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UNRA provides boat for collapsed bridge

BY JULIUS OCUNGI

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KITGUM. Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA) has promised to deliver a boat to aid transportation of people and light cargo across River Aswa whose bridge collapsed last year. The river connects Pader and Lira districts.

Aswa Bridge in Puranga Sub-county in Pader District collapsed in October last year due to heavy load of a truck carrying more than 600 bags of cement.

Since its collapse, business and transportation between the two districts has been paralysed.

Ms Allen Kagina, the UNRA executive director, while speaking to the press on Wednesday in Kitgum District, said the boat would arrive from Moyo District this week where it was being used by the roads agency on River Nile.

"I have visited the site and seen locals using a risky boat while they pay for the ride. Others who can't afford payment have been daring to pass on the collapsed metallic structures which is so risky," Ms Kagina said.

She said UNRA had contacted a contractor to build a temporary bridge to allow vehicles cross the river.

"At a later time, we hope to build a much stronger bridge that will last for more than 100 years," the UNRA boss said.

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