

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

Rutongo Mine Concession Area
Murambi, Masoro, Cyinzuzi and Ntarabana Sectors
Rulindo District, Northern Province, Rwanda



Prepared for: Trinity Metals Ltd

Prepared by: Govern Well Rwanda Ltd

Assessment Period: 29 April – 08 May 2026

Report Submission Date: May 2026

Kigali, May 24, 2026



GOVERN WELL RWANDA Ltd

TIN: 146473431

Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Umujyi wa Kigali, RWANDA

Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
1.1. Background	5
1.2. Context of the Rutongo Concession Area	5
1.3. Why the Assessment Was Conducted.....	6
1.4. Role of Trinity Metals.....	7
1.5. Purpose of the Assessment.....	8
3.1. Study Design.....	9
3.2. Focus Group Discussion Approach	10
3.3. Community Engagement and Prioritization Process.....	11
3.4. Participant Selection and Representation	12
3.5. Data Collection and Documentation	12
3.6. Ethical Considerations.....	13
3.7. Data Analysis Approach	13
3.8. Roll-Out and Implementation Process.....	14
5.1. LIVELIHOODS AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES.....	17
5.2. BASIC SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE	21
5.3. FARMING AND AGRICULTURE	26
5.4. NON-FARMING ACTIVITIES AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP	30
5.5. MINING ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS	34
5.6. KEY COMMUNITY CHALLENGES	38
5.7. SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES.....	43
5.8. PRIORITY RANKING AND CROSS-SECTOR PRIORITIES.....	49
5.9. COMPARATIVE SECTOR ANALYSIS.....	55
5.10. ADDITIONAL FIELD OBSERVATIONS.....	58
CONCLUSION.....	62
RECOMMENDATIONS	63
ANNEXES	65
References	66



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the findings of a Community Needs Assessment conducted across the four sectors surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area in Rulindo District, namely Masoro, Murambi, Cyinzuzi, and Ntarabana. The assessment was commissioned to better understand the socio-economic conditions, development priorities, service delivery gaps, and community expectations within communities surrounding mining operations under Trinity Metals Limited.

The assessment applied a participatory approach involving Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), prioritization exercises, stakeholder consultations, and field observations. A total of 111 participants participated in the assessment through homogeneous and mixed stakeholder group discussions. Participants included women representatives, youth, local authorities, community health workers, teachers, religious representatives, business owners, farmers, health center representatives, and other local stakeholders. Approximately 40% of participants were youth, reflecting strong youth engagement throughout the consultation process.

The findings revealed that communities within the concession area continue to face interconnected socio-economic and infrastructure challenges affecting livelihoods, social wellbeing, and local development opportunities. While mining activities remain an important source of employment and economic activity, many households continue to experience economic vulnerability due to limited livelihood diversification, unemployment, low agricultural productivity, weak infrastructure systems, and inadequate access to essential services.

Youth unemployment emerged as one of the most critical and consistently repeated concerns across all sectors. Participants repeatedly emphasized the need for practical employment opportunities, vocational skills development, entrepreneurship support, and youth empowerment initiatives capable of improving economic resilience and reducing dependency on unstable livelihood activities, including informal mining practices.

The establishment of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) centers was one of the strongest recurring priorities identified during the assessment. Communities consistently linked vocational training with improved employability, entrepreneurship development, and long-term livelihood sustainability.

Limited access to healthcare services and pharmacies also emerged as major community concerns. Participants highlighted challenges related to long distances to health facilities, inadequate healthcare infrastructure, limited staffing, and restricted access to medicines. Communities repeatedly proposed the establishment of pharmacies and strengthening of local health



GOVERN WELL RWANDA Ltd

TIN: 146473431

Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Umujyi wa Kigali, RWANDA

services through collaborative support mechanisms involving Trinity Metals and local stakeholders.

Poor road infrastructure, weak transportation connectivity, and limited access to clean water were additional major concerns identified across the four sectors. Communities emphasized that inadequate infrastructure limits access to markets, healthcare services, schools, and economic opportunities while reducing overall quality of life.

The assessment further revealed strong demand for entrepreneurship support, Agakiro development, local enterprise promotion, and youth-focused economic initiatives aimed at improving household incomes and strengthening local economic resilience. Communities also emphasized the importance of improving educational infrastructure, expanding ECD centers, strengthening agricultural support services, and promoting stronger community engagement mechanisms.

Comparative analysis across sectors demonstrated both shared and sector-specific challenges. Murambi and Cyinzuzi sectors demonstrated particularly strong emphasis on TVET development, healthcare access, pharmacies, and youth employment opportunities. Masoro communities strongly prioritized road rehabilitation, Agakiro development, entrepreneurship support, and ECD infrastructure, while Ntarabana participants placed stronger emphasis on water access, electricity expansion, roads, and youth financial empowerment initiatives.

The assessment also revealed strong community willingness to engage in participatory development processes and collaborative dialogue involving Trinity Metals, local authorities, and other stakeholders. Communities repeatedly emphasized the importance of sustainable, long-term interventions focused on livelihoods, infrastructure, healthcare, youth empowerment, and economic diversification rather than short-term support approaches.

Based on the findings, the report recommends (1)integrated community investment interventions focused on youth employment and vocational skills development, (2)healthcare and pharmacy support, (3)road and water infrastructure improvement, (4)entrepreneurship and Agakiro development, (5)agricultural productivity enhancement, and strengthened community engagement mechanisms.

Overall, the assessment highlights the importance of inclusive, evidence-based, and partnership-driven development approaches capable of improving livelihoods, reducing socio-economic vulnerability, and promoting sustainable local development within the Rutongo Concession Area.



GOVERN WELL RWANDA Ltd

TIN: 146473431

Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Umujyi wa Kigali, RWANDA

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Mining remains one of Rwanda's strategic economic sectors, contributing significantly to employment generation, export earnings, and local economic development. In this context, Trinity Metals Limited has emerged as one of the largest mining companies operating in Rwanda, with major mining operations located in Rutongo, Nyakabingo, and Musha Mines. Established in May 2022, Trinity Metals currently employs more than 6,000 people, approximately 99% of whom are Rwandan nationals. A large proportion of the workforce is drawn from local host communities surrounding the mining concession areas.

The company operates within the Rutongo Concession Area located in Rulindo District, Northern Province, where mining activities represent a major source of employment and livelihood opportunities for surrounding communities. Rutongo Mine is one of Rwanda's largest tin-producing mines, with an estimated operational life of approximately 35 years and a mining concession covering about 9,600 hectares.

Beyond mineral production, Trinity Metals emphasizes responsible mining practices, environmental management, occupational health and safety, and social performance as part of its operational policies and long-term sustainability commitments. The company's vision focuses on responsibly sourcing essential technology metals while ensuring ethical, transparent, and environmentally sustainable mining operations aligned with internationally recognized standards for responsible sourcing and accountability.

Given the company's growing operational presence and long-term engagement within the concession area, strengthening relationships with host communities and supporting sustainable local development remain critical components of Trinity Metals' broader corporate responsibility agenda.

1.2. Context of the Rutongo Concession Area

The Rutongo Concession Area is characterized by a mixture of mining-dependent communities, farming households, small-scale trade activities, and rural settlements. Mining activities within the area provide important employment opportunities and contribute to local economic activity. However, communities surrounding the concession area continue to face several socio-economic and development challenges related to infrastructure, access to basic services, livelihoods, market access, water supply, healthcare services, education, and road connectivity.



The assessment covered four sectors surrounding Rutongo Mines, namely:

- Masoro Sector
- Murambi Sector
- Cyinzuzi Sector
- Ntarabana Sector

Communities within these sectors experience varying levels of access to social and economic services. While some areas benefit from relatively improved infrastructure and economic opportunities, others continue to experience limited access to transportation networks, markets, vocational training opportunities, healthcare services, reliable water systems, electricity, and educational infrastructure.

Community consultations further revealed concerns related to youth unemployment, limited economic diversification, school dropout, informal mining involvement, inadequate social infrastructure, and limited entrepreneurship opportunities, particularly among women and youth.

At the same time, communities identified significant opportunities for collaboration with Trinity Metals in areas such as youth empowerment, vocational and technical skills development, entrepreneurship promotion, infrastructure improvement, access to social services, and sustainable local economic development.

In response to these emerging community concerns and the growing need to strengthen participatory development planning, Trinity Metals initiated a Community Needs Assessment to better understand local priorities and identify opportunities for sustainable community investment and improved community-company engagement.

1.3. Why the Assessment Was Conducted

The Community Needs Assessment was conducted to better understand the socio-economic conditions, priority development challenges, and community expectations within the Rutongo Concession Area. The assessment was designed to generate evidence-based information that can support the planning, prioritization, and implementation of future community development interventions and strengthen stakeholder engagement within the concession area.

The assessment covered four sectors surrounding Rutongo Mines and engaged diverse stakeholder groups through participatory consultation methods involving homogeneous and mixed community discussions.

The assessment also sought to provide an inclusive platform through which community members could openly express their experiences, concerns, development needs, and recommendations regarding livelihoods, access to



GOVERN WELL RWANDA Ltd

TIN: 146473431

Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Umujyi wa Kigali, RWANDA

services, infrastructure, and engagement with Trinity Metals and local authorities.

Through participatory Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and community consultation sessions, the assessment captured perspectives from different community groups, including women, youth, local leaders, service providers, business representatives, religious representatives, health workers, teachers, and other community stakeholders.

The process additionally aimed to strengthen dialogue, trust, participation, and collaboration between Trinity Metals and surrounding communities as part of promoting sustainable and inclusive development.

1.4. Role of Trinity Metals

Trinity Metals commissioned this assessment as part of its commitment to responsible mining operations, social performance, stakeholder engagement, and sustainable community development. The company recognizes the importance of understanding community priorities and strengthening partnerships with local communities and authorities to support inclusive and evidence-based development planning.

As a major employer and economic actor within the concession area, Trinity Metals plays an important role in supporting local livelihoods, creating employment opportunities, stimulating local economic activities, and contributing to social and economic transformation within surrounding communities.

The company's operational policies emphasize environmental responsibility, occupational health and safety, transparency, accountability, and community engagement. In line with these commitments, the assessment represents an important step toward strengthening community relations and identifying priority interventions that can contribute to improved community wellbeing and long-term sustainable development.

The findings from the assessment are expected to support Trinity Metals in informing future Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), community investment, stakeholder engagement, and local development planning initiatives within the concession area.



1.5. Purpose of the Assessment

The overall purpose of the assessment was to identify and analyse the key socio-economic challenges, service gaps, risks, and development priorities affecting communities within the Rutongo Concession Area.

Specifically, the assessment aimed to:

1. Assess community livelihoods and economic activities;
2. Examine access to basic services such as health, education, water, electricity, and roads;
3. Identify barriers affecting service delivery, livelihoods, and economic opportunities;
4. Understand community perceptions regarding engagement with Trinity Metals and local authorities;
5. Identify and prioritize key community challenges and development needs; and
6. Generate recommendations to inform future community development interventions and stakeholder engagement strategies.

The findings from this assessment are expected to support evidence-based decision-making and contribute to improved collaboration between Trinity Metals, local authorities, and host communities toward sustainable, inclusive, and community-responsive development.

The assessment also contributes to broader efforts aimed at promoting inclusive growth, social cohesion, and sustainable development within mining host communities.



2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSESSMENT

The Community Needs Assessment was conducted with the following objectives:

1. Identify and discuss key socio-economic challenges affecting communities surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area;
2. Identify priority community needs and development opportunities related to livelihoods, infrastructure, social services, and local economic development;
3. Strengthen dialogue and engagement between Trinity Metals, local authorities, and surrounding communities through participatory consultation processes; and
4. Generate evidence-based information to inform future community investment, sustainable development planning, and stakeholder engagement initiatives.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1. Study Design

The Community Needs Assessment adopted a qualitative and participatory assessment design aimed at generating an in-depth understanding of community realities, socio-economic challenges, development priorities, and stakeholder perspectives within communities surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area. The methodology was designed to ensure active community participation and provide an inclusive platform through which local populations could openly express their concerns, experiences, expectations, and development priorities.

The assessment primarily relied on participatory Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), community prioritization exercises, and field observations. This approach was selected because it allowed participants to engage in open dialogue while generating detailed qualitative information regarding livelihoods, access to basic services, infrastructure challenges, youth opportunities, social concerns, and local development aspirations.

The methodology further emphasized stakeholder inclusiveness by engaging different social and institutional categories within the community. The assessment combined both:

1. **Homogeneous group discussions** to capture experiences of specific social groups, particularly women and youth; and
2. **Mixed stakeholder discussions** involving local leaders, service providers, business representatives, and other community stakeholders.



This approach allowed participants to openly express community realities, concerns, opportunities, and development expectations in a structured and participatory manner.

Particular attention was given to ensuring meaningful participation of women and youth, recognizing their important role within community development processes and their unique experiences regarding employment, livelihoods, access to services, and social inclusion.

The assessment was implemented across four sectors surrounding Rutongo Mines in Rulindo District, namely Masoro, Murambi, Cyinzuzi, and Ntarabana sectors. These sectors were selected due to their proximity to mining operations, their socio-economic interaction with the mining concession area, and the need to capture diverse community perspectives across the operational environment of Trinity Metals

3.2. Focus Group Discussion Approach

The assessment utilized Focus Group Discussions as the principal data collection approach. FGDs were considered appropriate because they created space for interactive dialogue, collective reflection, and community-based analysis of local development realities. The discussions enabled participants to share practical experiences and identify challenges affecting their daily livelihoods and wellbeing.

To strengthen inclusiveness and ensure balanced participation, the assessment combined both homogeneous and mixed-group discussions.

Homogeneous group discussions mainly brought together women, youth, young women, and young men participants in order to create a more comfortable environment for open expression of challenges and priorities affecting these groups. The approach helped participants speak more freely about issues related to employment, economic opportunities, social services, and community development concerns.

In addition to homogeneous groups, mixed stakeholder discussions were organized to gather perspectives from a broader range of community actors.

These discussions involved of Mixed group:

1. Local leaders,
2. Village and cell authorities,
3. Community health workers,
4. Teachers and school representatives,
5. Religious representatives,
6. Business owners,
7. Farmers representaives,
8. Health center representatives,



9. Women representatives,
10. Informal business actors, and other community stakeholders.

This combination of participant categories enabled the assessment to capture both household-level realities and wider community development perspectives.

The consultation process also served as an important platform for strengthening dialogue and engagement between Trinity Metals and surrounding communities. Participants were encouraged to openly discuss both challenges and opportunities while proposing possible areas for collaboration and future community investment.

3.3. Community Engagement and Prioritization Process

The assessment applied a participatory prioritization methodology intended to ensure that development priorities emerged directly from participants' own experiences and perceptions rather than through externally imposed ranking systems. The following steps has been taken:

Step 1: Plenary Discussion

Each consultation session started with plenary discussions facilitated by the assessment team. These discussions generally lasted between 60 and 90 minutes and focused on understanding community conditions, major development concerns, opportunities, existing services, and local socio-economic realities, as well as priorities within each sector. Participants openly discussed challenges affecting their households and communities, including issues related to infrastructure, education, health services, employment opportunities, water access, livelihoods, and social wellbeing.

Step 2: Individual Priority Exercise

Following the plenary discussions, participants were requested to individually write down five priority needs or concerns on paper based on their personal experiences and perceptions. This individual prioritization exercise allowed participants to independently reflect on what they considered most important without direct influence from the group.

Step 3: Public Verbal Sharing, Priority Identification and Analysis

After completing the written exercise, each participant publicly shared one priority considered to be the most important. During this process, similar priorities naturally reappeared among different participants. The repetition of certain concerns helped identify the strongest and most common needs affecting communities within each sector and stakeholder category.



The methodology therefore did not rely on collective ranking or voting exercises. Instead, it applied an individual prioritization process followed by public verbal sharing of the top priority. This approach strengthened the credibility of findings by ensuring that recurring priorities emerged organically from multiple participants rather than from group pressure or facilitated consensus-building.

The participatory engagement process also contributed to building trust, strengthening communication, and encouraging constructive dialogue between communities and Trinity Metals regarding future development planning and community investment opportunities.

3.4. Participant Selection and Representation

Participants were purposively selected to ensure broad representation of key stakeholder groups across the concession area. The selection process aimed to include participants with gender balance, youth inclusion, local leadership representation, service providers, economic actors, community diversity and institutional backgrounds in order to capture a wide range of perspectives regarding community needs and development priorities.

The assessment engaged a total of 111 participants across the four sectors. Participants included women, youth, local authorities, community health workers, religious representatives, teachers, health center representatives, farmers, business owners, informal business actors, women representatives, community volunteers, and other local stakeholders. Special emphasis was placed on ensuring meaningful participation of women and youth throughout the assessment process. Within homogeneous group discussions, youth representation constituted a significant proportion of participants, including both young women and young men. The assessment team recognized that women and youth often experience development challenges differently and therefore required dedicated space for expression during consultations.

The inclusion of mixed stakeholder groups further enabled triangulation of perspectives across institutional actors, service providers, and community representatives. This strengthened the reliability of findings and supported a broader understanding of local development dynamics within the concession area.

3.5. Data Collection and Documentation

Data collection was conducted through facilitated Focus Group Discussions, participatory prioritization exercises, observation techniques, and field documentation. The assessment utilized several qualitative data collection tools, including:

1. Focus Group Discussion guides,



2. participatory prioritization sheets,
3. note-taking templates,
4. observation techniques, and
5. plenary discussion facilitation tools.

Participants' written prioritization sheets were also collected and reviewed to support analysis of recurring development priorities across sectors and stakeholder categories. In addition, field observations were recorded to capture contextual realities related to infrastructure conditions, public services, community facilities, and local socio-economic environments.

The assessment team ensured that information generated during discussions was systematically documented and consolidated to support subsequent analysis and reporting.

3.6. Ethical Considerations

The assessment was conducted in accordance with principles of voluntary participation, inclusiveness, confidentiality, with consent signature, and respectful engagement. Participants were informed about the purpose of the assessment, the consultation process, and the intended use of findings before discussions commenced. Participation in all sessions was voluntary, and participants were encouraged to openly share their views and experiences in a respectful environment.

Facilitators ensured that discussions remained inclusive and that participants from different social groups had equal opportunity to contribute.

Particular attention was given to encouraging active participation from women and youth to ensure that their perspectives were adequately represented within the assessment findings.

The assessment process also sought to maintain neutrality and transparency throughout community consultations in order to strengthen trust and encourage genuine community feedback.

3.7. Data Analysis Approach

Data collected from Focus Group Discussions, participant prioritization exercises, consultation templates, field notes, and observations were analyzed using a qualitative thematic analysis approach. The analysis process involved:

1. Reviewing discussion notes,
2. Consolidating participant responses,
3. Identifying recurring themes,
4. Grouping similar priorities, and
5. Comparing priorities across sectors and stakeholder groups.



Particular attention was given to identifying repeatedly mentioned concerns and priorities emerging from both homogeneous and mixed-group discussions. These recurring issues were categorized into broader thematic areas including livelihoods and employment, education, health services, entrepreneurship, infrastructure, water access, youth empowerment, and community engagement.

The analysis also examined similarities and differences across sectors in order to identify both cross-cutting community concerns and sector-specific priorities. This process enabled the assessment team to generate evidence-based findings and recommendations capable of informing future community investment planning and stakeholder engagement initiatives.

3.8. Roll-Out and Implementation Process

The assessment was implemented through a structured field roll-out process involving preparation, stakeholder coordination, community mobilization, facilitation of consultation sessions, and consolidation of findings.

Prior to field implementation, the assessment team developed consultation tools, facilitation guides, prioritization templates, and implementation schedules. Coordination meetings were also conducted with local authorities and community representatives to facilitate mobilization and logistical organization of consultation sessions.

Field implementation was conducted sector by sector across the four targeted sectors surrounding Rutongo Mines. Consultation sessions involved both homogeneous and mixed stakeholder discussions, followed by participatory prioritization exercises and documentation of community priorities.

Throughout the implementation process, the assessment team maintained close collaboration with local authorities and community representatives to ensure effective participation and smooth facilitation of discussions. The roll-out process not only generated important assessment findings but also strengthened communication, trust, and engagement between Trinity Metals and surrounding communities.

Overall, the participatory methodology provided valuable qualitative insights into community realities while creating an inclusive platform for dialogue, stakeholder engagement, and evidence-based identification of local development priorities within the Rutongo Concession Area.



4. PARTICIPANT PROFILE AND STAKEHOLDER REPRESENTATION

This section presents the composition, representation, and stakeholder diversity of participants involved in the Community Needs Assessment conducted across the Rutongo Concession Area.

The assessment engaged a total of **111 participants** across the four sectors surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area, namely Masoro, Murambi, Cyinzuzi, and Ntarabana. The consultation process was intentionally designed to ensure broad representation of different stakeholder categories and social groups within the concession area communities.

To strengthen inclusiveness and encourage open participation, the assessment combined both **homogeneous group discussions** and **mixed stakeholder discussions**. Homogeneous groups mainly brought together women and youth participants and were designed to provide a safer and more comfortable environment where participants could openly express challenges, experiences, concerns, and development priorities affecting their social groups. This approach was particularly important in enabling women, young women, and youth to freely discuss issues related to livelihoods, employment opportunities, social services, and local development challenges without feeling constrained by broader community dynamics.

Mixed stakeholder discussions, on the other hand, brought together a broader range of institutional and community representatives in order to capture wider community perspectives regarding development priorities, service delivery gaps, infrastructure challenges, and opportunities for collaboration with Trinity Metals. Participants in these discussions included local authorities, community health workers, teachers, religious representatives, business owners, farmers, health center representatives, women representatives, informal business actors, and other local stakeholders.

The table below summarizes participant distribution across sectors and consultation categories:

Sector	Homogeneous Group	Mixed Group	Total Participants
Masoro	16	16	32
Murambi	12	14	26
Cyinzuzi	14	13	27
Ntarabana	14	12	26
Total	56	55	111

The assessment also considered gender and youth representation across the consultation process. Women constituted the largest proportion of participants across all sectors, while youth participation remained highly visible throughout both homogeneous and mixed-group discussions.



GOVERN WELL RWANDA Ltd

TIN: 146473431

Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Umujyi wa Kigali, RWANDA

The table below presents the overall participant composition by gender and estimated youth representation:

Sector	Women	Men	Youth (Young men & Women)	Total
Masoro	18	14	13	32
Murambi	15	11	10	26
Cyinzuzi	17	10	11	27
Ntarabana	15	11	10	26
Total	65	46	44	111

It is important to note that youth representation was treated as a cross-cutting category rather than a separate participant category. Youth participation was embedded across both women and men participant categories within homogeneous and mixed stakeholder groups. Based on participant composition and field observations, youth represented approximately 40% of total participants across the consultation process, equivalent to approximately 44 participants.

The broad representation of participants strengthened the reliability and inclusiveness of findings by ensuring that priorities reflected perspectives from both grassroots community members and institutional stakeholders.

Overall, the consultation process enabled the assessment to capture diverse views regarding local development challenges, livelihoods, access to services, and priority community needs within the Rutongo Concession Area.



5. FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

The Community Needs Assessment revealed a wide range of socio-economic challenges, development priorities, and community expectations across the four sectors surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area. While each sector presented unique realities and local concerns, several common themes consistently emerged throughout the consultation process, particularly regarding livelihoods, employment opportunities, access to services, infrastructure development, youth empowerment, and local economic opportunities.

The findings presented in this section are based on information collected through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), participatory prioritization exercises, field observations, consultation templates, and facilitator notes gathered during the assessment process. The analysis highlights both cross-sector trends and sector-specific realities affecting communities within the concession area.

5.1. LIVELIHOODS AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

5.1.1. Overview of Findings

Livelihoods within the Rutongo Concession Area are primarily shaped by a combination of mining-related activities, small-scale agriculture, casual labor, petty trade, and informal economic activities. Across all sectors, communities identified limited and unstable livelihood opportunities as one of the major challenges affecting household wellbeing, youth engagement, and local economic resilience.

Mining activities emerged as one of the most important economic drivers within the concession area. Many households directly or indirectly depend on mining activities through formal employment, casual labor opportunities, transportation services, food vending, small businesses, and mineral-related trade activities. At the same time, agriculture remains a major livelihood activity, particularly among rural households engaged in subsistence farming and small-scale crop production.

Despite the presence of mining activities, communities consistently expressed concerns regarding unemployment, limited economic diversification, low household incomes, and inadequate access to sustainable livelihood opportunities, especially among youth and women. Participants repeatedly emphasized the need for stronger support toward entrepreneurship, vocational skills development, income-generating activities, and youth employment initiatives.



5.1.2. Main Income Sources and Economic Activities

The assessment revealed that the main sources of income across the four sectors include mining-related employment, farming activities, small businesses, casual labor, and informal trade.

In communities located closer to mining operations, mining activities represented one of the most important livelihood sources. Several participants indicated that households depend on mining either directly through employment opportunities or indirectly through services connected to mining activities. Communities also highlighted the economic importance of Trinity Metals within the local economy, particularly in supporting employment and local market activities.

Agriculture remains another major source of livelihood across the concession area. Community members reported engaging in crop cultivation, livestock rearing, and small-scale farming activities primarily aimed at household consumption and local market sales. However, farming activities are often constrained by limited agricultural inputs, low productivity, inadequate technical support, poor market access, and infrastructure challenges.

Small businesses and informal economic activities were also widely reported, particularly among women and youth. These activities include petty trade, food vending, transport services, retail shops, and other informal income-generating activities. However, participants indicated that limited access to capital, skills, and market opportunities continues to affect the growth and sustainability of local businesses.

5.1.3. Sector Differences

The assessment revealed variations in livelihood patterns across the four sectors. Communities located closer to active mining zones demonstrated stronger economic dependence on mining activities and mining-related opportunities. In these sectors, employment opportunities connected to mining operations represented an important source of household income and economic activity.

At the same time, sectors with stronger agricultural potential showed relatively higher dependence on farming activities and livestock production. However, these communities also reported significant challenges related to agricultural productivity, access to markets, and limited value addition opportunities.

Youth unemployment emerged as a common concern across all sectors, although the nature of livelihood challenges varied depending on local economic conditions and access to opportunities. In some sectors, youth were more engaged in informal mining activities due to limited alternatives, while



in others, participants emphasized the lack of vocational training opportunities and entrepreneurship support.

Communities in several sectors further expressed interest in developing local entrepreneurship initiatives, Agakiro facilities, vocational training centers, and small business support mechanisms as strategies for strengthening household incomes and reducing economic vulnerability.

5.1.4. Youth Livelihood Challenges

Youth livelihood challenges emerged as one of the strongest recurring themes throughout the assessment process. Across homogeneous and mixed-group discussions, participants repeatedly emphasized concerns regarding unemployment, limited vocational skills, low access to financial resources, and limited economic opportunities for young people.

Several discussions highlighted increasing youth involvement in informal or illegal mining activities due to the absence of alternative employment opportunities. Participants expressed concern that many young people remain economically vulnerable and lack access to practical skills training, entrepreneurship support, and productive livelihood opportunities.

Communities therefore strongly recommended the following:

1. The establishment of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) centers,
2. Short-course training opportunities,
3. Entrepreneurship support initiatives,
4. Build Youth recreation centers,
5. Facilitation on access to low-interest financial services to strengthen youth economic empowerment.

Participants also emphasized the importance of linking youth development initiatives with practical income-generating opportunities capable of reducing dependency on informal mining and improving long-term socio-economic stability.

5.1.5. Community Perspectives

During discussions, participants repeatedly linked livelihood challenges to limited infrastructure, unemployment, low agricultural productivity, and inadequate economic opportunities.

One participant explained: *“Young people do not have enough employment opportunities, and many end up engaging in informal mining activities because there are few alternatives.”*



Another participant noted: “Agriculture remains important for many families, but poor roads and limited market access make it difficult to generate enough income.”

Several participants also emphasized the need for stronger support toward entrepreneurship and vocational skills development, particularly for youth and women.

5.1.6. Analysis and Interpretation

The findings suggest that livelihoods within the Rutongo Concession Area remain highly vulnerable due to limited economic diversification, dependence on unstable income sources, and inadequate access to productive opportunities. While mining activities provide important employment and economic benefits, communities continue to experience significant livelihood challenges linked to unemployment, low agricultural productivity, weak local enterprise development, and limited access to vocational skills and financial services.

The strong emphasis placed on TVET centers, entrepreneurship support, Agakiriro development, and youth empowerment initiatives demonstrates growing community demand for more sustainable and diversified economic opportunities beyond traditional livelihood systems.

The assessment further indicates that youth unemployment represents both an economic and social concern within the concession area. Limited access to employment opportunities increases vulnerability among young people and contributes to greater involvement in informal mining activities and other unstable income-generating practices.

Overall, the findings highlight the importance of integrated livelihood interventions capable of strengthening local economic resilience, improving household incomes, expanding youth opportunities, and supporting sustainable community development within the concession area.

5.1.7. Key Issues Identified

1. High dependence on mining-related livelihoods
2. Limited employment opportunities for youth
3. Low household income and economic vulnerability
4. Limited vocational skills and entrepreneurship support
5. Weak market access and poor economic infrastructure
6. Low agricultural productivity and limited value addition
7. Limited access to financial services and business capital



5.2. BASIC SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

5.2.1. Overview of Findings

Access to basic services and infrastructure emerged as one of the strongest and most consistent concerns raised across all sectors within the Rutongo Concession Area. Communities repeatedly highlighted challenges related to water access, healthcare services, education infrastructure, road conditions, electricity access, and social service facilities.

Participants emphasized that inadequate infrastructure and limited access to essential services continue to affect livelihoods, social wellbeing, education outcomes, mobility, and local economic development. Across both homogeneous and mixed-group discussions, communities expressed strong demand for improved social infrastructure capable of supporting better living conditions and expanding access to opportunities.

All four (4) sectors identified education facilities, pharmacies, health posts, water infrastructure, roads, bridges, and vocational training centers among their highest development priorities. The repeated emphasis placed on these issues demonstrates the strong connection between infrastructure development and broader socio-economic wellbeing within the concession area.

5.2.2. Water Access and Supply

Water access challenges were widely reported across the four sectors. Participants indicated that many households continue to face difficulties accessing reliable and safe water sources due to inadequate water infrastructure, Water access in two or three days per week, long walking distances, insufficient water storage systems, and damaged water distribution networks. They also highlighted that they are few water tapes (Robinets) in some communities' area and some water reservoirs installed before 1994 has been damaged leading to not have regular water availability.

Communities in several sectors specifically highlighted the need for:

1. Water tanks that can be paid in monthly basis once Trinity Metals distributed to them, they also emphasised that once Trinity metals provides Water tanks to its employees and pay them in tranches can reduce the issue of water availability in the communities
2. Improved water pipelines,
3. Water storage infrastructure, and
4. Expansion of clean water access systems.

Participants explained that limited access to water negatively affects household wellbeing, sanitation conditions, agricultural activities, and daily



productivity. Women and children were reported to be among the most affected groups, particularly in areas where households travel long distances to collect water.

In some sectors, participants further emphasized the need for rehabilitation of damaged water systems and stronger support toward community water infrastructure development.

5.2.3. Health Services and Access to Pharmacies

Healthcare access emerged as another major concern throughout the consultation process. Communities repeatedly emphasized limited access to nearby healthcare services, shortages of medical facilities, inadequate staffing at health posts, and long distances traveled to access medicines and treatment services.

One of the most repeated priorities across several sectors was the establishment of pharmacies and strengthening of local health services.

Participants frequently requested the creation of community pharmacies, particularly facilities supported through collaboration with Trinity Metals, in order to improve access to affordable medicines and healthcare support. They are suggested that Trinity can open community pharmacies in partnership with the Ministry of Health (MoH) as business that solve the issue of long distance of their employees and communities.

Several discussions also highlighted the need for:

1. Construction of health posts,
2. Upgrading of existing health centers,
3. Additional healthcare personnel,
4. Improved medical equipment,
5. and expanded health services.

In some sectors, participants specifically recommended strengthening existing health centers by improving service availability and increasing staffing capacity. Concerns regarding access to emergency healthcare services and maternal health support were also raised during discussions.

The repeated demand for pharmacies demonstrates both the practical healthcare needs of communities and the expectation that Trinity Metals could support improved access to essential medicines and health-related services within the concession area.

5.2.4. Education Services and Training Infrastructure

Education-related concerns emerged prominently across all sectors. Communities repeatedly highlighted inadequate educational infrastructure, insufficient classrooms, limited access to nearby schools, school dropout



concerns, and limited opportunities for technical and vocational skills development.

The establishment of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) centers was one of the most repeated priorities raised during consultations. Participants emphasized the importance of vocational skills development in improving youth employment opportunities, reducing dependency on informal mining activities, and strengthening local economic resilience.

Communities also highlighted the need for:

1. Additional classrooms,
2. Construction of primary schools,
3. Expansion of Early Childhood Development (ECD) centers,
4. Scholarships and educational support,
5. Short-course vocational training opportunities,
6. and improved school accessibility.

Several participants explained that long distances to schools contribute to school dropout, particularly among children living in remote areas.

Communities further emphasized the need for stronger support toward practical skills training capable of creating employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for young people.

In some sectors, participants proposed stronger collaboration between Trinity Metals and educational institutions through scholarship support and youth-focused training initiatives.

5.2.5. Roads, Bridges, and Transport Infrastructure

Poor road infrastructure and limited transportation connectivity were repeatedly identified as major barriers affecting access to markets, healthcare services, schools, and economic opportunities. Participants explained that poor roads increase transportation costs, reduce mobility, and limit community access to essential services.

Several sectors prioritized road rehabilitation and bridge construction as critical development needs. Communities specifically mentioned roads connecting villages, schools, markets, and health facilities as requiring urgent improvement.

Participants also emphasized that poor road conditions negatively affect agricultural marketing, emergency healthcare access, and overall economic activity within rural communities. In some sectors, bridge construction was highlighted as a major priority for improving mobility and strengthening connections between communities.



The strong emphasis placed on road infrastructure demonstrates the important relationship between transportation access, livelihoods, service delivery, and local economic development within the concession area.

5.2.6. Electricity and Community Infrastructure

Limited access to electricity and community infrastructure was also raised during consultations, particularly within sectors experiencing lower infrastructure coverage. Participants explained that inadequate electricity access affects business development, education activities, household wellbeing, and local economic opportunities.

Communities further highlighted the need for improved public infrastructure including:

1. Community centers,
2. Couth centers,
3. Sports facilities,
4. and local economic infrastructure such as Agakiro facilities.

These concerns reflect broader community aspirations for improved living conditions, stronger social infrastructure, and expanded economic opportunities within the concession area.

5.2.7. Sector Differences

Although infrastructure and service delivery challenges were reported across all sectors, the nature and intensity of concerns varied between communities.

Some sectors placed stronger emphasis on road rehabilitation and bridge construction, while others prioritized healthcare access, pharmacies, water systems, or educational infrastructure.

Murambi and Cyinzuzi sectors demonstrated particularly strong demand for vocational training facilities, pharmacies, and youth-focused infrastructure. In Masoro, communities frequently emphasized road rehabilitation, ECD centers fulfils all facilities, and local economic infrastructure, while Ntarabana participants strongly highlighted water access, roads, youth centers, and electricity expansion.

Despite these variations, the overall findings indicate widespread demand for improved social infrastructure and stronger investment in essential community services throughout the concession area.



5.2.8. Community Perspectives

Participants consistently linked infrastructure challenges with broader socio-economic difficulties affecting households and community wellbeing.

One participant explained: “People travel long distances to access medicines and healthcare services, especially during emergencies.”

Another participant stated: “Poor roads make it difficult to transport agricultural products and access markets.”

Participants also repeatedly emphasized the importance of vocational training and education opportunities for young people. One participant noted: “Youth need practical skills and vocational training opportunities to improve their future livelihoods.”

For ECD, one participant noted: “To access ECD center that fulfils facilities built by Trinity Metals, it requires a child to travel a long distance of 2.5km downward the hill and do the same distance by climbing the same hill afternoon .”

5.2.9. Analysis and Interpretation

The findings indicate that limited access to basic services and infrastructure remains one of the major development challenges affecting communities surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area. Weak infrastructure systems continue to limit access to healthcare, education, markets, water, and economic opportunities while contributing to broader socio-economic vulnerability.

The repeated prioritization of pharmacies, TVET centers, ECDs, roads, bridges, water systems, and schools demonstrates that communities perceive infrastructure development as a critical pathway toward improved wellbeing and local economic transformation.

The strong demand for vocational training facilities also reflects growing recognition among communities that skills development is essential for expanding employment opportunities and reducing economic dependency on unstable livelihood activities.

Similarly, the repeated requests for pharmacies and strengthened healthcare services indicate significant gaps in local healthcare accessibility and community concern regarding access to affordable treatment and medicines.

Overall, the findings suggest that future community investment initiatives focused on integrated infrastructure and service delivery improvements could significantly contribute to improved livelihoods, social wellbeing, and sustainable local development within the concession area.



5.2.10. Key Issues Identified

- Limited access to clean and reliable water sources
- Inadequate healthcare services and limited pharmacy access
- Insufficient educational infrastructure and vocational training opportunities
- Poor road conditions and weak transportation connectivity
- Limited electricity access and public infrastructure
- Long distances to schools and healthcare facilities
- Weak infrastructure affecting livelihoods and economic opportunities

5.3. FARMING AND AGRICULTURE

5.3.1. Overview of Findings

Agriculture remains one of the principal livelihood activities across communities surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area. Despite the strong presence of mining-related economic activities, many households continue to rely on small-scale farming for food security, household income, and daily subsistence. Communities reported engaging in crop cultivation, livestock rearing, and other small-scale agricultural activities, particularly within rural areas where agriculture remains the dominant economic activity outside mining operations. Mains crops across sectors are Irish Potato, Beans, Maize, Cassava, vegetables, Banana, sweet Patoto, soya beans, and sorghum.

However, participants consistently emphasized that agricultural productivity remains low due to multiple structural and environmental challenges affecting farming systems within the concession area. Across all sectors, communities highlighted concerns related to **limited agricultural inputs, inadequate technical support, weak market access, poor road infrastructure, limited irrigation systems, and vulnerability to soil erosion and changing weather conditions.**

The assessment further revealed that agriculture within the concession area is largely characterized by subsistence-oriented production with limited commercialization and low value addition opportunities. Participants therefore emphasized the importance of strengthening agricultural support services, improving productivity, and expanding market opportunities to improve household resilience and reduce economic vulnerability.

5.3.2. Farming Activities and Agricultural Practices

The assessment revealed that communities mainly engage in small-scale crop production and livestock rearing as key agricultural activities. Farming activities are largely conducted at household level and mainly support family consumption, with limited surplus production for local markets.



Participants reported cultivating crops commonly grown within the area, while livestock activities mainly involve small domestic animals and household-level animal husbandry. In several sectors, participants indicated that agriculture remains an essential safety net for households facing unstable income opportunities from other sectors.

Despite the importance of farming, communities explained that agricultural production remains constrained by limited access to:

1. Improved seeds,
2. Fertilizers,
3. Agricultural equipment,
4. Irrigation systems,
5. Demonstration pilot farm
6. And extension services.

Several discussions also highlighted concerns regarding declining soil productivity, land degradation, and limited access to modern farming techniques capable of improving yields and agricultural sustainability.

Participants repeatedly emphasized the need for practical agricultural training, established demonstration farms, Introduction of Climate Smart Agriculture practices (CSA), stronger farmer support systems, and improved access to agricultural inputs in order to strengthen local food production and household incomes.

5.3.3. Agricultural Challenges and Constraints

Low agricultural productivity emerged as one of the most important concerns affecting farming households within the concession area. Communities explained that many farmers struggle to generate sufficient income from agricultural activities due to poor yields, unstable market conditions, and infrastructure limitations.

Poor road infrastructure was repeatedly linked to agricultural challenges, particularly regarding transportation of produce to markets. Participants explained that damaged roads and limited transportation access increase post-harvest losses, reduce profitability, and limit access to larger markets.

Communities also highlighted challenges related to:

1. soil erosion,
2. limited water availability,
3. climate variability,
4. inadequate storage systems,
5. and weak agricultural extension support.

In some sectors, participants further emphasized the need for water infrastructure capable of supporting both household consumption and



agricultural activities. Limited irrigation opportunities were identified as a barrier to improving agricultural productivity and reducing vulnerability to seasonal weather changes.

The assessment also revealed that younger community members (youth participation in Agriculture activities) often demonstrate lower interest in agriculture due to low profitability and limited modernization within the sector. This situation contributes to growing dependence on informal livelihood activities and increases economic vulnerability among youth populations.

5.3.4. Sector Differences

Although agriculture remains important across all sectors, the assessment revealed variations in farming dependence and agricultural conditions between communities. Some sectors demonstrated stronger reliance on agriculture due to their rural characteristics and relatively limited mining-related opportunities, while others showed stronger integration between farming and mining-based livelihoods.

Communities within more agriculturally oriented areas placed stronger emphasis on:

1. agricultural training,
2. erosion control through radical terraces on hillside slope, Progress terraces and agroforestry practices,
3. improved farming inputs,
4. water access,
5. and market connectivity.

In sectors with stronger mining influence, agriculture often played a complementary role alongside mining-related income sources. However, even within these sectors, participants emphasized the continued importance of farming for household food security and income diversification.

The assessment further indicated that communities facing poor road conditions and limited market access experienced greater agricultural challenges and reduced opportunities for commercialization of agricultural products.



5.3.5. Community Perspectives

During consultations, participants repeatedly emphasized the importance of agriculture while expressing concern regarding low productivity and limited support services.

One participant explained: “Agriculture supports many families, but farmers lack enough training and support to improve production.”

Another participant noted: “Poor roads and transportation challenges make it difficult to sell agricultural products at good prices.”

Several participants also linked agricultural vulnerability to broader livelihood insecurity and emphasized **the need for stronger agricultural extension services, introduction of CSA practices through establishment of demo plots and access to farming inputs.**

5.3.6. Analysis and Interpretation

The findings suggest that agriculture continues to play a central role in household livelihoods within the Rutongo Concession Area despite the growing economic importance of mining activities. However, the agricultural sector remains characterized by low productivity, limited modernization, weak market integration, and inadequate support systems.

The repeated emphasis on agricultural training, water access, erosion control, and road rehabilitation demonstrates that communities recognize the importance of strengthening agricultural systems as part of broader livelihood improvement strategies.

The assessment further indicates that weak infrastructure and limited agricultural support services continue to undermine the economic potential of farming households. Without improved productivity, market access, and value addition opportunities, agriculture is likely to remain vulnerable and insufficient to meet growing household economic needs.

The findings also highlight the importance of integrating agricultural development within broader community investment strategies aimed at improving livelihoods, food security, and economic resilience within mining host communities.

Strengthening agricultural support systems could further contribute to reducing economic dependency on unstable income sources while creating more sustainable household livelihood opportunities across the concession area.



5.3.7. Key Issues Identified

- Low agricultural productivity and limited modernization
- Limited access to agricultural inputs and extension services
- Poor road infrastructure affecting market access
- Soil erosion and environmental degradation
- Limited irrigation and water infrastructure for farming
- Weak agricultural commercialization and value addition
- Limited youth engagement in agriculture due to low profitability

5.4. NON-FARMING ACTIVITIES AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

5.4.1. Overview of Findings

In addition to farming and mining-related activities, communities across the Rutongo Concession Area engage in various non-farming livelihood activities aimed at supplementing household incomes and improving economic resilience. These activities mainly include petty trade (small-scale, informal commercial activities with low capital investment and limited inventory), small businesses, transportation services, food vending, casual labor, handicrafts, and informal entrepreneurship initiatives.

The assessment revealed that non-farming activities play an increasingly important role in supporting household livelihoods, particularly among women and youth. **However, participants consistently emphasized that local entrepreneurship and small business development remain constrained by limited access to capital, inadequate business skills, weak infrastructure, and limited market opportunities.**

Across all sectors, communities repeatedly highlighted **the need for stronger support toward entrepreneurship development, vocational skills training, Agakiro facilities, youth business initiatives, and access to financial services.** Participants viewed non-farming economic opportunities as essential for improving livelihoods, reducing unemployment, and diversifying local income sources beyond traditional agriculture and unstable informal activities.

5.4.2. Small Businesses and Informal Economic Activities

The assessment found that many households engage in small-scale business activities as a means of generating additional income. Common activities mentioned during discussions included retail trade, food vending, transport services, tailoring, handicrafts, mobile commerce, and other informal economic activities.

Women were particularly active in petty trade and small-scale business activities aimed at supporting household income and family wellbeing.



Participants explained that informal businesses often provide flexible income opportunities for households with limited access to formal employment.

However, despite the importance of these activities, participants repeatedly highlighted major constraints affecting business growth and sustainability. These challenges include:

1. limited access to startup capital,
2. weak business management skills,
3. inadequate infrastructure,
4. poor market access,
5. and limited financial services.

Communities explained that many small businesses remain highly vulnerable and operate at very limited scale due to insufficient support systems and low purchasing power within local markets.

5.4.3. Entrepreneurship and Youth Economic Opportunities

Youth unemployment and limited entrepreneurship opportunities emerged as some of the strongest recurring concerns across all sectors. Participants repeatedly emphasized that many young people lack practical skills, business opportunities, and financial resources necessary for establishing sustainable income-generating activities.

As a result, communities strongly recommended the establishment of:

- a) Vocational Training Centers,
- b) Entrepreneurship Development Programs,
- c) Agakiriro Facilities,
- d) Youth Innovation Spaces,
- e) And Financial Support Mechanisms Targeting Young Entrepreneurs.

Participants explained that strengthening entrepreneurship opportunities could help reduce dependency on informal mining activities while improving youth economic empowerment and social stability within communities.

Several discussions further emphasized the importance of practical short-course training programs capable of equipping youth with employable technical and vocational skills linked to local market opportunities.

Communities repeatedly expressed interest in **skills related to construction, mechanics, tailoring, welding, driving, small business management, and other income-generating trades.**

The need for youth-focused business financing mechanisms was also frequently highlighted. Participants explained that limited access to startup capital remains one of the major barriers preventing young people from establishing businesses and pursuing entrepreneurship opportunities.



5.4.4. Agakiro and Local Economic Infrastructure

The establishment of Agakiro facilities emerged as one of the recurring priorities raised across several sectors. Participants viewed Agakiro development as an important opportunity for promoting local entrepreneurship, vocational training, skills development, and small business growth within the concession area.

Communities explained that Agakiro facilities could provide:

1. working space for artisans,
2. vocational training opportunities,
3. production and processing facilities,
4. and market linkages for local entrepreneurs.

Participants further emphasized that local economic infrastructure could contribute to:

- a) employment creation,
- b) skills transfer,
- c) income diversification,
- d) and stronger local economic development.

In several sectors, communities linked Agakiro development with broader youth empowerment strategies and efforts aimed at reducing unemployment and economic vulnerability.

5.4.5. Sector Differences

Although entrepreneurship and non-farming activities were important across all sectors, the assessment revealed variations in the type and intensity of concerns raised by communities.

Murambi and Cyinzuzi sectors demonstrated particularly strong demand for **vocational training facilities, entrepreneurship programs, and youth-focused economic opportunities**. Participants in these sectors repeatedly emphasized the need for TVET centers, short-course vocational training, and small business support mechanisms.

Masoro communities frequently highlighted the importance of **Agakiro development, local market opportunities, and small enterprise support as part of improving local livelihoods and reducing unemployment**.

In Ntarabana, participants strongly emphasized **youth economic empowerment, access to financial services, and establishment of youth centers capable of supporting entrepreneurship and skills development initiatives**.

Despite these variations, the overall findings indicate strong community demand for expanded non-farming livelihood opportunities and stronger



support toward entrepreneurship development throughout the concession area.

5.4.6. Community Perspectives

Participants repeatedly linked entrepreneurship challenges with unemployment, limited skills, and weak access to financial resources.

One participant explained: **“Many young people have ideas and willingness to work, but they lack skills, capital, and opportunities to start businesses.”**

Another participant noted: **“Agakiro facilities and vocational training could help communities create jobs and improve household incomes.”**

Several participants also emphasized that stronger support for entrepreneurship could reduce dependency on unstable income activities and improve long-term economic resilience.

5.4.7. Analysis and Interpretation

The findings suggest that non-farming activities and entrepreneurship opportunities remain underdeveloped despite growing demand for diversified livelihoods within the Rutongo Concession Area. Communities increasingly recognize that sustainable local economic development requires broader opportunities beyond agriculture and informal mining activities.

The repeated emphasis placed on vocational training, entrepreneurship support, Agakiro facilities, and youth business opportunities reflects growing community interest in practical economic empowerment initiatives capable of generating employment and strengthening household incomes.

The assessment further indicates that limited access to skills training and financial resources remains one of the major barriers affecting entrepreneurship development, particularly among young people and women. Without improved support systems, many households remain economically vulnerable and dependent on unstable livelihood sources.

The strong demand for youth-centered entrepreneurship and vocational initiatives also demonstrates the important role that local economic infrastructure and skills development could play in reducing unemployment, promoting economic diversification, and strengthening social stability within mining host communities.

Overall, the findings highlight the importance of integrated economic empowerment interventions capable of supporting entrepreneurship, improving employability, expanding local enterprise development, and strengthening long-term economic resilience within the concession area.



5.4.8. Key Issues Identified

- Limited entrepreneurship and small business opportunities
- High youth unemployment and economic vulnerability
- Limited access to vocational and technical skills training
- Weak access to startup capital and financial services
- Limited local economic infrastructure and market opportunities
- Dependence on unstable informal economic activities
- Limited support systems for women and youth entrepreneurs

5.5. MINING ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS

5.5.1. Overview of Findings

Mining activities play a central role in the socio-economic life of communities surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area. Across all sectors, participants recognized mining as one of the major sources of employment, household income, and local economic activity. Communities acknowledged the important contribution of Trinity Metals in providing employment opportunities and supporting local economic interactions within the concession area.

At the same time, the assessment revealed growing community concerns related to informal and illegal mining activities, youth dependency on unstable mining-related livelihoods, occupational risks, and the limited availability of alternative economic opportunities. Participants repeatedly emphasized that while mining contributes significantly to local livelihoods, many households remain economically vulnerable and highly dependent on mining-related income sources.

The discussions further highlighted the complex relationship between mining activities, local livelihoods, youth employment, and broader socio-economic development within host communities.

5.5.2. Dependence on Mining Activities

The assessment found that many households within the concession area depend either directly or indirectly on mining-related activities for their livelihoods. Direct dependence mainly includes formal employment opportunities within mining operations, while indirect dependence involves activities such as transportation services, food vending, petty trade, equipment supply, and other small businesses connected to mining communities.

Participants explained that mining activities create important economic opportunities within local communities and contribute to household income generation. In several sectors, mining was described as one of the few



available livelihood opportunities capable of generating relatively stable cash income.

However, despite this economic importance, communities expressed concern regarding the limited diversification of local livelihoods and the growing dependence on mining activities among young people. Participants indicated that limited employment alternatives often push youth toward informal or illegal mining activities as a survival strategy.

5.5.3. Informal and Illegal Mining Activities

Illegal and informal mining activities emerged as one of the recurring concerns across several sectors. Participants explained that some youth engage in informal mining due to unemployment, poverty, and lack of access to alternative livelihood opportunities.

Communities raised concerns regarding:

1. safety risks,
2. insecurity,
3. unstable incomes,
4. and social vulnerability associated with illegal mining practices.

Several discussions emphasized the importance of creating alternative economic opportunities capable of reducing youth dependency on informal mining activities. Participants repeatedly recommended strengthening vocational training, entrepreneurship support, and youth employment initiatives as part of broader strategies for addressing illegal mining.

In some sectors, communities also called for stronger awareness and engagement initiatives aimed at helping youth transition toward safer and more sustainable livelihood opportunities.

5.5.4. Community Perceptions Regarding Trinity Metals

The assessment revealed generally positive community recognition of Trinity Metals as an important economic actor within the concession area. Participants acknowledged the company's contribution to employment creation and local economic activity.

At the same time, communities expressed expectations for stronger collaboration and increased community investment in areas such as:

1. youth empowerment,
2. vocational training,
3. healthcare support,
4. infrastructure development,
5. education services,
6. and local economic development.



Several participants emphasized that stronger engagement between Trinity Metals and surrounding communities could contribute significantly to improving livelihoods and strengthening local development outcomes.

The repeated demand for pharmacies, TVET centers, youth centers, and entrepreneurship support also reflected broader community expectations regarding the company's potential role in supporting social and economic development initiatives within host communities.

5.5.5. Youth and Mining Dependency

Youth dependency on mining-related activities emerged as a particularly important concern during discussions. Participants repeatedly explained that many young people view mining as one of the only accessible income-generating opportunities within the concession area.

However, communities expressed concern that reliance on unstable or informal mining activities exposes youth to economic insecurity and limits long-term livelihood sustainability. Participants therefore strongly emphasized the need for:

- a) vocational skills training,
- b) alternative employment opportunities,
- c) entrepreneurship support,
- d) and youth-focused economic empowerment programs.

Several discussions highlighted the importance of linking youth development initiatives with practical livelihood opportunities capable of reducing economic vulnerability and supporting long-term social stability.

5.5.6. Sector Differences

Although mining-related concerns were reported across all sectors, the intensity and nature of these concerns varied depending on proximity to mining activities and local livelihood conditions.

Sectors located closer to mining operations demonstrated stronger dependence on mining-related livelihoods and greater concern regarding youth involvement in informal mining activities. In these areas, participants frequently emphasized the need for employment diversification and alternative livelihood opportunities.

Other sectors placed stronger emphasis on improving agricultural livelihoods and entrepreneurship opportunities while still recognizing the broader economic influence of mining activities within the local economy.

Communities across all sectors, however, consistently highlighted the importance of balancing mining-related economic opportunities with broader



community development initiatives capable of improving long-term socio-economic resilience.

5.5.7. Community Perspectives

Participants repeatedly emphasized both the opportunities and challenges associated with mining activities within the concession area.

One participant explained: **“Mining provides income opportunities, but many young people depend too much on unstable informal mining activities.”**

Another participant noted: **“Youth need vocational training and alternative employment opportunities so they can build safer and more sustainable livelihoods.”**

Participants also raised concerns regarding the social impacts associated with illegal and informal mining activities, particularly among youth.

One participant explained: **“Illegal miners do not manage the money they get. They lose control of their minds and even pour beer and other alcoholic beverages on the materials they use in illegal mining activities, believing that these materials helped them to get money.”**

This perspective reflected broader community concerns related to alcohol abuse, unstable income management, and risky behaviors associated with informal mining practices.

Another participant suggested stronger regulation and centralized mineral purchasing mechanisms within the concession area, stating: **“To address this issue, Trinity Metals should establish a more controlled and centralized system as a monopoly for purchasing minerals from within the concession area in order to reduce illegal mining activities and protect young people from the negative social impacts associated with informal mining.”**

Several participants also emphasized the importance of stronger community engagement, youth support programs, responsible mining governance, and increased investment in social services and local development initiatives.

5.5.8. Analysis and Interpretation

The findings suggest that mining activities remain deeply integrated into the local economy and household livelihood systems within the Rutongo Concession Area. Trinity Metals plays an important economic role through employment creation and stimulation of local economic activities.

However, the assessment also highlights important socio-economic vulnerabilities linked to heavy dependence on mining-related livelihoods,



particularly among youth populations. Limited economic diversification and inadequate access to alternative employment opportunities contribute to continued engagement in informal and illegal mining activities.

The repeated emphasis on vocational training, entrepreneurship support, and youth empowerment initiatives demonstrates growing community recognition of the need for more sustainable and diversified livelihood systems beyond informal mining dependence.

The findings further indicate that future community investment strategies could benefit from integrating:

- a) Livelihood diversification,
- b) Youth employment,
- c) Vocational skills development,
- d) And local economic empowerment initiatives alongside broader social infrastructure improvements.

Strengthening collaboration between Trinity Metals, local authorities, and communities could further contribute to reducing livelihood vulnerability while promoting more sustainable and inclusive local development within mining host communities.

5.5.9. Key Issues Identified

- High dependence on mining-related livelihoods
- Growing youth involvement in informal and illegal mining
- Limited alternative employment opportunities
- Economic vulnerability linked to unstable livelihood systems
- Limited vocational and entrepreneurship opportunities for youth
- Community expectations for stronger social investment and engagement
- Need for greater livelihood diversification and economic resilience.

5.6. KEY COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

5.6.1. Overview of Cross-Cutting Challenges

The Community Needs Assessment revealed several recurring challenges affecting communities across the four sectors surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area. Although the intensity and nature of these challenges varied between sectors, many concerns consistently emerged throughout both homogeneous and mixed-group discussions.

The findings indicate that communities continue to face interconnected socio-economic challenges linked to unemployment, limited infrastructure, weak access to basic services, low livelihood diversification, and limited economic opportunities, particularly for youth and women. Participants repeatedly



emphasized that these challenges affect household wellbeing, economic resilience, social stability, and access to sustainable development opportunities.

Across all sectors, communities demonstrated strong awareness of local development constraints and repeatedly proposed practical interventions aimed at improving livelihoods, strengthening social infrastructure, and expanding opportunities for economic empowerment.

5.6.2. Youth Unemployment and Economic Vulnerability

Youth unemployment emerged as one of the most critical and frequently repeated concerns throughout the assessment process. Participants across all sectors emphasized that many young people lack stable employment opportunities, vocational skills, business support, and access to productive livelihood opportunities.

Communities repeatedly expressed concern that unemployment increases economic vulnerability among youth and contributes to growing involvement in informal or illegal mining activities. Participants explained that many young people depend on unstable income-generating activities due to limited alternatives and weak local economic opportunities.

The lack of vocational training facilities, practical skills programs, and entrepreneurship support mechanisms was identified as a major barrier limiting youth economic empowerment. Communities strongly emphasized the need for TVET centers, youth centers, short-course training opportunities, entrepreneurship development programs, and access to financial services targeting young people.

The findings suggest that youth unemployment represents both an economic and social challenge capable of affecting long-term community stability and sustainable development within the concession area.

5.6.3. Limited Access to Basic Services and Social Infrastructure

Weak access to essential services and infrastructure emerged as another major challenge affecting communities across all sectors. Participants repeatedly highlighted concerns related to healthcare access, pharmacies, schools, vocational training facilities, water systems, roads, electricity, and public infrastructure.

Communities explained that inadequate infrastructure limits access to healthcare, education, markets, and economic opportunities while increasing household vulnerability and reducing quality of life. Long distances to schools and health facilities were frequently reported, particularly in remote areas with poor transportation infrastructure.



The repeated prioritization of:

- a) Pharmacies,
- b) Health posts,
- c) Roads,
- d) Bridges,
- e) Water systems especially low number of tapes (amavomo make) and available two days per week,
- f) Ecd centers with full facilities at least one per cell ,
- g) And tvet facilities demonstrates the extent to which infrastructure limitations continue to affect community wellbeing and local development opportunities.

Participants further emphasized that weak infrastructure negatively affects livelihoods, agricultural productivity, mobility, market access, and service delivery within the concession area.

5.6.4. Limited Economic Diversification and Entrepreneurship Opportunities

The assessment revealed that many households remain economically vulnerable due to dependence on limited livelihood opportunities and unstable income sources. While mining and agriculture remain the dominant livelihood systems, communities repeatedly emphasized the need for stronger support toward entrepreneurship, local enterprise development, and diversified economic activities.

Participants explained that small businesses and informal economic activities often operate with limited capital, weak infrastructure, low technical capacity, and poor market access. Women and youth were identified as particularly affected by limited access to startup capital, vocational skills, and business development support.

The strong demand for Agakiro facilities, entrepreneurship initiatives, vocational training, and financial services reflects growing community recognition of the need for stronger local economic empowerment opportunities capable of reducing vulnerability and improving household incomes.

5.6.5. Low Agricultural Productivity and Environmental Challenges

Agriculture remains an important livelihood activity across the concession area; however, participants consistently highlighted major constraints affecting agricultural productivity and sustainability. Communities reported challenges related to:

- a) Limited agricultural inputs,
- b) Inadequate extension services,



- c) Soil erosion,
- d) Poor road infrastructure,
- e) Weak market access,
- f) And limited irrigation systems.

Participants explained that poor agricultural productivity contributes to food insecurity, low household income, and greater dependence on unstable livelihood activities. In some sectors, environmental degradation and erosion were also highlighted as growing concerns affecting farming conditions and long-term agricultural sustainability.

The findings suggest that agricultural challenges are closely linked to broader infrastructure, environmental, and economic vulnerabilities affecting rural households within the concession area.

5.6.6. Mining Dependency and Informal Mining Risks

The assessment further revealed growing concern regarding heavy dependence on mining-related livelihoods and increasing youth involvement in informal mining activities. While communities recognized mining as an important source of employment and local economic activity, participants also expressed concern regarding the risks associated with unstable and informal mining practices.

Communities repeatedly emphasized that limited employment alternatives push some youth toward informal mining activities, increasing vulnerability to unsafe working conditions, economic instability, and social risks.

Participants therefore stressed the importance of strengthening alternative livelihood opportunities, vocational skills development, and entrepreneurship support in order to reduce dependence on informal mining and promote more sustainable economic opportunities.

5.6.7. Weak Market Access and Transportation Challenges

Poor roads and weak transportation infrastructure were repeatedly identified as major barriers affecting local economic development, agricultural commercialization, mobility, and access to services, for example the road Rusine-Shengamure-Masoro has been degraded and can't facilitate to reach Health centers, Karambo road, etc. Participants explained that damaged roads and limited transportation connectivity increase transportation costs, reduce access to markets, and limit opportunities for income generation.

Communities also highlighted that poor transportation infrastructure negatively affects access to healthcare services, schools, agricultural markets, and economic activities within rural communities. In several sectors, participants emphasized the urgent need for road rehabilitation and bridge construction to improve connectivity and facilitate local development.



GOVERN WELL RWANDA Ltd

TIN: 146473431

Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Umujyi wa Kigali, RWANDA

The repeated prioritization of roads and transportation infrastructure demonstrates the important relationship between mobility, service delivery, livelihoods, and economic resilience within the concession area.

5.6.8. Community Perspectives

Participants consistently linked local development challenges with broader issues of unemployment, weak infrastructure, limited services, and economic vulnerability.

One participant explained: **“Young people need opportunities and practical skills because unemployment pushes many into unstable activities.”**

Another participant noted: **“Poor roads, like Murehe road limited healthcare services, and lack of clean water continue to affect our daily lives and economic activities.”**

Several participants also emphasized the importance of stronger collaboration between communities, local authorities, and Trinity Metals in addressing priority development challenges within the concession area.

5.6.9. Analysis and Interpretation

The findings demonstrate that communities surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area continue to face multiple interconnected development challenges that reinforce economic vulnerability and limit sustainable livelihood opportunities.

Youth unemployment, limited infrastructure, weak access to services, low agricultural productivity, and limited entrepreneurship opportunities collectively contribute to persistent socio-economic vulnerability across the four sectors. The assessment further indicates that these challenges are highly interconnected, meaning that improvements in one area—such as roads, vocational training, or water access—could generate broader positive impacts across livelihoods, service access, and local economic development.

The repeated emphasis placed on youth empowerment, vocational training, infrastructure development, healthcare access, entrepreneurship support, and livelihood diversification demonstrates growing community demand for integrated development interventions capable of improving long-term resilience and social wellbeing.

The findings also suggest that communities expect stronger partnership-based approaches involving Trinity Metals, local authorities, and local stakeholders in addressing development challenges and expanding opportunities for sustainable community development within the concession area.



Overall, the assessment highlights the importance of integrated, inclusive, and community-responsive interventions capable of strengthening livelihoods, improving infrastructure and services, reducing economic vulnerability, and supporting sustainable local development.

5.6.10. Most Repeated Challenges Identified

- High youth unemployment and limited livelihood opportunities
- Weak access to healthcare services and pharmacies
- Poor road infrastructure and transportation connectivity
- Limited access to vocational training and practical skills development
- Low agricultural productivity and environmental challenges
- Limited clean water access and weak infrastructure systems
- Heavy dependence on unstable mining-related livelihoods
- Weak entrepreneurship support and limited access to financial services
- Limited economic diversification and local enterprise opportunities

5.7. SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

5.7.1. Overview of Community-Proposed Solutions

Throughout the consultation process, participants not only identified challenges affecting their communities but also proposed practical solutions and development opportunities capable of improving livelihoods, strengthening service delivery, and supporting sustainable local development within the Rutongo Concession Area.

The assessment revealed strong community willingness to engage in collaborative development initiatives involving Trinity Metals, local authorities, and other stakeholders. Across all sectors, participants emphasized the importance of long-term investments focused on youth empowerment, infrastructure development, vocational training, entrepreneurship support, healthcare access, and livelihood diversification.

Many of the proposed solutions directly reflected the major challenges identified during discussions, demonstrating strong community understanding of local development priorities and potential intervention areas.

5.7.2. Youth Empowerment and Skills Development

One of the most repeated solutions proposed by participants was the establishment of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) centers and practical skills development programs targeting youth. Communities emphasized that vocational training could significantly



contribute to reducing unemployment, strengthening employability, and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities for young people.

Participants proposed:

- a) Establishment of TVET centers,
- b) Short-course vocational training programs,
- c) Youth skills development initiatives,
- d) Entrepreneurship training,
- e) And youth-focused innovation and learning spaces.

Communities also emphasized the importance of aligning vocational training opportunities with local labor market demands and practical economic activities capable of generating employment and income opportunities.

Several participants further recommended the creation of youth centers and support mechanisms capable of strengthening youth engagement, mentorship, and economic empowerment within surrounding communities.

5.7.3. Entrepreneurship and Local Economic Development

Participants repeatedly proposed stronger support toward entrepreneurship and local business development as a strategy for improving household incomes and reducing economic vulnerability.

One of the most commonly proposed solutions was the establishment of Agakiriro facilities capable of supporting:

1. Vocational production activities,
2. Artisan workspaces,
3. Business incubation,
4. Small enterprise development,
5. And market-oriented production initiatives.

Communities also recommended:

- 1) Access to startup capital in partnership with Trinity Metals,
- 2) Low-interest loans,
- 3) Savings and investment initiatives,
- 4) And business development support targeting women and youth entrepreneurs.

Participants emphasized that strengthening entrepreneurship opportunities could contribute significantly to employment creation, income diversification, and stronger local economic resilience.

5.7.4. Improvement of Healthcare Services

Communities strongly emphasized the need for improved healthcare infrastructure and access to affordable medical services. One of the most



repeated proposals involved the establishment of pharmacies and strengthening of local health services within surrounding communities.

Participants proposed:

- 1) Establishment of community pharmacies,
- 2) Construction of health posts,
- 3) Upgrading of existing health facilities,
- 4) Increased staffing of healthcare workers,
- 5) And improved access to emergency healthcare services.

Several participants specifically recommended partnership-based approaches involving Trinity Metals in facilitating community access to affordable medicines and healthcare support through establishment of business pharmacy on the behalf of the Company and its name to solve the issue of communities without losing money on their account. Communities viewed improved healthcare access as essential for strengthening household wellbeing, productivity, and social resilience

5.7.5. Education and School Infrastructure

The assessment also revealed strong community demand for expanded educational infrastructure and improved access to learning opportunities. Participants proposed:

1. construction of additional classrooms and schools,
2. expansion of ECD centers,
3. scholarship support for vulnerable students,
4. rehabilitation of educational infrastructure,
5. and support for practical vocational education initiatives.

Communities emphasized that improved education infrastructure and skills development opportunities are critical for strengthening long-term socio-economic development and reducing school dropout rates.

Participants further highlighted the importance of supporting youth with practical education pathways linked to employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

5.7.6. Water, Roads, and Public Infrastructure Development

Participants consistently emphasized the importance of improving basic infrastructure as a foundation for local development and improved service delivery. Proposed solutions included:

- 1) Rehabilitation and construction of roads,
- 2) Bridge construction,
- 3) Expansion of water systems,
- 4) Installation of water tanks,



- 5) Electricity extension,
- 6) And development of community infrastructure.

Communities explained that improved infrastructure could significantly strengthen mobility, market access, agricultural commercialization, healthcare access, and local economic activities.

In several sectors, participants emphasized that road rehabilitation and improved transportation connectivity would have major positive effects on both livelihoods and service access.

5.7.7. Agriculture and Livelihood Support

Communities also proposed stronger support toward agriculture and livelihood improvement initiatives. Participants recommended:

1. Hand-on agricultural training programs and demo plots establishment
2. Improved access to agricultural inputs,
3. Erosion control initiatives,
4. Irrigation support,
5. And market access improvement strategies.

Participants explained that strengthening agricultural productivity and commercialization could improve household food security, reduce vulnerability, and support income generation for farming households.

Several discussions also highlighted the importance of integrating agriculture with broader livelihood diversification and local economic development initiatives.

5.7.8. Strengthening Community Engagement and Collaboration

Participants repeatedly emphasized the importance of maintaining regular dialogue and collaboration between Trinity Metals, communities, and local authorities. Several participants proposed:

- 1) regular community consultation meetings,
- 2) stronger communication mechanisms,
- 3) participatory development planning,
- 4) and continuous community engagement platforms.

Communities expressed strong interest in collaborative approaches that allow local populations to participate actively in identifying priorities and shaping future development interventions within the concession area.

The assessment further revealed growing community expectations for partnership-based development approaches capable of strengthening trust, accountability, and sustainable local development outcomes.



5.7.9. Community Perspectives

Participants repeatedly expressed optimism that collaborative and well-targeted interventions could significantly improve local living conditions and economic opportunities.

One participant explained: **“Vocational training and entrepreneurship support could help young people create better futures and reduce unemployment.”**

Another participant noted: **“Improved roads, healthcare services, and water access would transform daily life within our communities.”**

Several participants also emphasized the importance of strengthening collaboration between communities and Trinity Metals in implementing priority development initiatives.

5.7.10. Analysis and Interpretation

The findings demonstrate that communities possess strong awareness of both local challenges and practical solutions capable of improving livelihoods and strengthening socio-economic development within the concession area.

The repeated emphasis placed on TVET centers, entrepreneurship support, healthcare services, road rehabilitation, water infrastructure, and youth empowerment initiatives indicates strong community demand for integrated, inclusive, and sustainable development interventions. Communities consistently expressed preference for initiatives that create long-term economic opportunities, improve access to essential services, and strengthen local resilience.

The assessment further suggests that communities favor opportunity-oriented and self-reliance approaches focused on skills development, economic empowerment, infrastructure improvement, local business development, and livelihood diversification rather than short-term assistance mechanisms. This reflects growing community interest in development models capable of generating sustainable income, improving service accessibility, and strengthening local economic participation.

Particular concern was raised regarding limited access to pharmaceutical and specialized healthcare services within nearby health centers. Participants reported that many communities are often required to travel long distances, including to Kigali and other urban centers, to access medicines and medical services that are unavailable locally due to the limited operational capacity of existing health facilities. In this regard, communities highlighted the potential establishment of a pharmacy or community-based medical supply facility as an important intervention opportunity.



GOVERN WELL RWANDA Ltd

TIN: 146473431

Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Umujyi wa Kigali, RWANDA

The findings further indicate strong potential for blended finance and partnership-based development models capable of combining private sector investment, community participation, local entrepreneurship, and institutional support to address priority community needs sustainably. For example, the proposed establishment of a local pharmacy or healthcare supply business could potentially involve investment and technical support from Trinity Metals alongside participation of local entrepreneurs, cooperatives, financial institutions, and relevant authorities. Such an initiative could simultaneously improve healthcare accessibility, reduce transport burdens and associated costs, create local employment opportunities, stimulate entrepreneurship, and strengthen the local economy within the concession area.

Similarly, the strong demand for entrepreneurship support, TVET centers, and youth empowerment initiatives demonstrates opportunities for integrated economic empowerment programs that combine vocational skills development, enterprise incubation, access to finance, mentorship, and market linkage support. Such approaches could contribute significantly to livelihood diversification, reduced unemployment, and strengthened community resilience.

The strong community interest in partnership-based approaches also reflects growing recognition of the importance of collaborative engagement between Trinity Metals, local authorities, community groups, and other stakeholders in promoting sustainable local development. Communities demonstrated willingness to actively participate in initiatives that combine social investment, economic empowerment, service improvement, and local ownership.

Overall, the proposed solutions highlight significant opportunities for future community investment initiatives capable of generating broad socio-economic benefits while strengthening resilience, livelihoods, healthcare accessibility, local entrepreneurship, and overall community wellbeing within the Rutongo Concession Area.

5.7.11. Most Repeated Community-Proposed Solutions

- Establishment of TVET centers and vocational training programs
- Development of Agakiro facilities and entrepreneurship initiatives
- Expansion of healthcare services and community pharmacies
- Improvement of roads, bridges, and transportation infrastructure
- Expansion of water supply systems and electricity access
- Construction and rehabilitation of schools and ECD centers
- Youth empowerment and employment support initiatives
- Agricultural productivity improvement and market access support
- Strengthening community engagement and participatory planning mechanisms.



5.8. PRIORITY RANKING AND CROSS-SECTOR PRIORITIES

5.8.1. Overview of Priority Ranking Findings

The Community Needs Assessment included a participatory prioritization exercise through which participants identified and shared the most important challenges and development priorities affecting their communities. Across all sectors, several priorities consistently reappeared during both homogeneous and mixed-group discussions, demonstrating strong convergence of community concerns and development expectations within the Rutongo Concession Area.

The prioritization process revealed that communities place strong emphasis on interventions capable of improving livelihoods, expanding youth opportunities, strengthening social infrastructure, and improving access to essential services. The repeated priorities identified across sectors further demonstrate the interconnected relationship between unemployment, infrastructure limitations, weak service delivery, and economic vulnerability within surrounding communities.

While certain priorities varied depending on local conditions and sector-specific realities, several major themes emerged consistently throughout the consultation process and can therefore be considered cross-sector development priorities within the concession area.

5.8.2. MOST REPEATED PRIORITIES ACROSS ALL SECTORS

5.8.2.1. Youth Employment and Economic Empowerment

Youth employment emerged as the most repeated and cross-cutting priority across all sectors. Participants consistently emphasized the urgent need for employment opportunities, vocational skills development, entrepreneurship support, and youth empowerment initiatives capable of improving livelihoods and reducing economic vulnerability.

Communities explained that many young people remain unemployed or depend on unstable informal livelihood activities due to limited economic opportunities and weak access to vocational training and financial support systems.

The repeated demand for:

1. TVET centers,
2. entrepreneurship support,
3. youth centers,
4. vocational training programs,



5. and access to low-interest loans demonstrates strong community concern regarding youth economic empowerment and long-term livelihood sustainability.

5.8.2.2. Vocational Training and TVET Centers

The establishment of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) centers emerged as one of the strongest recurring priorities throughout the assessment process. Participants consistently linked vocational training with improved employability, entrepreneurship opportunities, and livelihood diversification.

Communities explained that practical skills training could help reduce dependency on informal mining activities while strengthening youth capacity to engage in productive and sustainable economic activities.

Several sectors specifically prioritized:

1. vocational training facilities,
2. short-course practical skills programs,
3. and technical education opportunities linked to local economic activities and labor market needs.

5.8.2.3. Healthcare Services and Community Pharmacies

Improved healthcare access was another highly prioritized concern raised across multiple sectors. Participants repeatedly highlighted limited access to medicines, healthcare facilities, and medical personnel within surrounding communities.

One of the most repeated healthcare-related priorities was the establishment of community pharmacies and strengthening of local healthcare infrastructure. Communities viewed improved healthcare services as essential for strengthening household wellbeing, productivity, and social resilience.

Participants further emphasized the need for:

1. Health posts,
2. Upgraded health facilities,
3. Improved staffing,
4. And stronger healthcare accessibility within the concession area.



5.8.2.4. Roads, Bridges, and Transportation Infrastructure

Road rehabilitation and transportation infrastructure improvement emerged as major priorities across all sectors. Participants consistently emphasized that poor roads limit:

1. market access,
2. mobility,
3. healthcare access,
4. school accessibility,
5. and local economic development opportunities.

Several communities specifically prioritized:

- a) rehabilitation of feeder roads,
- b) bridge construction,
- c) and improved transportation connectivity as critical interventions capable of improving both livelihoods and service delivery.

The repeated prioritization of roads demonstrates the central role of infrastructure in supporting local economic resilience and community wellbeing.

5.8.2.5. Water Access and Basic Infrastructure

Communities also consistently prioritized improved access to clean and reliable water systems. Participants explained that water shortages and inadequate water infrastructure continue to affect household wellbeing, sanitation, agricultural activities, and daily productivity.

Several sectors emphasized the need for:

1. Water tanks,
2. Expanded water pipelines,
3. Improved water systems,
4. And rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure.

Participants further linked water access challenges with broader development concerns related to health, livelihoods, and living conditions.

5.8.2.6. Education Infrastructure and ECD Centers

Education-related priorities emerged strongly across several sectors, particularly regarding:

1. Construction of schools,
2. Expansion of ECD centers replace home-based ECDs not fulfils the equirements,
3. Classroom rehabilitation,
4. And scholarship support initiatives.



Communities emphasized the importance of improving educational access and learning environments while also strengthening practical and vocational education opportunities for young people.

Participants further highlighted concerns regarding school dropout and long distances to schools, particularly in remote areas with weak infrastructure systems.

5.8.2.7. Entrepreneurship and Agakiro Development

The establishment of Agakiro facilities and stronger entrepreneurship support mechanisms also emerged as important recurring priorities across multiple sectors. Communities repeatedly emphasized the importance of creating local economic infrastructure capable of supporting:

1. Small businesses,
2. Vocational production activities,
3. Artisan workspaces,
4. And income-generating initiatives.

Participants viewed entrepreneurship development as an important pathway toward employment creation, economic diversification, and stronger household resilience.

5.8.3. CONSOLIDATED COMMUNITY PRIORITY RANKING

The table below presents the most frequently repeated priorities identified across Focus Group Discussions conducted in the four sectors surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area. The ranking is based on the frequency with which issues were raised during participatory prioritization exercises and community discussions.

Rank	Priority Need	Frequency of Mention Across FGDs	Priority Level
1	Youth employment and economic empowerment	8 FGDs	Very High
2	TVET and vocational training centers	7 FGDs	Very High
3	Healthcare services and community pharmacies	6 FGDs	High
4	Entrepreneurship and Agakiro development	5 FGDs	High
5	ECD centers and school infrastructure	4 FGDs	Moderate-High
6	Water access and infrastructure	4 FGDs	Moderate-High
7	Roads and transportation infrastructure	4 FGDs	Moderate-High
8	Electricity access	3 FGDs	Moderate



The prioritization findings demonstrate strong convergence of community concerns across sectors, particularly regarding youth livelihoods, vocational skills development, healthcare access, and local economic empowerment opportunities. The repeated appearance of these priorities across discussions further strengthens the credibility of findings and provides evidence-based guidance for future community investment planning and stakeholder engagement initiatives.

5.8.4. SECTOR-SPECIFIC PRIORITY VARIATIONS

Although several priorities were common across all sectors, some sector-specific variations were also observed during the prioritization process.

Sector	Key Priority Areas Identified by Communities
Murambi & Cyinzuzi	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TVET centers and vocational skills development 2. Establishment of pharmacies and improved healthcare access 3. Youth employment opportunities 4. Improvement of education infrastructure
Masoro	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Road rehabilitation and improved transport infrastructure 2. Development of Agakiro and local business facilities 3. Expansion of ECD centers 4. Entrepreneurship support initiatives
Ntarabana	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved water access and supply infrastructure 2. Electricity expansion and connectivity 3. Establishment of youth centers 4. Bridge construction and transport connectivity 5. Youth financial empowerment initiatives

These differences reflect variations in local infrastructure conditions, livelihood systems, and sector-specific development realities within the concession area.

5.8.5. COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Participants repeatedly emphasized that the identified priorities reflect urgent development needs affecting daily livelihoods and long-term community wellbeing.

One participant explained: **“Youth need practical opportunities, not only temporary jobs, so they can improve their future livelihoods.”**

Another participant noted: **“Roads, healthcare services, and vocational training are among the most important needs affecting our communities.”**



Several participants also emphasized that addressing these priorities could significantly improve economic opportunities, social wellbeing, and local development outcomes within surrounding communities.

5.8.6. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The prioritization findings demonstrate strong convergence of community concerns across the four sectors surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area. The repeated emphasis on youth employment, vocational training, healthcare access, infrastructure development, entrepreneurship support, and water systems indicates that communities perceive these interventions as essential foundations for sustainable local development.

The findings further suggest that communities prioritize long-term, opportunity-oriented investments capable of generating lasting socio-economic benefits rather than short-term assistance interventions.

The strong demand for TVET centers, entrepreneurship support, Agakiro facilities, and youth-focused economic initiatives reflects growing recognition that skills development and livelihood diversification are critical for reducing economic vulnerability and dependency on unstable livelihood activities.

Similarly, the repeated prioritization of roads, water systems, healthcare services, and educational infrastructure demonstrates the important relationship between social infrastructure and broader socio-economic resilience within mining host communities.

Overall, the priority ranking exercise provides important evidence-based guidance for future community investment planning, stakeholder engagement, and development interventions within the concession area.

MOST REPEATED CROSS-SECTOR PRIORITIES

- Youth employment and economic empowerment
- Establishment of TVET and vocational training centers
- Expansion of healthcare services and community pharmacies
- Improvement of roads, bridges, and transportation infrastructure
- Improved water access and water infrastructure systems
- Construction and expansion of schools and ECD centers
- Entrepreneurship support and Agakiro development
- Youth-focused financial support and livelihood initiatives
- Strengthening local infrastructure and service delivery systems



GOVERN WELL RWANDA Ltd

TIN: 146473431

Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Umujyi wa Kigali, RWANDA

5.9. COMPARATIVE SECTOR ANALYSIS

5.9.1. Overview

The comparative analysis highlights both the shared and sector-specific development challenges affecting communities surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area. While several priorities consistently emerged across all sectors, the assessment also revealed important differences in the severity, nature, and concentration of challenges depending on local socio-economic conditions, infrastructure availability, proximity to mining activities, and livelihood systems.

The analysis demonstrates that communities across the four sectors face interconnected challenges related to youth unemployment, weak infrastructure, limited access to services, and economic vulnerability. However, each sector also presented unique development concerns and opportunities that require context-specific consideration within future community investment and development planning initiatives.

The comparative findings further indicate that although infrastructure and livelihood challenges are widespread, communities possess strong awareness of local priorities and significant willingness to engage in collaborative development processes involving Trinity Metals and other stakeholders.

5.9.2. Comparative Overview of Major Sector Challenges

Sector	Major Challenges Identified	Severity Level	Strategic Intervention Areas
Murambi	Limited healthcare services, lack of pharmacies, youth unemployment, limited vocational training opportunities, inadequate education infrastructure	High	TVET development, healthcare support, youth employment initiatives
Masoro	Poor road infrastructure, limited entrepreneurship support, inadequate ECD facilities, weak market connectivity	Very High	Agakiro development, road rehabilitation, local enterprise promotion
Cyinzuzi	Youth unemployment, informal mining concerns, electricity limitations, limited employment opportunities	High	Youth empowerment, TVET centers, entrepreneurship development
Ntarabana	Water shortages, poor roads, limited electricity access, weak youth financial empowerment opportunities	Very High	Water infrastructure, electricity expansion, youth financing initiatives

5.9.3. Similarities Across Sectors



The assessment revealed several common challenges consistently affecting all four sectors. Youth unemployment emerged as the strongest recurring concern throughout both homogeneous and mixed-group discussions.

Communities across all sectors repeatedly emphasized the need for employment opportunities, vocational training, entrepreneurship support, and practical livelihood initiatives targeting young people.

Weak infrastructure and limited access to essential services also emerged as major shared concerns. Participants across all sectors highlighted challenges related to poor roads, inadequate healthcare services, limited educational infrastructure, weak water systems, and insufficient economic infrastructure.

Another strong similarity involved the repeated demand for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) centers and practical skills development opportunities. Communities consistently linked vocational skills development with improved employability, reduced economic vulnerability, and stronger local economic resilience.

Communities across all sectors also demonstrated strong interest in partnership-based development approaches involving Trinity Metals, local authorities, and local stakeholders. Participants repeatedly emphasized the importance of inclusive engagement, dialogue, and long-term investment in community development initiatives.

5.9.4. Sector-Specific Differences

Although several challenges were shared across all sectors, important differences emerged regarding the severity and prioritization of development concerns.

Murambi communities placed particularly strong emphasis on healthcare services, pharmacies, vocational training facilities, and education infrastructure. Discussions within this sector frequently highlighted limited healthcare accessibility and the need for stronger youth-focused skills development initiatives.

Masoro communities strongly prioritized road rehabilitation, entrepreneurship support, Agakiro development, and ECD center expansion. The strong emphasis on roads reflected concerns regarding market connectivity, mobility, and local economic access. Communities also demonstrated significant interest in local enterprise development and income diversification opportunities.

Cyinzuzi communities frequently emphasized youth unemployment, limited employment opportunities, electricity access, and concerns regarding informal mining activities. Discussions in this sector demonstrated



particularly strong concern regarding youth economic vulnerability and the need for alternative livelihood opportunities.

Ntarabana communities strongly prioritized water access, electricity expansion, roads, bridge construction, and youth financial empowerment initiatives. Water shortages and weak infrastructure emerged as particularly severe concerns affecting livelihoods and daily wellbeing within this sector.

These differences reflect variations in local infrastructure conditions, economic opportunities, environmental conditions, settlement patterns, and proximity to mining activities across the concession area.

5.9.5. Underlying Causes of Community Challenges

The assessment findings suggest that many of the identified challenges are interconnected and rooted in broader structural development constraints affecting rural communities surrounding the concession area.

Limited infrastructure investment, weak service delivery systems, and inadequate economic diversification contribute significantly to persistent livelihood vulnerability and limited access to opportunities. Poor road infrastructure and weak transportation connectivity further constrain market access, healthcare accessibility, educational opportunities, and local economic growth.

The assessment also indicates that heavy dependence on mining and subsistence agriculture limits livelihood resilience, particularly among youth populations facing limited employment alternatives. Inadequate vocational training opportunities, weak entrepreneurship support systems, and limited access to financial services further contribute to unemployment and economic vulnerability.

Environmental challenges, including erosion and water access limitations, also continue to affect agricultural productivity and household livelihoods within several sectors. These factors collectively reinforce socio-economic vulnerability and limit long-term development opportunities within surrounding communities.

5.9.6. Strategic Interpretation and Development Implications

The comparative analysis demonstrates that future development interventions within the Rutongo Concession Area will require both cross-sector and sector-specific approaches. Certain priorities particularly youth employment, vocational training, healthcare access, infrastructure improvement, and entrepreneurship support—emerged consistently across all sectors and therefore represent important cross-cutting investment areas.



GOVERN WELL RWANDA Ltd

TIN: 146473431

Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Umujyi wa Kigali, RWANDA

At the same time, sector-specific realities suggest the need for targeted interventions capable of responding to localized challenges such as water shortages, transportation constraints, healthcare access limitations, and weak economic infrastructure.

The findings further suggest strong opportunities for integrated community investment approaches linking:

1. Youth empowerment,
2. Vocational training,
3. Entrepreneurship development,
4. Infrastructure improvement,
5. And service delivery enhancement.

The repeated emphasis placed on partnership, participation, and community engagement also demonstrates the importance of maintaining collaborative development planning processes involving Trinity Metals, local authorities, and host communities.

Overall, the comparative analysis highlights the importance of balanced, inclusive, and evidence-based development interventions capable of strengthening livelihoods, reducing vulnerability, and promoting sustainable local development across the concession area.

5.10. ADDITIONAL FIELD OBSERVATIONS

5.10.1. Overview of Field Observations

In addition to the formal discussions and prioritization exercises, the assessment process generated several important field observations regarding community participation, engagement dynamics, stakeholder interactions, and broader social patterns within the concession area communities. These observations provided additional contextual understanding of local realities and helped strengthen interpretation of the assessment findings.

Across all sectors, participants demonstrated strong interest in the consultation process and actively engaged in discussions regarding community challenges, development priorities, and potential solutions. Many participants expressed appreciation for being given an opportunity to openly share their experiences, concerns, and expectations regarding local development and engagement with Trinity Metals.

The field observations further revealed strong community expectations for continued dialogue, participatory engagement, and collaborative development planning involving Trinity Metals, local authorities, and local communities.



5.10.2. Community Participation and Engagement Dynamics

The consultation sessions generally recorded high levels of participation and engagement across both homogeneous and mixed stakeholder groups. Participants actively contributed during plenary discussions, prioritization exercises, and community reflection sessions.

Homogeneous group discussions involving women and youth were particularly effective in encouraging open expression of concerns and lived experiences. Participants within these groups appeared more comfortable discussing sensitive issues related to unemployment, livelihoods, household vulnerability, social challenges, and access to opportunities.

Women participants demonstrated strong engagement during discussions and actively contributed perspectives related to:

1. Household wellbeing,
2. Water access,
3. Healthcare services,
4. Education,
5. Livelihoods,
6. And youth challenges.

Youth participants also showed strong interest in discussions related to employment opportunities, vocational training, entrepreneurship, and economic empowerment initiatives.

Within mixed stakeholder discussions, local leaders and institutional representatives often contributed broader perspectives regarding infrastructure development, service delivery, governance issues, and local economic conditions. These discussions helped provide institutional context and strengthened triangulation of findings across different stakeholder categories.

5.10.3. Recurring Patterns Observed Across Sectors

Several recurring patterns emerged consistently throughout the assessment process across all four sectors. One of the strongest recurring observations was the widespread concern regarding youth unemployment and limited livelihood opportunities. Discussions across almost all groups repeatedly returned to issues related to economic vulnerability, lack of practical skills, and limited employment opportunities for young people.

Another important recurring pattern involved strong community demand for practical and long-term development interventions rather than short-term assistance approaches. Participants consistently emphasized the need for sustainable solutions focused on:

1. Skills development,



2. Infrastructure improvement,
3. Entrepreneurship,
4. Healthcare access,
5. And livelihood diversification.

The assessment also revealed strong community awareness of local development priorities and significant willingness among participants to engage constructively in identifying potential solutions and opportunities for future development collaboration.

Across all sectors, communities demonstrated strong interest in partnership-based approaches involving Trinity Metals, local authorities, and communities themselves in addressing local development challenges.

5.10.4. Community Expectations and Perceptions

Field observations indicated that communities generally perceive Trinity Metals as an important economic actor within the concession area and recognize the company's contribution to employment and local economic activities. At the same time, participants expressed growing expectations regarding the company's potential role in supporting broader community development initiatives and improving local living conditions.

Participants frequently linked Trinity Metals with expectations related to:

1. Youth employment,
2. Vocational training,
3. Healthcare services,
4. Infrastructure development,
5. Education support,
6. And local economic empowerment initiatives.

Several discussions also reflected strong interest in strengthening communication and engagement mechanisms between communities and the company. Participants expressed appreciation for the consultation process and emphasized the importance of maintaining regular community dialogue platforms capable of strengthening transparency, trust, and collaboration.

5.10.5. Gender and Youth Participation Observations

The assessment process revealed strong participation from women and youth across all sectors. Women participants actively engaged in discussions and frequently highlighted concerns related to household livelihoods, social services, education, healthcare access, and water infrastructure.

Youth participants consistently emphasized employment opportunities, vocational training, entrepreneurship, and economic empowerment as critical priorities affecting their future wellbeing and socio-economic stability.



The use of homogeneous discussion groups significantly contributed to creating safe spaces for participation and helped encourage more open and detailed discussions among women and youth participants. This approach strengthened the inclusiveness and depth of information generated during the assessment process.

Field observations further suggested that young people demonstrate strong willingness to engage in productive livelihood activities and skills development opportunities when adequate support systems and opportunities are available.

5.10.6. Facilitation and Consultation Process Observations

The participatory consultation methodology proved effective in generating open discussions and identifying recurring community priorities across sectors. The prioritization exercise allowed participants to independently identify and share key concerns without excessive influence from group dynamics or dominant participants.

The repeated appearance of similar priorities across different participants and sectors strengthened the credibility and consistency of findings generated during the assessment process.

The consultation sessions also demonstrated the value of combining homogeneous and mixed stakeholder discussions in order to capture both community-level lived experiences and broader institutional perspectives regarding local development conditions and priorities.

Overall, the field process demonstrated strong community willingness to participate in inclusive dialogue processes and contribute actively toward identifying solutions for sustainable local development within the Rutongo Concession Area.



6. CONCLUSION

The Community Needs Assessment conducted across the four sectors surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area provided important insights into the socio-economic conditions, development priorities, and community expectations affecting local populations within the concession area. The assessment revealed that while mining activities continue to provide important employment and economic opportunities, many communities remain affected by significant challenges related to unemployment, weak infrastructure, limited access to basic services, low livelihood diversification, and economic vulnerability.

Across all sectors, youth unemployment emerged as one of the most urgent and consistently repeated concerns. Communities repeatedly emphasized the need for vocational skills development, entrepreneurship support, and sustainable livelihood opportunities capable of improving economic resilience and reducing dependence on unstable income-generating activities. The strong demand for TVET centers, youth empowerment initiatives, and local economic development opportunities reflects growing community recognition of the importance of practical skills and diversified livelihoods for long-term socio-economic stability.

The assessment further demonstrated that limited access to healthcare services, pharmacies, clean water, roads, educational infrastructure, and electricity continues to affect household wellbeing and local development opportunities. Poor infrastructure and weak service delivery systems negatively impact mobility, market access, healthcare accessibility, agricultural productivity, and overall quality of life within surrounding communities.

At the same time, the findings revealed strong community willingness to engage in constructive dialogue and collaborative development processes involving Trinity Metals, local authorities, and other stakeholders. Communities demonstrated clear awareness of local priorities and repeatedly proposed practical solutions focused on infrastructure improvement, youth empowerment, entrepreneurship development, healthcare access, and livelihood strengthening.

The assessment findings therefore highlight the importance of integrated and evidence-based interventions capable of addressing both immediate service delivery needs and long-term socio-economic development challenges within the concession area. Future investments focused on youth employment, vocational training, healthcare services, infrastructure development, entrepreneurship support, and community engagement could significantly contribute to improved livelihoods, stronger social resilience, and sustainable local development outcomes.



Overall, the assessment demonstrates that strengthening collaboration between Trinity Metals, local authorities, development partners, and host communities will be essential for promoting inclusive, participatory, and sustainable development within the Rutongo Concession Area. Continuous dialogue, community participation, and strategic investment in priority sectors will play an important role in strengthening trust, improving local wellbeing, and supporting long-term positive relationships between mining operations and surrounding communities.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1. Strategic Recommendations Overview

The recommendations presented below are based on the findings, community priorities, comparative analysis, and stakeholder consultations conducted across the four sectors surrounding the Rutongo Concession Area. The recommendations aim to support evidence-based community investment planning, strengthen livelihoods, improve service delivery, and promote sustainable local development through collaborative engagement between Trinity Metals, local authorities, and other stakeholders.

7.2. Youth Employment and Skills Development

The assessment identified youth unemployment as one of the most critical challenges affecting communities across all sectors. To address this challenge, there is a need to strengthen youth-focused livelihood opportunities and practical skills development initiatives.

Recommended interventions include:

1. Supporting establishment of TVET and vocational training centers;
2. Developing short-course practical skills training programs;
3. Promoting youth entrepreneurship and innovation initiatives;
4. Supporting youth access to startup capital and low-interest financing mechanisms;
5. Strengthening partnerships with technical training institutions and local enterprises.

7.3. Healthcare and Social Services

Communities consistently highlighted limited healthcare access and shortages of pharmacies and local health services. Strengthening healthcare accessibility should therefore remain an important community investment priority.

Recommended interventions include:

1. Supporting establishment of community pharmacies;



2. Strengthening health posts and healthcare infrastructure;
3. Supporting healthcare staffing and medical outreach initiatives;
4. Facilitating partnerships between health facilities and community stakeholders;
5. Promoting community health awareness initiatives.

7.4. Infrastructure Development

Poor infrastructure continues to affect livelihoods, mobility, market access, education, and healthcare accessibility within surrounding communities.

Recommended interventions include:

1. Rehabilitation of feeder roads and bridges;
2. Expansion of water supply systems and storage infrastructure;
3. Support for electricity access expansion;
4. Improvement of transportation connectivity;
5. Development of community infrastructure and public service facilities.

7.5. Entrepreneurship and Local Economic Development

The findings demonstrated strong demand for entrepreneurship support and local economic empowerment initiatives, particularly among women and youth.

Recommended interventions include:

1. Supporting establishment of Agakiro facilities;
2. Promoting local enterprise development initiatives;
3. Facilitating access to entrepreneurship training and business incubation;
4. Supporting women and youth cooperatives;
5. Strengthening local market access opportunities.

7.6. Agriculture and Livelihood Support

Agriculture remains an important livelihood source within the concession area but continues to face major productivity and market challenges.

Recommended interventions include:

1. Supporting agricultural extension and farmer training programs;
2. Improving access to agricultural inputs and irrigation support;
3. Promoting erosion control and environmental protection initiatives;
4. Strengthening agricultural market access and value addition opportunities;
5. Supporting climate-resilient farming practices.



7.7. Community Engagement and Partnership Strengthening

The assessment revealed strong community interest in continued dialogue and participatory development planning.

Recommended interventions include:

1. Establishing regular community consultation platforms;
2. Strengthening participatory planning and feedback mechanisms;
3. Supporting transparent communication between stakeholders;
4. Promoting community participation in development initiatives;
5. Strengthening collaboration between Trinity Metals, local authorities, and communities.

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION MATRIX

Key Challenge	Recommended Intervention	Potential Stakeholders
Youth unemployment	Establish TVET and entrepreneurship programs	Trinity Metals, District, TVET institutions
Weak healthcare access	Support pharmacies and health facilities	Trinity Metals, Health Centers
Poor roads and infrastructure	Rehabilitate roads and bridges	District, Trinity Metals
Limited water access	Expand water infrastructure systems	WASAC, District, Trinity Metals
Weak local entrepreneurship	Support Agakiriro and business development	Trinity Metals, PSF, Cooperatives
Low agricultural productivity	Strengthen agricultural support systems and demo plots farm for local learning	MINAGRI, District, Farmers, Trinity Metals

8. ANNEXES

The annex section contains supporting materials, field documentation, consultation tools, and additional evidence used during the Community Needs Assessment conducted across the Rutongo Concession Area. These annexes provide supplementary information that supports the methodology, findings, analysis, and stakeholder engagement processes described throughout this report.

Annex 1: Community Consultation Attendance Lists

Annex 2: Focus Group Discussion (FGD) Guide A

Annex 3: Assessment template of sectors

Annex 4: Field Photographs and Consultation Documentation

Annex 5: Assessment Roll-Out Schedule and Field Implementation Plan

Annex 6: Community Priority Ranking Sheets

Annex 7: Facilitator Notes and Additional Field Observations

Annex 8: Signed consent form of participants



GOVERN WELL RWANDA Ltd

TIN: 146473431

Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Umujyi wa Kigali, RWANDA

References

1. [Trinity Metals Limited Official Website](#) – Company profile, operational overview, sustainability commitments, and mining operations in Rwanda.
2. [Rutongo Mines – Trinity Metals Limited](#) – Information on the Rutongo Concession Area, mine history, production capacity, workforce, and operational overview.
3. [Trinity Metals Projects](#) – Overview of Trinity Metals mining projects including Rutongo, Nyakabingo, and Musha mines.
4. [Rwanda Mines, Petroleum and Gas Board \(RMB\)](#) – National mining governance information and responsible mining practices in Rwanda.
5. [CEO Francis Leads a Tour of Rutongo Mines – RMB](#) – Information regarding Rutongo Mines operations, sustainability initiatives, and community development activities.
6. [National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda \(NISR\)](#) – Socio-economic and demographic information relevant to Rwanda’s rural development context.
7. [Ministry of Local Government \(MINALOC\)](#) – National policy and governance frameworks related to local development and community engagement.
8. [Ministry of Infrastructure \(MININFRA\)](#) – National infrastructure development frameworks related to roads, water, and electricity access.
9. [Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources \(MINAGRI\)](#) – Agricultural development frameworks and livelihood support strategies relevant to rural farming communities.
10. [International Finance Corporation \(IFC\) – Stakeholder Engagement Guidance Notes](#) – Guidance on stakeholder engagement, social performance, and community consultation practices within extractive industries.
11. [African Development Bank Group \(AfDB\)](#) – Community development and inclusive infrastructure investment approaches relevant to local economic transformation.
12. Community Needs Assessment Focus Group Discussion (FGD) templates, filled assessment forms, prioritization sheets, facilitator notes, and field observations collected from Masoro, Murambi, Cyinzuzi, and Ntarabana sectors during the assessment process, 2026.



GOVERN WELL RWANDA Ltd

TIN: 146473431

Kanyinya, Nyarugenge, Umujyi wa Kigali, RWANDA

13. Stakeholder consultation discussions involving community members, women representatives, youth groups, local authorities, community health workers, teachers, religious representatives, business owners, farmers, health center representatives, and other local stakeholders conducted within the Rutongo Concession Area, 2026.