Shown here is the cost of maintaining fixed assets and replacing them when necessary. Fixed assets include buildings, vehicles, communication and transport infrastructures. Deterioration occurs due to use, time, and becoming outdated. Fixed capital consumption is the cost of preventing this deterioration.

Large, technologically advanced infrastructures are likely to cost more to maintain than those that are small and simple. The United States, Japan, Germany and France have the highest absolute costs of fixed capital consumption. Costs per person are high in Norway, Switzerland and Denmark - roughly one thousand times higher than in Nepal, Ethiopia and Burundi.

Territory size shows the proportion of all fixed capital consumption that occurred there.

“... it will be more expensive in the long run if we let existing infrastructure become so run down, that it must eventually be replaced at great costs.”

Education and Training Unit (South Africa), 2007