### Infrastructure, SDGs & Finance: Status and Gaps in OIC Member Countries

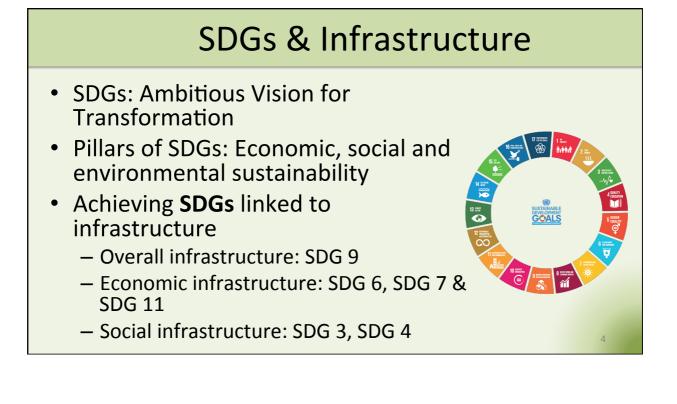
Habib Ahmed Professor & Sharjah Chair in Islamic Law & Finance Durham University Business School United Kingdom

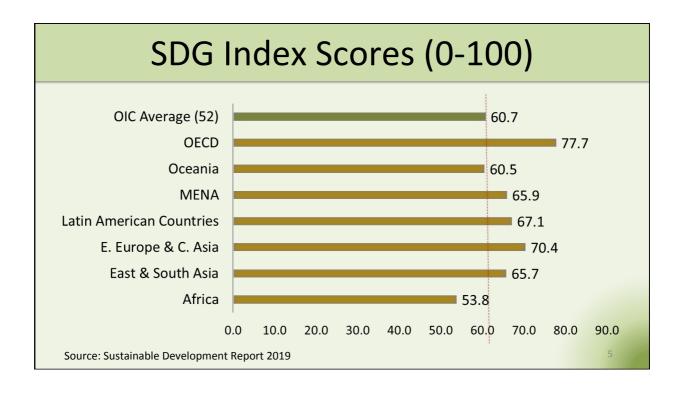
# **Presentation Plan**

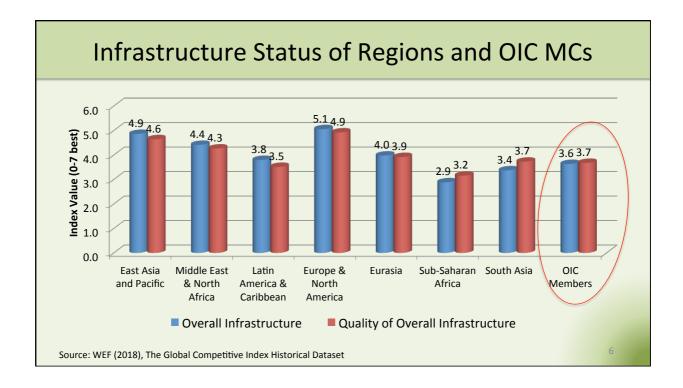
- Infrastructure & SDGs: Status in OIC MCs
- Infrastructure Financing Needs & Gaps
- Infrastructure & COVID-19

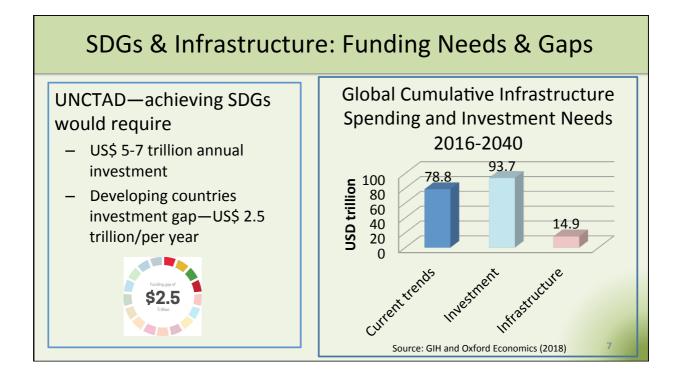
#### Infrastructure: Types & Features

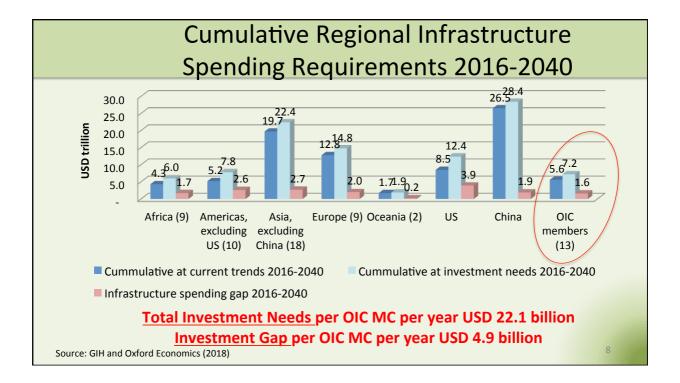
- Infrastructure: Social overhead capital producing public goods & services essential for functioning and growth of economies
  - Economic infrastructure—energy, telecom, transportation, water & sanitation
  - Social infrastructure-education, health, social housing
- Traditionally infrastructure were projects that were large, lumpy, indivisible, capital intensive, long gestation period, long term investments, etc.
- Contemporary infrastructure can be of different sizes and forms
  - Solar panels and micro-hydro power generation units

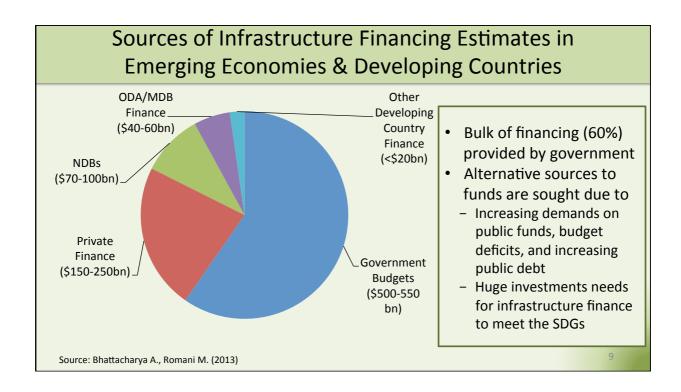


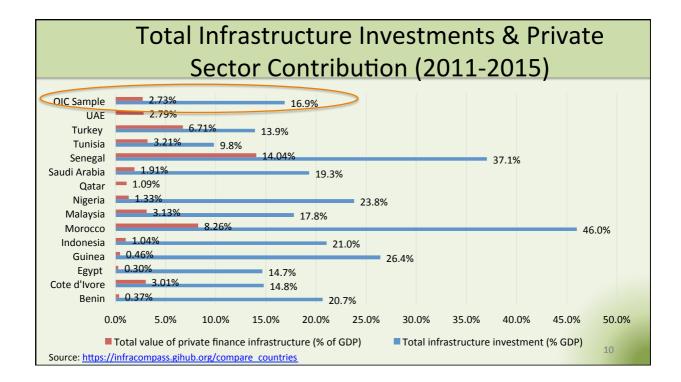








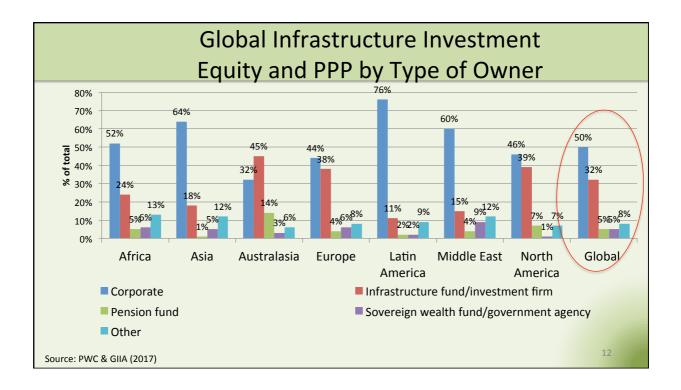


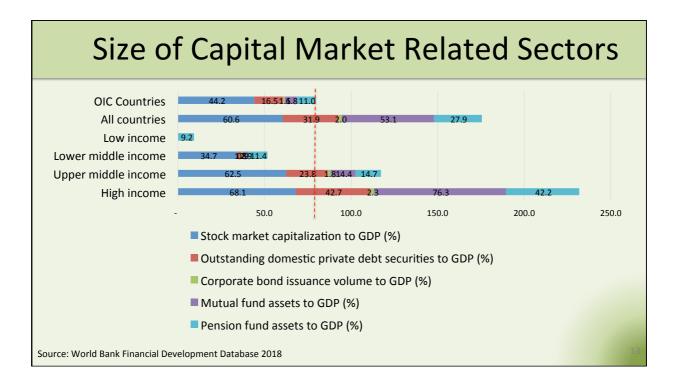


Investment Horizon & Risk Appetite of Different	
Financial Institutions	

Institution	Investment Horizon	Risk Appetite			
Commercial Banks	Short term	Low to medium		Low to medium	
Nonlife insurance	Short term	Medium			
Investment Company	Short to medium term	Depends on funds mandates			
Life insurance and private pension	Long term	Medium			
Public pension	Long term	Medium			
Sovereign wealth funds	Long term	Medium to high			
Endowments and foundations	Long term	High			
Nonbank financial institutions are more suitable for investments in Infrastructure financing					

Source: ADB (2018), African Economic Outlook 2018, African Development Bank, p. 109.





Total Islamic Finance Investments in Infrastructure Sector (2017-2018)					
Sectors (2017-2018)	Total assets (USD billions)	Percentage going to Infrastructure	Infrastructure Investments by Islamic Finance (USD Billion)		
Islamic Banking	1,598.9	4.74%	75.8		
Takaful	42.5	2.0%	0.9		
Sukuk	344.8	11.57%	39.9		
IDB Project Financing			3.12		
Total			119.7		
	Average per member	2.1			
Source: COMCEC (2019)			1111/1AP		

### Infrastructure & COVID-19

- COVID-19 highlighted the weaknesses and importance of infrastructure in economies
- Countries with weak social infrastructure finding difficult to cope with the pandemic
- Highlights the need to invest in specific infrastructures

   Health
  - Education
  - Telecom and ICT (digital infrastructure)
- This is challenging for developing countries given the funding gaps and needs to divert funds to deal with pandemic

# Infrastructure in the COVID-19 Era

- Need to explore new avenues of funding infrastructure beyond government
  - Islamic finance
  - Islamic social finance
- Need to explore innovative solutions
  - Move towards smart infrastructure (combines physical and digital infrastructure)
  - Change focus from traditional large-scale projects to smaller and flexible solutions
  - New infrastructure projects have to integrate sustainability and low-carbon solutions

