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| <b>Country/entity</b>           | Burundi  |
| <b>Region</b>                   | Africa (excl MENA)   |
| <b>Agreement name</b>           | Social contract between farmers and pastoralists in the commune Rugombo, Cibitoke province, Burundi  |
| <b>Date</b>                     | 23 Mar 2006  |
| <b>Agreement status</b>         | Multiparty signed/agreed   |
| <b>Interim arrangement</b>      | Yes  |
| <b>Agreement/conflict level</b> | Intrastate/local conflict  |
| <b>Stage</b>                    | Framework/substantive - partial  |
| <b>Conflict nature</b>          | Inter-group  |
| <b>Peace process</b>            | Burundi: Local Process   |
| <b>Parties</b>                  | This contract, although signed by the members of monitoring committee, was adopted by sixty thirteen men and women representing farmers and ranchers. They came from all the hills of the Commune RUGOMBO. |
| <b>Third parties</b>            | These meetings have been supported by the presence of representatives of the Administration, Justice and the D. P. A. E. and were held in CIBITOKÉ of 22 to 23 March 2006                                  |
| <b>Description</b>              | In this agreement, the pastoralists and the farmers in the commune of Rugombo set out rules for peaceful coexistence   |

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**Agreement document** [BI\\_040323\\_Social contract between farmers and pastoralists in the commune Rugombo, Cibitoke province.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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### Local agreement properties

**Process type** Formal structured process

**Rationale** The agreement is one of multiple 'social contracts' resulting from community dialogue and negotiation processes facilitated by the Agency for Co-operation and Research in Development (ACORD) and partner organisations in Rango, Rugombo, Kamenge and Buhiga communes in Burundi.

**Is there a documented link to a national peace process?**

No

**Link to national process: articulated rationale** This agreement deals with local issues. Neither the agreement text nor limited background research suggests a link to the national-level peace process.

**Name of Locale** Rugombo commune, Cibitoke province

**Nature of Locale** Region

**GPS Lat/Long (DD)** -2.816393, 29.079704

**Participant type** Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations  
Regional state actor

**Mediator, facilitator or similar** Mediator or similar referred to

**Mediator (references)** Facilitator: Agency for Co-operation and Research in Development (ACORD) Supporter: Representatives of the Administration, Justice and the Direction provinciale de l'Agriculture et de l'Elevage [Provincial Directorate of Agriculture and Livestock] (D. P. A. E.)

**Type of mediator/facilitator/similar** Regional state actor Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations

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## Local issues

**Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture)** No specific mention.

**Grievance List** Page 1, For several years there has been such an entrenched disagreement between farmers and pastoralists in the commune of RUGOMBO, in the Province CIBITOKÉ, that in certain places the two parties do not even greet each other. Offences such as the slaughter of cows and the murder of shepherds have already been registered, highlighting difficult cohabitation between the two groups.

After several exchanges with each other, the participants in the workshop have come to the conclusion that these attitudes derive from the following causes:

- the laxity of the cow herders;
- the plethora of herds;
- the shortage of pastures available for the grazing of cows;
- the notorious impunity benefiting herders responsible for damage;
- the nuisance attached to the attitudes of contempt shown by herders;
- the vagrancy of uncontrolled cattle;
- a galloping demography;
- a rapid expansion of herds in the areas of grazing;
- The free entry of cows across national borders;
- a great concentration of herds from the communes nearby and neighbouring countries;
- pathways obstructed for the passage of cows and transformed into fields.

**Cattle rustling/ banditry** Page 1, ... Offences such as the slaughter of cows and the murder of shepherds have already been registered, highlighting difficult cohabitation between the two groups.

Page 2, 1. Commitments and claims of pastoralists, 1.2. Claims

We, breeders, call on the farmers to do as follows:

- Not poison our cows, nor their inflict of injuries or beating;
- Not intimidate herders with the objective of scaring them away so that the cows left to themselves can wander in the fields and devastate large areas;
- Not to imprison cows, in particular those who have to breast-feed calves;
- Not criminalise cows when the latter have not been taken in the fields;
- Do not come rushing to lead the cows to the Municipality before having warned the owner and have shown to the elders.

Commitments and claims of farmers

2.1. Commitments

We, farmers, among farmers take the firm commitment below:

- Not to cause the death of cows, in any way whatsoever;

**Social cover** No specific mention.

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