MARCH-APRIL 2021 EDITION



PPA *e*-BULLETIN

ENSURING COMPLIANCE TO PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ACT

INSIDE THIS EDITION

- Assessment Excercise to part of Ghana-The Experience
- Our Letters
- Procurement News Around the world



Website: www.ppa.gov.gh

Email: info@ppaghana.org



e-Bulletin

ENSURING PROCUREMENT COMPLIANCE:

CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

Theme for March - April Edition(2021): Ensuring Compliance to the Public Procurement Act

In this Edition

- Ensuring Procurement Compliance: Challenges and Solutions - Pg. 2,7&8
- Online
 Procurement
 Submissions Pg. 3&4
- Editorial Pg. 5&6
- Advertiser's
 Announcement Pg. 9 & 10
- Assessment
 Exercise to parts of Ghana: The
 Experience
 Pg.11,12,13&14
- Procurement News
 Around the World
 Pg. 15
- Our Letters Pg. 16
- Procurement
 Humour-Pg. 17
- Procurement
 Dashboard Pg. 18



Procurement involves the buying of goods, works, and services that enable an organization to operate profitably and ethically. Procurement is often responsible for a substantial amount of an organization/entity's total expenditure, so small cost reductions can have a big impact. Public Procurement is the process by which organizations acquire goods, works and services using public funds. Public Procurement Compliance involves public entities and stakeholders adhering to the provisions of the Public Procurement Act, 2003 (Act 663) as amended and other best practices.

CHALLENGES

The challenges include human resource/interference from other departments/stakeholders, the effectiveness of the regulator, inadequate data, lack of technology, human element (corruption, fraud etc), contract management, lack of planning/strategic procurement, and lack of sustainable public procurement.

Some procurement units are being manned by officers who are not procurement professionals. This issue is compounded by the fact that, where even there are professional procurement staff, they are hindered from effectively performing their work due to interference from other departments/officers of the public entities. Another area is the effectiveness of the regulator, that is, the Public Procurement Authority in ensuring compliance of public entities to Act 663 as amended. Sections 2 and 3 of the Public Procurement Act spells out clearly the objects and functions of the Authority.

ONLINE PROCUREMENT PLAN SUBMISSIONS AS AT 26TH MARCH, 2021

- 1. Accra Polytechnic
- 2. Afadzato south District Assembly
- 3. Agona Dist. Hospital
- 4. Ahanta West District Assembly
- 5. Ahantaman Senior High School
- 6. Ajumako/ Enyan/ Esiam District Assembly
- 7. Akatsi District Hospital
- 8. Akatsi South District Assembly
- 9. Akim Oda Government Hospital
- 10. Akuse Government Hospital
- 11. Anloga District Assembly
- 12. Asamankese Government Hospital
- 13. Asante Akim Central Municipal Assembly
- 14. Asante Akim South District Assembly
- 15. Asokore Mampong Municipal
- 16. Asonomaso district Hospital
- 17. Bagabaga College of Education
- 18. Bank of Ghana
- 19. Bechem Government Hospital
- 20. Bia East District Assembly
- 21. Bole Nursing and Midwifery Training College
- 22. Bolga General Hospital
- 23. Bolgatanga Polytechnic
- 24. Bono Regional Health Directorate
- 25. Bosome-Freho District Assembly
- 26. Bulk Oil Storage and Transportation
- 27. Cape Coast Nursing and Midwifery Training College
- 28. Central Regional Health Directorate
- 29. Centre for Plant Medicine Research Mampong
- 30. Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice
- 31. Community Health Nurses Training School Tamale
- 32. Community Health Nursing Training School Akim Oda
- 33. Controller And Accountant General Dept
- 34. COVID-19 Trust Fund
- 35. Ear Nose And Throat Training School
- 36. Eastern- Regional Co-ordinating Council
- 37. Effia Kwesimintsim Municipal Assembly
- 38. Effutu Municipal Assembly
- 39. Electoral Commission
- 40. Enchi District Hospital
- 41. Energy Commission
- 42. Environmental Protection Agency
- 43. Fanteakwa North District Assembly
- 44. Forestry Commission
- 45. Foso College of Education
- 46. Ga Central Municipal Assembly
- 47. Ga North Municipal Assembly
- 48. Ga West Municipal Hospital
- 49. Gaming Commission of Ghana
- 50. Ghana Aids Commission
- 51. Ghana Audit Service
- 52. Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
- 53. Ghana Civil Aviation Authority
- 54. Ghana Cocoa Board Quality Control Division

- 55. Ghana College of Nurses and Midwives
- 56. Ghana College of Pharmacists
- 57. Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons
- 58. Ghana Grid Co. Ltd. (GRIDCO)
- 59. Ghana Highway Authority
- 60. Ghana Institute of Journalism (GIJ)
- 61. Ghana Institute of languages
- 62. Ghana Institute of Management And Public Administration
- 63. Ghana Library Board
- 64. Ghana Maritime Authority
- 65. Ghana Metrological Agency
- 66. Ghana National Gas Company Limited
- 67. Ghana National Petroleum Corporation
- 68. Ghana News Agency
- 69. Ghana Railway Development Authority
- 70. Ghana Reinsurance Company Ltd
- 71. Ghana Shippers Authority
- 72. Ghana Standards Authority
- 73. Ghana Statistical Service
- 74. Ghana Technology University College
- 75. Ghana Water Company Limited
- 76. Ghana-India Kofi Annan Center of Excellence
- 77. Gomoa East District Assembly
- 78. Gomoa West District Assembly
- 79. Government Technical Training Centre
- 80. Ho Polyclinic
- 81. Ho Polytechnic
- 82. Ho Technical University
- 83. Information Service Department
- 84. Internal Audit Agency
- 85. Jaman North District Assembly
- 86. Jaman South (Jaman) District Assembly
- 87. Kedjebi
- 88. Keta District Hospital
- 89. Ketu North District Assembly
- 90. Ketu South Municipal Hospital
- 91. Kintampo College of Health and Well Being
- 92. Kintampo South District Assembly
- 93. Koforidua General Hospital
- 94. Koforidua Technical University
- 95. Kokofu Gen. Hospital
- 96. Komenda Edina Eguafo Abirem Municipal Assembly

108. Management Development And Productivity Institute

Page 3

- 97. Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital
- 98. Konongo District Hospital99. Korle- Bu Teaching Hospital

100. Krachi East District Assembly

101. Krachi West District Assembly

102. Krachi West District Hospital

105. Kwaebiirem District Assembly

107. Mampong Municipal Assembly

106. Mampong General Hospital

103. Kumasi south Hopital

104. Kumawu Polyclinic

Submit 2021 Procurement Plan Using PPA's Onlinc Procurement Planning System (http://planning.ppaghana.org/)

- 109. Mankranso Hospital
- 110. Methodist College of Education Akim Oda
- 111. Metro Mass Transport Ltd
- 112. Midwifery Training School Goaso
- 113. Minerals Commission
- 114. Ministry for the Interior
- 115. MINISTRY OF AVIATION
- 116. Ministry of Chieftaincy and Traditional Affairs
- 117. Ministry of Communications
- 118. Ministry of Finance
- 119. Ministry of Gender, Children and Social protection
- 120. Ministry of Information
- 121. Ministry of Justice And Attorney General
- 122. Ministry of Roads and Highways
- 123. Ministry of Transport
- 124. Ministry of Works and Housing
- 125. Mpasatia Senior High Tech. Sch.
- 126. National Board for Small Scale Industries
- 127. National Commission for Civic Education
- 128. National Development Planning Commission
- 129. National Film and Television Institute
- 130. National Identification Authority
- 131. National Information Technology Agency (NITA)
- 132. National Insurance Commission
- 133. National Lotteries Authority
- 134. National Pensions Regulatory Authority
- 135. National Petroleum Authority
- 136. National Road Safety Commission
- 137. National Service Secretariat
- 138. National Sports College
- 139. New Edubiase District Hospital
- 140. New Juaben South Municipal Assembly
- 141. Ngleshie Amanfro Polyclinic
- 142. Nkwanta North District Assembly
- 143. North Gonja District Assembly
- 144. North Tongu District Assembly
- 145. Northern Electricity Distribution Company (NEDCo)
- 146. Nsawam Adoagyiri Municipal Assembly
- 147. Nsawam Government Hospital
- 148. Nursing and Midwifery Council of Ghana
- 149. Nursing and Midwifery Training College Asankragwa
- 150. Nursing and Midwifery Training College Dunkwa
- 151. Nursing and Midwifery Training College Mampong
- 152. Nursing and Midwifery Training College Sampa
- 153. Nursing and Midwifery Training College Twifo Praso
- 154. Nursing and Midwifery Training College -Korle Bu
- 155. Nursing and Midwifery Training College-Kumasi
- 156. Nursing Training College Kwapong
- 157. Nursing Training College Wa
- 158. Obuasi Government Hospital
- 159. Obuasi Municipal Assembly
- 160. Office of the Head of Civil Service
- 161. Office of the Regional Health Directorate Ashanti Region
- 162. Office of the Regional Health Directorate Eastern Region
- 163. Office of the Regional Health Directorate Greater Accra Region
- 164. Office of the Regional Health Directorate Upper East Region
- 165. Offinso College of Education
- 166. Peki Government Hospital
- 167. Pharmacy Council

Page 4

- 168. Presby College of Education Akropong
- 169. Prestea Huni Valley District Assembly
- 170. Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC)
- 171. Public Procurement Authority
- 172. Registrar Generals Department
- 173. School of Anesthesia Ridge Regional Hospital
- 174. Sekyere South District Assembly
- 175. Sene Dist. Hospital
- 176. Sogakope District Hospital
- 177. South Dayi District Assembly
- 178. St. Francis College of Education
- 179. St. Patricks Nursing and Midwifery Training college
- 180. St. Theresas College of Education
- 181. State Interests and Governance Authority
- 182. Suaman District Assembly
- 183. Suame Municipal Assembly
- 184. Suhum Government Hospital
- 185. Suhum Municipal Assembly
- 186. Sunyani General Hospital
- 187. Sunyani Polytechnic
- 188. Takoradi Technical University
- 189. Tamale Central Hospital
- 190. Tamale College of Education
- 191. Tamale Technical University
- 192. Tamale West Hospital
- 193. Tano North District Assembly
- 194. Tano South District Assembly
- 195. Tarkwa District Hospital
- 196. Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipal Assembly
- 197. Techiman Minicipal Assembly
- 198. Tema Development Corporation
- 199. Tema Shipyard Ltd
- 200. Tepa District Hospital
- 201. Tetteh Quarshie Memorial Hospital
- 202. University For Development Studies
- 203. University Of Cape Coast (UCC)

209. University Of Ghana (UG)

216. Volta River Authority

Submit 2020 Procurement Plan Using PPA's Onlinc Procurement Planning System (http://planning.ppaghana.org/)

217. Wasa Akropong Hospital

218. Wassa East District Assembly

219. Winneba Municipal Hospital

- 204. University Of Education Winneba (UCEW)
- 205. University of Energy and Natural Resources

210. University of Professional Studies, Accra

211. Upper Denkyira East Municipal Assembly

213. Upper East- Regional Co-ordinating Council

214. Upper West- Regional Co-ordinating Council

212. Upper Denkyira West District Assembly

215. Volta- Regional Coordinating Council

- 206. University of Ghana College of Basic and Applied Sciences
- 207. University of Ghana College of Education208. University of Ghana College of Health Sciences

ENSURING COMPLIANCE TO THE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ACT

EDITORIAL



Welcome to the March – April 2021 edition of the e-Bulletin. The theme for this edition is "*Ensuring Compliance to the Public Procurement Act*"

The Cambridge dictionary defines compliance as an act of obeying an order, a rule or a request. Wikipedia also defines compliance in general terms as conforming to a rule, such as a specification, policy, standard or law. Procurement compliance can therefore be said to be the means by which entities adhere to ethical and legal rules, regulations to ensure transparency, efficiency in the procurement system.

Procurement compliance in its broad sense implies Conforming to: specifications, terms of contract, set of rules in the procurement process, etc. for the purposes of this article we will focus on the compliance in terms of procurement process.

The Public Procurement Act, Act 663 (2003) passed in 2003 and became operational in 2004. The legislative activity was informed by the model procurement regulation made available by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). It was amended in 2016, with the amended Act being operationalized from 2017. The amendment in some parts was necessitated to remove operational bottlenecks such as: low approval thresholds, composition of the Entity Tender Committee etc. Other factors were to correct editorial errors, changes in the source Law – UNCITRAL, to Promote Decentralization Agenda among others.

The Public Procurement Authority (PPA) per its functions of Act 663, as amended, is required to conduct an assessment of all Public Entities. Fundamentally, the overarching objective of the public procurement function is to deliver "value for money" and efficiency in the use of public funds, while essentially adhering to the Public Procurement Act and other related laws and policies. Hence, Public Procurement Performance Assessment or measurement is basically seeking to answer the question of whether or not the public procurement processes and functions are delivering actual outputs in accordance with the agreed upon objectives or expectations. Such a system in place will ensure that gains and critical learnings are consolidated while weaknesses and unintended negative consequences of laws and policies are identified and remedies provided.

This assessment usually termed Public Procurement Performance Assessment or measurement basically seeks to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Public Procurement Act (663) as amended.

In the later part of 2020, PPA conducted assessment of **557** selected Public Entities. The assessment of the procurement performance of the Entities was done using the Public Procurement Model of Excellence (PPME) Tool. The PPME Tool is a web- and data-based software package which is used to analyse the data collected from the assessed Entities. At the data collection stage, a Team of two (2) assessors visited the assigned entities to collect data regarding their procurement activities for the previous year.

ENSURING COMPLIANCE TO THE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ACT

EDITORIAL

The data collected was subsequently entered into the PPME software by Data Entry Officers. The Tool then analyses and generates two main reports, namely: Performance Assessment System (PAS) Report; and Performance Measurement Indicators (PMI) Report.

The outcome of the assessment provides evidence of the actual performance of the system as a basis for reforms and improvement of the public procurement function at the national level. At the Entity level, the assessment helps to identify weaknesses and lack of capacities in their procurement function as a basis of suggesting improvements and assist in ascertaining how public procurement planning and plans are aligned with or support organizational strategic plans. Additionally, it assists to establish if contracts or projects are being efficiently managed and helps to ascertain, if the terms of contracts prescribed are being followed and adhered to.

This edition seeks to give readers a preview of the challenges and solutions of the exercise as well as share experience of some of the assessors.

Keep Reading and be informed about the components of your Entity's Report laying on your desk.

Written by

Thomas Bondzi - Dep. Director MIS Sheila Darkey - Principal Operations Officer CM&E



ENSURING PROCUREMENT COMPLIANCE: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

From Pg. 1



It must however be stated that the Public Procurement Authority has not been able to discharge its functions optimally to ensure optimum compliance. It is hampered by the paucity of staff and funds, lack of offices in all the sixteen regions of Ghana, inadequate monitoring of public entities etc.

Another area that hinders compliance is inadequate data. Inadequate data can motivate bad or ill-informed decisions, which ultimately reflect a loss on the business cycle. Purchases that are made based on inadequate data lead to problems like inventory shortage and excess inventory.

The procurement departments are challenged with the lack of the right tools and technology. Automating the procurement processes frees the professionals from low-value tasks and allows them to focus on strategic concerns. Public

Procurement in Ghana now has not fully embraced e-Procurement despite the fact that automation decreases human error.

Another area is the human element (corruption, fraud, conflict of interest etc). As the former President of America, Harry Truman said "I have not yet found a contractor who, if not watched, will not leave the Government holding the bag". The same can be extended to state that there is no public officer who, if not watched, will not leave the government holding the bag. The issue of corruption is rife in public procurement and therefore makes compliance very difficult.

Other areas are the paucity of Contract Management, Planning/strategic procurement and Sustainable Public Procurement.

SOLUTIONS

The suggestions listed below can help us overcome some of the challenges discussed above.

On the issue of human resource, public entities must be directed to let only professional procurement officers handle the core procurement process. Secondly, public entities need to keep their staff aligned with the new developments in procurement. Last but not the least, public entities must stop other staff/officers from interfering with the procurement process.

The effective role of a regulator in the industry plays a very crucial part in the success of that industry. To ensure optimum compliance the Authority must have offices in all 16 regions. This must also go along with the recruitment of qualified and adequate staff to man these offices. The Authority must also step up its capacity building/training for procurement and other related staff. The Authority must also improve on its monitoring with frequent and unannounced visits to the public entities to ensure compliance and enforcement. The Authority in conjunction with the Audit Service must speed up the process of conducting procurement auditing of the public

ENSURING PROCUREMENT COMPLIANCE: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS



entities. The Authority must also put in place other effective regulatory measures to ensure optimum compliance. Public Entities should put measures in place, to have access to accurate data. This data can be used for analysis to inform strategic decisions. A decision that is driven by data has a slim chance of being unsuccessful as compared to a decision made with inaccurate data.

To ensure compliance public entities needs to introduce technology into the procurement process. The Authority is currently implementing e-Procurement to enhance automation in the procurement process.

The most critical area to look at to ensure optimum compliance is the human element (corruption, fraud, conflict of interest etc). It must be stated that the prevention and detection of procurement fraud begins and ends with all stakeholders.

One of the most important measures is to institute a strict Internal Audit system in the public entities. Secondly, checks and balances should be introduced at every level of the procurement process.

Much as these challenges and solutions are not exhaustive, if the solutions are implemented they will go a very long way to ensure optimum Procurement Compliance.

In conclusion, it must be stated that Procurement Compliance will lead to improvement in the Public Procurement System, which can have a direct and beneficial effect on the overall economic situation of a country, as well as, all Stakeholders.

Written by Prince Lamptey

Chief Operations Officer - Compliance Monitoring and Evaluation (CM&E)

ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS



Public Procurement Authority

Improving efficiency and transparency in Public Procurement

The Public Procurement Authority wishes to bring to the attention of Procurement Entities (PEs) the following important announcements:

Advertisement of tender notices

Pursuant to section 47(4) of the Public Procurement Act,2003(Act 663) as amended, all Procurement Entities are required to advertise their tender notices on the website of the Public Procurement Authority (PPA). This is in addition to the publication in one newspaper of wide national or international circulation for NCT and ICT respectively.PPA is concerned about the blatant disregard for the non-compliance of this mandatory provision of the law. Entities are by this notice, advised to henceforth desist from this procurement infraction by advertising their tenders on the PPA's website at the approved fee of **GHS 800.00**. Entities are advised to contact the PPA at its Head Office located on the 6th Floor, SSNIT Emporium Building, Airport City-Accra and at its Zonal Offices in Kumasi and Takoradi for assistance.

Enhanced Procurement Planning tool

In accordance with Section 21 of Act 663 as amended, the Authority is reminding all Entities to submit their approved 2021 procurement plans latest by end of **30 April, 2021**. It is worth noting that, in accordance with the Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921), budgets of entities are to be implemented on the oracle Hyperion software at the Ministry of Finance soon after the passage of the Appropriations Act which will be uploaded onto PPAs online procurement planning software.

Entities are to note that, the Governing Board of the PPA will not consider any applications for the use of Single Source and Restricted Tendering procurement methods unless procurement packages are captured in the approved procurement plans of such entities. Kindly note that these plans must be captured electronically via **http://:planning.ppaghana.org**.

Publication or Posting of Contracts Awarded

Pursuant to section 31(1) of the Public Procurement Act, (2003) as amended, all Procurement Entities are required to promptly publish all contracts that are awarded by the Entity on the PPA's website. The Public Procurement Authority (PPA) is by this notice reminding all Procurement Entities to endeavour to comply with this statutory requirement by posting all contracts awarded on PPA's website immediately the procurement processes are completed and the eventual contracts are awarded.

ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS



Capacity Development

Considering the fact that training constitutes a critical part of the implementation of the Public Procurement Act, 2003 (Act 663) as amended, the PPA wishes to entreat Entities who may have challenges in the application of the law to formally request for specialized training. The ultimate objective of the Authority is to promote and support the training and professional development of persons engaged in public procurement and ensure adherence to ethical standards and avoid any possible infractions of the law.

For further information, please contact the PPA on Tel: 0552565494/0505846550 or Email: info@ppaghana.org

SGD

AG. CHIEF EXECUTIVE

PPA- Improving Efficiency & Transparency in Public Procurement

ASSESSMENT EXERCISE TO PARTS OF GHANA

THE EXPERIENCE

INTERVIEW WITH MADAM FAUSTINA OKUADJO (CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER-CME)

Interviewer	Thank you for making time to interact with us.
Respondent	It's a pleasure.
Interviewer	Where did you carry out the 2020 Assessment exercise?
Respondent	Three Regions - Bono East and part of Ashanti and Savanna.
Interviewer	How long was the exercise?
Respondent	It took us 4 weeks including weekends to assess the entities.
	We assessed four (4) entities in Ashanti region in the first week of the exercise, then
	proceeded to Bono East and spent the first weekend in Techiman. On Monday, we
	entered the Savanna region and spent two (2) days then back to Bono East and ended at
	Yeji (Pru District)
Interviewer	Share with us the main challenge you encountered during the exercise?
Respondent	Though entities were aware of the Assessment exercise, some entities did not have all the
	required documents in one place, making information retrieval difficult. Access roads to
	some of the entities were also a major challenge to the exercise.
Interviewer	Pleasant aspects of the exercise?
Respondent	On weekends we went to the market bought some foodstuff and requested the caretaker
	of the Guest House to cook for us both in Techiman and Atebubu.
Interviewer	Any advice?
Respondent	The Assessment exercise should be done periodically to ensure effective compliance with
	provisions of the Public Procurement Act.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. ANDREW BAAFI (CHIEF CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER)

Interviewer	Thank you for making time to interact with us.
Respondent	No problem.
Interviewer	Where did you carry out the Assessment exercise?
Respondent	I did my Assessment in Central, Greater Accra, Eastern and Ashanti Regions
Interviewer	How long was the exercise?
Respondent	Basically we were in the field for one month and due to the enormity of exercise we had
	to spend three days in Central Region, four and five days each in Greater Accra and
	Eastern Region respectively and the remaining days in Ashanti Region.

ASSESSMENT EXERCISE TO PARTS OF GHANA THE EXPERIENCE

Interviewer What was the major challenge you encountered during the exercise? Respondent We encountered many challenges on the field. The major challenge was our inability to get access to some of the documents (Tender Documents, Evaluation Reports and Contract Documents) which we needed to use for the assessment exercises. This was due to the fact that the Assignment spanned a period of four years, that is, from 2016 to 2019, and the fact that most of the Entities did not keep proper records of these documents, we had to rely on the few ones we could lay our hands on, especially 2017 and 2016 ones. Usually the rules of engagement in the Procurement Records Management, stipulates the need to put each Procurement Activity from its initiation to its close-out in one file for ease of reference and plausible investigation should the need arise. Nonetheless, in some of the Entities especially the Health Facilities this was not the case. Tender Documents and Evaluation Reports were in many instances not properly documented, consequently we had to spend extra hours to retrieve them in order to establish their veracity or authenticity or otherwise. Interviewer Pleasant aspects of the exercise? Respondent Well...the most pleasant aspect of the Assessment was among others included inter alia the cooperation from most of the Head of Entities, Heads of Finance and Procurement Managers/Officers during through out the exercise extended to us as Assessors. Another area was the readiness for corrections in areas they realized they fell short following our engagement with them. Interviewer Any advice? Respondent My advice is the need to ensure that the Assessment is carried out annually so that retrieval of documents would be easier and the need to carry out Training on Procurement Records Keeping especially among the Health Facilities.

Written by Edwina J. Safee Boafo

Senior Officer - Capacity Development (CD)

ASSESSMENT EXERCISE TO PARTS OF GHANA

THE EXPERIENCE

INTERVIEW WITH MRS. REBECCA AHATOR – HEAD OF PROCUREMENT

- Interviewer Thank you for making time to interact with us.
- **Respondent** Always a pleasure
- Interviewer Where did you carry out the 2020 Assessment Exercise?
- **Respondent** I went to the Eastern Region
- Interviewer How long was the exercise?
- **Respondent** I stayed in the Eastern Region for a month

Interviewer Share with us the main challenge you encountered during the exercise?

- **Respondent** Personally, the documentation for most of the public entities in the Eastern Region was problematic. The entities did not put their documents together well in a way that is required of them. On the day of the exercise, some Officers were now running around trying to organize their documents for our team. Procurement documents form an integral part of the procurement process and should not be organized haphazardly. Also, procurement is a formal process with legal implications hence information throughout the cycle must be recorded, kept and articulated as required.
- Interviewer Pleasant aspects of the exercise?
- **Respondent** Interacting with the townsfolk was very pleasant. I enjoyed my stay and getting to know the people in the Eastern Region. The sights were breathtaking and the place very relaxed and serene. I enjoyed my stay.
- Interviewer Any Advice?
- **Respondent** Public Entities must endevour to keep proper record of the procurement process.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. FRANCIS AYITEY – CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER (RESEARCH, POLICY & PLANNING)

- Interviewer Where did you carry out the Assessment Exercise?
- Respondent Four regions Greater Accra, Central, Eastern and Ashanti Region
- Interviewer How long was the exercise?
- **Respondent** 22 days (excluding weekends) conducting the Assessment Exercise.

ASSESSMENT EXERCISE TO PARTS OF GHANA

THE EXPERIENCE

Interviewer Share with us the main challenge you encountered during the exercise?

Respondent A major challenge we faced was that for most of the entities that were visited we met external auditors conducting the end-of-year audit in the public entities. We either had to share the documents with them or wait for them to finish up so we can conduct our exercise successfully. This led to major delays.

Also, combining four years of assessment (2016-2020) was challenging especially for the assessor.

Interviewer Pleasant aspect of the exercise?

Respondent An interesting part of this exercise was visiting some tourist attraction and going to the local market to buy fresh vegetables – straight from the farm. Those were my pleasant memories.

Interviewer Any Advice

Respondent My advice is that, in order not to clash with external auditors, the date for assessment must be pushed up. This will eliminate the issue of delays during the exercise.

Written by Marian Oteng

Officer - Corporate Affairs and Facilities Management (C&FM)

PROCUREMENT NEWS AROUND THE WORLD



ALL GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS TO BE MADE PUBLIC

The Bahamian Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis has stated that all government contract awards would be published online and in newspapers when a Public Procurement Bill being debated in the House of Assembly is passed and comes into force,

According to him, the bill is among a compendium of finance bills that would boost transparency and accountability in government operations. Public information about contracts will state what the contract is for, who it was awarded to and the dollar value of the contract.

Dr Hubert Minnis - Prime Minister of Bahamas

"This will help to address all the whispering, the rumours, and the

political mischief that has gone on for decades in our country," Dr Minnis added. "The citizens of The Bahamas will be able to see who is getting government contracts, for what purpose and in what amounts."

Dr Minnis said under the bill, suppliers and contractors will be able to review the actions of procuring entities. In this vein, and for the first time, the bill provides for the establishment of a Procurement Review Tribunal, which will adjudicate disputes and complaints relating to government contracts, in accordance with the process established in the bill," he said.

REEVES DEMANDS APOLOGY OVER "CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE MISSING CONTRACTS"



The Labour Party has demanded an apology for Boris Johnson's claim that information on all Covid procurement was made public and asked for confirmation that no money has been wasted on the "curious incident of the missing contracts".

Rachel Reeves tabled an urgent parliamentary question asking the government to make a statement on the recent High Court order relating to its failure to publish details of contracts awarded throughout the pandemic. The High Court ruled last month that Matt Hancock had acted unlawfully by failing to publish information on multibillion-pound government Covid

contracts awarded throughout the pandemic within the 30-day period required by law.

An order handed down by the court last week confirmed that only 608 out of 708 relevant contracts had been published and reiterated that, in some or all of these cases, the Health Secretary had acted unlawfully. Reeves called on the minister to apologise for the comment made by the Prime Minister and to "put the record straight". She also demanded the publication of all outstanding information on Covid contracts by the end of this week.

OUR LETTERS



Public Procurement Authority Improving Efficiency and Transparency in Public Procurement

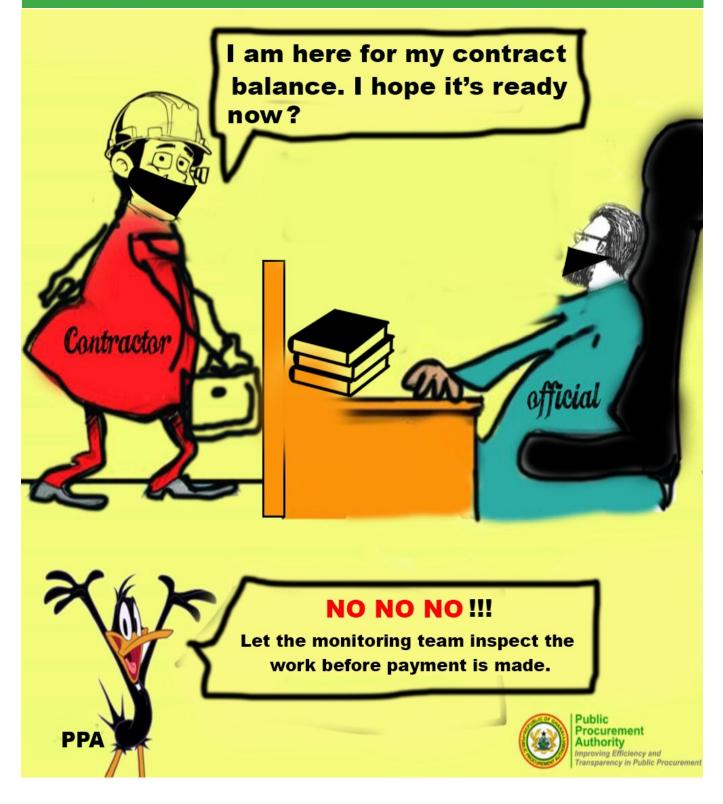
Please submit your Questions Suggestions Comment

Via our social Media Handles

Public Procurment Authority, Ghana PPA_ghana

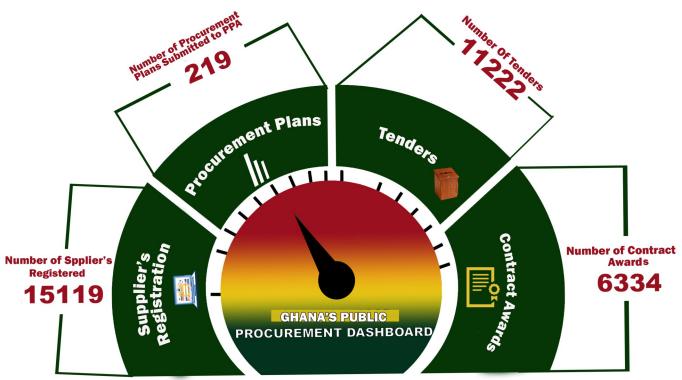
- Great job on the publications so far. I was really educated as well as inspired by your last edition "GLOBAL TRENDS IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT". After reading the article, I have gained some insights on the scope of how Procurement will be in Ghana in the next 10 years to come **-Evans Akyea –Accra**
- Your edition in 2020 has contributed greatly to my tertiary education in the University. Keep the good job up.
 -Daniella Kyei Baffour—Kumasi
- I am greatly impressed by each month's display of knowledge in procurement issues. -Harriet —Ashiaman
- Good work done Editorial Committee for the publications so far. I gained an interest in procurement issues thanks to this e-Bulletin Irene Ashiaman

PROCUREMENT HUMOUR



By James Ampiah

GHANA'S PUBLIC PROCUREMENT DASHBORD



EDITORIAL TEAM

THOMAS K. BONDZI-DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MIS

DAVID S. DAMOAH—HEAD, CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND FACILITYIES MANAGEMENT

SHEILA DARKEY—CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER, COMPLIANCE MONITORING & EVALUATION

EDWINA J. SAFEE BOAFO—SENIOR OFFICER, CAPACITY DEVELOP-MENT

MARIAN OTENG—OFFICER., CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

JAMES AMPIAH—GRAPHICS & ILLUSTRATIONIST



Public Procurement Authority, Ghana

9 @PPA_ghana

Illustration by: Ampiah James

<u>PHONE</u>

0302738140-6

0552565494

0505846550

POSTAL ADDRESS

PMB 30 MINISTRIES ACCRA