

REPORT

The Role of Public Procurement in Achieving the SDGs

Regional Dialogue | 27-28 October 2021



Acknowledgements

THE REGIONAL DIALOGUE IS ORGANISED BY



The Regional Public Procurement Dialogue and this report were made possible by the generous contribution of the UK Government, ASEAN Economic Reform Program, within the project “Promoting a Fair Business Environment in ASEAN” (FairBiz).

The Regional Dialogue has been successful thanks to the collaboration of our partner institutions: UN Women’s WeEmpowerAsia programme, Open Government Partnership, Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (COST) and Open Contracting Partnership.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



The lead author of this report is Irina Bernal, with the guidance of Darko Pavlovic, Project Manager on Transparency & Accountability, UNDP BRH, and Liviana Zorzi, Project Specialist on Transparency & Accountability, UNDP BRH. Nicholas Booth provided the overall leadership and advisory support as the Governance and Peacebuilding Team Leader, UNDP BRH. The layout was designed by Pundaree Boonkerd.

WITH THE SUPPORT OF



Contents

ACRONYMS	5
BACKGROUND	6
MAIN TAKEAWAYS	7
SUMMARY OF SESSIONS	11
OPENING REMARKS	11
SESSION 1: Public procurement's role in achieving the SDGs	13
SESSION 2: Public procurement ecosystem: a system approach and collective action	15
SESSION 3: Technology trends in service of transparent and open procurement	18
SESSION 4: The importance of gender responsive procurement	21
SESSION 5: The Do's and Don'ts of Managing Risks in Procurement	24
SESSION 6: Expanding the knowledge on public procurement	27
SESSION 7: A look into the future of procurement	28
KEY RECOMMENDATIONS	30
AGENDA	33
SPEAKERS PROFILES	36

Acronyms

ACTS	Anti-Corruption Technology and Solutions
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CoST	Infrastructure Transparency Initiative
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
GPPB	Government Procurement Policy Board
GRP	Gender Responsive Procurement
IDB	InterAmerican Development Bank
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise
OCDS	Open Contracting Data Standard
OCP	Open Contracting Partnership
OEDC	Organizations for Economic Co-Operation and Development
OGP	Open Government Partnership
RFP	Request for Proposal
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SPP	Sustainable Public Procurement
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

Background

Sound public procurement systems are not only a prerequisite for delivering public goods, services and infrastructure for development, but if used strategically, can also contribute to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, the role of public procurement systems as a catalyst in SDG attainment is greatly compromised if corruption and integrity risks are not well managed.

Corruption and lack of transparency in the procurement process hamper innovation, employment, competition, and greater participation of SMEs. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has uncovered the vulnerability of procurement systems to inefficiencies, mismanagement and corrupt practices. However, reformed and robust procurement systems are needed for COVID-19 rebound strategies and the achievement of the SDGs. Therefore, it is crucial for governments to address the inefficiencies in the procurement systems, make them transparent, open them for greater SME and women-owned business participation, and engage citizens and civil society in the procurement monitoring process. ASEAN, which collectively spends approximately US\$ 140 billion on public procurement, should avoid missing the opportunity to deliver more value for money to its taxpayers.

The regional dialogue on the **Role of public procurement in addressing the SDGs** was convened on 27-28 October 2021 to discuss the main challenges and opportunities of public procurement to support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. The event brought together government representatives from the region along with private sector leaders and civil society representatives interested in learning more about and implementing the sustainable public procurement agenda via the SDGs, integrity, and value-for-money lenses.

The two-day was comprised of seven sessions, which focused on public procurement's role on achieving the SDGs, systems approach and collective action for implementation of sustainable public procurement, new technological trends and tools in the service of open and transparent procurement, gender responsive and inclusive procurement, risk management, and knowledge and capacity development.

The regional dialogue was organized by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through its **FairBiz - Promoting Fair Business environment in ASEAN**, in partnership with UN Women, Open Government Partnership, Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (COST) and Open Contracting Partnership. The FairBiz project is supported by the UK Government, ASEAN Economic Reform Programme.

Main takeaways

Achieving the SDGs by 2030 through sustainable public procurement practices requires urgent and systemic procurement reforms. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated how lack of transparency in public procurement can lead to erosion of citizen's confidence and trust in their governments.

Globally, out of 13 trillion USD spent on public procurement, only 2.81% is openly disclosed. It is estimated that 10-20% of the total funds spend on public procurement are wasted on corruption and bribery. The participation of SMEs, which represent the backbone of economy is quite low and only 1% of global procurement is awarded to women-owned companies. When we translate these numbers, it becomes obvious how lack of transparency in public procurement can lead to poor and insufficient service delivery.¹

However, these challenges can be turned into opportunities. Sound public procurement systems are vital for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and post COVID-19 economic recovery. The regional procurement dialogue has emphasized how data transparency, citizen monitoring and support to SMEs participation can be vital in preventing corruption and ensuring transparent public spending. This will require strong **collective action approach** where all relevant stakeholders (government, private

sector, civil society) collaborate to prevent leakages of public resources through corruption or collusion in government contracts.

The discussions from seven sessions focused on determining key ingredients for successful procurement reforms to keep progress towards achieving the SDGs on track, which are presented below:

1. Political will and concrete actions

Political will is essential in reforming public procurement systems. Since public procurement has linkages to the all the SDGs but the practices remain corrupt and opaque, governments should commit to public procurement reforms to achieve the SDGs on time. The public sector has an important role to play in internalizing the environment side of procurement, including social and governance dimension. Instead of accepting anticipated and budgeted losses, governments could channel funds into development of latest technologies preventing corruption-induced losses and developing and implementing inclusive and sustainable public procurement policies.

¹ Open Contracting Partnership, UNODC, and World Bank.

2.

Sustainable public procurement

Public procurement is the most effective way governments can materialize their sustainability promises and commitments. Sustainability requirements could be integrated into relevant regulatory frameworks, guiding sustainability principles across the supply chain of the providers of goods and services, as well as the entire lifecycle of those goods and services. Market sensitization should provide sufficient time for economic agents to develop internal capacity to respond to the call for sustainability. The human rights compliance along the supply chain should also be incorporated in the procurement criteria.

Governments need a strong public procurement foundation, an understanding of what exists and is working in this field, and an assessment of their existing practices. Several frameworks could support governments in assessing their procurement practices, such as The Methodology for Assessing Procurement Systems (MAPS), an OECD standardized and well tested framework with sustainability at its core, and Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (CoST), one of the leading global initiatives improving transparency and accountability in public infrastructure.

3.

Data and transparency

Public procurement transparency and standardized data disclosure are important for monitoring and accountability. Governments should implement data standards for procurement based on a simple system of identifiers, such as Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS).

Gender-disaggregated data is missing in most countries. While several good examples of gender data collection within governments and private sector exist, both sectors should collect gender-disaggregated data on procurement to monitor their progress towards gender responsive and inclusive contracting.

Transparency has an impact on business participation, by encouraging businesses to increase their capacity, build resources and participate in fair and transparent bidding process. This in turn results in a greater diversity of companies doing business with governments, greater competition, innovation, job creation and service/product quality improvement. Citizens' monitoring of disclosed data further results in greater accountability and reduced public fund losses to corrupt procurement practices.

4.

Technology

Legacy technology can be an impediment for modern procurement systems. Technological changes and digitalization should begin with the review and improvement of procurement processes. A good start could be a user-centric approach and use of simple technologies, such as user-friendly interfaces, open data standards, open-source technologies, and modular systems.

Advanced technologies, like artificial intelligence, blockchain and predictive analytics have a limited adoption but high potential for identifying red flags and preventing corruption in procurement. However, latest technology cannot guarantee success in the absence of data disclosure and public participation.

5.

Gender- Responsive Procurement (GRP) and widening participation of SMEs

SMEs are often facing barriers to equally participate in public and private procurement schemes, women-owned businesses are impacted over-proportionally including multiple

barriers, most important being access to finance, lack of knowledge and experience with procurement procedures and administrative limitations to participate in public and private procurement schemes. In addition, gender-bias and gender-blind procurement process exclude women from equal participation. To address this, multiple governments across the region set aside parts of procurement budgets to SMEs and MSMEs.

Transparency of procurement processes also increases participation and diversification of the SMEs in public procurement. Few countries have specific legal provisions on women participation in public procurement and women should be included into public procurement through policies, specific gender-related targets and capacity building of women-owned and women-led businesses.

Furthermore, gender-responsiveness should be streamlined across entire supply chains of the providers. The private sector has also progressive practices on GRP which are applicable also for public organizations. Multiple initiatives and organizations, such as ADB, CoST, Unilever, and UN Women support gender-responsiveness in both public and private procurement.

6.

Stakeholder engagement and capacity building

Achieving the SDGs through sustainable public procurement requires capacity building of all stakeholders. The public sector needs trainings on best practices, disaggregated data use, collection and transparency, and policy making for sustainable and inclusive procurement. Businesses need capacity building to mainstream gender and diversity throughout their supply chain and procurement practices. Citizens need capacity building for using data to flag suspicious practices and to increase public accountability.

Multiple international organizations, like ADB, CoST, UNDP, UNEP and UN Women already provide capacity building and relevant tools to various stakeholders for regulating, monitoring and implementation of sustainable and inclusive public procurement. Furthermore, partnerships are also essential in advancing gender-responsive and sustainable procurement.

Summary of sessions

The Role of Public Procurement in Achieving the SDGs | ASEAN Regional Dialogue



Opening Session



OPENING REMARKS

The Regional Dialogue began with opening remarks from the organizer and partners of the event: UNDP, ASEAN, and the UK Government.

Jaco Cilliers from UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub welcomed all participants and partners of the public procurement dialogue. UNDP leveraged its convening role to bring together all stakeholders to discuss the collective action approach to implementing Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP), managing corruption, promoting inclusivity of women and SMEs in public procurement, and enhancing transparency and accountability through technology and multistakeholder engagement. SPP agenda's momentum has been growing since the 1990s, but its uptake and implementation still lag, particularly within ASEAN, which collectively spent around US\$ 140 billion each year pre-COVID-19.

The ongoing pandemic funneled public procurement towards the pandemic response. Governments and other stakeholders should ensure that procurement is used to stimulate sustainable green growth and to improve the inclusivity and human rights in all aspects.

Rowena Candice M. Ruiz, from the Philippine Government Procurement Policy Board and ASEAN Secretariat noted that the event is a testament of enduring aspirations towards creating value through public procurement. The latter is recognized as a strategic and dynamic tool in creating values that would address a range of social needs, such as in health, education, social protection, job creation and environmental resiliency.

With the onset of COVID-19 pandemic, public procurement systems and processes should be targeted to develop a strong framework for COVID-19 rebound and recovery strategies. It may prove useful to apply a dose of disruption to steer us further into action by harnessing opportunities for digital transformation, innovation, openness, and the rise of alternatives with sustainable public procurement, green public procurement, and circular economy initiatives. Through this forum we can create our own regional and global partnership towards strengthening and elevating the role of public procurement in reaching the SDGs.

Katia Bazar from the UK Government echoed UNDP's emphasis on a collective action approach to public procurement reform using multi-stakeholder collaboration to strengthen transparency, citizen participation, inclusivity, and digital technology adoption in public procurement. The UK is a proud global leader and supporter of transparent and sustainable public procurement and has long recognized the potential of public procurement to deliver on the SDGs.

The UK continues to reform its public procurement processes to make them more transparent to better align with the UK's social, ethical and environmental priorities. Its efforts include the contracts finder website, where all in-scope government bodies publish public procurement opportunities and contract awards above a certain monetary threshold, and government buying standards that guide the purchasing of more sustainable products and reduction of public procurement's environmental footprint.

The efforts are detailed in the *UK Government's Green Paper: Transforming Public Procurement*, released in 2020. The UK Government has been supporting governments around the world in their pursuit of public procurement reform and digital transformation. In ASEAN, the UK Government has partnered with UNDP to support countries in transitioning to more transparent public procurement and businesses to access government contracts on a level playing field.



Public Procurement's Role in Achieving the SDGs

13.20 - 14.45 (Bangkok Time, GMT+7), 27 October 2021



With the support of



SESSION 1: PUBLIC PROCUREMENT'S ROLE IN ACHIEVING THE SDGS

Moderator: Akiko Yamamoto, Regional Team Leader - Asia & Pacific Nature, Climate and Energy Team, Bangkok Regional Hub, United Nations Development Programme.

Speakers:

1. Mushtaq Memon, Regional Coordinator, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);
2. Nicolas Penagos, Head of the MAPS Secretariat, OECD;
3. Darko Pavlovic, Project Manager, UNDP FairBiz.

This session focused on the role of sustainable public procurement (SPP), how governments can leverage public procurement for achieving the SDGs and methodologies for assessing and improving public procurement systems.

Public procurement has linkages to all the SDGs.

SDG targets 12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable in accordance with national policies and priorities and 16.6 develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels are directly related to sustainable and transparent public procurement. Other targets across all 17 Goals can be directly influenced by procurement practices.

As public procurement has such strong influence over the SDGs, there is an imperative to reform it to achieve the SDGs on time.



Public Procurement Ecosystem: a System Approach and Collective Action

14.45 - 16:00 (Bangkok Time, GMT+7), 27 October 2021



With the support of
 UK Government



OPEN
CONTRACTING
PARTNERSHIP



The public sector should leverage public procurement as a tool to steer the achievement of the SDGs.

Public procurement is also the only way governments can materialize their sustainability promises and commitments. Sustainable Public Procurement is now recognized as a key driver of innovation and sustainable development. Eco-labels and top-down leadership can enforce it. While multiple countries in the region are making progress, SPP policies vary widely across countries.

The public sector has an important role to play in internalizing the environment side of procurement, including social and governance dimension. Another role is to educate market players and send them strong market signals.

This can be done through aforesaid market research and sensitizing the market for economic agents to prepare for sustainable public procurement prior to the release of bidding documents. The governments could also raise social dimension through specific requirements related to gender, proportion of women involved, and respect of human rights across the entire supply chain of economic agents.

Achieving the SDGs through SPP requires capacity building of all the stakeholders.

Governments need to keep public procurement transparent and engage different stakeholders in the process. Engaging civil society could lead to improvements in procurement monitoring and raising of its efficiency.

Engaging private sector could lead to raising sustainability standards and social dimension as well as greater participation of MSMEs in procurement.

The engagement of these stakeholders should also be supported by guidance, training, and capacity building and accompanied by improvements in the procurement systems.

To support countries in improving their procurement systems, OECD has developed the Methodology for Assessing Procurement Systems (MAPS).

Governments need a strong public procurement foundation and an understanding of what exists and is working in this field. MAPS is a standardized and well tested framework with sustainability at its core.

MAPS methodology was revised in 2018 to become a universal tool that can assess public procurement systems in any country regardless of its level of development. MAPS assesses value for money, transparency, fairness, and good governance. Countries in ASEAN are encouraged to adopt MAPS.

SESSION 2: PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ECOSYSTEM: A SYSTEM APPROACH AND COLLECTIVE ACTION

Moderator: Diana Torres, Head of Governance and Participation, UNDP Vietnam.

Speakers:

1. Pattaraporn Worasaph, Advisor of Fiscal and Financial System Development, The Comptroller General's Department - CGD - Ministry of Finance of Thailand
2. Clara Feng, Regional Manager of COST, the Infrastructure Transparency Initiative,
3. Dwi Wahyuni Kartianingsih, Director for Business Climate Development and International Affairs of LKPP,
4. Rowena Candice M. Ruiz, Executive Director V, Government Procurement Policy Board, Technical Support Office, Philippines

As the procurement system needs a more multifaceted approach, this session presented country examples of collective vision for public procurement from Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines. The discussions focused on improving public procurement legislation, data transparency and engaging citizens and other stakeholders in the procurement process.

Despite active efforts to include SMEs in government procurement, multiple barriers persist.

These include lack of knowledge and experience with public procurement procedures and know-how, lack of financial modalities to execute procurement work, and administrative limitations to participate in public procurement. Furthermore, there are no specific legal provisions on women participation, while they face important entry barriers.

Based on a 2013 study done in Indonesia, only 5% women-owned companies participated in six public procurement projects and their knowledge of public procurement and access to finance was limited compared to men-owned companies. Several solutions to address these barriers include training and awareness raising, information and gateway for supplies and SMEs, and package for procurement of goods with a set budget ceiling for MSMEs.

In addition to the National Public Procurement Agency (LKPP), the Ministry for Women Empowerment and Child Protection in Indonesia is also involved in increasing female participation in procurement.

Legislation is a powerful tool to drive sustainable public procurement practice.

Indonesia, for example, has recently introduced important amendments to its procurement legislation. Main provisions support sustainable public procurement through increased use of domestic products encouraging participation from MSMEs and enhancing the role of national economic operators. The government allocated 40% of procurement to SMEs and cooperatives, with a procurement package of up to IDR 1 billion allocated to MSMEs and cooperatives.

Additional regulatory provisions on sustainable public procurement include the reduction of negative impacts upon health, air quality, soil, water quality, and use of natural resources, consideration of costs of producing and using goods and services throughout their lifetime, and the use of green products in public procurement.

Citizen engagement and transparency can put pressure to increase accountability.

For example, the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) of the Philippines has a meaningful and productive collaboration with the CSOs at the central and local levels. Observers have an open and free access to important tools and instruments and can submit reports on specific transactions of procurement. They also have access to capacity development opportunities and to consultative meetings of policy formulation. GPPB collaborate with the Philippine Constructors Association providing trainings and certification through the procurement observer programme, is developing the observer's portal, and automating their reports.

Furthermore, GPPB is expecting MAPS assessment results to engage with the CSO Committee and the Philippine Government to implement recommendations and improve institutional framework to enhance integrity and transparency. The Comptroller's General Department of Thailand also promotes public participation through several channels to strengthen accountability and plans to further improve citizen engagement to promote public trust.

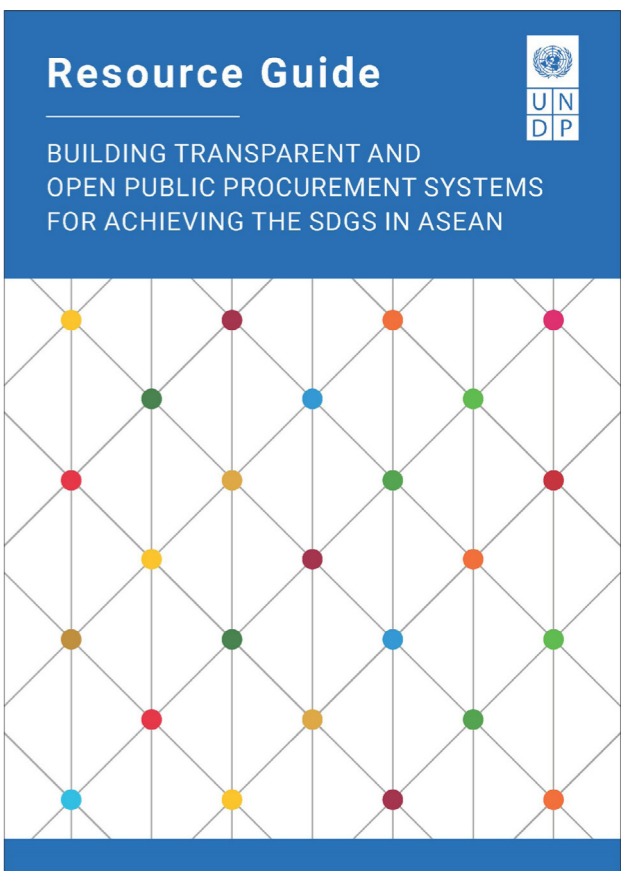
The Comptroller-General's Department estimates that a transparent procurement system and processes can prevent corruptions losses that may amount to 162 trillion THB per annum. The government already discloses 40 data points in the CoST standard format with the assurance team identifying issues of public concern. CoST, a multistakeholder initiative, including Thailand, Indonesia, and Timor-Leste among its 20 members, promotes transparency and accountability across the public procurement cycle and develops tools, standards, and guidance for procurement agencies to disclose infrastructure data throughout the

procurement cycle. It has also developed the [Infrastructure Transparency Index](#). The upcoming initiatives in Thailand include the development of a new interactive website with more data and information on construction projects for evidence-based policy making. GPPB of the Philippines is diversifying procurement data sources and has developed a procurement dashboard, which visualizes buying trends, total volume of contracts, gender profiling of procurement contracts.

The vulnerabilities of procurement systems to corrupt practices exposed during Covid-19 pandemic hamper the achievement of the SDGs. UNDP's latest resource guide [Building Transparent and Open Public Procurement Systems for Achieving the SDGs in ASEAN](#) provides a methodology for governments to assess normative gaps and loopholes that can lead to corruption in government contracts.

The guide highlights five main drivers to support public procurement ecosystem: transparent and open public procurement system allowing for open data and transparency; solid citizen participation, support through collective action; monitoring of public procurement and government contracts; oversight institutions looking at red flags and loopholes; inclusive development for the use of technology.

Infrastructure Transparency Index Manual



Technology Trends in Service of Transparent and Open Procurement

16:15 - 17:45 (Bangkok Time, GMT+7), 27 October 2021



With the support of
 UK Government



OPEN CONTRACTING PARTNERSHIP



SESSION 3: TECHNOLOGY TRENDS IN SERVICE OF TRANSPARENT AND OPEN PROCUREMENT

Moderator: Mark Lovatt, CEO, Trident Integrity Solutions and a member of FairBiz Private Sector Advisory Group.

Speakers:

1. Angus Barry, Product Manager, UK Government Digital Services;
2. Minsoo Choi, Deputy Director of e-procurement management division, Public Procurement Service of the Republic of Korea;
3. Kittidej Chantangkul, Director, Anti-Corruption Organization of Thailand (ACT);
4. Dan Shea, Regional Director, Compliance & Litigation, Microsoft Asia;
5. Nanda Sihombing, Asia Senior Manager, Open Contracting Partnership (OCP).

This session focused on country experiences of Thailand, the Republic of Korea, and the UK using technology and (open) data for a more open and transparent procurement and Microsoft discussing potential technological solutions to the global problem of three trillion US dollars lost annually to corruption through public procurement.

Process improvements should precede technological solutions.

Procurements processes should be redesigned and improved before considering any technological solutions and digitalization. However, processes and technology should support each other, and agile methods should be used for prototyping and testing technologies with end-users in mind.

Sometimes solutions can be procedural rather than technological. For example, the government of the UK does not have an artificial intelligence solution to detect price variations from a supplier to different government agencies.

Instead, the supplier signs a single contract for all government, setting a price for any public sector buyer. Framework agreements and contracts can help solve important issues and low-tech solutions may be more appropriate in specific cases.

Legacy technology may be an impediment for many countries.

For example, the Republic of Korea has adopted a central government approach to digitalization of all government functions and developed an e-government platform in 2002 that is still used for public procurement. Although the system was once changed in 2010, with the rapid technological evolution, the system is now old and suffers from lack of standards for government systems and security issues but remains operable.

A new version of KONEPS (integrated e-procurement system) with an improved user experience and integration of new technologies is under development. A solution to legacy technology and the related information system security issues could be a modular approach for new system development. It is also important to avoid locking procurement data with the vendor.

Simple technologies may be a good starting point for improving public procurement systems.

This was the case of the UK, which, like the Republic of Korea, faced multiple legacy issues, but adopted a centralized comprehensive Design System of user interface, implemented procurement data standards like Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS), and developed the digital procurement system in components.

By digitizing tender publication and offering an intuitive user interface the UK Government greatly expanded its supplier

base, providing unprecedented space and market opportunities to thousands of SME's now included in the procurement bidding processes. When developing or improving public procurement systems, governments should focus on the basics: starting with a prototype, using open-source technologies, and improving along the way with users' feedback and support.

The potential of technological innovations is promising and attracts practitioners' attention.

Many participants of the session highlighted the belief that technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, predictive analytics and blockchain could help address public procurement inefficiencies. Private companies, like Microsoft, are looking for partners to address this trillion-dollar problem.

Microsoft has recently launched Anti-Corruption Technology and Solutions (ACTS) initiative and collaborates with Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and governments of Paraguay and Nigeria on anti-corruption efforts. It has identified six areas for technological anti-corruption oversight: government tax systems, customs, competitive procurement, licensing and permits, fiscal and public payments, investigations.

At the country level, the Public Procurement Service of the Republic of Korea relies on 'big data'-based procurement system registering 400,000 clients, which allows for data publication, system's answers to detailed questions, analysis of users' complaints, searches for requests for proposals (RFPs) and other advanced functions. In the Korean case, robotic process automation has led to human resource flexibility, error avoidance and 90% work reduction.



The Importance of Gender Responsive Procurement: A Way to Advance Women's Entrepreneurship

13:00 - 14:00 (Bangkok Time, GMT+7), 28 October 2021



With the support of
 UK Government

Organized by
WeEmpowerAsia

Funded by the European Union

weempowerasia
Gender equality means good business

UN WOMEN

FAIR Biz
 UN DP

SESSION 4: THE IMPORTANCE OF GENDER RESPONSIVE PROCUREMENT

Moderator: Katja Freiwald, Regional Programme Manager WeEmpowerAsia, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

Speakers:

1. Samantha Hung, Chief, Gender Equity Thematic Group, Asian Development Bank (ADB);
2. Maria Prado, Senior Policy Advisor CoST - The Infrastructure Transparency Initiative;
3. Dr. Wimonkan Kosumas, Acting Director General, Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion (OSMEP), Thailand;
4. Mrinalini (Minnie) Venkatachalam, Regional Director, Southeast Asia and Oceania, WEConnect International;
5. Nusra Chankaew, Cluster Procurement Director, SEAT & ANZ, Unilever.

This session focused on mainstreaming gender in procurement and across supply chains, challenges women-owned businesses face and the need for gender-disaggregated data and gender-related targets both in the public and private sectors.

Gender should be mainstreamed across the whole procurement process.

Sourcing from women-owned businesses is not enough to have an impact. Governments should go further and work with gender-responsive suppliers that mainstream gender through their entire supply chains and who measure their gender impact. Public policies should also enable women-led businesses to operate on a more level playing field.

Initiatives like CoST are mainstreaming gender across the procurement cycle in the infrastructure sector from the infrastructure project design, project preparation, tender award and project implementation, with a focus on how gender inequality can be addressed through on-site reporting of

Open procurement data standard is the steppingstone for procurement transparency.

Governments should implement data standards for procurement data based on a simple system of identifiers, such as Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS). Open Contracting Partnership (OCP) has developed OCDS - a standardized, structured and machine readable open contracting data standard.

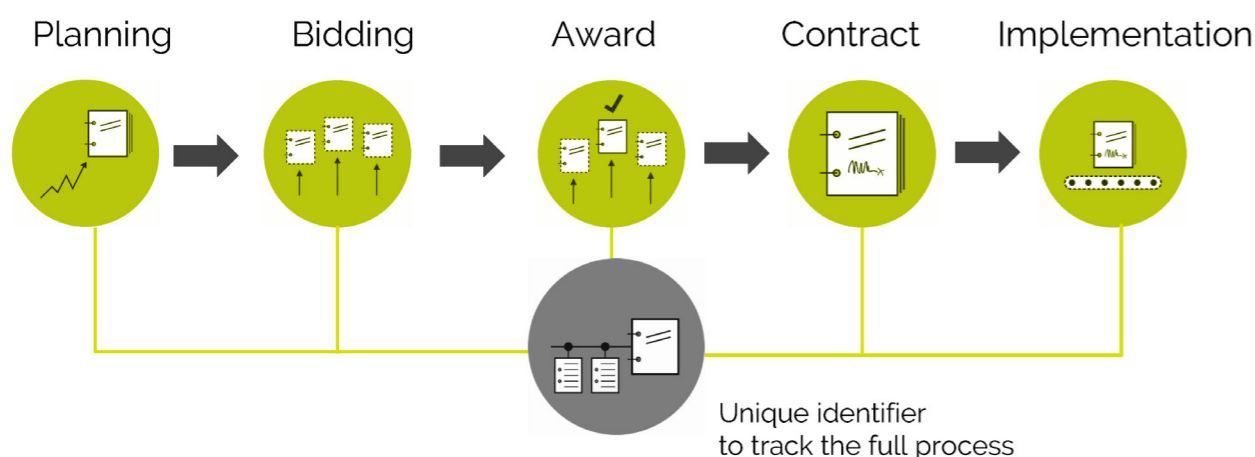
OCDS is used in planning, bidding, awarding, contracting and implementation through a unique identifier to track the full cycle of procurement. OCP collaborated with the stakeholders in Malaysia and Indonesia (Indonesia Corruption Watch) in the region to identify red flags in practice. Public procurement data disclosed has reduced the time required for CSOs to access data from 205 days to 1 minute, for journalists - from 1 month to 5 minutes and increased auditors' capacity from 10 to 20-30 processes. But data access and interoperability remain an issue across many countries. For example, in Thailand local authorities present data in PDF format, which hampers its analysis.

Latest technology cannot guarantee success in the absence of public participation and data disclosure.

Political will and anti-corruption mandate are the building blocks of transparent and efficient public procurement. Stakeholder engagement and data transparency are key enablers.

The Anti-Corruption Organization of Thailand is actively engaging citizens in public procurement monitoring and has recently organized a ACTkathon. It has selected a few projects that will analyze the relationship between government officials and bidders and will track corruption in the field of building and construction in the environment areas through minimum viable products to be developed over the next 2-5 years.

Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS)



Panel B: Managing procurement risks through government and civil society collaboration

Moderator: Ivy Ong, Senior Regional Coordinator for Asia Pacific, Open Government Partnership.

Speakers:

1. Aida Maria Talavera, Director, Citizen Participatory Audit, Commission on Audit, Philippines,
2. Tserensambuu Nurenzedgombo, Head of Electronic Procurement and Information Technology, State Procurement Agency, Mongolia,
3. Kabeer Arora, Urban Researcher, Civic Data Lab, India.

Procurement risks could be identified and addressed not only through infrastructure and digitalization, but equally through capacity building of different stakeholders.

Participation of stakeholders providing timely feedback creates a system of oversight that fosters accountability. Of particular importance is the involvement of younger generations in governance. They need to be educated about public transparency, accountability, and citizen involvement to build a mindset with default consideration for transparency and inclusiveness.

Participatory audits can help identify and manage public procurement risks.

In the Philippines, for example, the Citizen Participatory Audit (CPA) provides a mechanism for sharing of aspirations, goals, and objectives between civil society and the Audit Institution, in which citizens are deputized as members of the audit team and are involved in its different tasks. Furthermore, a strong collaboration is needed between government and the public across sectors, where everyone works together to achieve tangible results.

Open Contracting and standardization of data disclosure leads to transparency and development of new and improved transparency tools by civil society.

For example, the State Procurement Agency in Mongolia automatically generates and publishes procurement data from its electronic government procurement platform in open data format (OCDS) to fight corruption. The release of open data led to the development of derivative products by civil society that increased the ability of citizens to consult governments' decisions on spending. One civil society organization (CSO) integrated open procurement data with declarations of personal interest of public officials and business registry in an accessible form to shed light on the beneficiaries of public procurement contracts. In another example, women in the mineral sector of Mongolia use PowerBI to analyze state-owned mining company contracts. In India, Civil Data Lab mapped procurement data for a state in OCDS format, which allowed state agencies to analyze district performance leading to multiple opportunities for collaboration at the local level.



Expanding the Knowledge on Public Procurement

16:15 - 16:45 (Bangkok Time, GMT+7), 28 October 2021



SESSION 6: EXPANDING THE KNOWLEDGE ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

Moderator: Aida Arutyunova, Programme Manager, Global Project – Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (ACPIS), Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP.

Speakers:

1. Anga R Timilsina, Global Programme Advisor on Anti-corruption, UNDP Global Center for Technology, Innovation, and Sustainable Development,
2. Francesco Checchi, Anti-Corruption Advisor for Southeast Asia, UNODC;
3. Vivien Suerte-Cortez, Thematic Policy Areas at the Open Government Partnership.

This session focused on presenting the upcoming UNDP course on transparent and open public procurement system, which is being finalized. Public sector officials at local and national level, business, civil society organizations, representatives of international organizations and anyone who wishes to obtain a basic understanding of transparent and open public procurement systems could benefit from the course.

The course consists of four modules and provides fundamentals of transparent and open public procurement, countries examples, cases studies and best practices along with tools and resources.

The course is multistakeholder, user friendly and covers all complex topic in a simple way. The course is considered also a very useful tool for citizens and civil society as it provides concrete guidance, tangible examples, and great practices on how to raise the bar of transparency and openness in procurement. Furthermore, there are many synergies on how UNODC can use the course also in public and it may set it as a preliminary course for participants of UNODC activities.



Public Procurement: a Look into the Future

16:45 - 17:30 (Bangkok Time, GMT+7), 28 October 2021



With the support of
 UK Government



OPEN CONTRACTING PARTNERSHIP



UN WOMEN



SESSION 7: A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE OF PROCUREMENT

Moderators: Brook Horowitz, FairBiz Business Integrity Advisor and Darko Pavlovic, FairBiz Project Manager.

Speakers:

1. Clara Feng, Asia Regional Manager, CoST;
2. Mark Lovat, CEO, Trident Integrity Solutions and a member of FairBiz Private Sector Advisory Group;
3. Katja Freiwald, Regional Programme Manager WeEmpowerAsia, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific;
4. Nanda Sihombing, Asia Senior Manager, Open Contracting Partnership;
5. Ivy Ong, Senior Regional Coordinator for Asia Pacific, Open Government Partnership.

This session focused on sharing ideas about taking public procurement and related efforts to the next level for achieving the SDGs by 2030.

Achieving the SDGs in the remaining 9 years through fair, transparent, and sustainable procurement requires systemic reforms. The urgency of these reforms is underpinned by the currently dismal situation, where the COVID-19 pandemic-induced emergency procurement went through the back door, little procurement data is disclosed, and only 1% of global public and private procurement going into the hands of women-owned businesses.

Political will is essential in reforming public procurement system, however, many governments don't know where to start and what to do when it comes to design and implementation of such reforms. There are many examples of successful policies and citizen engagement initiatives that could be shared and learned from. Furthermore, instead of accepting anticipated and budgeted losses, governments could channel funds into development of technologies preventing corruption-induced losses.

The panelists agreed that among success indicators for major public procurement reforms would be for many supporting projects, including those presented in the forum, to be out of business. For example, one of CoST's primary objectives is to ensure that there is no need for CoST in the future.

UNDP could play the role of ecosystem enabler and assist in establishing collaborative platforms and an online facility for procurement officers providing access to quality inexpensive professional advice on public procurement management

Panelists shared important recommendations to the procurement community, which are summarized in the next section on Key Recommendations.

Key recommendations

Presentations and discussions from the event resulted in multiple recommendations to the procurement community that UNDP could act upon and support. The following actions were identified as immediate priorities in moving forward.

1. Improve procurement processes and use available technology.

The pandemic has exposed public procurement weaknesses across all countries and is a turning point for the use of technologies to bring accountability to procurement. As machine learning is accelerating and becoming cheaper and more prevalent, governments may consider using machine learning and artificial intelligence for real time monitoring of money spent and finding red flags before they happen.

The UK example illustrated that there is no need in complicated systems to generate good data. Data disclosure can be guided by standards, such as OCDS without prescription of any platforms.

2. Promote greater transparency for efficiency and greater participation in public procurement.

Corruption is impacted by transparency. On the one hand, with the help of technology, interested people can help create pressure for disclosure of more information and to monitor public spending. On the other hand, transparency of has an impact on business participation, by encouraging businesses to increase their capacity, build resources and participate in fair bidding process.

By analyzing bidding results and ensuring fair and competitive bidding processes, governments can design packages to encourage SME participation.

3. Invest in gender responsive business contracts.

Governments and private sector should view procurement in a systemic way. This means not only investing in women-owned businesses, but in a wider ecosystem. It also means ensuring that procured products and services are supplied by gender-responsive business contracts along the entire supply chain. Partnerships remain essential to advance gender-responsive procurement.

4. Collect gender disaggregated data.

Governments and private sector should collect gender-disaggregated data on procurement to monitor their progress towards gender responsive contracting.

5. Engage citizens and other stakeholders and build their capacity to participate in all processes of public procurement.

Citizens should be brought into conversation when designing and implementing procurement legislation, processes, and technological solutions. This could promote citizens' trust. Capacity building through tools, materials, and trainings for different players could further increase stakeholders' active engagement and monitoring of public procurement.

6. Address corruption at the local level.

Corruption in local administrations is a major problem at the local level as it can hinder SMEs' access to public procurement contracts. However, it is easier to bring together stakeholders at the local level.

7.

Establish a collaborative platform around specific areas of procurement,

such as technology, gender, risk, and others, bringing stakeholders together to share lessons learned, capacity building opportunities and monitoring tools.

8.

Develop an online facility,

where procurement officers could access good quality inexpensive and impartial professional advice and exchange knowledge on procurement practices and public procurement management.

9.

Build capacity and raise awareness across governments on the links between public procurement and SDG 16,

which is a prerequisite for including environment and social aspects in the sustainable public procurement.

Agenda

Day 1 27 October 2021	
Time	Session
13.00-13.20	<p>Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jaco Cilliers, Manager, Bangkok Regional Hub, Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, United Nations Development Programme Rowena Candice M. Ruiz, Executive Director V, Government Procurement Policy Board, Technical support Office, Philippines, and member of ASEAN Secretariat Katia Bazar-Rosen, Southeast Asia Regional Director, Economic and Trade Policy, UK Government
13.20-14.45	<p>Session 1: Public procurement's role in achieving the SDGs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing the Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) Agenda Mushtaq Memon, Regional Coordinator, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Methodology for Assessing Procurement Systems (MAPS) Nicolas Penagos, Head of the MAPS Secretariat, OECD Public procurement's linkages to all the SDGs Darko Pavlovic, Project Manager, UNDP FairBiz <p>Moderator: Akiko Yamamoto, Regional Team Leader – Asia & Pacific Nature, Climate and Energy Team, Bangkok Regional Hub, United Nations Development Programme</p>
14.45-16.00	<p>Session 2: Public procurement ecosystem: a system approach and collective action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and launch of new UNDP Resource Guide Diana Torres, Head of Governance and Participation, UNDP Vietnam Country presentations followed by moderated discussion and Q&A Citizen participation, monitoring and reporting throughout the procurement cycle Pattaraporn Worasaph, Advisor of Fiscal and Financial System Development, The Comptroller General's Department - CGD - Ministry of Finance of Thailand and Clara Feng, Regional Manager of COST, the Infrastructure Transparency Initiative Inclusive and fair environment for public procurement to be accessible by SMEs, businesses owned by women and other traditionally underrepresented groups Dwi Wahyuni Kartianingsih, Director for Business Climate Development and International Affairs of LKPP Setting up a procurement information dashboard and designing a road map for civil society engagement Rowena Candice M. Ruiz, Executive Director V, Government Procurement Policy Board, Technical Support Office, Philippines <p>Moderator: Diana Torres, Head of Governance and Participation, UNDP Vietnam</p>
16.00-16.15	Break

16.15-17.45	<p>Session 3: Technology trends in service of transparent and open procurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of use cases of public procurement technologies in and outside ASEAN Angus Barry, Product Manager, UK Government Digital Services • Korea's experiences on integrity enhancement with technology Minsoo Choi, Deputy Director of e-procurement management division, Public Procurement Service of the Republic of Korea • Anti-Corruption Organization of Thailand- the use of digital transformation in monitoring public procurement Kittidej Chantangkul, Director, Anti-Corruption Organization of Thailand (ACT) • The case of Microsoft Anti-corruption Technology and Solutions (ACTS) Dan Shea, Regional Director, Compliance & Litigation, Microsoft Asia • Applying the Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS) red-flag indicators in Indonesia: Opentender Nanda Sihombing, Asia Senior Manager, Open Contracting Partnership (OCP) <p>Moderator: Mark Lovat, CEO, Trident Integrity Solutions and a member of FairBiz Private Sector Advisory Group</p>
17:45-18:00	<p>Reflections and wrap-up</p> <p>Nicholas Booth, Governance and Peacebuilding Team Leader, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub</p>

Day 2 28 October 2021	
Time	Session
13:00-14.15	<p>Session 4: The importance of gender responsive procurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADB's perspective on gender responsive procurement Samantha Hung, Chief, Gender Equity Thematic Group, Asian Development Bank (ADB) • Improving Data Transparency in the Infrastructure Sector Maria Prado, Senior Policy Advisor CoST - The Infrastructure Transparency Initiative • The role of Office of SME promotion in advancing gender responsive procurement Dr. Wimonkan Kosumas, Acting Director General, Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion (OSMEP), Thailand • Challenges and opportunities of GRP in the Private Sector Mrinalini (Minnie) Venkatachalam, Regional Director, Southeast Asia and Oceania, WEConnect International • Unilever's Commitment and Implementation of GRP Nusra Chankaew, Cluster Procurement Director, SEAT & ANZ, Unilever <p>Moderator: Katja Freiwald, Regional Programme Manager WeEmpowerAsia, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific</p>

14.15-16.00	<p>Session 5: The Do's and Don'ts of Managing Risks in Procurement</p> <p>Panel A: Identifying procurement risks in normal and crisis situations:</p> <p>This set of speakers will present government and civil society approaches in identifying risks in public procurement and how these risks are managed through policies and legislation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procuring in Emergency: Reflecting on the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act Atty. Rowena Candice Ruiz, Executive Director, Government Procurement Policy Board, Philippines • Assessing Procurement Risks for Businesses amid the COVID-19 Pandemic Livio Sarandrea, Lead Advisor and Team Leader of B+HR Asia, United Nations Development Program • Enabling Citizen Participation in Procurement Risk Identification Siti Juliantari Rachman, Deputy Coordinator, Indonesia Corruption Watch • Procurement Risk Pattern Identification and Mitigation Strategy Setya Budi Arijanta, Deputy of Legal Affairs and Dispute Settlement, Indonesia National Public Procurement Agency <p>Moderator: Nanda Sihombing, Asia Senior Manager, Open Contracting Partnership</p> <p>Panel B: Managing procurement risks through government and civil society collaboration</p> <p>This session will discuss how government and civil society partnerships are able to help identify and manage procurement risks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giving Citizens a Seat at the Table through Participatory Audit in the Philippines Aida Maria Talavera, Director, Citizen Participatory Audit, Commission on Audit, Philippines • Mitigating Procurement Risks through Open Contracting Data Standards Tserensambuu Nurenzedgombo, Head of Electronic Procurement and Information Technology, State Procurement Agency, Mongolia • Adapting the Open Contracting Approach in Climate Adaptation Strategy Kabeer Arora, Urban Researcher, Civic Data Lab, India <p>Moderator: Ivy Ong, Senior Regional Coordinator for Asia Pacific, Open Government Partnership</p>
16.00-16.15	Break
16.15-16.45	<p>Session 6: Expanding the knowledge on public procurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing UNDP online course on the fundamentals of public procurement, serving as a primer for all stakeholders Anga R Timilsina, Global Programme Advisor on Anti-corruption, UNDP Global Center for Technology, Innovation, and Sustainable Development • Reflections on the course Francesco Checchi, Anti-Corruption Advisor for Southeast Asia, UNODC Vivien Suerte-Cortez, Thematic Policy Areas at the Open Government Partnership <p>Moderator: Aida Arutyunova, Programme Manager, Global Project - Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (ACPIS), UNDP</p>

16.45-17:30	<p>Session 7: A look into the future of procurement (closing session & evaluation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clara Feng, Asia Regional Manager, CoST • Mark Lovat, CEO, Trident Integrity Solutions and a member of FairBiz Private Sector Advisory Group • Katja Freiwald, Regional Programme Manager WeEmpowerAsia, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific • Nanda Sihombing, Asia Senior Manager, Open Contracting Partnership • Ivy Ong, Senior Regional Coordinator for Asia Pacific, Open Government Partnership <p>Moderators: Brook Horowitz, FairBiz Business Integrity Advisor and Darko Pavlovic, FairBiz Project Manager</p>
--------------------	--

Speakers

Session 1: Public procurement's role in achieving the SDGs



Akiko Yamamoto, Regional Team Leader, Asia and the Pacific, for the Nature, Climate and Energy (NCE) team of UNDP.

As an engineer and a governance expert, Akiko has been working on natural resources governance in the context of sustainable development in the past two decades. Her academic and professional interests have been analyzing how choices and policy decisions are made, what influences them, and how the policies and institutions can be better designed to influence the options we have. She is passionate about safeguarding the nature and the vulnerable while supporting developing countries to advance on their development agenda.

With her current role as the Regional Team Lead, Akiko leads the team of 40+ technical specialist and advisors, coordinates UNDP's strategic and technical advisory and programming support in the field of Nature, Climate and Energy in Asia and the Pacific region. UNDP NCE team addresses development challenges that are linked to natural resources management, climate change, and energy to

improve people's livelihood while protecting the Planet. Prior to the current post, she supported the governments and regional organizations in Africa to strengthen their national or transboundary water and ocean governance and to realize the sustainable blue economy from UNDP Regional Service Center for Africa.

Akiko holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Management and Policy and a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering from the Johns Hopkins University in USA.



Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon, Regional Coordinator for Resource Efficiency and SWITCH-Asia RPAC Project Manager, United Nations Environment Programme, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

Dr. Memon is working with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as a Regional Coordinator for Resource Efficiency in Asia Pacific Office located in Bangkok. He is supporting resource efficiency, sustainable consumption and production, green economy, green financing, sustainable public procurement, sustainable tourism, sustainable industries and various areas for Asia and the

Pacific. Dr. Memon is also Project Manager for the Regional Policy Advocacy Component of the EU-funded SWITCHAsia Programme to promote sustainable consumption and production and uptake of SDG 12 in Asia.

Dr. Memon has a Doctorate degree in environmental and resource economics from Hiroshima University in Japan, a Master's degree in national development and project planning from University of Bradford in UK, a postgraduate diploma in Transport from Karachi University and Chartered Institute of Transport, Bachelors in civil engineering from Mehran University of Engineering and Technology Jamshoro and schooling at Cadet College Petaro in Pakistan. He has also published various papers in international journals and has delivered various training programmes.



Nicolás Penagos is the Head of the MAPS Secretariat housed at the OECD, where he is responsible for maintaining the methodology and carrying out the quality assurance process of MAPS assessments. Before joining the MAPS Secretariat, he was the Head of Latin America at the Open Contracting Partnership. Prior to that, he was the Deputy Director at Colombia's National Procurement Agency. Nicolás holds a double major in industrial engineering and mathematics; and a masters in sustainable development from the University of Paris - Dauphine.



Darko Pavlovic is UNDP Project Manager for Promoting Fair Business Environment in ASEAN.

Darko has 18 years of professional experience on governance issues, specifically focusing on transparency and accountability. He has worked with UNDP in Afghanistan, Serbia, Oslo Governance Centre, and New York managing anti-corruption projects and project evaluations. He has earned Master's Degrees from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs and LLM from Golden Gate University in San Francisco.

Session 2: Public procurement ecosystem: a system approach and collective action



Ms. Diana Torres is UNDP's Assistant Resident Representative and Head of Governance and Participation.

Diana has over 12 years of experience working in the United Nations at HQ, regional and country level, in the field of democratic governance and sustainable development, with expertise on anti-corruption, rule of law and access to justice and women's leadership and participation in decision-making. Diana has extensive policy and programme experience working in Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and in Asia-Pacific. Before her current position in UNDP Viet Nam, Diana served as Regional Anti-corruption Specialist for UNDP's Bureau for Asia and the Pacific based in Bangkok, Thailand. Diana holds a master's degree in Conflict Resolution and Governance from the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and a bachelor's degree in Political Science and International Relations from the Javeriana University (Bogota, Colombia).



Ms. Pattaraporn Vorasaph is Advisor of Fiscal and Financial System Development, The Comptroller General's Department, Ministry of Finance.

Her education background related to Business and Public Administration. She did a Master degree from the University of Central Oklahoma USA and a doctoral degree from Suan Dusit Rajabhat University. She started her working career at the Comptroller General's Department, Ministry of Finance. Her working experiences are Director of Planning Division, Fiscal Analysis Expert Level of Public Financial and Fiscal Management Division, Director of Public Financial and Fiscal Management Division and Deputy Director of the Comptroller General.



Ms. Clara Feng is the Asia Regional Manager of CoST - the Infrastructure Transparency Initiative.

She leads the development and expansion of multi-country programmes in Asia by providing technical support and advice to the region's country managers and multi-stakeholder groups. Her role includes advocating for and influencing policy reform through the development of research and policy activities aimed at improving governance of public infrastructure investments. Clara is a non-practising lawyer, dually qualified as an advocate and solicitor in Singapore and as a solicitor in England & Wales.

As a former litigator and corporate lawyer, she had advised on infrastructure structures and development. Clara has also taught law and managed programmes relating to the rule of law, access to justice and governance in Southeast and South Asia. She holds a LLB (Hons) from the National University of Singapore and received her MSc on the Ann Nolan Reese NPL/NGO Leadership Scholarship from the University of Pennsylvania.



Ms. Dwi Wahyuni Kartianingsih, Director for Business Climate Development and International Affairs of LKPP, is in charge of formulating strategies, policies and guidelines regarding business climate and international cooperation in Government Procurement. She is also the lead negotiator for Government Procurement Chapter in several FTAs.

Ms. Dwi achieved her master degree in economics and public policy from School of Public Policy and Management, Korea Development Institute (KDI), Seoul, Korea.



Ms. Rowena Candice M. Ruiz, Executive Director V, Government Procurement Policy Board, Technical Support Office, Philippines She is a lawyer by profession, having received her Bachelor of Laws Degree from San Beda College of Law. Prior to that, she took her pre-law studies at the De La Salle University. She recently obtained her Master of Laws in Globalisation and Development with Merit Honors at the University of London, through a Chevening Scholarship Programme of the United Kingdom.

Session 3: Technology trends in service of transparent and open procurement



Dr. Mark Lovatt is the principal consultant and CEO of Trident Integrity Solutions Sdn Bhd, a specialist consultancy firm delivering anti-corruption programmes for the corporate sector and government agencies and both in Malaysia and internationally. He is also the co-founder and the Secretary-General of the Business Integrity Alliance. He is a Member of the UNDP Private Sector Advisory Group for SE Asia, working on the use of advanced technology to combat corruption. A qualified Lead Implementer for ISO 37001, he conducts training on anti-corruption for regulators, governance institutions, companies and governments, and regularly speaks at seminars and conferences across the region.

Dr Lovatt is also the co-founder and Secretary-General of the Business Integrity Alliance, Under this position he heads the Transparency & Integrity Committee at European-Malaysian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and supports the Malaysian Government's Governance, Integrity & Anti-Corruption Centre (GIACC) in their business sector work. Dr Lovatt holds a BA (Hons) and PhD in Philosophical Theology from Nottingham University, UK, and has a background in IT, corporate regulation and business development in the power & gas sector.



Nanda Sihombing is the Asia Senior Manager in the Open Contracting Partnership. She is in charge of the implementation, advocacy, network & community building and the regional strategy of open contracting in Asia as well as in the Pacific.

She is an advocate for freedom of information, inclusive & good governance and holds multi-disciplinary background on transparency, anti-corruption, local governance and urban development.

She served as the national OGP Focal Point for the Indonesian CSO Core Team Secretariat in 2013-2015 - the initial team of civil society in Indonesia that expanded the Open Government Partnership movement in the country and in the Asia Pacific region. She has also been a member of the national civil society coalition of Freedom of Information Network Indonesia (FOINI).

Deepening her passion in freedom of information, she started her open contracting journey as the Program Manager in Hivos South East Asia and led the open contracting agenda in the country. In this journey, she continued to advocate for inclusive approach where she worked with civil societies, journalists and governments to engage with historically marginalised and vulnerable groups (ie. persons with disabilities, underprivileged women, women-led micro and small medium enterprises, female journalists) to be a part of the voices that changed public procurement processes in their regions.



Angus Barry is a UK Civil Servant working at the Government Digital Service as a Product Manager. He has worked on digital reform in procurement, policing and the benefits system. More recently he has collaborated with countries in South East Asia aiming to reform their digital procurement systems. In his presentation Angus will present the UK Government's approach to developing digital procurement systems, and reflect on common principles which have been applicable in the different countries he has worked with.



Minsoo Choi is Deputy Director of E-Procurement Management Division at the Public Procurement Service (PPS), Korea, in charge of Managing KONEPS (contracting, evaluation, shopping mall, tax paying system, etc) and improving KONEPS for National Defense Procurement. He has previously worked as a member of Subcontract Management System TF, KONEPS International Implementation TF and investigator and a development manager of Contract Performance Monitoring System in PPS. Mr. Choi is a SQL developer and information processing engineer. He holds a bachelor's degree from Niigata University Japan.



Mr. Kittidej Chantangkul has 10 years of experience in Anti- Bribery and Corruption management system in private sector and has also led corruption prevention in public procurement monitoring through Integrity Pact and Infrastructure Transparency mechanism. Today as a director of the Anti-corruption Organization of Thailand (ACT), he is currently involved in the development of ACT ai, a tool for enhance people to access government procurement data and relevant data sets in convenient format and platform that develop base on needs of the people. He is actively involved in serve Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (CoST).

During 2015, he had involved to establish integrity pact project with ministry of finance. The outcome led to create mechanism in public procurement act by putting independent monitoring group in public procurement projects and be a representative of civil organization in a multi-stakeholder committee incorporate with government unit to govern integrity pact practices for prevention corruption in public procurement process by recruit and nominate independent observers on monitoring high value government spending projects. In 2016, he had a co-author of Integrity Pact: A How to Guide from Practitioners with Transparency International.

Kittidej served previously as a project manager of Collective Action against corruption in Thai institute of Director, where he starts working with Thai private company setting up anticorruption management system since 2012.

Session 4: The importance of gender responsive procurement



Dan Shea lives in Singapore and is Microsoft's Regional Director of Compliance & Litigation for Asia. Dan leads Microsoft's internal compliance investigations and litigation throughout Asia.

Dan joined Microsoft in 2009 and his experience there has included providing global labor and employment law support, as well as conducting and directing global investigations. His extensive experience in investigative work also includes nearly a decade as a litigator in the insurance industry.



Katja Freiwald, leads UN Women's commitment under the women's economic empowerment and migration focus in Asia and the Pacific. She oversees 'WeEmpowerAsia', a UN Women programme funded by and in partnership with the European Union that aims to increase the number of women who lead and participate in business China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. A key component of the programme is to mobilize private sector companies to become more gender-responsive by committing to and implementing the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs), as well as strengthen links Asian and European markets through gender-inclusive trade and supply chains.



Samantha Hung is the Chief of Gender Equity Thematic Group at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) where she provides leadership for advancing gender equality across all aspects of ADB operations. Samantha has over 20 years of experience in gender equality at project, program and policy levels in the Asia Pacific. Before joining ADB 11 years ago, Samantha held gender specialist roles for the New Zealand Agency for International Development, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, UNICEF, Australian Government and the UK Institute of Development Studies.



Mrinalini Venkatachalam is the Regional Director for Southeast Asia and Oceania at WEConnect International, a global nonprofit network that works with multinational corporations and multilateral organizations to generate market-access opportunity for women's business enterprises in over 125 countries through supplier diversity. The organization identifies, educates, registers, and certifies women's business enterprises based outside the U.S. that are at least 51% owned, as well as managed and controlled, by one or more women, and then connects them to qualified buyers across the globe.



Nusra Chankaew is Regional Procurement Director: SEA & ANZ, for Unilever. She Lived across the countries, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Australia, England, and Netherland. She is experienced in leading and developing global teams with diverse background and cultures. A mother of one, who has strong passion in Diversity and Sustainability.

Group as well as a Chairperson of ASEAN Small and Medium Enterprise Working Group in 2015. She holds Ph. D. in Foreign Affairs (majoring in International Political Economy, University of Virginia, USA). Her 30 years of experience and expertise in foreign affairs and international cooperation as well as solid background in SMEs promotion would allow her to prominently contribute to this event.



Maria Prado is a Senior Policy Advisor at CoST - The Infrastructure Transparency Initiative. Her work focuses on providing evidence-based advice to improve accountability and transparency in public infrastructure. She leads CoST efforts to promote greater gender-equality across its member programmes and the infrastructure sector more broadly.



Dr. Wimonkan Kosumas is now Acting Director General, has been designated as Deputy Director General of Office of Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion of Thailand since 2010. With her main responsibilities in international cooperation issues, during 2013-2014 she served as a Chairperson of APEC Small and Medium Enterprises Working

Session 5: The Do's and Don'ts of Managing Risks in Procurement

Panel 1: Identifying procurement risks in normal and crisis situations



Rowena Candice M. Ruiz is a lawyer by profession, having received her Bachelor of Laws Degree from San Beda College of Law. Prior to that, she took her pre-law studies at the De La Salle University. She recently obtained her Master of Laws in Globalisation and Development with Merit Honors at the University of London, through a Chevening Scholarship Programme of the United Kingdom.

Before assuming the position of Executive Director, she worked at the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for more than ten (10) years where she led the Office of the Legal Service. While at DBM, Executive Director Ruiz crafted special and general provisions in the proposed national budget and recommended the President's veto actions on the enrolled appropriations bill.

Executive Director Ruiz is no stranger to government procurement as she was part of the Technical Working Group on the revision of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 9184 and has been a recognized trainer of GPPB-TSO since 2014.



Livio Sarandrea, is UNDP's Global Lead for Business and Human Rights. He is based in Bangkok from where, since 2016, he has also been managing the program: Business and Human Rights in Asia (B+HR Asia) in support of the implementation of the UNGPs on BHR in 11 countries.

Livio started his international career in Bosnia and Herzegovina where he served from 1997 to 2003 first as Senior Human Rights Officer for the OSCE and from 2001 for the UN as Chief of the Bihac Regional Human Rights Office.

From 2003 to 2010 he worked for the OSCE Mission to Serbia as Senior Coordinator for Judicial and Legal Reform and Deputy Head of Rule of Law and Human Rights Department.

Livio Joined UNDP Mozambique in 2011 where he worked as an embedded Chief Technical Adviser in the Ministry of Justice and the National Human Rights Commission.

Livio is from Italy and holds a Law Degree with specialization in International and Criminal Law from La Sapienza University, Rome.



Siti Juliantari Rachman has been advocating for the anti-corruption movement since 2012 and currently serves as Deputy Coordinator of Indonesia Corruption Watch – an anti-corruption watchdog consistently listed in the Global Go To Think Thank Index.

As a research-driven activist, she has been involved in pushing for public procurement policy and system reforms through multiple data-driven research collaborating with civil society networks across the country, leading public campaigns with local and national journalists, and actively involved as CSO representative in transparency networks like the Open Government Partnership and Freedom of Information.

Previously, she was managing ICW's effort to monitor public service delivery, research, public campaign, and knowledge management before serving as deputy coordinator of ICW. Her most recent research is about Impact Analysis on the 10 Years of Procurement in Indonesia that will be released at the end of this year.



Setya Budi Arijanta has 25 years' experience in Economic Cooperation Administration and Government Procurement including Policies, Goods/Services in Indonesia. His current position is the Deputy for Legal Affairs and Dispute Settlement in LKPP. He graduated as a Bachelor Law majoring in Civil Law and got his master's degree in Notary Program from Gadjah Mada University.

He started his career as Planning Staff at Bappenas Foreign Economic Cooperation Administration Bureau. There, he took care of the administration of International multilateral and bilateral economic cooperation, specifically OECF/Japan.

In Bappenas, he developed his career as becoming the Head of Subdivision of Development Financing and Balancing Funds (2000) and Head of Section for the Allocation of Development Financing and Balancing Funds at the Directorate of Bappenas Financing Systems and Procedures (2001), Head of Section for the Implementation of the National Budget in the Directorate of Development Planning Systems and Procedures (2003), and Head of Technical Services and Bappenas Procurement Information (2006).

He continued his career in LKPP (Lembaga Kebijakan Pengadaan Barang/Jasa) or National Public Procurement Agency (NPPA) since 2008 as a *Head of Sub-Director of Expert Witness Procurement Policy*. The role was newly established, which is the first legacy in LKPP.

He became the director for 5 years from 2010 until 2015 as the Director of Handling Institutional Legal Issues, the Director of Strategy Development and the General Procurement Policy, and the Director of Institutional Legal Issues. In 2019 he became an Executive Secretary for 2 years in LKPP, in May 2021 he was appointed as Deputy for Legal Affairs and Dispute Settlement LKPP.

As he started his career in procurement, he became one of the members on the Presidential Drafting team for Presidential Regulation No. 80 of 2003 concerning Guidelines for the Implementation of Government Goods / Services Procurement. He was also a member of the Public Goods and Service Procurement Development Team in 2005, as well as a member of the Drafting Team of Presidential Regulation Regarding Guidelines for Electronic Procurement Implementation in 2006.

Beside his early contribution in Procurement Government Goods/ Services, He was also an expert witness in procurement cases-corruption-in Corruption Crime Trials (KPK, Attorney General's Office, and RI Police), and the Trial of Business Competition Supervisory Commission (KPPU). He was a witness with more than 30 cases in Procurement which were Corruption. Now becoming the Deputy for Legal Affairs and Dispute Settlement, he stills contributes to the drafting team for the law on Procurement of Public Goods/Services, he teaches procurement as a certify expertise in the Procurement of Goods/Services of the Government in all local or central government agencies and teaches a subject procurement of Goods/ Services in the Master of Management program in the Regional Finance Department at Trisakti.

Panel 2: Managing procurement risks through government and civil society collaboration



Aida Maria Talavera is the Director of the Project Management Office, Office of the Chairperson, Commission on Audit (COA), the Supreme Audit Institution of the Philippines. Her Office manages the Citizen Participatory Audit or CPA technique and reform strategy.

She has worked with the COA for 40 years in various capacities. She has extensive experiences in the areas of financial auditing, performance auditing, fraud auditing, technical support services to auditing, competency building, public policy analysis, and in the Citizen Participatory Audit technique and reform strategy. She also performed oversight functions over the COA's external auditors of the United Nations Environment Program in Kenya.

Her special assignment as Team Supervisor of various fraud audit teams of the Special Task Force on Local Government Units, led to the filing of cases and conviction of many local government officials.

She has also worked as a consultant of the World Bank and the Development Academy of the Philippines.

She is an alum of the Mapua Institute of Technology where she obtained her

bachelor's degrees in Civil Engineering and in Environmental and Sanitary Engineering.

She holds a master's degree in National Security Administration (MNSA) from the National Defense College of the Philippines. She graduated class valedictorian and was awarded the gold medal for best thesis. She was also commissioned as a Lieutenant Colonel of the Philippine Army.

After her MNSA scholarship, the Armed Forces of the Philippines Reserve Command (AFPRESKOM) sent her to the Command and General Staff College where she completed the master's level Command and General Staff Course. She has also completed academic courses in a special Program leading to a master's degree in Accountancy.

She is also an International Auditor Fellow of the United States Government Accountability Office (USGAO). Her Strategy Paper in the Fellowship Program became the main basis for the implementation of the CPA.

She has represented the COA in various experience sharing activities on the CPA, requested by Supreme Audit Institutions of other countries. For the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions or INTOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing, she developed the *Experience Sharing Material on the CPA in the Context of Environmental Auditing*.



Tserensambuu Nurenzedgombo is an ICT and Public procurement expert with 15 years of experience in web application development, system analysis, business architecture and ICT development including work for governmental projects, 10 years of experience in Public Procurement.

Currently, He is the Head of Electronic Procurement and Information technology division in the State procurement agency of Mongolia. In this role, He leads the design and development of the e-Procurement system of Mongolia.

He has previously worked for the Government agency for Policy coordination on State Property, Ministry of Finance and programmer in the Software development companies. He has been software developer of various IT systems including Mongolian Budget planning information system, e-Balancing system, National Zip code system and Government data-sharing infrastructure. Also, he is a former member of the Information Technology Committee under the Prime Minister.



Kabeer Arora is a researcher and program manager, currently leading project on open contracting at CivicDataLab. He has worked largely on the intersection of social sciences and urban development.

He trained as an architect and then studied urban design to realize the importance of research needed before making any intervention.

He believes in democratizing research and for this likes to communicate his work in different forms (reports, books, essays, stories), maps and illustrations, to lectures, workshops and discussions. He has worked on large public projects to small houses as an architect, taught architecture history at university, helped conceptualizing and managing pedagogical and engagement programs for non-profit, worked on research projects and communicated research knowledge to various citizen groups in popular forms.

Currently he is working at CivicDataLab on exploring potential of open contracting in increasing civic engagement in governance processes.

Session 6: Expanding the knowledge on public procurement



Mr. Anga R. Timilsina, UNDP's Global Programme Advisor on Anti-corruption.

Anga is currently the UNDP's Global Programme Advisor on Anti-corruption and provides overall supervision and guidance to the UNDP's Global Anti-corruption project titled "Anti-corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (ACPIS)", which is UNDP's flagship initiative for policy and programme support to UNDP programme countries. Anga has provided governance and anti-corruption technical support to more than 40 countries, including support for strengthening the capacity of government institutions, business sector, CSOs, media, youth and women's networks to prevent and combat corruption. Anga also coordinates UNDP's anti-corruption efforts at the global level including global advocacy and awareness, research and analysis, donor and partner coordination.

Anga was previously with RAND Cooperation, a U.S.-based nonprofit institution, where he worked on issues ranging from post-conflict reconstruction to health and education reforms in many developing countries. Anga has a Ph.D. in Policy Analysis from the Pardee RAND Graduate School and a master's degree in international development from the International University of Japan. He also brings his experiences working for various non-governmental agencies in Nepal.



Ms. Aida Arutyunova, Programme Manager, UNDP's Global Anti-Corruption Initiative

Ms. Aida Arutyunova is with UNDP's Global Anti-Corruption Initiative since 2010. Currently she manages UNDP's Global Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (ACPIS) project based in UNDP Singapore Global Policy Center. She manages activities of the programme that relate to work on transparency, accountability and anti-corruption specifically focusing on social accountability initiatives, work in sectors (education, health and water), gender and local governance, integration of anti-corruption into country programmes, strategies, etc. Ms. Arutyunova works with approximately 40 UNDP Country Offices on yearly basis and liaises with different partners such as U4, Integrity Action, Transparency International, etc. in regard to joint activities. Ms. Arutyunova brings 20 years of experience in working on development and humanitarian issues. Prior to working in UNDP Headquarters, Ms. Arutyunova managed an Anti-Corruption Programme in UNDP Armenia Country Office as well as worked for European Union (EUAG) as a national advisor to the Government of Armenia on the issues of anti-corruption, transparency, accountability and e-governance. Ms. Arutyunova also brings 6 years of experience with Catholic Relief Services where she managed projects focusing on community development, conflict prevention,

anti-corruption etc. She also worked for UN's Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome and managed the Central Asian portfolio of programmes. Ms. Arutyunova holds Master's Degree in Political Science and International Relations from the American University of Armenia.



Francesco Checchi, Anti-Corruption Regional Adviser for Southeast Asia, UNODC.

Mr. Checchi has more than 15 years of experience working in international organizations in the area of good governance, public administration reform and anti-corruption. Mr Checchi's work focuses on providing support to Member states of the UN Convention Against Corruption for implementation of the Convention; he provides expert advice and input to the development and implementation of technical assistance programmes in anti-corruption at the regional and/or national levels in Southeast Asia and South Asia, in accordance with the UNODC's overall strategy and as an integral element of the UNODC Regional Programme.

Main areas of Activity of Mr Checchi's expertise are: developing anti-corruption policy and regulatory frameworks at national and sub-national levels; providing technical assistance to independent agencies and governmental units dealing with anti-corruption or responsible for promoting transparency and accountability as well as sound public financial management in public services; development of integrity and disciplinary mechanisms in the line Ministries; development of anti-corruption

legal frameworks and supporting criminal justice mechanisms to fight corruption.

Previously Mr Checchi worked as Anti-Corruption Specialist at the UNDP covering Eastern Europe and Central Asia; he collaborated with several NGOs on democratic governance and human rights related issues. He holds a BA in Political Sciences of the University of Pisa (Italy) and a Master Degree of the Sorbonne University in Public Administration.



Vivien Suerte-Cortez is currently a consultant for the Thematic Policy Areas at the Open Government Partnership. Prior to joining the OGP, she was with Hivos Southeast Asia, and managed the Philippine portfolio of the Open Up Contracting and the Making All Voices Count programs. She also worked at the Affiliated Network for Social Accountability in East Asia and the Pacific (ANSA-EAP) where she led the team that successfully advocated for the institutionalization of the Citizen Participatory Audit program in the Philippines' Commission on Audit. From time to time, she has also internationally consulted on projects that involved anti-corruption, open contracting and public procurement, social accountability, stakeholder engagement, and public finance management.

Session 7: A look into the future of procurement



A graduate of Cambridge and Harvard Universities, **Brook Horowitz** was part of the team that led GE's expansion in Eastern Europe during the 90s. In 2004 he joined the International Business Leaders Forum, where he was Director of Business Standards, spearheading the organisation's programmes in emerging markets, in particular China and Russia. In 2014, he co-founded IBLF Global, an NGO promoting responsible business through collective action. Since then, Brook has led on project design and management of anti-corruption projects in Russia, Turkey, Central Asia and South East Asia. Projects have included creating and developing a Government-Business Integrity Initiative in Vietnam, enabling SMEs to bid for business in the public procurement process of Kyrgyz Republic, and advising the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and Department for International Trade (DIT) on their Business Integrity Initiative for British exporters. From 2013-2015, he played a variety of leadership roles in the B20, a multi-stakeholder dialogue between the companies and governments of the G20 countries. With UNDP, he is advising the organisation on their business integrity strategy in ASEAN and on the creation of a new Integrity Hub.



Darko Pavlovic is UNDP Project Manager for Promoting Fair Business Environment in ASEAN. Darko has 18 years of professional experience on governance issues, specifically focusing on transparency and accountability. He has worked with UNDP in Afghanistan, Serbia, Oslo Governance Centre, and New York managing anti-corruption projects and project evaluations. He has earned Master's Degrees from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs and LL.M from Golden Gate University in San Francisco.



Clara Feng is the Asia Regional Manager of CoST - the Infrastructure Transparency Initiative. She leads the development and expansion of multi-country programmes in Asia by providing technical support and advice to the region's country managers and multi-stakeholder groups. Her role includes advocating for and influencing policy reform through the development of research and policy activities aimed at improving governance of public infrastructure investments. Clara is a non-practising lawyer, dually qualified as an advocate and solicitor in Singapore and as a solicitor in England & Wales.

As a former litigator and corporate lawyer, she had advised on infrastructure structures and development. Clara has also taught law and managed programmes relating to the rule of law, access to justice and governance in Southeast and South Asia. She holds a LLB (Hons) from the National University of Singapore and received her MSc on the Ann Nolan Reese NPL/NGO Leadership Scholarship from the University of Pennsylvania.



Dr. Mark Lovatt is the principal consultant and CEO of Trident Integrity Solutions Sdn Bhd, a specialist consultancy firm delivering anticorruption programmes for the corporate sector and government agencies and both in Malaysia and internationally. He is also the cofounder and the Secretary-General of the Business Integrity Alliance. He is a Member of the UNDP Private Sector Advisory Group for SE Asia, working on the use of advanced technology to combat corruption. A qualified Lead Implementer for ISO 37001, he conducts training on anticorruption for regulators, governance institutions, companies and governments, and regularly speaks at seminars and conferences across the region.

Dr Lovatt is also the co-founder and Secretary-General of the Business Integrity Alliance, Under this position he heads the Transparency & Integrity Committee at European-Malaysian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and supports the Malaysian Government's Governance, Integrity & Anti-Corruption Centre (GIACC) in their business sector work.

Dr Lovatt holds a BA (Hons) and PhD in Philosophical Theology from Nottingham University, UK, and has a background in IT, corporate regulation and business development in the power & gas sector.



Katja Freiwald, leads UN Women's commitment under the women's economic empowerment and migration focus in Asia and the Pacific. She oversees 'WeEmpowerAsia', a UN Women programme funded by and in partnership with the European Union that aims to increase the number of women who lead and participate in business China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. A key component of the programme is to mobilize private sector companies to become more gender-responsive by committing to and implementing the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs), as well as strengthen links Asian and European markets through gender-inclusive trade and supply chains.



Nanda Sihombing is the Senior Manager for Asia in the Open Contracting Partnership. She is in charge of the implementation, advocacy, network & community building and the regional strategy of open contracting in Asia as well as in the Pacific.

She is an advocate for freedom of information, inclusive & good governance and holds multi-disciplinary background on transparency, anti-corruption, local governance and urban development. She served as the national OGP Focal Point for the Indonesian CSO Core Team Secretariat in 2013-2015 - the initial team of civil society in Indonesia that expanded the Open Government Partnership movement in the country and in the Asia Pacific region. She has also been a member of the national civil society coalition of Freedom of Information Network Indonesia (FOINI).

Deepening her passion in freedom of information, she started her open contracting journey as the Program Manager in Hivos South East Asia and led the open contracting agenda in the country. In this journey, she continued to advocate for inclusive approach where she worked with civil societies, journalists and governments to engage with historically marginalised and vulnerable groups (ie. persons with disabilities, underprivileged women, women-led micro and small medium enterprises, female journalists) to be a part of the voices that changed public procurement processes in their regions.



Ivy Ong is a Senior Regional Coordinator for Asia-Pacific at the Open Government Partnership. Her main role is to provide guidance and assistance to governments, civil society organisations, and other key actors across Asia-Pacific, supporting the development and implementation of open government reforms. She assists in shaping the enhanced co-creation and implementation services for participating countries in Asia-Pacific.

Ivy's past lives include: shaping the design and implementation of the first ever Metro Manila Civic Innovation Fellowship at Five by Five, leading the Open Data Lab Jakarta of the World Wide Web Foundation as its Lab Director, and serving as Co-coordinator and Outreach Lead of the inter-government agency team that built the Open Data Philippines program. She was in government service from 2012 to 2016 as senior staff at the Office of the Chief Information Officer at the Department of Budget and Management, Government of the Philippines. Prior to this, she planned and co-designed leadership development programs for public sector leaders at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) Center for Bridging Leadership and worked with communities and local governments to build multi-stakeholder teams to improve public education.

