



The World Bank

Procurement Policy Review Feedback Summary

Date: September 22, 2014

Location (City, Country): London, UK

Total Number of Participants: 11

Overview and General Reactions: A consultation session with stakeholders took place on September 22, 2014 in London, UK. The general response to the reform was positive, with most concerns being addressed. Value for Money (VfM) and sustainable results further detailed that the reform was continuing in the right direction. Some of the main concerns included worry about defining acceptable procurement standards, especially when considering the need to ensure quality and integrity, with a high importance placed on sustainable criteria, or the quality of life cycle evaluation. Overall, the consultations were successful and participants are looking forward to seeing how the policy will continue to develop as the Bank moves forward.

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders

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

- Participants were glad to see a renewed focus on capacity building for client country procurement systems.
- Participants suggested the WBG ensure that the team it has in place has the technical skills and capacity to deliver this dual role. The culture within the WBG and how procurement is viewed (by both procurement staff and the rest of the institution) will be key in this respect.

2. How should the Bank operationalize the potential broader use of value-for-money criteria in borrower contract award decisions?

- Participants welcomed proposal to expand VfM analysis beyond consultancy procurement, with use of non-price attributes in

<p>making contract award decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants stressed the importance of looking at the lifecycle of a project and the associated costs, rather than only assessing short-term costs.
<p>3. How should the World Bank target its procurement staff resources to get the best results?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants noted that the duration of the procurement cycle is an issue for client countries and brining this down will be important in the new process. Proposed increased data collection and transparency around procurement speed a welcome step.
<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"> • Participants welcomed steps that are being taken to build a more context-specific and informed procurement approach, though allowing a wider range of contract variations will increase opportunities for corruption. To address some of the potentially negative effects of the looser control on contract types, should consider drawing on range of best practice/good example contract templates available, particularly for more sensitive sections of contracts.
<p>5. How should sustainable procurement matters be addressed in Bank-financed contracts?</p>
<p>6. How should the World Bank manage fraud and corruption issues in the procurements it finances?</p>
<p>7. What would be suitable procurement metrics that the Bank should use to improve performance?</p>
<p>8. What role should the Bank have with regard to complaints monitoring?</p>
<p>9. What should be the Bank's role in contract management, and with regard to improving performance of suppliers?</p>
<p>10. General comments on other issues emanating from the Bank's proposals?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants noted that accessibility for persons with disabilities should be built into the design stage of WBG projects. This is an important and cost-effective means of furthering access for an often marginalized segment of society, while meeting commitments made by many WBG client countries under international agreements such as the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. • Pleased to see proposal to broaden access to Dispute Review Boards (DRB), Dispute Review Experts (DRE) as well as other dispute resolution mechanisms. Accept the need to keep costs of these mechanisms down. Practice has shown that a small investment in

these mechanisms upfront, including through training and assessment, can lead to greater long-term cost savings.