



CYBERWELLNESS PROFILE

RWANDA



BACKGROUND

Total Population: 11 272 000

(data source: [United Nations Statistics Division](#), December 2012)

Internet users, percentage of population: 8.70%

(data source: [ITU Statistics](#), 2013)

1. CYBERSECURITY

1.1 LEGAL MEASURES

1.1.1 CRIMINAL LEGISLATION

Specific legislation on cybercrime has been enacted through the following instruments:

[-Penal Code](#)

[-Law on Electronic Message, Signature and Transaction](#)

-Draft ICT bill,

1.1.2 REGULATION AND COMPLIANCE

Specific legislation and regulation related to cybersecurity has been enacted through the following instruments:

[-National Standards for Cyber Security](#)

1.2 TECHNICAL MEASURES

1.2.1 CIRT

Rwanda has an officially recognized national CIRT ([Rw-CSIRT](#)).

1.2.2 STANDARDS

Rwanda developed an Information Security Framework referred to as Government Security Architecture. This architecture provides information security policies, procedures and guidelines for the public and private sector.

1.2.3 CERTIFICATION

Rwanda does not have any officially approved national (and sector specific) cybersecurity frameworks for the certification and accreditation of national agencies and public sector professionals. However a draft national policy has been developed and submitted for cabinet approval. This allows the establishment of the organization in charge of cyber security, which will perform certification and accreditation of national agencies and public sector professionals.

1.3 ORGANIZATION MEASURES

1.3.1 POLICY

Rwanda does not yet have an officially recognized national cybersecurity policy. However there is a draft National Cyber Security Policy. This policy defines priority areas in the field of cyber security. It has been submitted to cabinet for approval and further dissemination.

1.3.2 ROADMAP FOR GOVERNANCE

Rwanda does not have a national governance roadmap for cybersecurity.

1.3.3 RESPONSIBLE AGENCY

The [Specialized Cyber Security Division](#) in Rwanda Development Board (RDB) is the officially recognized agency responsible for implementing a national cybersecurity strategy, policy and roadmap.

1.3.4 NATIONAL BENCHMARKING

Rwanda has officially recognized national or sector-specific benchmarking exercises or referential used to measure cybersecurity development. The last exercise was performed in 2013.

1.4 CAPACITY BUILDING

1.4.1 STANDARDISATION DEVELOPMENT

Research and Development (R&D) was defined as the most priority initiative in the National Information and Communication Infrastructure Plan ([NICI III](#)) and in the draft National Cyber Security Policy. In addition, a Unit in charge of R&D was established under the National CSIRT.

1.4.2 MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry of Education introduced different information security course modules in the overall IT or Computer engineering program in tertiary institutions. In the [ICT skills development plan](#), IT security training and certification program was developed. For cyber security awareness, the Government of Rwanda developed a National Cyber Security Awareness and Training Program; this program promotes cyber security awareness for internet users in Rwanda and also promotes the development of security professional (i.e. cyber security workforce) in Rwanda that support the public and private institutions to protect their critical systems against cyber threats.

1.4.3 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

Rwanda has 80 public sector professionals certified under internationally recognized certification programs in cybersecurity.

1.4.4 AGENCY CERTIFICATION

Rwanda does not have any certified government and public sector agencies certified under internationally recognized standards in cybersecurity. However Rwanda started the implementation a Certification Authority (CA) which will be responsible of information certification with the usage of digital certificate. In addition, the draft National Cyber Security Policy defines the establishment of a cybersecurity agency, which will be in charge of information security compliance and certification.

1.5 COOPERATION

1.5.1 INTRA-STATE COOPERATION

To facilitate sharing of cybersecurity assets across borders or with other nation states, Rwanda have officially recognized partnerships with the following organizations:

[-ITU](#) [-Korea KISA](#)

1.5.2 INTRA-AGENCY COOPERATION

Rwanda has officially recognized national or sector-specific programs for sharing cybersecurity assets within the public sector through the national CIRT.

1.5.3 PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNERSHIP

Rwanda has officially recognized national or sector-specific programs for sharing cybersecurity assets within the public and private sector through the national CIRT.

1.5.4 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Rwanda is a member of the ITU-IMPACT initiative and has access to relevant cybersecurity services. Rwanda participated in different regional cyber security fora. In [East Africa Community](#) (EAC) Rwanda was part of the forum which developed EAC framework for cyber security laws. Rwanda also participated in the forum to develop Africa Union Cyber Security Framework.

Rwanda is among the beneficiaries of the EU/ITU co-funded project "Support for Harmonization of the ICT Policies in Sub-Sahara Africa" ([HIPSSA](#)).

2. CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION

2.1 NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Specific legislation on child online protection has been enacted through the following instruments:

-[Articles 211, 229 and 230](#) of the Organic Law Instituting the Penal Code

2.2 UN CONVENTION AND PROTOCOL

Rwanda has acceded, with no declarations or reservations to articles 16, 17(e) and 34(c), to the [Convention on the Rights of the Child](#).

Rwanda has acceded, with no declarations or reservations to articles 2 and 3, to the [Optional Protocol to The Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography](#).

2.3 INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

Rwanda does not have an officially recognized agency that offers institutional support on child online protection.

2.4 REPORTING MECHANISM

Rwanda does not have an officially recognized agency that offers an avenue for the reporting of incidents related to child online protection.

DISCLAIMER: Please refer to <http://www.itu.int/en/Pages/copyright.aspx>

More information is available on ITU website at <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Cybersecurity/Pages/default.aspx>

Last updated on 12th August 2014