



**LANDSLIDE AND FLOOD HAZARDS AND VULNERABILITY IN NORTH-WESTERN RWANDA:  
TOWARDS APPLICABLE LAND MANAGEMENT AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (LAFHAZV)  
PROJECT.**

**STEERING COMMITTEE ON 26<sup>th</sup>, May 2023**

**STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING ON FRIDAY 26<sup>th</sup>, May, 2023 AT INES-RUHENGERI CAMPUS  
AN OPENING REMARKS FROM VC/INES-RUHENGERI**

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed invitees, distinguished guests from different Partner Institutions, fellow members of the INES-Ruhengeri community, good morning!

I stand before you today with immense pride and excitement as we gather here to mark the opening of this meeting. It is my honour to welcome you all and share some remarkable developments that have taken place within our institute.

**INES-Ruhengeri**, our Institute of Applied Sciences, remains steadfast in our commitment to fulfilling the traditional core mission of universities. Our dedication to teaching, learning, research, and community outreach has been the cornerstone of our success, and it continues to drive us forward in our pursuit of excellence.

Today, I am delighted to announce a ground-breaking initiative that exemplifies our unwavering dedication to innovation, collaboration, and the pursuit of knowledge. In 2019, **INES-Ruhengeri** joined forces with prestigious institutions such as the **University of Liege**, the **University of Namur**, and the **Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA)** to embark on a remarkable project: "***Landslide and Flood Hazards and Vulnerability in North-Western Rwanda: Towards Applicable Land Management and Disaster Risk Reduction***" (**LAFHAZV**).



This ambitious project, generously funded by the Belgian Cooperation through the "Académie de Recherche et d'Enseignement Supérieur (ARES)," aims to delve into the effects of Land Use/Land Cover (LULC) change over the past six decades. Through extensive research, we will examine how these changes have impacted **the intensity and frequency of landslides and floods**. Additionally, we will assess **the vulnerability of our population and the risks associated with these natural hazards**.

But our project goes beyond academic research and analysis. It is also a catalyst for capacity building and skills development. As part of this initiative, three of our esteemed lecturers have been awarded Ph.D. scholarship. Please join me in congratulating **Mr. Deogratias NAHAYO**, and **Mr. Pascal SIBOMANA from the Department of Civil Engineering**, and **Mrs. Clemence IDUKUNDA from the Department of Land Administration and Management**. Their dedication and expertise will play a pivotal role in driving this project forward and ensuring its success.

This collaboration between **INES-Ruhengeri**, the **University of Liège**, the **University of Namur**, and the **Royal Museum for Central Africa** is an embodiment of the power of partnership and collective action. It showcases our unwavering commitment to forging strong links with industrial and professional organizations, aligning academia with real-world challenges, and fostering a project-based learning approach.

We also recognize our Rwandan Partners including **Ministry of Environment (MoE)**, **Ministry in Charge of Emergency Management Agency (MINEMA)**, **Rwanda Water Board (RWB)**, **Rwanda Meteorology Agency**, **National Land Authority**, **Rwanda Polytechnics/IPRC-Kigali** and **University of Rwanda-College of Sciences and Technology**.

As we embark on this exciting endeavour, let us remember the profound impact it can have on **our community and beyond**. The knowledge and insights gained through this project will not only enhance our understanding of landslides and floods but also empower us to develop effective **land management strategies** and **mitigate the risks associated with natural disasters**. Our findings will have tangible, practical applications that can help safeguard lives, protect infrastructure, and ensure the sustainable development of our region.



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In conclusion, let us embrace the spirit of collaboration, innovation, and community outreach that defines INES-Ruhengeri. Let us support our colleagues involved in this project and applaud their commitment to pushing the boundaries of knowledge. Together, we can transform challenges into opportunities, forge new paths of discovery, and create a safer and more resilient future. Thank you all for your attention, and let us now commence this meeting with enthusiasm, determination, and a shared vision for excellence.

Thank you.



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### AGENDA OF THE DAY

Time	Activity	Responsible
8:30-9:00 am	Arrival of guests	All guests
9:00-9:15 am	Welcoming Speech	VC/INES-RUHENGERI
9:15-9:30 am	Introduction to the Project: LAFHZAV	Prof. Bernard
9:30-9:50 am	Presentation on " <b>Understanding Flood hazards</b> "	Mr.Deogratias NAHAYO
9:50-10:10	Presentation on " <b>Landslides and their relation to LULC</b> "	Mr. Pascal SIBOMANA
10:10-10:30	Presentation on " <b>vulnerability and risk assessment to flood and landslide hazards</b> "	Mrs. Clemence IDUKUNDA
10:30-11:00	Break time	All
11:00-11:15	Presentation on Tools used to identify of landslides and flooding	Dr.Olivier Dewitte
11:15-11:30	Presentation on "novel techniques to measure rainfall in Rwanda"	Prof. Kwinten Van Weverberg
11:30-12:30	Discussion	All
12:30-12:45	Wrap-up and way forward	Dr. Emmanuel
12:45-1:00	Closing Remarks	VC/INES-RUHENGERI
1:00-1:10	A group photo	All
1:10-2:30	Lunch & departure	All