

First Thematic Workshop of the Infrastructure Financing and Public-Private Partnership Network of Asia and the Pacific

Resilient PPP Infrastructure Development for Recovery

Virtual Meeting, MS Teams
15 December 2020

CONCEPT NOTE

Background

ESCAP is committed to accelerating the application of public-private partnerships (PPP) to assist member States in alleviating public fiscal constraint and boost social and economic infrastructure resilience through the *Infrastructure Financing and Public-Private Partnership Network of Asia and the Pacific*ⁱ. In this regard, the Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division (MPFD) at ESCAP is organizing a series of thematic capacity-building workshops to provide technical support from industry experts and increase the operational capacity of member States PPP units on practical issues related to PPP project implementation, including developing an enabling environment, preparing viable PPP projects and mobilizing private financing.

These workshops will offer detailed technical presentations by PPP experts to introduce project case studies on selected themes and provide greater opportunities for interactions through lengthened Q&A sessions between participants and presenters. The thematic scope of these workshops could focus upon PPP regulatory framework, PPP unit establishment and operation and PPP project implementation in selected priority sectors or subsectors according to the preferences of the member States. Given the time constraint posed by virtual meetings in comparison to physical meetings, this workshop format is designed to supplement and deepen the broader regional dialogues during the Network meetings by offering in-depth discussions on practical challenges encountered during PPP project implementation and possible solutions to solve them.

The recently concluded Fourth Meeting of the Network, held virtually on 15 October 2020, highlighted the socioeconomic impact presented by COVID-19 on infrastructure projects across several sectors, such as transport, energy, utilities and communications, in the region. As governments struggle to address the immediate health crisis, there is an emerging need to accelerate private-sector engagement through PPP to supplement already scarce resources and deliver improved public services and economic recovery through infrastructure that could respond to the current pandemic and future natural disasters.

Objectives

Based upon the interests and questions raised by the member States, including those raised during the fourth meeting of the Network, ESCAP is organizing this thematic workshop to provide the member States with technical support to address practical challenges faced during PPP project implementation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The workshop will invite PPP experts to introduce project case studies to discuss possible solutions and best practices through tailored training and in-depth interactions. The main sessions of this workshop are as follows:

- I. Presentation of project case studies by PPP experts to highlight practical challenges related to COVID-19;
- II. Exchange of views on best practices and possible solutions to enhance PPP project implementation under the pandemic.

Location: Virtual Meeting, MS Teams

Time	Tuesday, 15 December 2020
12:00 – 12:10	Welcome Remarks Dr. Tientip Subhanij , Chief, Financing for Development, MPFD, UNESCAP
12:10 – 1:50	Case Studies Presentations <p>This session invites PPP experts to introduce project case studies to address practical challenges on PPP project implementation caused by COVID-19 and discuss possible solutions and best practices to solve them. The thematic scope of this workshop could focus upon selected priority sectors or subsectors, including toll roads, railways, waste-to-energy power plants, and/or waste-water management.</p> <p>Moderator Mr. Daniel Lin, Consultant, Financing for Development, MPFD, UNESCAP</p> <p>Discussant Mr. Xie Fei, Director, PPP Center, CHINA</p> <p>Case Studies</p> <p>I. <u>Rail Transit Sector: Impact of COVID-19 on Operation</u> Mr. Lihao Wei, Managing Director, Jumbo International, HONG KONG, CHINA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Q&A</p> <p>II. <u>Waste-to-Energy Sector: Impact of COVID-19 on Construction</u> Mr. Lihao Wei, Managing Director, Jumbo International, HONG KONG, CHINA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Q&A</p> <p>III. <u>Aviation Sector: Mactan Cebu International Airport</u> Mr. Jeffrey I. Manalo, Director, PPP Center, PHILIPPINES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Q&A</p>
1:50 – 2:00	Closing Remarks Dr. Masato Abe , Economic Affairs Officer, Financing for Development, MPFD, UNESCAP

ⁱ ESCAP wishes to acknowledge the support of the project, entitled “Developing a Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) and Infrastructure Financing Network in Asia and the Pacific” under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Sub-Fund under the UN Peace and Development Fund.