

# Transition costs: the financial implications of decarbonising transport

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# Challenges and takeaways

“Infrastructure is both everybody’s and nobody’s business – no single agency is concerned with tracking infrastructure”  
(Fay et al., 2019)

## Challenges: Data Availability

**Lack of comprehensive data** on infrastructure investment

**Decentralized and unclear oversight**

- Different **levels of government**
- Various **departments**



## **Data Challenges: Collection**

### **Infrastructure investment survey**

- Survey shared with statistics contacts in each country
- 22 responses received

### **Most common responses:**

- Data not collected, or processed in an easily shareable format

**Relied on building proxy profiles based on publicly available data**



## Challenges: Data Harmonization

**Data defined differently** (e.g., names and units)

**Unclear bundling**

Data on **private assets** and **maintenance** is not in the public domain

**Per-kilometre** would facilitate comparison across different transport modes to estimate future spending



## Takeaways

Avoid falling into the trap of climate delay discourses

- The **status quo** and **not decarbonizing** will also be **extremely costly**
- Discourses create the **illusion** of the current status quo being **cost free**
- Delaying action** can result in **additional costs**



## Takeaways

Rethink funding and taxation

- **What is taxed?**
- **Why is it taxed?**
- **How is it taxed?**

Data collection and harmonization are key

- **Better policy outcomes are possible if decision-making is better informed and transparent**
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**Thank you**