

Communiqué from the Knowledge Sharing Seminar on the Luoyang Metro Project Evaluation by the Independent Evaluation Office

Background. In collaboration with the NDB China Desk, the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) organized its first knowledge sharing seminar in Beijing on 1 February 2024, on the evaluation of the Luoyang Metro Project financed by the NDB. This was the first project evaluation completed by IEO in China. The purpose of the seminar was to discuss the evaluation’s results and lessons. Around 200 participants attended the seminar representing the Government of China, provincial authorities, international organizations, Embassies of NDB member countries, Universities, and others. The Chair of the NDB Board of Directors, the Alternate Director for China and the NDB Vice President & CAO also attended and delivered remarks in the inaugural session. Some other NDB Board member attended virtually.

Key messages. Participants commended the provincial authorities and implementing agency for a successful project, which was completed ahead of time and within budget. They also appreciated the high-quality independent evaluation report, capturing lessons and insights of value towards the implementation of ongoing and design of new projects in the infrastructure and transportation sectors in China and other NDB member countries.

Building on the experience of the project and the evaluation findings, participants underlined that infrastructure development should not be seen as an end in itself, but as a means to promoting better prosperity, job creation and increased social and economic development. As such, they encouraged project design teams to ensure that infrastructure and transportation development is embedded into broader development planning priorities, which can therefore contribute to a wider set of goals such as improved safety, reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, promotion of businesses, greater efficiency in the modes of transportation, and improved quality of life.

A key message cutting across the various panels and discussions was the importance of proactively sharing good practices, lessons and knowledge from one project to another, one province to another, and country to country. Learning from successful experiences, such as the Luoyang Metro Project, would improve the quality and impact of other development interventions.

Next steps. IEO noted that, in line with the NDB Evaluation Policy, the final evaluation report and related products will be disseminated to a wide audience, within and beyond China. More specifically, to facilitate the uptake of lessons within China, IEO has translated the report’s summary into Chinese language. Given the interest of the participants in further opportunities for dialogue and exchange of ideas, IEO undertook to continue to engage with a wider set of stakeholders in the context of the ongoing project evaluation in Fujian Province, to be completed by mid-2024. Finally, the seminar documents including the agenda and evaluation report of the Luoyang Metro Project may be found on the *Events* section of the IEO webpages on the NDB corporate website ([Independent Evaluation - New Development Bank \(ndb.int\)](https://www.ndb.int)).

Beijing, 2 February 2024
