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### What the Singapore team loves about Rwanda



PHOTOS: LEE SIEW HUA, ST FILE, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

'The Rwandans are very focused. You want to be part of the story early, when the country is moving up.'

**Teacher Sophia Tsang (above, right), 50, who accompanied her husband Alan to Rwanda**

'It's fun to train the Rwandans. They ask many questions. They discuss everything among themselves and share experiences. They learn very fast. They make the training come alive. I love it.'

**Mr Daniel Teh, 25, training executive in ComfortDelGro Engineering, where Rwandan trainers took an intensive automotive course**

'I came here for adventure, and I like to teach. Maybe it's providence that I've worked in two countries that experienced genocide. Rwanda and Cambodia have suffered a lot and are renewing themselves.

We are just on hand to contribute.'

**Mr Melvyn Yong, 55, master trainer in culinary skills in Rwanda's Workforce Development Authority**

'It's always good to be on a winning team like Rwanda.'

**Civil aviation consultant Alan Tsang, 54, who has been based in Rwanda for a year**

'As most Rwandans understand English, I did not feel so foreign in a country that I was visiting for the first time.

'I was somewhat surprised to find orderliness and discipline on the road. It will be good if the same orderliness and discipline can be brought to the workplace.

'I sensed that the government and senior civil servants are all committed to developing the economy of the country.'

**Mr Low Wong Fook, 62, director of Singapore Polytechnic International, who visited Rwanda as a technical consultant in September**

'The conditions for Rwanda's rebirth are very favourable. It is stable. I can see the development in the city. President Paul Kagame sets the vision and is in control.

'Policemen wear badges that say, 'I am not corrupt'. Small things mean a lot.'

**Mr Chay Yee, 63, former deputy general manager of the Central Provident Fund Board. He has made several trips to Rwanda since April 2007 as its social security consultant**

'Singapore is a story of possibilities for the Rwandans who have visited us for training. In a way, we are helping them to see their future.

'Just as Singapore learnt a lot from Japan and Europe and created a blend and a brand for ourselves, Rwanda will create its unique experience.'

**Mr Bruno Lee, 43, visiting consultant in technical and vocational education for Rwanda's Workforce Development Authority**

'When I visited Rwanda in March 2008, I was very impressed.

'From the President to the people, they had been primed that the way forward is like what Singapore represents in terms of good governance, manpower development, even cleanliness.

'The country has gone through genocide, and they know the meaning of stability. They want to make sure they don't repeat it. They are doing all they can to establish a greater sense of harmony and peace with each other.

'The President is sincerely committed to doing his best for Rwanda. We believe they are serious, and that's why we are putting in the effort.'

**Mr Zainul Abidin Rasheed, 61, Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, seen here with Rwandan President Paul Kagame**

