

We are very excited about a new mega project being formalized by the nations of South Sudan,

Ethiopia

and

Kenya

. This will entail many billions of dollars in projects for all businesses wishing to apply their talents and will create millions of permanent jobs for the citizens of these nations. This project is equivalent to the United States Interstate System during the 1950's – 1960's. Its impact will bring

Eastern Africa

into the modernized world. African American entrepreneurs should take a serious look at this and explore the endless opportunities. Remember we fight for “crumbs” on our own big government projects. Over the years we have done no more than 2% of any total. We do hardly anything on our own highway projects. Here, we will be welcomed and encouraged to “jump in”. This can be our new day.

What has been designed is an economic corridor incorporating all three nations. It goes from the coastal region of Lamu in Kenya (northeast) to the new nation of South Sudan and inclusive of the Isiolo region in Southern Ethiopia

. Right now these areas are remote and undeveloped. The starting infrastructure will be composed of the following: A deep water seaport located in Manda Bay of Lamu, Kenya; 550 miles of new open Highway; 1,069 miles of new Railway Line; Oil Pipelines (787.5 miles for crude oil and 612.5 miles for products from Lamu to Isiolo, and Isiolo to South Sudan and Isiolo to Ethiopia; Oil Refinery (120,000 barrels per day) in Lamu; new Airports in the towns of Lamu, Isiolo and Turkana; new Resort Cities at Lamu, Isiolo and Turkana areas. Other opportunities include: Water supply and sanitation projects; fiber optic cable connections; energy generation and supply projects; irrigation projects; industrial parks; minerals exploitation and waste management.

As you can see this is going to be absolutely massive. But it is only the first phase of a much larger undertaking. Once the above is complete, the nations to the west such as Uganda, Burundi

Congo

and the

Cameroon

will match this project. In the end we will have a pipeline, railway and intercontinental highway system linking the

Indian Ocean

side of the continent of

Africa
to the
Atlantic Ocean
side. Transport and international trade will be improved by a rapid pace. Think of the industrial
parks, hotels, restaurants, office complexes being created and employing people like never
before. That still isn't all.
Namibia
,
South Africa
,
Botswana
,
Zimbabwe
,
Zambia
and
Mozambique
to the southern portion of the continent will emulate the above. Thus,
Africa
will have two systems of mass transit, transport and economic corridors.

This is so exciting and massive one must wonder how to approach it. The National Black
Chamber of Commerce is developing a firm partnership with the nations of Kenya, Ethiopia and
South Sudan
th Sudan
. The first official meeting explaining the details of the project will be held in
Washington, DC
on
April 30, 2012
. Representatives of the three nations and also the Overseas Private Investment Corporation
(OPIC) will be involved in discussing the timing and how to go about competing for the myriad of
projects that will be evolving. Besides entrepreneurs having massive opportunities, think about
the big need for workforce development (job training), recruiting, leasing, housing, etc. The
catering of employees is going to be in the many millions of dollars on a constant and long-term
basis. The face of
Africa
is starting to change and those who want to partake should get ready and start at the beginning.

It is going to be so refreshing – Black contractors and engineers being welcomed to projects.
The stench of discrimination will not be in the “air” as it is in this nation. We have to fight, sue
and protest on a constant basis in order to get the 2% that we have. That atmosphere will be
absent here. Financing and matchmaking with local talent will be imperative. We will exhaust

all resources in making this work for our members. The US Department of Commerce has a vehicle to help our interested business owners meet their counterparts in particular nations. They will vet the local firms and find the best fit (reputable and solid) for a particular American business. Then we will see the partnership through and assist them in getting contracts.

Yes, this is something big to look forward to. There will be competition from Asia and Europe but we Americans, especially African Americans, aren't afraid of competition. Besides we have a natural affinity with the people of East Africa and they have made it clear that we are most welcomed. It is time for us to get busy building up the Mother Land . Wealth, business development and job creation are going to make incredible changes that is long overdue.

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