



This project is funded by the European Union

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Partners:

- Ministry of Finance and Treasury of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Public Company Motorways of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (JP Autoceste FBiH)

Estimated total investment:

- €63.44 million

EU contribution through WBIF:

- €12.06 million

EBRD loan:

- €47.16 million

Beneficiary contribution:

- €4.22 million

2017 CONNECTIVITY PROJECT

Mediterranean Corridor: Bosnia and Herzegovina – Croatia Vc Road Interconnection, Zenica Tunnel – Donja Gračanica Subsection

The Mediterranean Corridor links the Iberian Peninsula with the Hungarian – Ukrainian border. Its extension into the Western Balkans, mostly associated with what is regionally known as Corridor Vc, connects Central Europe, specifically Hungary and eastern Croatia, to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Adriatic Sea.

The longest section of Corridor Vc lies in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In response to high daily average traffic volumes, the country has embarked on a multi-billion motorway construction programme, in cooperation with its neighbours. To date, 176 km have been built or are under construction.

This investment project concerns the construction of a 4.1 km motorway subsection on the Nemila – Zenica sjever (north) / Donja Gračanica section, between Zenica Tunnel and Donja Gračanica/entrance to Pečuj Tunnel. The new development includes two tunnels, four viaducts, an access road to Zenica and an interchange to Zenica North, with tolling facilities.



Aerial view of Donja Gračanica in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Results:

- 4.1 km of motorway, including two tunnels, four viaducts, access road to Zenica and interchange to Zenica North with tolling facilities.
- Increase in travel speed from 60 km/h to 120 km/h.



Newly built motorway on the Tarčin – Sarajevo – Zenica section on the Mediterranean Corridor (Vc) in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Previous EU contribution for the Nemila – Zenica sjever (north) / Donja Gračanica section:

- €1.8 million for detailed design (IPA 2011)

Start date:

- November 2018

Estimated end date:

- May 2021

Transport



Map of Bosnia and Herzegovina – Croatia Vc Road Interconnection, Tunnel Zenica – Donja Gračanica Subsection.

This motorway subsection is being implemented under a design-build contract. The contract commenced in November 2018 and the preparatory works were initiated in April 2019.

The feasibility and environmental impact assessment studies were completed in 2006 and subsequently updated in 2014. The environmental permit was obtained in February 2014 and then renewed in September 2019. The loan agreement with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) was signed in 2015.

The preliminary design has been developed for the entire section, based on which the urban approvals have been obtained. The main designs for the Donja Gračanica Viaduct and the Hum Tunnel have been completed and, following the ongoing public call for design review, the construction permit for the viaduct will be issued.

Detailed environmental impact mitigation measures have been planned for during and post-construction, including soil and water pollution prevention and noise monitoring programmes.

The project complements the newly built motorway on the Zenica South – Sarajevo South – Tarčin section along the Mediterranean Corridor (Vc) in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Once completed, this section will be operated and maintained by the Public Company Motorways of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina through a closed toll collection system. A health, safety and security system will be put in place, according to best European practices.

Benefits

- More than 600 jobs created during construction as well as operation and maintenance periods.
- An increase in annual traffic by more than 23%, matched by adequate safety and security conditions.
- Reduction by 7% in accident rate and 6% in vehicle operating costs.
- Better access for smaller towns and villages located along the route to industrial and transport hubs, such as Zenica and Sarajevo.
- Better routes to tourist areas in the region.
- Improved trade flows with countries in the region and thus a positive impact on the broader economy of Bosnia and Herzegovina.