

# Role of public agencies and subsidy programs: A case study from Rwanda

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# RWANDA SMALLHOLDER IRRIGATION ECOSYSTEM MAP

## 3 Primary Pathways for Smallholder Farmers (SHFs) to Irrigate:

- 1. Government & donor-funded irrigation:** a farmer is part of a group getting access to irrigation through large, managed irrigation schemes, such as the Kagitumba, Matimba, & Hinga Weze projects.
- 2. Small-Scale Irrigation Technology (SSIT) program:** a farmer purchases and owns a manual, diesel, petrol, or solar pump subsidized by the government.
- 3. Other pathways:** a farmer purchases an unsubsidized new or used pump or rents a pump from a retailer or neighbor.

## RESEARCH & HIGHER EDUCATION

University of Rwanda-CAVM  
Integrated Polytechnic Regional College (IPRC)  
Rwanda Institute for Conservation Agriculture (RICA)  
Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute (DWFI)  
International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

## EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS WITH WHOLESALE & RETAIL NETWORKS

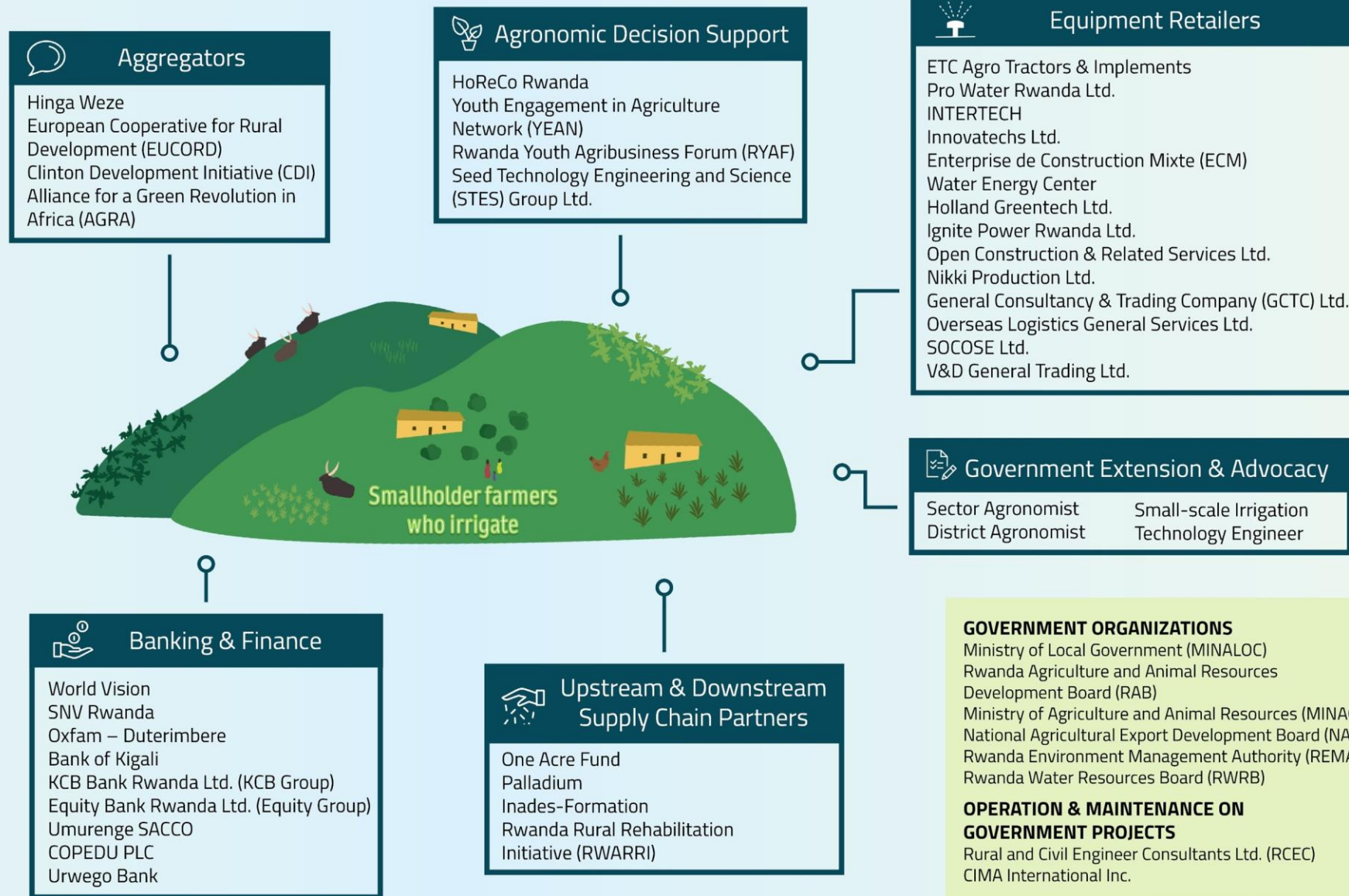
**Large-scale Irrigation:**  
Valmont Industries, Jain Irrigation, Lindsay Corporation, Netafim, Rivulis Irrigation Ltd.  
**Small-scale Irrigation:**  
Davis & Shirliff, KOSHIN Ltd., Honda, Vlais Industrial Co. Ltd., LORENTZ, KickStart International, Sonatubes Ltd.

## RWANDA DEVELOPMENT BANKS & FUNDS

Development Bank of Rwanda  
Rwanda Green Fund – FONERWA  
Business Development Fund (BDF)

## MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS & FOREIGN GOVERNMENT AID ORGANIZATIONS

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)  
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)  
Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)  
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)  
International Finance Corporation (IFC)  
World Food Program (WFP)  
The World Bank





## Small-Scale Irrigation Technology (SSIT) Subsidy Program

- **Qualifications:** Smallholders with 1-10 hectares.
- **Subsidy:** Government pays 50-75% of equipment cost. Subsidized equipment is sold through approved retailers only.
- **Outreach:** SSIT agronomists and engineers assist farmers.



## Small-Scale Irrigation Technology (SSIT) Subsidy Program

- **Successes:** affordability, more first-time irrigators, more irrigated area
- **Areas for improvement:** not necessarily targeted to the poorest farmers, supply doesn't always meet demand, relatively few approved retailers benefit while other irrigation entrepreneurs do not

# Learn More

Report: Mapping and analysis of the business ecosystem for smallholder irrigation in Rwanda

[Go.unl.edu/ecosystem](https://go.unl.edu/ecosystem)



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