

E-Procurement: The Government of Lebanon Experience



*1st High Level Seminar on E-Procurement
Good Governance for Development (GfD) in Arab Countries
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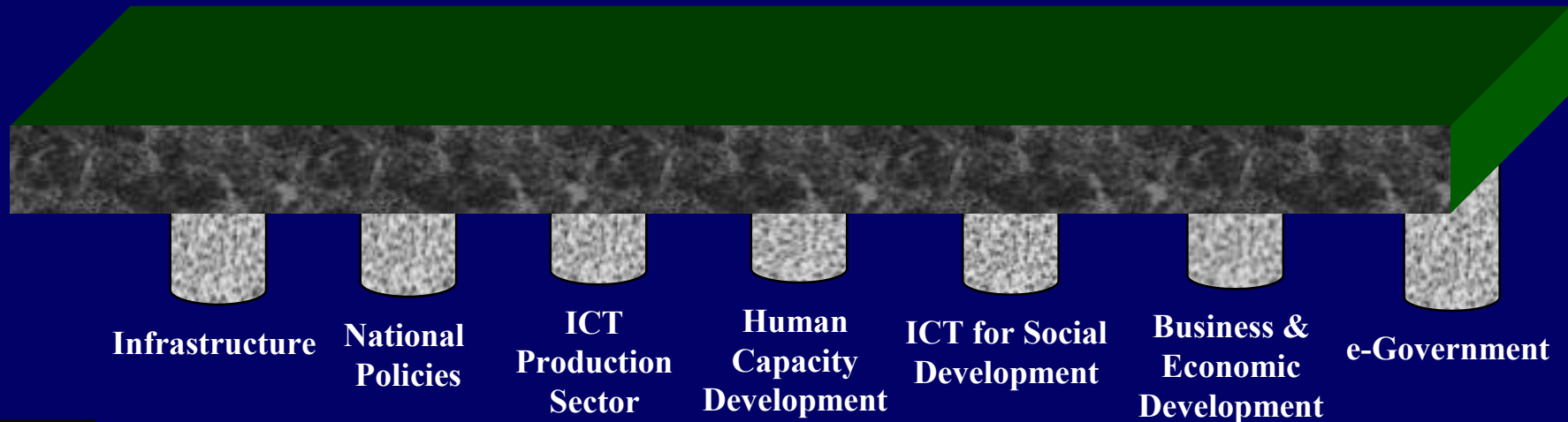


Presentation Outline

- ❏ **National e-Strategy of Lebanon**
- ❏ **General Overview of e-Government**
- ❏ **e-Government Priority: e-Procurement**
- ❏ **Structure and Organization of Public Procurement**
- ❏ **Lessons Learned: ProCycle @ OMSAR**
- ❏ **e-Procurement Initiative in Lebanon**
- ❏ **Structure and Organization of e-Government: Leadership**
- ❏ **International co-operation on Public e-Procurement**

National e-Strategy of Lebanon

The National E-Strategy is a foundation which aims to move the economy and society of Lebanon towards a Knowledge Based Society in the shortest possible time while simultaneously addressing related challenges and opportunities.



General overview of e-Government

E-Government is a platform that enables a 'Public Administration' through the use of modern information and communications technologies to provide information and services to the general public and business community and to internally operate, all on a global level, in a transparent, efficient, cost-effective and timeliness manner.

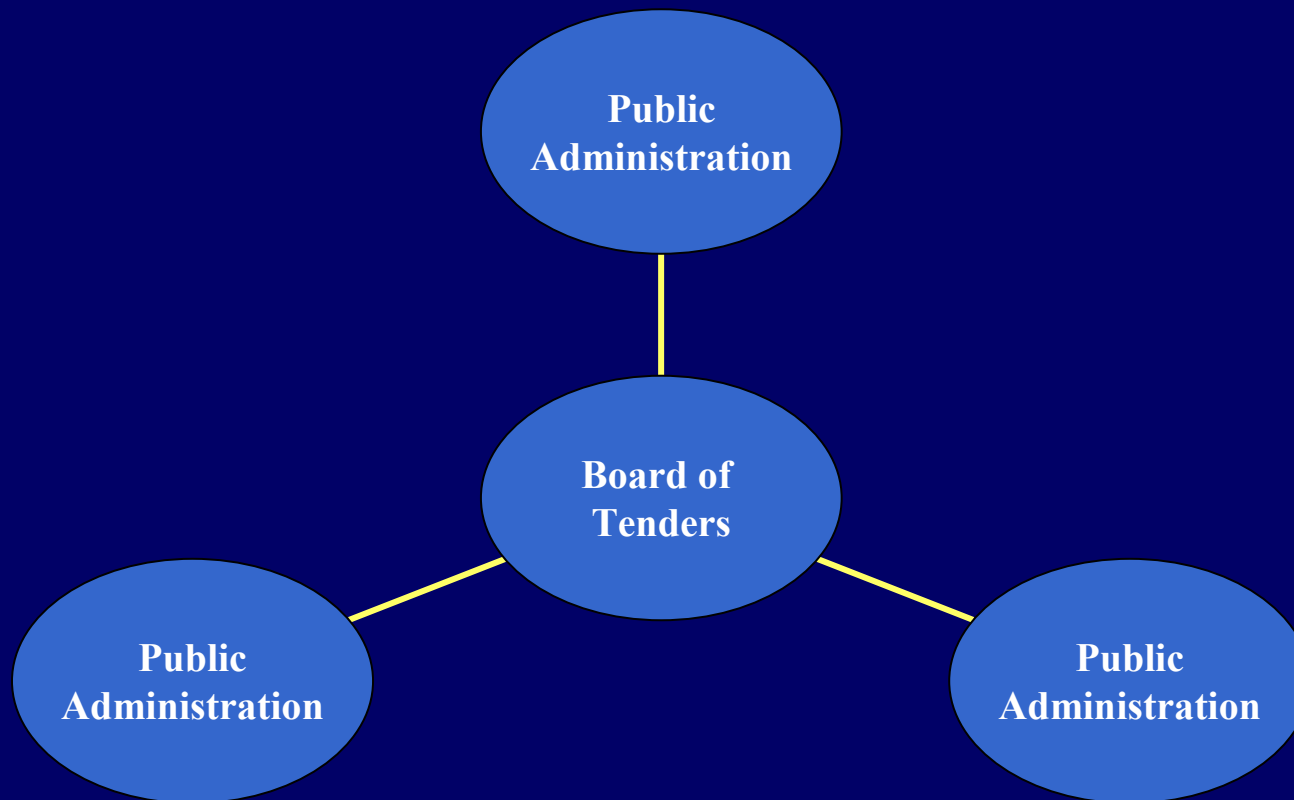
It enables the provision of the right information/service to the right group of people at the right time and in the right format.

e-Government Priority: e-Procurement



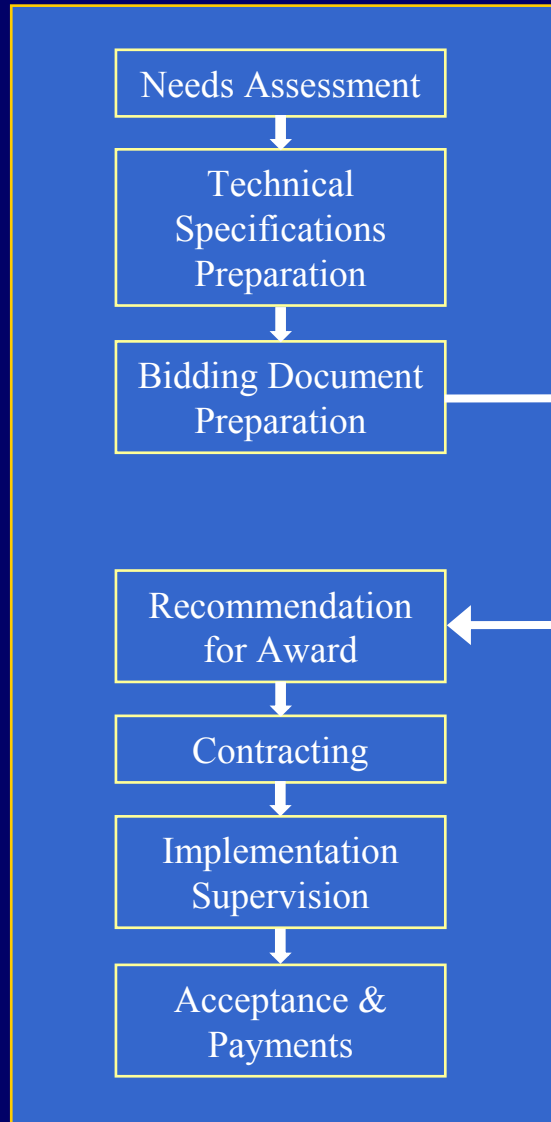
- ❏ **Government to Business (G2B and B2G)**
- ❏ **Online procurement portal based on harmonized commercial coding schema**
- ❏ **Lead example for electronic commerce on the national level**

Structure and organization of public procurement

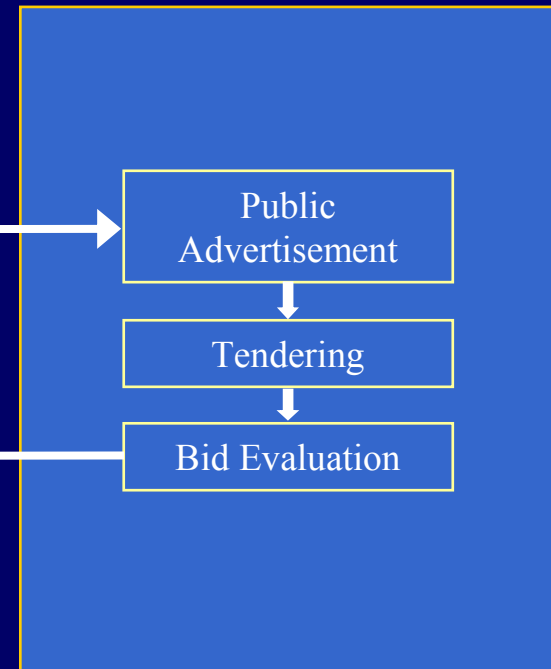


Public Procurement Process

Public Administration



Board of Tenders



e-Procurement @ Board of Tenders

- ❏ **Compilation of procurement needs from the public administration entities based on a well defined government goods and services catalog**
- ❏ **Posting of procurement notices / announcements online once procurement package is completed**
- ❏ **Activating procurement process – reverse auctioning, competitive bidding, etc.**
- ❏ **Online clarifications / questions sent to bidding companies**
- ❏ **Online Recommendation of awards**

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Lessons Learned: ProCycle @ OMSAR

- ❏ **A donor-funded electronic procurement and project management workflow application developed and implemented at OMSAR**

- ❏ **Benefits as related to e-Procurement:**
 - ❏ **Integrates and maintains a web-based supplier database based on clear specialization and experience criteria**
 - ❏ **Integrates with OMSAR's web portal for the announcement of procurement notices**
 - ❏ **Provides a centralized lessons learnt repository available to all projects at all times**
 - ❏ **Provides a source of data-warehousing and an efficient reporting tool for decision-makers**

e-Procurement Initiative in Lebanon

1. An e-Procurement project proposal was developed at OMSAR

-  **Consolidating multiple requests to arrive at better offers from suppliers, as a result of volume discounts.**
-  **Pre-qualifying a great number of vendors or suppliers to fulfill government orders.**
-  **Enforcing purchasing policies (standard specifications) and control spending.**
-  **Better logging and monitoring of all transactions, generating accurate statistics, and monitoring spending on a national scale.**
-  **Providing more organized, transparent and instantly auditable procurement services.**

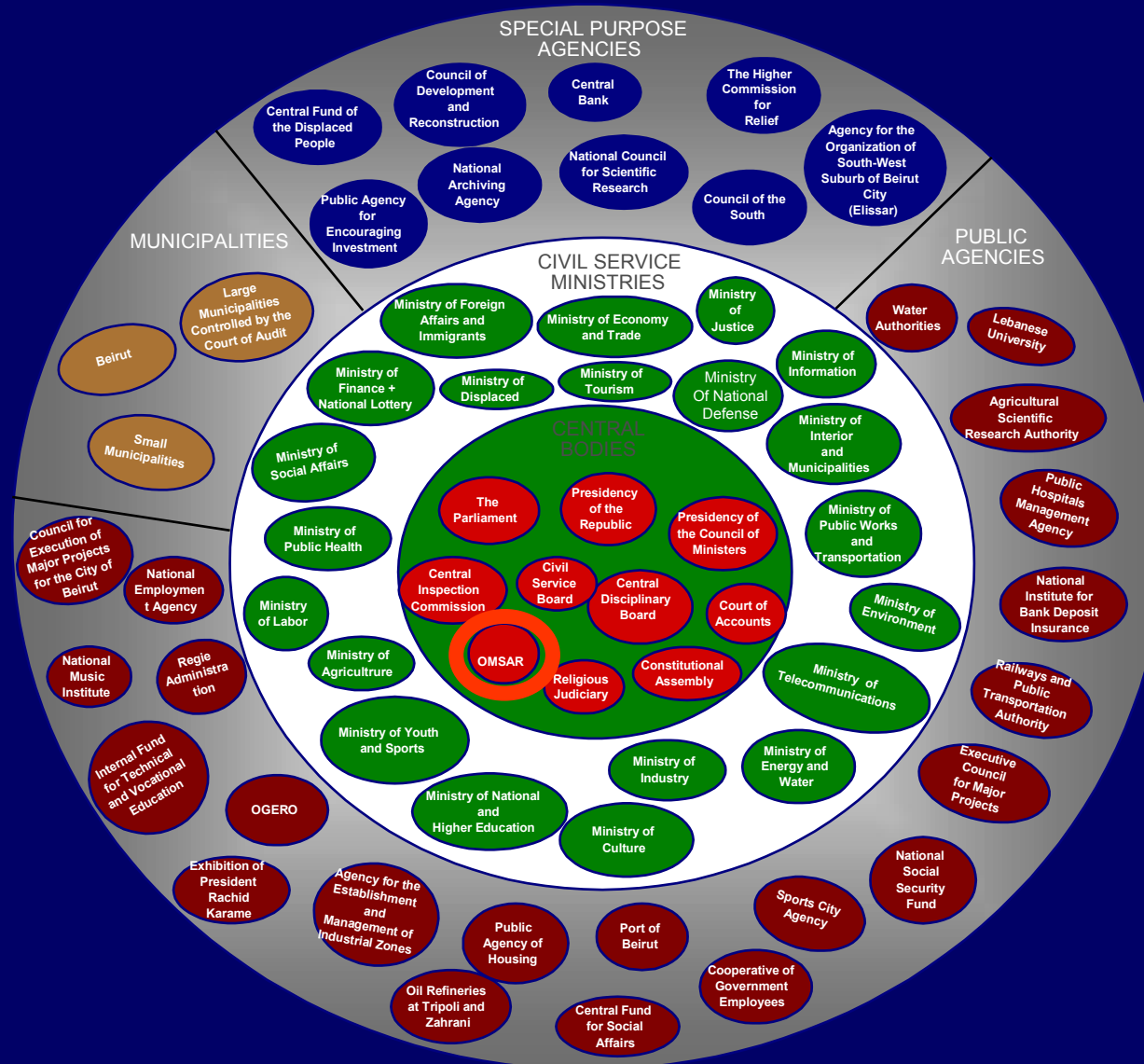
2. A Project Document was signed between the Governments of Lebanon and Italy and the Development Gateway in Nov. 2005 for a pilot e-Procurement implementation grant.



Objectives of e-Procurement Initiative

- ☞ **Standardizing procurement policy across the government;**
- ☞ **Better management of budget;**
- ☞ **Minimizing maverick buying and increasing transparency and accountability;**
- ☞ **Realizing volume discounts;**
- ☞ **Reducing purchase order costs to the extent possible;**
- ☞ **Speeding approvals and reducing order-to-delivery cycles;**
- ☞ **Reaching improved and more accurate statistics to identify spending trends and negotiate better contracts;**
- ☞ **Increasing the productivity and capacity of current government procurement officers;**
- ☞ **Strengthening the partnership between the public and private sectors.**

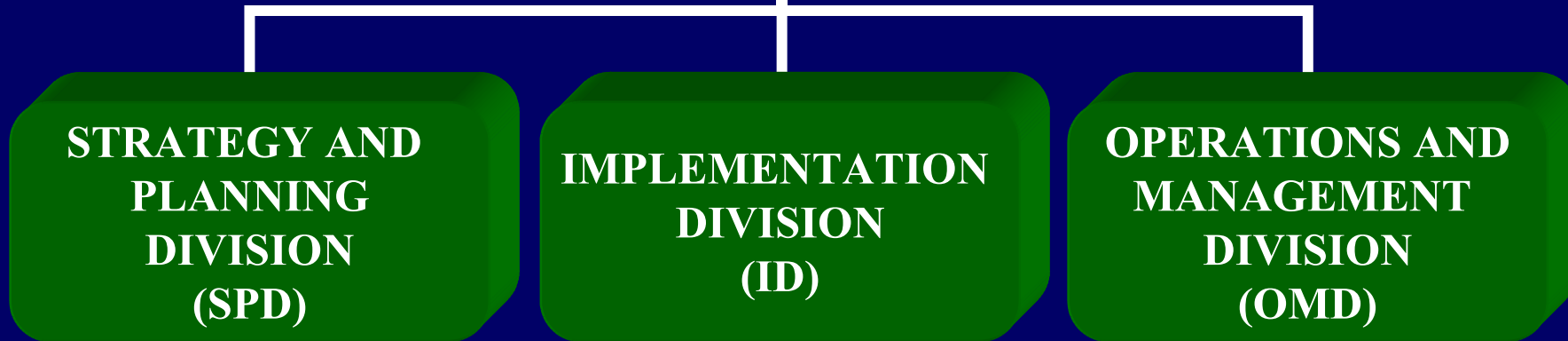
Sustainability of e-Government: Leadership



Structure & Organization of e-Government: Leadership

National e-Government Lead Entity

OMSAR



International co-operation on e-Procurement

Major international cooperation programs:

- ☞ **World Bank / Development Gateway Foundation**
- ☞ **Government of Italy**

Sharing of national e-government experience

- ☞ **On the regional level, Arab countries need to establish ‘communities of practice’ to share e-government experiences amongst each other in a structured and systematic manner. This will advance Arab Country e-government developments and allow for leapfrogging in the implementation process.**
- ☞ **On the international level, similar ‘communities of practice’ can be benefited from. This Naples event is an example of how such sharing of know-how and experiences can be facilitated.**

Thank You!

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