

Enabling Better Infrastructure



Planning and prioritising strategic infrastructure in a changing world: Understanding country-level policy processes and identifying emerging needs

Scoping Paper - Call for Insights

November 2022

Since 2019, when the ICE and partners first launched their [Enabling Better Infrastructure Programme](#) (EBI), national policymakers involved in infrastructure planning, financing, and delivery have needed to embrace fundamental shifts in how societies live and work. This is not least due to the onset of Covid-19, but also a result of marked changes in climate and social demographics.

To ensure the continued relevance of the EBI principles, the ICE is issuing a call for insights from experts involved in strategic infrastructure processes to identify contemporary challenges and emerging needs. These insights will enable the ICE and partners to better understand how infrastructure is planned and prioritised at the country level and help the institution to deliver on its core objective to seek, curate, and share know-how to ensure the planet and those who live on it to thrive.

Initial findings suggest the following considerations must be incorporated into strategic infrastructure policy frameworks:

- Sustainability transitions, including climate change interventions
- The role of leadership and approaches to managing uncertainty
- The feasibility of delivering strategic infrastructure interventions
- Incorporating social and environmental costs into cost-benefit analyses
- Balancing short-term planning cycles to meet long-term infrastructure needs
- The role of scale in assessing synergies and trade-offs
- Transparency around costing, including who pays for infrastructure
- Creating a strong fiscal case for infrastructure investment

As strategic infrastructure processes differ across countries, experts from all countries are invited to respond to this call to share their insights and practical understandings to help develop and build on the initial findings listed above.

Insights gathered from this call will feed into a Green Paper research programme on updating the EBI 12 Principles. This includes policy approaches and supporting measures in the abovementioned areas.

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Call for insights

We invite all experts involved in the planning, financing, and delivery of strategic infrastructure to respond to the questions below. *Please refer to specific examples in each of your answers.*

This consultation runs until **16 December 2022**. Responses can be made by emailing policy@ice.org.uk.

Question 1. Since 2019, which emerging challenges, global or other, have significantly impacted country-level strategic infrastructure processes? *Identify individual challenges and which processes have been affected.*

Question 2. How have these challenges impacted strategic infrastructure processes, and what have the implications been? *Please provide specific examples of how the challenges have impacted day-to-day activities and operations.*

Question 3. In your opinion, which needs or considerations must be factored into activities to strengthen country-level strategic infrastructure processes? *List these and provide a short explanation of why you have selected them.*

Question 4. How can these needs and considerations be included in the EBI [12 Principles](#)? *List these and provide a short explanation of why you selected them.*

Question 5. To date, which tools or frameworks have been used to strengthen national infrastructure planning and prioritisation to respond to these needs? *List these and explain where and how they have been used.*

Question 6. In your opinion, how can these tools or frameworks be adapted to ensure their continued relevance toward overcoming the challenges and needs you identified? *List the reasons why and include specific examples where possible.*

Outputs and next steps

Insights will be analysed and written up as a scoping paper. Findings will inform a Green Paper research programme on updating the EBI 12 principles.

About EBI

The [EBI programme](#) was initiated in 2019 under the chair of [Sir Michael Bear](#). The programme delivers on the ICE's enduring legacy to face up to the policy challenges holding governments back from planning, financing and providing transformative infrastructure.

The programme has already [consolidated policymaker insights](#) to support planning infrastructure to meet sustainable development targets through developing the [12 Principles](#).

We are now drawing on these [insights](#) to foster a collaborative network of national and regional policymakers to strengthen national infrastructure planning in a changing world. Part of this vision includes updating the 12 Principles.