The main objective of the IM is to inform the Bank (ORPF Management) about the scope of the exercise, the required technical assistance and the timeline for issuing the BCPA report. This IM is prepared following a desk review conducted by the ORPF Task Manager (TM) and will serve as terms of reference for the BCPA mission. Depending on the existing documentation and issues identified, missions in the field should be conducted by the TM for (i) launching/preparing the report with the Government national stakeholders and donors and (ii) sharing/validating the BCPA’s outcome.

Country background

Political and Economic background and Government Commitment

1. This chapter should describe the political and economic situation of the country with respect to recent developments in order to put into context the relevance and feasibility of the exercise or any potential issues and challenges that may affect the success of the preparation of the report. A second paragraph should be dedicated to the process used (or envisaged) by the Bank to obtain the commitment of the Government to support this exercise.

Donors Involvement

2. This chapter should present the community of donors presently active in the country, and in particular those who are interested in providing support to the governance sector particularly to public finance management (PFM) and procurement. This part should also inform about ongoing projects financed by donors in the aforementioned areas where procurement is being considered as key component. Depending on topics to be developed this part should be divided into two paragraphs (Donors community and Projects/Programs providing support to procurement reform).

Bank Portfolio

3. This chapter should present the current portfolio (number of projects, total amount and sectors) of the Bank in the country. It will provide information about the performance of the portfolio (issues and challenges) while putting a particular emphasis on procurement-related issues and disbursement. It will also inform about projects in preparation in order to anticipate or take advantage of such upcoming projects for developing procurement-related measures and actions with the view of improving the portfolio - when it is needed, enhancing the use of country procurement system (CPS) and contributing to strengthening the main institutions operating in the CPS. Depending on topics to be developed, this part should be divided into two paragraphs (ongoing projects and portfolio performance, and upcoming projects which may be of interest from procurement perspective).

Procurement background

4. This chapter should present the source of information and a general overview of procurement reforms executed in the country. The detailed presentation of programs, projects and activities carried out by the country should be summarized in a table.
Progress and challenges for the ongoing reform

Improvements made to the procurement system

5. Knowing that many of countries in Africa have undertaken procurement reforms since 2000, and that the procurement reform is an ongoing process which may take years, this paragraph will present a quick summary of the main achievements with respect to the four (4) pillars of the OECD/DAC methodology for the assessment of the procurement system (MAPS): (i) Legislative and Regulatory Framework; (ii) Institutional Framework and Management capacity; (iii) Procurement Operations and Market Practices; and (iv) Integrity and Transparency of the Public Procurement System. This part should be divided into four (4) paragraphs corresponding to each pillar.

Remaining Challenges

6. This chapter will present the key remaining challenges to be addressed by the country for enabling the Bank to enhance the use of the national procurement system and also provide appropriate support to improve the CPS. It will be divided into two (2) paragraphs for presenting these challenges. This first paragraph will target, for each pillar, the critical sub-indicators (18) of the customized MAPS proposed by the Bank that may affect the use of the CPS for Bank operations. The second will describe, for each pillar, the challenges relating to the sub-indicators selected for preparing the Procurement Development Action Plan (PDAP). This chapter will also serve as the basis for (i) composing the Bank Team (ORPF1&2, IACD, OSGE, etc.); (ii) requesting additional support from consultants; and (iii) proposing a realistic timetable for issuing the BCPA.

Objectives and Scope of the Bank Country Procurement Assessment (BCPA) Report

Rationale

7. This chapter should establish the rationale for the BCPA which is usually based on the followings: (i) the government’s development strategy and other international commitments to be fulfilled; (ii) the Bank’s procurement policy; and (iii) donor community’s requirements. Therefore a paragraph should elaborate on the key reasons which constitute the rationale for conducting a BCPA at that time and according to the timeline proposed in Paragraph 10.

Purpose and focus

8. Based on the information provided in the aforementioned paragraphs, inter alia the level of commitment of the government, progress made by the country in reforming the national procurement system and the remaining challenges, this paragraph will describe the specific objectives of the BCPA. Consistent with the twin objective of the BCPA, the focus

1 The BCPA report aims at (i) determining the readiness of the CPS for being used in Bank Operations; and (ii) identifying the weaknesses and establishing an action plan for building a reliable and performant CPS, theoretically, for the full use for all transactions in a project.
may revolve around the following: (i) obtaining a long term commitment of the government for sustainable procurement reforms; (ii) involvement and enhancement of partnership with key donors interested in the CPS reform; (iii) mobilization of national stakeholders (private sector and civil society) whenever possible; (iv) challenges that impede an extensive use of the CPS in Bank Operations; (v) challenges that affect the efficiency of procurement operations in the countries; and (vi) any other issues to be addressed in order to increase the effectiveness of Bank Operations. Depending on the issues, this part can be presented between one and two pages.

Linkage with other Assessments: PEFA, CFAA, PER, CPAR, etc.

9. This chapter should describe the existing Bank reviews or other Donors’ assessments that have served as the basis for collecting the information. It should make a link with procurement-related issues identified in line with the four (4) pillars of the MAPS. This part should also inform about any ongoing assessments (by the Bank or other donors) that may have a linkage with procurement, and in particular with the envisaged BCPA, and propose how to facilitate the integration of outputs of each report.

Methodology and Timing

10. This chapter should describe the methodology proposed by the BCPA team for carrying out this assessment with the view of ensuring the commitment/involvement of the Government and a full participation of the principal actors including the donors active in the country and the national stakeholders. Whenever possible, it will identify the interested national stakeholders and donors and estimate the extent of their participation and collaboration in the preparation of the BCPA report. In addition, this part should also propose, based on the information collected and the challenges faced by the CPS, the timeline (including various stages if required) for drafting and completing the BCPR.

BCPA Team Composition and Budget

11. This chapter should mention the upcoming mission date, the composition of the BCPA team including ORPF staff, and the proposed budget for carrying out the envisaged BCPA report. This chapter should also specify the origin of the budget (ORPF, Bilateral or Trust Fund, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team Members</th>
<th># of Days</th>
<th>Days in Field (mission)</th>
<th>Writing Report (in days)</th>
<th>Fees and Travel &amp; Subsistence</th>
<th>Variable Costs (consultants and travels)</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Total (in UA)</th>
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2 World Bank: CPAR, CFAA, PEMFAR, PER, etc.; European Union: PEFA, etc..