

Consultation Meeting on PPPs for the Achievement of the MDGs in Mongolia

In November 2008, the Capacity Development Group of the UNDP organised a global internet-based discussion through its Capacity Network entitled “*Capacity to Effectively and Sustainably Deliver Local Basic Services to the Poor*”. The e-Discussion highlighted Public-Private Partnership (PPP) as a complementary approach available to governments to enhance the delivery of basic services both at the national and local levels of countries and, hence, advance the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Office of the President of Mongolia was among a number of other prominent contributors to this e-Discussion, where it has highlighted the novelty of the PPP concept in Mongolia and raised the issue of PPP’s relevance and applicability.

Stemming from the e-Discussion, on November 24th and 25th 2009, a UNICEF-UNDP-UNESCAP workshop was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Entitled “Consultation Meeting on Public-Private Partnerships for the Achievement of the MDGs in Mongolia”. The workshop had the following two objectives:

- 1) to introduce the fundamental principles of PPP; the partnership models/contracts in prevalent use; the Pro-Poor dimensions of PPPs; their implications for policy, legal and institutional transformations; and capacity development requirements at the national and local levels for effective undertaking and regulation of PPPs; and

- 2) to present to Mongolian Government officials, service providers, private sector, and other non-stake actors involved in basic services delivery in a coherent way the existing knowledge, experience and tools for enhancing the provision and operation of basic services and infrastructure through PPP approaches to allow informed policy consultation on the relevance and applicability of the PPP model in Mongolia

Opening the workshop and sitting in on several presentations was H. E. Mr. N. Enkhbayar, President of Mongolia. The President noted that broadening the public-private partnership in achieving Mongolia’s MDGs and adopting a public-private joint responsibility system that better suits the country’s needs are one of the top priority for Mongolia today. Greater involvement of the private sector and civil society organizations will be needed in the delivery of quality and effective services to the poorer and most vulnerable groups of the population.

In addition, the workshop was attended by various members of the Mongolian government as well as external experts which presented sectoral experiences with PPPs in the areas of health, education, water supply, solid waste management, and urban services. Mongolian Directors representing these aforementioned areas presented the current state of development in these sectors and shared their views on what will be required for future development.



This workshop was the first of its kind and the hope is for it to become an important inter-agency model significantly affecting the future development of social services in Asia.