

Dear colleagues,

PPP Days 2012 is being jointly hosted by the <u>United Nations Economic Commission for Europe</u> (UNECE), the <u>World Bank Institute</u>, and the <u>Asian Development Bank</u>, at the United Nations building (Palais des Nations), Geneva, Switzerland, on 21-24 February 2012. As you are aware, PPP Days is the premier global meeting for PPP stakeholders. Since 2006, PPP Days has become the place for practitioners to network and learn from peers and counterparts from other countries. The main theme of PPP Days 2012 is "<u>Strengthening institutions and frameworks for better PPP delivery</u>", and the event will be structured as follows:

Days 1 and 2: Public Sector Session

Most sessions will be panel debates among practitioners and researchers. Background papers will be shared via the PPP Days website, acquainting discussants and participants with the topics most relevant to them.

Sessions will address three crucial areas:

- Identification and prioritization of PPP projects, past and current practices in different countries, institutional issues and training needs.
- Governance of PPP procurement, including the process adaptation, procurement, and the role of PPP Units, parliament, Courts of Auditors, and the media.
- Contract management, management by contracting authorities of the interaction with private partners.
 Many countries are currently experiencing a host of issues regarding contract management, especially concerning contract enforcement.

Day 3: Business Forum

The Business Forum will provide a networking opportunity for governments to dialogue with representatives of the private sector from Europe and beyond. Select Governments will present their strategies, policies, projects, and support for PPPs to the private sector. Representatives from the private sector will present their strategies, projects and successes in delivering public services and building infrastructure through the PPP model.

The Business Forum will also provide a unique networking opportunity to the business community. They will learn first hand from governments about their project plans and make valuable contacts for future business deals.

Day 4: Site Visits and Case Studies

Participants will have a choice to attend local site visits or case study discussions. The site visits to operational PPPs in the Geneva vicinity will be complimented by presentations about projects from around the world. The case study discussions will be integrated within the fourth session of the **UNECE Team of Specialists on PPP**, which will be held on 24 February, back-to-back with PPP Days 2012.

A PPP exhibition will run throughout the four days.

<u>Participation is free</u>. More information on how to register and hotel accommodation in Geneva is available at: http://www.unece.org/ceci/ppp.html. Please send in your registration forms to PPPDays2012@unece.org. Our Team looks forward to welcoming you in Geneva for PPP Days 2012 in February.

Best regards,

UNECE PPP Team Geneva, Switzerland