SESSION OUTLINE
Session 2: Public procurement ecosystem: a system approach and collective action
27 October 2021
14:45 - 16:00 Bangkok time

Background

Regional Dialogue "The role of Public Procurement in Achieving the SDGs"

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
Open and transparent public procurement systems are a strategic tool, not only in preventing corruption but also for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The adoption of a multi-stakeholder approach where governments, citizens, and the private sector work together to strengthen transparency and openness in public procurement systems is key.

This session provides country presentations of multi-stakeholder cooperation and is followed by a moderated discussion, with the opportunity to answer questions from the audience.

**Key Session Objectives:**

- Raise awareness on possible ways to generate collective action and promote a public procurement ecosystem approach
- Learn from country examples

**Detail Agenda:**

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<th>27 October</th>
<th>Session 2 - Public procurement ecosystem: a system approach and collective action</th>
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<tr>
<td>14.45 – 14.55</td>
<td>Introduction: Building Transparent and Open Public Procurement Systems for Achieving the SDGs in ASEAN</td>
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<td>Diana Torres, Assistant Resident Representative, Head of Governance and Participation, UNDP Vietnam</td>
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Diana will introduce the Fairbiz Resource Guide published earlier this year: Open and transparent public procurement systems are a strategic tool, not only in preventing corruption but also for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as they are a prerequisite of delivering medical goods, water services, quality education infrastructure, access to justice and sustainable infrastructure.

The resource guide builds on the UNDP guidebook, Tackling Integrity Risks in Government Contracts (2017), which provides a methodology for governments to assess normative gaps and loopholes that can lead to corruption in government contracts. Through this guide, UNDP promotes the adoption of a collective action - a multi-stakeholder approach where governments, citizen, and the private sector work together to strengthen transparency and openness in public procurement systems. It maps out existing tools and good practices in the region and beyond, which have been successful in achieving this objective. It also lays out some entry points for policy dialogue on this topic and reforms at the national and subnational levels.

This leads well to the following part of the session, where Diana will give the floor to country representative who can share their experience when it comes to a system approach

<table>
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<th>14.55 - 15.45</th>
<th>Country presentations (35 min in total) followed by 15’ moderated discussion</th>
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<td>Moderated by Diana Torres</td>
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- **Citizen participation, monitoring and reporting throughout the procurement cycle**
  
  Ms. Pattaraporn Worasaph, Advisor of Fiscal and Financial System Development, The Comptroller General’s Department - CGD - Ministry of Finance of Thailand and Ms. Clara Feng, Regional Manager of COST, the Infrastructure Transparency Initiative

*Possible questions to be reflected in the presentation:*
The presented experience shows good collaboration of civil society and government. How such collaboration can be extended to involve businesses?

b) Which stage of procurement cycle appeared to be most complicated for monitoring and why?

- **Inclusive and fair environment for public procurement to be accessible by SMEs, businesses owned by women and other traditionally underrepresented groups**

  Dwi Wahyuni Kartianingsih, Director for Business Climate Development and International Affair of LKPP (National Public Procurement Agency of Indonesia)

  Possible questions to be reflected in the presentation:
  a) Which "access" barriers (presumably and generally at regional/global level) are most obvious for SMEs incl. women-led SMEs and business owned/established by other traditionally underrepresented groups (minorities, youth) to be successful in PP market?
  b) What measures can have real practical sense to eliminate these barriers?

- **Setting up a procurement information dashboard and designing a road map for civil society engagement**

  Rowena Candice M. Ruiz, Executive Director V, Government Procurement Policy Board, Technical Support Office, Philippines

  Possible questions to be reflected in the presentation:
  a) Which directions for civil society engagement are most perspective from GPPB experience – drafting of legislation, participation in complaints review, compliance monitoring and oversight, integrity pacts, public consultations on largest (costly) projects etc?
  b) What is the best way to structure communications between Government/PP policy bodies and civil society for permanent productive collaboration – 1) setting certain provisions in legislation to secure the role of CSOs in PP sphere, or 2) establishing a permanent consultive board/committee consisting of stakeholders representatives (incl. CSOs), 3) using special web-tool open for any interested CSO to join an open forum, 4) all mentioned options and/or other?
  c) Why it is helpful to elaborate specific road map on civil society engagement?

Potential questions for moderated discussion (choose a, b and/or c depending on time):

a) Global pandemic – do you agree it is a good time now for opportunities to streamline stakeholders collaboration in modernizing national PP systems, or it is safer to wait for better times of economic growth?
Ms. Diana Torres is UNDP’s Assistant Resident Representative and Head of Governance and Participation. Diana has over 12 years of experience working in the United Nations at HQ, regional and country level, in the field of democratic governance and sustainable development, with expertise on anti-corruption, rule of law and access to justice and women’s leadership and participation in decision-making. Diana has extensive policy and programme experience working in Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and in Asia-Pacific. Before her current position in UNDP Viet Nam, Diana served as Regional Anti-corruption Specialist for UNDP’s Bureau for Asia and the Pacific based in Bangkok, Thailand. Diana holds a master’s degree in Conflict Resolution and Governance from the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and a bachelor’s degree in Political Science and International Relations from the Javeriana University (Bogota, Colombia).

Ms. Pattaraporn Vorasaph is Advisor of Fiscal and Financial System Development, The Comptroller General’s Department, Ministry of Finance. Her education background related to Business and Public Administration. She did a Master degree from the University of Central Oklahoma USA and a doctoral degree from Suan Dusit Rajabhat University. She started her working career at the Comptroller General’s Department, Ministry of Finance. Her working experiences are Director of Planning Division, Fiscal Analysis Expert Level of Public Financial and Fiscal Management Division, Director of Public Financial and Fiscal Management Division and Deputy Director of the Comptroller-General.

Ms. 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.
Ms. Dwi Wahyuni Kartianingsih, Director for Business Climate Development and International Affair of LKPP, is in charge of formulating strategies, policies and guidelines regarding business climate and international cooperation in Government Procurement. She is also the lead negotiator for Government Procurement Chapter in several FTAs. Ms. Dwi achieved her master degree in economics and public policy from School of Public Policy and Management, Korea Development Institute (KDI), Seoul, Korea.

Ms. Rowena Candice M. Ruiz, Executive Director V, Government Procurement Policy Board, Technical Support Office, Philippines

She is a lawyer by profession, having received her Bachelor of Laws Degree from San Beda College of Law. Prior to that, she took her pre-law studies at the De La Salle University. She recently obtained her Master of Laws in Globalisation and Development with Merit Honors at the University of London, through a Chevening Scholarship Programme of the United Kingdom.