



## Origin Notes

**Cooperative: Nziza**— women’s group; a cooperative of about 200 women, supplying the larger Kivu Lake washing station owned by Land of a Thousand Hills.

**Region:** Western province, Rutsiro district, near Gisenyi. The washing station is on top of a mountain with breath-taking views of Lake Kivu (see map next page).

**Economic importance of coffee:** Coffee is Rwanda’s second largest foreign exchange earning sector, (first is tea), (Export.gov, 2017).

### **Historical Context:**

- The historical, legal and cultural context for female coffee producers in Rwanda may be unlike that of any other country. The 1994 genocide had two long-lasting effects relevant to coffee today. First, it left a large percentage of Rwandan households headed by single women because the male spouse was either killed or in prison. Many widows never remarried, as evidenced by the fact that 14 percent of the total coffee farmer population is made up of widow heads of household, (AGLC, 2016; NAEB, 2015).

- Secondly, in the wake of the genocide, women made up about 65 percent of the surviving population. They had little choice but to fill the roles once occupied by men. As civil society was being re-established, government leaders had the foresight and knowledge to constitutionalize strong participation of women. The Rwandan constitution requires 30% of all elected bodies to be women. Consequently, today 61% of the current national parliament is female, the highest female representation in a national-level parliament in the world, (WEF, 2017).

- Further notable context is the fact that Rwanda’s National Agricultural Export Development Board (NAEB) is actively working to promote Rwandan coffee. This, combined with the government’s recognition of the importance of women’s empowerment, has helped to bring together resources that for women in coffee, like the Nziza Collective.

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# RWANDA COFFEE MAP 2011

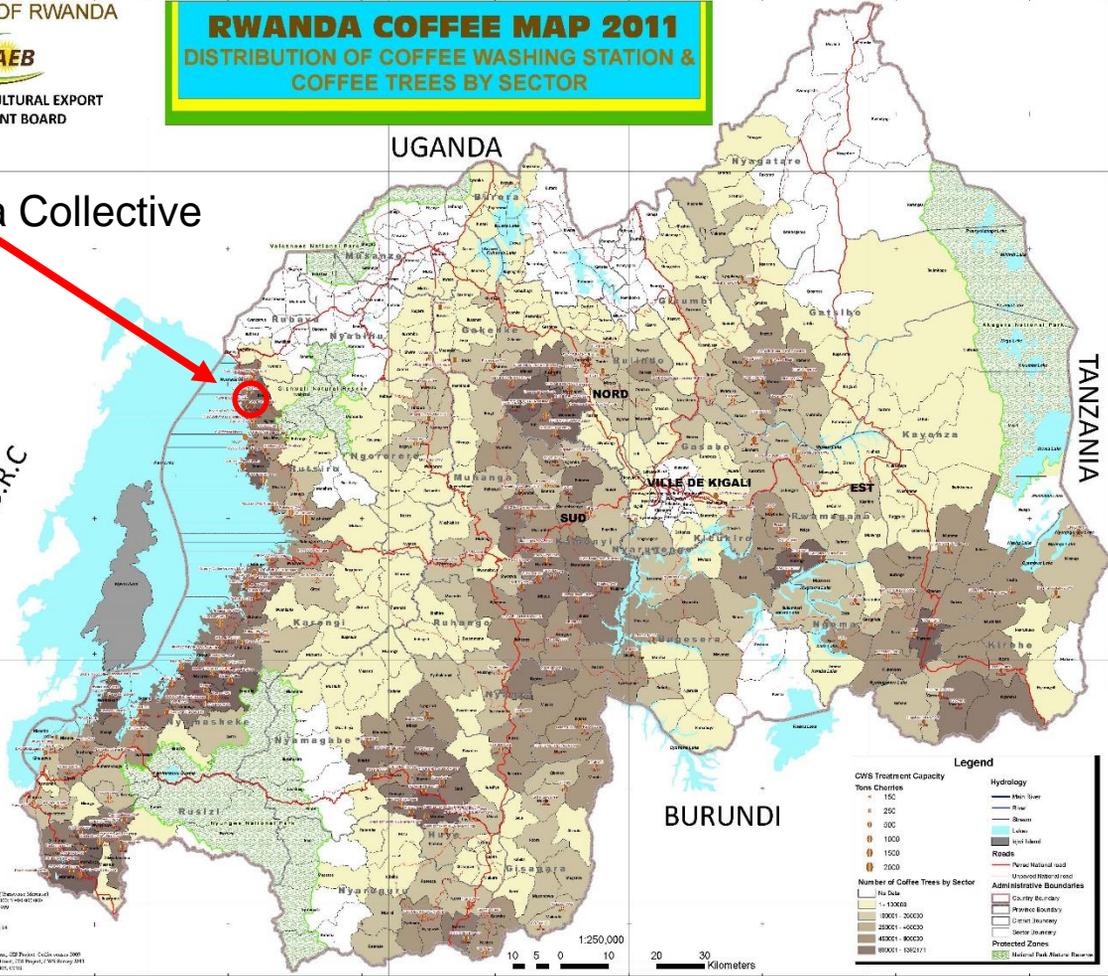
## DISTRIBUTION OF COFFEE WASHING STATION & COFFEE TREES BY SECTOR



Nziza Collective



D.R.C



TANZANIA

BURUNDI

**Legend**

<b>CWS Treatment Capacity</b>	<b>Hydrology</b>
<b>Tone Chart</b>	Main Street
150	River
250	Stream
500	Lake
1000	Light
1500	Dark Island
15000	Roads
<b>Number of Coffee Trees by Sector</b>	Unpaved National road
< 10000	National road
10001 - 20000	Province Boundary
20001 - 40000	County Boundary
40001 - 80000	District Boundary
80001 - 100000	Sector Boundary
	Protected Zones
	National Park, Nature Reserve



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXPORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD (NAEB) GUSI PROJECT KIGALI, RWANDA



Map scale: 1:250,000  
Scale: 1:250,000  
Projection: UTM  
Datum: WGS 84  
Units: Meter  
Author: NAEB  
Date: 2011