

REVOLUTIONARY NEW APPROACH TO INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT DELIVERY LAUNCHED

WASHINGTON, DC (27 January 2016) - A ground-breaking digital platform, the International Infrastructure Support System (IISS), designed to speed up dramatically the delivery of infrastructure in the public sector across the developing world has been unveiled in Washington on January 27th.

The computer-based system gathers and synthesizes information and data on all aspects of development on an infrastructure project by project basis. It will provide immediate connectivity tailored to the needs of the public contracting authorities on a national and subnational basis and will facilitate up to the minute changes and the input of additional data.

IISS offers:

- an online, scalable secure working environment for data gathering and project management;
- a high-quality preparation methodology;
- an effective communication platform for feedback between public and private sector; and
- an efficient management of key data throughout an infrastructure project's lifecycle.

Reports generated and circulated lead to the speeding up of tenders for infrastructure projects, and thanks to the comprehensive features of the Platform, projects can be awarded and built more quickly – an essential feature in a world with a rapidly increasing population and massive infrastructure needs. At present McKinsey estimates the global infrastructure gap will reach \$57 trillion by the year 2030 unless steps are taken to meet the infrastructure needs of population growth and expected levels of urbanization.

The new system's interactivity also encompasses connections to other knowledge initiatives such as PPIAF, Infrascope and the PPP Knowledge Lab and can be used as a communication link between public and private sector, providing input, and exchange of experience and either on-line or face-to-face training on an ongoing basis.

Significant input in IISS's development has been provided by the private sector, who will act subsequently as investors. Development Banks and Project Preparation Facilities have also agreed to use IISS for infrastructure projects and contribute to the ongoing future use of IISS for the benefit of governments around the world.

The IISS Global Launch, following previous roundtables, was attended by stakeholders who have provided input over the last few years, from project preparation facilities, multilateral development banks and development financing institutions as well as public sector officials, private sector advisors, sponsors, operators, financiers, and investors.

January 27th was the culmination of five years' work as the global IISS was launched formally in Washington, D.C. at the Inter-American Development Bank (IaDB), in the presence of the global community of multilateral development banks, the IMF, the World Economic Forum and a series of key private sector organizations.

Thanks to our partners' involvement and constant support, we are confident that IISS shall become the Global Standard for project preparation.

For further information:

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Additional Quotes:

Laurence Carter, Senior Director of the Public-Private Partnerships Group of the World Bank Group.

"Infrastructure projects can present challenges to both the public and private sector parties involved in the different phases of the project cycle. The new International Infrastructure Support System digital platform cuts through some of those challenges by providing a transparent, efficient and secure space that enables project preparation, accessible 24/7 online."

Gil-hong Kim, Senior Director, Sector Advisory Service Division, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

"The global launch of the IISS by the Sustainable Infrastructure Foundation reconfirms ADB's commitment to knowledge, innovation and collaboration. Our original concept would never have been as effective without our multilateral bank colleagues who joined our efforts and made the IISS initiative better and stronger. IISS can be a real game-changer for developing country governments and development partners, offering a scalable approach to knowledge sharing and better practices in terms of quality infrastructure preparation and development in the Asia and Pacific region that has huge infrastructure demands."

Thomas Maier, Managing Director Infrastructure at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

"We know that infrastructure investors want to understand better where to invest in emerging markets, which projects are being prepared, and when such projects are coming to market. IISS is a global IT solution whose time has come: it seeks to increase knowledge, lower transaction costs of preparing projects, and ultimately holds out the promise of accelerated infrastructure investment."

Chris Heathcote, CEO, Global Infrastructure Hub

"The Global Infrastructure Hub (initiative of the G20) welcomes the launch of IISS as a powerful new measure to assist Governments with the preparation of infrastructure projects. The Hub is working with the Sustainable Infrastructure Foundation to investigate whether IISS can be expanded further to offer additional benefits to the infrastructure community."

Paul Horrocks, Manager, Statistics and Development Finance Division, OECD

"IISS will not only be useful with regards to ensuring projects get delivered in a more effective manner but also provide policy learnings from the aggregation of projects, we welcome the launch of IISS as an important tool in helping address the infrastructure gap."

Michael Drexler, Senior Director and Head of Investors Industries, World Economic Forum

"While ultimately being hard assets, many infrastructure projects fail on soft factors of aligning relevant parties in the initial development stages. The IISS concept is very much in line with the World Economic Forum's findings that better multi-stakeholder alignment is needed to close the infrastructure funding gap."

Cosette V. Canilao, Executive Director of the PPP Center of the Philippines

"The Philippine government welcomes this new initiative of the Sustainable Infrastructure Foundation (SIF) and its partners. The birth of this new web platform, the International Infrastructure Support System (IISS), will be instrumental for Asian countries in promoting and marketing Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects and other infrastructure opportunities. With the Philippines' current pipeline of over 50 PPP projects, the IISS will enable us to promote to potential investors and suppliers of services and equipment, and provide a venue for a systematic market feedback. The new platform will also help us expand our reach and strengthen our strategies in informing the public, the stakeholders and other institutions of what we have achieved so far in our country's infrastructure developments through partnership with the private sector."