



► Development Impacts of the Employment Intensive Investment Programme (EIIP)

October 2023



EIIP links investment in infrastructure with employment creation, pro-poor economic development and contributes to social welfare and improving access to education and health services for poorly connected people. EIIP's mission is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9 “to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation” in particular with Target 9.1 “to develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure...to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.”

The employment intensive approach has the further benefit of providing decent employment and incomes for the unemployed and underemployed reinforcing the pro-poor orientation (SDG 8, promoting economic growth and decent work and SDG 1,

contributing to reducing poverty through incomes from employment and improved roads, irrigation and other facilities for the most poorly served). EIIP combats climate change (SDG 13) by making the assets it creates climate resilient and offers approaches for protecting the disadvantaged against the effects of climate change. A distinctive feature of the EIIP approach is its mission to support countries to sustain the EIIP approach through capacity development and support for national employment intensive investment and maintenance strategies, thereby amplifying its development impacts.

THE CHALLENGE AND EIIP DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS

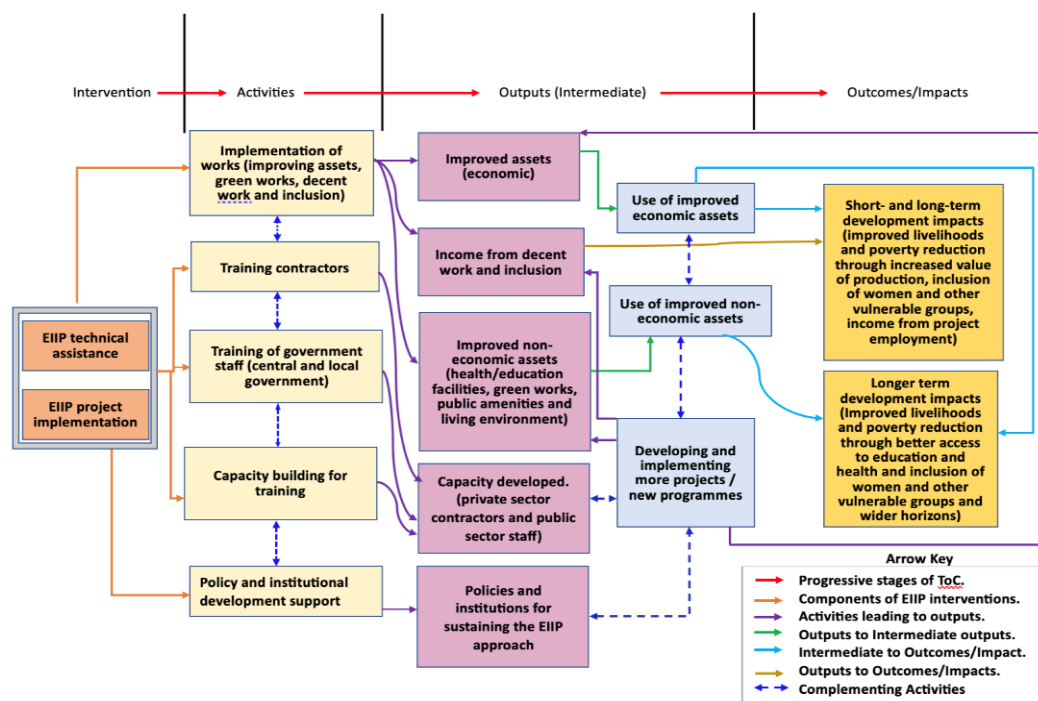


Exhibit 1 Theory of Change of EIIP development Impacts

Millions of people, especially in rural areas, lack infrastructure to access markets for their products and basic services (water, health, education). Improving rural infrastructure such as roads and irrigation open up economic opportunities to improve livelihoods and reduce poverty. Improving access has more far-reaching benefits through exposure to new ideas and longer-term development benefits through better access to health services and education. Some EIIP works such as improving civic amenities are oriented towards social protection through employment. Over the last 10 years, EIIP has implemented about \$300 million worth of projects in Africa, Asia and the Middle East combining short-term employment creation with long-term development impacts through the assets created and support for countries to develop policies and capacities to continue the EIIP approach for infrastructure development and social protection. EIIP projects either implement work alongside technical assistance components or provide technical assistance only.



Exhibit 2 Road improved under the ERA-AF project through coconut farm in Timor-Leste

In both modes they encompass a number of complementary activities as the EIIP Theory of Change (Exhibit 1) shows. The assets created could be directly productive, such as roads and irrigation, or of wider benefits, such as green works addressing environmental challenges, meeting basic necessities such as community water supply and construction of schools to improve access to education. Technical and project management training and policy and institutional development are often required for effective implementation, but they also contribute to sustaining the approach beyond projects as Exhibit 1 shows. The development impact of improved economic infrastructure is through increased value of production and employment opportunities. Non-economic assets improvement is generally oriented towards livelihood support through employment and longer-term benefits depending on the types of assets. The increased income from decent work for men and women contribute to improved livelihoods in the short-term and have the potential for providing longer term social protection if such income is regular and predictable such as in a public employment programme. The integrated approach encompassing implementation and support for capacity and policy development enables EIIP to work with governments to develop sustainable employment intensive

infrastructure improvement programmes as demonstrated in the 1990s in Cambodia and more recently in Timor-Leste. In both these countries EIIP's engagement over successive projects enabled development of capacities, institutions and policies, starting from very fragile situations. The EIIP portfolio includes intervention types fit for different circumstances. Employment intensive infrastructure works are primarily focused on Infrastructure improvement using employment intensive methods. They are responses to the longer-term challenge of infrastructure deficits as obstacles to development. They contribute to improved livelihoods in the short-term through project employment and long-term through improved economic assets. The most common type of infrastructure improved and maintained by this type of intervention is rural roads serving communities most deprived of access. Irrigation works are another type. Estrada Rural ba Dezenvolvimentu (ERD or Roads for Development or R4D), a Government of Timor-Leste programme, is an example of an infrastructure improvement oriented EIIP intervention. The maintenance component of the World Bank financed Strengthening National Programme for Rural Transport (SNRTP) project in Nepal was an infrastructure maintenance project providing longer term regular employment. See case studies below for more on both these projects.



Exhibit 3 Bus service on a road improved and maintained under SNRTP in Nepal

Public Employment Programmes (PEPs): PEPs are employment creation oriented with the purpose of providing social protection through public works. While creating assets of economic value or activities offering value in other forms (for example, protecting the environment or improving basic services) is a requirement, the emphasis is on providing regular and predictable support through a set number of days of decent employment and related income every year as protection for households with precarious livelihoods. Typically, PEPs require targeting those whose need for social protection is greatest. An employment guarantee such as the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) Scheme is a special case of a PEP which entitles all rural people who wish to participate to a set number of days of employment.



Exhibit 4 Bioengineering for resilient infrastructure in Timor-Leste

Green Works address environmental challenges and combat climate change either by restoring natural resources through reforestation or protection against the effects of climate change through measures such as bioengineering for roads and protection against floods. All EIIP projects include protection measures against the effects of climate change and some larger projects such as Lebanon EIIP have included reforestation. **Emergency Employment** interventions are in response to natural disasters or human emergencies. At face value their impacts are short-term and immediate rather than developmental. However, such initial interventions in

fragile environments have led to developmental impacts through continuing engagement, benefits of improved infrastructure and sustained government approaches to address the infrastructure deficit. Further, EIIP's approach to community based responses to typhoons in the Philippines has developed community resilience to cope with similar events. **Public and private sector development:** Developing national and local capacities to implement the EIIP approach and supporting national policies and institutions to sustain the approach complement EIIP projects. Development of national and local government staff and private sector contractors' capacities are required to sustain the EIIP approach.



Exhibit 5 Emergency employment in Lebanon post Beirut Port explosion.

The ERA-AF Contractor Excellence Scheme (ECES) in Timor-Leste is an exemplar for rewarding well performing contractors and monitoring contractor performance. Cross cutting areas of EIIP's impact, closely aligned with ILO's

core values, are decent work principles comprising paying fair wages, occupational safety and health (OSH) provision, occupational insurance and non-discrimination on gender or other grounds. The longer-term impacts on these aspects are through support for adoption of these cross-cutting areas at national levels.



Exhibit 6 National Advance School of Public Works included curriculum relating to EIIP based work in Cameroon

TIMOR-LESTE - A COMPREHENSIVE EIIP SUCCESS STORY

Timor-Leste has the highest multidimensional poverty rate among Southeast Asian countries. Rural areas account for about 75% of the country's poor and lower agricultural productivity and insufficient diversification explain poor livelihoods and the high poverty incidence. A major constraint holding back improvement in rural livelihoods and access to basic services is the poor rural road network.

EIIP has worked with Government of Timor-Leste (GoTL) since 2008 to improve rural roads and generate employment. More recently with donor support from Australia and the European Union, EIIP has supported GoTL in investing in rural roads and developing a rural roads network improvement strategy using employment-intensive methods and employment of local contractors to reach 90% of the rural population by 2030.



Exhibit 7 Part of Defawasi Junction 2 to Alaua Leten road in Baucau Municipality before and after construction

The impacts of investment in roads of the recently completed EU supported Enhancing Rural Access Agro-Forestry (ERA-AF) project have been large improvements in access to markets, health services and schools (see Exhibit 8). There were falls in transport costs and between 9 and 10 fold increases in motorized traffic. These changes reflect actual or potential economic benefits through more and higher value added to produce being marketed and improved livelihoods from farming, business activities and marketing. EIIP development impacts in Timor-Leste go

well beyond the direct effects of improving roads by supporting the GoTL capacity to continue the ERD programme to meet its target. EIIP has produced a White Paper as a blueprint for strengthening policies and institutions for implementing the ERD beyond EIIP engagement. The capacity of training institutions and contractors, including women contractors, and increased participation of women in the rural roads programme also address cross-cutting aspects.

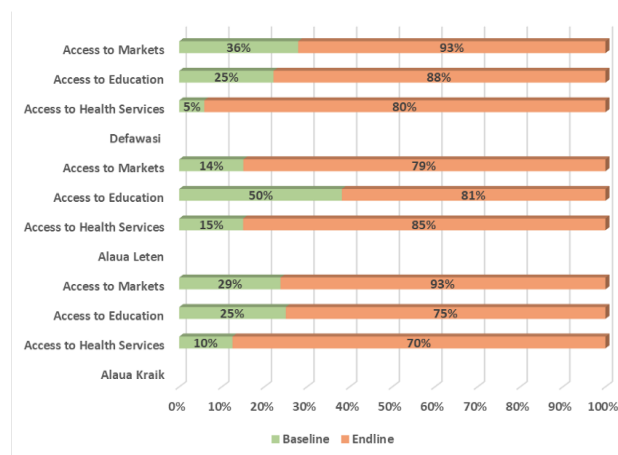


Exhibit 8 Roads constructed under ERA-AF: Comparing access before and after road construction

I was very new to business when I started to lead my family construction company. But with my involvement in R4D-SP projects I had the opportunity to improve my knowledge and skills not only as an engineer but also as a businessman. Thanks for the support given by ILO through Ministry of Public Works, I am now a confident entrepreneur and engineer. (Contractor, Bobonaro Municipality)



I am very happy with the road. I used to travel several miles just to sell my vegetables and fruit. It was really frustrating as we had to leave early in the morning and return home after dark. Sometimes we didn't sell much and so we couldn't afford to take public transport which was expensive. Our business has now improved. I have already bought a motorbike for my son to help in the business. (Graciana Cardoso, Bobonaro Municipality)



NEPAL: RURAL ROAD MAINTENANCE – PRESERVING ASSETS & IMPROVING LIVELIHOODS

In 2013 Nepal's rural roads, the Local Road Network (LRN), was in poor condition. Only 20% of the LRN was usable in the rainy season. To address this challenge the Government of Nepal (GoN) sought assistance from the World Bank which was provided under the Strengthening the National Rural Road Transportation Programme (SNRTP) launched in 2014. Based on past experience GoN

and the World Bank recognised that without a functioning maintenance system in place, the investment in the road assets would be wasted and its benefits would not be fully realised. EIIP's technical assistance was sought to develop effective local resource based systems for maintenance of rural roads, capacity building for staff in charge of road maintenance works and providing support during the introduction of new systems and processes.



Exhibit 9 Routine road maintenance by RMG workers

The outputs of EIIP technical assistance on SNRTP have included:

- Introduction of an effective system for planning and implementation of rural road maintenance incorporating digitization of 13,955 kms of the road inventory in the 36 participating districts and establishment of RuTIMS (Rural Transport Information Management System) and a GPS enabled and web-based Construction Site Monitoring (CSM) for remote monitoring and reporting.
- Capacity development and institutional strengthening of district administrations and engineers to manage maintenance.
- Financial planning to ensure adequate allocation of funds for routine, emergency, and periodic maintenance.
- Establishment of Routine Maintenance Groups (RMGs), targeting women and other vulnerable groups as participants, for labour based routine maintenance and bio-engineering works.
- Regular routine maintenance by the RMGs of 5,500 kms of roads between 2014 and 2019.

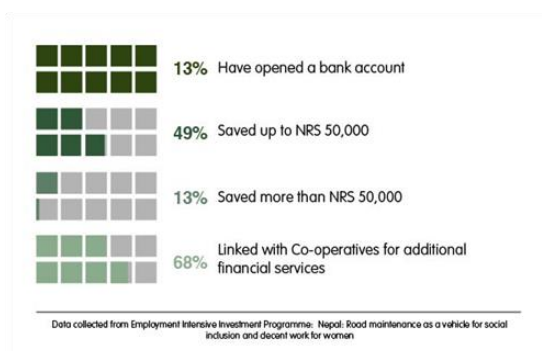


Exhibit 10 RMG workers' financial growth and development through SNRTP

The development impacts of EIIP technical assistance have been:

- On the longevity of the economic and wider benefits of the improved and rehabilitated roads maintained in good condition, contingent on the sustenance of improved capacities, systems and financial provision at the district and national levels beyond the project. Improved road conditions have led to reductions in vehicle operating costs, travel time and passenger travel fares and consequently increased economic activities, increased employment opportunities and enhanced income levels from better access to markets for farm produce, and improved access to essential services.
- On improved livelihoods and financial inclusion of the women and men in the RMGs, a total of 2,679 RMG workers were recruited (64% women, 80% from disadvantaged and vulnerable groups) and paid a regular monthly income equivalent to USD 152 which contributed to financial security and inclusion for their households (see Exhibit 10 and insets below for just two examples of personal impacts for RMG workers).
- On the adoption of decent work practices, RMG workers were protected by Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) measures, accident insurance and payment of wages directly into their bank accounts, measures which are being adopted by GoN and local administrations.

The model of building in local resource based maintenance systems into rural roads investment programmes is being replicated in Papua New Guinea and has much wider potential.

RMG member Indira Maya Thapa. Living in Raikot, she already owned a small store before she started working as an RMG member. But poor access to roads, and lack of traffic passing her store had severely hampered her earning capacity. However, after starting to work as a RMG, things got easier for her.

"After I started working for SNRTP as an RMG, I was able to buy a plot of farm land with my savings without taking any loan, and was able to build my house. Plus, due to the project, the road to Raikot is more reliable making it easier for me to get things for my store, and also bringing customers who would otherwise not have passed or stopped at Raikot."

"My work on SNRTP as a RMG (Road Maintenance Group) member changed my, and my family's life," shares Bahadur Bishwokarma. A cancer survivor, Bishwokarma started working for SNRTP after cancer treatment depleted his savings and left him unable to work in his previous occupation as a metal smith.

Working for SNRTP not only gave Bishwokarma a chance to earn a living but also a chance to regain his health, provide a better life for his family and build up his self-esteem. Such stories are echoed by nearly all SNRTP RMG workers.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA (PNG) - BENEFITS OF EIIP PARTICIPATION IN AN INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

EIIP's participation in the EU STREIT (Support to Rural Entrepreneurship, Investment and Trade) in Papua New Guinea is currently in progress (2020 to 2025). It is included here for demonstration of potential EIIP development impacts when an EIIP project is part of an integrated development initiative.



Exhibit 11 RMG workers engaged in road maintenance

The STREIT Programme objective is to “increase sustainable and inclusive economic development of rural areas” through a combination of two integrated outcomes:

- Increasing the economic returns and opportunities from three value chains, for cocoa, vanilla and fishery.
- Strengthening and improving the efficiency of the enablers of the value chains (the business environment and sustainable and climate-proof transport and energy infrastructure).

The EIIP component of the STREIT Programme, which addresses the transport infrastructure as an enabler of the value chains, includes rehabilitation and maintenance of 300 kms of roads, rehabilitation and maintenance of 5 airstrips for reaching areas with no road access feasible and 3 jetties for the fishery value chain. Rehabilitation and maintenance using

local resources and employment-intensive technology is generating decent employment for the poor and vulnerable, including women and youth. Following the Nepal SNRTP model, routine maintenance is by RMG workers and establishment of a web-based Road Transport Information Management system (RoTIMS)



Exhibit 12 Air strip maintenance in PNG, STREIT

The associated capacity development required for implementation and sustainability are development of training capacity and training of contractors and local administration staff on technical and management aspects.

Development impacts of the EIIP component of STREIT are expected to be:

- Enhanced benefits from the higher value of cocoa, vanilla and fishery production resulting from improved roads and other transport infrastructure leading to lower transport costs and increased transport capacity. A complementary aspect is better access to essential services for communities. The sustainability of these benefits is contingent on the improved capacities, systems and financial provision being maintained beyond STREIT.



Exhibit 13 RMG workers at training session



Exhibit 14 Setting out for the Banak – Wautogik road rehabilitation and maintenance in East Sepik

- Workers engaged in rehabilitation works and in maintenance benefit from income supplementing their livelihoods. Maintenance workers receive regular and predictable income over time contributing to their financial security.
- Workers are protected by OSH measures and accident insurance.

Systematic evaluation of impacts will yield lessons for EIIP involvement in integrated development programmes.



Exhibit 15 Ground breaking ceremony for the Banak - Wautogik road works in East Sepik

At the Banak - Wautogik road ground breaking ceremony the chief of the village was emotional when he said “now at least our children will see and use a better road. People here experience a hard life made worse by lack of access to goods and services and very poor transport.”

BENEFITS OF LONG TERM ENGAGEMENT

SUPPORT FOR TANZANIA'S SOCIAL PROTECTION STRATEGY

EIIP's engagement in Tanzania goes back to 1986 to 1991 when the ILO supported the Rural Road Maintenance Programme in the Tanga and Mbeya Regions followed by projects to develop private contractor capacity to implement road rehabilitation and maintenance. This long-term engagement demonstrated the potential contribution of the EIIP approach for improving and maintaining infrastructure and supporting poor livelihoods. During the last decade EIIP's main engagement in Tanzania has been in supporting the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) in collaboration with other UN development partners. The current EIIP engagement is technical assistance to the public works component in TASAF's Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN). Contributions to TASAF's current PSSN II are:

- Inputs in the National Social Protection Policy (2018) on the role of public works in PSSN II.
- Technical assistance in the development and roll-out of the public works component of PSSN II to include:
 - ✓ Capacity building through training of government officials, community leaders and youth to implement PSSN II and initiate ventures.
 - ✓ Technical manual for implementation of public works
 - ✓ Handbook on strengthening livelihoods interventions through public works.
 - ✓ Technical manual for implementing public works in urban areas.
 - ✓ Training manuals on public works and livelihoods.
 - ✓ Pocket books for local service providers.
- Support to TASAF to undertake an Employment Impact Assessment (EmplA) of public works and value chains of selected crops.
- Support for the development of inclusive public procurement policy and amendment of the Public Procurement Act (2011) to increase participation of small-scale entrepreneurs, women, youth and other special groups (elderly and persons with disability) in delivery of services.

The United Republic of Tanzania Government has been strongly committed to the development of a social protection strategy. EIIP's development impact in this context has been to support policy development and provide technical guidance for establishing and sustaining public works, in effect the public employment programme component of PSSN II. The cross-cutting aspects of gender equity and decent work have also been incorporated in its support. The range of works undertaken have included forest conservation, irrigation, soil and water conservation and feeder roads.

LEBANON – ADDRESSING THE HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT-PEACE NEXUS

EIIP'S engagement in Lebanon has not been as long as in Tanzania. It started in 2017 in response to the high influx of displaced persons from Syria and was intended to provide support in a crisis for the Government of Lebanon and Lebanese people to cope with the resulting labour market distress and pressure on public services and amenities. Since 2017 the EIIP Lebanon project, to construct, rehabilitate and maintain public assets is being implemented in phases. While the initial focus was on providing support for displaced Syrian people through income from work on EIIP projects, the project had to adapt to accommodate the increased number of Lebanese seeking support after the national economic crisis which started in 2020. The project responded by widening the range of activities and working with more partners. EIIP Lebanon's impacts beyond providing short-term employment are:

- Improvement and maintenance of assets of economic and wider value (roads, markets, rural farming infrastructure and reforestation).
- Formal handover of ownership and responsibility for maintenance to municipalities for sustainability beyond the project.
- Embedding an EIIP expert as advisor in the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) to support integration of the EIIP approach in the national social protection policy.
- Development of guidelines for employment intensive projects incorporating decent work principles endorsed by MoSA and Ministry of Labour to be adopted by all agencies providing employment based livelihood support.
- Innovations in developing and delivering projects in collaboration with NGOs. Examples are collaborations with the Lebanon Mountain Trail Association and Lebanon Reforestation Initiative.
- Capacity building of contractors to implement employment intensive projects and training for agencies engaging in employment based livelihood support in the EIIP approach and decent work principles.

The EIIP intervention in Lebanon started as a response to an externally imposed crisis but has adapted to respond to the national economic crisis. So far, the impact, in addition to those arising from the assets created and maintained, has been in the adoption of the EIIP approach by the government and other agencies involved in livelihood support through work. Potentially, the intervention has developed a base for a public employment programme approach, to be implemented in collaboration with the government, international agencies and NGOs. Such an approach would offer regular and predictable income from a set number of days of decent employment for target households every year and provide a level of social protection for households with precarious livelihoods, bolster their resilience and be aligned with the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

CAMEROON – MAINSTREAMING THE EMPLOYMENT INTENSIVE APPROACH IN PUBLIC EXPENDITURE

EIIP has implemented a number of projects in Cameroon since 2003 when it was invited to address the high cost of rural road maintenance and low impact of the expenditure on rural employment. Since then it has supported the Government of Cameroon in developing and establishing the role of the HIMO (Haute Intensité de Main d'oeuvre or high labour intensity) approach in the public investment programme. Some of the key elements of the government strategy to develop and strengthen the role of the employment intensive approach for public works since 2008 are identified below.

- In 2008 the government published a strategic document for the promotion and implementation of the EIIP approach and created the Cellule Technique HIMO (Labour Intensive Technology Unit) to promote the EIIP approach and implement pilot projects to collect data to guide the use of the HIMO approach and to reinforce the capacity of the stakeholders.
- The 2010 National Strategic Document identified the HIMO approach as the key vehicle for creating jobs and reducing poverty.
- In 2012 the Prime Minister made a statement asking government departments to allocate 20% of the Public Investment Budget for projects to be implemented by the HIMO approach.
- In 2014, the Prime Minister signed a decree specifying: (a) the definition of the HIMO approach for which the 20% budget allocation was to be used, and (b) the conditions for use of the approach.
- In 2018, the new Cameroon Procurement Code introduced decent work conditions and use of the HIMO approach in project bidding documents for projects to be implemented by the HIMO approach. The aim was to reinforce the objective of creating more decent jobs for youth, women and other vulnerable groups.
- In 2020, the New Cameroon National Development Strategy (NDS, 2030) reinforced the place of the HIMO approach as the main tool for addressing the challenges of unemployment, underemployment and skill deficits.

The series of strategic decisions and actions outlined above have effectively mainstreamed the use of the HIMO approach as a component of the Public Investment Budget. The Cellule Technique HIMO in the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development supports the strategy. It also has an annual budget of Euro 8 million which it uses to launch around 10 HIMO infrastructure projects per year and conduct capacity development activities. Since 2012, the Public Works Ministry has allocated about Euro 45,000 per municipality per year for the maintenance of local roads using the HIMO approach. The model at the municipal level is for local committees to maintain rural roads.

While EIIP has continued to provide technical assistance for projects in Cameroon, its larger development impact is through support for policy and capacity development which has contributed to the HIMO approach being mainstreamed in the Public Investment Budget with a focus on addressing youth unemployment.

SOUTH AFRICA – ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF PERSISTENT HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT

The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) in South Africa is a nationwide programme aimed at poverty alleviation in response to the challenge of persistently high unemployment and associated poverty. It was initiated in 2004 and is in its fourth phase (2020 to 2024). Distinctive features of the programme are: (a) widening the scope to include four sectors, infrastructure, social, environment and culture and non-state (NGOs, non-profit organisations and Community Work Programme), and (b) provision of training for participants. The EPWP has evolved through phases to expand the employment contribution of the social, non-state and environment and culture sectors. Nevertheless, the infrastructure sector has remained the largest employment generator. It has been estimated that between the years 2019/20 to 2023/24 the infrastructure sector will have generated 34% of all the jobs created by EPWP, about 710,000 out of 2.1 million fulltime equivalent (FTE) jobs.

EIIP's role in South Africa, focused on support for use of the employment intensive approach in public works (which aligns with the infrastructure sector), started well before the launch of the first phase of EPWP in 2004. Of note is the technical assistance to the Gundo Lashu rural roads construction programme in Limpopo Province between 2001 and 2004. EIIP assisted the National Department of Public Works in developing the EPWP business plan and strategy culminating in the launch of EPWP in 2004.

Since the launch of EPWP in 2004, the role of EIIP technical assistance has been to support the infrastructure sector of EPWP nationally and in Limpopo province in creating decent work opportunities by increasing the labour intensity of government funded infrastructure projects through: (a) policy development and promotion; (b) skills and capacity development; (c) technical and managerial advisory support; (d) research and studies contributing to the optimisation and mainstreaming of the use of labour-intensive methods, and (e) advocacy of strategies, processes and tools for upscaling the public works part of EPWP.

EPWP is an example of a large nationally managed and resourced employment generation programme to which EIIP provides technical assistance to support policy and capacity development. There is mutual learning between EPWP and EIIP based on their long association. EPWP has been central to South Africa's national development strategy. The longer term aim is to reduce unemployment and alleviate poverty through economic growth, skills development and innovation. In the short to medium term the EPWP has the important role of generating employment for the unemployed and thereby contribute to poverty alleviation. In this context government policy recognises the trade-offs between the amount of employment generated, the poverty alleviation impact of incomes earned and the value of assets created and services delivered. The wide scope of projects in multiple sectors offers the opportunity to have differing balances between the three types of impacts.

EIIP DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS AND POTENTIAL

Economic development at the macro level refers to developing countries working their way up the ladder of economic performance, with the aim of improving the living standards of its citizens. An important aspect to be addressed in managing the development process and distributing the fruits of development is to ensure that the most disadvantaged in society are not left behind. At a broad level, reasons for disadvantage are: (a) limited personal or household capabilities and resources for improving livelihoods; (b) poor environmental conditions for improving livelihoods which include the infrastructure, and (c) the socio-political barriers such as traditions and customs which exclude or limit opportunities for sections of the population.

The limited capabilities and resources disadvantage is exemplified by rural households relying on: (a) limited amount of land and other resources and poor access to support for improving productivity, or (b) rural and urban households relying on unskilled and often informal work for their livelihoods. Poor environmental conditions are exemplified by inadequate access to the transport infrastructure or irrigation. The socio-political barriers could be against large sections of the population, notably women, or minorities, persons with disabilities or ethnic groups. The EIIP approach complemented by decent work principles has demonstrated its capability to contribute to the alleviation of all three types of disadvantages and contribute to pro-poor development.

The limited capabilities and resources disadvantage is addressed by regular and predictable income from EIIP projects offering social protection and means for putting livelihoods on more secure footings as on the SNRTP maintenance component in Nepal and the PSSN in Tanzania. Examples of addressing poor environmental conditions disadvantage are investment in roads for better access by the projects in Timor-Leste. The STREIT programme in PNG addresses poor resources and capabilities and environmental conditions disadvantages by integrating the infrastructure investment intervention with FAO's support for agricultural development. The socio-political barriers disadvantage is addressed by the cross-cutting theme in all EIIP interventions of inclusion and equitable treatment. In Cameroon and South Africa, targeting youth employment addresses the resources and capabilities and socio-political barriers disadvantages.

Key developmental elements in all EIIP interventions are capacity development and supporting governments and other agencies to achieve sustainability of employment intensive and pro-employment policies and initiatives. Notable examples in differing contexts are: (a) the support over an extended period to the Timor-Leste government to develop a rural roads investment strategy starting from a very low capacity base; (b) working with the Cameroon government to mainstream the HIMO approach in the Public Investment Budget, and (c) technical assistance to the EPWP in South Africa. Lebanon EIIP is an intervention at the humanitarian – development – peace nexus, where the crisis intervention has realised developmental impacts through the assets created and has the potential to deliver social protection if the employment programme approach is adopted. Development of the resilience of poor and vulnerable sections of the population to cope with crises is an aspect of social protection which contributes to the reduction of tensions and peace which is a higher level goal.

Globally there is a large rural infrastructure deficit mainly affecting people in developing countries. For example, about 1 billion people globally lack access to an all-season road and there is the challenge of maintaining existing and new rural infrastructure. About 26 per cent of the global population, concentrated in low and lower middle income countries, live below the World Bank lower middle income countries poverty line, many of them in rural areas and disadvantaged by poor infrastructure. There are the added challenges of climate change and forcibly displaced persons which disproportionately affect the disadvantaged. In this context EIIP development impacts align with: (a) SDG 9 to build pro-poor “resilient infrastructure”; (b) SDG 8 (providing decent employment and incomes); (c) SDG 1 (contributing to reducing poverty); (d) SDG 5 (achieving gender equality); (e) SDG 13 (combating climate change), and more widely through these impacts (f) SDG 16 (promoting peaceful and inclusive societies).

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