



Project Information Document/ Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet (PID/ISDS)

Concept Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 27-Feb-2017 | Report No: PIDISDSC19614



BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country Bangladesh	Project ID P160758	Parent Project ID (if any)	Project Name Digitizing Implementation Monitoring and Public Procurement (P160758)
Region SOUTH ASIA	Estimated Appraisal Date Apr 17, 2017	Estimated Board Date Jul 26, 2017	Practice Area (Lead) Governance
Lending Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Peoples Republic of Bangladesh	Implementing Agency Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division	

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The project development objective (PDO) is to improve public procurement performance and project implementation monitoring in selected sector organizations.

Financing (in USD Million)

Financing Source	Amount
Borrowing Agency	5.00
International Development Association (IDA)	50.00
Total Project Cost	55.00

Environmental Assessment Category C-Not Required	Concept Review Decision Track II-The review did authorize the preparation to continue
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Note to Task Teams: End of system generated content, document is editable from here.

Other Decision (as needed)



B. Introduction and Context

A. Country Context

1. Bangladesh is the world’s most populous country with an estimated 160 million people in a geographical area of about 144,415 sq-km and per capita income of US\$1,409 in 2016 crossing the lower middle income country category threshold. During recent years, economic conditions improved in the country with headline inflation declining to 5.9 percent in FY16 from 7.3 percent in FY14, while the fiscal deficit contained at around 3.1 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in FY16. The FY17 budget targets 5 percent deficit with 28.7 percent growth in expenditures. The current account surplus rose to 1.7 percent of GDP in FY16. The GDP grew well above the average for developing countries in recent years, averaging 6.5 percent since 2010, with an officially reported growth of 7.1 percent in in FY16, driven by manufacturing and services. Progress on reducing extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity through human development and employment generation has continued with the in poverty incidence from 32.6 percent in 2002 to a projected 18.6 percent in 2010 (latest available poverty data). Bangladesh’s performance against the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) goals is impressive against the South Asia Region average for most of the indicators in table 1. Despite such progress, the country needs more effort in improving its growth rate to meet its target of becoming an upper middle income country by 2031. For accelerating private sector-led growth with improved investment climate, the key challenges are the need for increased infrastructure and power, with improved governance structure in spending public resources.

Table 1: Social Indicators for Bangladesh and Comparators

Indicator	Bangladesh		South Asia		Lower middle income countries	
GDP per capita (constant US\$ 2010) [1971-2015]	131.9	1,211.7	386	1,641	690	2,047
Life expectancy (years) at birth [1971-2014]	47.1	71.6	49	68	51	67
Infant mortality rate [1971-2015]	148.9	30.7	142	42	129	40
Total fertility rate [1971-2014]	6.9	2.2	5.7	2.5	5.7	2.8
Gross Enrolment Ratio (Primary) [1971-2011]	51.2	111.9	71.6	107.3	77.4	104.3
DPT child immunization rates (%) [1985-2015]	74	94	18.4	85.4	25.7	81.3
Access to improved sanitation (%) [1995-2015]	40.0	60.6	24.0	44.7	35.0	52
Poverty headcount @ \$1.9/day (% population) [1991-2010]	44.2	18.5		24.6		23.5
Mobile cellular subscription (per 100) [2001-2015]	0.4	83.4	0.6	78.4	2.0	90.5

Source: World Development Indicators; Extracted on 1st Sep. 2016 from:

<http://databank.worldbank.org/data/reports.aspx?source=world-development-indicators>

2. Transparency and good governance are critical in strengthening public sector management to ensure accountability of public spending with better service delivery. The 2016 Corruption Perceptions Index by Transparency International placed Bangladesh 139th out of 176 countries. Bangladesh’s score improved by one point to 26 out of 100 compared to scores of 2015, while it moved up six positions from the top. In this country context, it is estimated that the annual expenditure on public procurement, amounting to over \$7 billion, accounts for about 20-24 percent of the annual national budget and 70-80 percent of the annual development program. Thus, public procurement is not just a mechanism for executing transactions but an integral part of strategic development process and a priority for governance improvement. And efficient procurement process with effective procurement outcome, ensuring value-for-money, is the driving force to optimize the utilization of public resources.

B. Sectoral and Institutional Context

3. In rapidly changing economic environment, country developmental outcomes largely depends on timely implementation of programs and projects where efficient procurement plays a pivotal role. In Bangladesh context,



project implementation delays is one of the common reason that is affecting proper utilization of the development budget and procurement has been identified as a major contributor for such delays. Following upon the recommendations of the Country Procurement Assessment Report 2002 (CPAR 2002), with the Bank's assistance, Bangladesh has been making sustained efforts over the years to bring about a systemic change in its public procurement environment by implementing a complete package of reforms (legislations, institutional framework, capacity development, electronic government procurement (e-GP), and social accountability) with two consecutive credits: Public Procurement Reform Project- PPRP (2002–2007), and PPRPII with its two additional financing (2007–2017). The country now has a good foundation of public procurement by having a nodal agency to regulate procurement, procurement laws with rules and associated documentations, an extensive capacity development program, an online performance monitoring system, and a single e-GP portal for the entire country (www.eprocure.gov.bd). The Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU) within the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) of the Ministry of Planning (MOP) is the procurement nodal agency (www.cptu.gov.bd).

4. With Government vision for e-Government by 2021 there is a strong desire for improved transparency and efficiency by introducing digital solutions in public sector services. As part of the e-governance framework, the government has given high priority to information and communication technology (ICT) based public service provisions. Thus, the country has been transforming its public procurement environment by shifting gradually from traditional procurement practices to international standards through digitization (e-GP).

5. The PPRPII is scheduled for closing in June 2017 wherein e-GP is one of the major project component that has provided the country with a comprehensive single e-GP portal (starting with procurement planning up to the final payment including contract management and performance measurement). The e-GP has been embraced both by the public sector and the bidding community, and is progressing rapidly by contributing to enhanced economy, efficiency, and transparency, resulting in the savings of transaction costs with better value for money. Initial results shows that the e-GP also contributed significantly in reducing inappropriate bidding practices at decentralized level, like collusion/coercion/fraudulent practices, and improved overall governance by opening a new epoch of doing business with the government. As of now, about 90 percent of procurement in the four key sector agencies, using 30-35 percent of annual development budget, are going through the e-GP platform (roads, local government engineering, water, and rural electric).

6. The key highlights of procurement reform thus far are as follows:

- (a) *Improved efficiency*: (i) Reduction of procurement delays with the award of contract within the initial bid validity period - 2016: 83 percent and 2007: 10 percent.
- (b) *Enhanced transparency*: (i) Website publication of contract awards- 2016: 100 percent, 2007: 10 percent; (ii) website publication of bid invitations - 2016: 100 percent, and 2007: 70 percent.
- (c) *Increased competition in e-GP*: Average number of bids - 2016: 7 and 2007: 4.
- (d) *Minimized collusion/coercion/bid rigging/fraud at decentralized level*: (i) Significant reduction in the frequency of newspaper reporting in 2016 as against 2010–2011; (ii) insignificant number of complaints in e-GP in 2016 - less than 1 percent cases against the substantial number of complaints in traditional tendering during 2010–2012.
- (e) *Exponential growth of e-GP*. (i) Number of registered bidders grown over 88-fold (2016: 26,000 and 2012: 294); (ii) number of bid invitations grown over 5,000 times (2016: 73,000 and 2012: 14); (iii) value of bid invitations grown over 2,600 fold (2016: US\$8 billion and 2012: US\$3 million).
- (f) *Increased self-sustainability of the e-GP system with its own revenues - Earning forecast/actual*. FY16: US\$1.25 million/US\$5 million; FY15: US\$0.95 million/US\$4 million; FY14: US\$0.55 million/US\$1.8 million.



- (g) *Enhanced professionalization and capacity development.* (i) National trainers- 2016: 60, 2007- 25; (ii) three-weeks trained staff - 2016: 7,406, 2007: 1,800; (iii) international procurement accreditation with MCIPS (Member of The Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply/ UK)- 2016: 116, 2012: 0; and (iv) Masters in procurement- 2016- 141, 2012- 0.

7. Though the landscape of procurement has been reshaped during the course of the last several years due to the procurement reform and much has been achieved with a promising foundation, challenges remain particularly in maintaining consistency in the procurement legal structure and keeping the momentum of the legacy of an efficient and effective system. In recent times, a tendency has been observed to bring in frequent amendments to the public procurement law of the country, some of which are inconsistent with good procurement practices. Full benefits of the legislations combined with IT-based solutions have seen to be relatively inconsistent across government and within individual agencies. Actual enforcement of the law/ rules with monitoring mechanism is slower than expected, and in practice, still there has been substantial project implementation delays due to procurement related matters, such as, delays in contract award particularly for large value contracts, instances of inappropriate bidding practices in traditional bidding, ineffective contract administration, inadequate capacity for quality project implementation monitoring and procurement management. In addition, the current structure of the nodal agency, CPTU, is under severe constrained condition with its current skill/ staffing to cope with the monumental expansion of tasks in regulating procurement combined with exponential growth of e-GP functions.

8. A few key lessons learned are as follows: continuity of high level political commitment regardless of the party in power especially for the introduction of e-GP expedites its implementation; success of reform depends not only on technical solutions but largely on the approach taken to manage the stakeholders and their behaviors; involving key stakeholders, both from the public and the private sector, contributed positively; using beneficiaries' lens is critical in reform; applying IT innovations and social media are tremendously powerful tool; Other lessons concerning challenges include: inefficient manual data collection process; weak analytical ability of CPTU; inadequate staffing skills; existing bureaucratic process; etc. While large key agencies are rapidly progressing with e-GP, there are numerous other public sector agencies that need to take advantage of actual use of the e-GP platform. Given the successes of reform with particular reference to the use of IT-based solutions in procurement, the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) look forward to expanding actual implementation of e-GP for the entire public procurement sector in the country within the next couple of years, including enhanced on-line performance measurement, contract management, framework agreement, etc. Concurrently, it plans to enhance and strengthen the project implementation monitoring capability of the national agency (IMED) using digital technology. Thus, the proposed operation Digitization of Implementation Monitoring and Public procurement (DIMAPP) will be built on the success of the previous two operations.

C. Relationship to CPF

9. With the highest level commitment there is a wind of change on the political economy front for the adoption of fast technology-based solutions with greater efficiency combined with enhanced accountability and transparency in public services. This important element in itself will contribute to expediting poverty reduction, improving the investment climate, and accelerating private sector-led growth that are priority objectives of the government's Seventh Five Year Plan (FY16–FY20)—*Accelerating Growth and Empowering Citizens*. Aligned with the government's priorities, the Country Partnership Framework (CPF) 2016–2020 (Report No. 103723-BD, April 5, 2016) includes enhancing growth and promoting inclusion as focus areas. Increasing effectiveness and efficiency in the use of public resources are seen as important factors for improving the investment climate and accelerating the pace of poverty reduction. The project is well aligned with the CPF's objectives of supporting policies and systems aimed at improving transparency and service delivery.



PROPOSED PDO/RESULTS

A. Proposed Development Objective(s)

10. The project development objective (PDO) is to improve public procurement performance and project implementation monitoring in selected sector organizations.

B. Key Results

11. The project end key results and possible indicators are summarized below:

Results:

- Public Procurement Authority (PPA) and e-GP Company established and made functional
- Contracts completed within original time schedule in selected sector organizations
- Electronic government procurement (e-GP) implemented in selected sector organizations
- Core procurement unit operationalized in each of the selected sector organizations
- Project implementation in selected sector organizations monitored using digital technology

Indicators:

- 80 percent of staff and logistics/ equipment/ facilities available in PPA and e-GP company
- 60 percent contracts of the SSOs completed within the original time schedule
- 70 percent of procurement budget allocated to SSOs uses e-GP system
- 80 percent of SSOs have core procurement units/ cell with procurement professionals
- 70 percent of SSOs' project implementation is monitored with digital technology

12. Given the type of the operation and critical nature of its certain activities impacting upon the overall project, the project is likely to introduce disbursement-linked indicators (DLIs), specifically certain activities under Components 1 and 2 relating to organizational restructuring and implementation of e-GP including contract management.

PROJECT CONTEXT

A. Concept

1. Description

13. Bangladesh, with commendable ownership from the major stakeholders (public procuring entities and bidding community), has made systematic transformation in the public procurement domain over the years with the successful implementation of two consecutive procurement reform projects. Now, the Government is instituting a mandate to expand the use of e-GP to all Government agencies on a priority basis. The new mandate will create a significant strain on the resources of the CPTU and the underlying technology infrastructure supporting the delivery and operation of the



e-GP system and the on-going initiatives for capacity development and professionalization of the procurement resources in Bangladesh. The re-alignment in the organization structure of CPTU will be better suited to support and respond to the forthcoming changes and to ensure that the e-GP system operates in a self-sustaining environment. The tasks will concurrently cover extensive capacity development program of the remaining public procurement agencies and bidding community, with elements of citizen engagement and communications. Furthermore, IMED is looking to expand its project implementation monitoring and evaluation capabilities at the national level, using new IT tools and techniques including more data integration and data exchange with the e-GP system and skill development of officials to ensure they can properly monitor and evaluate projects across multiple, diverse sectors. To cover the needs, thus the project envisages four project components as summarized below.

- *Component 1: Restructuring CPTU to Bangladesh Public Procurement Authority and e-GP Corporate*
- *Component 2: Enhancing Digitization of Public Procurement*
- *Component 3: Professionalizing Procurement and Citizen Engagement*
- *Component 4: Digitizing Project Implementation Monitoring*

Component 1:

Restructuring CPTU to Bangladesh Public Procurement Authority and e-GP Corporate

14. This component aims to restructure CPTU into an **Authority** with more autonomy and regulatory authority and create a new **e-GP Corporate** for operating the existing e-GP system as a purely business service provider with professional resources. This would help CPTU to operate with more independence as a regulator of public procurement while e-GP business services will be provided by a separate corporate structure. Two major sub-components are envisaged.

Component 1.1: Restructuring CPTU to Bangladesh Public Procurement Authority and Furthering Policy Reform:

15. Presently, CPTU, the procurement nodal agency of the government, is a unit of IMED under the Ministry of Planning (MOP). CPTU, over the years, has demonstrated high level of commitment in reforming the public procurement environment despite its limitations. In accordance with the Public Procurement Act 2006 (PPA) and government allocation of business, CPTU has the mandate to regulate and monitor public procurement for all public sector organizations covering about 1300. Given such a gigantic mandate of regulating public procurement across the country combined with the recent exponential growth of e-GP implementation and capacity development tasks, CPTU is constrained with its capacity in terms of its current legal structure, limited staffing, analytical and research capability with procurement data, and skills at some levels considering the evolving needs. In addition, recruitment of officials through public service commission using government's regular system has some inherent impediments that need to be addressed. Thus, CPTU will be transformed into an Authority *as a regulator* of public procurement legal framework of Bangladesh including e-GP system's procurement regulatory aspects. CPTU will have the policies and resources to oversee the operations of the e-GP company to ensure they are fully compliant with the operations and Service Level Agreement- SLA requirements of CPTU. This would include functional audits, annual IT system audit, business audits, and security audits of the system conducted by external independent experts. It will be responsible for continued development and implementation of the procurement laws, capacity development with professionalization, monitoring and review of the public procurement practices, and furthering policy reforms in light of the evolving procurement innovations. The Bangladesh Public Procurement Authority (BPPA) is expected to be headed by a Chairman and it will have a Board of Directors, with IMED Secretary as its Chair.



Component 1.2: Establishing e-GP Corporate

16. The initial establishment of CPTU was more focused on formulating public procurement laws, rules, standard bidding documents, monitoring the legal compliance by the agencies, etc. Over time, with the introduction of e-GP, a large part of its task has taken a paradigm shift. CPTU is now performing various roles: regulator, revenue generator, operations monitoring and management of the e-GP system that are not compatible with each other. The current structure of e-GP within CPTU is not tuned with the nature and functions of the e-GP system which by default warrants providing full business service to the public sector organizations and bidding community. This transformational e-GP tasks require operating and maintaining a highly specialized IT-based infrastructure and technical functions with robust call center/help desk facilities including business process automation. The existing 24X7 call center/ help desk at CPTU is currently operating at a limited capacity to support few sectoral agencies. In future, the probable e-GP company owned call center/ help desk will be located centrally that will be treated as interaction hub for all the public sector organizations and the bidding community. The existing CPTU staff are not suited to operate a professional data center. Under the existing structure, CPTU has to follow total government procedures to create post and recruitment process and salary structure including procurement of technology components. These functions are extremely challenging and not compatible with the kind of business needs for e-GP. With the high demand for e-GP by most public sector organizations, the situation is becoming critical. CPTU needs to spin off the e-GP operation to make it self-sustainable as a fully commercial entity with legal, commercial, and operational autonomy based on market in order to enhance confidence and trust level of the user of the e-GP platform. The e-GP Corporate will be headed by a Managing Director, and governed by a Board of Directors with BPPA head as its Ex-Officio Chair.

Component 2:

Enhancing Digitization of Public Procurement

17. This component aims to enhance the scope of e-GP for all public sector organizations across the country covering system as well as technical requirements including system planning, market development, revenue modeling. Two major sub-components are expected.

Component 2.1: Expansion of e-GP system

18. Currently, the e-GP system is in full use up to the contract award by four organizations (RHD, LGED, BWDB, and BREB). Taking advantage of the complete e-GP system which is an end-to-end solution (procurement planning up to the final payment), the four organizations will need to implement the contract management module to get full benefit from the system. With the proposed enhancement, the existing system will be expanded to all potential ministries covering other sector organizations, beyond the existing four. There are about 1300 organizations of which about 25 are selected sector organizations (SSOs) considering the annual volume of procurement and number of procuring entities. All 1300 organization will come under e-GP while the proposed project will specifically focus on the SSOs having centralized and decentralized structure up to the sub-district level, beyond the four. Its expansion for the SSOs will be closely monitored with results framework. To help the e-GP organization realize maximum benefit from the system operations and services provided, the enhancement of the digitization will focus on three key areas, namely, systems planning and architecture, market development and revenue modeling.

19. The system and business planning would also examine how to leverage existing training and support infrastructure developed during the initial system implementation with the four key agencies. With specific focus on the



use of e-GP system primarily by the government would be of critical to cover the 1,300 organizations to which the e-GP system will be rolled out. In addition, quite a number of new features and the integration with other systems are planned. The users' identifications profiles will be linked to the national personal identification system of the Government with smart card, including possible tax identification system. There would be an automated interface with relevant departments such as Bangladesh Computer Council to get updated standard IT specification to help in preparing bidding documents by the agency. It will also explore the inclusion/ integration of national payment module with the e-GP system. In future, if found feasible, the project may explore options whether the private sector can also use the national e-GP system.

Component 2.2: Implementation of Contract Management

20. The existing e-GP system has a contract management module but not considerably used by the four target agencies of the ongoing project (RHD, LGED, BWDB, and BREB). The proposed project will make especial efforts to upgrade the features of the existing contract management module and target the existing four agencies to fully implement this module for all of their contracts including contract administration and on-line payments to the suppliers/ contractors in a way that the system performance can be measured in terms of actual implementation of contracts. All parameters of contract performance will be included. Necessary training to develop technical skills will also be included. Subsequently, these four agencies will take lead in providing training to the other organizations in introducing the contract management module.

Component 3: Professionalizing Procurement and Citizen Engagement

21. The component aims to improve procurement management capacity of the 25 selected sector organizations (SSOs), beyond the existing four target agencies of the ongoing project, both in terms of public procurement practices and the use of e-GP. Attempts would include progressive professionalization with greater sustainability of the procurement capacity development efforts. Also, the bidding community will be included as part of the capacity enhancement program. While the component is dedicated to procurement management and capacity development, it would have direct linkages with Component 2 in specific reference to the e-GP expansion and performance measurement out of these activities. Also, it will attempt to create a "third party monitoring" (TPM) mechanism through enhanced citizen engagement to ensure better value for money and improve the quality of procurement outcomes at local levels, with specific reference to rural roads, education, and health service deliveries. The three subcomponents are briefed below.

Component 3.1: Improving Procurement Management of SSOs:

22. This subcomponent would help improve procurement management capacity at the SSOs by facilitating and supporting key activities. The project would ensure that each LSO will have a minimum level of capacity to deal with procurement activities satisfactorily in accordance with the provisions of the Public Procurement Act and international good procurement practices. A core group of staff of each of the procuring entities (PE) within the SSOs will be provided rigorous training for skill enhancement to make them capable of handling procurement issues in a way that if there are transfers and/or rotations, still each PE will have trained/ certified procurement staff towards the end the of the project period. Thus it will form a sustainable procurement unit within SSOs to handle the procurement process in a more professional manner. There will be policy as how to utilize the trained procurement professional in a sustainable and effective manner. Each of the LSO will have core procurement unit with training / certified staff with job description.



Component 3.2: Capacity Building and Professionalization of Procurement:

23. This subcomponent aims at professionalizing procurement with greater institutionalization. Sustainable capacity development is the key for overall enhancement of the procurement environment. To this end, there will be few indicators to ensure sustainability of the procurement capacity. Activities will include: (i) developing and implementing a tier of certification program in an increased higher order level (“basic procurement”, “specialized procurement”, and “highly specialized procurement”), allowing the participants to practice procurement as a profession; and (ii) enhancing capacity of SSOs and other sector agencies by designing and implementing a comprehensive capacity development program covering various long and short procurement training courses for targeted audience (e.g., policy/entry level civil servants, procurement officers, auditors, estimators, accountants, bidding community, e-procurement learning, journalists, etc.).

24. Given the nature of the intervention and its importance in terms of raising the standard of capacity development over a longer time horizon with greater sustainability and institutionalization, it is envisaged that the main procurement training and professionalization will be materialized through a twinning arrangement between Engineering Staff College Bangladesh (ESCB) and internationally reputed training institution(s), like, International Training Center of the ILO, Turin, Italy (ITC-ILO) and/or Nottingham University/ UK and/or University of Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy. Similarly, the core competence courses for international procurement accreditation program is likely to be conducted in Bangladesh at the existing recognized study center of The Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS), UK, for example, BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD) under the BRAC University, ESCB affiliated with the Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB). . This arrangement is proposed in light of the previous experience of ESCB and BIGD under the ongoing procurement reform project. Also, other possibilities will be explored.

Component 3.3: Strategic Communication and Citizen Engagement

25. The overarching objective of this sub-component is to promote transparency and accountability in public spending through better procurement outcomes involving multiple stakeholders including citizens with appropriate awareness and monitoring tools. The current civic engagement program under the existing PPRP II project will be further strengthened and expanded given the positive outcome of the recent pilots. Specific attention would be provided in the area of gender sensitivity and the formation of civic engagement forums. Key activities would include various public communication, behavior change and stakeholder engagement interventions with a major focus on involving citizens at different levels (local and national) in the monitoring of various phases of public procurement processes and services, either as provider or as receiver/ beneficiary (for example, procurement officials, bidding community, beneficiaries, etc.). This sub-component will strengthen and institutionalize the systems and functions of different forms of strategic and stakeholder engagement communication throughout the public procurement practice in the country. Open contracting will provide an additional opportunity to strengthen public procurement monitoring from citizen perspective.

Component 3.4: Open Contracting:

26. The expected outcome of the component is improved transparency with better collection, maintenance, analysis and dissemination of public procurement data and information to the citizens at large. Open contracting will be a vehicle to directly link procurement data with the citizens. The expanded system would also track and measure performance of the public procurement system. This would not only help government officials to take corrective actions as needed to improve performance of public procurement but would also make the procurement processes and



outcome transparent to the public. For effective open contracting allowing analysis of performance of the bidders and quality of work, it is important to use the full cycle of e-GP system. The data analytics part of CPTU will be strengthened.

27. Open contracting refers to increased disclosure of information in a customized environment, with the participation of stakeholders in all stages of public contracting, including planning, procurement, and performance. The Open Contracting envision a collaborative approach between governments, private sector, civil society, development partners, and international organizations that emphasizes the importance of increased disclosure and building the capacity of these actors to understand and effectively use contracting information to improve procurement outcomes with increased transparency. In Bangladesh context, as an integrated part of the e-GP, government would disclose necessary information about the formation, award, execution, performance and completion of public contracts including grievances to enable the public and citizens to understand and monitor public contracts. In practice, publicized information should include contract planning documents, tender or bidding information, contract awards, performance reports and contract completion information within the e-GP framework. For increased citizen's monitoring, this will effectively serve as *citizens' portal*.



**Component 4:
Digitizing Project Implementation Monitoring**

28. The component aims to strengthen implementation monitoring of development programs/ projects at national level using digital technology within the boundary of procurement interventions. It is expected to have two sub-components.

Component 4.1: Enhancing Project Management Information System

29. At the national level, program/ project implementation monitoring and evaluation is the responsibility of the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) of the Ministry of Planning. Currently, this is done in a traditional manner, not compatible and streamlined with the nature and type of development programs of the country. Also, the methodology to monitor and review implementation program is relatively outdated, lagging real time benefits to the implementing ministries. Recognizing the deficiencies, the GoB envisages streamlining the process and making it on-line through a single platform connecting all public sector organization with the state-of-the art technology. The project management information system (PMIS) that is currently at its final stage of development captures only financial progress with some project implementation data. IMED wants to expand the capacity of PMIS to collect and monitor project implementation data as well as financial. IMED and CPTU need to conduct review of the current and future data needs to ensure the e-GP platform and current PMIS system supports the ongoing and future monitoring and evaluation needs. The PMIS will be enhanced digitally connecting all ministries and implementing agencies that will capture not only financial but also physical progress including the use of geo-tagging at field level. The PMIS will be integrated with the e-GP system including contract implementation in such a way that as the implementation happens, monitoring can follow. Integration of procurement planning with budgeting will also be explored.

Component 4.2: Reinforcing Monitoring Skills and Data Analytics

30. The project will be looking to improve the overall capacity for monitoring and evaluating projects through the digitization of IMED processes and the collection of information from the e-GP system, contract management system and other electronic sources and systems. It will enhance the capacity development of their resources to ensure they have the skills and tools to effectively monitor and evaluate projects including guidelines, data analytics, and reporting. Currently, IMED has over 1300 projects including the ten fast-track projects to monitor and evaluate with limited resources and tools available.

Note to Task Teams: The following sections are system generated and can only be edited online in the Portal.

SAFEGUARDS

A. Project location and salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)

The project, with assigned Category "C" for Environment, is located at Dhaka and does not include any construction/reconstruction/extension of infrastructure. It is largely a technical assistance type project involving mainly capacity development activities with associated IT system enhancement and office equipment/ goods for digitization of



government's project/ program implementation monitoring and public procurement. The project will use and procure equipment needed mainly for e-GP and computerization (desktop, laptop, servers, office equipment, etc.). As such there is no significant and irreversible environmental impacts are expected to arise as a result of project implementation. However, the project activities is a continuation of the previous project. It may be necessary to replace the existing computer related equipment. As a precautionary measure an environmental code of practice (ECoP) including E-waste disposal plan and occupational health and safety issues related to E-waste handling will be in the Annex of the PAD. The bidding document will include the environmental clauses which will keep provision of better occupational health and safety for the workers including not use of child labor in any form.

B. Borrower’s Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

The Government has its own robust safeguard policies and its compliance is monitored by the Department of Environment. Social welfare aspects including child labor issues are looked into by the Department of Social Welfare who has established procedures.

C. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Sabah Moyeen, Nadia Sharmin

D. Policies that might apply

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	No	The project activities are technical assistance in nature and includes policy support, capacity building and software system upgrading. As such, no environmental impact has been envisaged. However, the project activities is a continuation of the previous project. It may be necessary to replace the existing computer related equipment. As a precautionary measure an environmental code of practice (ECoP) including E-waste disposal plan and occupational health and safety issues related to E-waste handling will be in the Annex of the PAD. The bidding document will include the environmental clauses.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	No	
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	



Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60 No

E. Safeguard Preparation Plan

Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage PID/ISDS

Apr 13, 2017

Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed. The specific studies and their timing should be specified in the Appraisal Stage PID/ISDS

No detailed assessment is anticipated.

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APPROVAL

Task Team Leader(s):	Zafrul Islam
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Approved By

Safeguards Advisor:	Maged Mahmoud Hamed	28-Feb-2017
Practice Manager/Manager:	Abduljabbar Hasan Al Qathab	28-Feb-2017
Country Director:	Qimiao Fan	02-Mar-2017

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