

# Part I. The UNECE 'People-first' approach to PPPs

*Webinar: How to Design PPP Projects Aligned with the SDGs? the People-first approach to PPPs*

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# The People-first approach to PPPs

A new model “fit for purpose” for the SDGs



- A new generation of infrastructure projects done through PPP, putting people’s interest at their core, generating both ‘value for people’ and ‘value for the planet’.
- 5 People-first outcomes that derive from the SDGs as it concerns Infrastructure:

**Access and  
Equity**

**Economic  
effectiveness  
and fiscal  
sustainability**

**Resilience and  
environmental  
sustainability**

**Replicability**

**Stakeholder  
engagement**

# Mainstreaming the People-first approach to PPPs



## UNECE Guiding Principles for People-first PPPs

- 10 **guiding principles** to support governments in designing and implementing comprehensive People-first PPP policies, programmes and pipelines of projects

## UNECE People-first Infrastructure Evaluation and Rating System (PIERS)

- An **evaluation methodology** to score projects against the People-first outcomes and the SDGs

## UNECE Policy and sectoral standards to improve transparency and lower transaction cost

- **Sectoral standards** on PPPs in Railway, Renewable Energy and Roads
  - More in development: Urban Rail Transit, Airports, Healthcare, Waste-to-Energy, and Water and Sanitation.
- Standard on a Zero Tolerance Approach to Corruption in PPP Procurement

## UNECE People-first PPP model legislation

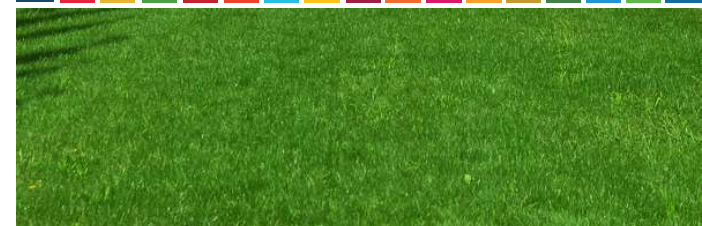
- **People-first Model Law** (to be finalized in 2021)

# Capacity-building and policy advisory services



- Alignment of the PPP legal and regulatory framework with the SDGs and the People-first approach to PPPs.
- Introducing the People-first outcomes in project identification and preparation.

## **Part II. UNECE People-first Infrastructure Evaluation and Rating System (PIERS)**



# People-first Infrastructure Evaluation and Rating System (PIERS)

Measuring infrastructure projects against the SDGs



- Project Team developed an evaluating methodology
  - To score infrastructure projects against the 5 People-first outcomes and the SDGs.
  - International Project Team composed of over 100 experts.
  - Unique initiative in the UN.
- Developed in 2020
  - Building on existing sustainability methodologies.
  - 22 benchmarks and 100 indicators.
  - A weighting and scoring system for the benchmarks and indicators.
  - Initial testing on 30+ pilot projects and public consultation.
  - More than 30 countries expressed interest in using PIERS.
- Implementation in 2021
  - Further testing on actual projects.
  - Developed as a Self-Assessment Tool.



# People-first Infrastructure Evaluation and Rating System (PIERS)

22 Benchmarks to assess projects



Access and Equity	Economic Effectiveness and Fiscal Sustainability	Environmental Sustainability and Resilience	Replicability	Stakeholder Engagement
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Provide essential services.</li><li>2. Advance affordability and universal access.</li><li>3. Improve equity and social justice.</li><li>4. Plan for long-term access and equity.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>5. Avoid corruption and encourage transparent procurement.</li><li>6. Maximise economic viability and fiscal sustainability.</li><li>7. Maximise long-term financial viability.</li><li>8. Enhance employment and economic opportunities.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>9. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve energy efficiency.</li><li>10. Reduce waste and restore degraded land.</li><li>11. Water consumption and wastewater discharge.</li><li>12. Protect biodiversity.</li><li>13. Assess risk and resilience for disaster management.</li><li>14. Allocate funds for resilience and disaster management.</li><li>15. Advance community-driven development.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>16. Encourage replicability and scalability.</li><li>17. Enhance government, industry and community capacity.</li><li>18. Support innovation and technology transfer.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>19. Plan for stakeholder engagement and public participation.</li><li>20. Maximise stakeholder engagement and public participation.</li><li>21. Provide transparent and quality project information.</li><li>22. Manage public grievances and end user feedback.</li></ol>

# Self-Assessment Tool



Benchmark →

Indicators →

Benchmark	<b>AE1. PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SERVICES</b>	
Intent	Provide new or improved access to essential services to people who did not previously have access to such services (or who did not have adequate access to such services).	
Applicability	This benchmark is applicable to all projects that provide one or more essential services and/or have the potential to directly or indirectly impact the provision of one or more existing essential services. As a result, it would be difficult to demonstrate that this benchmark is not relevant or applicable to a project seeking to be recognised as a People-first PPP. Therefore, projects seeking to be recognised as People-first PPPs are required to address the mandatory indicators (marked with *) which are required to meet the “good practice” performance level, and are strongly encouraged to address all indicators included in this benchmark, moving towards the “better practice” and “best practice” performance levels where possible.	
	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Answer</b>
	AE1.1 * Has the project identified and taken into account the needs, goals, and issues of the communities it intends to serve?	Yes
	AE1.2 * Does the project directly or indirectly provide essential services to people who did not previously have access to such services and/or directly or indirectly improve or maintain access to essential services?	Yes
	AE1.3 Have impacts to existing essential services as a result of the project been assessed?	No
	AE1.4 Has the project avoided/eliminated, mitigated, and/or offset impacts to existing essential services?	No
	AE1.5 Is there evidence that stakeholder lives have been transformed as a result of the project providing new or improved access to essential services?	No
	(* mandatory)	AE1 Performance: Good Practice

Choose answers (dropdown menu)

Home page | At-A-Glance | Access and Equity | Economic Effectiveness | Environmental Sust. & Res. | Replicability | Stakeholder Engagement | Results

5 People-first outcomes

Categories	Percentage
Access and Equity	75%
Economic Effectiveness and Fiscal Sustainability	87%
Environmental Sustainability and Resilience	60%
Replicability	50%
Stakeholder Engagement	42%
<b>Overall score*</b>	<b>75%</b>



# Self-Assessment Tool

## Comments

### Strengths:

The project has taken into account the needs, goals, and issues of the communities it intends to serve.

The project has quantified the number of people who will have new or improved access to one or more essential services as a direct and/or indirect result of the project who previously had no or unsatisfactory access to these services.

The project has taken into account the historic context of social equity and justice throughout the life of the project (identification, development and implementation).

The project has assessed the range of direct and indirect social impacts (e.g., direct impacts on cultural, historical, recreational, or other resources and services resulting from the project and associated activities; impacts from independent secondary development or actions that may occur as a result of the project; indirect impacts on cultural, historical, recreational or other resource or services that are important to the local community) it will have on host and affected communities (i.e., the project service area).

The project has evaluated risks to project performance in terms of affordability, accessibility, and equitability.

### Areas for improvement:

Identify and address the accessibility needs of the communities the project is intended to serve to ensure that the service provided by the project is easily accessible by all users, including those most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

Develop and implement an environmental management plan (EMP) to avoid, mitigate impacts to, or restore the impact area.

Complete disaster preparedness for the project.

Complete disaster preparedness for the project and the host and affected communities in the surrounding areas.

Develop stakeholder engagement and public participation metrics to measure the effectiveness and inclusiveness of the stakeholder engagement and public participation process, and to measure the specific outcomes achieved (e.g., social, cultural, economic, environmental outcomes) as a result of the process.

# Using PIERS

Available online



## PIERS resources available on the UNECE website:

*(in English and Russian)*

- Self-Assessment Tool
- User Guide to the Self-Assessment Tool
- Testing protocol to provide feedback

Accessible online:

<https://unece.org/ppp/piers>

# **Video introducing PIERS**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mwv85jCIWGg>

# Thank you

Tony Bonnici

Antonin Menegaux

[ppp@un.org](mailto:ppp@un.org)

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