

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE SHARING SESSION

**Theme :**

**« *Public Procurement in Emergency-COVID-19: Country Experiences* »**

**PUBLIC PROCUREMENT MANAGEMENT DURING  
COVID-19 PERIOD IN CAMEROON**



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# INTRODUCTION

- The pandemic of coronavirus (COVID-19) declared in December 2019 in China spread out in Asia, America, Europe and Africa
- CAMEROON is not spared from its negative consequences in almost all activity sectors including the one of Public Procurement.



# INTRODUCTION (Continuity)

Several governmental response measures against the pandemic, namely:

- 👉 closure of land, air and maritime frontiers ;
- 👉 Suspension of the issuance of entry visas to Cameroon;
- 👉 closure of public and private training centers ;
- 👉 forbiddance to gather more than 50 persons ;
- 👉 town and intercity travel restrictions.



# IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT SYSTEM

## Major Difficulties from Public Procurement System Principal Players

### For the State (Project Managers) :

- ▶ Reduction and reorientation of operating and capital expenses through a budget package (Ordinance n° 2020/001 of June 3, 2020)
- ▶ Absence in the Public Procurement Code, of public procurement procedure for goods and services in accordance with the imperious needs and considerations related to the current news

# IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT SYSTEM (continuity)

## Major Difficulties from Public Procurement System Principal Players

### For Public Procurement Candidates:

Findings of a study by the Inter-Patronal Group of Cameroon (GICAM):

- ▶ severe cash flow constraints;
- ▶ disruption in supply chains;
- ▶ increase in production costs;
- ▶ reduction of working hours.

# IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT SYSTEM (continuity and end)

## Consequences of Recorded Difficulties :

- ➡ Trouble in the implementation of procurement in process (Start-up delay);
- ➡ Cancellation or postponement of several projects programmed by Project Managers
- ➡ Loss of international competitive bidding procedures;
- ➡ Withholding of seminars for the outreach of the new normative framework;
- ➡ Persistence of irregularities in the procedures;
- ➡ Slowness in the procurement of fighting tools against COVID-19.

# MITIGATION MEASURES

## 1) Use of Exceptional and Derogative Procedures:

- ➡ Procurement of equipment, consumables and performance of services dedicated to the response against COVID-19 admitted to the derogative regime of Special Contracts;
- ➡ Increase in over-the-counter contracting;
- ➡ Exemption of several goods from certain taxes and customs duties (equipment and consumables purchased for the sake of the fight against the pandemic).

# MITIGATION MEASURES (continuity)

## 2) Adaptation of Work Environments:

- Generally, following the social distancing measures, administrations give priority to electronic and digital means of communication.
- Especially in Public Procurement, great promotion of virtual procedures already in use (Circular n° 007/LC/MINMAP /CAB of March 25, 2020) .

## MITIGATION MEASURES (continuity)

### 2) Adaptation of Work Environments (continuity) :

Dematerialization of procedures started some years ago :

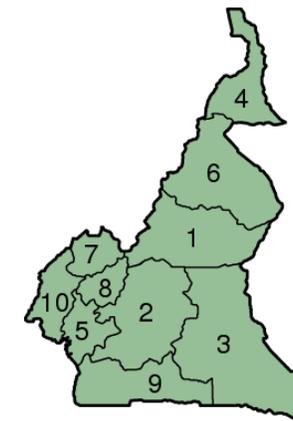
- COLEPS Platform (Cameroon On-Line E. Procurement System) for online contracts: possibility to submit a bid online;
- PRIDESOFT, an open and multiform integrated management system of public procurement dedicated to the management of market information (BD):daily publication of the online Public Procurement Journal,
- Online issuance of administrative documents required for tenderers' offers: Public Procurement non-Exclusion certificate, certificate of no tax liability, etc.

## MITIGATION MEASURES (continuity and end)

### 3) Update of Public Procurement Programming Logs:

- In practice, public procurement planning of fiscal year n during the preceding fiscal year n-1.
- Update of public procurement programming logs and plans for the fiscal year 2020 by some Project Managers.

# PERSPECTIVES



## INNOVATING MEASURES

In the management of public procurement administrative and legal processes

## ORGANISATION AND REORGANIZATION METHODS

Teleworking - Webinar

# Thank you for Your Kind Attention



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