

SOME PROBLEMS OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF OLYMPIC
SITES IN SOCHI

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The Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver have finished, and the world begins to look more closely at the city of Sochi, the Black Sea resort that will host the Games in 2014.

The 2014 Sochi Olympic are the first Winter Games to take place in a sub-tropical climate. The Games play on the unique proximity of the sea and snow with two structural clusters for the Games, one in the mountains at Krasnaya Polyana, where the snow sports will be played out, and a coastal cluster that will feature ice hockey, ice skating, and other ice-based sports.

The Games are the catalyst for one of the most comprehensive makeovers of an Olympic city in recent history. More than \$6 billion of investment is earmarked for Sochi to transform this provincial Russian town into metropolis fit for gods. Nearly all sport facilities have to be built from scratch. There are few roads, too much traffic and inadequate public transportation. The supply of electricity is unreliable and there are not enough hotels. But still many people hope that the Games can boost tourism and upgrade decaying infrastructure.

There are two federal programs in Sochi. The first one is aimed to build infrastructure and roads. The second covers the cost of construction and reconstruction of residential buildings, polyclinics and hospitals. A lot has already been done and is being done at present in Sochi. More than 300 apartment blocks have been built. A new hospital equipped with the latest technology and a new ring road were opened last year. Sochi is also building a new embankment, a skating ring, a media center, the Olympic village, a multi-use retail center, eight mini-ports for a sea taxi and four first-class ski resorts. So by the Olympics the city will have a fundamentally different look.

Belarus is taking part in the construction of the Olympic sites in Sochi. About 100000 experienced builders from Belarus are working now in Sochi. A lot of building equipment, trucks, tractors, busses have been delivered from Belarussian plants “MAZ” and “Belaz”.

Both residents and guests of Sochi will benefit by the Games as they will leave behind new roads, hotels, business centers, shopping malls, concert halls, ski resorts and many other major facilities.