



Origin Notes

Cooperative: Kopakama

Women's Group: Ejo Heza –means “Bright Tomorrow” in Kinyarwanda. Established in 2011 (one of the oldest in Rwanda)

Region: Western province, Rutsiro district, Mushubati cell. 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 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 Ejo Heza women.

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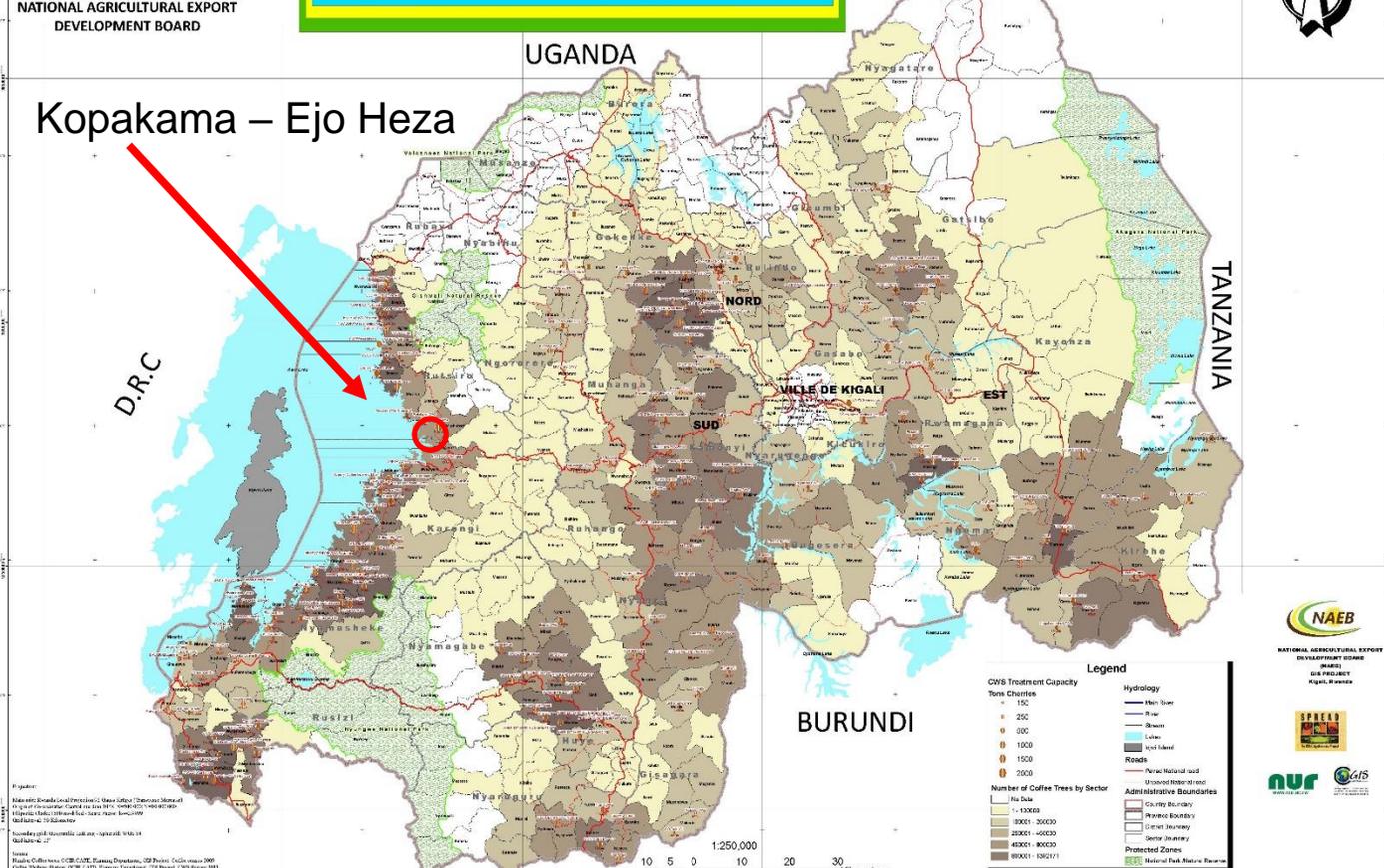


RWANDA COFFEE MAP 2011

DISTRIBUTION OF COFFEE WASHING STATION & COFFEE TREES BY SECTOR



Kopakama – Ejo Heza



Map scale: 1:250,000
Scale bar: 0 5 10 20 30 Kilometers
Map projection: UTM
Datum: WGS 84
Easting: 300000
Northing: 1000000
Map data: NAEB, 2011
Map design: NAEB, 2011
Map printing: NAEB, 2011

Legend

CWS Treatment Capacity	Hydrology
Tone Chart	Blue line: Main Street
150	Blue line: River
250	Blue line: Stream
500	Blue line: Lake
1000	Blue line: Wetland
1500	Blue line: Road
5000	Blue line: Road
Number of Coffee Trees by Sector	Blue line: Road
< 10000	Blue line: Road
10001 - 20000	Blue line: Road
20001 - 40000	Blue line: Road
40001 - 80000	Blue line: Road
80001 - 150000	Blue line: Road
Administrative Boundaries	Blue line: Road
Country Boundary	Blue line: Road
Province Boundary	Blue line: Road
District Boundary	Blue line: Road
County Boundary	Blue line: Road
Protected Zones	Blue line: Road
National Park/Reserve	Blue line: Road

