

Infrastructure Australia

National Public Private Partnership Policy and Guidelines

A new, national approach to the nation's future infrastructure

Overview

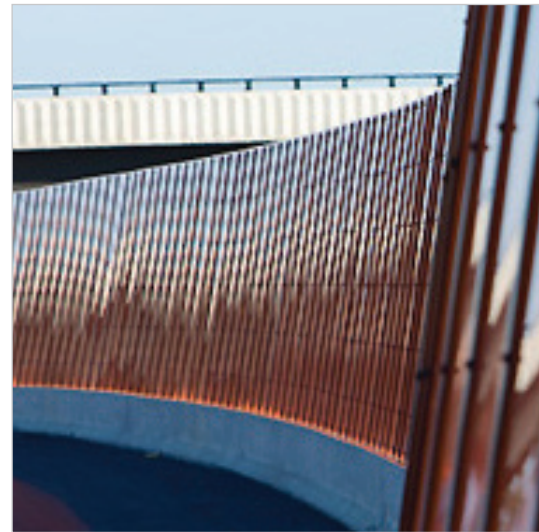
The role of Infrastructure Australia is to advise governments, investors and owners of infrastructure concerning:

- nationally significant infrastructure priorities
- policy and regulatory reforms desirable to improve the efficient utilization of national infrastructure networks
- options to address impediments to the development and provision of efficient national infrastructure
- the needs of users
- possible financing mechanisms.

When the Council of Australian Governments endorsed a new National Public Private Partnership (PPP) Policy and Guidelines for Australian State, Territory and National governments, Infrastructure Australia turned to Affinix for a solution to provide distributed access for all stakeholders.

Challenge

The new PPP Guidelines include over 1000 pages of complex information including hundreds of pages of sample documents, complex approaches to economic discount rates, legal documents, legislation, legal definitions, technical definitions, and more. To deliver ongoing impact and change for the nation's infrastructure management, it was critical that the document become a living document accessible across the nation.



“Other Government agencies were shocked that we were not going to do a massive print run for these critical national guidelines. The fact is, with Affinix we simply did not need to. Affinix provides access anywhere and the easy search and navigation makes the documents far more accessible.”

Rory Brennan, Executive Director,
Infrastructure Investment, Infrastructure Australia

www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/public_private_partnership_policy_guidelines.aspx



Australian Government
Infrastructure Australia

The Affinixtext solution and ongoing benefits

Solution

Infrastructure Australia initially posted the new National PPP Guidelines on the Infrastructure Australia website as pdfs. It rapidly became obvious that this was never going to fulfill the Council of Australian Governments' intentions for the guidelines to become central documents guiding the future of Australia's infrastructure needs.

"These documents are necessarily large and complex. For a lot of the users of this information this will be second nature but for those less familiar, such as new participants in PPPs, academics and students, there was a perception that this was pretty impenetrable stuff to access," says Rory Brennan, Executive Director Infrastructure Investment at Infrastructure Australia.

Infrastructure Australia decided not to print the guidelines and instead converted them to Affinixtext format and made the Affinixtext library available online to anyone who registered for access.

www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/public_private_partnership_policy_guidelines.aspx

"Instead of investing in printed documents that would inevitably gather dust, we invested in an online library that would provide ongoing access to extend the useful life of these major guidelines. With Affinixtext providing distributed access we have rapidly gone from 300 regular users to over 1200 regular users and rising. Access has increased, the information accessed is always up to date, and the cost of providing that access has been significantly reduced. It's definitely win-win for us and for users," continues Rory Brennan.

Ongoing benefits

"By deciding to convert the documents to Affinixtext format we not only avoided the costs of a massive print run, we actually made the documents far more accessible," says Rory Brennan.

"Converting the National PPP Guidelines into an intelligent online format provides huge ongoing benefits. Users can access and interact with the documents nationwide and internationally."

"Users can search and navigate within and between documents. Even practical things like pop-up definitions and hyperlinking between related clauses make the documents so much more accessible," says Rory Brennan.

One of the tasks of Infrastructure Australia is to improve how infrastructure is delivered in Australia. Publishing the National PPP Guidelines in Affinixtext format is seen in that broader context.

"Publishing the National PPP Guidelines with Affinixtext provides optimal access and models best practice management of documents for tender processes on PPP projects generally," concludes Rory Brennan.

In 2010 as the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC) respectively strive to develop best practice PPP Guidelines, they are looking to the Australian guidelines as a model. As a result, the Affinixtext online library for the National PPP Guidelines is now being used around the globe.

www.affinixtext.com/infrastructureaustralia

Contact Affinixtext today to request a demonstration

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