

Session 5: Infrastructure and development

- Discussion Questions -

Key Questions:

- Conceptually, what is the mechanism through which infrastructure investment contributes to economic development and/or poverty reduction? How do the three articles explain the mechanisms differently? (i.e., what effect does investment in rural infrastructure have? What about investment in urban infrastructure?)
- In reality, why is it difficult to measure the contribution of infrastructure to development?
- Who is served by the infrastructure? How do different financial and institutional arrangements change the benefits and costs of infrastructure? Compare the following pairs:
 - Tolls v.s. no tolls
 - Private sector v.s. public sector
 - Taxes v.s. tolls
- What types of policies can make infrastructure services more accessible to the poor?

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

11.165 / 11.477 Infrastructure and Energy Technology Challenges
Fall 2011

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.