

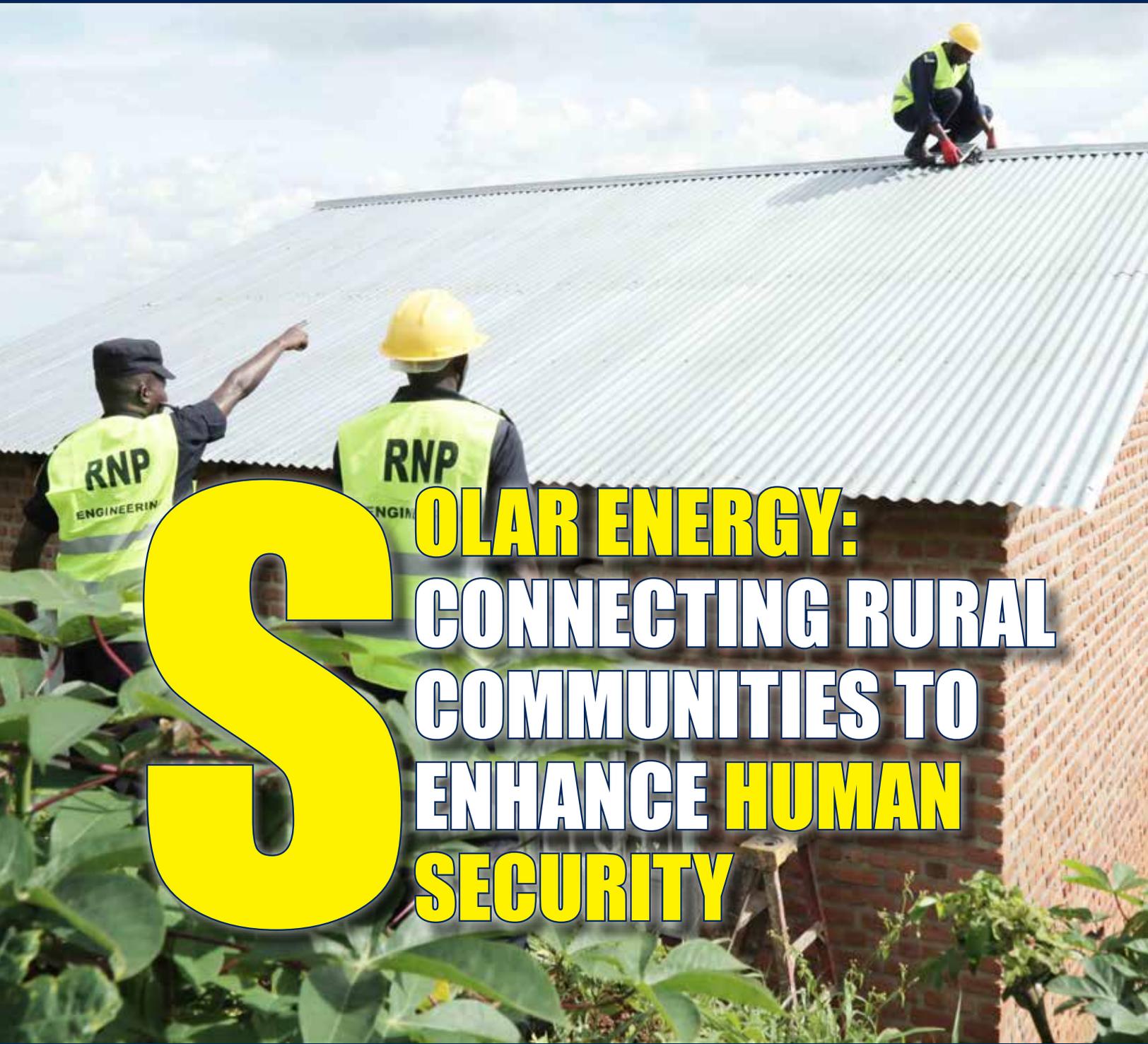


The Police



Magazine

Issue No.18



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**SOLAR ENERGY:
CONNECTING RURAL
COMMUNITIES TO
ENHANCE HUMAN
SECURITY**



VISION

People in Rwanda are safe, involved and reassured.

MISSION

Rwanda National Police is dedicated to deliver high quality service, accountability and transparency, safeguard the rule of law and provide safe and crime free environment for all.

CORE VALUES

- Justice and respect for human rights
- Integrity
- Stability and social order
- Team work and partnership
- Openness
- Accountability
- Community relation focus
- Professional conduct, efficiency and effectiveness

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Editorial

Policing a vibrant community

On June 16, this year, Rwanda National Police (RNP) marked its 17th anniversary of vibrant partnership in Policing. These were celebrations “towards sustainable safety and security.”

For the last seventeen years, Rwanda could only get better and better each year. This milestone came at the expense of a combination of many factors ranging from visionary leadership and guidance, unique partnership with all institutions in policing and development activities.

Rwanda’s exception in policing greatly lies in her people. The Irondo – community night patrols – neighbourhood watch, youth volunteers in community policing, anti-crime clubs in schools and in villages and the overall real time sharing of information continues to form the basis level of safety and security the country enjoys today.

The recently concluded smooth and secure presidential elections also define the commitment of Rwandans to exercise their rights peacefully, and minding the safety and wellbeing of others.

Community policing, cooperation, capacity building through continuous training and acquisition of modern equipment; infrastructure development, among others, are key priorities we counts on to be professional and people’s force.

This Issue 18 of the RNP quarterly magazine, therefore, documents all the activities that together with our partners, managed to accomplish or take another step closer as Rwandans but also as regional and international police institutions and organisations in making a world a safer place.



RWANDA, TANZANIA POLICE FORCES DISCUSS CROSS-BORDER SECURITY

The Inspector General of Tanzania Police Force, Simon N. Sirro, held a three-day official visit in Rwanda that focused mainly on strengthening existing ties between the two police institutions against cross-border crimes.

IGP Sirro was received at the Rwanda National Police (RNP) General Headquarters in Kacyiru, by his host, IGP Emmanuel K. Gasana.

The meeting, the third of its kind to be held this year, was in line with the cooperation pact signed in 2012 that seeks to combat cross-border and transnational organized crimes, including drug trafficking and terrorism; building capacity to respond to emerging security threats; prevention and management of disasters; and ensuring security and road safety along the Central Corridor.

IGP Gasana said Heads of State of the two countries gave guidance on strategic partnership and cooperation.

"What remains and a task at hand now is how we fast-track our cooperation in the policing journey with collective understanding," IGP Gasana said.

"These engagements manifest the will our leaders to work together to translate their vision into our missions," he added.

He outlined capacity building especially through training, exchange of best practices and criminals, embracing technological development as well as taking a tough stand against drug trafficking, as areas of immediacy that sends strong message to criminals.

"The need to maintain homeland security in our countries goes with development. We need to strengthen our

cooperation to facilitate fast development and the wellbeing of our people," he said.

The IGP of Tanzania, on his part, said that increased production and export of the two countries depends on the security, which attracts investment and facilitates development.

"We are gathered here for one thing; security of our people. The transitional flow of people, trade capital and ideas have become larger, and brought many benefits to citizens," IGP Sirro said, calling for cross-border coordinated efforts, sharing of information and joint operations to protect the law abiding citizens against threats.

He commended RNP and the leadership of Rwanda for ensuring safety and incident-free presidential elections, and thanked Rwandans for exercising their electoral rights peacefully. The cooperation pact highlights major areas of cooperation including exchange of information on criminals, expertise, and joint training, among others.

Consequently, the two forces have exchanged training programmes, engaged in joint disaster response – in particular when Rwandans were involved in fatal accident in Tanzania few years back – as well as study tours conducted in Tanzania by police students of the Senior Command and Staff Course.

IGP Sirro also toured various RNP facilities including Isange One Stop Centre, which offers free medical, legal and psycho-socio services to victims of GBV and child abuse; the Regional Centre of Excellence of GBV and Child Abuse; Police Training School Gishari and the National Police College.

"We are gathered here for one thing; security of our people. The transitional flow of people, trade capital and ideas have become larger, and brought many benefits to citizens,"



POLICE ENSURES SECURITY DURING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

The just-concluded electoral process in Rwanda has been hailed for being peaceful, smooth, safe, and orderly. This seemingly effortless success was the culmination of months of careful preparation by the Rwanda National Police in a deliberate effort to ensure that Rwandans exercise their democratic rights in the usual secure environment.

According to the RNP spokesperson, Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Theos Badege, security forces put in place an electoral security campaign plan months in advance to ensure that order and calm prevailed before, during, and after the elections. In implementing this plan, the police worked closely with the National Electoral Commission (NEC), the Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC), other security organs and the general public.

Pre-election

Right from the July 14, 2017 kickoff of the campaigns period, the police was in place to ensure that the campaigns proceeded smoothly by playing a number of critical roles.

“We provided security for presidential candidates and their entourages, secured campaign venues, ensured safe traffic-flow and crowd control for the unusually big numbers that turned up for these events,” says ACP Badege.

The Head of the African Union observers’ delegation, former Interim President of Mali, Dioncounda Traore, commended the pre-election security situation as satisfactory, and pointed to Rwanda as a great example to other African countries in terms of election preparedness.

Election Day

On August 4, 2017, as millions of Rwandans made their way to cast their vote at their respective polling stations, the Rwanda National Police was still in place to facilitate the public in the flawless exer-





cise of their constitutional rights.

“Our job started with ensuring safe delivery and security of electoral materials; providing security to officials of the electoral commission, election observers, and the general public as well as safe movements on roads,” ACP Badege remarks.

In a special way, like it was during campaigns, the Police, working with local leaders, was at hand on election day to assist the weak and vulnerable – such as the elderly, expecting mothers or sick – to the seats reserved for them at the polling stations, and to guide them soon thereafter to the designated voting area to cast their ballot without hassle.

‘Peaceful and orderly’ elections

As the electoral period came to a close, the consensus from candidates, citizens and observers was that the entire process was peaceful, and registered no major security incidents.

At a 6th August 2017 press conference held at the Kigali Serena Hotel, a joint preliminary report on the just-concluded elections issued by the African Union (AU), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC) and the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) observer missions described the elections as “peaceful and orderly”.

Meanwhile, in his victory address delivered on 5th August 2017, President-elect H.E. Paul Kagame also thanked security forces for the great work they do in keeping the country safe.

For his part, Frank Habineza, the Democratic Green Party of Rwanda (DGPR) presidential candidate, commended security organs for facilitating him to hold smooth campaigns.

“We are grateful to security organs, including the Police; they have been with



us and ensured we were safe,” he said at the close of the 20-day campaign period. Independent candidate Phillippe Mpayimana was equally appreciative: “Our country has matured in security and democratic practice.”

Community Participation

The Rwanda National Police is especially grateful to all Rwandans for working together with the force to ensure that peace and harmony reigned during the election period. The police, as always, engaged the public both at individual and organisational levels to guarantee safety throughout the entire exercise.

“Rwandans have continued to exhibit the highest spirit of vigilance and respect for the law while exercising

their electoral rights either on campaign sites or in the communities,” the RNP spokesperson said.

He further commended the different parties for their exceptional organisation that facilitated the management of crowds and traffic around their campaign venues.

“Campaigns and elections attracted unusual huge crowds at rallies, but because of meticulous planning, it became easy to secure the venues, evacuate the sick and provide first aid, direct traffic and so on.”

The latest Gallup Global Law and Order report ranks Rwanda 2nd safest country in Africa and 11th globally, with over 87 per cent of citizens saying that they feel safe and confident in their security organs and Police in particular.



Minister Busingye calls for strategic partnership against contemporary threats



The Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Johnston Busingye has called for “strategic partnership” of Police forces in the region as an effective ideal in confronting emerging, transnational and organized crimes that continue to affect the growth and development of states and the wellbeing of the people.

The Minister was giving his key note address during the 17th Meeting of Council of Ministers responsible for Police affairs in the Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO) region that ended in Kampala-Uganda, in September 2017.

The official closing of the 17th EAPCCO meeting, which preceded the second retreat of Police Chiefs from the 13-member bloc and the 19th EAPCCO AGM, respectively, was presided over by Uganda’s Prime Minister, Right Hon. Ruhakana Rugunda.

It was also attended by EAPCCO development partners including Interpol, Afripol, East African Community (EAC), UN organs, Regional Centre on Small Arms and Light Weapons (RECSA), among others.

Minister Busingye, who is also the outgoing chair of the Council of Ministers, said: “The effectiveness in confronting the evolving sophisticated transnational security threats rests in the level of cooperation between police chiefs and institutions to come up with joint strategic responses.”

While speaking during the retreat of Chief of Police, the outgoing chair of EAPCCO, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Emmanuel K. Gasana said that the regional forum has eased collaborative engagements and cooperation, developed capacities and capabilities and jointly conducted operations as well as connecting the

region with other law enforcement organizations globally.

During the three-day EAPCCO Annual General Assembly, a number of key areas were discussed. These include the security challenges of the 21st century – African perspective; ICT and its implications on policing in Africa; global terrorism and its impact on Africa; realigning the EAPCCO strategic plans and programmes with the newly created continental police body – Afripol; and partnership with development partners.

The council of Ministers adopted twelve resolutions submitted by the 19th Council of Police Chiefs, including the admission of the Democratic Republic of Congo as the 14th member of EAPCCO.

Other member countries of the regional police organization founded in 1998, include Uganda, Comoros, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Kenya, Sudan, Burundi, South Sudan, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania and Rwanda.

Other resolutions revolves around cooperation and innovation in the fight against transnational crimes such as terrorism, human trafficking and other emerging organized security threats; and active participation in Field Training Exercises and in the Eastern Africa Association of Police Training Institutions (EAAPTI) to develop terms of reference and protocols for conducting exercises.

The meeting also appreciated Rwanda for hosting the newly established Regional Centre of Excellence of cybercrime. As a rotational basis, Sudan will host the 20th AGM next year.

“The effectiveness in confronting the evolving sophisticated transnational security threats rests in the level of cooperation between police chiefs and institutions to come up with joint strategic responses.”



Fifth Police Senior Command intake graduated

Twenty-six police officers of the fifth intake, from ten African countries, completed the Police Senior Command and Staff Course at the National Police College (NPC).

The graduands were from Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda and Rwanda, the host.

The one year course covers professional executive leadership, strategic management and development, command, strategic policing skills in contemporary setting as well as a master's degree in Peace and Conflict Transformation.

The graduation ceremony presided over by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Johnston Busingye, coincided with the pass-out of two other courses; Police Tactical Command and Police Junior Command and Staff Course of 40 and 20 police officers, respectively.

The four-month intensive Tactical command course is designed to enrich the officers' operational skills at tactical level.

Minister Busingye said that such courses are a clear testimony of the commitment of Rwanda National Police to build the personnel capacity of all levels of its command structure in order to fulfil its mandate.

He said that the rule of law, law and order and development are closely interlinked and that well trained, professional and disciplined law enforcement institutions, delivering according to international and constitutional principles of human rights in compliance with the law, sustainably underlie around development.

"Effective response to complexities of the contemporary policing environment associated with globalisation, use of sophisticated technology in the

commission of crime, transnational organised crimes and other global realities require regional and international cooperation, sharing experience and harmonisation of training," Minister Busingye said.

Rwanda's tragic history and Africa's law enforcement challenges in general, Minister said, defines the importance of pools of officers to who combine strategic command dimension with full understanding of national, regional and global peace and security dynamics.

He urged course participants to maximize their skills and be catalysts of law enforcement for the wellbeing of the people in their respective countries and Africa in general.

The Police senior, Junior and tactical courses were introduced to ensure a comprehensive approach to human resource development by combining professional and academic aspects.

The joint events were also attended by the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Emmanuel K. Gasana; State Minister in charge of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Evode Uwizeyimana; Ethiopia's ambassador to Rwanda, Chief of Staff Major Gen. Jacques Musemakweli; Commissioner General of Rwanda Correctional Services, George Rwigamba; Secretary General of NISS, Brig. Gen. Joseph Nzabamwita; Deputy IGPs Dan Munyuza of Operations and Juvenal Marizamunda of Administration and Personnel, as well as family members of the graduands, among others.

RNP COMPLETES HAITI PEACEKEEPERS ROTATION EXERCISE



The rotation exercise between Rwanda Formed Police Units serving under the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) ended on August 26 with the arrival of 160 police officers under RWAFFPU7, who were replaced by RWAFFPU8 of 140 officers.

The 160-strong seventh contingent that returned home after a successful tour-of-duty was headed by Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Faustin Ntirushwa. RWAFFPU8 is headed by ACP Yahaya Kamunuga.

The Deputy Inspector General of Police in charge of Operations, (DIGP) Dan Munyuza, during the pre-deployment briefing of RWAFFPU8, challenged them to maintain maximum discipline. He reminded the officers that they will be representing the image of Rwanda as the world looks at them.

"You have been well prepared for the mission but during your tour of duty, you are required to exhibit the highest level of integrity. Ensure that in the one year of your mission mandate, you serve to the best of your ability and with maximum discipline," said DIGP Munyuza.

"Rwanda's exceptional achievements have been attained through joint efforts including your fellow officers who have effectively served in peacekeeping missions. You also need to uphold these standards."

The Deputy Police Chief further urged them to cooperate with other peacekeepers and learn from their experience adding that "learning is continuous."

RWAFFPU8 was saluted off Kigali International Airport by the Deputy Inspector of Police (DIGP) in charge of Administration and Personnel, Juvenal Marizamunda.

RNP started its deployment and peacekeeping duties in the Caribbean nation in 2010. RNP is also expected to deploy another contingent to South Sudan this September which will bring the number of RNP FPU in UN missions to six.

Rwanda is currently the third largest Police contributing country globally after Senegal and Bangladesh, respectively, with more than 1000 officers in all missions. It is also the second largest contributor of female police officers. Plans are also underway to deploy an all-female FPU contingent.





UN decorates 430 Rwandan Police peacekeepers in CAR

The United Nations has awarded medal of service excellence to 430 Rwandan Police peacekeepers serving under the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA).

The decorated officers, who include 58 females, constitute three contingents; two Rwanda Formed Police Units (FPUs) and a Protection and Support Unit PSU, each composed of 140 police officers. Others serve as Individual Police Officers (IPOs), and act as advisors and mentors.

Whereas FPU specializes in public order management like crowd control, facilitate delivery of humanitarian assistance, escort duties and protection of UN facilities; PSU undertakes special duties such as protection for VIPs among others.

The medal parade ceremony held on September 15 in the capital Bangui, and presided over by the Deputy Special Representative of UN Secretary General in charge of Humanitarian Affairs in MINUSCA, Najat Rochdi.

While speaking about the importance of the "exemplary service and work" done by the decorated officers for the people of CAR, Rochdi noted that the service medal signifies "respect and admiration for

accomplishments made to bringing peace and safety in Central African Republic."

She commended the "high level of discipline and good conduct exhibited by Rwanda National police contingents", a conduct she said should "inspire peacekeepers all over the world."

"You have done your work with diligence and courage to protect civilian under threat of death in the Central African war-torn society," she said.

She recognized the "outstanding quality of Rwandan leadership and Rwanda National Police in particular that inspires Rwandan police peacekeepers all over the world."

Rochdi also paid tribute to RNP and the country in general for upholding "zero tolerance" policy to indiscipline such as sexual exploitation and abuse.

The medal parade ceremony was also attended by a cross section of staff from MINUSCA, senior CAR government officials and security forces, as well as members of Rwandan Diaspora in CAR.

Rwanda was the first country to deploy a contingent of Police officers in CAR in August 2014, a month before the blue berets officially took over the peacekeeping mandate from African Union.

"high level of discipline and good conduct exhibited by Rwanda National police contingents"

Rwanda and Uganda Police forces discuss cross-border cooperation

Rwanda National Police (RNP) and Uganda Police Force (UPF) held a bilateral meeting in Musanze District in July to further enhance the existing cross-border cooperation in various policing fields as well as regional and continental issues meant to ensure common ideas on the African continent.

The periodic meeting that brought together delegations from the two friendly police institutions, which follows another one held in February this year, was co-chaired by the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Emmanuel K. Gasana and Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIGP) Fred Yiga.

IGP Gasana observed that the cooperation between the two police institutions has been significant in fighting cross-border crimes, enhanced good governance and eased the security of cross-border business.

"It was not in vain... we have travelled together in capacity building, crime prevention and responding to crime," IGP Gasana said.

The meeting also assessed the implementation of the previous resolutions; discussed issues related to the Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (EAPCCO) currently chaired by Rwanda; and on how to support the efficiency and effectiveness of the newly created Africa police body – AFRIPOL – which was formed following an idea fronted by Rwanda.



AIGP Yiga said that such a meeting is always a "good platform to discuss and address issues affecting our people, and we have made landmark strides to ensure security."

"It is very impressive where the President of Rwanda asks the people to take their security for granted, and this cooperation is imbedded along those lines of our leaders... how we make life

and security easy for the people of Uganda and Rwanda to feel confident about their security forces," AIGP Yiga said.

AIGP observed that cross-border crime is still a thorn in the side citing cyber related crimes and protection of women and girls as some of the issues where Africa will have a common voice and stand.

Global Fund board members visit Isange One Stop Center

A delegation of 13 board members of Global Fund visited Isange One Stop Centre in May to have a firsthand experience on how Rwanda handles and responds to sexual and gender based violence.

The officials are part of the bigger group of Global Fund Board members that was in the country for the 37th board meeting that is also serving as a platform to learn about Rwanda's innovative approaches towards community health

Carsten Staur, one of the delegation members, said: "It's very impressive to see such a facility, it's a very good attempt to apply a holistic approach into disciplinary work on the issue of GBV and we are very much impressed by the commitment.

Rwanda, Uganda police forces conduct joint training

Sixteen officers from Rwanda National Police (RNP) and Uganda Police Force (UPF), in June, conducted a week-long intensive joint training in key areas of crime management.

The training focused mainly on critical criminal investigation knowledge and enhancing skills, which subsequently enables prosecution to build strong cases in court.

It is organized and conducted in the existing framework between RNP and Germany Federal Criminal Police, and it follows similar other crime scene investigation trainings conducted previously.

Over 120 Police officers complete VIP Protection and firefighting courses

A total of 123 officers, on June 30, completed two separate courses on VIP Protection and Firefighting at the Police Training School (PTS) Gishari in Rwamagana District.

At least 25 Police officers completed a month-long Training of Trainers on VIP Protection, the first of its kind to be conducted by Rwanda National Police. Other 98, who include police officers, prison wardens and those from private security companies completed the two-month training either in Basic Firefighting and Rescue course or Training of Trainers in Basic Firefighting and Rescue.

The Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIGP) in charge of Operations, Dan Munyuza, while officiating at the closing of the courses, said that professionalism is largely built on training and discipline.



Nigerian 'senior executive' course students learn on contribution of security to agric dev't in Rwanda

A delegation of 14 students from the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) in Nigeria, on August 11, visited Rwanda National Police (RNP) to learn on how security has contributed in the development of agriculture in Rwanda.

Led by the acting director general of the institute, Jonathan Mela Juma, the students, who are part of the 39th intake of the senior executive course, were received by the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Emmanuel K. Gasana.

The students include policymakers, senior military and police officers, researchers and other government officials, who are being prepared for higher leadership responsibilities.

Mela said that they came to Rwanda to study how the country has progressed in areas of science, technology, and innovation, and how it is impacting on agriculture and the processing of agricultural products into finished goods.

"We visited Rwanda Police because for agriculture to be successful, you need a secure environment. Farmers need a secure environment to go to their farm and to be able to bring their harvests to a secure market," Mela said.

"The environment has to be safe and secure for them, the same thing with those who undertake research; if there is insecurity, research can't go on. Same thing with agro-processors, they need a secure and protected environment to be able to do their business. So we have come to listen how police has successfully ensured peace and safety in Rwanda in order for farmers and agro-processors to go about their business without any security problem."

"Rwandans are driven by ambitions, uniqueness, sense of urgency and to have dignified life; this is a strategic guidance that binds us together as security organs and other institutions, and the general public to translate the vision into our mission,"

IGP Gasana, while briefing the students, said: "Rwandans are driven by ambitions, uniqueness, sense of urgency and to have dignified life; this is a strategic guidance that binds us together as security organs and other institutions, and the general public to translate the vision into our mission,"

He said that security organs are part of Vision 2020, EDPRS2, Seven-year government programme, sector strategies and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

"The focus is all about human security; we give it much attention to alleviate poverty, but at the same time cementing the ideal of community policing," he said.

The students were also briefed on various areas where the force facilitates agriculture including fighting smuggling, investigating embezzlement and corruption in the agricultural sector, its contribution to one cow per poor family; fighting armyworm; community work to prevent soil erosion and construction of terraces.

Other areas include awareness on environmental protection, establishment of an environmental protection unit as well as Gishari Integrated Polytechnic, which equips both police officers and the public with vocational skills in agriculture and irrigation in particular.

RNP also planted about 400 hectares of trees in different parts of the country. This is part of the national afforestation programme to conserve the ecosystem, which is partly a source of rainfall

KINIGI: Where former poachers preach security

In the leafy and serene canopy-like greens of Northern Province's Musanze District lies Kinigi, a sector that has gained fame as the comfy gateway to the majestic beauty of the volcanic mountain range – the natural habitat of the rare mountain gorillas, Rwanda's current leading foreign exchange earner.

About 11 kilometres from the heart of Musanze town lays Mount Sabyinyo towering over much of the Volcanoes National Park.

The cool breeze from the teeth-shaped massif provides a welcome relief from the hot equatorial sun rays beating down on Ngejoro Village near the park's main entrance.

Residents here have vowed and continue to recommit to soldier on to prevent anything that can cause insecurity, give the gorillas peace and ensure safety of tourists as well as reap big economic benefits.



Formerly a poacher, Ndungutse Francois is today a businessman after abandoning the illegal practice

This is judged against the colossal losses incurred to both people and material during the turbulent times of insecurity due to insurgency and consequences of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

Francois Ndungutse, 48, who formerly belonged to a family of vicious poachers, says "poaching was my way of life; killing elephants, buffaloes and any other wild game I came across was just like any other thing in life."

"The current benefits hugely outweigh what we used to gain from poaching; we remained poor and our family lacked basic necessities," says Ndungutse.

Ndungutse has since decided to go legit. Today, he is a respectable trader in the area.

"I even transact in dollars at my shop, we can't entertain any tendencies that would threaten safety. I was wrong (in poaching) and it's time to correct the wrongs and to make our community and country safer," says a smiling Ndungutse.

The poacher-turned-businessman is today an opinion leader in his community, who also oversees the proper functioning of Irondo (community night patrols).

"Tourism becomes effective in a safer country. The gorillas and their habitat are protected by the economic lifeline they create for remote communities from the tourist dollars they generate, providing a key incentive for humans to protect them." Poaching is now confined to history in Kinigi and other neighbouring game reserves. Former poachers have become game rangers, or porters facilitating tourists to carry their loads as they trek the wild to see the gorillas, while others are Irondo personnel.

In order to sustain security, community members (households) organised themselves on a duty roster to guard the village and the park through night patrols.

According to Aphrodise Gashumba, the Musanze District Police Commander, the impact and involvement of residents like Ndungutse is rewarding.

"Kinigi, like other areas, has registered commendable strides in crime reduction over the years; even the few cases we rarely receive are minor and largely related to family conflicts, sometimes resulting from excessive drinking and polygamous practices," Gashumba said.

According to Police statistics, 26 cases, the majority related to physical assault, were recorded in Kinigi since the beginning of the year. This is about 40 per cent reduction compared to incidents recorded in the same period last year.

"Police conduct and promote community mobilisation and awareness to actively engage the population to be agents of change, exercise vigilance and alertness and share information in real time about anything illegal.

This is what community policing stands for; everyone to be an eye for the neighbour," Gashumba said.

That security has boosted tourism in the area is also evidenced by luxurious hotels, souvenir shops and jobs in the park.

"Farming communities are the principal supplier of food and other products to the hotels, and this in turn creates a multiplier effect down the supply chain hence creating direct economic benefits," says Benjamin Mugabukomeye, the country director of International Gorilla Conservation Programme (IGCP).

"Where there is security, communities reap big. It's always impressive to see former wrongdoers being the custodians of the law, running income generating activities and this also influences stakeholders like IGCP to give back to the people," notes Mugabukomeye.

Through Rwanda Development Board (RDB), the Government has since 2005 been committing 5 per cent of the proceeds from



Ndirababaje Assiel Katarya says polygamy brings conflicts and failure to provide basic necessities, influencing children to indulge in unlawful acts for survival crop

the national parks toward projects aimed at empowering and developing communities around the game reserves.

This has since been increased to 10 per cent. The returns are invested into health centres, roads, schools and houses for the needy families, among others.

The funds also help support local agriculture and handcraft cooperatives. The road to the park is now tarmac, the area has electricity and clean tap water is available, thanks to tourism proceeds.

SOCIAL PRACTICES

Jean-Baptiste Semahoro, the in-charge of social affairs at Kinigi Sector, says they are now working with the Police and the residents to address the issue of domestic conflict, which sometimes resulted into death.

"Previously, polygamy and property related conflicts were common practices; we have worked together with faith-based organisations and the Police to sensitise communities, including those affected," Semahoro says.

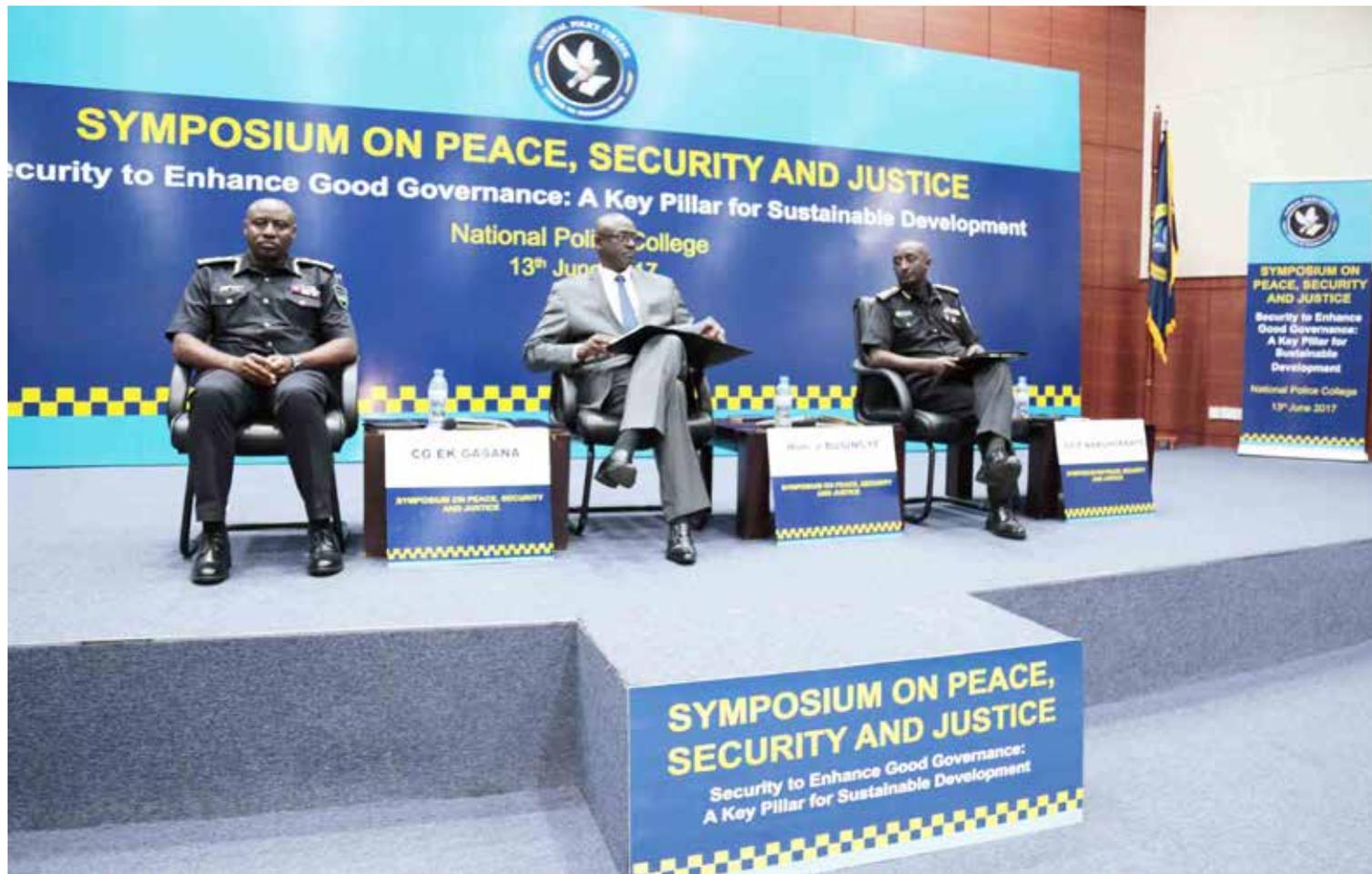
Asiyeri Ndirababage, 65, from Kapanga Cell, is one of the polygamous couples in Kinigi. With two wives, Ndirababage regrets because of the hassles he has to go through to feed his two separate families.

"A husband with more than one wife is likely father many children, and it is a big challenge to give them basic necessities," says Ndirababage.

He advises men to heed the Government call to produce children they are in position to give basic needs.

"Fighting criminality is being a responsible parent, take children to school, ensure they're in good health and feel loved. That prevents them from indulging in criminal activities like abusing drugs, sexual acts and early parenthood," Ndirababage says.





Symposium on peace and security roots for sustainable development

The Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Johnston Busingye said that security and sustainable development are mutually inclusive and should be pursued with a comprehensive approach

He made the remarks on June 13 while giving a keynote address at the opening of the fourth symposium on peace, security and Justice. It was organized under the theme: "Security to enhance good governance; a key pillar for sustainable development.

"Good governance and sustainable development cannot exist in an environment that has no security," Minister Busingye said

The annual event is organized by the National Police College (NPC) as part of the course requirements for the Police Senior Command and Staff Course (PSCSC) offered to senior police officers at strategic level.

The symposium drew scholars, academicians,

policymakers and other eminent officials with expertise in various fields whose work greatly influence the shaping of norms in the three areas of peace, security and justice.

While speaking on challenges and prospects in ensuring peace and security for sustainable development in Africa, the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Emmanuel K. Gasana pointed out that although Africa is a continent with a lot of opportunities, it is also faced with many challenges that have a direct impact on the progress of the continent.

"Inter-state conflicts and insurgencies, costly criminal activities, genocide ideologies, the trend and activities of terrorism did not leave Africa... different structural conflicts have devastated the continent; Africa's internal challenges have been characterized by bad governance, poor leadership and political wrangles," IGP Gasana said.

Prof. Patrick Loch Otieno Lumumba, the Director of the Kenya School of Law, who spoke on

'visionary leadership as a foundation for good governance,' observed that if "Africa is to be on the table as diner not a waitress," then it's paramount to know where the continent has come from.

"Visionary leaders are committed to values, exemplify a sense of personal integrity, radiate a sense of energy, vitality and will," Prof. Lumumba said

He added: "The most effective visionary leaders are responsive to the real needs of people and they develop participative strategies to include people in designing their own futures."

He described President Paul Kagame as one of the key personalities shaping Africa's progress today for his "visionary and dedicated leadership that has tremendously transformed Rwanda into a country on the move" and whose "obituary had been written by pessimists."



Executive Director of SMART Africa Alliance, Dr. Hamadoun Toure, also spoke on 'understanding today's digital world opportunities and threats.'

"By the year 2020, the world will have 50 billion devices connected. The more these figures go up the more sophisticated cybercrimes become," Dr. Hamadoun said.

Other speakers at the symposium include the Commandant of NPC, Commissioner of Police (CP) Felix Namuhoranye; the spokesperson of the Uganda Police Force Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIGP) Asan Kasingye, who gave a lecture on countering the increasingly sophisticated terrorism-challenges and way forward; Letty Chiwara, the UN Women Representative to Ethiopia, African Union, and Economic Commission for Africa who spoke about inclusiveness for sustainability-Women's participation.

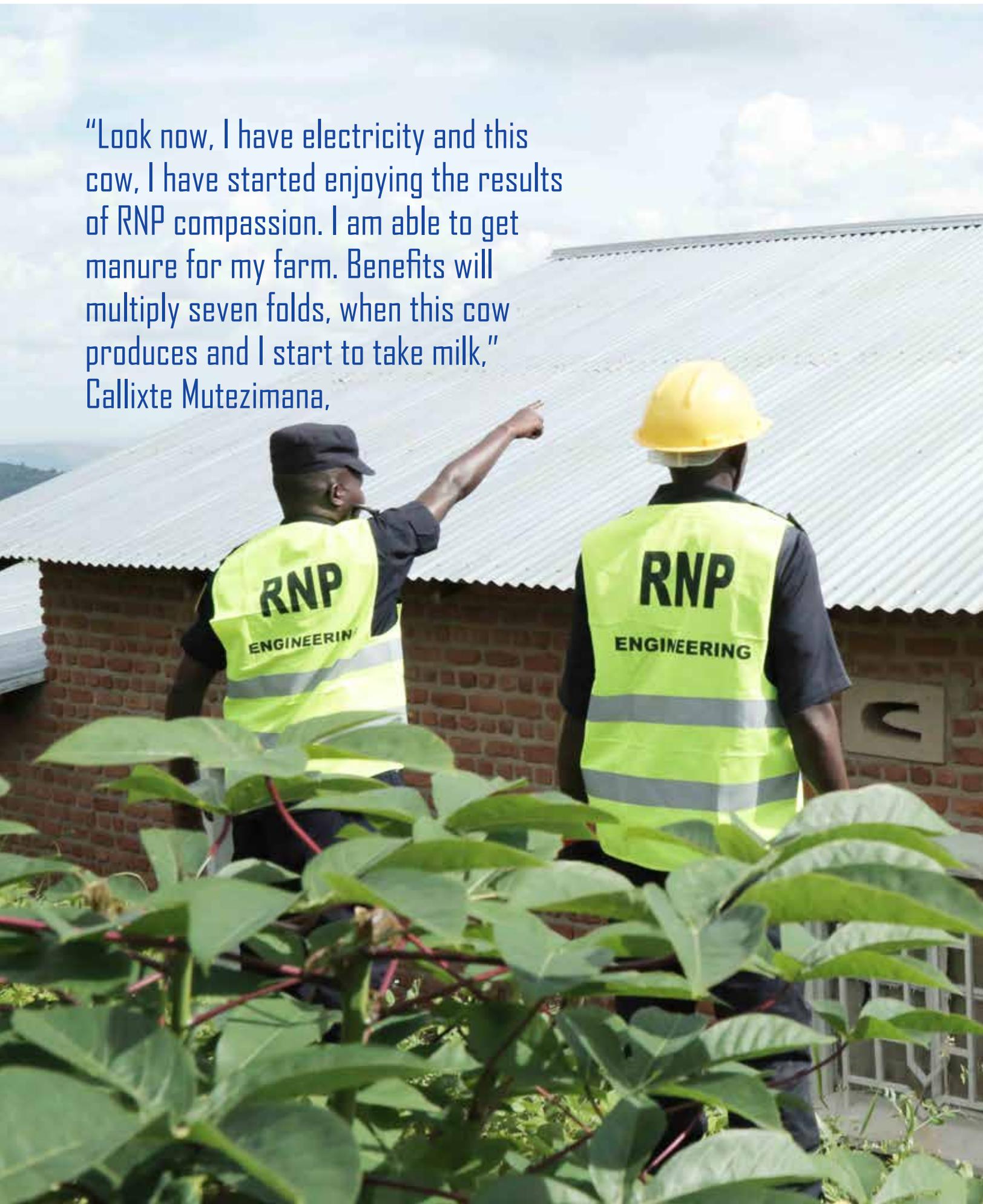
Others include Dr. Anita Ndoti Kiamba from University of Nairobi spoke about Security as a beneficiary and contributor to sustainable development-case study of the great lakes region; the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry ICT, Maj. Regis Gatarayiha spoke about mainstreaming ICT-led security to respond to growing cyber threats while Prosecutor General Jean Bosco Mutangana spoke on 'multidimensional approach to confronting new security threats: Legal adaptability.'



In his knote address while closing the symposium, the Minister of Education Dr. Papias Manimba Musafiri said that the forum presents an opportunity to share experiences and skills to combat emerging security challenges.

"Law enforcers should embrace the use of ICTs as a crucial tool to reshape police operations in the changing nature of cybercrimes," Minister Musafiri said.

“Look now, I have electricity and this cow, I have started enjoying the results of RNP compassion. I am able to get manure for my farm. Benefits will multiply seven folds, when this cow produces and I start to take milk,”
Callixte Mutezimana,





SOLAR power systems enhance public safety in rural Rwanda

Between May and June this year, Rwanda National Police (RNP) donated solar power systems to over 3,400 households - mainly those in remote areas in different parts of the country.

Among the beneficiaries are residents of Gatare Village in Nyakariro Sector in Rwamagana District. Four months down the road, residents of this village speak highly of the impact from the solar power connectivity.

In Gatare Village, RNP donated solar power systems to 108 households.

Speaking at a town hall meeting that attracted about 2,000 residents on Tuesday, Concilia Kabarinda whose home was among those connected and was also given a cow, said police made her dreams come true.

"Look now, I have electricity and this cow, I have started enjoying the results of RNP compassion. I am able to get manure for my farm. Benefits will multiply seven folds, when this cow produces and I start to take milk," she said.

Another beneficiary of RNP's Solar Power project, Callixte Mutezimana, said criminality in Gatare village was high and criminals took advantage of darkness to steal people's goats, sheep and pigs.

"Lights are everywhere in villages, the number of thieves that targeted our animals have significantly dropped because criminals are scared of getting seen and identified due to the lights at night." Mutezimana said as he thanked RNP

Francois Uwizeyimana, the executive Secretary of Gatare Village, also said that the Rwanda National Police free solar power connectivity eased communication since people no longer need to walk long distances to charge their cell phones, which he said helped them to communicate with authorities especially security organs in case they need quick intervention.

With better communication, people's lifestyle has tremendously improved and residents say, a lot more are yet to be achieved.

During the meeting that was presided over by police spokesperson, Assistant Commissioner of Police Theos Badege along with the Rwamagana District Mayor, Rajab Mbonyumuvunyi and other leaders, residents of Gatare vowed to pool personal and collective efforts that would see Gatare village become a crime free village.

Uwizeyimana said the leadership has devised some strategies to prevent criminal activities particularly the use of illicit brews and gins like kanyanga - a crime mostly committed in this place according to him.

He further added that, they will put much effort in raising awareness among residents, enhancing neighborhood watch, commonly known as Irondo and sharing timely information with security

In his address to residents, Badege explained that the recent RNP initiative to donate Solar Power to residents is part of the force's priority to improve welfare of residents.

He appreciated commitment and efforts of residents to prevent crimes and consequently hit the target to make Gatare village a crime free village and challenged them to ensure that they become a crime-free village.

Badege further urged them to walk the talk and put much focus on crimes like narcotic drugs and GBV.

"Crimes like defilement and drug abuse, not only frustrate basic human rights, but the vices also hold back the country's progress," said Badege.

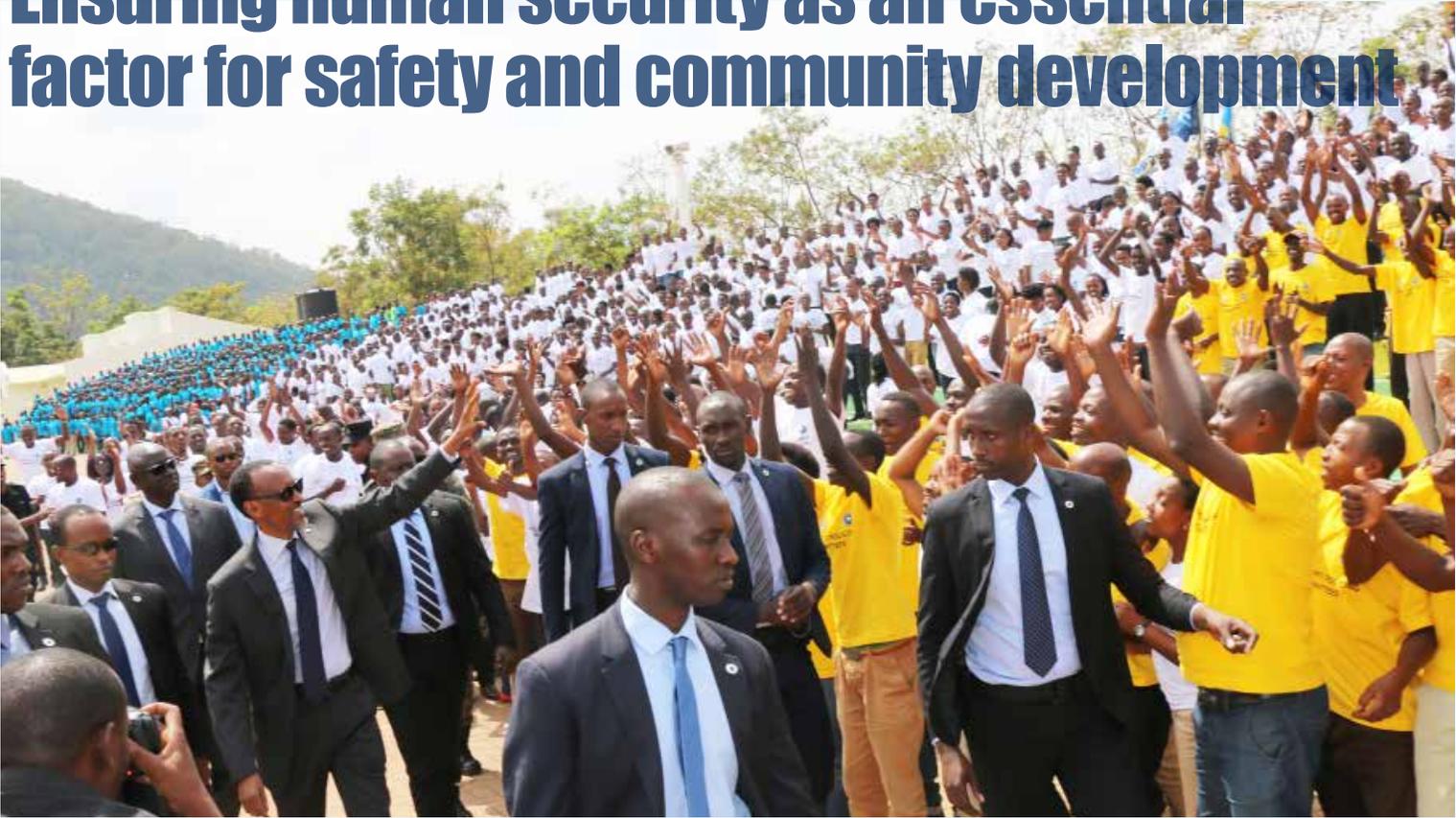
The Mayor of Rwamagana District, Mbonyumuvunyi, commended the overall existing partnership of RNP with residents, not only in security matters but also nation building.

"Over the past years, residents of Gatare Village lived in isolation due to lack of electricity, but people are able to freely work and move around even at night. This is a sign of development," the District Mayor noted.



POLICE WEEK 2017:

Ensuring human security as an essential factor for safety and community development



On May 16, Rwanda National Police (RNP) officially launched the countrywide community development activities to mark its 17th anniversary. Since 2010,

RNP in collaboration with its policing partners has conducted this annual campaign best known as 'Police Week.'

Police Week is yet another opportunity to deepen the Police-Public partnership and citizenry participation in inclusive policing as a proactive and efficient tool in crime prevention and own security.

The 4th resolution of the 13th National Dialogue of December 2015, demands deepened citizen participation in planning, monitoring, and implementation of development programmes. Police Week, therefore, responds to this demand by ensuring effective engagement between the police and the community, along with other government institutions and partners in addressing existing human security needs in collaboration with citizens as they take part in their own security and development issues.

Thus, RNP strongly believe that enhanced citizen participation in the maintenance of security produces enormous dividends that help to strengthen the pillar of law and order and to support efforts geared towards sustainable

development and social wellbeing of the people.

Police Week activities

The month-long activities to mark the 17th anniversary under the flagship of the annual Police Week, focused on human security-related issues of poverty alleviation, environmental protection, health and hygiene; disaster management, raising awareness against human and drug trafficking, gender-based violence and child abuse; genocide ideology, corruption, and road safety.

The community development and anti-crime awareness activities came to a climax on Police Day – June 16 – a day when RNP was created in the year 2000 as an efficient and effective force in addressing the security challenges that were relatively high at the time.

During the month-long development activities valued at over Rwf371.7 million, RNP distributed and connected over 3400 households (at least one Village in each of the 30 districts) and 30 health centres with solar energy. The connected homes are those that are far from the national electricity grid.

Other community development

activities conducted include the following;

- Medical insurance for 700 people
- Constructed two playgrounds – in Gasabo and Rutsiro districts worth Rwf53.8 million
- Fighting armyworms - sprayed 46 hectares of the affected plantations
- Constructed 150 toilets worth over Rwf23 million
- Extension of clean tap water to over 600 households in Gasabo, Burera, Kirehe, Rwamagana, Rutsiro and Nyamagabe districts – Rwf27.5 million
- In environmental protection about 20 hectares of forests were reforested;
- 10 hectares of terraces prepared on hilly areas, and created water trenches
- Constructed and renovated 72km of feeder roads
- Constructed nine bridges linking

communities

- Constructed and renovated a combined 53 houses for the disadvantaged families
- Prepared 16 organic gardens for the disadvantaged households

On the other hand, under the 'Safe Driving: Saves Life' campaign, RNP erected more signposts and either created or repainted Zebra Crossings in hotspots especially around schools

Police Day

The Police Day held on June 16, was presided over by HE Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda.

The colourful ceremony held at Kigali stadium was also attended by other senior government officials and attracted about 10,000 partners in policing organized in various groups including members of Community Policing Committees, Rwanda Youth Volunteers in Community policing, Anti-crime clubs from schools, commercial motorcyclists associations, Anti-crime Ambassadors mainly composed of local artistes, and members of District Administrative.

Security Support Organ (DASSO), among others.

The Head of State commended the existing partnership between the public and RNP, saying that this ideal be deepened to further ensure peace and security, which the country deserves in its transformation process.

President Kagame said: "The Police cannot succeed when working alone but it can achieve its goals when



working in collaboration they should always be define their values, which ultimately contribute to the country's transformation process. "Rwandans should have trust, confidence and be part of their police," the President said.

The celebrations also included the pass-out of the ninth cadet intake of 363 officers, who were conferred upon the rank of Assistant Inspector of Police (AIP) by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

17 years of vibrant Partnership in Policing

The last 17 years have defined the meaning of partnership in policing. The current safety and security as determined by local, regional and international reports that have placed Rwanda as one of the safest countries globally, is partly attributed to this valuable partnership between RNP and other public and private institutions under the grand and visionary leadership.

These achievements are documented in the book titled: "Policing a Rapidly Transforming Post-Genocide Society," which highlights 10-key priorities

of the strategic framework of RNP that serves as the architecture for preventing and combating crime threats in Rwanda. These key priorities include:

Capacity Building

- Force Discipline Crime Reduction
- Community Policing
- International Cooperation and Peace Support
- Operations
- Anti-corruption
- E-Policing
- Media and Communications
- Welfare and Infrastructure Development

Community Policing

Community Policing is a philosophy premised on Police-Public Partnership and is characterised by proactive approaches that combine awareness campaigns against crime with human security initiatives which create opportunities for Police-Public interaction. This helps to improve the quality of life for the communities by addressing concerns that would otherwise give rise to security issues and crime.



STOLEN & RECOVERED

RNP hands over three South African vehicles recovered in Rwanda



Rwanda National Police (RNP), on September 19, handed over three South African vehicles that were stolen and intercepted while transiting through Rwanda.

The vehicles handed over to their rightful owners included a Range Rover, a Toyota Land cruiser pickup and a Toyota Fortuner – all intercepted entry points.

The Range Rover was intercepted on March 5, this year as it entered Rwanda from Uganda. Its original colour had been changed to blue and given a new plate number – UAV 147C.

The Toyota Land-cruiser pickup stolen five years ago was intercepted on February 11, last year as it crossed into Rwanda from Tanzania. At the time, its original number plates had been changed to T753 CGM.

Meanwhile, the Toyota Fortuner intercepted on May 30, 2016 had South African registration numbers, although not the original one.

It is said that all the vehicles were destined to DR Congo.

The vehicles were handed over to their rightful owners at the RNP General Headquarters in Kacyiru in the presence of the South African Police Officers.

Bernard Kobus, the owner of a Toyota Landcruiser pickup thanked both the Rwanda and South African police forces for the efforts invested in recovering his vehicle.

“Five years ago, I went to attend a church meeting along with my neighbor in Free State Province, and parked our vehicles outside but we never locked them. Minutes later, we heard engines starting and when we got out both vehicles were gone,” Kobus said

Peter Cawood, the owner of Toyota Fortuner, said: “It’s fantastic how we are benefiting from this police cooperation. My vehicle was stolen a year ago, I reported to police and indeed they have recovered it.”

The South African Police also received the Range Rover on behalf of the owner.

The official handover was also witnessed by representative of the South African insurance companies that has insured the vehicles.

“This is another success registered by law enforcers that result from good cooperation. This proves how cooperation makes us all powerful and far-reaching,” said Captain François Conradie.

While handing over the vehicle, the Commissioner for Interpol at RNP, Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Peter Karake, noted that they vehicles were intercepted with the use of the Interpol’s I-24/7 communication system.

The system connects all the 190 Interpol member countries. Information filled in the system on lost or stolen item can be accessed by all members.

“The Interpol I-24/7 system has fundamentally changed the way the global law enforcement community works jointly to combat such sophisticated transnational crimes,” ACP Karake said, warning that “Rwanda will never be a haven or transit of any for stolen material.”

“Criminals always have market but the most important thing is how law enforcement agencies share information. Such cooperation makes it hard for criminal syndicates to operate in our region,” he added.

ACP Karake noted that RNP stand committed to working and cooperating with regional and international law enforcement agencies in fighting and preventing cross-border crimes including vehicle theft.

With the help of the international Police communication system, RNP intercepted at least 38 vehicles stolen from different parts of the world in the last two years, include one reportedly stolen from Mexico, which was intercepted this Monday.



STOLEN & RECOVERED

RECOVERY of Euros 300, 000 stolen from UAE Exchange Company

On August 1, RNP handed over Euros300, 000 (Approx. Rwf291m) to UAE Exchange Rwanda LTD, after it was recovered from two suspected thieves. The money was recovered in Gatsibo District from one Pierre Nkubana, the young of Alexis Nkubito, a former employee of UAE Exchange Rwanda LTD, and the prime suspect. Both brothers were arrested.

Nkubito was on July 27, instructed by his boss to send 3 million euros to Dubai. However, Nkubito sent only 2.7 million Euros only.

It was until the recipients in China notified the sending company that they had received less

the amount that the latter realized they had been robbed, and reported the matter to police.

"In just six hours from the time we reported the case to the time the money was recovered; this sends a strong message that police will always be there and watching your back. It is a strong assurance to investors. Any investor would want to operate in a country like Rwanda where security is guaranteed, and when such an incident happens you are assured the police will fix it," UAE Exchange Country Head, Naghoor Riyaz, said.



Rwf13.5 million stolen from travel agency recovered

RNP recovered Rwf13.5million that was stolen from Waheguru Travels Ltd in Nyarugenge District, on August 16. The money was recovered a day after from one Livingstone Twahirwa, a marketing officer of Waheguru Travels Ltd, the prime suspect, who was also arrested.

Twahirwa was intercepted in Kayonza District, trying to flee. On the fateful day, the suspect had been given a cheque to withdraw Rwf13.6 million from I\$M bank, by his boss, Kautuk Chandra Kumar.

After withdrawing the money, Twahirwa went missing, which prompted his boss to report the matter to the Police that led to immediate investigations and subsequent arrest.

"I am very thankful to Rwanda Police for the professionalism they exhibited to recover the money. As soon as I informed them about the theft, they assured me they would do their best to recover and bring the suspect to justice, and this justifies what they said and meant," Kumar said.

Nyamasheke: Housemaid arrested for stealing Rwf1.3 million from employer

On August 20, Police in Nyamasheke District recovered about Rwf1.35 million, which had been stolen by one Pascasie Uwamahoro, a domestic worker. The money belonged to her employer.

Burera: House help held over theft of Rwf1.3m from employer

One Jean Claude Bizimana, a house help, was arrested in July in Burera District with Rwf1.3 million, which he had stolen from his employer in Kicukiro District. The Money was returned to the rightful owner.

Ruhango: Police recovers 27 stolen computers

Twenty-seven laptop computers stolen from Groupe Scolaire Nyamagana in Ruhango District in June, were recovered by the Police. Six people connected to the theft were arrested.

RNP hands over Kenyan stolen and recovered vehicle

RNP, on August, 18, handed over a Kenyan vehicle that was stolen and recovered in Rwanda. The vehicle originally with registration numbers were KCG 780W, was reportedly stolen in December 2015 and taken to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

It was intercepted last year as it tried to cross into Rwanda. It was at the time found bearing Congolese registration numbers 2174AC/20.

The vehicle was handed over to Inspector Nelson Munga and Police constable Winnie Jebet, who represented the Kenyan police at the RNP headquarters in Kacyiru.

Clamping down on human trafficking in Rwanda



Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Peter Karake, Commissioner for Interpol in Rwanda National Police (RNP).

Every year, thousands of people majority women and girls, fall into the hands of traffickers, in their own countries and abroad. Almost every country in the world is affected by trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims. Rwanda is no exception.

The United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) labels human trafficking, also known as trafficking in persons as a serious crime and a grave violation of human rights.

It is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purposes of exploitation. Exploitation include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour

or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

The UNODC 2016 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons indicates that more than half of the 2,580 victims detected in Sub-Saharan Africa, whose form of exploitation was reported, were trafficked for forced labour.

According to Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Peter Karake, the commissioner for Interpol in Rwanda National Police (RNP), owing to the fact that human smuggling is a global concern that requires immediate attention, the force has put in place preventive measures.

“The measures are both internal and external in nature. We have laws in place to implement, awareness campaigns to enlighten Rwandans on the nature of the problem and their role in preventing

these inhuman acts, but also the external frameworks with other police institutions and organizations to locate and rescue victims wherever they may be,” said ACP Karake. RNP currently enjoys close to 25 bilateral and about ten multilateral ties with police institutions and organizations, respectively. This is in addition to at least 30 local memorandums of understanding signed with all the districts, partly to raise awareness against human trafficking and people smuggling.

Human trafficking is the trade of humans, most commonly for the purpose of forced labour, sexual slavery, or commercial sexual exploitation for the trafficker or others whereas people smuggling implies the procurement, for personal financial or material gain, of the illegal entry into a state of which that person is neither a citizen nor a permanent, fraudulently.

“Through these partnership structures, we were able to rescue at least 88 human trafficking and people smuggling victims since 2014 – majority girls – and arrested a number of traffickers. Some of the victims were intercepted even before crossing our borders,” says ACP Karake.

Indeed, on Tuesday, Police in Burera District intercepted and arrested a 20-year old woman, who was trafficking

four young girls aged between 11 and 15 years, to Uganda.

Available statistics also indicate that between 2009 and 2013 alone, RNP handled over 36 cases involving 153 victims including either Rwandans or foreigners in transit route intercepted in Rwanda, including 51 Bangladeshis. Overall, 90 per cent of the victims are females and 82 per cent of them aged between 18 and 35.

Majority victims are rescued from Uganda, Mozambique, South Africa, Oman, China, Dubai, Malaysia and other Asian countries, says ACP Karake. “Other two girls are set to return home soon from Malaysia after facilitating the Malaysian justice in the prosecution of two people suspected to have trafficked them,” he disclosed.

The said court case of the two suspected traffickers resumes this Thursday in Malaysia where the girls are set to give their testimonies before they start their journey back home.

ACP Karake says that due to the good cross-border partnership with other police forces, majority of suspects are tried in countries where they are arrested. Currently, RNP also has an anti-human trafficking directorate, partly charged with locating and rescuing victims as well as ensuring that suspects are put on the Interpol log – I-24/7 communication tool – of wanted criminals, which ACP Karake says, have facilitated the process.

Over the years, the Government of Rwanda strengthened programmes to combat and prevent trafficking, including through awareness-raising campaigns, social service programmes to identify and assist women and children at risk of trafficking, and increased law enforcement training.

Supt. Belline Mukamana, the director of the anti-GBV and child abuse, says that educating women and girls on the ills of human trafficking forms part of their community outreach programmes, as a preventive measure.

Human trafficking, under articles 250 to 272 of the Rwanda penal code, is punishable with a sentence between seven and ten years and fine of Rwf5 million to Rwf10 million. If it is done at the international level, the sentence ranges between ten and 15 years and a fine of Rwf10 million to Rwf20 million.

On the regional level, under the framework of cross-border cooperation, operation Usalama is conducted every year – for the past for years - in all Eastern and Southern countries under their umbrella organizations EAPCCO and SARPCCO, respectively, partly to fight human trafficking.

This year’s two-day operation conducted concurrently in about 30 EAPCCO and SARPCCO member countries including Rwanda, started on October 4.



Call for 'safety precautions' despite fall in fire outbreaks



Police has called upon the general public to always take safety precautions against fire outbreaks, despite the decrease of fire incidents by 40 percent since the beginning of the year compared to the same period last year.

In an interview, Commanding Officer for the Rwanda National Police (RNP) Fire and Rescue Brigade, Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Jean Baptiste Seminega, attributed the decrease to awareness campaigns that the police embarked on educating people on "safety standards."

Last year, the fire and rescue unit trained over 20000 members of the public in firefighting and prevention and inspected over 1, 200 public and private facilities.

"In May this year, for example, we recorded 15 incidents; in June and July, we recorded a combined 14 incidents. The decline is not what we are looking at... we need to ensure that no incident happens, and that starts from an individual responsibility at home, school and owners of facilities, by taking all necessary safety measures," ACP Seminega said.

Most fire incidents investigated, he said, were caused by carelessness, short circuit due poor or substandard electric installations, overloading the system, and unattended candles in homes.

He gave a reference to some cases of carelessness where people who use gas-cooker and forget to switch it off, which in some cases prompt a fire.

Rwanda Bureau of Standards (RBS) specifies only insulated copper cables with a cross-



section area between 1.5mm² to 6mm². Substandard cables seized from the market or installed in some of the affected facilities are found to be having conductors made mainly of aluminum with a thin coating of copper material around the aluminum conductor, which are immune to short-circuit.

ACP Seminega pointed out that fires lead to enormous economic loss and sometimes loss of lives. Between 2012 and 2014, property worth about Rwf5 billion including buildings, were destroyed in fire incidents throughout the country.

"This much loss prompted us to go back on the drawing board to identify and mitigate the causes including public sensitization, acquiring hi-tech firefighting equipment that are in line

with the level of development," the CO said.

The department that started with two non-firefighting vehicles and 16 trained police officers in 2002 currently boasts of close to 20 hi-tech firefighting trucks and other rescue equipment, and about 150 trained firefighters.

With firefighting trucks currently stationed at the regional level, plans are underway to acquire more trucks, which will be deployed down to the district level.

The Force established a toll free number, 111, which citizens can call for emergency in case of a fire outbreak, as well as 112 for Emergency, Commanding Officer and fire stations lines, 0788311120, 0788311224, 0788311657 and 0788311335.

PRACTICAL steps and community efforts to PREVENT suicide

Rose Uwimana, 21, (not real name), who lives in Kigali, recently, tried to take her life. By God's grace, Uwimana's life was saved by residents who rushed her to the hospital where she was diagnosed with an intoxicated drink she had taken in an attempt to commit suicide.

Apparently, the attempted suicide was related to domestic issues.

Suicide is an extremely distressing event that can have profoundly disruptive effects on the family, friends and communities of the deceased. It is defined as the act of intentionally killing oneself.

Medical experts say that suicide is a tragedy not only for the victim but also for the surviving family and friends, who may experience trauma expressed through feelings of grief, emptiness, guilt, failure or shame. A pertinent question in Uwimana's case is; why should a young girl of just 21 years try to end her life?

Causes

According to Dr. Ngirababyeyi Alfred, a specialist psychiatrist at CARAES Ndera Neuropsychiatric Hospital, suicide is an "unfortunate act with purpose, but preventable."

"There are several causes of attempts to commit suicide but common among them are psychotropic substance misuse such as cannabis, excessive and addictive alcoholism; personality disorders, and history of victimization," says Dr. Ngirababyeyi.

Indeed, some of the people admitted at Ndera Neuropsychiatric Hospital and other rehabilitation centres are drug addicts, whose mental disorder caused by drugs, can influence their decision to commit suicide, if not helped, according to Dr. Ngirababyeyi.

Medical experts also say that suicide can occur as a result of mental disorders such as schizophrenia (mental disorder which is characterized by a wide range of unusual behaviors, like hearing voices (hallucinations) and distorted or false perception, often bizarre beliefs, mood disorders and depression.

Other causes may include a sense of hopelessness

"Fighting and prevention of use of illicit drugs and other causes, and early treatment and rehabilitation of patients can go a long way in preventing such extreme tendencies," Dr. Ngirababyeyi notes.

Dr. Ngirababyeyi, however, says that some attempts only stop at treating the patient but don't address the underlying causes of attempted suicide.

"Suicidal ideas, threats and attempts must always be taken seriously because about one-third of people who try to commit suicide will try it again within one year."

He observes that at least 10 percent of people, who threaten or try to commit suicide will eventually kill themselves, adding that about 90 percent are related to psychiatric disorders.

"Patients need psycho-social therapy after treatment to address the initial causes of any attempt to terminate their life."

Although there are no clear statistics of suicide cases triggered by drug abuse, Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Theos Badege, Rwanda National Police (RNP) spokesperson, says: "It is unfortunate that people commit suicide under different circumstances. We continue to appeal to the public to partner with police and even medical practitioner to prevent anything that can influence such, and to ensure that those who try to end their lives, get medical care as soon as possible."

Medics say that such psychotropic substances affects one's thinking and influences them to act contrary.

He maintains that even when someone has been wronged in one way or another, taking your life is not a solution to the problem but an addition, adding that there are institutions including police, local authorities and courts where complaints can be heard and handled, rather than ending a life.

He reemphasizes active participation in community social programme – Umugoroba W'ababyeyi – where security, socio-economic and cultural issues are also raised and addressed.

Religious and traditional views on suicide

Rt. Rev. Nathan Kamusiime Gasatura, the bishop of Butare Diocese, who is also a psychologist and theologian expert, says: "People that tend towards suicide will often be the kind of people who have lost their sense of value, hope, dignity self-love for and from others."

Quoting one Professor Balise Pascal, Bishop Gasatura observes: "man has been created by God to serve God and thereby deriving his fullness and fulfillment of purpose...and that though Man tries to fill his life, many things materially intellectually, socially and economically, that Life keeps a 'deficit'...man remains empty until he

"It is unfortunate that people commit suicide under different circumstances. We continue to appeal to the public to partner with police and even medical practitioner to prevent anything that can influence such, and to ensure that those who try to end their lives, get medical care as soon as possible."

and presence of impulsive – aggressive traits, and family conflicts.

According to 2015 World Health Organization (WHO) report, the total number of people with depression was estimated to exceed 300 million globally.

In Rwanda, at least 12 people committed since the beginning of this year.

fills his life with God."

"Family structures need to be strongly buttressed...so that children grow up in well-adjusted balanced and stable homes," says Bishop Gasatura.

To the Mufti of Rwanda, Sheikh Salim Habimana, Islam strongly condemns taking one's own life.

"Allah has given life to each of us to do his work on earth. Our bodies belong to Him, not to ourselves. So, it is up to Him to decide when our work on earth is finished, not up to us," Sheikh Habimana says.

"According to Quran teaching, no person who commits suicide will see heaven."

Role of society

On what the community can do, the Mufti believes society has the keys to stopping such suicide attempts by fighting anything that can influence it.

"In Islam, this is why we don't allow alcohol which can be a motivating factor to take one's own life, because alcohol and other substance use impair the mind hence aiding absurd choices."

"These are issues that family and neighbors should and can immediately address," the Mufti believes.

To Dr. Ngirababyeyi, who has over ten years experience as a psychiatrist, communities need to beware of indicators that may lead to suicide, to make primary interventions like taking the person to trained psychiatrists or help support efforts to successfully address potential causes.

"As with other illnesses like heart disease and cancer, suicide cannot be prevented by prayer alone. Medical treatment is the answer God provides to our prayers. Societies such as faith-based organization should preach against such and also need specialized people to be able to provide primary counseling," says Dr. Ngirababyeyi.

Rwandan culture control

The Rwandan culture, like other organized communities have inherent traditional practices that discourage suicide

According to 81-year old Francois Furere, an elder in Kinyinya Sector of Gasabo District, traditionally, no decent burial "Mourning would barely take place in such a family and in extreme cases the body would be even humiliated," Frere reminisces.

He adds that the practice was intended to minimize tendencies to take precious lives. "Traditionally, suicide is viewed as an act of cowardice," observes Furere.

He likens it with disciplinary norms in police or military where an officer, who takes their life, is not accorded respect and honor even at burial.

Police officers donate blood



Close to 700 Police officers, yesterday, donated blood as part of the force's efforts to boost the national blood banks managed by the National Centre for Blood Transfusion (NCBT).

Led by the Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIGP) in charge of Administration and Personnel, Juvenal Marizamunda, Commissioners, Senior, Junior, and Non-Commissioned officers, queued the Rwanda National Police (RNP) General Headquarters in Kacyiru in the voluntary blood donation exercise.

It is the second time this year that the Police has donated blood.

The voluntary exercise is in line with the Memorandum of Understanding between RNP and Rwanda Biomedical Centre (RBC) signed in March this year, which binds the two institutions in aspects of health and security related healthcare.

The agreement also focuses on fighting against illicit drugs, sexual and gender based violence; mental health interventions; prevention and detection of fraud and public funds embezzlement in healthcare agencies, among others.

Speaking shortly after the humanitarian act, yesterday, DIGP Marizamunda said that public safety encompasses a lot of things, including their health and welfare.

"That's why police officers are actively involved in blood donation and other healthcare activities," DIGP Marizamunda said.

"Safety is a wide aspect; physical security and public healthcare are essential life needs. This is why police officers have committed



themselves to join the campaign to have enough blood in the bank to save those in need and to save lives," the Deputy IGP said.

Adeline Niyondamya, a mobilization official at the Blood Transfusion center, commended the officers that showed up in big number to donate blood.

"This is an act of saving lives...giving patients another chance to live," Niyondamya said.

"We always work together with RNP in ensuring public health welfare; blood donation signifies the value, dedication and sacrifice our police have for the people," she said.

The National Blood Transfusion Center has seen an upsurge of blood collections from 22,970 units collected in 2000 tripling to 61,109 in 2016. About 53, 000 units were donated in 2015, according to the biomedical centre.

The center recently received a continental Level Three accreditation, the top most level that African Society for Blood Transfusion (AFSBT) awards for quality and meeting operational requirements that meet international standards.

Rwanda is the second country in Africa to receive the level three award after Namibia.



Senior Sergeant Alexis Murenzi from Rwanda National Police's Traffic and Road Safety Department was in October customer service champion award during the event to mark the International Customer Service Week. He was among the ten best services providers from different institutions across the country nominated by the public.

At the dinner gala, the crowd applauded the selected 10 for their excellent services in their different capacities as they received their award from the chief guests and as the stories as to why they were nominated were shared.

Senior Sergeant Murenzi's nomination sent strong waves of excitement especially on social media with people appreciating his services.

Reactions from Twitter



Vehicle mechanical inspection booking goes online

Owners of vehicles will no longer have to queue for arrival number at mechanical inspection centres to have their automobiles inspected for their roadworthiness as the Traffic and Road Safety department has shifted from manual to online booking.

Under the new system, booking will be done through the web platform, Irembo and through mobile banking services, according to the traffic spokesperson.

"We have shifted completely to online booking. This is an effective and efficient system, where a vehicle owner can choose any centre of their choice at their ample time and day," CIP Kabanda said.

Easy guide to online mechanical inspection booking

Whether booking through Irembo or Mobile (*909#), you select applicant type (Individual or company).

For an individual, you select the type of visit (first or second); fill in the car plate number; select driver's licence type (local/foreign); fill in the driver's licence number; select the inspection centre of your choice, appointment date; choose the notification mode (SMS or email); and proceed to payment procedures. For companies, you fill in the code provided by Rwanda National Police, company name

and address, type of visit, plate numbers, type of driver's licence, inspection centre, select appointment date and choose the notification mode."Under the new arrangement, applicants have a choice to pay using a credit card, mobile financial services or in the bank. Upon payment, the applicant receives a confirmation message through the preferred notification mode – email or SMS to as confirmation of a successful applicant," said CIP Kabanda.

"The same online booking system also has options for those with duplicate of Motor vehicle inspection certificate, either as an individual or company as well as deposit features for companies."

"This hi-tech registration and booking system will break queues in banks; it's less time consuming and easily accessible. This is part of the Rwanda National Police ongoing reforms to ensure service excellence at all levels.

Youth urged to transform country's destiny



Rosemary Mbabazi, Minister of Youth addressing participants during the meeting.

The youth in Rwanda have been challenged to seize the existing opportunities and work hard towards self development and growth of the nation.

The Minister of Youth Rosemary Mbabazi made the call yesterday while speaking at the one day retreat for members of Rwanda Youth Volunteers in Community Policing (RYVCP), held at the Rwanda National Police (RNP) General Headquarters in Kigali..

She reminded the youngsters, who included the national executive committee and district coordinators of the youth organisation, to step-up campaigns to curb drug abuse and trafficking, which she said it ruins the future of the current generation "Rwanda cannot maximize its potential

for national transformation and accomplish all that it has set out to do without the sustained work of young people like you," Minister Mbabazi said.

Speaking about the role of 'Youth in National development,' the Minister spoke at length the vital role youth played during the liberation of the country and called for "ownership" and to take up the mantle to "lead the nation's transformation process."

The young people, she noted, were among the significant number of Rwandans who have been making a "valuable contribution today and in the past even in the face of political, economic and social challenges."

Earlier on, the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Emmanuel K. Gasana commended the good work done by the youth volunteers in

community policing towards crime prevention and community development, but cautioned against complacency which may erode achievements so far registered.

The Police Chief challenged them to shun the wait-and-see attitude and instead tap into opportunities the current economic situation presents.

"You should have passion in what you are doing," he said, urging them to continue to be innovative and mobilize more members in quest to join hands with leadership and police to curb criminality in their localities.

"Remain focused...bring more members on board and work as a big team in positive activities, continue to drive the national transformation agenda including fighting lawlessness" said the IGP.



How police fights corruption

The decision by the Rwanda National Police (RNP) to dismiss 198 police officers early this year caught many people by surprise. These were officers, who have been implicated in graft and various forms of malpractice over the last three years.

Most surprising was not only that the number was large, but that the police was willing to put itself out there for all to see. There were some out there, who thought that the best thing to do was – not to laud the police for the transparency it had shown – to try to score cheap political points with claims about the extent of corruption in Rwanda. Then – as now – the right thing to do is to think of the lessons.

Someone may be driven to corruption for two broad reasons; someone is either conditioned to see corruption as a normal practice or they may be in circumstances that induce them to consider corruption when they otherwise would not have taken part in it. The key difference is that the former has normalized the vice (a way of life) while the latter understands that they are taking part in an abnormal behaviour for a time they consider temporary (to solve a problem). But this is not an exact science and at times the lines become blurry. For instance, if one seeks to solve a temporary problem through corruption...it becomes a way of life.

In any case, the fact that corruption is a crime means that neither of the two reasons serves as an excuse to undertake corruption and those caught in the act must be held accountable regardless of the impetus that drove them into committing the vice. However, understanding the broad drivers of corruption helps to establish mechanisms to discourage the vice and to weed-out those, who are unable to conform to the standards set by those mechanisms.

Two aspects of the strategy are worth pointing out. First, the police have invested in welfare programmes with the intention of addressing some of the basic needs of its servicemen and women.

As is the case with categories of public servants where salary increments have serious effects on the national purse – such as army and teachers – the government has tended to put in place welfare schemes that help to bolster the incomes of servicemen and women.

What is clear, therefore, is that the fight against corruption must be multidimensional in nature. It must identify the multiple fronts used to peddle it and clog them in ways that are sustainable by targeting the motivations of taking part in the vice.

For instance, police officers – as is the case for army and prisons officers – are beneficiaries of the armed forces shop that provides discounted groceries and are also provided with healthcare coverage through the Military Medical Insurance (MMI) scheme.

As incidental to the strategy as it may be, it would be an oversight not to state that police officers who have gone to peacekeeping missions have had their welfare improved as a result of the financial savings they are able to make while on tour-of-duty.

Second, the police have invested in the automation of its systems in order to minimise human contact in service delivery – geared towards fighting corruption. The adopted e-policing services are meant to implement this objective. In the department of moto-vehicle, for instance, driver's licence registration has been taken online, with the system able to provide information on the entire procedure leading to acquiring a permit (day, time, and location of the road test).

Moreover, plans are underway to establish a fully-fledged One-stop Centre for driver's licence examination to provide all driving test services in one place. The theory exams will be done electronically and the practicals will be monitored by sensors. As a result, the avenues for soliciting bribes in the acquisition of a driver's licence are strategically being closed.

The police – in the spirit of openness – have signed agreements of collaboration with



AIP D. Mukundwa

various institutions that are mandated with monitoring public agencies such as the Office of the Ombudsman and the Rwanda Governance Board in order to share good practices in the fight against corruption. It is through the same spirit that the force is able to create working relationships with Transparency International (TI-Rwanda), the independent anti-corruption watchdog, where assessments can be undertaken and areas of improvement are suggested and implemented. The RNP service charter launched last year in conjunction with TI-Rwanda is one lively example of the ideal of partnership.

The memorandum of understanding signed with all the 30 districts also, partly, underlines mechanisms of fighting corruption in the country, jointly.

In addition to these measures, the police press serious efforts in ensuring force discipline. The Police Ethics Centre was created to reinforce the values that a Rwandan would like to see in the servicemen and women in blue. At the Centre, norms of professional conduct are reinforced through continuous training in the form of seminars and conferences that are conducted by persons of integrity inside Rwanda as well as those from the region and beyond.

A police officer, who has undergone a temporary setback from the ethical guidelines, norms, and doctrines, is referred to the Police Disciplinary Unit (PDU). The Unit is responsible for oversight geared towards reinforcing force discipline; it provides checks and balances and has a facility, the police disciplinary centre, where officers with discipline-related transgressions are sent to reflect.

What is clear, therefore, is that the fight against corruption must be multidimensional in nature. It must identify the multiple fronts used to peddle it and clog them in ways that are sustainable by targeting the motivations of taking part in the vice.

Above all, a spirit of openness is key and fighting corruption is among key priorities of Rwanda National Police.



Light shines in Gatsibo as police connects crime-free village with solar energy

All roads, yesterday, led to Kagarama village of Gitoki sector of Gatsibo District where the Governor of the Eastern Province, Fred Mufuruki presided over the launch of the crime free village.

Kagarama Village, according to police reports, has not recorded any crime for the last three years, and residents attribute this to their village chief, Patrick Bimenyimana, who made sure that the government security and development programmes are interpreted, understood and well implemented by the people.

As an appreciation for the residents of Kagarama, Rwanda National Police (RNP) connected all the 153 households that constitute the village, with solar energy valued at a tune of over Rwf13 million, as a reward for their outstanding implementation of the community policing concept.

"We have government programmes to implement, and we have good leadership that guides us. All we do is listen, understand and work as a team, and that's how we have been able to make our village safe and focused," said Bimenyimana.

Bimenyimana is a respected and trusted leader in his village for his social economic efforts to develop his community and to achieve the status of a crime-free village, as currently known.

Kagarama has active community policing committees, Irondo (community night patrols), all the 609 residents are organised in clusters - with each cluster composed of 15 households; all children supposed to be in school are known, and indeed all in school; 100% covered with medical insurance; all households are organised in cooperatives and meet at least twice weekly under Umugoroba w'ababyeyi to discuss community issues.

"With such an organisation, we are able to prevent any security threat and resolve potential issues that may disturb the community peace and the social welfare of the people," adds the village chief.

As he speaks, the 41 year old father of five is repeatedly interrupted with laud cheers for his elocution and knowledge of all government development programs and current affairs.

Paul Kanamu, 63, and Muheshi sylvan, 65, attest the way their chairman has reorganized this for everyone to be responsible.

"The chairman is our son; in the village he commands loyalty and respect for his fairness and consultations in resolving rather complex community challenges" says Kanamu. While addressing thousands of residents at the official

handover of the solar home systems, the Governor of the Eastern Province, Fred Mufuruki, said that Kagarama's experience is evident that sustainable security and development is possible with good leadership.

He challenged residents never to relent as it would be an "embarrassment with the all flattery the leadership has for the community."

"This should envy neighboring communities to follow suit to make their villages safer and developed," he Governor said.

The Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIGP) in charge of Administration and Personnel, Juvenal Marizamunda said, that RNP decided to reward Kagarama to show appreciation for community efforts to embrace the community policing concept.

"We are here to commend and congratulated you for listening to leadership and police in particular, and consequently reaping the benefits of security because of your effectiveness in fighting crime in your locality" the DIGP said.

He noted that if other communities adopt the neighborhood watch method they will get positive results. The Deputy Police Chief urged residents to save the resources previously spent on energy to invest in other ventures.

During the Police Week in June, RNP connected about 3400 households with solar home systems, countrywide, to support government community development efforts.

At least 120 households of Nyagihanga village in Nyagihanga Sector also in Gatsibo were connected.



