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Q1: Respondent details

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Q2: Country or Customs territory

- MULTILATERAL OR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANK

Q3: Organization

Other (please specify) Asian Development Bank

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Q4: Title of case story

Instituting e-Government Procurement in Nepal

Q5: Case story focus

E-commerce development and efforts to bridge the "digital divide".

Q6: Case story abstract

e-Government procurement (e-GP) enhances transparency and compliance, increases performance and quality, and furthers economic development. With ADB in 2013, Nepal launched ambitious and transformational reforms to develop its e-GP system. The new e-GP system of Nepal eases the access of national and international bidders to procurement opportunities; reduces turnaround time across the public procurement cycle and improves process efficiency overall; facilitates regulatory compliance and effective auditing; increases transparency and minimizes collusion and intimidation; helps verify and monitor bid capacity from centralized supplier/contractor/consultant profiles; and promotes monitoring, analysis, and effective decision making from aggregated procurement information.

<https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/184930/ks066-e-gov-procurement-nepal.pdf>

Q7: Who provided funding?

Other (please specify) Asian Development Bank

Q8: Project/Programme type

Single country

Q9: Your text case story

The use of electronic methods for government procurement enhances transparency, compliance, and quality and improves the efficiency and effectiveness of public administration, which is a critical driver of economic development.

In 2012, ADB extended a policy-based grant to the Government of Nepal to strengthen its public management; the Government of the United Kingdom co-financed the grant and the technical assistance (TA) extended in support of the reform program. In 2013, the European Union confirmed additional co-financing to the TA. Further funding of the TA was received from the Government of the United Kingdom in 2016. The program has been executed by the Ministry of Finance. Its impact is expected to be effective delivery of public goods and services, especially at local government levels. Its outcome is planned to be enhanced efficiency, transparency, and integrity of public finances.

One concrete output from the program, to be accomplished by the Public Procurement Monitoring Office (PPMO) with dedicated inputs from the TA, targeted improvements in the public procurement system. In phases, the TA developed a comprehensive national e-GP system for Nepal that, in December 2015, received approval for rollout in July 2016. Crucially, requirements review sessions were conducted with identified public entities, concerned government departments were sensitized with design walkthroughs, memorandums of understanding including banking interfaces were finalized with commercial banks, training was conducted in departments, and technical coordination committee meetings were held (with more planned). The system—with a pilot launch in April 2016—phases out individual e-submission systems in ministries and departments and plans to bring under it ADB- and World Bank-funded projects as well. The new e-GP system

- eases the access of national and international bidders to procurement opportunities;
- reduces turnaround time across the public procurement cycle and improves process efficiency overall;
- facilitates regulatory compliance and effective auditing;
- increases transparency and minimizes collusion and intimidation;
- helps verify and monitor bid capacity from centralized supplier/contractor/consultant profiles; and
- promotes monitoring, analysis, and effective decision making from aggregated procurement information.

Q10: Lessons learnt

Instituting an e-GP system is a big test for any country. Notwithstanding obvious accomplishments, PPMO now looks to establishing a sustainable operating model, augmenting infrastructure, evolving new functionalities, making incremental improvements, enhancing security, and further building human resource capacity, among others, from a decided vision of next steps that include:

System Enhancement & Infrastructure Upgrades
 Third Party System Security Audits
 Development of Open Contracting System
 Leveraging of Partnerships
 Mainstreaming of all Sectors in e-GP System
 Continuous Operation & Maintenance