Public-Private Collaboration in Sustainable projects

Professor: Ramon Xifré
Office hours: By appointment
Course Type: Elective
Credits: 3 ECTS
Term: Second

Course Description

Public-Private Collaboration in Sustainable Projects is an elective, second-term course in the MSc in Sustainability Management. The course presents the business case for employing Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in projects that involve sustainability management. PPP are critically important in meeting the challenge of sustainable development and growth but they are complex instruments. The design and execution of PPP with a sustainability mission require specific knowledge and skills that the course intends to provide to the participants.

Objectives and competences

The course has three main goals:

1. To provide a global view of the interdependencies between the private and public sector regarding sustainable projects.
2. To familiarize participants with international experiences and best-practices regarding public-private partnerships (PPP) operating under a sustainability. Mission.
3. To be able to conceptualize, design, execute and assess PPP with sustainability criteria.

Main contents of the course:

1. Regulation. Theory and applications with special emphasis on large-scale projects in regulated sectors relevant for sustainability: energy and infrastructure.
2. The Main Rationales for PPP: providing “value for money”, access to capital, certainty of outcome, off balance sheet borrowing, innovation, transfer of risk.

3. The principles of Good Governance in PPP from the sustainable management perspective.
4. PPP and sustainability: presentation and discussion of relevant cases.
5. PPP and the modernization of the public administration.

Methodology

The course combines lectures with debates and discussions on business cases and exercises. Participants will also engage in presentations of reports, cases, or project assignments. Activities will require both individual and group work.

Course participants are expected to participate actively and constructively in class. To be able to do so, it is compulsory that they read and browse regularly, and in advance, the recommended readings and information sources.

The professor will provide teaching notes, lecture slides, business cases and other documents. Because of the very same nature of the course, the contents may be adapted by the instructor to cover unexpected developments relevant for the course.

Evaluation criteria

Assessment element	*Weight*
Individual participation and class attendance	10 %
Cases and written assignments	20 %
Final project	20 %
Final exam	50 %

Other evaluation criteria to take into consideration:

Retake

Students who fail the course during regular evaluation will be allowed ONE re-take of the examination/evaluation. Students that pass any Retake exam should get a 5 by default as a final grade for the course. If the course is also failed after the retake, students will have to register again for the course the following year.

No-show

In case of a justified no-show to an exam, the student must inform the corresponding faculty member and the director(s) of the program so that they study the possibility of rescheduling the exam (one possibility being during the “Retake” period). In the meantime, the student will get an “incomplete”, which will be replaced by the actual

grade after the final exam is taken. The “incomplete” will not be reflected on the student’s Academic Transcript.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is to use someone else’s work and to present it as one’s own without acknowledging the sources properly. All essays, reports or projects handed in by a student must be original work completed by the student. By enrolling at any UPF BSM Master of Science and signing the “Honor Code,” students acknowledge that they understand the schools’ policy on plagiarism and certify that all course assignments will be their own work, except where indicated by correct referencing. Failing to do so may result in automatic expulsion from the program.

Bio of Professor

Ramon Xifré is Associate Professor of Economics and Research Director at ESCI–UPF, Research Associate in the UNESCO Chair in Life Cycle and Climate Change at ESCI-UPF, Faculty Member at UPF Barcelona School of Management, and Policy Research Fellow in the Public-Private Sector Research Center at IESE Business School.

His main interest is the competitiveness of the Spanish and EU economies and the related policies and structural reforms on issues like business environment, internationalization, R&D&I and industrial policy. He has led and participated in numerous research projects on these areas, commissioned both by public and private organizations, and he has published one book and dozens of articles on these topics.

From January 2009 to December 2011 he was on leave serving as Senior Economic Policy Advisor at the Spanish Prime Minister Economic Bureau. He has been member of Board of Directors of ICEX and regularly addresses international audiences on investment climate and competitiveness issues for Spain and the EU.

He holds a BA from Universitat Pompeu Fabra, MSc from the London School of Economics, was “Marie Curie” Fellow at the University of Munich (LMU) and he received his Economics PhD from Universidad Carlos III de Madrid.

Bibliography

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