Celebration of anniversaries often takes various forms and shades. While some may choose to make it grandiose and give it a bash others try to be modest and rather use it as an opportunity to soberly reflect on the past and draw strength for greater performance in the future.

PPA in celebrating its 10 years of establishment has therefore chosen not to make a big jamboree but rather use this period to do what is popularly referred to in military terms as “re-grouping and strategizing” for greater impact.

For us in PPA, this anniversary signifies new beginnings full of opportunities to launch into the deep. Not that we have not achieved much in the past years worth celebrating but like the apostle Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, “we forget what is behind and strive towards what is ahead” as we look with optimism to an even brighter future.

For instance, after operationalising the Public Procurement Act, 2003 (Act 663) for the past 10 years and beyond...
Online Activities

List of entities that have submitted their 2014 Procurement Plans Online As At June 30, 2014

1. Accra Academy Senior High School
2. Accra Polytechnic
3. Agona West Municipal Assembly
4. Ahantaman Senior High School
5. Ajumako-Enyan-Essiam Hospital
6. Akosombo Senior High School
7. Akuse Government Hospital
8. Akwapim South District Assembly
9. Amenfi West District Assembly
10. Amenfi Senior High School
11. Aowin Suaman District Assembly
12. Apam Senior High School
13. Atua Government Hospital
14. Bank of Ghana
15. Bereko College of Education
16. Bibiani / Anhwiaso / Bekwai District Assembly
17. Birim Cenral Municipal Assembly
18. Bolgatanga Municipal Assembly
19. Bolgatanga Polytechnic
20. Centre for Scientific Research Into Plant Medicine
21. Cocoa Marketing Company (Ghana) Limited
22. College of Health Sciences
23. Community Health Training School - Tanoso Sunyani
24. Controller and Accountant General Dept
25. Copyright Administration
27. Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
28. Council of State
29. Dansabo Senior High Technical School
30. Dental School
31. District Assembly Common fund
32. Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority
33. Dunkwa District Hospital
34. Dunkwa Nursing Training College
35. Dwamena Akenten Senior High School
36. East Akim Municipal Assembly
37. Economic and Organised Crime Office
38. Effa Nkwanta Regional Hospital
39. Effutu Municipal Assembly
40. Electoral Commission
41. Ellembelle District Assembly
42. Encyclopaedia Africa Project
43. Energy Commission
44. Environmental Protection Agency
45. Export Development and Investment Fund
46. Financial and Intelligence Centre
47. Foods and Drugs Board
48. Forestry Commission
49. Ga East Municipal Assembly
50. Ga South Municipal Assembly
51. Ga West Municipal Assembly
52. Ghana Academy of Arts And Sciences
53. Ghana Aids Commission
54. Ghana Airports Company Limited
55. Ghana Atomic Energy Commission
56. Ghana Audit Service
57. Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
58. Ghana Civil Aviation Authority
59. Ghana Cocoa Board
60. Ghana Cocoa Board - Quality Control Division
61. Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons
62. Ghana Education Service
63. Ghana Free Zones Board
64. Ghana Grid Company Ltd.
65. Ghana Highway Authority
66. Ghana Institute of Journalism
67. Ghana Institute of Management And Public Administration
68. Ghana Investment Fund For Electronic Communications
69. Ghana Library Board
70. Ghana National Fire Service
71. Ghana National Petroleum Corporation
72. Ghana National Senior High School
73. Ghana News Agency
74. Ghana Police Service
75. Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority
76. Ghana Prisons Service
77. Ghana Railway Development Authority
78. Ghana Railways Company Limited
79. Ghana Reinsurance Company Ltd
80. Ghana Revenue Authority
81. Ghana School of Law
82. Ghana Standards Authority
83. Ghana Statistical Service
84. Ghana Tourist Board
85. Ghana Water Company Limited
86. Ghana-India Kofi Annan Center of Excellence
87. Gomoa Senior High Technical School
88. Grains And Legumes Development Board
89. Half Assini Senior High School
90. Health Assistant Training School - Lawra
91. Ho Polytechnic
92. Holy Child College of Education
93. Internal Audit Agency
94. Jasikan District Assembly
95. Judicial Service
96. Jukwa Senior High School
97. Kea Business Senior High School
98. Kea Senior High School
99. Ketu District Hospital
100. Ketu North District Assembly
101. Kikam Technical School
102. Koforidua General Hospital
103. Komenda/ Edina/ Eguafo /Abirem District Assembly
104. Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital
105. Korle bu Teaching Hospital
106. Kragi West District Hospital
107. Kumasi Academy
108. Kumasi Polytechnic
109. Kumasi south Hospital
110. Kwaben District Assembly
111. Kwaebibrum District Assembly
112. Kwahu West District Assembly
113. La Polyclinic
114. Lands Commission
115. Lawra district Hospital
116. Lawra Senior High School
Has Your Entity Submitted Its 2014 Procurement Plan—Using PPA’s Online System?

Online Activities

117. Ledzokuku-Krowor Municipal Assembly
118. Legal Aid Board
119. Mamprobi Polyclinic
120. Management Development And Productivity Institute
121. Mankesim Senior High Technical School
122. Margaret Mary High School
123. Medical School
124. Mfantsimans Girls Senior High School
125. Minerals Commission
126. Ministry of Defence
127. Ministry of Education
128. Ministry of Energy and Petroleum
129. Ministry of Environment Science and Technology
130. Ministry of Finance And Economic Planning
131. Ministry of Fisheries And Aquaculture Development
132. Ministry of Foreign Affairs And Regional Integration
133. Ministry of Health
134. Ministry of Justice And Attorney General
135. Ministry of Local Government And Rural Development
136. Ministry Of Roads And Highways
137. Ministry of Tourism Culture and Creative Arts
138. Ministry of Transport
139. Ministry of Youth and Sports
140. Mporoh District Assembly
141. Mporoh Wasa East District Assembly
142. Namong Senior High School
143. Nandom District Hospital
144. Narcotics Control Board
145. National Accreditation Board
146. National Board for Professional And Technical Examinations
147. National Cardiothoracic Centre
148. National Commission For Civil Education
149. National Communication Authority
150. National Council for Tertiary Education
151. National Development Planning Commission
152. National Disaster Management Organization
153. National Health Insurance Authority
154. National Insurance Commission
155. National Lottery Authority
156. National Peace Council
157. National Petroleum Authority
158. National Population Council
159. National Road Safety Commission
160. National Service Secretariat
161. National Theatre of Ghana
162. National Vocational Training Institute
163. New Juaben Municipal Assembly
164. New Tano Hospital
165. Non Formal Education Division
166. Nursing and Midwifery Council of Ghana
167. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Ashanti Region
168. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Brong Ahafo Region
169. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Central Region
170. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Eastern Region
171. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Greater Accra Region
172. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Greater Western Region
173. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Upper East Region
174. Offinso College of Education
175. Opoku Ware Senior High School
176. Parliament
177. Peki Senior High Technical School
178. Peki Training College
179. Pharmacy Council
180. Potsin T.I. Ah. Senior High School
181. Precious Minerals Marketing Corporation
182. Prempeh College
183. Presby College of Education – Akropong
184. Psychiatric Nursing Training School
185. Public Procurement Authority
186. Public Service Commission
187. Public Utilities Regulatory Commission
188. Registrar Generals Department
189. S.D.A. College of Education Asokore
190. Savannah Accelerated Development Authority
191. School of Allied Health Sciences
192. School of Public Health
193. Sekondi Senior High School
194. Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly
195. Shama District Assembly
196. SIC Life Company Limited
197. Social Security and National Insurance Trust (SSNIT)
198. St. Augustine’s College
199. St. Joseph’s College of Education
200. St. Monica College of Education
201. St. Theresa’s Hospital - Nandom
202. Students Loan Trust Fund
203. Suhum Government Hospital
204. Suhum Municipal Assembly
205. Sunyani General Hospital
206. Sunyani Polytechnic
207. Swedru Senior High School
208. T.I. Ahmadiyya SHS-Fomena
209. Tain District Assembly
210. Takoradi Polytechnic
211. Tamale Polytechnic
212. Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipal Assembly
213. Tema Development Corporation
214. Tema Metropolitan Assembly
215. Tetteh Quarshie Memorial Hospital
216. University Ghana School of Pharmacy
217. University Of Cape Coast (UCC)
218. University of Energy and Natural Resource
219. University of Ghana Business School (UGBS)
220. University of Health and Allied Sciences
221. University of Mines -Tarkwa
222. University of Professional Studies Accra
223. University Of Science And Technology (KNUST)
224. University Practice Senior High School
225. Upper Denkyira East Municipal Assembly
226. Volta Regional Hospital
227. Volta River Authority
228. Wa General Hospital
229. Wa Polytechnic
230. Water Resources Commission
231. Wenchi East District Assembly
232. Wesley College of Education
233. Wesley Girls High School
234. West Mamprusi District Assembly
235. Yaa Asantewa Senior High School
years, the Authority has proposed a number of amendments to the Act 663, which is anticipated to usher Ghana’s public procurement system into a new era of reforms.

Although the PPA has over the years trained over 20,000 functionaries in public procurement in its capacity building efforts, the Authority in planning forward, will soon be reviewing its training modules and introducing special modules on some of the critical areas of public procurement management such as Contract Management and Records Management which will aid in correcting some of the shortfalls in the system.

In order to keep up with rest of the world and utilize technologies for competitive advantage, the PPA intends to intensify its quest to improve on the practice of public procurement through the use of ICT tools and applications. Thus, in addition to its current public procurement planning software, PPA website and its web-based Public Procurement Model of Excellence (PPME) Tool for procurement assessments, the authority with support from government and the World Bank, looks forward to developing a comprehensive e-government procurement (e-gp) system which will provide an end-to-end solution and enhance transparency and efficiency in public procurement.

Finally, as the sole regulator of public procurement in Ghana, our own assessments have shown a number of misgivings and dissatisfaction among stakeholders as far as corruption and efficiency in public procurement is concerned. Perhaps, its time, we together with our stakeholders begin to brainstorm on the possibilities of not just ensuring compliance to the law but also pay attention to the general performance and the total realization of the object of the Public Procurement Act, 2003 (Act 663) which is value for money. Thus, like the two faced god of Janus in Roman mythology which has special abilities to hold two perspectives-past and future, the PPA will leverage on its past achievements and look forward to introducing new policies and programmes in the coming years that will augment our efforts and better manage the expectations of our stakeholders in this regard. After all, “those who refuse to look ahead will be left behind”.

Mrs. Rhoda Appiah
PPAO—PPA
ADVANCING THE ROLE OF THE REGULATOR IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT 663, USING ICT -10 YEARS AND BEYOND

Introduction
The public Procurement Authority since its establishment in 2004 has incorporated Information Communication and Technology (ICT) in support of its operational activities. The Management information Systems (MIS) Directorate of the Authority over the past years has developed and established systems and applications in support of procurement activities in furtherance of the objectives of the Authority as stipulated in Section 3 of the Procurement Act, Act 663.

These include;
- A vibrant intranet for sharing internal information
- Website for disseminating and communication on procurement information
- Online Procurement Planning system
- Online Public Procurement Monitoring tool of Excellence (PPME) Tool

Beyond 10 years and with increasing new technologies, PPA is looking at leveraging on current ICT tools and applications to improve on the regulatory functions of the authority in order to increase transparency and accountability as far as public procurement is concerned.

Some areas of focus will include but not limited to;

Redesigned website
The PPA will redesign and launch its existing website www.ppaghana.org. The new website will have enhanced features. Some of these features will include;
- Mediated discussion forums, to enable the public ask questions bordering on public procurement.
- Public Procurement Practitioners Section
- Improved content management
- Quick picks for tender and contract information
Implementation of an e-GP System

Electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) is using the internet and other electronic means to conduct the procurement process. Due to the enormous benefits that an e-GP system offers, PPA with support from the World Bank is pursing the establishment of e-GP in Ghana.

This project will be the major project to use ICT to regulate and achieve good governance in the areas of transparency and accountability.

Some benefits an e-GP system covers;

♦ Available Information on Public Procurement Function
♦ Available Information on Procurement Transactions
♦ Higher compliance levels
♦ Reduced Corruption
♦ Audit Trails on Procurement Transactions
♦ Improved quality of public procurement reporting, monitoring and management
♦ Online disclosure of procurement notices
♦ Online disclosure of awarded contracts
♦ Open and fair competition
♦ Increased compliance with procurement policy
♦ Public access to procurement information
♦ Less opportunity for corruptive, collusive, fraudulent and coercive practices
♦ Increased Price Transparency
♦ Increased Competition
♦ Lower Transaction Cost for Suppliers
♦ Private Business Activation
♦ Infrastructural Development
♦ Capacity Building
♦ Shorter order cycle time
♦ Lower inventories

The implementation of this system will bring a great transformation to the public procurement environment. As a nationwide system, it will involve both the training of back and front end staff, procurement officers, service providers and other interested parties such as civil societies. It will also involve change management in all public institutions as this system will bring a different approach in handling procurement activities.

Public Procurement Monitoring tool of Excellence (PPME) – Self Assessment

As a regulator the PPA is to monitor public entities’ compliance with the Procurement Act, Act 663. To achieve this PPA conducts annual assessment of all public procuring entities using the PPME Tool. Going forward PPA envisions training all public procurement entities to conduct self-assessment using the PPME Tool. Afterwards PPA will validate and verify data submitted by entities using other systems.

Procurement Planning System Enhancement

Beyond 10 years of PPA, the Authority hopes to interface the Procurement Planning System with other systems such as;

Ghana Integrated Financial Management Information System (GIFMIS)

PPME

The Procurement Planning System will be expected to hand off to GIFMIS, information that will allow GIFMIS to initiate and monitor payments to service providers and also ensure fiscal discipline.

Looking beyond 10 years, we will be working towards interfacing the Procurement Planning System with the PPME Tool such that the actual plans as captured by entities will populate the contract sheet in the system automatically with information necessary for the self-assessment.

Conclusion

In conclusion, PPA is determined to use ICT to manage and regulate public procurement in the country as it embarks on the next ten years of its establishment. It is therefore calling on all involved in public procurement to embrace these changes as they are rolled out, for all to benefit from the advantages that ICT brings, when applied to business processes.

Mrs. Emelia Nortey
Director, MIS—PPA
1.0 INTRODUCTION

The enactment of the Public Procurement Act 663 (2003) was in itself a step in the right direction for streamlining the Public Procurement System in Ghana. It provides a framework for the conduct of procurement in the Public Sector to guarantee best value for money in order to ensure judicious, economic and efficient use of Public Funds such that Public Procurement will be carried out in a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory manner.

The implementation of Act 663 to a large extent relies on Capacity Development. It enables public institutions to equip individuals with the needed expertise in order to achieve organizational goals. The Act behoves the Public Procurement Authority to build procurement capacity for all stakeholders in the Public Procurement system. Therefore, the Authority is mandated to develop, promote and support training and development of procurement practitioners and professionals in all procuring entities. It also seeks to equip all procurement entities with the needed capacity to comply with the Act. It has therefore, over the past decade not relented on its effort at ensuring the aforementioned.

In fulfilment of Section 3 (j) and (k) of the Public Procurement Act, Act 663 of 2003, the Authority has pursued various capacity development initiatives. It has implemented various Capacity Development programmes with assistance from donor agencies such as Department for International Development (DFID), German Technical Cooperation Agency (GIZ), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank, Millennium Development Authority (MiDA) and State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO).

2.0 INITIATIVES

2.1 Short Term Training Programme

With the passage of the Public Procurement Act (Act 663), the PPA instituted a Short Term Training Programmes for its stakeholders. The objective of the programme was to ensure that all stakeholders had a basic understanding of the provisions of the Act. Under the programme, between two and five days training sessions were organized for targeted groups such as Entity Tender Committee, Procurement Practitioners, Service Providers and Oversight Institutions among others.

Twenty five training modules were developed for the programme which has been on-going since 2007. About 15,000 Participants have been trained to date.

2.2 Medium/Long Term Training Programme

In order to attract and retain qualified procurement professionals in the Public Service, the Authority, as
part of its medium/long term capacity development program received support from the Millennium Development Authority (MiDA) to develop Curricula and Modules as well as lecture notes and Case Studies on procurement. Currently, under the programme, some tertiary institutions such as Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA), Ghana Technology University College (GTUC), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and Concord Business College are running the Certificate courses for Procurement Practitioners and Professionals who do not have the requisite skills and procurement qualifications to enable them carry out their duties effectively.

The programme is targeted at the following:

♦ Procurement Practitioners who do not have any training in procurement at all;
♦ HND graduates in Purchasing and Supply who want to acquire Bachelor’s degrees in Public Procurement and;
♦ SHS graduates who wish to pursue procurement as a career at the degree level.

2.3 Internship Programmes
Spanning the period 2009 to 2012 the Authority, with support from MiDA instituted an eight week internship programme for students pursuing HND Purchasing and Supply and other Degree programmes in Procurement. To ensure that these students acquired hands on procurement experiences as well as build essential skills and competencies that were needed by the nation’s procurement system, they were attached to various Public and Private Institutions. A total number of 1,336 students including 6 lecturers from Accra, Kumasi, Takoradi and Koforidua Polytechnics as well as GIMPA benefitted from the Internship programmes.

2.4 Establishment of Career Path
The PPA initiated a process for the establishment of the Career path for procurement Practitioners in the Public Service in collaboration with the Office of Head of Civil Service, Local Government Service, Ministry of Finance and the Public Services Commission. The initiative resulted in the establishment of a Career Progression Path for procurement practitioners and professionals holding varied levels of procurement qualifications in the public service. Products of the medium and long term training are expected to fit into the Career Path System.

3.0 WAY FORWARD
The Public Procurement Act has faced some implementation challenges. The various Capacity Development initiatives that the Authority had carried out over the past decade have helped in improving the skills and competences of procurement professionals and practitioners. In the pursuit of its Capacity Development initiatives PPA intends to focus on the following areas among others:

3.1 Training On Contract Management
A very critical aspect of the procurement process where the Entities lack the requisite capacity is Contract Management. The Capacity Development Directorate therefore, intends to roll out a nation-wide training programme on Contract Management for the Entities this year with support from the African Development Bank. The Directorate is putting together the necessary documentation (training guides, manuals and modules) which will cover Goods, Works and Service Procurements.

3.2 Specialised Training
The Capacity Development Directorate will continue to pursue the Specialized Training initiative. Under this programme the Directorate will organize tailor-made sessions for Entities upon request to address their peculiar needs.

3.3 Continuous Professional Education
The Directorate will liaise with professional bodies such as the Institutes of Engineers, Chartered Accountants, Surveyors etc. to organize training programmes for their members to enable them acquire the necessary knowledge on the Act 663 and the relevant procedures and guidelines.

3.4 Academic Support Programmes
The CD Directorate will extend its training programme to cover students pursuing procurement courses at the Polytechnics and other Tertiary Institutions. The objective is to introduce Public Procurement Modules to the HND Purchasing and Supply programme, the Bachelor of Technology (Procurement) and other first degree programmes in Procurement or Supply Chain Management.

Mr. David Bennin
Director, CD
PPA
Tendering and Contract Information for Periods Indicated

Tendering Opportunities for Jul - Aug 2014
Contracts Awarded for Jan - Dec 2014
Restricted Tender Awards Jan - Dec 2014
Expression of Interest Requests Jul - Aug 2014

The links above will take you directly to the PPA Website Reports for the months of period indicated.