



## **Joint News Release**

# **SINGAPORE PARTNERS THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES TO SHARE ITS EXPERIENCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TRANSACTIONS**

**Singapore, Thursday, 31 March 2011**

Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE) and Temasek Foundation, Singapore (TF) today announced that Singapore will cooperate with the Republic of the Philippines to share its experience in the development and implementation of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) transactions. The programme will be supported by Temasek Foundation with a grant amount of SGD \$1,422,742 and co-funded by the Republic of the Philippines with an amount of SGD \$270,100.

A Grant Agreement was signed between Mr. Jose P. De Jesus, Secretary, Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC), Republic of the Philippines and Mr. Alphonsus Chia, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Cooperation Enterprise.

The Philippine Government is interested to understand and adapt relevant lessons from Singapore's experience in developing PPP transactions to accelerate the country's infrastructure development and attract private sector investment. Under the MOU, SCE will work with the DOTC to develop institutional capabilities for key agencies within the Philippine Government responsible for the procurement of infrastructure projects under the PPP framework.

The programme aims to:

- (a) Achieve an in-depth understanding of the benefits and challenges for greater private sector participation in the financing of public sector projects; and the

policy actions required to strengthen the enabling environment, legislative and regulatory frameworks for PPP;

- (b) Build capabilities for key public sector officials involved in the procurement and implementation of infrastructure projects, through the implementation of a pilot PPP transaction; and
- (c) Provide examples of Singapore's infrastructure procurement process by sharing Singapore's lessons and experience in developing successful and commercially viable PPP projects.

SCE will put together a team of Singapore PPP experts to work alongside the DOTC officials to prepare and structure a pilot project for procurement under the PPP framework. The pilot project will provide a real-life and hands-on case study where Philippine Government officials can adapt relevant lessons from Singapore to bring projects to a biddable and bankable stage.

SCE will also cooperate with DOTC to organise a series of capacity building workshops to build capacity for some 100 Philippine Government officials in the development and implementation of PPP transactions. During these workshops, Singapore public sector agencies, such as Public Utilities Board, Singapore Sports Council and Institute of Technical Education, will be invited to share with Philippine Government officials the key challenges Singapore had faced, including the policy considerations, regulatory framework and practical experiences in implementing Singapore's PPP projects. The Singapore private sector players involved in Singapore's PPP projects, namely PWC and Hogan Lovells, will also work closely with the DOTC to share the perspectives of the private sector investors and project developers in investing in a PPP project.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Mr. Alphonsus Chia, CEO of SCE said: "SCE is happy to partner Temasek Foundation and the Republic of the Philippines in sharing Singapore's experience in PPP transactions. Through this collaboration, we hope that there will be meaningful exchanges between Singapore and the Philippines and that it will lead to new cooperation opportunities."

Mr Goh Geok Khim, Chairman of Temasek Foundation added, "Temasek Foundation is pleased to be in this partnership to support senior officials and policy makers from the Department of Transportation and Communications and other government agencies in setting up an enabling framework and environment for PPP transactions in the Philippines. Through this programme, we hope that the enhanced capabilities will help these agencies promote greater infrastructure development and in the long run, bring benefit to the local community."

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*Jointly Issued by Temasek Foundation and Singapore Cooperation Enterprise*