



UNECE

International PPP Centre of Excellence

Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships

Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships First session

21-22 November 2017, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

Room XII

[Provisional Programme](#)

The Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships is an intergovernmental body established in 2016 to take over the UNECE PPP work previously conducted by the Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships. It comprises over 2000 experts coming from the public and private sector, NGOs and international organizations. On 21-22 November 2017, the session will focus on the contribution of the UNECE work on people-first Public-Private Partnerships to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with an opportunity for countries to present their current people-first PPP work. The advanced work on the draft guiding principles on people-first PPPs and the international PPP standards will be debated, along with the role of national development agencies in support of infrastructure projects in low and middle-income countries and the creation of an evaluation methodology to score PPPs and infrastructure projects against the SDGs.

Day 1 | Tuesday, 21 November 2017

10:00–10:30 **Opening, adoption of agenda¹ and election of officers**

The contribution of the UNECE's People-first Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) work to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)

10:30–13:00 **Session I: Mobilising the Member States' PPP Units behind the UN SDGs**

Representatives from PPP Units and infrastructure agencies will prepare short presentations on their strategies and projects and how these contribute to the UN SDGs. These presentations will be made available to participants in a compendium. The three sets of panellists in this Session will address the following questions:

- i. How can we improve PPP to make it a more 'fit for purpose' vehicle for the UN development agenda?
- ii. Where and how do you see changes in the way PPP is done in your country that gives ground for optimism?
- iii. Do the UN SDGs need the PPP units to give their collective voice in support? How can practically this support be expressed?
- iv. What do countries need from national aid agencies to make people first projects a reality?
- v. Can you give examples of projects – either at the planning state or operational – which can demonstrate people first PPPs?
- vi. One of the new trends is the launching of "regional masterplans", that is, regional infrastructure programmes that are cross border in nature and are being rolled out as prospective PPP initiatives. How can countries cooperate better in these programmes? What is the role for organisations such as the UNECE to harmonise practices, institutions etc. that can facilitate these regional masterplans?

Documentation:

- [Compendium of presentations by countries;](#)

10:30 – 11:20 **Panel 1**

Moderator: *Sonia Mezzour (Morocco)*

Panellists:	Bangladesh	<i>Syed Uddin</i>
	Germany	<i>Stéphane Beemelmans</i>
	Haiti	<i>Rose-Lourdes Elysee</i>
	Nigeria	<i>Oliniyi Olaniyan</i>
	Poland	<i>Pawel Szacillo</i>
	Slovenia	<i>Miranda Groff Ferjančič</i>
	Ukraine	<i>Mikhail Titarchuk</i>

¹ The draft annotated agenda is contained in document [ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/1](#) and is composed of the following items (the agenda is available online as an official UN document and will not be circulated at the meeting):

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
3. Contribution of the UNECE's People-first PPPs work to the UN SDGs
4. Cooperation with China on the "Belt and Road" initiative in support of the UN SDGs
5. Review of the PPP work since the 8th and final session of TOS PPP on 20-21 October 2016
6. Implementation plan for 2017-2018
7. Cross-sector cooperation with other UNECE Bodies and international organisations
8. Other business
9. Adoption of the report

11:20 – 12:10

Panel 2

Moderator: *Tetiana Bessarab (Ukraine)*

Panellists:

Belarus	<i>Maria Usik</i>
Croatia	<i>Ljerka Bregand</i>
Greece	<i>Nikolaos Sergis</i>
Lebanon	<i>Ziad Hayek</i>
South Africa	<i>Rathipe Nthite</i>
Turkey	<i>Sedef Yavuz Noyan</i>
Uganda	<i>Beatrice Florah Ikilai</i>
United Kingdom	<i>Andrew Carty</i>

12:10 – 13:00

Panel 3

Moderator: *Sedef Yavuz Noyan (Turkey)*

Panellists:

Canada	<i>Syed Zaidi</i>
Gambia	<i>Ndey Taal</i>
Korea	<i>Okju Lee</i>
Morocco	<i>Nadia Rhatoussi</i>
Paraguay	<i>Pedro Lacasa</i>
Philippines	<i>Eleazar Ricote</i>
Qatar	<i>Saud Abdullah H A Al-Attayah</i>

Expected Outcome from the Session

- Revised and validated definition of people-first PPPs for the UN SDGs
- Creation of a validation expert network on people-first PPPs

13:00–15:00

Sandwich lunch served outside Salle XII

13:30–14:45

Meeting for interested participants on the draft declaration on national PPP Units and infrastructure entities in support for the UN SDGs (Salle XII)

15:00–15:45

Session II: How can the national aid agencies contribute to transformational, people-first PPP projects, and the UN SDGs?

- How can international aid agencies contribute to supporting people-first PPPs in low-income countries?
- What are the best practice models for cooperation between the aid agencies, the private sector and host governments and entities?
- What are the main risks involved in aid agencies in support of PPP and how can they be overcome?

Documentation: Outline of the draft guidelines for aid agencies in their support to people-first PPPs

Panellists: (representatives of government aid agencies, CSOs, private sector and IGOs)

Expected Outcome from the Session

- Enhanced confidence of aid agencies to support financially infrastructure projects in challenging environments
- Identification of some possible pilot projects for donor support in low and middle-income countries

15:45–18:00 **Session III: Making PPPs ‘fit for purpose’ for the UN SDGs and putting people first: the role of the ZTC and the guiding principles**

The session is divided into two panels:

15:45 – 16:45 **Panel 1: Guiding Principles on People-first PPPs for the UN SDGs**

The panel will discuss the guiding principles on people-first PPPs for the UN SDGs and will address the following questions:

- i. Do the guiding principles provide a satisfactory road map for transiting to a new generation of PPPs?
- ii. Do the principles mentioned provide sufficient guidance for people-first PPPs?

Moderator: *Geoffrey Hamilton (UNECE)*

Panellists: *Anand Chiplunkar (former senior ADB official responsible for PPPs)*
Felix Dodds (Senior Fellow, Global Research Institute at UNC)
Rose-Lourdes Elysee (Haiti)
Kaimeng Li (Senior PPP Expert, NDRC, China)
Pedro Neves (Member of the UNECE PPP Business Advisory Board)

Documentation:

- [Guiding Principles on People-first PPPs for the UN SDGs](#)

16:45 – 18:00 **Panel 2: Standard on a Zero Tolerance Approach to Corruption in PPP Procurement and declaration on Zero Tolerance to Corruption in People-first PPPs**

The panel will discuss the ZTC standard and the accompanying declaration and in so doing will address the following questions:

- i. How can the implementation of the ZTC standard confirm that PPPs can be done in a transparent manner without undue suspicion of lack of integrity?
- ii. How can we implement the ZTC standard effectively? Who should be the parties who can subscribe to this declaration? Should it also involve the private sector? Are there prospective international partners (e.g. international industry associations etc.) that might together promote this standard to their own constituency?

Panellists: *Julie de Brux (Member of the UNECE PPP Business Advisory Board)*
Roger Fiszelson (Director General, CICA and BAB member)
Marc Frilet (ZTC Project Team Leader)
Sergejus Muravjovas (Transparency International)

Documentation:

- [Standard on a Zero Tolerance Approach to Corruption in PPP Procurement \(ZTC\)](#);
- [Declaration on Zero Tolerance to Corruption in People-first PPPs](#).

Expected Outcome from the Session

- Validation of the ZTC standard
- Identification of an effective strategy for implementation (e.g. the use of the declaration as a modus for implementation)

18:15 – 19:45 **Cocktail reception**

Day 2 | Wednesday, 22 November 2017

10:00–11:30 Working with China on the Belt and Road initiative in PPPs to create a 'win-win'

Following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of China (NDRC) on 14 May 2017, to support countries along the Belt and Road initiative with their PPP development, what are the priorities for making this cooperation a success?

Documentation:

- [Concept paper on the three pillars of cooperation between the UNECE and the NDRC](#)

Moderator: *Geoffrey Hamilton (UNECE)*

Panellists: *Yuqun Su (Permanent Mission of China to the UN)*
Zhifeng Han (NDRC, China)
Kaimeng Li (Senior PPP Expert, NDRC, China)
Gavin Munro (Member of the UNECE PPP Business Advisory Board)

Speakers from prospective participating countries

Expected Outcome from the Session

- Launch of the UNECE-China cooperation with the involvement of international partners
- Signaling of interest by participating countries to join in the initiative

Q&A

11:30–13:00 Review of the PPP work since October 2016

13:00–15:00 Sandwich lunch served outside Salle XII

13:30–14:45 Special session on PPPs in Resilience: working in support of recovery and resilience in Puerto Rico and other regions hit by natural disasters (Salle XII)

15:00–18:00 Implementation plan for 2017-2018

Cross-sector cooperation with other UNECE bodies and international organizations

Other business

Adoption of the report