

## Rwanda Legal Framework Analysis: Key Highlights

This one-pager aims to provide a brief overview of the most notable features of Rwanda's national cooperative legal framework, based on the work of national legal experts and ICA member input.

In Rwanda, the Law N° 50/2007 of 18/09/2007 (Law N° 50, 2007) was enacted to provide for the establishment, organization and functioning of cooperative organizations. Besides, in 2013, the Law n° 48/2013 of 28/06/2013 (Law N° 48, 2013) was enacted to establish the Rwanda Cooperative Agency (RCA) and determine its mission, organization and functions.

In addition, there are instructions of 2018 regulating interventions of stakeholders/partners in the development of the cooperative sector, and those of 2013 prescribing the code of conduct for members of governing organs of cooperatives and their senior executives

**Main regulations:** This table displays a selection of cooperative regulations identified by experts and ICA members. For the full analysis including all relevant regulations, see the full report.

Regulation	Brief Description
Law N° 50/2007 of 18/09/2007 (Law N° 50, 2007) determining the establishment, organization and functioning of cooperative organizations	This was a revisit of the Law N° 31/1988 of 12/10/1988 determining the organization of cooperative organizations in Rwanda

**Cooperative Friendliness:** From the view of ICA contributing member organizations, The Government of Rwanda has put in place a conducive environment for the development of the cooperative movement in recognition of its contribution to the attainment of national development goals for economic and social transformation. The institutional framework for the cooperative movement in Rwanda is designed to enable cooperatives to operate efficiently, effectively and sustainably.

Both the National Policy on Cooperatives of 2018 and the Law N° 50, 2007 on cooperatives recognize cooperatives in line with the cooperative values and principles as proclaimed by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA)

**Key recommendations for improvement:** There is a need to strengthen the current coordination system to avoid duplication of cooperatives, the oversight bodies should embark on addressing management and corruption challenges which undermine the development of cooperatives.

**Conclusions:** cooperatives in Rwanda operate according to the law guided by the cooperative values and principles. Since 2005 the Government has been taking measures to revamp the state of cooperatives.

