CONCEPT PAPER

ENGINEERING CONVENTION AND ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2026

Theme: "Engineering a Resilient and Smart Rwanda

Date: Wednesday, 2nd December 2026 | **Venue:** Kigali Convention Centre (KCC)| **Time:** 09:00 – 17:00

1. Background

The Institute of Engineering Rwanda (IER) is a professional body established under Law No. 26/2012 of 29/06/2012, and governed by the Law No. 023/2025 of 01/09/2025, governing the professions of architecture, engineering and quantity surveying in Rwanda. The Institute brings together a community of over 5,000 engineering practitioners and plays a vital role in promoting professional standards, ethical practice and capacity development within the engineering sector.

Within its mandate, IER has the following core responsibilities:

i) **Regulate and guide engineering practice:** ensure that all engineering services are delivered by accredited and compliant professionals through a structured assessment and registration process;

ii) **Build technical and professional capacity:** enhance the competence and competitiveness of members at local, regional and international levels;

iii) **Advocate for the engineering profession:** promote the role of engineering in national development across all sectors of society.

In line with its statutes, IER convenes its members annually in a General Assembly to review the performance of the Institute, approve its financial statements and plans, and take decisions on its governance. For 2026, the Annual General Assembly (AGM) will be held together with the IER Engineering Convention, a high-level forum where the engineering community and its partners discuss topical issues shaping the profession and national development.

2. Rationale

Rwanda is implementing the Second National Strategy for Transformation (NST2, 2024–2029) as a step towards Vision 2050. Many of its priorities, including infrastructure, urbanisation, energy, water, transport, industrialisation and digital transformation, depend directly on the quality, integrity and capacity of the engineering profession.

At the same time, the profession faces new pressures and opportunities:

- **Climate risk:** extreme rainfall, floods and landslides call for climate-resilient design, construction and maintenance of infrastructure.

- **Technology disruption:** artificial intelligence, Building Information Modelling (BIM), digital twins, drones and smart systems are changing how engineering is designed, delivered and supervised.
- **Local capacity:** large public and private projects still rely heavily on foreign firms and expertise; growing local engineering firms, technologists and technicians is critical for jobs and sustainability.
- **Public safety and trust:** building collapses, poor workmanship and unqualified practice remind us that professional regulation, ethics and accountability are matters of public interest.

The Convention therefore offers a timely platform to reflect on how Rwandan engineering professionals can lead a resilient, smart and self-reliant development path, while the AGM provides members with accountability and direction for the year ahead.

3. Theme and Sub-themes

3.1 Main Theme

"Engineering a Resilient and Smart Rwanda: Innovation, Local Capacity and Professional Excellence towards Vision 2050"

The theme underscores the critical role of the engineering profession in driving Rwanda's long-term development agenda. It captures three ideas: what we build must withstand climate and economic shocks (resilience); how we build must harness technology (smart); and who builds must increasingly be competent, ethical Rwandan professionals and firms (local capacity and professional excellence).

3.2 Sub-themes

Sub-theme	Guiding questions for discussion
Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Infrastructure	How should design standards, building codes and maintenance practices change in response to climate risk? How can engineers support resilient cities, green buildings, water security and disaster risk reduction?
Digital Engineering and Artificial Intelligence	How are AI, BIM, digital twins and smart systems changing engineering practice? What skills, standards and safeguards are needed, and how can Rwandan engineers lead rather than follow?
Local Engineering Capacity and Industrialisation	How can local engineering firms, technologists and technicians win a bigger share of national projects? What role for local content in procurement, joint ventures, mentorship, youth and women in engineering?
Professional Excellence, Ethics and Regulation	How do registration, licensing, Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and career progression frameworks protect the public? How can accountability for engineering failures be strengthened?

4. Objectives

4.1 General Objective

To convene the engineering community and its stakeholders to deliberate on the role of engineering in achieving Rwanda's Vision 2050, and to hold the statutory Annual General Assembly of IER.

4.2 Specific Objectives

- Provide a platform for knowledge exchange and dialogue between engineering professionals, government, industry, academia and development partners on the Convention theme.
- Deepen understanding of the National Master Plan and the role of engineering professionals in its implementation.
- Showcase the latest technologies, engineering products and innovations by companies, start-ups and innovators.
- Strengthen professional networking, partnerships and collaboration within the engineering ecosystem.
- Present the IER annual report, audited financial statements and plans for the coming year to members for review and approval.

5. Key Components of the Event

5.1 Keynote Address

A distinguished representative from the Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA) will deliver the keynote address on the implementation of Rwanda's National Master Plan. The address will highlight the strategic priorities and milestones of the Master Plan, show how these align with Vision 2050, and emphasise the role of engineering professionals in turning these plans into reality, from planning and design to execution, maintenance and innovation.

5.2 Technical Presentations

Specialised presentations will be delivered under the Convention theme, exploring practical strategies for aligning engineering standards and practice with the country's long-term development aspirations, covering topics from infrastructure and sustainability to entrepreneurship, programme accreditation and emerging technologies.

5.3 Expert Panel Discussion

A panel of renowned experts from across the engineering and infrastructure sectors will discuss current trends, policy implications and practical steps for realising Vision 2050. The session will encourage interactive dialogue, audience questions and collaborative problem-solving.

5.4 Product Demonstrations and Innovation Showcase

Companies, start-ups and innovators will host live demonstrations and exhibitions of the latest technologies, engineering products, prototypes and solutions. Participants will be able to explore real-world applications, discover new tools and identify potential areas for collaboration or investment.

5.5 Annual General Assembly

In the afternoon, IER members will convene for the statutory Annual General Assembly to review the Institute's annual report and audited financial statements, approve plans and the budget for the coming year, and take decisions on governance matters. The AGM is reserved for IER members.

6. Expected Outcomes

- Enhanced knowledge among participants of industry trends, innovations and Rwanda's infrastructure policy direction.
- Practical recommendations on aligning engineering practice with Vision 2050, shared with government and stakeholders.
- Certificates of Attendance with Continuing Professional Development (CPD) credits awarded to all attendees, supporting career growth and regulatory compliance.
- New and strengthened partnerships, collaborations and business opportunities across the engineering ecosystem.
- Statutory AGM decisions adopted, including the annual report, audited financial statements, and the action plan and budget for the coming year.

7. Target Participants

The Convention will bring together over 700 participants, including:

- IER members across all categories: engineers, engineering technologists, engineering technicians, engineering consulting firms, graduate engineers and technologists;
- Engineering and allied professional bodies;
- Policy makers and government institutions, including MININFRA, implementing agencies, the City of Kigali and Districts;
- The private sector, contractors, manufacturers, suppliers and industry experts;
- Academia, training institutions and engineering students;
- Development partners and the media.

8. Why Attend?

- **Stay ahead:** gain first-hand knowledge of industry trends, innovations and Rwanda's infrastructure policy direction.
- **Earn CPD credits:** strengthen your professional credentials with CPD credits.
- **Influence the future:** contribute to shaping the future of engineering practice in Rwanda.
- **Expand your network:** meet key stakeholders, potential collaborators and employers.
- **Be inspired:** hear from thought leaders and pioneers thriving in the engineering space.

9. Date, Venue and Tentative Programme

The Engineering Convention and Annual General Assembly will be held on **Wednesday, 2nd December 2026** at the **Kigali Convention Centre (KCC)**, starting at 09:00. The Convention will run in the morning, followed by the AGM (members only) in the afternoon. The exhibition area will remain open throughout the day.

No.	Time	Activity	Responsible
1	09:00 – 10:00	Arrival and registration of participants; exhibition visits	Secretariat
2	10:00 – 10:10	Arrival of the Guest of Honour	Secretariat / Protocol
3	10:10 – 10:20	Opening remarks	President and Chairman of the Governing Council, IER
4	10:20 – 10:30	Remarks by the Guest of Honour	Guest of Honour
5	10:30 – 11:00	**Presentation:** Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Infrastructure	Prof. Aime Tsinda
6	11:00 – 11:30	**Presentation:** Digital Engineering and Artificial Intelligence	Eng. Dr. Jack NGARAMBE
7	11:30 – 12:00	**Presentation** Engineering the Future: Building Local Capacity to Drive Rwanda's Industrialisation	Eng. Dr. Elias TWAGIRA
8	12:00 – 12:30	**Presentation:** Professional Excellence, Ethics and Regulation	Eng. Papias Dedeki KAZAWADI
9	12:30 – 13:00	Sponsors' slot	Secretariat
10	13:00 – 13:10	Closing remarks	Guest of Honour
11	13:10 – 13:15	Group photo	Master of Ceremonies
12	13:15 – 14:30	Lunch and networking	Secretariat
13	14:30 – 17:00	Annual General Assembly proceedings (IER members only)	Secretariat

10. Sponsorship Opportunities

IER invites institutions and companies to partner with the Institute in delivering the Convention. The following sponsorship packages are available:

Package	Contribution	Benefits
Platinum Sponsor	15,000,000 Frw	• Prime table for product display • Logo branding on all event materials • Feature on the backdrop banner • Recognition as Platinum Sponsor • 10 complimentary delegate passes • "Know My Company" presentation (10 minutes)
Diamond Sponsor	12,000,000 Frw	• Logo branding on all event materials • Recognition award as Diamond Sponsor • 5 complimentary delegate passes • "Know My Company" presentation (5 minutes)
Gold Sponsor	9,000,000 Frw	• Logo branding on all event materials • Company materials displayed throughout the venue • Recognition as Gold Sponsor • 3 complimentary delegate passes
Silver Sponsor	5,000,000 Frw	• Logo branding on all event materials • Company materials displayed throughout the venue • Recognition as Silver Sponsor • 2 complimentary delegate passes

11. Conclusion

The IER Engineering Convention and Annual General Assembly 2026 is a vital opportunity to align the engineering profession with Rwanda's development priorities and to build infrastructure and systems that are resilient, smart and delivered by competent local professionals. IER therefore encourages all players in Rwanda's engineering ecosystem to attend and to take advantage of the opportunities for learning, networking, partnerships and the sharing of best practice.