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Investing in Rural Roads as Part of Rural Development: Project-Level Observations

Observations from the
Bahawalpur Rural Development Project Completion Mission
Su Chin Teoh, CWAE

Project summary

Punjab Province, Pakistan

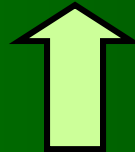
3 districts: Bahawalpur, Bahawalnagar,
Rahim Yar Khan

\$64.8 million

1996-2008

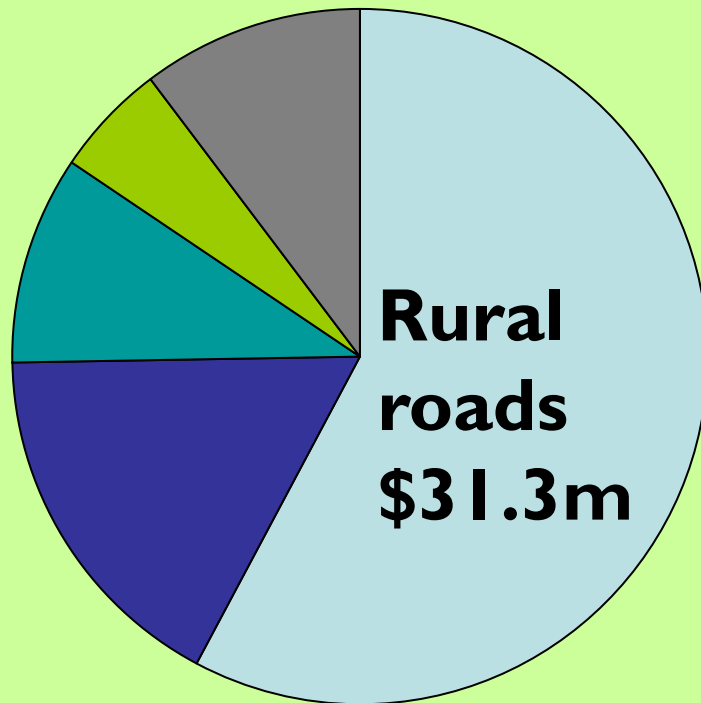
Expectations






Poverty reduction in the Project area



Increase **rural incomes, employment and quality of life** through improvements in infrastructure services, agricultural productions and economic/market activities

Five components



-  Rural Roads
-  Watercourses
-  Small-scale Infrastructure
-  Electrification
-  Institutional Strengthening

Rural roads

Main road

widen one
existing FMR

(60km)

Link roads

90

(180km)

Farm to market roads

10

(160km)

Selection criteria

Selection

EIRR

Remoteness

Poverty

Community

Environment

but not...

Connectivity

Rural growth

Production

Land use

Results

Main road

(60km)

Link roads

(268km)

+ 98 km

**Farm to
market
roads**

(246km)

+ 86 km

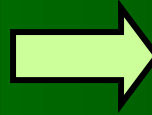
Impact? Sustainability?
Target area? Target group?

Comparing **EIRR**

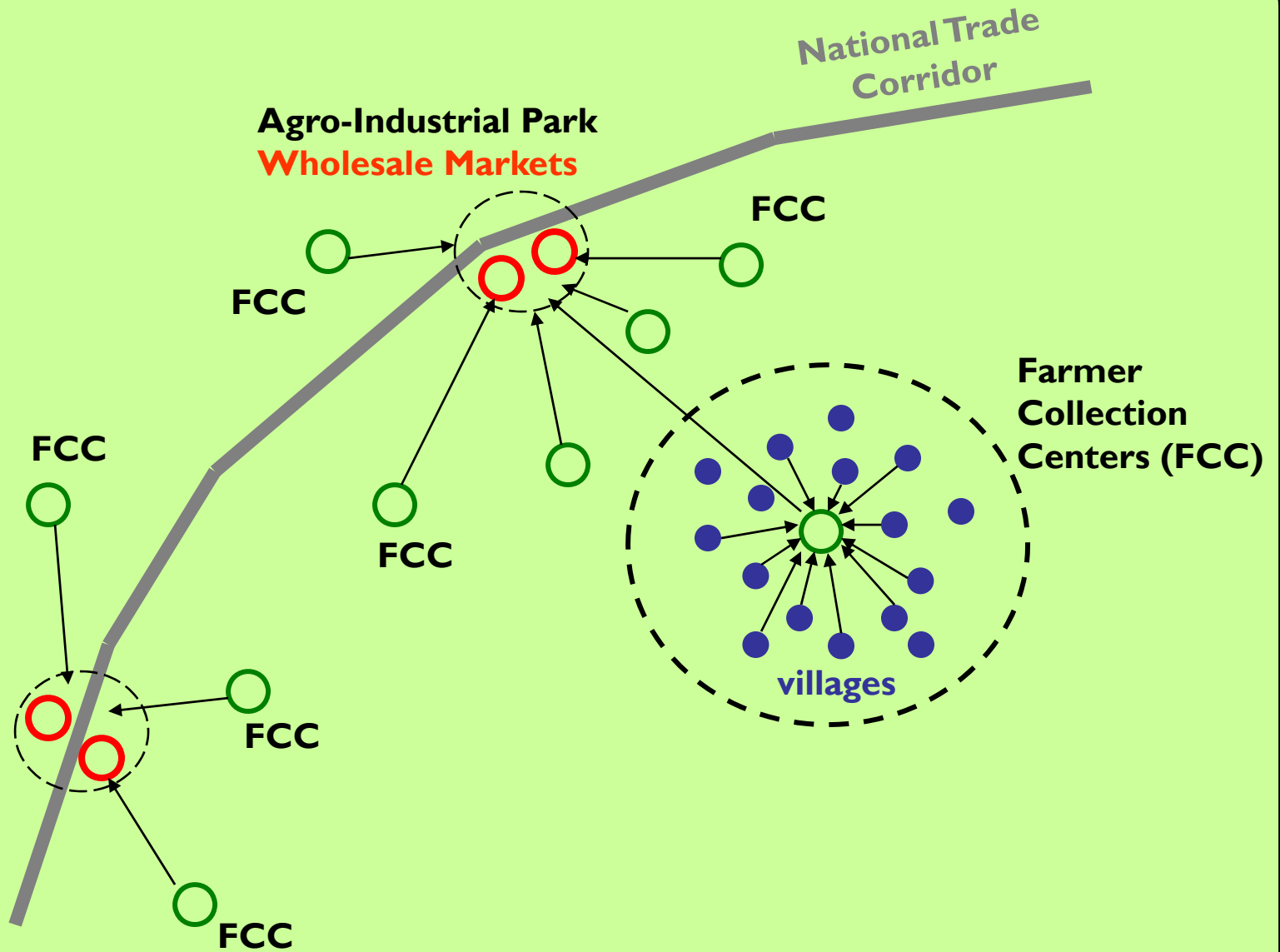
Source	EIRR(%)
Project appraisal	18.0
PMU completion report	23.4
ADB draft completion report	8.5

Paradigm shift?

Traditional
rural
development
approach



Rural
economy
approach
?



Questions, more questions...

Better **targeting**? Direct and indirect **channels** of effect? **Bundling** of investments? **Value chain** development? **Management** of rural road investments? **Demand driven** approach? **Community** participation?

Look at rural roads in the context of the
rural economy

Think about the location of rural roads and other necessary
complementary investments in terms of:

increasing opportunities for the
rural economy and **choices** for poor rural
communities