

Advancements in PPPs-Roles for FM and AM

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PPP

Facilities Management

Asset Management



A new generation of partnerships and projects

WAPPP, The World Association of PPP Units & Professionals, launched in 2018 to connect, engage, inform, and advocate for Public Private Partnership (PPP, also P3) professionals. WAPPP is changing contours of public private partnerships, adapting to financial/fiduciary, social/political, environmental, geographic, and operational factors to tune PPP models and practices, increasing feasibility for investment, social value earned, and types and sizes of projects and partnerships. Evolving PPP practices bring shorter, less costly project development through standard approaches and adaptable methods. More PPP initiatives, large and small, can flourish as a result.

Of special interest to facility managers and asset managers (FM &AM)

Planned operating life for PPPs is typically long, with the private partner (commercial sector enterprise or NGO) responsible for operations and maintenance (O&M) for a lengthy initial period. Typically, O&M passes to the public sector partner while the project is still active, with substantial useful life remaining. Strategies and provisions toward O&M in the initial plan can significantly affect expenses and challenges later, when the public partner becomes primarily responsible for O&M.



Opportunities for FM and AM to make a critical difference

Before projects long in operation arrive at the time to pass to the public sector partner, facility managers (FM) and asset managers (AM) can be critically important in assessing the conditions and uses of facilities and their associated assets, evaluating life cycle stages and risk profiles. Now in 2025, projects from previous decades are already approaching this stage and can benefit by clarifying options. For PPP initiatives currently in conception and implementation, FM and AM can participate in projecting operating (OpEx) and capital (CapEx) costs considering risks and trends. FM and AM professionals distributed globally can contribute where local knowledge is especially important to recognize influences and expectations.

Caught my eye

WAPPP presents a public face of [presentations and discussions](#) over a range of works undertaken and points of view acquired. Here are two programs from this year that helped my thinking of how and why to plan for O&M throughout the project life in terms of expenses and risks. They are:

1. Unlocking Climate Resilience: The Role of Blended Finance and Philanthropy in Climate Adaptation
2. Blended Finance in Public-Private Partnerships: A Catalyst for Sustainable Development

Both reveal stakeholders and partnerships that may influence FM & AM planning, goals, and processes.

***Stay Tuned***

In mid June (date & time TBA), the IFMA Benefit of the Month will be a panel discussion initiated by the IFMA FM Consultants Council (FMCC), in partnership with the IFMA Operations and Maintenance, Health and Safety Community (OMHS), the IFMA Public Sector Facilities Council, and WAPPP North America Chapter. The free program will be open to IFMA and WAPPP members and interested parties at large. Please watch for announcements and opportunities to register.



David Reynolds, RCFM, is a senior consultant in management for the built environment. He is a partner in GFMA Global Strategy Advisors, LLC and maintains memberships in IFMA and the World Association of PPP Units & Professionals (WAPPP). David has extensive experience implementing and managing projects and programs with facility planning, operations, and maintenance.