

A new approach to the maintenance of infrastructure

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Abstract

Although maintenance is an important part for the life of an infrastructure, it does not represent a topic where policy makers and researchers focus, being the construction of infrastructure more interesting and attractive than the maintenance. This paper propose a new approach to be implemented in the framework of development assistance projects, where an endowment fund could be left by the donor to the recipient government, in order to generate interests which could cover at least part of the cost of maintenance. It would be interesting to explore the possibility to cover material costs, since the costs concerning human resources in maintenance might be covered by the recipient government, through its technicians and management personnel. Of course, that would represent a big change, since from the beginning of the projects; the donor government should take into consideration what are the main costs for maintenance, since the costs should be covered by the donor itself when the project is other. That would represent a big innovation, since today donors are starting to construct infrastructure without knowing how to cover the infrastructure costs, since recipient government normally lack the resources to implement the necessary infrastructure. That's what the paper aims at: to provide the theoretical possibility for a big change for the maintenance of infrastructure, by generating the resources and the interest which is necessary to focus on the often forgotten issue of maintenance.

Keywords: *maintenance, infrastructure, development, projects, foundation, maintenance costs, interests.*

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