Preface

Purpose

This publication is intended to provide support for policy makers seeking:

1. To increase awareness concerning the benefits of institutionalizing regulatory regimes;
2. To improve access to knowledge and information on existing regulatory regimes;
3. To encourage the adoption of market-oriented measures in the reform of state-subsidy-based regulations or in institutionalizing new regulations;
4. To strengthen the capabilities of regulatory bodies related to the provision of infrastructure facilities and services;
5. To utilize regulatory regimes to protect the interest of the consumers.

Plan

Regulation is the sustained and focused control, normally exercised by a public agency, over activities that are valued by a community. In recent years, many countries have introduced economic reforms including competition policies, de-monopolization, commercialization, and privatization. Such economic reforms have given rise to new regulatory requirements and regulatory reform in the provision of infrastructure facilities and services. Guidelines on the design and implementation of programmes for effective regulatory reform and new regulatory institutions for the infrastructure industries have been provided.

There are five chapters:

Chapter I: reviews the basic principles that underpin the development of sound regulatory policies and institutions.

Chapter II: enumerates and evaluates the rationale for economic reforms and the introduction of competition in the provision of infrastructure facilities and services, the justification for government intervention, and the main instruments and institutions for creating and regulating competition and monitoring the implementation of economic reforms.

Chapter III: examines a number of key regulatory issues encountered in the infrastructure industries, including price regulation and developments in globalization and international competition.

Chapter IV: describes regulatory practice in the transport industry.

Chapter V: provides recommendations for regulatory policy and its implementation.