

CALL FOR PAPERS

(Submission deadline: 16th January 2022)

Infrastructure, recovery and growth: Building out from the pandemic

The third Infrastructure for Development Conference (Infra4Dev)

3-4th March 2022

Background: The International Growth Centre and the World Bank are partnering for the third annual Infra4Dev Conference, to be held online on the mornings (ET) of 3rd and 4th March 2022. This year we are doing an international ‘Call for Papers’ to promote engagement with a diverse range of scholars across the world. The deadline for the submission of papers is 16th January 2022.

The Infrastructure for Development Conference series is an initiative of the World Bank’s Infrastructure Vice-Presidency, aiming to promote dialogue and exchange between leading edge economic researchers and the wider community of policymakers and practitioners on leveraging infrastructure for development (see details of the two previous conferences [here](#) & [here](#)).

The theme for this year’s conference is the impact of infrastructure on economic development. We will explore how a range of infrastructural developments – including digital, urban transport, economic corridors, and energy systems – contribute to inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

Program structure: The first day will focus on the policy implications of the economic literature. Academic researchers will present framework papers that synthesize the development impacts of different types of infrastructure, from growth, employment and trade to poverty and inequality, and policy makers will discuss practical insights into the opportunities and challenges of each type. Framework speakers will include Stephen Redding on large-scale, integrated infrastructure projects, Jonas Hjort on internet penetration, Kelsey Jack on electrification and global energy access and Nick Tsivanidis on urban rapid passenger transport and national urban strategies.

The second day will focus on the methodological challenges involved in capturing the development impact of infrastructure. It will be framed by a keynote presentation from Dave Donaldson, followed by a series of papers highlighting cutting edge methodological approaches. Both days will also feature lightning talks to present a range of insights from the latest research.

Relevant research areas for the Call: Evaluating the impact of infrastructure on economic development presents multiple challenges – proper identification and measurement of impact, evaluation of long-term and general equilibrium effects, interactions between different types of infrastructure, to name a few. We are particularly interested in papers that rigorously estimate the impact of infrastructure on economic outcomes, especially where these present methodological innovations. Focus on developing countries would also be appreciated.

Program committee: The program committee includes Robin Burgess, Estefania Cobos, Dave Donaldson, Vivien Foster, Jonas Hjort, Kelsey Jack, Jonathan Leape, Maria Lebrand, Mumba Ngulube, Steven Redding, Sharada Srinivasan, Jevgenijs Steinbuks, Nick Tsivanidis, and Maria Vagliasindi.

Paper submission and queries: Papers should be submitted through the [IGC portal](#). Please direct any queries regarding this call to infra4dev@worldbank.org. **The deadline for submission is 16 January 2022.**

The latest updates on the conference are available on the World Bank’s [webpage](#).