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**Forthcoming Events**

**Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) for Infrastructure in Caucasus/Central Asia: Addressing the Challenges of Countries Embarking on PPP Programmes, 9-12 February 2010, Istanbul , Turkey**



Partnering Agencies: Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

The infrastructure challenge in Central Asia and the Caucasus differs to some extent from that in other countries in the UNECE region. The majority are land-locked states and there is consequently a priority need for investments in road and rail infrastructure and in efficient border crossings. PPPs, however, are challenging to undertake: there is a lack of capacity at different levels of government to do PPPs. Accordingly, given this capacity building challenge, the UNECE and TIKa have partnered in organizing a PPP training workshop in Istanbul , Turkey . Such a location was ideal given its proximity to Central Asia and the Caucasus, and its dynamic and strong private sector with experience in PPPs. The training workshop will be held in tandem with the Eurasia Rail 2010 Conference in Istanbul, Turkey. The Eurasia Rail 2010 Conference provides a window of opportunity for networking and gaining insight into existing PPP projects. The training will be focused on the Caucasus region and Central Asia but it is also open to all countries – especially those embarking on PPP programmes. There are no limits on the number of representatives from a country attending the training workshop. Members of the UNECE Team of Specialists and especially those who might be able to present their own country experiences on the issues and /or those who could present material from some of the training modules, are especially welcome to attend.

During the four days, the training workshop will include activities such as:

- \* An introduction to the UNECE learning tools.
- \* An orientation to PPPs and topics such as the legal and regulatory framework, how to engage key stakeholders, the financing of PPPs and a readiness assessment.
- \* Consultation with the local PPP businesses on how Turkey has initiated its PPP programme.
- \* Site visits to operational PPP projects in Istanbul .

For the provisional programme, please click [here](#).

For the registration form, please click [here](#)

More Information can be found at: [EurasiaRail 2010 Conference](#).

**Regional Meeting on Private Sector Participation in Water Supply and Sanitation 28-29 January 2010, Moscow, Russian Federation**

The regional meeting on Private Sector Participation (PSP) in Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) is being held in Moscow on 28-29 January, 2010. The meeting is organized jointly by the Russian Development Bank (Vnesheconombank) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the World Bank. The meeting will facilitate a high level policy dialogue on Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the EECCA water sector. The main objectives of the meeting are: to take stock of the recent trends in the private sector participation in the EECCA water sector; to reflect on the key challenges and policy measures to address them; and to discuss international “good practices” and the tools that can support the implementation of such practices in the region.

For more information on this event, please contact:

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Past events

Keynote interview

### **Bridging the Gap in PPP Knowledge and Skills: Creating a PPP Centre 14 September 2009, London, United Kingdom**

An expert meeting “PPP Center: Bridging the Gap in PPP Knowledge And Skills” was held on 14 September 2009 in London, United Kingdom. The meeting was organized by the PPP Forum (<http://www.pppforum.com/>) in cooperation with the UNECE Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships and hosted by Fulbright & Jaworski International LLP (<http://www.fulbright.com/>). At the meeting, experts from both private and public sectors expressed general support for the proposal to establish an international PPP centre to scale up capacity-building efforts in countries in transition and agreed on a number of financial and policy issues to address in the further development of the project. Co-operation with other international organizations and initiatives was encouraged in order to develop synergies and avoid potential overlaps. Full report click [here](#).

### **International Forum: PPPs for Municipal Infrastructure Development 17-18 September 2009, Aktau City, Republic of Kazakhstan**

This international forum was focused on the practical aspects and perspectives of using public-private partnerships for developing municipal infrastructure in Aktau, Kazakhstan. The participants of the forum included Mayors and representatives from 20 countries worldwide, as well as PPP Centres from various countries. Input was received from international organizations such as the UNECE, Asian Development Bank, World Bank and the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development and the Islamic Development Bank among others. More information about this meeting, please see: <http://www.ppp-center.kz>

### **South Eastern Europe Ministerial Conference on PPPs 25 September 2009, Hotel Europa, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina**

An international conference for Southeast Europe on public-private partnerships in strategic infrastructure networks was organised by the Regional Co-ordination Council (<http://www.rcc.int>) on 25 September 2009 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Present government officials adopted a ministerial declaration establishing the Southeast European Public Private Partnership Network (SEE PPP Network). The main goals of the Network, which was initially set up within the PPP Agency of the Republic of Croatia (<http://www.aipp.hr/en/foreword>), is to increase national capacities and promote regional co-operation in the area of public-private partnerships. The UNECE Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships was identified as one of key partners. More information can be found on <http://www.rcc.int/index.php?action=page&id=22>

### **Ms. Marlies Prins shares valuable insight from the Netherlands on including Sustainable Development into the PPP Model**



*by Ms. Marlies Prins, Department of PPP and Asset Management, Ministry of Finance of the Government of the Netherlands*

As a background to the training module on Sustainable Development in the Toolkit on “How to do PPPs”, being prepared by Mr. James Evans and a team from the University of Manchester, the newsletter interviews Ms. Prins from the Government of the Netherlands. Ms. Prins describes how Sustainable Development issues are integrated into PPP policies in her country.

[\[FULL INTERVIEW\]](#)

### **Highlights from the Second Meeting of the TOS-PPP**

#### **The role of the Private Sector in the work of the UNECE TOS-PPP**



*by Mr. Charlie Solomon, Deputy Director General, Economics & Planning, Ministry of Transport and Road Safety of Israel, and Chairperson of the Team of Specialists on PPPs*

At the second session of the Team of Specialists meeting in Geneva, Switzerland on December 3-4 2009 the Team's progress in meeting its goals were reviewed. The topics of discussion included the financial crisis and the PPP Model, the role of the private sector in capacity building work and the contribution of the private sector to a possible PPP Centre, among other items.

[\[FULL ARTICLE\]](#)

### **UNECE PPP Training Module Updates**

#### **PPPs in the Health Sector**



*by Mr. Chris Clifton, Infrastructure Advisory Consultant, Australia*

The health sector is a critical piece of social infrastructure in every economy, developed or emerging. However, there is evidence that the financial crisis has held back the development of PPPs particularly in the health sector. The Toolkit on “How to Do PPPs” has a sector module focused on health PPPs with a focus on hospitals. This article outlines the key questions and main features of the Health PPPs Module that will be part of the Toolkit. Your feedback and comments are encouraged.

[\[READ MORE\]](#)

### **PPP Centre Update**

**PPP events that occurred under the aegis of the UN  
SPECA Programme  
11 November 2009, Bishkek, Republic of Kyrgyzstan**

The purpose of the meeting was to exchange views between the members of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships and the Ministry of Economic Regulation of the Kyrgyz Republic on topics related to the successful launching and implementation of a PPP programme in the Kyrgyz Republic. Discussions during the meeting covered the legal and regulatory issues, especially the recently adopted new law on public-private partnerships, as well as institutional preconditions for launching a PPP programme, and the proposed PPP projects and the financing issues of PPPs in Kyrgyzstan.

In the afternoon the session "Launching a dynamic public-private partnership programme" took place within the framework of the Regional Capacity-building Seminar on Financing Innovative Enterprises, Commercialization of Intellectual Property and Public-Private Partnerships.

**An International PPP Centre: An Innovative  
Approach to Capacity Building and Information  
Sharing**



*by Mr. Tony Pearce, Honorary Director General, International Road Federation*

The proposal to set up a PPP Centre is timely. The challenges posed by the financial crisis, combined with the capacity challenges faced by Governments when setting up PPP projects needs attention. Interest has been growing especially in countries with economies in transition where infrastructure needs and improving public services are very pressing issues. Governments have underlined the need for practical training that develops their skills to undertake actual PPP projects which is adapted to the conditions in their countries. Mr. Tony Pearce discusses what the PPP Centre is, the benefits of such a centre and how you can support this initiative.

[\[READ MORE\]](#)

**Getting to Know the Network**

Within our network, the Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships is made up of experts who are actively engaged in PPPs across the region. The diversity of experiences and perspectives is what makes our network unique. This is a chance to get to know the network members better and get connected. Each issue of the PPP Newsletter will feature a member from our network in this section, where they will share what they do, their successes in PPPs, how they feel challenged in PPPs in their country and how they are involved in capacity building.

**Kalikova & Associates Law Firm in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic**



*by Mrs. Gulnara Kalikova, Managing Partner*

Kalikova & Associates (K&A) has rapidly grown into one of the largest and leading law firms in the Kyrgyz Republic, specializing in both business law services and the public administrative sector of the Kyrgyz Republic. Our firm has achieved the reputation as a reliable partner to its clients among which are the leading foreign and local companies, transnational corporations, diplomatic missions and international organizations. Recently, we have started developing a PPP market in the country through various projects and initiatives.

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic has recognized the importance of carrying out PPP projects in the country, as PPPs have proved to be an effective and useful tool in addressing the problems of infrastructure in the world. As of today we have a number of prospective PPP projects in the Kyrgyz Republic, namely construction of medium powered hydro-electric power stations, the rehabilitation of existing thermoelectric plant, the construction and operation of railroads, highways, and a recycling plant that fairly meets the nation's demand.

The Kyrgyz PPP legal framework mainly consists of the Law on PPP, which was recently adopted on May 11, 2009 ( PPP Law), and Regulations on conducting of competitive selection and negotiations with a private sector dated May 27, 2009. However, the PPP Law fails to be effective in implementation of PPP projects in practice. The PPP Law does not contain *among other* equal treatment and non-discrimination principles; basic contractual forms of PPPs; private and state partner's responsibilities; PPP contract realization methods; state partner's guarantees; and ownership of intellectual property.

To make PPP projects workable in the Kyrgyz Republic the Kyrgyz Government must create a better quality of legal framework so that to be secure, stable and commercially-oriented for the private sector. It must also differentiate its institutional functions, regulating functions and operational provision of PPP projects. As the first law firm in the Kyrgyz Republic starting to specialize in PPP we need more foreign accounts of how PPPs practically work abroad.

**About the eNewsletter**

This Newsletter provides information on the work of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) as it concerns capacity building and other related activities. By PPPs we mean, modern, long-term, contractual arrangements for developing infrastructure and providing public services by introducing private sector funds and motivation into areas that are normally the responsibility of government. Capacity building is, here, defined as the building of the skills and knowledge to do PPPs as well as the establishment of the enabling PPP environment, that is, the institutions, laws and market conditions. Capacity building initiatives in PPPs have to date been relatively unsuccessful in changing the behavior of government officials and improving working practices.

Currently, the Team of Specialists is addressing 3 main challenges:

1. To elaborate a set of high quality, practical and easy to understand PPP 'training the trainer' modules as part of a Toolkit on 'How to do PPPs';
2. To organize in cooperation with local training institutions, business schools and universities, effective capacity building using these modules and, in parallel to this, to hold consultations between senior members of Governments and the PPP Business Advisory Board on the implementation of national infrastructure development plans; and
3. To create a more effective framework for international cooperation on PPPs – a PPP Centre – that can ensure regular contact between key stakeholders, that can increase the capacity of governments to deliver PPPs, that can build local training capacity and can keep up to date the PPP training materials.

In our future issues, the Newsletter will publish articles demonstrating progress towards the achievement of these 3 goals. However your support is vital if we are to achieve these objectives.

- If you would like to contribute to the elaboration of the training modules ;
- If your country would like to host a consultative visit of the Business Advisory Board ;
- If you would like to help in the 'peer review' of the PPP training modules;
- If you would like to contribute an article on any of these three items.

Please e-mail us at [ppp@unece.org](mailto:ppp@unece.org). For more information on PPPs, please visit our website <http://www.unece.org/ceci/ppp.html>

**Feedback:**

We would like to invite your comments on what has been written in the newsletter and other PPP issues in the capacity building field. Please send your feedback to [ppp@unece.org](mailto:ppp@unece.org).

*UNECE wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Ms. Nirvana Micoo of the University of Waterloo, Canada, as a part of the UNECE's Internship programme in the preparation of the Newsletter.*

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