

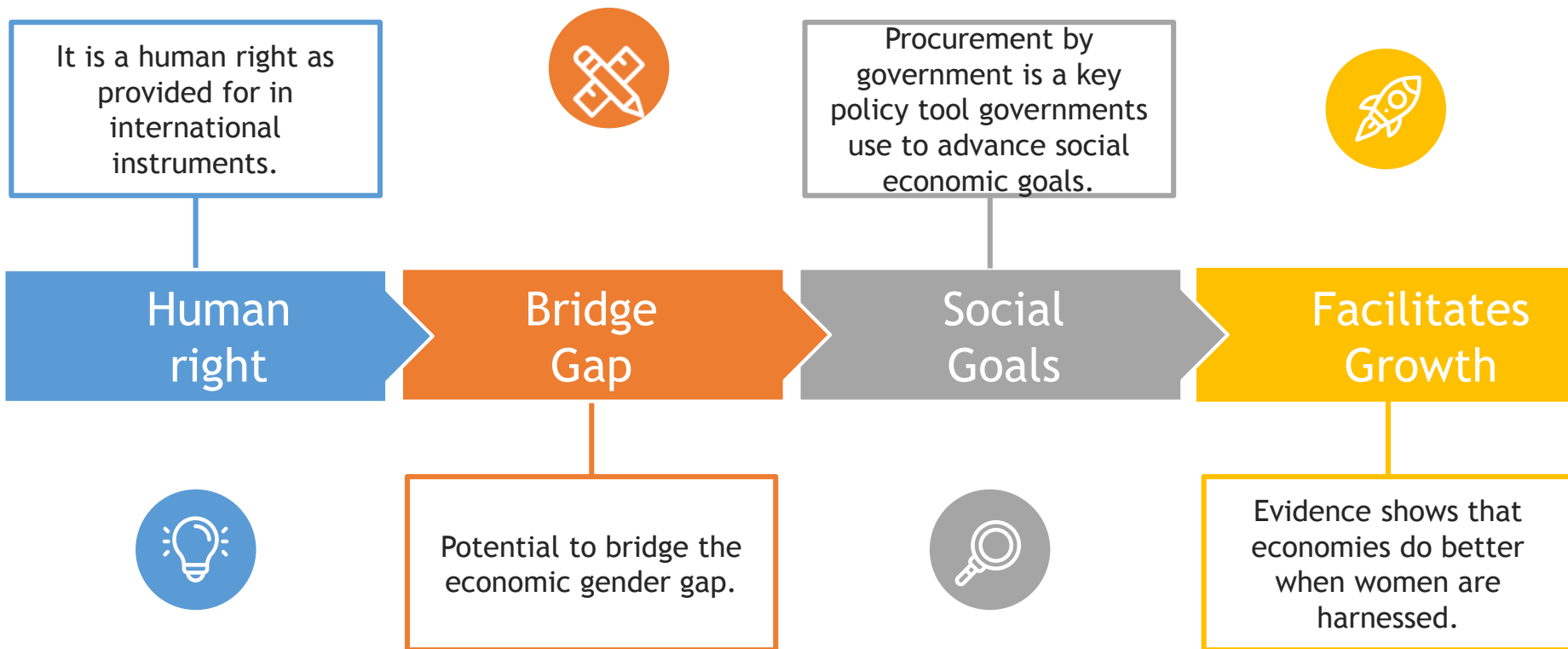


PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AND DISPOSAL
OF PUBLIC ASSETS AUTHORITY
"Procurement That Delivers"

PPDA EXPERIENCE IN BOOSTING WOMEN-LED ENTERPRISES THROUGH PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

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MANAGER LEGAL AFFAIRS &
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- ❑ The Authority has placed considerable emphasis on the development of a conducive environment to address the gender disparity in public procurement in Uganda.
- ❑ The Uganda Public Finance Management Act (PFM) (2015) requires all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to include gender and equity considerations in their budget framework papers and policy statements.



UN WOMEN
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

PPDA
Public Procurement & Disposal of Public Assets Authority

POLICY BRIEF

BARRIERS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN UGANDA

Introduction

Increasing women's economic opportunities in Uganda's public procurement system, the region and in the world is grounded on a number of premises: 1) it is a human right as provided for in international instruments; 2) Women comprise half of the human resources of many economies and evidences show that economies do better when women are harnessed; 3) it is a moral imperative and is a matter of fairness and equity; 4) Women have the right to (economic) development; 4) procurement of goods, services and works by government is a key policy tool governments use to advance social economic goals; 5) the global and development agenda pronounce in strong terms the gender equity principles and 6); women are now a formidable force in all sectors and vigorously advance the gender issues.

Public procurement (PP) in any country is viewed as a core government function which can be used to positively equalize opportunities of women owned business firms; but it can also be used to address the barriers that affect women participation in tendering processes at both the central government and local government levels. While data vary, it has been estimated that public procurement constitutes 10-15% of GDP in developed countries and up to 20% in developing countries (Harvard University, 2012). Worldwide, governments spend approximately US\$11 trillion per annum on procurement (Hetland, 2012). In absolute terms, annual federal procurement in the United States was estimated to be about US\$250 billion previously (Solovic, 2004). In the United Kingdom, annual procurement expenditure has been around £240 billion (US\$367 billion) (Federation of Small Businesses, 2012).

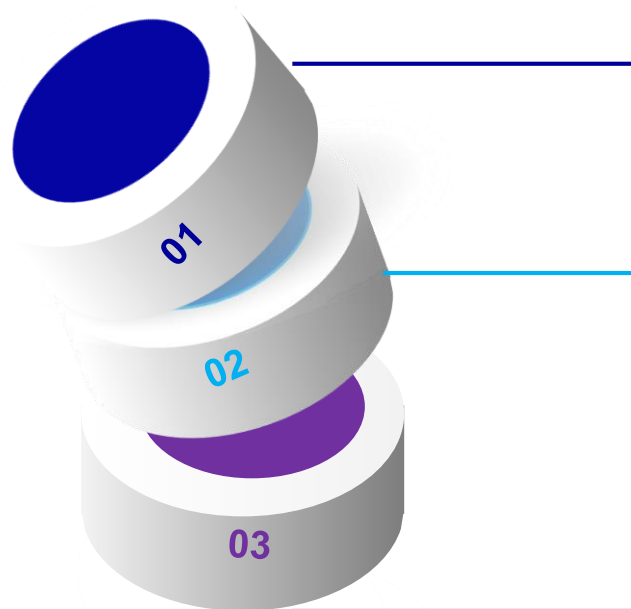
Objectives of the study

The assignment was intended to broadly study the barriers to women's participation in public procurement in Uganda. Specifically, the study was to identify the existing opportunities for women participation in public procurement and coming up with proposals on how to facilitate affirmative action for women's participation in public procurement.

Methodology

Developed by Prof. Benon C. Basheka

With the support of the UN Women Office, the Authority conducted a study to review the opportunities and barriers to the participation of women entrepreneurs in public procurement in Uganda:



- Lack of knowledge on public procurement. The limited exposure could be as a result of lower literacy levels.
- Partly due to the cultural norms, women's income earnings are still low in Uganda.
- Additionally, women business face challenges in availability of collateral for borrowing.
- Highly technical nature of tenders may also act as a hindrance.
- Women owned businesses are faced with scepticism due to fear of legal implications for breach of contracts.

Set up a Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Committee.

01

- ❑ To identify, analyse, coordinate & document initiatives for gender, equity and social inclusion.

Capacity Building drive for Women Entrepreneurs.

02

- ❑ With the support of the UN Women, in collaboration with UWEAL.

Section 61A provides for social inclusion.

03

- ❑ The PPDA Act, 2003 was amended and has been in force since 1st July 2021.

Media engagements to create awareness.

04

- ❑ Press conferences and radio talk shows are conducted to raise awareness on public procurement.



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Thank You!

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