Project Profile: Coastal Highway Upgrading

This project is expected to make major upgrades to a key arterial route along the east coast of Belize: the 59 km-long Coastal Highway linking the George Price Highway to the Hummingbird Highway. The current roadway traverses mostly low lying terrain and has a gravel surface with poor drainage, making it impassable at certain times of the year. Designs will incorporate improved climate resilience, and build on existing road safety initiatives.

Improvements (including the construction of bridges) are expected to:
- Reduce travel distances by 45km between northern and southern districts of Belize;
- Improve the efficiency of the north-south movement of goods to the country’s ports and facilitate expansion of agricultural production and tourism; and
- Improve access to services and economic opportunities for Gales Point, Manatee and Mullins River communities – leading to important social and gender benefits.

Status

- **October, 2017**
  Consultants engaged to undertake feasibility study and detailed designs.
- **December, 2018**
  Feasibility study submitted
- **April, 2017**
  Capital project approved
- **Q3, 2019**
  Commencement of Construction
- **November, 2016**
  Technical Assistance (TA) grant to prepare capital project approved

**Project Funding**

- **Total UKCIF allocation for Belize**
  - £42.4 million
- **TA total**
  - £1.15 million
- **Capital total**
  - £59.8 mn
- **Other funding**
  - £0.15 mn
- **TA grant**
  - £1.0 mn
- **Capital grant**
  - £34.7 mn
- **Other grant**
  - £25.1 mn

**Key Contacts**

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