

The Potential of Design-Built-Maintain as a Means of Road Procurement

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SUMMARY

New developed procurement routes, which incorporate areas like Design, Construction, Ownership and Operation, could provide the vehicle to accommodate the strategic needs of a country's transportation policies. Their success depends on the conditions set for their adoption. Therefore, this paper sets out to examine a scenario on how Design Built & Maintain (DBM), as a means of procuring roads, may offer options for road management reform and improved life cycle management.

The problem on roads is how to keep current investment levels while resolving the issues of maintenance and maintenance funding. DBM type schemes offer a unique opportunity to not only acquire new infrastructure but to ensure that they are kept in the best possible condition for their required function. DBM schemes, as suggested by this paper, present lower strategic risks than other privately funded schemes.

A major factor which may become a barrier to the introduction of DBM schemes is the political determination related to road procurement policies. Dilemmas involving the payment of such schemes will increase the venture risk making it unattractive.