

1. THE NEW SARATENI-SOROCA ROAD HAS BEEN OPENED FOR ROAD TRAFFIC

Resume & Link/ Scan: *The 93 km Sarateni-Soroca road segment, rehabilitated with the U.S. Government's Compact support of about 100 million USD, has been opened for road traffic today. The Millennium Challenge Account Moldova in the presence of U.S. Ambassador Moser and the Moldovan Prime Minister Leanca handed the taking-over protocols for substantial completion of construction works to construction companies.*

In his address Prime Minister Leanca said that a modern road offers not just comfort, but also the possibility to cut the travel time and cost. Moreover it is an incentive to stay in the native village and create new jobs.

Ambassador Moser, in turn, said that he is honored to be present at the inauguration event of a new quality road built according to modern standards, meaning also a good road infrastructure and development opportunities for the Moldovan economy.

Valentina Badrajan, the Executive Director of the Millennium Challenge Account Moldova, expressed thanked the construction companies and partners in the implementation of the road project and stressed that „we are proud that through joint efforts we managed to rehabilitate a strategic road for Moldova that creates economic and social opportunities for more than 300 thousand people who will travel on this road”.

The 93 km road segment rehabilitated with Compact funds is part of the M2 national road. It starts at the Sarateni junction and ends at the Drochia junction and crosses 14 localities in the Telenesti, Floresti and Soroca rayons.

The ONUR&SUMMA consortium (Turkey) and Strabag (Austria) - selected through an international bidding, started the rehabilitation works at the Sarateni-Soroca road in the autumn of 2012. The consortium of Turkish companies was contracted to rehabilitate 44.9 km starting at the Sarateni junction and ending at the entrance to the Ghindesti town, while the Austrian company was contracted for a 48.1 km segment that starts at the entrance to the Ghindesti town and stretches till the Drochia junction (R7 and R9 junction).

The road rehabilitation works were carried out according to international standards and supervised by Louis Berger and IRD. The rehabilitation of the road will reduce the vehicle operation costs and the travel time, increase the price of the transported goods and the number of travels and foster new businesses that will create new jobs.

The works included renovation of seven bridges and construction of other seven bridges, including the grade separation at Sarateni and the railway bridge near the town of Ghindesti; construction of about 22 km of sidewalks in the localities crossed by the road; lighting along about 20 km of road; installation of about 12 km of iron guardrails and 2113 road signs and over 9000 reflective items on dangerous road segments etc.

Additionally to the national road segment, the Compact rehabilitated about 10 km of local roads that

facilitate the access to schools, village halls, health centers etc. in 20 localities crossed by the road.

The construction companies are yet to complete the rehabilitation of the social infrastructure along the road, as agreed with the communities.

Note: *The Sarateni-Sorooca road segment is part of the national M2 road that links Moldova and Ukraine. Before rehabilitation this road was in disrepair and about 60% of it required full rehabilitation. The reconstruction and modernization of the 93 km segment of the Sarateni-Sorooca road is the objective of the Compact's road rehabilitation project funded by the U.S. Government, acting through the Millennium Challenge Corporation.*

Link: http://www.mca.gov.md/en/drum_lansat_2014.html



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2. IURIE LEANCA: “THE WAY WE REHABILITATED SARATENI-SOROCA ROAD, WE WILL MODERNIZE THE ENTIRE COUNTRY, BECAUSE WE KNOW HOW TO DO THIS”

Resume & Link/ Scan: *A road, which two years ago was full of holes and mud, looks now like in the West - with sidewalks, roundabouts, road markings, rainwater collection channels, street lighting and well-appointed stations. It is Sarateni-Soroca road, where today the opening ceremony was held.*

Around 300,000 people in Soroca, Telenești and Florești will enjoy this route. These include Emilia Tofăilă – a Visoca village resident. She says she does not ever imagined that this route will look so modern. When they started the rehabilitation of the road, Emilia Tofăilă appeared quite skeptical. Last summer, when Prime Minister Leanca came to inspect the works, she said him directly that she does not believe in this promise. So she came today, already at the opening ceremony.

Prime Minister Leanca noticed her in the crowd and said, "Mrs. Tofăilă, I mentioned you quite often in this period, even in a discussion with Vice President Joe Biden. I said we will do our best to convince you that we keep our word and meet our obligations. "

Emilia Tofăilă had also a message to the Prime Minister: "It is a good road! That kind of road I have not seen anywhere. If you do this throughout the country and jobs will be created, no one will go abroad. Children will stay home, near parents in Moldova ".

"See that it is possible?! I assure you that in the same way we will transform the country. Because we want to change Moldova in a better way, we know how to do this and, in particular, have the ability to keep our promises, "said the head of executive to Ghindesti residents.

United States Ambassador to Moldova William Moser said that he had great pleasure to show everyone that in Moldova can be constructed quality roads as well.

Rehabilitation Project Sarateni-Soroca road, under the Compact Program, funded by the United States Government through the Millennium Challenge Corporation, included the repair and construction of 14 bridges, construction of sidewalks, rainwater collection channels and bus stations, and illuminating the route through the villages, installing of metal crash barriers, road signs and objects reflecting the dangerous sectors. It was also built a grade separation - the first in the country in the last two decades.

"A modern road provides people not only convenience, but also the ability to move faster and cheaper, an incentive to stay in their home village and start a business, which means jobs. All these actions and all external support enjoyed by our country have one goal - a worthy and prosperous future of Moldova and its citizens. This is Moldova tomorrow, which we intend to edify together, "concluded Leanca.

Experts predict that with the rehabilitation of this route will increase the number of travelers, business in the area, respectively, of jobs. During the work, construction and surveillance companies contracted 1277 people, of which 70 percent - Moldovans.

The project cost a hundred million dollars. In total, through the Compact, Moldova has benefited from projects worth 262 million dollars. The contract with the Millennium Challenge Account was signed in 2010

by Iurie Leanca during the performance of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in a visit to Washington, along with Vlad Filat, who then held the office of Prime Minister.

Link: <http://gov.md/libview.php?l=ro&idc=436&id=8244>



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