



## PRESS RELEASE

### RSE Listings Forum

**Kigali, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025 - Rwanda Stock Exchange**, conducted the 2025 Listings Forum focused on Empowering Businesses Through Capital Markets.

The RSE Listings Forum is an annual climax awareness campaign aimed at taking Rwanda's capital markets to the doorstep of companies in different sectors of the economy. The forum serves as a dynamic platform for discussion on how entrepreneurs and companies regardless of size can access funding, pursue listing opportunities, and contribute to Rwanda's growing investment landscape.

This year's event was held under the theme *"Scaling Your Business: A Forum for Investments and Growth, Leveraging the Power of Capital Markets."* The event brought together key players from Rwanda's financial ecosystem, development partners, regulators, and business leaders to explore strategies for business growth through the capital markets.

In his opening remarks, the **CEO of Rwanda Stock Exchange**, Mr. Pierre Celestin Rwabukumba, addressed a common misconception about capital markets, stating: "To every Rwandan entrepreneur here today, I say this: The capital markets are not just for large corporations. They are for you. Your business can raise capital, attract investors, and expand across borders. Therefore, I invite you to seize this opportunity not only to fund your businesses but to help build a stronger, more competitive, and self-reliant Rwanda."

A key partner in Rwanda's development, Ms Charlotte Helminger, Chargée d'Affaires a.i at the **Embassy of Luxembourg**, reaffirmed Luxembourg's strong support in advancing financial inclusion and sustainable development by highlighting that "Our partnership with Rwanda is rooted in a shared vision one where inclusive, transparent, and well-regulated capital markets are at the heart of sustainable economic development. We believe that by supporting market infrastructure, investor education, and access to finance, we can empower more local businesses to grow and attract long-term investment. Rwanda has shown strong leadership in this area, and we're proud to be part of its journey."

Speaking on behalf of the **Capital Market Authority Rwanda**, Dr. James Ndahiro emphasized the institution's pivotal role in creating a robust environment for investment: "At the Capital Market Authority, our mission is to build and maintain a regulatory framework that fosters transparency, investor confidence, and ease of access to finance. We recognize that access to capital is one of the most significant challenges faced by businesses—especially small and medium-sized enterprises."

In his closing remarks, Mr. Herbert Asiimwe, Head of Financial Sector Development at the **Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning** (MINECOFIN) encouraged greater engagement and broader participation in future editions of the forum: "We are committed to nurturing an enabling environment that supports long-term economic transformation, and capital markets are a crucial piece of that puzzle. As we continue building this ecosystem, we urge more companies—especially those in high-growth sectors, to attend and actively engage in upcoming fora. The strength of our capital markets depends on the diversity and vibrancy of the businesses that participate in them."

Throughout the day, attendees participated in expert panels, case studies, and interactive sessions focused on demystifying the listing process, investor readiness, and leveraging capital markets for long-term growth.

**About RSE:**

The Rwanda Stock Exchange Limited was incorporated on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2005 with the objective of carrying out stock market operations. The Company was officially launched on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011. Currently, the RSE has 10 listed companies 5 of which are domestic companies and five cross-listed companies from Kenya and South Africa and a standalone fixed income board.

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