

## Summary

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 six 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 2005–2023.

The verification of the first research hypothesis, assuming that, depending on the type of local government unit, different sets of investment features can be proposed, which increase the chance of using public-private partnership in the implementation of local government sector investments in Poland, was carried out by using statistical tools, which confirmed the occurrence of different sets of investment features depending

on the type of local government unit. Important characteristics of public-private partnership investment agreements implemented by local government units are:

- For cities with county rights: investment value (very large and small), investment horizon (long term) and voivodeship (Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship),
- For urban communes: legal basis for selection (public-private partnership according to public procurement law), remuneration model (payment for availability), investment horizon (long), voivodeship (Mazowieckie, Łódzkie and Dolnośląskie),
- For urban-rural communes: legal basis for selection (public-private partnership according to public procurement law), investment value (small), remuneration model (payment for availability), investment horizon (medium), lack of EU advice and support (none), voivodeship (Mazowieckie, Dolnośląskie and Łódzkie),
- For rural communes: sector (water and sewage management, transport services, energy efficiency and energy), legal basis for selection (public-private partnership according to public procurement law), investment value (micro), voivodeship (Wielkopolskie),
- For rural counties: legal basis for selection (concession for construction works and services), remuneration model (other),
- For Marshal's Offices: sector (telecommunications), investment value (very large and large), remuneration model (mixed), EU advisory and support (important), voivodeship (Lubuskie, Świętokrzyskie and Podlaskie),
- For government administration: sector (other), remuneration model (user fees), investment horizon (short), advice and EU support (EU support proved important, advice not important),
- For others: sector (user fees), legal basis for selection (public-private partnership in concession mode), investment value (micro), voivodeship (kujawsko-pomorskie).

The second research hypothesis, assuming that, similarly to countries with a highly developed level of PPP, it is also possible to increase the share of PPP agreements in the implementation of local government investments in Poland, was verified positively. A comparative analysis of available literature, statistical tests, data and

statistical indicators describing the scope of investment activities of local government units were used to verify it.

As a result of the analyses conducted in this work, the main goal was achieved by proposing an outline of 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*