

Transport Infrastructure

SDG alignment of transport infrastructure projects (as at December 31, 2019)

Primary SDG alignment



Direct contribution to additional SDGs





USD 2.3 bn

Approved by NDB in 2019 for transport infrastructure projects

High-quality and efficient transport infrastructure can enhance the mobility of people and goods and unlock accessibility to markets and services, bringing about a wide range of socio-economic opportunities and benefits with positive multiplier effects. Within the broad spectrum of transport infrastructure, NDB prioritises projects that promote accessible transport modes with lower emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and greater efficiency, as well as projects that enable inclusive development by providing improved connectivity for populations in underserved areas.

In 2019 alone, NDB approved six loans totalling USD 2.3 billion for the development of transport infrastructure of different types across all member countries.

- In Brazil, the Bank extended a USD 300 million corporate loan to Vale S.A., the largest mining company and a major logistics operator in the country, to develop its transportation system in the country's northern region. The project, which encompasses railway and port infrastructure improvements, will help Vale S.A. enhance its cargo capacity and strengthen its operational efficiency. To meet the borrower's demand, the NDB loan was tailormade to be a multiple currency facility. Up to USD 50 million of the loan can be delivered in RMB equivalent, while the remaining balance would be provided in USD.
- In Russia, NDB provided CHF 500 million to the Joint Stock Company Russian Railways for its locomotive fleet renewal programme. Under this large-scale programme with a total cost of RUB 501 billion, 3,576 new locomotives equipped with the latest technologies will be acquired to replace the outdated and inefficient fleet. The programme will contribute to the modernisation of Russia's railway system, increasing its traction power and productivity while reducing its energy consumption and the associated GHG emissions.
- In India, the Bank approved two loans of USD 323 million each to support two separate but complementary road projects in the state of Andhra Pradesh. These were the Andhra Pradesh Roads and Bridges Reconstruction Project and the Andhra Pradesh Mandal Connectivity and Rural Connectivity Improvement Project. Both projects are aimed at improving mobility and accessibility to socio-economic centres, increasing transport efficiency, and enhancing road safety within the state. Together, these two projects will entail the upgrade of about 3,000 km of roads and the reconstruction of over 470 bridges, providing support to India's efforts to build resilient transport infrastructure.

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- In China, the Bank provided RMB 2.5 billion to finance the Lanzhou New Area Regional Hub Multimodal Logistics and Transport Infrastructure Demonstration Project. Located in the landlocked province of Gansu in northwest China, the project will provide multimodal logistics options, such as rail, road and air freight, by building and upgrading transport infrastructure and relevant auxiliary facilities. A multimodal logistics information platform will also be installed to enhance the overall logistics efficiency, enable real-time information sharing and provide online logistics solutions. Successful implementation of the project is expected to have a strong positive spill-over effect on industrial development and economic growth in northwest China.
- In South Africa, the Bank approved ZAR 7 billion, through a sovereign-guaranteed loan, to South African National Roads Agency SOC Ltd (SANRAL) for a programme aimed at strengthening and improving the national toll roads, as a way to reduce transportation costs in the country. To that end, 240 lane-km of new toll roads will be constructed, while another 240 lane-km of existing key toll road sections will be rehabilitated. Auxiliary infrastructure, such as bridges, intersections and safety measures, will also be built or upgraded.

As at December 31, 2019, NDB had cumulative approvals of 13 projects in transport infrastructure, with a total amount of USD 4.4 billion, which represented the largest share (30%) of the Bank's portfolio. These projects are aligned primarily with SDG 9 on Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, and also contribute directly to SDGs 3 and 11.

30%

Share of transport infrastructure projects in NDB's cumulative approvals as at December 31, 2019