



Millennium Challenge Account - Armenia

Road To A Better Life

Bagrevan is one of the 7 communities that benefits from the rehabilitation of a 24.5 kilometer section of Armavir-Isahakyan-Gyumri road under the MCA-Armenia program. Bagrevan is situated in the Northern part of Armenia, which borders Turkey.

Hovik Aghajanyan is one of 980 inhabitants of this village who preferred not to leave his birthplace in search for an easier life. He is a teacher in the local school and owns 8.5 hectares of land where he cultivates wheat and barley, as well as is engaged in beekeeping. Now, when the road connecting Bagrevan with the second largest city in Armenia – Gyumri – has been rehabilitated, Hovik Aghajanyan and many others will start to take their goods and products to the market instead of selling it cheaper to agri-businessmen who come and buy directly from farmers to take the products to mills. “I will start to take my wheat and barley to mills and markets myself and this will increase my income. I will get around 15-20 drams more per one kilogram”, says Hovik Aghajanyan.



Hovik Aghajanyan never lost his hope that his village will start to develop.

The rehabilitation of 24.5 kilometer section of Armavir-Isahakyan-Gyumri road is nearly completed. People from the benefiting communities already enjoy the newly asphalted road which will be officially inaugurated on December 15, 2008.

“Before the MCA-Armenia program, the road to Gyumri took at least 40 minutes”, - says Artyom Petrosyan, the Bagrevan Village Mayor, “Now we reach it in 15-20 minutes! Another positive sign is that the traffic has significantly increased”, - says Artyom - “We had buses go to the capital, Yerevan, and Gyumri passing only once a day, while now they are every 2 hours”.

In addition to importance for reaching bigger markets, the people of Bagrevan benefited from direct employment in the construction works. Another indirect support to the community of Bagrevan by the Contractor is the newly renovated and refurbished local municipality building which previously had been in appalling condition with “... just walls and couple of windows”.

Because of irrigation problems, people in this community mainly practice cattle breeding. They used to process the milk and after processing they were selling it on the market, which was more expensive. Now, with better roads and better access to the markets, they start to sell their dairy products to processors who come and take it from their houses. This results in producing more milk, having more cattle and increasing their income. During the next year, MCA-Armenia will provide better roads to 73 more communities across Armenia, with total length of 273km of newly renovated road sections.



Renovated building of Bagrevan village Mayor and rehabilitated road. Civil works still in progress.