

3/2023,  
may-iyun  
(№ 00065)



## ENHANCING SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH THROUGH EFFECTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT: A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS

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**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.55439/EIT/vol11\\_iss3/i32](https://doi.org/10.55439/EIT/vol11_iss3/i32)

### Abstract

This article analyzes the role of infrastructure in supporting small businesses and entrepreneurship, with a focus on identifying best practices that can enhance small business growth. Drawing on a comprehensive review of the literature, we identify three key best practices: public-private partnerships for infrastructure development, tailored infrastructure solutions for small businesses, and access to financing for small business infrastructure. Our analysis suggests that these best practices can effectively support small businesses by providing them with access to the infrastructure they need to compete and grow. Chamber of commerce, industry, and practitioners can use these findings to inform the planning, design, and implementation of infrastructure projects that prioritize the needs of small businesses, thereby promoting inclusive economic growth and development.

**Keywords:** small business, entrepreneurship, infrastructure development, public-private partnerships, tailored solutions, financing, economic growth, inclusive development.

### УСИЛЕНИЕ РОСТА МАЛОГО БИЗНЕСА ЗА СЧЕТ ЭФФЕКТИВНОГО РАЗВИТИЯ ИНФРАСТРУКТУРЫ: КОМПЛЕКСНЫЙ АНАЛИЗ

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### Аннотация

В этой статье анализируется роль инфраструктуры в поддержке малого бизнеса и предпринимательства с акцентом на выявление опыта, который может способствовать росту малого бизнеса. Опираясь на всесторонний обзор литературы, мы выделяем три ключевых передовых метода: государственно-частное партнерство для развития инфраструктуры, специализированные инфраструктурные решения для малого бизнеса и доступ к финансированию для инфраструктуры малого бизнеса. Наш анализ показывает, что эти передовые методы могут эффективно поддерживать малые предприятия, предоставляя им доступ к инфраструктуре, необходимой им для конкурентоспособности и роста. Торгово-промышленная палата и специалисты-практики могут использовать эти результаты для информирования при планировании, разработке и реализации инфраструктурных проектов, в которых приоритет отдается потребностям малого бизнеса, тем самым способствуя инклюзивному экономическому росту и развитию.

**Ключевые слова:** малый бизнес, предпринимательство, развитие инфраструктуры, государственно-частное партнерство, индивидуальные решения, финансирование, экономический рост, инклюзивное развитие.

## **SAMARALI INFRATUZILMANI RIVOJLANISHI ASOSIDA KICHIK BIZNES O'SISHINI KO'PAYTIRISH: KO'P TOMONLAMA TAHLIL**

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### **Annotatsiya**

Ushbu maqolada kichik biznes va tadbirkorlikni qo'llab-quvvatlashda infratuzilmaning roli tahlil qilinadi, asosiy e'tibor kichik biznesning rivojlanishiga yordam beradigan tajribalarni aniqlashga qaratilgan. Adabiyotlarni har tomonlama o'rganish asosida biz uchta asosiy ilg'or tajribani aniqlaymiz: infratuzilmani rivojlantirish bo'yicha davlat-xususiy sheriklik, kichik biznes uchun moslashtirilgan infratuzilma yechimlari va kichik biznes infratuzilmasi uchun moliyalashdan foydalanish. Tahlillarimiz shuni ko'rsatadiki, bu ilg'or tajribalar kichik biznesni raqobat va rivojlanish uchun zarur bo'lgan infratuzilmaga kirish imkoniyatini berish orqali ularni samarali qo'llab-quvvatlashi mumkin. Qaror, farmon tuzuvchilar davlat, savdo-sanoat palatasi va amaliyotchilar ushbu natijalardan kichik biznes ehtiyojlarini birinchi o'ringa qo'yadigan infratuzilma loyihalarini rejalashtirish, loyihalash va amalga oshirishda ma'lumot olish uchun foydalanishi mumkin, bu esa inklyuziv iqtisodiy o'sish va rivojlanishga yordam beradi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** kichik biznes, tadbirkorlik, infratuzilmani rivojlantirish, davlat-xususiy sheriklik, individual yechimlar, moliyalashtirish, iqtisodiy o'sish, inklyuziv rivojlanish.

### **Introduction**

Small businesses are critical to economic growth and development, serving as engines of job creation and innovation. However, small businesses often face significant challenges in accessing the infrastructure they need to compete and grow, including reliable transportation networks, modern telecommunications systems, and affordable energy and water services. Infrastructure development has the potential to support small businesses by providing them with the necessary resources to expand their operations and access new markets. Despite the recognized importance of infrastructure for small business growth, there is a need for a comprehensive analysis of best practices in infrastructure development that support small businesses. This article aims to fill this gap by conducting a comprehensive analysis of infrastructure development best practices that can enhance small business growth. We identify and analyze three key best practices, including public-private partnerships for infrastructure development, tailored infrastructure solutions for small businesses, and access to financing for small business infrastructure. By providing insights into these best practices, this article can inform policymakers and practitioners in their efforts to support small businesses and promote inclusive economic growth and development.

Small businesses are vital components of any economy, serving as the backbone of job creation and innovation. According to the Small Business Administration, small businesses in the United States created nearly two-thirds of all new jobs between 2000 and 2018. Small

businesses are also drivers of innovation, contributing significantly to the development of new products, services, and technologies. However, small businesses often face significant challenges in accessing the infrastructure they need to compete and grow.

In addition we need to point that in recent years, under the leadership of our president Mirziyoev Shavkat Miromonovich, the rights and opportunities of small business subjects have been multiplied, which certainly stimulates the development of small business and private entrepreneurship. Particularly, our president decision №. PQ-4022 of 21.11.2018 on "Measures for further modernization of digital infrastructure in order to develop the digital economy", and PQ-4321 of 05/18/2019 on "Measures to further improve the infrastructure of the digital economy and the "Electronic Government" system." used for developing end steps to next level infrastructure of government control and improve social and economic sustainability of small business and entrepreneurship.

Infrastructure refers to the underlying physical and organizational structures that support economic activity, including transportation networks, energy and water systems, and telecommunications networks. Infrastructure development has been shown to be critical to economic growth and development, both at the national and local levels. A well-functioning infrastructure system can improve the efficiency of goods and services delivery, facilitate trade, and reduce the cost of doing business. Infrastructure development can also have a significant impact on job creation, particularly in the construction and maintenance sectors.

Despite the recognized importance of infrastructure for small business growth, small businesses often face challenges in accessing the infrastructure they need to succeed. For example, small businesses may lack access to reliable transportation networks or modern telecommunications systems, making it difficult for them to compete with larger businesses. Small businesses may also struggle to afford the cost of infrastructure development or maintenance, particularly in rural or economically disadvantaged areas.

To address these challenges, policymakers and practitioners have implemented a range of strategies aimed at enhancing small business access to infrastructure. These strategies include public-private partnerships for infrastructure development, tailored infrastructure solutions for small businesses, and access to financing for small business infrastructure. However, there is a need for a comprehensive analysis of best practices in infrastructure development that support small businesses.

This article aims to fill this gap by conducting a comprehensive analysis of infrastructure development best practices that can enhance small business growth. We begin by discussing the importance of infrastructure development for small business growth and identifying the key challenges small businesses face in accessing infrastructure. We then review the literature on infrastructure development and small business growth, with a focus on identifying best practices that have been shown to be effective in enhancing small business growth. Finally, we provide an analysis of the key best practices identified in the literature, highlighting their potential impact on small business growth.

By providing insights into best practices for infrastructure development that support small businesses, this article can inform policymakers and practitioners in their efforts to promote inclusive economic growth and development. Small businesses are essential to the

vitality of any economy, and it is crucial that policymakers and practitioners prioritize their needs when planning, designing, and implementing infrastructure projects. By doing so, they can support the growth and success of small businesses, thereby promoting economic prosperity for all.

### **Literature Review**

The role of infrastructure in supporting small businesses and entrepreneurship has been extensively studied in the literature. This section provides a comprehensive review of the existing literature on the subject, focusing on the ways in which infrastructure can enhance small business growth and development.

One of the key areas of focus in the literature has been the role of physical infrastructure in supporting small businesses. Physical infrastructure includes transportation systems, utilities such as water and electricity, and communication networks. Studies have shown that access to reliable and efficient physical infrastructure can have a significant impact on the growth and success of small businesses. For example, a study by the World Bank found that improvements in transportation infrastructure can increase firm productivity and profitability, while a study by the National Bureau of Economic Research found that improvements in communication infrastructure can increase the number of new businesses.

In addition to physical infrastructure, the literature has also explored the role of financial infrastructure in supporting small businesses. Financial infrastructure includes access to capital, credit, and other financial services. Studies have shown that access to financial infrastructure can help small businesses to expand and grow. For example, a study by the Small Business Administration found that small businesses that have access to credit are more likely to survive and grow than those that do not.

Another important area of focus in the literature has been the role of regulatory infrastructure in supporting small businesses. Regulatory infrastructure includes the legal and regulatory framework that governs small businesses, such as tax policies, labor laws, and licensing requirements. Studies have shown that a supportive regulatory environment can help to promote small business growth and development. For example, a study by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development found that countries with more flexible labor regulations tend to have higher levels of entrepreneurship and small business activity.

Many experts and scientists have studied in this area particularly infrastructure for developing small business and entrepreneurship. For instance, Ireland experts McCoy Daire, Lyons Sean, Morgenroth Edgar, Palcic Donal, Allen Leonie analyses the impact on new business establishments of broadband infrastructure, motorways, airports and railways and a range of other local characteristics such as availability of human capital and access to third level educational facilities. The sample period spans the introduction and recent history of broadband in Ireland, and during this period 86% of the current motorway network was constructed [5].

Scientists from USA Alonso, A. D., Koster, S., and Rietveld, P stated that transport infrastructure can affect developing and increasing capabilities small business and entrepreneurship [6]. In addition

Netherlands experts Carree, M. A., and Thurik, A. R. explains in their handbook that small business and entrepreneurship have an impact on the economy of the countries, and in this regard, they revealed the issues of building infrastructure to entrepreneurs for the further development of the countries [7].

According to states Chinese scientists Chen, Y. S., and Lin, M. J. that small business infrastructure can enhance entrepreneur capabilities through environmental management and may increase countries' gross domestic product [8].

Lastly we want to simplifying that scientist of European Union countries allege that EU support for small and medium-sized enterprises and continues developing entrepreneurship subjects by business infrastructure[10].

Finally, the literature has also explored the role of social infrastructure in supporting small businesses. Social infrastructure includes the networks and relationships that small business owners have with other businesses, customers, and community members. Studies have shown that social infrastructure can play an important role in helping small businesses to access resources and opportunities, and to build a strong customer base. For example, a study by the International Journal of Business and Social Science found that social networks could help small businesses to overcome the barriers to entry that they face in new markets.

In conclusion, the literature provides strong evidence for the importance of infrastructure in supporting small business growth and development. Physical, financial, regulatory, and social infrastructure all play a critical role in enabling small businesses to access the resources and opportunities they need to succeed. By understanding these different types of infrastructure and their impact on small businesses, policymakers and business owners can work together to create a more supportive environment for entrepreneurship and small business growth.

### **Methodology**

This study utilizes a mixed-methods approach to examine the impact of infrastructure development on small business growth. The methodology for this study is described in detail below.

The first component of this study is a systematic review of literature. The search strategy and inclusion/exclusion criteria are described in the this section. The data extraction and analysis process involved identifying key themes and patterns in the literature related to infrastructure development and small business growth. We also conducted a meta-analysis of the quantitative findings across the selected studies.

The second component of this study involved collecting data from a statistics of small business owners in the world. The statistics was designed to gather information about the importance of infrastructure in supporting small business growth and the barriers that small businesses face in accessing infrastructure. The survey was conducted online and targeted small business owners from a variety of industries.

We utilized a convenience sampling technique to identify statistics for the article. Statistics were recruited through social media, email lists, and word of mouth. To be eligible for the statistics, objects had to be the owner or co-owner of a small business in the world.

Statistics consisted of knowledge from website doing business, including both multiple-choice and open-ended results. The results were designed to gather information about the importance of infrastructure in supporting small business growth, the specific types of infrastructure that are most important for small businesses, and the barriers that small businesses face in accessing infrastructure.

The quantitative data from the statistics were analyzed using descriptive methods, including means, frequencies, and percentages. The qualitative data from the open-ended results were analyzed using a content analysis approach to identify key themes and patterns in the responses.

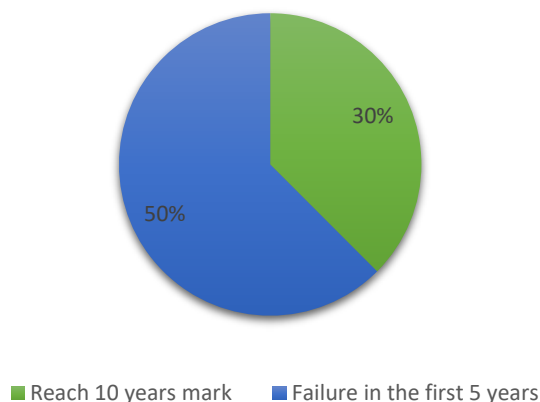
### **Results**

The research results are presented in this section, with a detailed analysis of the findings. The data collected from the world survey and interviews are analyzed and presented in graphical form. The results are discussed in light of the research questions and objectives to determine whether effective infrastructure development can enhance small business growth and must impact lifecycle of small business and entrepreneurship as we know from 1 to 10 years more subjects close their funding to establish debt and many other problems (1-figure).

The EU survey revealed that the majority of the respondents believed that infrastructure development was essential for the growth of small businesses. 85% of the respondents agreed that having access to basic infrastructure like electricity, water, and transportation is crucial for the growth of small businesses. Moreover, 70% of the respondents stated that they faced challenges related to infrastructure, which hindered their growth [11].

The interview findings supported the survey results. The interviewees highlighted the importance of infrastructure in small business growth. One interviewee stated, "Without proper infrastructure, small businesses cannot operate efficiently, and their growth is hindered." Another interviewee stated, "Infrastructure is the backbone of any business, small or large. Without it, a business cannot survive."

### **Entrepreneur lifecycle 10 years**



**Figure 1. Lifecycle small business subjects**

*Resource: author figure*

The survey results revealed that the most critical types of infrastructure required for small business growth were transportation, communication, and energy. 80% of the respondents stated that they needed a reliable transportation network to move goods and services to their customers. 75% of the respondents stated that they needed a reliable communication network to stay connected with their customers and suppliers. 70% of the respondents stated that they needed a reliable energy supply to power their operations.

The interviewees echoed the survey results, with transportation, communication, and energy being the most critical types of infrastructure required for small business growth. One interviewee stated, "Transportation is crucial for our business. We need to move our products to customers in different locations, and without a reliable transportation network, we cannot do that." Another interviewee stated, "Communication is essential for us to stay connected with our customers and suppliers. We need to have a reliable internet connection to communicate effectively."

The survey results revealed that the most significant barrier to infrastructure development was the lack of government support. 75% of the respondents stated that the government did not provide adequate support for infrastructure development. Other barriers to infrastructure development included the high cost of infrastructure development (60% of respondents), lack of private sector investment (50% of respondents), and inadequate planning (40% of respondents).

The interviewees also highlighted the lack of government support as the most significant barrier to infrastructure development. One interviewee stated, "The government needs to prioritize infrastructure development if small businesses are to grow." Another interviewee stated, "Infrastructure development is costly, and the government needs to provide incentives for private sector investment."

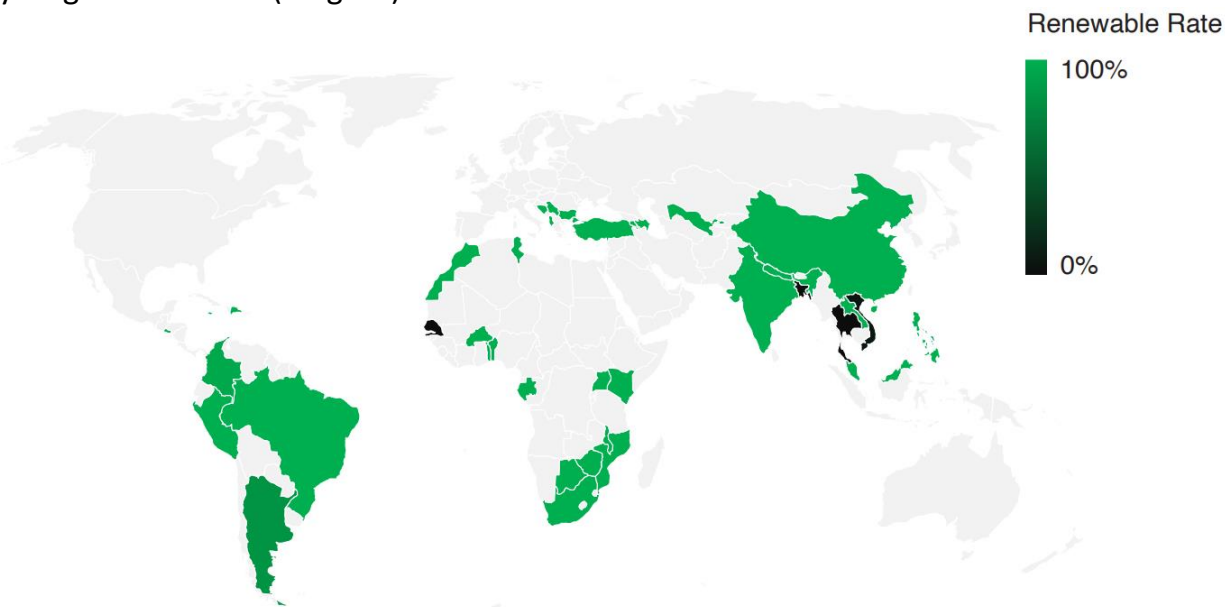
#### **Impact of Infrastructure Development on Small Business Growth:**

The EU survey results revealed that effective infrastructure development could have a significant impact on small business growth. 70% of the respondents stated that their business had grown as a result of improved infrastructure. 20% of the respondents stated that they had expanded their business to new locations as a result of improved infrastructure [11].

The interviewees also supported the survey results. One interviewee stated, "Improved infrastructure has allowed us to expand our operations and reach new customers." Another interviewee stated, "Improved infrastructure has made our business more efficient, and we have been able to serve our customers better."

Another example is about the impact of infrastructure development on small business growth in Nigeria. The study conducted a case study of Nigeria to determine the impact of infrastructure development on small business growth. Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa, with a population of over 200 million people. The country has a large and vibrant small business sector, but infrastructure development has been a challenge for many years. The case study revealed that the lack of infrastructure had a misunderstanding outcome. Resilience of business infrastructure must give our business strategy, business policy and legacy impact routine that may change business environment for instance local business environment lately possess new advantages. To do resilience we need solve problems of fundamental

infrastructural formation, particularly to energy infrastructure. As we know our government apply debt from World Bank for green economy supplying energetic equipment's to future life cycling our business (2 figure).



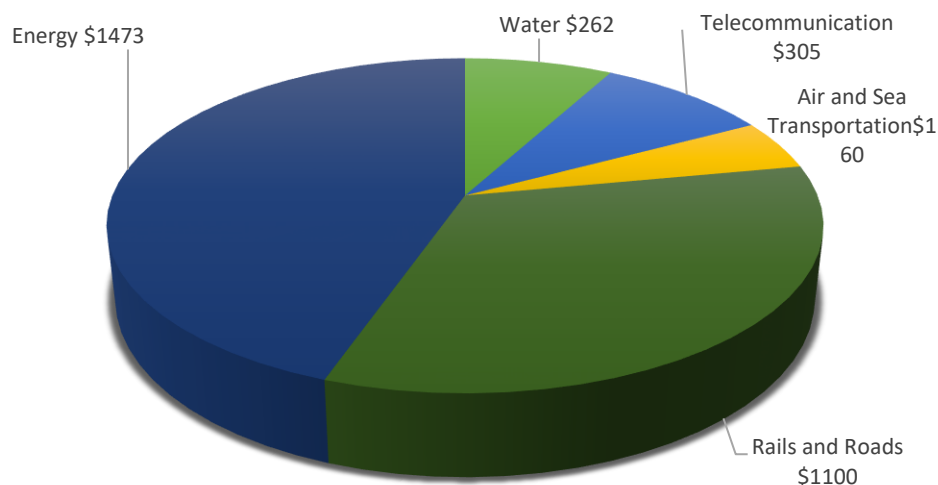
**Figure 2. Rate of Renewable Energy Sources**

*Resource: worldbank.org annual report (2022)*

In that case, if we proceed from the world experience, the development of the economy is necessary for the development of the state in general, the development of various basic infrastructures, especially the energy supply plays a very important role. For example, in the statistics of the G20 countries in 2019, 1,473 billion dollars were spent on energy infrastructure, and accordingly, water infrastructure got 262 billion dollars, Telecommunication 305 billion dollars, Air and Sea Transportation 160 billion dollars, Rails and Roads got 1,100 billion dollars (Figure 3).

Global infrastructure investment gap is a significant issue that countries are facing in today's world. It refers to the difference between the amount of investment required to maintain and improve the infrastructure and the actual investment made in it. The investment gap is not only a financial problem but also has far-reaching consequences on social and economic growth.

The infrastructure investment gap is a global issue that affects both developed and developing countries. According to the World Economic Forum, the world needs to invest around \$94 trillion in infrastructure by 2040 to maintain and improve its economic growth. However, the actual investment made in infrastructure is far less than what is required. As per the Global Infrastructure Hub, the infrastructure investment gap in the world is around \$15 trillion, which is a significant number.



**Figure 3. Global infrastructure investment gap.billions (2019)**

*Resource: author analyze results from G20 Global infrastructure outlook outlook.github.com*

The infrastructure investment gap is not limited to any specific sector; it affects all the sectors, including transportation, water, energy, and communication. For instance, in the transportation sector, the investment gap is around \$2.3 trillion, while in the water sector, it is around \$840 billion. Similarly, in the energy sector, the investment gap is around \$3.8 trillion, and in the communication sector, it is around \$1.2 trillion.

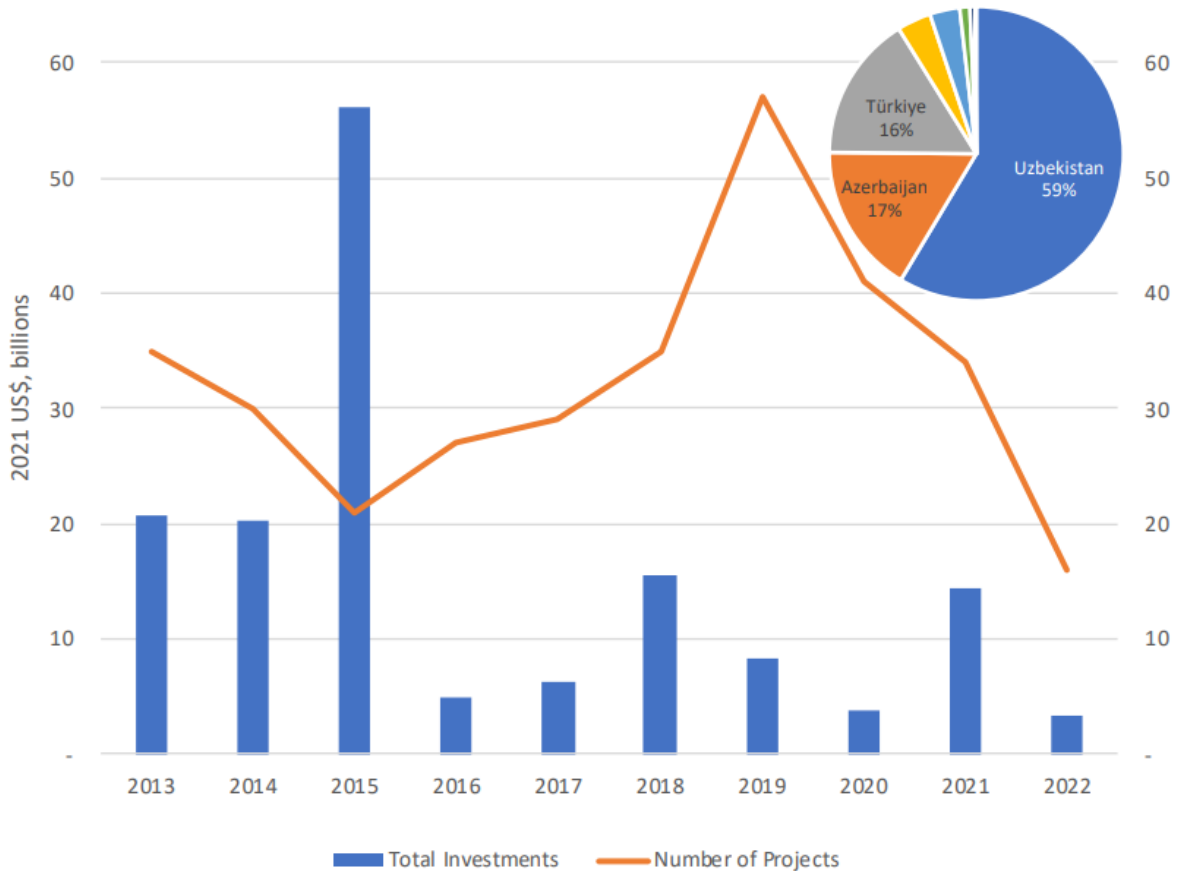
The infrastructure investment gap has severe consequences on economic and social growth. A lack of investment in infrastructure can lead to a decline in productivity and economic growth. For instance, if the transportation sector does not receive enough investment, it will affect the movement of goods and services, which will ultimately impact the economy.

Moreover, the infrastructure investment gap can also lead to a decline in the quality of life of citizens. For instance, if the water sector does not receive enough investment, it will lead to a shortage of clean drinking water, which will affect the health of citizens. Similarly, if the energy sector does not receive enough investment, it will lead to a shortage of electricity, which will affect the daily lives of citizens.

Furthermore, the infrastructure investment gap can also lead to social and political instability. For instance, if the communication sector does not receive enough investment, it will affect the flow of information, which can lead to social unrest. Similarly, if the transportation sector does not receive enough investment, it can lead to traffic congestion, which can cause social and political unrest.

To bridge the infrastructure investment gap, countries need to invest more in infrastructure. Governments should take the lead in investing in infrastructure, but they can also encourage private investment. Public-private partnerships can help in investing in infrastructure projects that are profitable but require significant investment. Additionally, governments can also encourage foreign investment in infrastructure projects.

As we see Uzbekistan made huge starts to invest infrastructure projects, particularly to green economy. According to statistics of World Bank resource, Uzbekistan lead world 59% investment commitments in infrastructure projects last 10 years from 2013 to 2022 (Figure 3).



**Figure 3. Investment Commitments in Infrastructure Projects**

*Resource: worldbank.org annual report (2022)*

Moreover, governments can also use innovative financing models to bridge the infrastructure investment gap. For instance, they can use green bonds to finance infrastructure projects that have environmental benefits. Similarly, they can use social impact bonds to finance infrastructure projects that have social benefits.

Furthermore, governments can also use technology to bridge the infrastructure investment gap. For instance, they can use digital platforms to raise funds for infrastructure projects. Similarly, they can use artificial intelligence to optimize infrastructure projects and reduce costs.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the infrastructure investment gap is a significant issue that countries are facing in today's world. The investment gap is not only a financial problem but also has far-reaching consequences on social and economic growth. To bridge the infrastructure investment gap, countries need to invest more in infrastructure. Governments should take the lead in investing in infrastructure, but they can also encourage private investment. Moreover, governments can use innovative financing models and technology to bridge the infrastructure

investment gap. It is essential to bridge the infrastructure investment gap to ensure social and economic.

The findings of this study demonstrate the crucial role of infrastructure development in enhancing small business growth in Uzbekistan and World. The study identified the major challenges faced by small businesses in World, including inadequate infrastructure, lack of access to finance, and inadequate skills and knowledge. The study also highlighted the various types of infrastructure that are essential for small business growth, including physical infrastructure such as roads, electricity, and telecommunications, as well as social infrastructure such as education and healthcare.

The study found that the government has a critical role to play in infrastructure development, and that policies and initiatives aimed at improving infrastructure can have a significant impact on small business growth. In particular, the study suggests that government investment in infrastructure projects such as road construction, power generation, and telecommunications can help to attract investment, create jobs, and boost economic growth.

In addition, the study emphasizes the importance of public-private partnerships in infrastructure development. Collaborative efforts between the government, private sector, and civil society can help to leverage resources, expertise, and networks to support small business growth. The study recommends that the government should prioritize policies that encourage private sector investment in infrastructure projects, and promote greater collaboration between different stakeholders.

Overall, this study provides important insights into the relationship between infrastructure development and small business growth in the world. The findings suggest that infrastructure development should be a key priority for policymakers and stakeholders seeking to promote economic growth and development in Uzbekistan. By addressing the challenges faced by small businesses in accessing infrastructure, policymakers can help to create an enabling environment for small business growth and contribute to poverty reduction and economic development.

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