

**Event Concept**  
**Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development**  
Sustainability and Higher Education – Partnerships Linking Students to Industry, Training, and Internships to Achieve SDG Target 4.7

**Background**

The Government of Rwanda and Sweden have a long history of collaboration and partnership for the purposes of increasing sustainable development. The bilateral relations between the two countries ranges from official developing finance assistance (ODA) for biodiversity restoration and conservation to partnerships and exchanges to enhance human capacity in fields relevant to sustainable development. The University of Rwanda-Sweden research collaboration began in 2002 and is implemented in partnership with 15 universities in Sweden. The cooperation is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) with the main objective of increasing the quality of scientific research and knowledge and contributes to Rwanda's sustainable development.

GGGI Rwanda, operational since 2015, aims to support the Government of Rwanda in its aims to transition to a low-carbon, middle-income country by 2035 and a net zero, high-income country by 2050. GGGI facilitated green economy capacity building and training with the University of Gothenburg in 2019. As part of ongoing projects in urban climate resilience; green buildings and construction; sustainable waste management; and sustainable mobility, GGGI incorporates universities to train students, provide mentorship, and engage in capacity building. In 2021, GGGI trained students in enumeration and planning for sustainable transport as well as online capacity building in integrated flood modelling for flood hazard assessment. GGGI is also actively supporting the University of Rwanda to develop a module on e-mobility for graduate students in transport planning and engineering.

**Proposed Event Content**

The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) proposes to co-organize with partners University of Rwanda and University of Gothenburg an event on Sustainability and Higher Education – Partnerships Linking Students to Industry, Training, and Internships to Achieve SDG Target 4.7, which states:

*SDG 4.7: By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development*

*SDG 17.16: Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries*

The event organizers aim to provide current students and recent graduates with practical information on how to pursue careers in climate change mitigation and adaptation. The event will feature experienced mentors from various disciplines including integrated water resources management, circular economy, urban planning, forestry, and architecture. The event will aim to connect students from different fields with professionals that have knowledge, skills, and experience applied to careers in sustainable development. The purpose of the event will be to

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increase awareness of the different types of job, internship, and research opportunities that are available to students from a variety of backgrounds and how they can apply their skills to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. The event will incorporate interactive features such as breakout rooms and a live twitter feed to increase audience engagement and allow students from across the continent to ask practical questions to either pursue careers directly contributing towards sustainable development or to integrate sustainability into their research and lifestyles.

### Speakers/Panelists

- **Josephine Malonza:** Architect and urban designer particularly passionate about the quality of life in urban open space. Josephine holds a PhD in Architecture from the University of Nairobi and is the founding dean, Faculty of Architecture and Environmental Design FAED at the University of Rwanda.
- **Jules Mizero:** Jules is a master's student at the University of Rwanda completing his MSc in Highway Engineering & Management. Jules is the winner of the Kinamba Junction Design Competition to incorporate sustainability features into the road design of an intersection in Kigali.
- **Okechukwu Daniel Ogbonnaya:** Daniel is the Country Representative for the GGGI Rwanda program. He has a master's degree in International Development & Cooperation from Korea University and an Executive Certificate in Economic Development from John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Daniel worked in Korea, Sweden and Nigeria prior to joining GGGI.
- **Brigitte Nyirambangutse:** Brigitte is a dedicated Environmental Scientist with six years of experience working in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation. She obtained her PhD from the University of Gothenburg on the topic of Spatial and Temporal Characterization of Carbon Dynamics in Nyungwe Forest.
- **Dheeraj Arrabothu:** Dheeraj is an Architect & Infrastructure Planner by training. Through GGGI, he supports Rwanda Housing Authority to promote green urbanization in Rwanda. He developed Rwanda Green building compliance guidelines with the support of stakeholders. Dheeraj also supports the functioning of Rwanda Green Building Organization (RwGBO) and improves capacity of Rwandan construction industry stakeholders on green buildings through awareness programmes.
- **François Tetero:** Tetero previously served as Head of Water Resources Management Department in the former Rwanda Water and Forestry Authority where he was leading the overall management of water resources in Rwanda; including water resources monitoring, flood management, water storage development, catchments restoration, water allocation and water quality management. François Xavier Tetero holds a Master of Science degree in Water Resources and Environmental Management from the former National University of Rwanda in collaboration with UNESCO-IHE and a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from the same University.
- **Juvenal Mukurarinda:** Juvenal is a Senior Officer for Sustainable Waste Management at GGGI Rwanda supporting the implementation of a three-year project on circular economy initiatives in waste. He completed his BSc in Applied Chemistry from the University of Rwanda and an MSc in Environmental Sanitation from Ghent University in Belgium.

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- **Liliane Uwanziga Mupende:** Liliane is an urban and regional planner and previously worked for the City of Kigali and served as a Board member for the Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority (RURA) and the Rwanda Transport Development Authority (RTDA). She completed her BSc in Urban and Regional Planning at Makerere University and an MSc in Earth Observation for Urban Planning and Management at the University of Twente in the Netherlands.
- **Vice Chancellor, University of Rwanda (TBC)**
- **Gothenburg University/Swedish Embassy in Rwanda (TBC)**

#### Draft Agenda

Time	Activity	Responsible
11:00-11:05	Welcome Remarks and Overview of GGGI	Okechukwu Daniel Ogbonnaya
11:05-11:10	Preparing University of Rwanda Students for Sustainability Careers	University of Rwanda, Deputy Vice Chancellor (TBC)
11:10-11:15	UR-University of Gothenburg funded Innovation Hub – Bilateral Collaboration between Sweden and Rwanda	University of Gothenburg/ Chalmers University of Technology or Embassy of Sweden in Kigali (TBC)
11:15-11:20	Embedding Sustainability in Curriculum at University of Rwanda	Josephine Malonza
11:20-11:30	Incorporating Sustainability in Universities, A Student's Perspective	Jules Mizero
11:30-12:00	<b>Interactive Session:</b> Sustainability Career Fair	<p>Virtual Break-out Rooms w/GGGI Project Managers – <i>interactive session where resource persons can introduce/describe their work for 3 minutes and then take questions from current students on how to prepare for certain careers, requirements, recommended coursework/experience. Rotation after 15 minutes.</i></p> <p><i>Students/recent graduates will have the option to choose from the following break-out rooms (2 options per student):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Green Buildings</b></li> <li>• <b>Urban Planning</b></li> <li>• <b>Environmental Conservation</b></li> <li>• <b>Circular Economy</b></li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Integrated Water Resources Management</b></li> <li>• <b>Sustainable Transport/Mobility</b></li> </ul>
12:00-12:15	<b>Interactive Session:</b> Questions from the Audience	Additional time for students to ask to follow up questions to GGGI Staff that were not covered in the breakout sessions. Also time to take questions posted on Twitter.
12:15-12:25	MoU Signing (UR and GGGI)	UR & GGGI
12:25-12:30	Closing Remarks	Okechukwu Daniel Ogbonnaya

**Organizers**

- The **Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)** is a treaty-based international, inter-governmental organization dedicated to supporting and promoting strong, inclusive and sustainable economic growth in developing countries and emerging economies.
- **University of Rwanda** is Rwanda’s largest institution of higher education and was formed in 2013 through a merger of the largest tertiary education institutions in Rwanda. The university was formed to improve the quality of education as well as respond to current national and global needs. The University of Rwanda has over 30,000 graduate and 28,000 undergraduate students in disciplines pertinent to sustainability including Environmental Science, GIS for Environmental Applications,
- **University of Gothenburg** is Sweden’s third-oldest university and is part of the network of Swedish Universities in the UR-Sweden Programme for research, higher education and institutional advancement. The UR-Sweden Programme aims to strengthen research capacities in Rwanda to increase the use of research towards poverty reduction in Rwanda.
- **Chalmers University of Technology**