

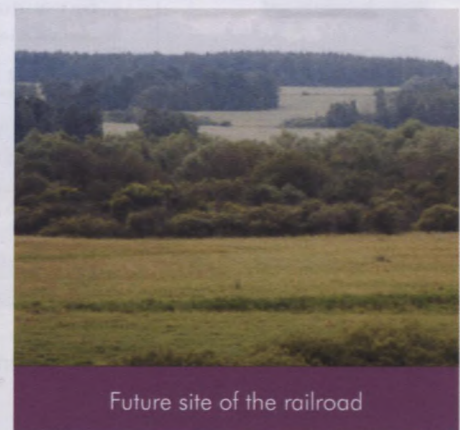
Canada, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States are the primary partners in the Shchuch'ye CWDF project and work closely together through the Shchuch'ye Coordination Working Group, which meets quarterly in Russia. The working group was constituted in 2003 to facilitate information exchange and ensure maximum cooperation around construction activities. Other *Global Partnership* contributors to the Shchuch'ye facility include the Czech Republic, the European Union, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand and Norway.

While the U.S. is the largest contributor to the project, Canada and the U.K. are providing significant funding. Canada's implementation of its projects at Shchuch'ye through the U.K.'s bilateral Chemical Weapons Destruction Agreement with Russia has significantly reduced administrative costs associated with the project and facilitated coordination among major donors.

Photo Credit: US Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)



Artist's Rendition of railway entering the CWDF industrial zone and arriving at Main Destruction Building



Future site of the railroad

Photo Credit: US Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)

Railway Project

Canada has committed up to \$33 million to help fund the construction of a key program component, an 18-kilometre railway spur. The railway will provide a secure link between the Shchuch'ye destruction facility and the chemical weapons storage facility at Planovy. While the primary purpose of this line is to enable the chemical munitions to be transported to the destruction site in a safe and secure manner, it will also be used to deliver operational supplies and remove waste materials. Canada has obtained a US\$1-million contribution to its program from the U.S. NGO Nuclear Threat Initiative, which will be applied to the construction of a rail bridge across the Miass River.

Difficulties in the subcontractor tendering process that delayed project implementation in 2004 have now been resolved. Canada and the U.K. are

currently finalizing the remaining legal arrangements. To date, \$4 million has been transferred to the U.K. for initial planning work. Railway construction is expected to start in November 2005 and will take an estimated 20 to 24 months to complete.

Other Infrastructure Projects

In January 2005, a second MOU was signed by Canada and the U.K. to cover other key industrial infrastructure projects at the Shchuch'ye CWDF, including the construction of a 3.8-kilometre access road, a local warning system at the facility and inter-site communication lines.