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BEPAM: Built Environment Project and Asset Management



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**Built Environment
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PPP Theory vs. Practice: Charting New Trajectories

Over the years, the footprint of the PPP model has spread across the global infrastructure landscape. In spite of the various measures adopted by governments, many PPP projects failed to meet the expectations of stakeholders in reality and practice. These unsuccessful PPP projects have drawn the attention of policy makers and researchers to investigate if there exist any gaps between theory and practice in implementation of PPP projects. In this context, the research inquiry could analyse the conceptualization, development, implementation and operation of PPP projects from theoretical constructs provided from core concepts from for example, organizational theory, transaction cost economics, institutional theory, and contract theory, and chart a new course for these PPP arrangements to handle emerging realities and priorities in practice.

The proposed Special Issue of Built Environment Project Asset Management (BEPAM) journal titled “PPP Theory vs. Practice: Charting New Trajectories” expects to inspire authors to develop and submit papers re-examining emerging needs for new types of PPP

projects and practices which may well be conceptualised and formulated on the basis of paradigmatic shifts in the theories that presently underpin PPPs.

The specific objectives, therefore, include:

- To investigate the best of prevailing theoretical PPP constructs and to develop new constructs if found more relevant to emerging needs and priorities, so as to improve understanding of the working of PPP projects, and how these constructs can help in improving performance of PPP projects.
- To investigate how existing gaps can be minimized between the theoretical foundations, concepts and expectations of PPPs and their implementation and outcomes in actual practice. Note: this may include modifying or improving both theoretical propositions and practical protocols.
- To identify any changes required in PPP stakeholder expectations and other frameworks like accounting, governance, transparency and



equity, that could help to develop more advanced and well balanced PPPs.

- To explore commonly identified 'weak' or 'vulnerable' areas of PPP that appear to be in need of complete rethinking, thereby contributing to the conceptualization, implementation, and delivery of the next generation PPPs.
- To understand the evolution of drivers underpinning the adoption of previous PPP models and to identify institutional frameworks and organizations that can be invigorated for continued mainstreaming of PPPs.
- To understand the reasons for, and root causes of, prevailing gaps and mismatches gaps between expectations and realities in PPP procurement and to identify ways and means of bridging these gaps for mutual benefits.

This theme is expected to draw out the latest innovations, technologies, knowledge, and thinking on what really can and must be done to enhance the sustainability of built infrastructure, by linking the phases from design to operations that have usually not delivered as best as they could on life-cycle sustainability, largely because of the 'disconnects' between designers, constructors and operators.

In exploring such areas from these particular perspectives, the proposed SI papers are expected to unearth and disseminate valuable new findings that would also provide a high potential for reference and citation. This SI is also expected to open up new directions for well-focused research and to suggest innovative strategies for game-changing better practices to significantly enhance built asset sustainability and its management.

Anticipated Topics

The following lists of anticipated topics are indicative and not exhaustive. Papers on other topics under the main theme are also welcome.

- Institutional strengthening to maximise potential benefits from PPP projects
- Theory building and testing amidst evolving priorities of PPPs
- Revisiting and redesigning PPP Governance and Contractual systems
- Revisiting and Re-inventing best practices in PPP implementation
- Performance-boosting Innovations in PPPs
- Performance measurement in PPPs
- Renegotiation of PPP concessions

- Design of PPP procurement processes
- Stakeholder management in PPP projects
- Transaction costs in PPPs
- Principal agent theory in PPPs
- Capacity building for PPPs
- PPP coordination agencies
- Sustainable development and PPP

Guidance on Submissions

All submissions to Built Environment Project and Asset Management should be through ScholarOne Manuscripts. Registration and access are available at: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/bepam>

Author guidelines must be strictly followed. Please see: http://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/products/journals/author_guidelines.htm?id=bepam

Interested authors should select (from the drop-down menu) the special issue "**PPP Theory vs. Practice: Charting New Trajectories**" at the appropriate step in the submission process, i.e. in response to "**Please select the issue you are submitting to**".

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Key Dates

Papers for this Special Issue should be submitted through the above portal between **15 August 2019 and 15 November 2019**. [Note: new submissions after the **deadline of 15 November 2019 cannot be considered for this Special Issue**].

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BEPAM is one of the three CIB recognised Journals. There is a discount rate for CIB Members.

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