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Learning Event on Improving the sustainability of development interventions: What will it take?

Striving for Lasting Impact: Key Evaluative knowledge to Sustainable Development Interventions

Presenter

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Presentation Outline

"We never know the worth of water till the well is dry." — *Thomas Fuller;* 1608-1661





The Quest for Increased Infrastructure Financing

Something is Adding Fuel to the Fire

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A Gloomy Picture: Infrastructure Gap



The Well is Dry!

69% Basic drinking water coverage in Africa (2020)

46% Basic drinking water coverage in Rural Sub-Saharan Africa

The sanitation landscape is overcast!

31% Basic sanitation coverage in Sub-Saharan Africa

22% Basic sanitation coverage in Africa

A Gloomy Picture: Infrastructure Gap Heart of Darkness!



45% Electricity coverage in Sub-Saharan Africa

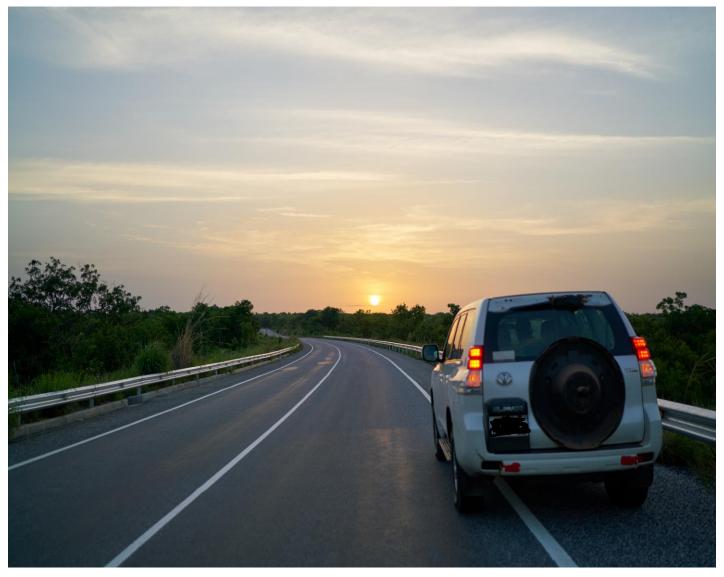


A Gloomy Picture: Infrastructure Gap



The Road to Nowhere!

25% of Africa's road network is paved compared to the world's average of more than 50 percent.



The quest for increased financing



USD 100 billion Per year required in the power sector over 2020-2040.

USD 43.8 billion the record investment in 2018.

\$39.7 billion per year

the annual capital costs of meeting SDG targets 6.1 and 6.2 in Africa

\$12.7 billion

the average annual sector funding for water and sanitation in Africa between 2012 and 2017





And Something is Adding Fuel to the Fire !

Limited Sustainability of Development Interventions Outcomes

Evaluative Knowledge on Fostering Sustainability



Enabling and hindering factors to the sustainability of development interventions outcomes

- Choosing appropriate infrastructure technologies
- Strengthening infrastructure maintenance.
- Fostering stakeholder ownership and engagement.
- Striving for the environment and social viability.
- Addressing economic and financial sustainability.
- Strengthening institutional capacity for better governance.



Choosing Appropriate Infrastructure Technologies



Findings:

- AfDB's infrastructure interventions use state-of-theart technologies (Urban Water, Energy).
- For RWSS, technical viability was sound for water supply infrastructures, but less so for sanitation facilities.
- However, the use of "state-of-the-art" technologies in infrastructure is only relevant if they meet needed technology requirements and there is adequate availability of spare parts and relevant expertise.
- Project designs are mainly driven by the selected technology rather than considerations for technical and financial appropriateness.

Lesson:

Appropriate technologies in infrastructure facilitates
 the feasibility and operation and maintenance.



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Strengthening infrastructure maintenance

Findings:

- Evaluations found shortcomings in infrastructure maintenance.
 Example of hydropower power plant in DRC (Inga Project), and in Uganda.
- African water utilities are plagued with levels of NRW as high as 50%, with an average of 30.3% against a benchmark of 20%.
- In rural areas, on average, about 1/3 of the rural water supply facilities are non-functional.
- 49% of the paved roads are in good condition and 85% of rural feeder roads remain in poor condition depriving many people from access to basic services..
- Failure to perform routine maintenance in African water utilities increases overall capital replacement costs by at least 60%.

Lessons:

 Inadequate maintenance increases lifetime costs and decreases benefits.





Fostering stakeholder ownership and engagement

Findings:

- Efforts made in infrastructure interventions to involve stakeholders.
- An effective participatory process during project design allows better identification of needs and selection of the most appropriate technologies for local conditions to ensure better facilities management.
- There are different levels of participation. Empowering program beneficiaries is the most powerful approach

Lessons:

An effective participatory process during project design is essential to enhanced ownership. The extent and quality of collaboration with stakeholders matters.



Striving for environment and social viability

Findings:

- Systematic assessment of environmental and social risks and incorporation of mitigation measures.
- Some unintended, underestimated, or unresolved environmental and social issues.
- Development of an ESS policy is not an end in itself: Organization needs to show how potential and environmental impacts are managed on a project/program level.

Lessons:

Monitoring environmental and social issues during project lifetime helps appropriate management of potential environmental and social impacts.



Addressing economic and financial sustainability Findings:



- Economic and financial sustainability threatened by financial stress of utilities (water and power).
- The main challenge compromising the sustainability of the benefits of Urban Water Supply projects relates to an inadequate and unaddressed performance of utilities.
- The tariffs of the electricity markets in 36 of 54 RMCs (67%) do not reflect the true cost of providing electricity.
- Financial sustainability of road project results remains weak as reforms of road funds and road agencies are yet to deliver results.
- When using PPP in infrastructure, financial sustainability is challenged by the lack of measuring and monitoring the fiscal impact of PPPs by the Bank, especially contingent liabilities.

Lesson:

Improving the creditworthiness of utilities helps closing the large infrastructure financing gap.



Strengthening institutional capacity for better governance

Findings:

- Weak institutional environment is recurring theme in RMCs. However, Rwanda is a good example.
- In Transition States, at the level of reforms, high mobility of qualified staff and lack of political will threatened sustainability.
- The AfDB's contribution to strengthening institutional capacity in countries' infrastructure sectors was found to be limited.
- Insufficient human capacity in both local governments and communities – to manage and operate rural water infrastructure could adversely affects service delivery.

Lesson:

Strengthening institutional capacity enhances infrastructure sectoral governance.







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Thank you



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