



# NEWSLETTER

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## H.E. President Kagame reflects on 31-year liberation journey as tough but inspiring



H.E. President Paul Kagame on July 4th reflected on Rwanda's 31-year journey since the 1994 liberation, describing it as "a very tough but enjoyable journey" that has shaped Rwanda's resilience and identity.

Speaking during a conversation with members of the press on Liberation Day, President Kagame shared personal and national insights, emphasising the sacrifices of the liberation struggle and Rwanda's commitment to self-reliance.

"For me, at a personal level, it's been a very tough but enjoyable journey," the president said in his opening remarks.

He highlighted the significance of the struggle, noting, "This is the best thing one can do to be part of the many years of struggle to put things right for our country, for our people, for ourselves all together."

When asked about the personal convictions that drove him to fight for Rwanda as part of the group of refugees who formed the Rwanda Patriotic Army, which liberated the country and ended the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, President Kagame offered a deep reflection on the challenges and rewards of the liberation struggle.

"The tough side was what was confronted and dealt with, being of such a magnitude that for the half-hearted, they would just collapse under the weight of its first day," he said.

Yet, he found inspiration in the collective effort: "The enjoyable part... is understanding the story itself, where you are coming from and where you are going, and then finding yourself in the middle of it, being one among many to be looked up to... It gives a sense of pride, inspiration."

Kagame paid tribute to those who sacrificed their lives, acknowledging the unexplainable nature of survival. **Read more on IGIHE**

## UAE President, VPs congratulate President of Rwanda on Independence Day



President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan has sent a message of congratulations to President Paul Kagame of the Republic of Rwanda on the occasion of his country's Independence Day.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, and His Highness Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice President, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Presidential Court, sent similar messages to President Kagame and to Prime Minister Édouard Ngirente on the occasion. **Read on WAM**

## Bahrain's King congratulates Rwandan President



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa sent a cable of congratulations to His Excellency Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, on Rwanda's Independence Day. **Read on BNA**

## Rwandans, Friends of Rwanda in UAE celebrate Liberation Day



Abu Dhabi, 4 July 2025 – The Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda in the United Arab Emirates hosted a celebration in Abu Dhabi to mark the 31st Anniversary of Rwanda’s Liberation, a milestone that continues to symbolize the country's remarkable journey from tragedy to transformation.

Sultan Mohammed Al Shamsi, Assistant Minister for Development and International Organizations Affairs, represented the Government of the United Arab Emirates at the event, which brought together over 250 members of the diplomatic corps, friends of Rwanda, and Rwandan community members in the UAE.

In his address, Ambassador John Mirenge reflected on Rwanda’s historic liberation on 4 July 1994, when the Rwanda Patriotic Army, under the leadership of President Paul Kagame, brought an end to the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi. This day, Ambassador Mirenge noted, marks Rwanda’s emergence from one of the darkest chapters in human history into a new era defined by resilience, unity, and national renewal.

“Rwanda’s Liberation was anchored in a just cause: to restore dignity, promote unity, and build a nation where every citizen should belong and be proud to identify with,” Ambassador Mirenge said.

He went on to emphasize that Rwanda’s Liberation was not only a military triumph but also a moral stand—a fight to free Rwandans from decades of exclusion, oppression, and division rooted in colonial rule and perpetuated by post-independence regimes.

Today, Rwanda stands as a testament to resilience, renewal, and purpose. Over the past three decades, the country has rebuilt itself on three foundational pillars: unity, accountability, and ambition. This bold and forward-looking mindset, the Ambassador explained, has guided Rwanda’s transformation, enabling it to secure lasting peace, drive sustained economic growth, and promote inclusive development.

## Rwanda-UAE Relations Highlighted

The celebration also spotlighted the deepening bilateral ties between Rwanda and the United Arab Emirates.

“The UAE remains Rwanda’s largest trading partner abroad, accounting for 63.9% of our exports in 2024. Bilateral trade exceeded USD 1.5 billion, while cumulative UAE investments in Rwanda surpassed USD 320 million,” the Ambassador noted.

Ambassador Mirenge further used the occasion to call on investors and partners from the UAE to continue seizing opportunities in Rwanda’s dynamic and inclusive economy.

“As we look ahead, we invite more investors, innovators, and partners from the UAE and beyond to join hands with Rwanda as we accelerate our shared vision for inclusive and sustainable growth. The potential is vast, and the partnership has never been stronger,” he urged.

The evening concluded with vibrant traditional performances by the UAE-based Uryunge and Abadahigwa cultural troupes, celebrating Rwanda’s cultural richness.

## Kwibohora31: Amb. Mirenge speaks to young opinion leaders in Abu Dhabi



As a continuation of Kwibohora31, Amb. John Mirenge held an interactive discussion with young intellectuals, researchers, authors, and public opinion leaders in Abu Dhabi. He shared Rwanda’s rebirth, from a dark past to a beacon of unity, security and prosperity.

They appreciated Rwanda’s recovery driven by homegrown solutions, socio-economic transformation, and the bold use of technology in health, agriculture, and environmental protection. They pledged to visit Rwanda soon.

## Amb. Mirenge meets with the UAE Assistant Minister for Development and International Organizations



On 6th May 2025, Ambassador John Mirenge met with H.E. Sultan Mohammed Al Shamsi, Assistant Minister for Development and International Organizations at the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Their discussions focused on deepening the strong ties between Rwanda and the UAE at both bilateral and multilateral levels.

## Amb. Mirenge receives the Ethiopian Ambassador



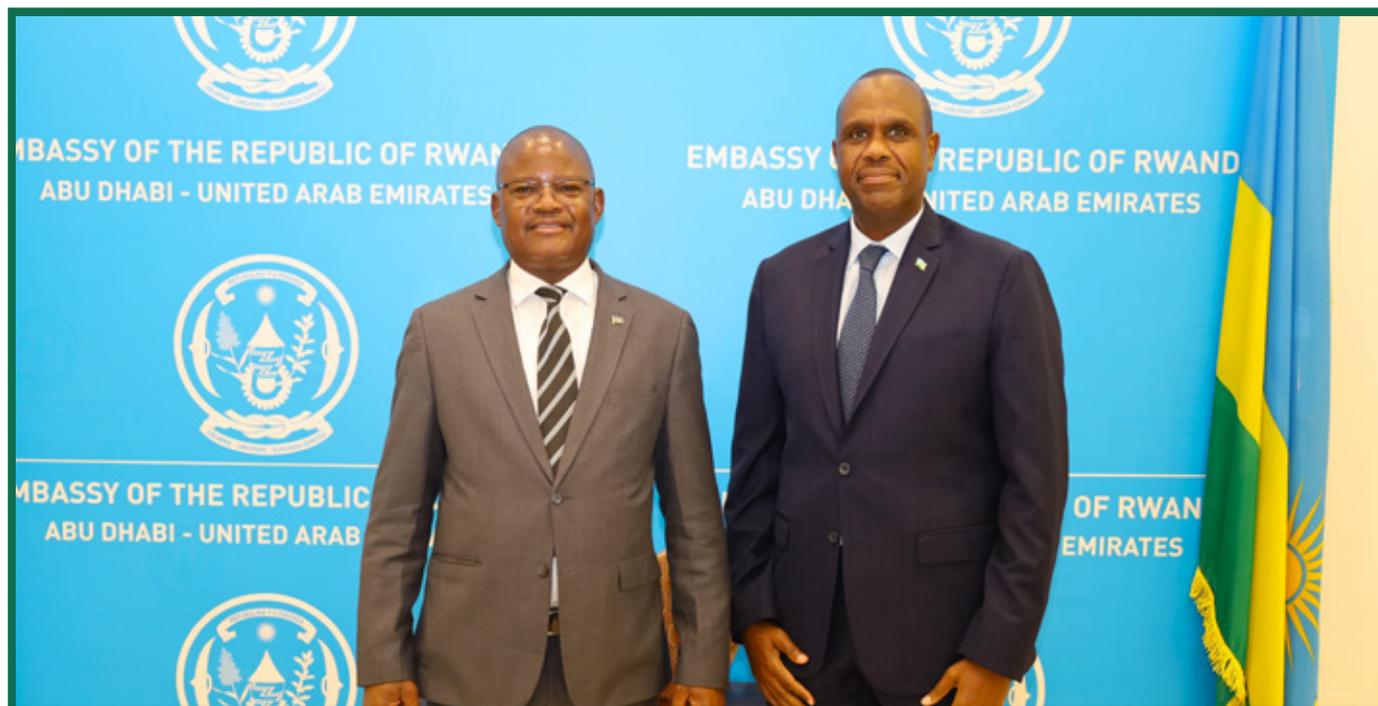
On 25 June 2025, Amb. John Mirenge received Dr. Oumer Hussein Oba, Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the UAE. They appreciated the excellent bilateral relations and the shared desire to strengthen them further.

## Amb. Mirenge meets with the Ugandan Ambassador



On 29 July 2025, Amb. John Mirenge received H.E. Zaake Kibedi, Ambassador of Uganda to the UAE. The two envoys discussed the longstanding historical ties between Rwanda and Uganda and exchanged views on avenues to further strengthen bilateral and regional relations.

### Amb. Mirenge receives his Kenyan counterpart



On 25 July 2025, Amb. John Mirenge received H.E. Kenneth Milimo Nganga, Ambassador of Kenya to the UAE, for a courtesy visit. The two Ambassadors appreciated the bilateral brotherly relations and discussed opportunities to grow them further.

### Amb. Mirenge Explores Trade Opportunities with DMCC Leadership



On 15th May 2025, Ambassador John Mirenge met with Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Executive Chairman and CEO of Dubai Multi Commodities Centre. They discussed leveraging DMCC Authority facilities and expertise to expand Rwandan products into the UAE market.

## Rwandan Police and RIB Officers Graduate from Dubai Police Leadership Program



On 7th May 2025, At the Dubai Police Academy, two officers from Rwanda National Police and Rwanda Investigation Bureau, along with 53 officers from 38 countries, graduated in the field of Policing Innovation and Leadership. The ceremony was graced by His Excellency Lieutenant General Abdulla Khalifa Al Marri, Commander in Chief of Dubai Police.

## Embassy of Rwanda and Amity University explore collaboration opportunities



On 26th June 2025, Second Counsellor Mrs. Ines Mutoni and Trade & Communications Officer Mrs. Noor Ahmad paid a courtesy visit to Amity University and met with Mr. Mohammad Atif, Assistant director. The discussion focused on fostering academic and cultural collaboration, including offering 50% scholarships for Rwandan students, participation in lectures, and delivering guest talks on Rwanda's history.

## Rwandan Culture Featured at Africa Day in the UAE



On 25th May 2025, The Rwandan Community in the UAE showcased Rwandan traditional attire as H.E. Dr. Maha Barakat, Assistant Minister for Health and Life Sciences at UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs joined Ambassadors, senior officials and the African diaspora to celebrate Africa Day.

## Rwanda Makes Its Debut at Etihad Airways Cultural Diversity Day



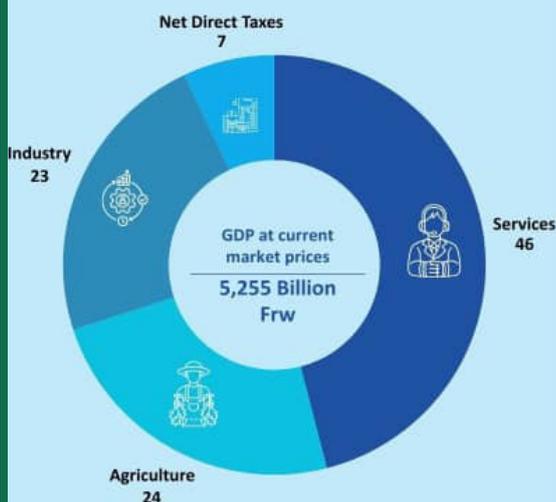
On 21st May 2025, in Abu Dhabi, Rwanda was proudly presented for the first time at Etihad Airways Cultural Diversity Day, an occasion that celebrates and honors the unique backgrounds, traditions, and stories of over 145 nationalities working at the Etihad Airline.

## Rwanda's GDP grows by 7.8% in Q1 2025

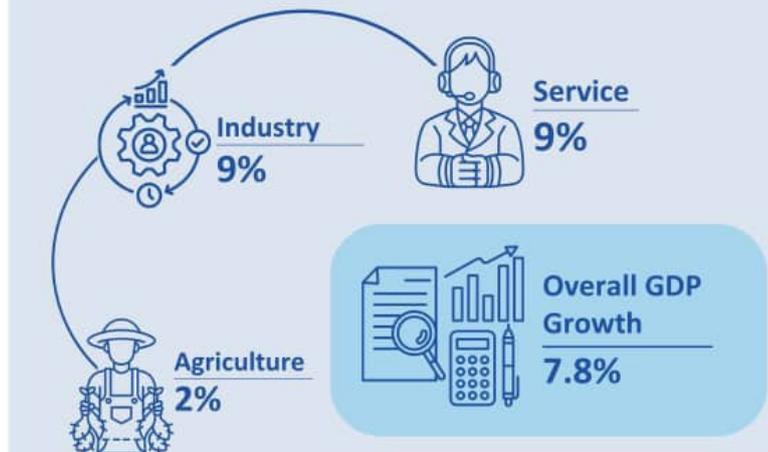


# GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP) -2025 Q1

### GDP SHARE BY SECTORS (%)



### GDP GROWTH BY MAJOR SECTORS



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Rwanda's GDP grew by 7.8% in Q1 2025, driven by strong performance in the industrial and services sectors. In industry, for example, construction activities rose by 13%. In services, the hotels and restaurants subsector grew by 5%.

Do you want to explore the factors behind this growth and the breakdown of GDP expenditure? [Click here](#)