

# Oversight of public procurement principles and country experiences

[emuhumuza@open-contracting.org](mailto:emuhumuza@open-contracting.org)

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***Head of Africa***



**Edwin Muhumuza**  
Twitter: [@edwin\\_muhumuza](https://twitter.com/edwin_muhumuza)  
[emuhumuza@open-contracting.org](mailto:emuhumuza@open-contracting.org)

# Objectives

**1.**

*AN overview of  
public  
procurement  
reforms in  
Africa*

**2.**

*Models of  
procurement  
oversight*

**3.**


*Rethinking  
public  
procurement  
oversight in  
Africa*

Find Country



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**Spun out of the World Bank in 2015, We are connecting governments, civil society, businesses, media, researchers, development partners and funders across the world to open up public procurement.**

A hand is shown in the upper left corner, moving a black chess piece on a dark board. The board is overlaid with a white network diagram consisting of interconnected nodes and lines. The background is a grayscale image of a chessboard with several black chess pieces.

Public procurement is the heartbeat of public spending in most of Africa – by some estimates, it accounts for [17% of the GDP](#) of African Countries.

**Public procurement is a strategic tool to implement public policies and manage public finances.**

#1

GOVERNMENT  
CORRUPTION RISK

57%

FOREIGN BRIBERY  
CASES  
FOR PUBLIC CONTRACTS

1/3

PUBLIC SPENDING

(OECD 2013)

# The 3 revolutions of public procurement in Africa

## The first revolution: Decentralization and professionalization

- a procurement law with secondary legislation that regulated the procurement procedures;
- broad decentralization of the procurement function to all government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) and local governments;
- the creation of an independent regulatory body to provide oversight over all government procurement and;
- the creation of a professional cadre to conduct procurement.

# The 3 revolutions of public procurement in Africa

## The second revolution: increasing independence, data collection and participation

- streamline the complaints mechanism to make it more independent and speedy, including the creation of autonomous, quasi-judicial tribunals to handle procurement complaints;
- separate the policy function from regulation, with the policy function embedded in finance ministries and the regulatory bodies left to concentrate on oversight.



# The 3 revolutions of public procurement in Africa

The third revolution: A focus on outcomes, inclusion and full digitization

- **Local economic development** through the promotion of affirmative action in public procurement, such as provision for reservation and preference schemes to award more contracts to local firms as a means to increase employment opportunities and grow local enterprises.
- **Inclusive development** through support for [women](#), youth, or other marginalized/priority groups to improve their access to government contracts, as seen in [Kenya](#), [Nigeria](#), [Rwanda](#), or [South Africa](#), among others.
- **Automation of procurement** processes through the adoption of e-government procurement (e-GP) systems. Several African countries are at different stages of the adoption of e-GP.
- **Sustainable procurement** by incorporating economic, social and environmental safeguards in procurement requirements.

# Models of procurement oversight

- Public procurement regulatory agency-Policy department- Appeals Tribunal
- Sole procurement oversight agency with regulatory and policy powers
- Procurement policy
- Hybrid between tender board for strategic procurements and oversight

# Re-thinking public procurement oversight

- Clarify roles and responsibilities between procurement regulatory bodies and policy departments
- Coordination with other anti corruption bodies
- Harmonisation between local oversight and development agencies oversight
- Regional harmonisation of regulatory architecture
- Support professional associations to self regulate ethical behaviour of procurement cadre



## **Conclusion:**

Oversight structure should be responsive to the reform needs of the time eg whats the right governance structure for promotion of e-Procurement, sustainable procurement etc

¿Questions?

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