

Break-Out Session 3



Stimulating investment in Sustainable Infrastructure

Simon van der Byl
Executive Director, MPA

What do we mean by Infrastructure?



- Buildings
- Work places
- Water infrastructure
- Transport infrastructure
- Energy supply
- Information and communications infrastructure

What do we mean by Sustainable?



- In reality, the question has to be bounded by a timeframe
- The criteria will be set by politicians and should embrace:
 - Economic
 - Social and
 - Environmental factors

Challenges - 1

- Traditionally, much infrastructure has been provided by public authorities, but:
- Future provision will need to be shared by public and private enterprises
- Ultimately, it will all be paid for by consumers, either by taxes or direct charges

Challenges - 2

- We will need
 - To be more resource efficient
 - To be more innovative (better!) in terms of design and construction
 - To better understand and appreciate the life cycle contribution of infrastructure
 - To better balance the three pillars of the sustainable equation
 - To understand that priorities change over time and that infrastructure development may also change
 - More political vision!

Objectives - 1



- Optimising resources – both financial and material – to improve infrastructure
- Improving the general understanding of the role that infrastructure plays in supporting sustainable development
- Creating more awareness of sustainable procurement – lowest price is not good enough
- Developing tools that assist assessment of true sustainability
- Educating politicians about what sustainable infrastructure means

Objectives - 2

- Developing tools that assist decision makers about returns on investment, not just financial returns, but environmental and societal returns
- In terms of transport, understanding the interaction between different modes and the contribution that each mode makes