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INES RUHENGERI as a Haven of Research-based Quality Education for all and Leader in homegrown Education approach for Africa makes it stand out from other universities in Rwanda and across Africa.

With its shift from classic teaching to Applied Sciences based on homegrown education approach; courses taught are mainly based on research from the community needs thus churning graduates who are ready to address them.

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Vision:
Universality in each individual; Knowledge in order to unite and better serve the world.

Mission
Contribute through the interactive conjunction between civil society, private sector and public sector to national and regional development, by providing specialized higher education enhanced by research, in order to create competitive enterprises and well paid employment.

Core Values of INES-RUHENERI are deep rooted in the strive for promotion of knowledgeable, competent and well behaved graduates and they include among others the values of Supernatural vision, Diversity and inclusiveness, Integrity, Self responsibility, Respect of human dignity, Excellence and competitiveness, Critical and creative thinking, Responsiveness, Interdisciplinary collaboration, Customer centeredness, Teamwork. These values drive the university under different mechanisms put in place such as INES Business Incubation Center, counseling, guidance committee and students union and various students' initiatives.

School Environment
The University is built in Musanze town and surrounded by a chain of 5 beautiful volcanoes covered by the National Park, home of the Mountain gorillas, source of the attractive mild climate with conducive environment for both international and local students. The climate accommodates students from different settings; the hot and cold weathers. The area is the largest attraction of the tourists in the country and there is diversity of the culture colored by the generous and welcoming heart of the population.

As for the social and moral environment, INES-Ruhengeri is a home which is guided and protected by a code of conduct and parental care from the educators.

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The concept of University of Applied Sciences

After 5 years of establishment, the University conducted a study to find out how universities in general were responding to the labor market needs. The study found out that there was a discrepancy and INES-Ruhengeri vowed to bridge the gap. Upon consulting sister universities in Germany, the Netherlands, and Switzerland, it was found that there are two concepts of universities: classic universities and universities of applied sciences. Universities of Applied sciences are known to be practical and to work hand in hand with community developmental endeavors. In 2010, strategically, INES-Ruhengeri embarked on the concept of University of Applied Sciences (UAS) as a response to prevailing discrepancy between academia and labor market needs.

Students statistics

University population for Academic Year 2019-2020 totals to 3,235 (53.6% males and 46.4% females) for undergraduate and graduate programmes.

Total graduates churned to labor market are 6,778 by 15th, March 2019 (the 10th graduation ceremony).
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Undergraduate courses

- Bachelor of Science with honours in Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Science with honours in Water Engineering
- Bachelor of Science with honours in Software Engineering
- Bachelor of Science with honours in Networking Engineering
- Bachelor of Science with honours in Industrial Information Technology
- Bachelor of Science with honours in Plant Biotechnology
- Bachelor of Science with honours in Food Biotechnology
- Bachelor of Science with honours in Biomedical Laboratory Sciences
- Bachelor of Science with honours in Land administration and Management
- Bachelor of Science with honours in Land Survey
- Bachelor of Science with honours in Statistics Applied to Economy
- Bachelor of Science with honors in Architecture
- Bachelor of Arts with honours in Entrepreneurship Development and Management;
- Bachelor of Arts with honours in Accounting;
- Bachelor of Arts with honours in Financial Economics
- Bachelor of Arts with honours in International Economics
- Bachelor of Arts with honours in Rural Development Economics
- Bachelor of Arts with honours in Public Administration and Good Governance
- Bachelor of Education with honours in French and English;
- Bachelor of law (LLB)
- Advanced Diploma in Land Survey

Post-graduate programs

- Master of Arts in Micro-finance
- Master of Science in Taxation
- Master of Arts in Entrepreneurship and SME’s Management
- Master of Arts in Cooperative Management

Short courses

INES Ruhengeri offers different short courses and the following are just a few of them. Many more courses are tailored to the needs of the clients based on the specialties that are available.

- Computer Systems Technology;
- Computer Applications;
- Masonry
- Welding;
- Domestic Electricity;
- Domestic Plumbing;
- Surveying

Academic perspectives

Based on the priorities defined in the current Strategic Plan, INES is ambitioned to developing new programs in: Aerospatial Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Geology, and other different postgraduate programs which are responsive to the dynamism of the labor market and socio-economic developmental needs. To mention a few, the following are the targeted priorities: Information Security Programs, Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Geography Information System (GIS) applied to Natural Resources Management, and Building Construction.
Highly equipped laboratories

The University laboratories are well equipped to create an environment where students can put into practice theories from lecture rooms to ensure learning methodology is balanced.

INES-RUHENGERI is rich with the best laboratories in Africa that are used for didactic, research and community service. Students do not limit to using them during class, they can also access to them during assignments, personal or group research and whenever they need services, a considerable discount is made for them. The following are the laboratories of INES-Ruhengeri:

- Material testing laboratory
- Hydraulic laboratory
- Water quality laboratory
- Food Processing Unit
- Tissue culture laboratory
- Microbiology laboratory
- Clinical Microbiology laboratory
- Parasitology laboratory
- Hematology and Immunohematology laboratory
- Molecular biology
- Clinical Chemistry
- Phlebotomy and anatomy biology
- Histopathology laboratory
- Chemistry laboratory
- Surveying Laboratory
- Botanic gardens
- Computer Laboratories
- Language laboratory

Services offered through INES laboratories

Through research and community service, INES laboratories offer but not limited to:

- Potato seeds cleaning and multiplication;
- Soil analysis;
- Water analysis;
- Testing building materials;
- Food and beverages analysis;
- Land surveying; Crop surveying
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Highly equipped laboratories linking University to Community and industry

The university does research through 6 major clusters: Settlement, housing and roads network; Land use, Management and Governance; Water and Soil Resources Engineering and Management; Applied Biotechnology in value chain development and management; Health, sanitation development and management; Economic Development and Management; These clusters work hand in hand with other specializations of the institution including IT, Statistics, Education and Fundamental rights. Research clusters have become the best way of bridging academia and industry but also channeling staff and students research initiatives. Different research projects are ongoing at INES Ruhengeri. Some are conducted in collaboration with partners from the region and beyond.

Staff dedicated to Quality Education

The staff are not ‘spoon feeders’. They are supporters and moderators availing themselves with materials to support the students’ learning endeavor. The lecturers are qualified from different universities but they also receive in-house training at the university due to special orientation of INES-Ruhengeri as a University of Applied Sciences and the need for teaching and learning on how to develop student’s skills and talents through practical means.

INES strengthening its Excellence performance through Partnerships

INES-Ruhengeri is a member of many teaching and research institutions.
synergies including the ORIPES (Rwandese Organization of Private Higher learning Institutions), Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) and East African Land Administration Network (EALAN) which brings together the universities and Research Institutions that are dealing with land administration and management,

INES Ruhengeri is member of International Federation of Geometers (FIG) and part of the African Association of Remote Sensing and Environment (AARSE).

INES Ruhengeri collaborates with different universities on several projects that are funded by international organizations such as epNUFFIC, DAAD, ARES, UKAID, USAID, Royal Academy of Engineering, etc. These universities are but not limited to University of Parma in Italy, the University of Twente in the Netherlands, University of Applied Sciences of Cologne (Germany), Leipzig University (Germany) University of Liège (Belgium), University of Mainz (Germany), TH Bingen (Germany), KU Leuven (Belgium), UCL (Belgium) and Aberden University (UK). INES has other important partners such as MasterCard Foundation, Red Cross, Misereor, Di mano in mano, etc. who are active in supporting projects including infrastructures and students scholarships.

Financial advantages of INES offer

The cost of INES programmes has been fixed based on the unit cost and is responsive to financial capabilities of the clients. Hence, the tuition fees are in two categories: full tuition and subsidized. INES uses income from projects, consultancies and laboratory services to support the students such that, self-sponsored students pay 65% of the tuition which varies between 700 USD and 900 USD. The payment is done at once or in 4 installments.
Building Quality service through Alumni

INES students are children of INES family and friends forever. After graduating they join INES Alumni association and they are regarded as brand ambassadors of the university wherever they go and they remain important source of inspiration to their brothers and sisters who are still at school or who wish to join. The alumni are in return, offered opportunities to update their knowledge using INES facilities and staff. They also get scholarship or special discount when they join postgraduate programs offered by INES. Their linkage with INES community opens doors for further collaboration at different layers. The forum of the Alumni meets once a year at the premises of the university to discuss the matters of their association. The University also extends support through foundation of specific professional bodies.

Promoting entrepreneurial skills through incubation center

The university trains with a clear aim of promoting employability of the graduates. This is promoted through continuous exposure of the students to the industry through seminars, field visits, industrial/clinical attachment and career day.

Mostly entrepreneurship is a compulsory crosscutting module in all the programs.

This is not an illusion that all the students should create their own jobs, but it is based on institutional conviction that even those who may not create own jobs need to be entrepreneurial as employees. INES Business Incubation Centre (INES-BIC) is the main arm of INES to promote business
ideas through mentorship in Rwanda and abroad. Good prototypes are given further opportunities through summer schools in experienced countries. They are also awarded financial support for improvement and access to finance. INES-laboratories are open to the students wishing to create projects or innovative ideas.

**Talents promotion through Extra-Curricular activities**

INES offers to students extracurricular opportunities for talents and life-long skills promotion. It is in this context that INES established INES-Business Incubation Center (BIC) and Africa-Germany Entrepreneurship Academy (AGEA) to help students instill entrepreneurship skills among them. Prototype competitions offer to the winners opportunities to funds and summer schools among international partners. The annual Career Day offers to students a forum to prove their readiness before potential employers. The best students’ projects are funded by the institution. Miss and Mister Bright INES competitions boost students’ talents and self-confidence. The best graduates are often appointed as Tutorial Assistant or given other opportunities among ongoing projects. They are also supported for further studies at INES or beyond. Talents Day brings together different talents and the best are awarded a motivational prize. Other opportunities such as, debates, Language center, Career center, Sport and cultural infrastructures and facilities, promotion of students clubs, etc., help the students to be fit for professional life with required knowledge and behavior.

**STRATEGIC DRIVING KEYS FOR INES 2019-2024 STRATEGIC PLAN**

**Internationalization**

Promoting quality education cannot succeed without benchmarking the standards. INES has developed strategies to internationalize its programs as it extends its reach. For the academic year 2019-2020, 135 foreign
students from 8 countries are registered in different programs of INES. Academic staff also comes from different countries in the region and beyond.

Distance learning facilities have opened to more internationalization opportunities. Projects on staff and students exchange have become part and parcel of the teaching and learning process.

**Digitalization**

INES has decided to tap into digital revolution opportunities through the development of INES Smart campus. This is the best way of efficient service delivery. It is also the best shortcut to opportunities across the world. To move with the fourth industrial revolution and digital world, the University adopted technology in its academic and administrative services. Students are therefore exposed to the internet across the campus that is acquired through fiber optic. The fastest broad band free wireless internet is installed to provide students with full time internet. Time is always secured for students who want to use computer laboratories.

**Bridging academia and industry**

The mutual blame between academia and industry is overdue. INES has created an office in charge of coordinating all the initiatives that are related to collaboration between academia and industry. The office ensures that all programs partner with specific institutions and companies. Industrial and clinical attachments are well coordinated in close collaboration with the mentors and identified gaps are taken into consideration during programs review. Programs review and new programs initiatives are conducted in close collaboration with the industry.
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