



Mapping of Public Spaces in Kigali: Towards City-Wide Public Space Strategy

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Acknowledgements

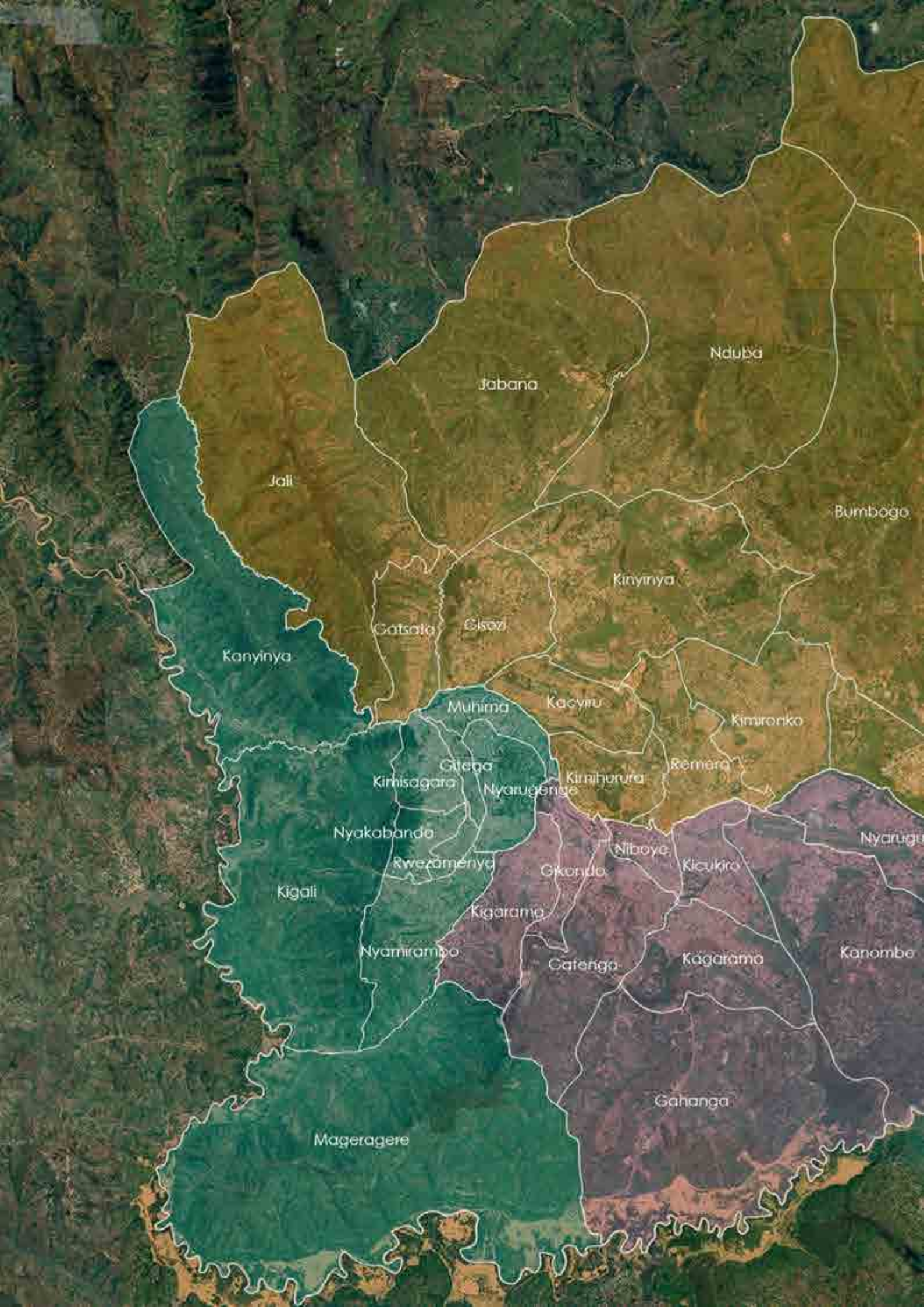
This report is drafted by Ilija Gubic of the Global Green Growth Institute and Solange Muhirwa of the City of Kigali with technical inputs by Inyumba Architectural Design LTD. Review of this report was done by Eric Hakizimana of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Dr. Ernest Nsabimana of the City of Kigali as well as Lilian Uwanziga Mupende of Global Green Growth Institute. Report is edited by Pamela Birungi of Global Green Growth Institute and designed by Inyumba Architectural Design LTD. This rapid assessment report is prepared to inform the much broader strategy of city's public spaces, to support work of the Ministry of Infrastructure on reporting on average share of built up area of cities that is open and green for public use and above all will be a baseline for "Kigali Yacu: Activating Public Outdoor Space One Bench at a Time" initiative led by the City of Kigali.



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Mapping Public Spaces for the City of Kigali



Jali

Jabana

Nduba

Bumbogo

Kanyinya

Catsota

Gisozi

Kinyinya

Muhima

Kacyiru

Kimironko

Gitega

Kirisagara

Nyarugenge

Kiruhurura

Remera

Nyakobanda

Rwezamenya

Gikondo

Niboye

Kicukiro

Nyarugwira

Kigali

Kigarama

Nyamirambo

Gafenga

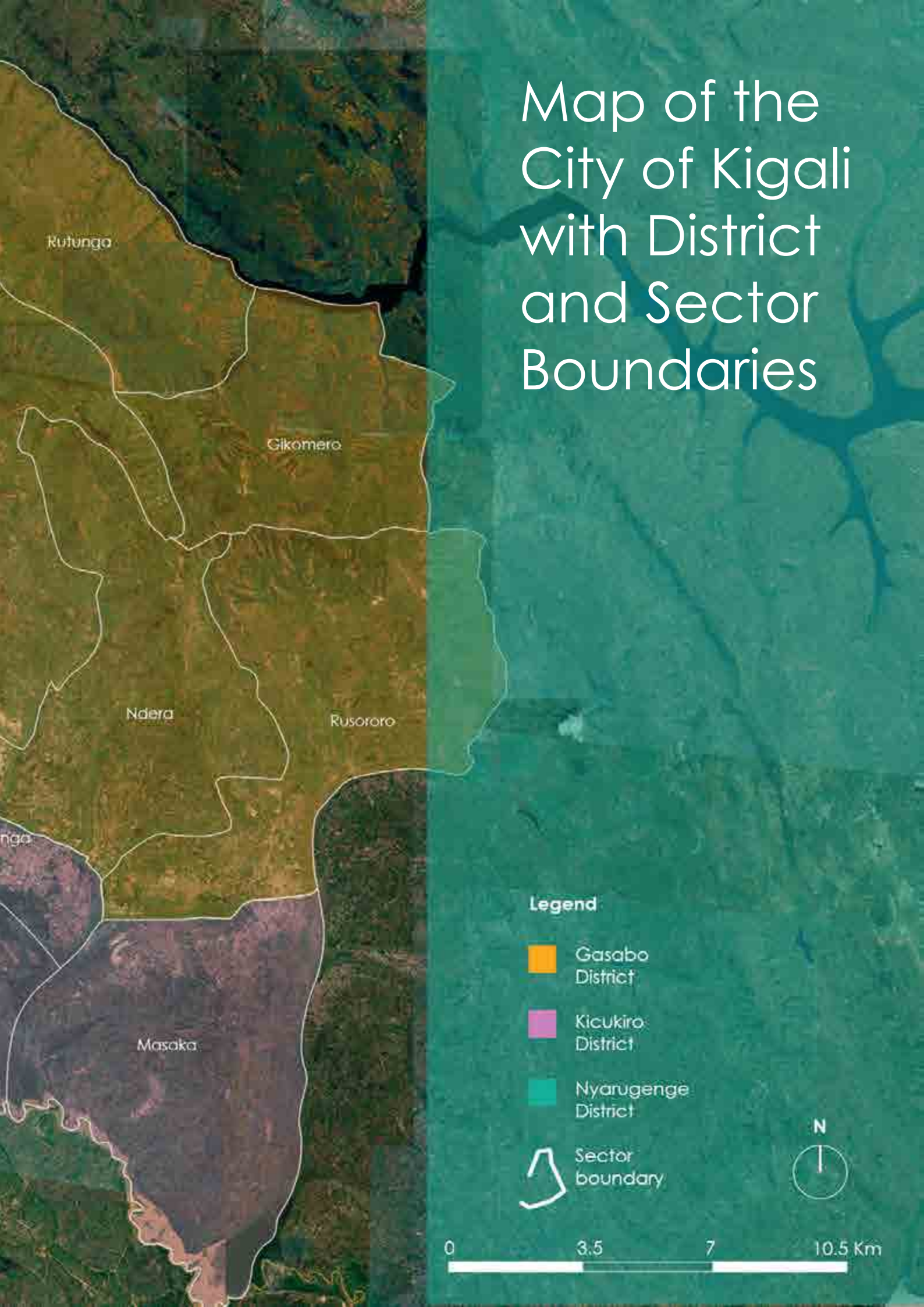
Kagarama

Kanombe

Mageragere

Gahanga

Map of the City of Kigali with District and Sector Boundaries



Mapping of Public Spaces in Kigali: Towards City-Wide Public Space Strategy

The City of Kigali is actively working on strategies to develop more public open spaces for its residents. The city worked together with its residents in allocating spaces that could serve as public open spaces during the master plan revision process. Results of the participatory process are well implemented in the revised master plan, where main public spaces for the city are indicated. The “City for Citizens” is among eight goals that have been developed to guide the Kigali City Master Plan, to ensure accessibility to equitable urban opportunities and services and to foster public engagement in the planning process. With the Global Green Growth Institute, the City of Kigali documented those and other open spaces in the city as a step towards the much broader action-oriented strategy of the city’s public open spaces, including “urban pockets”: small public open spaces serving mostly for the local community.

Mapped public open spaces in this report belong to the government of Rwanda for ease of implementation for future developments. This mapping and assessment report provides information on the current state of spaces that could be transformed into well designed and implemented public open spaces. The report suggests its possible use and lists details on urban furniture and other infrastructure needed to turn space into well designed public open spaces.

For rapidly urbanizing Kigali, public spaces are a key element in ensuring social cohesion and wellbeing with wide-ranging benefits to security, public health, the environment and others. The City of Kigali is working on providing universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities. With GGGI, the City of

Kigali previously organized an Urban Walk, an initiative to provide information to citizens as well as access to public open spaces and provided insights of the built heritage that such public open spaces are surrounded with. The City of Kigali is also promoting public open spaces with its designated “car-free zone” in the city centre to reduce greenhouse gas emission levels and encourage greater use of public open space. The City of Kigali is promoting car-free zones in different neighbourhoods in a bi-monthly event, inviting urban dwellers to spend time outside for events such as sports activities, exhibitions, and performances.

To continue with an important conversation on the power of architecture at any scale, and the significant difference this can make to people’s experience and enjoyment of Kigali’s urban spaces, the City of Kigali is launching an initiative: “Kigali Yacu: Activating Public Outdoor Space One Bench at a Time”. The objective of the initiative is to re-envision and re-engage the street as a public open space. The initiative invites ideas to transform the street into a public space through an infrastructure intervention, a seating-space. The challenge is to design a public seating that can engage and transform the dynamics on the street, triggering and sustaining temporary (short) social and cultural transactions. This report would also serve as a background study for the initiative.

The assessment shows that there are missing infrastructure and amenities that include street lighting, safe access for people living with disability (handrails, ramps, signages) and public toilets. Those aspects should be introduced when public open spaces are designed and implemented. There is an urgency of putting public open spaces more prominently on the green city and national planning agenda.



GASABO DISTRICT
PUBLIC SPACES



GASABO DISTRICT MAP

Rutungo

Gikomero

Bumbogo


Ndera

Rusororo



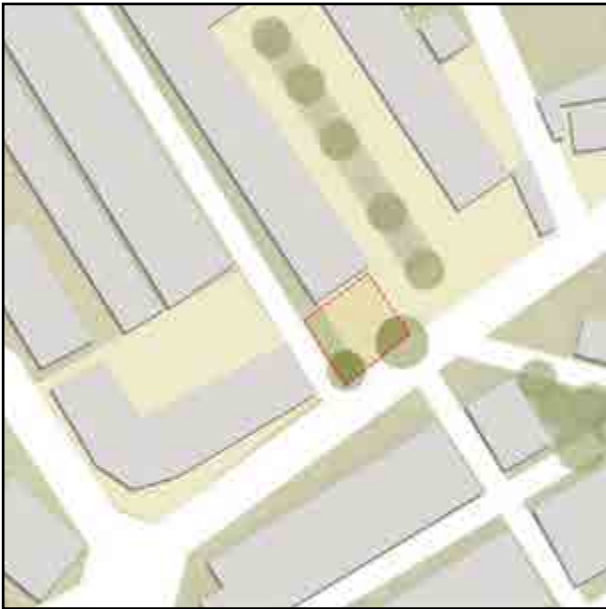
Legend

 Sector boundary

 Mapped public spaces



0 1.75 3.5 5.25 Km



Basic Shape: square, 148 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: parking, walkways

Surrounding features: shops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: street trade, walking, meeting

The place serves as a public space for workers in Gakiro although, at the time of the visit it was being used for storing construction materials for nearby ongoing road renovation project. The canopy tree attracts various individuals who are seeking for shade. This space is a meeting point in the center of Gakiro.





Basic Shape: irregular,linear 1950 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: forest

Surrounding features: road, residential area, crop field

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

Along the road from Belle Etoil center, is a small forest which is often used as a resting place for passengers. The trees provide a shade and breeze that attracts passengers. With proper benches and lights along side the road, this linear public space could become more attractive and safe.





Basic Shape: irregular, 9000 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: kiosk, bus stop, motorcycles parking, walkways, playground

Surrounding features: church, residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located 400 m from the Kigali Genocide Memorial. It is next to a bus station. It serves as a playground for children. Space is fully in use although not being planned and designed as a public space. Proper pedestrian paths, urban furniture including benches and additional equipment for children's play can contribute to this space being fully utilized.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery

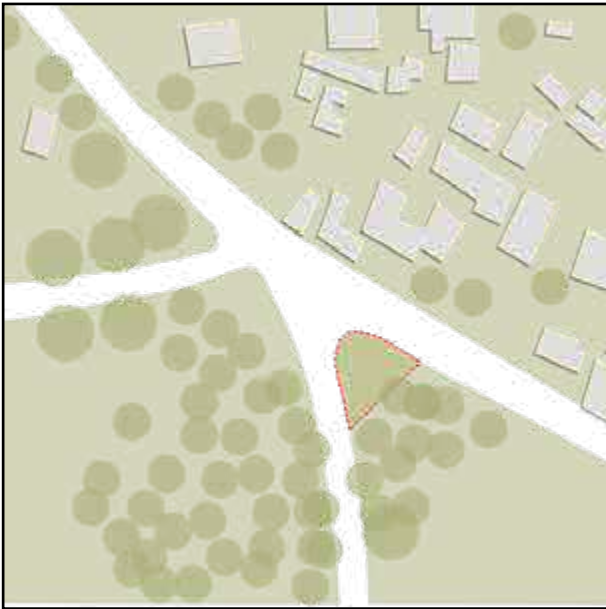
Surrounding features: road, shops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located at the junction of the Kinamba-Nyabugogo and Kinamba-Town roads. It is rich in greenery, however during rainy seasons, the space became unusable as it gets flooded. Space could benefit from lifted wooden platforms, benches oriented towards the waterway, and more greenery.





Basic Shape: irregular, 200 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: kiosk, walkways

Surrounding features: residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: children playing

This space would be mostly used by community members more greenery and well designed benches would allow community members to use the space more often. certain design elements should be planned at the edges of the space to make clear separation of the roads, especially as children are using the



KIMIHURURA POIDS LOURDS

6



Basic Shape: irregular, 25600Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery, paved pathway

Surrounding features: bus stop

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking

The space is located in the junction of kimihurura-Downtown and Kanogo-Nyabugogo road is neighbouring a recreational zone. It is an open space rich in greenery and a variety of tree species. The drainage channel adds a waterscape feature to this space. This area is also part of the conserved wetlands in Kigali. Well planned pedestrian paths and urban furniture as benches, could contribute to more strategic use of the space.





Basic Shape: rectangular, 480 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, drainage channel, walkway

Surrounding features: shops, offices, restaurants

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The eastgate of Kigali Business Center building seems like an open public space that could benefit from installing urban furniture. The KBC building is a multi-purpose business center hosting various activities like bars, restaurants, coffee shops and offices thus making the area a passing point for individuals of various age groups and making it active during most hours. if well designed, the space in front of KBC could be of better use for visitors and workers of KBC.





Basic Shape: irregular, 1960 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery

Surrounding features: bus stop, university, office building, shops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

It is an open space rich in greenery and the tree species. The space is at the junction of three multipurpose medium rise buildings one of them hosting the university of Kigali and another being the Kigali Heights Building. People of various ages are walking around the area. Better designed green space with wooden platforms with benches could be used by students and employees and customers of businesses around the space, and also serves as a meeting point for residents.





Basic Shape: irregular, 2963 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, paved pathway, car parking

Surrounding features: University of Kigali

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking, improvised sitting

North of the university of Kigali, there is an accessible open green public space, yet not well designed. The paved pathway is the only used part of this space serving as car park and walkway. The stairs are sometimes used as a sitting structures for pedestrians. Better designed green area with viewing platforms towards Nyarutarama could be good addition to the space.





Basic Shape: irregular, 1700Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: motorcycles parking, residential area

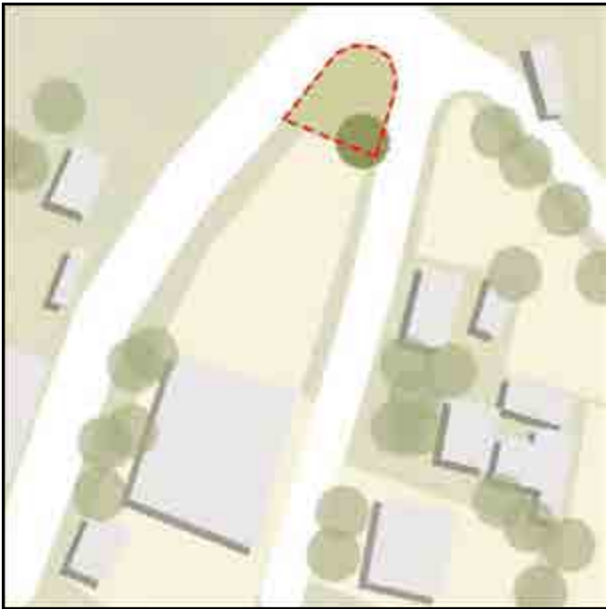
Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

In front of Meze fresh restaurant is an unitulized public open green space. It is on the road to the north-gate of the Kigali Convention Center. The space borders a residential area. This space could benefit from urban furnitures that could make this space active, for the residents and users of the business in the area.



RWANDA DEVELOPMENT BOARD 11 BOARD



Basic Shape: irregular, 400 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, sign post

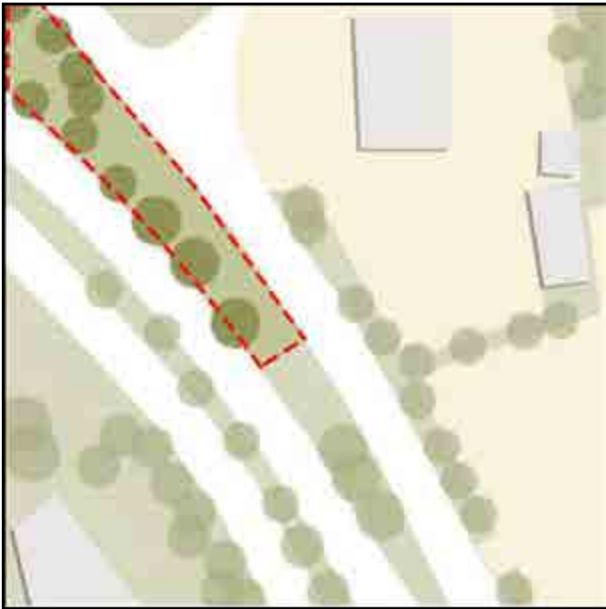
Surrounding features: motorcycles parking, RDB building, petrol station

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located at the junction of Gishushu-Nyarutarama and Nyarutarama-Remera roads. It is next to the Rwanda Development Board headquarter building. The petrol station is close to the space and hosts a restaurant and mini-market. All these surrounding features attracts people of various ages. Better designed green public space could be used by RDB employees, visitors and residents. RDB could also host certain events in this space. Utilizing public space strategically. Space also have public Art, display.





Basic Shape: rectangular, 1000Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, walkway

Surrounding features: office buildings, car parking

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking

Near the Gishushu junction, there is a narrow space along the road. The trees provide shade for the space all day-long. It only serves as crossing path. As space is close to RDB, it could be designed to compliment with its features to the space in front of RDB. It could be designed as linear, narrow park.



ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL AFRICA GISHUSHU



Basic Shape: irregular, 900 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, street lights

Surrounding features: restaurants, carwash

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is uphill on the KN 5 Rd. It is an open unused space rich in greenery with a panoramic view to Kicukiro and Mt Rebero. It is near the Gishushu campus of the Adventist University of Central Africa (AUCA). Space could be designed to contain viewing platforms and seats, so that it can be used by residents, tourists and students.





Basic Shape: irregular, 2,200sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: grass, walkway

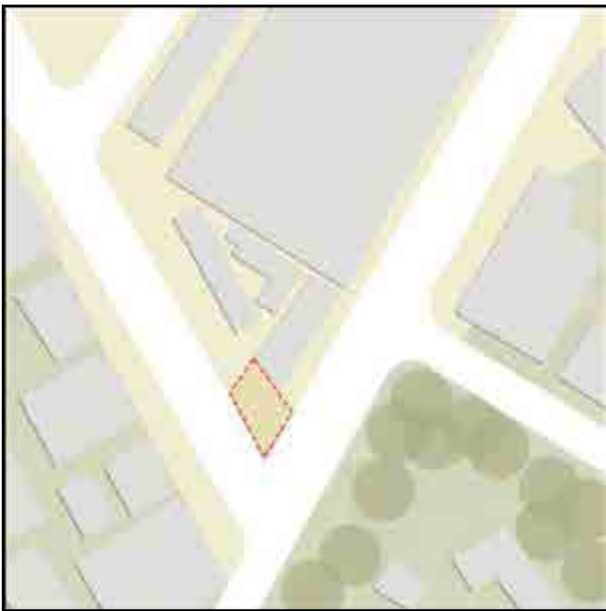
Surrounding features: multi-purpose building, road, roundabout

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking

The space is located at the Sonatube roundabout. It is an unused open space with unpaved walkways. This space could benefit from the addition of trees that would provide shade. Urban furniture and paved walkways would be a good addition that could attract people hence making the space fully used.





Basic Shape: irregular, 60 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: street lights, moto & car parking

Surrounding features: market, shops, roads

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking

The space is located outside of the boundary of the market. It is a place which is surrounded by different economic activities, and vibrant movement of both people and vehicles. The circulation in the public space is by people who mainly use the market. It is important that urban furniture is not an obstacle for movement but rather support to activities.





Basic Shape: irregular, 230Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: roads, moto & car parking

Surrounding features: road, shops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking, parking

The space is located at the junction of the roads which connect neighborhoods of Remera, Kimironko and Kibagabaga. Around this space there are different economic activities and services which bring many people to pass through it. Also this space is used as motorbike and car parking. Benches and other urban furniture could serve as a rest area for those working in the neighborhood.





Basic Shape: irregular, 264 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: residential area, roads, bus stop

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located at the junction of the roads of Remera, Kimironko, Kanombe and Kabuga. It is located on the slope site which is rich with greenery. The trees from this site shade for the pedestrian path and the bus stop. Space could be designed as a park with sitting features that could be used by the community.





Basic Shape: irregular, 100 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: roads

Surrounding features: road,
shops, workshops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: commerce, walking

The space is located on Kimironko-Bumbogo road. The space is surrounded by movement of people, bicycles, motorbikes and cars; this place is more vibrant due to commercial activities comprising street market, shops and workshop. However, there is no greenery within this space. Public space could benefit from public benches and shade made by trees, that could be used by traders and visitors.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3100 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery

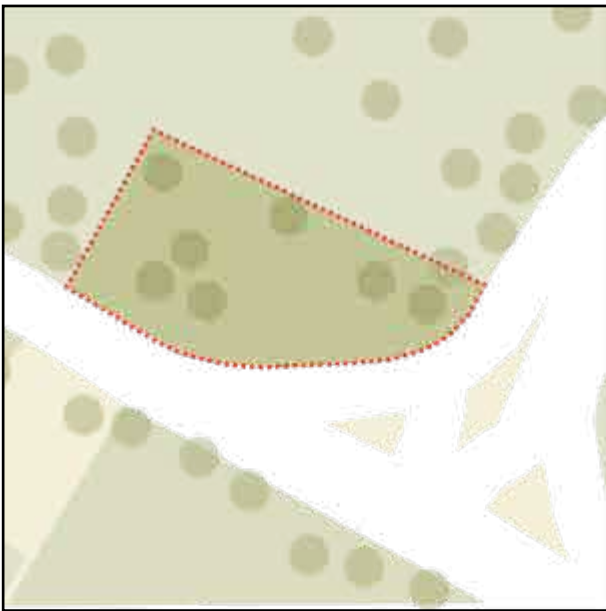
Surrounding features: residential area, shops, industrial zone

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking, improvised sitting, meeting

This space acts as a buffer between this industrial area and a neighbouring residential area. People use it as meeting space. The workers from the industrial area use it as resting area during their pause. Given the location and size the space be used more often. If the greenery is well planned and maintained. The space could be transformed into an urban garden for the public.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3380 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: walkways, road

Surrounding features: road

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking

The space is located at the junction of the roads of Remera, Kabuga and Free Economic zone. Near this place, there is a wetland project of Nyandungu Ecotourism Park which will affect this location in the future. The place has paved walkways which are shaded by trees therefore it makes this place more accessible. Temporary benches could be used by the workers at the park, and residents, while waiting that Ecotourism park project that is being completed.





Basic Shape: irregular, 738 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: none

Surrounding features: road, shops, petrol station

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located at the junction of Remera-Mulindi and Ndera roads. It is rich in greenery, however in rainy seasons, the space become unusable because it gets flooded. This site is surrounded by swamp, petrol station and roads. Benches next to the pedestrian path could be placed as a resting area for citizens, and a meeting place for residents of the area.





Basic Shape: irregular, 275 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, pathways

Surrounding features: road, shops, residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking, improvised sitting

Entering Ndera, there is a small green space at the junction. People often use this space for meetings and as resting area because of the shade provided by trees. Once well designed, this space could be of benefit to people living in this area. As greenery is well maintained adding benches to the space could significantly improve the use of the space.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3061 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: paved walkway

Surrounding features: road, shops, motorcycles parking

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located at the junction of the road Remera-Ndera and Mulindi-Rusororo roads. This space is rich in greenery; it has a moto-taxi parking which is well shaded by trees. In this site there is an informal pathway which connects moto-taxi parking and road goes to the Mulindi market. This space could benefit from more planted trees, and small pavillions selling goods to be used by motorbike drivers and residents.





Basic Shape: triangular , 10159 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

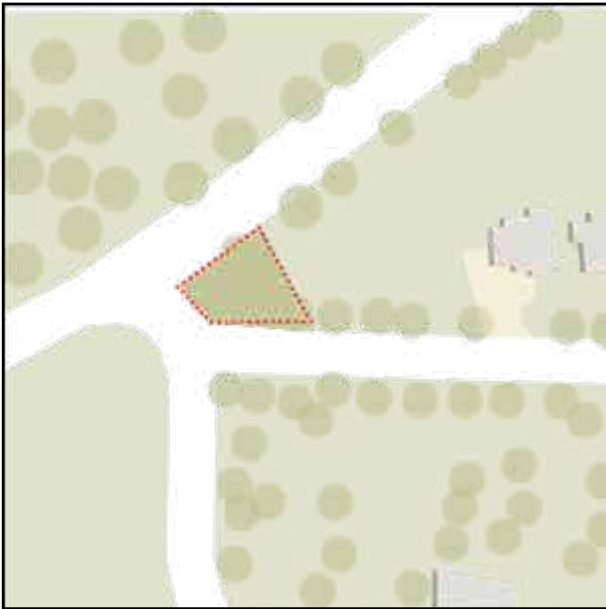
Surrounding features: road, market

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking

The space is located at the junction of Mulindi-Rusororo road. It is rich in greenery, however in rainy seasons the road which is used to access the site is not usable. This place is very close to the market, at its boundary. If well designed, this space could be used as public space by market visitors or market vendors during breaks. The space could turn into a well used public space by adding shading elements, benches equipment for children's activities and more.





Basic Shape: irregular, 1670 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: road

Surrounding features: road, residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: gardening

The space is located at the junction of Nyarutarama-Kibagabaga-Kinyinya roads; this location is bounded by roads, bus stop, swamp and accomadation. Moreover, there are different activities taking place at the site like gardening and display of the pottery products.





Basic Shape: rectangular , 800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery

Surrounding features: residential area, school, medical clinic

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

Behind Murama GS, is a narrow green space. The step morphology of this space creates an informal sitting space with a view to the street. The growing trees will provide shade in the future. While benches placed under the trees could be used by the community, a proper pedestrian path could also be constructed.





Basic Shape: irregular, 4167 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: road

Surrounding features: road, hotel

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking

This space is located on the road that links Kinyinya, Nyarutarama and Gacuriro. It is very close to the MTN Headquarters, this space has a big view of Kinyinya hills. In this place, there are greenery and informal pathways which are used by people that live in the neighborhood. Furthermore, this place has moderate vehicular mobility and pedestrian mobility. With design interventions, This Space could be well used by the community including as space for children activities.





Basic Shape: irregular, 1,900 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: walkways, greenery, broken bench

Surrounding features: gacuriro estate, road

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking, improvised sitting

The space is located near the Gacuriro RSSB estate. It is very rich in greenery. During our visit, we found people sitting on grass enjoying the shade provided by the trees. There are also broken benches, It seemed like was in full use before some time. Space could benefit from a n update, reparation of broken furniture and addition of outdoor retail outlets to boost the space to full use.





Basic Shape: rectangular, 320 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: forest

Surrounding features: residential area, irondo post, kiosk, GS Kagugu

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: improvised sitting, walking

On the Batsinda-Kagugu road is a public space with trees that provide shade. This space attract passengers looking for a space to rest. The absence of street lighting makes it unsafe during the night.





Basic Shape: rectangular , 230 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: none

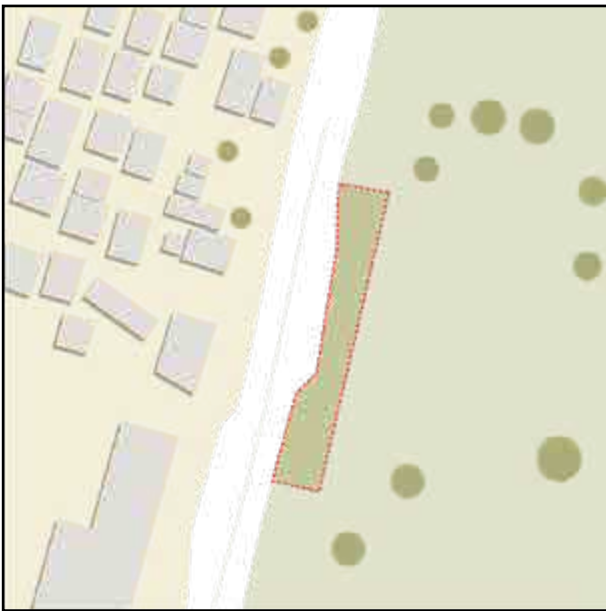
Surrounding features: road, shops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

This space is very close to batsinda new estate. It is open to the views of different hills of Kigali. It is on the road and has an easy access. There are no trees to shade the space. It would function fully if well planned. This is an area under development.





Basic Shape: irregular , 2300 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: bus stop, wetland

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

This space is located in Gatsata close to Nyabugogo. There is a bus stop where bus can drop people and it's a space where people can sit while waiting for a bus. The space is green with no trees. It is close to Nyabugogo wetland. Given that the main city bus stop is close to this space, linear public space could be planned to be used mainly by passengers and workers at the bus station. Small kiosks with food and souvenirs could be incorporated in the design.





Basic Shape: irregular , 1290 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: forest

Surrounding features: bus stop, plant field

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

This space is located on the main road of Gatsata. There is a small strip of garden full of tall trees. People prefer to pass through this small forest than using pedestrian walkway. This space would fully function if there are bench is where people can sit and rest.





Basic Shape: irregular , 130 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: road, residential area, Blinds Kids Academy

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: commerce

This space is in a junction of the four roads. There is no infrastructure yet but according to how people are building in the area there will be a need of a public space. It is connected to the main road. Public space could be of more modest scale considering that the area is mostly residential with no public facilities.





Basic Shape: irregular , 620 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery, telecommunication antenna

Surrounding features: road, shops, residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

This space is located in karuruma and there is a telecommunication antenna within the space. On the side of the street there is a water channel but have been damaged because of the runoff. It is a challenge on the accessibility of the space.





Basic Shape: irregular , 2470 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: street lights, greenery

Surrounding features: car repair shop

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: improvised sitting

This space is connected with the main road and has a nice areas shaded by trees. There is a garage on the upper part of the space. There is a big slope. Design would need to fully respect the slope.





Basic Shape: irregular , 1836 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, pavements, electricity posts

Surrounding features: residential area, petrol station, swamp, industry, bar

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: car parking

This space is located directly on the main road and near a petroleum station. It is surrounded by trees and near a wetland of Kabuye. Part of this space is paved and the rest is filled with soil. It would be used as a sitting space but would also need more trees, better paved surfaces, perhaps public art display.





Basic Shape: irregular , 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: none

Surrounding features: road, shops, wetland

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: improvised sitting, meeting

In Nyacyonga center on the junction of the streets, people use to sit on the boundaries of the road facing commercial area and the hill. This space is near an extraction site of stones and sand that are used in construction. The workers prefer to sit in this space during break time. On the other side of the road there is a wetland. However, the space is much close to the road. This space would require much infrastructure works before it could become safe public space.





Basic Shape: irregular , 251 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, pathways

Surrounding features: market, school, church, residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: improvised sitting, meeting

Near the market of Nyacyonga there is a green space that is on the upper part of the road. This space is used by the people while sitting and resting after climbing the hill from the center to the market. It is used as a break and mostly by women and kids. Infrastructure is not yet built in this space, hence makes it hard to access the space. There are big trees that provide a shade and it contribute highly to the comfort of the users. Stairs, properly paved paths, drainage, benches and other urban infrastructure and furniture is needed.





Basic Shape: triangular , 96 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, pathway

Surrounding features: road, residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

This space is located in Gasanze in its mostly rural part. It is in junction of the road. It is also near a small village that is being developed. It is ideal to a public space here because it would bring people of this new area together. And support their social interaction and integration.





Basic Shape: irregular , 1 540 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, electric transformer

Surrounding features: residential area, Gasabo Court House, football pitch

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The forest in front of the Intermediate Courthouse of Gasabo looks like a public space. There is a difference in height from the road which make this space suitable for resting because of the shade. In addition this space has a great view to the west. Better designed linear space with clear and safe separation from the road, would make this space more user friendly.





Basic Shape: irregular, 96 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: shops, petrol station

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

At Rugende junction, there is an that green space in front of shops. It is often used as resting area and sitting space. Given it is located at the East gate of Kigali and a petrol station, passengers sometimes use this space before starting the journey once well designed with urban furniture, this space could contribute to local businesses.





Basic Shape: rectangular , 340 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage, channel, trees, kiosks, paved pathway

Surrounding features: road, shops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: commerce, meeting, walking

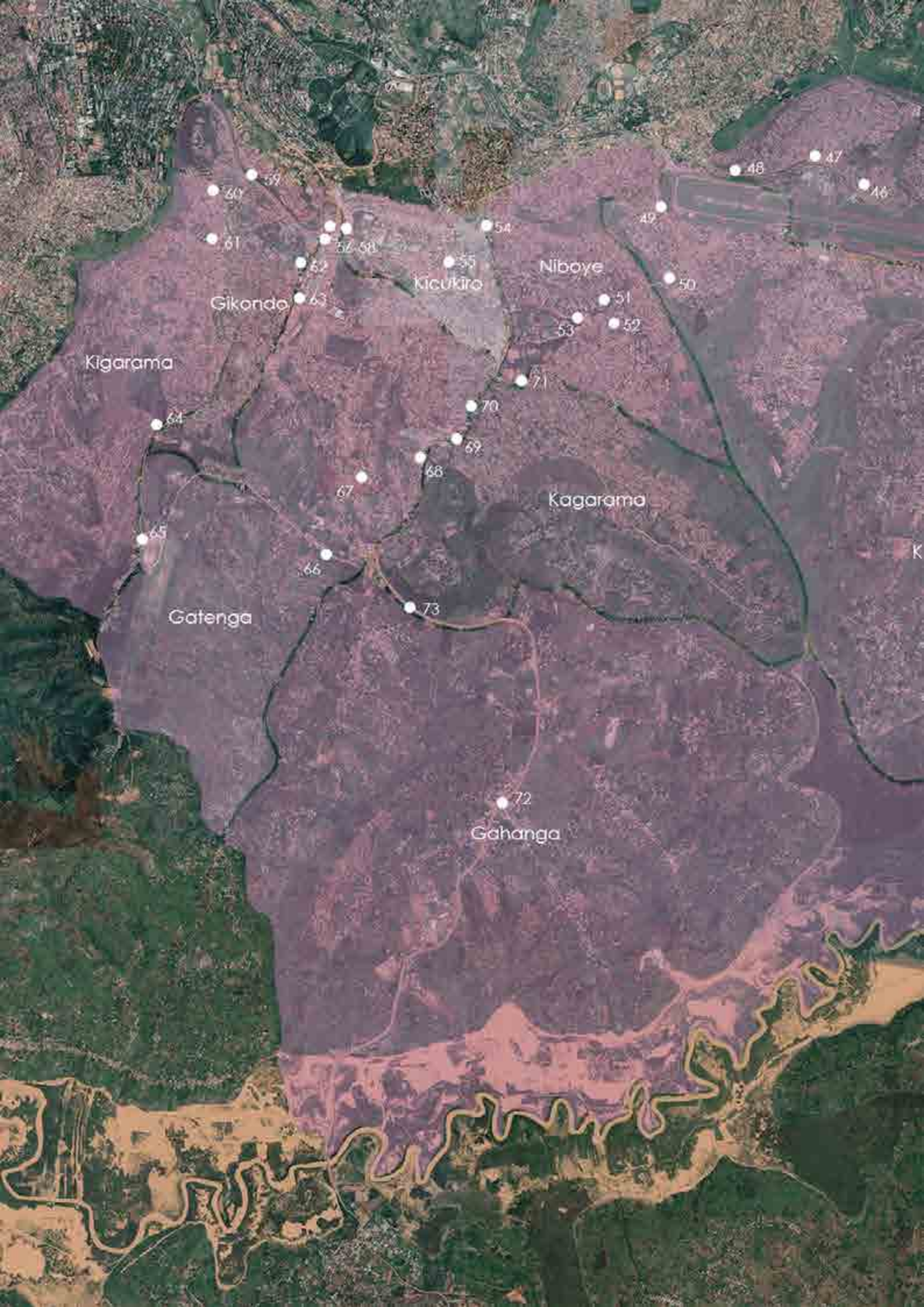
At Kabuga centre, near bus park, there is an open paved space in front of shops. It is often used as parking but due to the trees and the shape we can also find people having small informal meetings and gatherings.







KICUKIRO DISTRICT
PUBLIC SPACES



KICUKIRO DISTRICT MAP

Nyarugunga

anombe


Masaka

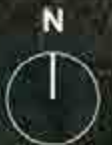
45

43
44

Legend

 Sector boundary

 Mapped public spaces



0 1.75 3.5 5.25 Km



Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: electric posts

Surrounding features: market, shops

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

With no visible boundaries, the road and the space can be perceived as one. The space being surrounded by the Masaka market and a variety of shops, it is of polyvalent use. It is used as a parking space, a bus stop and a meeting place. It is also considered as Masaka center.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, street lamp, electric post

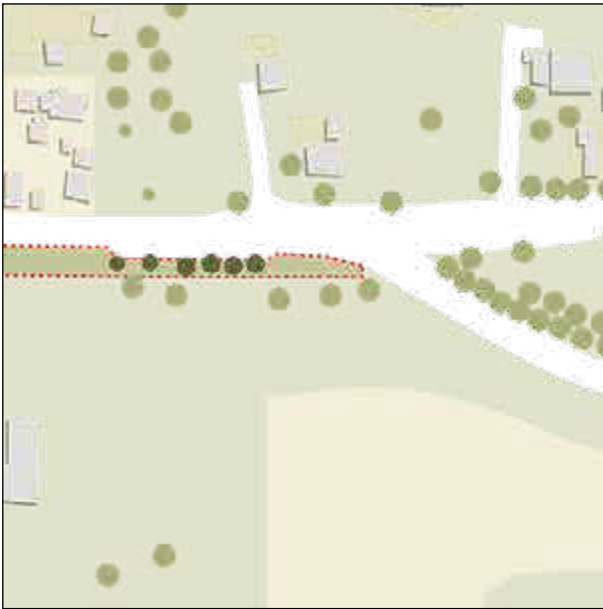
Surrounding features: residential area, shops, garden

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The space is located alongside the Masaka- Kabuga road. The beautiful green space has several trees for shading and well sustained grass. It is surrounded by residential houses and shops. It is the midpoint between the Dubai Ports World Kigali warehouse and Masaka hospital.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: residential area, industry, wetland, bus stop

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The space is located next to INYANGE Industries beside the Kabuga bus stop. It is rich in greenery with tall trees and has a view to a manmade lake. Benches, for pedestrians to take a break, would make this strip more user friendly.





Basic Shape: irregular, 2500 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: walkway, grass

Surrounding features: residential area, airport

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located at the road Kanombe KN 5 near Kigali International Airport. It is covered with well sustained grass. By considering the bus park near. Benches could be added for pedestrian and the communities living nearby.





Basic Shape: irregular, 7000 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: walkway, greenery

Surrounding features: residential area, airport

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located at the road Kanombe KN 5 near Kigali International Airport's pedestrian entrance. It is green with few trees. By considering the bus park near, it could become interesting and well used space if well planned and designed.





Basic Shape: irregular, 21800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: street lights, gutter, greenery

Surrounding features: road

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located at the junction of the road Airport-Remera and road Rwamagana - Remera. The space is very big and rich in greenery and has streetlights placed in. Space could be used by communities bordering the space, given the design plans for safety from heavy and busy transport. Space could become city garden.





Basic Shape: irregular, 10155 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, gravels

Surrounding features: airport, shops, residential area

Accessibility: partially fenced

Activities: parking and playground

The space is located where the Kabeza market used to be. Across the road is the airport. It is covered by grasses and gravels. The space is currently used as a meeting place, parking and playground with few residential buildings down the slope. Given the size and location, it requires more investments into infrastructure.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery

Surrounding features: road, shops

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The space is located alongside the Kabeza st Joseph road. It is sloped and is rich in greenery. The sloped road is used by as a community sport area and the space is used by as a resting place. It is surrounded by residential houses and down the slope is a wetland.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: health centre, University campus, residential area

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The space is located opposite the health centre and next to the University of Rwanda public health campus. It is used as a driving school. The grass in the space have dried out. Given university being close to this space, it could be considered to build few sport fields. To be used by youth and communities living in the area.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: residential area, shops, kindergarten

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The space is located near the Sonatubes-St Joseph road junction surrounded by residential buildings and opposite to a kindergarten. It looks like an unbuilt plot with bushes defining it. With the road having two churches and three schools it is calm during the day and busy during the morning and evening when people are doing sport, students going to school, and people going to church. If built as public space, it could be beneficial for children's play and youth.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery

Surrounding features: cemetery, residential house, school

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The small flat triangular space is located next to a residential house alongside the KK 21 Ave. The space is always calm because it is surrounded by residential buildings only. it is 100 m from both the Parish and GS Kicukiro. Few benches could be added as resting space for pedestrians.





Basic Shape: irregular, 400 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery, water pipes

Surrounding features: Parti Liberal (PL) headquarters, shops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located on the junction of the road Sonatubes - St Joseph. It is a small space as a result of a drainage channel next to the PL Headquarters' fence. The space is sloped and is rich in greenery.





Basic Shape: irregular, 400 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: pavements, market fence, greenery

Surrounding features: market, shops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking

The space is between the Zinia market and the KK 10 Ave road. It has a sloped portion covered by grasses and trees and an elevated flat area used as a pathway connecting the two sides of the market. If well designed this space could be used by market vendors at breaks, market visitors and community.





Basic Shape: irregular, 2500 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: electric post, street lamps

Surrounding features: petrol station, workshops and warehouses

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: gardening

The space is located on the junction of the KN 3 road and the KK 8 Ave that goes to the Zion Temple Church. It has a drainage channel in the middle. and it is currently used for tree seeds growing. The numerous tree species gives the space a garden characteristic.





Basic Shape: irregular, 25500 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: none

Surrounding features: petrol station

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The abandoned space is next to a bus stop, petrol station and It is currently not used. While entire space might be waiting for more complex design and use. Space just next to the pedestrian path, could have benches as restong area for pedestrians.





Basic Shape: linear, 370 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: workshops and warehouse

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located on the junction of the Gikondo Magerwa-Kicukiro Sonatubes road next to the bus stop. It is elevated from the pedestrian path. Beside being a green area and housing a Tap&Go cabinet the space has no other use.





Basic Shape: irregular, 2600 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: walkway, road, electric post, trees, greenery

Surrounding features: former industrial zone

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located at KN 3 Road at the place known as Kanzayire near former industrial zone in Gikondo. It is very rich in greenery that could be integrated with urban furnitures in order to create a comfortable urban open space especially for the people who use the bus park.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, playgrounds, street lamps

Surrounding features: school, residential area, shops

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The space dominated by a football pitch is located down the CBE UR campus hill. It also comprises of a basketball field. The space is bordered by an elevated covering of a drainage channel. It is used as a connection between neighborhoods, as a parking spaces. It has street lamps so it can be used during the night.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: none

Surrounding features: shops, construction site

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The space is located in front of the former Gikondo market and is currently used as a pathway. It is surrounded by shops and an incomplete construction site and the Congolese Secondary School.





Basic Shape: rectangular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery

Surrounding features: Industries, Miroplast stadium,

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The rectangular green space is located alongside the RWACOF building near the Mironko Plastic Industries Stadium. The space is used as a resting space by workers. Space could have more trees to provide shade for pedestrians.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: forest, residential area, shops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The elongated space is located alongside an unpaved road near MAGERWA. The space is next to a small forest down the slop opposite to MAGERWA. It is used as a meeting space. It is also used as a parking space and a place for shopping.





Basic Shape: irregular, 270 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel

Surrounding features: residential area, forest

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is a roundabout at the junction of roads KK 31 Ave, KK 33 Ave and KK 35 Ave at Gikondo in Village known as Gikondo BNR. Currently, the space has no interesting greeneries but considering the scenic views from the space and the bus park nearby, It could become an interesting open space if well planned and designed to have urban furnitures and much more trees for shade.





Basic Shape: irregular, 620 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: street lights, electric post

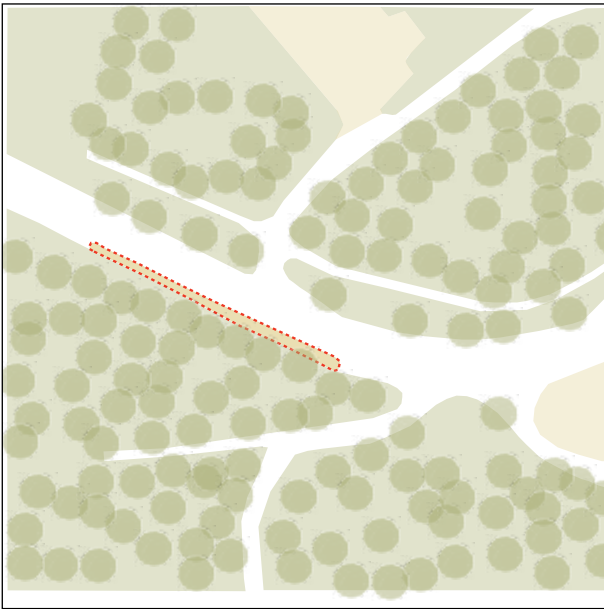
Surrounding features: residential area, Cultural Village

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking

The space is located at Rebero hill near Kigali Cultural Village. It is surrounded by unplanned bushes which can be properly redesigned in order to create a comfortable open green space with urban furnitures and shade for the people especially those waiting for the bus.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: walkway, greenery

Surrounding features: forest

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The space is located alongside the Rebero road. The space is not well sustained which is characterized by the dry grasses. It is also next to a forest which adds beauty and potential to the space.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: residential area

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The two level bushy space is located in the peri-urban Murambi alongside an unpaved road. The road is dusty. It is located in a residential only neighborhood. Space could be designed as a community meeting place.





Basic Shape: irregular, 1600 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: trees

Surrounding features: church, hospital, Ahava River Hall, school

Accessibility: open

Activities: commerce, improvised sitting

The space is located at the road RN 15 (Road Kicukiro Centre - Nyamata Bugesera). It is not rich in greenery, However it is used as a sitting area for the people from the wedding hall and hospital near by. It is open space connected to the road. Given that the space is surrounded by numerous roads, it could be a green open space without urban furniture.





Basic Shape: irregular, 5500 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: stairs, building, trees and bushes

Surrounding features: shops, bus stop, radio station

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: sitting, meeting

The space is an island between the RN15 road, the KK 516 St that goes to the Africa New life church and the KK 28 St that goes to the Mount Kenya University. It is elevated, provided with stairs and rich in greenery. Students could be the main users of this space if it is well equipped.





Basic Shape: irregular, 1024 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: pavements, electric post, greenery

Surrounding features: residential area, shops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: sitting, meeting

The space is located alongside the RN 15 road. It gets its name from an acacia tree space (umunyinya) found within. It is used for sitting and meetings. Space needs to be designed better for community to use.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery

Surrounding features: residential area, Kagarama Sector Office, recreation centre

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The space is located near the Kagarama Sector office alongside a stone paved road. Next to it is the Tedga's recreation centre and the IPRC kigali campus opposite to it. Pedestrians makes the road very busy in the morning and evening and bycycle transportation is often used.





Basic Shape: irregular, 275 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: walkway, electric post, trees

Surrounding features: shops

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: meeting place, commerce, improvised sitting.

The space is located at the the road RN 15 (Road Kicukiro Centre - Nyamata Bugesera).It is near the commercial center, currently used as a meeting place for commercial activities with less greenery. It could become interesting if well planned and designed in order to have urban furnitures and much more trees for shade.





Basic Shape: irregular, 3800 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery

Surrounding features: petrol station, forest

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

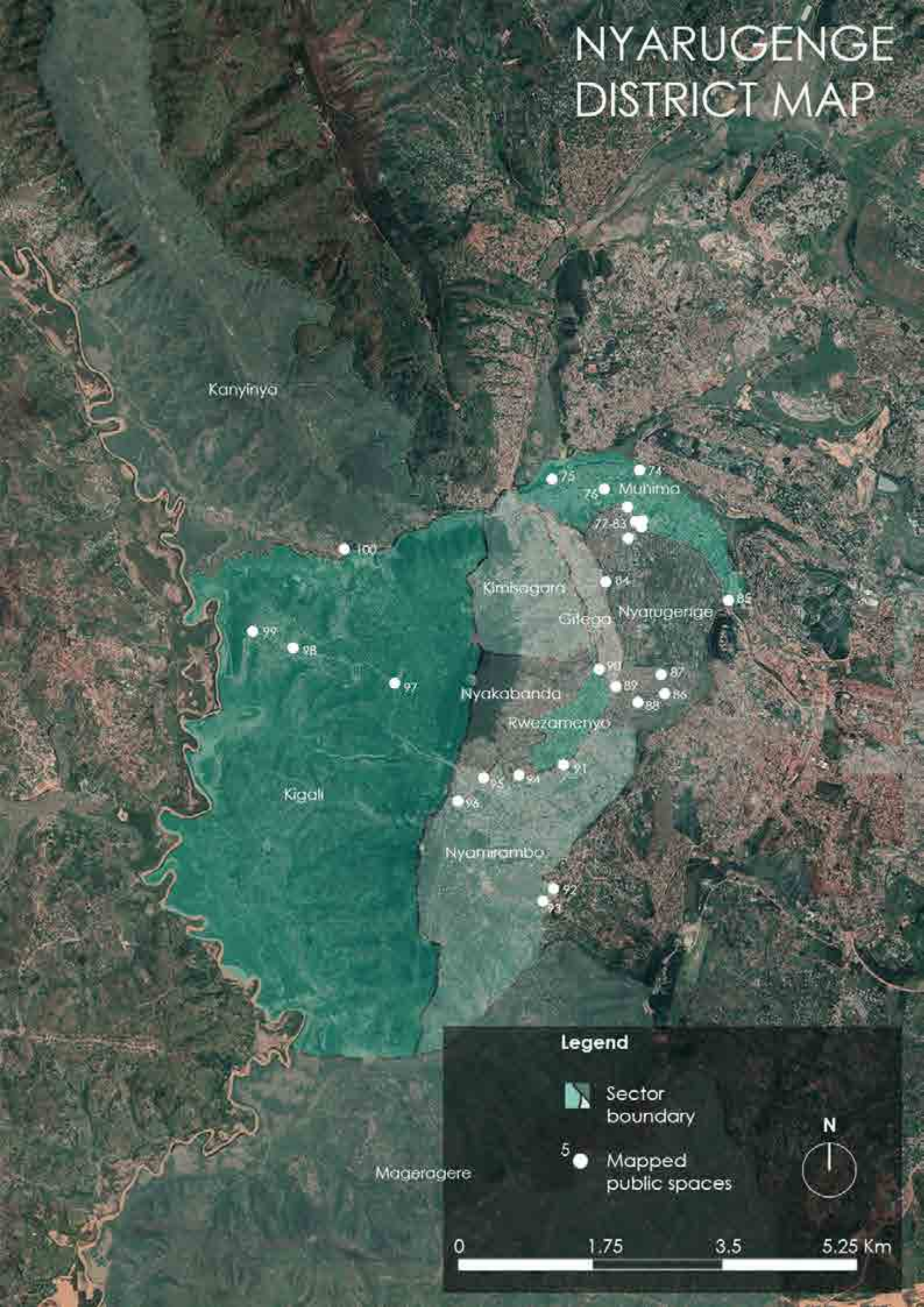
The unpaved space with a small green portion is located beside the Gahanga road next to a petrol station under construction. It is next to a petrol station and is uphill so people have a view of the hills of Rebero.





NYARUGENGE DISTRICT
PUBLIC SPACES

NYARUGENGE DISTRICT MAP



Kanyinya

99
98

100

Kigali

97

95

94

91

96

Nyamirambo

92

93

Nyakabanda

90

89

88

87

86

Kimisagara

Gitega

Nyarugenge

85

75

76

Muhima

77-83

84



Mageragere

Legend

 Sector boundary

 Mapped public spaces



0 1.75 3.5 5.25 Km



Basic Shape: round, 348 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: street light

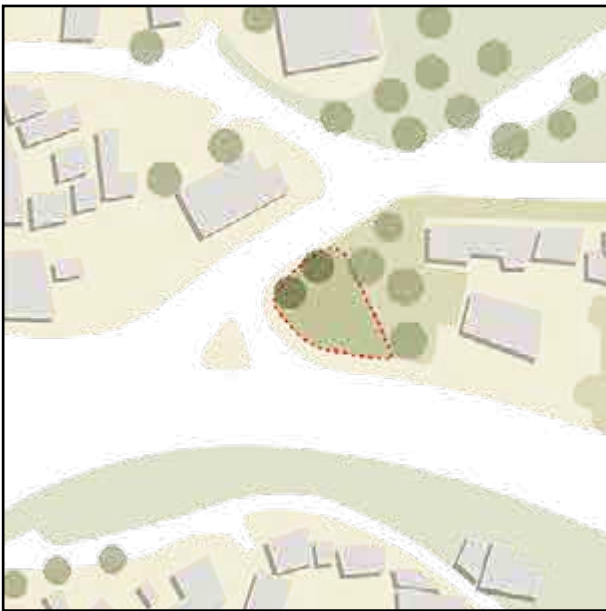
Surrounding features: road, shops, water channel

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

This space is located at the road junction. Although there is no specific activities, some people are found sitting and relaxing in the space. It has an exposed garden with trees, yet are only located down the slope on the edges. The houses near this space are residential houses and a few shops. Space could become neighborhood public space if well built.





Basic Shape: irregular, 591 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: electricity box, electricity post, street light, sign posts, dust-bin.

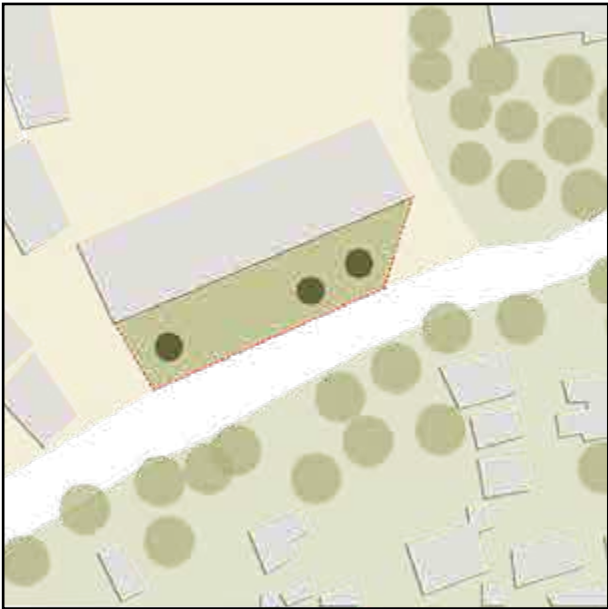
Surrounding features: road, shops

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

This space is located in Muhima at Yamaha building on the national road connecting Nyabugogo and the city center. On one of the busiest junction in Kigali, the space slopes down to Kinamba road. It is characterised by many greveria trees that provides a canopy through which pedestrians pass and which shades most of its area. However, the walkways in the space are not paved and the runoffs have damaged the walkways.





Basic Shape: rectangular, 1,040 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: none

Surrounding features: garage

Accessibility: connected to main road

Activities: none

This flat green space has a garden and it is connected to the main road. It is strictly connected to the pedestrian walkway and separated from the warehouse by the short shrubs. With few trees, the space opens the building to the road. It is not in use.





Basic Shape: round shape, 1,258 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: public clock, street lights, sign posts

Surrounding features: road, shopping malls

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The space is located in between multi-storey buildings facing Centenary house. This round shape garden connects to three important roads: one which extends to the car free zone, another which leads to the city hall and the one which goes to the main roundabout. It is currently a garden with trees, grass, some flowers with a public clock in the middle of the garden. However, it is not accessible for pedestrians.





Basic Shape: irregular, 847 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: sign post, water channel

Surrounding features: road, shopping mall

Accessibility: road, pedestrian walkway

Activities: none

This space is located in front of the new shopping mall in front of the main roundabout. It is easily accessible by pedestrians through paved walkways. There is a zebra crossing that helps the movement of people toward the space. The space is green, but with no trees that shade it. There are no benches or other urban furniture that could be used as resting places for pedestrians.





Basic Shape: irregular, 486 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: none

Surrounding features: road, Ste Famille Catholic Church

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

The context of this space is characterized by being in front of Ste Famille Catholic Church, on a pronounced slope full of trees and on a garden facing down the hill and the distant hill of Kacyiru. The top part of it is easily accessible by pedestrian walkway connected to the main street and a stepped walkway adjacent to the space. Due to its slope, the rest of the space is hardly accessible. This space should become part of the much larger public space system that connects current car free zone with the wetland.





Basic Shape: irregular, 288 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: none

Surrounding features: road, UTC building

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

This space is directly connected to the fence of UTC building and the main roundabout road. The green space has some tall trees on one of its side. There is a water channel that separates the space into two unequal parts and makes it difficult to access.





Basic Shape: irregular, 713 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: small houses, public lights, electric boxes

Surrounding features: road, construction site

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

This linear space along the main roundabout road is characterised by the presence of trees and inaccessible garden. It is directly connected to the fenced construction site on the opposite side of the main roundabout. It has open views to the center of main round about.





Basic Shape: Semi-circle, 708 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: sign post

Surrounding features: streets, roundabout

Accessibility: pedestrian walkway, street

Activities: none

This gentle sloped space has a garden with big palm trees. It can be accessed directly from main road or by a pedestrian walkway that crosses it. Located on the busiest part of the roundabout, the garden extends to a fenced construction site of the former Venant's place.





Basic Shape: rectangular, 319 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: public light

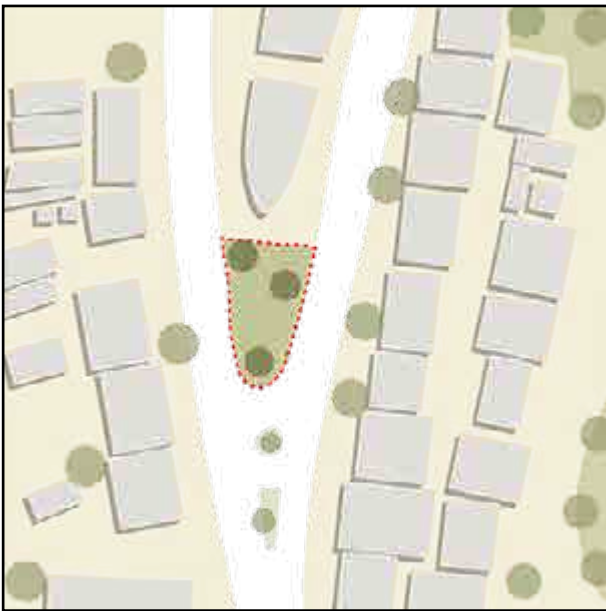
Surrounding features: road, construction site, shops, bus stop

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: walking, selling goods

A very well known kiosk separates this space from the famous Rubangura's building. This is a space which has significant movements of people during working days, and the bus stop-Rubangura contributes to the place being vibrant. Sometimes people install tents and exhibit their products from here which emphasise the commercial potential of the space. The space is characterised by the pavements, and bounded by trees and the fence.





Basic Shape: irregular, 588 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: none

Surrounding features: road, shops, traffic lights

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

This space has a garden with low trees that shade the pedestrian walkway that passes through it. It is located in front of Albert Supply building near Gakinjiro - Nyarugenge, it is placed between the carpentry shops and printing shops. The space itself slopes down and connects the two roads that pass along and through the city center.





Basic Shape: irregular, 25,714 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: retaining wall, water channel

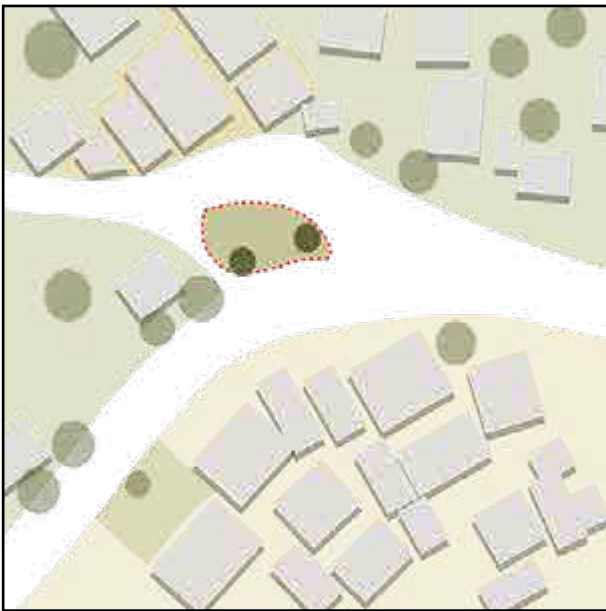
Surrounding features: road, bus stop

Accessibility: main road, pedestrian walkway

Activities: none

This huge space with the size of a park is connected with Kanogo roundabout. It has two different levels: the lower level has mainly trees and unmaintained gardens and the upper level has maintained garden, a pedestrian walkway but no trees. Along the road from Nyabugogo there exists a bus stop and public bench. A huge water drainage cuts the space and prevents it from reaching Kanogo roundabout.





Basic Shape: irregular, 138 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: none

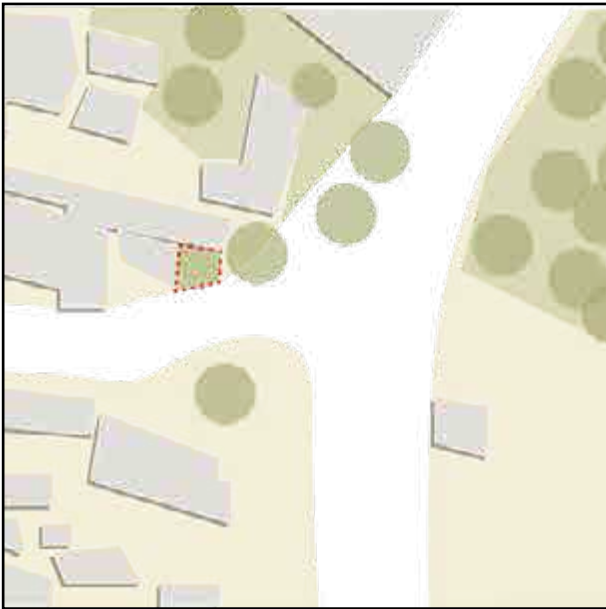
Surrounding features: road, residential houses

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

Located between a stone road that passes through Biryogo neighbourhood up to the former Biryogo market and Agatare farmac road, the space has an irregular shape close to a triangle. An unpaved walkway passes through the garden which proves its accessibility and people sometimes sit at the space.





Basic Shape: irregular, 22.2 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: administrative post

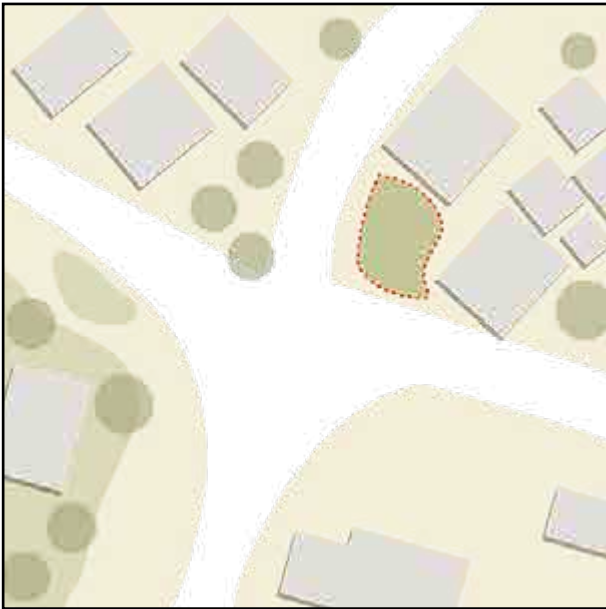
Surrounding features: road, shops, UR Nyarugenge Campus

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

This space is located in the corner of the road passing by the university or Rwanda Nyarugenge Campus. The small and flat space is bounded by the shrubs, trees and mixed used small houses. This space could be used as neighborhood public space, incorporating existing stairs into an overall design.





Basic Shape: irregular, 111 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: electricity post

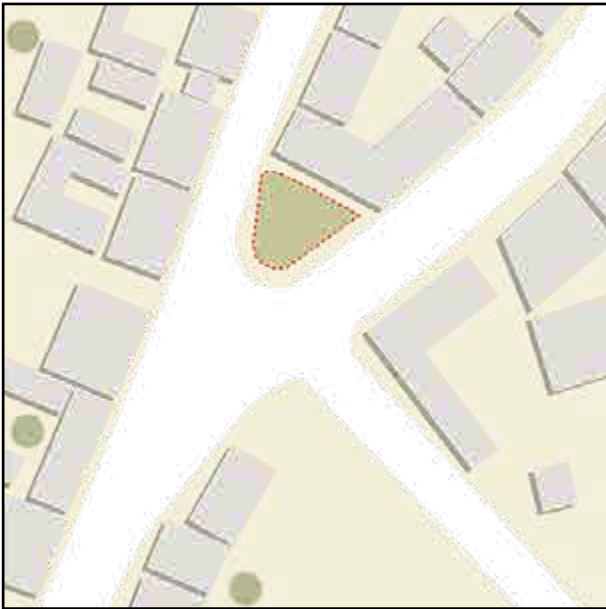
Surrounding features: road, shops, residential houses, water channel.

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

This space is located in one corner of the four streets. Located below the Agatаре street level it is currently surrounded by residential houses and a water drainage. Although it looks like an abandoned place, it has a potential to become a public space if it is well maintained.





Basic Shape: irregular, 171 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: 1 sign posts, posters

Surrounding features: road, shops, street light

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

This space is a separating point of of the main road coming from Nyamirambo into two one way road, it is located in the busiest commercial zone of Biryogo. There is a pavement in the space but people do not use it and one or two police officers occupies the space. With a raised platform the green space has a big and old palm tree.





Basic Shape: irregular, 150 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: paved pathway

Surrounding features: road, shops

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: walking, meeting

This space is located on the side of stone road that connects Nyamirambo and Kimisagara. It is surrounded by residential houses and few shops. There is a huge water channel with a bridge. It is currently used as an informal public space, where women sits and chat. It could be a nice public space if well maintained.





Basic Shape: irregular, 213 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: electricity post, street light, sign posts

Surrounding features: road, shops, St Joseph Integrated Technical College

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

This space known as 'RP' is located on main road that connects the city center and Nyamirambo Regional Stadium. It has high movement of people in its surrounding streets and pedestrian walkways. The printing shop, canteens and walkways through and around contributes to the vibrant character of the space.





Basic Shape: irregular, 545 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: administrative posts, electricity post

Surrounding features: road, shops

Accessibility: connected to the main road

Activities: none

This space is located near Miduha market and has shops near by. It is located in the commercial zone of Miduha. Half of the spaces is paved which is also a car parking and the other half is green with an unpaved walkway.





Basic Shape: rectangular, 100 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: nursery school, church, residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

This space is located in Miduha Center. This public space is directly connected with a nursery school owned by EPL church. The space is covered by a garden shaded by trees. Its access is easy because it is connected with the road. However, the space is connected with a water channel on the upper road, therefore it needs a comfortable and barrier-free access, if it is to be used as an accessible public space.





Basic Shape: rectangular, 700 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: street lights, greenery

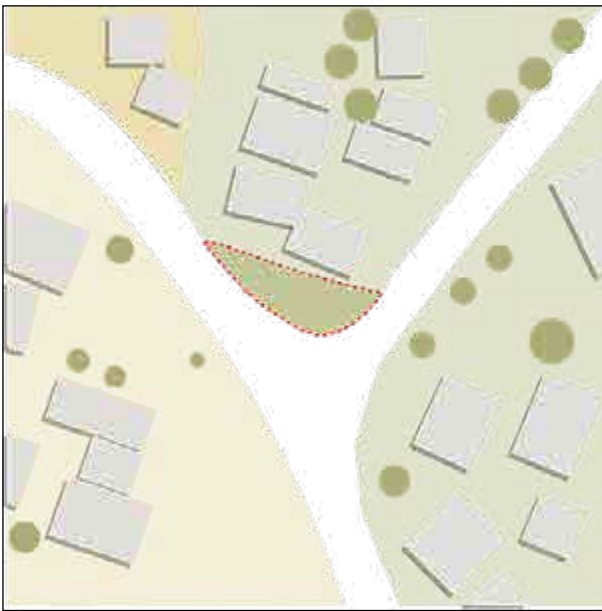
Surrounding features: driving school, stadium, residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

The space is located in front of the Regional Stadium of Nyamirambo seems like a green public space. It is not utilized because it lacks infrastructures such as urban furniture. Yet it could strategically used because it is close to the stadium.





Basic Shape: irregular, 140 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: drainage channel, greenery, electricity post

Surrounding features: road, bar

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

This space is located at the very beginning of new road joining Nyamirambo and the main road to Southern Province. There is a secondary road that joins it with Nyamirambo Regional Stadium. Views from the sites are panoramically open to the city and facing the new hospital of Nyarugenge. The challenge of this space is that there are no trees that can provide shade during sunny seasons. Drainage channels in this area are large, hence some small "bridges" could also be incorporated into design for better access.





Basic Shape: irregular, 220 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery, electric transformer

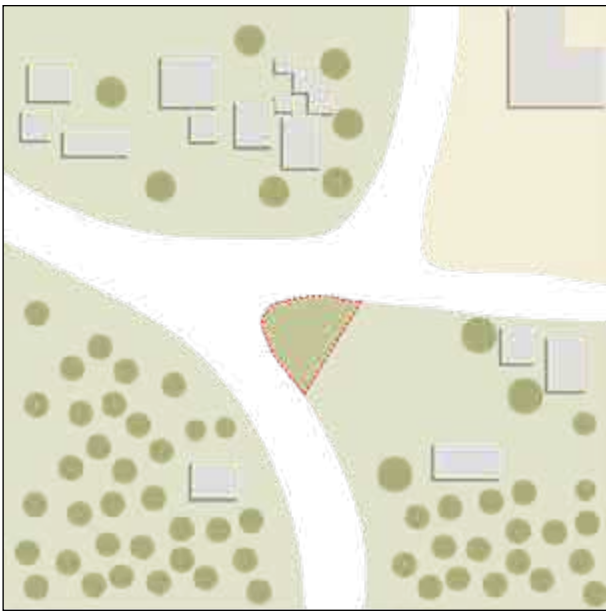
Surrounding features: residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road via stairs

Activities: none

Behavioural pattern of this space makes it suitable to be a public space because the people themselves have made it public. It is located up the hill where there is open views to the city. Since there is a pronounced slope, therefore it is not easy to access it from the road. New stairs can be built to facilitate the movement of people. There is an electricity post and a big transformer that needs to be secured in order to have a safe public space.





Basic Shape: irregular, 560 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: walkway, greenery

Surrounding features: road, school, residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walking

This space is in front of Groupe Scolaire Kigali, a new school in this area. Surrounding plots of land are under residential development. From the site there are good views to the hills of Kamonyi district especially Ruyenzi. There is a pronounced slope but the down part has a garden which decreases run-off. There are no trees in this space.





Basic Shape: irregular, 380 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: walkway, greenery

Surrounding features: road, school, residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: walkway

Karama is new area that is being developed on a high density of people, therefore many public facilities are new. There is a chance to plan for these spaces and make them available for the people. This space is connected with the road and it is in front of Karama Primary School. The space needs trees to provide shade when people are sitting.





Basic Shape: irregular, 150 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

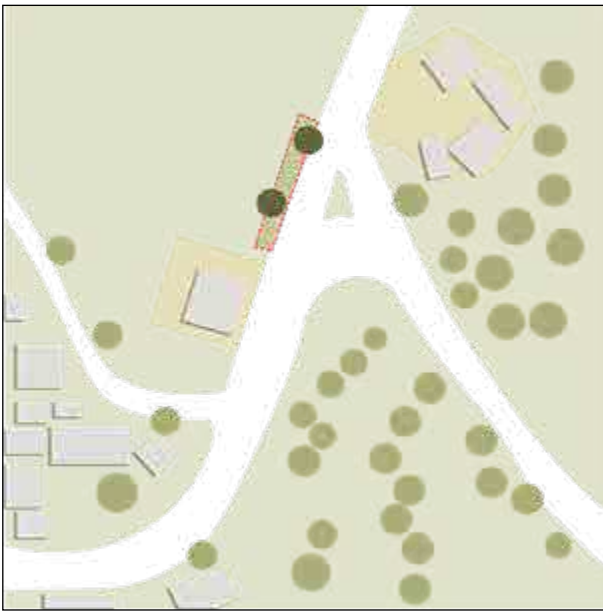
Surrounding features: residential area

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: urban agriculture

This space is located near the junction of 3 roads. It is currently an agricultural field but the new road is evidence that this space would be a good public space. The space has no other infrastructure.





Basic Shape: irregular, 220 Sqm

Infrastructure and amenities: greenery

Surrounding features: car parking, shops, bar

Accessibility: connected to the road

Activities: none

This space is located on a road to Shyorongi and Northern Province. It is also where the secondary road to Skol is attached. Currently people use the space as a sitting space. It is close to Nyabarongo river and the bridge that cross it.



C O N C L U S I O N

At the city scale, public and green spaces are an essential physical asset and public infrastructure for well-being in cities. In Rwanda's current stage of rapid urbanisation, public spaces could play an important role in determining quality of life. This and other studies done on public spaces in Kigali and Rwanda's secondary cities contribute to shifting from planning to implementation as to date public spaces projects and programmes were facing a lack of investment opportunities. The government's main regulatory planning documents are highlighting the necessity of creating and maintaining public spaces. The current crisis, pandemic, demonstrates that public spaces could play a key role – in social, environmental, and economic well-being and resilience. Investing in ecological systems not only provides benefits in terms of urban well-being but also offers critical buffers against other natural disasters and the impacts of climate change.



About the Global Green Growth Institute\

The Global Green Growth Institute was founded to support and promote a model of economic growth known as "green growth", which targets key aspects of economic performance such as poverty reduction, job creation, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.

Headquartered in Seoul, Republic of Korea, GGGI also has representation in a number of partner countries.

Member Countries: Australia, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guyana, Hungary, Indonesia, Jordan, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Mexico, Mongolia, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Vietnam.

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