PPP Financing Overview

Sameh I. Mobarek Senior Counsel – Energy, LEGPS Member, Global Expert Team on Public-Private Partnerships



What is a Public-Private Partnership?

A PPP is a long-term (5 to 30 year) contract between a public entity and a private company, whereby the private company undertakes to provide a public service by delivering some or all of the following services:

- designing;
- financing;
- building;
- maintaining; and/or
- operating an installation/infrastructure/ utility





What is a Public-Private Partnership? Continued



Different PPP structures exist that vary based on the level of public ownership and risk allocation (e.g., Build-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT or BOT), Build-Own-Operate (BOO), Sale/Leaseback, Lease/Purchase, Design-Build-Operate (DBO), Lease/Develop/Operate (LDO))

 PPPs are not privatizations, and they are fundamentally different from traditional government public procurement programs



What is a Public-Private Partnership? Continued



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Enabling Environment - Legal Framework

PPP projects typically involve significant investment by the private sector, over a long period of time – PPP should be synonymous for "PREPARATION," "PREPARATION," "PREPARATION"

In a 2003 World Bank survey, investors said that "insufficient legal protection of investors" was their primary concern

Legal Protection of Investors **Consumer Payment Discipline** Government/Multilateral Guarantee **Government Efficiency** Judiciary's Independence **Clear Rules for Exit Investment Grade Debt Rating Transition to Competitive Market Corruption Index Ranking Domestic Borrowing Competitive Selection Possibility of Vertical Integration**





Can the government entity enter into a PPP arrangement

- which ministry or local government entity is involved which body will be empowered to enter into and implement the project?
- are there legal limitations on delegation to a private operator?
 Monitoring and regulating the project
 - which government entity will monitor the project?
 - is there a regulator, or is one contemplated?
 - if there is a regulator:
 - what are its powers?
 - can it override the PPP Agreement?



- Procurement of PPPs is an expensive process for government AND for bidders
- Important that bidders believe that they have a fair chance to win bid is the competitive bidding process fair, transparent and objective?

Threshold procurement questions,

- Are there conflicting procurement laws at the national, provincial and municipal levels?
- Are the evaluation criteria set out clearly in the law?
- Can the PPP Agreement be extended without a new competitive tender?
- What are the consequences of a breach of the procurement rules?



Continued

Dispute resolution

- Sovereign immunity
- Does the court system satisfy the investors need for a fair, transparent and efficient dispute resolution mechanism
- If not, is domestic or international arbitration a possibility
- Are international arbitration awards recognized, and can they be enforced
- Other dispute resolution mechanisms mediation, expert determination, etc.
- Protecting the project revenues
 - Tariff setting
 - Rules for billings and collections



Continued

- Lender issues
 - Lender security
 - Insolvency arrangements
 - The lender's rights to 'step-in', i.e. take over the project
- Direct agreements between lenders and government entities
 Foreign investment issues
 - Restrictions on ownership of local companies by foreign investors
 - Restrictions on currency conversions
- Land issues

- Limitations on private ownership of land
- Expropriation of land owned by other parties
- Planning permissions
- Environmental impacts



Continued

Taxation

- Stability of taxation system, and compensation for changes in the tax regime - danger of creep expropriation
- Categories of taxation for which the project company is liable to (income tax, import duties, etc.)
- specific taxes on foreign investors
- Labor Laws
 - Can public employees be transferred to a private operator?
 - Are employees subject to civil service terms and conditions?
 - Can employees be laid off to achieve operating efficiencies?



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