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**How effective are interventions which seek to improve access and quality of civic infrastructure and amenities?**

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**Objectives/aims**

The aims of this evidence synthesis are:

* Finding the effectiveness of various interventions that seek to improve access and quality of civic infrastructure and services
* Identifying key characteristics of successful interventions and understanding the context in which these interventions are likely to be more successful
* Specifically focus on the urban areas in developing countries, given the critical need for infrastructure provision in fast growing urban areas in developing countries

**Methods**

The methodology consists of following steps:

* Analysis of systematic reviews (SRs) for identification of contextual factors that mediate between "cause" and "effect", and preparation of fish bone diagrams indicating factors which had an effect on the effectiveness of interventions
* Synthesis of the evidence in the form of numerical summary for the different categories of interventions: (i) public private partnerships, (ii) physical infrastructure investments, (iii) institutional and regulatory reforms, (iv) urban planning and (v) participation of developmental agencies. The synthesis was done for access and quality outcomes for both immediate benefits (effort and time) as well as long term impacts (health, social, economic and quality of life)

**Main findings**

* Physical infrastructure investments led to positive outcomes on access, specifically, affordability, in water supply. In sanitation and electricity supply, the result was positive on connectivity and quality. However, the impact on affordability has been mixed in the electricity sector. The overall impact on long term outcomes has been positive.
* Urban planning interventions yielded positive to mixed effect on connectivity and quality related to outcomes in water supply and sanitation sector. It had positive to mixed impact on health.
* Institutional and regulatory reforms resulted in positive outcomes on affordability and connectivity in electricity and telecom sector respectively.
* Private sector participation has positive effect on connectivity parameters in electricity and telecom sector.