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PARTNERSHIPS TO PROVIDE CRITICAL ACCESS; NATIONAL RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMMING IN RWANDA

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Bridges to Prosperity (B2P) is an International Non-Government Organization that constructs suspended and suspension footbridges for rural last mile connections. By building cable-supported bridges over impassable rivers, B2P and our partners act as a catalyst in rural communities, providing access to health care, education and market opportunities.

This paper will examine Bridges to Prosperity's scale-up program in Rwanda. After a nationwide needs assessment in 2018 that involved assessing 1500 sites, the organization signed an agreement with the Rwandan Government to build up to 355 bridges during a five- year program. The program is undergoing a significant increase in operations to fulfil this agreement. The private engineering and construction sector has played a key role in providing funding and support for this scale up. To demonstrate the importance of B2P's Corporate Partnership program on their scale-up in Rwanda, this paper will discuss a few of the innovative design and construction techniques developed in these partnerships through a case study of the Uwarukara footbridge in Rwanda.



Fig. 1. Uwarukara Bridge site before construction



Fig. 2. Uwarukara Bridge site after construction