SSATP WEBINAR SERIES · RESILIENT ROAD ASSET MANAGEMENT

GOOD ROADS CONNECT US ALL.

WHO SHOULD PAY FOR THEM?

Setting the scene — what the African Road Funds Study tells us

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SSATP Africa Transport Policy Program

TYPSA

WHY ROADS MATTER

Roads are how the African continent connects

Roads carry the great majority of Africa's people (90%) and goods (80%). They link farmers to markets, families to clinics and schools, and businesses to the ports.

When roads fail, everyone pays — in time, in cost, and in opportunities lost.

≈ $4 back for every $1 invested in resilient roads

Transport disruptions cost lower-income countries hundreds of billions of dollars every year. Every dollar spent in maintaining the network pays back.

How we work for impact

SSATP Pillar 4 (Resilient Road Asset Management) — financed by the EU, with the World Bank — helps African countries improve how roads are **funded, financed and kept resilient**, working on four connected fronts:

Smarter funding & financing

public and private money — including blended and climate finance

Resilient planning & maintenance

keep the whole network in service, not just build new roads

Data & digital systems

see the network's real condition and target every dollar

Stronger institutions & skills

governance and capacity that last

Real challenges — and real opportunities

CHALLENGES

- **Exposure to climate shocks**
  floods and heat damage roads faster
- **Insufficient funding**
  maintenance needs outstrip budgets
- **Young, less transparent institutions**
  many road funds still maturing
- **Patchy data**
  limited reliable road-condition data

OPPORTUNITIES

- **Dedicated road funds in place**
  a foundation built since 1988
- **Climate & adaptation finance**
  a fast-growing source to tap
- **Private capital & blended finance**
  investors ready for the right projects
- **Satellite data, AI and asset management systems**
  new tools to leapfrog and advance faster

Money alone doesn't fix roads

Key findings across the fifteen countries we have studied

Separate raising from spending

Money sent straight to the fund gets spent; routed through the Treasury, **nearly a fifth is lost**.

Independent, balanced boards

The **single biggest lever** — autonomous boards, with road users at the table, deliver far more.

Good, shared data

A shared, reliable picture of the network — to **plan spending properly and verify the work**, not guess at it.

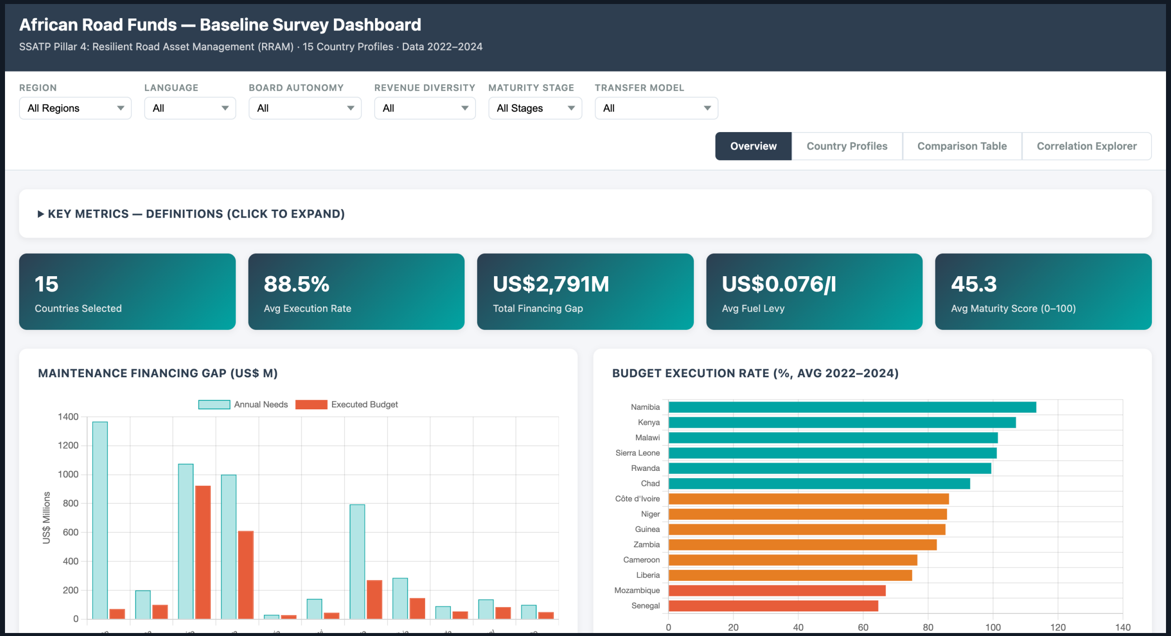
Over-reliance on the fuel levy

Most funds lean on the fuel levy — and unless it's indexed, **inflation and fuel-price swings erode it**.

The deeper evidence across all of it: fixing roads one by one cannot solve a system-wide problem. Resilience is about **managing the whole network as one system** — planning, funding, building and maintaining it together, across the whole life of the roads.

SSATP UPCOMING PUBLICATION

Coming up soon!



African Road Funds

SSATP's Baseline Survey

A Continental Study on Road Maintenance Funding, Resilience and the Next Generation of Road Funds in Africa

GOOD ROADS CONNECT US ALL.

Thank you — enjoy the conversation.