

**8th Conference of the Asia Pacific Public Electronic Procurement Network  
e-Government Procurement Conference 2022**

**Session 7: e-GP as a Tool Supporting Gender Mainstreaming**

**Supporting Gender Equity through  
public procurement tools  
Lessons from Latin America and Caribbean**

**Leslie Harper, Senior Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank  
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- Why is the promotion of women in public procurement important?
- Examples from Latin America and the Caribbean
- Lessons learned

# Gender Inequality



# Impact of inflation on women





# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**5** GENDER EQUALITY



**1** NO POVERTY



**8** DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



# Why is the promotion of women in public procurement important?

## 5 GENDER EQUALITY



- Global GDP would increase 10% if the female labor force had the same proportion as men.
- A high percentage of small and médium sized enterprises are run by women.

## Why is the promotion of women in public procurement important?

*Gender responsive public procurement is the harnessing of the purchasing power of the state to advance public policy objectives of gender in a country.*

# Why is the promotion of women in public procurement important?



Less than one percent of the estimated \$10 trillion spent annually on global public procurement is awarded to women-led businesses



# Tools to promote women in public procurement

Barrier	Support to women-owned business
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Access to information</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved access to public procurement information</li><li>• Information on sub-contracting opportunities</li><li>• Communication anywhere/anytime</li><li>• No geographical constraints within a country</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Business capabilities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lower transaction costs of developing a bid</li><li>• Simplification/ elimination of repetitive tasks</li><li>• Improved cash flow</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Data</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supplier registry that enables system to identify women-owned businesses</li><li>• Business Intelligence</li></ul>

# Countries in Latin America that have embraced gender responsive public procurement

## Advanced

- Argentina  
(City of Buenos Aires)
- Chile
- Dominican Republic

## Incipient

- Honduras
- Colombia
- Ecuador
- Peru



# Examples from Latin America: Chile

## Key features:

- Sello “Empresa Mujer”.
- Awareness building
- Capacity building
- Directive No. 20 that promotes the participation of women in public processes



**Result: an increase by 25% in terms of women participating in public procurement**



# Examples from Latin America: Dominican Republic

## Key features:

- Law – preference for women-owned businesses
- Registry and catalogue of women suppliers with more than 11 thousand women registered.
- Promotion of women-owned businesses in non-traditional sectors like Works, PPPs etc.



**Result: Participation of women in the public market increased from 14% to 26% for a total of 16% of total public procurement awards.**



# Examples from Latin America: Argentina (City of Buenos Aires)

## Key features:

- Women owned business registration program
- First program at subnational level
- Rewards not only ownership, but also firms that have gender sensitive practices.



Expected to raise participation of women-owned businesses in public procurement from 15% to 45%

# Examples from Latin America: Peru



- Action Plan
- Training
- Supplier Identification
- Business Roundtables
- Formation of private sector and civil society groups

# Examples from Latin America: Colombia

## Key features:

- Presidential directive to prioritize the country's economic reactivation
- Entrepreneurship law focusing on public Procurement and its ability to empower women.
- Regulations detailing criteria for identifying women-led enterprises



# Examples from Latin America: Honduras



## Key features:

- Diagnostic Assessment
- Identification of barriers
- Action plan for the development of a “Sello Mujer”







# Lessons Learned