

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS



MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACCOUNT - TANZANIA

MCA-T hands over Tunduma – Ikana and Ikana – Laela road sections to contractors

On 15th October 2010, a team of experts from Millennium Challenge Account-Tanzania (MCA-T), Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) and Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) as the Implementing Entity together with Egis BCOM, the supervising consultants, conducted kick off meeting and site handing over of road sections of Tunduma – Ikana (63.7km) and Ikana – Laela (64.2km) to contractors, namely Consolidated Contractors Group (CCC) of Greece and China New Era International Engineering Corporation of People’s Republic of China respectively.

The kick off meeting which took place in City Council Hall in Mbeya town was officiated by Mbeya Regional Administrative Secretary, Mrs. Bertha Swai. On her opening speech, Mrs. Swai said, “Residents of Mbeya and Rukwa regions and specifically road users of Tunduma – Sumbawanga road have been experiencing major transportation problems particularly during the rainy season as the road becomes impassable but today we are witnessing a significant milestone towards upgrading of Tunduma – Laela section of Tunduma - Sumbawanga road. Upon completion, this road will boost economic development of the two regions and the neighboring countries”. She also expressed her many thanks to the Government of United States of America for financing the upgrading of Tunduma – Sumbawanga road to bitumen standard.

The handing over ceremony took place at Chiwanda village for Consolidated Contractors Group and Chenjele village for China New Era International Engineering Corporation and both were marked by Director of Environment and Social Impact Assessment, Mr. Ernest Mwasubila on behalf of MCA-T Chief Executive Officer. The two events were also witnessed by Mbeya Regional Administrative Secretary, Mrs. Bertha Swai and Mbozi District Administrative Secretary Mr. Leonard Magacha. The upgrading of each section is expected to last for 23 months.

It is important to note that contracts for upgrading of Tunduma – Ikana and Ikana – Laela road sections were signed on 17th and 22nd September 2010 respectively. The implementation of Tunduma – Laela road upgrading is one of the activities of the Mainland Trunk Road component of Transport Sector Project under the Millennium Challenge Compact signed by the President George W. Bush and President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete on 17th February 2008 to reduce poverty

by stimulating sustainable economic growth in Tanzania through targeted investments in transportation, energy, and water infrastructure.



Director of Environment and Social Impact, Mr. Ernest Mwasubila on behalf of MCA-T CEO handing over document to representative of CCC Contractor for Tunduma - Ikana road Mr. Michael Zahed at Chiwanda village on 15th October 2010.



Director of Environment and Social Impact, Mr. Ernest Mwasubila on behalf of MCA-T CEO handing over document to representative of China New Era, Contractor for Ikana -Laela road Mr. Tian Jin Chenjele village on 15th October 2010.



Mbeya Regional Administrative Secretary, Mrs Bertha Swai witnessed both handing over functions. She also addressed the communities urging them to cooperate and provide necessary support to contractors during the whole construction period.

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Millennium Challenge Account-Tanzania (MCA-T) is an autonomous and independent Government Entity established to implement a \$698 million grant that will reduce poverty by improving infrastructure and thereby promoting economic growth. MCA-T is supported by Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), a United States government agency designed to work with developing countries. For more information visit www.mca-t.go.tz or www.mcc.gov .