# Pollution control and other measures to protect Lake Tanganyika's biodiversity

Strategic Action Plan	
Burundi	
Conclusions from the National Working Group's (Bujumbura 30 <sup>th</sup> June 1998)	planning meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> July 1998

# **Contents**

Summary	Page	3
1. How the NWG's planning meeting fits into the SAP process		3
2. The objectives and outcome of the NWG's preparatory meeting		4
3. Conclusions concerning preparations for the NSPR workshop		5
3.1. The objectives of the NSPR workshop		
3.2. Preparation of the foundation documentation		
4. Conclusions concerning preparations for the NESPR workshop		8
5. The NWG's composition and widening its consultation base		8
6. Diary of events		9
Appendices		10
Table 1.		
Subjects divided by topic, headings		
and list indicating points to be dealt with		
Table 2.		
Allocation of responsibilities in preparing the foundation	ation do	ocuments.

#### Summary

The Burundi NWG's (National Working Group) planning meeting for the Lake Tanganyika Biodiversity Project (LTBP) was held at Bujumbura on June 30<sup>th</sup> 1998. The objective of the meeting was to set in motion preparations for a Strategic Action Plan (SAP) for Lake Tanganyika.

The committee adopted procedures to set up a SAP in seven stages, as recommended by the Regional Management Committee. This allows for two national workshops which will be devoted to the consultation process. The first workshop (NSPR: National Sectoral Problem Review) will take place in September, will deal with threats to the lake's biodiversity and will formulate initial proposals for action that could neutralize these threats.

The second workshop is time-tabled for November (NESPR: Examination of National Priorities and Strategies for the Environment), and will focus on options, policies, and management strategies for the environment, directed at implementing the action recommended.

The NSPR workshop will require the preparation beforehand of foundation documents. The NWG has given the responsibility of preparing these documents to various of its members and to institutions responsible for different specialist studies.

Consultation will be extended during the workshops, as it is envisaged that representatives from the government, from the private sector, from NGOs, from the University and from international aid agencies will be invited to participate.

# 1. How the NWG's planning meeting fits into the SAP process

An essential objective stated in the project document was to "put in place a plan for long term regional management which would fight against pollution and preserve and safeguard the biodiversity of Lake Tanganyika". The approach adopted since to achieve this management planning is that of a Strategic Action Plan (SAP). The SAP concept is based on the idea that management must be continually revised according to how circumstances change. A definitive management plan set in stone would make no sense. Consequently, the SAP establishes a process for planning and management, as well as a system which prioritises the action to be taken, according to the circumstances and the amount of knowledge available at the time.

Having adopted this principle in January 1998, the Steering Committee agreed upon a process to draw up the SAP in seven stages, three of which are at national level and four at regional level:

- a) at national level:
  - NWG preparatory meeting
  - NSPR, National Sectoral Problem Review
  - NESPR, a Study of National Priorities and Strategies for the Environment

## b) at regional level:

- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) preparatory meeting
- TBDA, Trans-Boundary Diagnostic Analysis
- A SAP pilot study to be prepared
- The four countries to sign the SAP (the Steering Committee has scheduled this for March 1999)

The NWG planning meeting is therefore the first stage in this process which it aims to prepare at a national level.

## 2. The outcome and objectives of the NWG's planning meeting

The National Coordinator (DG INECN) convened the NWG planning meeting on June 30th 1998 at Bujumbura. This report, which has been prepared by the Facilitator, takes the place of additional notes to the minutes from this meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to set in motion preparations for the SAP in Burundi, in particular by scheduling two national workshops (NSPR, NESPR), by suggesting partners to be involved in the consultation and others who could be invited to the workshops, and by delegating specific responsibilities for drawing up the foundation documents for the first workshop. More precisely it targeted five objectives:

- 1. to define the stages in the national consultation process, given that the regional process has to conclude with the SAP;
- 2. to identify what information the NSPR needs ("Examen du Problème Sectoriel National);
- 3. to allocate the preliminary work in preparing the foundation documentation for the NSPR workshop;
- 4. to suggest an extended list of potential participants for the planned workshops (NSPR and NESPR) (including representatives from governmental and non-governmental organisations and the private sector)
- 5. to agree final dates for these two workshops.

These objectives were met at the meeting, in the following order or with the following results:

1. The SAP concept and the seven stages envisaged were presented by the Facilitator; the importance of adhering to deadlines was stressed, so that other countries' efforts to make progress would not be thwarted; it was also noted, in reply to worries that were expressed, that Burundi's relative delay with LTBP activities should not prevent it from making progress with the SAP process: indeed, on the one hand Burundi has scientific experience

from before the LTBP, and on the other hand in accordance with the founding principle of the SAP, both the management of the lake and any studies underlying it, are always to be a continuous and open-ended process and it is not to be expected that one or the other be finished.

- 2. The information that is needed has been drawn up by all those involved, into a list of issures to be dealt with. The headings which have been listed in this way can be found in Table 1 in the appendix. The Facilitator has cross-checked the headings with other lists. However, in order to allay fears that there may be gaps, everyone who is dealing with a topic in any depth has been asked to make sure that nothing relevant or related to his topic has been omitted.
- 3. How the NWG's work is delegated is dealt with in point 3.2 of this report and the results of this are shown in Table 2 in the appendix.
- 4. The extended list of participants suggested by the NWG is presented below in point 5 of this report.
- 5. The time table agreed upon by the NWG is presented below in point 6 of this report.

As the meeting was mostly concerned with preparations for the NSPR, its conclusions relating to this are presented separately below.

# 3. Conclusions concerning preparations for the NSPR

#### 3.1. What the NSPR workshop aims to do

The workshop will aim to identify key threats to the lake's biodiversity and to suggest management action. Since the aim is to define possible action to take, particular attention will be paid to threats from human activity, to the feasibility of this action and to how effectively it would protect biodiversity. Threats from nature or threats which it is difficult to have any control over, are to be taken into account only in so far as they might influence such efficiency.

It is envisaged that the workshop will last five days, however, this may be modified in light of experience from the first NSPR which was held concomitantly in Zambia at the end of June 1998.

## 3.2. Preparation of the foundation documentation

In the course of preparing for the workshop, a series of documents will be drawn up. The documents to be prepared should not be long. They are summaries which will emphasise key problems and opportunities for improving the impact of man's activities on the lake.

The following topics were agreed upon:<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Areas such as climatic change have not been taken as a separate topic, given that no local management

## 1. Biodiversity and the lake:

Under this topic, consideration will be given to what happens within the ecosystem (lakes and shores of the lake), including changes in the substratum, in the water quality in the fauna and flora, and to clarify the action of what is causing the most immediate changes, (how sediments, polluting agents, fishing and anything else that may be introduced into the lake..... contribute to the situation), and to examine their repercussions for the preservation of biodiversity, giving priority namely to endemic and vulnerable species..

#### 2. Watershed

As a direct contrast to the previous topic based on downstream water, this one will consider what happens upstream to the processes which bring sediments and some of the polluting agents into the lake. Essentially it will look at the rural area of the hills which form part of the lake's basin (Mumirwa in particular), whilst focussing attention on land use, farming and the erosion that results from it. Under this topic there must also be examination of the dynamics of sediment transportation ( and of dissolved matter) in the streams, rivers and waterways which do or do not bring these into the lake.

## 3. Human settlements, industries

This topic looks at towns, human habitat, industries, activities of craftsmen and even tertiary activities such as tourism. Obviously attention must be focused on lakeside towns such as Bujumbura and Rumonge. In particular, all sorts of pollution will have to be looked at, including that of the farm-produce industry, but with the exception of agricultural pollution.

#### 4. Lake transport

This topic looks at navigation on the lake, including harbour/port installations. It will particularly look at any resulting chronic or accidental pollution.

#### 5. Fishing

This topic includes activities associated with fishing, whether lawful or not, such as hunting or poaching, for example. The two sides of the relationship between the lake and fishing are to be considered ( even if they do not exactly match the aims of the project): the effects that fishing exerts, and any impact felt by fishing.

#### 6. Civil engineering, mines, quarries

The central preoccupation of this topic is what causes sedimentation other than agricultural erosion (dealt with in topic 2) or urban erosion (dealt with in topic 3), for example, that of mines and quarries.

#### 7. Problems specific to the Rusizi plain

The distinctive eco-geographical features of the Rusizi plain and of that part of the lake which it influences, justifies its separate treatment.

#### 8. Institutions, legislation, education

This topic runs through the previous ones, and is of another order since it deals with the instruments available for re-directing any human practice which is threatening biodiversity. Although these instruments will also be the object of the next workshop (NESPR), a diagnosis is to be established here beforehand, with a view to clarifying which measures are desirable.

#### 9. The lake's socio-economic contribution

Above all, the LTBP project aims to protect the lake and its biodiversity against human activity. It is essential to take into account the socio-economic benefits drawn from the lake's resources, because they constitute both an end in their own right and a way of assuring the project's success on a long-term basis. The summary relating to this topic ought to help in choosing what action to take, both by enabling a better appreciation of the impact the suggested measures might have, and by giving more insight into what motivates those who use the lake and whose behaviour one would hope to influence.

More precise details of these topics are given in the appendix (Table 1): however, the list given is not definitive, it is up to the authors of each topic to deal with any possible points relating to their topic which seem relevant to them or which may have been left out.

The NWG has suggested which individuals and institutions are to write up these documents. Table 2 shows how these responsibilities were allocated. Each document has been conferred to a principal author, but certain particular points have been entrusted to individuals with greater expertise in these areas. In such circumstances the principal author remains responsible for the coherency of the document. His role will therefore be that of co-ordinator for his topic. Moreover, he will deal with directly any points not entrusted to specialist authors.

For their topic and so that it falls into line with the documents, those writing the documents will have to:

- study and update the foundation data by identifying key documents and sources; in this context the Baseline Reviews prepared by the LTBP will form an essential foundation for this work (copies of the Baseline Reviews are available from the National Co-ordinator's office and have also been distributed to other institutions in Burundi); however, the information contained in the Baseline Reviews will need to be updated and added to where necessary.,
- describe the situation as well as qualitative and quantitative trends, in particular those
  which are a result of a growth in population, by focusing on disruptions connected with the
  socio-political crisis.,
- identify the principal threats to biodiversity or the ecosystem (lake, shores of the lake and associated environments) connected to their topic; the person in charge of the biodiversity topic is requested to examine as precisely as possible the connection between disruption to the lake's ecosystem (the shores of the lake are to be included) and the status of the most vulnerable species, other contributions will just identify the sources and causes of the disturbances, this being for the shores of the basin (as far as the topic allows for this)
- identify any issues other than the conservation of biodiversity which have to be taken into account in any decision making,

- identify what extra information is needed, with a view to determining or clarifying what action should be taken,
- give prominence to cross-border issues,
- describe the institutional framework and institutional causes underlying the problems identified,
- evaluate opportunities and constraints, and from these suggest action which should oppose the threats and problems which have been identified,
- write up the summary presenting previous studies, giving references to any sources of information,
- prepare an oral presentation of their work for the workshop and if possible bring along reference documents, which participants may be asked to refer to.

Table 2 sets out headings, which should serve as way of organising the work. To help remember the details, instructions are given for each heading (this should also help define the area particular to each topic).

As the work consists of summarising available information, no field studies or distant deadlines are required. Nevertheless, the work has to be carried out with care and the deadlines given in the timetable further on (point 6) must be respected. It is hoped that the project will provide the material required within appropriate time limits.

## 4. Conclusions concerning preparations for the NESPR workshop

The second workshop will be focused on the 'Examination of National Priorities and Strategies for the Environment, with a view to evaluating in what measure existing legislation and policies (sector-based and inter sector-based) can help resolve the problems identified. The workshop will also look at how to achieve consistency between the action envisaged and national environmental management objectives, namely those of the SNEB and the PAE.

It is envisaged that preparations for the second workshop (NESPR) will begin when the first one (NSPR) is finished, in the light of its results. The topics to be debated will be decided there, as will delegating the preparation for the working documents.

# 5. The NWG's composition and extending the consultation base

The National Working Group includes representatives from the following organisations and institutions:

Represented at the meeting:

- INECN
- Ministry of Fisheries
- MINATE
- IGEBU
- University of Burundi
- LTBP
- Gov. Dept. Geology and Mines
- ODEB

Apologies received from:

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Relations (Dept. for Treaties)
- Ministry of Local Development
- Ministry of Transport, of Post and Telecommunications (Dept. for Lake Transport )

In addition, the NWG meeting suggested extending the consultation process further. It also foresees inviting the following institutions or individuals to the two workshops:

Invited to take part in preparing the foundation documentation:

MTPE, Planning and Town Planning Board

#### Others:

• Fishing Associations: industrial fisheries (Macos Aris), fishers from the North Bay, Rumonge fishers / A representative from cattle breeders / Patrice Faye / Fishes of Burundi Nautical Circle / Industries: Abattoir, ARNOLAC, BATRALAC, BRARUDI, COTEBU, ROBBIALAC / Ministries: M. of Agriculture and Cattle Breeding, M. of Economic Programme, M. of Social Action, M. of Finance, M. of Trade / Administrative departments: Dept. of Urban Management, Dept. of Public Hygiene / UPP / University departments: Dept. Chemistry, Dept. of Geology / ISABU / SIP / REGIDESO / ECOSAT / Commander of the Lake Guard / Local Administrator of Mutimbuzi, other local administrators / Bujumbura town hall, SETEMU / Regional development societies: SRDI, SRDR, SRDB / ONG: Care, Catholic Relief Service / International organisations and sponsors: HCR, UNDP, FAO, FNUAP, BM, other sponsors / Projects: MINAGO, Support Project for the Restoration and Management of the Environment, LTR Project (research on Lake Tanganyika), LTBP.

However, the present NWG and the National Co-ordinator may yet decide to shorten this list after evaluating what limits will be set on organising the meeting and how motivated these partners are likely to be to take an active part in the proceedings.

The members put forward to join the National Working Group will be invited along to both meetings, in order to ensure the continuity and cohesion of the process.

# 6. Timing of events

The meeting suggested dates for the two workshops, any deadlines in between are to be clarified by the National Co-ordinator.

- 1. July: confirmation of how responsibilities for preparing the foundation documents are to be delegated, finalising the mandates for preparing the foundation information documents; clarification of the methodology and the documents' structure.
- August: meeting between the NC and those in charge of writing up the preparatory documents in order to evaluate what has been achieved so far.

- July-August: writing up the documents
- 7-11 September: NSPR workshop
- 23-27 November: workshop on National Priorities and Strategies for the Environment

Table 1 ( first part)

Subjects divided by topic, heading and list indicating points to be dealt with

The state of the s	opic, neading and list	~ -	
	1. Biodiversity and the	2. Shores of the basin	3. Human settlements,
Description: situation, trends	lake  Define « targets » (conservation objectives): endemic, vulnerable species and groups, habitats, key sites (Rusizi); State of and trends in the ecosystem (including quality of water and sedimentation in the lake, changes in the	Increasing concentration of human population, population and cattle movements, land use: arable land, SAPtures, natural forests (protected areas), artificial afforestation. Agriculture (erosion, fertilisers, pesticides): extension,	Industries  Human settlements and industries, urbanisation of sensitive zones, sanitation, management of Bujumbura rivers, siting of cemeteries, practice of placing corpses in the waters, effects the habitat has on erosion and run-off
Problems in protecting biodiversity	substratum, plant infestations)  Threats identified hanging over « targets », impact of fishing, sedimentation,	intensification  Erosion, emission of polluting agents and transport (of sediments	Emission of liquid and solid waste, domestic and industrial waste into the
	pollution etc.; survey of causes of indirect threats (cf. Other topics) and clarification of direct threats: introduction of species, extraction of ornamental fish	and polluting agents ) into the lake.	lake (including palm oil tree craft industry); effects of groundwater pollution on the lake; erosion due to (re)construction; effects of floods which go through towns on the lake
Issues other than the protection of biodiversity	Harmful species .Refer to other studies for questions about fishing , water supply	Economic and environmental importance of developing the shores of the basin and of the fight against erosion	Tourism, leisure activities Extraction of water for industrial and domestic uses (drinking water) Protection of towns against floods
Institutional context Contributors, strategies	Legal framework for the protection of the waters and biodiversity	Institutional context and strategies implemented	Law enforcement, getting industrialists to take responsibility?
More information needed	No information available about threats to biodiversity	No information, in particular concerning the sediment carried by rivers	Monitoring of effluent?
Cross-border implications	Take into account global and regional status when selecting « targets » How the ecosystem is indivisible Application of CITES norms, status of the lake's species in CITES schedules	Cross-border basins (Malagarazi, sediments trapped in swamps, impact of their development) Population displacements, refugees	Sharing of experiences??
Opportunities and constraints, proposals	Drawing distinction between controllable and uncontrollable changes. Threats which require urgent attention.	Constraints: demographic pressures, Opportunities: Agro - pastoral, forestry	Constraints: demographic pressures, need for development, cost of water purification

Table 1 (contd.)
Subjects divided by topic, heading and list indicating points to be dealt with

Subjects divided by t	opic, heading and list	<u> </u>	
	4.Lake Transport	5. Fishing	6. Civil engineering, quarries, mines
Description: situation, trends	Volume of traffic, type of merchandise, trends Harbour/ port building works	Practices, material, types of fishing (industrial, artisanal, traditional), catches, effort involved in fishing, species: situation and trends (qualitative, quantitative, spatial: effect of population displacements; effect of the crisis); fishing of ornamental fish, conversion, trade	Roads and tracks (in particular on the coast) Possible development of oil Mines and quarries Extraction of materials from rivers and beaches Dams
Problems in protecting biodiversity	Pollution from boats, (non) accidental pollution, washing out of tanks, risks connected with dangerous substances, craft running aground, pollution in the ports (accidents during transfer of cargo onto boats) Physical effects of the ports	The impact that fishing and possible practices associated with it has on biodiversity	Sediments brought down into the lake Potential risks connected with the possible exploitation of oil
Issues to consider other than protection of biodiversity	Economy (security?)	Economic and social importance of fishing (income, protein production). Impact on fishing of the lake's ecological changes	Economic development
Institutional context Contributors, strategies	Regulation of transport, of trade in dangerous substances	Institutional framework, fishermens' organisation control and application of regulations; trading to be taxed; conflict between fishermen?	
Need for more information	To be clarified:	To be clarified: Monitoring of stocks? Monitoring of catches? Knowledge of spawning grounds, use LTR's experience?	To be clarified, possible roads planned, need for an inventory of quarries (cfr EAP)
Cross-border implications	International Transport Transfer of pollution	A resource that cannot be divided Control to be co-ordinated Possible international agreements Fishing outside national waters	International roads
Opportunities and constraints, proposals	Constraints: difficulties of control	How fishing interests and those of preserving biodiversity converge and diverge	

Table 1 (contd. and concluded)

Subjects divided by topic, heading and list indicating points to be dealt with

Heading	7. Questions specific to	8.Institutional	9.The lake's socio-
C	the Rusizi plain	framework and education	economic contribution
Description: situation, trends	Review of the development.  Management of the protected area. Irrigated agriculture and hydroagricultural developments (fertilisers, pesticides, hydrology)  Rusizi river: variations in river's course, hydrology and load Salt farming .  Sewage works.	Institutions which govern the sectors in question. Principal existing legal texts likely to counter the threats, application. Process under way (Environmental code, EIE)	Economic or other benefits drawn from the lake (from fishing, farming the banks, tourism, water, transport) Populations and social groups which benefit Population's awareness of its dependant relationship with the lake
Problems in protecting biodiversity	Dynamics of the delta Management of the protected area Pollution (agriculture, dumping of waste)	Inadequacies of the legal texts concerned with biodiversity	Impact that development of the lake has on biodiversity
Issues to consider other than protection of biodiversity	Development	Integration of biodiversity and the environment and lasting development	(heading being redundant here with the first point above)
Institutional context Contributors, strategies	Farming competition- cattle rearing -protected zone. Population movement Contributors	Sociological admissibility of laws in force. Complementary nature of the laws and the EE in the arsenal of instruments of environmental policy	Institutions and organisations which can act in the coastal area Written and statute law relating to the lake's resources; rules on how profits should be divided
Need for more information	To be clarified	To be clarified: above all foresee the question of exchanging information about laws in the partner countries so as to consider any convergence in the lake's management	To be clarified
Cross-border implications	Impacts introduced from upstream water(Congo, Rwanda).Impacts spread along shared course of river (Congo) Question of where border runs in relation to variations in the course of the Rusizi river.  Population and cattle movement, possible poaching across the border. Share experience of managing the plain.	International treaties and conventions which could be called upon for the lake's management (Ramsar, Washington, Bonn, Rio conventions). Possible contradictions between objectives and the effects of national laws which govern the lake's management. The concept of common cross-border heritage, in the laws and EE.	Economic exchanges around the lake
Opportunities/constraints and conclusions	Constraints: cross-border litigation, no control over upstream water, conflicts	Diagnose the current situation, make key proposals	Possibility of exploiting any convergence of the development interests of the populations and protection objectives?

Table 2. Delegation of responsibilities for preparing the foundation documents

Topic	Institution	Person responsible
1. Biodiversity and the lake: synthesis and	University of Burundi	Gaspard Ntakimazi
supplement to the special areas:		
1. special area: Sedimentation (in the lake)	DG Geology and Mines (MEM)	Tharcisse Songore
1. special area: Watershed Pollution, water	INECN	Gabriel Hakizimana
quality		
2. Shores of the Basins: synthesis and	Dept. Rural Engineering	Jean-Marie Bukuru
supplement to the special areas	(MINATE)	
2. special area: Human Population	University of Burundi	François Nkurunziza
2. special area: Protected forest areas	INECN	Elisée Ntiranyibagira
2. special area: Sediment transported into the	IGEBU	Gérard
lake (in streams, rivers and waterways)		Ntungumburanye
3. Human settlements, towns, industries:	Urban Planning Board	Pierre Bakevya
synthesis and supplement to the special areas		
3. special area: Emission of polluting agents	INECN	Gabriel Hakizimana
3. special area: Drinking water supply	Hydraulic Resources Board	Denis Barandemaje
4. Lake Transport	Dept. Lake Transport	SAPcal Ndizeye
5. Fishing	Fisheries Board	Roger Kanyaru
6. Civil engineering, mines, quarries: synthesis	Min. Local Development	Salvator Ruzima
6special area : Oil deposits		Tharcisse Songore
7. Problems specific to the Rusizi plain	INECN	Elisée Ntiranyibagira
8. <b>Institutions, legislation, education</b> : synthesis		Didace Nimpagaritse
8. area: Legislation	University of Burundi	Didace Nimpagaritse
	INECN	Damien Nindorera
8. area: Environmental education	ODEB	Antoine Kinyomvyi
9. The lake's socio-economic contribution	MINATE	Mathias Kinezero

#### A LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

NSPR National Sectoral Problem Review TBDA Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis

BRARUDI Burundi Breweries

CITES Convention on International Traffic of Endangered Species

CCIB Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Craftsmen and Agriculture in Burundi

TAC Technical Consultative Committee
CIE Centre for Environmental Information

NC National Coordinator

CNE National Council for the Environment COTEBU Cottons and Textiles of Burundi

CRS Catholic Relief Service

DGEE General Department of Water and Energy

EE Environmental Education

EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

NESPR Examination of National Priorities and Strategies for the Environment

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FEM World Environment Fund FNUAP United Nations Fund for ... Population

GEF Global Environment Facility NWG National Working Group IGEBU Burundi Geographical Institute

INECN National Institute for Nature Conservation and the Environment

ISABU Burundi Institute of Agronomic Sciences

LTR Lake Tanganyika Research

MAE Ministry of Agriculture and Cattle Breeding MCIT Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism

MEM Ministry of Mines and Energy

MINATE Ministry of the Environment and National and Land Planning

MREC Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Relations
MTPE Ministry of Civil Engineering and Amenities

MTPT Ministry of Transport, Post and Telecommunications
ODEB Organisation for the Defence of the Environment in Burundi

ONG Non Governmental Organisation EAP Environmental Action Plan

PAEMR Project to Supply Drinking Water to Rural Districts

PARGE Support Project for the Restoration and the Management of the Environment

SAP Strategic Action Plan

LTBP Lake Tanganyika Biodiversity Project
UNDP United Nations Development Programme
UNEP United Nations Environmental Programme

REGIDESO National Authority for the Production, Distribution and Marketing of Water and Electricity

SIP Public Real Estate Company SETEMU Local Technical Services

SNEB Burundi National Environmental Strategy

SRD Regional Development Society
SRDI Imbo Regional Development Society
SRDR Rumonge Regional Development Society

UB University of Burundi UPP Population Planning Unit