

Corridor Vc in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the road of Europe

Corridor Vc is contributing towards a faster social and economic integration of the Western Balkans and the European Union

Over 1.5 million people, living along the Corridor Vc (CVc), connecting the north and the south of Bosnia and Herzegovina, witness their accessibility being improved thanks to the contribution of the Western Balkans Investment Framework into this transport pillar. The Corridor Vc in Bosnia and Herzegovina is the first major motorway and the largest ever infrastructure project in the country's history. More than 68 km of motorway, including 1 cross-border bridge, have been supported by EU grants, blended with loans by [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development \(EBRD\)](#) and [European Investment Bank \(EIB\)](#). These investments are contributing towards faster economic and social development of the country.

The road network in BiH covers more than 8,000 km, of which over 1,000 km are European routes that connect the Adriatic Sea coast with Central and Northern Europe. Bosnia and Herzegovina is a key segment for the inclusion into the [Trans-European Transport Network \(TEN-T\)](#).



CORRIDOR Vc FIGURES (EU CO-FINANCED SECTIONS)

Total investment (est.): €1.1bn
EU Grants*: €202.7m
EIB and EBRD loans: €837m
Beneficiary contribution: €89.1m

11 subsections supported by WBIF



18 bridges, 7 tunnels, 9 interchanges, 4 viaducts



68.3 km of motorway, including 1 cross-border bridge, supported by EU grants



5,000 - 7,500 jobs created



* Excluding fees

WORKS UNDER CONSTRUCTION / CASE STUDIES



SVILAJ – ODŽAK / SVILAJ BRIDGE SECTION
The 660 m cross-border bridge between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia is close to completion; the use permit is pending. The 10.7 km motorway section between Svilaj and Odžak was completed in December 2017, and the works on border facilities in BiH started in May 2020 and are expected to be completed in the first half 2021.

660 m cross-border bridge and border facilities in BiH; 10.7 km motorway, 2 interchanges, rest area and toll station
Total investment (est.): €109.9m
EU grant: €24.9m
EIB and EBRD loans: €67m
Beneficiary contribution: €18m
Timeline: 2014 - 2021



JOHOVAC – RUDANKA SECTION
Works are also progressing well on the connectivity project between Tovira and Kostajnica, with the construction of a 6 km motorway on the Svilaj to Doboj section of Corridor Vc, including two interchanges at Johovac and Rudanka.

6 km motorway, including 2 interchanges and 1 bridge
Total investment (est.): €90.9m
EU grant: €14.9m
EBRD loan: €70m
Beneficiary contribution: €6m
Timeline: 2019 - 2021



TARČIN – IVAN SUBSECTION II / IVAN TUNNEL
The drilling works for the double-tube tunnel at Ivan started in March 2020. The tunnel is part of the Tarčin – Ivan motorway subsection, which connects the (already built) Vlakovo – Tarčin and Ivan – Ovčari subsections.

1.7 km long double-tube tunnel
Total investment (est.): €63.2m
EU grant: €11.5m
EBRD loan: €50m
Beneficiary contribution: €1.7m
Timeline: 2019 - 2022

WORKS UNDER CONSTRUCTION



PONIRAK – VRACA / ZENICA TUNNEL SUBSECTION
2.8 km motorway, including 2.4 km twin tunnel
Total investment (est.): €83.9m
EU grant: €19m
EIB Loans: €50m
Beneficiary Contribution: €14.9m
Timeline: 2019 - 2022



ZENICA TUNNEL – DONJA GRAČANICA SUBSECTION
4.1 km motorway, including 1 tunnel, 2 viaducts, 1 interchange and a toll station
Total investment (est.): €63.5m
EU grant: €12.1m
EBRD loan: €47.2m
Beneficiary contribution: €4.2m
Timeline: 2019 - 2021



BUNA – POČITELJ SUBSECTION
7.2 km motorway
Total investment (est.): €35.1m
EU grant: €8.8m
EBRD loan: €23.3m
Beneficiary contribution: €3m
Timeline: 2018 - 2020



POČITELJ – ZVIROVIĆI SUBSECTION
11.1 km motorway, 4 bridges (including 945 m Počitelj bridge), 1 tunnel and 1 interchange
Total investment (est.): €111.2m
EU grant: €5m
EIB loan: €100m
Beneficiary contribution: €6.2m
Timeline: 2019 - 2022

WORKS TO START IN 2020 / 2021

1 RUDANKA – PUTNIKOVO BRDO SUBSECTION
5.2 km motorway, including 2 twin tunnels, 1 bridge and 1 viaduct
Total investment (est.): €190.9m
EU grant: €37.9m
EBRD loan: €150m
Beneficiary contribution: €3m
Timeline: 2020 - 2023

2 PUTNIKOVO BRDO – MEDAKOVO SUBSECTION
8.5 km motorway, including 7 bridges, 2 interchanges with a toll station and Traffic Control and Management Center
Total investment (est.): €86.3m
EU grant: €15.6m
EBRD loan: €60m
Beneficiary contribution: €10.7m
Timeline: 2021 - 2023

3 POPRIKUŠE – NEMILA SUBSECTION
1.85 km motorway and 3.65 km twin tunnel, 2 bridges, 1 interchange, 1 viaduct and a toll station
Total investment (est.): €225.2m
EU grant: €41.2m
EIB and EBRD loans: €170m
Beneficiary contribution: €14m
Timeline: 2021 - 2024

4 TARČIN – IVAN SUBSECTION I
4.9 km motorway, including 2 bridges
Total investment (est.): €69.2m
EU grant: €11.8m
EIB loan: €50m
Beneficiary contribution: €7.4m
Timeline: 2020 - 2022

The Corridor Vc consists of a major north-south transit road between the countries of the region through Bosnia and Herzegovina. **Following the TEN-T Mediterranean Corridor extension to the Western Balkans, the CVc starts in Budapest, runs via northern Croatia (Osijek), through Bosnia and Herzegovina via Doboj, Zenica, Sarajevo and Mostar, and ends in the Croatian port of Ploče.**

With increasing pressure on the infrastructure through high daily average traffic volumes, as average it grew to over 9,700 vehicles, and a corresponding increase in freight volumes, Bosnia and Herzegovina with its neighbours embarked on an ambitious motorway construction programme. The Corridor Vc is the backbone of the country's connectivity, strategically vital for its economic development and hence, a top priority for the Western Balkans regional development.



Vojin Mitrović

Minister of Communications and Transport of BiH

'Although most of the activities in BiH have stopped due to the pandemic, we have managed to keep these large infrastructure projects progressing with all the necessary precautionary measures taken.'



Minister Denis Lasić

Federal Ministry of Transport and Communications FBiH

The construction works on all sections of Corridor Vc continue at full scale without significant difficulties, with due regard to the safety measures to reduce the risk of jeopardizing the progress of the works.



Đorđe Popović

Minister of Transport and Communications of the Republika Srpska

'The Government of Republika Srpska, despite the current crisis caused by the coronavirus, which will have significant consequences on the economy and budget, does not give up its strategic projects, the planned dynamics and timeline of their implementation.'



Adela Salkić

Engineering Geologist at Ivan Tunnel

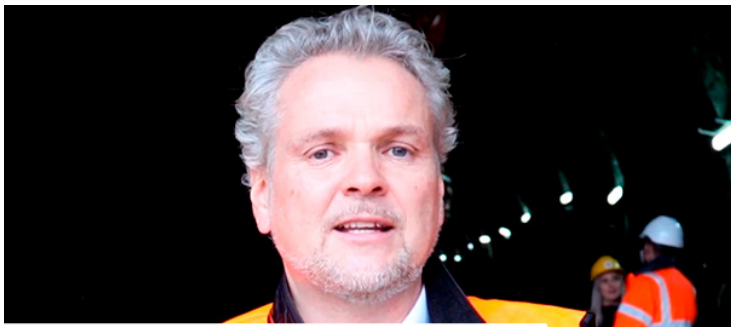
'The main goal of the reconstruction includes general improvement of the financial accommodation and technical aspects of work of judicial bodies. And all of that results in providing better services to citizens.'

More than 325 km of Corridor Vc run through BiH, the first major motorway and the largest ever infrastructure project in the country's history. The route accommodates 2x2 traffic lanes and speeds of 130kph. **In practical terms, for a typical journey from Sarajevo to the sea, that now takes three and a half hours, in a few years it will be reduced to two hours.** However, in the transport sector - as in the car industry - speed is not all. The new infrastructure is expected to reduce road accident rates and operational and maintenance costs for motorway operators and users by more than 7%.

The WBIF has actively supported the development of this corridor since the start of the preparation works back in 2014. It has mobilised technical assistance grants for project preparation as well as EU investment grants and loans (provided by the European Investment Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development) in for the construction of the various corridor sections. These investments are contributing towards faster economic and social development of the country by creating a quicker, safer and more reliable long-distance transport link with the country's key export markets. In addition, Corridor Vc will contribute towards faster social and economic integration of the Western Balkans and the European Union.

The construction works on all EU-supported sections of the new transport artery in Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to transform rugged terrain into a modern, sleek highway despite the economic and social difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic. **Uninterrupted work on this major regional highway has been possible thanks to precautionary measures set up by authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the contractors, who introduced rigorous safety protocols and protective equipment.**

The aim of these efforts is to keep operations going, retain jobs and ensure regular incomes for the people engaged on this project.



Johann Sattler

Head of EU Delegation and EU Special Representative to BiH

'Large public investment programmes most importantly generate new jobs and acceleration of construction is more than ever necessary to also mitigate the adverse impact of the pandemic.'



Matteo Rivellini

EIB Head of Lending Operations in Croatia, Slovenia and Western Balkans

'The EIB remains committed to the long-term, sustainable development of Bosnia and Herzegovina and we are proud of our role as one of the major investors in country's road infrastructure.'



Manuela Naessl

EBRD Head of Bosnia and Herzegovina

'Corridor Vc is of essential importance for the economic development of the entire country. It will open new routes towards western markets and increase connectivity.'



Matej Zakonjšek

Director of Permanent Secretariat of the Transport Community

'At the Secretariat, we believe in the 'network effect' of the Connectivity investments, where every project in any mode of transport should be connected to the wider network.'

Connectivity Agenda for the Western Balkans

In 2015, the European Union launched the Connectivity Agenda for the Western Balkans. An initiative that seeks to improve key transport and energy connections within the Western Balkans, as well as between the Western Balkans and the European Union. **Increasing transport and energy connections improves competitiveness, drives economic growth and ensures security of supply, and is at the same time an important prerequisite for economic integration within the Western Balkans.**

The Western Balkans have made the connectivity agenda one of their highest priorities, with a special emphasis on the preparation and financing of concrete regional infrastructure investment projects and on the implementation of technical standards and reform measures (e.g.: aligning/simplifying border crossing procedures, railway reforms, information systems, road safety and maintenance schemes, unbundling and third-party access).

For this purpose, the European Commission set aside up to €1 billion in grants until 2020, from the EU Pre-Accession Instrument, to support the connectivity agenda. These grants will leverage €4 billion in investments and create more than 45,000 jobs.

Building the European Future Together

The WBIF is a joint initiative of the **European Commission**, the **Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)**, the **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)**, the **European Investment Bank (EIB)**, **bilateral donors** and **Western Balkans beneficiaries** launched in December 2009 with the **purpose to deliver finance and technical assistance for strategic investments**. The **KfW** and the **World Bank** subsequently joined the platform. In December 2018, the **Agence Française de Développement (AFD)** became a participating organisation in the WBIF.

The WBIF blends grants, loans and beneficiary contributions for infrastructure investments in the energy, environment, social, transport and digital sectors as well as for private sector development. Together with the Western Balkans beneficiaries, **the WBIF forms a unique partnership, which defines priorities and support packages for strategic investments and institutional reform in the region**. It contributes to the European perspective of the Western Balkans by supporting investments that improve competitiveness and growth and are complemented by policy measures that foster regional cooperation and connectivity.

Since 2008, the **WBIF has allocated €1.3 bn in grants for €20.8 bn estimated investments** in well connected transport, energy and digital networks, renewable energy and energy efficiency, water supply and wastewater systems, flood protection, education, research and cultural establishments, healthcare and judicial facilities, which are crucial for sustainable development in the region.

Corridor Vc, October 2020 (c) WBIF

Ponirak-Vraca Tunnel, November 2020 (c) [PC Motorways](#)

CVc Virtual Tour (c) EBRD



11 SECTIONS INCLUDING TWO
CROSS-BORDER BRIDGES WITH EU



5,000 – 7,500 JOBS DURING
CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE



IMPROVED ACCESSIBILITY FOR
MORE THAN 1.5 MILLION PEOPLE



INCREASED TRAVEL SPEEDS
FROM 60 KM/H TO 130 KM/H ON
THE MOTORWAY



LOWER ROAD ACCIDENT RATES
AND VEHICLE OPERATING COSTS



IMPROVED TRADE FLOWS
WITHIN THE WIDER REGION

The Corridor Vc is the backbone of Bosnia and Herzegovina's connectivity, strategically vital for its economic development and a top priority for the Western Balkans regional development.

Project title:

Construction of Road Corridor Vc in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Total Estimated Investment:

€1.1bn

EU Grants*:

€ 202.7m

EIB and EBRD loans: €837m:

€ 837m

Beneficiary contribution:

€88.5m

*Excluding fees

