



Project Summary Information

Date of Document Updating: November 7, 2025	
Project Name	Rwanda: Private-Sector Access to Finance for Post-COVID Recovery and Resilience
Project Number	000483
AIIB member	Republic of Rwanda
Sector/Subsector	FI/Financial Intermediary
Status of Financing	Approved
Project Description	<p>The Project is supported under AIIB's COVID-19 Crisis Recovery Facility (Facility) and will be co-financed with the World Bank (WB), through the International Development Association (IDA). The Project will provide financial support to the government's own Economic Recovery Fund (ERF), a Fund created to support businesses most significantly affected by COVID-19 in Rwanda. The ERF was established in June 2020 and capitalized with USD 101 million by the Government of Rwanda.</p> <p>The Project will comprise 4 components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Component 1 – Liquidity and recovery facility ii. Component 2 – Risk-sharing facility, to provide partial credit guarantees and de-risking mechanisms to MSMEs, in support of Component 1 iii. Component 3 – Institutional strengthening and implementation, in support of Component 1 iv. Component 4 – Contingency Emergency Response Component <p>AIIB will only finance sub-component 1c (comprising working capital and investment credit line), under component 1.</p> <p>The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN) will be the coordinating entity. Implementing agencies for the various sub-components of the Project are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Business Development Fund (BDF) for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) on-lending to micro-finance institutions for subsequent on-lending to micro-businesses, for working capital and investment financing – under component 1, sub-component 1a. (b) the provision of partial credit guarantees and de-risking mechanisms to borrower MSMEs – under component 2; ii) Rwanda Development Bank (BRD) for:

	<p>(a) refinancing of loans to businesses in defined sectors – under component 1, sub-component 1b.</p> <p>(b) direct lending, and on-lending via commercial financial institutions, to large companies and SMEs, for working capital and investment financing – under component 1, sub-component 1c.</p> <p>Component 3 comprises technical assistance to both BDF and BRD, for institutional strengthening and implementation support activities within these institutions.</p> <p>Component 4 is an unfunded, contingency component that can be activated in case of a relevant emergency event; if triggered it will draw on uncommitted WB loan resources under the Project.</p>
Objective	To facilitate economic recovery and resilience in Rwanda by addressing the financing constraints of private sector businesses post COVID-19.
Expected Results	The Project results will include: 1) the number of businesses benefitting from loans; 2) the volume of loans extended to beneficiaries.
Environmental and Social Category	World Bank Category: Substantial Risk (equivalent to Category FI if AIIB's ESP were applicable)
Environmental and Social Information	<p>The loan will be co-financed with the WB as lead co-financier, and the project's environmental and social (ES) risks and impacts will be assessed in accordance with the WB's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF).</p> <p>To ensure a harmonized approach to addressing the ES risks and impacts of the project, and as permitted under AIIB's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP), the WB ESF will apply to the project in lieu of AIIB's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP). AIIB has reviewed the WB ESF and is satisfied that: (a) it is consistent with AIIB's Articles of Agreement and materially consistent with the provisions of AIIB's ESP, including the Environmental and Social Exclusion List and the relevant Environmental and Social Standards; and (b) the monitoring procedures that are in place are appropriate for the project.</p> <p>The WB has categorized the ES risks of the project as "Substantial" (which is equivalent to Category FI if AIIB's ESP were applicable).. Nine of WB's Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) have been applied to the Project, namely WB's ESSs on Assessment and Management of ES Risks and Impacts (ESS1), Labor and Working Conditions (ESS2), Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management (ESS3), Community Health and Safety (ESS4), Land Acquisition, Restriction on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement (ESS5), Biodiversity Conservation (ESS6), Cultural Heritage (ESS8), Financial Intermediaries (ESS9) and Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure (ESS10).</p>

	<p>As indicated above, AIIB will finance Component 1c, the working capital and investment credit line. Component 1c will be implemented by Rwanda Development Bank (BRD). Loan proceeds will be used for capital expenditures and operational expenditures in select sectors¹, and working capital. Project activities are not expected to have large-scale, significant and/or irreversible environmental and social (ES) impacts. No major civil works are expected; and if required, civil works will be carried out within the existing facilities.. The main potential ES risks are associated with labor and working conditions, operational health and safety (OHS), community health and safety, dust and noise emissions, energy/ water use, waste generation, air/soil/water pollution, exclusion of disadvantaged groups, poor labor and working conditions at the sub-project level. These risks and impacts are expected to be site specific, reversible and managed with appropriate mitigation measures in compliance with national laws and WB's ESSs. The environmental and social (ES) instruments for this Project will include the following: (a) an Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) to be used by BRD and BDF; and (b) an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) to be used by BRD for substantial risk subprojects (as defined under WB's ESF). Under sub-component 1c., for sub-projects with low to moderate risk, BRD's ESMS will be applicable. For sub-projects with substantial risk, BRD's ESMF will be applicable.</p> <p>BRD will use their existing Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), which will be improved as part of the ESCP. The ESCP and SEP have been disclosed by BRD, and AIIB's website includes the link to BRD's and WB's websites.²</p>														
Cost and Financing Plan	<p>The total project cost is up to USD 257.5 million, with co-financing by AIIB, WB/IDA and GRIF (administered by WB).</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Modality and Sources</th><th>Amount (million USD equivalent)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>World Bank</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>IDA Credit</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr> <td>IDA Grant</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr> <td>IDA Scale Up Window (SUW)</td><td>100</td></tr> <tr> <td>Global Risk Financing Facility (GRiF)</td><td>7.5</td></tr> <tr> <td>AIIB</td><td>100</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Modality and Sources	Amount (million USD equivalent)	World Bank		IDA Credit	25	IDA Grant	25	IDA Scale Up Window (SUW)	100	Global Risk Financing Facility (GRiF)	7.5	AIIB	100
Modality and Sources	Amount (million USD equivalent)														
World Bank															
IDA Credit	25														
IDA Grant	25														
IDA Scale Up Window (SUW)	100														
Global Risk Financing Facility (GRiF)	7.5														
AIIB	100														

¹ Agro-processing, textiles, construction materials, light manufacturing and linked value-chains

² <https://www.aiib.org/en/projects/details/2021/proposed/Rwanda-Support-to-COVID-19-Economic-Recovery-Fund-for-Private-Sector.html>

	COVID-19 Crisis Recovery Facility		(EUR 83.3 million)
	Total		257.5
Borrower	Republic of Rwanda		
Implementing Entity	Development Bank of Rwanda (BRD)		
Estimated date of loan closing	December 31, 2026		
Contact Points:	AIIB	WB	Borrower
Name	Ying Shen	Leyla Castillo	Stella Nteziryayo
Title	Portfolio Officer	Senior Financial Sector Specialist	Chief Economist, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Email Address	ying.shen@aiib.org	lcastillo2@worldbank.org	stella.nteziryayo@minecofin.gov.rw
Date of Concept Decision	May 2021		
Date of Appraisal Decision	May 2021		
Date of Financing Approval	June 24, 2021		

Independent Accountability Mechanism	Pursuant to AIIB's agreement with WB, the WB's ESF will apply to this Project instead of AIIB's ESP. The WB's corporate Grievance Redress Service (GRS) and its Independent Accountability Mechanism, the Inspection Panel, which reviews the WB's compliance with its policies and procedures, will handle complaints relating to ES issues that may arise under the Project. In accordance with AIIB's Policy on the Project affected People's Mechanism (PPM), submissions to the PPM under this project will not be eligible for consideration by the PPM. Information on
---	---

	WB's corporate GRS is available at http://www.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/products-and-services/grievance-redress-service . Information on WB's Inspection Panel is available at http://www.inspectionpanel.org .
--	---