



MUTUAL RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

PRESENTED BY

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PRESENTATION OUTLINES

- IER's Mandate
- IER's Vision, Mission and Core Values
- IER's Governance
- Why Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA)?
- How to implement MRA?
- What are Guiding Principles and Basics of MRA?
- Opportunities
- Challenges
- Way forward

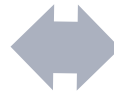


THE IER's MANDATE:

To Ensure Engineering Profession is Appreciated and Embraced at All Levels of the Society.



To Ensure Engineering Services Conform to Established Professional Standards of Best Practices.



To Ensure Technical Capacities and Competences of Members are Enhanced to Deliver Quality.



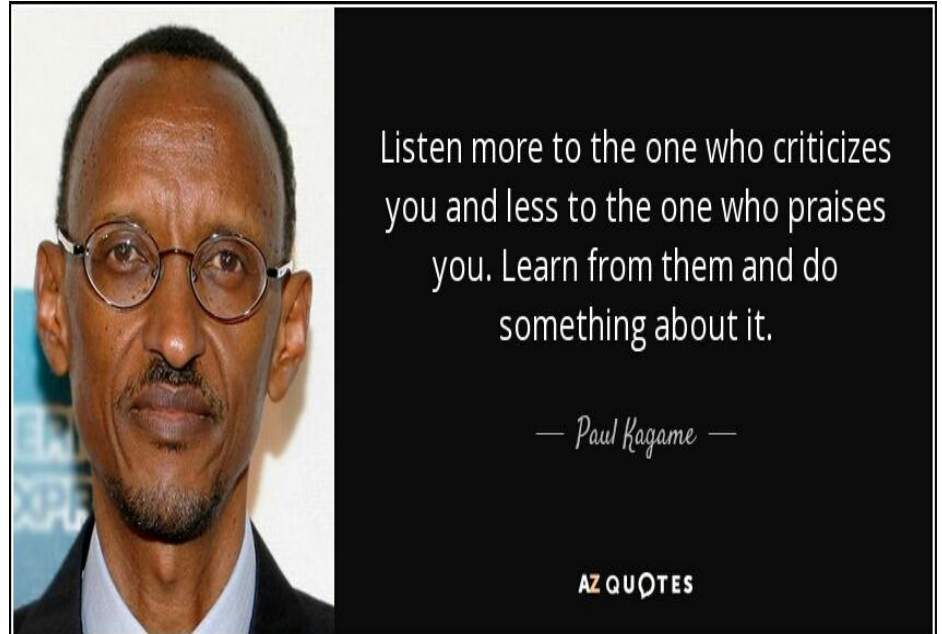
THE VISION, MISSION AND CORE VALUES

- **To Become a Centre of Excellence and Best Practices in Advancing and Promoting Engineering Profession in Rwanda.**
- **To Regulate, Promote and Develop Engineering Profession in Rwanda, ensuring its competence and competitiveness at all levels of job markets.**
- **Integrity**
- **Professionalism**
- **Innovation**
- **Accountability**
- **Passion**
- **Social Responsibility.**



THE GOVERNANCE

- The General Assembly
 - The supreme Organ,
 - All Compliant members
- The Governing Council
 - 7 member team
 - elected by GA
- The Executive Secretariat
 - Executive Secretary & Staff
 - Implementation of GC decisions
- The Standing Committees
 - Six (6) Standing Committees
 - Adhoc (depending on the need)





THE GOVERNANCE (ctd)

- The Law No 26 dated 29th June 2012;
- The Internal Rules and Regulations (IRR);
- The Code of Professional Conduct and the Oath;
- The Continuous Professional Development policy;
- Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Policy;
- Five Year Strategic Plan (2018 – 2022);
- **Accreditation Policy (it's work in progress)**



WHY MUTUAL RECOGNITION (MRA)?

- To facilitate mobility of engineering professionals to enable realization of commitments made by both states in the infrastructure development
- To encourage, facilitate, and establish mutual recognition of engineers' qualifications and set up standards of education, practice and commitment to professional development in the engineering profession between Rwanda and China
- To facilitate exchange of information in order to promote adoption of best practices on standards of engineering education professional qualifications and code of ethics



HOW TO IMPLEMENT MRA?

By legal provisions:

• Article 7 of the law 26/2012 of 29/06/2012 states the admission requirements for foreigners:

“a foreigner who applies for authorization to practice architecture or engineering must fulfill the following conditions:

- 1. To hold a required degree***
- 2. To be a member of the institute of those who practice such profession in his/her country of origin.***
- 3. To be a national of a country which entered into a bilateral agreement authorising Rwandan nationals to practice such a profession”***



MRA IMPLEMENTATION (ctd)

• Article 9 of the law 26/2012 OF 29/06/2012 states the admission requirements for foreign legal entities:

“a foreign legal entity may be authorised to provide architecture or engineering services in Rwanda as long as reciprocity is admitted by the country in which it is registered, subject to bilateral agreements or regional integration treaties.

However the foreign legal entity must:

- 1. Be registered in Rwanda as a foreign company in accordance with the provisions of the law relating to companies;***
- 2. Fulfil other requirements applicable to Rwandan legal entities”***

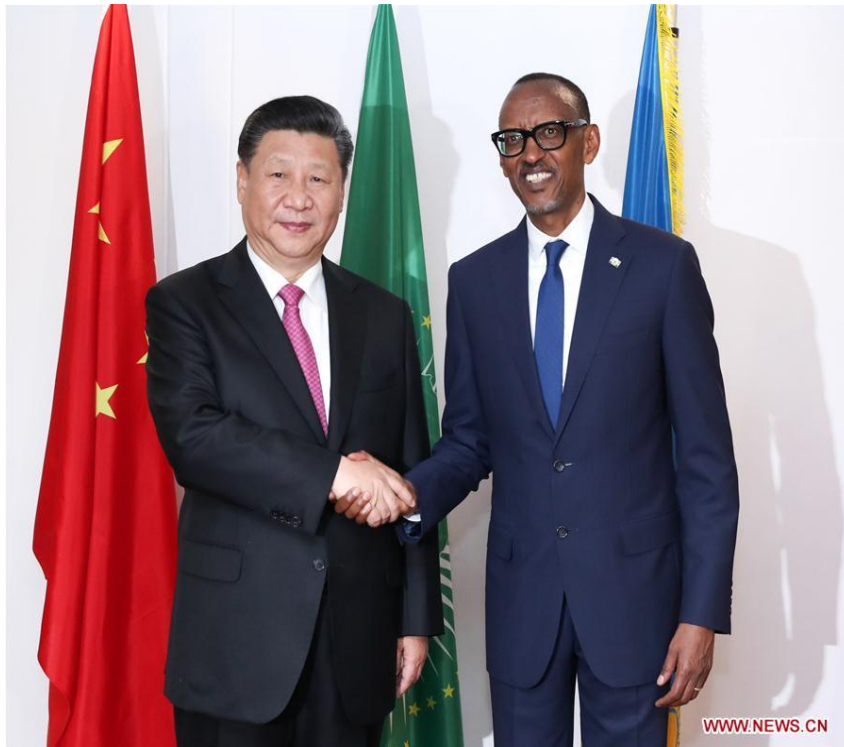


PRINCIPLES OF MRA

“It is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed”

By HE Paul KAGAME

**Rwanda and China
Bilateral
Agreements
31, July 2018**



- Infrastructure projects
- E-Commerce
- HR Development



BASICS OF MRA

Your President Xi Jinping when he was giving the opening address at the Belt and Road Summit Forum for International Cooperation on 14th May 2017 Beijing, with a theme “**Work together to build the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road**”

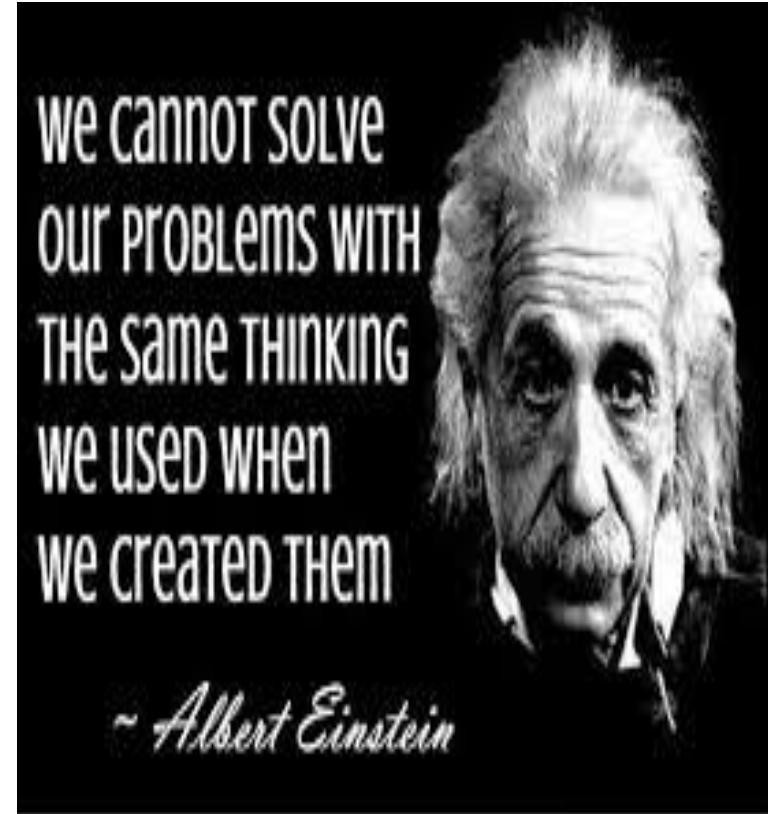
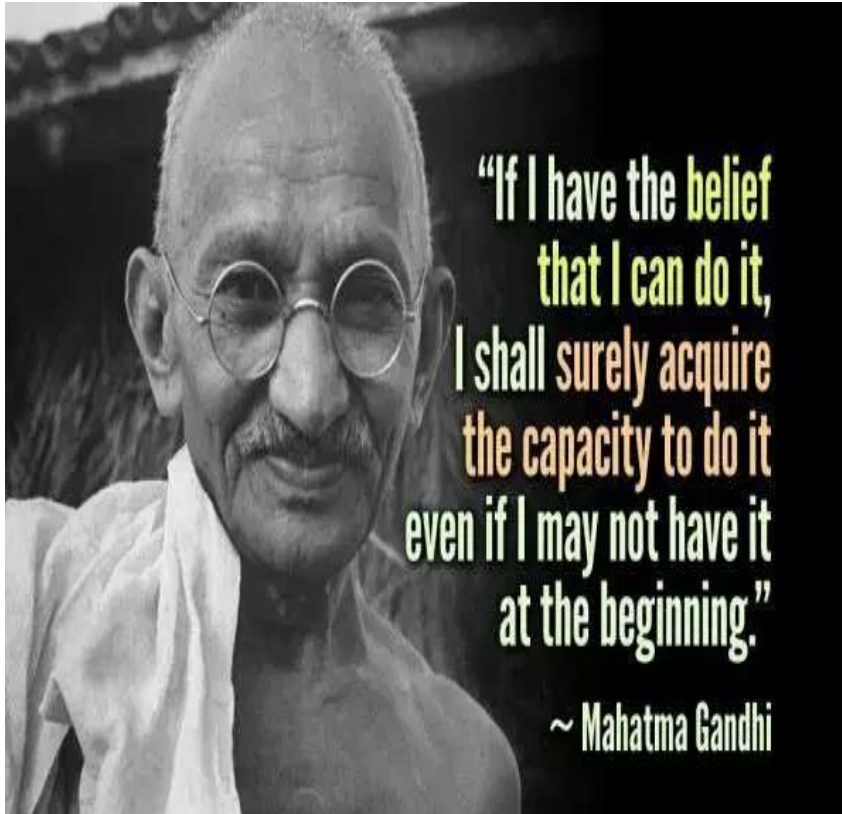
He announced the vision and mission for the Belt and Road Initiative which I believe should be the guiding principles of our MRA while focusing on peace and cooperation, mutual learning and benefits, openness and inclusiveness.

And he said:

- “
1. We should build the Belt and Road into a Road for **Peace**
 2. We should build the Belt and Road into a Road of **Prosperity**
 3. We should build the Belt and Road into a Road of **Opening Up**
 4. We should build the Belt and Road into a Road of **Innovations**
 5. We should build the Belt and Road into a Road **Connecting Different Civilisations**”



OPPORTUNITIES





OPPORTUNITIES (ctd)

True Honesty and
Empathy for
sustainability based on
natural justice by
maximizing:

- Mutual learning
- Mutual benefits
- Inclusiveness
- Openness
- Peace
- Prosperity
- Opening up
- Innovations
- Connecting Different Civilizations



OPPORTUNITIES (ctd)

- Training our local professionals for sustainability-registration of CPD providers with accredited courses

“the rapidly changing knowledge and skill requirements in the engineering profession require that engineers educated mainly in the scientific principles of a broad engineering discipline need to develop new skills and acquire more specific knowledge to better equip them for each of the succession of engineering roles that comprise their careers through CPDs”
Clive Ferguson

- Accreditation and certification of engineering programs- determine the credit points per course and assessment of competences of each interested provider

“Talents win games but teamwork and intelligence win championships” by HE Paul KAGAME



CHALLENGES

- **Lack of commitment** to properly enforce the law for equitable benefits of both peoples especially on skills transfer and employments
- **Corruption**; It is perceived that the Chinese are No 1 in bribing both public and private officials in order to get lucrative contracts
- **No/Minimum sharing** of knowledge and skills for the local professionals



Challenges (ctd)

- Low/No levels of **ethics and Professionalism** that make projects extremely expensive to some
- Mobility is commonly done by **Non registered/Unlicenced practitioners**
- **Lack of standardized** and agreed protocol
- Practice is driven/dominated by **greedy and unfair** practitioners/players
- **Non existence of professional bodies** in some countries



CHALLENGES (ctd)



WAY FORWARD

- Enhance skills transfer through inclusion of local engineers in the on going projects
- Enhance subcontracting of works to SMEs to build mutual learning, benefits and inclusiveness
- Benchmark the levels of qualifications and competencies for the Chinese experts in local projects
- Establish partnership aimed at supporting professional bodies to ensure the compliance to existing laws, regulations and standards
- Develop capacity building framework and roadmap to be implemented by CAST and IER collaboratively



WAY FORWARD (ctd)

- My personal belief is that:
 - No matter how long it takes, walking the talk now through honest collaboration and provision of appropriate customized Engineering Solutions is timely than ever before in order to attain substantial and impactful results on our challenges and SDGs at large.

