



## Local Competitiveness Facility in Rwanda

### Shoemaking Factory in Nyagatare

#### Grant for private sector in Rwanda

Through the cooperation of Belgium and Rwanda, the LCF grant fund (worth €2.4 million) has been implemented in 4 pilot Districts - Gakenke, Gisagara, Rutsiro and Nyagatare - in Rwanda.

The objective of LCF is to fund innovative economic partnership projects implemented by different companies or cooperatives, which will enhance pro-poor local economic development (LED).

After a thorough selection process for which 497 projects initially applied, 36 projects have been selected for support. The projects are unique and developed by the partnerships, according to their own needs.

During the upcoming year, each project will receive financial support as well as capacity building on business management and marketing in order to secure sustainable growth of their businesses.

One of the projects that has been selected in Nyagatare District is **Urugero Nice Job**.

The project consists of **3 partners**, each active in a **different section of the value chain**: one partner designs and manufactures a broad range of shoes for women and men, while another partner supplies raw materials for the shoes, and the third partner offers shoe repair services to the customers.

The project will receive a total amount of **RwF 8.500.000** (€9.700). With this financial support each partner will acquire modern, electrical machines that will enhance production capacity and quality of the shoes, as well as increase the number of designs that can be made. Additionally, they will invest in training, both in technical and managerial skills, to ensure sustainability of their businesses.



**Mechanical sewing machines:** the mechanical, manually driven sewing machines limit the number of styles and shoe designs that can be made.



**Urugero Nice Job's workplace :** all steps in the value chain are currently done manually or with manually driven machines, making the production process time consuming, which results in low production.

