



# Contractual Issues in PPP – Bundling, Contracts and Adaptability

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# BACKGROUND

- Trend before financial crisis: delegation to private sector of infrastructure and public service provision.
- Private sector financed 20% infrastructure investment in LDC in the '90s (Hammami, et al. 2006, IMF).



# THE UK PFI

PFI since 1992 (HMT 2008):

- 625 signed projects for £58.7b.
- 510 completed facilities
- 70 hospitals completed, 27 under construction
- 94 projects for 800 schools
- 43 transport projects
- 300 projects in defence, leisure, museums, accommodation, waste management



## ...‘CTD

- **UK:** leading the way in Europe
- **Portugal:** PPP 20 % public investment 99-03 (Valila et al., 2005, EIB), but also Italy, France, Greece, Holland, Spain, Eastern Europe.
- **India:** PPP since 2005; now 35% of infrastructure projects
- Like Canada, Australia Fed Govt has given state authorities strong guidance to use PPP
- LDC

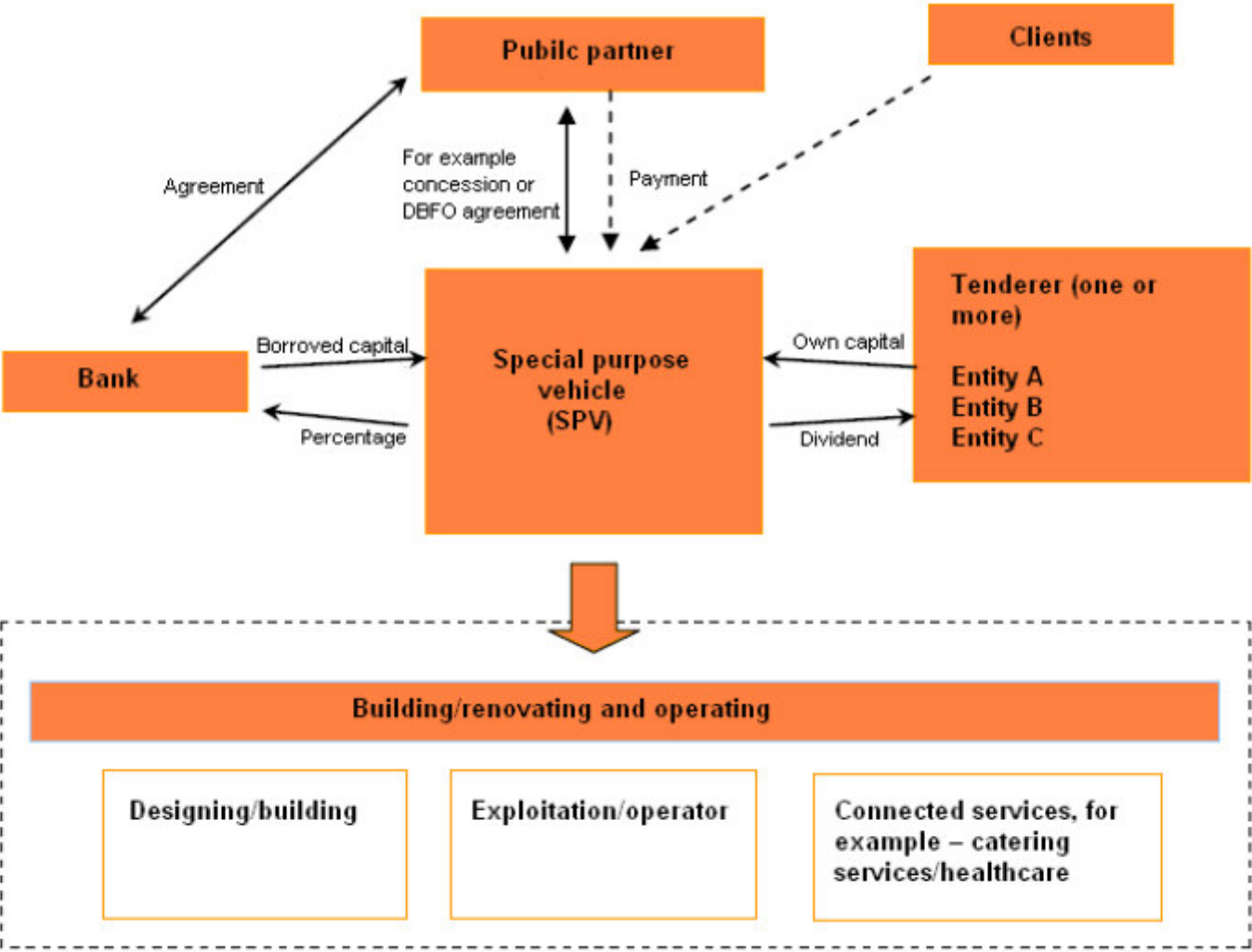


# PPP MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

1. **Bundling** of project phases (DBFO model)
2. Higher **risk transfer** to private sector; “pay for performance principle”; “output specification approach”
3. **Long term** contract (typically 25-30 years)
4. Private **finance**



### Typical PPP transaction structure



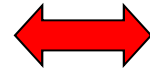


# TYPES OF PPP PROJECTS

- **Financially free standing (concession-type)**
  - users fees
  - (highways, roads, bridges)
- **Public sector as client (PFI-type)**
  - shadow prices; availability & performance fees
  - (Schools, Hospitals, Prisons)
- **(Joint ventures companies)**

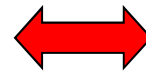
# RATIONALE FOR PPP

(i) Private sector more efficient?



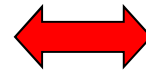
**Meggison Netter (2001): not always**

(ii) Private finance cheaper?



**No; risk premium**

(iii) Off balance sheet?



**IPPR (2001): no  
Eurostat (2004)**





## THE KEY IS RISK TRANSFER

Efficiency criteria to allocate risk. Often a trade off.

- To minimize **risk premium**: risk must be mainly borne by the least risk-averse party.
- To give **incentives**, risk must be mainly borne by the party who can best manage it.

**Bundling increases incentive power of risk transfer,**  
and thus of "*pay for performance schemes*"  
based on *output*  
(**Target on Output**)



**Transferring construction and operational risk  
to a contractor in charge  
of construction and management**



Incentives to **increase infrastructure quality** to reduce maintenance/operating cost.

**Externalities from construction to management phase are internalized**



## Target on Output also



(+) More incentives to find innovative cost effective solution to output provision.

### But careful!

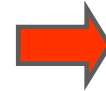
(-) Risk premium.

(-) Also, more incentives to cut cost at expense of quality  
⇒ **Need clear and comprehensive measure of quality.**

(-) Loss of control on asset owned by private sector

## SO WHY PPP?

Because **bundling** of design, building and management in a **long term contract**..



..creates a single point of responsibility, which makes..



..risk transfer more **effective** on incentives and..




...favours a “*whole-life approach*” (internalization of externalities)



And for each risk find the optimal risk allocation

- Risk of Misspecification of output
- Design risk
- Construction risk and time schedule risk
- Operation risk
- Demand risk
- Risk of changes in public needs
- Legislative/Regulatory risk
- Financial risk
- Residual value risk



**(NAO 03; 07; HMT 06)**

**COMPLETION TIME:** 76% PPP on time  
30% non-PPP

**RISK TRANSFER:** 22% PPP price renegotiation  
73% non-PPP

**MANAGEMENT STAGE (survey, PUK, 06)**

96% of PS sample were “satisfied” or  
“more than satisfied”

66 %: “good” o “very good.



## **BUT IS RISK TRANSFER ALWAYS FEASIBLE?**

\*\*\*\* \*NO!\* \*\*\*\* \*

Essential services provision ⇒ **PS bears residual risk**

⇒ If things go wrong, PS picks up the bill.

Example: Metronet, London Underground;

Re-tendering of PPP contracts often difficult because of lack of secondary market and alternative providers



- ❑ Crucial role played by institutions and legal enforcement of contracts, dispute resolution mechanisms;
- ❑ Need appropriate monitoring. In practice lack of resources and often self-monitoring;
- ❑ Commercially (and politically) sensitive information limits outside monitoring. Transparency is important as signal.





# SIDE EFFECTS OF BUNDLING

## 1. Higher transaction costs:

5-10% cost of capital independently of project value (Yescombe, 2007)

## 2. Longer tendering periods

(from OJ to financial closure):

34 months average

25 for schools

38 for hospitals



## 3. Reduced competition

- 85 % projects in sample prior to 2004 attracted 3+ bids
- Recently tendered projects : 67 % with 3+ bids; 30% projects with only 2 bids
- Top 10 constructors cover 63% of total sample
- Top 10 hard FM cover 56% of total sample
- Same advisers appointed by public and private sector in turns
- Insurance advisory market more concentrated than other advisory markets



## LONG TERM CONTRACTS AND ADAPTABILITY

- 25-30 years length
- Incomplete contracts: many contingencies are unforeseeable, nondescribable, nonverifiable and thus cannot be specified in the contract

(+) Long-term contracts maximizes benefit from **internalization of externalities** due to bundling

But

(-) **Loss of flexibility:** contractor locked-in makes it difficult and costly to adapt the output specifications to new users needs.



**Change-mechanism clauses** helps to make contract flexible but they are not sufficient

***Benchmarking:*** lack of comparable data due to new sectors

***Market testing:*** often no secondary market

- Informal agreement to obtain flexibility but then sustainability of agreement is problematic.
- Reputational mechanism – vendor rating would help.



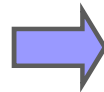
# Empirical evidence

- In UK, output specifications changed during contract negotiations for 33% Central Government Departments PFI projects in 2004 – 2006
- NAO (2003): 55% of contracts changed after being signed
- Changes for £4m per project; 17% project value (NAO, 2007)
- PPP unsuitable for fast-moving sectors (IT services, HMT 08)
- LAC sample 1,000 concessions 1985-2000, Guasch (2004): 30 % renegotiated 26 % by PS

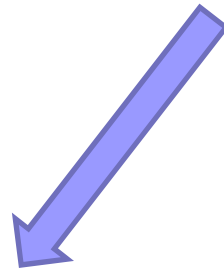


## ...AND WHY PRIVATE FINANCE?

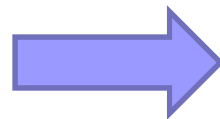
**Because large capital value projects with large upfront investments**



**..need private money at stake for effective risk transfer**



**Role of banks, FI**



**Diluted incentives for operators must be compensated by monitoring by banks**



## ...meanwhile


- PFI now completely dependent on banks. With more bargaining power, banks are asking for 2.5% higher return.
- Current options:
  1. Injecting public money into scheme
  2. Underwriting returns to lender
- But then circular process: banks lend to govt that guarantees returns to banks!
- Less incentives for banks to monitor which reduces value of private finance.



With these trade off in mind, in the health sector should we bundle ?

- Design, Construction & Maintenance of a hospital?
- And Management of the hospital?
- And medical services inside the hospital?
- And Ancillary services such as cleaning, portering, or catering?





## Ultimately, it depends:

- Is whole-life costing valuable? Which component, Maintenance? Management? Medical services?
- So (i) is there clear link btw quality infrastructure & value of service, and btw (ii) quality infrastructure & cost of maintenance/management, operation:
- Is quality of service contractible / verifiable?
- Is demand for the service stable?
- Are risks transferable? Are services non-essential?
- Is the legal system (arbitration) efficient?
- Are public officials accountable and well-trained for managing the procurement process?