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/rwandan-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 sisimgizwe@gmail.com CC: Ms. Muhorakeye Annociat annahm807@gmail.com.
**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.


**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.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hotel &amp; Website</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Cost USD</th>
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| Kigali Serena Hotel | Names: Duncan Lewa Email: dunca
| Hotel Booking Link: [https://bookings.travelclick.co
| Code: LRSF |
|        n.lewa@sere
| m/17004?groupID=3932560 |
| nhotels.com | Bed & Breakfast Rate: 185 $ Standard Single Room |

**Transport**

Airport 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 Annociat annahm807@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 Marriott 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, AFRI LABS Annual Gathering Joint sessions at the Radisson Blu Convention Centre, Kigali on 11/05/2023.
**Meeting contact persons**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kibibi Ndope</td>
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</tbody>
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Information about Rwanda

Time Zone: The time zone in Kigali during the year corresponds to (GMT+2)

Weather: The weather in Kigali during the year corresponds to (GMT+2). Daily high temperatures are around 25°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 a 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). Airline Ticket: For international commercial flights, airline ticket tax is included in the cost of airfare.

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.

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.

Security: Kigali is considered a safe city, with security personnel patrolling around 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 Sightsseeing 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/](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#%5F_INSTANCE_vnEd4049BXg8_%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fvisitrwandabookings.rdb.rw%252FrdbBooking%252FTourismpermit_v1%252FTourismPermit_v1.xhtml%253F%2526lang%253Den](https://visitrwandabookings.rdb.rw/rdbportal/web/tourism/tourist-permit#%5F_INSTANCE_vnEd4049BXg8_%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/