International Seminar on Strengthening Public Investment and Managing Fiscal Risks from Public-Private Partnerships

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Combining PPP with EU Grants

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Risks from Public-Private Partnerships

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- > How
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- > Instruments
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N+20min Rule



Background

- Mar 2003 DG REGIO. Guidelines for Successful Public-Private Partnerships
- Jun 2004 DG REGIO. Resource Book on PPP Case Studies
- Nov 2005 Johnson & Kramarik. The application of Public Private Partnerships (PPP) to the financing of transport projects from EU funds
- Jan 2006 PwC/PPIAF. Hybrid PPPs: Levering EU Funds and private capital
- May 2006 Deloitte et al. Application of the PPP Principle on the Economic and Social Cohesion Policy
- Jul 2006 Council Regulation (EC) 1083/2006



The Good News



Tagus Bridge (Portugal), Sparta Airport (Greece), West Lothian College (UK), M1 Drogheda bypass (Ireland), Perpignan-Figeras rail link (France-Spain) etc.

The Bad News

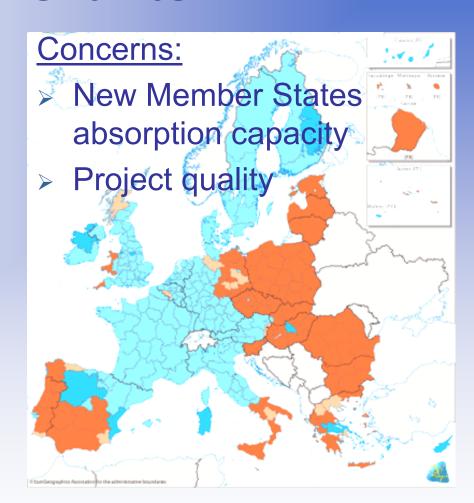
... the Rule Book changed





EU Grants

- Programming Period: 2007-2013
- Cohesion Instruments:
 €308bn EU grant funds
- > Up to 85% project costs
- Public Infrastructure (transport, environment, municipal)
- Major projects:
 - > 50m transport etc.
 - > 25m environment



EU Grant funding will dominate public sector investment in New Member States



Fiscal Risks

Unexpected budgetary impacts

- Construction:
 - Cost Overruns
 - Delays
- > Operations:
 - Revenue guarantees
 - Reduced benefits
 - Operational costs
 - Unitary payments
- > EU Funds Decommitment:
 - N+2 (programme level)
- > EU Funds Repayment:
 - Non-compliance
 - Misuse

EU grants:

- > Fiscal windfall
- > Introduces new risks

PPP:

- Tool to manage risks
- > Introduces new risks

Counterfactual:

Risks in Traditional Procurement



Why EU Grants?

- Grant Rationale:
 - Economic & Social Cohesion
 - Externalities
 - Acquis compliance
 - Affordability:
 - To users
 - To paying agency / taxpayers
 - Cost recovery policy:
 - User Charges v Taxes

Article 55 – Revenue generating projects

"Eligible expenditure on revenue-generating projects shall not exceed the current value of the investment cost less the current value of the net revenue from the investment over a specific reference period"

Q. Why PPP Procurement?

- > Why?
 - Balance sheet treatment
 - à la mode
 - Cost & date certainty of construction contracts
 - Operational performance
 - Private sector skills
 - Leverage of private finance
 - Public procurement reform

Why not?

- Maturity of Legal Framework
- Project preparation time & cost in n+2 context
- Efficient scale of cofinancing
- Enhanced public sector capacity requirements
- Poor experiences in New member States

A. Value-for-Money

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Designing the PPProcess

- Demonstration projects v programmes
- Build public sector capacity
- National/Regional/Ministry PPP Taskforces
- Process models:
 - UK, Nordic, French, Spanish, etc.
 - Anglo-Saxon v Administrative Law
- Project models:
 - DBFO, Concession, Institutional JV, etc
 - Risk allocation
- Grant blending models?
 - Horses for courses ...

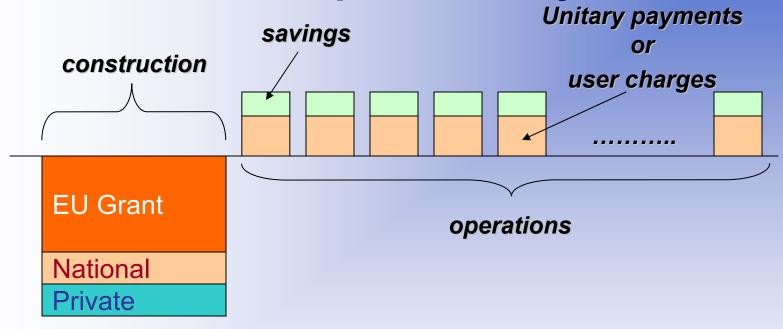








Models (1) Capex subsidy



Characteristics:

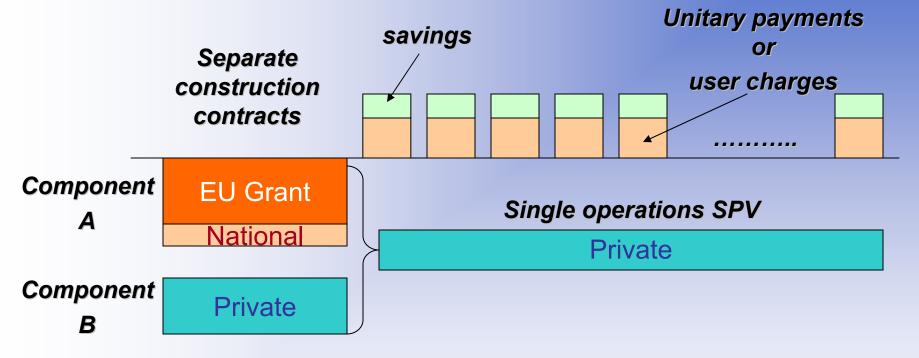
- Most common model
- Leverage: Low
- Incentives: Low (depends on grants)

Issues:

- > Timing of grant commitment
- Scale for private finance



Models (2) Parallel Co-finance



Characteristics:

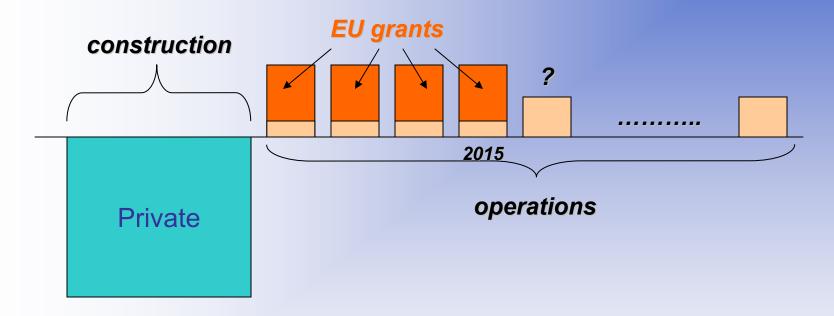
- Common in transport
- Leverage: Moderate
- Incentives: Moderate

Issues:

- Interface problems
- Ability to slice up project



Models (3) Payment subsidy



Characteristics:

- Similar to UK PFI credits?
- Leverage: High
- Incentives: High

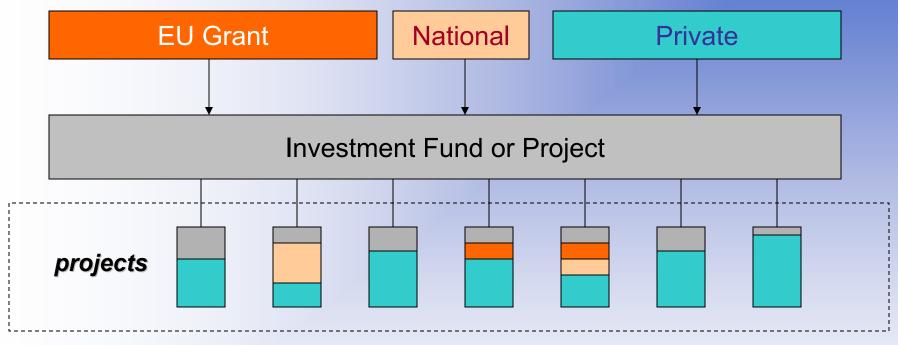
Issues:

- Only for availability schemes
- Eligible expenditure period
- Regulations unclear

Fiscal risk depends on payment mechanism & guarantees



Models (4) Co-Investor (Fund or Project)



Characteristics:

- Like urban regeneration funds
- Leverage: High
- Incentives: High

Issues:

- Social objectives v profitability
- Selection of private partner
- Recycling of profits





> PPP Procurement

- EU Green Paper on PPP
- Public Procurement Directives (from Jan 2006)
 - Competitive Dialogue Procedure
- EU Treaty Principles (ECJ Jurisprudence)
 - Must select private partner through competitive, fair, transparent process

New Funding Regulations

- Regulation 1083/2006 Jul 2006
 - Additionality requirements
 - Grant rate calculation
 - PPP specifically mentioned 6 times
- Implementation Rules 1828/2006 Dec 2006



Uncertainties/Issues



- > Definition of public v private expenditure
- Treatment of availability payments
- Co-financing rate calculation
- Private beneficiary as "initiator"
- > Timing of application & grant decision
- Implications of N+2 rule to availability schemes
- Models for grant blending in different sectors
- Appropriate tender/bid criteria



Managing Uncertainty

>You are not alone ...



> JASPERS



... alive & kicking

> JESSICA



... delivery room

> EPEC



... gestating



JASPERS



- Joint initiative EC-EIB-EBRD
- Project preparation Technical Assistance facility
- Free to New Member States (EU Grant Funded)
- > Focus on Major Projects (Transport & Environ.)
- Annual Action Plans agreed with Countries
 - Requests to provide project preparation support for 10 potential PPP projects in 6 countries
 - Guidance Working Papers on cross-cutting PPP issues, including Models for PPP-Grant Blending



Looking forward

- Main fiscal risk from EU grant blending is decommitment
- > EU policy commitment to allow PPP with grants
- Need new success stories
- Use new instruments (JASPERS, JESSICA)
- Learn lessons from experienced EU partners (EPEC)
- Pilots v Programmes
- "Eyes on the prize":
 - Make best use of grant funds
 - Better public procurement
 - Better delivery
 - Value-for-Money
 - ... to EU as well as National taxpayer!





Take the money ... or open the box?



Why not both?



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