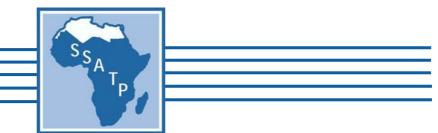




Performance of road funds in SSA

Mustapha Benmaamar

Sub-Saharan Africa Transport Policy Program, SSATP Sr. Transport Policy Advisor mbenmaamar@worldbank.org



Overview

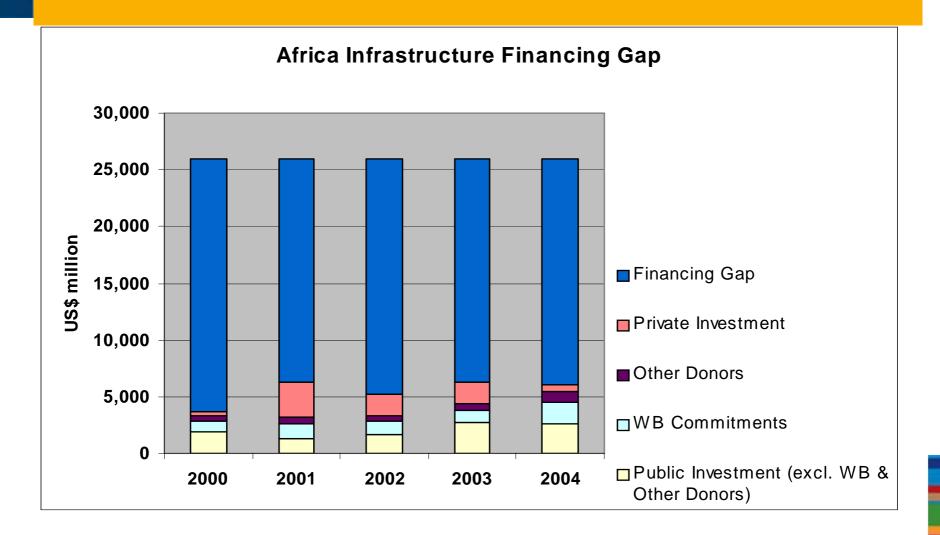
- Transport financing gap in SSA

Road Management and Financing:
Outcomes to date

- Constraints encountered

Commercialisation of Roads in SSA:
Challenges

Africa infrastructure financing gap (I)



Financing gap (II)

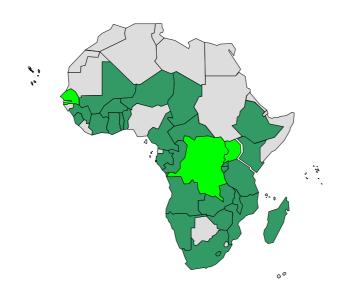
Massive underinvestment in transport in SSA:

- The highest investment needs is in transport, 40% of infrastructure financing gap
- This requires US\$ 7.5 billion/year
- US\$ 4.1 billion for new roads and 3.4 billion for maintaining existing roads)
- The road maintenance crisis is not over yet

Road Financing and 2G Road Funds

- Thirteen years following the establishment of the first 2G RF in SSA:
 - Are road maintenance needs becoming more visible?
 - Have we sustained more funding for road maintenance?
 - Are we covering our maintenance needs?
 - Are road funds managed according to "the user pay" and to second generation road funds principles?
 - Are the available resources efficiently used value for money?
 - What needs to be done? 23e Congrès mondial de la Route - Paris 2007

2G RFs in SSA: Practice extended

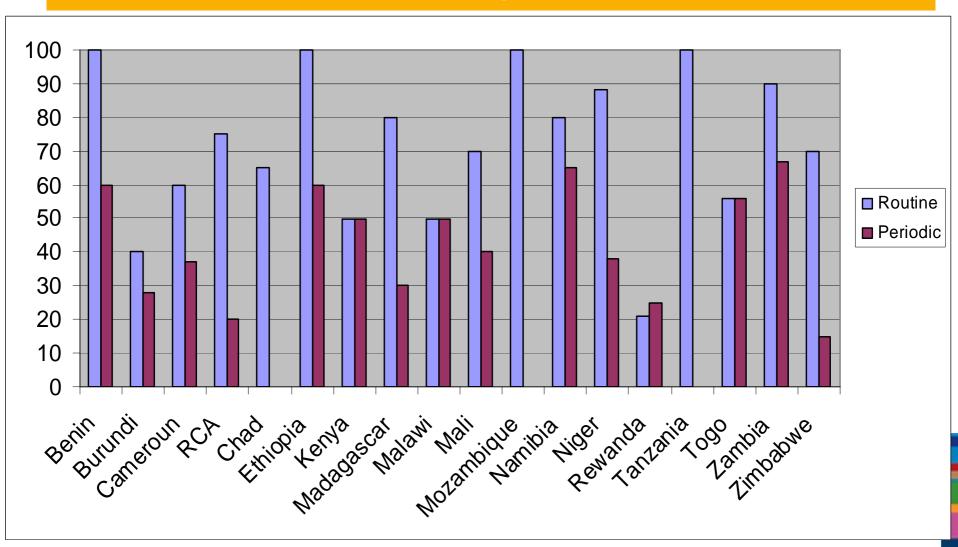


28 Road Funds in SSA – 31 by end 2007 (Uganda, Senegal and DRC)

Some Indicators of Performance of "Second Generation" Road Funds in SSA

- 27 active road funds are in place of which 9 established since 2000 and 7 in Francophone Africa
- 18 out of 27 are established by a law
- 12 with a board with private sector majority
- 14 road funds rely 80% or more on road user charges as revenues
- In nearly all cases, fuel levy is the principal means of raising road user charges
- Average fuel levy in US cents/liter is 8 and 7 for petrol and diesel respectively
- 11road funds have their revenues channeled directly to their bank account
- Only about one third of road funds may now be meeting routine maintenance expenditure needs on a regular basis. But this is a large improvement on the situation 10, even 5, years ago

Coverage of routine and periodic maintenance needs (Av. = 65% routine and 54% periodic)



Outcome to date

- Overall, the road maintenance needs are becoming more visible
- Road funds have secured a more stable and predictable flow of funds for road maintenance but country progress varies widely
- More transparency in the management of funds
- Greater coordination between development partners – EU, AfDB and bilateral agencies....

Constraints Encountered

- A number of road funds need restructuring
- Fuel levy assessment and adjustment process
- Diversification to other road user charges
- Release of resources to the Road Fund
- delays, leakages
- Efficiency of use of the available resources

Challenges for Road Financing in Africa (1)

FINANCIAL:

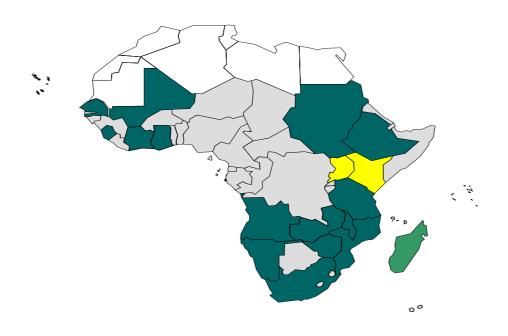
- Ensure equitable distribution of user charges: Vehicle license fees -particular regard to heavy vehicles;
- Develop a communication strategy to negotiate road tariffs- Mobilize road users and stakeholders more effectively
- influence decision-making
- Right sizing the network for road user financing

Challenges for Road Financing in Africa (2)

INSTITUTIONAL:

- Road boards to play effectively their role and be accountable to road users
- Finance is not enough -a RF is a means to an end... Road fund as a part of a move towards commercial management of roads
- The RF initiative is at risk Need for road management restructuring to capture cost reductions that could be passed on to road users;
- Need to close the gap between road financing (RFs) and management (RAs) Intermediate steps Performance based contracts for road management and maintenance requires stable flow of fund flows...

Road Agencies in SSA



Commercialisation of roads: An unfinished agenda

- The process of commercialisation of road management in SSA requires both a political will and a change of attitude in the way in which roads are managed. The general direction of the reforms
- 1- Financing: Stay the course towards 2nd G Road Funds
- 2 -Management: Establishing a more autonomous road agency which operates at arms length from government;
- 3- Responsibility: Identifying clear roles and responsibilities between the autonomous road agency and the parent ministry; and
- 4 -Ownership: Improve the effectiveness of road boards through effective participation of road users.

http://www.worldbank.org/afr/ssatp

Thank you