Delivering Quality Infrastructure – Meeting the Governance Challenge

4th OECD Forum on Governance of Infrastructure

17 April 2019, OECD Headquarters, Paris

This annual Forum brings together key decision-makers representing relevant stakeholders from both the public and private sectors -- from centres of government, ministries of finance, regulators and sub-national governments, financial institutions and institutional investors -- to exchange experience on the role of infrastructure governance in delivering quality infrastructure.

9:30-9:45 Opening remarks

Chair: Mr. Thomas Barrett, Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution (Non-resident), Former Permanent Representative for the European Investment Bank (EIB) and Minister of the EU Delegation to the United States.

- Mr. Ulrik Vestergaard Knudsen, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD
- Mr. Gabriele Pasquini, Chair, OECD Network of Senior PPP and Infrastructure Officials

9:45-11:00 Session 1: Ensuring affordability, economic viability, and fiscal sustainability

Regardless of the delivery mode, governments aim to ensure that infrastructure projects are economically, fiscally and financially viable and that the overall national sectoral strategic investment programme is sustainable. Good governance is essential to ensure these assessments are not only carried out at the project selection stage but are also sustained throughout the project lifecycle. This requires a strong link between the project investment and the fiscal framework of the country. Poor management of infrastructure policy places pressure on public finances and deprives citizens and businesses of necessary high quality infrastructure.

- Mr. Andrew McDowell, Vice-President, European Investment Bank
- Mr. Gerd Schwartz, Deputy Director, Fiscal Affairs Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Mr. Andrew Blazey, Deputy Head, Budgeting and Public Expenditures Division, OECD
- Mr. Duncan Kernohan, Principal Economist, Infrastructure, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Discussant: Mr. Amar Bhattacharya, Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development Program, Brookings Institution.
Moderator: Mr. Thomas Barrett, Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution (Non-resident), Former Permanent Representative for the European Investment Bank (EIB) and Minister of the EU Delegation to the United States.
11:00-11:15  Keynote Speech on G20 Presidency:

Introduction: Mr. André Laboul, Senior Counsellor, Financial Affairs Directorate, OECD

- Mr. Takahiro Tsuda, Director for Policy Co-ordination, Development Policy Division, International Bureau, Ministry of Finance, Japan

11:15-11:45  Coffee

11:45-13:00  Session 2: Sustainable investment through effective economic regulation

A lack of effective and trusted institutions to regulate infrastructure networks can reduce the potential benefits that can be achieved from those networks (e.g. financial performance, cost, safety, reliability, quality of service). Credibility and trust are enhanced through regulatory transparency, clear responsibility for public authorities and a stable policy framework. Greater confidence in the regulatory system allows regulators to set and enforce appropriate standards and play an important role in creating an enabling a supportive environment for investment by private and public sector companies. For the private sector in particular and for users, political and regulatory risks result in higher costs of finance and reduce investment capacity in the long-term.

- Mr. Adam Rudny, Airport Charges Manager, The International Air Transport Association (IATA)
- Mr. Doug Segars, Managing Director, Moodys Credit Rating Agency
- Ms. Cristina Cifuentes, Commissioner, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
- Mr. Douglas Millican, CEO, Scottish Water

Discussant: Mr. Lorenzo Casullo, Policy Analyst, Regulatory Policy Division, OECD
Moderator: Mr. Russell Pittman, Director of Economic Research, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice, USA

13:00-14:30  Lunch

14:30-15:30  Session 3: Managing corruption risks in infrastructure: how can data-driven approaches help?

Public investment in infrastructure can be prone to corruption across the project cycle, and corruption carries a high cost. Direct impacts include scarcity of essential services, lower quality services and misallocation of public funds. Corruption also incurs more subtle indirect costs, such as lower incentives to innovate and less trust in government institutions. A digital age in government brings fresh opportunities to identify and manage corruption risks. New technologies, and data analytics can help to shed new light on potentially corrupt practices, so that entities can improve management decisions and controls. This session explores data-driven approaches for managing corruption risks in infrastructure, including lessons from using data analytics and other innovative mechanisms to detect fraud and corruption risks in public investment.

- Mr. Jim Brumby, Director, Governance Global Practice, World Bank (tbc)
- Mr. Gavin Ugale, Manager, Risk Management and Audit, Public Sector Integrity, OECD
- Ms. Lara Dobinson, Head of Unit, European Anti-Fraud Office, European Commission (tbc)
Discussant: Mr. John Hawkins, Head of Programmes, COST Transparency Initiative
Moderator: Mr. Thomas Barrett, Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution (Non-resident), Former Permanent Representative for the European Investment Bank (EIB) and Minister of the EU Delegation to the United States.

15:30-16:30 Session 4: Strengthening the resilience of critical infrastructure
Infrastructure resilience helps to minimise the disruption of essential services and contributes to the viability and sustainability of infrastructure investments. In view of the uncertainties of future climatic, demographic and economic conditions, care is needed when planning infrastructure in order to prioritize solutions that maximise resilience. Implementing Quality Infrastructure framework and approach can increase resilience; however, governments need to work with the private sector to ensure that the organisational capacity and incentives for ensuring resilience are in place.

- Mr. Charles Baubion, Policy Analyst, Reform of the Public Sector Division, OECD
- Ms. Katie Black, Director of Policy, UK National Infrastructure Commission
- Mr. Michael Schack, Director, International partnerships, ENGIE
- Mr. Adam Meyer, Minister Counsellor Home Affairs, Australian High Commission in the United Kingdom

Moderator: Mr. Richard Smith Bingham, Director, Emerging Risks, Marsh & McLennan Insights

16:30-17:00 Coffee

17:00-17:45 Session 5: Trends and future work in infrastructure governance
The final session will present recent and future initiatives by the OECD and partners to help address the emerging challenges and opportunities of infrastructure governance.

- Mr. André Laboul, Head of Division, Financial Affairs Division, OECD
- Ms. Irène Hors, Deputy Director, Public Governance Directorate, OECD
- Ms. Marie Lam-Frendo, CEO, Global Infrastructure Hub

Moderator: Mr. Thomas Barrett, Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution (Non-resident), Former Permanent Representative for the European Investment Bank (EIB) and Minister of the EU Delegation to the United States.

17:45-18:00 Session 6: Summary and closing remarks
- Mr. Marcos Bonturi, Director for Public Governance, OECD (tbc)

18:00 Cocktail Reception
MEETING INFORMATION

Registration Form
All Delegates must complete the attached registration form and return it to the Secretariat (helene.leconte-lucas@oecd.org) ahead of the meeting.

Accommodations
Delegates are responsible for their own accommodation. Information on hotels close to the OECD at special rates and our online booking system can be found at: http://www.oecd.org/site/conferencecentre/hotels-close-to-oecd.htm

Meeting Location
The meeting will take place at the Conference Centre at the OECD Headquarters – Château de la Muette – which is located at: 2 rue André Pascal in the 16th arrondissement (district) of Paris. The closest metro station is “La Muette” on line 9 or "Bouainvilliers” or “Henri Martin” on line C of the RER train network. More information on getting to the OECD can be found at: http://www.oecd.org/site/conferencecentre/gettingtotheoecd.htm

Reception
Participants are kindly invited to a cocktail reception on Wednesday 17 April at 18h00, hosted by the Long Term Infrastructure Investors Association (LTIIA).

Security and Badges
Please be advised that the OECD Headquarters is a secure complex. Badges can only be issued to registered Delegates, and a passport or national identity card is required in order to receive a badge. Delegates must go to the main entrance and pass through the security checkpoint in order to pick up badges. Please allow up to 15 minutes to complete these formalities.

Simultaneous Translation
Simultaneous translation between English and French, the OECD’s two official languages, will be available throughout the meeting. Any delegation/participant wishing to have interpretation into or out of a language other than English or French is requested to notify the Secretariat (Linda.MORAN@oecd.org) at their earliest convenience. Please note that the costs of interpretation in a language other than English or French must be borne by the delegation requesting this service.

Wi-Fi Internet Access and Business Centre
The OECD Conference Centre offers complimentary Wi-Fi Internet Access throughout its facilities. Internet access is also available in the Espresso Café. There is a Business Centre located in the Conference Centre offering complimentary desktop computers with standard Microsoft Office software, Internet connections and printers. Delegates are asked to use #OECDsbo when Tweeting.

Contacts
If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Linda.MORAN@oecd.org. For further information, please visit: http://www.oecd.org/gov/oecd-forum-on-governance-of-infrastructure-2019.htm