



Office of the General Manager
Public Procurement Agency
Governor's Office, Osogbo
Sign: [Signature]
Date: 29/09/2020

**REPORT OF A 2-DAY TRAINING/WORKSHOP ON COVID-19 AND OTHER
EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES FOR SMALL AND
MEDIUM CONTRACTOR AND SUPPLIERS HELD AT OSUN STAFF
DEVELOPMENT CENTRE ON 23RD & 24TH SEPTEMBER, 2020.**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In its passionate efforts to achieve robust, transparency, competitiveness, professionalism and more importantly public trust in the public procurement process, the State of Osun Public Procurement Agency in collaboration with the State-Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability Program (SFTAS) rolled out a 2-day training/workshop on COVID-19 and other emergency procurement procedure for Small and Medium Contractors and Suppliers in the State. The need to engage Local Contractors became imperative in order to avail them opportunity to have a clear understanding of challenges they can encounter in the bidding process, how they can surmount those challenges and step-by-step procedural requirements for them to bid and win contracts/supplies in the State.

1.2 The workshop also created an avenue for Local Contractors/Suppliers to advise the State Government to always maintaining transparency, equity and fairness in the procurement process through an appropriate regulatory environment. It also provided a platform for the government to harvest useful information that will guarantee appreciable procurement process in the State.

2.0 OPENING

2.1 The workshop commenced at 10:00 am each day with opening prayer. This was followed by recitation of the Osun and the National Anthems.

3.0 OPENING REMARKS

3.1 The State Commissioner for Finance, Mr. Bola Oyebamiji on behalf of Mr. Governor State of Osun, Mr. Adegboyega Oyetola welcomed the participants to the workshop. He appreciated the Governor for his visionary style of governance and his gracious approval of the programme. He thanked the General Manager of the Osun Public Procurement Agency and his Director for the wonderful job they are doing. He charged all other MDAs in the State to emulate the step being taken by PPA because

this kind of workshop is a sine quo non to identifying the challenges before them and how those challenges could be ameliorated.

3.2 The Commissioner noted that no economy in the world can survive without a robust and vibrant Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs). He therefore challenged the participants to be genuine, sincere, honest and transparent whenever they want to approach Micro-Credit Institutions to access credit facility. He therefore appreciated the participants especially the Local Contractors/Suppliers, CSOs, NGOs, Media Group, Representatives of MDAs and other invited guests who attended the workshop with assurance that their inputs/observations would be conveyed to the Governor. On behalf of the Governor, he wished the participants a fruitful and successful deliberations. He thereafter declared the workshop open.

4.0 WELCOMEADDRESS

4.1 The General Manager, Osun Public Procurement Agency Mr. Adegboyega Basheer Bello welcomed the participants to the workshop. He expressed his gratitude to Mr. Governor for his commitment and passion to deliver good governance in the State. He informed the participants that the current administration is passionate about repositioning the State as investors' friendly, ensure a robust and standard procurement process, and disposal of public assets with desire to follow global best practices. He added that the State Government will not rest on its oars until value-for-money is guaranteed so as to efficiently cater for the well-being of its people. He described the workshop as a right step in the right direction because the Public Procurement Agency is now working towards a credible and transparent procurement process which would be appreciated by all and sundry. On behalf of the Governor, he appreciated all the participants for honouring the invitation and wished them a happy and fruitful deliberations.

5.0 LECTURES

5.1 Lecture 1: Accelerating Growth of the Local Economy; the Pivotal Role of SMEs Contractor & Suppliers

5.1.1 While delivering his lecture, the General Manager explained that the State Government understands that Small Medium Enterprise (SMEs) is the biggest driver of local economy because it contributes to about 80% the State's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). He added that the ability of a State to diversify its economy lies in the output of its SMEs. He reminded the participants, the multiplier effect the Osun Elementary and School Feeding Programme has had on the State economy where all the materials being used are locally made thereby discouraging capital flights. He thereafter noted that economy diversification would be practically impossible without a vibrant SMEs Sector stressing that Osun is doing everything possible to be independent of revenue from the Federation Accounts.

5.1.2 He informed the participants that the workshop is going to be beneficial because the training received would enable Local Contractors and Suppliers bid and win Government contracts successfully. He added that the current Social Stability in the State is a result of contributions of SMEs and this is why the State Government is passionate about its growth and development. He thereafter informed the participants to always monitor activities of the State because no sooner than later, the State Government would be giving out contracts that would be meant for Local Contractors/Suppliers to bid and win for execution.

5.2 Lecture 2: Partnering With Osun State Government in Public Procurement; Between Fantasy & Reality

5.2.1 The Director Technical, Osun Public Procurement Agency, Engr. Oyetola Babatunde Adesina, in his lecture described public procurement as the acquisition of goods, works and services through effective and transparent process in respect with good quality, shortest possible time and best price in a public funded Ministries, Department and Extra-Ministerial Agency of Government (MDAs). He spoke further that Public Procurement Policy typically focuses on **"Value for Money"** transparency, accountability and anti-corruption.

5.2.2 While taking the participants through procurement process in the State of Osun, Engr. Oyetola charged the participants to remain focused and avoid any hearsay that can jeopardized their interest. He noted that PPA is guided by Law, stressing that *Section (9), Sub-section(4)* of the State of Osun Public Procurement Law 2015 *"mandated PPA to create ample opportunities to the citizenry, particularly Small and Medium Scale Enterprises to participate in the economic opportunities and benefits of public procurement"*. He encouraged the Local Contractor/Suppliers to always monitor capital component aspect of the State Budget and participate in the procurement process in line with the Law. He added that procuring entities are encouraged to patronized the Small and Medium Enterprises in Osun State in a manner that will ensure transparency, accountability, mutual benefit and ultimately value for money.

5.3 Lecture 3: COVID-19 PALLIATIVE MEASURES TO DEEPING ENGAGEMENT WITH SMEs CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS

5.3.1 The Director, Finance and Accounts, Mrs. Fatimo Badamosi in her lecture, informed the participants that the State Government of Osun is keen in keeping SMEs afloat stressing that their impacts on economic growth and development cannot be underestimated. The Director took the participants through palliative measures the State has for the Local Contractors and Suppliers. She informed the participants that appearance of the intending bidders at the Agency shall henceforth be in an electronic form to be downloaded from Public Procurement/State Website. She added that the

signing of contract agreements which usually done physically before is now done electronically. She therefore informed the participants that there will soon be constant dissemination of all bidding opportunities to the relevant trade groups in the State.

5.3.2 The Legal Adviser, Osun Public Procurement Agency, Barr. Samson Aparasoke on Bid Security, Tax reliefs (Tax Discount), participants and waiver of penalties on the outstanding liabilities. He informed the participants that the State Government shall waive penalties and interest on all concluded Tax Audit Review till 31st December, 2020. He spoke further that the deadline for the submission of Form A for employees and Annual Returns in accordance with Sections 41 (3) & 81 (1-3) of the Personal Income Tax Act (PITA) 2011 as amended for companies operating in Osun State is hereby extended from 31st March to 31st December, 2020. He thereafter stated that the penalty being charged on late remittance of Pay-As-You-Earn (PAYE) deductions for all sectors between March and December, 2020 has been waived.

6.0 Questions & Answers:

6.1 A number of participants consisting members of Local Contractors/Suppliers, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other invited guest appreciated the State Government for the wonderful workshop/training. They all described the training as a right step in the right direction because it has greatly boosted their trust in the State Government procurement process.

6.2 After asking some questions where there were grey areas, then answers were provided by the Hon. Commissioner for Finance, the General Manager (PPA) and the Director of Technical (PPA).

6.3 The Participants, thereafter made the following Communiqué:

- Government should always be fair and encourage Local Contractors/Suppliers

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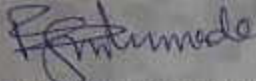
- Government should ensure there is probity, accountability and transparent in the procurement processes
- The State Government should reduce Tender fees so as to enable Local Contractors to bid for big Projects
- State Government should create a separate platform for SMEs where available Projects in the State could be found.


7.0 Votes of Thanks/Closing Remarks


7.1 The votes of thanks and closing remark were delivered by the State SFTAS Focal Officer (P for R). She encouraged the participants to always monitor activities of the State Government through its official website (www.osun.gov.ng). She implored them always pay their taxes and monitor the payments so as to help government to curb revenue leakages. She therefore thanks the participants for their time and wished them journey mercy to their various destinations.

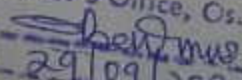
(A) State Government Officials:


 HON COM FOR FINANCE


 PS, MIN OF FINANCE


 General Manager
 PPA


 Legal Adviser, PPA

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(C) Civil Society Organisations (CSOs):

~~At the time~~
EROFIM Michael Olusesi
Nowalek Centre for Sustainable
Community Development
08060012425

~~At the time~~
OCHULOR SUNDAY ELE
Association for Ikon Breeder
& Life Changing Empowerment
(AILIFE) 08033042946

(D) Other Dignitaries:

KTomori
Mrs. Kehinde Tomori
08034339653

~~At the time~~
Ajibade Omwami R.
08131250887.

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