

PRESS RELEASE

KIGALI RANKED 2ND IN AFRICA FOR HOSTING ASSOCIATION MEETINGS, FIVE YEARS IN A ROW

Kigali has once again been ranked the second most popular city in Africa for hosting international association meetings, according to the 2024 ICCA (International Congress and Convention Association) rankings, and Rwanda holds third place among African countries.

Rwanda's consistent presence among the top destinations for association meetings highlights its growing reputation as a reliable and preferred host for global events. Several factors contribute to this, including the visa-on-arrival policy for all nationalities and RwandAir's expanding network, which offers strong regional and international connectivity. Additionally, Kigali is home to some of Africa's leading MICE venues. Facilities such as the Kigali Convention Centre, BK Arena, Amahoro Stadium, and Intare Conference Arena offer spaces suited for large-scale conferences and events.

Alongside these venues is a strong and growing hospitality sector, with a presence of hospitality brands such as Radisson Blu, Four Points by Sheraton, Marriott, One&Only, Singita, and new additions like Mövenpick and Odalys set to open soon. Beyond business, delegates are drawn to the country's unique experiences, from trekking to see the mountain gorillas to spotting the Big Five in Akagera National Park, and engaging with Rwanda's rich culture, making it more than just a place to meet.

In 2024, Rwanda welcomed over 52,000 delegates for meetings and events, generating \$84.8 million in MICE revenue. Of these, more than 17,000 delegates attended international association meetings, including the FIA Annual General Assembly, ICANN 80 Policy Forum, the International Network for Government Science Advice Conference (INGSA), Africa Food Systems Forum, and many more.

"We are pleased to see Rwanda and Kigali continue to be recognized among Africa's leading destinations for association meetings. These results reflect the efforts of various players across the events industry and the confidence international associations place in Rwanda as a preferred destination for hosting conferences and events. These rankings inspire us to further enhance our support and offerings for global events." Janet Karemera, CEO, Rwanda Convention Bureau

This year, Rwanda will also host the ICCASkills Hub, launching in Kigali with two professional training programs: the Certified International Convention Specialist (CICS) course from 15–17 July, followed by the Certified International Convention Executive (CICE) course from 14–16 October. These ICCA-led courses offer globally recognized certification for professionals in the events industry and aim to build skills and expand opportunities across Africa's growing MICE sector.

For more information about the **ICCASkills Hub**: <https://t.co/OfVKPC8t1m>

About Rwanda Convention Bureau

Rwanda Convention Bureau (RCB) promotes Rwanda as a premier destination for Business Events and acts as a one-stop solution for assistance, information, and guidance on hosting and organizing MICE Events in Rwanda.