

Electronic Filing System (EFS) in Judiciary innovative Management toward paperless court services

- What is Electronic Filing System (EFS) ?
- Describe Integrated Electronic Case Management System (IECMS)
- Progress with EFS (Where we were vs Where we are)
- Benefits of EFS in Integrated Electronic Case Management System
- Planned upgrades to IECMS

What is Electronic Filing System (EFS)

The EFS is a way of filing cases online using internet (still in use in 69 courts outside the capital Kigali). This is an initiative generated and developed by IT staff of the Judiciary in 2011.

The usage of this system was above 70% in higher courts (High Court, Commercial High Court and Supreme Court) at the end of June 2014. It registered high scale usage because by June 2015, an average of 61% cases was filed with electronic system in all courts.

About its sustainability, the EFS is incorporated to IECMS for better functionality and its usage started in courts in Kigali and all Commercial courts.

EFS appearance on screen

Welcome to the Electronic Filing System

The **Judiciary of Rwanda** utilizes an Electronic Filing System (EFS). Every Case filed with the EFS is assigned a unique EFS number which you can use to track the progress and responses online. For your reference we provide complete archives and history of all your EFS Cases. A valid email address is required.

File a New Case
Please provide as much detail as possible so we can best assist you.
To update a previously submitted EFS Case, please use the form to the right.

Check EFS Case Status
We provide archives and history of all your Cases filed with the EFS complete with responses.

Email:

EFS-Case#:

[Forgot EFS-Case Number?](#)

IECMS (Integrated Electronic Case Management System)

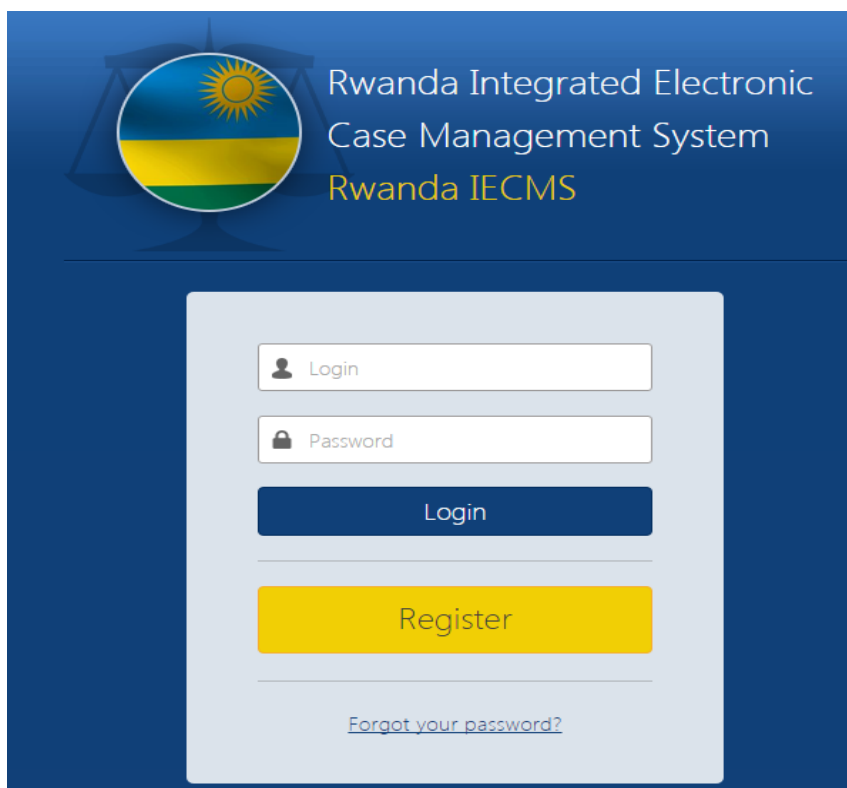
The IECMS integrates all the 5 institutions of the justice sector (Judiciary, Ministry of Justice, National Public Prosecution Authority, Criminal Investment Department and the Rwanda Correctional Services).

The Judiciary is the core beneficiary of IECMS and its helps in interface between Judiciary and Litigants (Electronic Filing and follow up of cases).

Integrated and updated EFS

IECMS enhances capabilities of EFS to online case processing and follows up from case filing to closure.

Rwanda Integrated Electronic Case Management System appearance



Where we were Vs where we are

Before the Electronic Filing System in 2011; 3 major inconveniences are to be noted:

- Long queues at courts to file cases
- High cost in terms of time and litigant transport
- Limited access to Justice

After electronic filing system in 2011

By 2012; about 13,507 cases were filed through EFS. Today 108,811 have been filed through EFS. 100% of cases are filed in Supreme Court and Commercial high Court.

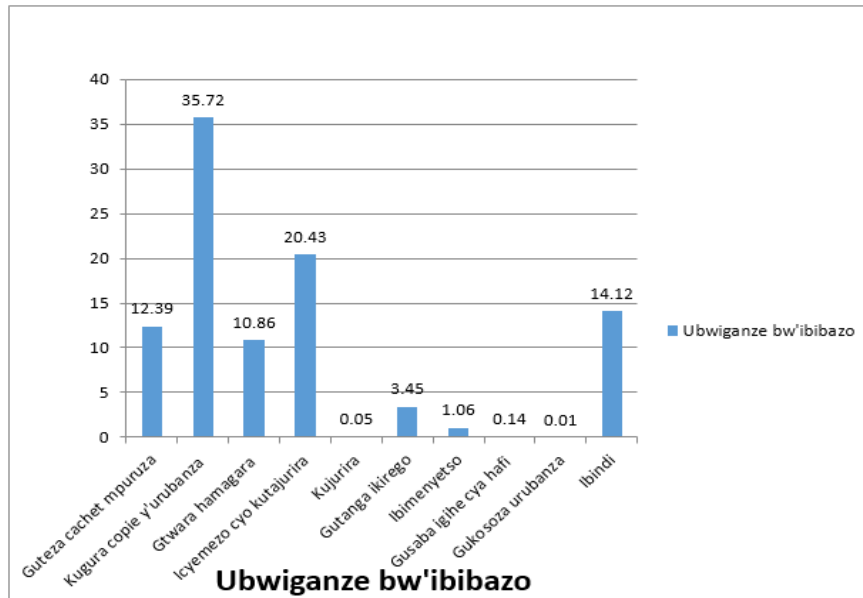
The EFS is accessible anytime and doesn't necessarily require transport. It enhances the access to justice for all. Shortly, the second phase of IECMS will be upgraded for a better functionality.

Where we were vs where we are ...

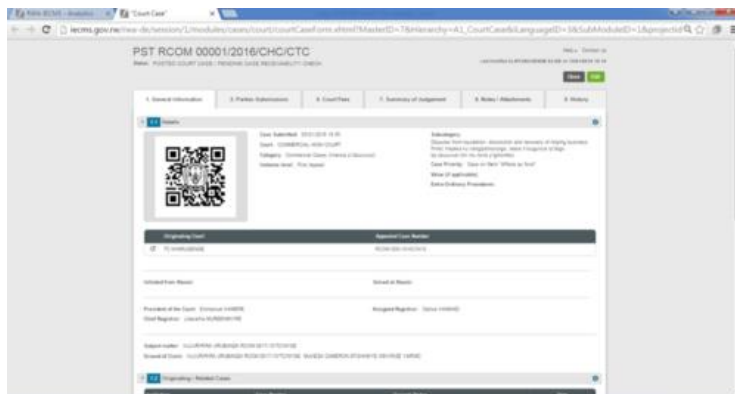
Reasons why litigants go physically to courts in 2014

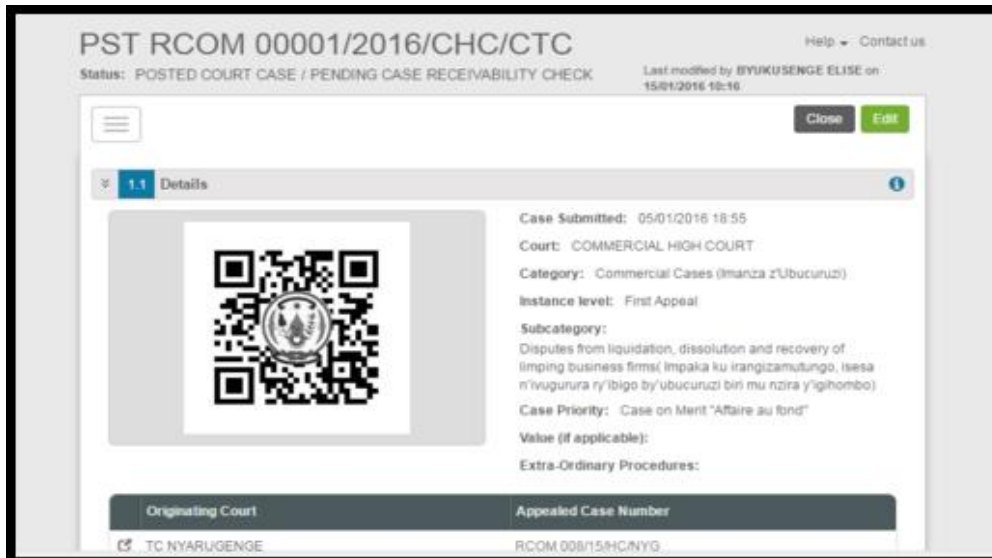
Filing cases at ... % ; Appeal for cases at ... in 2010- 2011

Filing cases at 3.45% ; Appeal for cases at 0.05% in 2014- 2015



Benefits of EFS in Integrated Electronic Case Management System

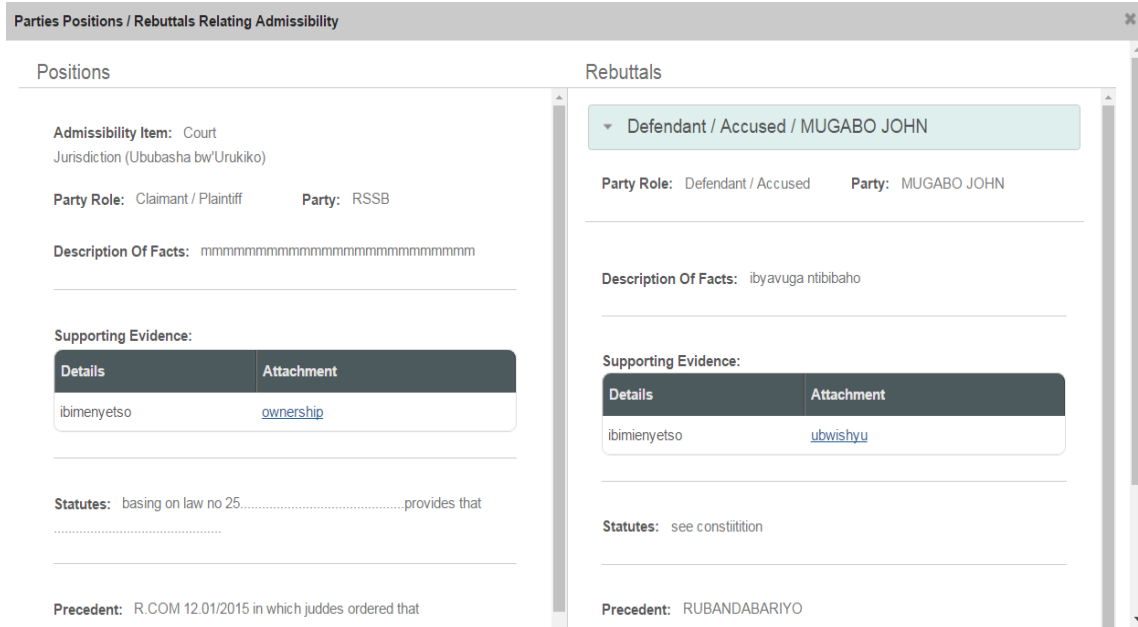




Benefits of EFS in Integrated Electronic Case Management System

The benefits of EFS in IECMS are the following:

- Online case filing with Mobile money payment;
- Litigants input and view submissions online;
- Automatic submission generation.



From a single window, given username and password, litigants access all cases in which they have ever been Party or Advocate. The follow-up of cases and their current status and next status online is very is and accessible.

The image below services the example



With IECMS, we have an e-mail and system notifications of Case proceeding notifications (filing, pre-trial, hearing, pronouncement). And it's easy to chat functionality with the registry. An online access to summons and proof of non-appeal online is accessible. These accounted for 10.86% and 20.43% respectively of the reasons litigants physically go to courts in 2014.

IECMS makes an availability of Judgment copies online which originally accounted for 35.72% of the reasons litigants physically go to courts 2014.

Planned upgrades to IECMS (electronic filing module)

Bye the IECMS, we easily notified by sms, possibility of the electronic signatures and stamps. We enjoy also the integrations with Rwanda Revenue Authority to automatically validate court fees payment and as well as with NIDA to automatically retrieve litigant details.