



Ramsar Sites Information Service

Annotated List of Wetlands of International Importance

Burundi

4 Ramsar Site(s) covering 78,515 ha

Parc National de la Rusizi

Site number: 1,180 | Country: Burundi | Administrative region: Bujumbura Rural

Area: 10,673 ha | Coordinates: 03°15'S 29°15'E | Designation dates: 05-06-2002

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Parc National de la Rusizi. 05/06/02; Bujumbura Rural; 10,673 ha; 03°14'46"S 029°15'06"E . National Park. A complex of permanent inland delta, freshwater lakes, rivers and marshes. It includes the western part of the Great Rift Valley, lying north of Lake Tanganyika, and comprises the Rusizi delta and part of the lower Rusizi plain shared with the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda. The site is considered an "ornithological paradise" for its stopover and nesting places for migratory waterbirds, with over 120 breeding bird species and 90 migratory species identified. It supports 193 plant species, 90 fish species, and over 12 reptile species including the Nile Crocodile *Crocodylus niloticus*. It is a source of food and nesting ground for fishes and hosts several indigenous species. Six species of large mammals have been identified, including the IUCN Red-Listed Hippopotamus *Hippopotamus amphibius* and several small mammals including the Sitatunga *Tragelaphus spekii* - increasingly rare in Africa. Its hydrological functions include sediment trapping and general hydrological balance. The main human activities include fishing, livestock, rice, sugar cane and cotton farming, and collection of non-timber forest products. The site is threatened by erosion, over-exploitation of natural resources, and the use of fertilizers and pesticides for agriculture. Ramsar site no. 1180. Most recent RIS information 2013.

Parc National de la Ruvubu

Site number: 2,148 | Country: Burundi | Administrative region: Karuzi, Muyinga, Ruyigi, Cankuzo

Area: 50,800 ha | Coordinates: 03°10'S 30°20'E | Designation dates: 14-03-2013

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Parc National de la Ruvubu. 14/03/13; Karuzi, Muyinga, Ruyigi and Cankuzo; 50,800 ha; 03°10'00"S 030°20'00"E. National Park. A permanent freshwater river surrounded by marshes, shrubs and tree dominated wetlands. It is a biodiversity-rich site with 44 mammal species, 412 waterbird species, 13 reptile and 14 fish species. The site is known to be a very important habitat for the IUCN Red-Listed Hippopotamus *Hippopotamus amphibius* (from which the site name was derived) and Nile Crocodile *Crocodylus niloticus* listed on Appendix 1 of CITES. Its main vegetation is wooded savannah with surrounding gallery forests bordering the Ruvubu River. Hydrological functions include flood control and sediment trapping. Human activities include harvesting of medicinal plants and other non-timber forest products. Ramsar Site no. 2148. Most recent RIS information: 2013.

Paysage Aquatique Protégé du Nord

Site number: 2,149 | Country: Burundi | Administrative region: Kirundo

Area: 16,242 ha | Coordinates: 02°30'S 30°09'E | Designation dates: 14-03-2013

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Paysage Aquatique Protégé du Nord. 14/03/13; Kirundo; 16,242 ha; 02°30'00"S 030°09'20"E. Protected Landscape, including a nature reserve. This is a complex of 8 permanent freshwater lakes and marshes, forming part of the Nile basin. It is a biodiversity rich site supporting several IUCN Red Listed species including the endemic fish species *Barbus acuticeps* and *Synodontis ruandae*, the Madagascar Pond Heron *Ardeola idea*, and the endangered Grey Crowned-crane *Balearica regulorum*. Twenty fish species including two endemic species have been identified in the site. It is composed of Soudano-Zambezi vegetation type with *Tragelaphus scriptus*, *Sylvicapra grimmia* and *Lepus whytei*. The site is an important habitat for waterbirds and a stopover ground for several migratory birds - with 60 bird species identified in one of its rivers. The presence of these waterbirds (over 5,000 individuals counted) has encouraged ecotourism in the site. Its main hydrological functions include general hydrological balance and flood control. Agriculture and fishing are the main human activities. The site is generally threatened by overexploitation of natural resources and erosion. Ramsar Site no. 2149. Most recent RIS information: 2013.

Réserve Naturelle de la Malagarazi

Site number: 2,150 | Country: Burundi | Administrative region: Makamba

Area: 800 ha | Coordinates: 03°55'S 30°13'E | Designation dates: 14-03-2013

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Réserve Naturelle de la Malagarazi. 14/03/13; Makamba; 800 ha; 03°55'00"S 030°13'00"E. Natural Reserve. A permanent freshwater river surrounded by marshes, forming the Burundian part of the Tanzanian Ramsar Site Malagarasi-Muyovozi Wetlands. It is a very important breeding ground for endemic fishes of the Congo basin and the Sudano-Zambezi ecoregion, hosting several bird species including the endangered Grey Crowned-crane *Balearica regulorum*, Hadada Ibis *Bostrychia hagedash*, and the Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis*. It is known to support the IUCN Red-Listed Hippopotamus *Hippopotamus amphibius* and comprises diverse vegetation types including woodlands, gallery forests, savannas and marshes. Its hydrological functions include sediment trapping and maintaining water quality. The main human activities include agriculture, traditional fishing, and the collection of non-timber forest products. The site is threatened by slash and burn agriculture, deforestation, siltation, the use of toxic chemicals in fishing, and waste water discharges from the nearby sugar-producing industry. The designation of this site will permit the elaboration of a common management plan for this transboundary river between Burundi and Tanzania. Ramsar site no. 2150. Most recent RIS information: 2013.