



## **EU Information Day - Transport Infrastructure Opportunities in Montenegro, 28 January 2025**

### Summary of the Question and Answers Session

A summary of the discussion following asked questions and provided answers follows:

1. When is the tender due for Matesevo – Andrijevisa Highway Section? Middle of February 2025. It will be followed by 2-3 months for submission of tenders following which the evaluation of the offers and contract signing will follow. The objective of the government is to have this contract signed in 2025.
2. Is there going to be a tender for the supervision of Matesevo – Andrijevisa Highway project? Yes, the prequalification process for the supervision of the Matesevo – Andrijevisa Highway project has been completed. The evaluation report, including the shortlist of prequalified candidates, has been submitted to EBRD for no-objection.
3. How was the public debt reduced from 110% to 52% in one year? By not embarking on new borrowing and by hedging on an existing loan. The only new loan received was for education and health sectors.
4. How much is the VAT in construction sector? 21%. VAT ranges in Montenegro from 0 – 21%. Exported goods have 0% VAT.
5. Is the tender for concession of the two airports closed? The first stage of PQ (prequalification) is completed and 3 offers were prequalified. Among them groups with EU companies. The second stage is planned for completion in April 2025. Contract is planned to be signed in June 2025.
6. How much is the balance of payments between imports and exports, since almost all construction materials are imported in Montenegro? The balance of external trade is not good. We need EU companies to bring in new technologies to reduce the deficit. We need new and more Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs).
7. With GDP around €6Billion and CAPEX of projects around €9Billion, how is the difference going to be covered? As the relevant professional documentation is prepared, for each project we will be considering the available options. PPP and concessions also constitute options to sound investments. According to new regulations, EU can take part in PPP arrangements, supporting State budget. Subsidies can be also provided by EU.
8. Do not forget O&M costs for all projects and that the private sector may be interested to be involved in undertaking them through concessions. EU covers relevant PPP initiatives.
9. What is the planning for the investments and the two concessions? The only big tender to be launched in 2025 is the Matesevo – Andrijevisa Highway section. The maturity of other highway projects -that is related to their future planning- can be seen on the table of Slide 2 in both presentations of Monteput. Similarly in the presentation of RIOM.
10. Does the new Law on Strategic Investment include favourable measures on approvals for matters related to the environmental protection? Yes, urgent procedures are foreseen.

11. In addition to Construction Law and the new Law on Strategic Investments, is the existing Law for Bar – Boljare Highway relevant for the new tender for Matesevo – Andrijevica Highway section? No, the Law on Bar – Boljare will not be implemented.