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COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION

Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships

Fifth session
Geneva, 5-6 February 2013
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

Implementation plan for the rest of 2013 and proposals for the programme of work in the next biennium 2014-2015

PPP Task Force: Policy advisory opportunities in 2013 and beyond

Conference room paper submitted by the Secretariat

The following note has been prepared by the secretariat for discussion under Item 5 of the annotated provisional Agenda. The purpose of this note is to provide advanced information on PPP policy advisory opportunities in 2013 and beyond, and to invite members of the PPP Task Force who wish to be involved in the Team's activities to bring this to the attention of the secretariat.

Background

At its third session in April 2011, the Team of Specialists on PPPs (TOS PPP) established a PPP Task Force as the body that would provide targeted policy advisory services and deliver capacity-building activities to Governments acting as an implementing arm of the UNECE International Centre of Excellence operating under the auspices of the Bureau of TOS PPP and the secretariat.

At the request of TOS PPP, the secretariat invited interested experts to join the roster of PPP experts that will be responsible for the activities of the Task Force. The roster has since been compiled and is available on the UNECE website.¹

The secretariat has compiled below a list of policy advisory services for the Task Force in 2013 and beyond.

¹ The roster of PPP experts is available at:
http://www.unecce.org/fileadmin/DAM/ceci/ppp/Roster/UNECE_PPP_Roster_of_Experts1.xlsx

PPP policy advisory opportunities in 2013 and beyond

(i) Capacity Building to Support the Implementation of PPPs in Belarus

TOS PPP will provide support to Belarus in developing its PPP programme. On the basis of the recommendations made by TOS PPP to the Government of Belarus, and following consultations with the European Union Delegation in Belarus, and UNDP in Belarus, a capacity-building and training project, co-financed by the European Union and UNDP, is being launched in Belarus in 2013. This will be the biggest ever capacity-building project in PPPs in the CIS.

In line with an agreement between UNDP and the UNECE on the execution of the Project “**Capacity Development to Support the Implementation of PPP in Belarus**”, and subject to the approval of the UNECE Executive Committee, TOS PPP is expected to provide support for a number of training and capacity-building work and case assignments in Belarus, as set out in details below:

Activities in Belarus 2012-2015²
Introducing the PPP concept to stakeholders
Organize the visit programme for a twelve-member delegation on a study tour to various countries in order to learn about best practices concerning government policies, PPP support structures and institutions
Training of PPP Focal Points/trainers
Produce a package of training material for three trainee groups and local trainers, and translate the material into Russian
Providing support to the establishment of the National PPP Unit
Facilitate institutional and organizational support, including the development of materials on its governance structure, manuals and statutes of the PPP Unit;
Support twinning arrangements between the PPP unit in Belarus with a PPP Unit in a European country with a strong PPP track record;
Organize apprenticeship of four PPP Unit Staff at the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence and a PPP Unit in Europe; and
Ensure that the PPP Unit complies with the international best practices in the delivery of its services (through a possible certification system).
Improving the Legal framework for PPP
Provide international expertise for developing by-laws (in the form of secondary legislation); and

² Subject to approval from the UNECE Executive Committee

Conduct an in-depth study of the regulatory framework on PPPs, with a focus on selected areas of regulation and a comparison with the relevant international best practices and the legal framework of other CIS states.
Assisting in the preparation of Belarus's National Infrastructure Plan
Identify the infrastructure development needs; Develop sectoral strategic service models (in two sectors) for the delivery of public services; Identify the sectors where pilot PPPs can be launched; and Prepare a package of instructional materials to guide PPP implementation, as summarised in the Guidelines for identification/appraisal PPP projects and development of the National Infrastructure Plan.
Identification and appraisal of selected pilot PPP projects in Belarus
Prepare detailed appraisal reports on two projects and identify those that are mature enough for procurement as a PPP; and Evaluation of pilot projects by the UNECE Advisory Board or another relevant UNECE PPP expert body.

(ii) PPP Assessments in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan to advance the 'green agenda'

These assessments will provide Governments with the means to facilitate the financing of clean infrastructure through PPPs. The assessments will identify potential pilot projects that could be procured as PPPs in order to bolster private sector financing for green technology projects. The results of these assessments will be discussed at various seminars in Central Asia throughout 2013 in cooperation with international partners.

Action Point

Persons who have expertise relevant to the above activities will become members of the Task Force and deliver high quality services to the countries requesting support.

Members of the Task Force and PPP experts included in the roster who wish to be involved in the Team's policy advisory services and capacity-building activities are kindly encouraged to inform the secretariat by email at: ppp@unece.org.
