



LEAP-RE

Long-Term Joint EU-AU Research
and Innovation Partnership on Renewable Energy



STAKEHOLDER FORUM SECOND EDITION

KIGALI, RWANDA

10-13 OCTOBER 2023



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About the Event

Venue: Kigali Serena Hotel and Four Points Sheraton Hotel, Kigali

Dates & Time: Tuesday, 10th October, 2023 starting 8:30am to Friday, 13th October, 2023.



Venue: Serena Hotel

Address: **KN 3 Ave, Kigali**

Phone: 0788 184 500

Website:

<https://www.serenahotels.com/kigali>

Language: During all sessions of the forum, English shall be the official language of communication.

Registration until 24/09/23

<https://site.eventium.net/wnp7ckny/registration>

Additional information: For more information about the event, please visit Website: <https://www.leap-re.eu>

LEAP-RE welcomes you to the Second LEAP-RE Stakeholder Forum to be held in **Kigali, Rwanda**, the land of a thousand hills, situated in Central Africa, bordered to the North by Uganda, to the East by Tanzania, to the South by Burundi and to the West by the Democratic Republic of Congo, **hosted by Africa Energy Services Group (AESG), a Consortium Partner in LEAP-RE.**

Join us in the land where the country's rich culture has become as a source of inspiration in crafting unconventional, home-grown solutions to address our history. Cultural values notably unity, patriotism, social cohesion, resilience, hard work among others, define Rwanda.

Your trip

All participants visiting Rwanda must have a valid passport for at least six months beyond the date of arrival in the country and must purchase travel health insurance.

Participants from Kenya may either use their Passports or National Identity Cards for travel. If traveling with the National Identity Card, there is an additional requirement to download and sign an accompanying inter-state pass from the e-citizen portal.

Visa

Participants may apply and purchase their Visa upon arrival at the Airport at the immigration desk. There is no visa requirement for East African Citizens who wish to visit Rwanda. A few other Countries fall within this category: <https://visaguide.world/visa-free-countries/rwanda-passport>

For more information regarding visas, and accompanying requirements, please visit the National Immigration Service website (<https://www.migration.gov.rw/visa>)

Invitation Letters

For participants who require an official letter of invitation for travel or to support visa application, please contact: Ms Sylvie Isingizwe sisingizwe@gmail.com Cc: Ms. Muhorakeye annahm807@gmail.com Associat



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Program under Grant Agreement 963530.



COVID-19 Protocols



There is no requirement to have a PCR test prior to arrival in Rwanda. Additionally, COVID-19 testing is no longer mandatory upon arrival at or departing Kigali International Airport. There is however a voluntary test point, free of charge, at the Airport for persons desirous of having the rapid test carried out. In the event of a major disease outbreak, specific requirements could be set and put to the knowledge of the public.

For additional information on Rwanda COVID-19 protocols please follow below link:
https://www.rbc.gov.rw/fileadmin/user_upload/annoucement/Info_note_for_passengers_arriving_in_Rwanda_who.pdf

Accommodation



The official venues for the LEAP-RE Stakeholder Forum is the Kigali Serena Hotel and the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, which is across the street and 100m from Kigali Serena Hotel.

Some rooms have been reserved on negotiated rates at Kigali Serena Hotel

Links and instructions are provided in the below table for bookings on negotiated rates for LEAP-RE Stakeholders. Participants are advised to reserve rooms in their hotel of choice directly by **end of September, 2023** after which the links and rates will expire and the hotel will release the rooms to the general public. We advise our Community to make bookings well in advance in order to take advantage of the negotiated rates as well as avoid the risk of missing out on accommodation as October is peak season. **Payment will be required to be made upon booking.**

Hotel & Website	Contact	Cost USD
Kigali Serena Hotel Hotel Booking Link: https://bookings.travelclick.com/17004?groupID=3932560 Code: LRSF	Names: Duncan Lewa Email: duncan.lewa@sere nahotels.com	Bed & Breakfast Rate: 185 \$ Standard Single Room

Transport

Airport / Hotel: Kigali International Airport is located;

- 31 min (12.0 km) via KN 3 Rd to Kigali Serena Hotel, KN 3 Ave, Kigali
- 30 min (11.7 km) via KN 3 Rd to Kigali Marriott Hotel, KN 3 Ave, Kigali
- 30 min (11.9 km) via KN 3 Rd to Four Point by Sheraton, KN 3 Ave, Kigali

Participants shall be responsible for arranging their return Airport transfers. Hotels provide airport transfers – Serena & Four Points approx (Range; 30-35 Euros).

For participants who wish to pre-book Airport transfer services kindly contact:

Rocky Tumaini:

Email: rocque7@gmail.com

Cell no: +50788309323

Cc: Ms. Muhorakeye Annciat

annah807@gmail.com

A one-way trip costs 25 Euro (payment to be made only on cash basis). Taxis are also available and the pricing is based on a metering system for the trip. Different service providers are available such as Yego Cab (Line: 9191) and Move (Line: 0783 118 818). Public transport network in Kigali is also available, with a bus station at least every 2 km's. A Tap and Go card is required to access the service.

All proposed hotels are within a short walking distance of the main venue, Kigali Serena Hotel, including the Marriot Hotel in which the opening dinner shall be held in conjunction with the Afrilabs Gala dinner as well as the Four Points by Sheraton, Kigali which shall provide extra accommodation for LEAP-RE participants.

Transport shall be provided by LEAP-RE for participants attending the LEAP-RE, AFRILABS Annual Gathering joint sessions at the Radisson Blu Convention Centre, Kigali on 11/05/2023.



Meeting contact persons

Kibibi Ndope: kibibindope@gmail.com

Sylvie Isingizwe: isingizwe70@gmail.com












Antti Autio: antti.j.autio@helsinki.fi

Kaisa Kurki: kaisa.e.kurki@helsinki.fi



Information about Rwanda



- 
Time Zone: The time zone in Kigali during the year corresponds to (GMT+2)
- 
Weather: The weather in Daily high temperatures is 25°C to 27°C, rarely falling below 23°C or exceeding 30°C. Daily low temperatures are around 16°C, rarely falling below 15°C. Checking the weather forecast beforehand is however recommended.
- 
Language: Kinyarwanda and English are the main languages spoken in Rwanda. French is also spoken by considerable share of the population.
- 
Currency: The local currency of Rwanda is the Rwf, 1 Euro is equivalent to approximately 1220Rwf. Transactions can be paid via common debit/credit cards (e.g. VISA and Mastercard) and are accepted in most of the formal establishments.
- 
Tax: All purchases and services in Rwanda are subject to an 18 % tax (VAT)
 Airport Tax: For international commercial flights, airport tax is included in the cost of airfare.
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Tips: Tips are entirely discretionary, when consuming a variety of services.
- 
Drinking water: The quality of tap water is considered safe; however, we encourage our participants to consume bottled water.
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Electricity: There are two associated plug types in Rwanda, types C and J. Plug type C has two round pins and plug type J has three round pins. Rwanda operates on a 230V supply voltage and 50Hz.
- 
Telephone Country Code: +250
- 
Opening hours: Businesses: 7:00 am to 10:00 pm every day of the week. Some supermarkets are open 24 hours. Banks: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm. ATMs are available around the clock. Government Offices: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm.
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Security: Kigali is considered a safe city, with security personnel patrolling round the clock to ensure the security for all. Kigali is also considered the cleanest city in Africa and we look forward to welcoming you to Africa's Gem and land of a thousand hills.



Appendix:

Tourist Sites In Rwanda

Known as the land of a thousand hills, Rwanda's stunning scenery and warm, friendly people offer unique experiences in one of the most remarkable countries in the world. It is blessed with extraordinary biodiversity, with incredible wildlife living throughout its volcanoes, montane rainforest and sweeping plains. Travelers come from far and wide to catch an array of sites and amongst the top sites to visit include:

Kigali Genocide Memorial



The Kigali Genocide Memorial at Gisozi is the final resting place for more than 250,000 victims of the Genocide against the Tutsi. This memorial also serves to shed light on the Genocide against the Tutsi in 1994 and how the Country has overcome this low season. Situate in the northwest corner of Kigali, the Memorial is easy to access by road from anywhere in the city and is between 10 and 15 minutes by taxi from the Centre of town.

The entrance to the Memorial is free.

Nyandungu Urban Eco Tourism Park



The Nyandungu Eco-Tourism Park is the first-of-its-kind recreational center located in the heart of Kigali. Nyandungu lies in the formerly degraded wetland which has been turned into an educational and recreational eco-park. Over 17000 trees including 55 indigenous species occur in this eco-tourism center. Nyandungu covers 121 hectares and consists of a pope's garden, medicinal garden, 5 catchment ponds, an information center, recreation ponds, a restaurant, and 10 km walkways plus bike lanes. It is 20 min drive from the center of the city.

Entry fees: Locals:1,500 RWF; Foreigners with long-term visas:3,000 RWF; Foreigners/Tourists: 5,000 RWF



Kigali City Tour



Kigali is a thriving city famous for its cleanliness, orderliness and good hospitality. It offers tourists some of the best tour experiences on the African continent. Kigali Sightseeing Bus elevates the experience to a new level by giving tourists the opportunity to see the very best of tourist attractions. Our luxury double-decker open roof buses offer incredible views of the beautiful City of Kigali. <https://new.kigalicitytour.rw/>

Registration fee: Local 15\$, East African 20\$, International 40\$

The Volcanoes National Park



The Volcanoes national park offers [gorilla trekking](#) as the major activity. The unique opportunity to see gorillas in their natural habitat is unforgettable, some even say life changing however there are many other activities one can engage in on a visit. This national park besides the current facts, there are a few historical facts that are attached to this Rwandan park. The Volcanoes national park is located in the north western part of Rwanda in Musanze district just a 2 hour and 45 minutes' drive from Kigali, the capital city of the country.

The registration fee: Foreigner: \$1500; Foreign residents in Rwanda: \$500; Rwandan citizen: \$200; East African citizen: \$200; African citizen/Foreign resident in Africa: \$500

Request for permit: https://visitrwandabookings.rdb.rw/rdbportal/web/tourism/tourist-permit#_48_INSTANCE_vnEd4049BXq8_%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fvisitrwandabookings.rdb.rw%252FrdBBooking%252Ftourismpermit_v1%252FTourismPermit_v1.xhtml%253F%2526lang%253Den



Lake Kivu

Lake Kivu is one of Africa's largest lakes with World's tenth largest inland island. It is situated near DRC-Rwanda boarder In the Albertine Western Rift and a section Great Lift Valley. Lake Kivu offers visitors marvelous scenic view of the surround islands and it has also a large variety of bird species, which makes it a great place of bird watching tours. Other activities offered around Lake Kivu include guided nature walks, cycling, coffee, and tea tours, beach strolling.

The Lake Kivu is located in the western part of the country, approximately 3 to 4 hours' drive from Kigali.

More information

This link provides more tourists places across the country and the associated details and logistic guidance <https://www.visitrwanda.com/>

