
 An accessible well maintained fit-for-purpose road network

 To provide sustainable road infrastructure for domestic and regional accessibility to spur socio-economic development

MCC TO INVEST IN PROJECTS AIMED AT SUPPORTING AGRO-PROCESSING IN ZAMBIA



Group photograph of RDA and MCC officials after the meeting at RDA head office in Lusaka.

A team of technical officers from the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) based in the United States of America (USA) recently engaged the Road Development Agency (RDA) in relation to the second Compact programme that will focus on directing investment towards supporting the growth of agriculture and agro-processing in Zambia.

The team led by MCC Country Director for Zambia, Eng. Steven Marma met with the RDA acting Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo who was accompanied by RDA officials at the Agency's head office in Lusaka.

The Zambian Government and the MCC, an

Agency of the United States Government, have been working on the development of the second Compact since early 2022.

The second Compact will focus on directing investment towards supporting the growth of agriculture and agro-processing as well as on policy and institutional strengthening to support agriculture production, productivity and agro-processing in Zambia.

MCC is seeking to gain a comprehensive understanding of the road construction and maintenance process, financing mechanisms for roads, revenue collection management, and the respective mandates of stakeholders in the road and transport sectors.

During the first Compact, MCC partnered with Zambia to implement a US\$332 million programme aimed at transforming the Country's water sector through infrastructure development and build the institutional capacity to manage the sector.

The team from MCC was in the country to engage with various stakeholders in the road and transport sector.

Others in the team were MCC Director Transportation and Vertical Structures, Eng. Christopher Ackerman, MCC Senior Programme Officer, Ms. Emily Modestin, MCC Consultant, Eng. Alain Labeau and Eng. Sharon Edmiston from the US Department of Transportation.

WE SHALL UTILISE JICA BRIDGE MAINTENANCE CAPACITY SKILLS ASSURES GOVERNMENT



Participants to the 4th Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) meeting of the JICA Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) at the RDA head office conference room.

The **Zambian Government** has assured Japan that the knowledge obtained from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Bridge Maintenance Capacity Building Project shall be put to good and sustainable use.

Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, former Permanent Secretary, Eng. Danny Mfune has also said the Government through his Ministry shall endeavor to continue to provide for the maintenance and repair of bridge infrastructure in a sustainable manner.

Eng. Mfune said this in his keynote speech during the 4th Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) meeting of the JICA Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) which was held at the Road Development Agency (RDA) Headquarters in Lusaka.

“On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Zambia, and indeed on my own behalf, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Japanese

Government who have provided Technical and Financial assistance to this project through JICA and would like to emphasize that the knowledge gained by the RDA and those

contractors and consultants that are participating in the project shall be put to good and sustainable use,” he said.

Phase one of the JICA Bridge Maintenance Capacity Building Project



Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, former Permanent Secretary, Eng. Danny Mfune delivering his keynote speech during the 4th Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) meeting of the JICA Technical Cooperation Project (TCP). Next to him is RDA acting Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo.



JICA Zambia Office Chief Representative, Mr. Yonebayashi Norihito (left) speaking during the meeting.

commenced in February 2015 and was completed in August 2017.

He said towards the end of phase one of the project, the Government through the RDA requested to extend the project to include a second phase which was approved and is now under implementation.

“Phase two of the project is basically to further improve the capacity of the RDA to manage the maintenance and repair of bridges. The phase two project commenced in March of 2019 and the support for this project from JICA is expected to come to an end in March 2024,” Eng. Mfune said.

He said among the key successes of this project is the implementation of a pilot project for the Routine Maintenance of selected bridges on the Trunk, Main and District roads in Lusaka Province implemented between 2015 and 2017.

Eng. Mfune said the RDA is further currently implementing several projects among others; the Bridge

Routine Maintenance roll-out programme on selected bridges in Southern, Copperbelt and Northern Provinces.

“I am also informed that the planning to implement the roll-out programme in the remaining six other provinces could not start as scheduled due to financial constraints but is being planned to commence in 2024,” he said.

Meanwhile, RDA acting Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo has thanked the Government of the Republic of Zambia and the Japanese Government for the support they have rendered to the project in the past two years and has also assured both JICA and the Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development that the RDA shall utilize the knowledge gained from this project to enhance the management of bridges.

Eng. Mutembo also commended the project team from JICA, the

RDA, Counterparts and staff from the University of Zambia (UNZA), National Road Fund Agency (NRFA) and National Council for Construction (NCC) for their invaluable contributions aimed at achieving the targets set out on the project.

JICA Zambia Office Chief Representative, Mr. Yonebayashi Norihito said Zambia was the only country with five different types of special bridges and that if it enhanced Bridge Maintenance, the country could be turned into a hub where various countries can tap knowledge from.

Mr. Yonebayashi said as the project was entering the final year, stakeholders should diligently contribute to achieving all the four outputs outlined in the Project Design Matrix (PDM).

He appealed for timely planning and implementation of all project activities, as well as the budget disbursement for the project.

RDA HOLDS STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT WITH MINING FIRMS



RDA officials during a meeting with representatives from some Copperbelt Mining Firms at RDA head office recently.

As part of the programme to improve the road network, the Government through the Road Development Agency (RDA) has contracted Turbo Kachin Consortium (Turbo-KC) as the Concessionaire to rehabilitate the Chingola-Kasumbalesa Road under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Model.

The project will also include the construction of a Toll Plaza between Chililabombwe and Kasumbalesa border.

The RDA on 27th April 2023 engaged Lubambe Copper Mine, Mingomba Mine and Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) to discuss issues surrounding the construction of the Toll Plaza on the Chingola-Kasumbalesa Road.

The Mining Firms have welcomed and support the project which will improve the condition of the road and enhance safety.

The RDA team was led by acting Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Eng. Grace Mutembo while Lubambe Copper Mine was represented by the CEO and Managing Director, Mr. Tim Duffy.

Mingomba Copper Mine was represented by the Country Manager, Mr. Alex Matthews, KCM by Chief Mine Surveyor, Mr. Moses Chibuye and the Concessionaire, by Mr. Yang Peng.

The Chingola-Kasumbalesa Road is being worked on under the PPP initiative. The Concession Agreement for works was

signed on 31st October 2022 between Turbo KC and the Government for a Concession period of 18 years.

The project scope involves among others:

- a) The rehabilitation and widening of the 31.9 kilometres of the existing road from Chingola-Kasumbalesa;
- b) The construction of a three kilometres Kasumbalesa urban dual carriage section;
- c) The construction of a weighbridge and Toll Plaza; and
- d) The rehabilitation of two bridges.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION, ROAD DEVELOPMENT AGENCY DISCUSSES PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS



RDA acting Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo (centre) with RDA management and IFC officials during the meeting.

International Finance Corporation (IFC), Advisory Services Expert in Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), Jacques Bleindou on 5th April 2023 paid a courtesy call the Road Development Agency (RDA) acting Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo.

The meeting discussed challenges and opportunities experienced during the execution of PPPs in the Road Sector in Zambia and the IFC, a member of the World Bank Group has pledged to offer capacity building to enhance skills required to execute PPP Projects.

Also, in attendance during the meeting was Ms. Isabel Miyanda, the Senior Planning Officer at the PPP Unit, RDA acting Director Planning and Design, Eng. Lazarus Nyawali, RDA acting Director Legal Services, Ms. Chiti Kabwe, RDA acting Director Road Maintenance, Eng. Jairos Mhanga, RDA acting Director Communications and Corporate Affairs, Mr. Anthony Mulowa and RDA acting Director Finance, Mrs. Honeychile Tyetye.

RDA, ZEMA AND CONCESSIONAIRE CONDUCT JOINT INSPECTION AT CHINGOLA-KASUMBALESA ROAD PROJECT SITE



The team from RDA, ZEMA and Concessionaire conducting a joint inspection at Chingola-Kasumbalesa Road project site.

A team from the Road Development Agency (RDA), Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) and the Concessionaire, Turbo Kachin Investment Consortium undertook a joint inspection at the Chingola-Kasumbalesa Road project site.

The joint site inspection which was held on 18th April 2023 was part of the process to enable ZEMA to issue the Environmental Decision Letter for the road project.

The Chingola-Kasumbalesa Road is being worked on under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) initiative.

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MSUZI BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION WORKS



Base course stabilization works at Msuzi Box Culvert.

The stabilization of the base course on the approach roads at Msuzi Box Culvert on the Chipata to Lundazi Road has been completed.

The base course has cured and double surface dressing (black top) was being laid by press time. Surfacing works on the bridge and approach roads will be completed during the first week of May 2023.

Currently, overall physical progress at Msuzi Bridge is at 97%.



Completed base course stabilization.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT WITH LCC



LCC officials led by Lusaka Mayor, Ms. Chilando Chitangala and RDA officials led by acting Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo pose for a group photograph after a meeting at Lusaka City Council (LCC).

A team from the Road Development Agency (RDA) led by acting Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Grace Mutembo met with counterparts at the Lusaka City Council (LCC) led by Her Worship the Mayor, Ms. Chilando Chitangala.

The two parties discussed matters pertaining to the developments in the Road Sector in the Greater City of Lusaka.

LUNDAZI BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION WORKS UPDATE



Protection works on the embankments in progress.

The protection works on the embankments for the approach roads Lundazi Bridge are progressing well.

The damping and processing of the final subbase layer has commenced, thereafter, the processing of the stabilized base course will be done.

The surfacing of the approach roads and the bridge deck are expected to be completed in May 2023.



More images from Lundazi Bridge under construction.

RISK MANAGEMENT CORNER

PROJECT RISK MANAGEMENT



For every construction project, be it a bridge or road embarked by the Agency, the expected end result is that the deliverable be the best that it can be. Well, this is not the case sometimes. There are many factors that lead to such eventualities among them is poor or inadequate Project Risk Management.

Project Risk Management is the process of identifying, analyzing and responding to any risk that may arise over the life cycle of a project which could potentially affect the achievement of the intended project deliverable.

The first step in Project Risk Management is to identify risks that may arise during the project. This can be achieved through brainstorming sessions with team members and stakeholders. The identified risks should then be assessed in terms of their likelihood of occurrence and potential impact on the project's deliverables. Then a risk response plan should be developed which will be a guide in the management of the risks for that project.

Project Risk Management should be an ongoing process throughout the project's lifecycle, with regular monitoring and evaluation of identified risks.

Among the many effects of poor Project Risk Management are;

- Project Cost Overruns
- Schedule Delays
- Demotivated Project Team
- Bad Reputation for the Agency
- Poor Project deliverable

Project Risk Management is a critical process that helps ensure a project's success. By identifying potential risks, assessing their impact, and developing mitigation plans, the project team can reduce the likelihood of project failure.



The construction of a 60 meters rigid pavement at Mongu traffic lights.