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# The Guide to Guidance

How to Prepare, Procure and Deliver PPP Projects

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This publication has been prepared to contribute to and stimulate discussions on public-private partnerships (PPPs) as well as to foster the dissemination of best practices in this area.

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## Introduction

### Objective and background

A public-private partnership ("PPP") arrangement differs from conventional public procurement in several respects. In a PPP arrangement the public and private sectors collaborate to deliver public infrastructure projects – such as roads, railways, airports – which typically share the following features:

- a long-term contract between a public contracting authority (the "Authority") and a private sector company (the "PPP Company") based on the procurement of services, not assets:
- the transfer of certain project risks to the private sector, notably with regard to designing, building, operating and/or financing the project;
- a focus on the specification of project outputs rather than project inputs, taking account of the whole life cycle implications for the project;
- the application of private financing (often "project finance")
   to underpin the risks transferred to the private sector; and
- payments to the private sector which reflect the services delivered. The PPP Company may be paid either by users through user charges (e.g. motorway tolls), by the Authority (e.g. availability payments, shadow tolls) or by a combination of both (e.g. low user charges together with public operating subsidies).

The rationale for using a PPP arrangement instead of conventional public procurement rests on the proposition that optimal risk sharing with the private partner delivers better "value for money" for the public sector and ultimately the end user.

PPP arrangements are more complex than conventional public procurement. They require detailed project prepara-

tion and planning, proper management of the procurement phase to incentivise competition among bidders. They also require careful contract design to set service standards, allocate risks and reach an acceptable balance between commercial risks and returns. These features require skills in the public sector which are not typically called for in conventional procurement.

This Guide to Guidance (the "Guide") seeks to identify the "best of breed" guidance currently available from PPP guidelines worldwide and selected professional publications. By providing a sourcebook of good PPP practice, it is designed to assist public officials responsible for launching and implementing PPP projects and to facilitate their understanding of the key issues and procedures involved in the procurement of PPP arrangements.

The need for well-structured PPPs has never been greater. EU Member States and the European Commission have placed emphasis on the need to accelerate investment in infrastructure, by mobilising public and private sector finance through PPP arrangements as part of a strategy to address the economic downturn.<sup>3</sup>

### How to use the Guide

The Guide can be used in a number of ways. For example:

- as a broad guide to procurement and implementation issues in PPPs;
- as an introduction to the information to be requested from PPP advisers; and
- as a starting point to learn more about specific aspects of PPP design.

 $<sup>1 \ \ \</sup>text{See Annex 1 for an overview of the principles of project finance}.$ 

<sup>2</sup> Section 1.2 discusses the concept of value for money

<sup>3</sup> See Commission Communication COM(2009) 615 of 19 November 2009, Mobilising private and public investment for recovery and long term structural change: developing Public Private Partnerships, at: http://www.eib.org/epec/resources/commission-communication-on-ppp-en.pdf

Because it has been designed as a good practice sourcebook, the value of the Guide ultimately depends on the value of the information sources provided in it. These sources are indicated in the "Guidance Details" section at the end of the Guide. They contain the title of the publication, its author(s), date of publication and a brief paragraph explaining the topics covered in the publication.

All sources of guidance have a reference number to guide the reader to further information about the issue discussed in the text. This is done by using the symbol " Guidance" next to the relevant reference number.

Most sources relate to existing PPP guidelines or public policy material which can be accessed via the internet. In those cases, the references include the hyperlink. For publications, such as printed books or other published material that cannot be accessed via the internet, the source description includes the ISBN details.

# The Guide has inevitable limitations that users should bear in mind:

- In a rapidly changing environment, such as that characterised by infrastructure PPPs worldwide, new practices develop quickly, making existing ones obsolete. In preparing the Guide, an effort has been made to review and recommend the most up to date PPP guidelines and documentation currently available.
- The Guide is written in English<sup>4</sup>. Most of the PPP guidance currently available comes from countries such as Australia or the United Kingdom which have extensive PPP experience or from international organisations, such as the World Bank, whose institutional mandate includes the gathering of best practice worldwide. In the case of the latter, although the language of the guidance is English, the content draws on experience from non-English-speaking countries and therefore such sources are applicable to a wider audience.
- The Guide also includes references to available PPP guidance material in non-English-speaking European countries such as France, Germany and Greece. This Guide, however, only references the original language guidance source.
- The legal framework in place in a specific country needs to
- 4 Translations of the Guide are available in Italian and Polish at: http://www.eib.org/epec/library/index.htm. Further translations will be made available.

- be taken into account when designing a PPP arrangement. Annex 2 of the Guide discusses some of the basic principles of PPP legal frameworks.
- This Guide does not in any way replace the need for an Authority to take professional advice on legal, technical, financial, environmental and other matters. The Guide should, however, assist Authorities in having a more productive dialogue with their advisers.

### Readership of the Guide

The Guide is primarily intended for public sector officials from EU Member States who are in charge of PPP projects and have knowledge of and experience in conventional public procurement but are not familiar with PPP arrangements. Users may find themselves at different stages of decision-making in the PPP project cycle. For instance:

- A project proposal has been identified and initial pre-feasibility studies have been completed. The Authority is considering whether to follow the PPP route and needs to compare the PPP option against other available procurement strategies. The Guide suggests a number of sources of information to help the Authorities undertake the necessary analysis to evaluate whether a PPP should be the preferred procurement option.
- An Authority is committed to develop a project with a PPP arrangement but the public officials in charge of defining the project strategy have not been previously involved in or have little experience of PPP procurement methods. They need to understand, among other things, what to expect in terms of how to seek expert advice, the steps required in the PPP project cycle and how to engage with the private sector. The Guide provides a "road map" of all the steps that need to be taken in the procurement phase of the PPP project cycle.
- A PPP project is already under implementation and the PPP Company proposes changes to the PPP contract, which may impact its financial balance and the value for money rationale of the existing PPP arrangement. The public sector officials in charge need to understand the impact of the proposed changes and what information to request from their advisers to be able to negotiate with the PPP Company in order to maintain value for money in the contract. The Guide covers the key issues that the Authority needs to consider when renegotiating a PPP contract.

### Structure of the Guide

As shown in Table 1 below, the structure of the Guide follows the four key phases of the PPP project cycle.

 Table 1
 PPP project cycle and structure of the Guide: phases, stages and steps

Phases	Stages	Steps
	1.1 Project selection and definition	<ul><li>Identification</li><li>Output specifications</li></ul>
1. Project Identification	1.2 Assessment of the PPP option	<ul><li> Affordability</li><li> Risk allocation</li><li> Eurostat treatment</li><li> Bankability</li><li> Value for money</li></ul>
	2.1 Getting organised	<ul><li> Project team</li><li> Advisory team</li><li> Plan and timetable</li></ul>
2. Detailed Preparation	2.2 Before launching the tender	<ul><li>Further studies</li><li>Detailed PPP design</li><li>Procurement method</li><li>Bid evaluation criteria</li><li>Draft PPP contract</li></ul>
3. Procurement	3.1 Bidding process	<ul><li>Notice and prequalification</li><li>Invitation to tender</li><li>Interaction with bidders</li><li>Contract award</li></ul>
	3.2 PPP contract and financial close	<ul><li>Final PPP contract</li><li>Financing agreements</li><li>Financial close</li></ul>
4. Project Implementation	4.1 Contract management	<ul> <li>Management responsibilities</li> <li>Monitoring service outputs</li> <li>Changes to the PPP contract</li> <li>Dispute resolution</li> <li>PPP contract termination</li> </ul>
	4.2 Ex post evaluation	<ul><li>Institutional framework</li><li>Analytical framework</li></ul>

Each chapter of the Guide deals with a "phase" of the PPP project cycle and is broken down into two "stages". For each stage, the Guide identifies the key "steps" which the Authority and its advisers need to take before moving to the next stage. The discussion of the key steps includes the rationale for the step, the key tasks involved and references to Guidance sources in order to improve understanding of those tasks.

### In addition:

• specific issues, for example traffic risks and payment mechanisms, are developed in more detail with text boxes because

- of their fundamental role in the design of the PPP arrangements; and
- checklists are included at the end of each stage to remind the reader of the key tasks that have to be fulfilled before moving to the next stage.

Three annexes complete the Guide. Annex 1 covers the basics of project finance that are relevant to PPP projects in general. Annex 2 is a note on the legal frameworks for PPPs. Annex 3 deals with combining EU Cohesion and Structural Funds with PPPs.

# 1 · Project Identification

This chapter provides a brief summary of the main issues of the project identification phase, which takes place before the preparation and procurement phases. The project identification phase is important because it determines whether the selected project can (and should) be delivered as a PPP instead of using conventional public procurement. Guidance 1

# Phase 1 Project Identification

**Project Selection** 

### **Assessment of PPP Option**

### 1.1 Project selection and definition

The ultimate objective of the project selection process is to ensure that the investment offers value for money. Value for money refers to the best available outcome for society, account being taken of all benefits, costs and risks over the whole life of the project. Guidance 2 A necessary condition for a project to represent value for money, irrespective of the procurement option chosen to deliver it, is that the benefits to be derived from the project outweigh the costs. This is normally tested by undertaking a cost-benefit analysis of the project and its requirements.

A distinctive feature of PPP projects is that their requirements are defined in terms of outputs rather than inputs.

Conventional project procurement has usually focused on inputs. In this regard, PPPs involve fundamental changes in the way projects are prepared and in the information that the Authority needs to provide to private sector sponsors. While the typical set of feasibility studies used in the public procurement of projects focuses on inputs, PPP projects demand a clear set of output requirements and service quality standards, which are reflected in the PPP contract. As a result of the output nature of PPPs, the bulk of the expensive and time-consuming technical design<sup>5</sup> activities for a project will be carried out by the private partner. Guidance 3

<sup>5</sup> The term "design" is used in several ways throughout the Guide. To avoid confusion, the expression "technical design" refers to the detailed plans or sketches used for the construction of a project.

In the project selection step, the Authority and its advisers will review alternative project definitions, sometimes following guidelines that the public sector will use to assess PPP projects. These guidelines normally specify who approves what and when throughout the process of project selection, preparation and procurement.

Once a project specification is selected, the Authority and its advisers will undertake feasibility analyses and project preparation, including supply or demand analysis, cost analysis and a preliminary environmental assessment of the potential impacts of the project.

### 1.2 Assessment of the PPP option

In order to consider the PPP procurement option, the Authority and its advisers need to answer a set of key questions:

- Is the project affordable? Will users or the Authority, or both, pay for the project? How will they pay (e.g. user charges, operating subsidies, public sector or EU grants)?
- What are the key sources of risk in the proposed project?
   What is the optimal risk allocation and risk management strategy?
- What are the financing sources for the proposed project?
   Will the project be "bankable" (i.e. capable of raising debt finance)?
   Will it attract investors?
   Will it comply with the requisites for EU or national public funding?
- Even if the project is affordable and bankable, does the project represent value for money?
- Has the issue of the "balance sheet treatment" of the project (i.e. the classification of the project as a public sector investment for the purposes of national debt and deficit under the "excessive deficit procedure" of the Maastricht Treaty) been considered?

This section of the Guide identifies a list of issues and considerations for the attention of the Authority and its advisers when examining whether the selected project should be pursued as a PPP. It does not however offer a comprehensive catalogue of recommendations, as the assessment of the PPP choice will be dependent on the specific situation of each country, notably in terms of the legal and institutional context.

### 1.2.1 Affordability

Affordability relates to the capacity to pay for building, operating and maintaining the project, be it the capacity to pay of the users of the services or that of the Authority that has identified the need for the asset to be built.

An affordability assessment requires a careful analysis of the expected operating and maintenance costs of the project, together with the levels of cash flow required to repay the loans and provide a return to the investors in the PPP Company. The financial and technical advisers will develop a financial model to assess alternatives in terms of a range of capital, operating and maintenance cost estimates, appropriate cost escalation indexes, assumed financing structure and preliminary PPP contract terms. At the pre-feasibility stage, the financial model is developed at a fairly high level. It is later on, at the feasibility stage and when the PPP arrangement is designed in detail, that the financial model is further developed and refined.

The assessment of costs translates into an estimate of the required revenues to meet those costs:

- In PPPs where users pay directly for the service ("revenue-based PPPs"), the Authority and its advisers need to examine the capacity and willingness of users to pay, especially if tariffs need to be increased from current levels. In many PPPs, the public sector will need to subsidise the service in order to make it affordable. The use of public subsidies can impact the value for money of a PPP arrangement, requiring that the efficiency savings from the PPP option be large enough to compensate for the use of public funds.
- In PPPs where the Authority makes the payments ("availa-bility-based PPPs"), the assessment of affordability is a key consideration in the design of the transaction. The Authority will enter into payment obligations over the life of the PPP contract (the so-called "service fee"), which represent long-term commitments and can influence the design of the transaction and its value for money proposition.

Sometimes options that combine direct charges to users with service fees may need to be examined.

Thus affordability relates not only to the financial balance of the PPP arrangement, but also to public expenditure items in general. A PPP project is considered to be affordable if the public expenditure associated with it can be accommodated within the public sector's budget ceiling over time.

### 1.2.2 Risk allocation

Achieving the value for money that justifies the PPP option also depends on the ability to identify, analyse and allocate project risks adequately. Failure to do so will have financial implications. Thus, at the project identification stage, in addition to assessing the sources of revenue linked with the affordability of the project, the Authority and its advisers need to undertake a broad assessment of the risks that arise from the project requirements in order to manage them. Risk management is an ongoing process which continues throughout the life of a PPP project. It takes place in five stages: Guidance 4, 5

- risk identification: the process of identifying all the risks relevant to the project, whether during its construction phase or its operational phase;
- risk assessment: determining the likelihood of identified risks materialising and the magnitude of their consequences if they do materialise;
- risk allocation: allocating responsibility for dealing with the consequences of each risk to one of the parties to the PPP contract, or agreeing to deal with the risk through a specified mechanism which may involve sharing the risk;
- risk mitigation: attempting to reduce the likelihood of the risk occurring and the degree of its consequences for the risk-taker; and
- risk monitoring and review: monitoring and reviewing identified risks and new risks as the PPP project develops and its environment changes. This process continues during the life of the PPP contract.

PPP project risks can be divided broadly into commercial risks and legal and political risks: Guidance 6

Commercial risks can be divided into supply and demand risks.
 Supply risk concerns mainly the ability of the PPP Company to deliver. Supply risk can be subdivided into construction risk and supply-side operation risk (where construction and operation constitute the two phases of the project). Construction and supply-side operation risks include financial market risk due to, for example, changes in the cost of capital or changes

- in exchange rates and inflation. Demand risk relates to insufficient user volumes compared to base case assumptions.
- Legal and political risks relate to, among other factors, the legal framework, dispute resolution, the regulatory framework, government policy, taxation, expropriation and nationalisation.

In general, the private sector is better placed to assume commercial risks while the public sector is better placed to assume legal and political risks.

If a public guarantee is envisaged for the PPP project, the Authority and its advisers need to assess the guarantee's impact on the risk allocation and its future implications for public finances before granting it. Guidance 7, 8

### 1.2.3 Bankability

A PPP project is considered bankable if lenders are willing to finance it (generally on a project finance basis). 

Guidance 9

The majority of third-party funding for PPP projects consists of long-term debt finance, which typically varies from 70% to as much as 90% of the total funding requirement (for example, in an availability-based PPP), depending on the perceived risks of the project. Debt is a cheaper source of funding than equity, as it carries relatively less risk. Lending to PPP projects (usually referred to as non or limited-recourse finance) looks to the cash flow of the project as the principal source of security (see Annex 1 for an introduction to project finance issues as they apply to PPP projects).

The Authority and its advisers need to assess financial risks thoroughly. The financial risks experienced by PPP projects tend to be related to some or all of the following factors:

Guidance 10

- reliance on optimistic revenue assumptions and on levels of demand from a poorly chosen "baseline" case;
- lack of attention to financing needs in the project feasibility, which leads to larger amounts of debt in projects;
- long-term PPP projects that are financed with short-term debt, coupled with a sometimes unjustified assumption that the short-term debt can be rolled over at the same or even better refinancing conditions;

- · floating rate debt that creates interest rate risk;
- Authorities which ignore the incentives the PPP Company may have to renegotiate the contractual arrangements in its favour; and
- refinancing that can create unforeseen benefits for the PPP Company, which the Authority might not share if the contract does not explicitly provide for this possibility (see Box 5).

### 1.2.4 Value for money analysis

A PPP project yields value for money if it results in a net positive gain to society which is greater than that which could be achieved through any alternative procurement route. It is good practice to carry out a value for money analysis (essentially a cost-benefit analysis) as part of the initial preparation of a project, regardless of whether it is procured conventionally or as a PPP.

In some countries like the UK, which have extensive PPP programmes, a PPP project is said to achieve value for money if it costs less than the best realistic public sector project alternative (often a hypothetical project) which would deliver the same (or very similar) services. Guidance 11 This public sector alternative is often referred to as the "public sector comparator" ("PSC").

Carrying out a PSC exercise is part of building the business case for a PPP project. It is a legal requirement in many PPP programmes worldwide. Advisers need to make various cost adjustments to be able to undertake a detailed quantitative comparison between the PPP project and the PSC. These cost adjustments include differences in tax regime, for example.

It is generally assumed that the PPP option will be more efficient in investment, operating and maintenance costs than the PSC. So the key question in assessing value for money is usually whether the greater efficiency of the PPP project is likely to outweigh factors that might make the PPP more costly, the main ones being transaction and contract oversight costs (i.e. additional bidding, contracting and monitoring costs in a PPP setting) and financing costs (i.e. possible added costs due to private sector financing, especially equity financing). Guidance 12, 13, 14 The value for money assessment should also take into account the potential non-financial benefits of PPPs such as the accelerated and enhanced delivery of projects. Guidance 15 Experience suggests that the likelihood that a PPP scheme will provide value for money is higher when all or most of the following conditions are met: Guidance 2

- there is a major investment programme, requiring effective management of risks associated with construction and delivery. This may be a single major project or a series of replicable smaller projects;
- the private sector has the expertise to design and implement the project;
- the public sector is able to define its service needs as outputs that can be written into the PPP contract ensuring effective and accountable delivery of services in the long run;
- risk allocation between the public and private sectors can be clearly identified and implemented;
- it is possible to estimate on a whole-of-life basis the longterm costs of providing the assets and services involved;
- the value of the project is sufficiently large to ensure that procurement costs are not disproportionate; and
- the technological aspects of the project are reasonably stable and not susceptible to short-term and sudden changes.

The project identification phase therefore involves an early assessment of what payment structure is feasible, what the Authority or the users can afford to pay (and when), the impact on the project scope and the service levels, and the associated risks the private sector might be prepared to accept. This exercise should help the Authority to identify and manage any long-term fiscal obligations (implicit and explicit) that may result from the PPP project.

# 1.2.5 Debt and deficit treatment of PPPs according to Eurostat

In challenging times for public finances, the national debt and deficit treatment of a PPP is likely to be a critical issue for the Authority and government in general. The reason for this is that, given the economic convergence criteria in the "Stability and Growth Pact" and the mandatory requirements of the "excessive deficit procedure", EU governments are concerned that they may be prevented from going ahead with an economically worthwhile PPP because of its debt and deficit treatment.

<sup>6</sup> A criterion is that the ratio of government deficit to gross domestic product must not exceed 3% and the ratio of government debt to gross domestic product must not exceed 60%. See: http://europa.eu/scadplus/glossary/ convergence\_criteria\_en.htm

Eurostat requires that the debt and deficit treatment follows the requirements of the European System of Accounts ("ESA95"). Guidance 16

Eurostat has issued several interpretations of ESA95, including a "Manual on Government Deficit and Debt". 

Guidance 17

For the purposes of recording PPPs, ESA 95 requires national statisticians to look at the risk/reward balance in the underlying PPP arrangement. This balance is judged by analysing the allocation of two key risk categories between the Authority and the PPP Company, construction risk and market risk (i.e. availability and demand):

- Construction risk covers events related to the construction and completion of the PPP assets. In practice, it is related to events such as late delivery, non-compliance with specified standards, significant additional costs, technical deficiency and external negative effects (including environmental risk) which trigger compensation payments to third parties.
- Availability risk covers situations where, during the PPP operational phase, an underperformance linked to the state of the PPP assets results in services being partially or

- wholly unavailable, or where these services fail to meet the quality standards specified in the PPP contract.
- Demand risk relates to the variability of demand (higher or lower than expected when the PPP contract was signed), irrespective of the performance of the PPP Company. Such a change in demand should be the consequence of factors such as the business cycle, new market trends, a change in final users' preferences or technological obsolescence.
   Demand risk is part of the usual economic risk borne by private businesses in a market economy.

Table 2 illustrates the combinations of risk allocation between government (i.e. the Authority) and the private partner (i.e. the PPP Company) which result in the PPP being classified "on" or "off" the government's balance sheet under ESA95 rules.

### The conclusions from Table 2 are that:

- if the government bears the construction risk, the PPP will always be on the government's balance sheet irrespective of the allocation of the demand and availability risks; and
- if the private partner bears the construction risk, the PPP will be classified off the government's balance sheet unless the government bears both demand and availability risks.

Table 2 • Accounting treatment of a PPP according to ESA95 rules				
RISK TYPE		"ON" or "OFF"		
	Construction risk	Demand risk	Availability risk	Government balance sheet
	Government	Government	Government	ON
			Private	ON
Who bears the risk?		Private	Government	ON
			Private	ON
	Private	Government	Government	ON
			Private	OFF
		Private	Government	OFF
			Private	OFF

It is important for the Authority and its advisers to be aware that the risk allocation which they agree to in the PPP contract can have a direct influence on the treatment of the PPP arrangement on the national debt and deficit.

In addition to the construction, demand and availability risks, Eurostat also takes into consideration other ways through which governments get involved in PPP arrangements.

Where such ways influence risk allocation, they may affect the debt and deficit treatment of the PPP. Ways in which government may become involved in PPP arrangements include: government financing, government guarantees and PPP contract

termination clauses which involve financial compensation by the government. The impact on the treatment of PPPs of such government financial involvement depends on a careful interpretation of several features including the transfer of risks and rewards that takes place and the degree of government control over the underlying PPP asset. Guidance 18

In case of doubt regarding the appropriate statistical treatment for a PPP arrangement, a Member State statistical authority can request advice from Eurostat on a past (*ex post*) or future (*ex ante*) PPP project<sup>7</sup>. Eurostat has established specific administrative rules for the provision of *ex ante* advice<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>7</sup> See: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/government\_ finance\_statistics/methodology/ advice member states

<sup>8</sup> See: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/government\_ finance\_statistics/documents/ EUROSTAT\_ADVISE\_19\_JULY\_2006.pdf

# 2 · Detailed Preparation

The project procurement phase of the PPP cycle begins after the project has received approval from the relevant public authorities. Such approval should support the development of the project as a PPP. Approval of the main project features is important as a prerequisite for the start of the procurement phase since detailed project preparation is a resource-intensive undertaking.

Before the formal procurement phase starts, preparation work is necessary at two levels. We refer to these as (i) getting organised and (ii) finalising all preparation before launching the tender. The chart below summarises these stages and their steps, which are described in detail in this chapter.

### Phase 2 **Detailed Preparation** Stage 1: Getting organised Steps Key tasks • Set up the project management team Set up project team and governance structure • Define the PPP project governance structure Identify the expertise needs of the team Engage team of advisers · Select the advisers to cover those needs · Identify the project activities and the critical paths Develop project plan and timetable · Develop a detailed project plan and timetable **Stage 2: Before launching the tender** Key tasks Steps Prepare the detailed business case Carry out further studies Carry out a detailed assessment of the PPP project risks Outline the principal commercial terms of the PPP contract Prepare detailed design of PPP arrangement Build a detailed risk register Undertake detailed commercial and financial analysis • Define the role of the private partner in the PPP and consider Select procurement method the various forms of PPP arrangements Select the procurement method Set up the evaluation committee Select bid evaluation criteria Select the criteria for scoring bids Define the required service standards, risk allocation and Prepare draft PPP contract payment mechanism in detail Finalise the draft PPP contract

### 2.1 Getting organised

### **Organisation steps**

Set up project team and governance structure

Engage team of advisers

Develop the project plan and timetable

# 2.1.1 Set up the project team and governance structure

The complexity and scale of most PPP projects will usually justify a team-based management approach to ensure that all the required skills are effectively applied.

A common way of implementing effective project governance for PPP project development is by a system of boards or committees. Different systems can be considered, but they normally include: Guidance 19

- a project board or "steering committee", comprising the main public sector stakeholders and led by a senior officer within the Authority who is responsible for delivering the project; and
- a project management team, responsible for managing the PPP project (including managing advisers) and reporting to the steering committee. Appointing a project director is of particular importance. During the intense procurement phase, this will be a full-time job. The skill set should include familiarity with private business as well as an understanding of how government administration works.

### 2.1.2 Engage a team of advisers

The importance of having a strong group of expert advisers in place cannot be overstated. The engagement of PPP

advisers requires sufficient resources to be budgeted for early in the project cycle. The project management team will require different types of advisers for different phases of the PPP project preparation process. Consultants will almost certainly have been used to prepare the various feasibility reports. They may have been hired separately and in a more ad-hoc manner. It is when the procurement phase begins that a comprehensive plan needs to be developed for how advisers will be used:

- The core team of advisers for the procurement phase will usually consist of a financial adviser, a technical adviser and a legal adviser (each of these composed of more than one individual). Other consultants will be required for specific inputs (e.g. separate consultants for environmental, social impact, regulatory risk and insurance matters). The exact nature of the broad advisory team will depend on the project and the in-house resources available (see Box 1).
- An Authority with considerable experience in PPP procurement can engage the advisers on separate mandates rather than on a consortium mandate, with the project director managing the entire process. It may be advisable, however, to hire a consortium of consultants, under one contract, led by one of them (often the financial adviser). Guidance 20, 21
- Even if a single consortium of consultants is engaged, it is useful for the project director to be able to discuss issues with each member of the advisory group separately to ensure that any differences of opinion on difficult issues are elicited and solutions are identified. Guidance 22, 23

Authorities should pay careful attention to the incentives created by different ways of engaging advisers and remunerating them. For example, if the consultants hired to carry out the feasibility work are fairly certain that they will be kept on board to advise on the transaction, they may have a disincentive to disclose major problems for fear that preparation will not continue. Alternatively if the transaction advisers are paid a success fee in full when the PPP contract is signed, they may have an incentive to deliver a project that is not bankable and will take many months (or years) to reach financial close. It may therefore be useful at the outset of the process for the Authority to hire an initial highlevel consultant to assist in the planning of all the technical assistance that will be needed during the process (e.g. prepare terms of reference).

### Box 1 • PPP advice during procurement

Advisers are normally involved at every stage of the PPP project cycle, including the initial feasibility assessment, project preparation, project procurement and project implementation. Examples of the legal, financial, technical and environmental assistance typically provided by PPP advisers, in particular during the procurement phase, include the following: Guidance 24, 25

### Legal adviser

- Advise the public sector on the issue of the legal powers (or vires) necessary to enter into the project contracts;
- Assist in the assessment of the legal feasibility of the project;
- Advise on the appropriate procurement route;
- Advise on the initial contract notice;
- Advise on procurement documentation such as pre-qualification questionnaires, invitations to tender and evaluation criteria;
- Develop the PPP contract;
- Ensure that bids meet the legal and contractual requirements for submission;
- Evaluate and advise on all processes and contractual solutions throughout the procurement phase, including contract negotiation; and
- Provide support in the clarification and fine-tuning of legal aspects.

### **Technical adviser**

- Draft the output requirements and specifications of the PPP project;
- Develop payment mechanisms in the PPP contract (with the financial adviser);
- Evaluate and advise on all technical solutions during the procurement phase;
- Undertake technical due diligence on bidders' solutions; and
- Carry out any site condition, planning and technical design work.

### **Financial adviser**

- Support the development of all financial aspects of the project;
- Advise on how to secure the public funding for the project (if any);
- Advise on the applicability of specific sources of funding, and how these can be optimised in the funding structure;
- Ensure that all financial aspects of the bidders' solutions meet the requirements for submitting a bid;
- Optimise, scrutinise and possibly audit the financial models submitted by bidders;
- Evaluate and advise on financial proposals throughout the procurement phase;
- Advise on the bankability issues raised by the PPP contract;
   Undertake financial due diligence on the submitted bids;
- Assist in the negotiations with the lenders; and
- Assist in the strategy and completion of the interest rate and currency hedging at financial close.

### **Environmental adviser**

- Examine the potential environmental impact of the project;
- Assist in environmental due diligence, including required permits and certifications;
- Identify potential environmental risks and how submitted bids address them; and
- Consider the mitigation of such risks and the impact on the scope and technical design of the project.

# 2.1.3 Develop a plan and timetable for project preparation and procurement

A key initial task for the project management team or its advisers is to develop a detailed project plan, including a timetable for project preparation and procurement. The plan needs to take into account all the key steps in the process, including: Guidance 26

- document development;
- stakeholder consultation;
- the bidding process and private sector interface; and
- the government approval process.

PPP preparation is a complex undertaking with parallel activities feeding into critical paths. It is important that activities that are on the critical paths be initiated at the right time and monitored closely to ensure that they proceed as planned and do not cause delays to other activities. It is helpful to use project-planning software to create the timeline in the form of a "Gantt" chart. The chart can then be easily updated from time to time.

# Are all relevant project approvals in place? Is a credible and well-resourced team in place to manage project preparation and procurement? Are sufficient financial resources available to the Authority to cover the costs of the preparation and procurement phase? Are project governance structures and processes established to ensure effective decision making? Have credible and experienced advisers been appointed? Have all relevant stakeholders been identified and consulted to check their commitment to the project? Is a realistic procurement timetable in place for the procurement phase?

### **2.2** Before launching the tender

### This stage has two main goals:

- to further develop all aspects of the PPP design (e.g. responsibilities, risk allocation, payment mechanism) in a progressive and iterative manner, concluding with a full draft PPP contract; and
- to select the tendering method, decide on bid evaluation criteria and prepare the complete tender documents.

At the end of this stage, the project management team will be ready to prequalify consortia interested in bidding for the project and issue the invitation to tender. It is useful to end this stage at that point because in some jurisdictions high-level clearance will be required before publishing the procurement notice and proceeding with the invitation to tender. The end of the stage is therefore an important milestone in the project delivery phase of the PPP cycle.

Some steps of the PPP cycle may not proceed in the rigid chronological order implied by the chart below as there are often overlaps. For example, the final tasks of detailed PPP design preparation may continue during the later prequalification exercise. This will often be the most efficient way for the advisers to proceed.

# Pre-tender steps Carry out further studies Prepare detailed design of PPP arrangement Select procurement method Define bid evaluation criteria Prepare draft PPP contract

### 2.2.1 Carry out further studies

Even though the core technical, financial and economic studies will have been carried out during the feasibility phase, there may be a need for further, updated and more focused studies during the procurement phase: Guidance 27

- Preparing the business case and appraising the project may have brought to light aspects where more detailed work is needed
- The studies during the feasibility phase will have been geared most of all to helping the Authority or other public bodies take a "yes/no" decision and select from among major project alternatives, not necessarily to refine the PPP design in preparation for contract drafting.
- As the PPP design advances, decisions about risk allocation may require additional studies. For example, in some projects (e.g. involving tunnels) it may be useful for the Authority to carry out an initial study of ground conditions and make these available to bidders.
- The Authority should assess the opportunity of using EU Cohesion or Structural Funds for meeting part of the project's financing requirement (see Annex 3).

The Authority and its team of advisers should take great care to ensure a clear delineation of the extent to which the private sector can rely on the results of information given by the Authority. Unintentional warranties given by the public sector can undermine risk transfer. Legal advice should always be sought on potential legal responsibility or liability arising out of the provision of information by the public sector to the private sector. As a general principle, the private sector should be required to do its own due diligence investigations rather than rely on information provided to it.

# 2.2.2 Prepare the detailed design of the PPP arrangement

Guidance 28, 29

All aspects of the PPP arrangement (e.g. responsibilities, risk allocation, payment mechanism) need to be developed in greater detail, with the ultimate goal of producing the draft PPP contract. It is advisable to deal with this in sub-steps rather than try to draft a full PPP contract right away. This simplifies the internal review process. It is better to focus the

initial internal discussion and approval on the broad commercial aspects of project design rather than on detailed legal terms.

- The first step might be to prepare a document outlining the principal commercial terms ("heads of terms"). Once the heads of terms have been internally approved, the Authority should progressively develop and refine the different topics. Guidance 30 Certain aspects (e.g. payment mechanism) might first require the advisers to prepare discussion notes presenting and assessing various alternatives.
- The risk allocation of the PPP arrangement will be further developed with the help of advisers and the results checked against prevailing market conditions. Preliminary risk matrices or registers will have been used in the feasibility phase. They will be further refined in this phase. Guidance 31
- The assessment of demand risks is essential in PPP projects. The allocation of demand risk is done through the payment mechanism in the PPP contract, which may seek to transfer some, all or none of the demand risk to the private sector (see an example of this in Box 2 and Box 3).
- The financial model of the expected PPP9 (sometimes called a "shadow bid" model) is prepared initially by the Authority and its advisers for use in the feasibility analysis. In this phase, the shadow bid model should be further developed and refined and it should be used to examine alternative risk allocations and payment mechanisms.
- 9 Note that this model is not the same financial model that a bidder will prepare and submit with its proposal.

### Box 2 • Traffic revenue risk allocation

Forecasting traffic demand is crucial in transport PPPs since traffic influences both project costs (through capital and maintenance expenditures) and project revenues, especially if direct user charges, such as tolls, are the main source of cash flow for the PPP Company. An accurate estimation of the future level and composition of traffic volumes is, however, a difficult task as:

- traffic forecasts tend to overestimate actual traffic levels (the so-called "optimism bias") 🖹 Guidance 32; and
- inflated traffic forecasts may be linked to traffic modelling flaws but also to strategic decisions of PPP consortia when they bid Traffic forecasts commissioned by the lending banks, for example, are less prone to traffic optimism bias.

Given such uncertainty, the allocation of traffic revenue risk is a key decision in the design of a transport PPP contract and the payment mechanism (see Box 3). There are several options for allocating traffic revenue risk. 🖹 Guidance 33 For example, for motorway PPPs:

- at one end is the conventional toll road, where revenues derive from toll payments and, thus, the PPP Company (and its lenders) are exposed to full traffic revenue risk;
- at the other end lies the "availability-based" option, where the PPP Company receives fixed periodic payments from the Authority as long as the road is available for use. In this case, the PPP Company bears little or no traffic revenue risk; and
- in between, there are several options designed to share the traffic revenue risk, such as:
  - · revenue-sharing bands: lower and upper thresholds for sharing traffic revenue risk between the PPP Company and the Authority if traffic is outside the thresholds;
  - flexible-term contracts: the PPP contract will end when the PPP Company has received a certain amount of revenue from users (e.g. the "least present value of revenue" approach implemented in Chile) 🖹 Guidance 34; and
  - · financial re-balancing: provisions to change the economic balance of the PPP contract if traffic is much lower/higher than planned or at set regular intervals.

Recent practice in transport projects has seen the use of a mixed payment mechanism consisting of an availability payment (intended to cover operating expenses and debt service) and a direct user charge (e.g. toll) that provides the equity return. Guidance 35

### 2.2.3 Select the procurement method

Before engaging in the formal bidding process, the Authority's team will need to select a competitive procurement procedure. Several procedures are permitted under EU legislation. These procedures are not designed specifically for PPPs: they apply to all goods, works or services contracts. Guidance 36, 37

### Complexity of PPPs

The complexity of a PPP combined with the lack of specific EU legislation on PPPs means that it is essential for the Authority to have a sound knowledge of the EU public procurement legal framework in advance of launching a tender. The Authority's team should include a procurement specialist who should work closely with the legal advisers to ensure compliance with EU and national procurement legislation. In addition, it is advisable for the senior management team to have a working knowledge of the relevant EU procurement legislation.

### Works and services concessions

Works and services concessions are arrangements under which the right to exploit the works or services rests with a "concessionaire". Concessions must adhere to the basic principles of the EC Treaty (i.e. transparency, equal treatment, proportionality and mutual recognition).

Guidance 39

#### Institutionalised PPPs

Institutionalised PPPs refer to a specific type of PPP where public and private parties establish an entity with mixed capital in which the private party takes part actively in the operation of contracts awarded to the partnership. The European Commission has released a specific Interpretative Communication to address the application of EU procurement law in this instance. Guidance 40

### Four procedures

EU legislation allows four procurement procedures: open, restricted (these two are also sometimes referred to as "standard procedures"), negotiated (an exceptional procedure) and competitive dialogue (the use of which is subject to conditions). Guidance 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48 The choices may be more limited under national laws. Specific legal advice is required for each jurisdiction. Table 3 below compares a few key features across the four EU procurement procedures which can be used for procuring PPPs. The Authority should always take legal advice before selecting the procurement procedure.

 Table 3 • A comparison of EU procurement procedures

	Open Procedure	Restricted Procedure	Negotiated Procedure	Competitive Dialogue
Possibility to limit number of bidders	No prequalification or pre-selection is permitted. Any interested company may submit a bid.	The number of bidders may be limited to no less than five in accordance with criteria specified in contract notice (prequalification and shortlisting permitted).	The number of bidders may be limited to no less than three in accordance with criteria specified in contract notice (prequalification and shortlisting permitted).	The number of bidders may be limited to no less than three in accordance with criteria specified in contract notice (prequalification and shortlisting permitted).
Discussions during process	The specifications may not be changed during the bidding process and no negotiations or dialogue may take place with bidders. Clarification is permitted.	The specifications may not be changed during the bidding process and no negotiations or dialogue may take place with bidders. Clarification is permitted.	Negotiations are permitted throughout the process. Successive stages can be used to reduce the number of bidders (further shortlisting).	A dialogue with the bidders is permitted on all aspects (similar to negotiated procedure, including further shortlisting). When the dialogue is concluded, final complete bids must be requested based on the solution(s) presented during the dialogue phase.
Discussions after final bid is submitted	No scope for negotiations with a bidder after bids are submitted.	No scope for negotiations with a bidder after bids are submitted.	Not relevant because the negotiations can continue until the contract is agreed. There need be no "final bid" per se.	Only permitted to clarify, fine-tune or specify a bid. No changes are permitted to the basic features.
Basis for award	Lowest price or most economically advantageous tender.	Lowest price or most economically advantageous tender.	Lowest price or most economically advantageous tender.	Most economically advantageous tender.

### 2.2.4 Define bid evaluation criteria

Either at this stage or, at the latest, at the beginning of the procurement phase, a tender evaluation committee should be established. The composition of the committee will often be prescribed by national law. The role of the evaluation committee is to oversee the procurement process and take (or recommend) key decisions, such as decisions about the shortlist and the preferred bidder. The tender evaluation committee will generally be advised and supported by experienced and specialised consultants (often the transaction team of advisers).

The EU procurement regime allows some flexibility regarding the criteria that can be used to evaluate bids and select the preferred bidder. The broad aim is to select the "most economically advantageous tender".

The choice of criteria for scoring and ranking alternative competing bids is a key decision in procuring a PPP. The objective is to tailor the PPP contract award criteria to the particular project and contract terms to achieve the best possible results (value for money). 

Guidance 49

Failure to apply award criteria properly can be a source of challenge to the procurement. The Authorities should, therefore, always take appropriate advice before the bid evaluation criteria are finalised.

As a rule, award criteria (and the weighting to be applied to each criterion) should be specified in advance. This may be problematic in the case of a competitive dialogue procedure, where detailed award criteria are rarely known in advance. In this instance, EU law allows the criteria to be listed in decreasing order of importance. In either case, the award criteria must appear in the contract notice or supporting descriptive document and may not be changed during the award procedure.

### Some examples of criteria include:

- the lowest tariffs, service fee or level of grant or subsidy;
- the largest payments to the Authority (upfront or periodic);
- the shortest duration of the PPP contract; and
- the best promised performance, expressed as key objective indicators year by year.

There are a number of examples of imaginative use of award criteria to achieve particular objectives. For example, Chile

uses the "least present value of revenue" criterion for toll motorways. In this case, the concession ends once the PPP Company has received cumulative revenue whose net present value equals the value it has bid. This is a way of combining a criterion based on the lowest remuneration with a mechanism for allocating traffic risk to the public sector.

Guidance 50

### 2.2.5 Prepare the draft PPP contract

Guidance 51, 52

A full draft PPP contract should be attached to the invitation to tender. It should cover the following topics at a minimum:

- the rights and obligations of the parties;
- risk allocation (this is usually achieved through setting out events which give the PPP Company a right to some compensation);
- service performance standards and targets, which need to be objective and measurable;
- the procedure for permitted modifications, as well as their scope and nature;
- payment mechanisms (e.g. tariffs, subsidies, grants) and adjustments to payments in response to various contingencies (see Box 3);
- penalties (and possibly bonuses) which have financial consequences or give rise to warning notifications (eventually leading to termination of the PPP contract);
- · security and performance bonds;
- project insurances;
- the term of the PPP contract;
- the conditions for termination (categorised by party and type of event) and compensation upon termination (for each type);
- step-in rights (both for lenders and, in emergency situations, the Authority);
- the definition and impact of force majeure and changes in law; and
- the dispute resolution procedure.

In the past, practice was often limited to including a summary of the main commercial terms of the PPP contract with the invitation to tender. Nowadays, it is considered better practice to prepare and issue a full draft PPP contract with the invitation to tender. This is unavoidable in both the restricted and competitive dialogue procedures as there is no room for negotiations post final bids. Legal advisers should be involved in preparing the full draft PPP contract.

### Box 3 • Payment mechanism

### ☐ Guidance 53, 54, 55

The payment mechanism lies at the heart of the PPP contract. The primary purpose of the payment mechanism is to remunerate the PPP Company sufficiently for it to be willing to enter into the PPP contract and provide the service. The payment mechanism is the principal means for allocating risks and providing incentives in the PPP contract.

A useful way to approach the design of the payment mechanism is to start with a basic/ideal structure for the Authority. Ideally, the Authority will want to pay the PPP Company, in arrears, a fixed price for (and only for) each unit of service that has been provided and has met the service quality requirements. This would comply with the key PPP principles that payments should be made only if the service is available, at the agreed standard of service, and that payments should not be based on the PPP Company's actual costs (a PPP contract is not a "cost-plus" contract). This basic/ideal mechanism would give the PPP Company strong incentives to perform but would require it to bear excessive risks. "Excessive" in this context could mean that the premium required by the PPP Company to bear the risks would not be worth the gain obtained from increased efficiencies. It could also mean that the PPP Company would be too likely to make excess profits or face large losses, which would threaten the viability of the PPP arrangement. The detailed design of the payment mechanism can then be derived by moving away from the basic/ideal mechanism and ensuring a balanced risk/reward scenario for the PPP Company. In particular, it is important to make sure that risks that are largely beyond the control of the PPP Company are not allocated to it.

Further adjustments to the basic/ideal mechanism should be considered:

- The payments to the PPP Company usually need to be "indexed" to compensate for cost increases due to inflation (the indexation should be based on an agreed set of published indicators).
- Cost items that are beyond the control of the PPP Company can be handled on a "pass-through" basis (i.e. the Authority reimburses the costs actually incurred by the PPP Company). Where this technique is contemplated, the Authority should ensure that the cost items subject to pass-through are limited and defined in detail.
- The deductions applied to the service fee for poor performance should be linked to the degree of deficiency in the service quality. The service quality measurement needs to be verifiable and objective. Generally, the amounts deducted should be consistent with the losses that the Authority or users would incur as a result of the service shortfall.
- Demand risk is often considered as at least partially beyond the control of the PPP Company. A variety of mechanisms is available to shift some or all of the demand risk away from the PPP Company. For example, the service fee / user charge can be gradually increased as demand falls. Also, a minimum payment guarantee (i.e. the PPP Company is paid a certain amount even if actual demand falls below an agreed minimum) can be implemented.

When designing the payment mechanism, the Authority and its advisers should pay attention to features that could give the PPP Company perverse incentives or are complicated or ambiguous (as these may later give rise to disputes). The payment mechanisms of comparable projects/sectors (where available) may also be a useful benchmark.

The Authority's advisers should use a model to test alternative payment mechanisms. A scenario analysis should be run to calibrate the parameters of the payment mechanism to ensure that it performs satisfactorily under a set of likely performance scenarios. Although poor performance should have a material impact on the equity return of the PPP Company, it would be counterproductive if it were to jeopardise debt service payments too easily (as this could result in the bankruptcy of the PPP Company or make the PPP contract difficult to finance).

### **CHECKLIST: Before launching the tender**

Before launching the tender, the Authority needs to satisfy itself that it has addressed a series of key questions, many of which result from the work undertaken or overseen by the advisers. For example:

Are the requirements and scope of the P

PPP project clear and fixed?



Have all material environmental and planning approvals been identified and obtained?



Are there any unresolved issues regarding site and land acquisition?



Does the Authority have the powers to award the PPP contract and enter into a long-term contractual arrangement?



Has the value for money assessment of the proposed PPP investment been updated?



Is the scope of the PPP project affordable from the point of view of the Authority's periodic payments required (availability-based PPPs) or are tariff levels realistic and affordable for the users (revenue-based PPPs)?



With availability-based PPPs, have budgets and government or parliamentary approvals been obtained for all the Authority's payment obligations?



Is there enough evidence of sufficient commercial interest from contractors, operators, lenders and investors to justify launching the tender?



Have project risks been identified and has a potential risk allocation been assessed?



Have plans to publicise the launch of the PPP project been agreed and finalised?



Has a project information memorandum been prepared?



Have the bidder qualification and bid evaluation criteria been developed?



Has the draft PPP contract been prepared, including the project specifications, service standards, payment mechanism and proposed risk allocation?

## 3 · Procurement

The procurement phase, as the term is used in this Guide, commences with the publication of the procurement notice and ends with financial close, the point at which project activities (beginning with detailed design and construction) can start. It has been broken down for convenience into two stages: (i) the bidding process and (ii) the period from the selection of the preferred bidder to financial close. The chart below outlines the stages and steps in the procurement phase.

### Phase 3 **Procurement Stage 1: Bidding process** Key tasks Steps • Issue a public procurement notice Procurement notice, prequalification and shortlisting Send an invitation to prequalify to interested parties Shortlist the bidders and publish a prequalification report Invitation to tender • Send an invitation to tender to the shortlisted bidders • Hold a bidders conference Interaction with bidders · Issue the necessary written clarifications **Evaluation of tenders and PPP contract award** · Select the preferred bidder Stage 2: PPP contract and financial close Key tasks Steps • Negotiate the PPP contract details with the preferred bidder **Finalise PPP contract** • Implement non-material changes and sign the PPP contract Conclude financing agreements • Conclude the financing and ancillary agreements • Sign all PPP related agreements and meet all the conditions Reach financial close to the effectiveness of the agreements

### 3.1 Bidding process

The PPP bidding process involves a series of steps summarised in the chart below. The goal of the bidding process is to maximise value for money by creating appropriate incentives through a competitive process for the award of the long-term PPP contract.

Procurement notice, prequalification and shortlisting

Invitation to tender

Interaction with bidders

Evaluation of tenders and PPP contract award

During the bidding process, sufficient attention should be placed on the key good procurement principles of "transparency" and "equal treatment", which will help bolster the legitimacy of the PPP and its acceptance by stakeholders.

These good procurement principles must be respected from the time the formal tendering process begins. Informal discussions with companies may take place before the process formally begins (this is particularly important in respect of large projects). For example, while keeping in mind that achieving a level playing field amongst potential bidders is the eventual goal, the Authority may organise information days, technical briefings, early public release of technical documents and so on. As soon as the procurement notice is published, all potential bidders must be given equal treatment and a careful audit trail of all contacts with potential bidders must be kept. The equal treatment principle dictates that information provided to one potential bidders in a timely manner.

This section of the Guide focuses primarily on commercial principles of procurement having general applicability and not on the detailed requirements of EU legislation transposed into national law (although certain EU requirements will be noted in some instances). The goal is to convey to readers the logic and rationale behind the various steps and considerations, rather than to present them simply as procedures prescribed by law.

Authorities are encouraged to seek advice on all procurement activities, in particular on how to ensure that the procurement activities described here comply with the requirements of national law. The proper handling of procurement activities is crucial to the success of the PPP project in achieving value for money but also to avoiding legal challenges that could adversely delay the implementation of the project.

# 3.1.1 Procurement notice, prequalification and shortlisting

Guidance 56, 57, 58, 59

Procurement notice

Publication of the public procurement notice marks the start of the formal procurement process. The Authority must comply with all requirements related to the publication of notices in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU). It is good practice to also publish the procurement notice in one or more international newspapers. The OJEU notice is followed by a questionnaire to enable interested companies to demonstrate their qualifications (also known as the submission of an "expression of interest").

### Prequalification

The purpose of prequalification is to include only those bidders that appear to be capable of carrying out the PPP project in an adequate manner. The wording of the brief project description contained in the OJEU notice should be broad enough for it not to need to be subsequently changed (which might then require the notice process to start all over again).

Typically, interested parties that respond to an initial notice are sent a short statement of information about the project and instructions or a questionnaire. These form the basis of

a qualification submission that such parties must make to demonstrate their ability to implement the project.

The invitation to prequalify (or prequalification questionnaire, as it may be called) should contain at least the following:

- the broader context of the project;
- an overview of the project, including the intended allocation of major risks and envisaged responsibilities of each party;
- a list and summary of the major studies that will be made available to bidders concerning the project;
- the intended procurement process;
- the qualifications that companies can put forward (e.g. parent or subsidiary companies' qualifications);
- the criteria and tests that will be used to evaluate the prequalification statement (but not necessarily the precise details to be used in any scoring or ranking since that could lead to some manipulation by the candidates); and
- · a timetable.

It is standard practice for the Authority's legal advisers to draft both the PPP procurement notice and the prequalification questionnaire.

### Shortlisting

The purpose of shortlisting is to reduce the number of bidders to generally three to five. Bidding for a PPP project, especially a complex one, is a costly undertaking for a bidder. Evaluating bids is also a time-consuming exercise for the Authority and its advisers. The aim of the bidding process is to maximise competition, not the number of bidders. The presence of too many bidders on the shortlist may reduce the interest of some in participating and cause good bidders to drop out.

In some cases the public sector has sought to encourage candidates to bid by agreeing in advance to make a payment to each losing bidder that would partially reimburse it for the costs of bid preparation. Such payment could be made from money that the Authority would receive from the winning bidder (once again, specified in advance). The size of the payment has to be calibrated to discourage frivolous bids. Practice varies widely between countries. The Authority should ask their advisers about current market practice in the relevant sector and jurisdiction.

In evaluating the qualification submission, the Authority will focus on the technical capability, business capability and financial position of the potential bidders. In line with EU public procurement legislation, these capacities must be, in principle, demonstrated jointly, rather than individually, by the members of a consortium.

The prequalification submission will usually be required to describe the following:

- the business activities of the consortium (e.g. how many projects of a similar nature, the consortium has implemented over a specified number of years);
- financial information (e.g. thresholds involving turnover and net worth):
- legal information about the PPP consortium, including any relevant litigation involving the companies; and
- the quality of personnel to be involved in the project.

The first step of the prequalification and shortlisting process is often to determine which consortia have passed the thresholds in all the relevant respects (i.e. pass/fail tests). Most of the criteria (e.g. company revenue) are expressed in terms of clear and objective thresholds. If this results in a number of consortia that exceed the maximum number pre-specified for the shortlist, then a systematic and predetermined process for scoring or ranking should be used to narrow down the list to arrive at a shortlist.

Sometimes shortlisting is done partly on the basis of responses that are submitted to a set of open-ended questions about how the companies would address certain key issues if they were to win the PPP contract. For example, in the competitive dialogue procedure, initial shortlisting can be based partly on an assessment of the outline or indicative solutions given by the candidates.

At the end of the process, a well-substantiated prequalification report should be prepared to provide a good audit trail. Unsuccessful candidates should be debriefed.

### 3.1.2 Invitation to tender

(a) Guidance 60, 61

Preparation of the tender documents will usually have begun during the last steps of the project preparation phase but to be time-efficient, finalisation often takes place during the prequalification period. The invitation to tender documentation should contain all the information that bidders will need to bid. It is important that advisers devote sufficient time and effort to develop the documentation in enough detail to ensure comparability of the bids and reduce the need for debate and clarification before the PPP contract is signed.

The tender documentation, which is usually extensive in detail and volume, will normally include (but not be limited to) information such as: Guidance 62, 63

- · detailed information memorandum about the project;
- a summary of the key commercial principles, including the obligations of each party and risk allocation;
- detailed output specifications and the minimum required technical design and technical features;
- a full draft PPP contract (which, in some countries, would be based on mandatory standard contract terms or on required guidelines of some kind);
- instructions to bidders concerning all the information they must submit and the detailed procedures for submission;
- · the evaluation criteria; and
- requirements for bid bonds or equivalent security.

### 3.1.3 Interaction with the bidders

Guidance 64

Under EU procurement law, the nature and level of communication permissible with bidders will be determined by the procurement procedure chosen.

In order to maximise the benefits of PPPs and obtain maximum value for money, it is critical to manage the bid process well. For instance:

- shortly after issuing the invitation to tender it is usual to hold a bidders' conference to explain issues and take questions from the bidders. Written clarifications should be provided to all bidders; and
- it is typical to provide for a "data room" open to bidders, where they can access detailed documents concerning all aspects of the project. Guidance 65

The complexity of large PPP projects will normally require a high degree of interaction between the Authority's project management team and the bidders.

The terms and conditions for an interactive process, including the procedures, protocols and rules, should be included

in the broader set of conditions, rights and obligations to which bidders consent. The objective of developing this iterative process is to improve the quality of the proposals by:

- fostering innovative solutions from different bidders;
- · clarifying any technical, financial and commercial issues; and
- providing timely, direct and specific feedback to all bidders on key aspects of their bids.

The Authority's project management team has to take particular care to protect each bidder's commercial in-confidence material and intellectual property. More generally, the project management team will have to consider probity principles and rules as part of the implementation of the interactive process.

3.1.4 Evaluation of tenders and selection of the preferred bidder

Guidance 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73

Once the tenders are submitted, they must be evaluated to arrive at the selection of the preferred bidder.

Bids will generally be assessed first on a number of pass/ fail criteria before the single preferred bidder is decided on. For example:

- even if the evaluation score is not based on a technical evaluation, a determination must be made that the technical solution proposed by a bidder is feasible, deliverable and robust, that it is based on reliable technologies, that it meets all minimum technical requirements set and that the costs and financial structure are consistent with the technical solution; and
- it is important to look at the proposed project management: the bidding consortium must come across as a cohesive entity rather than just a collection of companies put together for bidding purposes.

A key issue is the choice of the criteria for the evaluation and scoring of alternative bids.

Occasionally, only one bidder will submit a tender despite the Authority having issued the invitation to tender to several shortlisted candidates. Should that happen, in good procurement practice, the question of how to proceed should be considered case by case: Guidance 74

If it appears that bidder interest was low because of deficiencies in the tender documents (including the project specifications or the draft PPP contract) and these can realistically be

- remedied, then the best solution might be to repeat the tender procedure this time on a better footing.
- If it appears that the bid was made in the bidder's belief that there would be a good level of competition (and this should be supported by the Authority's advisers carrying out benchmarking of costs and in some cases by insisting on actual market testing of the costs of the major subcontracts), then the best solution might be to continue with the procurement and consider the sole bidder to be the winner, provided that the tender is fully compliant and meets all pass/fail evaluation criteria.

An important issue relating to the PPP contract award concerns the new EU Remedies Directive (2007/66/EC), which was required to be transposed into national law by 20 December 2009. Guidance 75 The two most noteworthy elements of this Directive are as follows:

- a minimum "standstill period" of 10 days is required between the PPP contract award decision and the actual conclusion of the contract to allow rejected bidders time to conduct their review and decide whether they want to challenge the award. (Note that such a standstill period had already emerged in case law; the purpose of the new Directive's provision is to standardise terms across Member States); and
- more importantly, an aggrieved bidder can bring an action to have the PPP contract rendered ineffective if the Authority contravened EU procurement rules in a serious manner. Previously, the sole remedy that an aggrieved bidder could seek was to be awarded monetary compensation, but nowadays an aggrieved bidder could seek cancellation of the PPP contract. How the various rights and obligations of the parties will be determined in this case is left to national law.

### **CHECKLIST: Bidding process**

To carry out a successful bidding process, the Authority and its team of advisers need to ensure that all key questions related to the bidding process have been adequately addressed. For example:



Is the institution responsible for awarding and managing the bidding process clearly identified?



Does the format of the pre-qualification documents enable bidders to present information about themselves and clearly set out the evaluation criteria and processes applicable in pre-qualification in compliance with the openness and transparency required by EU legislation?



Do the pre-qualification evaluation criteria include all relevant features related to the quality and strength of the bidders in terms of their capacity to deliver and their awareness of the PPP project?



Does the invitation to tender document include a draft PPP contract, which should set out, among other things, the payment mechanism and penalty regime? Does it include the output requirements of the Authority?



Does the invitation to tender document contain all essential components of the PPP project, especially the minimum technical, environmental, legal and financial requirements to be provided by bidders which constitute a compliant bid?



Have adequate provisions ensuring that the Authority offers no information warranties and setting rules of access to the data room been included in the invitation to tender document?



Have all critical processes required to manage the interaction with bidders during the bidding process (including a code of conduct, communication with bidders, audit trails and meetings, consortia changes and bidders' due diligence) been considered and implemented?



Have the evaluation criteria and processes been established and evaluation teams and committees been appointed before bids are submitted?

### 3.2 PPP contract and financial close

The finalisation of the PPP arrangements, leading to commercial and financial close, involves a series of steps summarised in the chart below. The activities involved in these steps often deal with detailed fine-tuning matters. Close interaction between the Authority, the PPP Company, its sponsors and its financiers is essential. This stage requires thorough organisation and management for it to proceed efficiently. It should be planned carefully, generally making use of experienced advisers. Many PPP projects have experienced lasting difficulties as a result of a lack of adequate planning or expert advice during this critical stage.



### 3.2.1 Finalise the PPP contract

The different procurement procedures imply varying forms/ intensity of discussions once the preferred bidder has been selected. Guidance 76, 77 For example, under the EU restricted or competitive dialogue procedures, once the final tenders have been received and a preferred bidder has been selected, the final adjustments to the PPP contract should be limited to clarifications and confirmation of commitments.

Irrespective of specific EU considerations, a basic principle of good procurement is that any change to the PPP contract agreed with the preferred bidder during final negotiations must not be material to the procurement (i.e. another bidder could have been selected or could have submitted a different offer if the amended term had been proposed in the tender documents ab initio). For example, changing a fundamental aspect of the risk allocation would clearly go beyond what is permitted under good procurement practice and under EU law.

The final discussions with the preferred bidder are often referred to as "final negotiations" (even if they are not strictly negotiations under some procurement regimes). At the start of this phase, the Authority's negotiating team and the preferred bidder will need to agree on a framework for final discussions/negotiations. This framework will typically include issues such as:

- the discussion timetable;
- the definition of the remaining issues; and
- the recording of agreed matters.

### 3.2.2 Conclude the financing agreements

PPPs are normally financed in whole or part through project finance arrangements (see Annex 1). Insofar as possible, the Authority should require bidders to secure fully committed financing packages along with their bids. This will ensure that the finalisation of the financing agreements can take place simultaneously with or shortly after the signing of the PPP contract.

In difficult financial market conditions (e.g. reduced liquidity), fully committed financing packages may be difficult to obtain at the time of bidding. This may mean that the financing agreements will not be concluded immediately once the PPP contract is signed.

Prior to the recent credit crisis, PPP financings for major transactions were usually provided through "syndication" arrangements, whereby a small number of banks underwrote the financing of the project and "re-sold" it to a syndicate of banks after financial close. Most PPP projects are now funded through "club deals": each bank assumes it will hold its stake of project debt to maturity. In some cases, these club arrangements can only be concluded after the appointment of the preferred bidder (the so-called "post preferred bidder book-building" explained below).

The strength of the financiers' commitment to fund the PPP project at the bidding stage will depend on the particular project and market. The Authority should at least require that bidders provide evidence of a reasonably deliverable financing plan in their proposals. Bidders should demonstrate that the debt, the equity and, where applicable, the grant providers have reviewed and accepted the broad design of the PPP and the major contractual provisions (e.g. the proposed risk allocation). A funding commitment from the lenders will often

be conditional since they will generally not be in a position to complete their detailed due diligence and approval process until a few weeks before financial close.

Once the lenders have carried out their detailed review of the project documentation and their detailed due diligence, they will sometimes require changes to the PPP contract. The Authority's ability to accept the lenders' requests will be limited, as changes to the PPP contract will go against good procurement principles. Before signing the financing agreements, the lenders will also need to review and be satisfied with the full set of project contracts the PPP Company will enter into (e.g. construction contract, operation and maintenance contract).

In large PPPs, in particular in the UK, it is not unusual to see the Authority taking an active role in securing competitive financing terms by imposing a debt funding competition. A debt funding competition requires the preferred bidder to carry out a competition amongst potential lenders in order to obtain the best financing terms possible. The Authority picks up part or all of the benefits gained through any improvement in the financing terms. The Authority needs to oversee the competition process, which means that it often has to involve experienced financial advisers. Debt funding competitions may not be suitable for projects or in markets where financial innovation is expected to play a significant role in the competitive position of bidders. Moreover, it may not be suitable in conditions of limited financial liquidity. Guidance 78 In these circumstances, the private sector may need to engage in post-preferred bidder "book-building", under which the full lending group is assembled using lenders that may have supported unsuccessful bidders. Guidance 79

A large number of financing agreements are needed for a project-financed PPP. These agreements have three basic purposes:

- They are designed to protect the interests of senior lenders vis-à-vis other providers of finance (e.g. equity investors) and subcontractors of the PPP Company. In particular, the senior lenders will want to ensure that the risks borne by their borrower (i.e. the PPP Company) are satisfactorily mitigated. In practice, this means that, to the greatest extent possible, the risks borne by the PPP Company under the PPP contract are 'passed through' to the subcontractors.
- The agreements need to clearly establish that the servicing of the debt takes priority over the remuneration of all other forms of finance (this is what "senior" debt means).
- The suite of financing agreements is designed to ensure that,

should there be problems with the project that jeopardise the servicing of the debt, the lenders have the powers to take the action they deem necessary to protect their loan.

This last point is crucial as it goes to the heart of the benefits that a PPP can deliver for an Authority. A well-designed PPP aligns the interests of the lenders with those of the Authority, as both parties aim to achieve a successful project. The lenders are incentivised and empowered to ensure that potential project problems are addressed in a timely manner and that their loan is safe. For this reason, the Authority should be able to rely on the incentives the lenders have to deal effectively with problems (during both construction and operation) that would threaten the project's performance. This reliance on the lenders is a major source of risk transfer from the public to the private sector.  $\Box$  Guidance 80

The typical financing agreements to be prepared and concluded comprise:

- senior loan agreements: agreements between the lenders and the PPP Company setting out the rights and obligations of each party regarding the senior debt;
- a common terms agreement: an agreement between the financing parties and the PPP Company which sets out the terms that are common to all the financing instruments and the relationship between them (including definitions, conditions, order of drawdowns, project accounts, voting powers for waivers and amendments). A common terms agreement greatly clarifies and simplifies the multi-sourcing of finance for a PPP project and ensures that the parties have a common understanding of key definitions and critical events;
- subordinated loan agreements (where subordinated or mezzanine debt is used in the financing structure). These loans are provided by the project sponsors and/or by third party investors;
- a shareholders' agreement (as part of the constitutive documents of the PPP Company);
- a direct agreement between the lenders and the Authority: this allows the senior lenders to take over the project (to "step in") under certain circumstances specified in the PPP contract;
- an accounts agreement: this involves a bank which will control the cash flowing to and from the PPP Company in accordance with the rules set out in the agreement;
- an intercreditor agreement: an agreement between the creditors of the PPP Company that spells out aspects of their relationship with one another and the PPP Company, so that, in the event of a problem emerging, ground rules will be in place;

- hedging agreements: agreements which enable the PPP Company to fix the interest rate on all or part of its debt or to limit its exposure to exchange rate risks;
- security agreements (e.g. share pledge, charge over accounts, movables pledge, receivables pledge);
- parent company guarantees and other forms of credit enhancement where the sponsors of the PPP Company or its subcontractors do not offer sufficient financial strength; and
- legal opinions from the lender's legal advisers on the enforceability of the contracts. Enforceability of contracts is a key issue the lenders will tackle in their due diligence. This will include the review of the powers of the Authority to enter into transactions (the so-called *vires* issue).

The financing agreements often contain many cross-references and will have to be prepared as a coherent package. 

Guidance 81

### Box 4 • Insurance

### **Guidance 82, 83, 84**

Adequate insurance coverage for a wide range of events is important for a PPP project because the single-purpose and thinly capitalised nature of the PPP Company make it unlikely that it will be able to self-insure to any meaningful extent.

The interests of the Authority and of the senior lenders are largely aligned on insurance matters. The Authority can rely on the lenders to impose suitable insurance requirements on the PPP Company. Nevertheless, it is a prudent safeguard for the Authority to require the inclusion of certain minimum insurance requirements in the PPP contract (although these should not go beyond what the lenders are likely to need). The insurance requirements should be developed and negotiated with the support of professional insurance advisers since project finance-related insurance is a highly specialised area.

The main categories of insurance coverage that the Authority would normally require comprise:

- During the construction phase:
  - contractors" all risks" insurance (covering the physical loss of or damage to the works and equipment on the construction site);
  - third party liability insurance; and
  - possibly, "delay in start-up" insurance (covering the loss of revenue or profit due to a delay in project completion).
- During the operational phase:
  - "all risks" property insurance;
  - · third party liability insurance; and
  - business interruption insurance.

Specific environmental insurance may also be required for some projects.

For each kind of insurance coverage, the PPP contract should set out the basic features of the policy, the minimum level of coverage, the principal exclusions and the maximum deductibles (i.e. thresholds below which the insurance company will not pay out).

The PPP contract will need to deal with other important insurance matters. For instance:

- it may be in the Authority's interest to agree to indemnify the PPP Company if a risk becomes "uninsurable" (or insurable only at a prohibitive cost); and
- the Authority (and the lenders) will require the insurance policy to be concluded with insurance companies of a minimum financial standing.

### 3.2.3 Reach financial close

Financial close occurs when all the project and financing agreements have been signed and all the required conditions contained in them have been met. It enables funds (e.g. loans, equity, grants) to start flowing so that project implementation can actually start.

Any remaining "conditions precedent" contained in the financing agreements need to be fulfilled before funds can be disbursed. Typically: Guidance 85, 86

- the main permitting and planning approvals have been secured;
- the key land acquisition steps have been achieved;
- the outstanding technical design issues have been clarified;
- any remaining key project and financing document has been finalised and signed;

- · all funding approvals are in place; and
- proper registration of the security for the loans has been confirmed.

The Authority will need to confirm that the requirements of all internal approvals have been met. These could include:

- · confirmation of the legality of the procurement;
- approval of derogations from any standard contracting terms;
- · the value for money check; and
- · the affordability check.

The PPP Company and the Authority often need to carry out a considerable amount of detailed work to reach financial close. The effort needed should not be underestimated. The Authority will need to manage its tasks effectively and should seek the support of its advisers.

### **CHECKLIST: PPP contract and financial close**

To negotiate the PPP contract and reach financial close, the Authority and its team of advisers need to ensure that key questions related to the PPP contract, financing and ancillary agreements have been adequately addressed. For example:



Has a negotiating team been assembled and empowered to take decisions on the issues pertaining to the PPP contract?



Have the Authority and the negotiating team agreed a negotiating strategy, including (i) an assessment of the position of the Authority on key issues and (ii) a risk management strategy?



Have the legal advisers evaluated the marked-up draft PPP contract proposed by the bidders, assessing it against its risk allocation and value for money targets?



Have the financial advisers assessed affordability, project costs, sources and costs of funding and project bankability?



Have the negotiations resulted in terms and conditions that vary substantially and materially from the bid offer and therefore could be open to challenge because they are less favourable or could have resulted in the selection of a different bidder?



Have all the legal and administrative requirements of contract award been complied with?



Is the final PPP contract still affordable and does it represent value for money?

# 4 · Project Implementation

This chapter deals with the period during which the PPP project is being implemented (i.e. from financial close to the expiry of the PPP contract). It addresses the most common issues which officials at the Authority may have to face during the life of the project. A PPP project implies regular monitoring of performance and to take appropriate actions in accordance with the terms of the PPP contract. In some circumstances, a project may require changes to the contract (e.g. modifying the service specifications or the scope of the project). The chart below summarises the main stages and steps involved in the project implementation phase of a PPP.

It is important to stress that the Authority's responsibilities for project management and contract management may differ considerably during the project's construction phase and operational phase.

### Phase 4 **Project Implementation Stage 1: Contract management** Key tasks • Set up the project management team Attribute management responsabilities Develop a contract administration manual • Define a timeline and responsibilities for all tasks Monitor and manage project delivery and service outputs • Monitor the PPP project operational and financial performance Manage changes permitted in the PPP contract • Implement routine changes provided for in the PPP contract Accept/reject extraordinary changes to the PPP contract Manage changes not provided for in the PPP contract Implement protocols related to contingency plans Choice of the appropriate forum Dispute resolution Dispute resolution solution/decision Monitor the residual value of the PPP assets at critical stages When the contract ends Replace non-performing parties Make compensation payments Stage 2: Ex post evaluation Key tasks Set up a reviewing body Define institutional framework Formalise the evaluation objectives Define the evaluation criteria Develop analytical framework Produce the evaluation report

# 4.1 Contract management

The contract management stage involves a series of steps summarised in the chart below.

# Contract management steps Attribute management responsabilities Monitor and manage project delivery and service outputs Manage changes permitted in the PPP contract Manage changes not provided for in the PPP contract Dispute resolution When the contract ends

# During the implementation of the PPP project, the Authority should ensure:

- that project management and contract management responsibilities are separated so that a team other than the project management team deals with issues that may occur after the signing of the PPP contract;
- that the contract management team is given clearly defined responsibilities and sufficient resources; and
- that management rules are established to deal with the PPP contract monitoring, adjustments to the contract and dispute resolution to maintain its integrity.

Although good preparation and procurement of a PPP project are important, the manner in which the PPP contract is overseen and managed during implementation is critical to its success or failure and to its actual ability to deliver the value for money expected at the procurement stage.

# 4.1.1 Allocate management responsibilities

After the PPP contract has been signed, responsibility for contract management will normally be transferred to a contract management team established by the Authority. If a roads agency, for example, has more than one PPP contract, it makes sense on grounds of efficiency for a single contract management team to manage all ongoing PPP contracts.

A contract management team, reporting to a contract director, will carry out many day-to-day contract management activities. It is desirable to include the proposed contract director in the Authority's project management team at an early stage of the procurement process, or at least to allow him/her to follow the procurement process and have access to procurement team members. A good understanding of the project and its inherent risks will enable him/her to devise an adequate contract management strategy.

Before this transfer of responsibilities occurs, the Authority will need to ensure: Guidance 87

- that responsibilities are clearly defined, by appointing a team responsible for contract management separate from the project management team;
- that the provisions for handling contract changes and managing failure of the PPP Company are in place;
- that a system of on-going contract management review is in place; and
- that there are sufficient budgetary and staff resources to undertake the contract management responsibilities.

It is important for the Authority to set out, prior to choosing the preferred bidder, the basic framework under which the contract management team will operate. This will reduce the bidders' cost and obligation uncertainties. Indeed, bidders will need to incorporate monitoring and contract compliance costs into their bids. They should therefore be provided with a clear indication of the type and frequency of information required from them.

At the start of the PPP contract, the contract management team will need to develop management tools and processes, including contingency plans. These will be set out in a contract administration manual. Guidance 88

# 4.1.2 Monitor and manage project delivery and service outputs

The PPP contract should have clearly stated the obligations of the PPP Company and defined the expected service characteristics, outputs and quality standards.

Effective contract management depends, in the first place, on getting the PPP contract right. This implies setting out the procedures that guarantee close monitoring of the PPP Company's performance and general compliance with the agreed contract.

The contract management team will normally start by agreeing with the PPP Company all the tasks that each party needs to undertake and the appropriate timeframes for their completion. These operational details need to be set out in the contract administration manual (consistent with the project contracts) at the start of the project implementation phase. Guidance 89

Effective contract management will help to identify and monitor the PPP Company's construction and operational performance. It will enable the Authority to manage the project risks over the life of the PPP contract.

# Regular monitoring

In order to effectively monitor the implementation of the project, the PPP Company will need to provide the contract management team with operational and financial data on an ongoing basis. The PPP contract should have set out the basic information requirements and frequency. Often, more detailed requirements are specified at the start of the implementation phase. The contract management team should limit its request for information to the data necessary for effective monitoring and *ex post* evaluation of the project. Excessive data collection imposes an unnecessary burden on the PPP Company and the Authority. Guidance 90

The contract management team will, for example, need to: Guidance 91, 92

- monitor the attainment of key performance indicators;
- review quality control and quality assurance procedures to ensure that these systems are in place and effective;

- establish and manage the day-to-day relationship with the PPP Company; and
- report regularly to the stakeholders.

# Risk management

The risks that the contract management team will need to manage can be classified as follows: Guidance 93

- project risks contractually allocated between the parties;
- intrinsic risks borne by the Authority;
- project risks not contractually allocated; and
- risks associated with changes to the PPP contract.

It is essential for the contract management team to have a clear understanding of the requirements of the PPP contract and the rationale for those requirements. The role of the team will vary according to whether or not these risks have been identified in the contract and contingency plans have been established.

Potential problems should be identified early and acted upon. If the problem appears to be persistent and the PPP Company's first point of contact cannot deal with it, the issue should be dealt with at a more senior level. Such escalation procedures will typically be specified in the contract administration manual.

# 4.1.3 Managing changes permitted in the PPP contract

The PPP contract will set out the triggers and methodologies for agreeing and implementing changes to the PPP contract. Guidance 94 However, it may not specify all the logistical or administrative steps that need to be taken in order to agree or implement permitted changes.

The contract administration manual should specify logistical and administrative details such as:

- the person to whom a request for a change must be sent;
- the person who will assess the impact of the proposed change;
- the persons authorised to agree a change on behalf of the Authority and the PPP Company; and
- the person responsible for overseeing and verifying implementation of the change.

Changes permitted under the PPP contract are often complex and need to be decided at senior level. They typically include material changes in output specifications, refinancing or the consequences of a change in the law. Many PPP contracts contain provisions governing the potential refinancing of the project, in particular the sharing of gains from such refinancing (see Box 5). It should be noted that the consent of the PPP Company's lenders may be required before certain changes to the PPP contract are implemented.

For unplanned or unexpected events that threaten the regular provision of services, a set of rules consistent with the responsibilities set out in the PPP contract can cover scenarios such as:

- business continuity and disaster recovery planning;
- · public sector step-in planning; and
- · default planning.

In all of the above cases, the Authority must respect the terms of the PPP contract, taking advice as appropriate. Guidance 96, 97

# Box 5 • Sharing the gains from a refinancing

# Guidance 98

Sharing the gains arising from a refinancing operation is an important issue for the design and implementation of the PPP contract that has become increasingly relevant over the past decade. Refinancing is understood as the replacement or renegotiation of the original capital structure, debt and/or equity of the PPP Company on more favourable terms. Refinancings are attractive to the PPP Company when interest rates fall (if the PPP Company can benefit from such a fall under its hedging policy) or when the risk profile of the PPP Company has improved. Refinancings can take different forms, such as:

- a reduction in the debt pricing;
- extension of the debt maturity;
- an increase in the gearing (i.e. the amount of debt relative to equity). This is possible when lenders are prepared to relinquish some of their contractual protection as the perceived project risks are reduced;
- lighter reserve account requirements; or
- the release of guarantees provided by the shareholders of the PPP Company or sponsors or by third parties.

Refinancings will often result in financial gains for the shareholders of the PPP Company. Some of the gains may be justified by the good performance of the PPP Company, but some may also arise from macroeconomic factors or lenders' greater confidence in a specific PPP market (i.e. factors not attributable to the PPP Company). In this case, financial gains for the shareholders may appear undeserved and give rise to political difficulties. As a result, sharing the financial gains from a refinancing operation between the PPP Company shareholders and the Authority is often considered appropriate.

Current practice is to include detailed provisions in the PPP contract setting out a method for determining and sharing the gains from future refinancing – rather than to rely on broad principles and full-blown renegotiation of the contract when refinancing takes place. The UK started the trend in 2002 with its standardised contract provisions for refinancing. Other countries have followed a similar approach.

Refinancing mechanisms are complex and their assessment requires the support of financial and legal advisers. The PPP contract provisions require specific drafting that needs to address several steps that involve: Guidance 99, 100

- calculating the expected refinancing gain to the PPP Company shareholders (e.g. using net present value techniques);
- determining the portion of the gain that should be allocated to each party (e.g. 50:50 split, the Authority's share increasing if specified tests are met, as in the UK, where the marginal rate attains 70%); and
- deciding how the gains should be shared (e.g. lump sum payment to the Authority, reduction in the service fee payable to the PPP Company).

Many details (e.g. the discount and interest rates to be used in the calculations, treatment of the possible impact of a refinancing operation on the termination payment that the Authority might have to make in the future) need to be addressed in the PPP contract to avoid subsequent discussion and disagreements. As with many other aspects of PPPs, it is important to anticipate the issues as much as possible and set out detailed provisions in the PPP contract.

# 4.1.4 Managing changes not provided for in the PPP contract

Given the long life of PPP contracts, unforeseen changes in contractual specifications (during construction or operation) are not unusual. The contract management team needs to address these issues and strike a satisfactory balance between:

- · encouraging the PPP Company to manage its risks; and
- preventing poor performance by the PPP Company from endangering the viability of the PPP contract.

While contract renegotiations triggered by changes that are not permitted in the PPP contract may be a common feature of PPPs in some countries Guidance 101, the associated risks should be acknowledged and mitigated. PPP contracts can be designed to minimise major renegotiations at a later stage. Contract renegotiations require careful analysis and a dialogue between the parties before contract changes are agreed and implemented. The use of an experienced, trusted and neutral facilitator may be beneficial. While some renegotiations are efficient, many are opportunistic and should be discouraged.

Renegotiations of significant aspects of the PPP contract have considerable implications for the parties and are in principle forbidden under EU law. They are generally regarded as undesirable because:

- competitive bidding may be distorted: the most likely winner is not the most efficient company but the one most skilled in renegotiation;
- as renegotiations are carried out bilaterally, the positive effects of competitive pressure are lost; and
- renegotiations often reduce the overall economic benefits of PPP arrangements and might have a negative impact.

It should be noted that lenders will often have contractual rights to prevent changes to the PPP contract which would, in their opinion, alter the credit status or risk profile of the PPP Company (i.e. their borrower). Guidance 102

## 4.1.5 Dispute resolution

Contractual disputes are common in PPPs for a number of reasons. For example:

- because the PPP contract is long-term and unexpected circumstances are bound to arise; or
- because PPP arrangements tend to be complex.

The mechanisms available to resolve disputes and conflicts are a major part of the assessment of contract risks by private investors in PPP projects. The typical dispute resolution mechanisms are: Guidance 103, 104

- the national court system (litigation);
- · arbitration (national or international);
- expert determination of some kind. This is often used for specific issues (e.g. a technical or financial matter) or to give an interim decision which can then be appealed against in litigation or arbitration;
- mediation or conciliation (where the third party does not give a binding decision but enables the parties to reach an agreement); and
- a decision by a specialised regulatory body.

The first three mechanisms generally involve a decision strictly based on the PPP contract. The last one (decision by a regulatory body) could be based on the PPP contract but regulators tend to depart from the contract and apply the principles of their own mandate. The regulator may exercise discretion in its judgment. This would be a considerable risk for investors if they do not have confidence in the stability of the regulatory framework or the decisions of the regulator.

Effective relationship management in a PPP project facilitates the easy resolution of disputes in the future. However, if a party resorts to an inappropriate dispute resolution process, the process may damage the relationship.

**Guidance 105, 106** 

It is therefore fundamental that an appropriate dispute resolution process is set out in the PPP contract. This should be done with the support of experienced legal advisers.

## 4.1.6 When the contract ends

A PPP contract should include detailed provisions dealing with its termination. The main issues to be addressed are:

- the circumstances in which the contract may be terminated by a party ahead of its scheduled expiry;
- the payment (if any) that must be made by the Authority to the PPP Company upon termination (depending on the circumstances); and
- the condition of the assets when they are "handed over" to the Authority following termination.

## Grounds for termination

## The typical grounds for termination are:

- expiry of the PPP contract term;
- default by the PPP Company;
- default by the Authority;
- a voluntary decision by the Authority; and
- termination in the event of prolonged force majeure.

The PPP contract should describe in detail the circumstances that allow a party to terminate the contract, in particular where the other party has defaulted on its obligations. For it to lead to termination, a breach of contract has to be fundamental in nature and should (where possible) be subject to "cure periods". For example, the Authority would normally be entitled to terminate the PPP contract in the event of insolvency or bankruptcy of the PPP Company or of a serious deficiency in the service provision (e.g. where health or safety is jeopardised) that is not promptly remedied. A detailed list of all the breaches that entitle termination should be set out in the PPP contract.

Particular attention should be given to the issue of "persistent breaches" (i.e. the accumulation of a number of breaches, each of which would not in itself be enough to trigger termination but all of which together constitute fundamental non-performance). The criterion for assessing the existence of a persistent breach should be as objective as possible. This can be achieved by reference to the accumulation of penalties, deductions, performance points or warning notices over a specified period of time. Beyond a certain threshold, the Authority should have the right to terminate the PPP contract.

The typical example of default by the Authority is the non-payment of the sums owed to the PPP Company (e.g. the service fee). This includes cases where the Authority has not adequately adjusted the PPP Company's remuneration in accordance with the terms of the PPP contract.

# **Termination payments**

PPP contracts usually require the Authority to make payments to the PPP Company if and when the contract is terminated. These provisions are generally complex and need to be carefully drafted with the assistance of advisers, taking into account a number of factors, such as:

- · fairness;
- incentives for the PPP Company and its lenders; and
- · bankability.

Specifying termination payments can be important even if the PPP contract is never terminated. For example, if the parties are renegotiating the contract, the Authority should not accept a less favourable outcome than simply terminating and making the required payment. The termination payment can act as the reference price in the renegotiations.

The following paragraphs summarise the approaches used for calculating the termination payment in the various cases of termination. Guidance 107, 108, 109

#### **Contract expiry**

PPPs are usually structured so that the Authority makes no payment to the PPP Company when the PPP contract expires at the end of its scheduled term. Termination payments are, however, envisaged upon contract expiry in certain circumstances. A typical case is that of new assets constructed at some stage during the life of the PPP contract as a result of an extraordinary event (this may involve a lump-sum termination payment from the Authority). Similarly, where PPP assets have a particularly long life compared to the term of the PPP contract, the payment of a residual asset value upon expiry may be contemplated.

# Termination for default by the PPP Company

Termination for PPP Company default is the final stage of a process which starts when a project is failing to perform in accordance with the requirements of the PPP contract. The PPP contract should set out the various circumstances which could trigger such termination. These will typically include failure to complete construction, persistent failure to meet performance standards and insolvency of the PPP Company. It should be noted that the PPP contract will also set out those circumstances in which failure to perform can not be used to trigger termination (the so-called "relief events").

Where the default by the PPP Company is caused by failure of one of its subcontractors (e.g. insolvency, poor performance, corruption), the PPP Company should have the contractual ability (in its subcontracts) to replace the non-performing subcontractor and seek termination damages from it. These damages should be backed (at least in part) by performance bonds or guarantees and set at a level which would allow the PPP Company to meet any additional costs associated with the replacement of the subcontractor.

Insolvency of the PPP Company is an important cause of default. This can occur where the PPP Company is no longer

able to service its debt in line with the agreed schedule. In this case, lenders could choose to "accelerate" their debt (i.e. make the entire debt due and immediately payable). This would force the PPP Company into insolvency.

In the event of PPP Company default, the lenders should be allowed to step in to rescue the PPP project and protect their loan. The Authority should permit (and rely on) the lenders to take control of the PPP project in such circumstances. The lenders' right to step in is typically provided for in a direct agreement entered into between the Authority, the PPP Company and the lenders.

The PPP contract will be terminated only if lenders choose not to step in, fail in the step-in or choose to step out of the non-performing project. In these cases, it is reasonable to assume that the PPP Company's equity will be lost and no compensation will therefore be payable. Compensation would, however, normally be owed to the PPP Company's lenders (either directly or through the PPP Company). This is justified by the fact that the PPP project assets (or the rights over them) are transferred back to the Authority upon termination. This compensation is provided for either in the PPP contract, the applicable legal code or other agreements (e.g. where the public sector has agreed to guarantee the project's debt).

Termination payments for PPP Company defaults are a key issue in PPP contracts as they are fundamental to their bankability. Several methods can be used to determine the compensation payment that the Authority is obliged to make to the PPP Company / its lenders, including:

- repayment of all or a pre-specified part of the outstanding debt (to the extent that it has been properly used for financing the project assets);
- the depreciated book value of project assets (there are several variants of this general approach);
- the net present value of the expected future net cash outflow that would have been payable by the Authority if termination had not occurred (i.e. the expected service fee less the costs that the Authority will have to incur as a result of the termination); and
- an open-market sale (i.e. the Authority re-tenders the PPP contract, selects a new PPP Company to continue with the contract and then pays the original PPP Company/its lenders the proceeds it receives from the sale).

Each of these methods has pros and cons. For example, it is often argued that the lenders should not be guaranteed full

debt recovery upon termination as this would remove their incentives to conduct thorough due diligence and careful project monitoring. Also, the open-market sale method will not work well if there is no liquid market for PPP contracts. Finally, the net present value approach may be conceptually appealing, but forecasting future revenues and costs can be difficult and lead to disputes. This explains why the parties often adopt solutions that rely on simplicity and certainty of the outcome.

As a general principle, it is important to ensure that the public sector should not be financially incentivised to seek early termination. Equally, lenders should not expect to avoid financial losses at the undue expense of the public sector. The UK is a good example of arrangements that achieve a balanced outcome:

- Where there is a liquid market for similar PPP contracts, upon termination due to PPP Company default the Authority can opt to "sell" the remaining period of the PPP contract. The sum paid by the best bidder for such "sale" will be used to pay the compensation to the lenders of the original PPP Company. This is known as the "market-value compensation".
- Where there is no liquid market for similar PPP contracts, the compensation owed to the lenders will typically be determined through the net present value of the future cash flow of the PPP contract over its remaining life (to which "rectification costs" are deducted). This is the so-called "fair-value compensation".

# Termination for default by the Authority / voluntary termination

To promote fairness, incentives for the private sector and bankability, the PPP contract should ensure that the PPP Company is not financially harmed if termination occurs as a result of default by the Authority or voluntary decision by the Authority. In these circumstances, both the lenders and the equity investors should be fully compensated. While calculating the compensation due to the lenders is relatively easy (e.g. debt outstanding, unpaid interest and fees and breakage costs as a result of the termination of the hedging agreement), defining the compensation owed to the equity investors can be complex. The following mechanisms are used:

 The net present value of what the future remuneration to the equity investors would have been if termination had not occurred. This calculation therefore looks at the predicted cash flow to investors from the date of termination to the expiry date originally envisaged in the PPP contract. Although the most conceptually correct method, the uncertainties surrounding the forecast make it rather complex to implement.

- Same as above, except that the calculation is made on the basis of the cash flow originally projected at the date of financial close. This method offers greater certainty than the one above.
- A payment which gives the equity investors the internal rate of return (IRR) they expected at financial close, based on all cash flow received by the investors from the beginning of the contract up to (and including) termination.

#### Termination for prolonged force majeure

PPP contracts normally provide for the possibility for either party to terminate where a force majeure event precludes performance of the obligations for a prolonged period of time. In this case, the general principle adopted is that since neither party is at fault, the burden of termination should be shared. The compensation payable by the Authority will therefore normally be (i) higher than that owed in the event of PPP Company default but (ii) lower than that due on Authority default. The compensation would normally cover the outstanding debt (and the hedging breakage costs). It may sometimes also cover the value of the equity injected into the project (but exclude any return on that equity).

#### Other matters related to termination payments

When defining compensation payments on termination, the PPP contract will have to tackle a number of other issues, such as:

- the treatment of subcontractors' costs and profits forgone as a result of termination;
- the treatment of mezzanine or other subordinated debt (i.e. should these be dealt with as senior debt or equity?);
- the treatment of cash balances in reserve accounts;
- the treatment of insurance proceeds; and
- the choice of a discount rate for the present value calculation (e.g. nominal or real? pre-tax or post-tax? weighted average cost of capital?).

## Asset condition at expiry of the PPP contract

The PPP contract should contain provisions to ensure that the assets are "handed back" 10 to the Authority in good condition. For example, the contract could include:

# ☐ Guidance 108, 110

- indicators of the condition the assets must be in at contract expiry (e.g. expected useful life left for each type of asset, ability to meet certain performance tests);
- a third party assessment of the condition of the assets and of the works to be completed to meet the required standards (such assessment should be carried out by an independent expert sufficiently in advance of the expiry date);
- retentions made from the service fee over a defined period prior to expiry (the proceeds being held as a guarantee in a reserve account); and
- verification by an independent expert that the works required to meet the hand-back conditions have been completed satisfactorily (this could also trigger the release of the retention sums to the PPP Company).

<sup>10</sup> Where the legal ownership of the assets stays with the public sector throughout the life of the PPP contract, only the rights to use the assets are handed back.

# **CHECKLIST: Contract management**

During the operational phase of a PPP project, the focus of the Authority is to manage the contract while maintaining operational performance. To achieve this, the Authority and its team of advisers need to consider the items in the following checklist:



Has the possibility of engaging the same advisers employed in the procurement phase been considered (availability, potential engagement, required budget and conflict of interest)?



Have experienced advisers been consulted to help the contract management team address sensitive changes to the PPP contract, including refinancing?



Has a contract administration manual been developed to help coordinate information on contract terms with contract management procedures, including the allocation of responsibilities and timetables?



Have guidelines been developed for users of the contract administration manual to help monitor contract performance in case this is envisaged?



In availability-based PPPs, are payments to the PPP Company processed properly and in accordance with the PPP contract?



Have all necessary steps been taken to ensure continuing review and monitoring of project risks using, for example, the risk register developed during the detailed preparation phase?



In the event of changes to the PPP contract, what steps are envisaged to maintain monitoring of operational performance and not simply concentrate on managing changes to the contract? In particular, what mechanism has been developed to ensure that value for money is maintained after the changes if risks are transferred from the PPP Company back to the Authority?



Have criteria and procedures been agreed to monitor the residual value of the PPP assets so that the asset management and maintenance practices support the PPP project objectives and maximise value for money?



Has a communication strategy been developed to provide the PPP Company, users and other relevant stakeholders with regular reviews and updates?

# 4.2 Ex post evaluation

The *ex post* evaluation of PPPs involves the two steps summarised in the chart below.



A sound evaluation of a PPP project requires the public sector to:

- identify the public body that will undertake the review of a particular PPP project;
- ensure the independence of that body *vis-à-vis* the teams responsible for implementing and managing the PPP contract: and
- define the questions that need to be answered in the evaluation exercise.

The rest of this section describes these aspects and the rationale behind them in more detail and suggests relevant examples of *ex post* evaluations for further reading.

# 4.2.1 Define the institutional framework

Ex post evaluation of PPP projects enables lessons to be learned from projects that have already been implemented and covers both successes and failures. These lessons can improve future decisions on whether to take the PPP route, how to design PPP contracts and ultimately how best to prepare and implement PPP projects.

It is important that the information needed for *ex post* evaluation is thought through carefully and specified in the PPP contract. This ensures that the right information will be gathered during the course of the project by the PPP Company, with the support of the Authority.

Timing the evaluation of a PPP is an open question. A balance is needed between obtaining useful information quickly in order to inform current processes and obtaining

meaningful data on performance. Evaluation around 12 to 18 months after the commencement of operations will provide information on the bidding process, the delivery of the project assets and initial performance. Subsequent evaluations will provide better information on operational performance and the actual delivery of the expected value for money.

# The purpose of an *ex post* evaluation is twofold: Guidance 112

- to evaluate the merits of PPPs associated with a particular type of project; and
- to identify potential issues relating to the implementation or management of specific PPP contracts (e.g. availabilitybased PPPs).

Evaluation requires the establishment of relevant criteria and methods and the capacity within the Authority to carry out the process. In order for this process to be successful, it is important that the public authorities:

- define the set of questions they would like to see answered;
   and
- decide on who is best placed to answer those questions.

The type of body most suitable for the *ex post* evaluation exercise depends on the objectives of the evaluation. It is not unusual, for example, for national audit units to undertake such studies. Guidance 113 In some instances, *ex post* evaluation can be contracted out to a consulting firm, especially when in-house expertise is not available within a public body.

But whatever form it takes, the Authority will have to ensure that the body conducting the evaluation is independent from the teams responsible for delivering and implementing the PPP project subject to evaluation. Guidance 114

# 4.2.2 Develop an analytical framework

Once responsibilities have been assigned and the aim of the *ex post* evaluation study has been defined, it will be necessary to decide which analytical framework will be most appropriate for achieving the aims of the study. Guidance 115 This implies defining:

- the evaluation criteria and expected outcomes of the proiect; and
- the appropriate alternative (i.e. what would have happened if the project had not been implemented as a PPP?).

A well-designed PPP contract should provide for sufficient information, collected during the monitoring phase, to support this evaluation exercise.

PPP projects will normally be defined in terms of value for money. This implies identifying both the benefits derived from project outputs and the cost of delivering those outputs (benefits and costs being both monetary and in terms of timing). However, more qualitative benefits and costs, such as service quality, contract design and risk allocation, also need to be considered in the evaluation.

In addition to examining the benefits and costs, the evaluation will need to identify which alternatives should have been looked at. These can be alternative procurement models to PPPs or different project delivery and implementation procedures. It is common practice to use the public sector comparator as a relevant alternative. Guidance 116, 117

# CHECKLIST: Ex post evaluation

An *ex post* evaluation of a PPP project can focus on many aspects including, for example, the design and performance of a PPP contract or an audit of the procurement process. Examples of the type of questions to address when designing and undertaking an *ex post* evaluation are:



Has agreement been reached on the primary focus of the *ex post* evaluation? Is it the behaviour and effectiveness of the Authority; the effectiveness of the procurement method chosen (including negotiations and contract award); the effectiveness in the performance and management of the PPP contract; or all of the above?



Have the information needs for *ex post* evaluation been identified and included in the PPP contract to enable adequate information to be gathered during the performance phase?



Have the necessary instructions been given, resources made available and high level support obtained to motivate the contract management team to acquire the necessary information for an *ex post* evaluation assessment?



Has a timetable for *ex post* evaluation been developed and approved, balancing the need to obtain useful information quickly in order to inform current processes and to obtain meaningful data on performance?

# **Annex 1**

# **Project Finance**

## Introduction

This Annex introduces some basic concepts of project finance and shows how they relate to the financing structure of PPP projects. It is not meant to cover all the issues relevant to PPP financing structures, which are many and complex and often project-specific. Authorities should rely on the expertise of financial and legal advisers to understand the relevant trade-offs in project finance issues.

PPP projects are generally financed using project finance arrangements. In project finance, lenders and investors rely either exclusively ("non-recourse" financing) or mainly ("limited recourse" financing) on the cash flow generated by the project to repay their loans and earn a return on their investments. This is in contrast to corporate lending where lenders rely on the strength of the borrower's balance sheet for their loans.

It is important to stress that the project finance structure should be designed to optimise the costs of finance for the project. It should also underpin the allocation of risks between the public and private sectors as agreed in the PPP contract. In particular, the project financing should ensure that financial and other risks are well managed within and between the PPP Company shareholders, sponsors and its financiers. This should give comfort to the Authority that the PPP Company, and particularly its funders, are both incentivised and empowered to deal in a timely manner with problems that may occur in the project. Indeed, to a very large extent, the project finance structure should ensure that the interests of the main lenders to the project are aligned with those of the Authority – that is, that both need the project to succeed in order to meet their objectives. Where this is the case, the Authority can be confident that the lenders will take on much of the burden of assuring the ongoing performance of the project. This is a key element of the transfer of risk from the public to the private sector in PPPs.

# Principles of project finance

In a project finance transaction a PPP Company would usually be set up by the sponsors solely for the purpose of implementing the PPP project. It will act as borrower under the underlying financing agreements and will be a party to a number of other project-related agreements.

Guidance 118

The top-tier funding provided by lenders or capital market investors, usually referred to as "senior debt", typically forms the largest but not the sole source of funding for the PPP Company. The rest of the required financing will be provided by the sponsors in the form of equity or junior debt. Grants, often in effect a form of public sector unremunerated equity, may also contribute to the financing package.

Since senior lenders do not have access to sponsors' financial resources in project-financed transactions, they need to ensure that the project will produce sufficient cash flow to service the debt. They also need to ensure that the legal structuring of the project is such that senior lenders have priority over more junior creditors in access to this cash. In limited recourse financings, lenders will seek additional credit support from the sponsors and/or third parties to hedge against downside scenarios and the risk of the project's failing to generate sufficient cash flow. Finally, lenders will wish to ensure that where a project suffers shortfalls in cash as a result of poor performance by one or more of the PPP Company's subcontractors, these shortfalls flow through to the subcontractor, leaving the ability of the PPP Company to service the debt unimpaired.

Even though responsibility for arranging the financing of a PPP rests with the private sector (the PPP Company is the borrower), it is important for the Authority's officials and their advisers to understand the financing arrangements and their consequences, for the following reasons:

- When the Authority evaluates a bidder's proposal, it must be able to assess whether the proposed PPP contract is bankable and whether the proposed financing is deliverable in light of the market conditions and practices prevalent at the time. Awarding the PPP contract to a company that ends up being unable to finance the project is a waste of time and resources.
- The allocation of risks in the PPP contract can affect the feasibility of different financing packages and the overall cost of the financing.
- The financing can have an impact on the long-term robustness of the PPP arrangement. For example, the higher the debt-to-equity ratio, the more likely it is that in bad times the PPP Company will run the risk of a loan default, possibly terminating the project. Conversely, the more debt in a project, the more lenders are incentivised to ensure that project problems are addressed in order to protect their investment.
- If the PPP includes State guarantees or public grants, the Authority will play a direct role in some part of the financing package.
- The amounts and details of the financing can directly affect contingent obligations of the Authority (e.g. the payments the public sector would have to make if the PPP contract were terminated for various reasons).
- The Authority's financial advisers should have a thorough understanding of what will be needed to make the PPP project bankable, given market conditions and practices prevalent at the time. Carrying out market sounding exercises at different points during the project preparation stages will greatly assist in developing a good understanding of investor and lender attitudes. It will save a great deal of time if any credit enhancement is to be provided by the public sector.

Guidance 119, 120

# Financing structure

As outlined above, the financing of a PPP project consists principally of senior debt and equity (which may sometimes be in the form of junior shareholder loans). The financing structure may also include other forms of junior debt (such as "mezzanine" debt, which ranks between senior debt and pure equity) and in some cases grant funding.

PPP projects should seek to achieve optimum (as opposed to maximum) risk transfer between the public and private sector. But the allocation of risks among the private sector parties is also crucial. Financial structuring of the project relies on a careful assessment of construction, operating and revenue risks and seeks to achieve optimum risk allocation between the

private partners to the transaction. In practice, this means limiting risks to senior lenders and allocating this to equity investors, subcontractors, guarantors and other parties through contractual arrangements of one kind or another.

As a general principle, the higher the gearing of a project, the more affordable it is likely to be to the public sector. 11 This is because senior debt is less expensive than other forms of financing (except grants). Other things being equal, project gearing (i.e. the level of debt senior lenders will provide relative to the level of equity) will be determined by the variability of a project's cash flow. The greater the degree of riskiness in the cash flows, the greater the "cushion" lenders will need in the forecast of available cash flow beyond what will be needed for debt service. This is necessary to reassure lenders that the debt can be repaid even in a bad-case scenario. Lenders will specify their requirement in terms of forward-looking (i.e. predicted) "annual debt service cover ratio" (ADSCR)12 above a specified minimum level. The value of required ADSCR will depend in large part on project risk, and therefore variability of cash flows.13

For a given gearing (or volume of debt in the project), the target ADSCR will determine the level of the service fee to be paid by the Authority. Alternatively, for a given level of service fee (perhaps the affordability limit), the target ADSCR will determine the project's gearing. In other words, the lower a project's gearing (the more equity relative to debt), the higher the cover ratio from a given service fee.

The Authority's financial advisers need to understand lenders requirements in this regard. It will greatly facilitate financing if the project developed and taken to the market is structured in such a way that the cover ratios are compatible with lenders expectations for the particular sector and type of project. This will also facilitate achieving the best possible cost for the financing and will thus have direct implications for the public sector, which is usually the ultimate payer for a PPP.

<sup>11</sup> In a typical PPP project, up to 70%–80% of financing would be procured in the form of senior debt while the share of equity would not normally exceed 20%–30%.

<sup>12</sup> The ADSCR is defined as the ratio of free cash (i.e. cash left to the project after payment of operating and essential capital costs) available to meet annual interest and principal payments on the debt.

<sup>13</sup> For example, if the payment mechanism is designed so that the PPP Company does not take demand risk, lenders might be satisfied with a projected annual debt service cover ratio (ADSCR) of 1.3x. But if a PPP Company bears substantial traffic risk, then lenders may insist on a minimum ADSCR as high as 2.0x. Lenders use detailed forward-looking financial models to estimate future cash flows and cover ratios.

One of the fundamental trade-offs in designing PPPs is therefore to strive for the right balance between risk allocation between the public and private sector, the risk allocation within the private sector consortium and the cost of funding for the PPP Company.

#### Debt

Senior debt enjoys priority in terms of repayment over all other forms of finance. Mezzanine debt is subordinated in terms of repayment to senior debt but ranks above equity both for distributions of free cash in the so-called "cash waterfall" (i.e. priority of each cash inflow and outflow in a project) and in the event of liquidation of the PPP Company. Since mezzanine debt's repayment can be affected by poor performance of the PPP Company and bearing in mind the priority in repayment of senior debt, mezzanine debt typically commands higher returns than senior debt.

Debt to a PPP project is normally priced on the basis of the underlying cost of funds to the lender plus a fixed component (or "margin") expressed as a number of basis points to cover default risk and the lender's other costs (e.g. operating costs, the opportunity cost of capital allocations, profit).

It is important to bear in mind that the underlying cost of funds is typically determined on the basis of floating interest rates (i.e. rates that fluctuate with market movements). These are normally based on interbank lending rates such as EURIBOR in the euro market or LIBOR in the sterling market. In contrast to these floating rate funds, the revenues received by the PPP Company do not generally change along with the interest rates. This mismatch is typically remedied by the use of an interest rate swap, through which the PPP Company ends up paying a fixed interest rate (this is referred to as the "hedging"). Responsibility for incorporating hedging instruments into the financing structure should be left to the PPP Company, as it is the PPP Company that has the right incentives to take appropriate action. However, the cost of these swaps is relevant to the public sector as they may result in costs in certain termination situations. For this reason, they should be analysed by the Authority's financial adviser.

Debt for major PPP projects may be provided by either commercial banks, international financial institutions (such as the European Investment Bank) or directly from the capital markets. In this last case, project companies issue bonds that are taken up by financial institutions such as pension funds or

insurance companies that are looking for long-term investments. Guidance 121

Financial advisers will be able to advise on the likely sources of funding for a given project. They would also be expected to make an assessment of the anticipated costs and benefits of funding options. This will include an assessment of the debt tenors (the length of time to maturity, or repayment, of debt) likely to be available from various sources. This is particularly important if long-term funding is not available for the project and where the public sector may be drawn into risks associated with the need to refinance short-term loans (so-called "mini-perm" structures). 
Guidance 121

# **Equity**

Equity is usually provided by the project sponsors but may also be provided by the contractors who will build and operate the project as well as by financial institutions. A large part of the equity (often referred to as "quasi-equity") may actually be in the form of shareholder subordinated debt, for tax and accounting benefits. Since equity holders bear primary risks under a PPP project, they will seek a higher return on the funding they provide.

## Credit enhancement

Project finance transactions may feature various forms of credit enhancement. For example:

- Credit support from sponsors and subcontractors: Senior lenders will often require sponsors to put in place certain credit-enhancement measures that take some of the risk away from those senior lenders (and in some cases, equity holders). These may take a variety of forms, including:
  - guarantees by the sponsors and third parties relating to the performance of the PPP Company's<sup>14</sup> or other participants'<sup>15</sup> obligations under the project documentation;

<sup>14</sup> For example, standby or guarantee letters of credit used to protect against the PPP Company's failures to meet its payment and other obligations due by it under the project agreements.

<sup>15</sup> For example, performance bonds callable in the event of the contractor's failure to perform the terms of the construction contract. Parent company guarantees will also often be required from construction and other service subcontractors.

- financing facilities that provide temporary liquidity to deal with specific risks (e.g. a large depreciation of the local currency); and
- insurance against certain project related risks (e.g. construction risks, loss of revenue, third party liability, environmental liability).
- *Public sector support*: Public sector support instruments may also be deployed, for example:
  - direct funding support by way of public sector capital contributions. These may come from community, national, regional or specific funds. They may be designed to make a project bankable or affordable
     Guidance 122; and
  - contingent support or guarantees by the public sector to the PPP Company or other private sector participants for certain types of risks which cannot otherwise be effectively managed or mitigated by the PPP Company or other private sector participants (e.g. minimum revenue guarantee for a toll road).
- Loan Guarantee for TEN-Transport (LGTT): The LGTT is a unique credit enhancement instrument specific to TEN-T projects in which the private sector takes traffic risk. Guidance 124

# Security structure

As noted above, project finance lenders rely exclusively or mainly on project cash flows. Lenders' security arrangements reflect this and consist mainly of:

- secured interests over all the project assets (including and especially all contracts) to enable the lender to step in if the project has failed and temporarily play the role of the PPP Company and see to the appointment of a replacement;
- controls over all cash flows going into and coming from the PPP Company. As noted above, loan contracts and other project documents will establish the waterfall for the use of cash coming into the PPP Company. This will ensure that senior debt service always has priority. In addition, it will define the circumstances in which senior lenders are able to prevent equity distributions ("lock up"). This will usually be defined in terms of the performance of project financial ratios such as ADSCR and the "loan life cover ratio" (LLCR); 16
- cash flow controls in the form of reserve funds (debt service reserve account, maintenance reserve account).

<sup>16</sup> The LLCR is defined as the ratio of the net present value of cash flow available for debt service for the outstanding life of the debt to the outstanding debt amount.

# Annex 2

# A Note on Legal Frameworks for PPPs

The term "public-private partnership" is not defined in the EU legislation on public contracts. In general, it refers to forms of co-operation between public authorities and the private sector which aim at ensuring the funding, construction, renovation, management and maintenance of infrastructure associated with the provision of a service.<sup>17</sup>

A legal and regulatory framework that supports PPPs is meant to facilitate investments in complex and long-term PPP arrangements, reduce transaction costs, ensure appropriate regulatory controls, and provide legal and economic mechanisms to enable the resolution of contract disputes.

The design of PPP legal frameworks varies across EU countries depending on legal tradition and existing laws. A PPP legal framework should include:<sup>18,19</sup>

- provisions that make a PPP project possible and facilitate its functioning (e.g. the legal right to establish a PPP Company, the terms and conditions under which public assets may be transferred to non-public entities, the power of the PPP Company to choose subcontractors on its own terms); and
- provisions that enable governments to provide financing, where relevant (for example, to provide subsidies or make long-term commitments of public expenditure for the life of the PPP contract).

A PPP legal framework is typically identified in laws and regulations, but also in policy documents, guidance notes and in the design of PPP contracts. The exact nature of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to a particular PPP transaction also depends, among other things, on the proposed financing

mechanisms and the scope of the responsibilities transferred to the PPP Company. These are issues on which the public sector should always obtain advice from suitably qualified advisers.

# **National legal traditions**

Most countries in Europe have a legal tradition based on civil law. Their law derives from a set of written rules or a civil code. By contrast, in common law jurisdictions such as England and Wales, Ireland and Gibraltar, it is the common law (meaning case law and precedents rather than a civil code) which forms the fundamental basis of all commercial transactions and from which the principles underpinning the allocation of risk have developed.

PPP arrangements in many civil law countries are governed by administrative law. Administrative law sets out fundamental principles which, in many cases, cannot be derogated from or overridden by agreement of the parties. As such, it provides the framework within which PPP contracts must be negotiated<sup>20</sup>.

Common law and civil law jurisdictions have distinct approaches to many issues relevant to PPPs. Differences also exist among civil law countries. It is not possible to explore here all European jurisdictions and we will instead highlight only some of the main aspects that could be particularly important.

In many civil law countries, a number of rights implied by law are relevant to PPPs. A public authority may often be unable to renounce a right conferred upon it by the administrative laws and regulations that govern it. This can be perceived by the private party as limiting the negotiation of bespoke PPP contracts. These rights may include the right of a contracting

<sup>17</sup> Green Paper on Public-Private Partnerships and Community Law on Public Contracts and Concessions, COM(2004)327 Final, European Commission (2004), Brussels. See: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do/uri=COM:2004:0327:FIN:EN:PDF

<sup>18</sup> See chapter 10 of Transport Infrastructure Investments: Options for Efficiency, OECD (2008). ISBN 978-92-821-01551-1.

<sup>19</sup> See UNCITRAL's "Legislative Guide on Privately Financed Infrastructure Projects" and "Model Legislative Provisions on Privately Financed Infrastructure Projects", at: http://www.uncitral.org/pdf/english/texts/procurem/pfip/guide/pfip-e.pdf and http://www.uncitral.org/pdf/english/texts/procurem/pfip/model/03-90621\_Ebook.pdf

<sup>20</sup> See the "Legal Framework Assessment" guide to civil law jurisdictions produced by the PPP in Infrastructure Resource Center for Contracts, Laws and Regulation (PPPIRC) at: http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTLAWJUSTICE/EXTINFRANDLAW/0,,contentMDK:21734392~menuPK:64860402~pagePK:4710368~piPK:64860384~theSitePK:4817374~isCURL:Y,00.html

authority unilaterally to cancel a contract early, the right of an operator to compensation following an unexpected rise in the cost of operations, or the right of an authority to make unilateral changes to the contract if they are in the public interest. Some civil law jurisdictions also contain mandatory notice periods which must be observed before termination for breach of PPP contract (by either party) can be invoked. In certain civil law jurisdictions, direct agreements with lenders or step-in rights are not possible or if they are, they are limited in scope and reach by the existing administrative laws and regulations<sup>21</sup>.

Different approaches are also adopted towards security and insolvency in civil and common law jurisdictions. In insolvency situations, the emphasis in common law jurisdictions is on rescue and reorganisation. By contrast in civil law jurisdictions the insolvency process focuses on winding companies up. In relation to security, which generally forms an important part of PPP arrangements, the concept of trusts in common law jurisdictions allows a security trustee to hold security on behalf of lenders. This avoids the civil law practice of granting security separately to all lenders, and re-registering it if they change, which can be costly and impractical.

A further practical issue in some civil law jurisdictions is that concessions are not allowed to be transferred to a replacement concessionaire without going through the whole retendering process. This is the case for example in Slovakia, and causes major issues for any project lenders who may need step-in and cure rights, which is a fundamental principle of project finance. This issue can be partially addressed by allowing for the transfer of the shares in the PPP Company, but with the disadvantage that any transfer of shares carries with it the liabilities of the PPP Company and the PPP assets.

In general, common law jurisdictions will have a less prescriptive approach to the structuring of PPPs than civil law jurisdictions. One has to ensure that both in substance and in terms of formalities public bodies exercise powers to enter into PPP contracts within the scope of their powers, particularly in the case of authorities which are not departments of State (that is, part of central government). In addition, regard must be had to administrative (rather than legal) requirements imposed by Finance Ministries and to standard form documentation.

# 21 A number of these concepts are explained more fully in this Guide and in Annex 1.

# **Specific PPP laws**

Often in civil law countries, concession laws are introduced to enable PPP projects to be carried out and to define the type of services that could be procured under PPPs. Specific PPP laws have been introduced in Belgium, Italy, Poland, Portugal and Spain, among others. These laws may focus on a specific sector (e.g. motorways) or may apply to PPP arrangements across sectors. When a country enacts a PPP law, it normally requires changes and references to other binding legislation and regulations.

A specific PPP law is not a necessary condition for PPP development. The legal framework can also be provided by changing existing legal provisions which may have an impact on the PPP project. For example, the UK has developed its pioneer PFI model with no PPP law, although specific legislation to confirm powers to enter into PPP contracts was introduced in respect of health service bodies and local authorities to address concerns expressed principally by funders. Nevertheless, PPP laws can establish fundamental principles that PPP arrangements should adhere to (for example, the need to assess value for money) and to ensure transparency and accountability in the provision of infrastructure.

# **EU** legislation

Under EU law, there is no specific system governing PPPs. There is, however, EU legislation which is relevant to certain aspects of PPPs. For example, PPPs represent one method of public sector procurement. The EU has two procurement directives: (i) the Public Sector Directive (2004/18/EC), which prescribes the procedures for the award of works contracts, public supply contracts and public service contracts and (ii) the Utilities Directive (2004/17/EC), which prescribes procurement procedures for entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal sectors. Furthermore, all contracts in which a public body awards work involving an economic activity to a third party, whether PPPs or not, must be examined in the light of Community rules and principles, including, in particular, the principles of transparency, equal treatment, proportionality and mutual recognition.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>22</sup> Communication on Public-Private Partnerships and Community Law on Public Procurement and Concessions European Commission Communication COM(2005) 569 final (November 2005) at: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2005:0569:FIN:EN:PDF

# Annex 3

# **Combining Cohesion and Structural Funds with PPPs**

☐ Guidance 125

A revenue-based PPP can be self-supporting if investment costs are funded entirely by private financing and project revenues derive solely from user charges. In many cases, however, full cost recovery through user charges may not be feasible (e.g. because of limited willingness to pay or affordability constraints). In cases where the public sector has to provide financial support to make the PPP financially feasible either at the start or on a recurrent basis, EU grants may be available for PPP projects to cover part of the funding gap.

Public authorities pursuing PPPs should be aware of the terms and conditions of EU grant funding to be able to benefit from them to the fullest extent. The European Commission has issued guidance on the legal and methodological issues involved in combining EU funds with PPPs, in particular in the framework of the JASPERS initiative, in order to facilitate and increase the uptake of PPPs in Structural Funds projects Guidance 126. The main issues addressed in this guidance include the following:

- 1. Understanding EU grant eligibility requirements relating to PPPs and how to determine the maximum permitted amount of EU grant funding for a specific PPP: 

  Guidance 127
- The EU grant can cover up to 85% of eligible expenditures.
   Co-financing by the government (at least 15%) is always required.
- If the PPP will generate some revenue from user charges, the "eligible expenditure" for purposes of determining the amount of the EU grant is reduced by the net contribution (i.e. after covering operating and maintenance costs) that such user-charge revenue makes to capital expenditures (determined on a discounted basis). This is known as the "funding gap" approach.
- The direct beneficiary of the grant must be the public authority responsible for the PPP, generally the Authority. This approach makes the procedures somewhat more complicated than if the PPP Company could receive the grant funds directly, but it has been found to be workable.

- 2. Understanding the procedures (including timing) for the submission of documents and the approval of funding:
- Approval of funding before bidding for the PPP takes place. In many ways, this is the preferred solution. The grant arrangements can be thoroughly vetted, planned and specified in advance, and bidders will be asked to bid on that basis. This requires detailed structuring of the PPP project before going to the market, but (as noted elsewhere in this Guide) this is the best approach regardless of the presence of any grant funding.
- Approval of funding after the preferred bidder has been selected. In this approach, although it is well understood at an earlier stage how an EU grant can be incorporated into the PPP and the contract and bidding are well structured to take this into consideration, the approval of the grant is not obtained until after the preferred bidder has been selected. This approach is advantageous where the results of the PPP bidding process need to be clarified in order to enable key elements of the grant application to be filled in (e.g. if there would be significant uncertainty about the size of grant required).
- 3. Structuring a PPP that includes EU grant funding in a way that does not weaken incentives and reduce value for money:
- For example, EU grants should not incentivise the private partner to allocate too much of the costs to capital expenditures rather than operation and maintenance expenditures thus removing one of the benefits of PPPs, namely optimal whole-life costing. Good practice can be maintained by careful structuring of the PPP contract and the bidding process. This should not be difficult if competent advisers are engaged. It will also be less of a problem where the grant funding is modest and there remains a significant amount of private funding.
- 4. Determining the way (or ways) that EU grant funds can be applied to the PPP: Guidance 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133

- Parallel co-financing of capital expenditure (capital grant).
   With this method, a distinct component of capital expenditure is financed by the private sector and another by the EU grant and government funds.
- Blended co-financing of capital expenditure (capital expenditure subsidy, capital grant). This is the most common model.
   The EU grant and State funds are used jointly with the financing mobilised by the private partner to make payments during the construction period under a single prime construction contract.
- Design-build-operate (DBO) contract. This is an extreme form
  of the above approach in which private financing has been
  entirely replaced with EU grant and State budgetary funds,
  but there is just one prime contract covering both the construction and operating phases.
- Partial grant funding of service fee (payment subsidy). Grant funds could be used during the operating period as full or partial payment of availability payments, that is, time-based payments which would otherwise be made solely by the Authority, as opposed to user charges (N.B. the feasibility of this model, in particular the application of EU funds to

cover availability payments which would be incurred after the December 2015 deadline for EU funds expenditure in the current financial perspective, is not yet clear).

In all cases, it is essential for the user of this Guide to seek proper advice and discuss the project with the relevant EU authority (e.g. national management authority, DG REGIO), maintaining a dialogue during project development and procurement, to ensure that the PPP is being designed and procured in a way that will give the greatest assurances that the applicable EU grant will be forthcoming and to avoid later procedural complications.

Finally, there are other considerations to be taken into account when incorporating EU grants into a PPP, such as: the choice of the appropriate tender evaluation criteria, ensuring that the grant will not be considered to be illegal State aid, minimising the risk that a significant modification of the project might result in a required repayment of the EU grant or the extent to which a failure to complete the project would result in the obligation to repay the grant.

# **Guidance Details**

Note: Guidance numbers preceded by an asterisk (\*Guidance) indicate publications with a higher than average degree of complexity.

## **Guidance 1**

Attracting Investors to African Public-Private Partnerships, A Project Preparation Guide

World Bank/ICA/PPIAF (2009), ISBN 978-0-8213-7730-7

Excellent PPP Guide prepared by Partnerships UK for the World Bank. Chapter 4 covers project selec-

tion, scope and requirements.

# **Guidance 2**

# An Introductory Guide to **Public Private Partnerships (PPPs)**

Government of Hong Kong SAR, 2nd edition (March 2008)

Chapter 1 (pages 5-17) explains what circumstances are most suitable for a PPP arrangement and Annex D provides an outline of how to construct a public sector comparator.

http://www.eu.gov.hk/english/psi/psi\_guides/psi\_guides\_ ppgpop/psi\_guides\_ppgpop.html#3

# **Guidance 3**

# Client Guide, Achieving Well Designed Schools Through PFI

Commission for Architecture and Built Environment (CABE) (August 2002)

Sections 2, 3 and 4 stress the importance of setting ерес 🗀 sound output specifications and discuss the role of the public sector regarding the early design work for a project. http://www.cabe.org.uk/publications/achieving-well-designedschools-through-pfi

## **Guidance 4**

## Le Guide Opérationnel des PPP

François Bergère et al. Le Moniteur, Third Edition (2010) ISBN 978-2-281-12718-8

epec

Annex 5 (pages 239-249 and page 399) provides a detailed description of the analysis and distribu-

tion of risk in a PPP contract (risk identification, risk quantification and probability, generally using a Monte Carlo simulation, risk allocation).

#### **Guidance 5**

# Partnership Victoria Guidance Material: **Risk Allocation Guide**

Infrastructure Australia (December 2008)

Part 1 (pages 1-38), deals with risk allocation principles.

http://www.partnerships.vic.gov.au/

CA25708500035EB6/WebObj/RiskAllocation and Contractuallssues2-PartOne/\$File/Risk%20Allocation%20and%20

Contractual%20lssues2%20-%20Part%20One.pdf

# **Guidance 6**

# Public-Private Partnerships - In Pursuit of Risk Sharing and Value for Money

OECD (2008), ISBN 978-92-64-04279-7

Chapter 3 reviews affordability, risk allocation and value for money in PPPs, while Chapter 4 discusses

how PPPs are treated in the public sector budget and accounts.

# **Government Guarantees Allocating and Valuing Risks** in Privately Financed Infrastructure Projects

Timothy Irwin, World Bank, Washington DC, ISBN-10: 0-8213-6859-1 (electronic)

epec

Comprehensive discussion on the use of government guarantees and the allocation of key project

risks in public infrastructure projects with private financing. http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTSDNETWORK/Resources/ Government\_Guarantees.pdf

## **Guidance 8**

# State Guarantees in PPPs, A Guide to Better Evaluation, Design, Implementation and Management

European PPP Expertise Centre - EPEC (May 2011)

epec

The paper aims to help policy makers evaluate whether State guarantees are an appropriate tool

for their PPP programme and provides on how best to implement and manage them.

http://www.eib.org/epec/resources/epec-state-guarantees-inppps-public.pdf

#### **Guidance 9**

# Project Finance: A Legal Guide

Graham Vinter, Sweet and Maxwell Ltd. Third Edition (2006) ISBN: 0421-909501



Chapter 6 presents a discussion of what lenders require for a project to be considered "bankable".

# **Guidance 11**

# Value for Money Assessment Guidance

HM Treasury (November 2006)



Describes current UK approach for assessing value for money in PFI projects.

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/vfm\_ assessmentguidance061006opt.pdf

#### \*Guidance 12

## **Public Sector Comparator: Technical Note**

Department of Treasury and Finance, Victoria, Australia, Partnerships Victoria (June 2001)

Detailed instructions for preparing the PSC analysis. See also the Supplementary Technical Note published in July 2003.

http://www.partnerships.vic.gov.au/CA25708500035EB6/0/E4C5 01A76F826D77CA2570C0001B45EA?OpenDocument

#### **Guidance 13**

# Frequently Asked Questions and Common Problems in Public Sector Comparator (PSC) Development

Department of Treasury and Finance, Victoria, Australia, Partnerships Victoria (February 2009)

Useful 6-page document, especially the one-page list of typical problems. Some parts deal specifically

with issues in Victoria but most material is applicable broadly. http://www.partnerships.vic.gov.au/CA25708500035EB6/

WebObj/A6PSC-FAQs/\$File/A6%20PSC%20-%20FAQs.pdf

## **Guidance 10**

## **Public-Private Partnerships in Transport**

A. Estache, E. Juan and L. Trujillo, Policy Research Working Paper 4436, World Bank, Washington DC (2007)



Provides a good review of PPP experience in transport, with a particular focus on financial and other risks.

http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=1072402 (signing up is required)

#### **Guidance 14**

# **Guidelines for Successful Public-Private Partnerships** European Commission, Directorate General Regional Policy (March 2003)

Part 3 (pages 50-59) provides an overview of the economic and financial implications of PPP risks

http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/sources/docgener/guides/ ppp\_en.pdf

and value for money assessment of PPPs.

# The Non-Financial Benefits of PPPs, An Overview of Concepts and Methodology

European PPP Expertise Centre - EPEC (June 2011)

ерес

The paper examines possible additional non-financial benefits associated with PPPs and presents a

conceptual framework for a value for money comparison between PPP and conventional procurement which incorporates both financial and non-financial benefits.

www.eib.org/epec/resources/epec-non-financial-benefits-of-ppps-public.pdf

## **Guidance 16**

# The European System of National and Regional Accounts in the Community

Council Regulation (EC) No 2223/96 (25 June 1996)

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31996R2223:EN:HTML

ESA95 is available from the Eurostat website at:

http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/nfaccount/info/data/esa95/esa95-new.htm

## **Guidance 17**

# Manual on Government Deficit and Debt, Implementation of ESA95

European Communities (2010 edition)



Part IV (Leases, licences and concessions) covers the treatment of long-term contracts between

government units and non-government partners.

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY\_OFFPUB/KS-RA-09-017/EN/KS-RA-09-017-EN.PDF

#### **Guidance 18**

Accounting and Statistical Treatment of Public-Private Partnerships: Purposes, Methodology and Recent Trends

European PPP Expertise Centre – EPEC (2010)



Thorough review of all aspects and trade-offs related to the statistical and accounting treatment of

PPPs including Eurostat rules and national accounting issues in EU Member States.

http://www.eib.org/epec/resources/epec-eurostat-statistical-treatment-of-ppps.pdf

## **Guidance 19**

# National Public Private Partnership Guidelines, Volume 2: Practitioners' Guide

Infrastructure Australia (March 2011)



Section 8 sets out the standard management team structure for a PPP, including a steering committee,

the project director and the project team.

http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/public\_private/files/ Vol\_2\_Practioners\_Guide\_Mar\_2011.pdf

#### **Guidance 20**

# Toolkit on Hiring and Managing Advisers for Private Participation in Infrastructure

PPIAF-World Bank (2001)



An extensive document giving guidance on all aspects of engaging and managing PPP project

advisers. Pages 51-53 contain a discussion of whether to hire a lead adviser.

http://rru.worldbank.org/Toolkits/HiringManagingAdvisors/

#### **Guidance 21**

# Le Guide Opérationnel des PPP

François Bergère et al., Le Moniteur, Third Edition (2010) ISBN 978-2-281-12718-8



Pages 78-86 provide a brief introduction to how and why Authorities should use external advisers

# **Guidance 22**

# Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships in Roads and Highways

to help through the procurement process.

PPIAF-World Bank, Module 5 (version March 2009)



Highlights key information about the use of advisers, including typical costs and types of advisory

http://www.ppiaf.org/documents/toolkits/highwaystoolkit/5/5-8.html

How to Appoint and Manage Advisers to PFI Projects Technical Note No. 3, HM Treasury Taskforce (undated)

epec

A useful guide to the engagement of legal, technical, financial and project management advisers, the appointment process, checklists and forms.

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/PPP\_TTF\_Technote3.pdf

#### **Guidance 24**

Attracting Investors to African Public-Private Partnerships, A Project Preparation Guide World Bank/ICA/PPIAF (2009), ISBN 978-0-8213-7730-7

Excellent PPP guide prepared by Partnerships UK for the World Bank. Chapter 6 covers the role and scope of PPP advisers. Even though the guide contains examples of PPP projects in Africa, most of the guideline material is generic and applicable worldwide.

# **Guidance 25**

## Sample Terms of Reference

PPP in Infrastructure Resource Center (PPPIRC)



Provides guidance (and samples) on the terms of reference for transaction advisers.

http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/ EXTLAWJUSTICE/EXTINFRANDLAW/0,,contentMDK:21759232 ~menuPK:5672950~pagePK:4710368~piPK:64860384~theSite PK:4817374.00.html

## **Guidance 26**

# National Public Private Partnership Guidelines, Volume 2: Practitioners' Guide

Australian Government - Infrastructure Australia (March 2011)



A short section on developing a project plan and timetable (pages 6-7).

http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/public\_private/files/ Vol\_2\_Practioners\_Guide\_Mar\_2011.pdf

#### **Guidance 27**

# **Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships** in Roads and Highways

PPIAF-World Bank (version March 2009)



Module 5, section 3, describes the detailed due diligence and feasibility studies that are required to

fully understand the project features that will feed into the tender documents and the PPP contract.

http://www.ppiaf.org/documents/toolkits/ highwaystoolkit/5/5-3.html

## **Guidance 28**

# Guidelines for Successful Public-Private Partnerships European Commission, Directorate General Regional Policy (March 2003)



Section 2, part 3 (pages 50-55) contains a brief description of the main sources of risk in a PPP

project and its financial implications. Section 5 (pages 82-89) provides a brief overview of PPP project design issues from the EC perspective.

http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/sources/docgener/guides/ ppp\_en.pdf

# **Guidance 29**

# Guide for the Implementation of **Public-Private Partnerships in Greece**

Special Secretariat for Public-Private Partnerships, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Athens (2006)



Pages 6-8 provide a summary of the minimum content of a PPP contract.

http://www.sdit.mnec.gr/export/sites/sdit/en/infopoint/implementation/ppp\_guide\_en\_final.pdf

# **Guidance 30**

# An Introductory Guide to **Public Private Partnerships (PPPs)**

Government of Hong Kong SAR, 2nd edition (March 2008)



Annex F contains a 5-page outline of heads of terms for a generic PPP contract.

http://www.eu.gov.hk/english/psi/psi\_guides/psi\_guides\_ ppgpop/psi\_guides\_ppgpop.html#3

# National Public Private Partnership Guidelines, Volume 2: Practitioners' Guide

Infrastructure Australia (March, 2011)



Section 10 and Appendix B (pages 51-55 and 81-95) discuss risk allocation and give an example of a generic PPP risk table.

http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/public\_private/files/ Vol\_2\_Practioners\_Guide\_Mar\_2011.pdf

## **Guidance 32**

# Toll Road Traffic and Revenue Forecasts

Robert Bain, Robert Bain Publisher (2009). ISBN-10: 0956152716



Chapter 3 surveys empirical evidence on traffic risk and lists common sources of forecasting errors. It is written for a non-specialist audience.

# **Guidance 33**

# Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships in Roads and **Highways**

PPIAF-World Bank (Version March 2009)



Module 2 contains information on payment mechanisms and implications for risk allocation.

http://www.ppiaf.org/ppiaf/sites/ppiaf.org/files/documents/ toolkits/highwaystoolkit/6/toolkit\_files/index.html

# **Guidance 34**

# **Traffic Risk Mitigation in Highway Concession Projects: The Experience of Chile**

J.M. Vassallo, Journal of Transport Economics and Policy, Vol. 40 (3) (2006)



Pages 359-381 describe pioneering Chilean experience with highway concessions.

#### \*Guidance 35

# **Public-Private Partnerships: Principles** of Policy and Finance

E. R. Yescombe, Elsevier (2007), ISBN: 978-0-7506-8054-7



Chapter 13 presents a detailed discussion of payment structures in PPP contracts.

#### **Guidance 36**

Interpretative Communication of the European **Commission on Concessions under Community Law** European Commission (2000/C 121/02)



A concise description of EU policy on the procurement of concessions.

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:200 0:121:0002:0013:EN:PDF

#### **Guidance 37**

# The Use of Restricted Procedure to Procure PPP/PFIs in Selected European Countries

Ernst & Young (August 2009)



Gives capsule summaries of the common methods used in different countries. Concludes that, with

the exception of Greece, the restricted procedure is not actively used for the procurement of PPPs in Europe.

http://www.ijonline.com/Downloads/Marketing/79552b3ed86f-4c50-8514-a41e45486c37.pdf

# **Guidance 38**

**European Commission: Directorate-General for** Internal Markets and Services - Public procurement website



A primary source for all EU procurement legislation and related explanatory notes, public consul-

tations, communications and guidance.

http://ec.europa.eu/internal\_market/publicprocurement/ index\_en.htm

Communication on Public-Private Partnerships and Community Law on Public Procurement and Concessions

European Commission Communication COM(2005) 569 final (November 2005)

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2005:0569:FIN:EN:PDF

#### **Guidance 40**

Interpretative Communication of the European Commission on the Application of Community law on Public Procurement and Concessions to Institutionalised Public-Private Partnerships

http://ec.europa.eu/internal\_market/publicprocurement/docs/ppp/comm\_2007\_6661\_en.pdf

# **Guidance 41**

Competitive Dialogue Procedure in the UK PFI Sector David Lee et al., Allen & Overy (February 2007)



Sets out the key procedural steps and issues involved in PFI competitive dialogue procedure in the UK.

http://www.allenovery.com/AOWEB/AreasOfExpertise/Editorial.aspx?contentTypeID=1&itemID=33566&prefLangID=410

#### \*Guidance 42

Competitive Dialogue in 2008: OGC/HMT Joint Guidance on Using the Procedure

UK Office of Government Commerce (2008)



Detailed guidance on how to use the competitive dialogue procedure.

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/documents/OGC\_HMT\_2008\_Guidance\_on\_Competitive\_Dialogue.pdf

#### **Guidance 43**

# A Formula for Success: Procurement Effectiveness in Major Project Delivery

UK Office of Government Commerce (March 2009)



A concise 12-page booklet outlining a few basic principles for the effective procurement of complex projects.

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/documents/A\_Formula\_for\_Success.pdf

#### **Guidance 44**

Les Contrats de Partenariat, Principes et Méthodes Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Industrie et de l'Emploi (May 2005)



Chapter 4 discusses the selection of the procurement option in the context of current French legislation.

http://www.ppp.bercy.gouv.fr/guide\_contrat\_partenariat.pdf

## **Guidance 45**

## Le Guide Opérationnel des PPP

François Bergère et al., Le Moniteur, Third Edition (2010) ISBN 978-2-281-12718-8



Pages 169-185 cover procurement methods available for PPP procurement, with a helpful box on

how to properly conduct a competitive dialogue.

# \*Guidance 46

# **European PPP Report 2009**

DLA Piper (with the contribution of EPEC)



Some country descriptions in Section 2 of the report briefly mention the procurement methods

followed. Available upon request at:

www.dlapiper.com

#### **Guidance 47**

Explanatory Note - Competitive Dialogue - Classic Directive

**European Commission** 

http://ec.europa.eu/internal\_market/publicprocurement/docs/explan-notes/classic-dir-dialogue\_en.pdf

# Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), A Decision Maker's Guide

Michael Burnett, Institut Européen d'Administration Publique (2007) ISBN 978-92-9203-001-8



Chapter 4 (The Legal Framework) contains an interesting discussion on the use of competitive dialogue.

#### **Guidance 49**

# National Public Private Partnership Guidelines, Volume 2: Practitioners' Guide

Infrastructure Australia (March 2011)



Part 2 (Detailed Technical and Process Issues) discusses bid evaluation criteria from commercial, technical and quality of delivery points of view.

http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/public\_private/files/ Vol\_2\_Practioners\_Guide\_Mar\_2011.pdf

# **Guidance 50**

# A New Approach to Private Roads

Eduardo Engel, Ronald Fischer and Alexander Galetovic, Regulation (2002)



Pages 18-22 describe the "Least-Present-Valueof-Revenue" criterion used to award concessions pioneered in Chile's toll road PPP programme.

http://www.cato.org/pubs/regulation/regv25n3/v25n3-6.pdf

## **Guidance 51**

# Public-Private Partnerships in Central and Eastern **Europe: Structuring Concession Agreements**

Christopher Clement-Davies, Law in Transition 2007 (EBRD, London)



Discusses the structuring of concession agreements focusing on the principal issues that may determine success or failure.

http://www.ebrd.com/downloads/research/law/lit071.pdf

#### \*Guidance 52

# Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships in Roads and **Highways**

PPIAF-World Bank (version March 2009)



provisions.

Module 4 (section 3) contains a detailed description of the most relevant contract clauses and other agreements, bonds, guarantees, specific and "boiler-plate"

http://www.ppiaf.org/documents/toolkits/ highwaystoolkit/4/4-3.html

## **Guidance 53**

# Public-Private Partnerships: Principles of Policy and Finance

E. R. Yescombe, Elsevier (2007), ISBN: 978-0-7506-8054-7



Chapter 13 is devoted to a description and discussion of the payment mechanism.

## **Guidance 54**

# **Briefing Note 1: Payment Mechanisms in Operational PPP Projects**

Financial Partnerships Unit, Finance Directorate, Scottish Government (November 2007)



Discussion of key issues in designing a payment

http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/923/0054674.doc

#### **Guidance 55**

# Standardisation of PFI Contracts

HM Treasury (UK), Version 4 (March 2007)



Chapter 7 presents a thorough overview of the major principles and issues relating to the payment mechanism and gives some drafting suggestions.

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/ppp\_standardised\_contracts.htm

# Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships in Roads and **Highways**

World Bank and PPIAF (Version March 2009)

Module 5 (pages 91-97) contains a section summarising the main steps involved in obtaining expressions of interest and in carrying out pregualification and shortlisting.

http://www.ppiaf.org/documents/toolkits/ highwaystoolkit/5/5-8.html

# **Guidance 57**

# National Public Private Partnership Guidelines, Volume 2: Practitioners' Guide

Infrastructure Australia (March 2011)

Pages 11-16 and 60-62 summarise the main steps involved in obtaining expressions of interest and carrying out pregualification and shortlisting.

http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/public\_private/files/ Vol\_2\_Practioners\_Guide\_Mar\_2011.pdf

#### **Guidance 58**

# **Working with Government: Guidelines for Privately Financed Projects**

New South Wales Government (December 2006)

Pages 27-30 summarise the main steps involved in epec obtaining expressions of interest and in carrying out prequalification and shortlisting.

http://www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/wwg/working\_with\_ government\_wwg\_guidelines\_for\_privately\_financed\_projects

#### **Guidance 59**

## Practitioners' Guide

Partnerships Victoria (June 2001)

Pages 29-33 summarise the main steps involved in epec obtaining expressions of interest and in carrying out prequalification and shortlisting.

http://www.partnerships.vic.gov.au/CA25708500035EB6/0/6223 D96175BAEF08CA2570C0001966C3?OpenDocument

# **Guidance 60**

# Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships in Roads and **Highways**

World Bank and PPIAF (Version March 2009)



Module 5 (pages 98-102) provides a brief summary of the bidding process and the contents of bidding documents.

http://www.ppiaf.org/documents/toolkits/ highwaystoolkit/5/5-8.html

#### **Guidance 61**

# Working with Government: Guidelines for Privately **Financed Projects**

New South Wales Government (December 2006)



Very brief summary in pages 30-32 of process and contents of expressions of interest.

http://www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/wwg/working\_with\_ government\_wwg\_guidelines\_for\_privately\_financed\_projects

#### **Guidance 62**

# Scottish Capital Investment Manual, PPP Guide Scottish Government (April 2009)



Section 2 (From OJEU to Contract Award, pages 41-48) outlines the contents of the "invitation to participate in dialogue".

http://www.scim.scot.nhs.uk/PDFs/Manuals/PPP/Part1/PPP\_ Guide1\_Full.pdf

## \*Guidance 63

## **Guidelines for PPP: Request for Proposal**

Planning Commission, Government of India, 2nd edition (July 2009)



Useful as a guide to the contents of the invitation to tender; it includes a relatively complete model

of the "request for proposal". Publication details accessible at: http://www.dkagencies.com/doc/from/1063/to/1123/bkld/ DK735233217146168469173925371/details.html

# National Public Private Partnership Guidelines, Volume 2: Practitioners' Guide

Infrastructure Australia (December 2008)



A discussion about the interaction with bidders is found at pages 23-24.

http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/public\_private\_partnership\_policy\_quidelines.aspx

## **Guidance 68**

# Scottish Capital Investment Manual, PPP Guide Scottish Government (April 2009)



Section 2 (pages 29-34) reviews the process for selecting a preferred bidder in hospital projects in Scotland.

http://www.scim.scot.nhs.uk/PDFs/Manuals/PPP/Part2/PPP\_Guide2\_Full.pdf

## **Guidance 65**

# **Public-Private Partnership Handbook**

Asian Development Bank (2008)



A short outline of the type of documentation to be placed in the data room is found on page 71.

http://www.adb.org/Documents/Handbooks/Public-Private-Partnership/default.asp

#### **Guidance 69**

# **Procurement Guidelines for PPP Projects**

IPDF, Ministry of Finance, Pakistan (September 2007)



An indication of how the evaluation would be carried out by the project team on pages 23-26.

http://www.ipdf.gov.pk/Procurment\_draft\_guideline.pdf

# **Guidance 66**

# Competitive Dialogue in 2008: OGC/HMT Joint Guidance on Using the Procedure

UK Office of Government Commerce (2008)



A discussion of the dialogue process from the UK perspective is contained in pages 22-29.

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/documents/OGC\_HMT\_2008\_ Guidance\_on\_Competitive\_Dialogue.pdf

# **Guidance 70**

# Concessions for Infrastructure: A Guide to Their Design and Award

Michael Kerf et al., World Bank (1998)



A brief discussion of methods used to evaluate tenders on pages 75-79.

http://rru.worldbank.org/Documents/Toolkits/concessions\_fulltoolkit.pdf

## **Guidance 67**

# Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships in Roads and Highways

World Bank and PPIAF (Version March 2009)



Module 5, pages 102-106, discusses bid evaluation principles and issues for road projects.

http://www.ppiaf.org/documents/toolkits/highwaystoolkit/5/5-8.html

# **Guidance 71**

# National Public Private Partnership Guidelines, Volume 2: Practitioners' Guide

Infrastructure Australia (March 2011)



Pages 62-65 discuss the bid evaluation process.

http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/public\_private/files/Vol\_2\_Practioners\_Guide\_Mar\_2011.pdf

# **Procurement Processes and Standardized Bidding Documents**

PPP in Infrastructure Resource Center, World Bank



Links to standardised guidelines and bidding documents issued by various countries.

http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/ EXTLAWJUSTICE/EXTINFRANDLAW/0,,contentMDK:21759171 ~menuPK:5117613~pagePK:4710368~piPK:64860384~theSite PK:4817374.00.html

## **Guidance 73**

# Technical Note 4: How to Appoint and Work with a **Preferred Bidder**

UK Treasury Taskforce (February 2007)

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/ACFBEE.pdf

# **Guidance 74**

# Competitive Dialogue in 2008: OGC/HMT Joint Guidance on Using the Procedure

UK Office of Government Commerce (2008)



A box on page 27 gives guidance on what to do if there is only a single (or no) bidder.

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/documents/OGC\_HMT\_2008\_ Guidance\_on\_Competitive\_Dialogue.pdf

## **Guidance 75**

# **Revision of the Public Procurement Remedies Directive**

European Commission (2007)



Brief description of the new Remedies Directive and links to FAQs, public consultation documents, etc.

http://ec.europa.eu/internal\_market/publicprocurement/ remedies/remedies\_en.htm

# **Guidance 76**

## Practitioners' Guide

Partnerships Victoria (June 2001)



Chapter 12 (pages 46-48) describes the steps taken in the final negotiations of the PPP contract.

http://www.partnerships.vic.gov.au/CA25708500035EB6/0/6223 D96175BAEF08CA2570C0001966C3?OpenDocument

#### **Guidance 77**

# **Public-Private Partnerships: Principles of Policy** and Finance

E. R. Yescombe, Elsevier (2007), ISBN: 978-0-7506-8054-7



Section 6.3.8 offers a concise discussion of the risks of post-bid negotiations (as opposed to clarifications and fine-tuning) after the preferred bidder has been selected.

## \*Guidance 78

## **Preferred Bidder Debt Funding Competitions**

HM Treasury (August 2006)

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/ppp\_pbdfcguide100806.pdf

# **Guidance 79**

# The Financial Crisis and the PPP Market, **Potential Remedial Actions**

European PPP Expertise Centre – EPEC, abridged version (August 2009)



Abridged version of a study providing a framework for analysing some potential responses to the

financial crisis (as it affects PPPs market across the EU) and identifying a list of issues and considerations for the attention of the public sector.

http://www.eib.org/epec/resources/epec-credit-crisis-paperabridged.pdf

# **Public-Private Partnerships: Principles of Policy** and Finance

E. R. Yescombe, Elsevier (2007), ISBN: 978-0-7506-8054-7



Chapter 8 provides a good summary of what project finance is and why it is often used for PPPs.

# \*Guidance 81

# Project Finance: A Legal Guide

Graham Vinter, Sweet and Maxwell Ltd. Third Edition (2006), ISBN: 0421-909501



Chapter 7 covers how to negotiate a credit loan agreement. Chapter 8 discusses credit security and related issues.

# **Guidance 82**

# Public-Private Partnerships: Principles of Policy and Finance

E. R. Yescombe, Elsevier (2007), ISBN: 978-0-7506-8054-7



Section 12.4 (pages 211-18) provides a summary of the major insurance issues and concerns for the Authorities.

#### **Guidance 83**

# **Project Finance: A Legal Guide**

Graham Vinter, Sweet and Maxwell Ltd. 3rd Edition (2006), ISBN: 0421-909501



Chapter 6 discusses certain insurance issues from a more legal viewpoint.

# **Guidance 84**

# **Standardisation of PFI Contracts**

HM Treasury (UK), Version 4 (March 2007)

Chapter 25 discusses the detailed treatment of a wide range of insurance issues, along with suggested and required (in the UK) contract clauses.

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/ppp\_standardised\_contracts.htm

#### **Guidance 85**

The Law and Business of International Project Finance Scott L. Hoffman, Cambridge University Press, 3rd edition (2008), ISBN: 978-0-521-70878-4



Chapter 24 (pages 328-335) describes 27 typical categories of conditions precedent to financial close for a generic project finance deal.

#### **Guidance 86**

## **Principles of Project Finance**

E. R. Yescombe, Academic Press (2002), ISBN: 12-0-770851-0



Brief summary of what financial close entails, including a list of typical requirements (pages 312-314).

# **Guidance 87**

# Partnership Victoria Guidance Material: **Contract Management Guide**

Infrastructure Australia (December 2008)



Section 1 (pages 3-6) and section 4 (pages 23-25) identify the main steps for developing a contract management strategy.

http://www.partnerships.vic.gov.au/CA25708500035EB6/0/39CA D82D3B722077CA2570C0007D71F2?OpenDocument

# **Guidance 88**

Main PPP Guidelines October 2006: Guidelines for the Provision of Infrastructure and Capital **Investments through Public Private Partnerships:** Procedures for the Assessment, Approval, Audit and **Procurement of Projects** 

Irish Government (July 2006)



Discusses the establishment of a project management structure in the context of PPPs in Ireland (page 21).

http://ppp.gov.ie/key-documents/guidance/central-guidance

# Partnership Victoria Guidance Material: **Contract Management Guide**

Infrastructure Australia (December 2008)

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Section 7 (pages 7-12, pages 46-55), section 6 (pages 28-40), and section 13 (page 104-106) dis-

cuss the main issues regarding the contract administration manual (with an example), a description of the reporting requirements in contract monitoring and a description of the information management process required by ongoing reviews.

http://www.partnerships.vic.gov.au/CA25708500035EB6/0/39CA D82D3B722077CA2570C0007D71F2?OpenDocument

#### **Guidance 90**

An Introductory Guide to Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) Government of Hong Kong SAR, 2nd edition (March 2008)



Section 8 (pages 61-65) highlights the main issues arising from performance monitoring.

http://www.eu.gov.hk/english/psi/psi\_guides/psi\_guides\_ ppgpop/psi\_guides\_ppgpop.html#3

#### **Guidance 91**

**Guidelines for Successful Public-Private Partnerships** European Commission, Directorate-General Regional Policy (March 2003)



Section 6 (pages 90-92) provides a brief overview of the contract monitoring activity from the EC perspective, with some additional examples.

http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/sources/docgener/guides/ ppp\_en.pdf

#### **Guidance 92**

# Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships in Roads and **Highways**

PPIAF-World Bank (version March 2009)

Module 5, section 5 (pages 122-127) identifies the relevant issues addressed by contract managers and contains an example of the indicators usually monitored in toll roads projects.

http://www.ppiaf.org/documents/toolkits/ highwaystoolkit/4/4-3.html

# **Guidance 93**

# National Public Private Partnership Guidelines, Volume 2: Practitioners' Guide

Infrastructure Australia (March 2011)



Appendix H.2 (page 132) defines project risk and its relationship with contract management.

http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/public\_private/files/ Vol\_2\_Practioners\_Guide\_Mar\_2011.pd

#### **Guidance 94**

An Introductory Guide to Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) Government of Hong Kong SAR, 2nd edition (March 2008)

Section 8 (pages 68-71) discusses some of the implications of adjustments to contract terms.



http://www.eu.gov.hk/english/psi/psi\_guides/

psi\_quides\_ppqpop/psi\_quides\_ppqpop.html#3

# **Guidance 95**

# Partnership Victoria Guidance Material: **Contract Management Guide**

Infrastructure Australia (December 2008)



Section 12 (pages 96-102) discusses contract change scenarios.

http://www.partnerships.vic.gov.au/CA25708500035EB6/0/39CA D82D3B722077CA2570C0007D71F2?OpenDocument

#### **Guidance 96**

# Standardisation of PFI Contracts

HM Treasury UK (version 4, March 2007)



Several chapters discuss in detail different kinds of contractual adjustment mechanisms designed

to deal with project events, e.g. compensation, relief and force majeure events (chapter 5), change in service (chapter 13), change in law (chapter 14) and price variations (chapter 15).

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/ppp\_standardised\_contracts.htm

# **Sample Clauses**

PPP in Infrastructure Resource Center, World Bank

Outlines a number of clauses dealing with areas that can give rise to confusion in infrastructure projects if not carefully considered (e.g. change in law, dispute resolution, force majeure, insurance clauses).

http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/ EXTLAWJUSTICE/EXTINFRANDLAW/0,,contentMDK:21759221~m enuPK:4704603~pagePK:4710368~piPK:64860384~theSitePK:48 17374~isCURL:Y,00.html

## **Guidance 98**

# Public-Private Partnerships: Principles of Policy and Finance

E. R. Yescombe, Elsevier (2007), ISBN: 978-0-7506-8054-7



Chapter 16 gives an in-depth summary of the major issues involved in the refinancing of PPP projects.

# **Guidance 99**

# Guidance Note: Calculation of the Authority's Share of a Refinancing Gain

UK Office of Government Commerce (2005)



This document gives a detailed explanation of the basic method used in the UK.

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/pfi\_refinancingguidance21307.pdf

# **Guidance 100**

# Standardisation of PFI Contracts

HM Treasury (UK), version 4 (March 2007)



A model contract clause governing the sharing of refinancing gains can be found in section 34.8.

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/ppp\_standardised\_contracts.htm

# \*Guidance 101

# Granting and Renegotiating Infrastructure Concessions, Doing It Right

J. L Guasch, The World Bank Institute (2004), ISBN: 0-8213-3792-0



Chapter 7 contains lessons for optimal concession design with a view to avoiding opportunistic rene-

gotiations, based on experience from hundreds of renegotiations of infrastructure concessions in Latin America.

### **Guidance 102**

Main PPP Guidelines October 2006: Guidelines for the Provision of Infrastructure and Capital Investments through Public Private Partnerships: Procedures for the Assessment, Approval, Audit and Procurement of Projects

Government of Ireland (July 2006)

Pages 31-32 contain a discussion of the implications of changes



to the contract associated with refinancing in the context of PPPs in Ireland.

http://ppp.gov.ie/key-documents/guidance/central-guidance/

#### **Guidance 103**

# Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships in Roads and Highways

PPIAF-Word Bank (version March 2009)



Module 5, section 5 (pages 139-140) identifies some dispute resolution procedures.

http://www.ppiaf.org/documents/toolkits/highwaystoolkit/5/5-72.

# **Guidance 104**

# **Standardisation of PFI Contracts**

HM Treasury UK (version 4, March 2007)



Section 5 (pages 233-235) discusses alternative dispute resolution procedures in the context of the UK.

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/ppp\_standardised\_contracts.htm

**Guidelines for Successful Public-Private Partnerships** European Commission, Directorate-General Regional Policy (March 2003)



Section 6 (pages 93-94) discusses relationship management issues.

http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/sources/docgener/guides/ ppp\_en.pdf

# **Guidance 109**

#### Standardisation of PFI Contracts

HM Treasury, Version 4 (March 2007)



Section 21 gives extensive and detailed drafting instructions for PPP contract provisions governing

types of termination and termination payments, along with a discussion of the reasoning behind the various provisions.

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/pfi\_sopc4pu101\_210307.pdf

#### **Guidance 106**

# Partnership Victoria Guidance Material: Contract **Management Guide**

Infrastructure Australia (December 2008)



Section 8 (pages 58-67) offers a discussion of the importance of maintaining good communication

channels in the context of dispute resolution. http://www.partnerships.vic.gov.au/CA25708500035EB6/0/39CA

D82D3B722077CA2570C0007D71F2?OpenDocument

#### **Guidance 110**

# Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships in Roads and Highways,

PPIAF-World Bank (version March 2009



Module 5, section 5 (pages 126-132) provides a discussion of the requirements of asset hand-over and the importance of ensuring the maintenance of assets' resi-

http://www.ppiaf.org/documents/toolkits/highwaystoolkit/5/5-6. html

# **Guidance 107**

# **Public-Private Partnerships: Principles** of Policy and Finance

E. R. Yescombe, Elsevier (2007), ISBN: 978-0-7506-8054-7

Chapter 15 provides an extensive discussion of the major issues in determining the approach

and calculating the termination payment for different types of termination.

# **Guidance 111**

# **Benchmarking Period - Sample Wording**

PPP in Infrastructure Resource Center (PPPIRC)

Considers the problem of inaccuracies in the assumptions for financial modelling and per-

formance standards, and provides sample wording for an initial benchmarking period at the beginning of a contract.

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTINFANDLAW/Resources/ benchmarkingperiod.pdf

## **Guidance 108**

## **Updated Standard Commercial Principles**

Partnerships Victoria, Guidance Material (April 2008)



Section 29 presents a concise set of principles governing the termination payments to be made

under a PPP contract. http://www.partnerships.vic.gov.au/CA25708500035EB6/0/3951 7301B59F9F16CA25742700229DC3?OpenDocument

# **Guidance 112**

Main PPP Guidelines October 2006: Guidelines for the Provision of Infrastructure and Capital **Investments through Public Private Partnerships:** Procedures for the Assessment, Approval, Audit and Procurement of Projects

The Government of Ireland (July 2006)



A discussion of the different purposes of ex post evaluation is found in pages 30-31.

http://ppp.gov.ie/key-documents/guidance/central-guidance/



# Various reports

UK National Audit Office (NAO)

The NAO has played an important role in looking at the PFI/PPP experience in the UK. Their report on the Fazakerley PFI prison contract, for example, revealed the need to share the gains from refinancing PFI/PPP contracts to protect value for money for the taxpayer. Over the years, the NAO has audited many transport PPP projects drawing lessons that are relevant to PPP projects. Examples are the first four Design-Build-Finance-Operate highway projects in the UK, the Channel Tunnel rail link and the London Underground PPP contracts.

http://www.nao.org.uk/publications.aspx

## **Guidance 114**

Highway Public-Private Partnerships, More Rigorous Up-Front Analysis Could Better Secure Potential Benefits and Protect Public Interest

US Government Accounting Office (February 2008)



The report provides an example of a PPP review by the US Public Audit Body.

www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-08-44

# **Guidance 115**

# Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), A Decision Maker's Guide

Michael Burnett, Institut Européen d'Administration Publique (2007), ISBN -978-92-9203-001-8



Chapter 6 (pages 150-165) develops a detailed operational approach to PPP audits.

#### **Guidance 116**

## **Resource Book on PPP Case Studies**

Directorate-General of Regional Policy, European Commission (June 2004)



Example of PPP review in the EU using case studies.

http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/sources/docgener/guides/pppguide.htm

#### **Guidance 117**

# Case Studies of Transportation Public-Private-Partnerships in the United States

US Department of Transportation (July 2007)



An example of PPP review in the transport sector using case studies in the US and other countries.

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ipd/pdfs/us\_ppp\_case\_studies\_final\_report\_7-7-07.pdf

## **Guidance 118**

# Public-Private Partnerships: Principles of Policy and Finance

E. R. Yescombe, Elsevier (2007), ISBN: 978-0-7506-8054-7



Chapter 8 provides a summary of what project finance is and why it is often used for PPPs.

## \*Guidance 119

# Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships in Roads and Highways

World Bank - PPIAF (Version March 2009)



Module 6 contains graphical and numerical financial models based on a highway PPP project which

illustrate the trade-offs inherent in alternative funding structures with model simulations.

http://www.ppiaf.org/documents/toolkits/highwaystoolkit/6/financial\_models/index.html

# \*Guidance 120

# Public-Private Partnerships: Principles of Policy and Finance

E. R. Yescombe, Elsevier (2007), ISBN: 978-0-7506-8054-7



Chapter 10 provides a comprehensive introduction on how bidders and their lenders structure the financing of a PPP.

# Capital Markets in PPP Financing, Where Were We and Where Are We Going?

European PPP Expertise Centre - EPEC (February 2010)

Abridged version of a study providing background information on the role of capital markets in PPP financing and setting out the reasons why the capital markets have largely withdrawn from it.

http://www.eib.org/epec/resources/epec-capital-markets.pdf

#### **Guidance 122**

# **Hybrid PPPs: Levering EU Funds and Private Capital** PPIAF & PriceWaterhouseCoopers (January 2006)

epec C

Analysis of a small sample of "hybrid" PPPs with mixed success regarding financial closure where

EU grants are involved. Projects are located in Ireland, Portugal, Spain and Greece (Cohesion and Structural Funds), or in the accession countries (ISPA).

http://www.irfnet.ch/files-upload/knowledges/PWC\_ HybridPPPs\_2006.pdf

# \*Guidance 123

# Review of Risk Mitigation Instruments for Infrastructure Financing and Recent Trends and Developments

Odo Matsukawa, World Bank, Trends and Policy Options, No. 4 (2007)

This book summarises the characteristics of the major types of risk mitigation instruments used by governments in privately financed infrastructure projects. http://www.ppiaf.org/ppiaf/sites/ppiaf.org/files/publication/Trends%20Policy%20Options-4-Review%20of%20Risk%20
Mitigation%20Instrument%20-%20TMatsukawa%20OHabeck.pdf

# **Guidance 124**

# Issues Paper on Facilitating Additional TEN-T Investment

European Commission, European Investment Bank (October 2009)

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Identifies potential measures for consideration by EU and national policy makers that could deepen

and diversify access to sources of finance as well as financial instruments capable of facilitating additional investment in the development of the TEN-T Infrastructure.

http://www.eib.org/projects/documents/issues-paper-onfacilitating-additional-ten-t-investment.htm?lang=-en

#### **Guidance 125**

# Using EU Funds in PPPs, Explaining the How and Starting the Discussion on the Future

European PPP Expertise Centre - EPEC (May 2011)

epec

This paper presents the instruments currently available for combining PPPs with EU Funds. It

highlights the main challenges involved in blending and offers conclusions.

http://www.eib.org/epec/resources/epec-using-EU-funds-in-ppps-public.pdf.pdf

# **Guidance 126**

Mobilising Private and Public Investment for Recovery and Long Term Structural Change: Developing Public-Private Partnerships

Commission Communication: COM(2009) 615 (19 November 2009)



Communication explaining the European Commission's objective of promoting private sector

participation in the field of infrastructure and research via PPPs. http://www.eib.org/epec/resources/commission-

communication-on-ppp-en.pdf

**Guide to Cost Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects** European Commission, Directorate General Regional Policy (July 2008)



Annex I (page 242) explains the basic formulae for EU grant determination.

http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/sources/docgener/guides/cost/quide2008\_en.pdf

#### **Guidance 128**

**Guidelines for Successful Public-Private Partnerships** European Commission, Directorate-General Regional Policy (March 2003)



Part 4 (pages 63-72) discusses the integration of grant financing with PPPs.

http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/sources/docgener/guides/ppp\_en.pdf

# **Guidance 129**

**Hybrid PPPs: Levering EU Funds and Private Capital** PricewaterhouseCoopers (January 2006)



The most thorough discussion of the basic issues publicly available at present.

http://www.irfnet.ch/files-upload/knowledges/PWC\_ HybridPPPs\_2006.pdf

## **Guidance 130**

# **Combining PPP with EU Grants**

Hugh Goldsmith, International Seminar "Strengthening Public Investment and Managing Fiscal Risks from PPPs", Budapest (8 March 2007)



Overview of the key issues and models being considered by the EIB.

http://www.imf.org/external/np/seminars/eng/2007/ppp/pdf/hg.pdf

# **Guidance 131**

# Combining EU Grant Funding with Public Private Partnership

Joachim Schneider, Presentation (9 October 2008)



Listing of key issues and models and outline of the topics of a forthcoming study commissioned

http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/conferences/od2008/doc/presentation/09C50\_SCHNEIDER.ppt

#### **Guidance 132**

Combining EU Grant Funding with PPP for Infrastructure: Guidelines for the Use of DBO to Procure Infrastructure Projects Using EU Structural Funds JASPERS, (December 2010)



This working paper addresses the procurement of Design-Build-Operate contracts and the use of

EU Structural Funds.

http://www.jaspers-europa-info.org/attachments/129\_ JASPERS%20DBO-Grant%20Funding%20Working%20Paper%20 Dec%202010.pdf

#### **Guidance 133**

Combining EU Grant Funding with PPP for Infrastructure: Conceptual Models and Case Examples

JASPERS, (December 2010)



This working paper provides an overview and analysis of different possible models for PPP-grant blen-

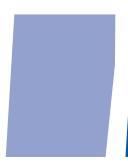
ding, as well as a review of past projects following these models. http://www.jaspers-europa-info.org/attachments/129\_ JASPERS%20PPP-Grant%20Blending%20-%20Models%20 and%20Cases%20-%20Working%20Paper%20Dec%202010.pdf















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# For information:

# **EPEC Secretariat**

(+352) 43 79 - 85434

**(+352) 43 79 - 65499** 

epec@eib.org



98-100, boulevard Konrad Adenauer L-2950 Luxembourg

**(+352) 43 79 - 1** 

(+352) 43 77 04

www.eib.org/epec

