

The bustling city of Kigali is set to witness a major transformation in its transport infrastructure, thanks to the official launch of two groundbreaking projects: the Kigali Urban Transport Improvement Project (KUTI) and the Burundi-Rwanda Integrated Development Project (BRIDEP).

The launch event, held at Serena Hotel in Kigali on March 24, 2025, marks a pivotal moment in Rwanda's commitment to enhancing mobility, connectivity, and economic growth.

Officiated over by Fidele Abimana, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Infrastructure, KUTI seeks to improve Kigali's urban transport infrastructure by upgrading 3 key junctions at Chez Lando, Gishushu & Sonatubes.

This initiative is expected to create approximately 400 jobs during the construction phase, with 30% of these opportunities designated for women.

The Rwanda Transport Development Agency (RTDA) is spearheading the project in collaboration with the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) and partners, including Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).



The purpose of the project is to revolutionize transport infrastructure in Kigali and foster deeper regional integration with Burundi.

The Kigali Urban Transport Improvement Project (KUTI), approved in December 2024, is designed to address the city's growing urban mobility challenges. The project will focus on upgrading key intersections, promoting Non-Motorized Transport (NMT) facilities, and supporting e-mobility solutions to create a more sustainable urban transport system.

A major highlight of the initiative is the planned improvement of three critical junctions: Chez Lando, Gishushu, and Kicukiro/Sonatubes. These upgrades will ease congestion, enhance safety, and provide a smoother transit experience for commuters.

On a broader scale, the Burundi-Rwanda Integrated Development Project (BRIDEP), approved in October 2024, aims to fortify transport and agricultural infrastructure between the two neighboring countries. By improving road networks and cross-

border connectivity, the project seeks to boost economic resilience and facilitate regional trade.

With an investment of USD 413.22 million, BRIDEP will oversee the construction of four asphalt roads spanning 215.3 kilometers, conduct feasibility studies for an additional 406 kilometers of roads, and carry out socio-economic impact assessments. Additionally, three maritime transport studies will be undertaken to further enhance trade efficiency between Rwanda and Burundi.

“The objective of this project launch event is to familiarize the program implementation staff of the executing agency and key stakeholders with the African Development Bank (AfDB) rules and procedures related to project financial management, procurement, disbursement, monitoring and evaluation, and share information and discuss the key elements of the program implementation.” underscored the Director General of RTDA, Imena Munyampenda.

Echoing these sentiments, AfDB Country Manager Aïssa Touré emphasized the broader impact of the projects:

“The Kigali Urban Transport Improvement Project and the Burundi-Rwanda Integrated Development Project are transformative initiatives that align with the African Development Bank’s commitment to promoting regional integration and sustainable urban development. These projects will not only improve transport efficiency and connectivity but also contribute to economic growth and job creation. We are confident that through strong collaboration between the Government of Rwanda, the African Development Bank, and our partners, these projects will have a lasting positive impact on the region.”

The launch of KUTI and BRIDEP marks a significant milestone in Rwanda’s infrastructure development agenda. By investing in modern, efficient, and inclusive transport solutions, the nation is paving the way for a more connected and economically vibrant future. As construction begins and the projects take shape, the impact on daily commuters, businesses, and regional trade will become increasingly evident—ushering in a new era of progress for Rwanda and beyond.