The Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa: Transforming Africa through Modern Infrastructure

Enabling Environment

Time for action – addressing “soft infrastructure” is as critical as addressing “hard infrastructure” because realizing efficiency gains of existing and planned infrastructure depends on putting in place the requisite enabling environment.

1. **Policies** - Policy and regulatory reforms, common standards, harmonization, economic tariffs and a culture of maintenance are essential steps towards realizing efficiency gains in the utilization of existing infrastructure and ensuring optimal utilization of infrastructure assets and their sustainability.

2. **Capacities** - To realize the benefits of infrastructure investments, African governments must implement the right policies and regulations and strengthen relevant institutional capacities and also to negotiate and manage cross-border frameworks to support regional infrastructure projects.

3. **Holistic** - Developing the right policies and institutional capacities requires governments to consider a broad range of laws, statutes, operational rules and other institutional and administrative arrangements which should be formulated in close stakeholders within a holistic framework.

4. **Partnerships** - Developing the right regulatory framework is also crucial to attracting private investments and the input of the private sector to this process is critical because partnerships are critical to effective infrastructure delivery.

5. **Transparency** - Any regulatory reform should foster good governance and transparency in the development and delivery of infrastructure projects.

6. **Empowerment** - Governments need to work with the private sector to help develop the necessary local capacities for effective management of infrastructure projects in the long run through infusion of technology, skills and innovation and incentives to empower local players.

7. **Rules** - Establish a fair and transparent rule-based administrative process in developing and procuring infrastructure projects.

8. **Stakeholders** - Consult with all concerned stakeholders throughout the project cycle within an inclusive consultative partnership approach.

9. **Accountability** - Ensure efficient and sustainable utilization of financial and natural resources.

10. **Improvement** - Ensure that infrastructure projects enhance and promote public security and safety, as well as environmental protection and lead to improvement in the quality of life of the majority of the African population.