Public-Private
Partnership (PPP) Code
of the Philippines
December 2023



Republic Act No. 11966* An Act Providing for the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Code of the Philippines

* Signed 5th of December 2023. The Code takes effect 15 calendar days after publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation

Upon effectivity of this Act, no other JV guidelines, PPP guidelines, codes, or ordinances, whatsoever, may be enacted, issued and/or used by any government entity to enter into PPPs, except those that are enacted, issued, and/or used in accordance with this Act and its IRR.

PPP Code of the Philippines



Enabling environment for private sector to mobilize its resources for infrastructure or development projects & services



Includes all possible financing means



Autonomy of LGUs in entering into and developing local PPP projects



Recognition of partnerships not submitted through the prescribed administrative processes



Equitable risk allocation in PPP projects that will yield sufficient Value-for-Money (VFM), promote sustainability, and advance public welfare



Integration of climate change resilience, sustainability, and gender development policies and programs in planning, design, and implementation

Declaration of Policy



Open, fair, transparent, and competitive selection; full public disclosure of all transactions involving public interest

PPP Code of the Philippines



This Code shall cover all contractual arrangements between an Implementing Agency and a Private Partner to finance, design, construct, operate, and maintain, or any combination or variation thereof, infrastructure or development projects which are typically provided by the public sector, where each party shares in the associated risks. PPP projects may be financed partly from direct government appropriations and/or from ODA of foreign governments or institutions*

*In addition to Private Partner equity and debt, alternative financial instruments such as Green Financing, corporate or project bonds and securities, and other forms of capital market financing may be allowed for PPP Projects, subject to the approval of relevant regulatory bodies for such instruments under existing laws, rules, and regulations





Joint Ventures



Lease agreements spanning over a year on government land or facility



All other contractual arrangements which possess characteristics or elements of a PPP



Toll operation agreements or supplemental toll operation agreements



Lease agreements when such leases are a component of a PPP Project

*Exclusions: Infrastructure projects undertaken through the Government Procurement Reform Act (GPRA); management contracts; service contracts; divestment or disposition; corporalization; incorporation of subsidiaries with private sector equity; onerous donations; gratuitous donations; JV agreements involving purely commercial arrangements that neither provide nor include public infrastructure or services

Implementing Agencies (IAs)

All IAs are authorized to identify, develop, assess, evaluate, approve, negotiate, award, and undertake PPP projects. The Head of the IA concerned shall be accountable for PPP projects undertaken through the PPP Code.

National IAs



Department

Bureau

Office

Instrumentality



Commission



Authority of the National Government



State University and College (SUC)



Government-Owned or-Controlled Corporation (GOCC)



Government Financial Institution



Economic Zone Authority



Water District



Government instrumentality with corporate powers (GICP)/ Government corporate entity (GCE)

Local IAs



Local Government Unit (LGU)



Local University and College (LUC)

PPP Lifecycle

Project Selection & Development*

Selecting Projects for PPP: Guiding Principles

- Effectiveness in meeting government objectives
- Appropriateness of procurement modality & funding source
- Value-for-Money (VFM)
- Accountability& Transparency
- Consumer Rights
- Affordability
- Public Access
- Safety
- Security

Project Development Considerations

Legal, technical, economic, financial, commercial feasibility

Climate resilience and sustainability

- Value-for-Money (VFM)
- Optimal Risk Allocation
- Affordability of fees or tariffs
- Social and Economic Safeguards

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PPP project design shall consider adopting **Land Value Capture** strategies to optimize the financial and economic value of the PPP project

*Implementing agencies shall include in their development plans, strategies, and investment programs such lists of PPP Projects that they intend to implement by soliciting proposals from Private Proponents, PPP project development may be undertaken only after the conduct of stakeholder consultation

PPP Lifecycle

Approval Process





Review/Endorsement/ Confirmation

Approving Body*

National PPP Project

Project Cost** PHP15 billion and above NEDA Board-Investment Coordination Committee (ICC)***

NEDA Board

Project Cost less than PHP15 billion

Project Cost < PHP15 billion but satisfying Head of IA

NEDA Board-ICC

certain conditions**** Local PPP Project

LGU

Local Development Council (LDC)*****

Local Sanggunian

LUC

Projects using national government funds/ support

Regional Development Council

(RDC)**

LDC

NEDA Board-ICC

LUC Board

Approving Body shall:

- Notify in writing, the Implementing Agency of its receipt and assessment of the completeness, in form and substance, of the PPP Proposal.
- Evaluate and render its decision on the project, within 120 calendar days from receipt of complete requirements; failure to do so shall be deemed an approval thereof and the IA may proceed with procurement. It shall assess all PPP projects based on overall feasibility and VFM, and in accordance with the principle of protecting public interest.
- Prescribe Reasonable Rate of Return, the net gain of an investment over a specified time, expressed as an annualized percentage.
- Set forth the required parameters, terms, and conditions (PTCs) which shall be the basis for the drafting of tender documents and PPP Contract.

*****- Failure by the LDC and/or RDC to endorse PPP Project within 30 calendar days from submission of complete requirements shall be deemed an approval of the requested endorsement/s

PPP Lifecycle

The PPP Contract

PTC Inclusions

- Project Scope
- Required level of service and key performance indicators (KPIs)
- Safeguards that will protect the interest of public and government
- Penalties for failure of any party to deliver contractual obligations

PPP Contract Features

- Should have clearly defined scope of each party's accountability
- Adhere to the principles stipulated under the Generic Preferred Risk Allocation Matrix (GPRAM), which guides parties in the optimal allocation of risks in structuring PPP Projects
- Include approved initial tolls, fares, fees, rentals, and other charges and adjustments thereof*
- Reflect the prescribed Reasonable Rate of Return**
- Require a period within which Private Partner achieves Financial Close
- Include dispute avoidance & alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms
- Include definition of events that may lead to termination of PPP Contract
- Include wind-up and transfer measures

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Where the realized rate of return exceeds the prescribed Reasonable Rate of Return, the excess shall be remitted to

the National

Treasury

"

Copies of all tender documents and PPP Contracts executed under this Code shall be considered public documents***

*Regulatory approval should be secured prior to the approval of a PPP Project. In the absence of an appropriate regulatory body, the initial toils, fares, rentals, and other charges and adjustments thereof shall be stipulated in the PPP Contract

**The mechanism for setting the Reasonable Rate of Return will be contained in the PPP Code's IRR

***The IA and the PPP Center shall publish through their respective websites copies of all tender documents and PPP contracts executed under this Code. In case of PPP contracts with provisions which are proprietary, or pose threats to national security or public safety, the procedures for the disclosure and publication of such contracts shall be consistent with existing and applicable laws, rules, and regulations The final draft PPP Contract shall be reviewed and approved by the Head of the Implementing Agency upon securing clearance from:

National PPP Projects

- PPP Center (PPPC), for compliance with approved PTCs
- Statutory Counsel, for compliance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations
- DOF, for National Government undertakings

Local PPP Projects

- Statutory Counsel, for compliance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations
- DOF, for National Government undertakings

Procurement/PPP Transaction Stage (Solicited)

- IA and/or the PPP Center post invitation to pre-qualify and bid*
- IA evaluates submitted bid documents**
- IA awards PPP Contract to bidder who has satisfied all pre-qualification and eligibility requirements and has submitted the most-responsive bid to the bid parameters
- Winning bidder to comply with any post-award requirement
- IA and winning bidder enter into a PPP Contract
- Private Partner to achieve Financial Close: securing all necessary project and financing requirements, confirming all prior conditions have been met, allowing Private Partner to draw down on financing needs to commence work on the PPP Project

*Bidding may be single-stage or two-stage.

**Pre-Qualification Bids and Awards Committee (PBAC) of 1A may declare failure of bidding when 1.) no bids are received 2) there are no complying bids 3) winning bidder refuses to accept award of PPP contract. Head of 1A may also declare failure of bidding when only one bidder applied for and met the pre-qualification requirement. In case of single complying bid, on a negotiated basis, negotiation between IA and single complying bidder and responsive bidder shall be limited to the financial proposal of the bidder in compliance with the reasonable rate of return

^{*}To facilitate processing of National and Local PPP Projects requiring NEDA Board and NEDA-ICC actions, meetings of such bodies shall be held monthly.

^{**}Refers to the total cost to be expended to plan, develop, and construct the Project to completion stage, including cost of feasibility studies, engineering and design, construction, equipment, right-of-way (ROW), taxes imposed on said cost, and development cost. For Operations and Management (O&M) PPP Projects without initial capital, Project cost shall be the present value of costs incurred in delivering the contracted service, including any reinvestment requirements.

 $^{{\}ensuremath{^{***}}}{\mathsf{NEDA}}{\ensuremath{^{\mathsf{ICC}}}}{\mathsf{may}}$ review and update thresholds.

^{****}Any of the conditions satisfied: 1.) It physically overlaps with or negatively affects the economic benefits, demand, and/or financial viability of a project approved by a government authority or with a project being developed by another agency based on national or sectoral developmental plans 2.) It requires financial government undertakings or availability payments to be sourced or funded under the General Appropriations Act (GAA) 3.) The contribution of an IA in a proposed JV exceeds 50% of its entire assets.

Unsolicited Proposal (USP)

Approval Transactions, Limitations

Approval & Transactions

- 1. Private Proponent submits USP to the PPP Center
- 2. PPP Center determines completeness and appropriate Approving Body, within 10 calendar days from receipt of submission
- If is USP determined complete, PPP Center endorses USP to the appropriate Implementing Agency (IA)
- 4. IA decides whether to reject USP or proceed processing USP
- 5. Within 10 days of receipt of first USP, IA may entertain similar proposals
- 6. IA shall complete a detailed evaluation of the USP and similar proposals, including the qualifications of the Private Proponent/s within 90 calendar days; otherwise, Project proposal is deemed approved
- If proposal accepted, within 150 calendar days, IA and Private Proponent negotiate on the PTCs of the proposed PPP Project in good faith, with the assistance of the PPP Center
- 8. If there is more than one proposal, IA shall determine the most advantageous proposal for the public and the government, provided that other Private Proponents shall have the opportunity to submit comparative proposal during the comparative challenge period
- 9. Upon reaching successful negotiation, IA shall grant Private Proponent Original Proponent Status (OPS), which shall be valid for 1 year.
- 10. IA submits USP, including the negotiated PTCs, to appropriate Approving Body
- 11. Within 7 days from approval by Approving Body, IA shall publish invitation for the submission of a comparative challenge to the USP. Comparative challenge shall not be less than 90 calendar days and not more than 1 year. Original Proponent has 30 calendar days to match proposal by challenger.
- 12. Project awarded to Original Proponent if able to match; otherwise, it shall be awarded to winning challenger.
- 13. Winning bidder to achieve Financial Close

Limitations

USP shall not contain any of the following Government Undertakings:

- VGF and other forms of subsidy
- Payment of ROW-related costs*
- Performance undertaking
- Additional exemptions from any tax other than those provided for by law
- Guarantee of demand
- Guarantee on loan repayment
- Guarantee on private sector return
- Government equity
- Contribution of assets, properties and rights*

*May be allowed if government receives appropriate compensation, which shall in no way be lower than the value of costs of ROW and the usufruct of assets, properties, and rights contributed

Special Requirements

- ROW acquisition (ROWA) may be allowed, provided that submission includes ROW and resettlement plan and that Government is not obliged to make advance payment for ROWA
- Prohibition in changing composition of the Original Proponent that will affect majority ownership

Contract Management

Mandatory Adoption of Contract Management and Risk Mitigation Plans in PPP projects

- IA responsible for overall supervision of the implementation of PPP Contract
- PPP Center to coordinate and monitor PPP Projects
- Provision for Variation, Expansion, or Extension of an Existing PPP Project
- Submission of interconnection/interface plan agreed upon by all parties in case PPP project will interconnect or interface with local or national facility
- Procurement of independent consultants to provide advice to IA and Private Partner for the design and construction, including O&M, of the Project, and monitoring and performance of the contracting parties during such phases of the PPP Project.

Joint Ventures (JVs)

Definition

JV refers to a national or local PPP contractual arrangement, whether solicited or unsolicited, where both the IA, performing its proprietary function, and the Private Partner pool resources comprising capital, services, or assets, including equipment, land, or intellectual property, to jointly undertake a specific investment activity within a specific period of cooperation to deliver infrastructure or development project typically provided by the public sector

Forms



JV Company



Contractual JV

Features

- IA shall determine the minimum PTCs of the JV contract, subject to the approval of appropriate Approving Body, including veto rights in favor the government
- Equity contribution, including contributions of assets, properties, and rights, and other allowable Government Undertakings shall not exceed 50% of the Project Cost in the case of contractual JV, or 50% of the outstanding capital stock of the JV company.
- At the end of the JV PPP Contract, all properties covered by such agreement shall be transferred to the IA.
- May allow Private Sector to take over the undertaking in its entirety should Government deems that divestment from the JV is in the best interest of the public

Enabling PPPs

Institutions/Organizations

The following institutions/organizations and funds involved in the various stages of a PPP Project's lifecycle are created, institutionalized, or strengthened:

PPP Center (PPPC)

PPP Governing Board

PPP Risk Management Fund

IA PPP Unit

IA Pre-Qualification, Bidding and Awards Committee (PBAC) Inter-Agency TWG on Contingent Liabilities

Project Development and Monitoring Fund (PDMF)

PDMF Committee

The PPP Governing Board

Functions and Membership

The Board is institutionalized and shall be the over-all policy-making body for all PPP-related matters. It shall be responsible for setting the strategic direction of the PPP Program and Projects and in creating an enabling policy and institutional environment for PPP, including:

- Setting framework for: monitoring the compliance of the parties in a PPP Contract; reporting of the progress of PPP projects and their expected benefits and outcomes, and; the appropriate penalties for noncompliance of parties to the set reportorial requirements
- Setting guidelines on the utilization of the PDMF
- Formulating guidelines, forms, and templates that shall be used by IA and Approving Body in reviewing and approving Local PPP Projects
- 4. prescribing guidelines and requirements to be followed by the RDCs and LDCs
- 5. Issuing guidelines on negotiating PTCs of proposed USP
- 6. Appointing private sector representative to the PPP Governing Board
- 7. Approving policy matter opinions

Members

Secretary of NEDA, Chair



Secretary of DOF, Vice-Chair



Secretary of DBM



Secretary of DOJ



Secretary of DTI



Secretary of DILG Secretary of DENR*



Chairperson of CHED*



Executive Secretary



Executive Director of PPP Center*



Private Sector Representative

*Additional members

The PPP Center

Powers and Functions

- 1. Assist Implementing Agencies in identifying, prioritizing, developing, and maintaining a pipeline of PPP projects
- Provide project advisory services and technical assistance to Implementing Agencies, Approving Bodies, and other oversight agencies in all PPP-related matters, and act as a procurement agent upon the request of the IA
- Facilitate the appraisal and approval of the PPP Projects by the NEDA Board and the NEDA Board-ICC
- 4. Review PPP Contracts
- 5. Require the submission of PPP Project documents including executed PPP contracts entered into by IA, notwithstanding confidentiality clauses
- Provide regular monitoring report and status reports on Projects and Program to the Office of the President, Congress, and oversight committees and agencies
- 7. Serve as central repository of all PPP Project information
- Develop capacities of IA, Approving Bodies, PPP Units of IAs, 8. and other relevant stakeholders
- Promote and market the PPP Program

- 10. Recommend plans, policies, and implementation guidelines related to PPPs
- 11. Draft policy matter opinions for approval of the PPP Governing Board in response to requests by government agencies and
- 12. Assist Implementing Agencies in identifying, prioritizing, developing, and maintaining a pipeline of PPP projects
- 13. Monitor, document, and share lessons and best practices to IAs, Approving Bodies, oversight committees and agencies, and other stakeholders
- 14. Advise and assist IAs and oversight agencies in developing and periodically updating organization development plan; recommend to the DBM the standards of trainings, qualification, and compensation for personnel under such plan
- 15. Manage and administer the PDMF

PDMF Committee

16. Manage and administer the PPP Risk Management Fund

The PDMF Committee is institutionalized to approve

applications for PDMF support submitted by IAs.

- 17. Act as Secretariat to the PDMF and the PPP Governing Board
- 18. Perform other functions to achieve the objectives of the Code

PDMF

The PDMF is a revolving fund and is institutionalized for the procurement of advisory and support services related to:



Project Preparation

Structuring



Probity Management



Financial Close



Evaluation



Monitoring of Implementation



Members

DOF, Vice-Chair

NEDA, Chair



DBM



Procurement



PPP Center

Units within Implementing Agencies

PPP Unit

The Head of the Implementing Agency may establish a PPP unit, or assign responsibility to an appropriate unit to act as its PPP unit for:



Planning





Oversight

Monitoring

Pre-Qualifying, Bids and Awards Committee (PBAC)

Created by IA to be responsible for all aspects of pre-bidding and bidding process in Solicited Proposals, or the comparative bidding process in Unsolicited Proposal

PPP Risk Management Fund

This Fund is created to pay realized contingent liabilities arising from PPPs in accordance with its contract terms to:



Ensure fiscal sustainability



Negotiate better financing terms for PPP Projects

Funding Sources



General Appropriations



Income from Existing PPP Projects







Other sources determined by the DBCC

Inter-Agency TWG on Contingent Liabilities

The TWG is institutionalized. The PPP Center, in coordination with the TWG, shall formulate guidelines on the management of Contingent Liabilities arising from PPPs and the use of the PPP Risk Management Fund.

mplementing Rules and Regulations* (IRR) Inclusions



Procedures for approval of PPP Projects, processing of USP, evaluation of bid proposals, protests



Framework for supervision and monitoring PPP Projects



Mechanism for setting Reasonable Rate of Return



List of Government Undertakings that may be granted to a PPP Project

Other Provisions

Issuance of Franchise and Regulation of Tolls, Fares, Fees, Rentals, and Other Charges

Within 180 days from the issuance of the IRR. regulatory bodies shall issue and publish guidelines, frameworks, or mechanisms for consultation, review, and approval of tolls and adjustments thereof.

Approval of initial tolls and adjustments to be based on:



Service quality



KPIs



Principles of fairness, transparency, predictability, protection of public interest

Prohibition of Temporary Restraining Orders, Preliminary Injunctions, Preliminary Mandatory Injunctions, and Other Provisional Remedies

No court, except the Supreme Court, may issue provisional remedies against any IA or the PPP Center, its officials or employees, or any person or entity, whether public or private acting under government directions, to restrain, prohibit, or compel certain acts*.

* Evaluation, acceptance, or rejection of USP; bidding, re-bidding or declaration of failure of bidding; awarding of any PPP contract; acquisition, clearance and development of ROW, site or location of any PPP Project; commence recurding, implementation, termination, or rescission of any PPP contract; undertaking or authorization of any other lawful activity necessary for such PPP Project.. The Prohibition does not apply when the matter is of extreme urgency involving a Constitutional issue.

Investment Incentives and Investment Recovery Schemes

PPP Projects undertaken through the PPP Code shall be entitled to various incentives under applicable laws and existing policies of government. The Private Partner shall be allowed to recover its investments and earn reasonable profit through any of the following schemes or a combination thereof:



Revenue-Based



Availability-Based



Commercial **Development Rights**



Grant of a % of reclaimed land



PPP Projects awarded under this Code shall be subject to the Government Auditing Code of the Philippines and the 2000 Revised Rules of Procedures of the Commission on Audit (COA)*

* - The COA, in consultation and coordination with the PPPC, shall adopt and promulgate the necessary framework and guidelines on accounting and audit PPP Projects

Transitory Clause

of the PPP Code

All existing PPP Contracts and upcoming PPP Projects affected by the PPP Code shall be treated as follows:

Governing Document/s Case Agreement entered into by the Parties **Existing Contracts** PPP Code to apply suppletorily* PPP Code* PPP projects issued with notices of award but with no executed contracts at the time of the effectivity Otherwise, the rules in effect at the time

- Solicited PPP projects that have commenced bidding at the time of the effectivity of the Code
- Unsolicited projects which have commenced comparative challenges at the time of the effectivity of the Code
- PPP Code*

project approval

Otherwise, rules in effect at the commencement of the bidding or comparative challenge process shall apply

Proposed PPP projects under the RA 6957, as amended by RA 7718, and its IRR, which are either pending approval or have been approved by the appropriate approving body, but the bidding or comparative challenge process has not yet commenced

PPP Code, except those that govern

NOA were issued shall apply

National and local JVs and other contractual arrangements for toll projects or toll facilities with a Private Partner including Toll Operations Agreement, Supplemental Toll Operations Agreement, and other similar arrangements, pending approval of the Toll Regulatory Board and other pertinent regulatory bodies

Approval process under Section 7 of the PPP Code

^{*} The IRR Committee, composed of the members of the Governing Board and in consultation with stakeholders, shall promulgate the IRR within 90 days from the effectivity of the PPP Code.

^{*}To the extent that that such application does not infringe upon established rights and obligations

^{5 |} Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Code of the Philippines

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Our insights and quality services help empower businesses and the economy, while simultaneously nurturing our people and strengthening our communities. Working across assurance, tax, strategy and transactions, and consulting services. SGV teams ask better questions to find new answers for the complex issues facing our world today.

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