



CENTRAL PROCUREMENT BOARD

CENTRAL PROCUREMENT BOARD

Sustainable economy, good governance, and transparency



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

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
ICAC	■	Independent Commission Against Corruption
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
PCPO	■	Principal Central Procurement Officer
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

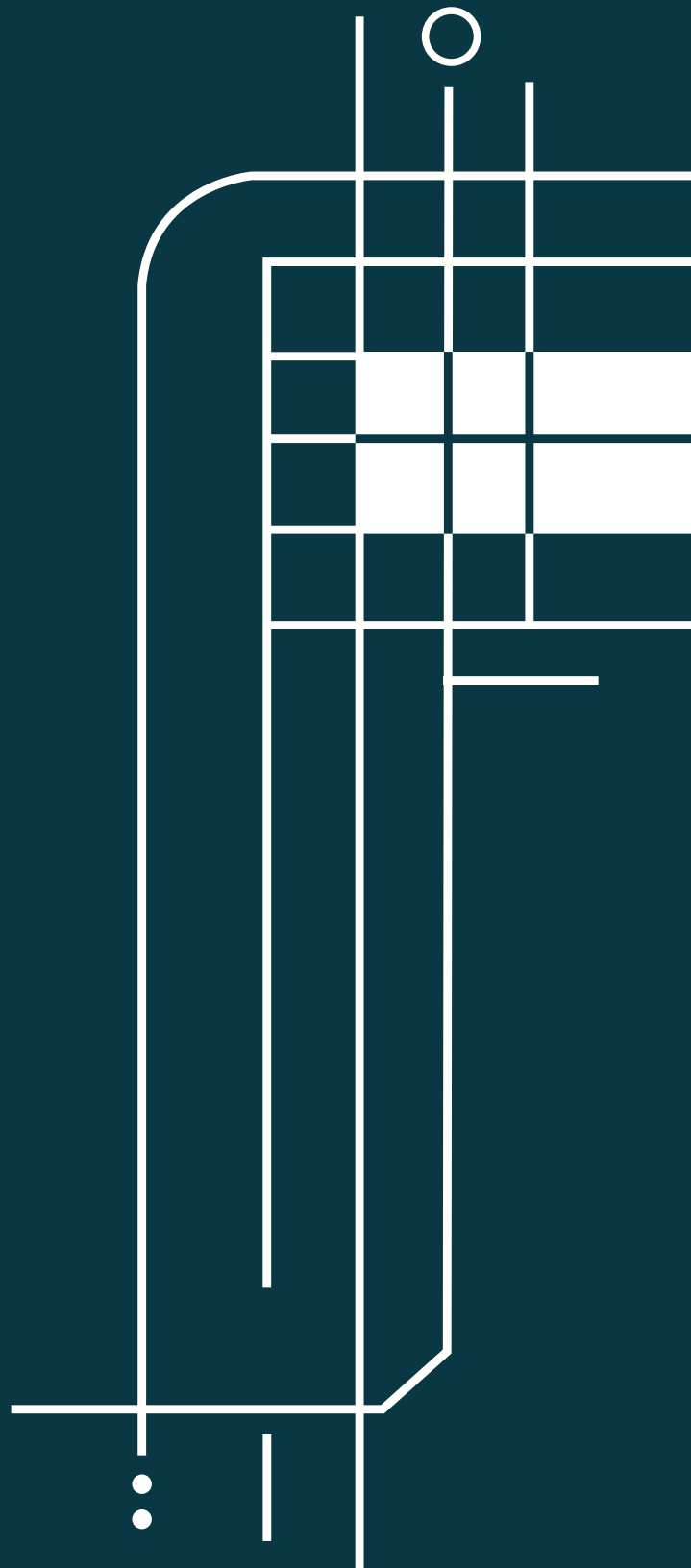
To ensure Value for Money in Public
Procurement and Timely Acquisition through a
Fair, Transparent and Accountable Process



VALUES

Accountability; Ethical Practices; Equality
Fairness; Integrity; Quality; Transparency

Chairperson's Foreword



It is my pleasant duty to present the annual report for the period 1st July 2022 to 30th June 2023, in compliance with Section 8A of the Public Procurement Act (PPA) 2006 as amended, on behalf of the Central Procurement Board (CPB).

I recall that the core duties of the CPB, under the PPA, are the following amongst others: -

- Vet bidding documents and notices submitted to it by Public Bodies;
- Receive and publicly open bids;
- Select persons from a list of qualified evaluators maintained by it to act as members of a bid evaluation committee to oversee the examination and evaluation of bids;
- Review the recommendations of a bid evaluation committee and -
 - (i) approve the award of the contract; or
 - (ii) require the evaluation committee to make a fresh or further evaluation on specific grounds; and
- 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 -
 - (i) approve the variation or amendment proposed;
 - (ii) require the public body to make a fresh recommendation; or
 - (iii) reject the variation or amendment proposed.

These are huge challenges and require qualified and competent personnel as staff and competent persons at the Board level and the PPA 2006 provides for this at Section 8 (1) which requires members with wide experience in legal, administrative, economic, financial, engineering, scientific, or technical matters. There is a reason for this. Most of the bidding documents vetted and award approved by the CPB are for works projects and a knowledge of FIDIC is essential, the General Conditions of Contract, the evaluation criteria etc. are required to scrutinize them to confirm that such documents are fit for purpose, and the project as prepared represents the best value for money and that selection criteria are fair to all those concerned to ensure that award is made to the lowest evaluated substantially responsive bids.

Therefore, the role incumbent on the CPB is to ensure all stakeholders, the Public Bodies, the service providers, and the public at large are totally comfortable and have confidence in the transparent 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 is to deliver with the highest ethics, transparency, and accountability so as to command the respect and trust of the International Communities as the best place on the planet to do business.

Aiming high through innovation

CPB had during this period engaged with all stakeholders in the procurement landscape to share the totally transparent checks and balances that are built into the procurement process throughout, from the moment a bid document is received from the Public Body (PB) until it is floated, bid is received, and the recommendation for award is made. We also inform the stakeholders of their rights to challenge or still appeal against a decision if they are not satisfied, as well as provide reasons for their unsuccessful bids, on request (Section 41 of the PPA).

We are constantly working hard, engaging with public bodies to improve the quality of bidding documents to reduce the number of clarifications and or amendments that are made, which inevitably lead to undue delays.

Another issue of great concern to the Board is the cost estimate. Any bids received for Works projects which are higher by 15% are deemed to be abnormally high under Directives 61 and similarly, any bids received which are 15% lower are deemed to be abnormally low and therefore cannot be awarded. However, Directive 61B now provides for negotiations when bid prices are within 15% to 25% higher than the cost estimate. If the cost estimates were 100% correct and truly reflected market prices, then there should have been no issue. However, the reality is that market prices are highly volatile and for bidders to confirm firm prices over a period of one year is very difficult and indeed unfair. There is a need to revisit this policy.

Some Statistics

Despite all the constraints and challenges the CPB :-

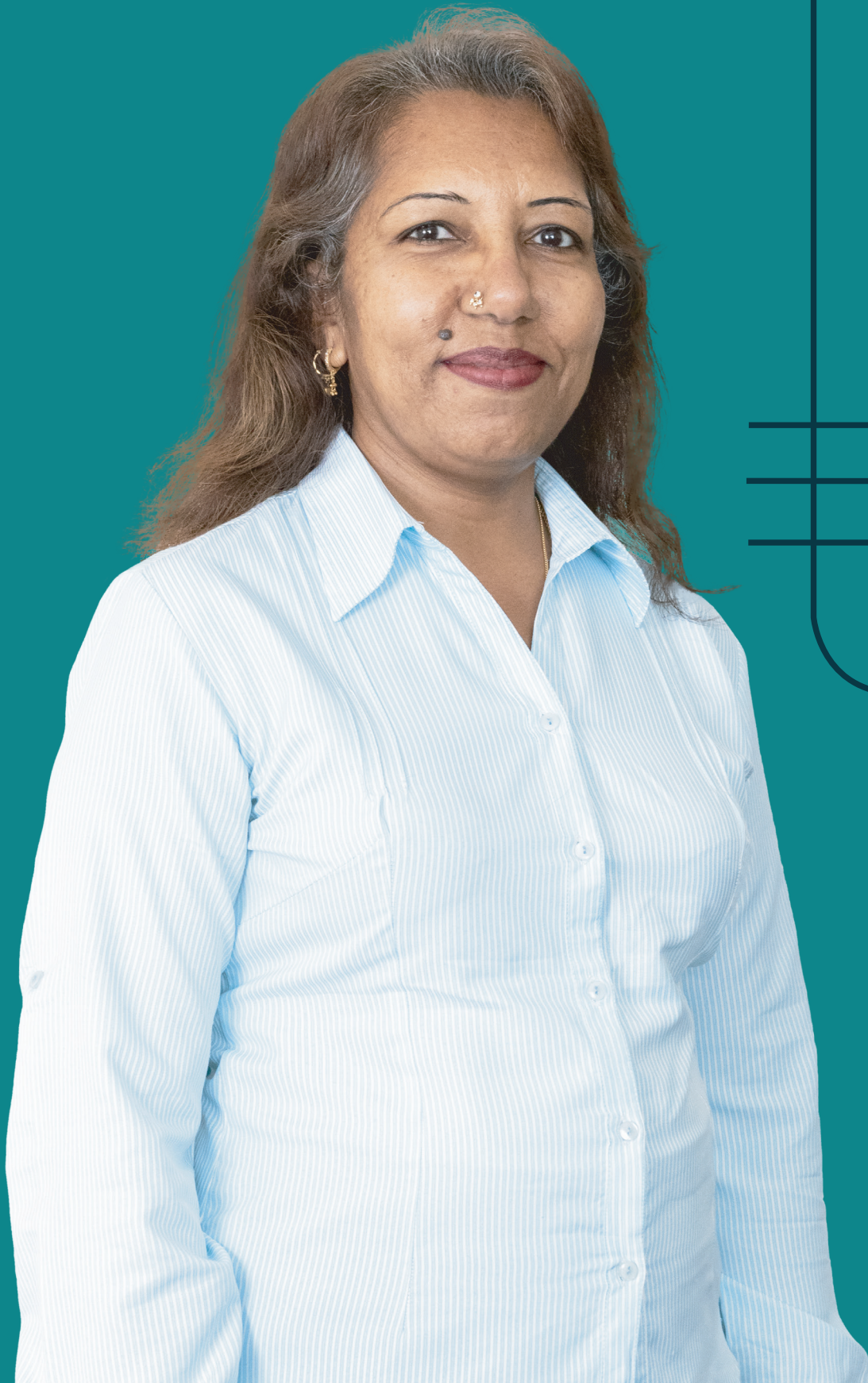
- (i) 93 formal Board meetings;
- (ii) 71 ad-hoc Board meetings;
- (iii) 30 meetings with Public Bodies, mostly for vetting of bid documents;
- (iv) 3 Regular periodic meetings with the PPO; and
- (v) effected 2 site visits to sites of major works, for a better understanding of the projects by the Board Members and senior staff.

For the year under report, the number of procurement projects received was 73 for a value of 22.3 billion rupees. The comparative figures for 2021/2022 and 2020/2021 were 71 projects for a value of 30.4 billion and 85 projects for a value of 28.6 billion, respectively. The figures show that despite the various sanitary restrictions and associated constraints the CPB was fully operational and delivered on its obligations.

To conclude I wish to thank everyone, who in one way or another, has fully collaborated to making the procurement process transparent, fair, and equitable for all.

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

Chief Executive's Report



It is a humble privilege to present the Annual Report of the CPB for the Financial Year 2022-2023.

First of all, I would like to thank Mr. Dinesh Mannick, who retired as Chief Executive on 29 April 2023. He has contributed significantly to the development and growth of the organisation. His expertise and experience have been an asset to the organisation and members of the staff.

There have been quite some changes in the conduct of our operations at the CPB with a view to offering better and more efficient services to our stakeholders. First of all, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the Chairperson and Board Members for their unflinching support. I also extend my sincere gratitude to all staff members, who in one way or the other, have given me their full collaboration ever since I took the helm, albeit in an acting capacity of the organisation. I also extend my warmest wishes to all our esteemed Evaluators and other stakeholders who have always worked in close partnership with us.

With the Government investing massively in public infrastructure and other projects, there has been a pressing need to bring technological advancements within the organisation in an endeavour to be in line with international standards.

The Government's vision being to digitalise its Ministries and services, the CPB has followed suit. It is with pleasure that I have to announce, that since last year, E-Procurement is now a reality in our organisation. This facilitates the submission and receipt of bids and the processing thereafter. The CPB has achieved an important milestone and will continue to grow on that path.

The evaluators, registered with the CPB, are usually offered a full induction to our working systems and in the near future, evaluators will be provided full training on evaluation systems for the various fields of projects as each has its own peculiarities. This endeavour will help to standardise the evaluation process. The objective of the CPB is to also standardise all operations in view of being ISO certified, which we have embarked recently.

The CPB has during the Financial Year 2022-2023 managed 73 projects, which are estimated at a worth of MUR 22.3 Billion. The CPB has incurred operational costs of MUR 62,414,328.13 for 2022-2023 compared to MUR 58,542,679.68 for 2021-2022.

The CPB has, with the collaboration of Public Bodies and Foreign Agencies, achieved a very smooth flowing process so as to avoid undue delays to the execution of bids. The CPB has been constantly interacting with public bodies through working sessions with the aim of improving quality in the submission of bidding documents.

It is always the 'credo' of the CPB to invite the Public Bodies to ensure that all cost estimates are updated and realistic based on the current market trends. A realistic cost estimate is crucial for the success of any bidding exercise.

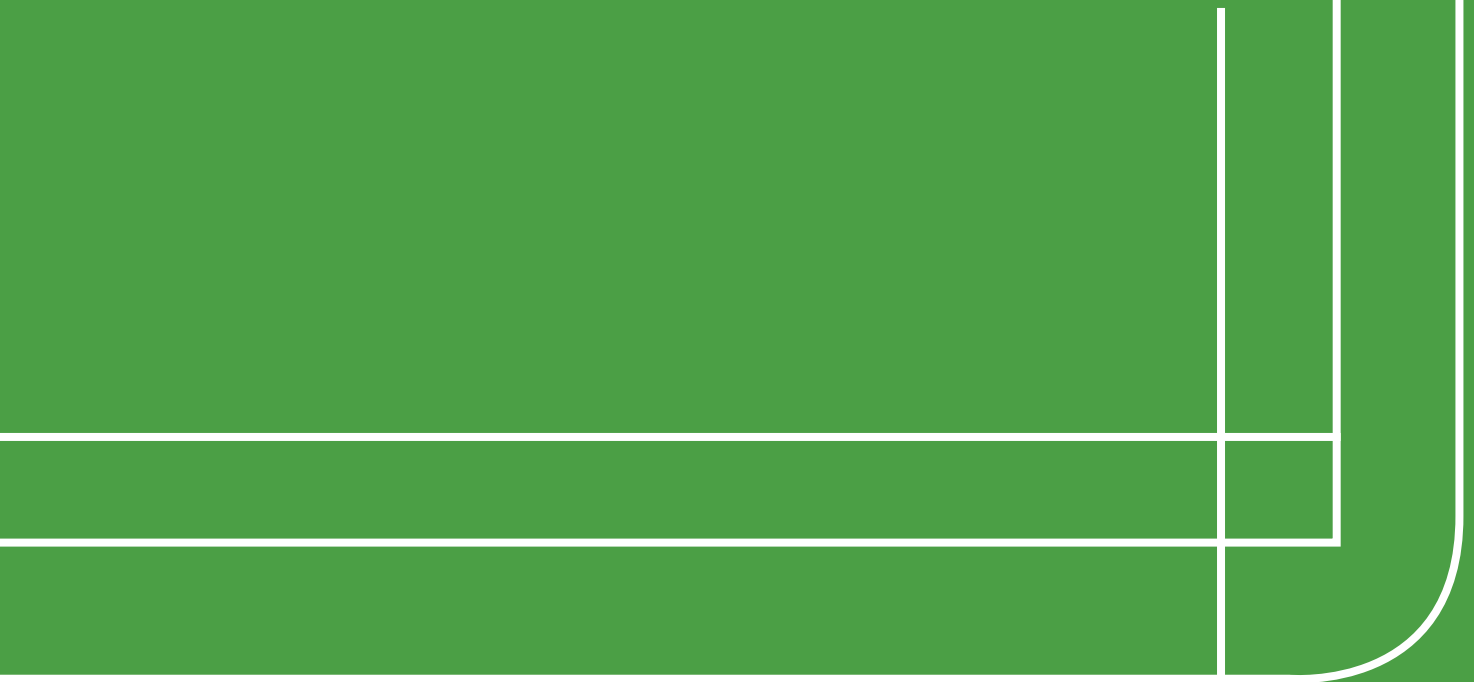
For the coming financial year, various challenges are awaiting us and the CPB, as an independent organisation, has the necessary resources and attitude to face them all, with the collaboration of the Board, staff, Public Bodies and stakeholders.

Renouka Devi CHETTIAR
Acting Chief Executive

From 10 May 2023 to 02 November 2023

**CENTRAL
PROCUREMENT
BOARD**

01



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 Act. 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 organisation. 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.

1.1 BOARD MEMBERS



Mr. Raj Hemansing PRAYAG,
G.O.S.K, PDSM

Chairperson



Mr. Swaminathan RAGEN

Vice-Chairperson



Mr. Chittaman JUGROO

Vice-Chairperson



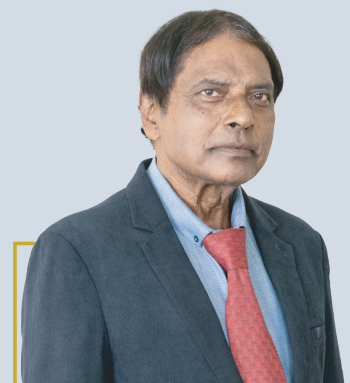
Mr. François SENEQUE

Member



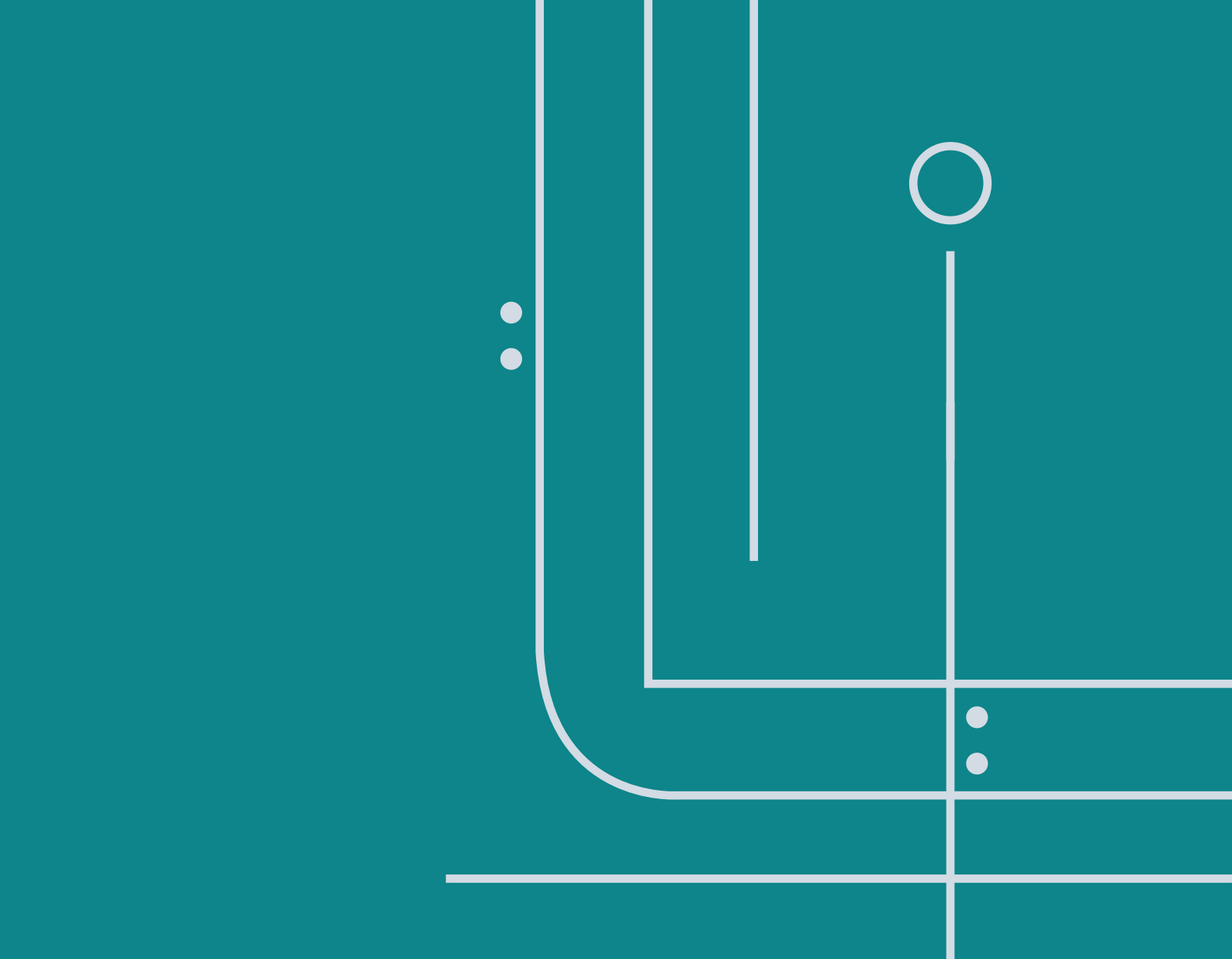
**Mr. Abdool Samad
SAIRALLY**

Member



**Mr. Dyaneshwar
RAMDHONY**

Member



Meeting of the Board for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

During the financial year 2022-2023, the Board met almost every Monday and Thursday. The Board held the following number of meetings as shown below:

- (i) 93 formal Board meetings;
- (ii) 71 ad-hoc Board meetings;
- (iii) 30 meetings with Public Bodies, mostly for vetting of bidding documents; and
- (iv) 3 Regular periodic meetings with the PPO.

CPB's Management and Staff

02



The Management

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 and the Secretary of the Board.



Dinesh MANNICK

Chief Executive up to April 2023



Renouka Devi CHETTIAR

Manager and Acting Chief Executive as from 10 May 2023



Rajnee RAMJUTTUN

Assistant Manager & Acting Deputy Chief Executive as from 10 May 2023

The Chief Executive manages the day-to-day operations as well as implements the Board's decisions. He/she has also the task of preparing and submitting papers to the Board for decisions and apprising the Board of all important matters that require consideration.

The Chief Executive is supported by a Deputy Chief Executive in the discharge of his/her duties.

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



Beebee Farida ABDUL

Assistant Manager



Central Procurement Officers / Senior Central Procurement Officers

By the end of June 2023, there were a total of 52 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 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 organisation through enhanced productivity.

The Registry Unit like in any other organisations, 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 organisational 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, minimising 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 as 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, Principal Central Procurement Officers, 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 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.

Financial Information

03



The CPB has incurred a total expenditure amounting to MUR 62.4 million for the Financial Year 2022-2023. Staff costs constituted the major part (65.3 %) of the CPB's total expenditure. Fees paid to members of Bid Evaluation Committees have decreased from MUR 6.4 million in 2021-2022 to MUR 6.0 million in 2022-2023.

TABLE 1 – Financial Information

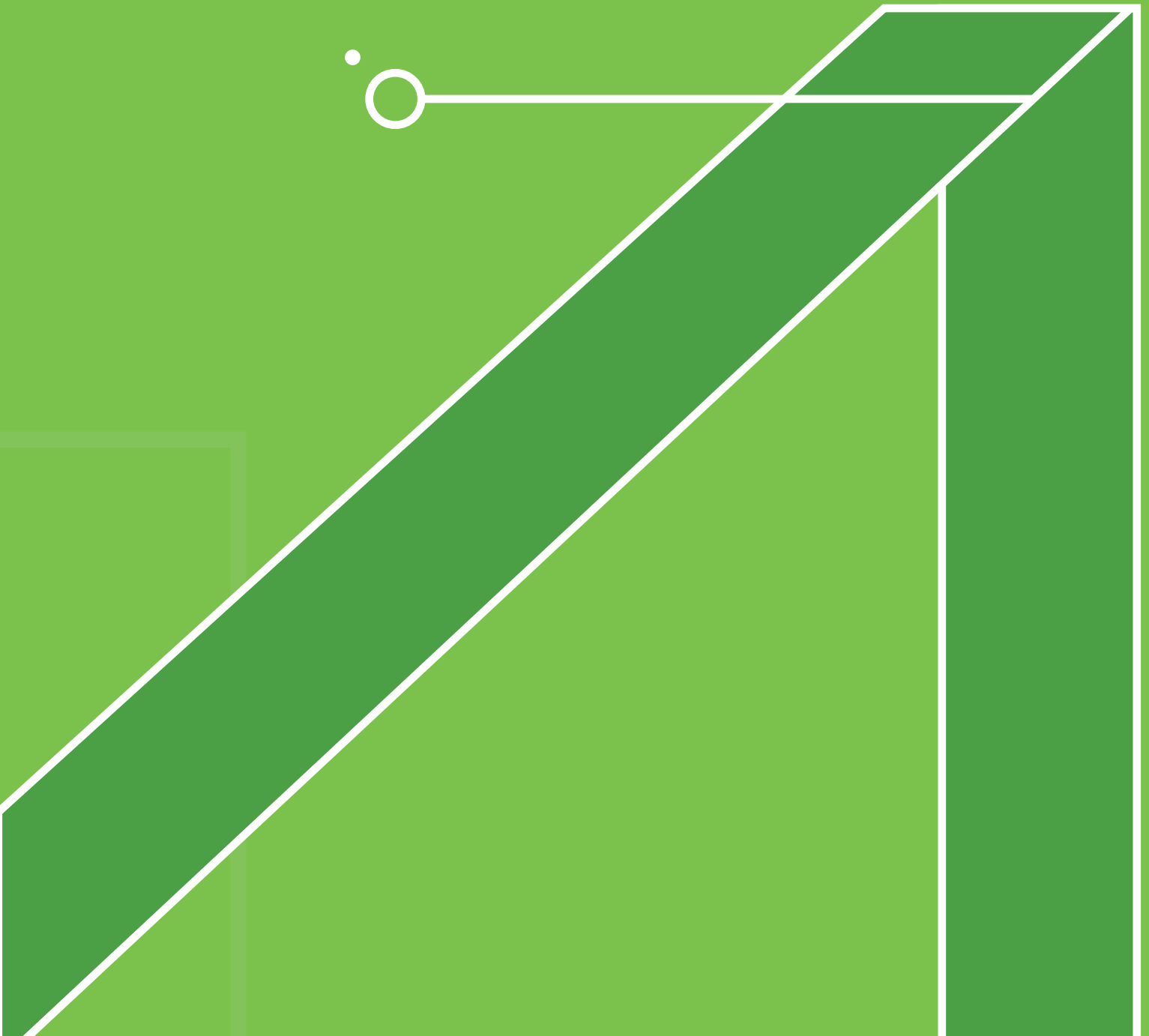
SN	ITEMS	AMOUNT (MUR)		
		Financial year 2021 - 2022	Financial year 2022 - 2023	Estimates Financial year 2023 - 2024
1	Staff Costs	38,220,001.90	40,692,698.64	47,300,000.00
2	Evaluation Fees	6,436,463.75	6,000,461.65	9,000,000.00
3	Rental of Premises, Furniture and Fittings and other Utilities Cost	8,330,300.88	8,923,038.22	10,410,000.00
4	Office Sundry Expenses and Postages	663,796.76	465,092.78	540,000.00
5	Maintenance of - Building, IT Equipment including server, Vehicles & Others	1,960,676.91	3,912,921.44	2,095,000.00
6	Printing & Stationeries, Books & Periodicals, and Publications	1,345,733.14	1,221,802.25	1,050,000.00
7	Other Recurrent Expenditure (Training Fees, Uniforms, Cleaning Expenses Hospitality & Ceremonies, Legal Fee)	239,828.00	261,422.35	705,000.00
8	Acquisition of IT Equipment	1,345,878.34	936,890.80	3,800,000.00
	TOTAL	58,542,679.68	62,414,328.13	74,900,000.00

The total expenditure for the Financial Year 2022/2023 has increased by 6.6 % (Rs 3.8 M) due to the following reasons:

- Increase in salary due to increment and compensation 2022; more officers eligible for PRB Travelling and increase in bus fares.
- The Lease Contract for the building, that is CPB Offices at Social Security House, Rose-Hill has been renewed since February 2023. The rent has increased by 6.95%.
- Purchase of heavy-duty printer and part payment for the new server.
- Increase in market prices in general resulting in a rise cost of procuring items of expenditure.

**USEFUL
STATISTICS**

04



4.1. PROJECTS RECEIVED

During the 2022-2023 financial year, the CPB received 73 projects out of which 70 were received online through the e-Procurement System.

The total estimated cost of the projects received was MUR 22.3 billion, as detailed below:

TABLE 2 – Procurement Projects Received by Type

Project Type	2021/2022		2022/2023	
	Count	Contract Value (MUR Million)	Count	Contract Value (MUR Million)
Buildings	14	2,276.00	13	2,714.75
Roads, Bridges & Grade Separated Junctions	11	11,781.00	18	6,684.19
Public Utilities	17	12,161.90	3	615.27
Other Works	7	1,012.40	9	5,735.53
SUB-TOTAL (WORKS)	49	27,231.30	43	15,749.74
Goods	13	17,838.90	18	4,265.30
Consultancy	1	125.50	1	60.00
Other Services	8	1,165.80	11	2,260.80
GRAND TOTAL	71	30,361.50	73	22,335.84

43 of the received projects were Works projects with a total estimated cost of MUR 15.7 billion. Goods projects represent 24.6% of all received projects, with a total estimated cost of MUR 4.3 billion. The projects received during the financial year are listed, thereafter:

TABLE 3 – List of Received Procurement Projects

No.	Description	Estimated Cost (MUR Million)
Buildings		
1	Construction of Residence Mon Reve, Clos Verger (Project cancelled and relaunched)	299.23
2	Construction of 50 Housing Units and Associated Infrastructural works at Village Vingt-Cinq and Ste Rita, Agaléga (Project cancelled and relaunched)	348.84
3	Construction of New Area Health Centre at Bambous	82.90
4	Construction of a Multipurpose Sports Complex/Gymnasium at Stanley, Rose Hill	96.71
5	Construction of Residence Mon Reve, Clos Verger	299.23

6	Design-Build/ Turnkey Contract for Construction of 144 Housing Units and Associated Infrastructure Works at Mont Gout	492.52
7	Construction of New Laboratory Block at John Kennedy College, Beau Bassin	100.92
8	Phase 2 of the Construction of the Abdool Rahman Abdool Government School at Port Louis	113.99
9	Construction of 50 Housing Units & Associated Infrastructure at Village Vingt Cinq & Ste Rita, Agaléga	351.68
10	Design & Build of a Reinforced Concrete Indoor Futsal with Steel Roof Structure at Ebene	29.70
11	Construction of a New Fire Station at Goodlands	105.34
12	New Building for Area Health Centre at Curepipe	122.22
13	Procurement of Renovation of Port Louis Theatre Phase II	271.46

No.	Description	Estimated Cost (MUR Million)
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Roads & Bridges & Grade Separated Junctions		
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14	Upgrading of B28 Road (Lot 3 - Phase 2) from Beau Champ to Bel Air	121.73
15	Upgrading of Bridge at Mme Lolo Road, Rose Belle	76.39
16	Maintenance, Upgrading, Resurfacing and Construction of Roads in Rodrigues - Year 2022-2024	287.31
17	Resurfacing of Roads with Premix Asphalt (District Council Moka)	24.96
18	Construction of Rose-Hill Cycle Network (Phase I)	49.56
19	Construction of a Bridge at Baie Du Tombeau (In lieu of Pont Bruniquel)	136.05
20	Construction of Flic-en Flac Bypass from Xavier to Pierrefonds	1,125.00
21	Upgrading of Savanne Road (A9) From La Flora to Tyack	365.18
22	Construction of Hermitage Bypass	247.61
23	Procurement of the construction of about 10 km of Track Roads including footpaths and Civil Works in Rodrigues - Year 2022-2023	64.45
24	A framework Agreement for Construction and upgrading of Roads & Associated works for a period of Twenty four (24) months (National Development Unit)	700.35
25	Reconstruction of Beau Champs Bridge at Bel Ombre (Design-Built/Turnkey) (Single Stage, Two Envelopes)	151.80
26	Stabilisation Works along B103 Road at Chamarel	260.70
27	Framework Agreement for Road Reinstatement and ancillary works for Zone 1,2 & 3 for a duration of Two (2) Years (Central Water Authority)	916.38
28	Construction of a Flyover on Motorway M1 At La Vigie (Design-Built/Turnkey)	245.00
29	Construction of an emergency Escape Ramp with a mechanical Arrester system for runaway Heavy Goods Vehicles along Motorway M3, Valton (Design Built/Turkey) (LTR)	75.00
30	Design, Demolition and Reconstruction of Bridge at Gentilly, Moka	36.72
31	Framework Agreement for Road Maintenance & Minor Works (2023-2026) (Road Development Authority)	1,800.00

No.	Description	Estimated Cost (MUR Million)
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Public Utilities		
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32	Procurement of 3000 x 2.0 Kwac Grid-Tie Roof-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Kits for Home Solar Project in the Republic of Mauritius	330.00
33	Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commission of a 2 Mvac, floating solar photovoltaic farm at Tamarin Falls Reservoir, Republic of Mauritius	120.00
34	Sewerage Project at Cite La Ferme, Bambous - Competitive Negotiation	165.27

No.	Description	Estimated Cost (MUR Million)
Other works		
35	Operation and Maintenance of La Laura Transfer station and Transportation of wastes from La Laura Transfer Station to Mare Chicose Landfill (Project cancelled and relaunched)	152.91
36	Construction of Reinforced Concrete and Absorption Drains within The Township of Quatre Bornes	57.49
37	Operation, Management and Maintenance of Interim Storage Facility for Hazardous Wastes at La Chaumiere, Mauritius	304.94
38	Operation and Maintenance of La Laura Transfer Station and Transportation of Wastes from La Laura Transfer Station to Mare Chicose Landfill (Ministry of Environment)	171.01
39	Landfill works for Vertical Expansion of the Mare Chicose Landfill, and Operations and Post Closure Management of Cells	3,892.47
40	Construction of Drains and Retaining Walls at Morcellement Hermitage Coromandel (Municipality of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill)	52.70
41	Framework Agreement for Overhead Lines Works (Central Electricity Board)	200.00
42	Framework Agreement for Underground Cable Works (Central Electricity Board)	525.00
43	Coastal Protection Works including Construction of a Waterfront at Deux Frères	379.01
No.	Description	Estimated Cost (MUR Million)
Goods		
44	Supply, Testing and Commissioning of Oil Spill Combat Equipment	83.82
45	Procurement of Medical Gas for all hospitals (2022-2024)	131.65
46	Procurement of Drugs used for Ophthalmology (General) for Financial Year 2022-2023 (Annual Requirement)	78.67
47	Procurement of Drugs used for Ophthalmology (Critical) for Financial Year 2022-2023 (Annual Requirement)	80.72
48	Procurement of Gas oil for five (5) Depots of the National Transport Corporation- Under framework Agreement	758.20
49	Procurement of Light Diesel (Gas oil) for period January 2023 to December 2025 (Under Framework Agreement)	162.00
50	Supply & Commissioning of Double Cab Pick Up Vans	133.70
51	Procurement of Liquefied Petroleum Gas for a Period of three years (2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025) for all Hospitals	57.76
52	Procurement of Cardiovascular System Oral Drugs for Financial Year 2022-2023	63.29
53	Procurement of Vaccines EPI for Financial Year 2022-2023 (Annual Requirement)	131.83
54	Procurement of Gas oil for CHCL for a period of Three Years (Under Framework Agreement)	300.00
55	Procurement of Secure Wireless Lan (WIFI) Infrastructure in Secondary Schools and Public Libraries	147.80
56	Procurement, Installation, Configuration & Commissioning of an Automatic Fingerprint Identification System (Police Department)	88.00
57	Procurement of Gas oil for the five (5) Depots of the National Transport Corporation (Under Framework Agreement)	1,137.31
58	Procurement of Ophthalmology for S.B Eye Hospital and New Souillac Hospital	86.14
59	Procurement of Dialysis Consumables kits (For Years 2023-2025)	275.00
60	Supply of Petroleum Products over a period of Thirty-six (36) Months under Framework Agreement (Ministry of National Infrastructure)	522.00
61	Procurement of Invasive Cardiology-Angioplasty Consumables for Trust Fund for Specialised Medical Care-Cardiac Centre	27.45

No.	Description	Estimated Cost (MUR Million)
Consultancy		
62	Consulting Services for the supervision of the works and operations in relation to the Vertical Expansion at the Mare Chicose Landfill (Project returned to Public Body) (Ministry of Environment)	60.00

No.	Description	Estimated Cost (MUR Million)
Other Services		
63	Procurement of Services for Street Cleaning, Refuse Collection and Disposal, including Carting away of Post-Cyclonic Waste for Lot 6 - Year 2022-2025 (Municipal Council of Port-Louis)	28.00
64	Procurement of Security Services for CWA	218.46
65	Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of Land Administration and Valuation Information Management System - LAVIMS 2.0 (Ministry of Housing)	185.00
66	Procurement of Services for Street Cleaning, Refuse Collection and Disposal, Cleaning of Market/Fair, Public Places, Public Toilets etc., including Carting Away of Post Cyclonic Waste for year 2023 to 2026 for (i) Lot 1 Goodlands (ii) Lot 2 Riviere du Rempart	153.12
67	Watch and Security Services in Schools/Institutions (3 Years)	722.88
68	Procurement for the Cleaning Services for Toilets Blocks/Premises, Toilet, Bathrooms and Sluices in all Hospitals and Other Health Institutions	156.08
69	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 (District Council of Pamplemousses)	183.32
70	Provision of Security Services for all Hospitals and other Institutions for a period of Two (2) Years	223.05
71	Procurement of Laundry Services for Hospital Clothing for a period of Three (3) Years	205.49
72	Procurement of Cleaning and Maintenance of Toilet Blocks on Beaches for Lots 1, 2 & 4 (Ministry of Environment)	104.71
73	Procurement of Cleaning of Beaches for Lot 1 and Lot 4 (Ministry of Environment)	80.68

As at 30 June 2023, the status of the 73 received projects was as follows:

TABLE 4 – Status of Received Procurement Projects

Description	Count
Approval of Award	24
Non-Approval of Award	1
Returned to Public Body	4
Procurement to be conducted by Public Body	4
Awaiting missing documents/revised documents/clearance/replies	13
In abeyance/ delayed	-
Evaluation stopped	-
In Process	27
Total	73

27 projects were still in process as at 30 June 2023 (see Figure 1 for a more detailed breakdown of projects still in progress) either at the vetting, bidding, or evaluation stage or were awaiting approval/decision. Documents for 4 projects were returned to the respective public bodies either at the vetting stage or after the public opening of bids. In the case of 4 projects, the public body informed the CPB that they would conduct the procurement exercise at their level, due to change in the threshold for procurement. For 13 projects, missing documents, revised bidding documents, financial clearance or replies from public bodies, the PPO or the Attorney General were being awaited. No approval for the award of the contract was conveyed for 1 project.

For the projects still in process as at 30 June 2023, 15 were at the vetting stage; 6 were at the advertising stage and another 6 were under evaluation.

PROJECTS IN PROCESS AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

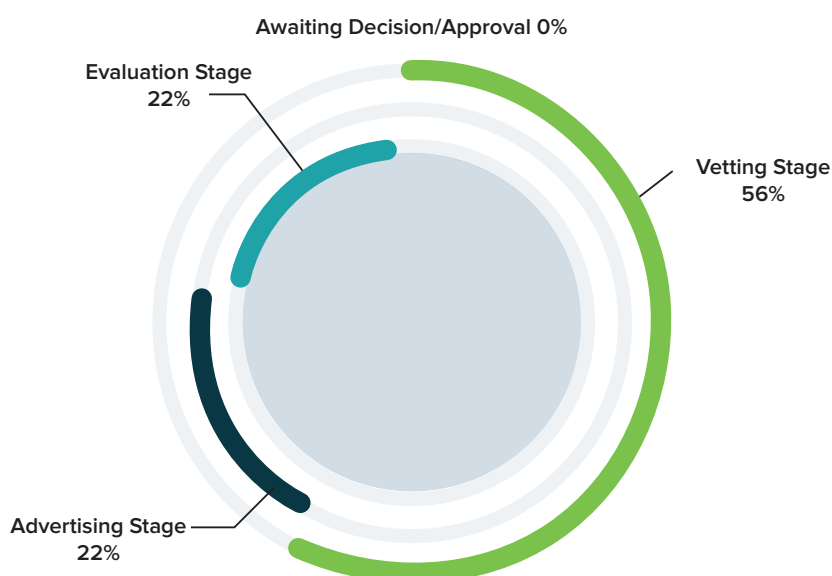


Figure 1 - Projects Still In Process

4.2. Vetting of Bidding Documents

TABLE 5 – Vetting of Bidding Documents

Vetting of Bidding Documents	2021-2022	2022-2023
No. of Bidding Documents	62	51
Total Vetting Duration (Days)	3,012	2,167
Average Vetting Duration (Days)	49	42

A total of 51 bidding documents were vetted during the financial year. The overall total vetting duration, which is measured as the number of days from the date of receipt of all requested information including comprehensive DBD up to its approval by the board, for all 51 projects was 2,167 days. The average vetting period per bidding document was 42 days.

One of the prime 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 the CPB does not have the necessary competencies in-house, the Board seeks the services of professionals or technical experts, as allowed under the provisions of Section 12(1)(d) of the PPA.

4.3. Public Bid Opening Sessions

TABLE 6 – Public Bid Opening Sessions

Public Bid Opening Sessions	2021-2022	2022-2023
Number of Sessions	53	54
Total No. of Bids received	236	175
Median	3	3

A total of 54 bid opening sessions (including 47 under e-procurement) took place during the 2022-2023 financial year. The total number of bids received was 175. 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 17.

The bidding methods used for the procurement of major contracts for Goods, Works, Consultancy

Services, and Other Services are as per the provisions at Section 15 of the PPA 2006 and are as follows:

- Open Advertised Bidding (OAB);
- Open International Bidding (OIB);
- Open National Bidding (ONB);
- Restricted Bidding (RB); and
- Competitive Negotiation.

Open National Bidding (ONB) was the preferred procurement method for the advertised projects; 54% of all advertised projects used this method.

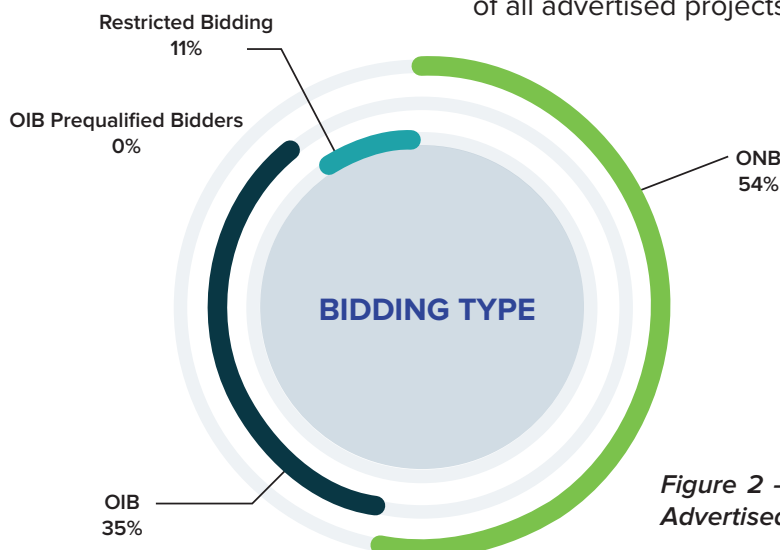


Figure 2 - Procurement Method for Advertised Projects

4.4. Evaluation

During the financial year 2022-2023, bids were evaluated for 51 projects for a total number of 1,114 days. The average number of evaluation days was 22.

TABLE 7 – Evaluation of Procurement Projects

Projects Evaluated	2021-2022	2022-2023
Number of Projects	56	51
Total Evaluation Days	1,341	1,114
Average Evaluation Days	24	22

In a quest to promote transparency, fairness, and equitability, and to expedite the evaluation of Bids received, the CPB has updated its 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 which the Board selects the evaluators according to the nature of the Bids.

To reduce delays in evaluation, evaluators are chosen based on their qualifications and their availability. That is why the CPB also has recourse to experienced retired officers who can provide full-time service regularly, completing the evaluation exercise within the set KPI of 15 working days. This has resulted in a decrease in the average number of days for evaluation, i.e., from 24 days to 22 days. 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 assignment.

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

4.5. Approval of Award

For the financial year ended 30 June 2023, approval of the award of the contracts was conveyed for 47 projects, out of which 22 were carried forward from the previous year, with a total contract value of MUR 11.4 billion. The Board approved the award of contracts for 26 Works projects with a total contract value of MUR 6.3 billion. 13 projects for the procurement of Goods with a total contract value of MUR 3.9 billion were also approved for award of contract. The remaining related to Consultancy (1 project) and Other Services (7 projects).

TABLE 8 – Approved Procurement Projects by Type

Project Type	2021/2022		2022/2023	
	Count	Contract Value (MUR)	Count	Contract Value (MUR)
Buildings	6	299,628,798.00	7	1,224,642,691.00
Roads & Bridges & Grade Separated Junctions	7	2,112,025,607.00	12	3,736,192,431.00
Public Utilities	7	7,343,811,457.00	4	667,039,326.00
Other Works	6	834,449,450.00	3	654,520,456.00
SUB-TOTAL (WORKS)	26	10,589,915,312.00	26	6,282,394,904.00
Goods	9	1,269,603,603.00	13	3,852,627,903.00
Consultancy	2	82,305,000.00	1	127,454,600.00
Other Services	7	1,095,863,292.00	7	1,100,746,156.00
GRAND TOTAL	44	13,037,687,207.00	47	11,363,223,562.00

4.6. Challenges and Appeals

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

Bidders who claim to have suffered, or to be likely to suffer, loss or prejudice due to a breach of duty imposed by the PPA 2006 on a public body or the Board may challenge the procurement proceedings. The challenge must be submitted to the Public Body (PB), in accordance with the PPA 2006, within the prescribed time. The Board would then provide the PB with materials for reply to the challenge of the aggrieved bidders. In the absence of a reply by the PB within the prescribed time of seven days or if bidders are still not satisfied with the reply of the PB, they may apply to the IRP for a review of the procurement proceedings.

During the financial year ended 30 June 2023, challenges were received from aggrieved bidders in respect of 7 major contracts. In 5 cases, aggrieved bidders were satisfied with the replies of the PB, and 2 filed applications for review. The IRP found no merit in 2 cases.

APPROVAL OF AWARD



05

Approval of Award of Contracts in Financial Year 2022-2023

Approval for award of contracts was made for a total of 47 projects during the financial year 2022-2023. The complete list of the projects approved is provided in Table 9 below.

TABLE 9 – Approval of Award of Contracts

SN	Procurement Description	Contract Value (MUR)
Buildings		
1	Construction of New Market at Pamplémousses - DCP	113,848,137
2	Construction of a Sports Complex at Plaine Verte, Port Louis - MCCPL	114,187,095
3	Construction of 115 Housing Units and Associated Infrastructure Works at La Valette 1, Bambous - NHDC	264,500,000
4	Construction of an Administrative Building and Headquarters at Souillac - DCS	58,285,655
5	Construction of 108 Housing Units, Community Centre and Associated Infrastructure Works at La Valette 2, Bambous - NHDC	294,994,541
6	Construction of Residence Mon Reve, Clos Verger MHC	299,512,512
7	Construction of New Area Health Centre at Bambous - M/Health	79,314,750
SN	Procurement Description	Contract Value (MUR)
Roads & Bridges & Grade Separated Junctions		
8	Construction of Bois Chéri Bypass - RDA	223,309,541
9	Design/Build/Turnkey for a Grade Separated Junction at Wooton - RDA	337,578,998
10	Construction of a Grade Separated Junction to link the proposed Verdun Bypass and St Pierre Bypass - RDA	358,249,000
11	Maintenance, Upgrading Resurfacing and Construction of Roads in Rodrigues Year 2022-2024 - RRA	307,548,000
12	Construction of Rose - Hill Cycle Network (Phase1) - M/Land Transport	53,858,478
13	Flood Mitigating Measures at AnseJonchée along B28 Road - RDA	159,587,406
14	Design-Build/Turnkey for Construction of a Fly-Over on Motorway at Terre Rouge Roundabout - RDA	371,386,441
15	Construction of Bridge at Baie du Tombeau (in lieu of Pont Bruniquel) - RDA	148,888,532
16	Upgrading of Savanne Road (A9) from la Flora to Tyack - RDA	339,999,000

SN	Procurement Description	Contract Value (MUR)
17	Upgrading of B28 Road (Lot 3 - Phase 2) from Beau Champ to Bel Air - RDA	135,812,000
18	Construction of Flic-en-Flac Bypass from Xavier to Pierrefonds - RDA	1,058,999,000
19	Construction of Hermitage Bypass - RDA	240,976,035
SN	Procurement Description	Contract Value (MUR)
Public Utilities		
20	Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 1 MWac Solar PV Farm at Grenades, Rodrigues - CEB	103,411,615
21	Design, Supply, Delivery, Installation and Commissioning of a New Generating Unit at Tamarind Falls Hydro Power Station - CEB	103,161,328
22	Procurement of 3000 X 2.0 Kwac Grid-Tie Roof - Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Kits for Home Solar Project in the Republic of Mauritius - CEB	251,939,562
23	Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 2.9 MWP Photovoltaic Power Plant at DBM Industrial Estate Coromandel - DBM	208,526,820
Other Works		
24	Operation and Maintenance of La Chaumière Transfer Station and Transportation of Wastes from La Chaumière Transfer Station to Mare Chicose Landfill - M/SS & Env	224,918,636
25	Operation and Maintenance of La Brasserie Transfer Station and Transportation of Wastes from La Brasserie Transfer Station to Mare Chicose Landfill - M/Env	138,983,590
26	Operation, Management and Maintenance of Interim Storage Facility for Hazardous Wastes at La Chaumière - M/Env	290,618,230
SN	Procurement Description	Contract Value (MUR)
Goods		
27	Procurement of Annual Requirements Cath Lab of Cardiac Unit Dr. A. G. Jeetoo Hospital - M/Health	39,944,102
28	Procurement of Frozen Headless White Fish, Frozen Sliced White Tuna Fish and Frozen Sliced Red Tuna Fish - M/Health - LOT 2 & 3	17,792,000
29	Procurement of a Central Electronic Monitoring System for Gaming Machines with related Software and Services (CEMS-GM) - Phase 1 - MRA	168,384,000
30	Procurement of Medical Gas for all Hospitals for 2 years - M/Health	129,631,112
31	Procurement of Light Diesel Oil (Gas Oil) for period Jan 2023 to Dec 2025 under Framework Agreement - MPA	143,231,652
32	Procurement of Gas Oil for CHCL for a period of three years under Framework Agreement - CHCL	285,734,304
33	Procurement of Drugs used for Ophthalmology (Critical) for Financial Year 2022-2023 - M/Health	54,216,988
34	Procurement of Drugs used for Ophthalmology (General) for Financial Year 2022-2023 - M/Health	41,896,306

35	Procurement of Gas Oil for the Five Depots of the NTC - NTC (CPB/83/2022)	1,167,663,386
36	Supply & Commissioning of Double Cab Pick Up Vans - Police Dept	138,913,897
37	Procurement of Vaccines EPI for Financial Year 2022 - 2023 - M/Health	57,012,000
38	Supply, Testing and Commissioning of Compactor Trucks, Tipper Trucks, Vaccum Road Sweeper Trucks, Trucks mounted Combination Jetting Vaccum Unit 6000 L and Truck Mounted with Telescopic Aerial Lift and Working Basket - M/Local Govt	227,753,287
39	Procurement of Petroleum Products for a period of 36 months under Framework Agreement - M/NI	1,380,454,868
SN	Procurement Description	Contract Value (MUR)
Consultancy		
40	Selection of Consultancy Services for Environment and Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of Damages caused by the MV Wakashio Oil Spill - M/Env	127,454,600
Other Services		
41	Provision of Security Services for CEB's Critical Sites - CEB Lot A, B & C	184,900,569
42	Procurement of Services for Street Cleaning, Refuse Collection and Disposal including carting away of Post Cyclonic Wastes for Lots 3 & 5 - MCCPL	135,365,652
43	Procurement of Services for Street Cleaning, Refuse Collection and Disposal including carting away of Post Cyclonic Wastes for Lot 6 - MCCPL	29,880,000
44	Procurement of Security Services - CWA	242,488,550
45	Procurement of Services for Street Cleaning, Refuse Collection and Disposal, Cleaning of Market Fair, Public Places, Public Toilets, including carting away of Post Cyclonic Waste for Years 2023 - 2026 - DCRR	172,944,000
46	Procurement for the Cleaning of Toilets Blocks/Premises, Toilet, Bathroom and Sluices in all Hospitals and Other Health Institutions - M/Health	169,352,622
47	Sewerage Project at Cité La Ferme, Bambous - WMA	165,814,763



From 26 to 28 January 2023, a 4-member CPB delegation visited Rodrigues Regional Assembly to engage with the latter regarding issues arising from bidding documents prepared by RRA and subject of delays. The mission also visited some sites of work, where delays in the implementation had occurred. The CPB/RRA had discussions and areas on improvements were identified which would expedite matters and improve implementation timelines.



On 03 March 2023 a site visit was organised at the Mare Chicose Landfill for the Board to have a better feel for the scope of the works for the *'Procurement of Landfill Works and Vertical Expansion of the Mare Chicose Landfill and Operation and Post Closure Management of Cells'*



Construction of 108 Housing Units, Community Centre and Associated Infrastructure Works at La Valette 2, Bambous - NHDC



Design/Build/Turnkey for a Grade Separated Junction at Wooton - RDA



Construction of Bridge at Baie du Tombeau (in lieu of Pont Bruniquel) - RDA



Construction of Flic-en-Flac Bypass from Xavier to Pierrefonds - RDA



*Procurement of 3000 X
2.0 Kwac Grid-Tie Roof- Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Kits for Home Solar
Project in the Republic of Mauritius - CEB*

RISK MANAGEMENT IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT



Risk is inherent in any procurement process, and failing to manage it adequately can lead to operational disruptions, financial losses, legal issues, and reputational damage. Effective risk management involves identifying potential risks, assessing their impact and likelihood, and developing strategies to mitigate or respond to them.

Risk Management in the context of Public Procurement, albeit a sine qua non condition for successful project implementation, is often a misunderstood concept. It is generally relegated to the back seat. However, poor or lack of risk management in Public Procurement has dire consequences. Risk Management is also often confused with a more nebulous and lethal practice that we often encounter, more often than not, in Public Sector organisations which is: institutional defensiveness. These are two diametrically opposite notions. It is therefore important to recognise institutional defensiveness as an aversion to take decisions, as a propensity or habit to “sit on the fence”, to find lame excuses not to proceed with an important project or initiative that would benefit the country or simply to “pass the buck” and shy off of one’s duty. The factors contributing to institutional defensiveness have to be dealt with severely by top management.

Risk Management, on the other hand, is ability to recognise the fact that Public Procurement is a lengthy and complex process. First and foremost, while engaging in a public procurement exercise, the Supervising Officer of a Public Body has a prime duty to ensure that the basic tenets of Public Procurement are upheld. These are value-for-money procurement, transparency, accountability, fairness, compliance with statutory obligations, and efficiency. Therefore, the cornerstone in the management of risk in respect of a procurement exercise is planning. Lack or absence of planning is the riskiest aspect of Public Procurement and can result in cascading effects of other risks emerging such as cost, and time overrun. It is therefore crucial that Public Sector Organisations embark on a proper planning exercise well before funds are sought for the implementation of projects and initiatives in the context of Budget preparation. Often, it is observed that projects are started months after Budgetary provisions have been secured. In many cases and out of expediency to spend the Budget allocated for a project, estimates of cost and time frame are carried out casually. Therefore, these factors are real risks that can be easily addressed if proper planning is given due consideration prior to a procurement exercise.

At the CPB, we have come across an important risk factor which is hitting “epidemic proportion”. It is about the submission of sub-standard bidding documents by Public Bodies. Time and again, the Board has raised the alarm on this aspect which results in inordinate delay, inability to identify a

successful bidder, the need to provide a long list of clarifications which could otherwise be avoided, and the list goes on. There could be many reasons for the submission of sub-standard documents which are: a frivolous attitude of “passing on the buck” to the CPB, dereliction of duty, negligence, and lack of expertise.

Other important aspects of risk management in a procurement exercise are the chances for fraudulent and corrupt practices.

It is therefore important that Public Bodies nurture a culture of organisational excellence and adopt a posture of professionalism and mutual respect towards the CPB. Public Bodies should take bold actions in ensuring the risks of submitting bidding documents which do not pass the test of careful scrutiny at the CPB are minimised.

Risk Management in Public Procurement is a key activity that has to be high on the agenda of Public Bodies. They should be able to recognise both internal and external risks such as supply chain disruption, price fluctuation, regulatory changes, and supplier reliability issues. They should also be able to develop contingency plans, diversify suppliers, maintain safety stocks and utilise risk-sharing mechanisms as strategies to mitigate potential risks.

The inability to identify and mitigate those risks has dire consequences in the implementation of Government policies and undermines Public Confidence.

We, therefore, make an earnest appeal to Supervising Officers in ensuring that there exists a conducive framework in place in order to ensure that Public Procurement activities are carried out in the most efficient and timely manner while upholding ethical standards.

RAGEN Swaminathan
Vice Chairman
Central Procurement Board

EMERGING TRENDS AND CHALLENGES



If you believe that it is business as usual and feel safe in your comfort zone, then you need to think again!

Disruptive Technologies are taking us by storm and we are standing right in the eye of the storm. As the Chinese proverb goes: *When the winds of change blow, some people build walls and others build windmills.*

Take ChatGPT as an example of a generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool released end 2022. In less than a year, more than 100 million users have adopted this powerful tool, which has the potential to 'surpass' human intelligence in many ways. Many experts have assessed that ChatGPT has an intelligence quotient (IQ) superior than an above average human being and by the end of this year, it will overtake by far the IQ of the most notable geniuses of all time!

What is the impact of such an incredible and unprecedented development in AI and other disruptive Technologies such as Robotics, Internet of Things, 3D printing, Block chain and so on?

The answer is crystal clear: AI will literally 'compete' or even surpass our knowledge workers in any field you could ever imagine: health, law, education, engineering, administration and the list goes on.

It therefore means that everyone reading this article is under an existential threat of becoming 'redundant' and replaceable by smarter technological alternatives.

However, the silver lining amid these disruptive forces bent to reshape a new world order is that AI and Humans can 'cooperate' to produce much

superior outcomes. The term 'Human Augmentation' is now used to depict this collaborative 'man-machine' interaction.

Therefore, people who are able to master AI and other disruptive Technologies will displace those who still believe that resisting unavoidable and profound changes is the right thing to do. And change will also 'hit' hard the Public Service. No Sector will be spared. Even our Public Procurement ecosystem will undergo radical transformation driven by automation of digitally enabled business rules and where human intervention will be reduced to the strictest minimum if at all 'displaced'.

So if you still believe that you will be spared, then think twice and brace up to face will full force the brunt of the disruptive forces of AI and other emerging technologies!

RAGEN Swaminathan
Vice Chairman
Central Procurement Board





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