



African Road: Collaboration, project development, strategic funding, friendship

African Road started in 2007 with a vision to change the way people think of charity: empowerment for transformation, fueled by friendship and stories of hope. We learn from and come alongside our friends, Changemakers from across East Africa who are equipping their own communities to lift themselves up. Projects include training to equip people to form their own group savings banks, business start ups that provide a way for communities to support themselves, sports programs for healing and empowerment. Together we are lifting entire communities out of poverty!

Togetherness Cooperative in Rwanda

Togetherness is a meeting place, a field that serves as soccer pitch, a community and business hub. It is formed and maintained by genocide orphans who are living a better life together and providing a sense of family and belonging for others. This is only possible because of change-maker and African Road partner, Steven. Having grown up as an orphan himself, he was compelled to take in orphaned children after the 1994 Rwandan genocide. He created child-headed households, with older boys responsible for younger boys and older girls responsible for younger girls.

In the early days, soccer helped Steven to reach out to kids and give them a source of hope and joy. Soccer is still the heart and soul of this special community. With the support of friends from African Road, six acres of land was purchased and a solar powered well was bored, to create what is now Togetherness. The 142 young people now have thriving pig farming, poultry, banana growing, and flour mill businesses. They've even opened an innovative preschool business on the cooperative land. They are generating jobs and income while meeting the needs of their neighborhood.

Most remarkable is that the youth themselves have led the way. They have become confident entrepreneurs, capable of taking action and serving others. making things happen. One step at a time, they are moving from poverty and hunger to meeting their own needs and caring for each other.



Use public transportation
The right to vote
Access to basic healthcare

Right to legally marry
Birth certificates for your children
Identified as a human/citizen/legal entity

Identity means “Hope”

An indigenous tribe of people, known as the Batwa, in Burundi, are living without government ID. Without ID, they are not considered citizens, they can not marry, vote, ride public transportation, receive birth certificates, or basic healthcare. Changemaker, Evariste, by providing ID kits to entire villages, gives hope to the unseen. This is a clear way forward for progress and gives the gift of human dignity!

ID Kits in Burundi

African Road Partner Evariste Ndikumana who was the third person from the Batwa tribe in Burundi to go to university, also served two terms as Member of Parliament. Evariste is changing the world as he seeks ID cards for his people. While ID cards cost a bit of money, knowing how to navigate the system to get an ID is an impediment for his people. The Batwa, a minority tribal group make up only 1% of the population, and are consistently some of the poorest people, in what is already considered one of the hungriest countries in the world.

African Road partners with Evariste to provide funding and training that empowers the Batwa people to take steps forward by providing ID Kits (ID cards and access to the rights that an ID card brings) education for children who have never been to school and training, tools and seeds so they can farm and grow food for their families for the first time ever; historically having lived by hunting and gathering.



What can you do?

Every bit of help makes a difference for a people who have been overlooked.

Right now the Batwa people are hoping for pigs! Why Pigs?

Pigs make manure, and lots of it. Farms need fertilizer.

One pig and veterinary care is just \$325, Sponsor a pig for change today!

Contact African Road with your interest.

