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Techniques for Evaluation of Infrastructure Projects

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Techniques for Evaluation of
Infrastructure Projects
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Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

Best Practices on Public Investment Systems (EC 08 2018A)

Conceptual Framework

- Different methodological approaches
 - Net Present Value
 - Multicriteria Analysis
 - Infrastructure and equality
 - Hedonic Prices
 - Gender (Composition of technical teams)

Institutional setting and methodological approaches

- Fiscal Federalism and decentralized investment in USA
- Central government level decision making with technical rigor: The Latin American experience
- The role of minimal standards in analyzing investments

Review of literature on institutions and public investment

- The role of government
- Investment in a decentralized government structure
- Barry Weingast's "Tragic Brilliance"
- Strengthening fiscal pillars of local governance
- Planning as a coordinating tool among different levels of government and sectors.





Decentralization and Territorial Comparative Advantage

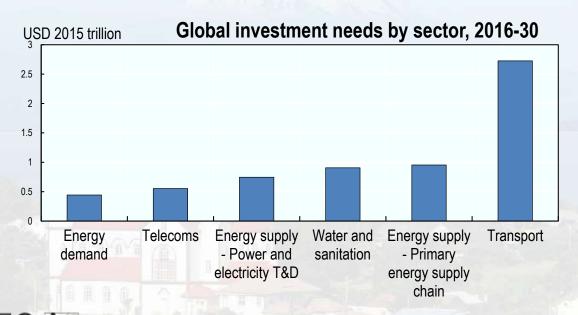
- Each level of government has a set of spending and investing responsibilities.
- Planning or coordination or both?
- Economy-wide vision with local complementarities
- Gap Analysis at the central level
- Gap analysis at the regional and local levels
- Who funds what type of infrastructure?
- The role of APP's







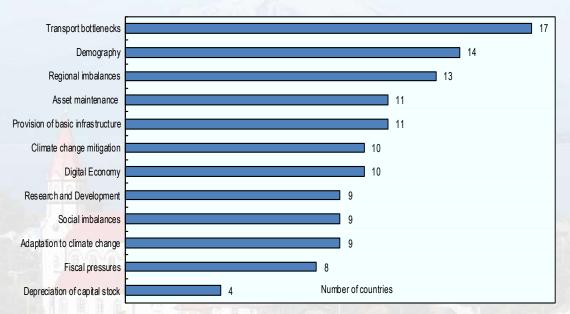
Infrastructure gaps are not being resolved







Closing infrastructure gaps drive infrastructure plans



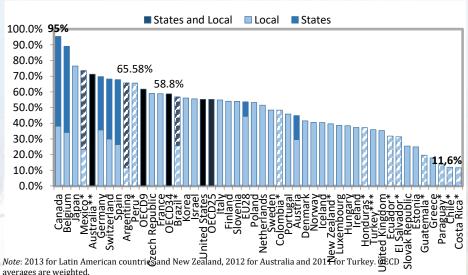






Public Investment is a Shared responsibility among different levels of government: The role of decentralization

Subnational Public Investment in OECD and LAC countries



Source: Based on OECD (2016) and "Subnational Government Structure and Finance", OECD Regional Statistics (database), http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/05fb4b56-en. and OECD/UCLG (2016)

www.oecd.org/regional/regional-policy/sngs-around-the-world.htm.





Examples





Application of new management practices and tools to Peru: From SNIP to Invierte.pe





Why the Reform?

- Economic and institutional reasons behind the reform
- The need to manage the investment cycle
- The need to strengthen coordination between investment office and budgeting
- The need to strengthen management, technical, and information gaps at the local level
- The role of technology

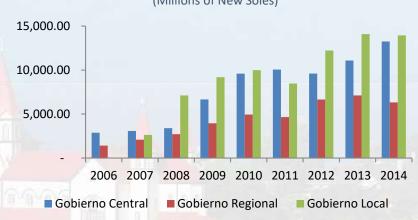




Growth of public investment in Peru prior to the reform

The role of local governments in preparing and executing public investment increased between 2006 - 2014.

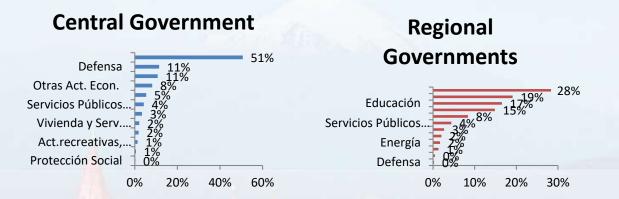
Spending executed by level of government - Perú (Millions of New Soles)







¿How did Peru invest in 2014?



Local Governments







Example of Infrastructure gaps in Peru (2016)

 Stock of highway network represents one third of the LAC's region. Peruvian economists: Zambrano y Aguilera (2011) estimated that the highway gap is 15% of GDP

 Gap in electricity is 11% of GDP; highway quality is 5 % of GDP; and water and sanitation is 0.6% of GDP





III. Focusing on measuring and closing infrastructure and service Gaps through the Public Investment Cycle: New Technical Approach and Methods





The new approach: Focus on closing gaps and manage the full investment cycle

- Develop infrastructure gap analysis as the basis for a new multiyear investment plan
- Improve coordination con budgeting priorities
- Strengthen local institutions and human capital
- Introduce technological tools to gather information to foster better monitor and control of the investment cycle
- Introduce the infrastructure acquisition process as part of the investment cycle
- Promote ex post analysis to measure development impact of public investment





Estimating gap on Health sector: Example in Argentina

 Index of Need: Algorithm that estimates the need of a given population group to have Access to a Health Unit in the territory, as a function of population density and their distance to the asset

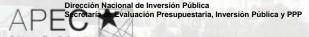
 Index is estimated as a function of accessibility to existing infrastructure (quantity and capacity of hospitals, population and distance to hospitals)





Multi criteria approach in Argentina to measure infrastructure gaps

Units of measurement **Sectoral Gaps Total Gap** Renovation outpatient clinics Renovation in patient hospitals Digital tools for imaging diagnostics **Health Gap** Updating medical equipmentt Basic level on infrastructure Intermediate level of **Education Gap Total Infrastructure Gap** infrastructure Equipment Connectivity Basic water service Gap on low income Drainage or Sewage neighborhoods system Electrical connections Housing Public Space and public roads





Infrastructure and Inequality



Could Long-Term Investments in Infrastructure Reduce Inequality?

- Test for possible link b/w infrastructure and inequality:
- use US state-level panel data from 1950 to 2010
- Ginis data from van der Weide and Milanovic (2014):
- bottom 40% and top 40%
- Infrastructure data from US Census Bureau:
- health, education, highways, judicial, etc
- Regress Ginis in year t on real growth rate of infrastructure
- spending in decade prior to time T

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Measuring the impact of infrastructure spending (o lack thereof) on equality

- Inequality correlates negatively with past infrastructure spending growth
- Highways and higher education spending most significant
- Results stronger with bottom inequality and for highways
- Data neither reject causal effect from infrastr. to inequality
- nor support reverse pattern (caveat: no causality test)
- Counterfactual exercise identifies losers/winners





Winners and Losers for Highway growth





Winners and losers due to higher education growth









Closing infrastructure gaps that affect equality: The example of USA

- Lack of infrastructure in education affects test results and access to higher levels of education in the medium term
- Lack of investment in roads and networks affect generation of economic opportunities in the long run





Gender Composition of Evaluating Teams Matters





Introducing variables to close environmental and gender gaps

- IDB studies show that more women participating in the investment cycle decision making process promotes more investments in health, education, climate resilience infrastructure.
- IDB study by Yanez-Pagan 2014.





Using hedonic pricing to measure Gaps in Urban Quality of Life: Lack of basic infrastructure and amenities

- Households that lack solid waste management services, report a 13% lower level of life satisfaction than households that enjoy the Service.
- These households are situated in the lower two income deciles.
- Individuals who have solid waste management services that have a coverage that is 10% lower than average, report:
 - 1% lower level of life satisfaction.
 - 2% lower level of satisfaction with the neighborhood.
 - Furthermore, housing values fall around 3% of their market value.

Source: Quality of Life in City of Guatemala, 2012, (IDB)





Final Thoughts

- ✓ Need to expand the theoretical framework to new methods of project analysis
- √ Variety of technical approaches influenced by institutional arrangements
- √ Team composition matter









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