

capital projects landscape. BOT implies, for instance, that contractors may assume a greater degree of risk in undertaking certain capital projects abroad. It also raises important questions regarding the amount of managerial expertise which must be tied up throughout the duration of a BOT project, which may be many years before a transfer of ownership occurs.

It is much too early to issue a verdict on whether BOT represents a boon or burden for the international engineering and construction sectors. BOT is a broad concept which has potential application for a wide range of projects in a diversity of countries. While numerous projects across the globe have now been tendered or are contemplated on a BOT basis, no significant patterns of experience have yet been established on which to form definitive conclusions.

There are still many uncertainties surrounding BOT. It is clear, however, that it is a concept which is attractive to certain developing countries. Accordingly, and in view of persistent debt concerns facing many developing countries, BOT can be expected in at least the short term to be the basis for an increasing number of international capital, particularly infrastructure, projects.