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Rural Roads as Rural Lifelines: Issues and Challenges of constructing and maintaining rural roads

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Rural Roads are rural lifelines...

- Plenty of evidence to show importance of rural roads for various development indicators:
 - India (1999): public expenditure on roads had far largest impact in reducing rural poverty (even greater than health or education)
 - Vietnam (2004): Found road investment generated highest returns in rural areas
 - Pakistan (2005): School enrollment of girls in villages with all-weather road access was 41% compared to 27% for those living without all-weather access
 - ADB (2006): Evaluation of rural road projects in Indonesia, Philippines, and Sri Lanka found more benefits going to richer groups, but poor also benefited

Rural Roads are rural lifelines...

- But even without these studies, we know that rural roads provide access from villages and remote communities to:
 - Markets
 - Schools and health facilities
 - Friends and relatives
 - Information
 - Also bring services to villages:
 - Buyers and middle-men for agricultural products
 - Financial services
 - Teachers, health workers, migrant workers
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Some positive developments:

- ❑ More interest in Local Resources, including local communities and local labour, local materials, equipment, appropriate financing
 - ❑ More awareness about environmental sustainability and need for disaster resilience
 - ❑ Greater emphasis of integrating rural roads into broader rural development plans and projects – for example, ILO's Integrated Rural Accessibility Planning, or IRAP, programmes
 - ❑ More success stories and positive examples of community-based maintenance programmes
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Main issues and challenges

- ❑ Not enough rural roads - Globally estimated that about 1 billion people in rural areas lack access to an all-weather road
 - ❑ Not economically viable
 - ❑ No obvious way to raise funding from users as very low volume and main beneficiaries are poorer communities
 - ❑ Rural roads are only part of a wider transport system which includes bridges, trails, tracks, paths, jetties (for river transport) and other auxiliary facilities
 - ❑ Lack of maintenance - large sections unusable or are so rough that transport operators don't want to use them
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Main issues and challenges

- ❑ Not well engineered and designed, so tend to have shorter lifetimes
- ❑ Too much emphasis on gravel roads
- ❑ Difficult to monitor
- ❑ The further from towns and urban areas, the lower the density and lower the political importance
- ❑ Remote communities may also be located in topographically challenging terrain (e.g. mountains)

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_6988

