

This is not an ADB material. The views expressed in this document are the views of the author/s and/or their organizations and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Asian Development Bank, or its Board of Governors, or the governments they represent. ADB does not guarantee the accuracy and/or completeness of the material's contents, and accepts no responsibility for any direct or indirect consequence of their use or reliance, whether wholly or partially. Please feel free to contact the authors directly should you have queries.

What happened in the first 3 to 4 years of establishing Korea's public procurement system?

Jae-Yong Lee

President, National Information Resource Service
Ministry of the Interior and Safety, Korea

Who am I

Public Procurement Service

- ✓ A Key participant of KONEPS project from the very early stage (2000~2006)
- ✓ A living witness from the legal framework setup to operational innovation

Private Sector Career

- ✓ Executive of Big Data Analytics in Samsung Electronics (2011~2020)
- ✓ CEO for a small and medium AI company (2020~2023)

National Information Resource Service

- ✓ President, a government organization under the Ministry of the Interior and Safety (2023~)
- ✓ NIRS runs government-owned datacenters where most **digital government** infrastructure are located

What happened in early stage

Legal framework

- ✓ Review of overall legislative requirements in the field of e-document, online transaction authentication, etc.
- ✓ Focused on legal obligation of bid advertisement onto KONEPS website
- ✓ Gradual expansion of digitalization from bidding, contracting, and payment thanks to its convenience

Construction of the projects

- ✓ Presidential agenda setting and special funding structure for all digital government initiatives
- ✓ PPS' e-bidding first (2000) and application service for all public agencies afterwards (2002)
- ✓ Quick-win projects and step-by-step approach
- ✓ Harmonization with other digital government projects

What happened in early stage

Collaboration with stakeholders and public relations

- ✓ Political struggles who runs service among PPS, other big departments, or new organization establishment
- ✓ Persuading the justification of PPS' specialty and experience in the field of public procurement process and e-procurement system building
- ✓ Efficiency gained by centralized application service to support decentralized procurement work
- ✓ Needs of Single Window for all public bidding information in search of bidders' maximized benefit
- ✓ Appropriate roll allocation among PPS, presidential committee, big procurers, related shared service bodies within public sector, etc.
- ✓ Proactive PR of KONEPS achievement (transaction volume, international reputation, enhanced transparency, etc.)

What happened in early stage

Overcoming technical difficulties

- ✓ Securing the reliability of internet transaction through PKI infrastructure
- ✓ Web-technology run on internet browser for universal usability
- ✓ Achieving interoperability by use of standard e-document format across public services
- ✓ Partnership with a leading IT service company that has accumulated experience on public e-procurement

Operational innovation

- ✓ Expansion of outsourcing and utilizing in-house IT specialists in terms of contract structure and performance assessment
- ✓ Applying global IT service management process and obtaining global certifications



Thank You

Jae- Yong Lee
(jy41lee@gmail.com)