RDB | RWANDA DEVELOPMENT BOARD

WIPO Regional Training Workshop on Automation Status Reporting and Prerequisites for Online Tools Deployment

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Outline

- About Rwanda
- Overview of Rwanda Development Board
- Office of The Registrar General
- IP office division
- IT operations division
- Current application systems
- IP administration systems and level of automation
- Electronic registry , Document management and Online services delivered by the IP Office
- Challenges
- Conclusion

About Rwanda

- Rwanda is a landlocked country located in East Africa
- Capital city is Kigali
- Total area of 26 338km^2
- Around 13.000.000 of population
- Kinyarwanda, English, French and Swahili are the common language

Overview of Rwanda Development Board

- Established in 2009
- RDB Has a mission of Fast tracking economic development in Rwanda by enabling private sector growth.
- Has 4 different sectors:
  - Investment
  - Export
  - Tourism
  - Office of the Registrar General
  - Capacity development

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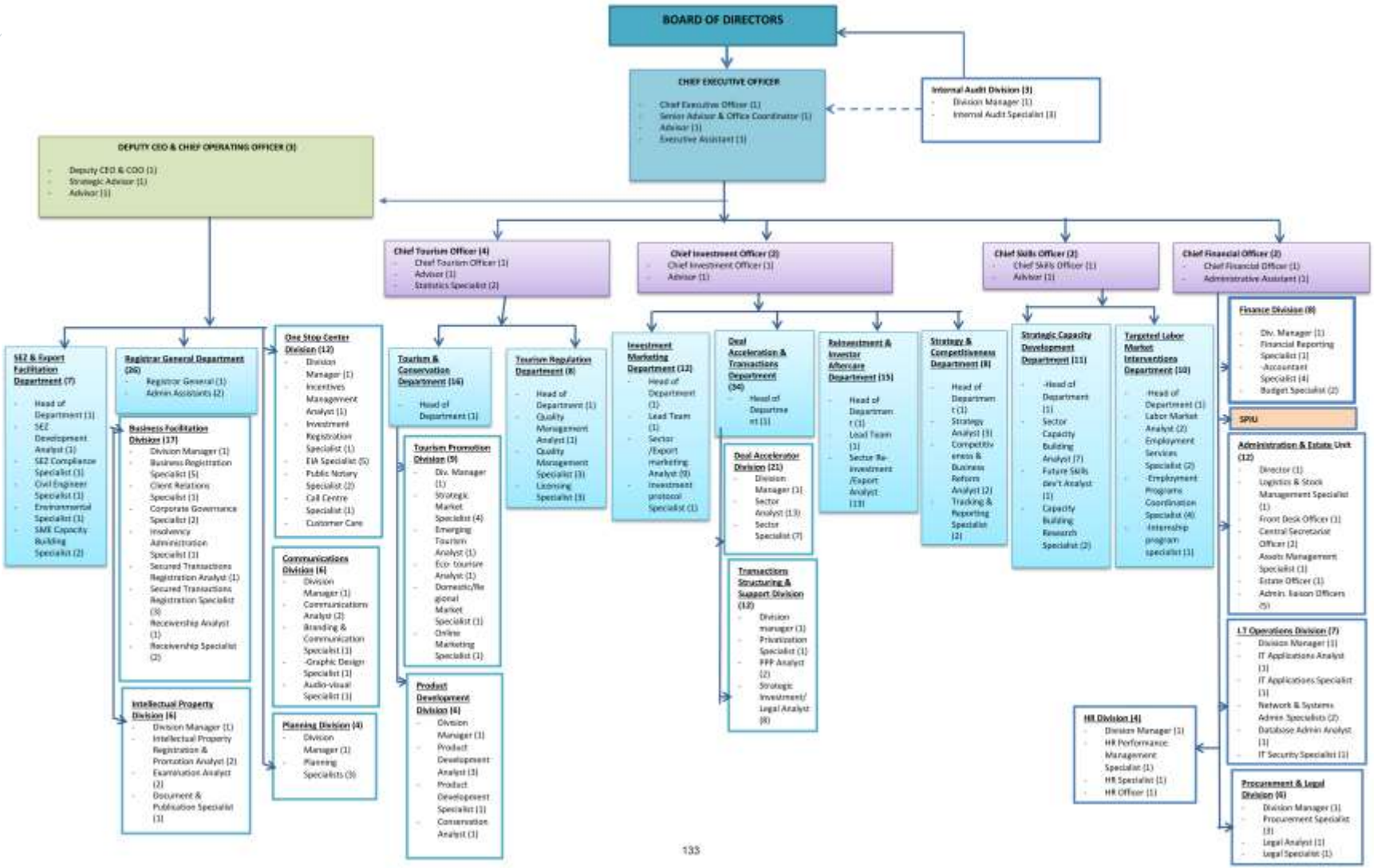
Organization structure



Office of The registrar general

- Has the responsibility to initiate, implement and follow up the activities relating to registering and striking from the register; businesses, secured transactions and intellectual property rights.
- Provide the following services
  - Registration & Deregistration of Companies and Individual enterprises
  - Issuing certificates of non-bankruptcy to traders and companies
  - Registration, administration and transferring security interests on movable and immovable property
  - Registration and protection of intellectual property rights
- Has 2 division:
  - Business facilitation division
  - Intellectual Property Division

Intellectual Property division

- Has 6 employees
- Division manager (1)
- Intellectual property registration and promotion analysts (2)
- Examination Analysts (2)
- Document and publication Specialist
- Interns

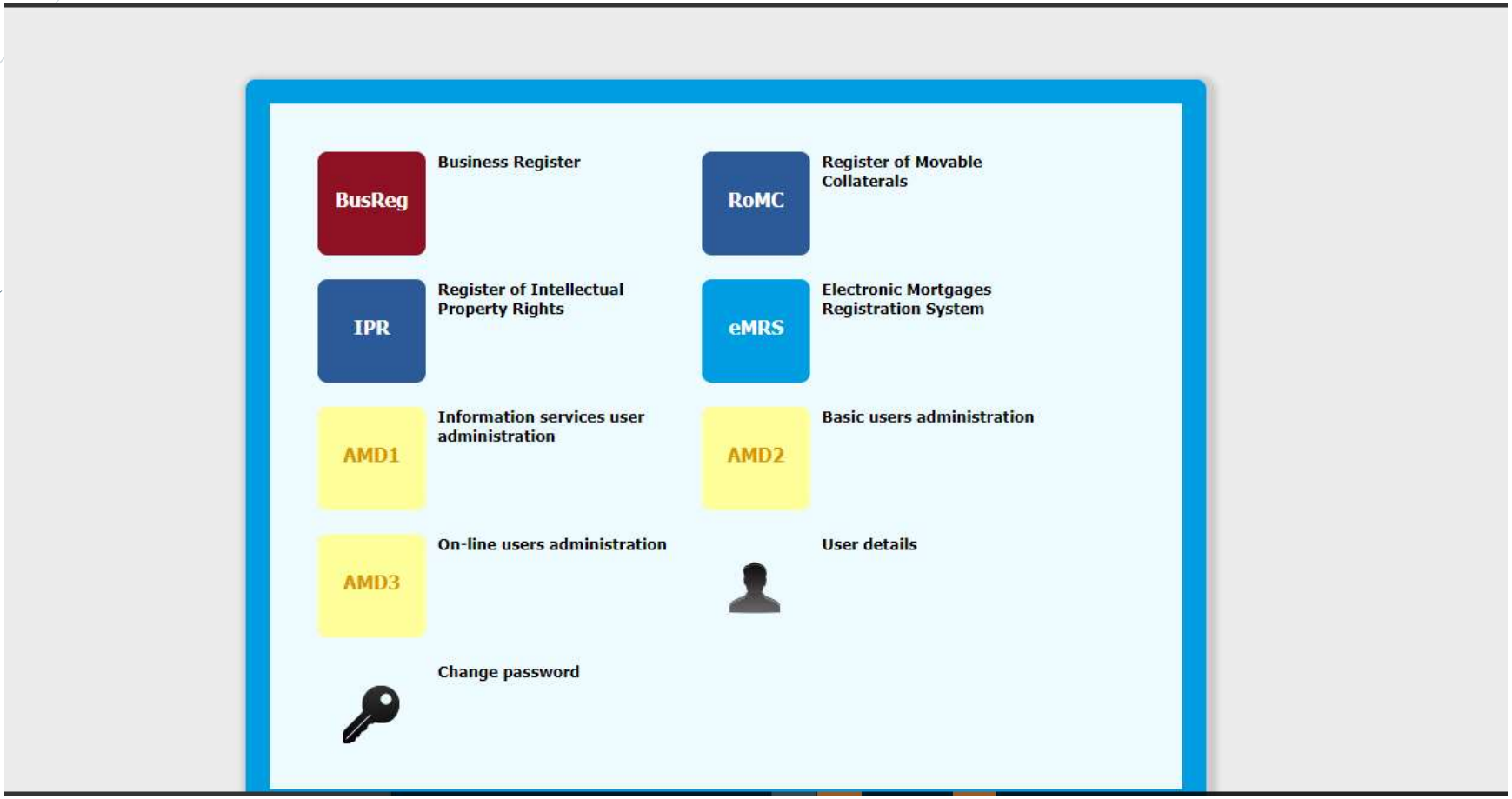
IT operations Division

- Division manager (1)
- IT Application analyst (1)
- IT Application Specialist (1)
- Database admin (1)
- IT security (1)
- Network admin (2)

Current application systems and websites

- Online Business Registration System
- Mortgage registration system
- IPAS
- Investment registration system
- Environmental Impact assessment
- Tourism regulation system
- rdb.rw
- Visitrwanda.com
- Kwitizina.rw
- Org.rdb.rw

Current application system



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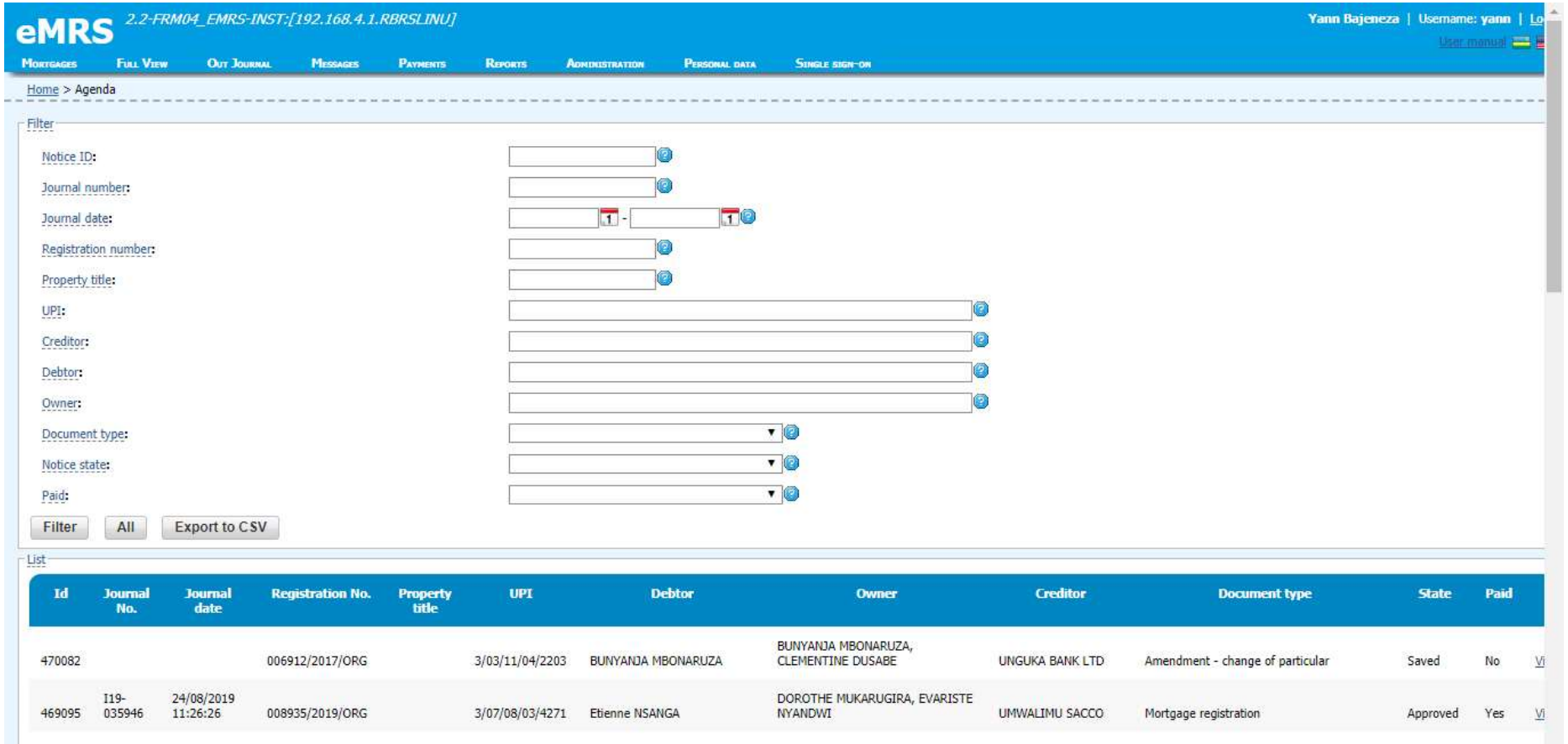
Mortgage registration system



Business registration system

IT infrastructure of IPAS system

- IPAS and related systems are stored on one server at the government's data center AOS

  Cloud based sever:
  Disk space: 1000GB
  Ram: 20GB
  Operating system: windows 64bit
  Windows Edition : windows server 2008 R2 enterprise

- 2 tests environment of IPAS are present, one on the data center and the other one within RDB

IP administration systems and level of automation

- Administrated by the IT operations division
- Software that are being used are:
  - IPAS 3.4.0a
  - Madrid 3.4.0a
  - MS-module 3.4
  - Wiposcan 250
- Services that are provided:
  - Trademark, Patents, Industrial design, Copyright, Utility models

Electronic registry , Document management and Online services delivered by the IP Office

- Received and processed 1182 applications for the year 2018
  - 900 new trademark
  - 96 utility models
  - 12 Industrial designs
  - 52 TM renewal
  - 43 pre application searches
  - 20 TM license
  - 4 Patents
- WIPOSCAN 250 is being used for archiving
- Publication is the only online service provided by the IP office

Challenges

- System administration and maintenance

  6 different systems + 4 different websites, all being managed by a single staff
- System errors
- Insufficient knowledge of IPAS administration
- Lack of Help desk
- Poor management

Future plan

- WIPOFILE to be Launched this year
- Integration with ROL (Rwanda Online) Payment system by this year
- Single window registry for all systems

Conclusion

- RDB systems and websites needs to be maintained by at least 3 people
- A full training of IPAS system is required for the system administrator
- I recommend that the Office of the Registrar General can be a stand alone institution as RDB has so many responsibilities that has a very important impact on the economy of our country.

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Thank you !