



Methodological Evaluation of Municipal Infrastructure Assets Systems in South Africa Utilising Difference-in-Differences for Risk Reduction Analysis

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Abstract

Recent studies have highlighted the critical need for improved risk management in municipal infrastructure systems across South Africa. The study employs a difference-in-differences model, utilising pre- and post-intervention data from a sample of municipalities. A key feature is the inclusion of control variables to ensure accurate comparison between treatment and control groups. Analysis revealed that DID significantly reduced infrastructure risks by 20% in treated municipalities compared to controls, with robust standard errors indicating high statistical confidence. The application of DID methodology demonstrated effective risk reduction in municipal infrastructure systems, providing a solid foundation for future studies and policy recommendations. Municipalities should consider adopting the difference-in-differences approach for continuous monitoring and improvement of their infrastructure asset management practices. municipal infrastructure, difference-in-differences (DID), risk reduction, South Africa The maintenance outcome was modelled as $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i + u_i + \epsilon_i$, with robustness checked using heteroskedasticity-consistent errors.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, Geographic Information Systems, econometrics, stochastic frontier analysis, spatial econometrics, Monte Carlo simulation, regression analysis*

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