



## Certification frameworks in Croatia and Scotland



Public Procurement Principle: **Capacity**



Procurement Stage: **All stages**



Audience: **Policy maker, Procuring entity**

### Description

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There is a rather diverse approach to professionalisation or capacity building of procurement practitioners in Europe: from coordinated training plans, professionalisation strategies, competency framework to certification framework which are, however, not that common. Below is a short description of two certification frameworks but there are also known institutes that are offering to certify procurement practitioners, such as the Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply (CIPS).

#### Croatia

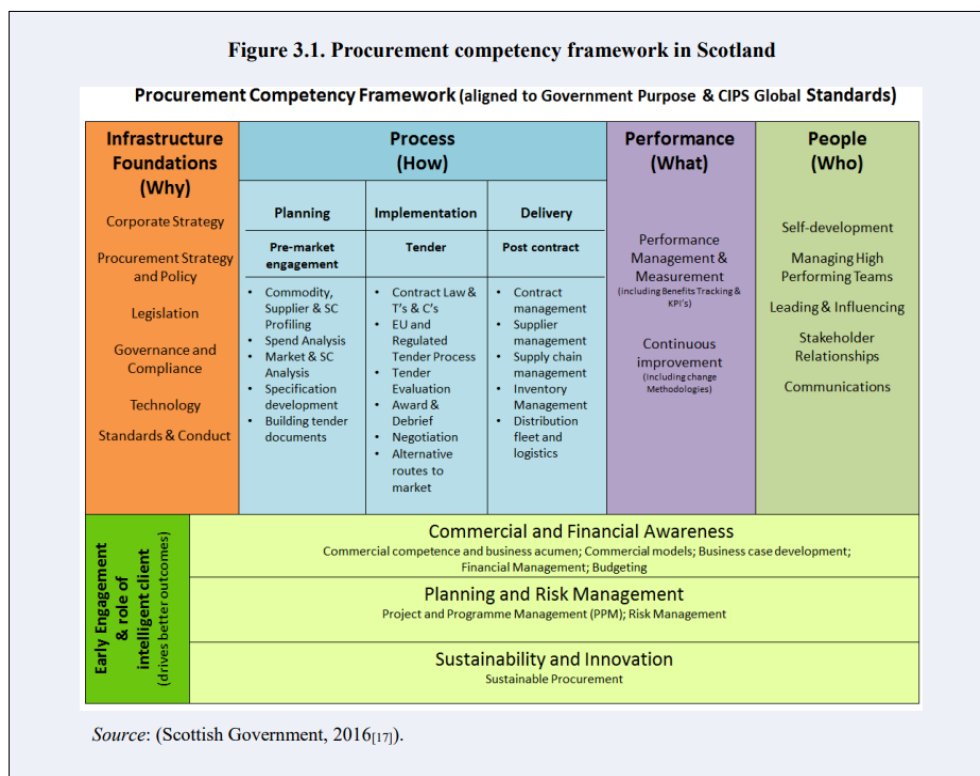
Croatia has a comprehensive training system for public procurement officers. The Directorate for the Public Procurement System (DPPS) within the Ministry of the Economy and Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Crafts (MOEEC) is in charge of implementing the public procurement policy through the following mechanism:

- Development, improvement and coordination of the entire public procurement system; proposals, preparation and coordination of the development of draft proposals of laws and other regulations on PP
- Operating a help desk and hotline
- Publishing opinions and most frequent errors
- Ensuring trainings in the field of the public procurement

DPPS launched a nation-wide certification scheme for public procurement officers in order to address the challenges in their limited capacity. In order to obtain a certificate, the participants in the certification programme must pass a test after taking 52-hour courses on public procurement. However, completing 52-hour courses is not prerequisite to take an exam. The participant needs to have 70% of the 50 questions right in order to pass the exam; the pass rate is about 75%. The certificate is valid for three years, after which 32-hour program must be completed for the renewal. The main certification costs EUR 500, while the renewal course costs EUR 150. The certificate has been issued to more than 5 000 people.

## Scotland

The procurement competency framework in Scotland identifies the skills and competency levels required by all staff involved in the procurement process. It helps procurement practitioners take ownership of their personal development through a skills assessment, identifying training and development needs and supporting career planning. Each competency has a number of skills listed with the description that identifies the level of competency: Level 1 (Foundation/Awareness), Level 2 (Developing/Working knowledge), Level 3 (Practitioner), Level 4 (Expert), Level 5 (Master/Leader). The framework was updated in 2016 to reflect the changing Scottish procurement context and be aligned with CIPS Global Standards.



Source: OECD (2019), [Improving Lithuania's Public Procurement System: Component 1 – implementation of professionalisation and certification frameworks](#), OECD Publishing, Paris

