

P3DP

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Ukrainian National Government Officials Study Tour to St. Petersburg

31th July - 03th August, 2011

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abbreviations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. INTRODUCTION
2. PARTICIPANTS
3. STUDYING OVERVIEW
 - 3.1. The First Day of Studying
 - 3.2. The Second Day of Studying
 - 3.3. Study Tour Evaluation
4. TRAVEL INFORMATION
 - 4.1. International Travel Information
 - 4.2. Domestic Travel Information
 - 4.3. Ground Transportation in Zagreb
 - 4.4. Estimated Study Tour Budget

Annex: Photo Gallery

Annex: Evaluation of Study Tour Form

ABBREVIATIONS

P3DP	Public Private Partnership Development Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
MoEDT	Ministry of Economic Development and Trade
PPP	Public Private Partnership
GoU	Government of Ukraine

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The success of PPP projects in St. Petersburg is ensured by effective regional law on the participation of St. Petersburg in the PPP. The legislative framework is based on: Federal Law № 115-FZ “On Concession Agreements”, St. Petersburg Law № 627-100 “The participation of St. Petersburg in the public-private partnerships”.
- There are two state committees directly involved in PPP project preparation and coordination in St. Petersburg: Committee for Investments and Strategic Projects and Committee for Economic Development, Industrial Policy and Trade. The leading public body on PPP development in St. Petersburg is Committee for Investments and Strategic Projects.
- Division of PPP projects in the structure of Committee for Investments and Strategic Projects is responsible for project appraisal, making decisions regarding preparation, implementation and project management methods. It is also serves as a “knowledge hub” of PPPs to other public authorities and different stakeholders.
- An important successful factor for PPP project preparation is attracting an experienced consultant – e.g. the World Bank.
- St. Petersburg has sufficient budget for attracting highly professional consultants.
- In St. Petersburg, an effective mechanism for project management through the establishment of management companies (with 100% of city ownership) has been tested and will continue be used.
- Committee for Investments and Strategic Projects provides continuing development of methods and regulations required for implementation of PPP projects.
- Funding for the city’s management companies is based on the following principle: for "profitable" projects at the expense of profit-sharing, for "losing" projects from the budget of the city

1. INTRODUCTION

On August 31, 2010 The Ministry of Economy of Ukraine established a PPP Interagency Working Group by issuing an Order No. 1082 “On establishing Interagency Working Group on PPP Development in Ukraine”.

PPP Interagency Working Group is a constantly acting consulting body under the Ministry of Economy that was established aiming at comprehensive research and summarization of the results of PPPs, coordination of PPP development in Ukraine, development of institutional, legislative and scientific support in this sector, assistance to implementation of PPPs, and dissemination of experience gained.

This study tour training intervention supported the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, PPP Interagency Working group under the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, State Agency for Investments and National Projects, and other Ministries.

The basic goal of the study tour was to introduce participants to successfully operating PPP units and PPPs in order to help them to formulate their opinion on the roles and functions of PPP responsibilities to be assigned in Ukraine.

Participants were exposed to models, functions, roles and practices of PPP units in St. Petersburg that have successful PPPs, with the expectation that they will be able to decide what principles and practices observed and discussed are applicable to similar PPP responsibilities to be established in Ukraine.

At the end of the training program participants are able to describe the roles, functions, competencies and responsibilities of PPP units in host countries. Participants were asked to complete a written survey that represents synthesis of information, knowledge and skills acquired during the study tour. The survey showed the steps that participants intend to take in order to use what they have learned and discussed during training. Upon return to Ukraine, trainees will make presentations to broader group of people about what they have learned during study tour as a follow-up activity.

There are two PPP-related units in the Government of St. Petersburg: Committee for Investments and Strategic Projects (Investment Committee) and Committee for Economic Development (specifically, Investment Analysis and Investment Programs Department). Investment Committee promotes and develops PPPs for the city. Committee for Economic Development vets and appraises the projects (i.e. plays the role of gatekeeper).

Reasons why the St. Petersburg units would be of interest to the Ukrainian group.

- A great deal of effort has been put into its PPP program by St. Petersburg. They received considerable advice from the World Bank in setting up the unit and preparing initial projects.
- In December 2006 the City Government passed the Law on Participation in Public Private Partnerships, to supplement the Federal Law on Concession Agreements and provide a sound legal framework for PPPs.
- They have been pushing ahead with a number of PPPs: airport, light rail, roads, wastewater treatment, etc. There is a great deal of activity there.
- In 2008, KPMG was quoted as saying: “It can be seen that St. Petersburg is the leader among the Russian regions in implementing PPP schemes.”
- Knowledgeable outsiders speak highly of the efforts of St. Petersburg in the area of PPPs.
- The idea of checks & balances in the interplay between the two units (one that develops and one that screens and approves) is an interesting one for the Ukrainians to learn about.
- There is a similarity in legal issues and types of PPP arrangements because of former Soviet law in Ukraine.
- St. Petersburg is physically close by and one might envisage future exchanges of information and capacity building.

- Finally, St. Petersburg is a top choice of the Working Group and MoEDT representatives.

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2. PARTICIPANTS

Participants of the study tour included:

Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine		
1	Husiev Yuriy	Deputy head of the department, head of the division of investment and innovation activities, heads of the delegation
2	Maziarchuk Viktor	Chief specialist, division of investment and innovation activities of the department of investment and innovation policy
3	Hryshkevych Oksana	Director of the Department of Infrastructure Projects and Support to Implementation, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine
Interagency working group on PPP development		
4	Zapatrina Iryna	Deputy head of the working group, head of the Ukraine Public Private Partnership Development Support Center
5	Lukyanenko Petro	Expert of Interagency Working Group on PPP Development in Ukraine
Ministry of Finance of Ukraine		
6	Sherstiuk Viktoriia	Head of the division on financial issues of privatization and state property rights management of the department of state enterprise finances, property relations, and entrepreneurship of the Department of finance
Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine;		
7	Kartak Volodymyr	Director of the Department of State Property, Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine
State Agency of Investment and National Projects		
8	Demjanjuk Vitaliy	Deputy Chairman of State Agency for Investment and Management of National Projects in Ukraine
Ukravtodor		
9	Babich Teresia	Head of Foreign Economic Activity Department, State Road Service of Ukraine
10	Zahornyak Oleg	Director of Finance and Economic Policy of the State Road Service of Ukraine
Kiev city state administration		
11	Svitlychnyi Oleg	Head of the Investment Policy Department of Economy and Investment, Kiev city state administration
Administration of the President of Ukraine		
12	Buhrimova Yana	Coordinator of Implementation of Reform of the Coordination Center with the Introduction of Economic Reforms Administration of the President of Ukraine

Olga Petrenko, P3DP Operations and Sr. Project Coordinator and Tatiana Korotka, Manager of GoU Development Support, accompanied the group as technical observers.

3. STUDYING OVERVIEW

Study tour was organized at such way that participants on the first day obtain knowledge on various aspects of the experience of St. Petersburg for the implementation of public-private partnership projects, and on the second day visit sites of PPP projects, to meet with key personnel, observe facilities, and discuss practical issues. Since the arrival of the delegation at the airport Pulkovo, host representatives of the Committee for Economic Development, Industrial Policy and Trade (hereinafter – the Economic Development Committee) helped welcome the participants of the Ukrainian delegation. Meeting Ukrainian colleagues upon arrival at the airport was the Head of Investment and State Programs, Mr. Sergey Izotov.

3.1. The First Day of Studying

During the first day of study tour, participants attended sessions held at the building of the Government of St. Petersburg, in particular in the area of the Economic Development Committee. At the outset, a Member of the Government of St. Petersburg, the Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, Mr. Eugene Yelin greeted the participants and presented overall activities of St. Petersburg for the development of the city and the region. In particular, Mr. Yelin said that greater use of PPP tools St. Petersburg was pushed by financial crisis and long economic recession.

Committee for Economic Development, Industrial Policy and Trade

Economic Development Committee is an executive body of St. Petersburg. The Committee was formed to organize and coordinate of state bodies of St. Petersburg in the area of (but not limited to):

- analyzing and forecasting economic and social development
- public strategic planning
- development and implementation of innovation and investment policy
- industry, agriculture, trade, tariff policy, the development of the territories of St. Petersburg, etc.

Training sessions began with a presentation on "Choosing the optimal form of investment projects, advantages and disadvantages of PPP projects". Information was presented by Alexander Nikonov, the representative of the Economic Development Committee. Mr. Nikonov began the presentation with an overview of the state bodies of St. Petersburg, which are involved in PPP projects. This presentation provoked an active discussion by participants; the point is that St. Petersburg Government includes several governmental authorities which are directly

involved in the preparation and implementation of PPPs in the city, and this approach to distribute functions is similar to the Ukrainian distributed functions model.

The main governmental authority responsible for PPPs is the Committee for Investments and Strategic Projects (hereinafter- Strategic Projects Agency). In turn, the Strategic Projects Agency also performs a role in decision-making and preparation of PPP projects.

Committee for Investments and Strategic Projects

Strategic Project Agency is a state executive body of St. Petersburg responsible for (but not limited to):

- carrying out the investment policy of St. Petersburg and the development of investment climate of St. Petersburg
- development of all forms of public-private partnership
- support strategic investment projects of high socio-economic priority
- development of tourism and hotel infrastructure and hotel industry in St. Petersburg

As it was clear from the discussions that Committees of St. Petersburg, together with the Finance Committee, share responsibilities over preparation of PPP projects. Leadership in the preparation of PPP projects is transferred from one committee to another depending of presence or absence of state financing for project implementation. In particular, in St. Petersburg, only a PPP project included in long-term state special-purpose program could be financed by state financing. Such long-term special-purpose programs are defined to be those at least three years in length. Today in the package of long-term state programs there are 23 programs, and some of them are PPP projects.

The second presentation was conducted by Roman Golovanov, the Head of PPP Project's Division of Strategic Projects Agency. His presentation was dedicated to the main objective of the study-tour - "The order of interaction among governmental bodies during the period of preparation and realization of PPP projects". In particular, Mr. Golovanov stated that as part of the core mandates of the Strategic Projects Agency were the responsibilities for project assessment, taking decision, providing information and methodical assistance to public authorities, and also serves as a "knowledge hub". It was also mentioned during the presentation that in a short-term plan of the Strategic Projects Agency is to create a standard project appraisal methodology.

A special issue highlighted by Mr. Golovanov was a state system of project monitoring. The experience of on-going projects demonstrated the effectiveness of this process established by Government of St. Petersburg special state PPP management companies. For some projects (as a rule, small projects) the private partner performs monitoring by itself. As an example of such approach Mr. Golovanov presented the PPP project on construction and operation of a school in one of the neighborhoods of St. Petersburg. On the question of the representatives of Ukrainian

delegation regarding the system of obligatory reporting to the PPP unit, Mr. Golovanov said that there is no special reporting. As a rule the PPP Project Management Company established in the form of open joint stock-company, and the appraising of the project is subject to corporate governance rules. In other cases, tax authorities and other inspection bodies also have provision for mandatory reporting, so there is no need to introduce additional requirements.

Regarding the stage of project initiation, which was also very interesting for the Ukrainian delegation, Mr. Golovanov said that both committees work with potential investors. Thus, in accordance with Russian legislation and the legislation of St. Petersburg, the initiator of the project is always a public agency. Important information for the representatives of the Ukrainian delegation was knowledge that the PPP unit of St. Petersburg and the PPP Unit at the central level are not interconnected and not interdependent.

Project on Waste Recycling Plant in Yanino

- The project focused on designing, constructing, and operation of the plant and then transferring its ownership to the city.
- Return on investment is carried out during the operation period of the plant through the payment of the tariff on disposal and, where necessary, subsidies from the budget of St. Petersburg.
- St. Petersburg ensures provision of land for the project, the supply of 350 thousand tons of solid waste per year and payment processing.

The agreement was signed in May 2011, and entry into force is expected in November 2011.

Then Ilgiza Hafizova, Deputy of the Finance Committee Chairman introduced a system of financial risk management focused on debt and guarantee management, which is broadly implemented by the Government of St. Petersburg. Time after the break was entirely devoted to the presentation of implemented infrastructure PPP projects, and presentation materials in Russian are enclosed with this report:

The experiences of development related to the Pulkovo Airport Development Project and the Northern Water Treatment Plant Project were presented Ilya Gudkov – General Director of state enterprise “Agency for Strategic Investments”. The Agency operates under the Committee for Investment and Strategic Project and is highly involved in the PPP project development process.

Pulkovo Airport Development Project

This ambitious PPP project includes deadlines over more than 30 years from 2007 to 2039, and a budget with the first phase of construction being approximately 1.3 billion Euros.

The objectives of the PPP project are:

- Creation of St. Petersburg a major transportation hub (the hub) with high efficiency
- Creating a world-class civil airport with a level of passenger services are not below than C class by IATA
- Implementation of the architectural concept of Grimshaw Architects (UK)
- Increase in revenue from airport operations

Ilya Gudkov also provided detailed information about the participants in the tender, schedule of the competition and some details of the tender, which did not constitute confidential information.

Northern Water Treatment Plant Project

The reconstruction of the Northern Water Treatment Plant is a new project. It will be realized during the period 2011 - 2036 years, and the budget should be between 8-12 billion Rubles. Presentation of technical characteristics of the project enclosed with this report.

Participants in the tender are consortiums of the world leading companies, together with Russian companies. Now the project is in a stage of bid preparation, so representatives of governmental agencies kept strict confidentiality regarding other details of the project.

“Western High Speed Diameter” Project

Western High Speed Diameter- PPP project on road building was presented by Konstantin Popov, Director of legal issues of Open Joint-Stock Company “Western High Speed Diameter”.

3.2. The Second Day of Studying

The second day of the study tour was devoted to practical examples of PPP organizations in St. Petersburg. To demonstrate their achievements, Russian partners have chosen large-scale projects related to the strategic development of St. Petersburg:

- Marine Passenger Terminal, and the new areas prepared for PPP project called "Marine Facade"
- Western High Speed Diameter- PPP project on road building
- South-West Wastewater Treatment Plant

All site visits were accompanied by a presentation of the particular project and discussions of its details. Participants of the Ukrainian delegation received detailed answers on all aspects of management of these infrastructure projects, including technical, financial and managerial issues. During the discussions, host representatives explained in practical examples of specific solutions to various problems of a scheme of interaction with government agencies and investors, disclosed plans for cooperation on PPP schemes for specific projects.

After visiting the PPP projects, the Ukrainian delegation continued its discussions regarding information received and completed the required follow-up evaluation document, facilitated by Tatiana Korotka.

3.3. Study Tour Evaluation

An overall evaluation of the study tour was given to the 12 participants, members of the Ukrainian delegation. The methodology of evaluating the study tour was based on the questionnaire and numerical evaluation, and covered three general parts (Annex A):

- Institutional Framework of PPPs in St. Petersburg
- Organizational location, structure, and functional responsibilities of the PPP Units in St. Petersburg
- Organization of the study tour

The evaluation form was provided in Ukrainian and English languages with 12 participants completing the forms in Ukrainian and 0 participants in English.

The practical results of the evaluation were as follows:

1. Participants identified the following functions as being performed by the PPP Units in St. Petersburg

Regulatory	8
Promotion	12
Marketing	9
Training	5
Monitoring	6
Other:	
Strategic planning	1
Project Appraisal	1
Project Initiating	1
Project Selection	2

Most of the participants found difficulty responding to the question: who is to perform this above mentioned function in Ukraine? However three participants highlighted that functions distributed between National Projects Agency and MoEDT.

2. In general, thematic sessions were marked by grades (1 = very bad and 5 = very good)

Legislative basis of PPP in St. Petersburg	3 (Satisfied) – 1 person 4 (Good) – 6 persons 5 (Very good) – 5 persons
Procedure of interaction between the executive authorities of St. Petersburg for implementation of PPP Projects; methodological support of PPP Projects	3 (Satisfied) – 1 person 4 (Good) – 5 persons 5 (Very Good) – 6 persons

Selection of the optimal form of implementation of investment projects; advantages and disadvantages of PPP Projects	3 (Satisfied) – 1 person 4 (Good) – 5 persons 5 (Very Good) – 4 persons 1 participant was not able to determine
Evaluation of direct and indirect obligations of St. Petersburg, that result from implementation of PPP Projects, making decisions about possibility of financing those obligations	4 (Good) – 3 persons 5 (Very Good) – 8 persons 1 participant was not able to determine

3. The most relevant in terms of their possible applicability to the development of Ukraine's PPP environment in general were the following topics:

- Practical examples of PPPs – 8 persons
- Interaction of the Strategic Project Committee with other government agencies – 3 persons – 3 persons
- Selection of the optimal form of implementation of investment projects; advantages and disadvantages of PPP Projects – 3 persons
- Funding of PPPs – 2 persons
- Creation of social infrastructure – 1 person

4. Most participants noted that the knowledge gained about specific PPP projects in St. Petersburg (planned or on-going) will be used in the practical implementation of projects in Ukraine, in particular, in the areas of:

- Legislation development
- PPP strategy development
- Project development (initiation, appraisal, selection, monitoring)
- Pilot project development
- Financial model development
- PPP Unit

5. On the question: what do you now realize that you need to know more about in the PPP arena in order to benefit your work in Ukraine? Participants' responses were distributed in the following areas:

- Project Appraisal Methodology – 4 persons
 - Budget legislation development – 5 persons
 - Methodology of SPV development – 1 person
 - Projects on reconstruction of airports and marine ports – 1 person
 - Specifics of PPP project management- 2persons
 - State aid and guarantees – 2 person
- 1 participant was not able to determine.

6. In what ways do you think the St. Petersburg experience can be applied, or not applied, to Ukraine? This question received a variety of responses, which can be grouped into the following groups:

- for development of interconnection of different public bodies
- for development of regional level of PPP units
- for establishing special authority (but not in MoEDT)
- as a basis for development of institutional environment
- for development MoEDT as a PPP Unit.
- for Kiev city experience
- to provide environmental protection
- to develop toll roads

7. Regarding opinions how PPP functions should be distributed among different bodies in Ukraine (central level, line ministries and municipal level) participants expressed a wide range of ideas, some of them are really innovative:

- Line ministries and local government should be responsible for project initiation; interagency working group (MoEDT, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Justice) must provide appraisal of feasibility study; special state body should organize project coordination, realization, and monitoring.
- PPP Unit must be organized based on MoEDT organizational structure.
- Leave for MoEDT those functions on strategy development and prioritizing of PPP projects, but transfer to local government and line ministries other functions related to PPPs
- MoEDT should be responsible for strategy development, and local authorities for project implementation
- It should be singular state authority for PPP projects, f.i. National Project Agency

It was also mentioned that St. Petersburg experience provides some support for the argument of distribution of functions between two state bodies.

8. Participants basically were satisfied with level of information provided during studying.

9. 11 participants evaluated Logistics as 5 = very good, and 1 participant evaluated Logistics as 4 = good.

10. To improve the study tour or similar study tours in the future, basically were expressed three recommendations:

- study tours topics should include institutional PPP projects
- to organize further study tour to Latin America and/or Asia; and
- to provide study tour opportunities more often.

11. Overall, participants highlighted usefulness of the study tour for their practical work in Ukraine – 12 persons.

4. TRAVEL & FINANCIAL INFORMATION

4.1. International Travel Information:

DATE OF FLIGHT	Flight number	AIRLINE COMPANY	Flight (from-to)	DEPARTURE	Arrival
July 31, 2011	VV0401	Aerosvit	Kyiv-St. Petersburg	15.05	18.10
August 3, 2011	VV0402	Aerosvit	St. Petersburg-Kyiv	18.20	19.10

4.2. Domestic Travel Information:

Ground transportation in Kyiv:

On July 31, 2011 shuttle bus was arranged for training participants:

Departure to the Boryspil airport from the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (28, Druzhby Narodiv blvd.) at 11.30.

4.3. Ground transportation in St. Petersburg:

Participants were met at Pulkovo-2 airport by a representative of the Committee of Economic Development and transferred to the Kempinski Moika 22 hotel. Comfortable bus was arranged for training participants for the entire period of the training, including transportation to the building of the Government of St. Petersburg located at 16, Voznesenskiy Avenue, site visits to PPPs in St. Petersburg and surrounded areas, namely Sea Passenger Terminal at Vasilievsky Island, automobile road Western Speed Diameter, and Waste Water Treatment Plant to the South West of St. Petersburg. On the last day, the bus transferred the group to the airport.

Accommodation: Participants were accommodated at Kempinski Moika 22 hotel in St. Petersburg.

Kempinski Moika 22
191186, St. Petersburg

22, Moika Embankment.
Tel. +7 (812) 702-7711.

Allowance Information: All participants got allowances for meals and incidental expenses according to USG per diem rates. For arrival and departure days participants received 75% of M& IE (\$134 x 75% = \$100.5). Breakfast was included in hotel price, and was excluded from M&IE.

Date	Amount
July 31	\$100.50
August 1	\$114
August 2	\$114
August 3	\$85.50
Total	\$414

Confirmation of Med Certs : All participants were covered by HAC medical insurance.

Volodymyr	Panchenko	500895330
Viktor	Maziarchuk	500871689
Yuriy	Husyev	500871684
Volodymyr	Kartak	500895328
Oksana	Hryshkevych	500895327
Tereziya	Babych	200441863
Petro	Luk'yanenko	500895329
Iana	Bugrimova	500895326
Oleg	Zagornyak	500895332
Oleg	Svitlychnyi	500895331
Vitalii	Dem'ianiuk	500871681
Viktoriia	Sherstiuk	500871692
Iryna	Zapatrina	200017663
Olga	Petrenko	500871691
Tatiana	Korotka	500871688

4.5. Estimated study tour budget:

	PPP study tour to Russia		
	Cost, USD	Unit No.	Total
International travel (round trip)	\$500	15 RT tickets *	\$7,500

* One MoEDT representative for a whom ticket was purchased was unable to make this trip at the last minute due to urgent ministry business

Airport transfer	\$80	2 van trips	\$160
Ground transportation in training country	\$500	4 van trips	\$2,000
Lodging	\$352	3 nights for 15	\$15,840
M&IE	\$134	4 days for 15	\$8,040
Health insurance	\$10	15 people	\$150
Translator	\$500	3 days	\$1,500
Total trip			\$35,190

Actual study tour expenditure will be available upon completion of all outstanding payments.

POST-TRAINING SUMMARY EVALUATION

Name of Participant: _____ Date: _____

1. Institutional Framework of PPP

2. Please indicate what functions are performed by the municipal PPP Units in St.Petersburg?

Regulatory	
Promotion	
Marketing	
Training	
Monitoring	
Other (please describe)	

How are these above mentioned functions distributed in Ukraine?

3. Please rate the following activities (1 = very poor; and 5 = very good)

Legislative basis of PPP in St. Petersburg	1	2	3	4	5
Procedure of interaction between the executive authorities of St. Petersburg for implementation of PPP Projects; methodological support of PPP Projects	1	2	3	4	5
Selection of the optimal form of implementation of investment projects; advantages and disadvantages of PPP Projects	1	2	3	4	5
Evaluation of direct and indirect obligations of St. Petersburg, that result from implementation of PPP Projects, making decisions about possibility of financing those obligations	1	2	3	4	5

4. Which topics or presentations were the most relevant in terms of their possible applicability to the development of Ukraine's PPP environment in general?

5. In what ways will you use the knowledge you gained about specific PPP Projects in St. Petersburg (planned or on-going) for your work in Ukraine?

6. Now that you have knowledge from this PPP-focused study tour to St. Petersburg, what do you now realize that you need to know more about in the PPP arena in order to benefit your work in Ukraine?

II. Organizational location, structure, and functional responsibilities of the municipal PPP Unit

7. In what ways do you think the St. Petersburg experience can be applied, or not applied, to Ukraine?

8. Please give your personal opinion about how PPP functions should be distributed among different bodies in Ukraine (central level, line ministries and municipal level). Refer to the St. Petersburg experience, if and where appropriate.

9. Are there any questions you have about PPPs in St. Petersburg, in particular, which you think were not adequately addressed during the study tour? If so, please describe them.

III. Organization of the study tour

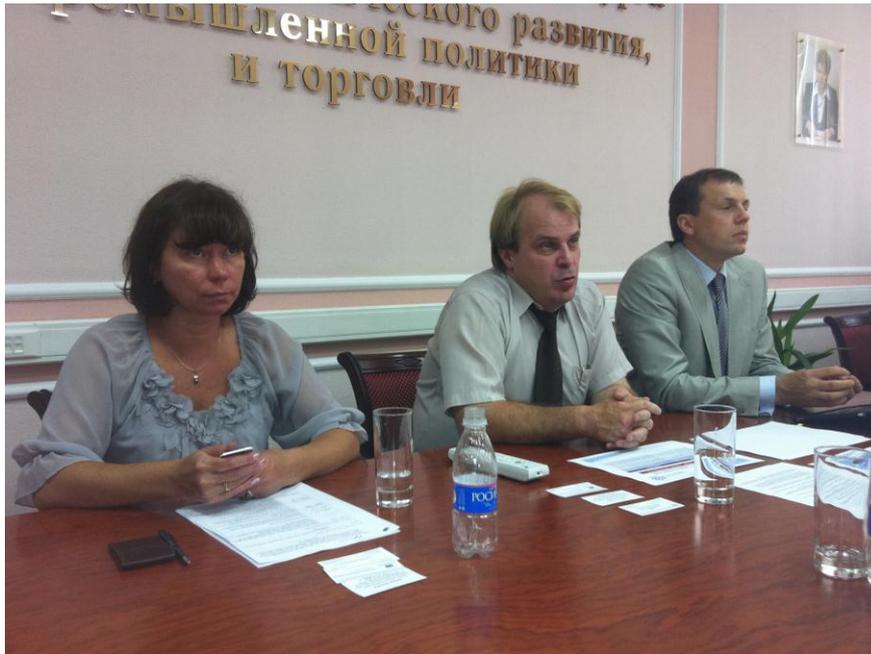
10. Please evaluate the following services (1 = very poor; and 5 = very good)

Logistics	1	2	3	4	5
Translation	1	2	3	4	5

11. Any suggestions for improving the study tour or similar study tours in the future?

12. Overall, was the study tour useful for you? If “yes” – please note the useful areas. If “no” – please note the areas that you think fell short of your expectations.

Thank you for your feedback!



Tatiana Pigolts, Aleksander Nikonov, and Roman Golovanov present experience of St. Petersburg on PPP development



Participants of Ukrainian delegation listen of presentations



Andrey Fedorov, commercial director of PLC “Passenger Port of St. Petersburg “Marine Facade” presented achievements of the port PPP project



Study-tour participants tour the passenger port facilities



Port of St. Petersburg facilities



Ukrainian delegation visited of Western High Speed Diameter



Participants listened to the presentation on development of PPP Project “South-West Wastewater Treatment Plant”



Ukrainian delegation toured the water treatment plant