



Good Governance for Development (GfD) in Arab Countries Initiative

Working Group IV on Public Service Delivery, Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) and Regulatory Reform

Capacity-Building Workshop on Public Private Partnerships (PPPs)

Agenda

28 April 2008

InterContinental Hotel, Amman, Jordan

Main speaker: **Mr. Philippe Burger**, Professor of Economics and Chairperson of Department, Department of Economics, University of the Free State, South Africa

| | |
|--|--|
| 9.00 – 9.30 | Registration |
| 9.30 – 9.45 | Opening session |
| <p>Opening remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Eng. Abdel-Rahman El-Khatib, Chairman, Executive Privatisation Commission, Jordan. • Mr. Khereddine Ben Soltane, Legal and Legislative Advisor to the Government, Tunisia • Ms. Delia Rodrigo, Administrator and Policy Analyst, Regulatory Policy Division, OECD | |
| 9.45 – 10.00 | <i>Coffee break</i> |
| 10.00 – 12.30 | Session 1. General overview of PPPs, definition and rationale, affordability and risk |
| <p>Governments have different alternatives to provide public services, mainly in two ways: on the one hand, traditional methods used by governments to design, construct, and manage the service delivery process and on the other hand, market-based mechanisms through which public and private sector interact and bring their area of competence together. Public-private partnerships (PPPs) are part of the trend in which governments rely more on the market for either inputs to government production and provision or for direct provision of goods and services. With PPPs, the government enters into a long-term contract with a private partner to deliver a good or service, and the private partner is responsible for building, operating and maintaining assets that are necessary for delivering a good or service to either the government or to individuals. This session covers presentations from Arab countries and a general introduction on PPPs, highlighting issues such as: trend towards PPPs, definition of PPPs and the implications for implementation; affordability and allocation of risk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Rita Chidiac, Assistant Policy Analyst, Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform (OMSAR), Lebanon. • Mr. Khereddine Ben Soltane, Legal and legislative Advisor to the Government, Tunisia. • Mr. Bassel Shoirah, Business Manager, Utilities Sector, Ministry of Finance, Egypt. | |
| 12.30 – 14.00 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 14.00 – 15.30 | Session 2. Value for money and the need of competition |
| <p>One of the main ideas behind PPPs is to achieve efficiency and value for money (VFM) with the involvement of a private partner in service delivery. That goal cannot be attained without having a framework which ensures competition before and after signing a contract, i.e. competition for the market and competition in the market. Competition in both phases of project is vital to have intended results from PPPs. This session explores issues related to competition and PPPs, and how that framework should be applied to stimulate strong bidding competition by building greater transparency and trust in the</p> | |

| | |
|---|--|
| bidding process: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The link between robust competition policy and value for money • PPPs and the nature of service • The Public Sector Comparator (PSC) • PPPs and the measurement of performance | |
| 15.30 – 16.00 | <i>Coffee break</i> |
| 16.00 – 17.30 | Session 3. Institutional and accounting aspects: PPPs units and the main regulatory and accounting issues |
| <p>Most PPP projects have a very long term implementation phase running independently of the political cycle. Long term commitment from government is vital for successful implementation and involvement of private partners. A solid regulatory framework and independent institutions in place to regulate, oversee, and provide expertise is essential for the functioning of PPPs. This session focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPPs, budgets and government accounting • Institutional set-up and issues: PPP units and legislation • Transparency and accountability • Elements of the regulatory policy for PPP and complementary regulations. | |
| 17.30 – 18.00 | Final session |