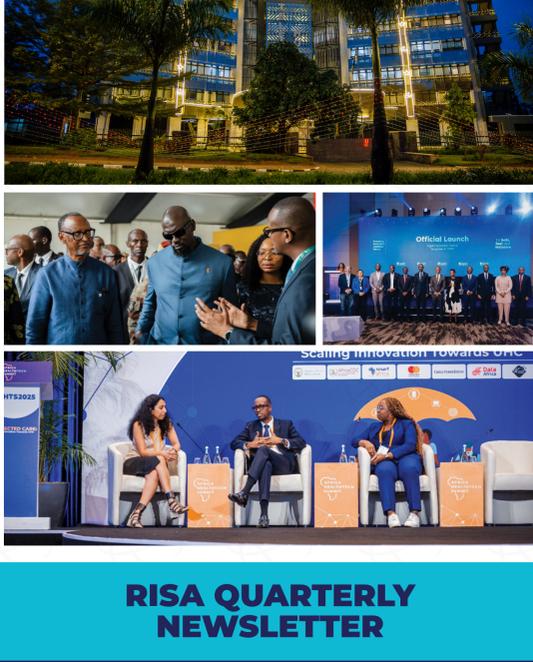


DIGITAL PULSE

Inside the issue



RISA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: 4

OCTOBER – DECEMBER, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this edition of RISA Digital Pulse, where we bring you highlights from Rwanda's continued journey toward an inclusive, innovative, and future-ready digital society. In this issue, we celebrate the people, platforms, and partnerships driving national transformation: from the impactful work of Digital Ambassadors and the unveiling of the upgraded Muhura Service Access Point in Gatsibo, to the success stories emerging from Hanga Hubs, including the 2025 startup incubation graduates and the national spotlight at Hanga Pitch Fest 2025.

We also recap key moments from major regional and global engagements where Rwanda showcased its leadership in digital health, artificial intelligence, and digital public infrastructure, including the Africa HealthTech Summit, MWC Kigali, and the Transform Africa Summit 2025.

This edition further shines a light on the vital role of partners such as the World Bank and the European Union, whose support amplified Rwanda's innovation presence at GITEX Global 2025, and introduces eKash, a landmark initiative ushering in a new era of interoperable digital payments in Rwanda.

Together, these stories reflect our shared commitment to ensuring that digital transformation delivers real impact for every Rwandan.

PROJECTS HIGHLIGHTS

Celebrating Rwanda's Digital Ambassadors and their impact



On October 17, Rwanda celebrated Digital Literacy Day 2025 at Intare Conference Arena, bringing together over 2,000 Digital Ambassadors, supervisors, partners, and community representatives under the theme "Digitale Ntigusige". The event highlighted the success of the Digital Ambassadors Program, which has trained more than 4.5 million citizens since 2017 and helped raise national digital literacy from 8.9% to over 75%. Leaders from RISA and MINICT emphasized the program's role in empowering citizens to access online services and participate in the digital economy, while partners such as KOICA and the World Bank were recognized for their support. With testimonies, awards, and a panel on community empowerment, the celebration reaffirmed Rwanda's commitment to achieving universal digital literacy by 2029 and advancing an inclusive, knowledge-based society.

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Empowering communities: Muhura SAP upgrade unveiled in Gatsibo



On October 2, 2025, RISA, along with KOICA, MINICT, and MINALOC, launched the upgraded Service Access Point (SAP) in Muhura Sector, Gatsibo District. In an event attended by national and local leaders who emphasized the importance of community-based digital centers in enabling citizens to access e-government services, internet connectivity, and digital literacy support through on-site Digital Ambassadors. The Muhura SAP is part of Rwanda's national effort to modernize 100 SAPs by 2029 under NST2 and Vision 2050, with newly re-equipped centers across several districts helping to expand digital inclusion, bring services closer to communities, and ensure that all citizens are empowered to participate in and benefit from the country's digital transformation journey.

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Hanga Hubs celebrate 2025 startup incubation graduates across Rwanda



From 6 to 7 November 2025, Hanga Hubs in Nyagatare, Muhanga, Rubavu, and Rusizi celebrated the successful completion of the 2025 Startup Incubation and Talent Development Program, marking a key milestone in Rwanda's innovation journey. The events recognized months of hands-on training and mentorship that enabled young innovators to transform ideas into market-ready solutions using digital fabrication tools, workspaces, and emerging technologies.

A total of 93 startups received Startup Certificates, while 150 innovators earned Entrepreneurial Certificates, reflecting strong participation and growing entrepreneurial capacity. Supported by partners including RISA, the ICT Chamber, district authorities, and the European Union, the program continues to strengthen the Hanga Hubs ecosystem and nurture a new generation of future-ready entrepreneurs driving Rwanda's digital transformation.

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From Hanga Hubs to national stage: Hanga Pitch Fest 2025



At Hanga Pitch Fest 2025, a high-level panel led by Innocent Asimwe Mudenge, RISA's Chief Operations and Strategy Officer, set the tone by highlighting the impact of Hanga Hubs in nurturing Rwanda's next generation of innovators through mentorship, access to tools, and tailored support. Panelists, including development partners and program beneficiaries, underscored how the hubs are transforming ideas into scalable, market-ready solutions. Held on 14 November 2025 under the theme "Inspiring and Igniting Innovation," the event culminated in a national pitch finale featuring five outstanding startups; Re-Banatex, NEEEM, Ambucycle, Ingoga Technologies, and Nabsil, selected after an intensive incubation journey. The celebration concluded with Re-Banatex named overall winner for its sustainable textile innovation, reinforcing Rwanda's commitment to fostering resilient, impactful, and inclusive innovation.

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EVENTS RECAP

Rwanda showcases digital health leadership at Africa HealthTech Summit 2025



Rwanda reaffirmed its continental leadership in Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) at the Africa HealthTech Summit 2025, held in Kigali from October 13-15, where policymakers and innovators discussed how digital systems can transform healthcare across Africa. Speaking on a high-level panel, RISA CEO Mr. Antoine Sebera shared Rwanda's experience in building interoperable digital systems including the National Health Intelligence Centre which enhance data collection, integration, and informed decision-making. He emphasized that effective digital health transformation begins with strong data foundations,

supported by robust infrastructure, innovation hubs, and regulatory frameworks such as Rwanda's Data Protection Law and Data Sharing Policy. The Summit also highlighted the need for greater private sector involvement to scale connected health systems, with Rwanda urging collaboration to advance universal health care. Through continued investment, strategic partnerships, and community-based initiatives, Rwanda remains committed to leveraging technology to strengthen health systems and improve lives across the continent.

RISA CEO shares Rwanda's AI journey at MWC Kigali 2025



At Mobile World Congress (MWC) Kigali 2025, RISA Chief Executive Officer Antoine Sebera participated in a high-level keynote panel on "Networks that Think: Harnessing AI for Scalable Telecom Growth," where he highlighted Rwanda's vision for using artificial intelligence to drive inclusive digital transformation. He shared insights on Rwanda's National AI Policy, which focuses on skills development, infrastructure, governance, and collaboration to ensure ethical, trusted, and people-centered AI adoption. The discussion emphasized the importance of partnerships, digital public infrastructure, and digital skills in expanding connectivity and enabling AI-powered solutions that support sustainable growth and improved service delivery across Africa.

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Rwanda showcases digital innovation at Transform Africa Summit 2025



Rwanda, through the Rwanda Information Society Authority (RISA) and the Ministry of ICT and Innovation (MINICT), participated in the Transform Africa Summit 2025, held from 12 to 14 November 2025 in Conakry, Guinea, under the theme "AI for Africa: Innovate Locally, Impact Globally." At the Rwanda Pavilion, RISA showcased the country's flagship digital solutions to regional and continental leaders, highlighting Rwanda's progress in digital public infrastructure, e-government services, innovation, and digital inclusion. The participation underscored Rwanda's leadership in Africa's digital transformation, its commitment to Smart Africa's vision, and its focus on using technology and artificial intelligence to drive inclusive growth, strengthen public service delivery, and foster cross-border collaboration and partnerships across the continent.

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PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

World Bank and EU, backed Rwanda's innovations at GITEX Global 2025



The Rwanda Information Society Authority (RISA) represented Rwanda at GITEX Global 2025, held from October 14-18, 2025 in Dubai, one of the world's leading technology exhibitions bringing together global innovators across AI, quantum computing, biotechnology, and digital infrastructure. Supported by the World Bank-funded Digital Acceleration Project, RISA coordinated Rwanda's delegation, which included MINICT, RDB, and innovative startups showcasing the country's digital transformation journey. Through the EU-funded Hanga Hub Project, RISA highlighted two standout startups VetDM Company Ltd, presenting its IoT-based livestock management platform and BASHIONS, showcasing sustainable automated wooden lamps; both of which engaged with potential investors and partners. Rwanda's participation reinforced its growing presence on the global innovation stage and its commitment to building a competitive, inclusive, and future ready digital economy.

INITIATIVE ALERTS

eKash: A new era for interoperable digital payments in Rwanda



On 5 December 2025, Rwanda officially launched eKash, the National Digital Payment System, marking a major milestone in the country's journey toward a cashless and inclusive digital economy. Designed as a national digital public good, eKash enables seamless and interoperable digital payments across banks and mobile money platforms, making transactions more accessible, secure, and efficient for all Rwandans. The system was developed through strong collaboration between RISA, the National Bank of Rwanda, RSWitch, Access to Finance Rwanda, with support from AfricaNenda, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the MojaLoop community, reinforcing Rwanda's leadership in building Digital Public Infrastructure that leaves no one behind.

LIFE AT RISA

Old School Vibes at the RISA End-of-Year Get-Together

On Tuesday, 23 December 2025, RISA staff came together at Telecom House for a lively end-of-year get-together filled with nostalgic old-school vibes. Inspired by the golden era of 2000-2010, the gathering took everyone back to the days before smartphones and smart systems.

With Old school music, departmental dance moments and a fun Best Throwback Outfit highlight, the event offered a relaxed way to reflect on the year's achievements and close 2025 in a spirit of unity and appreciation.

EDUCATION & OPPORTUNITY CORNER

Think you are a champion at keeping up with RISA initiatives? Put your knowledge to the test with this quick and fun Digital Pulse quiz.

From digital literacy milestones and innovation hubs to flagship platforms shaping Rwanda's digital future, the quiz covers key highlights from this edition of the newsletter.

Ready to prove it?

Take the Quiz!

[Click Here](#)

Let's see how closely you've been following Rwanda's digital transformation journey.