

Infrastructure Delivery Improvement Programme (IDIP)



South Africa

June 2006 – October 2009

Client:
National Treasury

Building capacity of provincial government to alleviate under-spending and deliver value on education- and health-related infrastructure

Education and health promotion are two of the most important services a government provides its citizens. While the quality of doctors and nurses, teachers and curricula, school governance, safety, and policy are all key ingredients of an effective education and health service, the physical infrastructure, location, and condition of schools, hospitals and clinics are an often neglected – yet critically important – determinant of a country's ability to equitably care for its people.

But South Africa still falls short in the area of infrastructure, particularly for those people who have been historically marginalised. In some provinces, more than half the total population's health needs are considered to be unmet based on National Department of Health service delivery standards. In the most recent School Register of Needs, 45 percent of schools nationwide lacked electricity, and 29 percent lacked potable water.

While many schools have no toilet facilities at all, nearly half of schools use insufficient or unsafe sanitation methods such as buckets or unimproved pit latrines. Migration to better locations causes classroom and health clinic overcrowding in some provinces, while poor infrastructure planning have resulted in building in areas where the population is declining or where there is little demand for more schools or clinics.

Accordingly, the South African government launched the Infrastructure Delivery Improvement Program (IDIP), managed by the National Treasury in collaboration with the

Development Bank of South Africa, National Department of Public Works, and Construction Industry Development Board – to address the problem of under-spending on infrastructure and to alleviate the chronic backlog in health service, classrooms and maintenance.

ECIAfrica and its Joint Venture partner the Project Shop are implementing IDIP over three years. In Eastern Cape, Western Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Free State, ECIAfrica provides three long-term experts – supported by shorter-term specialists in procurement, information technology, demographics analysis and other fields as needed—who advise and support the provincial Departments of Education, Health and Public Works to build their capacity, business processes, and systems.

Specifically, under IDIP ECIAfrica is:

- Establishing formalised structures to manage and monitor infrastructure delivery;
- Establishing an integrated provincial infrastructure planning function for education and health infrastructure;
- Instituting adequate monitoring and control processes and systems;
- Promoting a cooperative change culture within the relevant provincial government departments to support education and health infrastructure delivery; and
- Improving departmental capacity for effective delivery of infrastructure.

