

Summary

The concept of the development of public-private partnership as a form of financing investments of local government units in Poland

Public-private partnership (PPP) as a globally recognized form of cooperation between the public and private sectors for financing investment projects, including by local government units (LGUs), appears to be used to a very limited extent in Poland. The impact of the investment activity of local government units is important for Poland's economic development. However the LGUs' investment activity is dwindling due to the changing structure of local government budgets, the successive increase in the share of current expenditure and the related to this disproportionate increase in income.

An important solution may be the wider use of public-private partnerships being an alternative form of financing public tasks, successfully used in many countries. Identifying the reasons for the low interest in PPP in Poland is an important and current challenge. As a result of the review the literature on the subject and available sources of empirical research, it was established that there is a lack of in-depth analysis of completed PPP contracts, especially as regards the types of risk involved, as well as insufficient interpretation of initiated but unrealized projects.

The lack of systematized knowledge in this area determined the decision to undertake the research problem, the choice of the topic of the doctoral thesis as well as the implementation of the main goal of the dissertation, which is to develop the concept for the development of public-private partnership in local government units in Poland.

The achievement of the main goal required setting seven specific goals, which were implemented in four chapters of the work. The achievement of the main objective was supported by the verification of two research hypotheses related to the assessment of the effects of PPP's functioning in local government units in the years 2005–2022.

The verification of the first hypothesis about the increasing role of local government units in the implementation of public investments was confirmed by the use of comparative analysis of available literature on the subject, logical analysis and

observation methods, as well as statistical analysis of indicators describing the scope of investment activities of local government units.

The second research hypothesis assuming that the main characteristics of public-private partnership investments implemented by local government units are: type of local government unit, sector, legal basis, investment horizon, investment value, EU support, consulting, remuneration model was verified partially positively. In order to verify the second research hypothesis, statistical tools were used to confirm that the important investment features of public-private partnership projects implemented by local government units are:

- The type of LGUs (urban communes, other, rural and urban-rural communes),
- sector in the categories: (for Group 1 - sports and tourism, waste management, transport infrastructure and housing and revitalization, for Group 2 - telecommunications and transport services, for Group 3 - buildings, education and culture, energy efficiency and energy, water-sewage management),
- legal basis: (for Group 1 - concession for construction works, PPP under concession framework, for Group 2 - none, for Group 3 - concession for PPP services in public procurement law),
- investment value: (for Group 1 – the largest and very large, for Group 2 – none, for Group 3 – small, micro),
- remuneration model: (for Group 1 - different, for Group 2 - mixed, for Group 3 – the payment for availability, the fee from users).

However, characteristics such as the investment horizon, the EU support and consulting turned out to be irrelevant.

As a result of the analyses conducted in this work, the main goal was achieved by proposing the concept for the development of public-private partnership in local government units in Poland.

Keywords: *local government, public-private partnership, forms of financing public investments, public-private partnership investment risk*