



Status of cooperation between Rwanda and India

This status of cooperation gives an overview of India's portfolio in Rwanda, and examines possible opportunities for Rwanda in its future cooperation with India, with a view to facilitating the high-level discussions by representatives of the Government of the Republic of Rwanda.

I. Background and overview

Bilateral relations between India and Rwanda have been cordial and have grown steadily over the years. In 1999, Rwanda officially opened its Mission in New Delhi and posted a Charge d' Affaires. Rwanda appointed its first resident Ambassador in New Delhi in 2001. Rwanda became a full member of the COMESA FTA in 2004 and subsequently in 2007, it was admitted to the EAC. India's bilateral relations with Rwanda got a fillip with Rwanda's becoming members of these African regional organizations.

II. Bilateral Cooperation

Rwanda sought GOI-supported EXIM Bank Line of Credit for construction of a 27.5 MW hydroelectric project on the Nyabarongo River being executed by BHEL. In 2010 a credit of US\$ 80 million was approved. The project is being constructed by BHEL and Angelique International. In 2013 EXIM Bank's GOI-supported Line of Credit of USD 120.05 million to Rwanda for the financing of Export Targeted Modern Irrigated Agricultural Project (USD 60.22 million) and Extension of Export Targeted Modern Irrigated Agricultural Project (USD 59.83 million).

In February 2009, tele-medicine and tele-education centres in Rwanda under the Pan-African e-Network Project were inaugurated. The projects are operating successfully. In 1998, around 500 Rwandan students joined Indian universities. Forty Indian teachers also joined various institutions in Rwanda, including the Kigali Institute of Science & Technology (KIST) and the National University of Rwanda. KIST and the Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) signed an MOU in 2001 to facilitate training of KIST faculty members in VIT and deputation of teachers from VIT to KIST. VIT also signed an MOU with the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Scientific Research, Government of Rwanda in December 2002 to provide education to Rwandan students in VIT in undergraduate, postgraduate and IT courses. It was renewed in May, 2010.

ICCR offers six scholarships in all to Rwanda - 3 under GCSS; 2 under Africa Scholarship Scheme and 1 under CEP. India offered 25 slots to Rwanda under ITEC/SCAAP Scheme during the year 2011-12.

Bilateral Trade

Main items of Indian exports are pharmaceuticals, vehicles including motorcycles, plastics, machinery etc. Bilateral trade figures during the period 2005 to 2009 are as under:

Year	Exports (USD mn)	% Growth	Imports (USD mn)	% Growth	Total	% Growth
2008-2009 (April- Dec)	18.44	42.72	2.36	307.58	20.8	53.16
2007-2008	12.92	-5.90	0.66	-59.76	13.58	-13.18
2006-2007	13.73	29.10	1.64	4000.00	15.37	-21.90
2005-2006	19.64	27.18	0.04	-94.67	19.68	116.74