



Citation

This submission from the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) is selected the Runner-Up from Bangladesh for SAPIA 2018. When the Government of Bangladesh, made e-GP mandatory for all government agencies, LGED successfully undertook the daunting task of guiding and leading Local Government Institutions (LGIs) – 888 contracting authorities scattered all over the country – in helping them introduce e-GP and in enhancing their public procurement capacities. These Knowledge Transfer Initiatives are easily replicable and sustainable.

Summary

Bangladesh has been making sustained efforts over the years to bring about a systemic change in its public procurement environment. Under the Digitizing Implementation Monitoring and Public Procurement (DIMAPP) Project, it is expected that through digitization, public procurement performance will improve and enhance the capacity for implementation monitoring of development projects/ programs. The Government of Bangladesh (GOB) has already taken initiative to digitize public procurement by introducing e-GP (Electronic Government Procurement) initially in four key government agencies, including LGED. Now, the use of e-GP has become mandatory for all organizations, including local government institutions (888 contracting authorities) for all types of procurement. At the initial phase of Public Procurement Reform, LGED was pioneer to adopt and implement e-GP in more challenging field of decentralized works procurement. Upon successful implementation of e-GP by LGED in local government, GOB has chosen LGED to guide and lead the LGIs in the introduction of e-GP and in enhancing their public procurement capacities. LGED, therefore, has been the leading institution in implementing e-GP at the decentralized level.

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Institutional and Capacity Development of LGIs in Public Procurement Management with Knowledge Transfer Initiatives

(This article is a summarized version of the submission entitled "Institutional and Capacity Development of LGIs in Public Procurement Management with Knowledge Transfer Initiatives" made by Mr. Muhammad Shariful Islam, Senior Assistant Engineer, Procurement Unit, Local Government Engineering Department, Dhaka, Bangladesh.)

Digitizing Implementation Monitoring and Public Procurement (DIMAPP) Project is expected to improve and enhance the capacity for implementation monitoring of development projects/programs through digitization

LGED already has refurbished 22 dedicated resource centers, equipped them with logistics and staff. 10,510 LGI procurement officials and around 1,500 bidders will be trained in e-GP

Challenge(s) Addressed

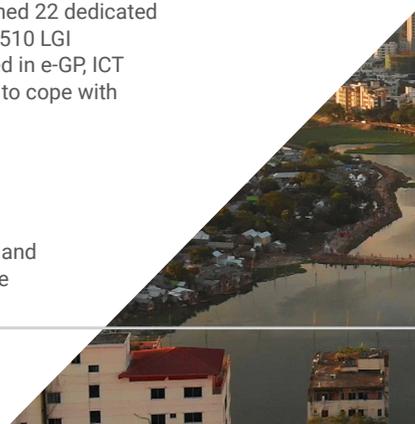
When GOB made e-GP mandatory for all government agencies, LGED successfully met the challenge by undertaking not only introducing LGIs to e-GP, but also in building their procurement capacity. Local Government Division (LGD) is the core controlling department to lead and guide the huge setup of LGIs that consist of 888 contracting authorities. These are geographically scattered and have different organizational structure with no experience in procurement and e-GP platform. LGED has led the way to introduce digital platform to these 888 LGIs to embrace e-GP with ownership.

Impacts

The procurement unit of LGED is acting as a help desk for 888 LGIs contracting authorities and economic operators with inquiries related to Public Procurement Act/ Rules and e-GP process. It is promoting professionalization, focusing on users' needs and ensuring better compliance in the public procurement in LGIs. LGED already has refurbished 22 dedicated resource centers, equipped them with logistics and staff. 10,510 LGI procurement officials and around 1,500 bidders will be trained in e-GP, ICT and public procurement in these dedicated resource centers to cope with the reform.

Level of Innovation/Good Practice

Knowledge Transfer Initiatives are at the heart of successful and sustainable collaboration between LGED has started in-house



procurement training since enactment of public procurement regulatory framework and initial phase of public procurement reform. Now, LGED is further expanding the existing comprehensive capacity development program for LGIs.

Replicability and Sustainability

These innovations of Knowledge Transfer Initiatives to LGIs are easily replicable and sustainable. However, for quality procurement management, a central unit with the latest IT-based tools and techniques is important to lead and guide them.

Lessons Learned

- Monitoring various procurement activities, taking interest in solving various procurement and contract management problems and issues, and motivating the procurement staffs of LGIs;
- Installing a unique domain for the LGIs to manage e-GP user authentication process and maintaining it with professional IT experts has eliminated the bottleneck of user ID/password-locking problem in the e-GP system; and
- Sharing of public procurement good practices yield some tangible benefits for those involved in the public procurement process (contracting authorities, economic operators, etc.), improved efficiency and effectiveness, better value for money and subsequently lightening the administrative burden.

