



CENTRAL PROCUREMENT BOARD

CENTRAL PROCUREMENT BOARD

Digital Transformation in Public Procurement

ANNUAL REPORT
2023-2024

GLOSSARY

AfDB	African Development Bank
BEC	Bid Evaluation Committee
BOC	Bid Opening Committee
BOT	Build Operate Transfer
CIDB	Construction Industry Development Board
CC	Competition Commission
CPB	Central Procurement Board
CTB	Central Tender Board
CPO	Central Procurement Officer
DBD	Draft Bidding Documents
EOI	Expression of Interest
FCC	Financial Crimes Commission
IRP	Independent Review Panel
MUR	Mauritian Rupee
MOFEPD	Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development
ONB	Open National Bidding
OIB	Open International Bidding
PB	Public Body
PPA	Public Procurement Act 2006 as subsequently amended
PPO	Procurement Policy Office
PPP	Public Private Partnership
RB	Restricted Bidding
RRA	Rodrigues Regional Assembly
SBD	Standard Bidding Document
SIL	State Informatics Limited
TC	Technical Committee

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VISION

To be the model for efficient and effective public procurement in Mauritius.



MISSION

To ensure value for money in public procurement and timely acquisition through a fair, transparent, and accountable process.



VALUES

Accountability, Ethical Practices, Equality, Fairness, Integrity, Quality, Transparency.



Chairperson's Foreword

Annual Report (1st July 2023 to 30th June 2024)

I am pleased to present the annual report for the period 1st July 2023 to 30th June 2024, in compliance with Section 8A of the Public Procurement Act (PPA) 2006 as amended, on behalf of the Central Procurement Board (CPB).

For record, the core duties of the CPB, under the PPA, are the following amongst others: -

- Vet bidding documents and notices submitted to it by the Public Bodies
- Receive and publicly open bids.
- Select people from a list of qualified evaluators maintained by it to act as members of a bid evaluation committee and oversee the examination and evaluation of bids.
- Review the recommendations of a bid evaluation committee and (1) approve the award of the contract or (2) require the evaluation committee to make a fresh evaluation or (3) request the evaluation committee to further evaluate on specific grounds.
- Review the recommendations of a public body with respect to an amendment that increases the contract value pursuant to section 25(2) (c) or (d) or 46 (3) or a variation pursuant to section 46 (4) and (1) approve the variation or amendment proposed; (2) require the public body to make fresh recommendation or (3) reject the variation or amendment proposed.

I recall that the CPB carries out procurement for major projects for the Republic of Mauritius. This is a huge responsibility which requires the highest level of ethics and professionalism. The reputation of our republic regarding procurement, and ease of doing business is on the line. It is worth underscoring that our procurement laws are based on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce (1996) with additional article 5 bis as adopted in 1998. Our procurement processes are amongst the most democratic and transparent in the world. It is subject of scrutiny, challenges and appeals at all stages during the procurement process.

The responsibility incumbent on the CPB poses huge challenges and requires qualified and competent personnel as staff and competent people at the Board level. The PPA provides for this at Section 8 (1) which requires that the members of the Board have wide experience in legal, administrative, economic, financial, engineering, scientific or technical matters. There is a reason for this. Most of the tenders vetted and award approved by the CPB are for works and a knowledge of the FIDIC, General Conditions of Contract, the evaluation criteria etc. is required to scrutinize the bid documents to ensure and confirm that such documents are fit for purpose, that the project as prepared represent the best value for money and that selection criteria are fair to all concerned to ensure that only the best evaluated offers are retained for award.

Therefore, the role incumbent on the CPB is to assure all stakeholders, the Public Bodies, the Service Providers and the public at large so that they are totally comfortable and have confidence in the procurement system in place and that the CPB lives up to this high level of trust. Furthermore, at the CPB we are very much conscious of our responsibilities as the procurement arm of the Government, and our duty to deliver with the highest level of ethics, transparency and accountability to command the respect and trust of the national, regional and international communities as the best place on the planet to do business.

CPB continuously engages with all stakeholders in the procurement landscape to share the totally transparent procedures in place from the moment a bid document is received from the Public Body. Such documents are vetted, changes if any, are communicated to the Public Bodies, the vetted documents are then cleared by the Board for advertisement. The call for bids is launched by the Public Bodies through the Electronic Procurement System (EPS). The bids are received online on the closing date. The CPB then constitutes an independent Bid Evaluation Committee (BEC) made up of experts from its approved evaluators list. The bids are evaluated, the Bid Evaluation Report (BER) is then subjected to due diligence scrutiny by a Technical Committee made up of at least two persons. Only when the management is fully satisfied that the whole process has been gone through, that the Board is called upon to consider and approve the recommendations for awards. We also inform the stakeholders of their rights to challenge, and if still not satisfied with the responses to the challenge, to appeal to the Independent Review Panel. Furthermore, under the PPA, any unsuccessful bidder may request a debriefing regarding his bid.

We are continuing to work hard to improve the quality of bidding documents and reduce the number of clarifications and amendments that are made, which inevitably lead to delays. Furthermore, the concept of value for money and life cost cycles have been introduced to ensure that the projects are best value in terms of return on the investment made from public funds.

To give credibility and recognition to the quality and standard of procurement procedures, at the CPB, the Board has embarked since 2023 on a project for its certification to ISO MS ISO 9001:2015, which is still ongoing. This will further enhance the image and reputation of Mauritius as a place of excellence for doing procurement.

To further enhance the quality of evaluation and ensure consistency in the evaluation procedures and process, on the 31st January 2024, in collaboration with the Civil Service College, the CPB launched its 5-Module Training Program for evaluators. The objective is to professionalize this service. The CPB only selects evaluators from the list of those who have followed such courses.

One major issue of great concern and challenge for the Board is the cost estimate, given the high volatility of the market for various reasons. Under Directive 52A of the Procurement Policy Office, any bids received that are more than 15% higher are considered abnormally high, and similarly, any bids that are more than 15% lower are generally considered abnormally low and therefore cannot be awarded. If the cost estimate were 100% accurate and truly reflected market prices, this would not be an issue. However, the reality is that market prices are highly volatile, and expecting bidders to maintain firm prices over a one-year period is very difficult and indeed unfair. The CPB is engaging with the PPO to address this issue.

The Central Procurement Board, in the financial year 2023/2024, held

- (i) 94 formal Board meetings,
- (ii) 30 ad-hoc Board meetings,
- (iii) 145 meetings with Public Bodies, mostly regarding vetting of bidding documents; and
- (iv) 2 Regular periodic meetings with the Procurement Policy Office.

For the year under report the number of projects vetted, evaluated and approved were: 27 for a value of 7.2 billion rupees. The comparative figures for 2022/2023 and 2021/2022 were 73 projects for a value of 22.3 billion and 71 for a value of 30.4 billion respectively.

To conclude, I thank the staff of the CPB and my colleague Board Members for their highest level of service, dedication and professionalism.

I also thank all our partners and all the stakeholders with whom CPB interfaces from the PPO, the Ministries, the Local Government Agencies and the Service Providers for their excellent collaboration for making the CPB a reference and a model in matters of procurement with unequivocal transparency, accountability, fairness and equity for all.

Raj Hemansing Prayag
G.O.S.K, PDSM, PEng, MICE, FIEM, RPEM
Chairman



Deputy Chief Executive's Report

The background of the slide is a dark teal color. It features a complex network of thin, light teal lines that form a web-like pattern across the entire surface. Scattered throughout this network are numerous small, solid yellow dots. In the upper right quadrant, there are several larger, more prominent geometric shapes in a slightly lighter shade of teal. These shapes include various polygons, triangles, and quadrilaterals, some of which are nested or overlapping, creating a sense of depth and complexity. The overall aesthetic is modern and technical, suggesting a focus on data, technology, or organizational structure.



On 03 November 2023, I was appointed as the Deputy Chief Executive and it is with great pride and a deep sense of responsibility that I present the Central Procurement Board's (CPB) Annual Report for the Financial Year 2023-2024. This report is not just a reflection of the work we've accomplished but also our unwavering commitment to transparency, efficiency, and excellence in public procurement, a cornerstone of sustainable development and good governance for the benefit of all.

Over the past year (1st July 2023 to 30th June 2024), the CPB has demonstrated resilience and adaptability in navigating an increasingly dynamic procurement landscape. Our statistics for the period under review highlight significant milestones. 55 projects have been received at the CPB out of which 51 were received online through the e-Procurement System. The total estimated cost of projects received is MUR 27.1 billion. The CPB has approved 27 procurement projects worth above MUR 7 billion. Moreover, 50 draft Bidding Documents have been vetted with an average vetting duration of 66 days. These achievements underscore the critical role we play in ensuring that public resources are utilised judiciously and equitably.

In addition, in our continuous pursuit of excellence, the CPB has taken strategic initiatives aiming at strengthening the capacity of our registered evaluators, maintained for the evaluation of bids as per the requirement in Section 11(d) of the Public Procurement Act 2006. In February 2024, the CPB introduced for the first time the Online Training Courses for 5 Modules (General, Works, Goods, Consultancy Services & Other Services). This is a major step toward enhancing the quality and consistency of bid evaluations and harmonising the process. This effort is complemented by the induction courses conducted in-house for the evaluators and the emphasis laid on ascertaining that evaluators are well conversant with the e-Procurement System (e-PS), which has not only streamlined processes but also reinforced accountability and transparency in procurement activities. Currently, the online training course and e-PS are prerequisites for the selection of members of the Bid Evaluation Committees.

However, despite these accomplishments, challenges remain, particularly around the cost estimation of projects. This recurring issue of unrealistic cost estimates has led to project cancellations, resulting in wasted time and resources. The CPB is actively engaging stakeholders to address this challenge, including exploring the potential benefits of disclosing estimated costs to bidders; a measure that could significantly enhance project viability.

Looking ahead, one of our key objectives is the transition to a paperless office. By embracing digital solutions, we aim to improve operational efficiency and align with global best practices in environmental sustainability. Initial steps, such as the use of electronic tools for Board meetings as from 11 January 2024, and the collection of used paper for recycling have already been implemented, marking the beginning of this transformative journey.

Well, I must acknowledge that these achievements and aspirations would not have been possible without the unflinching support and dedication of the Board Members, and staff of the Central Procurement Board.

I also wish to extend my sincere gratitude to all the other stakeholders who have contributed to our achievements this year, the Procurement Policy Office, the Independent Review Panel, the Competition Commission, public entities, private sector partners, civil society, and the media. Your cooperation and support are invaluable.

As we move forward, the CPB remains steadfast in its mission to uphold the principles of transparency, accountability, and value for money in public procurement. Together, we will continue to build a procurement landscape that inspires trust and fosters sustainable development for the nation.

Jaichand Rughoobur
Deputy Chief Executive



01

CENTRAL PROCUREMENT BOARD

The Board's composition is as per the PPA 2006, Part III Section 8 and consists of -

- (a) a Chairperson.
- (b) 2 Vice-Chairpersons; and
- (c) 3 other persons having wide experience in legal, administrative, economic, financial, engineering, scientific, or technical matters and appointed by the President of the Republic, acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister tendered after the Prime Minister has consulted the Leader of the Opposition, on such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Prime Minister.

Every member shall hold office for a period not exceeding 3 years and shall be eligible for reappointment for one additional term. Unlike other Boards, the members of the CPB are full-timers.

The Board has its Code of Ethics and a Scheme of Service for each post at the CPB and its Organisational Chart is updated regularly.

The PPA 2006 confers upon the CPB the responsibility to approve the award of major contracts for public bodies, the value of which exceeds the prescribed amount. The prescribed amount applicable to public bodies varies in the range of Rs 20M-135M depending on the category under which the public body is listed in the First Schedule of the Public Procurement Regulations. Accordingly, for any procurement, the estimated value of which exceeds the prescribed amount must be referred to the CPB.

The CPB is fully aware of its responsibility to apply good governance throughout the organization. The CPB is committed to achieving and maintaining the highest standards of transparency and equity in the execution of its duties and fulfilling its obligations to its stakeholders.

Whilst the Board retains overall responsibility, it delegates certain roles and responsibilities to its Sub Committees, whenever the need arises. Sub Committees devote the necessary time and resources to issues for which the Board does not have time.



Mr. Raj Hemansing PRAYAG,
GOSK, PDSM PEng, MICE, FIEM, RPEM
Chairperson



Mr. Swaminathan RAGEN
Vice-Chairperson



Mr. Chittaman JUGROO
Vice-Chairperson



Mr. François SENEQUE
Member



**Mr. Abdool Samad
SAIRALLY**
Member



Mr. Dyaneshwar RAMDHONY,
OSK
Member

Meeting of the Board for Fiscal Year 2023-2024



During the financial year 2023-2024, the Board met almost every Monday and Thursday. The Board held the following number of meetings as detailed below:

- (i) 94 formal Board meetings;
- (ii) 30 ad-hoc Board meetings;
- (iii) 145 meetings with Public Bodies, mostly for vetting of bidding documents; and
- (iv) 2 Regular periodic meetings with the Procurement Policy Office.



02

CPB's Staff

The Management Team is headed by the Chief Executive who is also responsible for the execution of the policy of the Board and is assisted in his function by the Deputy Chief Executive. However, the post of the Chief Executive is still vacant and the CPB is being operated under the Management Team shown below.



Mr Jaichand RUGHOOBUR

*Deputy Chief Executive
w.e.f 03 November 2023*



Mrs Renouka Devi CHETTIAR

*Manager,
& Acting Chief Executive as from
01 July to 2 November 2023*



Mrs Rajnee RAMJUTTUN

*Assistant Manager
& Acting Deputy Chief Executive
as from 01 July to 2 November 2023*

Currently, the position of the Chief Executive is vacant and the Deputy Chief Executive manages the day-to-day operations and implements the Board's decisions. He also has the task of preparing and submitting papers to the Board for decisions and apprising the Board of all important matters that require consideration.

The Deputy Chief Executive is supported by the Manager and the Seniormost Assistant Manager in the discharge of his duties.

Central Procurement Board's Technical Team

The Technical Team comprises the Manager, Assistant Managers, Central Procurement Officers/Senior Central Procurement Officers and Engineers/Senior Engineers.



Central Procurement Board's Administrative Section

By the end of June 2024, there were a total of 55 employees at the CPB.



2.1 The Functions

The core staff of the CPB are made up of two principal units: Administrative and Technical.

(i) The Administrative Unit encompasses all the small support units including secretariat and is *inter-alia* responsible for the planning, coordination, supervision, measurement of performance of the functions, human resource management, budgeting, information technology/statistics, supplies, registry, and management information system.

The Administrative Unit is tasked to provide logistical and administrative support, such as managing office space, coordinating the different functions, and arranging meetings and events. By efficiently managing these logistical aspects, the Administrative Unit ensures that officers are provided with the necessary tools to accomplish the core activities of the organization through enhanced productivity.

The Registry Unit, like in any other organization, is the heart of the CPB, which is devoted to the management of information throughout its life cycle, that is from the time of creation or receipt to its eventual disposition. This unit is responsible for identifying, classifying, storing, securing, retrieving, tracking, and destroying or permanently preserving records. The registry ensures integrity, confidentiality of information, transparency, and accountability at the CPB.

The Human Resources Unit at the CPB cultivates a sound working environment that promotes open communication, a sense of belonging, and bonding among the employees, by fostering a positive organizational culture. The section oversees attendance, recruitment, training, employee relations, and performance management.

The Procurement Unit of the CPB is the custodian of its assets and resources. It manages the purchases, storage, and distribution of supplies, equipment, and materials required for daily activities. This unit ensures efficient day-to-day running of the operations at the CPB by providing the necessary resources and logistics which helps in fulfilling its mandate. It is also responsible for cost control, minimizing waste, and ascertaining value for money.

The Finance Unit is responsible for budget preparation, financial planning, and expenditure management. This function ensures that public funds allocated to the CPB are wisely and judiciously expended and that all financial transactions comply with the rules and regulations stipulated in the Financial Management Kit.

(ii) The Technical Unit on the other hand shoulders a broad spectrum of responsibilities, specifically concerning procurement documents for major contracts. This unit is manned by the Manager, Assistant Managers, Central Procurement Officers/Senior Central Procurement Officers (CPOs/SCPOs), and qualified Professionals in the fields of Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering who work under the administrative control and supervision of the Deputy Chief Executive and the Board.

All employees at the CPB are provided with a safe and conducive working environment. Safety and Health meetings are held regularly to ensure risks are mitigated and managed in the best possible manner for the wellness of each and everybody.

03

Financial Information



The Central Procurement Board (CPB) has recorded total costs of MUR 63.6 million for the Financial Year 2023-2024. Notably, staff costs make up the largest portion, accounting for 62.35% of these total expenses. Fees paid to Bid Evaluation Committees have significantly decreased from MUR 6 million in 2022-2023 to MUR 4.8 million in 2023-2024.

3.1 Breakdown of Costs

Table 1: Expenditure for FY 2022-2023, FY 2023-2024 and Budgeted FY 2024-2025

SN	Items	FY 2022-2023 (MUR)	FY 2023-2024 (MUR)	Budget FY 2024-2025 (MUR)
1	Staff Costs	40,692,698.64	39,670,222.73	47,200,000.00
2	Fees for Assessors	6,000,461.65	4,802,312.50	9,000,000.00
3	Rental of Premises / Parking Slots / Service Charges & Utility Costs	7,947,186.97	8,601,629.40	10,425,000.00
4	Office Expenses and Postages	465,092.78	730,562.75	550,000.00
5	Maintenance of Building, Equipment, Vehicles & Others	3,912,921.44	1,067,015.74	3,050,000.00
6	Publications, Printing, Books & Periodicals	1,221,802.25	977,817.28	1,300,000.00
7	Other Recurrent Expenditure (Training Fees, Uniforms, Cleaning, etc.)	261,422.35	510,519.92	1,075,000.00
8	Office Furniture and Equipment	975,851.25	3,828,757.20	400,000.00
9	Acquisition of IT Equipment	936,890.80	3,431,871.74	1,000,000.00
TOTAL		62,414,328.13	63,620,709.26	74,000,000.00

3.2 Year-on-Year Cost Comparison

The total costs increased by 6.6% (MUR 3.8 million) from FY 2022-2023 to FY 2023-2024 for several reasons:

1. Staff Costs: A reduction in salaries due to unfilled positions, including the Chief Executive and officers in the procurement and general service cadres.
2. Fees for Assessors: Costs have decreased due to fewer available projects in the years 2023/2024, and many projects are still under review and not yet finalised.
3. Office Premises-Rental Increase: An 8.2% rise in rental and associated costs primarily resulted from additional office space rented (204.6 square meters) contracted with the Ministry of Social Security and National Solidarity.
4. Office Expenses and Postages: Increased costs for procuring various items due to inflationary pressure. High expenses incurred in postages are due to international postages during the financial year 2023/2024.
5. Maintenance: A substantial 72.73% decrease in maintenance costs due to prior sums disbursed last financial year for partitioning to create new evaluation rooms.
6. Publications: A 20% decline in advertisement expenses, attributed to fewer local newspaper adverts for bids.
7. Other Recurrent Expenditure -Training Fees: Additional training costs were incurred in workshops, and launching online training courses aimed at enhancing evaluator skills.
8. Office Furniture & Equipment: Significant investments in new furniture and various electronic devices to equip the newly rented space and for existing offices: new chairs & tables, CCTV installations, aluminium door fixtures, and heavy-duty photocopiers, alongside the replacement of obsolete equipment.
9. Acquisition of IT Equipment - IT Upgrades: Procurement and commissioning of a new server due to the obsolescence of the previous one.

This analysis reflects CPB's strategic focus on enhancing operational efficiency and capacity while managing costs in a challenging economic environment.



04

Useful Statistics

4.1 Projects Received

During the 2023-2024 Financial Year, the CPB received 55 projects out of which 51 were received online through the e-Procurement System.

The total estimated cost of the projects received is MUR 27.1 billion, as detailed below:

Table 2 - Procurement Projects Received by Type

Project Type	2022/2023		2023/2024	
	Count	Contract Value (MUR Million)	Count	Contract Value (MUR Million)
Buildings	13	2,714.75	14	2,500.05
Roads, Bridges & Grade Separated Junctions	18	6,684.19	6	1,526.70
Public Utilities	3	615.27	11	12,561.20
Other Works	9	5,735.53	9	1,361.24
SUB-TOTAL (WORKS)	43	15,749.74	40	17,949.19
Goods	18	4,265.30	5	7,653.47
Consultancy	1	60.00	NIL	
Other Services	11	2,260.80	10	1,527.02
GRAND TOTAL	73	22,335.84	55	27,129.68

Forty (40) of the projects received were Works projects with a total estimated cost of MUR 17.9 billion representing 72.7%. Goods projects represent 9.1% with a total estimated cost of MUR 7.7 billion and Other Services 18.2% for a total cost of MUR 1.5 billion. The projects received during the Financial Year 2023-2024 (by category) are listed below:

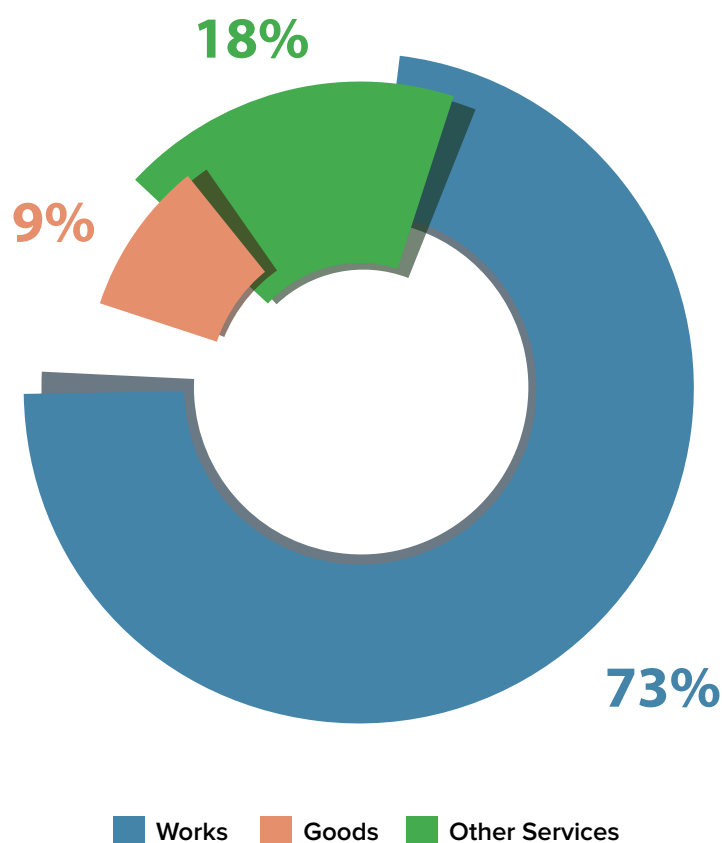


Figure 1 – Project Category

Table 3 - List of Received Procurement Projects

No.	Description	Estimated Cost (MUR Million)
Buildings		
1	Construction of a Gymnasium at St Felix	76.46
2	Construction of a New fire Station at Montagne Blanche	105.00
3	Construction of Classroom Blocks, Toilet Blocks and Covered Link at Gopeenath Cheetamun Government School at Surinam	76.45
4	Construction of a New Building and Associated External Works for Engineering Section at JINFEI	186.58
5	Design and Construction of a Multi-Purpose Building at Renaissance (Lower Magon Street), Camp Yolloff, Port Louis	34.00
6	Phase 2 of the Construction of Abdool Raman Abdool Government School at Port Louis	114.50
7	Procurement of Completion of Outstanding works to the Multisports complex at First Floor and Major Consolidation works at Ground Floor at the Abercrombie Market Fair Building, Port Louis	116.97
8	Construction of New Laboratory Block at John Kennedy College, Beau Bassin	102.18
9	Design-Build Turnkey and completion of a new Modern Sugar Storage facility at Riche Terre Business Park and the relocation of the existing park	495.17
10	Construction of Multipurpose Sports Complex/Gymnasium at Stanley, Rose Hill	113.03
11	Procurement for the construction of a Multipurpose Complex at Rivière du Rempart	46.79
12	Design and Build of a Mini Market Fair at Bon Accueil	54.00
13	Framework Agreement for Building and civil Infrastructural works for Government Buildings (2024-2026)	870.00
14	Construction of a New Fire Station at Montagne Blanche	108.91
Roads & Bridges & Grade Separated Junctions		
15	Upgrading of Roadside Drain on A10 Road at Plaine Magnien	234.99
16	Upgrading of Julius Nyerere Avenue B1 and construction of B1-M1 Link Road - Design and Build/Turnkey	376.23
17	Reconstruction of Beau Champs Bridge at Bel Ombre	188.00
18	Construction of about 30 km Track Roads including footpaths and Other Civil Works in Rodrigues	215.93
19	Procurement for Maintenance, Upgrading, Resurfacing and Construction of Roads in Rodrigues	276.56
20	Upgrading of Roadside Drain on A10 Road at Plaine Magnien	234.99
Public Utilities		
21	Contract C2021/31- Renewal of Pumping Main from New Plaine Lauzun Pumping Station to Upper Monneron Reservoir	124.36
22	Construction of Riviere des Anguilles Dam Project - Prequalification of Contractors	8,200.00
23	Design, Supply, Installation, Testing, and Commissioning of 2 MWAC Floating Solar PV Farm at Tamarind Falls	120.00

No.	Description	Estimated Cost (MUR Million)
Public Utilities		
24	Contract WW 512W-Sewerage Project at Caro Lalo, Vallée des Prêtres	235.65
25	Contract WW 489 W- Sewerage Project at Palma, Quatre Bornes and Environs	279.23
26	Contract WW 56 W Completion and Commissioning of Works in Zone CP20, zone CP21 including Pumping station PS 2 Under the Grand Baie Sewerage Project Phase 1B Lot 2	299.79
27	Grand Baie Sewerage Project Phase I B Contract WW519W-Refurbishment of the Mon Choisy Wastewater Treatment Plant for the Grand Baie Sewerage Project-Phase 1 B Lot 1	259.03
28	Rehabilitation and upgrading of Mont Blanc Treatment plant (CWA)	517.04
29	Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of a 2 MWac Floating Solar Power Plant at Tamarind Falls Reservoir	135.00
30	Procurement of 3500 2KWAC Grid- Tied Roof mounted Solar Photovoltaic kits for the Republic of Mauritius	391.11
31	Design, Manufacture, Supply, installation, Testing & Commissioning of Two MW 60 MWH Battery Energy Storage System	2,000.00
Other works		
32	Procurement for Fit-Out works and Site Embellishment of NECA Head Office	39.00
33	Pailles Guibies Sewerage Project Phase 3 contract WN 509 W- Construction of Trunk Sewer Reticulation Network and CWA Connections	295.13
34	Pailles Guibies Sewerage Project Phase 4 contract WN 510 W- Framework Agreement for Design and Construction of House Connections in the Regions of Pailles	240.00
35	Procurement for fit-out Works and Site Embellishment at NECA Head Office	39.00
36	Procurement for the construction of Concrete Drain along Poudrière Street, Port Louis	48.63
37	Operation and Maintenance of Roche Bois Transfer station and Transportation of Wastes from Roche Bois Transfer station to Mare Chicose Landfill	253.57
38	Construction of Drains and Culverts/Bridges in Rodrigues Lot 1	141.70
39	Drainworks at Rue Couvent (Along tout Court Lance and Elias Coowar Lane) Curepipe in constituency 17- Phase I	132.58
40	Proposed cut off Drain at NHDC Jasmin, Curepipe Phase I	171.63
Goods		
41	Design, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Ten 66/22 Kv GIS substations	5,802.65
42	Supply, Testing, Commissioning of 6 Units of Vacuum Road Sweeper Trucks for cleaning of Roads	90.00
43	Proposed Procurement of 100 Buses by the National Transport Corporation	400.00
44	Procurement of Orthopedic Implants for all Hospitals for 2 years-2024 to 2026	610.21
45	Framework Agreement for Construction and Installation of Traffic and Road Safety Devices	750.61
Consultancy		
	NIL	

No.	Description	Estimated Cost (MUR Million)
Other Services		
46	Procurement of Services for street cleaning, Refuse Collection, and disposal including Carting Away of Post Cyclonic Waste for Lots 1 and 2 in the City Council of Port Louis	101.49
47	Procurement of Services for Street Cleaning, Refuse Collection and Disposal, Cleaning of Market/Fair, Public Places and Public Toilets including Carting Away of Post Cyclonic Wastes for the period of 36 months	143.28
48	Procurement of Services for Street Cleaning, Refuse Collection and Disposal including Carting Away of Post Cyclonic Waste for Lot 1 and Lot 2 for 36 months	201.67
49	Procurement of Security Services at Youth and Sports Infrastructures	63.91
50	General Sanitation, Street Cleaning Collection, and Carting Away of solid waste at Mahebourg Village, Beau Vallon Village, Ville Noire, Residence La Chaux, and Blue Bay Localities including carting away of post-cyclonic wastes for the period of February 2024 to 31 January 2027	101.19
51	Beach cleaning, Refuse Collection, Maintenance of Toilet and Provision of Watchmanship services on Main Public Beaches for Lots 1,2 & 3 for a period of three years	256.38
52	Supply and Distribution of Enhanced meals to ZEP Schools of Education	66.37
53	Procurement of Laundry Services for Hospital Clothing for a period of three (3) years	354.25
54	Procurement of Services for Street Cleaning, Refuse Collection and Disposal of Waste Including Carting Away of Post Cyclonic Waste for the Villages of Mahebourg, Beau Vallon, Ville Noire, Residence La Chaux and Blue Bay localities for a period of 24 months	94.32
55	Procurement of services for street cleaning, Refuse Collection and Disposal including carting away of Post Cyclonic waste	144.16

4.2 Status of Projects

As at 30 June 2024, the status of the 55 projects received is as follows:

Table 4 - Status of Received Procurement Projects

Description	Count
Approval of Award	8
Non-Approval of Award	7
Returned to Public Body	4
Procurement to be conducted by Public Body	1
Awaiting missing documents/revised documents/clearance/replies	11
In abeyance/ delayed	-
Evaluation not carried out	1
No bids received	2
In Process	21
TOTAL	55

Eight (8) projects were approved for award of contracts by the Board. The Bidding Documents for 4 projects were returned to the respective public bodies either at the vetting stage or after the opening of bids. One project was returned as the procurement exercise needs to be conducted by the Public Body.

For 11 projects, missing documents, revised bidding documents, financial clearance, or replies from public bodies/PPO/ State Law Office were being awaited. No project was kept in abeyance. Evaluation was not carried out for one (1) project. No bids were received for two (2) projects. No approval of award of contract was conveyed for seven (7) projects as the bids were either abnormally high or non-responsive to the requirements of bids.

For the projects still in process as at 30 June 2024, four (4) were at the vetting stage; eleven (11) were at the advertising stage; two (2) were under evaluation and four (4) projects were awaiting approval/decision of the Board.

PROJECTS IN PROCESS AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

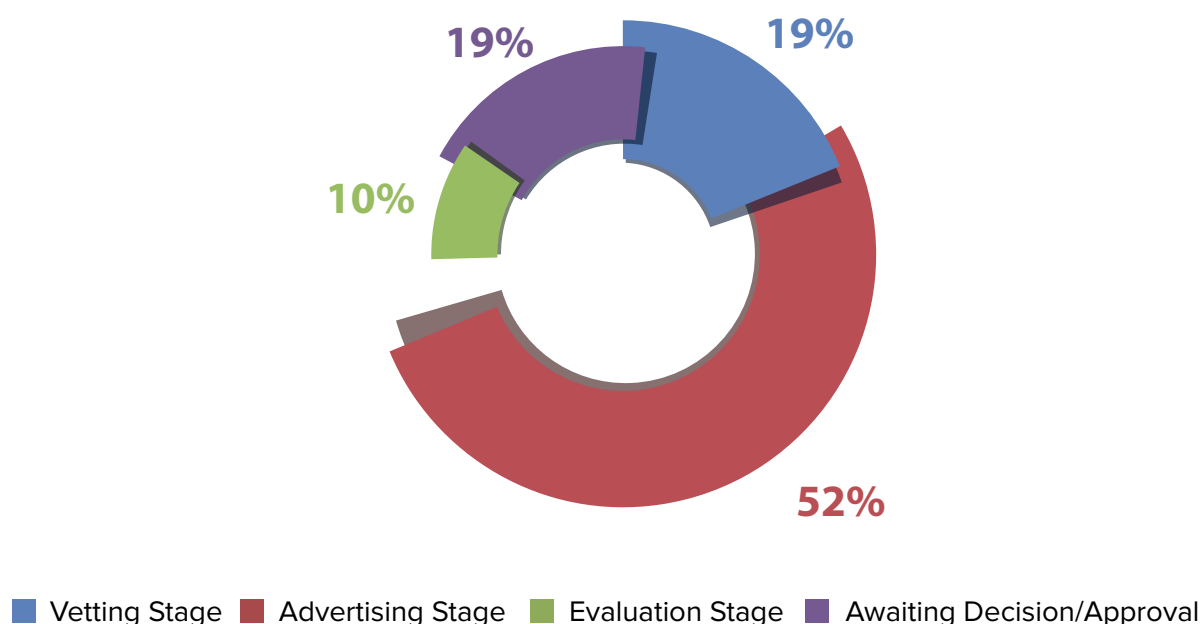


Figure 2 - Projects Still in Process

4.3 Vetting of Bidding Documents

Table 5 - Vetting of Bidding Documents

Vetting of Bidding Documents	2022-2023	2023-2024
No. of Bidding Documents	51	50
Total Vetting Duration (Days)	2,167	3,283
Average Vetting Duration (Days)	42	66

A total of 50 bidding documents were vetted during the financial year 2023-2024. The overall total vetting duration, which is measured as the number of days as from the date of receipt of all information required including the complete set of Draft Bidding Documents up to its approval by the board, for all 50 projects was 3,283 days. The average vetting period per bidding document was 66 days.

One of the core functions of the Board is to vet bidding documents and notices submitted to it by public bodies. This exercise is done in-house, by the Technical Team comprising Engineers and Officers of the Central Procurement Cadre. For complex projects where there is a dearth of in-house expertise, the Board has recourse to the services of professionals or technical experts, as provided under Section 12(1)(d) of the PPA.

4.4 Public Bid Opening Sessions

Table 6 - Public Bid Opening Sessions, 2022-2023 & 2023-2024

Public Bid Opening Sessions	2022-2023	2023-2024
Number of Sessions	54	40
Total No. of Bids received	175	143
Median	3	3

A total of 40 Bid Opening Sessions were held during the Financial Year 2023-2024. The total number of bids received was 143. The median number of bids received was 3. The lowest number of bids received for a project during the financial year was 1 while the maximum was 13.

The bidding methods used for major contracts for the procurement of Goods, Works, Consultancy Services, and Other Services are as per the PPA which are:

- Open International Bidding (OIB)
- Open National Bidding (ONB),
- Restricted Bidding (RB), and
- Competitive Negotiations (CN)

Open National Bidding (ONB) was the preferred procurement method for the advertised projects; 76% of all advertised projects used this method.

BIDDING TYPE

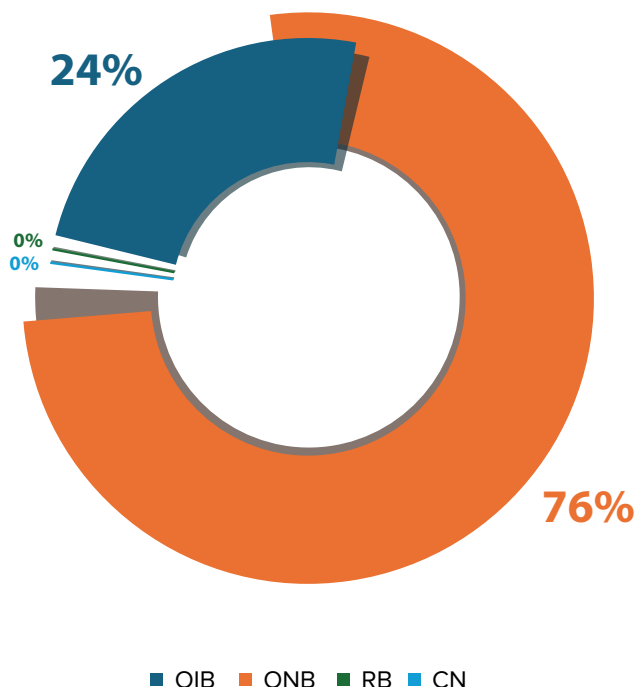


Figure 3- Bidding Method used

4.5 Evaluation of Bids

During the Financial Year 2023-2024, bids received in respect of 42 projects were evaluated for a total number of 1,017 days. The average number of evaluation days is 24.

Table 7 - Evaluation of Procurement Projects, 2022-2023 & 2023-2024

Projects Evaluated	2022-2023	2023-2024
Number of Projects	51	42
Total Evaluation Days	1,114	1,017
Average Evaluation Days	22	24

In a quest to promote transparency, fairness, and equitability, and to expedite the evaluation of Bids received, the CPB has created a database of qualified and competent evaluators. The database contains a wide range of professionals having the necessary competence, expertise, and experience in their respective fields, and from there the Board selects the evaluators according to the nature of the procurement.

To reduce delays, evaluators are chosen based on their qualifications and their availability. That is why the CPB also calls for experienced retired officers who can provide full-time service on a regular basis, thus, completing the evaluation exercise within the set KPI of 15 working days as far as possible. The CPB is confident of achieving this target of 15 days fixed for evaluation. Evaluators are allocated a calculated number of hours which varies from 10 hours to 50 hours depending on the number of Bids received, the value of the projects, and the complexity of the projects/bidding documents to complete their assignments.

In addition, in order not to compromise the quality of the Bid Evaluation Report of complex projects, the CPB hires expert services whenever there is a request from the Bid Evaluation Committee.

4.6 Approval of Award

For the Financial Year ended 30 June 2024, approval of the award of contracts was conveyed for 27 projects, out of which 19 were carried forward from the previous year, with a total contract value of MUR 7.2 billion. The Board approved the award of contracts for 17 Works projects with a total contract value of MUR 5.4 billion. 2 projects for the procurement of Goods with a total contract value of MUR 94 million were also approved for award of contract. The rest of the approvals relate to Other Services (8 projects).

Table 8 – Approved Procurement Projects by Type, 2022/2023 & 2023/2024

Projects Type	2022-2023		2023-2024	
	Count	Contract Value (MUR)	Count	Contract Value (MUR)
Buildings	7	1,224,642,691.00	5	654,926,482.59
Roads & Bridges & Grade Separated Junctions	12	3,736,192,431.00	4	306,422,562.91
Public Utilities	4	667,039,326.00	0	0.00
Other Works	3	654,520,456.00	8	4,475,600,439.36
SUB-TOTAL (WORKS)	26	6,282,394,904.00	17	5,436,949,484.86
Goods	13	3,852,627,903.00	2	94,014,480.00
Consultancy	1	127,454,600.00	0	0.00
Other Services	7	1,100,746,156.00	8	1,627,173,200.12
Grand Total	47	11,363,223,562.00	27	7,158,137,164.98

4.7 Challenges and Appeals

Bidders may challenge the procurement proceedings within five days from either the invitation to bid or from the opening of bids, and seven days following the notification of awards.

Bidders who claim to have suffered, or to be likely to suffer, loss or injury due to a breach of duty imposed by the PPA on a public body or the Board may challenge the procurement proceedings. The challenge must be submitted to the Public Body (PB), as per the provisions laid down in the PPA, within the prescribed time. The Board would then provide the PB materials for reply to the challenge made by the aggrieved bidders. In the absence of a decision by the PB within the prescribed time of seven days or if bidders are still not satisfied with the decision of the PB, they may apply to the Independent Review Panel (IRP) for a review of the procurement proceedings.

For the Financial Year ended 30 June 2024, challenges were received from aggrieved bidders in respect of 4 major contracts. In one case, the aggrieved bidder was satisfied with the reply of the Public Body, and he did not go further, whereas, on the other hand, 6 bidders filed applications for review. The decisions of the IRP have been as follows:

- 4 cases – No merit
- 1 case – To review
- 1 case – re-evaluation



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**Approval of Award of Contracts in
Financial Year 2023-2024**

Approval for award of contracts was made for a total of 27 projects during the financial year 2023-2024. A comprehensive list of the projects approved is provided in the table below.

Table 9 - Approval of Award of Contracts, 2023-2024

SN	Procurement Description	Contract Value (MUR)
Buildings		
1	Construction of a New Fire Station at Goodlands	99,999,999.59
2	New Building for Area Health Centre at Curepipe	117,579,220
3	Framework Agreement for Construction and Upgrading of Amenities and Associated Works for a period of three years.	-
4	Phase 2 of the Construction of Abdool Raman Abdool Government School at Port Louis	124,834,751
5	Procurement of Renovation of Port Louis Theatre Phase II	312,512,512
Roads & Bridges & Grade Separated Junctions		
6	Upgrading of Bridge at Mme Lolo, Rose Belle	71,422,562.91
7	Construction of a Flyover on Motorway M1 at la Vigie (Design and Built/Turnkey)	235,000,000
8	A framework Agreement for the Construction and upgrading of Roads & Associated works for a period of Twenty-four (24) months	-
9	Framework Agreement for Road Maintenance & Minor Works (2023-2026)	-
Public Utilities		
	NIL	
Other Works		
10	Stabilisation Works along B103 at Chamarel	254,105,584.36
11	Construction of Drains and Retaining Walls at Morcellement Hermitage, Coromandel	57,843,885
12	Framework Agreement for Overhead Lines Works	-
13	Framework Agreement for Underground Cable Works	-
14	Operation and Maintenance of La Laura Transfer Station and Transportation of wastes from La Laura Transfer Station to Mare Chicose Landfill	196,641,771
15	Landfill works for Vertical Expansion of the Mare Chicose Landfill and Operations and Post Closure Management of Cells	3,634,999,964
16	Pailles Guibies Sewerage Project Phase 3 contract WN 509 W- Construction of trunk Sewer Reticulation Network and CWA Connections	332,009,235
17	Pailles Guibies Sewerage Project Phase 4 contract WN 510 W- Framework Agreement for Design and Construction of House Connections in the Regions of Pailles	-
Goods		
18	Procurement of Dialysis Consumables kits (For Years 2023-2025)	244,037,236
19	Supply, Testing, and Commissioning of 6 Units of vacuum Road Sweeper Trucks for Cleaning of Roads	94,014,480
Consultancy		
	NIL	

SN	Procurement Description	Contract Value (MUR)
	Buildings	
20	Procurement of Services for Street Cleaning, Refuse Collection and Disposal, Cleaning of Market Fair, Public Places, and Public Toilets including Carting Away of Post Cyclonic Wastes for the period of 36 months	106,806,728.52
21	Watch and Security Services in Schools/Institutions (3 Yrs)	597,445,321.92
22	Procurement of Services for street cleaning, Refuse Collection, and Disposal including Carting Away of Post Cyclonic Waste for Lots 1 and 2 in the City Council of Port Louis	99,000,000.00
23	Procurement of Cleaning and maintenance of Beaches for Lot 1 and Lot 4	92,476,268.00
24	Provision of Security Services for all Hospitals and Other Institutions for a period of Two (2) Years	256,586,881.68
25	Procurement of Security Services at Youth and Sports Infrastructures	72,000,000.00
26	Procurement of Services for street cleaning, Refuse Collection and Disposal, Cleaning of Market/Fair, Public Places, and Public Toilets including Carting Away of Post Cyclonic Wastes for the period of 36 months	164,106,000.00
27	Procurement of Services for Street Cleaning, Refuse Collection, and disposal including Carting Away of Post Cyclonic Waste for Lot 1 and Lot 2 for 36 months	238,752,000.00



*Construction of a New Fire Station at Goodlands
- Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service (MFRS)*



*Construction of a Flyover on Motorway M1 at la Vigie
(Design and Built/Turnkey)
- Road Development Authority (RDA)*



*Construction of Hermitage Bypass
- Road Development Authority (RDA)*



*Pailles Guibies Sewerage Project - Construction of Trunk Sewer, Reticulation
Network and CWA connection works
- Wastewater Management Authority (WMA)*



*Renovation of Port-Louis Theatre Phase II
- Municipal City Council of Port-Louis*

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