

Foreword

Infrastructure is an important driver of sustainable and inclusive economic growth and development globally. To achieve this growth, the G20 has recognised that it is essential to focus on quality infrastructure investment, in addition to increasing the quantity of investment in infrastructure.

The G20 Leaders stressed the importance of quality infrastructure investment to deliver high-quality infrastructure projects at the Hangzhou Summit in September 2016, where it was defined as investment: **“which aims to ensure economic efficiency in view of life-cycle cost, safety, resilience against natural disaster, job creation, capacity building, and transfer of expertise and know-how on mutually agreed terms and conditions, while addressing social and environmental impacts and aligning with economic and development strategies”**.

Quality infrastructure has been a G20 focus under the Japanese Presidency in 2019, during which this reference guide was developed. The aim of this reference guide is to help operationalise the dimensions of the quality infrastructure investment definition so that these are realised at the project level, through the consideration of how quality infrastructure objectives are incorporated in the output specifications of long-term infrastructure contracts. The guidance has been informed by examining how the dimensions of quality infrastructure investment have been included at contract level in 14 project case studies from a wide range of sectors and countries, and exploring the leading practices and lessons learned from these projects.

Agreement on the importance of quality infrastructure has recently been further strengthened by the endorsement of the *Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment*¹ at the G20 Finance Ministers’ and Central Bank Governors’ Meeting

(FMCBGM) in Fukuoka (June 8-9, 2019). The Communiqué² of the G20 FMCBGM stresses the importance of “maximizing the positive impact of infrastructure to achieve sustainable growth and development while preserving the sustainability of public finances, raising economic efficiency in view of life-cycle cost, integrating environmental and social considerations, including women’s economic empowerment, building resilience against natural disasters and other risks, and strengthening infrastructure governance”.

The agreed G20 Principles of Quality Infrastructure Investment (endorsed in June 2019) are:

- Principle 1:** Maximizing the positive impact of infrastructure to achieve sustainable growth and development
- Principle 2:** Raising Economic Efficiency in View of Life-Cycle Cost
- Principle 3:** Integrating Environmental Considerations in Infrastructure Investments
- Principle 4:** Building Resilience against Natural Disasters and Other Risks
- Principle 5:** Integrating Social Considerations in Infrastructure Investment
- Principle 6:** Strengthening Infrastructure Governance

These principles align very closely with the Hangzhou Summit definition, on which this reference guide is based, and encourage further development of this topic. The reference guide is designed for use by government practitioners and their partners, with an aim to help practically integrate these principles in the delivery of quality infrastructure which creates a virtuous circle of economic activities, integrates environmental considerations and enables social inclusion.



“This guide seeks to help governments to operationalise the G20 Quality Infrastructure Investment Principles and improve long-term infrastructure outcomes over the project lifecycle and for all end users. Output specifications are a key element to ensure projects are delivered according to expectations while boosting innovation.”

Marie Lam-Frendo
Chief Executive Officer
Global Infrastructure Hub



“Combining the expertise and resources of the public and private sector to deliver infrastructure for the good of society is at the heart of future PPPs. This reference guide provides a baseline for leading practices across the globe and is a fantastic step forward in delivering this.”

Paul Hammond
Global Infrastructure Development and Economics Practice Leader
Mott MacDonald

1 Now available at: https://www.mof.go.jp/english/international_policy/convention/g20/annex6_1.pdf

2 Available at: https://www.mof.go.jp/english/international_policy/convention/g20/communique.htm