

Public-Private Partnerships and Government Spending Limits

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- private partner compensated through combination of government payments and user fees.

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 - can provide financing from taxation

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- government has no particular expertise in development or operation

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- in PPP construction and operation bundled *together*

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- best developer may not be best operator

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- but in this talk, will be stressing *another* important advantage

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 - government made up of different parts
 - not all these parts have social welfare maximization as only goal

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- will explore implications of this incentive

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- leader *uncertain* about cost

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 - regional leader not completely benevolent because its payoff not same as social payoff

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- So, spending limit imperfect solution if contractor must bear risk

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- note: contractor should bear risk purely for *incentive* reasons

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- now, the fixed price contract of 13 will no longer work
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 - so if cost is high, contractor won't accept 13 since $13 - 5 - 10 < 0$

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- PPP allows central government to use spending limit as effective tool for inducing regional leaders to choose good public projects