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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships

Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships

Fourth session
Geneva, 1-2 December 2020
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda[1] for the fourth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10.00 a.m. on 1 December 2020.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Policy discussion: Mainstreaming the People-first Public-Private Partnerships model.
4. Review of the work since the third session of the Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships on 3-4 December 2019.
5. Implementation plan for 2020-2021.
6. Other business.
7. Adoption of the report of the fourth session.

[1] Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations should register online and complete an electronic registration form available at https://www.unece.org/ppp/wpppp4.html. Prior to the session, delegates (with the exception of delegates from the Geneva-based Missions) are requested to present themselves with a valid identification card/passport at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, Avenue de la Paix 8-14, for the issuance of an identification badge. Additional information for delegates is available on the ECE website at https://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html.

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II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda

Title of document	*Document symbol*	*For information/decision*
Annotated provisional agenda	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2020/1	Decision

1. The Working Party will adopt the agenda of its fourth session.

Item 2. Election of officers

2. The term of office of Bureau members elected at the second session in 2018 comes to an end at the forthcoming session. If they would like to continue in their role for a further two-year term, they need to be re-elected. Delegates may elect additional officers nominated by Governments to the Bureau of the Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships for a term of office of two years.

Item 3. Policy discussion: Mainstreaming the People-first Public-Private Partnerships model

3. Under this agenda item, member States will have the opportunity to discuss current work and their objectives in mainstreaming the People-first PPP model. The discussion will be structured in three separate policy panels as follows:

A. The role of the Evaluation Methodology in scoring and evaluating People-first PPPs

(a) How can the Evaluation Methodology contribute to advancing the SDGs and achieving more high-quality infrastructure projects?

(b) How can the UNECE and SIF-SOURCE[2] work together in rolling-out the self-assessment component of the Evaluation Methodology?

(c) How can the Evaluation Methodology be scaled-up to maximise its impact? Can for example the other Regional Commissions and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) play a role in its dissemination? Is there a way to use the Methodology for rating projects more than one at a time?

B. People-first PPP Legislative Provisions as a tool for supplementing existing PPP legislation

(a) A number of member States have approached the secretariat to demand support to implement the People-first PPPs model in their national legislation. In what areas could existing national PPP legislation and recommendations be adapted to accommodate People-first PPPs?

[2] The UNECE is partnering with SIF (Sustainable Infrastructure Foundation) to explore the use of SOURCE, the Multilateral Platform for Quality Infrastructure, as the platform for the tool.

(b) Can these legislative provisions[3] on People-first PPPs be incorporated into other regional or international initiatives such as the UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Privately Financed Infrastructure Projects?

C. Special session on the Guidelines on People-first PPP Waste-to-Energy projects and the circular economy

Given the interest of member States for UNECE subsidiary bodies to contribute to the high-level theme of the forthcoming sixty-ninth Commission session in April 2021 in promoting circular economy and sustainable use of natural resources in the UNECE region, it is proposed to hold a special session on the role of People-first PPPs in advancing the transition to a circular economy. The session will also discuss the Guidelines on People-first PPP Waste-to-Energy projects and the circular economy.

(a) At first sight, the Waste-to-Energy industry appears fully compatible with the circular economy: but, is it compatible?

(b) What should governments, cities, and other authorities do to advance the circular economy principles in different People-first PPP infrastructure projects, including Waste-to-Energy?

(c) How sharing of experiences in good-practice countries, as referred to in the Guidelines prepared by the secretariat, and in their respective ways, improved waste management policies through adopting People-first PPP best practices?

4. The detailed programme of the policy discussion will be developed in consultation with the Bureau and will be made available to participants on the UNECE's website.[4]

Item 4. Review of the work since the third session of the Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships on 3-4 December 2019

Title of document	*Document symbol*	*For information/decision (endorse/revise/reject)*
Draft People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2020/3	Decision
Draft Guide on Legislative Provisions promoting People-first PPPs for the SDGs	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2020/4	Decision
Guidelines on promoting People-first PPP Waste-to-Energy Projects for the Circular Economy	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2020/5	Decision

5. The Working Party will review the PPP work since its last session in December 2019 on:

(a) Policy documents: International Public-Private Partnerships Standards, Guidelines, Guiding Principles, Declarations, and Recommendations;

(b) Implementation: capacity-building activities and policy advisory services.

[3] The legislative provisions are currently being prepared by the secretariat and will be submitted to the Working Party in draft form.

[4] The programme will be available at: https://www.unece.org/ppp/wpppp4.html

A. Policy documents: International Public-Private Partnerships Standards, Guidelines, Guiding Principles, Declarations, and Recommendations

6. The following documents are being presented for consideration and endorsement of the Working Party.

The Working Party will decide on whether to endorse the following documents:

(a) Draft People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs;

(b) Draft Guide on Legislative Provisions promoting People-first PPPs for the SDGs[5]; and

(c) Guidelines on promoting People-first PPP Waste-to-Energy Projects for the Circular Economy;

7. The Working Party will receive a progress report by the secretariat on the draft standards and best practice guides at various stages of preparation:

B. Implementation: capacity-building activities and policy advisory services

8. The Working Party will review the capacity-building activities and the policy advisory services undertaken since the last session. The Working Party will also review the activities undertaken by the Specialist Centres of Excellence, including information on their coordination meeting in New Orleans and other virtual meetings held since the last session.

9. The members of the Working Party will have the opportunity to take stock of past PPP activities and discuss effective means for the promotion and dissemination of this work.

10. The members of the Working Party will have the opportunity to share experience on how the People-first PPP approach can help society to better cope with the COVID-19 pandemic and to building back better. Under the auspices of the Specialist Centres of Excellence affiliated to the UNECE, Guidelines on Resilience People-first PPP in the context of COVID-19 are being produced for the benefit and use by member States.

Item 5. Implementation plan for 2020-2021

Title of document	*Document symbol*	*For information*
Report of the Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships on its third session	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2019/2	Information
Intersessional Implementation plan for 2020-2021	ECE/CECI/2020/INF.2	Information

11. The Working Party will discuss proposals for work to be undertaken in the remainder of 2020 and in 2021 in accordance with the Intersessional Implementation plan for 2020-2021 approved by the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships (ECE/CECI/2020/INF.2).

12. The Working Party will have the opportunity to hear proposals for new standards to be developed where the Working Party has a mandate on Sustainable Development Goals'

[5] The draft guide on legislative provisions was prepared by the secretariat to address the demand from a number of CIS countries for assistance to incorporate the People-first PPP outcomes into their national legislation.

related areas.[6] New proposals are subject to interest by experts participating in project teams and resources.

13. Participants are encouraged to communicate to the meeting any expressions of interest by member States or other stakeholders for receiving, delivering, or hosting capacity-building activities in the priority areas of the Working Party's work. Requests from member States for capacity-building activities and policy advisory services will be considered based on available capacity and extrabudgetary resources.

14. Participants are also encouraged to bring to the attention of the session any expression of interest by member States and other stakeholders to provide extrabudgetary support towards the UNECE People-first PPP work (such as funds or in-kind contributions, including the organization of seminars and networking initiatives).

Item 6. Other business

Dates of the next session

15. The secretariat proposes that the fifth session of the Working Party takes place in Geneva in the last quarter of 2021, subject to conference room availability at the Palais des Nations. The Working Party will decide on the dates of the next session.

Item 7. Adoption of the report of the fourth session

16. The Working Party will adopt the report of its fourth session.

[6] The list of approved topics for standards is contained in ECE/CECI/WP//PPP/2017/2. Please also see Conclusion 2018 – 5.3 in ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2018/2.

III. Tentative timetable

Time	*Agenda Item*
Tuesday, 1 December 2020	
10:00-13:00	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda
	Item 2. Election of officers
	Item 3. Policy discussion
13:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-18:00	Item 3. Policy discussion (cont'd)
Wednesday, 2 December 2020	
10:00-13:00	Item 3. Policy discussion (cont'd)
	Item 4. Review of the work since the third session of the Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships on 3-4 December 2019
13:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-18:00	Item 5. Implementation plan for 2020-2021
	Item 6. Other business
	Item 7. Adoption of the report of the fourth session