



CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL SHEET

We wish to inform you that the Millennium Challenge Corporation intends to obligate up to \$750,000 to facilitate the development and implementation of a Millennium Challenge Compact with the Government of Burkina Faso.

The attached notification is being sent to the Congress on March 6, 2017. Obligation of funds may be incurred on or after 15 days from the date of this notification.

In addition, we have attached supplemental information that further describes the planned use of the funds.

Sincerely,

/s/

James A. Mazzarella
Vice President (Acting)
Congressional and Public Affairs

Enclosures: As stated

**MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION
CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION**

March 6, 2017

PROGRAM:	Eligible Countries
APPROPRIATIONS CATEGORY:	Fiscal Year 2017 Program Funds
OBLIGATION AMOUNT:	\$750,000

Pursuant to section 7015(c) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2016, as carried forward by the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017, as amended, this is to advise that the Millennium Challenge Corporation (“MCC”) intends to obligate up to \$750,000 under section 609(g) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, as amended, for the purpose of facilitating the development and implementation of a Millennium Challenge Compact (“Compact”) with the Government of Burkina Faso.

MCC plans to finance initial administrative expenses required to ensure prompt development of comprehensive preliminary analysis activities, including the completion of an analysis of constraints to economic growth, public consultations, and detailed assessments of the core problems and underlying root causes of the identified binding constraints.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION - MCC 609(g) Activities for Burkina Faso

Background

The Government of Burkina Faso continues to make strong progress in strengthening democratic institutions, maintaining sound economic policies, and investing in its people. Burkina Faso's sustained political stability—further strengthened since 2015—has translated into strong scorecard performance including passage of both the Political Rights and Civil Liberties indicators in fiscal year 2017. Additionally, the country improved its already strong score on the Control of Corruption indicator. MCC and Burkina Faso built a robust partnership during the development and implementation of its first compact program, which was reflected in Burkina Faso's commitment to sustain the investment of that compact. Against this background, MCC's Board of Directors selected Burkina Faso as eligible to develop a second compact program on December 13, 2016.

Planned 609(g) Expenses

MCC's compact development process begins with a diagnostic analysis intended to identify a country's binding constraints to economic growth (the "Constraints Analysis"). Timely completion of the Constraints Analysis and agreement on binding constraints, as well as completion of related public consultations and initial sector assessments, represent a critical, initial milestone in MCC's compact development process.

MCC intends to use funding under section 609(g) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, as amended, to finance the Government of Burkina Faso's initial administrative expenses necessary to ensure timely completion of a comprehensive Constraints Analysis and related analyses. Such expenses may include initial salaries for critical, dedicated technical experts, such as economists, social, gender and private sector experts, monitoring and evaluation expertise, and a designated national coordinator; support for public consultations; and related administrative expenses. The planned funding will ensure that the Government of Burkina Faso and MCC have early access to the technical expertise needed to conduct a rigorous Constraints Analysis, as well as related analyses, thereby setting the stage for robust project proposals and facilitating the development of an MCC compact.

Update and Sustainability of the 2008 Burkina Faso Compact

MCC and the Government of Burkina Faso signed a five-year, \$480.9 million compact in July 2008, to increase economic growth and reduce poverty by investing in four project areas: agriculture, land tenure, roads, and girls' education. The Government of Burkina Faso met all of the compact's policy and reform conditions precedent by the end of the compact in July 2014, and over 98 percent of the compact funds were disbursed.

- The Roads Project (\$194.1 million) enhanced access to markets through investments in Burkina Faso's road network. The achievements of the project included 194 km of primary roads completed, 83.8 km of secondary roads completed, 248 km of road maintenance work completed with the incentive matching fund for periodic road

maintenance (IMFPM), and \$25 million of Government of Burkina Faso funds contributed to the IMFPM.

- The Agricultural Development Project (\$140.4 million) sought to expand the productive use of land in order to increase the volume and value of agricultural production in project zones. Achievements included 12 local water committees established and operational, 2,240 hectares under improved irrigation, 280 enterprises assisted, 38 producer associations having applied improved agricultural techniques, and \$2.8 million in agricultural and rural loans.
- The BRIGHT II Project (\$26.8 million) increased access to education and improved educational facilities focusing on girls. Its achievements included 396 classrooms constructed, 122 kindergartens constructed, and 264 latrines constructed.
- The Rural Land Governance (RLG) Project (\$58 million) increased investment in land and rural productivity through improved land tenure security and land management. The RLG project successfully established 78 land administration offices, trained over 60,000 stakeholders on conflict resolution and land management, and formalized land rights for almost 4,800 households. Through 2015, including the Government of Burkina Faso's efforts post-Compact, achievements also included 1,376 hectares of irrigated land leased to households or legal entities by the state in the Di perimeter, 1,433 land titles delivered in the Di perimeter, 700 hectares of land secured in the Di perimeter, and 280 Continuously Operating Reference Station users.