|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| General information |  |
| Region | **Eastern Africa** |
| Surface area | **26,338 km2** |
| Total Population | **13,246,394 (NISR, 2022)\*** |
|  Urban pop.  | **27.9%** |
|  Rural pop. | **72.1%**  |
| Access to improved water supply | **82.3% (NISR, 2022)\***  |
| Access to improved sanitation  | **72% (NISR, 2022)\*** |

**Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) Regulators in Africa – Country Profile**

**Rwanda**



**WSS Regulatory Status**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Urban | Rural |
| **Water Supply** | **Sanitation** | **Water Supply** | **Sanitation** |
| Type of Regulation | Regulation by Agency |
| Name of Regulator | Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority (RURA)  |
| Year of establishment | 2003 |
| Policy | National Water Supply Policy, 2016 National Sanitation Policy, 2016 |
| Legal instrument | Law No 29/2001 replaced by Law No 09/2013 |
| Area of Jurisdiction | National |
| Number of regulated service providers | 56 water and 14 sanitation service providers |
| Type of service providers | National & Regional Service Providers |
| Key functions of RURA |
| * Developing guidelines and regulations
* Licensing service providers,
* Tariff setting
* Monitor compliance by licensees
 | * Reporting on sector performance
* Ensuring fair competition
* Protection of the rights and obligations of consumers and service provider
 |
| Best practice: 1. Reaching rural communities  |
| As part of the Poverty Reduction Strategy to reach the rural communities with water services, the Rwandan government has set up a public-private partnership (PPP) scheme where service provision is delegated to private companies by the Districts, the infrastructure asset holders. Performance contracts are signed between private operators and Districts that state quality, performance, and monitoring parameters. RURA comes in for monitoring performance and arbitration if there is a conflict between the signatory parties. Also for these service providers to be eligible to operate they must have a license issued by RURA.  |
| 2. Inclusive regulatory framework for different sanitation solutions |
| In the absence of central sewerage system, Rwanda has focused on regulating the onsite sanitation systems used by the majority of its population by developing a comprehensive regulatory arrangement across the value chain: Local Authorities regulate containment by issuing construction permits. Sludge emptying and transportation is provided by private operators and regulated by RURA. Treatment is done by private operators through contract with Local Authorities and the Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) monitors the quality of effluent. Additionally, RURA regulate the installation of decentralized wastewater treatment systems |
| \*[Source](https://www.statistics.gov.rw/publication/main_indicators_2022) For more information about RURA, click [here](https://www.rura.rw/index.php?id=23) |