



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

**UNECE International PPP
Centre of Excellence**

**Provisional Programme
The First Donors' Conference
for the UNECE PPP International Centre of Excellence (ICoE)**

*Tuesday, 8 October 2013
Room VIII, Palais des Nations
Geneva*

09.00 **Registration and coffee**

09.30 **Opening**
WELCOMING by Mr. Andrey Vasilyev, UNECE Deputy Executive Secretary

H.E. Roderick van Schreven, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations Office in Geneva, EXCOM Chairman

Moderator: Mr. Jan van Schoonhoven, Programme Leader of the ICoE

The International Centre of Excellence on PPP (ICoE) was established by the Executive Committee (EXCOM) of the UNECE in February 2012. EXCOM agreed that the Centre should be funded from extra-budgetary sources. Accordingly, the Secretariat is seeking financial support for the Centre from Member States and it has organized a donors' conference. The Deputy Executive Secretary and the Chairperson of EXCOM will address the ICoE on the importance of PPP for countries' infrastructure development.

10.00 **Mr. Marhijn Visser, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the WTO, Chairperson of the Donors' Conference**

10.15 **Mr. Geoffrey Hamilton, Chief, Cooperation and Partnerships Section, UNECE**
Strategic vision of the International Centre of Excellence

10.30 **Mr. Jan van Schoonhoven, Programme Leader of the ICoE**
The International Centre of Excellence: international PPP best practices and standards

Programme of the UNECE PPP International Centre of Excellence

The PPP International Centre of Excellence (ICoE) will produce evidence based BEST PRACTICES GUIDES. The best practices will then be translated into international PPP STANDARDS and RECOMMENDATIONS after a formal and transparent process conducted under the United Nations,. The ICoE will then help countries in implementing these standards. Under this agenda item, the rationale for the development of each of these deliverables will be discussed. Emphasis will also be placed on the importance of empirical evidence as a basis for the development of the standards. Discussion among PPP experts, governments, investors and private sector, on the success and failure of the PPP experience worldwide over the last 10 years and a three years evaluation will be conducted. Translating case studies into best practice guides will facilitate the decision making process within governments. Moreover, the eventual development of best practices into international PPP standards will significantly reduce the failure rate of PPP as well as the time it takes for them to reach closure. The second part of the presentation will also show the considerable contribution and close cooperation among key PPP players, including successful countries such as France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. It will also present the lessons learned from several case studies carried out by the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the private sector. A unique feature of this project is the work of the PPP Specialist Centres in about 12 countries. The Specialist Centers will incorporate real experiences drawn from projects in their sector, and they will produce best practices that will subsequently be translated into international standards.

11.00 **Setting the scene for the UNECE PPP International Center of Excellence**

Recommendations of the G20 Financing for Investment (and PPP)

Financing for investment is a key precondition for economic growth and a principal factor for job creation. However, following the global economic and financial crisis of recent years, the levels of various types of investment have declined significantly, especially in developed countries. The main task of the G20 is to foster an environment more conducive to financing for investment as well as to identify new sources for long-term investment in the current global economic landscape, in order to contribute to strong, sustainable and balanced growth. The Russian Presidency is planning a fruitful discussion on possible ways and practical steps to increase the level and effectiveness of financing for investment. It suggests to analyse public policy in this sphere, the role of public-private partnerships (PPPs) and non-traditional sources of long-term financing, debt and equity markets, as well as FDIs. The G20 efforts will be focused on the impact of the financial regulatory reforms on financing for investment, banking sector capabilities and barriers, multilateral and national development banks, international reserves, among others. Jointly with a large group of major international organizations (World Bank, IMF, OECD, FSB, UN, etc.) the G20 financing for investment group considered the following to be presented at the Summit in September 2013:

- ✓ Strengthened public policy and improving PPP in terms of promoting financing for investment
- ✓ Elaborated measures to support investments in small-and-medium size enterprises and start-up businesses;
- ✓ Measures to meet capitalization needs of global banks;
- ✓ Recommendations on regulatory changes that would bring about change in banking business models towards funding the real economy;
- ✓ Analysis of the role of possible sources of financing for investment (institutional investors, equity markets, government guarantees);
- ✓ Analysis of FDI trends, patterns and impact to maximize their growth enhancing capacity;
- ✓ Recommendations on how to increase MDBs' lending capacity.

11.00 **Mr. Marc Frilet, Société d'Avocats**

Mr. Frilet, UNECE PPP ToS member and expert on legal issues on PPP, is also the driving force in setting the Specialist Centre on Legal Framework for PPP based in France. Discussion on the standardisation approach and the resulting benefits including overall economic development.

Ms. Carlita Vis, Head of the PPP Unit, the Netherlands

Analysis of the national PPP policy advantages achieved through best practices (examples from the UK, France, Germany and the Netherlands). In addition, a discussion on how PPP policy, procedures and contracts can be standardised will follow.

Mr. Art Smith, Senior PPP Expert, United States

Discussion on the significance of PPP international standards.

Examples of past practice in different countries.

12.00

Endorsement and Support for the ICoE

Mr. Trevor Lewis, representative of the Asian Development Bank, the IFIs and OECD

Discussion on the role of IFIs and the additional value of an UNECE ICoE concentrating on Standards and Recommendations, incorporating case studies from the IFIs.

Mr. Scott Williams, Director and Global Sustainability Board member for PwC and the Sustainability Leader for PwC Japan

Emphasis on the need for PPP in disaster reduction and a sound policy which allows sustainable and long term investment for the safety of the people. Presenting PPP as an essential part of this work.

Ms. Isabelle Wachsmuth, WHO

Highlight the need for PPP policy on health as well as the WHO and UNECE cooperation on PPP. More examples of successful PPPs alongside failure cases and the consequences for governments, investors but especially the poor and sick.

Q&A Session

13.00

Lunch offered by the Permanent Representation of the Netherlands and formal pledging

The Russian Federation	Confirm contribution to the ICoE
Japan	Confirm contribution to the ICoE
The Netherlands	Confirm contribution to the ICoE
WHO	Confirm cooperation with the ICoE
UNISDR	Confirm cooperation with the ICoE
IFIs (e.g. ADB)	Confirm cooperation with the ICoE

14.30 - 16.00

Informal meeting of donors and supporters of the International Centre of Excellence (tbc)

An informal meeting of the participants of the Donors' Conference

- Donors' support to the ICoE (Donors Advisory Board)
- Informal Forum for Donors
- Q&A Session