

# THE PROCUREMENT DIGEST *NEWSLETTER*

June, 2023



(265) 999 963 486 

Jireh Bible House  
Off Colby Road, Area 3   
Private Bag 383  
Lilongwe

dg@ppda.mw  
info@ppda.mw



## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Welcome to the latest edition of our quarterly newsletter, the Procurement Digest where we bring you updates and insights from the world of Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets Authority (PPDA).

As we continue our journey towards transparency, efficiency, and accountability, this newsletter serves as a platform to share important developments, success stories, and valuable resources.

In this issue, we are proud to highlight the strides we have made in enhancing compliance with Access to Information (ATI) laws. Our management has undergone comprehensive training in ATI laws, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to manage information requests effectively. This training not only ensures the systematic handling of requests but also strengthens our commitment to transparency and upholding legal requirements.

As we continue with our change management drive, our team was taken through a boot camp to equip staff with the necessary skills and tools to navigate organizational transformations effectively.

We are also excited to share with you that the PPDA was appointed lead of the Anti-Corruption Pillar in the National Action Plan of the Open Government Partnerships in Malawi. This only cements PPDA's strategic and critical role in the development of this country, especially in curbing corruption.

We are also delighted to inform you, our esteemed readers that we successfully launched the review of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets Act (PPD Act).

Furthermore, we recognize the invaluable role played by our stakeholders in our journey. Through engaging and effective communication, we are fostering meaningful collaborations and strengthening relationships with suppliers, contractors, and the public. As such, our team conducted several stakeholder engagement and capacity building meetings.

As we move forward, we remain steadfast in our commitment to delivering excellence in public procurement and disposal of public assets. Our aim is to create a level playing field for all stakeholders and to uphold the highest standards of integrity and accountability.

We hope you find this newsletter informative and insightful. We welcome your feedback, suggestions, and contributions as we strive for continuous improvement. Together, we can build a procurement landscape that is fair, transparent, and beneficial to all.

*Kate T. Kujaliwa*  
**Editor**

# OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP: A CALL TO NATIONAL DUTY



# PPDA TO LEAD THE ANTI-CORRUPTION PILLAR IN OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP IN MALAWI



Excellency the President, Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera congratulates Dr. Edington Chilapondwa



6 June 2023 marked a great milestone in the country's history as His Excellency the President Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera launched the National Action Plan for Open Government Partnership in Malawi at Crossroads Hotel in Lilongwe.

The Action Plan recognizes the challenges the country is facing and seeks to provide a comprehensive approach to dealing with those challenges.

PPDA has been called to serve as lead and Co-chair of the Anti-Corruption thematic area where the key focus is on "beneficial ownership transparency and open contracting".

PPDA's Director General Edington Chilapondwa signed a commitment which among other things seek to address governance challenges.

## Priority Areas in the Plan

1. Grand corruption by public servants
2. Collusion and fraud in public procurement
3. Procurement monopolies and cronyism
4. Rigging of the public procurement system
5. Collusion involving pricing fixing
6. Verification of compliance with the MSME Order.

# PPD ACT UNDER REVIEW



**Stakeholders who attended the launch. Insert, PPDA Board Chairperson Innocentia Ottober**



On 25 April 2023, the PPDA launched the review of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act (PPD Act). This is a vital piece of legislation that governs the procurement and disposal of public assets in Malawi. It provides guidelines, regulations, and procedures for public procurement and public asset disposal processes, with the aim of ensuring transparency, accountability, fairness, and value for money in the utilization of public resources. As part of the Authority's commitment to promoting good governance and upholding the principles of transparency and accountability, the Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets Authority (PPDA) has initiated a thorough review of the PPD Act to assess its effectiveness, identify areas for improvement, and propose recommendations for enhancing its implementation.

In her speech, the Board Chairperson Innocentia Ottober said, while capacity building is a critical element in public procurement, "skills without integrity remains a downside for most public procurement professionals". She therefore asked that the revision should look at fines given to officials who flout procurement procedures as the fine in the current law are not deterrent enough.



**Dr. McDonald Mafuta Mwale**  
Secretary to Treasury

Speaking at the launch, the Director General of the PPDA Edington Chilapondwa said, the law review will involve a comprehensive analysis of the PPD Act, including a thorough examination of its provisions, procedures, and practices.

The guest of honor on the day, Secretary to Treasury Dr. McDonald Mafuta Mwale said the need for an effective public procurement can not be overemphasized. He further mentioned that as the country is now focused on Malawi 2063 first 10 year Implementation Plan (MIP-1) envisages to raise the standard of the country to a middle income economy by 2030, consequently, laws such as the PPD Act ought to be in tandem with such aspiration.

The law review process will also involve consultations with various stakeholders, including government agencies, private sector entities, civil society organizations, and other relevant stakeholders, to gather input and insights on the strengths and weaknesses of the current law and its implementation.

Other notable stakeholders at the event include the Anti-Corruption Bureau Director General Martha Chizuma, Development partners, District Commissioners and the Clergy.

---

# CHANGE MANAGEMENT



# STAFF BOOTCAMP!

In a remarkable achievement, the PPDA held a successful change management capacity building program for its staff. The program, aimed at equipping managers and staff with the necessary skills and tools to navigate organizational transformations effectively.

The Boot Camp encompassed various aspects of change management. It provided the team with a deep understanding of change theory, emphasizing the significance of effective communication, organizational culture, teambuilding, stakeholder engagement, and strategic planning in driving successful transformations.

As a result of the Boot Camp, the PPDA management and staff has exhibited a remarkable ability to navigate change successfully within the organization.

Managers are now equipped with the knowledge and skills to lead their teams through periods of transition, ensuring minimal disruption and maximizing the benefits of organizational change.

The PPDA's commitment to building change management capacity demonstrates its proactive stance in adapting to evolving business landscapes.

By investing in its team, the organization is well-positioned to drive innovation, foster resilience, and achieve its strategic objectives in a rapidly changing world.





# MANAGEMENT TRAINED IN ACCESS TO INFORMATION LAW



On 30 May 2023 PPDA undertook a significant step towards promoting transparency and accountability in public procurement processes by training its management staff in Access to Information (ATI) laws to enhance compliance and facilitate the efficient management of information requests.

The ATI law training conducted by the Malawi Human Rights Commission equipped PPDA officials with the knowledge and skills necessary to handle information requests systematically and transparently.

By understanding exemptions and limitations, the PPDA can safeguard sensitive information while ensuring the disclosure of relevant procurement records.

Additionally, the training enhanced communication abilities and collaboration enabling effective stakeholders engagement and provide timely updates on request statuses.

Following the training, the PPDA appointed the following Information Officers:

1. Mr. Jonathan Kantayeni
2. Mr. Enock Mangame
3. Ms. Kate Kujaliwa

This initiative is a testament to PPDA's commitment to fostering transparent and accountable procurement practices.

---

# VIGILANT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION



- Institutional Integrity Committee constituted and trained
- Digitalization of procurement processes
- Toll-Free number available for reporting suspected cases of corruption and fraud
  - So far, 3 reports have been made using this platform.
  - investigations are underway

REPORT



Email: [reportsqm@tip-offs.com](mailto:reportsqm@tip-offs.com)



Toll Free Line: 847 Tnm/Airtel



Website: [www.tip-offs.com](http://www.tip-offs.com)



## Institutional Integrity Committee's Capacity Strengthened

In the ongoing battle against corruption, the Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets (PPDA) is taking measures to enhance transparency, accountability, and integrity by empowering its Institutional Integrity Committee (IIC) with skills in corruption detection and investigation. The move aims to bolster the committee's effectiveness in promoting integrity within public procurement processes. In this regard the PPDA engaged the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) to build the capacity of the IIC.

The training facilitator, Katoto Mtambo said that Corruption remains a persistent challenge in public procurement and disposal of assets, hampering economic growth and undermining

public trust as such the PPDA should endeavor to move to take this vice head -on. Responding to the sentiments, the Chairperson of the ICC Jonathan Kantayeni said he is committed in leading the ICC to combating corruption in the realm of public procurement and asset disposal.



**Katoto Mtambo**  
Principal Corruption Prevention Officer-  
ACB

# DIGITALIZATION OF PROCUREMENT PROCESSES



# DIGITALIZATION HIGHLIGHTS

## e-GP

Electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) is the automation of all procurement processes, from requisition to contract awarding.

Contract awarded and signed with Ethiopian-based Perago Information System

e-GP has rebranded to National Electronic Procurement System (MaNePS)

## e-GM

Electronic Government Marketplace (e-GM) is a project under e-GP, aimed at promoting participation of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) women, youth and persons with disability in public procurement through digital platforms.



# GETTING AHEAD WITH E-PROCUREMENT



---

# OPEN CONTRACTING DATA STANDARD PORTAL IN THE OFFING

The Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets Authority (PPDA) is excited to announce its intention to develop an Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS) portal with support from the EU funded Chuma Cha Dziko Project.

This groundbreaking initiative aims to revolutionize the way public procurement information is shared, accessed, and analyzed, ensuring transparency, accountability, and efficiency in public procurement processes.

## ☰ **What is the Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS)?**

The Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS) is a global data standard that provides a common framework for publishing and analyzing public procurement data. By adopting OCDS, public procurement processes become more transparent, enabling stakeholders to access comprehensive and structured information about contracts, tenders, suppliers, and more.

## ☰ **Advancing Transparency and Accountability**

The development of an OCDS portal by the PPDA signifies a significant step forward in advancing transparency and accountability in public procurement. The portal will serve as a centralized platform for procuring and disposing entities (PDEs), suppliers, civil society organizations, development partners and citizens to access and analyze procurement data in a user-friendly and standardized format.

## Key Features include

**Comprehensive Data Repository:** The portal will house a comprehensive repository of procurement data, including contracts, tenders, amendments, evaluations, and more. This consolidated database will ensure easy access to crucial information for all stakeholders.

**Standardized Data Format:** By adhering to the OCDS, the portal will ensure that procurement data is published in a consistent and structured format. This standardization will enable effective analysis, comparison, and evaluation of procurement processes across different entities and sectors.

**Search and Visualization Tools:** The OCDS portal will provide robust search and visualization tools, allowing users to explore and interpret procurement data with ease. Users will be able to filter information based on various parameters, track spending patterns, identify potential risks, and monitor contract performance.

**Supplier Engagement:** The portal will facilitate direct engagement between procuring and disposing entities (PDEs) and suppliers. Suppliers will be able to access bidding opportunities, and receive notifications, streamlining the procurement process and promoting fair competition.

**Citizen Participation:** The OCDS portal will empower citizens by providing them with access to public procurement information, ensuring transparency and accountability. Citizens can monitor public spending, hold authorities accountable, and contribute to the overall improvement of procurement processes.



## ☰ Driving Forward with OCDS

The PPDA's commitment to developing an OCDS portal demonstrates its dedication to embracing innovative technology and promoting transparent procurement practices. By leveraging the power of data and technology, the PPDA is paving the way for a more efficient, inclusive, and fair public procurement landscape.

The development of the OCDS portal will be a collaborative effort, involving close coordination with procuring and disposing entities, suppliers, CSOs and all other stakeholders. The PPDA will ensure that the portal is user-friendly, scalable, and aligns with international best practices in open contracting.

## ☰ Join the Journey towards transparent procurement.

The PPDA invites all stakeholders to actively participate in the development and implementation of the OCDS portal.

Three regional trainings were conducted for PDEs on OCDS. This is a picture of the Southern region session, held at Mount Soche Hotel in Blantyre on 9 May, 2023.



# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & COLLABORATION: A PICTORIAL FOCUS

NCIC

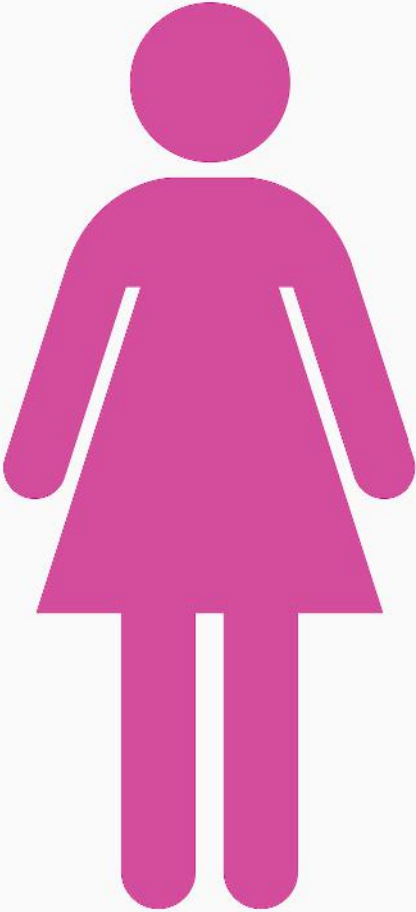


MEC

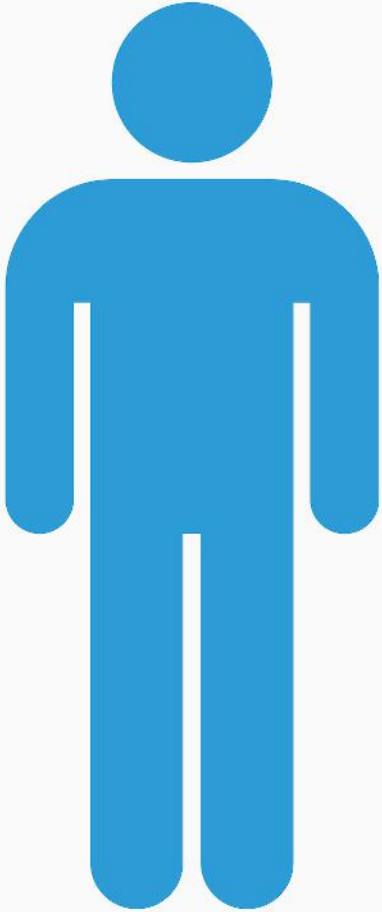


# TOWARDS ACHIEVING 50/50 GENDER EQUALITY

The PPDA recognizes that gender equality is not only a fundamental human right but also essential for the organization's success and sustainability. One of the ways that the PPDA promotes gender equality in the workplace is through its hiring practices. This ensures that women are well represented in the organization and that they have an equal opportunity to participate in decision-making processes and to advance their careers. Currently PPDA boasts a 50/50 gender representation in all its senior management positions.



**46%**



**52%**

# OUR MISSION

To provide a regulatory, monitoring and oversight service on public procurement and asset disposal matters in a professional, efficient and effective manner with a view to realize value for money.

[www.ppda.mw](http://www.ppda.mw)

# OUR VISION

A public procurement and asset disposal system that is transparent fair, efficient, corrupt-free and instills public confidence.

[www.ppda.mw](http://www.ppda.mw)