



The Chartered
Institute of Logistics
and Transport



CILT RWANDA NEWSLETTER

*Advancing Logistics and Transport Excellence
in Rwanda and Beyond*

Greetings from the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) Rwanda!

As we reflect on over three years since our launch in Rwanda, we're proud to share our journey of professionalizing the logistics and transport sector, empowering professionals, and driving sustainable growth. Here's a recap of our activities since 2021 and a look at what's ahead, including the exciting CILT Africa Forum 2025.

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UPDATES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Our Foundation: Launched in 2021

CILT Rwanda was established on October 30, 2021, in Kigali, marking our entry as the 37th branch of CILT International a 100-year-old organization with over 50,000 members in 100+ countries. Under the leadership of our inaugural President, Patrick Mugabo, CMILT, we began with a clear vision: to elevate Rwanda's logistics sector through training, certifications, and professional standards. Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, we graduated 67 members—including 14 women—during our launch event, with certifications ranging from Affiliate to Chartered Fellow. That same day, we introduced Women in Logistics and Transport (WiLAT) Rwanda, chaired by Josephine Nyebaza, to champion inclusivity and empower women in the industry.

Strengthening Skills and Standards

Since our inception, we've focused on building capacity across Rwanda's logistics ecosystem. We've partnered with many logistics companies, including Value Logistics, Gorilla Logistics, and Africa Global Logistics Rwanda, to enhance service quality and competitiveness, positioning Rwanda as a logistics hub. We've expanded access to internationally recognized qualifications in partnership with Value Training Center (VTC) in Kigali, a CILT-accredited provider. VTC offers courses from Level 1 to Level 6 in logistics, supply chain management, healthcare logistics, and international trade, delivered through flexible full-time and part-time schedules. With expert instructors and personalized support, VTC has become a cornerstone of our mission to empower professionals. We've also collaborated with the University of Rwanda (UR) to support logistics education, aiding their accreditation process and nurturing a new generation of talent—many of whom are now advancing through their programs since starting in 2021.

"SUSTAINABLE LOGISTICS
AND GREEN TRANSPORT
SOLUTIONS FOR AFRICA"



CILT
AFRICA
FORUM
RWANDA 2025
28TH - 30TH APRIL

AFRICA FORUM 2025 DETAILS

Welcome to the 18th Africa Forum

Building on past successes, we're thrilled to announce that Rwanda will once again host the CILT Africa Forum in Kigali. The 18th CILT International Africa Forum, taking place April 28–30, 2025, at the Kigali Convention Centre, will center on the theme 'Sustainable Logistics and Green Transport Solutions for Africa.'

This prestigious event will bring together global leaders and professionals to exchange insights, explore innovations in logistics technology and e-commerce, and foster meaningful partnerships. Dr. Patrick Mugabo, FCILT, President of CILT Rwanda, welcomes all delegates to be part of this transformative experience.

Chief Teete Owusu-Nortey, FCILT, CILT International President, and Ibrahim A. Jibril, FCILT, International Vice President and Chairman of CILT Africa, extend their heartfelt thanks to the Government of Rwanda for hosting this flagship event twice in just three years.

Conference Schedule Overview

- Day 1 (April 28): Registration, keynote, panels on green initiatives, exhibition opening.
- Day 2 (April 29): WiLAT, Next Generation, AGM, gala dinner at Serena Hotel.
- Day 3 (April 30): Site visits to Kigali's green infrastructure, Rubavu Port (additional fee)

Forum Theme and Benefits

- Focus areas: Green transport, fintech in logistics, military logistics, AfCFTA sustainability. Benefits include networking with 20,000+ professionals, marketing opportunities, and brand visibility via exhibitions.
- Participation Fees and Discounts: Local Students: \$65 (\$59 early bird); Members: \$300 (\$270); Non-Members: \$350 (\$315). Use CILTEARLYBIRD by March 31; 20% off for groups of 10+ (email info@ciltwanda.org)
- Exhibition Packages: Exhibit at the Forum: 4sqm (\$1,500), 9sqm (\$2,000), 18sqm (\$2,500), Custom (\$5,000+). Includes counters, chairs, badges.
- Sponsorship Packages: Main Event (\$50,000), Lunch (\$30,000), Registration (\$20,000), Dinner (\$20,000). Includes speaking slots, delegate registrations, logo placement.



Rubavu Port

INDUSTRY NEWS

Rusizi Port Nears Completion

As of March 2025, Rusizi Port on Lake Kivu is 56% complete, advancing Rwanda's maritime trade infrastructure. Funded by the government and partners like TradeMark Africa, this port—alongside Rubavu Port (opened December 2024)—will boost regional trade with DR Congo. The construction of Nkora and Karongi ports is set to begin soon, enhancing connectivity

Rwf360bn Road Project Launched

The government unveiled a Rwf360 billion (\$260 million) project in March 2025 to construct 215km of tarmac roads, connecting Rwanda to Uganda, DR Congo, and Burundi. This initiative, backed by the African Development Bank and others, aims to improve transport efficiency and economic integration

Rwanda's 5-Year Transport Plan to Boost Green Mobility and Trade

Rwanda's Ministry of Infrastructure unveiled the Transport Sector Strategic Plan (TSSP) 2024-2029 in October 2024, a \$1.2 billion roadmap to upgrade roads, expand electric mobility, and position the country as a regional logistics hub.

Key Projects:

- Roads: 300km of national roads to be paved, 47km of bus lanes in Kigali.
- Airports: New Bugesera Airport (8.2M passenger capacity) to open by 2029.
- Green Transport: EV incentives and Lake Kivu ports to cut emissions.

Aligned with Rwanda's Vision 2050, the TSSP prioritizes trade links, climate resilience, and tech-driven mobility.



Bugesera International Airport rendering

INDUSTRY NEWS

Bugesera Airport Set to Transform Logistics

Rwanda's Bugesera International Airport, targeting completion in 2027–2028, is poised to become a key East African logistics hub. Featuring a 4.2km runway and a cargo terminal with 30,000-ton annual capacity, it will handle large aircraft and time-sensitive shipments like pharmaceuticals and electronics. Qatar Airways' \$1.3 billion stake ensures global connectivity. By 2027, Bugesera will launch limited cargo and passenger operations, handling 8 million passengers annually, expanding to 14 million by 2032. Located 40km from Kigali, it integrates with the Kigali Logistics Platform and planned rail links, streamlining supply chains under Vision 2050.

AGL Expands Kigali Warehouse

In March 2024, Africa Global Logistics (AGL) Rwanda laid the foundation for a 10,000 sqm warehouse extension in Kigali's Special Economic Zone. Set to be completed by late 2025, this \$10 million project will triple storage capacity to 15,000 sqm, supporting Rwanda's logistics hub ambitions with advanced facilities.

AfCFTA Fuels Rwanda's Trade Ambitions

The AfCFTA is transforming Africa's trade landscape, with Rwanda poised to gain significantly. Projections suggest a 38% rise in intra-African exports and a 3.2% income boost by 2035, though tariff losses of \$41 million pose challenges. The Kigali-based AfCFTA Adjustment Fund (\$10 billion) supports infrastructure and adaptation.

Rwanda's Kigali Logistics Platform and Bugesera Airport bolster AfCFTA goals, addressing a projected 28% freight demand surge by 2030. Visa-free policies for Africans and streamlined customs tackle non-tariff barriers, positioning Rwanda as a logistics hub for a connected continent.

LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT



Minister Prudence SEBAHIZI

Prudence Sebahizi, appointed Minister of Trade and Industry on August 16, 2024, is a seasoned trade economist with over two decades of expertise in international trade and regional integration. Before his ministerial role, he served as Director for Institutional Matters and Programmes Coordination at the AfCFTA Secretariat in Accra, Ghana (2022-2024), and as Chief Technical Advisor on AfCFTA at the African Union Commission, spearheading negotiations since 2015. His career includes pivotal roles in Rwanda's government, advising on trade policy and leading negotiations for the EAC Common Market Protocol and Rwanda's EAC accession in 2006. Sebahizi champions policies to boost local manufacturing, streamline trade barriers, and enhance market access, positioning Rwanda as a trade hub. He holds a Master's in International Development Policy from Seoul National University and a Bachelor's in Economics from the National University of Rwanda.

"As we advance toward a greener future, Rwanda is actively working towards sustainable logistics and transport, integrating innovation and environmentally responsible solutions to support national development and contribute to the progress of the continent."

— Prudence SEBAHIZI

LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT



PS Fidele ABIMANA

Abimana Fidele has served as Permanent Secretary of Rwanda's Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA) since August 2022, bringing extensive leadership experience in public administration and infrastructure development. With a career spanning over 15 years, his previous roles include Director General of the Rwanda Housing Authority where he implemented affordable housing initiatives and urban planning reforms, Head of Public Service Management and Modernization at the Ministry of Public Service and Labour, and Principal Senior Training Coordinator at Rwanda Management Institute, enhancing capacity building in public and private sectors. His key focus areas include transport infrastructure, sustainable urbanization, and public-private partnerships, driving Rwanda's Vision 2050 goals. A champion of green mobility and climate-resilient infrastructure, Abimana is known for collaborative governance and data-driven decision-making. He holds a Master's in Commerce (Finance) from Osmania University, India.

"The future of Africa's trade and logistics lies in leveraging technology to create smarter, more efficient supply chains. Rwanda is committed to building a resilient infrastructure that facilitates seamless trade and enhances regional connectivity. Through strategic investments and partnerships, we aim to position Rwanda as a logistics hub that supports the vision of AfCFTA, ensuring sustainable economic growth and prosperity for all."

— Fidele ABIMANA



FUTURE AND CALL TO ACTION SECTION

Sustainability Insights:

Sustainable logistics innovation involves improved processes contributing to environmentally and socially sustainable development through five phases: analyzing consumer needs, evaluating suggestions, developing concepts, testing, and implementing with sustainability embedded at each stage. Customer involvement drives success, with practices like optimized modal strategies, efficient packaging, and warehouse management reducing environmental impact

Policy Measures for Sustainable Transportation:

Transportation systems are vital for economic and social development, aligning with UN SDGs like economic growth (Goal 8), infrastructure (Goal 9), and sustainable cities (Goal 11). Sustainable systems balance economic, social, and environmental factors. Dimensions such as access, affordability, safety, security, and environmental quality require policies like road pricing and multimodal solutions to minimize emissions and congestion.

Technological Innovations and Future Directions:

Emerging technologies reduce transportation's environmental footprint. Vehicle improvements like biofuels, CNG, and hydrogen fuel cells lower emissions, while multimodal systems optimize efficiency. Cutting travel demand through land use planning is key, prioritizing clean energy and advanced technologies for resilience and inclusivity

Non-Motorized Transport and Rail Systems:

Although cultural and infrastructural barriers persist, encouraging non-motorized transport like bicycles addresses urban mobility. Bold policies, such as dedicated lanes, are needed. Revitalizing light rail systems offers mass transit solutions, reducing emissions and congestion with long-term benefits despite short-term disruptions



CONTACT US

What's Next:

As of March 2025, CILT Rwanda is poised for greater impact. The upcoming CILT Africa Forum 2025, April 28-30, 2025, at the Kigali Convention Centre, will showcase Rwanda's leadership in logistics innovation. We're deepening our partnership with VTC to roll out new courses and exploring collaborations to integrate cutting-edge technologies into training. Our goal remains steadfast: to nurture talent, elevate standards, and sustain Rwanda's economic momentum."

Get Involved:

Join us as a member, certify your company, or enroll in a course at Value Training Center. Visit ciltrwanda.org or contact for details on membership, training, and the 2025 Forum. Together, we're shaping the future of logistics in Rwanda.

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E5476	Prof. AHIMBISIBWE Arthur
E5483	NKUBITO Roger
E7830	GASHUMBA Fred
E7855	KANTARAMA Josee
E7829	MUGAMBAGYE Mundaneh
E7636	NDATUMUREMYI Jean Claude
E7451	HABAGUSENGA Gilbert
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