Session 5: Infrastructure and development

- Discussion Questions -

Key Questions:

• Conceptually, what is the mechanism through which infrastructure investment contributes to economic development and/or poverty reduction? How do the three articles explain the mechanisms differently? (i.e., what effect does investment in rural infrastructure have? What about investment in urban infrastructure?)

• In reality, why is it difficult to measure the contribution of infrastructure to development?

• Who is served by the infrastructure? How do different financial and institutional arrangements change the benefits and costs of infrastructure? Compare the following pairs:
  
  Tolls v.s. no tolls

  Private sector v.s. public sector

  Taxes v.s. tolls

• What types of policies can make infrastructure services more accessible to the poor?