



**Procurement Interventions
Health Department
Gilgit Baltistan**

صحت زندگی



A viable procurement system is vital for the success of any organisation; therefore it has taken on an increasingly strategic role in the recent years. Procurements are governed through Public Procurement Rules (PPRs) and involve utilisation of public funds. Therefore, all public procurements should follow a standard process.

The current procurement procedures adopted by health procuring institutions of Gilgit Baltistan follow the Federal Public Procurement Regulatory Rules 2004. A procurement assessment study was conducted to identify high risk areas and interventions introduced to mitigate these. Risk assessment table and interventions introduced thereafter are share in Table1

Risk Assessment Table GB DoH, Districts & Specialized Programs

S.No	Procurement Process	Conformity with PbPPR	Efficiency	Economy	Transparacy	Value of Money
1	Procurement Planning					
2	Announcement of Procurement Plan					
3	Specifications					
4	Approval Mechanisms					
5	Advertisements					
6	Response Time					
7	Pre-qualification					
8	Qualification/Disqualification/Blacklisting					
9	Open-competitive Bidding					
10	Formulation of Bidding Documents					
11	Bid security and Bid Validity					
12	Opening of Bids					
13	Evolution Criteria					
14	Technical Evolutions					
15	Evolution of Financial Bids					
16	Announcement of Evolution Reports					
17	Acceptance of Bids					
18	Performance Guarantee					
19	Limitation on Negotiations					
20	On Account Payments					
21	Maintenance of Record					
22	Alternate methods of procurement					
23	Redressal of Grievances and Settlement of Disputes					
24	Contracts					

The Technical Resource Facility (TRF) has made significant efforts in the past five years to improve the procurement system of Department of Health (DoH) Gilgit Baltistan. Major areas where Technical Assistance (TA) was provided are the following:

1. Development of standard specifications for goods and supplies

The main objective of this TA was to develop standard specifications for medical equipment, medicines and goods listed in PC-I of the national Maternal Neonatal and Child Health (MNCH) Programme to ensure transparency, accountability and uniformity in the procurement process.

To this end, a situation assessment of the Programme was carried out in coordination with the federal and provincial governments, Special Areas and selected district MNCH offices.

The assessment included reviews of:

- compliance of existing specifications
- clinical functions, packaging, quality and community feedback.

Based on recommendations of the assessment, detailed standard specifications for medical equipment, medicines, hospital supplies and general items were developed through a consultative process. The specifications are in line with the Public Procurement Rules, approved by the former Ministry of Health and disseminated widely among all stakeholders. The federal unit of MNCH Programme adopted these specifications in centralised procurement; however, after devolution, the provincial MNCH offices and health departments have shown a keen interest in using these guidelines in all future procurements.

2. Development of monitoring mechanism and tools/software for procurement

This TA was designed to develop and

implement a sustainable monitoring mechanism and tools to strengthen the procurement system at all levels. The monitoring framework and tools were then implemented through development of software that can be used for procurement planning at provincial and district levels. Monitoring of progress against plans through this system can help managers to find inaccuracies in procurement activities.

3. Developing terms of reference and providing training in TA procurement

The purpose of this assignment was to build capacity of relevant staff through training in identification of TA needs, development of Terms of Reference (ToR) and TA procurement and management. A result of this TA, detailed guidelines for procurement and consultancy services were developed in light of Procurement of Consultancy Services Regulations, 2010, approved by the Ministry of Health. These guidelines concur with the principles of Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA). The PPRA has posted TA procurement guidelines on its website for wider application and can be used in line with PPRA rules.

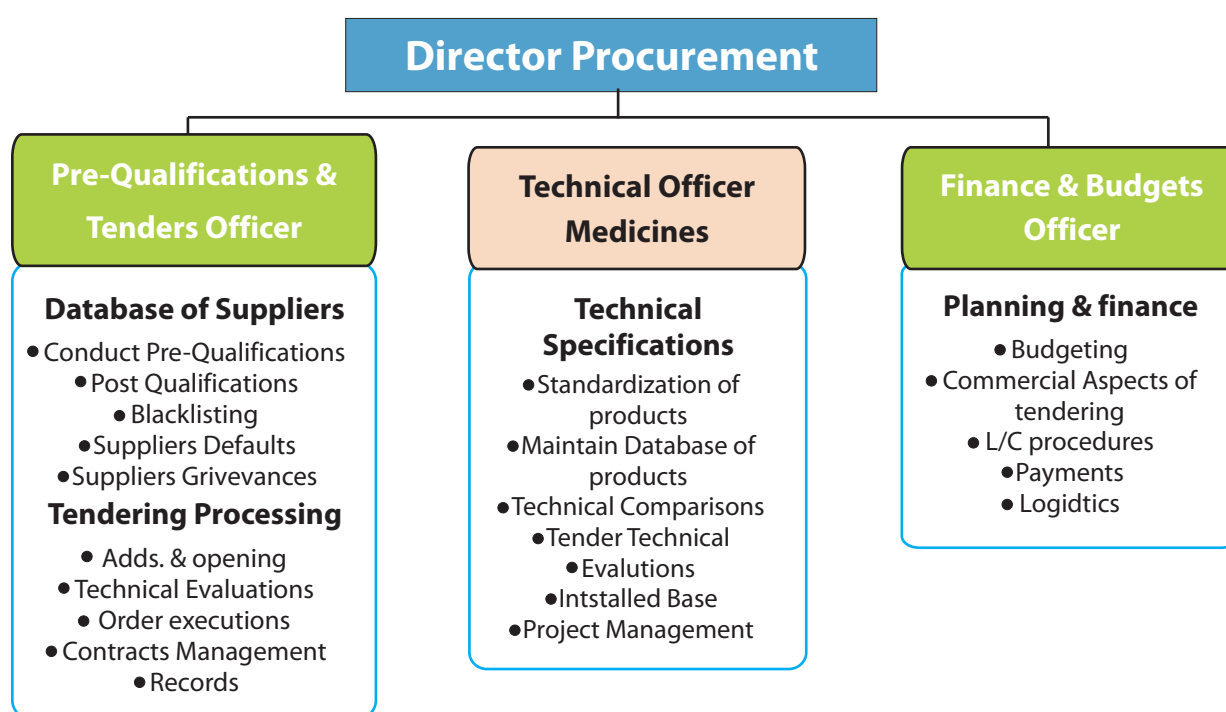
Recommendations

For implementation of above reforms, the DoH requires to ensure the following:

- Use of procurement planning and monitoring software
- Adoption and regular use of standard specifications
- Allocation of funds for procuring departments' own TAs to help further strengthen institutional capacity
- Acquisition of technical assistance in areas where DoHs lack in-house capacity should be made part of DoH work plan.

- Development partners should continue to encourage DoH to procure and manage TAs on their own.

The DoH should establish at a central procurement management cell/unit to help all procuring entities. Structure of the cell is given below, consisting of in-charge/head of the unit along with three technical experts.



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