

## PROCUREMENT PLAN (Textual Part)

**Project information:** Maldives Competitiveness and Growth Project (MCGP)

**Project Number:** P179286

**Project Implementation agency:** Ministry of Finance, Maldives

**Date of the Procurement Plan:** 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Period covered by this Procurement Plan:** 18 months

Preamble

In accordance with paragraph 5.9 of the “World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” (July 2016, Revised November 2017, July 2018 and November 2020) (“Procurement Regulations”) the Bank’s Systematic Tracking and Exchanges in Procurement (STEP) system will be used to prepare, clear and update Procurement Plans and conduct all procurement transactions for the Project.

This textual part along with the Procurement Plan tables in STEP constitute the Procurement Plan for the Project. The following conditions apply to all procurement activities in the Procurement Plan. The other elements of the Procurement Plan as required under paragraph 4.4 of the Procurement Regulations are set forth in STEP.

***The Bank’s Standard Procurement Documents:*** shall be used for all contracts subject to international competitive procurement and those contracts as specified in the Procurement Plan tables in STEP.

**Project Procurement Strategy for Development (PPSD):** PPSD is under review

### Procurement methods.

#### 1. Procurement methods, Threshold and Prior Review Thresholds.

Table 01 below describes various procurement methods, threshold and prior review threshold applicable for activities financed by the loan. These, along with agreed thresholds, will be reproduced in the Procurement Plan. The thresholds indicated in apply to the initial 18-months of implementation period and are based on the procurement performance of the project; these thresholds may be subsequently modified.

**Table-1: Project Procurement Methods - Thresholds**

<b>Expenditure Category</b>	<b>Contract Value (Threshold)</b>	<b>Procurement Method</b>	<b>Contracts/Processes Subject to Prior Review</b>
Works	≥ US\$1,000,000	Open- Competitive-International	All contracts over US\$1,000,000 equivalent
	< US\$1,000,000	Open-Competitive- National	
	≤ US\$50,000	Request for Quotations	
	----- --	Direct Selection	
Goods and non-consulting services	≥ US\$100,000	Open- Competitive-International	All contracts over US\$500,000 equivalent
	< US\$100,000	Open-Competitive- National	
	≤ US\$25,000	Request for Quotations	
	----- --	Direct Selection	
Consultant services (firms)	> US\$200,000	All competitive methods; advertise internationally	All contracts over US\$250,000 equivalent
	≤ US\$200,000	All competitive methods; advertise locally	
	----- --	Selection of Types of Consultants - UN Agencies	
Individual consultants	----- --	Approved Selection Methods and Arrangements of Individual Consultant per the applicable 'Borrower Regulations'	All contracts over US\$50,000 equivalent

- a. In addition to above, and irrespective of the contract value, the following procurement activities are subject to the Bank's procurement prior review:
- procurement processes involving contract negotiations, as described in Section VI, paragraphs 6.34-36, of the Procurement Regulation;
  - competitive dialogue;
  - sustainable procurement;
  - selection of probity assurance providers, as described in Section III, paragraph 3.3 of the Procurement Regulations; and
  - best and final offer.
2. The above thresholds are for the initial 18-month implementation period; based on the procurement performance of the project, these thresholds

may be subsequently modified. Even for large-value post review cases, the inputs of the World Bank on technical specifications/ToR will be obtained by the project. The prior review thresholds will also be indicated in the Procurement Plan. The **Procurement** Plan will be subsequently updated annually (or at any other time if required) and will reflect any change in the prior review thresholds.

### **National procurement procedure conditions (NPP conditions).**

**1.** In accordance with paragraph 5.3 of the Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (November 2020) (“Procurement Regulations”), when approaching the national market, as agreed in the PP tables in STEP, the country’s own procurement procedures may be used. When the Borrower, for the procurement of goods, works and non-consulting services, uses its own national open competitive procurement arrangements as set forth in Maldives’ Public Finance Regulations 2017, Chapter 10 – State Procurement System, such arrangements shall be subject to paragraph 5.4 of the World Bank’s Procurement Regulations and the following conditions:

- a) Only bidding documents acceptable to the World Bank shall be used for all national open competitive procurement.
- b) The request for bids/request for proposals document shall require that bidders/proposers submitting bids/proposals present a signed acceptance at the time of bidding, to be incorporated in any resulting contracts, confirming application of, and compliance with, the World Bank’s Anti-Corruption Guidelines, including without limitation the World Bank’s right to sanction and the World Bank’s inspection and audit rights.
- c) The eligibility of bidders shall be as defined under Section III of the World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (Procurement Regulations): accordingly, no bidder or potential bidder shall be declared ineligible for contracts financed by the World Bank for reasons other than those provided in Section III of the Procurement Regulations.
- d) In case of Open Tendering, the receipt of less than three bids shall not be considered grounds for cancellation and re-invitation of bids
- e) Bid shall not be rejected merely on the basis of a comparison with an official estimate.

In case of any *inconsistency* between the procurement arrangements based on Maldives’ Public Finance Regulations 2017 and the World Bank’s Procurement Regulations, the latter shall prevail.

***Leased Assets*** as specified under paragraph 5.10 of the Procurement Regulations: **Not Applicable**

***Procurement of Second Hand Goods*** as specified under paragraph 5.11 of the Procurement Regulations: **Not Applicable**

***Domestic Preference*** as specified under paragraph 5.51 of the Procurement Regulations:

Goods: is not applicable

Works: is not applicable

**Prior review by World Bank.**

In the case of contracts subject to prior review, the Implementing Agencies will seek the World Bank's no objection before granting/agreeing to: (a) an extension of the stipulated time for performance of a contract that either increases the contract price or has an impact on the planned completion of the project; (b) any substantial modification of the scope of works, goods, non-consulting services, or consulting services and other significant changes to the terms and conditions of the contract; (c) any variation order or amendment (except in cases of extreme urgency) that, singly or combined with all variation orders or amendments previously issued, increases the original contract amount by more than 15 percent; and (d) the proposed termination of the contract. Complaints received in all prior review cases shall be sent to Bank for review and the response to the complaint in such cases, shall be cleared with the Bank. Complaints with allegations of fraud and corruption, shall be shared with Bank, irrespective of the thresholds.

All contracts not covered under prior review by the Bank will be subject to post review during implementation support missions and/or special post review missions, including missions by consultants hired by the Bank. The Bank may conduct, at any time, Independent Procurement Reviews of all the contracts financed under the loan. Even for Post Review cases, the inputs of Bank on Technical Specifications/TORs will be obtained by project.

**Disclosure of procurement information.** The following documents shall be disclosed on the project/state websites: (i) a Procurement Plan and updates; (ii) an invitation for bids for goods and works for all contracts; (iii) request for expression of interest for selection/hiring of consulting services; (iv) contract awards of goods and works procured under international and national procedures; (v) a list of contracts/purchase orders placed under shopping procedures on a quarterly basis; (vi) a list of contracts under direct contracting (DC) on a quarterly basis; (vii) a monthly financial and physical progress report of all contracts; and (viii) an action taken report on the complaints received on a quarterly basis.

The following details shall be sent to the World Bank for publishing on the United Nations Development Business and the World Bank external website: (a) an invitation for bids for procurement of goods and works using open international procedures, (b) contract award details of all procurement of goods and works using open international procedure, and (c) a list of contracts/purchase orders placed following DC procedures on a quarterly basis.

Further, IAs will also publish on their websites any information required under the provisions of 'suo moto' disclosure as specified by the Right to Information Act.

## Procurement Packages for key procurements - for 18 months

Request for Bids									
	Activity Reference No. / Description:	Review Type	Category	Market Approach	Procurement Process	Estimated Amount (US\$ million)	Specific Procurement Notice	Bid Evaluation Report and Recommendation for Award	Signed Contract
							Planned	Planned	Planned
1	Hardware Procurement for Digital Infrastructure	Prior	Goods	Open - International	Open International (RFB)	0.50			

Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS), Fixed Budget Based Selection (FBBS), Least Cost Based Selection (LCBS)							
	Activity Reference No. / Description:	Review Type	Category	Market Approach	Estimated Amount (US\$)	Activity Status	Signed Contract
							Planned
1	Program Management Firm	Prior	Consultant Services	Open International	2,500,000		
2	Software Development for Digital Infrastructure - multiple Firms	Prior	Consultant Services	Open National / International	2,250,000		
3	Specialists for Implementing digital infrastructure - multiple individual consultants	Prior	Consultant Services	Open National / International	750,000		
4	SOE Expert Consultants - multiple individuals	Prior	Consultant Services	Open International	2,500,000		
5	Subsidy Reform Consultants - multiple individuals	Prior	Individual Consultant	International	300,000		
6	SOE Reform Expert - Individual	Prior	Individual Consultant	International	700,000		

<b>Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS), Fixed Budget Based Selection (FBBS), Least Cost Based Selection (LCBS)</b>							
	Activity Reference No. / Description:	Review Type	Category	Market Approach	Estimated Amount (US\$)	Activity Status	Signed Contract Planned
7	Public Relations Firm	Prior	Consultant Services	Open International	500,000		

**PROCUREMENT PLAN** Maldives : Maldives Competitiveness and Growth Project

**General Information**  
**Country:** Maldives **Bank's Approval Date of the Original Procurement Plan:** 2023-04-24  
**Revised Plan Date(s):** (comma delineated, leave blank) 2024-02-27  
**Project ID:** P179286 **GPN Date:** 2023-03-13  
**Project Name:** Maldives Competitiveness and Growth Project  
**Loan / Credit No.:** / , IDA / 73050  
**Executing Agency:** Ministry of Finance, Maldives

Activity Reference No. / Description	Loan / Credit No.	Component	Review Type	Method	Market Approach	Procurement Process	Prequalification (Y/N)	High SEA/SH Risk	Procurement Document Type	Estimated Amount (US\$)	Actual Amount (US\$)	Process Status	Draft Pre-qualification Documents		Prequalification Evaluation Report		Draft Bidding Document / Justification		Specific Procurement Notice / Invitation		Bidding Documents Issued		Proposal Submission / Opening / Minutes		Bid Evaluation Report and Recommendation for Award		Signed Contract		Contract Completion
													Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	

Activity Reference No. / Description	Loan / Credit No.	Component	Review Type	Method	Market Approach	Procurement Process	Prequalification (Y/N)	Estimated Amount (US\$)	Actual Amount (US\$)	Process Status	Draft Pre-qualification Documents		Prequalification Evaluation Report		Draft Bidding Document / Justification		Specific Procurement Notice / Invitation		Bidding Documents Issued		Proposal Submission / Opening / Minutes		Bid Evaluation Report and Recommendation for Award		Signed Contract		Contract Completion
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Activity Reference No. / Description	Loan / Credit No.	Component	Review Type	Method	Market Approach	Procurement Process	Prequalification (Y/N)	Estimated Amount (US\$)	Actual Amount (US\$)	Process Status	Draft Pre-qualification Documents		Prequalification Evaluation Report		Draft Bidding Document / Justification		Specific Procurement Notice / Invitation		Bidding Documents Issued		Proposal Submission / Opening / Minutes		Bid Evaluation Report and Recommendation for Award		Signed Contract		Contract Completion
											Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	

Activity Reference No. / Description	Loan / Credit No.	Component	Review Type	Method	Market Approach	Contract Type	Estimated Amount (US\$)	Actual Amount (US\$)	Process Status	Terms of Reference		Expression of Interest Notice		Short List and Draft Request for Proposals		Request for Proposals as Issued		Opening of Technical Proposals / Minutes		Evaluation of Technical Proposal		Combined Evaluation Report and Draft Negotiated Contract		Signed Contract		Contract Completion
										Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	

Activity Reference No. / Description	Loan / Credit No.	Component	Review Type	Method	Market Approach	Contract Type	Estimated Amount (US\$)	Actual Amount (US\$)	Process Status	Terms of Reference		Invitation to Identify/Selected Consultant		Draft Negotiated Contract		Signed Contract		Contract Completion				
										Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual					
MV-MOF-MV-407598-CS-IND V / SME Technology Gap Assessment	IDA / 73050	Component 2: Fostering SME Competitiveness	Prior	Quality And Cost-Based Selection	Open - International		150,000.00	0.00	Under Implementation	2024-02-25	2024-02-20	2024-03-17		2024-04-30			2024-05-28	2024-06-27	2024-08-01		2024-09-05	2025-09-05
MV-MOF-MV-357238-CS-IND V / Procurement Specialist (National)	/	Component 3: Project Management	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - National		162,000.00	0.00	Under Implementation	2023-04-23	2023-04-25	2023-05-18	2023-09-05	2023-05-23	2024-01-02	2023-06-09		2028-06-08				
MV-MOF-MV-357241-CS-IND V / Project Coordinator (National)	/	Component 3: Project Management	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - National		162,000.00	0.00	Under Implementation	2023-04-23	2023-04-25	2023-05-18	2023-09-05	2023-05-23	2024-01-13	2023-06-09		2028-06-08				
MV-MOF-MV-396233-CS-IND V / Project Director	IDA / 73050	Component 3: Project Management	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - National		162,000.00	0.00	Under Implementation	2023-12-24	2023-12-14	2024-01-18	2024-02-22	2024-01-23		2024-02-09		2029-02-08				
MV-MOF-MV-396234-CS-IND V / Financial Management Specialist	IDA / 73050	Component 3: Project Management	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - National		162,000.00	0.00	Under Implementation	2023-12-24	2023-12-14	2024-01-18	2024-01-31	2024-01-23		2024-02-09		2029-02-08				
MV-MOF-MV-396236-CS-IND V / Environmental & Social Safeguards Specialist	IDA / 73050	Component 3: Project Management	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - National		162,000.00	0.00	Under Implementation	2024-01-02	2023-12-13	2024-01-27	2024-01-31	2024-02-01	2024-02-21	2024-02-18		2029-02-17				
MV-MOF-MV-396237-CS-IND V / Communications Specialist	IDA / 73050	Component 3: Project Management	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - National		162,000.00	0.00	Under Implementation	2023-12-24	2023-12-14	2024-01-18	2024-01-31	2024-01-23	2024-02-22	2024-02-09		2029-02-08				
MV-MOF-MV-396365-CS-IND V / SOE Accounting & Finance Specialist - SOE Expert Consultants	IDA / 73050	Component 1: Accelerating SOE Reforms	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - National		60,000.00	0.00	Under Implementation	2023-12-24	2023-12-18	2024-02-11		2024-03-03		2024-04-07		2024-10-04				
MV-MOF-MV-396367-CS-IND V / Senior Financial Consumer Protection Expert	IDA / 73050	Component 2: Fostering SME Competitiveness	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - International		125,000.00	0.00	Signed	2023-12-14	2023-12-12	2024-02-01	2024-01-21	2024-02-22	2024-02-20	2024-03-28		2024-09-24				
MV-MOF-MV-397412-CS-IND V / Systems Analyst - Assessment of Information Systems and Capacity to Implement Targeting and Direct Transfer Mechanisms for Subsidy Reform Program	IDA / 73050	Component 1: Accelerating SOE Reforms	Post	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - National		4,000.00	0.00	Signed	2023-12-19	2023-12-18	2024-02-06	2024-01-15	2024-02-27	2024-02-08	2024-04-02		2024-09-29				
MV-MOF-MV-407593-CS-IND V / Economic Reform Communications Specialist (International)	IDA / 73050	Component 1: Accelerating SOE Reforms	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - International		360,000.00	0.00	Canceled	2024-02-11	2024-02-20	2024-03-31		2024-04-21		2024-05-26		2024-11-22				
MV-MOF-MV-407600-CS-IND V / SOE Reform Expert (International)	IDA / 73050	Component 1: Accelerating SOE Reforms	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - International		700,000.00	0.00	Canceled	2024-02-11		2024-03-31		2024-04-21		2024-05-26		2024-11-22				
MV-MOF-MV-407602-CS-IND V / Junior Social Protection Economist (National)	IDA / 73050	Component 1: Accelerating SOE Reforms	Post	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - National		7,000.00	0.00	Canceled	2024-02-15	2024-02-26	2024-04-04		2024-04-25		2024-05-30		2024-11-26				
MV-MOF-MV-407594-CS-IND V / Consultant to Conduct SME Credit Gap Assessment	IDA / 73050	Component 2: Fostering SME Competitiveness	Post	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - International		12,000.00	0.00	Under Review	2024-02-25	2024-02-20	2024-04-14		2024-05-05		2024-06-09		2024-12-06				
MV-MOF-MV-407601-CS-IND V / Social Protection Economist	IDA / 73050	Component 1: Accelerating SOE Reforms	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - International		60,000.00	0.00	Under Implementation	2024-02-25	2024-02-20	2024-04-14		2024-05-05		2024-06-09		2024-12-06				
MV-MOF-MV-410978-CS-IND V / Financial Management Specialist	IDA / 73050	Component 3: Project Management	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - National		162,000.00	0.00	Pending Implementation	2024-02-29		2024-04-18		2024-05-09		2024-06-13		2028-06-30				



MV-MOF-MV-411144-CS-IND V / Economic Reform Communications Specialist (International)	IDA / 73050	Component 1: Accelerating SOE Reforms	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - International		160,000.00	0.00	Under Implementation	2024-02-29	2024-02-26	2024-04-18		2024-05-09		2024-06-13		2025-03-10
MV-MOF-MV-411145-CS-IND V / SOE Reform Expert (International)	IDA / 73050	Component 1: Accelerating SOE Reforms	Prior	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - International		220,000.00	0.00	Under Implementation	2024-02-29	2024-02-26	2024-04-18		2024-05-09		2024-06-13		2025-06-13
MV-MOF-MV-412118-CS-IND V / Associate Social Protection Economist (National)	IDA / 73050	Component 1: Accelerating SOE Reforms	Post	Individual Consultant Selection	Open - National		7,000.00	0.00	Pending Implementation	2024-02-29		2024-04-15		2024-05-04		2024-06-08		2024-09-06