

Indicator narrative

Indicator Number and Name: *SDG indicator 17.17.1: Amount of United States dollars committed to public-private partnerships in infrastructure*

Custodian Agency(ies): The World Bank Group

Current Tier: Tier III

Proposed Tier: Tier I

1. Background and rationale for indicator re-classification

Indicator proposed based on WBG data: “Amount of United States dollars committed to public-private partnerships in Infrastructure.”

The proposed indicator by the World Bank Group defines the term Public-Private Partnership (PPPs) as “any contractual arrangement between a public entity or authority and a private entity, for providing a public asset or service, in which the private party bears significant risk and management responsibility.”

The term infrastructure refers to:

- Energy: electricity generation, transmission, and distribution, and natural gas transmission and distribution pipelines
- Information and communications technology (ICT): ICT backbone infrastructure
- Transport: Airports, railways, ports, and roads.
- Water: potable water treatment and distribution, and sewerage collection and treatment.

The data regarding this indicator has been collected by the WBG since 1990 for all emerging markets and development economies (123 countries in all regions). Data for OECD/DAC 1 countries are not collected. The dataset is known as the Private Participation in Infrastructure (PPI) database. Updates are provided every six months (usually April and October) and the data is publicly available at www.ppi.worldbank.org. This indicator is also available at the World Development Indicators at:

<http://databank.worldbank.org/data/reports.aspx?source=world-development-indicators>

2. Information on how and when the methodology has become an international standard and who is the governing body that approves it

The indicator has an established methodology that is available at the website <http://ppi.worldbank.org/methodology/ppi-methodology> and the data collection process is as follows:

- Team of researchers gather data for each of the regions using public sources (from government and MDBs websites); commercial news databases (such as Factiva, Business News America, ISI Emerging markets, and the Economist Intelligence Unit's databases) as well as from commercial specialized and industry publications/subscriptions (Thomson Financial's Project Finance International, Euromoney's Project Finance, Media Analytics' Global Water Intelligence, Pisent Masons' Water Yearbooks, and Platt's Power in Asia, etc.), specialist portal (such as Privatization, IPAnet, and Privatization Barometer), Internet resources (such as web sites of project companies, privatization or PPP agencies, and regulatory agencies) sponsor information (primarily through their Web sites, annual reports, press releases, and financial reports such as 10K and 20F forms submitted to the NYSE) and multilateral development agencies primarily through information on their Websites, annual reports, and other studies.
- Data is uploaded to an administrative website through a template to make sure data is standardized.
- Data is validated by a group of experts in Singapore.
- Data is later uploaded to the public website (www.ppi.worldbank.org) and make it available free of charge.

The limitations of the proposed indicator is that it does not account for other sectors such as education and health may account for a significant part of PPPs but they are not captured by the database. Expanding the data to include PPPs in other sector beyond infrastructure is something that the World Bank is considering but it is currently limited by budget constraints.

Unfortunately, PPI database does not collect data on civil society partnerships and this will not fit the currently methodology of data gathering and is outside the present work's scope.

3. Development and testing of the methodology (please also include information on how NSSs, and in particular NSOs, are involved in methodology development, data collection and data validation)

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PPP units can challenge the data and request to add or drop projects and that request will be honoured if the projects was wrongly omitted or selected per the methodology.

4. Result of the pilot studies and list of countries consulted that are regionally representative

5. Confirmation/explanation if joint submission with other partner/co-custodian agencies

This is a WBG database (funded fully by World Bank budget); No other agencies/organizations are funding this work.

6. Conclusion

While the indicator has limitations in terms of his coverage, it is an international recognized publicly available database with the most robust and comprehensive information on PPPs in infrastructure and therefore it seems an excellent source to track progress on *Target 17.17: Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.*