

Benefit-Cost Analysis of Strategic Provincial Roads in Southern and Eastern Afghanistan

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Extremely poor road connectivity historically impeded the integration of various Afghan regions, ethnicities, and tribes, thus hindering economic growth and political stability. To facilitate the integration of the southern and eastern rural provinces and districts into the political, economic, and social identity of Afghanistan, a network of road improvements was identified for funding by various donor agencies. Typically, such road network improvement programs are comprised of various individual road projects that undergo a series of engineering, environmental, economic, and financial feasibility analyses. Given the urgent need to stabilize rural regions, funding and engineering plans were expedited by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for the Strategic Provincial Roads in Southern and Eastern Afghanistan (SPR-SEA) and work began before the economic analysis was conducted.