

Note for Editor: Intended for publication in period: 8 to 10 July 2010

This is a regular update on progress with the Millennium Challenge Corporation Vanuatu Project compiled by MCA-Vanuatu and the Design and Build Contractor – Downer EDI Works Vanuatu Ltd on behalf of the MCA-V Project Team.

MCA Update #77 Efate Ring Road & Santo East Coast Road



Preparing the pavement surface for sealing. A Downer EDI Works Vanuatu grader trims the road near Pesal's Beach.



The Lakensua Floodway after the concrete was poured. The workers in the right foreground are placing protective reno mattress baskets



Downer EDI Works crew carrying out planned routine maintenance work in one of the sections Taken-Over by The Employer – in this case trimming vegetation near Onesua.



A loaded barge about to leave for Santo carrying additional equipment so that preparations to seal the remaining length of road can commence.

Santo Work

Aggregate production continues from the Maour Quarry at the 52 km mark and the pavement team are now working North from this quarry towards the end of the Project length at the 58 km mark in Port Olry. All the culvert pipes on the road to Port Olry have now been installed and only two culverts in Hog Harbour remain to be installed.

Additional equipment to finally trim the road surface so that it is ready for sealing is now being transported to Santo. Sealing of the total length from Manioc to Port Olry is expected to resume in late July/early August. Rock lined drain work is underway at the 49 km mark near the blue hole North of Hog Harbour.

Efate Work

After restoring road access and repairing damage caused by last week's heavy rain and flooding, normal pavement work has now resumed. The pavement overlay crew are working on the final 3 km section near Erueti that is left to complete. Other crews are carrying out final trimming and shaping of the pavement surface to get it ready for sealing. Sealing has recommenced near Eton village and will continue in this area as weather conditions allow.

The concrete for the floodway at Lakenasua has now been poured although the structure will not be open to traffic until the concrete has gained the required strength. This is expected to occur late this week. In the mean time, users are advised to use temporary crossing. Guardrail installation is underway at the 67 km mark near Forari.

A Word of Thanks from MCA-V and MCC-V

We would like to warmly thank the Downer EDI management and workers who operated at all hours to repair the damage and re-open access following the heavy rains. Thanks to all road-users for your patience and understanding.

Traffic Conditions and Road Safety

Road users are urged to comply with the safety signs and the directions of traffic controllers at work sites. Again, we ask all drivers to refrain from speeding anywhere on the sealed road or where construction is underway. The roads are construction sites and used by pedestrians as well as other vehicles.

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In addition further information can be found on the MCA – Vanuatu website at www.mcavanuatu.gov.vu.

Next update will be provided on Thursday 15 July 2010