



The World Bank

Procurement Policy Review Feedback Summary

Date: October 21, 2014

Location (City, Country): Ottawa, Canada

Total Number of Participants:

Overview and General Reactions: The Government officials who participated in the consultations were supportive of the reforms particularly with the value for money criteria. They emphasized the need for increased engagement of WBG with contract management issues, reform of the Bank's disclosure policy to allow more access to information, and the allocation of staff resources based on the complexity of a project and the institution's fiduciary duty. In regards to the assessment of alternative procurement systems, it was recommended that the new assessment tool should build on the OECD MAPs tool.

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders

1. How should the Bank implement support to borrower procurement capacity building and institutional strengthening?

- Support for the proposed WTO GPA option in the new procurement framework since it's an agreement with good procedures and also strengthens capacity of borrowers as well.
- OECD has been doing extensive work on client capacity and the Bank should request them to share best practices etc. The Canadian government has also been involved with client capacity building efforts and would be happy to share their experiences.
- Given all the new concepts such as value for money, fit for purpose etc, and existing capacity constraints, the need for client capacity building will be significant. The Bank's proposed idea of having a trust fund could be difficult due to Bank disclosure policies which do not allow access to important information that donors need to have before agreeing to sign on to a multi-donor trust fund. The disclosure policy needs to have better criteria on what information can and cannot be disclosed.

<p>2. How should the Bank operationalize the potential broader use of value-for-money criteria in borrower contract award decisions?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants agreed that a value for money criteria makes sense for architectural/engineering projects and indicated that the criteria should be tied to the operational requirements of the project.
<p>3. How should the World Bank target its procurement staff resources to get the best results?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement staff resources should be allocated based on the complexity as opposed to the value of the project e.g. in the Canadian public procurement system, complexity has been classified as follows: basic, standard, unique and transformational (institutional or public). To ensure efficient and effective use of resources, junior level procurement staff review contracts that have basic, standard or unique complexity and more senior staff review the ones that are classified as transformational.
<p>4. How and when should alternative procurement arrangements be used for procurement in Bank projects and how should they be assessed?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bank should build on the work that has already been done by the OECD (MAPs) when developing the assessment methodology for alternative procurement arrangements. • The delegation of procurement to bilateral development agencies like DFID, USAID, DFATD could also be considered.
<p>5. How should sustainable procurement matters be addressed in Bank-financed contracts?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WTO GPA has started a program on sustainability and the information from the program could be beneficial for the procurement reform.
<p>6. How should the World Bank manage fraud and corruption issues in the procurements it finances?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bank should focus on managing risk and should ensure fiduciary duty while avoiding the introduction of too many controls that may lead to staff being risk averse.
<p>7. What would be suitable procurement metrics that the Bank should use to improve performance?</p>

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8. What role should the Bank have with regard to complaints monitoring?

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9. What should be the Bank's role in contract management, and with regard to improving performance of suppliers?

- There is a need for increased involvement of WBG staff in contract management since many procurement and non-procurement issues arise after the contract has been awarded. This is an essential element to address capacity gaps through implementation of WBG-financed projects.
- There should be mandatory debriefing of losers and winners of bids.

10. General comments on other issues emanating from the Bank's proposals?

- Information on sub-contractors/consultants on WBG-financed projects should also be captured and included in the procurement app available to the public