

# Circular on Regulating the Operation of the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Integrated Information Platform

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**Note: English version for reference only, Chinese version shall prevail.**

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Finance departments (bureaus) of all provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities directly under the Central Government and cities specifically designated in the state plan, and the Financial Bureau of Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps,

In order to carry out the spirit of the Circular of the General Office of the State Council on Forwarding the Guiding Opinions of the Ministry of Finance, National Development and Reform Commission and People's Bank of China on Promoting the Public-Private Partnership Model in Public Service Sectors (Guo Ban Fa [2015] No.42), the Ministry of Finance has developed the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Integrated Information Platform. The relevant matters are hereby notified as follows:

I. Fully understanding the importance of developing the Integrated Information Platform

(1) The Integrated Information Platform is used for managing and publishing information on PPP projects nationwide. Finance departments at all levels may, through Internet-based hierarchical authorization, perform the functions such as submission, review, inquiry, statistics and analysis of project information via the information management platform; and publish PPP project-related information on the information publishing platform, so as to share PPP-related policies and regulations, dynamic information and project cases. The Integrated Information Platform will be subject to classified management as it is divided into the project library, the institution library and the document library. The project library is used for collecting and managing the information on PPP-related reserve, implementation and demonstration projects at all levels nationwide, including the critical information on each stage of the whole life cycle of a project; the institution library is

used for collecting and managing the information on the consulting service agencies and participants in a project including experts, nongovernmental investors, and financial institutions; and the document library is used for collecting and managing the information on PPP-related policies and regulations, work progress, guidance and instructions, training materials and classical cases.

(II) The Integrated Information Platform is developed to advance the scientific, standard and sustainable development of the PPP market. Through the Integrated Information Platform, relevant parties can reduce the administrative supervision costs and market transaction costs by efficiently using modern information technology, social data resources and social information services, so as to improve the efficiency of economic and social operation; the government can have full access to and make good use of the information, and enhance the regulation over quality of service, cost and price, so as to improve the capacity of national governance; and the public's right to know can be guaranteed, with strengthened social supervision, which will form effective supervision and restrictions on every participant in a PPP project, so as to ensure the realization of maximum public interests.

II. Earnestly carry out all work related to the operation of the Integrated Information Platform

(III) Inputting information into the project library under unified authorization and by levels. Local finance departments at all levels shall, in accordance with the operation process for PPP projects, effectively carry out the work related to information reporting as well as data uploading and management in each phase of a PPP project within their regions. In principle, the basic information on potential PPP projects evaluated or selected by local finance departments at all levels in conjunction with relevant departments shall be input into the Integrated Information Platform. For PPP projects whose implementing agencies will be departments under the Central Government, the project information shall be reviewed and input in a unified manner by the Ministry of Finance. The projects complying with the requirements for reporting to the Ministry of Finance upon review by the finance departments at the provincial level, shall be submitted by such finance departments at the provincial level and listed as reserve projects; with the project implementation plans developed, and after passing the value-for-money evaluation and the financial affordability assessment, such projects shall be listed as implementation projects upon review and approval of the governments at the corresponding level; and the demonstration projects are those passing the review by the finance department at the central or provincial level and listed as demonstration projects at the central or provincial level. During the development and implementation of a project, where there is any procurement requirement related to consulting service agencies or nongovernmental investors, the information on project investment may be filled in and reported upward upon review by the finance departments at the provincial level. Before January 15, 2016, local finance departments at all levels should work together with relevant departments to complete the input and reporting of existing PPP project information.

(IV) Inputting information into the institution library and the document library in a coordinated and centralized manner. The information on consulting service agencies, nongovernmental investors and financial

institutions contained in each project in the PPP project library will enter the institution library directly, and the China Public-Private Partnerships Center (CPPPC) and the local finance departments at all levels may supplement and enter information on various institutions where necessary. The CPPPC is responsible for management and maintenance of the document library, collects, enters and manages the information on PPP-related policies and regulations, work progress, guidance and instructions, training materials, and classical cases.

(V) Publishing and using integrated information in a standard manner. The CPPPC shall, according to the work arrangements of the PPP Work Leading Group of the Ministry of Finance and relevant requirements on information disclosure, effectively carry out the work related to release of information in the PPP project library, institution library and document library. Basic information on PPP projects, as well as procurement information related to PPP projects including announcements on prequalification for government procurement, procurement documents, memos on negotiation about confirmation, results on the social capital expected to win the bid or make a deal, project contracts, results on the bid winner or deal, shall be shared between the Integrated Information Platform and the website of China Government Procurement Center. Finance departments or departments in charge of relevant industries at the provincial, city or county level, implementing agencies, nongovernmental investors, consulting service agencies, financial institutions, experts, the public and other users may visit or inquire PPP-related information via internet.

### III. Building a work guarantee mechanism with incentives and compatibility

(VI) Strengthening organization and leadership. Local finance departments at all levels should attach great importance to the building of the Integrated Information Platform, and extensively mobilize and work with the relevant departments to effectively conduct the selection and identification, information collection, input and review regarding PPP projects at the corresponding levels; strengthen the overall coordination, and actively create conditions, so as to ensure the smooth operation of the Integrated Information Platform. The finance departments at the provincial level shall effectively perform the input and reporting of information on PPP at the corresponding level, and be responsible for reviewing and reporting upward project information of the cities and counties within their jurisdictions. The CPPPC is generally responsible for the development and management of the project library, institution library and document library, in order to effectively conduct information release. The information network center of the Ministry of Finance and local financial information technology departments at all levels are responsible for technical support.

(VII) Establishing the system for counterpart contacts and quarterly reporting. Local finance departments at all levels should establish a counterpart contact system, designate personnel responsible for the building of the Integrated Information Platform, as well as timely collection, summarization and input of PPP project information. A quarterly reporting system regarding PPP project information shall be established; the finance departments at the provincial level shall, before the 10th of the first month of each quarter, submit the

information on the progress of PPP projects in the previous quarter to the Office of the PPP Work Leading Group (Department of Finance) of the Ministry of Finance, with a copy sent to the CPPPC.

(VIII) Establishing a mechanism connected to the rewards and punishments in respect of the development of the Integrated Information Platform. In principle, the demonstration projects at the central and provincial levels and the projects under the PPP-related annual planning and medium-term planning shall be selected and identified from the project library of the Integrated Information Platform. Any project not included in the project library of the Integrated Information Platform shall not be in the list of PPP projects of any region, and in principle, shall not have the obligation of expenditure arranged through the financial budget.

In order to regulate the operation of the Integrated Information Platform, the Ministry of Finance has formulated the Procedures for the Operation of the Public-Private Partnership Integrated Information Platform (see the appendix) for strict implementation. Local finance departments at all levels should strictly check the PPP project information input into the platform, to ensure that the project information is true, timely and standard; the finance departments at the provincial level should strictly carry out the review, and fulfill their regulatory functions, to ensure that the project information submitted is true and complies with the requirements; and the CPPPC should make overall coordination, and review all project information comprehensively, to ensure that the released information is true and valid.

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