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Infrastructure Financing in Sub-Saharan Africa - Best Practices from Ten Years in the Field



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Executive Summary

Estimates of Sub-Saharan Africa's annual infrastructure gap put it at around \$100 billion. Every dollar of that gap represents a drag on Africa's development and a diminution of its potential. Unless and until it acquires the modern transport systems, power generation capacity, and other basic infrastructure that it needs, it will lag behind not only the developed world but other emerging regions as well. Yet Africa presents a huge market opportunity. It has 52 cities with population of one million or more and has an extremely low current level of intraregional trade. Its urban population is expected to increase by 50% by 2030. The purchasing power of Africa's middle class is growing. In a decade, the continent will have the largest workforce in the world, along with 60% of the world's uncultivated arable land and abundant energy resources ranging from hydrocarbons to renewable. The continent is home to four of the world's ten fastest-growing economies.