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. Public Procurement Policy in the Republic of Korea Toward 2026 2026. 11. 26 **Public Procurement**

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT SERVICE

Introduction of Public Procurement Service (PPS)

PPS Core Policy toward 2026

⁰³ Major Key Systems





Introduction of Public Procurement Service

- ❖ Leading Central Purchasing Body (CPB) of an annual procurement amount of 225T KRW (165B USD), 570,000 suppliers, and 70,000 end-users (2024)
- ❖ Ensure fairness and transparency in public procurement
 - · Combat unfair procurement practices through improved systems, institutions, and monitoring
 - · Gain transparency by disclosing information about the entire procurement cycle



Goods, Services and Construction Works
Contracts



KONEPSOperation & Management



Government Goods & State owned Property

Management



Commodity Stockpile

PPS Vision for 2025

" Support the Economy by Establishing Public Procurement Basics "



A Dynamic Procurement Marketplace Full of Vitality

- Strengthen procurement to revitalize economy and to support people's livelihoods
- Create an innovative procurement ecosystem

Back to the Basic

Public Procurement with Principles and Fundamentals

- Establish a procurement market with fair and transparent principles
- Top priority on public safety and quality
- Enhance commodity stockpile to stabilize supply chain

Stepping ahead to Prepare for Future

Preemptively Respond to Economic and Social Structure Transition

- Address the challenges of low birth rate, carbon neutrality and social responsibility
- Develop procurement infrastructure based on Next-Generation KONEPS and Public Procurement Act
- Build procurement capacity to prepare for future



O2 PPS Core Policy Toward 2026

- 01 | Innovative Procurement
- 02 | Leveraging Public Procurement to Catalyze the Al Industry
- **03** | Strengthening Core Principles of Public Procurement
- 04 | Advancing Social Value through Public Procurement

1. Innovative Procurement

Introduction

- **❖** Government as the First Buyer of Innovative Products (Since 2019~)
 - · Accelerating innovative growth and elevating public service quality
 - · Encouraging technological innovation toward commercialization



- **Leveraging ODA to support developing countries in deploying Innovative Products**
 - · Philippines Example: Portable X-ray Equipment



1. Innovative Procurement

Strategies for 2026-2030

Expanding Public Procurement of Innovative Products

- · Gradual scale-up to KRW 3 trillion by 2030
- · Strengthening pilot procurement and purchase-target programs

Enhancing the Designation & Operation System

- · Integrating review procedures and increasing rounds to four per year
- · Introducing AI-focused tracks and a new scouting scheme for promising technologies

❖ Improving Validation, Safety, and Firm Support

- · Deploying test-bed coordinators and reinforcing safety management
- · Expanding R&D support and tailored guarantee programs for innovative SMEs

2. Leveraging Public Procurement to Catalyze the Al Industry

❖ Leveraging Public Procurement to Catalyze the Al Industry

- · Register and supply new services—such as generative-Al work-assistance tools, Al robot services—on the KONEPS shopping mall
- · Broaden access to cloud services and AI-enabled software through an digital procurement platform

Operating Contract Systems Tailored to AI Technology

- · Apply evaluation methods that emphasize technical capability, performance, and responsible AI principles
- · Introduce specialized assessment mechanisms and expert panels for AI-related projects

* Accelerating Al Transformation in Procurement Administration

- · Develop a government-wide roadmap for AI-enabled public procurement
- · Introduce AI agents in price surveys, engineering reviews, and evaluation processes

3. Strengthening Core Principles of Public Procurement

Ensuring Value for Money

- · Strengthen monitoring and oversight for price-sensitive and high-risk items
- · Reflect market fluctuations—such as raw material price changes—promptly in contracts

Enhancing Market Competition

- · Curb illicit brokerage and irregular participation in biddin
- · Address excessive contract concentration among a small number of suppliers

Advancing Transparency and Integrity

- · Establish safeguards to prevent conflicts of interest and improper practices in local procurement
- · Disclose contract information through open government platforms to improve accountability

4. Advancing Social Value through Public Procurement

Supporting Climate Action and Carbon Neutrality

- · Promote innovative climate-tech startups through preferential procurement pathways
- · Expand the adoption of eco-friendly and low-carbon products in public purchasing

Strengthening Public Safety through Procurement Rules

- · Restrict bidding eligibility for firms involved in major industrial accidents
- · Enhance safety assessments and compliance checks in public tenders

❖ Promoting Social Responsibility in Public Procurement

- · Leverage public procurement to create quality jobs and support inclusive growth
- · Expand opportunities and market access for social enterprises and mission-driven suppliers



1-1. Inno-KONEPS

Definition

A cross-government, Innovative
Procurement platform that
supports every step of the
process



Features

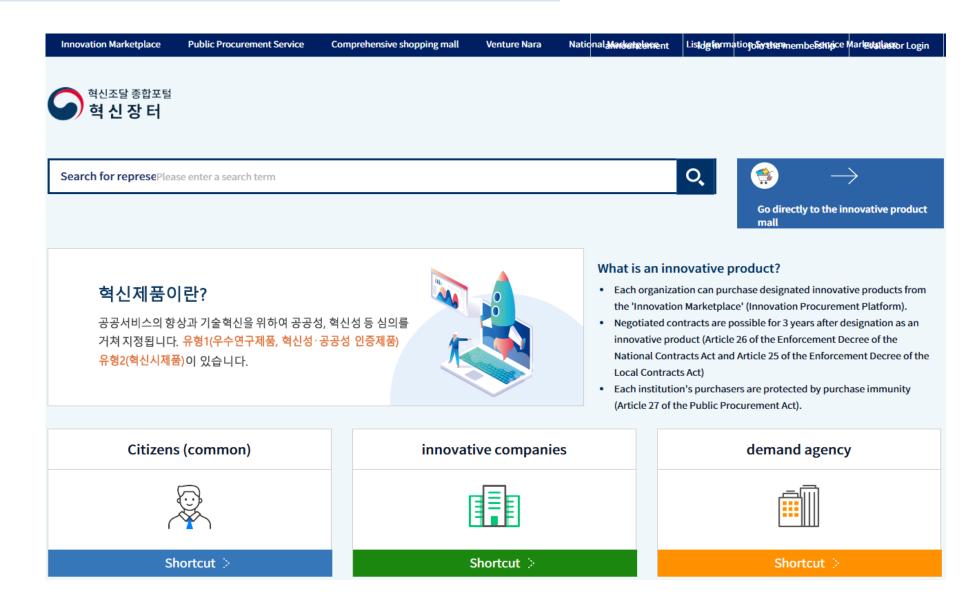
- Innovative Products Mall
 Open marketplace for free registration and trading of Innovative
 Products
- Innovation Demand and Supply Community
 Public demand for Innovative Products for service improvement
- ❖ R&D Demand Survey Integration

 Provide single window for R&D projects from various institutions
- Informatization
 Convenient, fast online access to Innovative Procurement

Achievements

❖ 2,320 Innovative Products registered (May 2025, cumulative)

1. Inno-KONEPS



1-2. Venture Mall

Definition

Dedicated mall for products of leading tech start-ups and venture companies



Features

- Enter into procurement market based on technology and quality alone, without past performance or business status score(e.g. credit rating)
- End-users can buy the products by (direct) ordering
- → Separate tendering procedures NOT necessary

- **❖** Venture Mall's sales performance serves as a **stepping stone**
- ❖ Total of 460 companies have entered the larger markets of

1-2. Venture Mall



Registered Firms

510

firms



Registered Products

4,576

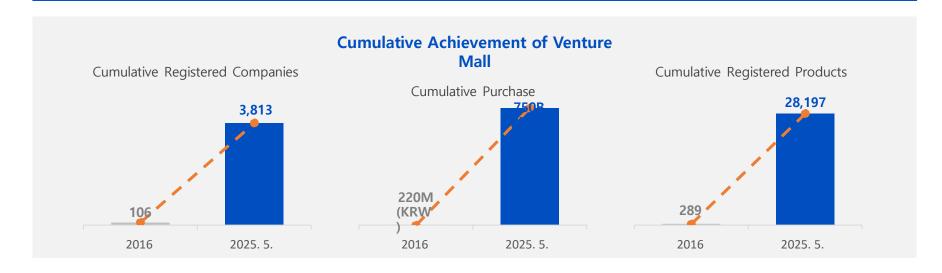
products



126B **KRW**

USD

Venture Mall Performance in 2024



1-3. Digital Service Mall

Definition A shopping mall to introduce new IT technologies to public end-users * Cloud, Artificial Intelligence & Commercial SW

Features

- Single window for IT shopping mall
 IT-related products at one site with various contract methods*
 * catalog contracts, third-party unit price contracts
- End-user convenience
 Provide digitalized process (e.g. online technology negotiation),
 suggest products of interest through My Page, and FAQs.
- Supplier convenience
 IT bidding information service that summarizes pre-specifications and announcements related to IT goods and services in connection with

KONEPS

Achievements

Sales Performance

Registered products | 3,496

Sales performance | 1.97T KRW / 1.4B USD

1-3. Digital Service Mall



see more
. March 22, 2025
March 21, 2025
December 17, 2024
December 6, 2024

[20160630544] Multimedia Education Applicatio... May 31, 2024 [20240344841] 37 types of authentication mana... March 27, 2024 [20211231886] Open Source Software Mainten... December 30, 2021 [20220315582] Data Provision Service March 11, 2022 [20220315685] Big Data Analysis Service March 11, 2022

Purchase notice

IT Bidding Notice	see more >
Purchasing AI/MLOps software to improve reso	August 25, 2025
Purchase of 13 AI/SW education pads (re-annou	August 25, 2025
Buy a GPU server	August 25, 2025
Purchase of information cargo (IP domain infor	August 25, 2025
Establishment of the Game Graphics Departmen	August 25, 2025



2-1. Evaluation Committee Management System

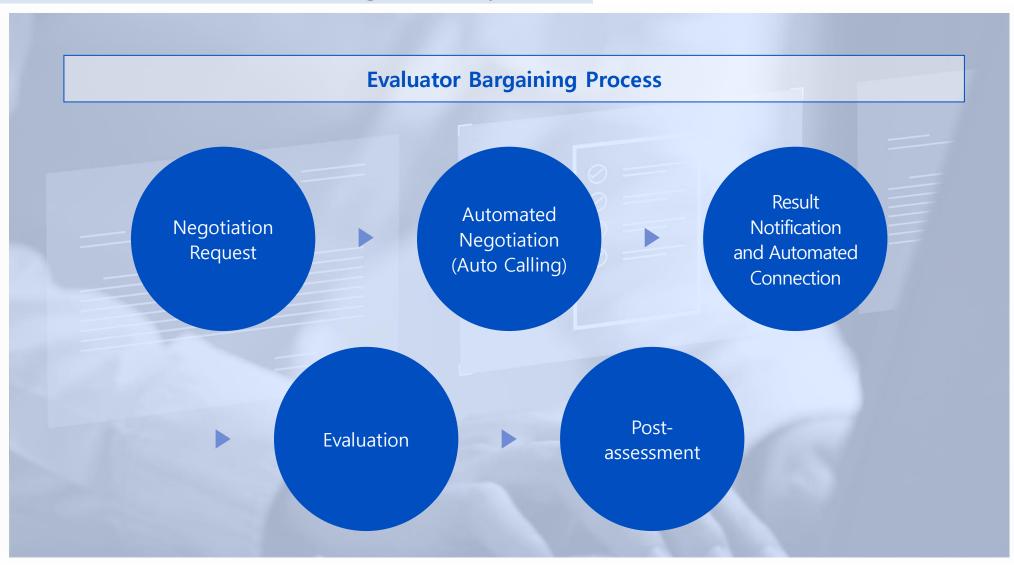
Definition An integrated system for · Recruiting & managing evaluators for procurement evaluations · Automated negotiation

Features

- ❖ Fair : Triple Management System for Evaluators
 - · History Management System
 - · Monitoring Group
 - · Reporting Center
- **Expert**: Diverse and flexible evaluation categories
- Convenient : Provide mobile system for evaluators

- ❖ 7,300 active evaluators
- Provide and share evaluators to other organizations
 - · central government agencies, public institutions
 - * Statistics Korea, Postal Business Procurement Center, SR

2-1. Evaluation Committee Management System



2-2. Collusion Statistics Analysis System



Features

- Computerized "extraction" and "evaluation" of suspected collusion cases
- ❖ Extraction: Automatic extraction of cases (80 points out of 100)
 - → based on the number of participants, bidding rate, and participation history
- **Evaluation**: In-depth evaluation by contracting officials
 - → refer to Korea Fair Trade Commission (KFTC)

- ❖ Since its launch in 2014, 7,391 cases reviewed for collusion
 - · 73 cases referred to the KFTC for investigation
- ❖ Systematic Approach (Efficiency) for Transparency

3-1. e-Order System

Definition

Online system for entire procurement process

* Proposal request – proposal - evaluation.



Features

- Online Proposal Submission: Proposals and other materials submitted by suppliers online (no need to visit)
- Online Evaluation: Evaluators and suppliers can participate online without the need to travel to the evaluation site

- ❖ Reduce transaction cost* by online evaluation
 - * evaluation fee, travel expense, proposal printing
- ❖ Increase available evaluators and their expertise
- ❖ AI-based RFP writing and diagnosis tool for end-users

3-1. e-Order System



3-2. Contract Performance Verification System

Definition A system monitoring, controlling and investigating unfair practices in procurement market

Features

- Monitor direct production violation: Using information linked to employment and electricity consumption
- Monitor price inflation: Utilizing the National Tax Service's electronic tax invoice information
- Prevent forgery of test report and certificate: Linking test report and certificate information through other e-government systems

- ❖ Identified 264 companies in the last three years for unfair procurement practices
 - · e.g. direct production violation, non-compliant delivery

3-2. Contract Performance Verification System

Korea Electric Power Corporation

- Electricity Usage
- Electric Charges

National Health Insurance Service

 Health Insurance Applicant (Number of Employees)

Ministry of SMEs and Startups

Direct Product Certificate

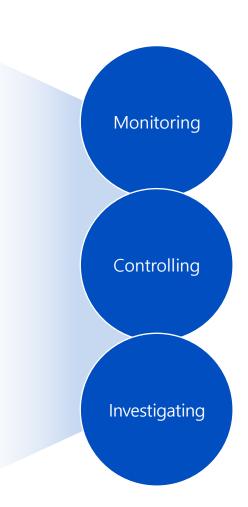
Korea Industrial Complex Corporation

Information On Factory G4B

Test ReportsCertificate

National Tax Service

Electronic Tax Invoice



3-3. Subcontractor Protection System

Definition A system electronically processes and monitors subcontracting and payment for public sector contract End-user Contractor Sub-contractor $\triangle \nabla$ Workers Material/Equipment Vendor

Features

- Payment for subcontractor, materials & equipment, and labor is sent to the subcontractor's commitment account
 - → Restrictions on withdrawal of payments other than vendor's share
- End-user can pay sub-contractor directly

- Protect rights of disadvantaged suppliers
 - · Achieve fair and transparent subcontracting transaction
- Subcontractor protection performance (2023)
 - · Amount paid : Approx. 61.3T KRW, 45.4B USD
 - · Number of organizations: 10,287 (Number of companies) 83,755

3-3. Subcontractor Protection System



