

INTEGRATING SOCIO-ECONOMIC OBJECTIVES AND  
TRANSPARENCY IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT -  
THE SOUTH AFRICAN EXPERIENCE

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KEY ISSUES

1. Public Procurement - Instrument of Government Policy
2. Understand the imperatives of developing countries, especially the attainment of socio-economic objectives.
3. Focus on managing corruption (rather than elimination)
4. Pillars of Public Procurement
5. Essential component - Access to information
6. South African Experience

THE NEED TO PROMOTE SOCIO-ECONOMIC OBJECTIVES

- DEVELOPING COUNTRIES - OBJECTIVES OF PROCUREMENT REFORM
  - Good Governance
  - Achieving socio-economic objectives
- CLEARLY IDENTIFY AND DEFINE OBJECTIVES
  - Promote SMMEs
  - Job creation
  - Local resources and capacity building
  - Training and skills transfer
  - Affirmative (targeted) procurement
  - Community participation
- TARGET GROUPS AND GOALS MUST BE:
  - Definable
  - Measurable
  - Verifiable
  - Auditable

### PILLARS OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

- Political Endorsement and Commitment
- Enabling Legislation and Regulations
- Well Trained and Competent Officials
- Informed, Willing and Supportive Businesses

### ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- Notification of tender opportunities
- Uniformity in tender documentation
- Clear adjudication criteria
- Systems for de-briefing
- Code of Ethics
- Procurement Ombudsperson

### SOUTH AFRICAN EXPERIENCE

- CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS
- CONCEPT OF VALUE FOR MONEY
  - Lowest price Vs Best Value
  - Product Vs Process
  - Human Resource Specifications
  - Development Objective / Price Mechanism
- MONITORING AND EVALUATION
  - Verifying information
  - Contract monitoring
  - Penalties for non-compliance
- LEGAL PRECEDENTS