:Road Sector Reform :The Four Building Blocks



Pedro Geraldes The World Bank, RMI Unit June, 1996

- Main Challenges
- The Four Building Blocks
- Strategic Aspects
- Seminar Goals

:Main Challenges Issues

- Road Development and Condition
 - Low Density of the Network
 - Substantial Rehabilitation Backlog
 - Inappropriate Maintenance

Main Challenges Opportunities

- Each US\$1 Spent on Road Maintenance
 - -Decreases Vehicle Operating Costs by US\$2 to US\$3
 - and it
 - -Decreases Future Road Rehabilitation Requirements

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The Four Building Blocks

Ownership

Financing

Responsibility

Management

The Four Building Blocks Ownership

Empowering Road Users

- Fostering a constituency for more funding
- Testing willingness to pay
- Creating a surrogate for market discipline
- Improving road safety and vehicle axle load control

The Four Building Blocks Financing

- Establishing an adequate and stable flow of funds
 - Mobilizing additional funds
 - Creating a road tariff
 - Channeling funds through a new generation of road funds
 - Defining criteria for allocation of funds to various categories of roads

The Four Building Blocks Responsibility

- Assigning Responsibilities for Network Management
 - Implementing road inventory
 - Developing functional classification
 - Clarifying relationships between sector agencies and various levels of Government

The Four Building Blocks Management

Following Sound Business Practices

- Clarifying management objectives
- Establishing competitive terms and conditions of employment
- Implementing accounting and management information systems
- Adopting internal and external auditing procedures

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Strategic Aspects Private/Public Partnership

- Information Sharing
- Building-up of Mutual Confidence
- Identifying Common Objectives
- Agreeing on Key Policies
- Selecting Performance Criteria

Strategic Aspects Fuel Levy

- Fuel Prices in Ethiopia are below
 Neighboring and European Countries
- Fuel Levy is a Convenient Part of a Road Tariff
- Proceeds of the Road Tariff to be Used Primarily on Road Maintenance
- User Involvement in Tariff-setting and in the Use of the Revenues

Strategic Aspects Absorptive Capacity

- If Road Expenditures are to be Increased Substantially . . .
- ... Then Road Management is to be Upgraded Accordingly
 - But
- It is Critical to Match Revenue Raising with Expenditure Capability

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Seminar Goals

- Sharing of Experiences Among Participants
- Reviewing Alternatives
- Assessing Best-Practices
 - Toward
- Identifying a Solution for Ethiopia
- Building-up Consensus on Actions