Public Procurement Agency for Goods, Works and Services under the Government of Tajikistan

Professionalization of public procurement

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Legislative framework for public procurement

- The Law "On public procurement of goods, works and services" (amended as of April 16, 2012, #815) is the main law regulating public procurement sector in Tajikistan.
- According to the Law in order to get the status of "qualified procuring organization" there is a main precondition for organizations to have a procurement subdivision staffed with specialists holding the certificates of procurement specialist issued by the authorized agency.
- At the same time this Law does not establish qualification requirements for the procurement specialists.
- "The order of issuing certificates for procurement specialists" approved by the Regulation of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan as of December 28, 2007, # 23 sets forth only minimal qualification requirements for procurement specialists, such as:

✓ Higher education or college degree;

✓ At least two years of professional experience.

Reforms of the public procurement legislative framework

- The new content draft Law "On public procurement" was developed in 2015 with the support of IFIs and the adoption of which is expected this year. Article 6 of the draft Law provides for professionalization and capacity building in the area of public procurement:
- ✓ Human resources in the area of public procurement shall be trained and organized as a staff of professional specialists on procurement in civil service;
- ✓ Procurement specialists are mandated to pass **the external** training course in line with the curriculum approved by the authorized agency in public procurement;
- ✓ The functions of procurement will be performed by the people who are trained and well informed in the area of public procurement and who hold the certificates of procurement issued by the authorized agency in public procurement area.

Capacity building in the area of public procurement

- Under the World Bank financial support the Public Procurement Capacity Building Project is under implementation since 2013. The implementing agencies for this Project are the Public Administration Institute under the President of Tajikistan, in cooperation with the Agency for public procurement.
- The following results were reached:
- ✓ Module based education program for the course "Public procurement management" was developed
- ✓ 470 civil servants and government officials of all levels and 20 private sector representatives were trained
- ✓ 20 certified trainers were trained to further involve them in the process of training of procurement specialists;
- ✓ Tests were developed using the 700 sector-based questions of the training course and introduced to assess the knowledge of the courses' attendants.

Capacity building in the area of public procurement

- To conduct certification of the training courses' attendants the Agency for public procurement implemented the following activities:
- ✓ The Certification Center for procurement specialists was established and technically equipped;
- ✓ The unified Order of certification of procurement specialists was developed and approved;
- ✓ Interagency Certification Commission is implementing the process of certifying 50 specialists followed by issuance of the new type certificates according to the calendar schedule.

The plans of the Agency

- Development and adoption of occupational standard “Specialist in public procurement management” that would encompass unified professional requirements to the specialists in this area;
- Development and approval of the training course for professional retraining of the specialists based on the Program “Public procurement management” on the national level;
- Development and adoption of legislation necessary to fill the gaps in the cycle of public procurement professionalization;
- Rolling out of the training program on the national level in order to effectively promote decentralization of procurement function
- Revisiting the requirements for selection of target audience to attend the courses in 2016 in the light of their basic qualification and the area of professional activity.

Thank you for your attention!

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