

## « Capacity Development : Accra and Beyond »

Bonn Workshop: May 15 – 16, 2008

13 May, 2008

### Session 1 : Alignment

- A. **What** priority measures can make capacity development more effective?
- Country ownership
  - Broad national stakeholder engagement
  - Realistic needs assessment and concrete, achievable performance targets
  - Flexible, medium/long term implementation plans
- B. **Why** are these measures promising? (here are some country experiences in procurement capacity development from the OECD/DAC Joint Venture on Procurement):
- Philippines and Ghana: President of the Philippines approved Gov't Procurement Reform Act (2003); there are four national agencies that provide procurement oversight. Ghana has implemented key recommendations of 2003 CPAR: Procurement Law enacted, Public Procurement Board established and training for public procurement officials, CSOs/private sector delivered
  - Indonesia and Rwanda: Indonesia's decentralized government structure has resulted in engagement of procurement stakeholders at national, provincial, district and municipal levels (donors, lawmakers, suppliers, anti-corruption agencies, NGOs, media and citizens). Rwanda presented plan for assessment of procurement system to national stakeholder group, obtained data from members of the group and discussed final assessment results before submitting report. (plus Tanzania and Zambia on accountability to citizens for services, goods and works)
  - Malawi: The OECD/DAC JV procurement system assessment methodology identified areas of weakness; the UNDP procurement capacity assessment framework was used to address these areas along with progress indicators and monitoring.
  - Cameroon: Recommendations of WB CPAR (2000) implemented, including creation of Agence de Régulation des Marchés Publics (2001) which undertook baseline assessment (2005) and updates (2005 and 2008) to measure progress and adjust capacity building action plans
- C. **How** could these measures be approached?
- Political decision on reforms by the partner government is the fundamental starting point, followed by donor and government financial support, national experiences and lessons learned over time based on openness and transparency
  - Public/private partnerships and agreed roles in public procurement, learning from and sharing experiences with other countries
  - Partnerships with like-minded participants; sharing experiences and lessons, pilot exercises involving monitoring, evaluating and adjusting the plan accordingly
  - Integrated public sector reform programs that include strengthening country procurement systems, backed by partner government political support and vision, medium term donor and government financing
- D. What are some recommendations for shaping the Accra Agenda for Action?

#### ***Partner country-owned capacity development –***

- Partners prioritise and sequence strategies within National Development Strategies to optimize effective implementation of capacity development action plans.
- Donors ensure that capacity development assistance is driven by local needs, is aligned to support national strategies and priorities and is delivered in ways that strengthen country systems including for service delivery.

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