Country case: Transparency and traceability in public procurement in Italy

Description

The Authority for the Supervision of Public Contracts has implemented a National Database on Public Contracts (NDPC) in line with Law n. 136/2010. It aims at collecting and processing data on public procurement in order to provide indications to the supervising departments and to inform regulators on measures that need to be taken to promote transparency, simplification and competition. It collects data on information technology and conducts market analyses. In particular, it collects and assesses data on:

- The structural characteristics of the public procurement market and its evolution. Statistics about the number and value of procurement awards are grouped by localisation, procurement entities, awarding procedures; the different typologies of procurement are periodically published.
- The criteria of efficiency and value for money during the procurement process. Modifications to contractual conditions are recorded in the authority’s database which, in turn, detects dysfunctions and anomalies of the market.
- Dysfunctions and anomalies of the market through fixed measures. These dysfunctions and anomalies are detected through:
  i) the assessment indexes of excessive tendering rebates, with respect to the average rebates;
  ii) the number of bids to be presented in each awarding procedure;
  iii) the localisation of awarded companies with respect to the localisation of the contracting authority.

The Construction Company Database (Casellario Informatico) and the data on the declarations filed by the economic operators on the reliance on the capacities of other entities are, inter alia, parts of the National Database of Public Contracts.

Through the quality of the data made available by the NDPC, the authority improved its activities, notably supervision and regulation activity, in order to provide guidelines on measures that need to be taken into account to promote transparency, simplification and competition in the entire procurement process and, particularly, in the pre-bidding and post-bidding phases.