

Public-Private Partnerships and Sustainable Development in the European Union

Another Reason to Foster the Promotion of PPPs as Viable Alternatives in the Delivery of Public Services and Infrastructure

1. All forms of collaboration between the public and the private sectors which lead to normally complex transactions, long term and high-value contracts in high profile fields, generally fall within the broad notion of public-private partnerships.
2. The definition of public-private partnerships should be broad enough to include also informal dialogues between government officials and local community-based organizations, which are considered essential for effective public-private partnerships that promote also goals of socio-environmental sustainability.
3. Over the last twenty years, the balance shifted towards the external provision - outsourcing and public-private arrangements - of public services and goods thanks also to the support of central government's policies and legislative measures.
4. Without partnerships, and so without understanding and trust between public authorities, economic operators and society, it is difficult to realize shared public investment projects.
5. Public procurement is as an essential contributor to the achievement of sustainable development objectives representing an effective and concrete policy measure through which governments can pursue socially and environmentally responsible practices through the use of public contracts.
6. "Sustainable development is a development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own." World Commission on Environment and Development.
7. PPPs have the potential of providing to society environmental improvements, jobs growth and high quality standards, which represent some of the main objectives of Europe's 2020 program for a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.
8. "Not everything that can be counted counts and not everything that counts can be counted." Attributed to Albert Einstein.
9. "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." Eleanor Roosevelt.
10. A Ph.D. (Abbrev: Lat. *Philosophiae Doctor*) is an academic who has learned more and more about less and less until he/she knows everything about nothing.