

Objectives and Strategy

The overall objective of the NBI PPP Programme is to contribute to effective service delivery through the promotion and support of PPPs, as a basis for poverty reduction and economic growth. The specific aim is to enhance private sector participation in the provision, financing and management of public services through:

- the production, publication and dissemination of reliable information and provision of increased access to PPP material;
- improving technical competence of officials and political leaders through training on key PPP aspects and selected technical assistance;
- identifying obstacles to progress and devising strategies to address issues;
- raising awareness of the PPP concept and improve perceptions of private sector participation.

During the 2001/2002 year the NBI PPP programme will:

- Continue the niche role as leading supplier of PPP information and capacity building services;
- Move towards more technical training and practical PPP project-support;
- Strengthen relationship with the MIIU and Treasury PPP Unit
- Improve the public profile of PPPs and the NBI PPP Resource Centre
- Move towards appropriate cost recovery and financial sustainability

The National Business Initiative

The National Business Initiative (NBI) is a non-profit, business-based, public-interest organisation with more than 170 leading companies as members. Its task is to enhance the business contribution to South Africa's success. Its focus is the collective contribution of the business community to socio-economic development. The NBI assists business to contribute to the critical areas of skills provision, job creation and the delivery of basic services.

One of the main programmes of the NBI is to build local government capacity to deliver those services through public-private partnerships. To facilitate the formation of such partnerships, the NBI has helped to devise a number of training courses for councillors and council officials. These have included briefing sessions and shorter courses for a number of municipalities.

The NBI has, in partnership with the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Unit, launched a quarterly newsletter called Partnerships. In partnership with First National Bank, the NBI has also published a public-private partnership guide for local authorities titled **Exploring new ways to deliver services** and a public-private partnership video titled **In the public interest**.

In 1997 the NBI, Standard Corporate and Merchant Bank and Rand Water formed a public-private partnership consortium. The consortium spreads and deepens the understanding of public-private partnerships among municipal councillors and officials and among tertiary training institutions. It provides short courses on public-private partnerships (which include public-private partnerships and public non-governmental organisations and community-based organisations) to various municipalities.

The aim is to:

- Enable local authorities to use public-private partnerships for infrastructure development and delivery of basic services.
- Encourage government and training institutions to support and promote public-private partnerships.
- Promote involvement of private sector skills, management capacity and financing in the provision of services.
- Develop a market among private providers for training in local government.

More than 1 000 councillors and council officials country-wide were exposed to the public-private partnership concept, either through the 12 one-week training courses, one-day orientation courses and one-hour briefing sessions.

Successful and effective partnerships were formed with the following structures as a result of the public-private partnership consortium:

- The provincial government departments responsible for local government in Gauteng, Western Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape and Mpumalanga.
- The following South African Local Government Association affiliates: Gauteng Association of Local Authorities, Western Cape Local Government Association, KwaZulu-Natal Local Government Association and the Local Government Association of Mpumalanga.

Effective partnerships were also formed with the following tertiary training institutions:

- Wits Graduate School of Public and Development Management.
- Technikon SA.
- The universities of Pretoria, Durban-Westville, the Western Cape, Potchefstroom, Stellenbosch and the Fort Hare Institute of Government.