# Socio-Economic Inclusion of Refugees and Host Communities in Rwanda Project ("Jya Mbere" Project)



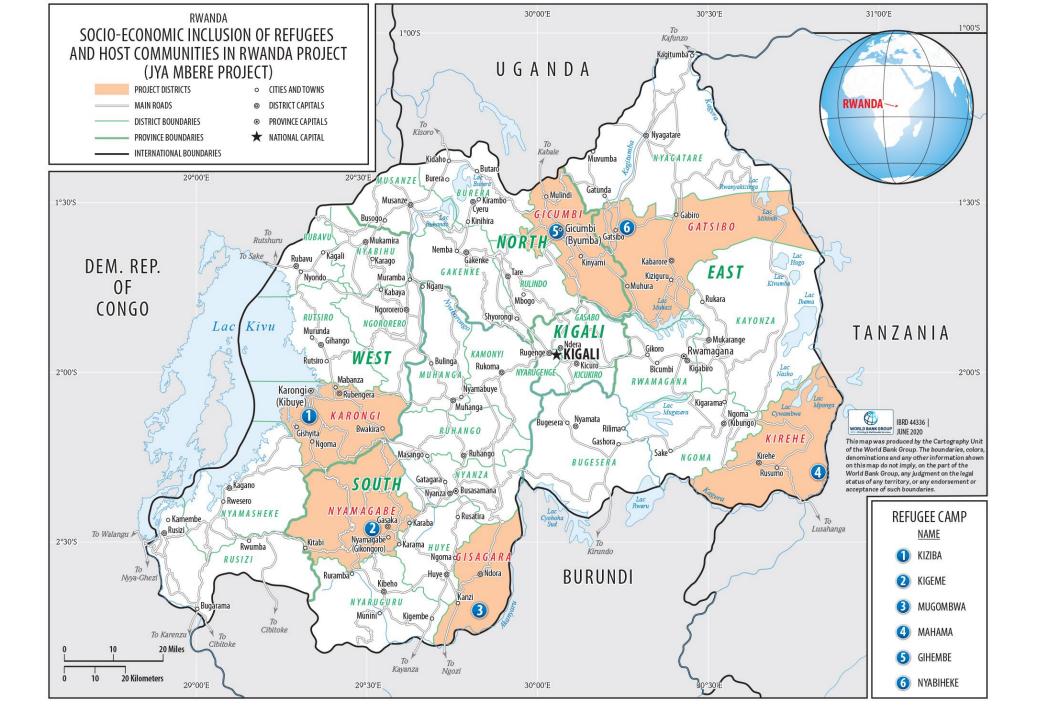


### Forced Displacement Context

- Rwanda hosts 127,000 refugees and asylum seekers (July 2022 UNHCR)
  - Most from DRC and Burundi
  - Dates back to the 1990s
  - Around 90% in camps in rural districts
- Progressive legal and policy framework
  - CRRF roll out country
  - Freedom of movement/right to work/right to education

# Background

- Jya Mbere Project was approved in April 2019 and became effective in August 2019.
- Financing: US\$80m (\$45m grant/\$35m credit). US\$68m from Window for Host Communities and Refugees.
- <u>PDO:</u> to improve access to basic services and economic opportunities for refugees and host communities, and support environmental management, in the target areas in Rwanda
- <u>Components</u>: (i) Access to Basic Services and Socio-economic Investments; (ii) **Economic Opportunity**; (iii) Environmental Management; and (iv) Project Management/M&E.
- Implementation areas: 6 Districts that host the refugee camps (Kirehe, Gatsibo, Gicumbi, Karongi, Nyamagabe, Gisagara) plus urban refugees in Kigali, Huye and Bugesera
- Support the government of Rwanda's gradual transition to a long-term development approach to protracted situation of forced displacement.



# Project Components/ Implementing Arrangements

Access to Basic Services and Socio-economic Investments

MINEMA, Districts & Rwanda Transport Development Agency

Economic Opportunity

Development Bank of Rwanda

**Environmental Management** 

**MINEMA** 

Project Management/M&E.

### **Component Two: Economic Opportunity**

- Implementing agency: Development Bank of Rwanda (BRD)
- Budget: US\$12 million
- 2 subcomponents:
  - 2(a): Matching Grant: US\$10.7 million
  - 2(b): Advisory services and capacity-building: US\$1.3 million
- Guiding Document: Matching Grant Manual (MGM)

# Matching Grant thresholds

Eligibility:
Grant with
loan from
PFIs

### Loan of Frw 5 million and below

Beneficiary pays 50% of the loan 50% of loan is Matching Grant

### Loan from Frw 5M to Frw 25M

Beneficiary pays 60% of the loan 40% of loan is Matching Grant

### Loan above 25 Million

Beneficiary pays 70% of the loan 30% of loan is Matching Grant

### Beneficiaries of Matching Grant with Loans From PFIs

### Cooperatives

- Own contribution of 10% of total project value.
- RCA certificate Good
- Qualify to access loan from a PFI.
- At least 10% of employment or value chain generated by the or Cooperative membership has 10% refugees.

#### **Micro-Enterprises**

- Possess trading license.
- Qualify to access loan from a PFI.
- Resident in targeted districts and refugees

## Small and Medium Enterprises

- In addition to conditions fulfilled by Micro Enterprises
- Certificate of domestic company registration.
- 10% of financed project staff are Refugees.

Beneficiary (Cooperatives and Enterprises) submits the proposal

PFIs (SACCO and MFIs, Commercial Banks) Appraise proposals on viability and safeguards for projects proposals Frw 50M and below

PFIs appraise proposals on viability for projects above Frw 50M and send initial screened form to BRD for final safeguards screening

BRD appraise proposals on safeguards on project proposals above Frw 50M

Beneficiary contribution (10%)

Beneficiary contracts a loan with PFI

BRD will transfer the matching grants to the PFIs or hold it until the loan is repaid in the case of MFIs, which cannot hold deposits. Matching grant will be given to beneficiaries as follows;

- o 30% of matching grant will be given to beneficiaries with loan amount above Frw 25M
- o 40% of matching grant will be given to beneficiaries with loan amount above Frw 5M to Frw 25M
- o 50% of matching grant will be given to beneficiaries with loan amount Frw 5M or below

# Process of the Matching Grant

### Matching Grant Contracting framework- Processes

### Engagement of PFIs

- BRD engages PFIs on Jya
   Mbere project.
- If interested PFI submits expression of interest to BRD

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# PFI Due diligence done by BRD

BRD performs a due diligence on the PFIIf satisfactory, BRD and PFI sign a Subsidiary

**Financing Agreement** 

2

### Disbursement to final beneficiaries

The matching grant will serve to reimburse the remainder of the loan after the beneficiary has repaid 50%, 60% or 70% of the loan

### Matching grant disbursement to PFI

- PFI submits to BRD a pipeline of eligible beneficiaries
- BRD analyses the pipeline
- BRD seeks advice from MINEMA

 If approved, BRD and PFI sign a disbursement agreement 2

### **Progress**

- 9 PFIs have signed subsidiary financing agreements with BRD.
- BRD has disbursed Frw 2.8 billion (USD2.7 million) to PFIs
- PFIs have disbursed Frw 565,710,671 (USD543,000) in matching grants to 1,314 beneficiaries
  - 47.4% women
  - 43.3% refugees.
- Capacity-building firm hired to build capacity along the financing value chain:
  - PFIs
  - Business Development Advisers (including in camps)
  - Potential entrepreneurs

## Success Factors/Challenges

### Success factors

- Increasing interest of financial institutions in refugees as clients and in the target districts
- Reaching beneficiaries in and around the camps
- Supporting existing financial institutions in Rwanda
- So far, evidence suggests businesses are sustaining and generating profits (need more comprehensive data, however)

### Challenges

- Lack of FI presence in target areas
- Attracting new investment along potential value chains/supporting start ups
- Focus on quality of portfolio rather than just transactions
- Collateral requirement

# Thank you