The Role of Public Procurement in Achieving the SDGs | ASEAN Regional Dialogue

Public Procurement: a Look into the Future

16:45 - 17:30 (Bangkok Time, GMT+7), 28 October 2021

SESSION BRIEF

Session 7: A Look into the Future of Procurement
(closing session and evaluation)
28 October 2021
16:45-17:30 Bangkok time

Background

Regional Dialogue

The regional dialogue is organized by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through its FairBiz – Promoting Fair Business environment in ASEAN, in partnership with UN Women, Open Government Partnership, Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (COST) and Open Contracting Partnership. The FairBiz project is supported by the UK Government, ASEAN Economic Reform Programme.

The regional dialogue will bring together government representatives from the region along with private sector leaders and civil society representatives interested in learning more about and/or implementing the sustainable public procurement agenda via the SDGs, integrity and value-for-money lenses.

This regional dialogue will contribute to:

- Promoting sustainable public procurement as a strategic tool in achieving progress on the SDGs
- Introducing new resources advocating for a collective action approach and multi-actor collaboration to improve the procurement ecosystem.
- Building community of practice and learning for procurement practitioners and reformers in Asia
- Understanding and managing integrity risks in public procurement vis-à-vis SDG attainments.
- Inspiring the community of practitioners and reformers in the region to adopt innovative solutions
- Facilitating knowledge exchange by showcasing relevant use cases and case studies
- Sharing emerging technology trends in public procurement
Session Description

This is the last session of the regional public procurement dialogue and will provide foresight thinking into some key areas of public procurement that will be discussed during the meeting. Key areas of discussion will be around sustainable public procurement, technology, gender, risk procurement. The session will include discussions among representatives of each of the four sessions on two or three key recommendations of the Dialogue that set public procurement in the right direction for future. The participants will also have a chance to provide their ideas and innovative thinking on what public procurement will look like in 2030.

Session Objectives

The key objectives of this session are to:

- Provide foresight thinking and vision of the sustainable public procurement in future, using innovative examples from sessions and providing recommendations.

- New and innovative ideas from the session should feed into future activities and work for UNDP FairBiz and other partners.

- Announce development of Community of Practice with UNDP FairBiz UN Women, Open Government Partnership, Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (COST) and Open Contracting Partnership in working together toward joint activities, development of knowledge products and other mutually agreeable initiatives.

Format

- The moderator will ask one question:

  “Imagine! You are in 2030, most of the SDGs have been attained, in part thanks to major changes in how public procurement has been regulated and managed over the last decade. Looking back at a certain Procurement Dialogue held by FairBiz in October 2021 which convened the main players and inspired new and innovative thinking, what were the two or three key recommendations of the Dialogue that set procurement in ASEAN region and beyond in the right direction to reach these goals?”

Each presenter will have 7 minutes to respond (35 min)
Moderator will ask the audience to provide their thinking on jamboard/google sheet and will take few ideas from the floor (10 min)

Darko to provide closing remarks on the next steps and thank participants (5 minutes).
Speakers and Panellists

Moderator: Brook Horowitz, FairBiz Business Integrity Advisor and Darko Pavlovic, FairBiz Project Manager

Speakers

- Clara Feng, Asia Regional Manager, CoST
- Mark Lovat, FairBiz Private Sector Advisory Group
- Katja Freiwald, Regional Programme Manager WeEmpowerAsia, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
- Nanda Sihombing, Asia Senior Manager, Open Contracting Partnership
- Ivy Ong, Senior Regional Coordinator for Asia Pacific, Open Government Partnership

16.45-17:30  

Session 7: Event evaluation and closing/ ways forward

Moderator opens the session to introduce the speakers (3 min) and ask a question:

“Imagine! You are in 2030, most of the SDGs have been attained, in part thanks to major changes in how public procurement has been regulated and managed over the last decade. Looking back at a certain Procurement Dialogue held by FairBiz in October 2021 which convened the main players and inspired new and innovative thinking, what were the two or three key recommendations of the Dialogue that set procurement in the right direction to reach these goals?”

Moderator asks participants to use the google doc or chat function to add their questions and remarks

The entire conversation is for 30 minutes (including 1-2 questions from the participants).

Moderator asks for 5 minutes to complete evaluation and to write what topics they would like to explore further (technology, gender, risk, sustainable public procurement)

Darko closes the session by providing ideas for follow up and thank all the partners. (5 min).
A graduate of Cambridge and Harvard Universities, Brook was part of the team that led GE’s expansion in Eastern Europe during the 90s. In 2004 he joined the International Business Leaders Forum, where he was Director of Business Standards, spearheading the organisation’s programmes in emerging markets, in particular China and Russia. In 2014, he co-founded IBLF Global, an NGO promoting responsible business through collective action. Since then, Brook has led on project design and management of anti-corruption projects in Russia, Turkey, Central Asia and South East Asia. Projects have included creating and developing a Government-Business Integrity Initiative in Vietnam, enabling SMEs to bid for business in the public procurement process of Kyrgyz Republic, and advising the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and Department for International Trade (DIT) on their Business Integrity Initiative for British exporters. From 2013-2015, he played a variety of leadership roles in the B20, a multi-stakeholder dialogue between the companies and governments of the G20 countries. With UNDP, he is advising the organisation on their business integrity strategy in ASEAN and on the creation of a new Integrity Hub.

Darko Pavlovic is UNDP Project Manager for Promoting Fair Business Environment in ASEAN. Darko has 18 years of professional experience on governance issues, specifically focusing on transparency and accountability. He has worked with UNDP in Afghanistan, Serbia, Oslo Governance Centre, and New York managing anti-corruption projects and project evaluations. He has earned Master’s Degrees from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs and LLM from Golden Gate University in San Francisco.
Clara Feng is the Asia Regional Manager of CoST - the Infrastructure Transparency Initiative. She leads the development and expansion of multi-country programmes in Asia by providing technical support and advice to the region's country managers and multi-stakeholder groups. Her role includes advocating for and influencing policy reform through the development of research and policy activities aimed at improving governance of public infrastructure investments. Clara is a non-practising lawyer, dually qualified as an advocate and solicitor in Singapore and as a solicitor in England & Wales.

As a former litigator and corporate lawyer, she had advised on infrastructure structures and development. Clara has also taught law and managed programmes relating to the rule of law, access to justice and governance in Southeast and South Asia. She holds a LLB (Hons) from the National University of Singapore and received her MSc on the Ann Nolan Reese NPL/NGO Leadership Scholarship from the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Mark Lovatt is the principal consultant and CEO of Trident Integrity Solutions Sdn Bhd, a specialist consultancy firm delivering anti-corruption programmes for the corporate sector and government agencies both in Malaysia and internationally. He is also the co-founder and the Secretary-General of the Business Integrity Alliance. He is a Member of the UNDP Private Sector Advisory Group for SE Asia, working on the use of advanced technology to combat corruption. A qualified Lead Implementer for ISO 37001, he conducts training on anti-corruption for regulators, governance institutions, companies and governments, and regularly speaks at seminars and conferences across the region.

Dr Lovatt is also the co-founder and Secretary-General of the Business Integrity Alliance. Under this position he heads the Transparency & Integrity Committee at European-Malaysian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and supports the Malaysian Government’s Governance, Integrity & Anti-Corruption Centre (GIACC) in their business sector work.

Dr Lovatt holds a BA (Hons) and PhD in Philosophical Theology from Nottingham University, UK, and has a background in IT, corporate regulation and business development in the power & gas sector.
Katja Freiwald, leads UN Women’s commitment under the women’s economic empowerment and migration focus in Asia and the Pacific. She oversees ‘WeEmpowerAsia’, a UN Women programme funded by and in partnership with the European Union that aims to increase the number of women who lead and participate in business China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. A key component of the programme is to mobilize private sector companies to become more gender-responsive by committing to and implementing the Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPs), as well as strengthen links Asian and European markets through gender-inclusive trade and supply chains.

Nanda Sihombing is the Senior Manager for Asia in the Open Contracting Partnership. She is in charge of the implementation, advocacy, network & community building and the regional strategy of open contracting in Asia as well as in the Pacific. She is an advocate for freedom of information, inclusive & good governance and holds multi-disciplinary background on transparency, anti-corruption, local governance and urban development. She served as the national OGP Focal Point for the Indonesian CSO Core Team Secretariat in 2013-2015 - the initial team of civil society in Indonesia that expanded the Open Government Partnership movement in the country and in the Asia Pacific region. She has also been a member of the national civil society coalition of Freedom of Information Network Indonesia (FOINI).

Deepening her passion in freedom of information, she started her open contracting journey as the Program Manager in Hivos South East Asia and led the open contracting agenda in the country. In this journey, she continued to advocate for inclusive approach where she worked with civil societies, journalists and governments to engage with historically marginalised and vulnerable groups (ie. persons with disabilities, underprivileged women, women-led micro and small medium enterprises, female journalists) to be a part of the voices that changed public procurement processes in their regions.
Ivy is a Senior Regional Coordinator for Asia-Pacific at the Open Government Partnership. Her main role is to provide guidance and assistance to governments, civil society organisations, and other key actors across Asia-Pacific, supporting the development and implementation of open government reforms. She assists in shaping the enhanced co-creation and implementation services for participating countries in Asia-Pacific.

Ivy’s past lives include: shaping the design and implementation of the first ever Metro Manila Civic Innovation Fellowship at Five by Five, leading the Open Data Lab Jakarta of the World Wide Web Foundation as its Lab Director, and serving as Co-coordinator and Outreach Lead of the inter-government agency team that built the Open Data Philippines program. She was in government service from 2012 to 2016 as senior staff at the Office of the Chief Information Officer at the Department of Budget and Management, Government of the Philippines. Prior to this, she planned and co-designed leadership development programs for public sector leaders at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) Center for Bridging Leadership and worked with communities and local governments to build multi-stakeholder teams to improve public education.