Drones in Rwanda — Infrastructure

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Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Pre-testing Phase
- Testing Phase
- Operating Drones in Rwanda
- Infrastructure (Then/Now/Next)
Introduction

- Genesis of drones in Rwanda driven by innovation meeting vision and real needs: Small Cargo, Inspection, Precision Agriculture, Aerial Photography

Zipline

Charis UAS
Pre-testing Phase

Anticipated challenges

- International standards for UAS
- Conflict with manned aviation
- Perception of drones (UAS)

Enablers

- Setting Basic Control Mechanism to allow Testing Phase;
- Testing Phase to Enhance Knowledge & Experience
- Promulgation of New Regulations;
Testing Phase

Inspector dedicated for drones;

Limitations (Vertical, lateral, time, weight, etc.);

Awareness and/or inclusion of: Security organs, local authorities, etc.;
Operating Drones in Rwanda

• Health sector positively impacted the perception on drones operations;

• More drone operators using the airspace;

• Establishment of Drone Technical Advisory Committee (Drone TAC);

• Continuous improvement mechanism;
Operating Drones in Rwanda

Regulations: 2015-2016:

- No ICAO standards for UAS;
- No country was implementing BVLOS at a larger scale;
- Promulgation of Rwanda’s first regulations (technical support from CASSOA);
- Zipline (BVLOS) and Charis UAS (VLOS) started operating;
- Promulgation of 2018 regulations of UAS (technical support from WEF);
Envisaged Future

3.1. Safe Skies - Drone Enthusiasts Flying Activities
3.2. Robotics Operators Activities and Competitions
3.3. Recreation
4.1. Drone Operators & Crew Courses
4.2. Aerial Photography Courses
4.3. Robotics Sciences
5.1. Blood Delivery
5.2. Light & Valuable Goods Delivery
5.3. Time Critical Post Services
5. Logistics Support

DOC Concept

1. Applications
1.1. Wildlife Monitoring
1.2. Precision Farming and Ranching
1.3. Geo-technical / Geological / Geo-scientific Exploration
1.4. Aerial Mapping
1.5. Aerial Photography & Videography
1.6. Aerial Surveying
2. Research Center
2.1. Tropical Diseases Spread & Eco-system (e.g. Malaria)
2.2. Climate Change Effects

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Thank you for your Attention!!!