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PUBLIC PROCUREMENT REGULATORY AUTHORITY



Pakistan e–Procurement Reform Journey

Hasnat Qureshi,
Managing Director, PPRA

PPRA LEGAL FRAMEWORK

PPRA regulates public-sector procurement of Goods, Services & Works to ensure transparency, fair competition, value for money, and to promote ease of doing business.

- PPRA Ordinance, 2002
- PPRA Rules, 2004
- PPRA Regulations (2008-2026)
- Standard Bidding Documents (Works, Goods, Services, Cloud Service, Framework Agreements, Disposal of Assets)
- Regulatory Guidelines

LEGAL & PROGRAMME FOUNDATIONS FOR e-GP

2013-16	**National Procurement Strategy**	Vision for e-Procurement
2014	**e-Procurement Readiness Study by WB**	To modernize public procurement processes
2017	**IDA Financing Agreement**	PFM and Accountability to Support Service Delivery
2018-27	**PFM Reform Strategy**	Paved the way for e-procurement initiatives to improve transparency & accountability
2020	**e-procurement provision in PP Rules 2004**	Formal legal recognition of electronic processes
2023	**e-Pak Procurement Regulations**	Mandatory use of e-procurement system

World Bank *PforR*: $ 45 M allocated for achieving e-procurement targets

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT & IMPLEMENTATION

Earlier e-Procurement Experiences

- **Off-the-shelf systems in selected SOEs,**
  SAP Ariba, SAP SRM, SAP MM, Tejari
- **Fragmented IT Applications**
  In various departments in the provinces, 2018-2023

e-Pak Acquisition & Disposal System (EPADS) Implementation Sequence

Apr 2021	Turnkey software development contract awarded
Jun 2022	Cloud hosting services engaged
Nov 2022	Piloted in Health and Education Ministries
Mar 2023	Implemented in FG- gradual adoption in provinces
July 2023	IMF Stand-by arrangement rollout milestone
Aug 2024	Prime Minister's directives for full adoption in Fed. Govt

EPADS 1.0

10,954	53,872	791	10,244	2,577	1.314 M	$9.8 B
Proc. Agencies	Suppliers	int'l vendors	SMEs	Female vendors	Transactions	Proc. Value

TRANSITION TO EPADS 2.0

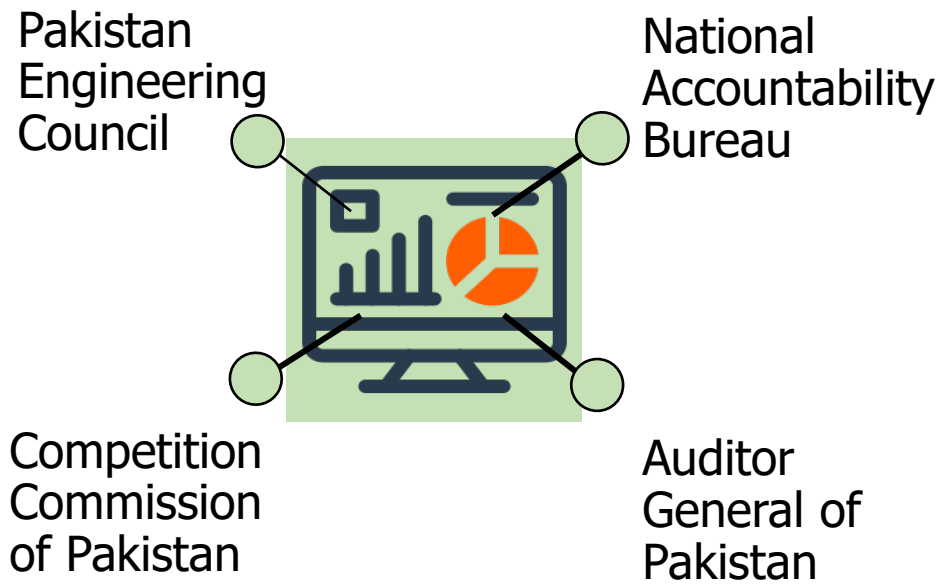
In-house development	Rollout in FG	Vendors Reg:	Proc. Agencies:	Transactions:	Value:
Mar 2025	15 Feb 2026	34,174	3,380	18,295	$225.41 M

Features	EPADS 1.0	EPADS 2.0
Lifecycle	Procurement planning to contract award	Procurement, disposal & contract management
Registration	Manual processes	Automated registration and verification
Submission	Bid-document uploads	Dynamic e-submission
Methods	OCB, RFQ and petty purchase	All methods, including framework agreements
Evaluation	Manual bid evaluation	System-based evaluation
Payments	No integrated digital payment flow	Digital payment flow including e-invoicing
Integrity	Limited beneficial ownership checks	Auto verification through national database
Reporting	No hierarchy of departments, only PA-wise reporting	Ministry-wise and geographical reporting

SYSTEM INTEROPERABILITY



Oversight Dashboards





IMPACT OF EPADS

- Substantial savings in procurement admin costs
- 10 -15 percent savings potential in contract cost
- Enhanced competition - tender alerts to vendors
- Improved rules compliance via system checks
- Reduced manipulation by PAs- System based SBDs
- Enhanced transparency & accountability- digital records & audit trail
- Improved monitoring and executive reporting
- Effective e-Grievance redressal system
- Single window for national procurement

INSTITUTIONAL ADOPTION & CAPACITY CHALLENGES

Challenges & Implementation constraints

- Change Management
- Uneven capability & readiness across PAs.
- Supplier onboarding and limited capacities
- Interoperability across govt systems
- Data quality & completeness issues
- Cybersecurity, encryption, and protection of sensitive procurement data

Institutional response

- Project Management Unit of EPADS ⇨
- State-of-the-art EPADS training lab
- 8,000 officials trained by PPRA & partner universities ⇨
- Dedicated Procurement Cells in PAs
- Competency & Accreditation Framework
- Dedicated helpdesk, YouTube tutorials
- Regular stakeholder engagements
- Int'l collaboration: ITC-ILO, Italy & CIPS, UK

NEXT STAGE: DIGITALIZATION TO INTELLIGENCE

Secure

- Strengthen reliability through independent third-party validation
- Establish system resilience and disaster-recovery mechanisms

Smart

- Deploy executive dashboards and automated red flags
- AI Analytics
- e-Marketplace for common purchase

Sustainable

- Extend rollout to provinces & regions
- Complete contract-management and MDB modules
- Separate SOEs module

National Procurement Strategy 2026-2030

The next phase depends on consistent system use, reliable procurement data and accountable human review.

LESSONS FROM EPADS IMPLEMENTATION

1. Sequence reforms carefully- legal, institutional, and technological reforms must reinforce one another.
2. Phased implementation works better than a "big bang" approach
3. Build interoperability from the beginning
4. Strong institutional ownership is critical to sustaining reforms



5. Capacity building (for PAs & suppliers) needs to complement e-procurement adoption
6. Effective communication strategy
7. Procurement data creates a new dimension of oversight
8. Measure outcomes, not only transactions

THANK YOU





Government Of Pakistan