

IJ Podcasts S01 Ep01 – The almost right word

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Infracintech – Infrastructure finance reimagined is an innovative financial journalism podcast. It's a serial podcast, meaning each episode builds from the last.

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Why is *IJGlobal* delving into the small but growing infrafintech market?

Our primary focus is covering infrastructure finance at the project level, perhaps uncovering the debt pricing on an 18-year non-recourse loan for a Taiwan offshore wind farm. Or perhaps disclosing the short-listed bidders on an M&A transaction concerning the equity interest of a road project company in India.

This first podcast season doesn't share any project-level details nor does it offer particular insights for sector specialists. Rather, it tells a story about an industry-wide issue – the nexus between infrastructure, finance, and technology.

The word *infracintech*, which we coined in a feature in 2021, only appears on the *IJGlobal* website 4 times. Out of nearly 150,000 news articles and features, infrafintech really doesn't appear on anyone's radar.

Talking about the why not to cover infrafintech reveals exactly why we should cover it on our first podcast season ... because it's not on anyone's radar.

[**Click to join IJGlobal's network to help develop the inchoate infrafintech industry**](#)

Even well-known business analytics platforms and global fintech databases don't categorise infrafintech within the fintech industry. The market is undoubtedly small. But that's today. What about tomorrow? ... What about developing a future worth creating?

Guests in the serial podcast



Greg Medcraft
Global Digital Finance



Paul Lam
Asian Infrastructure
Investment Bank



Monica Bennet
Global Infrastructure Hub



Giridhar Srinivasan
Infraclear



Nicholas Tan
Bayfront Infrastructure
Management



Marko Bogoevski
Maker Partners

Infrafinetech – Infrastructure finance reimagined puts a stark question to the infrastructure finance industry ... Why are we practically the last area of financial services to adopt fintech solutions?

Fintech has significantly enabled and disrupted nearly all aspects of financial services. Yet to date infrastructure finance is the black sheep in the fintech family.

Infrafinetech may have its greatest impact in developing markets including those in Asia Pacific, where the need to increase technology investment, lower impact costs, and enhance policy measures is abundantly clear.

This first season targets three audiences – daily users of infrafinetech, infrafinetech solution providers, and financial backers of infrafinetech, whether in the venture capital or corporate venture capital communities. This triumvirate represents the demand, supply, and financing of the inchoate infrafinetech industry.

Episode 1 – **The almost right word** – focuses on unpacking infrastructure as an asset class and the contours of infrastructure finance.

It is critical that our three audiences share a common foundation of understanding. The venture capital industry, in particular, has tended not to have infrastructure finance in its opportunity set. That's why we examine what infrastructure is and how the private sector has taken an increasingly expansive view of the asset class.

Entrepreneurs and financiers of infrafinetech solutions will need to pick and choose where along the financial value chain to concentrate. Therefore, we also explore infrastructure finance and ways founders can bucket their infrafinetech solutions.

It's easy to lose sight of what is at stake in the financing of large, complex infrastructure assets. We can become disconnected from the human element. In their pitches, founders of infrafinetech solutions need to weave in what is at stake – the human element – to capture the imagination of the venture capital and corporate venture capital communities.

In episode 2, we delve into the challenges facing infrastructure finance to lay the groundwork for value propositions infrafinetech startups may provide for infrastructure financiers.

IJGlobal provides project developers, institutional investors, financiers, and advisers with actionable data, analysis, intelligence and access to the world's energy and infrastructure financing market.

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