The Quality Infrastructure Investment Partnership

A joint initiative between the World Bank and the Government of Japan
Infrastructure has long been a significant driver of economic prosperity.

Today, infrastructure plays a central role in addressing new development challenges. These include meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adapting to and mitigating the impacts of climate change, managing digital transformation, and rebuilding economies after the COVID-19 pandemic. Against this backdrop, quality infrastructure investment (QII) that is resilient, supports economic growth, mobilizes both public and private resources, and delivers essential services to people is more critical than ever.

The QII Principles and Infrastructure Development

The principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment are a set of voluntary principles that reflect the G20 nations’ common strategic direction and aspiration on these issues. First envisioned in 2016, the set of principles we have today was endorsed by the G20 members at the Osaka Summit in Japan in 2019.

These principles look beyond brick-and-mortar infrastructure assets—they enable countries to pursue investments that maximize the economic, social, environmental, and development impact of infrastructure—the foundation for achieving sustainable, resilient, and inclusive growth.

What this means in practice is that infrastructure assets must take the entire life cycle into account to be economically efficient. They must limit harmful emissions and withstand extreme weather events caused by climate change. The benefits of infrastructure must also be inclusive, reaching women, minorities, and other disadvantaged groups. Finally, infrastructure must be well-governed to ensure that the right infrastructure projects are developed in an open, transparent way.
The QII Partnership between the World Bank and Japan

In 2016, the World Bank and the government of Japan established the QII Partnership. In addition to raising awareness, the Partnership provides grants that promote the application of the QII Principles in infrastructure development in emerging markets and developing economies.

ACTIVITIES FINANCED BY THE PARTNERSHIP
• Integrate the QII Principles in the preparation and implementation phases of World Bank-supported infrastructure projects
• Execute short-term interventions that promote the QII Principles
• Support research, analyses, and activities that advance global knowledge of QII

APPLYING THE QII PRINCIPLES IN PRACTICE MEANS
• Offering greater value for money for infrastructure investment through improved economic efficiency
• Facilitating the digital transformation and use of data to improve infrastructure design and delivery
• Building resilient infrastructure that is adapted to climate change
• Supporting countries towards low carbon growth by supporting decarbonization and infrastructure sector transitions
• Improving openness, transparency, and efficiency through strengthened infrastructure governance

TAPPING INTO JAPANESE EXPERTISE
Japan is a global leader in promoting quality infrastructure investments. The QII Partnership benefits by collaborating with world-class experts and leveraging Japanese experience in implementing activities and disseminating knowledge about QII.

The QII Partnership works with the Japan International Cooperation Agency, the University of Tokyo, and other Japanese partners.

FOCUS AREAS

Digital Development
Energy
Governance
Transport
Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience, and Land
Water
Achievements

Through our efforts, the QII Principles are being mainstreamed and are shaping infrastructure investment projects in over 60 countries across the globe. The QII Partnership’s sectoral reach has included digital development, energy, transportation, urban infrastructure, and water, addressing cross-cutting themes such as climate change, debt sustainability, and governance.

OVER 155 grants
VALUED AT OVER $45 million have been committed in over 60 countries across six regions.

The QII Partnership’s work has supported a total value of
$35 billion in World Bank investments in infrastructure.

Every dollar of QII Partnership funding supports approximately $800 in World Bank investments.

THE QII PRINCIPLES ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In Yemen, QII is supporting climate assessments for selected cities using new technologies to plan and build more resilient urban infrastructure. This work draws from Japanese knowledge and expertise in disaster risk management, urban resilience, and quality infrastructure design.

In Mozambique, the Partnership collaborated with the University of Tokyo to support the government in developing digital tools to enhance the planning and monitoring of public transport investments. The work focuses on ensuring women, people with disabilities, the elderly and other vulnerable groups have equal access to public transportation.

Global analytical work is building the capacity of partner countries and procurement professionals in the use of life cycle costing in project procurement to improve the economic efficiency of infrastructure investment and strengthen the sustainability of infrastructure assets.

For more information, visit worldbank.org/QII