Summary of Deloitte (2020b)  
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**Summary**

Speeding up infrastructure investments will speed up economic recovery by creating jobs. Similar to Ernst & Young (2020), Deloitte (2020b) recommends a mix of small maintenance projects that are usually in backlog and mega projects focused on sustainability. Further, technology should be seized wherever possible, enabling digital infrastructure delivery. Finally, according to multiple sources, sustainable investments create a significant advantage compared to business as usual investments, which indicates that green recovery would make post-COVID-19 Netherlands better than pre-COVID-19 Netherlands.

**Implications for infrastructure**   
Infrastructure companies have a key role to play in addressing inequalities. Mega projects can boost regional growth through job creation, economically empowering the vulnerable who have suffered the direst consequences from the pandemic. Similar to Ernst & Young (2020), given the Netherlands’ nitrogen problem, special emphasis can be put on digital infrastructure as opposed to physical infrastructure.

**Stock-and-flow diagram**

Infrastructure projects are a great instrument for economic recovery. Despite the economic downturn, the rate of investment must not halt as it can lead to delayed consequences in the future. Quite contrary, investments hold the key to creating jobs and preventing future job loss, thus addressing the COVID-19 economic crisis (see Figure 1).

Increases in infrastructure assets will boost economic productivity and can have a positive effect on social mobility. In fact, infrastructure is a powerful enabler that can give the non-privileged an opportunity to catch up with those less adversely affected by the crisis. Not only does it have a key role in addressing growing inequalities, infrastructure is a key player in the sustainability transition as multiple findings indicate that sustainability driven investments will create significantly more jobs in the long run, strengthening the Dutch economy.



Figure 1. Stock-and-flow diagram based on Deloitte (2020b). The dotted arrow is an assumption induced from the document.

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| **N.** | **Page** | **Quote** | **Causal link** |
| 1 | 3 | Unless explicitly stimulated through public policy of the central government, the economic downturn will cause less initiation of infrastructure, capital and construction projects, and projects in the pipeline are being postponed. | Number of jobs -> Rate of infrastructure investment -> Infrastructure projects -> Rate of infrastructure project construction |
| 2 | 3 | When current construction plans will be postponed or canceled, severe effects will be felt in the future. | Time to construct infrastructure projects -> Rate of infrastructure project construction |
| 3 | 5 | Limited proactivity could lead to a prolonged financial downturn with large job losses as a direct result. | Rate of infrastructure project construction -> Job creation rate |
| 4 | 5 | The megaprojects should all continue at the fastest pace possible in the current climate as it provides the base load for the sector and can shield the economy from further job loss. | Rate of infrastructure project construction -> Job loss rate |
| 5 | 5 | Infrastructure improves the productivity of the nation allowing goods and resources to move throughout the economy. | Infrastructure assets -> Productivity |

Table 1. Causal links found within Deloitte (2020b)

**References**

Deloitte (2020b) *Infrastructure investments as economic stimulus in a post COVID-19 world.* https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/nl/Documents/real-estate/deloitte-nl-infrastructure-investments-as-economic-stimulus.pdf, accessed on 26 October 2020.