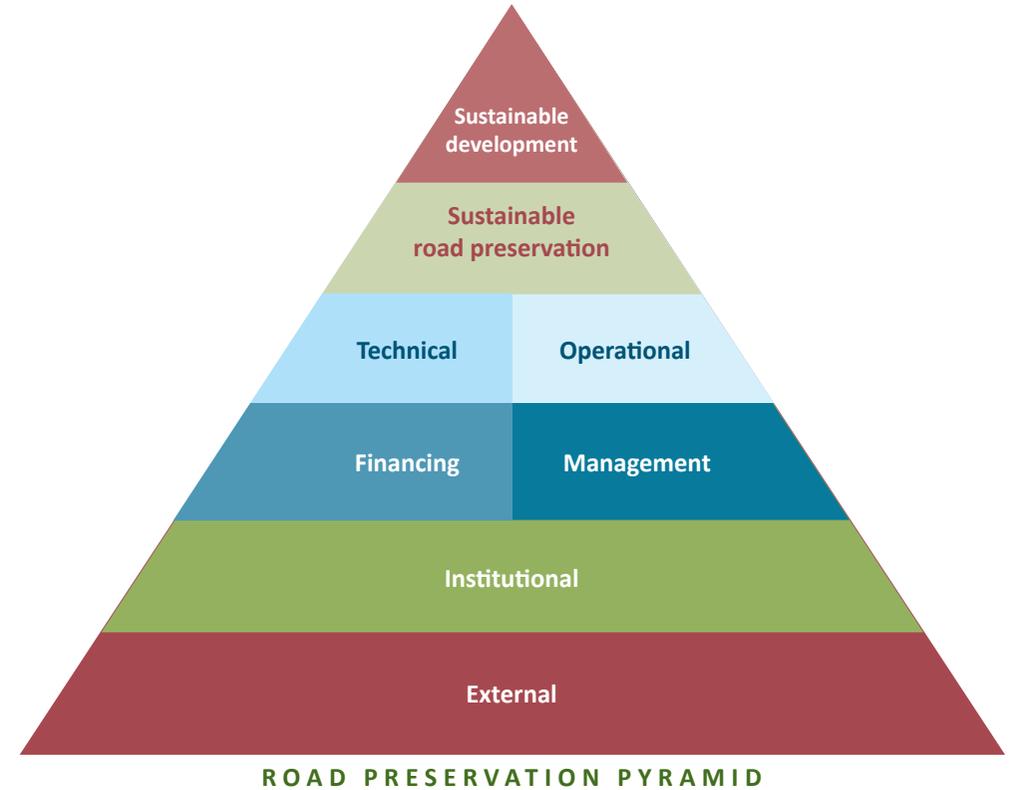




Economic Growth through Effective Road Asset Management

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BACKGROUND

AFCAP is conducting research on improving asset management for rural roads Africa. The project is being implemented in Zambia, Uganda, Sierra Leone and the Western Cape Province of South Africa. The Western Cape provides a benchmark for best practice in rural road asset management.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project is to achieve economic and social benefits for local communities as a result of improved performance in road asset management.

OBJECTIVES

- Develop a framework for measuring performance in road asset management
- Develop and implement simple and appropriate tools for monitoring road condition and economic and social impacts in selected project areas
- Monitor the resulting incremental improvements to road asset management performance

IMPLEMENTATION TIMING

The implementation phase of the project started in July 2016 and will be completed by the end of 2018.

OVERVIEW OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

A network of about 400km of rural roads has been identified in each of the participating countries. Current performance in asset management of this network is being measured using a self-assessment questionnaire which is being completed by the agency responsible for the network. The questionnaire and the data collection will highlight strengths and weaknesses in the current road asset management practice.

An inventory of the road network is also being taken and the condition of the road measured. Data is being collected in the local communities for monitoring of the social and economic impact of the roads.

Technical assistance will be provided to the road agency to improve their performance and address any areas of weakness.

The performance assessment is focusing on all aspects of road asset management as presented in the Road Preservation Pyramid.

After one year the questionnaire and the data collection will be repeated. This will enable any changes in asset management performance to be identified and quantified.

DISSEMINATION OF FINDINGS

The data obtained in the project areas and the performance assessments will be discussed at annual stakeholder meetings in the project areas. The data and findings of the research will also be discussed at an annual regional meeting of the Project Implementation Team (PIT). The PIT will include representatives from all 12 countries that are participating in AFCAP.

The research methodology, the self-assessment questionnaire and the monitoring instruments will be available to other countries and regions wishing to improve their performance in rural roads asset management.

EXPECTED OUTCOME

It is expected that the research methodology will act as an influencing strategy to achieve home-grown and sustainable improvements to the management of rural roads in the participating countries.

The end result will be economic and social benefits for rural communities in sub-Saharan Africa.

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