Symposium on Quality Infrastructure Investment

Agenda
Co-organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the OECD

2nd November 2020, 12.30 -15.00 CET
Webinar

Background

The significance of quality infrastructure investment (QII) has been widely recognised as key to achieving sustainable, resilient and inclusive growth. QII has a particularly crucial role to play at this moment in supporting a sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 crisis: with governments under intense fiscal pressure, infrastructure investment must deliver the greatest possible positive impact at the lowest economic, financial, environmental and social cost.

The G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment (QII) developed under the Japanese G20 presidency and endorsed by the G20 leaders in June 2019 provide a timely framework for developing infrastructure that supports these objectives.

At the request of the OECD Ministers at the 2017 Ministerial Council Meeting (MCM) and with support from the G20 2019 Presidency, the OECD will be delivering the Compendium of Policy Good Practices for Quality Infrastructure Investment to the 2020 OECD MCM on 28-29 October. The Compendium comprises a set of integrated and multidisciplinary international good practices. It brings together relevant OECD good practices and measures (more than 340) drawn from across a wide range of OECD standards as well as other guidance. Structured in close alignment with the G20 Principles, the Compendium provides a guidance tool for their promotion. The Compendium was recently welcomed by APEC Finance Ministers on 25 September 2020.

Objectives

Promoting global joint efforts for QII requires building a shared understanding of the concept of QII among OECD, G20 and other economies. While developed in G20 and OECD fora, the Principles and the Compendium are universal in nature and are especially relevant for developing and emerging economies where significant infrastructure investment is expected to take place in the coming years.

The objective of this Symposium is to take stock of these global deliverables, discuss their promotion, and launch the new multidisciplinary Compendium. The Symposium aims to identify challenges of developing countries in implementing the G20 Principles and to discuss relevant measures including capacity building. The online Symposium is open to the public.
Draft Agenda

12:15–12:30  Early connection of participants

Session 1: Official launch of the Compendium

Opening remarks
Mr. Masamichi KONO, Deputy Secretary General, OECD

Opening keynotes
Mr. Angel GURRIA, Secretary General, OECD (video)
Mr. Satoshi NAKANISHI, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan
Ms. Angela María OROZCO, Minister of Transport, Colombia

Moderator
Mr. Greg MEDCRAFT, Director, OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs

Secretariat remarks
Mr. André LABOUL, Senior Counsellor, OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs

Confirmed speakers
Ms. Lisa ELLISTON, Division Head, International Economics and Security Division at the Australian Treasury, and co-Chair of the G20 Infrastructure Working Group
Ms. Gelsomina VIGLIOTTI, Director-General for International Financial Relations, Department of the Treasury, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Italy
Ms. Martha SEILLIER, Secretary of the Investment Partnership Program, Brazil

Remarks by high-level representatives will touch on the Compendium and how it can be used by countries in supporting QII, covering for instance:

- The importance of QII and role of the OECD Compendium as a voluntary tool for countries in supporting the adoption of QII.
- The main challenges and opportunities in implementing QII.
- How the Compendium can be further enhanced to ensure its relevance for countries and regions, particularly those that are less developed.
- Linkages to other international and regional initiatives and tools linked to QII.
- What further efforts are needed to promote QII.

Session 2: Public-private seminar on the promotion of the G20 Principles in developing countries

Moderator
Mr. Mario PEZZINI, Director, OECD Development Centre, Special Advisor to the OECD Secretary-General on Development

Confirmed speakers
Pillar 1: Why is infrastructure important? Why does ‘quality’ matter now?
- Mr. Amar BHATTACHARYA, Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development, Brookings Institution
Ms. Towela NYIRENDA-JERE, Head of Economic Integration Division, African Union Development Agency/New Partnership for Africa’s Development (AUDA/NEPAD) (TBC)

**Pillar 2: What is the scope for building institutional and individual capacity for planning, implementation, co-ordination and financing?**

- Ms. Carla MONTESI, Director for Planet and Prosperity Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO), European Commission
- Mr. Eduardo BITRAN, President, Club de Innovación, (former Minister of Public Works in Chile)
- Mr. Kiyoshi AMADA, Director General for Infrastructure Management Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- Mr. Herbert ROBINSON, Director, Knowledge, Research and Learning, Knowledge and Learning Department, African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)
- Mr. Antonio SILVEIRA, Vice President, Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)

Mr. Nuno GIL, Professor of New Infrastructure Development, The University of Manchester

- Mr. Herminio Jr CORTEZ RUNAS, Senior Officer of the Finance Integration Division, ASEAN Economic Community Department
- Mr. Jorge VERGARA, Director of Strategic Projects, the Ministry of Public Works and Communications Paraguay

What are the challenges and bottlenecks in the promotion of G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment in developing countries and how can the Compendium contribute to infrastructure’s role as a catalyser for achieving SDGs?

What is the scope for building institutional and individual capacities that are required for quality infrastructure development, which can help to achieve stronger growth, higher productivity and better well-being in developing countries? How can the G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment and the OECD Compendium be used for addressing these capacity constraints?

What are the roles of private sector, international organisations, multi-lateral development banks and academia for promoting quality infrastructure in developing and emerging economies? How can different actors create a synergy to complement each roles and resources?

**Closing remarks**

Mr. Masamichi KONO, Deputy Secretary General, OECD

Requests for further information should be addressed to Raluca HANEA, Raluca.HANEA@oecd.org