

Impact of Public Procurement Procedures on Delivery of Maintenance Works

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SUMMARY

ABSTRACT The public procurement system in Kenya has been undergoing reforms consistent with the global trend since the mid-1990s, most notably within the periods covering 1997-2001 and 2005. The delivery of maintenance projects in Kenya is highly dependent on the efficacy and efficiency of the public procurement and tendering procedures. The procurement procedure leading to tender awards is too long depending on the choice of procurement method which cannot arrest an emergency. Maintenance has very unique characteristics especially for corrective maintenance which is never planned and yet it is an emergency which is supposed to be addressed as it occurs. This is one of the many challenges faced by Public Institutions posed by Public Procurement and Disposal Act (PPDA). In addition equipment failure can create safety hazards, costly downtime while waiting for parts, and increased costs due to the associated disruptions. If parts are hard to find, out of service times can be greatly increased. The intent of this paper is to expose the challenges posed by PPDA on procurement for emergencies or unplanned maintenance in Kenya. It would explore the effects of the PPDA on the delivery of unplanned maintenance projects; the challenges faced while carrying out public maintenance projects as well as determine the best and most suitable procurement and tendering system for emergencies. While this study may be of value to any person interested in, procuring any service in Kenyan public sector, it is hoped that it will specifically benefit the following groups of people. i. The Government and the Policy Makers The Government and the policy makers stand to benefit from as they will gain insight on methods to apply to while procuring for maintenance services in public institutions. ii. Academics The study is expected to contribute to the existing literature in the field of procurement and more specifically for maintenance purposes. Future scholars can use this research as a basis for further research in the area of procuring maintenance services. iii. Estates and Maintenance Officers The study stands to benefit all the estates and maintenance officers in the public institutions as they will understand the best way of procuring services for maintenance purposes. In Kenya there is no comprehensive study done after the introduction of public procurement act on its effect on the tendering and procurement procedures by government institutions whether it has improved the performance management of maintenance projects. And thus this would be a significant exposure