



PRESS RELEASE

US\$245 MILLION ACCELERATED GROWTH CORRIDORS IN MALAWI TAKES CENTRE STAGE

12 June 2024, Lilongwe Malawi. *A partnership between the US Government's Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) and the Government of Malawi (GoM) to upgrade and expand critical road infrastructure in the country has taken the next step towards realization, bringing hope to rural communities across the nation.*

In September 2022, the two governments signed the US\$350 million Malawi Transport and Land Compact to address the high cost of road freight transport services and improve access to land for investment. The Compact aims to support Malawi's efforts to foster inclusive economic growth and enhance the well-being of the rural population. Since the signing, Malawi, through MCA Malawi II, has diligently worked to meet various conditions precedent to the official commencement of the Compact, known as the 'Entry Into Force.' This milestone was announced on May 6, 2024, by His Excellency Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera and Ms. Alice Albright, CEO of MCC, at the George W. Bush Presidential Center in Dallas.

The Accelerated Growth Corridors (AGC) Project, a key part of the Compact valued at approximately US\$245 million, aims to reduce transport barriers between farms and markets by improving over 300 km of roads along four corridors in northern, central, and southern Malawi. In addition to upgrading existing roads to paved standards with bridges and drainage structures, the project will also address the backlog in periodic maintenance of these roads and associated unpaved access roads. The corridors include the Mkanda-Linga corridor, the Chileka-Likuni corridor, the Chantulo-Mkutumula corridor, and the Euthini-Chikwawa corridor.

The GoM is represented by the Millennium Challenge Account-Malawi II (MCA-Malawi II), which acts as the implementing agency for the project and the employer for the road works contracts on behalf of the Roads Authority in Malawi.

According to MCA-Malawi II CEO, Dye Mawindo *"The AGC programme is a key mechanism for the Government of Malawi, in cooperation with its partners at MCC, to deliver meaningful change to rural communities in different parts of the country. The intention of the corridor intervention is to allow farmers in rural areas better access to local and national markets for their products, and through this, uplift the communities in which they live."*

He further believes that *"There will be a major benefit for communities in the strategic regions selected, and this will have a positive impact on the lives of women farmers. By upgrading key roads to bitumen standard and secondary roads to gravel standard, this will contribute significantly to improving the lives of those living within the vicinity of these key arteries"*

MCA-Malawi II is currently seeking contractors capable of delivering high-quality roads that serve the people of Malawi. MCA-Malawi II has already released a Request For Information (RFI) and is in the process of finalizing tender documents. Firms that did not meet the RFI deadline will nonetheless be able to bid once the tender is released.

A webinar will be held on the 20th of June 2024 for those interested in learning more about these opportunities.

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