BY 2030, the world will consume twice as much electricity as it does today, if government policies remain unchanged.

Infrastructure to 2030
Telecom, Land Transport, Water and Electricity

Infrastructures are the very foundation of modern economies and societies. Energy, transport, water, telecommunications, all will continue to be essential to future development and growth. However, infrastructure investment requirements over the coming decades will be massive, running into trillions of dollars. The bulk of investment will be in the developing world, especially in the major economies such as China, India and Brazil. But OECD countries will nevertheless account for a huge share, much of it in infrastructures which in many countries have been seriously neglected, e.g. water and waste water treatment.

How will the investments be financed, given that OECD populations are ageing fast and public finances tightening? How will such factors as urbanisation, climate change and globalisation affect the development of infrastructures in OECD countries? How will the role of the public sector and private actors evolve over time? These are just some of the questions this OECD report addresses in its long-term assessment of the future of infrastructures.

>
> THE AMOUNT SPENT on bottled water worldwide – $100 billion per year – would be enough to pay for piped supplies to most of the world’s population currently without access to tap water.

>
> A THIRD of the world’s population owned a mobile phone at the end of 2005, compared to less than a quarter with a fixed line.

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> ROAD TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE will need an estimated global investment of $220-290 billion a year, from now until 2030.
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