to restaurant for sundowners / cocktails		Yes
	Kids playing	No	Yes - Nature- themed playground	Zonation required	Depends on development
Events	Fun runs / Park runs	Yes - Paved paths	No		Free - Covered by conservation fee
	Corporate meetings / Team building	No	Yes - Open sided pagoda as mentioned above		Yes - Venue hire
	Art installation	No	Yes - Open sided pagoda as mentioned above		Free - Covered by conservation fee
Learning	Wetland	No	YES - Wetland boardwalk; information in the information centre & educational signage	Critical if one of the primary REMA objectives is to be met	Free - Covered by conservation fee
	Ethnobotany	Yes - Medicinal garden	No		Free - Covered by conservation fee
	Rwanda's National Parks	No	Yes - Interpretive centre with VR experience and expo display	Requires capital investor; potentially RDB does this as part of The Tembera campaign	Depends on development
	Research site Lectures / Enviro functions	No No	No Yes - Open sided pagoda as mentioned above		Free Depends on needs
Other	Nature-themed office space	No	Yes	Requires market research and a capital investor	Yes
	Bike hire	No	Yes	Needs private sector concessionaire	Yes
	Guided walks (Birding/Botany)	No	No	Needs trained community guides	Yes

 Table 9: Potential suitable activities for NUWEP.

Given NUWEP's size and the vision and objectives set forth by the GoR, the following activities were vetted and considered not suitable at this time.

Activity	Explanation
ATV Riding	Loud, ecologically degrading (especially in wet landscape), polluting, dangerous, and will compromise the experience of others NUWEP visitors.
Kayak / Canoe	The water bodies are too small in NUWEP.
Weddings	Park is too small for large weddings. Will compromise the experience of others. Small weddings might be considered in the future if well managed or users separated spatially. Guidelines will be required and suitable zoning if this is to be considered.
Events	Park is too small for large events. Will compromise the experience of others. Small events might be considered in the future if well managed or users separated spatially. Guidelines will be required and suitable zoning if this is to be considered.
Fishing	Not recommended since would appear contradictory to the mandate of NUWEP.
Horseback riding	Maintaining horses in NUWEP is expensive, there is not adequate space for stables or trails for riding.
Zoo	Not consistent with the vision of NUWEP.
Large species reintroduction	Requires veterinary team, fencing, and management, which is expensive.
Organized sport	Organized sports include soccer, volleyball etc Given space limitations, at this stage, putting in a football pitch or a volleyball net is not recommended; this does not preclude visitors from playing football, frisbee etc although zonation will be required to ensure no impact on other users.
Hotel/lodge development	Not recommended: too close to industrial zone, has the noise of the airport, and will undoubtedly be uncompetitive with any such development at Gikondo or the other wetlands due for rehabilitation in the more central tourism part of Kigali.

Table 10: Activities judged as unsuitable for NUWEP at this time.

Carrying Capacity and Operating Hours

Tourism carrying capacity can be a subjective measure and depends on how thresholds of potential concern are viewed and also what the objectives of the area being visited are. At the outset of a of carrying capacity assessment in NUWEP it should be stated that the environment historically suffered significant impact and cannot now, even after years of rehabilitation and restoration, be regarded as a pristine wetland. It should also be understood that carrying capacity can be variable depending on degrees of management. With this in consideration, we attempted to calculate a carrying capacity for NUWEP that takes its particular socio-environmental context into consideration as well, of course, as aspects such as its size, infrastructure, likely user profiles and its soil and ecosystem/vegetation composition.

Given the concentration of facilities in Sectors 3, 4 and 5, and the intention to leave Sectors 1 and 2 'undeveloped,' only Sectors 3, 4 and 5 are considered in the carrying capacity calculation. Calculating carrying capacity based on area size alone is inadequate. Instead, we calculated carrying capacity based on maximum optimal usage of the pathway infrastructure already in place together with additional pathways suggested. Thus, carrying capacity is calculated per metre of available pathway rather than square metres or hectares. Upper thresholds for people per metre of such infrastructure were based on the average speed of movement and purpose of the user in using that infrastructure. Thus, the lower limit of metres per person of paved cycleway (80m / person) is greater than half of that for paved walkways (30m / person), and this figure varies for unpaved pathways (50m / person) used for exposure to nature rather than for exercise, and the higher density usage of the suggested boardwalk crossing the wetland (20m / person).

The calculated carrying capacity as a result of this equation is ~300 people for Sectors 3, 4 and 5 combined, at any one time, not as the limit of visitors per day (which could be far greater). It should also be understood as needing to be applied partially to Sectors 3 & 4 and partially to Sector 5. Thus, at any one time, the maximum number of people permitted in Sectors 3 and 4 combined is suggested as 232 people (just under 4 people per hectare), while the maximum number permitted in Sector 5 at any one time is suggested as 76 people (or 1.5 people per hectare).

NUWEP will invariably attract a diversity of users across both weekdays and weekends/holidays, ranging from early morning birders and pre-work joggers to midday walkers to evening rendezvous. The current plan is to open the Park at 5.30 AM and close in the evening, because of safety factors our recommendation is to close the Park at 7 PM. This gives adequate time for people to walk after walk get a drink at the restaurant and leave as it is getting dark. Ticketing can be done on-line with a platform such as TiCQet.

Security for visitors, especially female visitors, is very important. Many of the activities proposed require proper fencing, presence of 'rangers'/security personnel and good lighting. NUWEP visitors will generally fall into the categories below and these time slots may be used for planning and capacity management, which will be elaborated on in the conservation area business plan. These slots are not proposed for ticketing but used for management.

Time Slot	Theoretical User Type	Primary Activities	Comments
05h30 –	Exercisers: cyclists,	Exercise on paved paths	We envisage this
08h00	runners, walkers	Exercise at fitness stations	occurring both during
	Nature enthusiasts:	Birding on paved and unpaved	the week and on
	birders	paths, the wetland boardwalk	weekends
		and bird hide	
08h00 –	School groups	Usage of paved paths	Aside from school
11h30	Families	Concentrations around the	groups during the
	Friends	restaurant and picnic areas, as	week, we envisage this
	Couples	well as on the wetland	time slot being utilised
		boardwalk and bird hide.	primarily on weekends
11h30 –	School groups	Usage of paved paths	Aside from school
14h30	Families	Concentrations around the	groups during the
	Friends	restaurant and picnic areas, as	week, we envisage this
	Couples	well as on the wetland	time slot being utilised
		boardwalk and bird hide.	primarily on weekends
14h30 –	Families	Usage of paved paths	We envisage this time
17h00	Friends	Concentrations around the	slot being used
	Couples	restaurant and picnic areas, as	primarily on weekends.
		well as on the wetland	
		boardwalk and bird hide.	
17h00 –	Friends	Usage of paved paths	We envisage this time
closing	Couples	Concentrations around the	slot being utilised
(19h00)	Exercisers: cyclists,	restaurant and picnic areas, as	more heavily on
	runners, walkers	well as on the wetland	weekends, but also
		boardwalk and bird hide.	during the week at
			lower intensity

Table 11: Potential time slots for NUWEP visitors.

Strategic marketing is key for attracting and maintaining visitors to the Park. Successful urban ecotourism relies on creative and effective marketing that understands the desire of potential clients, increases awareness of the product, and attracts people with infrastructure, activities, or events. Marketing products for NUWEP might include websites / social media, maps, signs, roadside billboards in other parts of the city and guidebooks. Engaging local media (print, digital and tv) will be essential in reaching the widest audience possible.

Potential Revenue Generating Options

REMA and other GoR relevant authorities made it clear they do not necessarily perceive NUWEP to be a generator of profit for use elsewhere, but that it is essential that sufficient revenue is generated through the use of NUWEP to pay for its operation, ongoing maintenance, and reinvestment. Nature-themed businesses are also an important tool to promote nature and engage people in its conservation and restoration. Table 12 outlines several potential revenue sources that might developed. All of these will be expanded upon in the conservation area business plan.

	Scenarios	Advantages	Disadvantages
I	Conservation Levy A conservation levy suggests that users are paying for conservation, an entrance fee means they are paying to enter a public space	 Revenue generated can be used for management and conservation activities Pricing can limit numbers of users, which will help to maintain the ecological carrying capacity A perception of nature's value can be inspired in the public 	 Pricing will impact peoples' choice and frequency of visiting this site. A high conservation levy will raise concerns about equitable access.
II	Filming and photography fees	 Revenue generated can be used for management and conservation activities Helps to promote NUWEP and Rwanda 	 If not managed well can disrupt users' visits
III	Restaurants, coffee bar/lounge	 Concession fee generates revenue for management and conservation activities Could provide local jobs Will result in a concentration of many users in one central space thereby allowing for an effective zonation and separation of different kinds of users and a management plan that is geared to this 	 Requires good waste management Must be compliant with Rwanda's commitment to no plastic If expensive, will create animosity Attracts people to a certain part of the Park which could create a negative impact if not well managed
IV	Activity Concessions (Bike Rental for example)	 Concession fee generates revenue for management and conservation activities Could provide local jobs 	 Requires good waste management Must be complaint with Rwanda's commitment to no plastic If expensive, will create animosity Attracts people to a certain part of the Park which could create a negative impact
V	Corporate Sponsorship (CSR)	 Revenue generated can be used for management and conservation activities Might results in volunteer days, trash clean up exotic species removal 	Requires clarity around potential expectations of use
VI	Biodiversity Offset	 Revenue generated can be used for management and conservation activities 	 Expensive to set up to determine offset Requires very clear monitoring and evaluation

VII	Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)	•	Revenue generated can be used for management and conservation activities	•	Need to calculate the ecosystem value, such as waterflow, and structure the payment Requires very clear monitoring and evaluation
VIII	Carbon Offset	•	Revenue generated can be used for management and conservation activities	•	Expensive to calculate the carbon sequestration Requires very clear monitoring and evaluation
IX	Additional activities such as temporary or permanent exhibitions or events	•	Revenue generated can be used for management and conservation activities Diversified activities can attract a diversified visitor spectrum Exhibitions and events can be tailored to amplify the educational and other purposes of NUWEP	•	May require additional capital investment Large events could result in unnecessary disruption to the environment or other users

Table 12: Potential revenue generating options for NUWEP.

I. Conservation Levy

REMA has been clear that ideally access to the site is paid for by the public, this pricing being affordable and in no way a barrier to access, but rather a mechanism to change public perspectives on the value of nature and how it should be treated and thus positioned as a 'conservation levy' rather than an 'entrance fee.'

While protected areas play a central role in conservation, education, and recreation, they are often underfunded. Despite a documented willingness to pay for nature-based experiences on the part of tourists, an urban park predominantly used by citizens requires a different model.

As a public asset, charging user fees to citizens can be controversial, raising issues of equity, accessibility and ability to-pay (Boo 1990). Fees and pricing will affect peoples' choice and frequency of visiting sites (Schwartz& Lin 2006). With a lower price, NUWEP is more attractive to the public, and can still attract visitors while instilling an awareness about its value and the need to maintain the asset. Studies have shown that when visitors know where their money is going, for example to maintain and protect NUWEP, they are willing to pay. Table 13 depicts a hypothetical pricing model for NUWEP.

	Occupancy	Total visitors	Citizen	Resident	Tourist	Total (per day)	Total revenue 2022
Weekdays			80%	18%	2%		
-	14%	210	168	37.8	4.2	210	
		#					
		RWF	168,000	189,000	42,000	399,000	103,740,000
		USD	168	189	42	399	103,740
Saturday	57%		80%	18%	2%		
		855	684	153.9	17	855	
		RWF	684,000	769,500	171,000	1,624,500	86,098,500
		USD	684	770	171	1,625	86,099
Sunday	57%		80%	18%	2%		
		855	684	153.9	17		
		RWF	684,000	769,500	171,000	1,624,500	84,474,000
		USD	684	770	171	1,625	84,474
Total RWF 2022							274,312,500
Total USD 2022							274,313
Citizen Cons Fee	RWF 1,000						
Expat Residents Cons Fee	RWF 5,000						
Tourist Cons Fee	RWF 10,000						
		Total Tickets	Weekday occupancy	Weekend occupancy	Weekday tickets	Weekend tickets	
Early AM	05h30 - 08h00	300	20%	35%	60	105	
AM	08h00 - 11h30	300	10%	50%	30	150	
Midday	11h30 - 14h30	300	10%	80%	30	240	
Afternoon	14h30 – 17h00	300	10%	60%	30	180	
Evening	17h00 – 19h00	300	20%	60%	60	180	
100% Capacity		1,500	14%	57%	210	855	

Table 13: Hypothetical NUWEP pricing model and annual revenue extrapolation using conservation fees (cons fee in the Table).

II. Filming and Photography Fees

Special permits could be sold for filming and photography. RDB has guidelines for filming and photography, and this should be reviewed and made consistent with other Rwanda parks.

III. Restaurant

A restaurant was constructed in NUWEP using donor funding, which will help attract guests to the Park and in turn generate entry fees for the Park. The restaurant should be professionally managed by a private sector partner. Additional revenue will be generated by the operating lease that is granted to an operator. Given the CAPEX costs have already been financed through grant funding, a 5-year management lease could be issued to an operator with a track record and experience. The business plan will describe how to attract and contract an operator of the restaurant.

Generally, concessions like restaurants are paid through a fixed fee (lease) and a variable fee (percentage of revenue). In general, variable fees should always be based on top-line revenue (gross) net of sales taxes. When CAPEX is required by the operator, the average fee is approximately 10%. Given CAPEX has been covered in the case of NUWEP, this fee would be reviewed. This should be based on quarterly management accounts submitted by the operator to the landowner, audited by a pre-agreed audit firm, which is approved by NUWEP's manager. The costs of such audit to be borne by the operator.

IV. Activity Concession

To attract visitors to NUWEP certain activities might be developed, such as bike rentals, guided walks, or birding visits. In some cases, revenue is generated by attracting people to the Park and collecting conservation fees. However, in some cases a lease fee or concession fee might be charged to provide additional revenue for NUWEP management. Like the concession model described in III, a percentage of gross revenue may be considered as a fee. Training local communities as guides is a good way to provide employment and provide a quality experience for visitors.

V. Corporate Social Responsibility

The industrial zone is directly adjacent to NUWEP. Many of these companies operating in the industrial zone have corporate social responsibility programs and may be interested in supporting NUWEP (Table 14). A sponsorship program could be developed to engage corporate partners and certain benefits may be provided such as their logo on a sponsorship sign or map; a reduced price for employee access; or space provided for corporate events. Different sponsorship packages could be designed (gold, silver, bronze), with different pricing and benefits provided. The first step for a sponsorship program is to develop a comprehensive list of potential corporate partners, perhaps engage the Chamber of Commerce in Rwanda, identify potential interest in and benefit from NUWEP, determine capacity of sponsorship and design a strategy for engagement.

Business name	Business purpose		
Strawtech	Produce affordable and environmentally sustainable building materials		
Ameki Color	Rwanda's largest paint producer (they also produce furniture)		
Aquasan	Production of water pipes and tanks		
Bhavesh	Non-ferrous metal recycling		
Plascon	Paint manufacturer		
Papyrus	Manufacture commercial furniture		
Volkswagen	Car assembly		
Alpha Media	Outdoor advertising, hoardings ⁸ , digital printing		
Serena	Promoting brand and place for guests to visit		
Radisson Hotel	Promoting brand and place for guests to visit		
Sheraton Hotel	Promoting brand and place for guests to visit		
Bank of Kigali	Brand recognition and corporate engagement		
Equity Bank Rwanda	Brand recognition and corporate engagement		
Alpha Media	Outdoor advertising, hoardings, digital printing		

Table 14: Examples of potential corporate partners for NUWEP, some based in the Industrial zone located directly adjacent to NUWEP

VI. Biodiversity Offset

Biodiversity offsets are measurable conservation outcomes designed to compensate for adverse and unavoidable impacts of projects, in addition to prevention and mitigation measures already implemented. Biodiversity offsets are only appropriate for projects which have rigorously applied the mitigation hierarchy (Figure 28) framework, a widely accepted approach for biodiversity conservation.

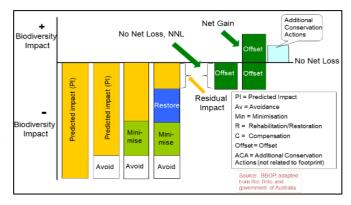


Figure 24: Mitigation hierarchy framework (Forest Trends)

The aim of offsets is to achieve No Net Loss (NNL) and preferably a Net Gain (NG) of biodiversity when projects take place. Measures that are not designed to result in NNL and preferably NG are not biodiversity offsets. The achievement of NNL/NG is dependent on measurable, appropriately implemented, monitored, evaluated, and enforced offset schemes. Biodiversity offsets must be a measure of last resort; and in certain cases, offsets are not appropriate and should not be used. Public and private sector investments in projects such as infrastructure development, mining and oil exploration are among the current drivers of economic growth. However, biodiversity is not well accounted for under our present economic system and such projects can have important impacts on species and ecosystems more generally.

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⁸ Hoarding is as a temporary boarded fence in a public place, usually erected around a building site. These are used to protect the public from site works whilst also being used to display advertisements.

There is growing interest by governments and the private sector to look for ways of compensating for biodiversity impacts to achieve a NNL and preferably a NG of biodiversity when projects take place.⁹

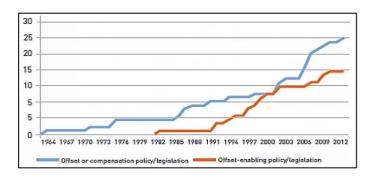


Figure 25: Policy trends biodiversity impact offset.

Measures to compensate for negative impacts, for example by protecting threatened forests or restoring wetlands, collectively known as biodiversity offsets, are increasingly being used by governments and the private sector. Biodiversity offsets are conservation actions intended to compensate for the residual, unavoidable impact on biodiversity caused by projects, to ensure at least a No Net Loss of biodiversity and, where possible, a Net Gain.

Section III highlights the businesses operating directly adjacent to NUWEP in the industrial zone. Some of these corporate partners may need to offset their operations, in terms of footprint, carbon emissions, water use or wastewater flow into the wetland. This could be done by supporting NUWEP.

VII. Payment for Ecosystem Services

Rwanda has committed to a climate-resilient, low-carbon economy by 2050. It is in this line that the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) constitutes one of the pillars of Rwanda vision 2050, which sets the vision for the country's economic transformation and development agenda. Rwanda and Costa Rica signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on environment cooperation that will specifically focus on exchanging experiences on payments for ecosystem services.

PES is an approach that promotes good management of environmental resources to provide ecological services. In March 2019, the GoR in partnership with the Netherlands launched a PES pilot program in Upper Nyabarongo catchment, which is one of the water towers of Rwanda. The piloting is intended to assess pathways towards the implementation of a proposed PES scheme that is expected to be implemented countrywide.¹⁰ Given the water source of NUWEP, a PES centred on water might be considered. This would also dovetail into Rwanda's NCA aims.

While carbon offsets are a type of PES, this is described separately.

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⁹ https://www.iucn.org/resources/issues-briefs/biodiversity-offsets 10 https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DHMghAlDEOziYcfXWXF7t4IOHgrx1pZQ/view

VIII. Carbon Offset

Healthy wetlands play a significant role in climate change mitigation by storing carbon that would otherwise contribute to global warming, leading to the reduction of water and food resources as well as more extreme weather phenomena. NUWEP is approximately 130-hectares, and the wetland is 54 hectares. Determining the annual carbon sequestration of the wetland presents an interesting revenue opportunity for the Park. The industrial zone of Kigali is directly adjacent to NUWEP. An agreement could be entered into between NUWEP and the companies in the industrial zone providing them an opportunity to offset their carbon footprint.

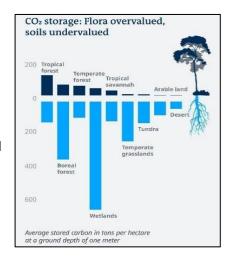


Figure 26: Average stored carbon in tons per hectare (World Climate Council IPCC).

Park Management Scenarios

NUWEP requires professional management. As one of the first public parks in Kigali, there is no precedent. While REMA currently oversees the management of NUWEP, their role long-term is not in managing NUWEP. Operation of NUWEP is envisaged by GoR to be conducted by an independent operator in a kind of Public Private Partnership (PPP) model. The GoR has successful PPPs in parks. For example, Akagera National Park is managed through a PPP between RDB and African Parks. Table 15 highlights the potential management scenarios that might be considered. All of these will be further described in the business plan.

Potential Park Manager	Potential Role	Advantages	Disadvantages
The City of Kigali / District	The city/municipality oversees the day-to-day management of NUWEP	NUWEP is within the city of Kigali's jurisdiction / and the local municipality	The city / district does not have the experience, staffing or budget in place to manage NUWEP
REMA	REMA provides advisory for the efficient management of NUWEP	REMA is the authority that oversees environmental projects including wetlands	REMA's mandate does not include the direct management of parks.
RDB	RDB oversees the management of Rwanda's national parks, and tourism activities and development	RDB is the authority that oversees national parks in Rwanda	RDB manages national parks and in some cases engages partners in a PPP, which is their recommendation given the nature of the Park.
Local Community Management (sector, cell, village)	A local CBO manages the Park in a community-based management model	Local engagement and ownership	 They lack the skills and experience to manage NUWEP They do not have adequate resources They do not have connections to donors They lack the business acumen to manage an urban park

Private Sector Partner (PPP)	Advertise for a private sector partner to take on management of NUWEP	 The right partner may be able to effectively manage the Park and generate adequate revenue to support the Park and make a profit. The right partner may be able to attract other businesses (bike hire, restaurant, events, exhibitions) The right partner may have access to capital for further development / improvement of NUWEP 	To make a profit the private sector partner may engage in activities that are not compatible with the Park.
NGO (PPP)	Advertise for an NGO to take on management of NUWEP	 The right NGO partner may be able to effectively manage the Park and generate adequate revenue to support the Park and make a profit. The right NGO partner can attract donor funding The right NGO partner may be able to attract other businesses (bike hire, zip line, restaurant, events, exhibitions) 	 While there are PPPs for park management in Rwanda, there are no PPPs for urban park management, this would be the first Most NGOs lack the business acumen to manage an urban park

 Table 15: Scenarios for NUWEP management (orange indicates less feasible and green indicates feasible).

V. Conclusion

Nyandungu wetland has been restored from a degraded wetland to a functioning ecological system and has enabled the development of NUWEP, a park that can support recreation and education. This remarkable recovery mirrors the ecological recovery story across Rwanda and presents an exceptional opportunity to profile this to citizens and visitors and provide outdoor green space for citizens and visitors. Restoration is very relevant in the global conservation context and Rwanda has another opportunity to make its mark as a leader in this field.

Over the past few years, with donor support, REMA has overseen the development of high-quality infrastructure in NUWEP and the design of an urban wetland park that can provide space for citizens and tourists to recreate and enjoy nature.

There are a number of revenue-generating opportunities that can be developed in NUWEP to support the management and conservation of the Park while maintaining its ecological function and Rwanda's high-quality brand. All of these will be outlined in the forthcoming conservation area business plan. As Kigali considers the conservation and development of its other wetlands, NUWEP serves as a very important pilot.

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ANNEXES

ANNEX I: Flora and Fauna Diversity in NUWEP

Two Assessment of the plant species in NUWEP have been completed since the project began. The initial list of plants was provided by Gasabo 3D in the Final Report Volume 1: Developing an Improved Design Plan of the Park and Construction Supervision of Nyandungu Urban Wetland Eco-Tourism Park in 2017 (Table 16). Another inventory was conducted in 2019 by the Botanist of NUWEP Joseph Mvukiyumwami, who provided a list of all the plants found in the Park and the ones used for the living fence (Table 19). A list of birds is provided in Table 20.

No	Scientific name	Kinyarwanda Name	Family	Life Form	Indigenous/Exotic
1	Abutilon mauritianum	Umuhatura,	Malvaceae	Herb	Indigenous
	Abation maantianam	Umukungeri		TICID	
2	Acacia hockii	Umugenge	Fabaceae	Shrub	Indigenous
3	Acacia polyacantha subsp. Campylacantha	Umugu, Umuharaba	Fabaceae	Tree	Indigenous
4	Acacia sieberiana	Umunyarugera,	Fabaceae	Tree	Indigenous
	Acucia sieberiana	Umunyinya	Tabaceae	1166	
5	Acanthus pubescens	Igitovu	Acanthaceae	Herb	Indigenous
6	Achyranthes aspera	Umuhurura	Amaranthaceae	Herb	Indigenous
7	Agave sisalana	Umugwegwe	Asparagaceae	Herb	Exotic
8	Ageratum conyzoides	Akaziraruguma	Asteraceae	Herb	Indigenous
9	Amaranthus hybridus	Imbwija	Amaranthaceae	Herb	Exotic
10	Araucaria angustifolia	N/A	Araucariaceae	Tree	Exotic
11	Asparagus falcatus	Umushabishabi	Asparagaceae	Herb	Indigenous
12	Aspilia pluriseta	Icyumya	Asteraceae	Herb	Indigenous
13	Blumea brevipes	Igitabicyimpyisi	Asteraceae	Shrub	Indigenous
14	Brachiaria brizantha	Ivubwe	Poaceae	Herb	Indigenous
15	Canna indica	Kana	Cannaceae	Herb	Exotic
16	Carissa spinarum	Umunyonza	Apocynaceae	Shrub	Indigenous
17	Casuarina equisetifolia	Filaho	Casuarinaceae	Tree	Exotic
18	Centella asiatica	Gutwikumwe	Apiaceae	Herb	Indigenous
19	Clerodendrum rotundifolia	Ikiziranyenzi	Verbenaceae	Herb	Indigenous
20	Commelina benghalensis	Uruteja	Commelinaceae	Herb	Exotic
21	Conyza sumatrensis	Urububa	Asteraceae	Herb	Indigenous
22	Crassocephalum vitellinum	Isununu	Asteraceae	Herb	Indigenous
23	Croton megalocarpus	Umurangara, Umunege	Euphorbiaceae	Tree	Indigenous
24	Cynodon dactylon	Umucaca	Poaceae	Herb	Indigenous
25	Cyperus latifolius	Urukangaga	Cyperaceae	Herb	Indigenous
26	Cyperus papyrus	Urufunzo	Cyperaceae	Herb	Indigenous
27	Datura stramonium	Rwiziringa	Solanaceae	Herb	Exotic /Invasive
28	Desmodium uncinantum	Desimodiyumu	Fabaceae	Herb	Exotic
29	Digitaria abyssinica	Urwiri	Poaceae	Herb	Indigenous
30	Dioscorea quinqueloba	N/A	Dioscoreaceae	Liana	Indigenous
31	Dodonaea viscose	Umusasa	Sapindaceae	Shrub	Indigenous
32	Duranta erecta	N/A	Verbenaceae	Shrub	Exotic

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33	Entada abyssinica	Umusange	Fabaceae	Tree	Indigenous
34	Eragrostis sp	Umutsina	Poaceae	Herb	Indigenous
35	Erythrina abyssinica	Umuko, Umurinzi	Fabaceae	Tree	Indigenous
36	Euphobia tirucalli	Umuyenzi	Euphorbiaceae	Tree	Indigenous
37	Euphorbia grantii	Madwedwe	Euphorbiaceae	Shrub	Indigenous
38	Ficus benjamina	N/A	Moraceae	Tree	Exotic
39	Galinsoga parviflora	Kimali	Asteraceae	Herb	Indigenous
40	Grevillea robusta	Gereveriya	Proteaceae	Tree	Exotic
41	Guizotia scabra	Igishikashike	Asteraceae	Herb	Indigenous
42	Helichrysum sp	Manayeze	Asteraceae	Herb	Indigenous
43	Hygrophila auriculata	Bugangabukari	Acanthaceae	Herb	Indigenous
44	Hyparrhenia firipendula	Umukenke	Poaceae	Herb	Indigenous
45	Indigofera arrecta	Umusororo	Fabaceae	Shrub	Indigenous
46	Ipomoea cairica	Umuzenga	Convolvulaceae	Liana	Indigenous
47	Jacaranda mimosifolia	Jakaranda	Bignoniaceae	Tree	Exotic
48	Kalanchoe integra	Ikinetenete	Crassulaceae	Herb	Indigenous
49	Kyllinga erecta	Uruvuya	Cyperaceae	Herb	Indigenous
50	Lactuca sp	Rurira	Asteraceae	Herb	Indigenous
51	Lantana camara	Lantana	Verbenaceae	Herb	Exotic
52	Leonotis nepaetifolia	Igicumucumu	Lamiaceae	Herb	Indigenous
53	Leucaena leucocephala	Resena	Fabaceae	Shrub	Exotic
54	Ludwigia abyssinica	Umuzingangore	Onagraceae	Herb	Indigenous
55	Macadamia tetraphylla	Makadamiya	Proteaceae	Shrub	Exotic
56	Mangifera indica	Umwembe	Anacardiaceae	Tree	Exotic
57	Markhamia lutea	Umusave	Bignoniaceae	Tree	Indigenous
58	Maytenus senegalensis	Umushubi	Celastraceae	Shrub	Indigenous
59	Melinis repens	Urwarikafundi	Poaceae	Herb	Indigenous
60	Microglossa pyrifolia	Umunyuragisaka	Asteraceae	Herb	Indigenous
61	Mimosa pigra	Umugeyo	Fabaceae	Shrub	Exotic
62	Momordica foetida	Umwishywa	Fabaceae	Liana	Indigenous
63	Morus nigra	Iboberi	Moraceae	Shrub	Exotic
64	Nymphaea nouchali	Amarebe	Nymphaeaceae	Herb	Indigenous
65	Ocimum gratissimum	Umwenya	Lamiaceae	Herb	Indigenous
	Oxyntenanthera	<u> </u>			
66	abyssinica	Umugano	Poaceae	Herb	Exotic
67	Panicum maximum	Igikerakenja, Igikaranka	Poaceae	Herb	Indigenous
68	Paspalum notatum	Pasiparumu	Poaceae	Herb	Exotic
69	Pennisetum purpureum	Urubingo	Poaceae	Herb	Indigenous
70	Persea Americana	Avoka	Lauraceae	Tree	Exotic
71	Phragmites mauritianus	Imiseke	Poaceae	Herb	Indigenous
72	Physalis peruviana	Umuhuhu, Gaperi	Solanaceae	Herb	Exotic
73	Polygonum pulchrum	Igorogonzo	Polygonaceae	Herb	Indigenous
74	Polyscias fulva	Umwungo	Araliaceae	Tree	Indigenous
75	Potamogeton thunbergii	N/A	Potamogetonaceae	Herb	Indigenous
76	Psidium guajava	•	Guava	tree	Exotic
77	Psydrax parviflora	Umugaju	Rubiaceae	Shrub	Indigenous
78	Rhus natalensis	Umusagara	Anacardiaceae	Shrub	Indigenous
,,,	as natarensis	asabara	,acaraiaceae	5/11 415	a.genous

79	Ricinus communis	Ikibonobono	Euphorbiaceae	Herb	Exotic ¹¹
80	Senna occidentalis	Umuyoka	Fabaceae	Shrub	Exotic
81	Senna spectabilis	Kasiya	Fabaceae	Tree	Exotic
82	Sesamum angolense	Igonde	Pedaliaceae	Herb	Indigenous
83	Sesbania sesban	Umunyegenyege	Fabaceae	Shrub	Indigenous
84	Setaria sp	Urukoko	Poaceae	Herb	Indigenous
85	Sida cordifolia	Umucundura	Malvaceae	Herb	Indigenous
86	Solanum aculeastrum	Umutobotobo	Solanaceae	Shrub	Indigenous
87	Solanum mauritianum	N/A	Solanaceae	Shrub	Exotic
88	Spathodea campanulata	Umunyara	Bignoniaceae	Tree	Indigenous
89	Tagetes minuta	Nyiramunukanabi	Asteraceae	Herb	Exotic
90	Terminalia superba	Teriminariya	Combretaceae	Tree	Exotic
91	Thevetia peruviana	N/A	Apocynaceae	Shrub	Exotic
92	Thunbergia alata	Nkurimwonga	Acanthaceae	Liana	Indigenous
93	Tithonia diversifolia	Icyicamahirwe	Asteraceae	Shrub	Exotic
94	Typha dominguensis	Umuberanya	Typhaceae	Herb	Indigenous
95	Urena lobata	N/A	Malvaceae	Herb	Exotic
96	Vernonia amygdalina	Umubirizi	Asteraceae	Shrub	Indigenous
97	Vernonia lasiopus	Ivumavumo	Asteraceae	Herb	Indigenous

 Table 16: Plant species identified in Nyandungu wetland in 2017 (Gasabo 3D 2017).

¹¹ This plant is considered indigenous in East Africa but is labelled as invasive in Kenya. The taxonomy is still debated. https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/47618#tosummaryOflnvasiveness.

No	Species	Family	Vernacular Name
1	Abutilon mauritianum	Malvaceae	Umuhato
2	Abutilon angulatum	Malvaceae	Umuhato
3	Acacia abyssinica	Fabaceae	aumunyinya
4	Acacia gerrardii	Fabaceae	Umunyinya
5	Acacia hockii	Fabaceae	Umugeyo
6	Acacia polyacantha subsp. Campylacantha	Fabaceae	Ruganambuga, Umuharata
7	Acacia sieberana var. kagerensis	Fabaceae	Umunyinya
8	Acacia sieberiana var. vermoseni	Fabaceae	Umunyinya
9	Acanthus pubescens	Acanthaceae	Igitovu
10	Achyranthes aspera	Amaranthaceae	Umuhurura
11	Adenostema perrottetii	Asteraceae	
12	Agapanthus africanus	Liliaceae	
13	Agave sisalana	Agavaceae	Umugwegwe
14	Ageratum conyzoides	Asteraceae	Akairaruguma; Inkurubwa
15	Albizia versicolor	Fabaceae	Umububa
16	Albizia adianthifolia	Fabaceae	Umusebeya
17	Alectra sessiliflora	Orobanchaceae	Inturumbutsi
18	Alsicarpus rugosus	Fabaceae	
19	Amaranthus hybridus	Amaranthaceae	Imbwija
20	Anneilema aequinotiale	Commelinaceae	Uruteja
21	Araucaria bidwilli	Araucariaceae	
22	Aristida adoensis	Poaceae	
23	Asparagus africanus	iliaceae	
24	Asparagus racemose	Liliaceae	
25	Aspilia Africana	Asteraceae	
26	Asplenium sp.	Aspleniaceae	igishihe
27	Astripomoea grantii	Convolvulaceae	
28	Asystasia gangetica	Acanthaceae	
29	Bambusa textillis	Poaceae	Umugano
30	Bambusa vulgalis	Poaceae	Umugano
31	Barleria ventricose	Acanthaceae	
32	Barleria brandicalyx	Acanthaceae	
33	Bidens Formosa	Asteraceae	
34	Bidens Pilosa	Asteraceae	Inyabarasanya
35	Biophytum helenae	Oxalidaceae	Nyiramabumba
36	Blumea alata	Asteraceae	Igitabicyimpyisi
37	Blumea brevipes	Asteraceae	Igitabicyimpyisi
38	Botriocline longipes	Asteraceae	igihehe
39	Brachiaria brizantha	Poaceae	Urunyamavuta
40	Brachiaria dictioneura	Poaceae	Urunyamavuta
41	Brachiaria platynotan	Poaceae	Urunyamavuta
42	Brillantaisia cicatricose	Acanthaceae	Ikirogora
43	Brugmansia suaveolens	Solanaceae	Ikibutibuti
44	Caesalpinia decapetala	Fabaceae	Umufatangwe
45	Callistemon citrinus var splendens	Rutaceae	
46	Cana indica	Canaceae	igishapule

48	Capparis erythrocarpos	Caparidaceae	Umukorokombe
48	Capparis tomentosa	Caparidaceae	Umukorokombe
49	Cardamine obliqua	Brassicaceae	
50	Carex sp	Cyperaceae	
51	Carica papaya	Caricaceae	Ipapayi
52	Casuarina equisetifolia	Casuarinaceae	umubunda; filao
53	Caylusia abyssica	Amaranthaceae	
54	Celosia sp. (ornamental)	Amaranthaceae	
55	Celosia trigyna	Amaranthaceae	
56	Celtis gonphophylla	Canabaceae	
57	Cenchrus ciliaris	Poaceae	
58	Centella asiatica	Apiaceae	
59	Chamaecripta mimosoides	Fabaceae	
60	Chloris pychnotrix	Poaceae	
61	Chloris gayana	Poaceae	
62	Chrisochloa hubbardiana	Poaceae	
63	Chrysanthemum frutescens	Asteraceae	
64	Cisampelos mucronate	Menispermaceae	Umuhanda
65	Cissus oliveri	Vitaceae	Runya
66	Cissus quadrangularis	Vitaceae	Runya
67	Cleome hirta	cleomaceae	
68	Cleome monophyla	Cleomaceae	
69	Clerodendron myricoides	Verbenaceae	Umukuzanyana
70	Clerodendron rotundifolia	Verbenaceae	Ikiziranyenzi
71	Clutia abyssinica var pedicellaris	Euphorbiaceae	Umutarishonga
72	Coelachne Africana	Poaceae	
73	Colocasia esculenta	Araceae	Iteke
74	Combretum mole	Combretaceae	Umurama
75	Commelina Africana	Commelinaceae	Inteja
76	Commelina benghalensis	Commelinaceae	Inteja
77	Commelina diffusa	Commelinaceae	Inteja
78	Commelina reptans	Commelinaceae	Inteja
79	Conyza aegyptiaca	Asteraceae	
80	Conyza sumatrensis	Asteraceae	
81	Crassocephallum montuosum	Asteraceae	Igifuraninda
82	Crassocephallum paludum	Asteraceae	
83	Crassocephallum sp.	Asteraceae	
84	Crassocephallum vitellinum	Asteraceae	Isununu
85	Crassocephalum sarcobasis	Asteraceae	
86	Crinum zeylanicum	Amaryllidaceae	
87	Crotalaria agatiflora subsp. Imperialis	Fabaceae	Ikiyogera
88	Crotalaria longirostrata	Fabaceae	Akayogera
89	Crotalaria ochro leuca	Fabaceae	Akayogera
90	Crotalaria ononoides	Fabaceae	Akayogera
91	Crotalaria brevidens	Fabaceae	Akayogera
92	Crotalaria juncea	Fabaceae	Akayogera
93	Crotalaria spinosa	Fabaceae	Akayogera

94	Croton megalocarpus	Euphorbiaceae	Umunege
95	Cuscuta kilmanjari	Cuscutaceae	
96	Cyclosorus sp	Thelypteridaceae	Igishuhe
97	Cymbopogon nardus	Poaceae	Itete
98	Cycnium hersfeldianum	Orobanchaceae	Inzirarurimi
99	Cycnium adoense	Orobanchaceae	Muzimyamuriro
100	Cynodon aethiopicus	Poaceae	Umucaca
101	Cynodon dactylon	Poaceae	Umucaca
102	Cynodon nlemfuensis	Poaceae	Umucaca
103	Cyperus latifolius	Cyperaceae	Urukangaga
104	Cyperus angolensis	Cyperaceae	
105	Cyperus atroviridis	Cuperaceae	
106	Cyperus dichrostachys	Cyperaceae	
107	Cyperus distans	Cyperaceae	
108	Cyperus dives	Cyperaceae	
109	Cyperus esculenthus	Cyperaceae	
110	Cyperus ottonnifolia	Cyperaceae	
111	Cyperus papyrus	Cyperaceae	Urufunzo
112	Cyphostema midibraedii	Vitaceae	ikibondi
113	Dactyloctenium aegypticum	Poaceae	
114	Datura stramonium	Solanaceae	Rwizilinga
115	Dendrocalamus brandis	Poaceae	UMugano munini
116	Desmodium barbatus var procumbes	Fabaceae	desimodiyumu
117	Desmodium intortum	Fabaceae	desimodiyumu
118	Desmodium tortuosum	Fabaceae	
119	Desmodium salicifolium	Fabaceae	
120	Desmodium setigerum	Fabaceae	
121	Desmodium repandum	Fabaceae	
122	Desmodium uncinulatum	Fabaceae	
123	Dichrocephala integrifolia	Asteraceae	Akamatila
124	Digitalia abyssinica	Poaceae	Urwili
125	Digitalia diagonalis	Poaceae	Urwili
126	Digitalia longiflora	Poaceae	Urwili
127	Diplocyclos palmatus	Cucurbitaceae	
128	Diplolophium africanum	Apiaceae	
129	Discoristes radicans	Acanthaceae	
130	Dissotis sp	Melastomataceae	
131	Dodonea viscosa	Sapindaceae	
132	Dryopteris sp	Dryopteridaceae	
133	Duranta bicolor	Verbenaceae	
134	Echnochloa stagnina	Poaceae	
135	Echnochloa pyramidalis	Poaceae	
136	Elephantopus scaber	Asteraceae	
137	Eleusine Indica	Poaceae	
138	Eleusine indica subsp Africana	Poaceae	
140	Emilia caespitosa	Asteraceae	
141	Emilia coccinea	Asteraceae	

142	Entada abyssinica	Fabaceae	
143	Epilobium sp.	Onagraceae	
144	Eragrostis exasperata	Poaceae	
145	Eragrostis paniciformis	Poaceae	Ishinge
146	Eragrostis racemose	Poaceae	Ishinge
147	Eragrostis macilenta	Poaceae	Ishinge
148	Eriobotria japonica	Rosaceae	Umunofiliya
149	Erucastrum arabicum	Brassicaceae	
150	Erythrina abyssinica	Fabaceae	
151	Ethulia sp.	Asteraceae	
152	Eulophia streptopetala	Orchidaceae	
153	Eulophia welwithii	Orchidaceae	
154	Euphorbia grantii.	Euphorbiaceae	
155	Euphorbia hirta	Euphorbiaceae	
156	Euphorbia prostrata	Euphorbiaceae	
157	Euphorbia schimperana	Euphorbiaceae	
158	Euphorbia tirucalli	Euphorbiaceae	
159	Eustachys paspaloides	Poaceae	
160	Felicia grantii	Asteraceae	
161	Ficus benjamiana	Moraceae	
162	Ficus sur	Moraceae	
163	Ficus thonningii	Moraceae	
164	Ficus vallis-choudae	Moraceae	
165	Fimbristilis dichotomus	Cyperaceae	
166	Fimbristilis madagascariensis	Cyperaceae	
167	Floscopa glomerata	Commelinaceae	
168	Flueggea virosa = Securinega virosa.	Phylanthaceae	
169	Galinsoga parviflora	Asteraceae	
170	Gladiolus atropurpureus	Iridaceae	Karungu
171	Gloriosa superb	Liliaceae	
172	Glycine wightii subsp. wightii var logicanda	Fabaceae	
173	Gomphocarpus fructicosus	Ascepiadaceae	
174	Gomphrena celosiodes	Amaranthaceae	
175	Grevillea robusta	Proteaceae	gereveriya
176	Grewia similis	Malvaceae	umukoma
177	Guizotia scabra	Asteraceae	Igishokashike
178	Gynandropsis gynandra (Cleome gynandra)	Cleomaceae	Isogi
179	Harpachne schimperi	Poaceae	
180	Helichrysum odoratissimum	Asteraceae	
181	Hemerocalis lilio asphodelus	Liliaceae	
182	Heteranthera callifolia	Pontederiaceae	
183	Hibiscus acetocela	Malvaceae	
184	Hibiscus fuscus	Malvaceae	
185	Hibiscus subdarifa	Malvaceae	
186	Hoslundia opposite	Lamiaceae	
187	Hydrocotyle mannii	Apiaceae	
188	Hydrocotyle subtorpioides	Apiaceae	

189	Hygrophilla auriculata	Acanthaceae	Bugangabukali
190	Hymenocallis sp.	Liliaceae	
191	Hyparrhenia bracteate	Poaceae	
192	Hyparrhenia filipendula	Poaceae	
193	Hyparrhenia Formosa	Poaceae	
194	Hypoxis angustifolia	Hypoxidaceae	
195	Hypoxis obtuse	Hypoxidaceae	
196	Hyptis pectinate	Lamiaceae	
197	Imperata cylindica	Poaceae	
198	Indigofera spicata	Fabaceae	
199	Indigofera circinella	Fabaceae	
200	Indigofera errecta	Fabaceae	
201	Ipomoea cairica	Convolvulaceae	
202	Ipomoea obsura (Feuille haste)	Convolvulaceae	
203	Ipomoea tenuirostris	Convolvulaceae	
204	Ipomoea purpurea	Convolvulaceae	
205	Jacaranda mimosifolia	Bignoniaceae	
206	Juncus effusus	Juncaceae	
207	Kalenchoe integra	Crassulaceae	
208	Kalenchoe rolsfii	Crassulaceae	
209	Kyllinga appendiculata	Cyperaceae	Indagarago
210	Kyllinga bulbosa	Cyperaceae	Indagarago
211	Killinga chrysantha	Cyperaceae	Indagarago
212	Kyllinga elatior	Cyperaceae	Indagarago
213	Kyllinga intricate	Cyperaceae	Indagarago
214	Kyllinga sphacelate	Cyperaceae	Indagarago
215	Lactuca attenuate	Asteraceae	Rurira
216	Lactuca capensis	Asteraceae	Rurira
217	Lactuca glandulifera	Asteraceae	Rurira
218	Lactuca inermis	Asteraceae	Rurira
219	Ladgenaria abyssinica	Cucurbitaceae	Umutanga
220	Lantana camara	Verbenaceae	Umuhengeri; Maviyakuku
221	Lantania trifolia	Verbenaceae	Umuhengeri
222	Leersia hexandra	Poaceae	
223	Leonotis nepetaefolia	Lamiaceae	Igicumucumu
224	Leucaena leucocephala	Fabaceae	Losena
225	Leucas martinicensis	Lamiaceae	Akanyamapfundo
226	Lippia sp	Verbenaceae	
227	Ludwigia abyssinica	Onagraceae	Umuzigangore
228	Macadamia tetraphylla	Proteaceae	macadamia
229	Macrotyloma axillaire	Fabaceae	
230	Maerua triphylla ver. Johannis	Caparidaceae	
231	Maesopsis eminii	Rhamnaceae	Umuhumuro
232	Mangifera indica	Anacardiaceae	Umwembe
233	Mariscus sumatrensis	Cyperaceae	
234	Mariscus tomaiophyllus	Cyperaceae	
235	Markhamia lutea	Bignoniaceae	Umusave

236	Maytenus acuminata	Celastraceae	Umushubi
237	Maytenus senegalensis	Celastraceae	Umushubi
238	Melanthera scandens	Asteraceae	Cyumya
239	Melastomastrum sp	Melastomataceae	
240	Melia azedarach	Meliaceae	
241	Melinis repens	Poaceae	
242	Microglosa pyrifolia	Asteraceae	Umuhe
243	Mimosa pigra	Fabaceae	
244	Mimosa pudica	Fabaceae	
245	Mirabilis jalapa	Solanaceae	Kalifuma
246	Momordica foetida	Cucurbitaceae	Umwishwa
247	Monechma subsessilis	Acanthaceae	
248	Morus alba	Moraceae	Bobeli
249	Mucuna stans	Fabaceae	Mukuna
250	Murdania simplex	Commelinaceae	
251	Myrica salicifolia	Myricaceae	
252	Neonotonia wightii	Fabaceae	
253	Nicandra physaloides	Solanaceae	
254	Nicotiana glauca	Solanaceae	
255	Nymphaea lotus	Nympheaceae	Amarebe
256	Nymphaea maculate	Nympheaceae	Amarebe
257	Nymphaea nouchallii	Nympheaceae	Amarebbe
258	Ocimum gratissima	Lamiaceae	Umwenya
259	Ophresia radicosa var radicosa	Fabaceae	
260	Ottelia ulvifolia	Hydrocharitaceae	
261	Oxalis cornuculata	Oxalidaceae	Byunyubwanyamanza
262	Oxalis latifolius	Oxalidaceae	Byunyubwanyamanza
263	Oxalis obliquicola	Oxalidaceae	Byunyubwanyamanza
264	Oxygonum sp.	Polygonaceae	
265	Oxygonum sinuatum	Polygonaceae	Ubuhandanzovu
266	Panicum maximum	Poaceae	
267	Panicum paludum	Poaceae	
268	Paspalum notatum	Poaceae	
269	Paveta ternifolia	Rubiaceae	
270	Pavonia urens var. urens	Malvaceae	Icyuyuyu
271	Pennisetum purpureum	Poaceae	Urubingo
272	Persea americana	Lauraceae	Ivoka
273	Phragmites mauritianus	Poaceae	Imiseke
274	Phyllanthus nimmurarifolius	Phylanthaceae	Uruheza
275	Phyllanthus pseudoniruri	Phylanthaceae	Uruheza
276	Physalis peruviana	Solanaceae	Impuhu; Gapeli.
277	Plantago major	Plantaginaceae	Imbatabata
278	Podocarpus falcatus	Podocarpaceae	Umufu
279	Podocarpus latifolius	Podocarpaceae	Umuhulilizi
280	Polygonum pulchrum	Polygonaceae	Igorogonza
281	Polygonum salicifolium	Polygonaceae	Igorogonza
282	Polyscias fulva	Araliaceae	Umwungo

283	Portulacca oleracea	Portulacaceae	Manikakaguru
284	Potamogeton thumbergii	Potamogetonaceae	
285	Pseudarthria hookeri	Fabaceae	
286	Psidium guajava	Rutaceae	Ipera
287	Pycreus macrostachyus	Cyperaceae	
288	Ranunculus multifidus	Renonculaceae	Kazingashya
289	Rhus longipes	Anacardiaceae	Umusagara
290	Rhus vulgaris	Anacardiaceae	Umusagara
291	Rhyncheltrum repens = R. roseum	Poaceae	Urwalikafundi
292	Ricinus communis	Euphorbiaceae	Ikibonobono
293	Rhoicissus tridentata	Vitaceae	Umumara
294	Rumex abyssinicus	Polygonaceae	Umufumba
295	Rumex bequaertii	Polygonaceae	Nyiramuko
296	Rumex usambarensis	Polygonaceae	Umufumbageshi
297	Scadoxus multiflorus	Amaryllidaceae	
298	Senna didymobotrya	Fabaceae	umucyuro; umubagabaga
299	Senna floribunda	Fabaceae	Umuyoka, Umwicanzoka
300	Senna hirsute	Fabaceae	umuyoka
301	Senna spectabilis	Fabaceae	Umwicanzoka
302	Setaria pumila	Poaceae	Akalizo
303	Sesamum angolense	Pedaliaceae	Igonde
304	Sesbania micrantha	Fabaceae	Umunyegenyege
305	Sesbania seban	Fabaceae	Umunyegenyege
306	Setaria barbata	Poaceae	Urukoko
307	Setaria pallide-fusca	Poaceae	Akalizo
308	Setaria sphacelate	Poaceae	Setaria
309	Setaria verticilata	Poaceae	
310	Sida cordifolia	Malvaceae	Umucundura
311	Siegesbeckia abyssinica	Asteraceae	
312	Solanum angwivii	Solanaceae	
313	Solanum capscoides	Solanaceae	
314	Solanum incanum	Solanaceae	
315	Solanum mauritianum	Solanaceae	
316	Solanum nigrum	Solanaceae	Isogo
317	Solanum torvum	Solanaceae	Intobokaremba
318	Solanum aculeastrum	Solanaceae	Untobotobo
319	Sonchus asper	Asteraceae	Rurira
320	Sonchus oleracea	Asteraceae	Rurira
321	Sorghum arundinacea	Poaceae	
322	Spathodea campanulate	Bignoniaceae	Umunyara
323	Spermacoce prince	Rubiaceae	Ngingwijana
324	Sphaelanthus suaveolens	Asteraceae	
325	Sphagneticola trilobata or wedelia	Asteraceae	Singapore daisy
326	Spilanthus mauritianum	Asteraceae	Akamenampishyi
327	Sporobolus africanus	Poaceae	Umutsinna
328	Sporob olus festivus	Poaceae	Umutsina
329	Sporobolus pyramidalis	Poaceae	Umutsina

330	Stephania abyssinica	Menispermaceae	
331	Sterculia quiquiloba	Sterculiaceae	
332	Stylosanthes fruticose	Fabaceae	
333	Stylosanthes muconata	Fabaceae	
334	Syzygium guineense	Myrtaceae	Umugote
335	Syzygium parvifolium	Myrtaceae	Umugote
336	Tagetes minuta	Asteraceae	Nyiramunukanabi; Munukanabi
337	Tephrosia pumila	Fabaceae	Umuruku
338	Tephrosia vogellii	Fabaceae	Umuruku
339	Teramnus labialis	Fabaceae	
340	Teramnus repens	Fabaceae	
341	Terminalia mantaly	Combretaceae	
342	Themeda triandra	Poaceae	
343	Thevetia peruviana	Apocynaceae	
344	Thumbergia alata	Acanthaceae	Nkurimwonga
345	Tithonia diversifolia	Asteraceae	Cyambazi; Igitereza; Icyicamahirwe
346	Tragia brevipes	Euphorbiaceae	Isusa
347	Trema orientalis	Rhamnaceae	Umudobori
348	Trichodesma zeylanicum	Boraginaceae	
349	Tridax procumbens	Asteraceae	
350	Trifolium perseglovei	Fabaceae	
351	Trifolium repens	Fabaceae	
352	Triumfetta cordifolia	Malvaceae	
353	Triumfetta rhomboidei	Malvaceae	
354	Typha capensis	Thyphaceae	Umuberanya
355	Typha dominguensis	Thyphaceae	Umuberanya
356	Typha latifolia	Thyphaceae	Umuberanya
357	Urera hypselodendron	Urticaceae	Umuse
358	Vallisneria aethiopica	Hydrocharitaceae	
359	Verbena x Verbena	Acanthaceae	
360	Vernonia auriculifera	Asteraceae	
361	Vernonia amygdalina	Asteraceae	Umubilizi
362	Vernonia lasiopus	Asteraceae	Ivumavumo
363	Vernonia pogosperma	Asteraceae	
364	Vernonia scaetae	Asteraceae	
365	Vigna parkerii	Fabaceae	
366	Vigna luteola	Fabaceae	
367	Vigna maccrorhyncha	Fabaceae	
368	Vigna parkeri subsp. maraguensis	Fabaceae	
369	Vigna reticulata	Fabaceae	
370	Vigna vexilata	Fabaceae	
371	Zanthedeschia aetiopicum	Araceae	Amaroma
372	Zehneriia scabra	Cucurbitaceae	Umushishiro
373	Oreoscice africana	Cucurbitaceae	

Table 17: Plant species identified in Nyandungu wetland in 2019 (Mvukiyumwami 2019)

No	Family Name	Number of Species	No	Family Name	Number of Species
1	Acanthaceae	10	41	Lauraceae	1
2	Agavaceae	1	42	Liliaceae	5
3	Amaranthaceae	6	43	Malvaceae	10
4	Amaryllidaceae	2	44	Melastomataceae	2
5	Anacardiaceae	3	45	Meliaceae	1
6	Apiaceae	4	46	Menispermaceae	2
7	Apocynaceae	1	47	Moraceae	5
8	Araceae	2	48	Myricaceae	1
9	Araliaceae	1	49	Myrtaceae	2
10	Araucariaceae	1	50	Nympheaceae	3
11	Ascepiadaceae	1	51	Onagraceae	2
12	Aspleniaceae	1	52	Orchidaceae	2
13	Asteraceae	45	53	Orobanchaceae	3
14	Bignoniaceae	3	54	Oxalidaceae	4
15	Boraginaceae	1	55	Pedaliaceae	1
16	Brassicaceae	2	56	Phylanthaceae	3
17	Canabaceae	1	57	Plantaginaceae	1
18	Canaceae	1	58	Poaceae	52
19	Caparidaceae	3	59	Podocarpaceae	2
20	Caricaceae	1	60	Polygonaceae	7
21	Casuarinaceae	1	61	Pontederiaceae	1
22	Ceaeuscutac	1	62	Portulacaceae	1
23	Celastraceae	2	63	Potamogetonaceae	1
24	Cleomaceae	3	64	Proteaceae	2
25	Combretaceae	2	65	Renonculaceae	1
26	Commelinaceae	7	66	Rhamnaceae	2
27	Convolvulaceae	5	67	Rosaceae	1
28	Crassulaceae	2	68	Rubiaceae	2
29	Cucurbitaceae	5	69	Rutaceae	2
30	Cuperaceae	1	70	Sapindaceae	1
31	Cyperaceae	20	71	Solanaceae	13
32	Euphorbiaceae	9	72	Sterculiaceae	1
33	Fabaceae	59	73	Thyphaceae	3
34	Fern	2	74	Urticaceae	1
35	Hydrocharitaceae	1	75	Verbenaceae	6
36	Hypoxidaceae	2	76	Vitaceae	4
37	Iliaceae	1			
38	Iridaceae	1			
39	Juncaceae	1			
40	Lamiaceae	5			
		Total Species			371

 Table 18: Species of plants in NUWEP grouped by families (Mvukiyumwami 2019).

No	Shrub Species	Number
1	Phragmites mauritianum	80,516
2	Dracaena afromontana	5,736
3	Euphorbia tirucalii	7,622
4	Solanum aculeastrum	16,595
5	Acanthus pubescens	11,028
6	Vernonia amygdalina	11,185
7	Acacia montigena	1
8	Toddalia asiatica	19
9	Dodonea viscose	789
10	Bougainvillea spectabilis	1,528
11	Acalypha bipartite	10
12	Hibiscus rosa sinenssis	20
13	Hibiscus diversifolius	574
14	Dovyalis caffra	30
15	Ronce	43
16	Acacia montigena	1
17	Maytenus. sp.	11,375
18	Carissa edulis	2519
19	Tetradenia riparia	483
20	Dwarf bamboo	425
21	Cyperus papyrus	4,750
22	Afromomum sanguineum	24
23	Ficus pumilla	156
	Total	144,244

Table 19: Shrubs planted in the living fence (Mvukiyumwami 2019).

No	Common Name	No	Common Name
1	White-faced Whistling Duck	51	African Black-headed Oriole
2	Spur-winged Goose	52	Fork-tailed Drongo
3	Yellow-billed Duck	53	African Paradise-flycatcher
4	Little Grebe	54	Pied Crow
5	Yellow-billed Stork	55	Common Bulbul
6	African Openbill	56	Plain Martin
7	Sacred Ibis	57	Angola Swallow
8	Hadeda Ibis	58	Wire-tailed Swallow
9	Little Bittern	59	Lesser-striped Swallow
10	Cattle Egret	60	Red-rumped Swallow
11	Grey Heron	61	Winding Cisticola
12	Black-headed Heron	62	Tawny-flanked Prinia
13	Great Egret	63	Grey-capped Warbler
14	Little Egret	64	Yellow White-eye
15	Hamerkop	65	Black-lored Babbler
16	Pink-backed Pelican	66	Arrow-marked Babbler
17	Long-tailed Cormorant	67	African Thrush
18	Palm-nut Vulture	68	White-browed Robin-Chat
19	Long-crested Eagle	69	Swamp Flycatcher
20	Black Kite	70	Common Stonechat
21	Yellow-billed Kite	71	Collared Sunbird
22	African Fish Eagle	72	Scarlet-chested Sunbird
23	Gabar Goshawk	73	Bronzy Sunbird
24	Grey-crowned Crane	74	Marico Sunbird
25	Black Crake	75	Red-chested Sunbird
26	African Wattled Lapwing	76	Copper Sunbird
27	African Jacana	77	Variable Sunbird
28	Common Sandpiper	78	Thick-billed Weaver
29	Red-eyed Dove	79	Baglafecht Weaver
30	Blue-spotted Wood Dove	80	Spectacled Weaver
31	Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	81	Holub's Golden Weaver
32	Bare-faced Go-away-bird	82	Village Weaver
33	White-browed Coucal	83	Black-headed Weaver
34	Common Cuckoo	84	Red-billed Quelea
35	African Palm Swift	85	Fan-tailed Widowbird
36	Speckled Mousebird	86	Pin-tailed Whydah
37	African Pygmy Kingfisher	87	Cuckoo Finch (Parasitic Weaver)
38	Malachite Kingfisher	88	Bronze Mannikin
39	Giant Kingfisher	89	Black-and-White Mannikin
40	Pied Kingfisher	90	Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu
41	Woodland Kingfisher	91	Green-winged Pytilia
42	Little Bee-eater	92	Red-billed Firefinch
43	Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	93	White-collared Oliveback
44	European Bee-eater	94	Common Waxbill

45	Spot-flanked Barbet	95	Northern Grey-headed Sparrow
46	Lesser Honeyguide	96	African Pied Wagtail
47	Sulphur-breasted Bush-shrike	97	Yellow-throated Longclaw
48	Tropical Boubou	98	African Pipit
49	Black-headed Gonolek	99	Western Citril
50	Grey-backed Fiscal	100	Golden-breasted Bunting

Table 20: List of Birds in Nyandungu (authors 2021; Will Wilson, Pers comm; Claudien Nsabagasani, Pers comm).

ANNEX II: Africa's Urban Park Case Studies

KARURA FOREST

Name: Karura Forest
Location: Nairobi, Kenya
Size: 1,041 hectares
Managed by: Kenya Forest Service

Annual Visitors: 200,000
Concessions Inside: Yes
Donor Support: Yes

Partner NGO: Friends of Karura Forest

Karura Forest, located in Nairobi, Kenya, is a great example of how an urban park can become a hub of recreational and educational activities for local populations and foreigners. Karura

FRIENDS OF KARURA FOREST

- √ Registered October 2009
- √ 947 members
- 510 annual passes issued
- √ 34 large events held
- ✓ More than 5,000 bikes rented

KARURA FOREST RESERVE

- √ 200,000 annual visitors
- √ 70% of visitors Kenya citizens
- √ TripAdvisor Certificate of
- Excellence 2014, 2015
- ✓ No. 4 of 100 places to visit in Kenya (according to TripAdvisor)
- A rapidly recovering ecosystem (according to 21 mammal species)

is in the heart of Nairobi and prior to its development, was a forest area feared by locals and visitors. It was known as sheltering bandits and thieves; therefore, was not used for recreation.

Friends of Karura Forest, a local NGO, provides support to KFS, helps raise funding from donations and corporate sponsorship and helps with volunteer days. Karura has successfully engaged local citizens in forest conservation and development. There are 16,000 visitors per month. Karura Forest offers:

- Hiking, biking, jogging, dog-walking
- Eco-tours
- Restaurant (available for booking for private events)
- Picnic area

There are several success factors:

- Well-maintained infrastructure
- Clear trails and signage
- Reasonable entry fee
- Security
- Accessible parking areas next to the restaurant and walking trails
- Modern and appealing restaurant with great view
- Nice picnic area¹²





Photo 14: Karura Forest. Left: The River Cafe, a restaurant located in Karura Forest. Right: Parking for the restaurant and hiking/biking trails

 $¹² http://www.kenya forestservice.org/index.php?option=com_content\&view=article\&id=77:karura forest\&catid=80:ecotourism\<emid=523$

LUSAKA NATIONAL PARK

Name: Lusaka National Park Location: Lusaka, Zambia

Size: 6,715 ha

Managed by: Zambia Wildlife Authority

Annual Visitors: 16,800 (2015)

Concessions Inside: No Donor Support: Yes

Partner NGO: ARC Zambia

Lusaka National Park¹³ is located ~30 kilometers from Lusaka, the capital of Zambia, and is the newest park in the country, the 20th in the country. Lusaka NP opened to the public in 2015 and is the second national park in a city environment in the country. Before becoming a national park, it was the Lusaka South Forest Reserve. The area is an important water catchment area for the city of Lusaka, and ARC Zambia is working with the park to conserve the catchment systems as well as reintroduce large mammal species.

The Park supports more than 1,000 species that exist in the park including rhinos, zebras, giraffes, and more. The park is ~6,715 hectares and is governed by Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA). The park offers activities such as camping, walking safaris, bicycle trails, game viewing, boating, photographic safaris, bird watching and picnics. There is an observation deck where guests can view animals from above, and the park features a rare white rhino, which attracts guests. The park does not have any concessions or an information centre. ZAWA is currently considering a PPP for management.





Photo 15: Lusaka National Park. Left: Entrance to the park and the heightened platform in the back. Right: The southern white rhino that is located within the park and attracts visitors.

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¹³ https://www.zambiatourism.com/destinations/national-parks/lusaka-national-park/

NAIROBI NATIONAL PARK

Name: Nairobi National Park

Location: Nairobi, Kenya Size: 11,700 ha

Managed by: Kenya Wildlife Service

Annual Visitors: 600,600 (2015)

Concessions Inside: Yes
Donor Support: No

Partner NGO: Sheldrick Wildlife Trust

Nairobi National Park¹⁴ is ~117 km² and located in the heart of Nairobi. The Park supports over 100 mammal species and 400 migratory and endemic bird species. Nairobi NP also features three campsites, a private tented camp, an orphanage, hiking trails and picnic areas. The park is only a short drive out of Nairobi's central business district and supports the endangered Black Rhinoceros. In 2015, 600,600 people visited the Park, the Safari Walk, and the orphanage.

The Park contains a Wildlife Conservation Education Centre which offers lectures and videos about the wildlife in the Park. They also offer guided tours of the park as well as the animal orphanage. Near the entrance of the park is a KWS managed orphanage, and a second animal orphanage run by the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust which helps elephants and rhinoceros calves mature and eventually releases them back into sanctuaries. Nairobi National Park contains a safari walk, which offers an up-close view of plants and animals native to Kenya.





Photo 16: Nairobi National Park. Left: A black rhinoceros in the NP with the Nairobi skyline in the background. Right: Nairobi National Park's landscape with the city in the back.

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TABLE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

Name: Table Mountain National Park Location: Cape Town, South Africa

Size: 22,100 ha

Managed by: South African National Parks

Annual Visitors: 4.2 million

Concessions Inside: Yes
Donor Support: Yes

Partner NGO: Worldwide Fund (WWF)

Table Mountain NP, which used to be known as Cape Peninsula NP, is in Cape Town, South Africa. The park is managed by South African National Parks and is a part of the UNESCO Cape Floral Region World Heritage Site. The Park contains the landmarks Table Mountain and the Cape of Good Hope (southwestern tip of Africa) and includes the Boulders Penguin Colony in Simons Town, Signal Hill, Lion's Head peak, and a variety of beaches. There are lots of hiking trails, free guided walks, scuba, surfing, rock climbing, and horse-riding opportunities.

Table Mountain National Park is not a contiguous area and is separated into three areas: Table Mountain section, Silvermine-Tokai section, and Cape Point section.

The Park features the Table Mountain Cableway, which takes visitors to the top of Table Mountain easily. Another large draw for the Park is the Cape of Good Hope, which is one of the most southern tips of Africa. There are multiple shops in the park including a souvenir shop at the Boulders Visitor Centre and the Curio Shop at the Cape of Good Hope. Basic camping and lodging are provided in the Cape of Good Hope.¹⁵



Photo 17: Table Mountain National Park. Left: Table Mountain. Right: Boulders Beach Penguin colony.

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¹⁵ https://tablemountainnationalpark.org

ARUSHA NATIONAL PARK

Name: Arusha National Park Location: Arusha, Tanzania

Size: 13,700 ha

Managed by: Tanzania National Parks Authority

Annual Visitors: 66,808 (2012)

Concessions Inside: No
Donor Support: No
Partner NGO: No

Arusha NP is the most accessible park in Tanzania, as it is located very close to the towns of Arusha and Moshi. The Park is ~52 km² and supports a great diversity of wildlife. The Park contains Mount Meru, a volcano that reaches 4,566 meters in elevation, the Jekukumia River, the Momella Lakes, and the Ngurdoto Crater. Although the Park is not massive in size, it has many varying landscapes for visitors to enjoy.

Arusha NP is home to a very diverse number of bird species, making it a great destination for bird lovers. The Momella Lakes are known for having populations of wading birds, including pink flamingos, pelicans, African fish eagles, and more, as well as zebras and giraffes along the banks. Each of the lakes are a different shade of green or blue making them beautiful; this is because they are alkaline lakes with significant algal growth.

Many people come here for driving, walking, canoe safaris, picnicking, and hiking Mount Meru. Tourists like to use the Mount Meru hike as training for Kilamanjaro, as it is the second highest peak in Tanzania. The park also has the Ngurdoto Museum, which contains insects and bugs from the park amongst other artifacts from over the years.





Photo 18: Arusha National Park. Left: Lesser Flamingos along one the banks of one of the Momella Lakes. Right: Giraffes in the Park.

BANCO NATIONAL PARK

Name: Banco National Park Location: Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

Size: 3,438 ha

Managed by: OIPR West Africa Annual Visitors: 18,000 (2012)

Concessions Inside: No Donor Support: No

Partner NGO: PAMs Foundation, Leadership Conservation Africa

Banco NP, ~300 km², is located north of Abidjan in Cote d'Ivoire. Banco hosts a large number of hiking trails and features many rare species of trees (including mahogany) as well as chimpanzees and many other species of unique birds and monkeys. Banco also has approximately88 rare or endangered plant species, of which seven are only known in Cote d'Ivoire.

Banco has 600 ha of primary forests, which have trails throughout for visitors to walk or run in the park. There is an arboretum housing over 800 species of plants native to Asia, Latin America, and tropical Africa, with local species as well. Visitors can see chimpanzees, if they are lucky, and wildlife in the forests. Guided tours can be arranged. Additionally, the park has a nature centre including exhibits with information on animals, workshops, and educational films.





Photo 19: Banco National Park. Top: Nature centre, which was restored by Wild Chimpanzee Foundation in 2005. Bottom: One entrance to the Park.

UMUSAMBI VILLAGE

Name: Umusambi Village Location: Kigali, Rwanda Size: 16 hectares

Managed by: Rwanda Wildlife Conservation Association

Annual Visitors: 5,000 – 8,000 (2018)

Concessions Inside: No Donor Support: YES

Partner NGO: Wildlife Conservation Network

Umusambi Village¹⁶ is a restored marshland approximately 45 minutes outside of Kigali city, on the road towards Kabuga (RN3). Umusambi Village was created to prevent the Grey Crowned Crane from going extinct. Grey Crowned Crane were very common in Rwanda until they became subject to illegal trade. Their numbers in the wild were reduced to roughly 400 cranes. Umusambi has become a sanctuary for these birds where they are rescued and rehabilitated, and visitors are able to see the birds and spread awareness of their plight.

The wetland area of Umusambi Village is home to more than 50 Grey Crowned Cranes, and they can be observed by visitors as they walk along the various trails throughout the park. These trails include informational signs on both the wetland environment and the Grey Crowned Cranes. The park has a medicinal plant garden for people who would like to learn more about natural healing, and it has a butterfly garden for children and adults to experience and learn more about butterflies. Tours can be scheduled in the park, with guides explaining the significance of what visitors see in the wetland; special dawn or dusk tours can also be scheduled ahead of time. There is a café and bikes are available for rent with access to approximately 20 km of trails. Umusambi is popular with locals and tourists and its busiest day is on Sunday (with approximately 150 people) followed by Saturday. There are group visits from schools as well as birding clubs.





Photo 20: Umusambi Village. Left: Concept plan for upcoming renovations to Umusambi Village. The park will have more trails in the upcoming years. Right: Picture of one of the trails in Umusambi.

¹⁶ https://umusambivillage.org/

UHURU PARK KENYA

Name: Uhuru Park Location: Nairobi, Kenya Size: 12.9 hectares

Managed by: Nairobi Metropolitan Services (NMS) and City Hall

Capacity: 60,000 Concessions Inside: No

Uhuru Park is a recreational park adjacent to the central business district of Nairobi, Kenya. It is open to the general public and contains an artificial lake that attracts many residents for relaxation. In addition to Nairobi National Park, the park is a great source of pride for the Government of Kenya. Nairobi is referred to as a green city because of Uhuru Park. It is unfenced and there is no fee for entry. The park is known as a place for rallies and protest, ranging from religious, political, and general. It became famous when Wangari Maathai and many of her followers held a protest at the park to stop the construction of the 60-storey Kenya Times Media Trust business complex. The following activities take place in the park:

- Walking
- Skateboarding
- Monument visits
- Political and religious gathering
- Jogging
- Picnicking

There are several success factors:

- Central location (just off Uhuru Highway)
- Free access
- Historic background
- Access to water activities in the city due to the artificial lake
- Nice picnic area
- Can be used by seasonal vendors depending on events





Photo 21: Uhuru Park. Left: The artificial lake at Uhuru Park. Right: National Monument at Uhuru Park.

The table below outlines the prices for each protected area.

Price, USD	Umusambi Village	Banco NP	Arusha NP	Table Mountain	Nairobi NP	Lusaka NP	Karura Forest
Locals							
Adult (locals/ CEDEAO/EA)	\$4	\$1.8	\$4.4	Boulders: \$2.72 Cape of Good Hope: \$5.83 Newlands, Oudekraal, Siilvermine, Tokai Picnic: \$2.33	\$3.58	\$10	\$0.9
Child	\$4	\$0,9	\$0,9	Boulders: \$1.36 Cape of Good Hope: \$2.91 Newlands, Oudekraal, Siilvermine, Tokai Picnic: \$1.17	\$1.79		\$0.5
Bike rent		\$0.5					
Annual pass		\$20 – individual \$30 – family*		Local residents can purchase a Green Card or Activity Permit Green Card: \$11.34 (12 free entries)	Pass is personalized and charged different fees depending on visitor category.		\$45 – individual \$90 – family
Foreign							
Entrance fee	\$17	\$9	\$45 adult \$15 child Free under 5 years old	Boulders: \$11.02 Cape of Good Hope: \$23.33 Newlands, Oudekraal, Siilvermine, Tokai Picnic: \$9.33 (Half price for children)	\$35 adult \$20 child	\$10	\$5.5 – adult \$2.7 – child
Bike rent		\$5.5		,			\$5.5 – 2h
Guided tour		\$18	\$15-20	Starting at \$44 (third-party)	Starting at \$52 (third-party)		
Annual pass		\$45 – individual \$90 – family*		N/A	See local annual pass above		45 – individual \$90 – family
Other							
Parking		\$0.5*					\$0.9
Parking Annual pass		\$10*					\$45
Camping			\$2.17 adult \$1.09 child				
Visitors Annual	5000 – 8000 (2018)	18,000 (2012)	66,808 (2012)	4,200,000	600,600 (2015)	16,800 (2015)	200,000

 Table 21: Daily visitor rates in urban parks in Africa (*To be introduced).

Table 22 provides more information about each of the protected areas profiled.

	Umusambi Village	Banco NP	Arusha NP	Table Mountain	Nairobi NP	Lusaka NP	Karura Forest
Location	Kigali, Rwanda	Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire	Arusha, Tanzania	Cape Town, South Africa	Nairobi, Kenya	Lusaka, Zambia	Nairobi, Kenya
Size (Hectares)	16	3,438	13,700	22,100	11,700	6,715	1,041
Entrance Fees	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Different Prices for Citizens, Residents, Tourists	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Managed By	Rwanda Wildlife Conservation Association	PARCC West Africa	Tanzania National Parks Authority	South African National Park	Kenya Wildlife Services	Zambia Wildlife Authority	Kenya Forest Service
Annual Visitors	5,000-8,000	18,000	66,808	4,200,000	600,600	16,800	200,000
Concessions	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Donor Support	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Partner NGO		PAMS, LCA		WWF	Sheldrick Wildlife Trust	ARC Zambia	Friends of Karura Forest

 Table 22: Information on urban parks throughout Africa.

ANNEX III: Kigali Recreational Area Case Studies

SUNDAY PARK

Name: Sunday Park

Location: Nyarutarama, Kigali, Rwanda

Size: 2.8 hectare

Managed by: Local entrepreneur
Affordability: Entry Fee – RWF 10,000

Sunday Park¹⁷ is one of the most popular, if not the most popular, wedding garden in Kigali. It's safe and elite location, as well as the different landscapes featured in the park, encourages a variety of activities and events to take place on its grounds.

The Park is mostly used on weekends and hosts weddings that last the entire day. It also offers beautiful natural scenery for professional photoshoots and features Rwandan culture (pottery, sculpture, painting). In addition to wedding and photoshoots, the venue is also used to host picnics, birthday parties and a series of smaller events.

The price range of the services provided indicates the targeted market segment: middle to high end. Sunday Park does not have a restaurant and does not offer additional services except the space rental. Sunday Park can host between 1,000 and 1,500 people and is usually packed on popular days. With the COVID regulations, adjustments have been made to not have such a large number all at once.

Activity	Price (RWF)	Comments
Entrance Fee	10,000	For adults and free for kids below 5 years old
Wedding Space (ceremony no reception)	1,300,000	No tent, chairs, tables, catering, audio system, etc. provided. Just the space. One wedding in a day.
Wedding Space (ceremony with reception)	1,800,000	No tent, chairs, tables, catering, audio system, etc. provided. Just the space for an entire day. One wedding in a day.
Birthdays and Small parties	500,000	For around 20-30 people. Several birthday parties can take place on the venue at the same time
Photoshoot	300,000	For one hour and a half. 5 photoshoots can happen at the same time.
Professional Camera (not a photoshoot)	100,000	Predominately nature photographs
Picnic	10,000	Per person price
Mini Golf	-	-
Others	-	Quotes for specific types of events available on the website

Table 23: Price range of activities in Sunday Park.

There are several success factors that attract people to the park:

- Very well-maintained infrastructure
- Safe neighbourhood, strategic location with great view and walking distance to the golf court
- Nice picnic and photo area
- Ponds, fishing, birding
- Boardwalk

-

¹⁷ https://sunday-park.business.site/



Photo 22: Sunday Park, Kigali, Rwanda. Top Left: A part of the wedding space in Sunday Park. Top Right: One of the spots with Rwandan pottery and sculpture. Bottom: One of the water scene and boardwalk.

FAZENDA SENGHA

Name: Fazenda Sengha

Location: Nyamirambo, Kigali, Rwanda

Size: 4 ha

Managed by: Foreign ownership
Affordability: Entry fee – RWF 3000

Fazenda Sengha¹⁸ is an outdoor recreational centre located on top of Mount Kigali. Its premium location gives its visitors a breath-taking view of the city of Kigali. It is mostly known for its zipline and horseback riding, but Fazenda also provides a wide range of activities listed below:

Activity	Price Weekdays (RWF)	Price Weekend + Holidays (RWF)	Comments
Horse Ride in the	20,000	22,000	Fazenda owns 9 horses and 10 donkeys.
Arena (1H)			The donkeys are solely for children.
Horse Ride in the	15,000	17,000	
Arena (30Min)			
Trail Ride	25,000	30,000	
Zipline	8,000	10,000	There are three zip lines, and the fee
			allows two turns at each line.
Archery	8,000	10,000	
Bungee Jumping	5,000	6,000	Children below 15
Quad Bikes (30min)	25	5,000	
Quad Bikes (15min)	15	5,000	
Badminton	F	ree	
Trampolines	F	ree	
Hiking	F	ree	
Petanque	F	Free	
Corn Hole	Free		
Bicycle ride	TBD		
Access to Site	3,000	4,000	If not taking part in any activity (except
			the free one)

Table 24: Price Range of Activities in Fazenda Sengha.

In addition to these activities, Fazenda has a restaurant and a juice/cocktail bar to encourage its visitors to stay longer. The facility is currently working on adding an indoor bar to the service provided. Fazenda also has a paintball facility opposite its main premises.

The popularity of Fazenda is based on the following:

- Premium location offering a good view of the city
- A variety of free activities for those who can't afford the main activities
- Restaurant, picnic, and barbeque area
- The well-maintained infrastructures and ever-growing range of activities
- A family inclusive service with safe, child-friendly activities

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¹⁸ http://sengha.com/



Photo 23: Fazenda Sengha. Left: The restaurant and picnic area in Fazenda Sengha. Right: Fazenda Sengha horses.

ANNEX IV: Nyandungu Site Visit Pictures

Pictures taken by Conservation Capital site visit in November 2021.



Photo 24: Pedestrian walkway and bench in Sector III.



Photo 25: Pope's Garden in Sector III.



Photo 26: NUWEP Vegetation.



Photo 27: View from inside the restaurant in Sector III.



Photo 28: One of the restored ponds and signage.



Photo 29: Waste coming from the industrial zone (Economic Zone) into NUWEP.