



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Partners:

- Ministry of Transport and Communications of Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Republika Srpska Motorways (JP Autoputevi Republike Srpske)

Estimated total investment:

- €38.47 million

EU contribution:

- €6.8 million

EIB loan:

- €10.67 million

Beneficiary contribution:

- €21 million

2015 CONNECTIVITY PROJECT

Extension of TEN-T Core Network: Bosnia and Herzegovina – Croatia R2a Road Interconnection

This investment project concerns the construction of a border crossing, a cross-border bridge over the River Sava, as well as motorway connections on the Banja Luka – Gradiška road section. The new developments lie along Route 2a (R2a) which spans 239 km, from Lašva and Banja Luka in Bosnia and Herzegovina to Okučani in Croatia. It thus connects Bosnia and Herzegovina (the Republic of Srpska) to the main transport routes in Croatia leading to the Adriatic ports.

Currently, R2a runs through the urban area of Gradiška for approximately 2km and crosses a 260m two-way bridge over the Sava. On the Croatian side, the bridge carries traffic to a much larger parking and clearance area located to the east of the much smaller town of Stara Gradiška.

The new bridge and cross-border facilities in Gradiška will be built about 3 km to the west of existing facilities and outside the urban area of Gradiška.



View of Banja Luka – Gradiška motorway, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Results:

- Completion of the Banja Luka – Gradiška motorway section in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- 1.2 km road connections to the new bridge, bypassing the city of Gradiška.
- Modern and efficient border crossing facilities on R2a.
- A 430m-long cross-border bridge over the Sava.



Mahovljanska Interchange on R2, Bosnia and Herzegovina, completed in 2012 with €5.3 million EU and WBIF grant assistance.

Estimated Start Date:

- First quarter of 2019

Estimated End Date:

- End of 2022

Estimated Loan Repayment Period:

- 25 years



Map of Bosnia and Herzegovina – Croatia Section of Route 2a, with Gradiška Bridge.

The investment is designed to facilitate trade, regional integration and sustainable growth and thus have a positive impact on the broader economy of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Specifically, for the people living in the area, the new border crossing facilities will ease social and environmental pressures on Gradiška, by diverting traffic outside the city centre.

The new bridge will also adequately accommodate the traffic generated by the commissioning of the Banja Luka - Gradiška motorway as well as the future operation of the Banja Luka – Doboј motorway.

The funding granted to Bosnia and Herzegovina will be complemented and coordinated with financing for the Croatian side, possibly with EU Regional Funds. This will ensure the construction of the any missing links towards Okučani in Croatia, and thus completing the route towards Zagreb.

The design for the proposed developments is now in place. The environmental and construction permits for the investments in Bosnia and Herzegovina have also been obtained and tendering can commence. Financing agreements as well as the permitting process across the border in Croatia will be finalized in the coming period.

Benefits

- Safe and efficient road transport for more than 500,000 people using the R2a motorway.
- Passenger and freight carrying capacity significantly improved, estimated at an average of 10,000 users / day.
- Reduced border crossing times between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, estimated at 5 to 2 minutes for cars and at 30 to 12 minutes for trucks.
- 300 new jobs created during construction and another 20 during the operation and maintenance of the newly built facilities.