



UNECE



Provisional Programme¹

6th UNECE International

PPP FORUM

Barcelona | 4 - 6 May 2022

The role of People-first PPPs for the SDGs in Delivering Sustainable Infrastructure to Accelerate the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda

Registration
for this event
is now open

Register
[here](#)

¹As of 25 April 2022

Introduction and objectives of the Forum

Against the backdrop of climate emergency and as the world still strives to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, embracing sustainable infrastructure that is green, circular, inclusive, resilient, fiscally sustainable and of high quality where people are the main beneficiaries is necessary to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The 6th International Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) Forum will address a number of current and emerging challenges and opportunities at both national and city level, such as climate change, the circular economy, digital transformation, green procurement and the blue economy, and how these can be overcome through People-first PPPs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The 3-day hybrid event - with in-person and online participation - will be held in Barcelona, Spain from 4 to 6 May 2022 and is co-organised by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the IESE Business School Barcelona, with the support of the Barcelona City Council.

As in previous editions, the Forum will showcase a number of case studies from around the world that aspire to comply with the SDGs and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles. The UNECE People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs – an ESG matrix available to governments and other stakeholders as a self-assessment tool – will be used for each of these projects to assess their compliance with the five outcomes of the UNECE People-first PPPs for the SDGs, namely:

1. Increase access to essential services and lessen social inequality and injustice;
2. Improve economic effectiveness (including women's empowerment) and fiscal sustainability of projects;
3. Enhance resilience in projects and more care with the environment;
4. Promote replicability and the development of further projects; and
5. Fully involve all stakeholders in the projects.

The Forum will also offer a platform to other stakeholders – centres of excellence, civil society organisations, academia, international organisations, and private sector – to present their work in a series of side events.

Wednesday, 4 May 2022

Location: IESE Business School Barcelona

9:30 - 9:45

Auditorium
South Campus

EN, RU, ES

Opening remarks

Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, UNECE

Ms. Ada Colau, Mayor of Barcelona (tbc)

Ms. Nuria Más, IESE Dean of Research*

9:45 - 11:00

Auditorium
South Campus

EN, RU, ES

High-level policy debate

People-first PPPs for the SDGs as a catalyst to implement the 2030 Agenda

Background: As the world continues with its struggle to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, embracing sustainable infrastructure - green, resilient, circular and of high quality where people are the main beneficiaries - is necessary to stay on track to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

The high-level debate will outline some of the key topics that the Forum will address and their relevance to design and implement infrastructure projects in the three critical dimensions at the heart of the 2030 Agenda: people, planet, and prosperity. Climate change, digital transformation, the circular economy, sustainable finance and green PPP procurement are among the common challenges to sustainable infrastructure at both the national and city level. The high-level panellists will provide insight on how these challenges could be overcome through People-first PPPs for the SDGs.

Key questions: (i) How can PPP and infrastructure projects become climate resilient and contribute to the circular economy agenda? (ii) In what ways is digitisation transforming PPPs and infrastructure projects? (iii) To what extent can PPP procurement embrace green and sustainable practices?

Moderator:

Mr. James Stewart, Independent Non-executive-director, UK*

Panellists:

Mr. Miquel Rodrigues Planas, Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda, Barcelona City Council*

Mr. George Katapodis, Chairman, the Hellenic Single Public Procurement Authority of Greece and Chairperson, UNECE Working Party on PPPs*

Mr. Jim Donovan, CEO, ADEC*

Mr. Ziad Alexandre Hayek, President, WAPPP

Ms. Doris Chevalier, CEO, INFRABOOST

Mr. Miguel Hernandez, Director, Institut Cerdà*

11:00 - 11:30

South Campus
Lounge

Coffee break

11:30 - 13:00

Auditorium
South Campus

EN, RU, ES

Case studies

Part I

Challenge: The challenge is to keep momentum in the UNECE campaign for the 500 projects that aspire to embrace the three SDG pillars of people, planet and prosperity.

This session will invite PPP Units and other stakeholders to present projects across all sectors – transport, renewable energy, health, education, municipal and urban services – along the People-first PPP outcomes and the SDGs for discussion, inspiration and key learnings. These projects have all been self-evaluated using the UNECE People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs.

Expected outcomes: (i) A better understanding on how countries are putting in practice the SDGs in their PPP programmes and projects and serve as an inspiration for potential People-first PPP projects; and (ii) Increased number of projects self-assessed using the UNECE People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs added to the database of projects.

Key questions: (i) How are these case studies contributing to sustainable development? (ii) To what extent are these case studies implementing the People-first approach for the SDGs?

Moderator: Mr. Antonin Menegaux, UNECE*

Overview: Mr. Pedro Neves, CEO, Global Solutions*

Case studies:

- **Kyrgyz Republic**, Solar Energy, Mr. Sanzhar Bolotov*
- **Morocco**, Renewable Energy, Ms. Hajar Bennar* and Mr. Nouri Chahid*
- **Portugal**, Regional Development, Mr. Rui Moreira*
- **Spain**, Electric Vehicle Charging Network, Mr. Redha Zetchi*
- **Tunisia**, Urban Tram, Mr. Atef Majdoub*

Discussants:

Ms. Irina Zapatrina, Chairman of the Board, Ukrainian PPP Center

Mr. Jean-Patrick Marquet, Member of the Global Future Council, WEF*

13:00 - 14:30

B-102

South Campus

EN

Roundtable discussion

Contract clauses for resilient Concession/People-first PPPs for the SDGs

Co-organised with the International Specialist Centre of Excellence for PPP Policy, Laws and Institutions

Challenge: People-first PPPs for the SDGs must be designed for the benefit of the people, and it is therefore vital to design contracts to meet the public interest in a changing economic and social environment. The challenge is how to avoid frustrating contract renegotiation or termination when unexpected events outside of the control of the parties, such as COVID-19, occur.

The roundtable discussion will consider the most recent developments in this area.

Key questions: (i) How to design contract clauses to foster resiliency in PPPs, and address the most common challenges of our time, such as COVID-19, natural disasters and climate change? (ii) How to design contract clauses that withstand changes that strike at the root of the economic and financial contractual balance? (iii) What is the best approach to avoid or defuse contractual disputes and provide a platform to settle them through Alternative Dispute Resolution techniques?

Expected outcome: A better understanding on how essential a set of standard contract clauses is for People-first PPPs for the SDGs.

Documentation: [List of recommended clauses in concession contracts in People-first Public-Private Partnerships in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#) (ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2018/11)

Moderator:

Mr. Marc Frilet, General Secretary, International Centre of Excellence for PPP Policy, Laws and Institutions*

Panellists:

Ms. Maude Vallée, Division Manager & Head of Operations, African Legal Support Facility*

Mr. Fred Einbinder, Professor, the American University of Paris

Mr. Jean-Christophe Barth-Coullaré, Executive Director, WAPPP*

14:00 - 15:00

Comedor

Norte

North Campus

Lunch break

15:00 - 16:30

Auditorium

South Campus

EN, RU, ES

Case studies

Part II

Challenge: The challenge is to keep momentum in the UNECE campaign for the 500 projects that aspire to embrace the three SDG pillars of people, planet and prosperity.

This session will invite PPP units and other stakeholders to present projects across all sectors – transport, renewable energy, health, education, municipal and urban services – along the People-first PPP outcomes and the SDGs for discussion, inspiration and key learnings. These projects have all been self-evaluated using the UNECE People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs.

Key questions: (i) How are these case studies contributing to sustainable development? (ii) To what extent are these case studies implementing the People-first approach for the SDGs?

Expected outcomes: (i) A better understanding on how countries are putting in practice the SDGs in their PPP programmes and projects and serve as an inspiration for potential People-first PPP projects; and (ii) Increased

number of projects self-assessed using the UNECE People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs added to the database of projects.

Moderator: Mr. Claudio Meza, UNECE*

Case studies:

- **Brazil**, Juvenile Detention Centers, Mr. Bernardo Bahia, UNOPS and Mr. Wesley Callegari Cardia, Ministry of Economy of Brazil
- **India**, Tunnel, Ms. Ruchi Malik*
- **Mexico**, Metro Rail, Mr. Luis Ibarra and Ms. Yohana Aquino*
- **Puerto Rico (U.S.)**, Sustainable Food Production, Mr. Harald Junke*
- **Slovenia**, Urban eMobility, Ms. Petra Ferk* and Mr. Tomaž Lanišek, City of Kranj

Discussants:

Ms. Melissa Peneycad, Managing Director, Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure*


Mr. Marc Frilet, General Secretary, International Centre of Excellence for PPP Policy, Laws and Institution*

16:30 - 17:00

📍 South Campus
Lounge

Coffee break

17:00 - 18:30

Parallel Session 1
 Auditorium, South Campus


 EN
Green and sustainable PPP procurement

Challenge: Long-term privately financed and integrated contracts is what distinguishes PPP procurement from traditional public procurement, and this distinctive feature provides a greater scope for governments to promote and implement greener and more sustainable outcomes compared to traditional contracting.

The challenge is to ensure that governments are implementing the right policies and use adequate instruments to promote sustainable practices along the three PPP procurement stages: 1) planning; 2) process; and 3) implementation and performance. This session will consider some of these challenges.

Key questions: (i) What are the green procurement practices that can be promoted and implemented along the three PPP procurement stages? (ii) How are these practices impacting, if any, the whole life cycle costs? What about the bankability of innovative projects? (iii) What are the recommended public policy actions for governments to ensure that PPP procurement becomes more sustainable and circular?

Expected outcome: A better understanding of the green and sustainable practices and

Parallel Session 2
 B-102, South Campus


 EN
The UNECE Evaluation Methodology and its ESG principles: a tool to attract private capital in PPPs

Challenge: It is no longer enough for projects to be bankable, but they may well also have to pass the ESG test in order to get financed.

The session will provide an opportunity for governments to better understand how increasingly debt providers and investors choose to invest in projects with the highest ESG credentials. The session will also highlight from the investors' perspective the benefits of governments adopting an evaluation tool like the UNECE Evaluation Methodology to demonstrate to the financial market that from the UN SDGs perspective, their projects score high in terms of ESG.

Key questions: (i) Why are ESG principles becoming so important for debt providers and investors in infrastructure? (ii) What do investors require from governments in terms of their ESG credentials as a pre-requisite for investing in their projects? (iii) Why are ESG tools, such as the UNECE Evaluation Methodology, so important to attract sustainable finance into infrastructure projects?

Expected outcome: A recognition by the public sector on the need to demonstrate to debt providers and investors that their

Parallel Session 3
 B-301, South Campus

 EN
The Blue Economy: sustainable infrastructure projects from the Arctic region

co-organised with the Arctic Economic Council


Challenge: Fisheries, tourism and maritime transport along with new emerging industries, such as renewable energy and aquaculture, constitute most of the economic and human activity in the Blue Economy.

The key challenge is to ensure that infrastructure and PPP projects in these sectors are green and sustainable and contribute to the circular economy.

A number of sustainable infrastructure projects from the Arctic region will be presented at this session.

Key questions: (i) What are the sustainable infrastructure projects in the Blue Economy being implemented in the Arctic region? (ii) What are the benefits of the strong role played by the indigenous groups and local communities in the success of these projects? (iii) How can the stakeholder engagement partnerships 'best practice' in the Arctic region be exported to other regions/countries?

Expected outcomes: (i) A better understanding of the variety of sustainable projects implemented in the Arctic region and a greater awareness on the potential use of PPPs in the Blue Economy. (ii) A validation of the adaptability and suitability of the UNECE People-first PPP Evaluation

Parallel Session 4
 B-201, South Campus

 EN
Green PPPs in the Americas

co-organised with ECLAC

Challenge: After more than 25 years of experience in PPP in Latin America and the Caribbean, the level of investment and the quality of the infrastructure and its services have not improved as expected. There is a great heterogeneity of results according to each country along with multiple institutional and regulatory obstacles, lack of financial capacity, and failures in the conception, design and implementation of policies to achieve more sustainable projects.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these challenges with the introduction of market restrictions that have created changes in consumer demand patterns and overall market stability. The session will debate some of these challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Key questions: (i) Why is there a need for Green PPPs in Latin America? (ii) How can Green PPPs improve governance mechanisms and transparency? (iii) How can these practices promote a sustainable economic development path in countries?

Expected outcome: Generate a better understanding of how sustainable practices through Green PPPs can improve the public policy response of Latin America and the

instruments that can be promoted along the three stages of a PPP procurement.

Moderator:

Mr. Steven Van Garsse, Belgium*

Panellists:

Ms. Aikaterini Kyriazi, Greece

Ms. Iuliana Leon, Romania*

Ms. Natascha Schmitt, Brazil*

Mr. Scott Walchak, Director, ADEC*

Ms. Désirée Klingler, EPPPL Board

Mr. Christopher Clement-Davies,
Independent International Lawyer and
Consultant

projects score well against ESG principles and the UN SDGs.

Documentation: [People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs](#)
(ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2021/3)

Moderator:

Mr. James Stewart, UK*

Panellists:

Mr. Richard Ornitz, CEO, Infralinx

Mr. Marcos Martinez, EBRD

Mr. Gavin Munro, Société Générale

Mr. Anurag Gupta, CRO, Sequoia

Ms. Mehita Sylla, IFC*

Methodology for infrastructure projects in the Blue Economy.

Documentation: [People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs](#)
(ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2021/3)

Moderator:

Mr. Mads Qvist, Arctic Economic Council

Panellists:

Mr. Stein-Gunnar Bondevik, Director, Troms Kraft

Ms. Agnes Árnadóttir, CEO, Brim Explorer

Ms. Pia Meling, Vice President, Massterly AS

Mr. Thomas Mack, CEO, Eyak Corporation

Mr. Jay Massie, Vice President, ATCO

Caribbean (LAC) countries to better tackle the challenges they face.

Documentation: [PPPs under the People-first approach](#) (FAL Bulletin No. 383, ECLAC)

Moderator:

Mr. Joan-Enric Ricart, IESE*

Panellists:

Mr. Ricardo Sánchez, ECLAC

Ms. Paloma Ruíz, CAF

Mr. Jose Luis Guasch, Academic Counselor,
PIAPPEM Institute

Mr. Gilberto Chona, IADB

19:00 - 21:00




Q-300
North Campus


Cocktail Reception hosted by IESE Business School

Thursday, 5 May 2022

Location: **Barcelona Activa | Seu Central**

9:00 - 10:30

 Auditori

 EN, RU, ES

Policy debate 1

How can People-first PPPs for the SDGs support the Circular Economy Agenda?

Challenge: The UN Secretary-General in his latest report on SDG implementation stated that now is the right time to fully embrace the decoupling of economic growth from environmental degradation, a reduction in carbon emissions, improvements in resource efficiency, and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles.

A path for sustainable consumption and production requires circular economy approaches designed to reduce or eliminate waste and pollution, keep products and materials in use, and regenerate natural systems.

The session will consider the circular economy approaches implemented across the four stages of the PPP process - design, finance, construction, and operation and maintenance - from an industry perspective. It aims to provide tangible examples of the benefits of a People-first PPP approach for the SDGs at all stages of the PPP process to support the circular economy agenda.

Key questions: (i) What are the industry practices and initiatives in support of the circular economy in PPP projects? (ii) What more could be done? (iii) Which policy actions could governments take to further incentivise a circular economy approach in PPP projects?

Expected outcome: Concrete examples and anecdotes by industry of circular economy initiatives across the stages in the PPP process.

Moderator:

Ms. Melissa Peneycad, Managing Director, Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure*

Introduction on the UNECE work on circular economy:

Ms. Elisabeth Tuerk, Director, ECTD, UNECE

Panellists:

Mr. Antonio Carlos Rodrigues, CEO, Grupo Casais*

Mr. Fidel Sáenz de Ormijana, CTO and **Mr. Valentin Alfaya**, Sustainability Director, Ferrovial

Ms. Olivia Finch, Ellen MacArthur Foundation and **Mr. Richard Boyd**, Senior Engineer, Arup (tbc)

Mr. Harald Junke, Partner and Managing Director, Infralinx*

Ms. Marie Aimee Boury, Head of impact-based finance, Société Générale

Ms. Lara Poloni, President, AECOM (tbc)


Discussant:


Mr. Anand Chiplunkar, Senior International PPP Consultant*

10:30 - 10:45

Coffee break

10:45 - 12:15

 Auditori

 EN, RU, ES

Policy debate 2

PPPs and the climate challenge

co-organised with the World Association of PPP Units (WAPPP)

Challenge: The impact of the biggest crisis facing our planet, climate change, is very tangible and the worst is yet to come unless urgent and concrete action is taken. As the impact from climate change has not manifested itself as severely as that of for example the COVID-19 pandemic, not all governments are acting as decisively on the climate front as one might expect. However, it is not too late to build a robust system towards decarbonization and resiliency, namely in energy and transportation infrastructure. The private sector is stepping up and at the same time the interface with public administrations needs to be clearly defined and the relationship between both managed so they can deliver impact towards climate action.

The debate will focus on one of mankind's most pressing challenges from a PPP perspective.

Key questions: (i) How are governments managing the relationship with the private sector to meet the climate challenge? (ii) How can all PPP stakeholders collaborate to maximize impact and to accelerate collective climate action? (iii) What kind of innovations are needed to move towards resilient infrastructure?

Expected outcome: A better understanding of the interface between public and private sectors and good governance to achieve climate action.

Moderator:

Mr. David Dodd, President ISRC, Inc.*

Panellists:

Mr. Atter Hannoura, Head of the PPP Unit, Egypt*


Ms. Anne-Laure Mascle-Allemand, Executive Director, PIAPPEM Institute*


Mr. Jorge Vergara, Head of PPP Unit, Paraguay

Mr. Osamu Tanabe, Special Advisor, PPP/PFI Promotion Office, Cabinet Office, Japan

Mr. Satoshi Watanabe, Deputy Director, International Cooperation and Sustainable Infrastructure Office, Ministry of the Environment, Japan

12:15 - 13:45

 Auditori

 EN, RU, ES

Policy debate 3

Sustainable PPP frameworks in cities

Challenge: Cities around the world are facing the dual crises of COVID-19 and climate change. How do municipalities work to integrate resilience thinking and environmental concerns into their day-to-day operations?

Today, cities are home to 4.5 billion people, a number projected to grow by almost 50% by 2050. Three quarters of the infrastructure needed by 2050 has yet to be built, which offers municipalities a unique opportunity to combine economic effectiveness with environmental and fiscal sustainability in designing current and future infrastructure projects. In parallel, economic recovery plans intended to redress the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic provide an unprecedented opportunity to ensure that climate action, renewable energy and sustainable development are at the heart of cities' strategies and policies.

The debate will focus on the concrete action taken by cities to ensure resilience and sustainability in their economic and social infrastructure.

Key questions: (i) What concrete actions are cities taking to ensure that green materials are used in their energy efficient and resilient buildings powered by renewable energy? (ii) How can cities ensure that the demand for transport is met with zero-emission vehicles and public transit? (iii) How are cities harnessing local innovation, knowledge and partnerships to build sustainable PPP frameworks?

Expected outcome: Learn from cities' experience in designing and implementing tangible sustainable PPPs and infrastructure frameworks to work towards a resilient and sustainable urban future that benefit people and the planet.

Moderator:

Ms. Rosa Suriñac, UN-Habitat*

Panellists:

Mr. Miquel Rodrigues Planas, Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda, Barcelona City Council*

Mr. Carlos Carrasco, Barcelona City Council*

Mr. Pontus Westerberg, UN-Habitat*

Ms. Elisabet Viladecans, University of Barcelona*

Mr. Mukhitdin Ishankhodjaev, E-nergy charge solutions LLC, Uzbekistan*

Mr. Narciso Berberana Saenz, AGBAR

13:45 - 15:15

Lunch break

15:15 - 18:00

Parallel site visits to operational PPP projects


Organised by the Barcelona City Council

Site visit 1 - [Districlima](#): District heating and cooling network.

Site visit 2 - [TERSÀ](#): Waste management (including waste-to-energy) and renewable energy (photovoltaic).

Site visit 3 - [TRAM](#): Public transport network.

19:00 - 21:00

 Barcelona City Council

Gala Reception hosted by the Barcelona City Council

Friday, 6 May 2022

Location: IESE Business School Barcelona

9:00 - 10:30

📍 Aula Plana
(Q-502)
North Campus
👉 EN, RU, ES

Policy debate 4

Regional economic development through PPPs: maximising the use of public property in infrastructure projects

Challenge: PPPs are often criticised for their lengthy preparation phase and high transaction costs, which make them less suited for small projects below a certain threshold.

There is however a PPP model which over the years has proved quite successful in reducing transaction costs and project preparation time, and it has been used successfully especially in regional economic developments in both developed and developing countries. Through this PPP model, public authorities exploit unused or underused public land and real estate assets to attain their infrastructure objectives in partnership with the private sector. The session will explore the distinctive features of this PPP model and how it has been used in a number of countries.

Key questions: (i) What are the key characteristics of PPPs where real estate is used as collateral? (ii) How can public authorities in other countries/regions exploit their unused or underused assets for regional economic development projects? (iii) What legislation/regulations should be in place to implement these kind of PPP projects?

Expected outcome: A better understanding by public authorities on how unused or underused public land and real estate assets could be maximised in PPP projects.

Moderator:

Ms. Sedef Yavuz-Noyan, Head, PPP Department, Presidency of Turkish Republic, Strategy and Budget Office

Panellists:

Mr. Ronnie Vicente C. Lagnada, Mayor of City of Butuan, Philippines

Mr. Art Smith, United States

Mr. Sam Tabuchi, Toyo University, Japan*

Mr. Senichi Kamada, Shiwa Town Hall, Japan

Mr. Masahiro Nomoto and **Mr. Yuji Munehiro**, Chodai Co., Ltd.

10:30 - 12:00

📍 Aula Plana
(Q-502)
North Campus
👉 EN, RU, ES

Policy debate 5

PPPs beyond infrastructure: the governance of emerging ecosystems

Challenge: Independent of the level of infrastructure, all cities are confronting big changes in the fundamental ecosystems in the urban space. Think about mobility morphing into Mobility as a Service (MaaS) where users plan, book and pay for multiple mobility services; energy morphing into a distributed smart system; or health incorporating data-driven health systems. In all these emerging ecosystems, multi stakeholder collaboration and complex PPPs are needed. The primary barrier for these forms of partnerships is the development of a sound governance structure that incorporates data sharing rules, service coordination among different operators, a plan for the whole system so it contributes to the 2030 Agenda, and in general, the facilitation and organisation of a new and emerging ecosystem.

The debate will consider how partnerships are crucial for emerging ecosystems to thrive.

Key questions: (i) What is the role of the public sector in the facilitation and organisation of fundamental ecosystems in urban spaces? (ii) What are the key barriers and difficulties to overcome? (iii) How can PPPs enhance the ecosystems' governance mechanisms?

Expected outcome: A better understanding of the role of the public sector as a facilitator of such ecosystems and provide some suggestions to facilitate the governance of the People-first PPPs that are needed.

Moderator:

Mr. Joan-Enric Ricart, IESE*

Panellists:

Mr. Jesús Herranz, Cities, Transport and Infrastructure Sustainability Services Iberia Lead, Accenture*

Mr. Josep Laborda, CEO & Managing Partner, Factual Consulting*

Ms. María José Campos, Global Head of Bidding, ACCIONA*

Mr. Joan Guasch Corominas, Director International Development and Public Programmes, Eurecat*


12:00 - 12:30

📍 Q-300
North Campus

Coffee break

12:30 - 14:00

Parallel Session 1

 Aula Plana (Q-502), North Campus

 EN

Applying the People-first PPPs for the SDGs approach in Waste-to-Energy Projects for Non-Recyclable Waste for the Circular Economy

Challenge: Waste, and what to do with it, is one of the central problems of our time. Waste accounts for about 4.5 million tonnes per day worldwide and this figure is expected to double by 2050.


There is now a growing consensus that the response to waste must be part of the circular economy agenda.

This session will discuss the challenges and opportunities of Waste-to-Energy infrastructure projects for non-recyclable waste. It aims to provide tangible examples of the benefits of a People-first PPP for the SDGs approach to sustainable Waste-to-Energy infrastructure and technological development.

Key questions: (i) What are the environmental benefits of Waste-to-Energy processes for non-recyclable waste over landfilling? (ii) How is this further contributing to the circular economy agenda? (iii) What is the value-added of the People-first PPP approach for the SDGs to achieve sustainable Waste-to-Energy projects to make the sector fully compatible with the circular economy agenda?

Expected outcome: Gather additional inputs from experts in this session to finalise the UNECE Guidelines on Promoting People-

Parallel Session 2

 Q-402, North Campus

 EN

Improving the legal and regulatory framework for People-first PPPs for the SDGs: paving the way for green, sustainable, resilient and circular projects

Challenge: The right legal and regulatory framework to attract private sector participation and finance into infrastructure and public services is a long-term challenge in many countries that consider PPPs as a viable option to close the ever-increasing infrastructure gap.


This challenge is further exacerbated by an acute lack of public sector capacity to bring to the market projects that are both bankable and sustainable.

The session will consider how the UNECE tools - the PPP/Concession model law and the evaluation methodology – contribute to address these challenges.

Key questions: (i) How can the UNECE People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs contribute to the countries' strategic objectives of ensuring that their PPP and infrastructure projects comply with the SDGs? (ii) What are the most effective ways for PPP model laws to be voluntarily implemented in countries? (iii) To what extent can the UNECE PPP legal work inspire the work of regional organisations to develop/update their PPP model laws?

Expected outcomes: (i) A practical illustration on how the UNECE People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs

Parallel Session 3

 B-301, South Campus

 EN


Fiscal sustainability in People-first PPP projects for the SDGs

Challenge: Private financing necessarily means debt that has to be repaid. Mobilising private financing requires governments to pay attention to the sustainability of their budgets. This is to prevent creating unintended and hidden public debt (off-balance sheet). People-first PPPs for the SDGs entail that projects and programmes do not give rise to unintended and hidden public debt and liabilities. Care must be taken to ensure that PPP funding is sustainable and not stressing public budgets. The session will consider some of these issues.

Key questions: (i) How to ensure proper reporting of sovereign debt and contingent liabilities/guarantees resulting from PPPs to avoid creating hidden debt? (ii) How to ensure that PPP funding for reimbursing PPP debt is sustainable and does not stress public budgets? (iii) What are the undesirable effects of long-term lending in projects? Are PPPs leading to “debt traps” in low and middle-income countries?

Expected outcome: A clear understanding of the need to achieve fiscal sustainability in PPP projects and an increased knowledge of the available multilateral tools.

Parallel Session 4

 B-102, South Campus

 EN

Roundtable discussion on selected PPP case studies

Challenge: The challenge is to keep momentum in the UNECE campaign for the 500 projects that aspire to embrace the three SDG pillars of people, planet and prosperity.

This session will invite project proponents to present projects across all sectors – transport, renewable energy, municipal and urban services – along the People-first PPP outcomes and the SDGs for discussion, inspiration and key learnings. These projects have all been self-evaluated using the UNECE People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs.

Key questions: (i) How are these case studies contributing to sustainable development? (ii) To what extent are these case studies implementing the People-first approach for the SDGs?

Expected outcomes: (i) A better understanding on how countries are putting in practice the SDGs in their PPP programmes and projects and serve as an inspiration for potential People-first PPP projects; and (ii) Increased number of projects self-assessed using the UNECE People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs added to the database of projects.

first PPP Waste-to-Energy Projects for Non-Recyclable Waste for the Circular Economy.

Documentation: [Guidelines on Promoting People-first Public-Private Partnerships Waste-to-Energy Projects for the Circular Economy](#) (ECE/ ECI/WP/PPP/2020/5)

Moderators:

Mr. Tony Bonnici, UNECE*

Ms. Camille Malafosse, UNECE*

Panellists:

Ms. Ella Stengler, Managing Director, Confederation of European Waste-to-Energy Plants (CEWEP)

Mr. Patrick Clerens, Secretary General, European Suppliers of Waste-to-Energy Technology (ESWET)*

Mr. Thomas Obermeier, Head of Business Development, EEW

Mr. Carles Salesa, Director, Consorcio de Residuos del Maresme*

Mr. Athanasios Bourtsalas, Columbia University*

Speaker from the European Commission (tbc)

can contribute to the SDG strategic objectives of the member States. **(ii)** A better understanding of how model PPP laws can be voluntarily implemented in countries.

Documentation: [People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs](#) (ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2021/3)

Moderator:

Mr. Jean-Patrick Marquet, WEF*

Panellists:

Ms. Doris Chevalier, CEO, Infraboost

Ms. Jelena Tadic, Executive Director, PPP Investment, Serbia

Ms. Eunice Ajambo, United Nations Office in Namibia, **Ms. Salome Idhenga** and **Ms. Charity Sitwala**, PPP Unit of Namibia

Moderator:

Mr. Alexei Zverev, EBRD*

Panellists:

Ms. Ani Ispiryan, Deputy Minister of Economy of the Republic of Armenia

Mr. Andrey Vaganov, Secretary, CIS Interparliamentary Assembly (tbc)

Mr. Alexander Dolgov, Squire Patton Boggs (tbc)

Mr. Sanzhar Bolotov, Director, PPP Center, Kyrgyz Republic (tbc)

Moderator:

Mr. Frederic Bobay, Project Director, FIN INFRA, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and the Recovery, France

Panellists:

Ms. Isabel Rial, IMF

Mr. Christopher Kirigua, Director General, Kenya PPP Unit

Ms. Agnes Mazurek, International Consultant, Infrastructure and PPPs

Ms. Lourdes Prado, Eurostat

Moderator:

Mr. Pedro Neves, CEO, Global Solutions*

Case studies:

- **Brazil**, Smart City, **Mr. Edson Vilela**, Mayor of Carmo do Cajuru and **Mr. Leonardo Santos***
- **Portugal**, Resilience Fund, **Mr. João Dinis***
- **Senegal**, Waste-to-Energy, **Mr. James Monday***
- **Spain**, Sustainable Bus Stops at AMB, **Mr. Marc Baches***
- **Spain**, Wellbeing, **Mr. Steven Ward***
- **Switzerland**, Waste-to-Energy, **Ms. Jiangrong Yu***

14:00 - 15:00

Comedor Norte
North Campus

Lunch break

15:00 - 16:15

📍 Aula Plana
(Q-502)
North Campus
🗳️ EN, RU, ES

Concluding policy debate and next steps**PPPs and the digital transformation for sustainable development**

Challenge: Many countries in the UNECE region and beyond continue to face considerable challenges with their PPP project delivery processes, especially at the project identification and preparation phase, resulting in considerable delays to bring bankable projects to market.

The policy debate will consider how digital solutions can bring about digital transformation in the delivery of PPPs. While digital transformation does not guarantee project success, it certainly can contribute to the speed and integrity of PPP delivery, provide enhanced insight into project components, and increase the likelihood that a PPP will deliver both the critical public infrastructure and services as well as the desired social and economic impact.

Key questions: **(i)** What are the benefits in digitising the PPP project delivery process from project identification through procurement, award and implementation? **(ii)** What are the PPP sectors/projects that have been digitally transformed and is there scope for further digital transformation of PPP projects? **(iii)** How important it is to have the right legal and regulatory framework in place for the successful implementation of PPPs in digital infrastructure?

Expected outcomes: **(i)** A better understanding on how digitisation of the PPP process can improve efficiency, transparency and reduce risk of corruption throughout the PPP projects' delivery process. **(ii)** A better understanding on the sectors/projects that can be digitally transformed.

Moderators:

Mr. Jean-Patrick Marquet, WEF*

Mr. Tony Bonnici, UNECE*

Panellists:

Mr. Mark Enzer, Chair, Centre for Digital Built Britain, University of Cambridge

Mr. Richard Threlfall, Global Head, KPMG IMPACT; Global Head, Infrastructure KPMG International Services Limited, UK*

Ms. Sara Alvarado, Executive Director, Institute for Sustainable Finance (ISF), Queen's University

Ms. Melissa Zanocco, Head of Programmes, Infrastructure Client Group, UK

Ms. Nesrin Akin Oztabak, CEO, BIMCRONE*


16:15 - 16:30

📍 Q-300
North Campus

Coffee break

16:30 - 18:00

Side event 1

 Q-402, North Campus

 EN

PPPs for cities

Organised by the Specialist Centre of Excellence on PPPs in Smart and Sustainable Cities, IESE

Moderator:

Ms. Alicia Plana, IESE PPP for Cities*

Panellists:


Mr. Miquel Rodriguez, Barcelona City Council*

Mr. José Vicente Colomina Berenguel, Aqualia

Ms. Laura Hensel, Dott

Mr. Gregori Mora Cogul, Diputació de Barcelona*

Side event 2

 B-301, South Campus

 EN

Digitalisation and resilience for People-first PPPs for the SDGs

Organised by the International Sustainable Resilience Center, New Orleans


Panellists:

Mr. David Dodd, President ISRC, Inc.*

Mr. David Baxter, Baxter International Development

Ms. Tanya Dombkins, Founder, uLand, PBC

Side event 3

 B-102, South Campus

 EN

Strengthening coordination of urban development PPPs with the SDGs

Moderators:

Mr. Raymond Saner, Director Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development, Switzerland

Mr. Mateu Turró, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

Panellists:

Ms. Sedef Yavuz-Noyan, Turkey

Ms. Angelina Nuñez, World Bank

Mr. Juraj Jurik, GIB

Ms. Irina Zapatrina, Ukrainian PPP center

Mr. Andrea Tinagli, EIB - Union for the Mediterranean

Ms. Lichia Saner-Yiu, CSEND

16:30 - 18:30

📍 Aula Plana
(Q-502)
North Campus

🗣️ EN, RU

Special Capacity Building Event (by invitation only)

Roundtable discussion for Government officials from Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus: Dialogue with investors/lenders

A dialogue between public officials from Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus with potential investors.

Moderator:

Mr. James Stewart, Independent Non-executive-director, UK*

With in-person participation of public officials from the following countries:

Armenia

Georgia

Kyrgyz Republic

Moldova

Tajikistan

Ukraine

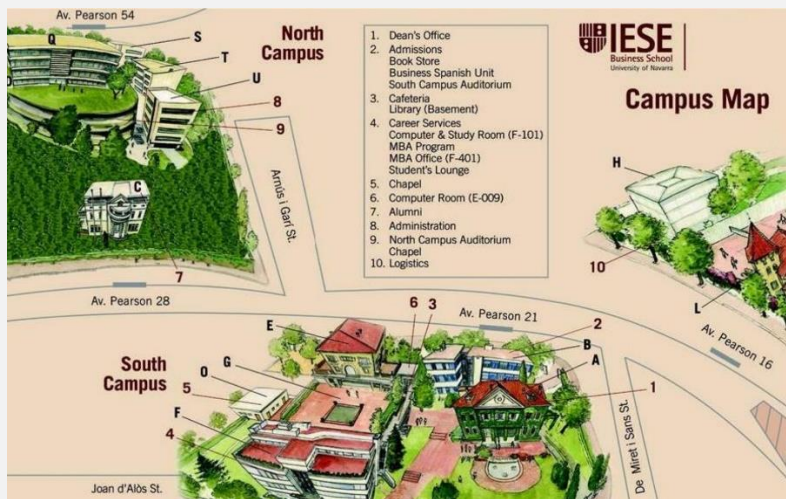
Uzbekistan

Useful information

Maps

IESE | North and South Campuses

North Campus: Carrer d'Arnús i de Garí, 3-7 | South Campus: Av. de Pearson, 21



Barcelona Activa | Seu Central

C/ Llacuna, 162, Barcelona



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*Confirmed in person