



# PPP Finance Strategy Tool

- PPP Finance Strategy Tool
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- Step 2: Identify financing needs & gaps
- Step 3: Explore financing opportunities
- Step 4: Conclusions for finance strategy
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This tool is developed by PPPLab to assist in developing, reviewing or sharpening a finance strategy for a Public-Private Partnership. As such, it could be of interest to persons/ organisations that want to develop/ improve a PPP or that are considering to invest in a PPP.

The tool will assist in analysing financing needs and bottlenecks and in reviewing a range of financing options. It aims at broadening the view of the users, helping to be more creative and to open opportunities for smart combinations of financing streams.

The tool builds on the PPPCanvas, a business model canvas especially designed for PPPs– as a clear understanding of the PPP's essential features is crucial before a financing strategy can be developed. Optionally other tools or ways can be used, as long as there is sufficient clarity around what the PPP is aiming for, how it will achieve this, the business case within it and the developmental outcomes or public value it creates.

The tool consists of **four steps** that usually will involve an iterative process to conclude, meaning working on one step, may lead to further questions about/ ideas for previous steps. Hence, while using the tool you may have to jump back to a previous step(s) to optimize it.

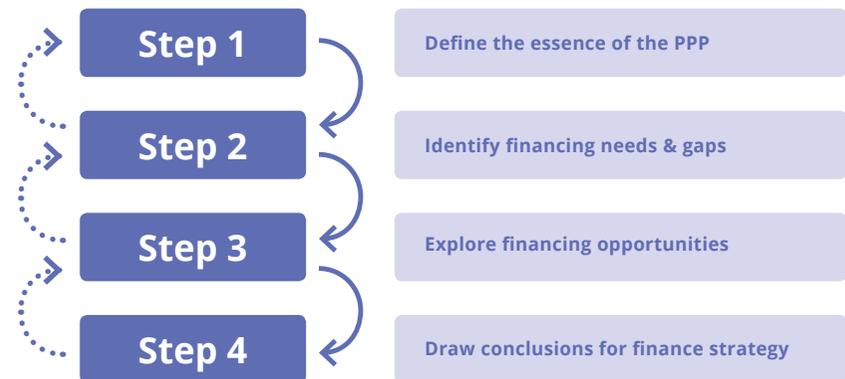
**Step 1:** A set of questions helps to provide more clarity on the essence of the PPP. If it is not possible to answer these questions, it highlights some areas where you may need to do some more work.

**Step 2:** A second set of questions assists in identifying the financing needs and bottlenecks.

**Step 3:** With help of a template, a range of financing opportunities can be considered systematically for their suitability for the PPP.

**Step 4:** Through some key questions and pointers for summary, the above steps are brought to a conclusion.

It needs to be understood that finding the necessary finance for PPPs can be very challenging and that following the above steps may not be a recipe for success at the first attempt. However, the tool should help – in an iterative way – to better define your PPP, the financing challenges and opportunities and to work systematically towards a strong finance strategy. While the tool will not “spit out” a finance strategy for you, it should provide you key insights and ingredients that will help you write it. It needs to be kept in mind that the tool could assist people from various backgrounds on headlines, but that financial experts will remain required when working out details.



## PPP Finance Strategy Tool

### How to use this tool

Developing a finance strategy is an iterative process, that requests to be constantly improved, refined and updated. Hence, this finance strategy tool is meant to support that process, time and context bound, never “done”. Specific steps in the tool implicate the need to go back and forward, deepening insights or consequences, stimulating the (sometimes non-foreseen) exploration of different issues or options before getting to a next step.

Depending on the phase that the PPP is in (e.g. blue print-validation-scaling), different steps of the tool will be more useful to prioritise. Therefore, it is likely that you will not work in detail on (each question of) each step at one point in time.

While it may be illustrative to go through the tool individually, we recommend that the tool is used in a group session facilitated by a resource person. Depending on your PPP, its human resources and the key issues that you are struggling with, the resource persons could come from different fields of expertise and be either internal or external to the consortium partners.

**“Tools don’t show the way to success, they (just) help to navigate.”**

Development of a finance strategy for a PPP cannot be seen stand-alone from two other main PPP issues: ‘partnering with public partners’ and ‘horizontal& vertical scaling’. (see [www.ppplab.org](http://www.ppplab.org))

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## Step 1: Define the essence of the PPP

In this first step, a set of questions is asked to provide more clarity on the essence of the PPP. If it is not possible to answer these questions, it highlights some areas where you may need to do some more work. Before answering the questions below it is highly recommended to have your PPP already

worked out in a PPPCanvas – a business model canvas especially designed for PPPs – as a clear understanding of the PPP’s essential features is crucial before a financing strategy can be developed.

[Click here](#) for more information and guidance on using the PPPCanvas.

### 13. Business Ecosystem



## Step1: Define the essence of the PPP

The questions below may to some extent overlap with the PPPCanvas, but are meant to re-think these issues with developing a finance strategy in mind.

### What ?

- What is the value proposition that you want to get financing for? Does it involve a product and/ or a service? And what is new/unknown/innovative?
  - Who is your target group? Open market with range of customers or business to business? BOP and/or other income tiers? (Include customers and extended beneficiaries)
  - What commitments, if any, do you have from buyers?
- 
- What are the projected targets and the timeline for achieving those results? What results are expected both from a business perspective as well as in terms of social/ public value ("Impact" in PPPCanvas) that is created?
  - In what stage of development is your proposition? (see figure to the right).

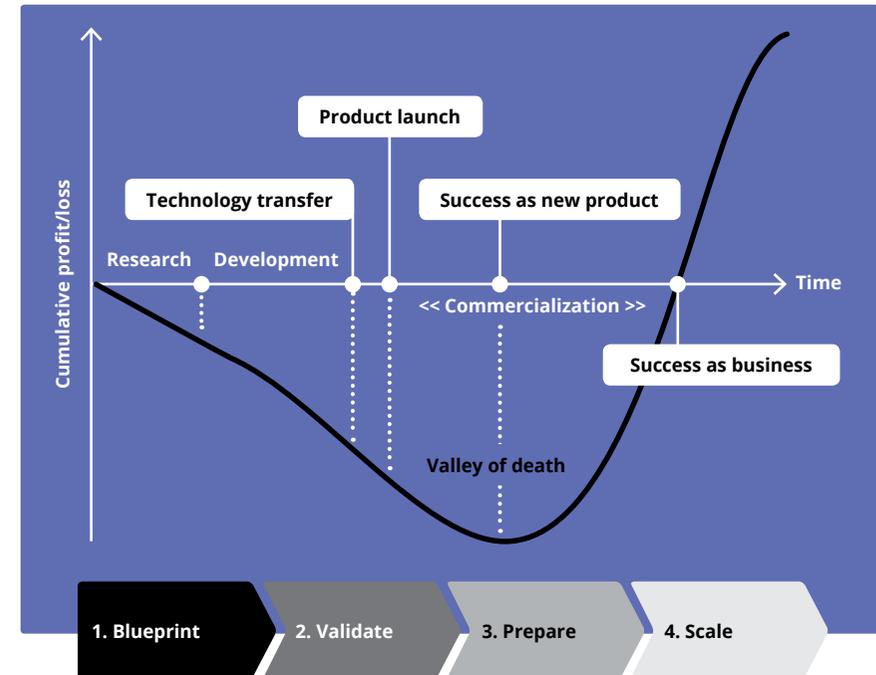


Figure 1. The valley of death and pioneering stages - For explanation of this graph, please refer to Insight Series #4"

## Step1: Define the essence of the PPP

### With whom ?

Fill out the below table to get more clarity on the partnership

Partner name	Type of partner (company, GOVT, NGO..?)	Amount & type of funding available	Period partner is participating
<b>Lead partner</b>			
<b>Partner 1:</b>			
<b>Partner 2:</b>			

- Are there still additional partners/ skills/ expertise needed? As an additional partner or can this be subcontracted?

### Business case

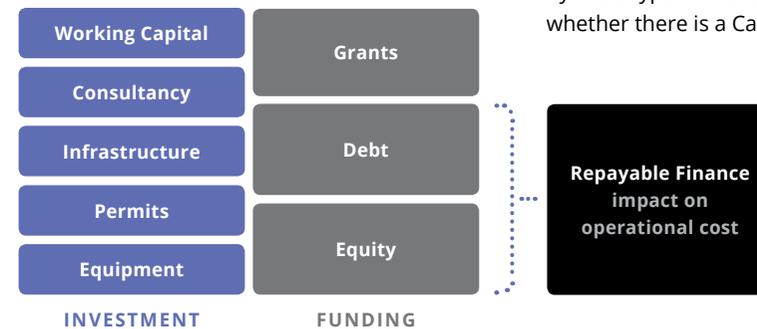
- What are the strengths of the business case(s) in the initiative? What is the role/ position of the business case within the PPP?
- What are competing alternatives and why is your solution more attractive?

## Step 2: Identify the financing needs & gaps

In this second step, a set of questions is asked to assist in identifying the financing needs, compare these with the readily available finance to determine the gaps that need to be resolved. Except for the first and last element of the below questions, the Business Ecosystem bottlenecks, CapEx needs and OpEx versus Revenues will also be best derived from the PPPCanvas.

The Ecosystem bottlenecks, Key Activities and Key Resources captured in the PPPCanvas have cost implications that need to be quite clearly mapped to understand the strengths of the business case. The graphics used in

the below to further break down CapEx, OpEx and Revenues are taken from the Insight Booklet "Financing PPPs". Please refer to that booklet if you need more explanation about this.



The graphic may help you to capture all your CapEx as it spells out 5 categories of investments that may be needed. This should be compared to the funding available to the PPP consortium (represented in the graphic by the 3 types of funding) to determine whether there is a CapEx gap.

### Key questions to identify the financing needs & gaps

#### Financial strengths of partners:

- What financial resources are readily available to the partners in the consortium?
- What is the **creditworthiness** of each partner? And what are your expectations around the **bankability** of the PPP intervention?

#### Business Ecosystem bottlenecks:

- What challenges in the **business ecosystem** need to be considered and what needs to be done to overcome these?
- What financial implications does this all have for your PPP?

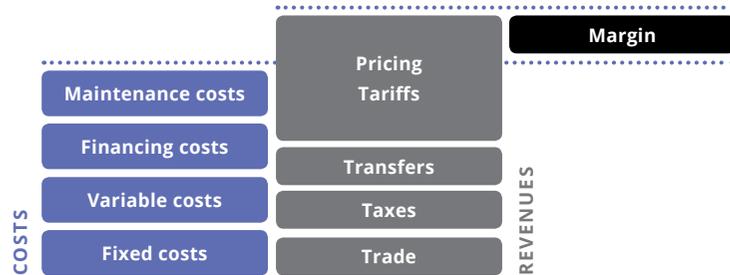
#### CapEx Needs:

- What are the **CapEx** needs?
- What is the CapEx need in the future for reaching scale?
- What funding / financing is already available to cover these CapEx needs?

**Balance OpEx & Revenues:**

- How confident are you that OpEx - **Operational Expenditures** - can be covered by Revenues? How will this evolve over time?
- Does Revenues-OpEx give a margin that will allow for paying off CapEx?

The graphic may help you to capture all your OpEx and Revenues.



**Risks:**

- What risks have been identified for the PPP? Include real, perceived and counterfactual risks.
- What is the likelihood and magnitude of consequences for these risks?
- Have the risks been discussed among the partners and what are their attitudes to these risks? Have responsibilities to deal with the risks been allocated to specific partners or have other risk sharing mechanisms been agreed upon? What measures have been taken to reduce the risks?
- Are systems in place to monitor identified risks and manage new risks as PPP develops?

**Summarise and quantify your financing needs and gaps in the table**

Financing Bottleneck	€ Needed	€ Available (cash contribution partners)	€ Gap
<b>Ecosystem</b>	<i>Estimated amount needed to tackle ecosystem bottlenecks. Distinguish between one-off expenditures and recurring costs (if any)</i>	<i>Amount readily available to the consortium to pay for solving the ecosystem bottlenecks</i>	<i>Needed minus Available</i>
<b>CapEx</b>	<i>Estimated amount needed for CapEx</i>	<i>Amount readily available to the consortium to cover CapEx</i>	<i>Needed minus Available</i>
<b>OpEx</b>	<i>Estimated amount needed for OpEx (usually per month)</i>	<i>Revenues expected (per month)</i>	<i>Needed minus Available</i>

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## Step 3: Explore financing opportunities

In this step, the idea is to consider a wide range of financing opportunities in a systematic way. As overcoming Business Ecosystem challenges, CapEx or OpEx gaps are likely to require different financing approaches, these are kept separate in the template below. The idea is to initially be as open-minded as possible and not to reject an option too easily. It should be kept in mind

that for most PPPs a smart blend of different financing streams is needed.

In the matrix, the empty squares can be ticked (e.g. X = not an option; 0 = maybe; V = good option) and (as an option) be filled in with names of known funds/ investors in that category). In that way the palette of financing opportunities can be mapped.

To help in filling out the matrix, a brief explanation about each option and (likely) circumstances in which it can be used are provided in Annex 1. The financing opportunities listed in this matrix are a broad categorization, in which we tried to capture commonly used and/ or promising opportunities. The list is not exhaustive!

**X = not an option**  
**0 = maybe**  
**V = good option**

### FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

	Commercial Finance				Concession	Non-Repayable Funding					?	
	Vendor/ Supplier Finance	Micro-finance	Equity	Bonds	Commercial loans	Concessional Loan	Loan Guarantee	In-Country Public Funding	First Loss (De-risking) Grant	Results Based Payment Model	Catalyst/ Innovation Grant	Other Options? e.g. Crowd Funding?
See Annex 1 for explanation of financing opportunities												

### FINANCING GAPS

In Ecosystem:  
 €

CapEx gap:  
 €

OpEx Revenues:  
 €

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In addition to the above, the matrix below will help in exploring financing opportunities offered by the partners in the consortium (rather than mapping the opportunities per financial bottleneck). This matrix is complementary to the matrix above, showing how the various finance streams can be mobilised and organised. Financiers will not

finance a PPP or a project (unless the PPP will operate through one specific entity, e.g. a “Special Purpose Vehicle”, see glossary), as that isn’t a legal entity that they can deal with in their contracts. Hence, the financing solutions will generally flow through one of the partners in the consortium.

In the template, the empty squares can be colour-coded, like in the previous one. The (maybe - and good option -) boxes can also be filled with text: e.g. on whether it offers a solution to a CapEx/ OpEx/ Ecosystem bottleneck and/ or more details on potential concrete financiers/ financing instruments.

**X = not an option**  
**O = maybe**  
**V = good option**

**FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES**

	Commercial Finance				Concession	Non-Repayable Funding					?	
	Vendor/ Supplier Finance	Micro-finance	Equity	Bonds	Commercial loans	Concessional Loan	Loan Guarantee	In-Country Public Funding	First Loss (De-risking) Grant	Results Based Payment Model	Catalyst/ Innovation Grant	Other Options? e.g. Crowd Funding?
See Annex 1 for explanation of financing opportunities												
Private Partner <b>X</b>												
Public Partner <b>Y</b>												
NGO <b>Z</b>												
Other partners <b>?</b>												

PARTNERS IN PPP

## Step 4: Draw conclusions for your finance strategy

This is the final step, in which choices need to be made on the way forward. As mentioned earlier, the development of a finance strategy is an iterative process, so you may revisit at each step answers provided/ choices made earlier. When your PPP and finance strategy is developed well-enough, you will probably start conversations with potential funders/ financiers, which is likely to help you further to refine your PPP, its business model and finance strategy.

### Key considerations and choices

- What do you see as key factors and key choices considering your financing strategy? Underpin these with reasoning and specifications.
- To what extent do your choices serve both short and long term financing needs?
- What relevant instruments and donor/ financing institutions are currently available? What are their costs and conditions? Also consider the strategic importance of the options: will the financier open doors for you in the future?
- What alternative options or directions have you have NOT chosen and why?

### Summary

Summarize your financing strategy in the following key headings:

- Ambitions, targets and timeline of initiative and consequent financing needs (split in phases?)
- Key bottlenecks/ critical factors for financing the initiative
- Most feasible/ promising financing options (as specific as possible)
- Action plan

#### **Hints**

*scaling boundaries (horizontal & vertical) plus identify positive/ negative externalities that drive social return next to economic return*

#### **Hints**

*key element is aggregation of players, partners, sources, resulting in collaboration, partnership, roles for public and private parties*

## Example from practice #1: Projects never fail, but also never scale

A start-up in the WASH sector in East-Africa has successfully piloted its business model at small scale, funded as a project with help of grant funding and some own funds (family-friends-fools funding). First proof of a successful revenue model development was reported. To be able to expand its operations, the social entrepreneur chose to aim for further grant funding, making use of calls, challenges or unsolicited proposal writing. These kind of “beauty contests” are highly competitive and a very time/ labour intensive, unsustainable finance strategy, that will undermine long term commercial finance. Commercial investors consider grants as ‘lazy money’, so will be very hesitant to invest in an organisation that so far has been fully donor-dependent.

With help of the tool, a more long term outlook was facilitated, in which blended finance constructions were considered, reflecting the commercial viability with de-risking first loss grants, result based philanthropy and public subsidy.

To qualify for commercial finance, theoretically it was considered desirable and feasible to first of all try to engage an equity investor (with a long breath and appetite in value creation rather than interest revenues) that could provide the needed working capital to enable time consuming processes in strengthening ties with the local government. This would greatly enhance the confidence of other commercial investors. However, this was met with a lot of resistance of the founder of the company feeling uncomfortable to lose control. Hence, partnership & trust building remains of crucial importance and something that appears difficult in practice.

Partnering with public authorities tackled the 2nd barrier: the lack of a legal frameworks to embed the innovative intervention in existing regulations and legislation. Securing repayment of loans was found in identifying potential grantors as “Outcome Payer” willing to pay for spin off effect (outcome) created by the business intervention, if externally monitored and validated. This revenue stream would secure repayment of commercial loans and add to the value created by the company.

The PPPCanvas was very useful to help structuring the case, getting better after several iterations: (monetising) impact to bridge the gap

between costs and revenues, identifying partners linked to resources and addressing governance structure from the beginning as involvement of public authorities to create an enabling environment appeared as important as addressing (financial ) barriers.

Ultimately expertise for structuring of the complex deal with involvement of the key stakeholders (especially private (?) pre-investor and outcome payers) and managing the multiple contracts and agreements, is the challenge.

## Example from practice #2: How to “sell” savings on negative externalities

Improving the marine ecosystem may sound like a typical government or environmental activists’ objective, but in this real life example from Latin America, it will be explained how a commercial bank could be motivated to pay for this.

In this case, a commercial bank worked together with a wildlife conversation organization and the fishery sector. The marine ecosystem was under serious threats of overfishing, a situation in which the wildlife conversation NGO and the fishery sector are usually not at best speaking terms.

Due to market-pressure the fishery industry was more and more forced to follow certified sustainability standards, which would lead to extra costs, on top of decreasing fishing results due to a collapse of the entire ecosystem.

A commercial bank that had heavily invested in the fishery sector, was the unusual player who brought the parties together. The bank was well aware that without investing in restoration of the marine ecosystem, the fishery sector would be doomed , certification would not be under reach and many of their investees would not be able to repay their loans. The “negative externality” of a deteriorating marine ecosystem, had a very high price tag for the bank. With help of the financial contributions of the bank and joint forces of the fishery sector and the environmental NGO, a positive momentum could be created to improvements the ocean’s ecosystem. In this unusual partnership, all three stakeholders (NGO, bank and fishery sector) had a lot to gain, including to learn, from each other and financing came from an unexpected corner.

More extensive explanation on financing opportunities can be found in PPLab Insights Series 04: [ppplab.org/2016/11/insight-series-04-financing-public-private-partnerships/](http://ppplab.org/2016/11/insight-series-04-financing-public-private-partnerships/)

## Annex 1 – Explanation about Financing Opportunities listed in the tool

The financing opportunities listed in this Annex are a broad categorization, in which we tried to capture commonly used and/ or promising opportunities. This list is not exhaustive!

	Short explanation	Examples <sup>1</sup> of suitable circumstances
<b>Vendor/ Supplier finance</b>	occurs when a private company offers financing to a customer to purchase products or services. By doing this, the company increases its sales by financing its own products.	access to finance for clients is identified as a bottleneck. Vendor/ supplier can relatively easily carry the costs of pre-financing for its customers.
<b>Micro-finance</b>	offers small loans to individuals, entrepreneurs, and communities that do not have access to credit from the formal banking sector.	finance needs are relatively small targeted individuals/ entrepreneurs can indeed afford the relatively high interest rates usually associated with micro-finance established micro-finance institutions available
<b>Equity</b>	(also known as “shares”) purchases part ownership of the project/ company and thus an entitlement to a portion of the results or profit, which is therefore variable.	most commonly used where there is a clear business case. In PPPs often, the business case needs development (e.g. demand creation/ social marketing efforts needed), meaning it will take significant time before the business case will be viable. This means that usually only (impact) investors that have sufficiently “patient” capital will provide opportunities. And it also means that “Venture Capital”, also a type of equity (see glossary) will be more suitable for business finance than for PPPs. It should also be kept in mind that Equity providers “buy” a say in the company. You need to carefully consider whether that is desirable.

<sup>1]</sup> Step 3 of the tool wants to encourage creativity and innovation, so it should be emphasized that these are only examples and are NOT fixed criteria/ terms/ conditions.

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## Bond

### Short explanation

is a debt investment in which an investor loans money to an entity for a defined period of time at a variable/ fixed interest rate. Bonds are tradeable in financial markets.

### Examples of suitable circumstances

Used by companies and governments to finance a variety of projects and activities, which are usually well specified (not experimental or pilot).

Only works if the company or government has a good track record  
Attractive for bond issuers due to low interest rate

## Commercial loan

is a debt-based funding arrangement between a business and a financial institution; it needs to be repaid in regular pre-set intervals, usually with interest.

Banks will only issue loans after scrutiny of the business plan. Risks around developmental PPPs are generally considered high (by financial institutions), hence commercial loans will generally need to be combined with e.g. a guarantee or a grant, to reduce the risks for the loan provider.

## Concessional loan

has terms substantially more generous than market loans, either through low interest rates or by long grace periods, or a combination of both.

Usually issued by Development Banks to Governments

## Interest Subsidy

A payment to soften the terms of private export credits, or loans or credits by the banking sector<sup>2</sup> (OECD/ DAC 2016)

A government could provide this to stimulate development of a certain sector. An example from the fishery sector: a government interest subsidy for the purchase of a vessel

## Guarantee

is a promise by a guarantor to assume the debt obligation of a borrower if that borrower defaults.

It allows a loan which would normally not have been granted because the lender would rate the risks too high.

2) OECD/DAC puts interest subsidy as a form of grant as it is for them as financier indeed a grant. But from the recipient perspective we put it in the concessional category as it softens the loan, but remains a repayable form of finance.

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### Public funding

### Short explanation

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is money that comes from the government, often through taxes.

### Examples of suitable circumstances

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E.g. subsidies to households or companies to stimulate certain developments.

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### (Catalytic) First Loss Capital

is funding that allows an initiative to survive a first period of loss, before sufficient revenues are created. It can be provided in different ways, e.g. as a grant or as equity.

This can be used for an initiative/ company that will generate (more) revenues in the future, but at the initial stage has too high costs/ too little revenues to be profitable

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### Results-Based Financing (RBF)

Results-Based Financing (RBF) is an instrument that links financing to pre-determined results, with payment made only upon verification that the agreed-upon results have actually been delivered. (World Bank). There are many types of RBF models with many different names, e.g. Output-Based Aid, Outcome Payment Models & Pay-for-Performance schemes.

A proven example of an “Outcome Payment” is procurement of carbon credits by companies/ institutions from projects/ institutions that have reduced carbon emissions. This has been used in safe water projects, that eliminate boiling of water (and hence reduce carbon emissions). Selling carbon credits then becomes an additional revenue stream for a water project.

Also Impact Bonds fall in this category. This is an instrument in which private investors provide funds for development interventions, and funders (mostly public sector agencies) repay investors if and only if independently verified evidence shows that the outcomes have been achieved. If the government is the outcome payer, one speaks of social impact bonds or SIBs (e.g., to tackle youth unemployment). If third parties pay for the outcome, one speaks of development impact bonds (DIBs).

Also other development outcomes (e.g. jobs created, time savings) could be paid for by Outcome Payers. As payments are only made once results have been delivered, pre-financing of the interventions needs to be (made) possible.

In Impact Bonds, the risk of non-performance lies with the (private) investors, i.e. the pre-financiers, and not with the organization providing the service, as is the case in most other RBF schemes.

More extensive explanation on financing opportunities can be found in PPPLab Insights Series 04: [ppplab.org/2016/11/insight-series-04-financing-public-private-partnerships/](http://ppplab.org/2016/11/insight-series-04-financing-public-private-partnerships/)

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### Innovation Grant

### Short explanation

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is non-repayable funding that allows grantees to develop new (business) models/ technologies or apply existing models in new contexts.

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### Crowd funding

Crowd funding sources many small contributions from a large number of people, typically via the Internet. It is valuable to recognize that the term “crowdfunding” relates primarily to the interface (often a website) through which a crowd is reached. However, more traditional

### Examples of suitable circumstances

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This type of grant is often used in the development sector. It assumes that with some initial grant money, certain barriers can be overcome, after which the initiative can develop itself further with other types of (commercial?) funding.

Experiences suggest that smaller, ‘do-good’ projects that do well with a broad audience are feasible for this approach. PPPs can also raise funds through crowdfunding, but it may be harder to communicate than in the case of smaller, more charitable, or more innovative projects.

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PPPLab PPCanvas  
 User Guide:  
<https://www.ppplab.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/PPPCanvas-User-Guide.pdf>

## Annex 2 – Glossary of Financial Terms

Term	Explanation
<b>Bankability</b>	<p>Put simply, a PPP project is considered bankable if lenders are willing to finance it.</p> <p><a href="http://www.eib.org/epec/g2g/i-project-identification/12/123/index.htm">www.eib.org/epec/g2g/i-project-identification/12/123/index.htm</a></p> <p>A project or proposal is bankable if it has sufficient collateral, future cashflow, and high probability of success, to be acceptable to institutional lenders for financing.</p> <p><a href="http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/bankable.html">http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/bankable.html</a></p>
<b>Business Ecosystem</b>	<p>A PPP does not operate in a vacuum. A number of business ecosystem variables will influence the potential impact of the PPP. Variables in the Business Ecosystem can include a given policy, a lack of available professionals or fierce competition. To give you an idea of what you might be facing, a list with examples of such ecosystem variables is provided below. Note that this list is not exhaustive.</p>

### Examples of Business Ecosystem Variables

<p><b>Market &amp; Finance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competitors</li> <li>• Access to finance</li> <li>• Interest &amp; currency exchange rates</li> <li>• Composition of market</li> <li>• Inflation</li> </ul> <p><b>Culture &amp; Community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender equality</li> <li>• Cultural (food) habits</li> <li>• Levels of education</li> <li>• Levels of poverty</li> </ul>	<p><b>Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental awareness</li> <li>• Climate change</li> <li>• Environmental degradation</li> </ul> <p><b>Policies &amp; Politics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rules &amp; Regulations (incl. import/export regulation)</li> <li>• Bureaucracy</li> <li>• Tax &amp; subsidy schemes</li> <li>• Corruption/ transparency</li> </ul>	<p><b>Technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main technological trends</li> <li>• R&amp;D intensity</li> <li>• Technical skills and knowledge</li> </ul> <p><b>Infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road infrastructure</li> <li>• Logistics</li> <li>• Power and network</li> </ul>
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More extensive explanation on financial terms can be found in PPPLab Insights Series 04: [ppplab.org/2016/11/insight-series-04-financing-public-private-partnerships/](http://ppplab.org/2016/11/insight-series-04-financing-public-private-partnerships/)

## Term

## Explanation

### CapEx (Capital Expenditures)

Capital expenditures are the amounts that companies use to purchase major physical goods or services that will be used for more than one year. [www.investopedia.com](http://www.investopedia.com)

PPPs often require new equipment, infrastructure and other start-up costs such as for consultancies and initial working capital. Investments in resources such as machinery or permits do not recur; they occur only once. These expenditures are called Capital Expenditures (CAPEX). Typically CapEx includes costs for: Infrastructure, Equipment, Permits, Consultancy/ TA & working capital.

### Credit-worthiness<sup>5</sup>

The ability to borrow money. The better one's creditworthiness, the more likely it is that a bank or other financial institution will extend credit. One establishes creditworthiness by repaying loans and other bills on time,

spending prudently, and generally showing that one can behave in a financially responsible way.

[financial-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com](http://financial-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com)

### OpEx (Operational Expenditures)

Costs that are recurring regularly, hence also known as recurring costs. OpEx can be broken down into four common components:

**Fixed costs:** Costs arising from the operation that are not particularly affected by production volume (e.g., office space)

**Variable costs:** Costs that are directly related to the production of a good or service (energy, resources, personnel, and transportation)

**Financing costs:** Interest and repayment of market-based financing instruments

**Maintenance costs:** Costs related to the upkeep and replacement of capital goods (e.g., maintenance of machines and buildings)

### Externality

An externality is a positive or negative consequence of an economic activity experienced by unrelated third parties.

E.g. pollution is a well-known negative externality. [www.investopedia.com](http://www.investopedia.com)

More extensive explanation on financial terms can be found in PPPLab Insights Series 04:  
[ppplab.org/2016/11/insight-series-04-financing-public-private-partnerships/](http://ppplab.org/2016/11/insight-series-04-financing-public-private-partnerships/)

## Term

## Explanation

### Special Purpose Vehicle

a legal entity that undertakes a project. All contractual agreements between the various parties are negotiated between themselves and the SPV.

Especially for large infrastructure PPPs, SPVs are often a preferred mode of PPP project implementation.

[www.unescap.org/ttdw/ppp/ppp\\_primer/index.html](http://www.unescap.org/ttdw/ppp/ppp_primer/index.html)

### Venture Capital

Venture capital (VC) is a type of private equity that is provided by firms or funds to small, early-stage, emerging firms that are deemed to have high growth potential, or which have demonstrated high growth (in terms of number of employees, annual revenue, or both). Venture capital firms or funds invest in these early-stage companies in exchange for equity, or an ownership stake, in the companies they invest in.

The start-ups are usually based on an innovative technology or business model and they are usually from the high technology industries, such as information technology (IT), clean technology or biotechnology.

[wikipedia.org/wiki/Venture\\_capital#cite\\_note-PrivCo-1](http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Venture_capital#cite_note-PrivCo-1)



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