

Bloomberg Businessweek

Infrastructure

Who's Building the Big Projects

India, ranked below Ivory Coast by the World Economic Forum for the quality of its infrastructure, plans to raise up to \$1 trillion in public and private funds to build ports, roads, and bridges. The news comes as India nears completion of its ultramodern Delhi Metro Rail. Currently, says Scott Lewis, head researcher at *Engineering News-Record*, the Mideast and East Asia lead the world in big projects, including highways, new cities, and water systems. Here are some of the largest, according to data from *Engineering News-Record* and reporting by Bloomberg. —*Caroline Winter*



South Valley Development Project



Timeline
1997-2017

Estimated cost
\$90 billion

To ease Egypt's population density—most people live on 5 percent of the land—the project's huge pumping stations will drive water from the Nile into the desert to create 2,300 square miles of arable land.



South-to-North Water Diversion Project



Timeline
2002-2050

Estimated cost
\$62 billion

Expected to cost more than twice as much as the giant Three Gorges Dam, the project will supply more than 11 trillion gallons of water annually to China's parched north. It will relocate at least 300,000 people.



International Space Station



Timeline
1993-2011

Estimated cost
\$60 billion

Conceived in the 1980s and nearing completion, the ISS orbits Earth to collect weather data and aid experiments in biology, astronomy, and more. The U.S. share so far: \$31 billion, says NASA.



Songdo Intl. Business District



Timeline
2004-2015

Estimated cost
\$35 billion

Built on 1,500 acres reclaimed from the Yellow Sea in Incheon, the planned city will include residential, commercial, civic, and cultural developments, a 100-acre park, and South Korea's tallest building.



Second Avenue Subway



Timeline
2007-2016

Estimated cost
\$16.8 billion

This two-track line will run along Second Avenue from 125th Street to the Financial District in Lower Manhattan. (Work on the project originally began in the '60s but was suspended in the '70s.)



New Orleans Storm Protection System



Timeline
2005-2011

Estimated cost
\$14.4 billion

The system will include levees, flood barriers, pump stations, and other infrastructure that should protect the city from another hurricane like Katrina.



Delhi Metro Rail



Timeline
1998-2010

Estimated cost
\$6.5 billion

India's new 118-mile rapid transit system is on track to be completed this fall—on schedule and within budget.



Golden Quadrilateral



Timeline
2001-2012

Estimated cost
\$6 billion

One of India's biggest projects will widen and pave more than 3,625 miles of roadways and build a network of multilane highways connecting New Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai, and Mumbai.