

Sydney Infrastructure hub can help Australian developers access Asian projects

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The announcement at the G20 that Sydney will be the Global Infrastructure Hub for the world's leading nations is a great opportunity for Australian developers, says the Urban Taskforce.

"The endorsement of Sydney as the Global Infrastructure Hub could lead to extensive off shore opportunities for local infrastructure developers across Asia," says Urban Taskforce CEO, Chris Johnson. "With India planning 100 smart cities and China continuing to improve infrastructure, there will be great opportunities to involve these countries in World's Best Practice on getting the balance right between the roles of government and the private sector in the provision of infrastructure."

"The rising middle class in Asia is leading to a major focus on new railways, metros, light rail, highways and major mixed use urban projects. Already many Australian companies are involved in very large infrastructure projects across Asia and other parts of the world."

"Some of our largest companies like Lend Lease, Brookfield Multiplex, Leighton Properties and Goodman are already leaders in their field in countries outside Australia."

"As well as the potential for increased markets for developers there is the increased work potential for consultants like project managers, planners, engineers and architects. Many of these disciplines are already operating off shore and the new Global Infrastructure Hub in Sydney can be of great assistance in connecting these consultants to new markets."

"A further gain to New South Wales and Sydney will be in the flow of international experts to contribute their knowledge to the enormous potential infrastructure projects proposed, particularly in Sydney. As the NSW Government ramps up its expenditure on infrastructure with the potential sale of the electricity poles and wires, Sydney and the state will benefit from the world's best infrastructure brains."

"The Bays Precinct Summit this week demonstrates the enormous interest around the world in the many proposed large development precincts that are planned for Sydney. The alignment of the G20 with the keenness of the Australian and NSW Governments to focus on infrastructure has led to Sydney now having a world leading role in infrastructure as the home of the Global Infrastructure Hub."

*The **Urban Taskforce** is a property development industry group, representing Australia's most prominent property developers and equity financiers.*

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