

Echang marina, dock work starts

WORK on the Echang Marina and Dock Improvement Project in Arkebesang, Koror is set to start with the project's contractor, Socio Micronesia, receiving a formal notice to proceed with the construction in a ceremony held on

Tuesday morning, January 21st.

The project which will cover an area of 26,000 square feet features a 24-hour boat access, a boat ramp, and basketball and tennis courts. According to Minister of Resources and Development Fritz

Koshiha, Work will start within 10 days, and the project will be completed by September of 2003.

More than \$700,000 in funding for the project comes through grants from the Republic of China (Taiwan). Ambassador Clark K.H. Chen spoke at the ceremony and remarked that Taiwan has a "special relationship" with Sonsorol and Hatohobei. "I am happy to see the project finally started," Chen said.

Governor of Sonsorol Laura Ierago offered thanks to Taiwan and to all who made the project happen, saying that it was "initiated through the efforts of our youth." President Tommy Remengesau also spoke at the ceremony, saying that while the main benefactors of the project will be the people of Sonsorol and Hatohobei who reside in Echang, it will also benefit Meyuns and all of the people of Palau.#