

Background Research on Public-Private-Partnership for Trade Facilitation

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Project Identifier (PID)	Project Proposal	Project Status
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Project Deliverables

Deliverable	ODP1	ODP2	ODP3	ODP4	ODP5	ODP6	ODP7	Notes
Background Research on Public-Private-Partnership for Trade Facilitation (Background Paper)								

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Project Leadership

Role	Member
Co-Project Lead	Lance Thompson
Co-Project Lead	Malcolm McKINNON (malcolmmckinnon1@gmail.com)
Editor	To Be Defined

Projects Activities

Team Calendars

Heads of Delegation

NOT REQUIRED

Executive Summary

Project purpose

This project's purpose is to determine if there is sufficient need to formulate a project to develop a recommendation regarding Public Private Partnerships (PPP) for Trade Facilitation.

A large number of trade facilitating initiatives are today made as Public Private Partnerships (PPP), often constructed as Build Operate Train and Transfer. The PPPs for Trade Facilitation can concern border crossing infrastructure, automation of trade documentation exchange, scanning equipment, Single Windows and many more. Some experience suggests that the cost of using such facilities can become very high for the end users.

A lot of resources on PPP are devoted to infrastructure development (hospitals, toll roads, energy, etc.), but there has as yet been no substantive work put together on PPP in the domain of Trade Facilitation. These types of PPP can include technology (Single Window, Port community, scanners, e-procurement) as well as infrastructure (One Stop Border Posts, Toll roads, bridges, railways, ports, airports).

Although it appears likely that there is a need for a trade-facilitation recommendation within UN/CEFACT's programme of work, further research is needed to confirm this.

Project scope

The scope of this project is to study Trade Facilitation PPPs as well as available resources on PPPs in general in order to confirm or invalidate the need for a UNECE recommendation on the subject.

The UNECE PPP Programme has been active in promoting a better understanding of PPPs among government officials for the past 15 years through lesson sharing, capacity-building and training activities and elaboration of guides on best practices in PPPs. Under the auspices of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration, the UNECE has a mandate to build the capacity of governments to undertake PPPs. In 2007 the UNECE Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships was established as the leading intergovernmental body within the UN system devoted to PPPs to

facilitate information-sharing and exchange practical experience in Public-Private Partnerships and contribute to the implementation of a capacity-building programme for public and private sector officials from transition economies and developing countries on this topic. In February 2012, the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence was established to develop and disseminate PPP best practice. Currently more than 2,000 PPP experts participate in the UNECE work on PPPs representing private and public sector parties experienced in implementing PPP projects in various sectors.

The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) has also studied the issue. The Commission considered possible work to be undertaken in the field of privately financed infrastructure projects in 1996, in the light of a note by the Secretariat on build-operate-transfer (BOT) projects. The Commission decided to prepare a legislative guide and requested the Secretariat to prepare draft chapters of such a guide. The Commission reviewed the draft's chapters from its thirtieth to its thirty-third sessions and adopted the Legislative Guide at its thirty-third session, held in New York from 12 June to 7 July 2000, subject to editorial modifications left to the Secretariat, and requested the UNCITRAL Secretariat to ensure its widest possible dissemination.

During the 21st Forum of UN/CEFACT, the ITPD organized a mini-conference on the subject which underlined not only the interest of experts in this domain, but also some of the key considerations to be taken into account. This will most likely be the working base for future work.

Project Overview

