



# PPCC SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT

2024

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## **Foreword**

Welcome to our FY2024 Annual Report reflecting our stewardship as regulator of public procurement & concessions in Liberia.

2024 has been a post elections year where presidential, senatorial and representatives' elections has just taken place and new officials of the Liberian Government have just taken their seats in the Legislature or a position in the Executive. Going through the year 2024, the PPCC has conducted series of training and awareness activities to orientate newly appointed officers with the structures, as well as the processes and procedures needed to be in compliance with the public procurement laws of Liberia.

It has been a wonderful, though at time tedious, working with over 144 entities in government to ensure they comply with their responsibility in submitting quarterly reports, procurement plans as well as other statutory request to the Commission's prior approvals.

During 2024, the Commission achieved two major milestones; the electronic government procurement has gone live with six (6) piloted entities; while the revised PPC Act has be review and updated and forwarded to the Office of the President.

Over 500 public procurement practitioners and private sector users has been trained or enrolled on the new eProcurement platform and continuous trainings as still being organized for newly registered businesses wishing to utilize the online site.

We are hopeful that the next year will reflect more positive growth in compliance even as we anticipate the enrollment of additional 50 new public procuring entities from the old offline system to the more competitive, transparent and accountable online one.

Truly yours,

Hon. Bodger Scott Johnson  
**Chief Executive Officer, PPCC**

**Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC)  
Year-End Report 2024 as Prepared for the SONA**

### Development and Rollout of the Electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) System

In 2024, PPCC achieved a significant milestone by developing, testing, and rolling out the Electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) System to enhance efficiency and transparency in public procurement. The e-GP system was piloted in six key entities:

- i. Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
- ii. Ministry of Health
- iii. Ministry of Public Works
- iv. Ministry of Education
- v. Liberia Revenue Authority
- vi. Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC)

Funded by the World Bank through the PFMIRISP project, the e-GP System has been designed to streamline procurement processes, reduce delays, and improve accountability in public procurement. This innovative platform is expected to transform procurement operations across all government sectors nationwide.

### Revision of the PPC Act

The 2010 PPC Act has undergone a comprehensive review and revision, culminating in a draft with the following key provisions:

- a) **Mandatory Use of the e-GP System:** The new Act mandates the utilization of the e-GP system across all public procurement bodies, ensuring streamlined operations and transparency.
- b) **Public Private Partnership (PPP) Provisions:** New guidelines for PPPs have been included to facilitate collaboration with private entities for public projects.
- c) **Gender-Inclusive Procurement Policies:** Gender considerations have been incorporated to promote equitable access and opportunity for women in public procurement.
- d) **Updated Concessions Framework:** The concessions framework has been refined to enhance fair competition and integrity in concessions.

This revised Act has been submitted to the President's Office for review and will be forwarded to the National Legislature for approval, representing a forward-looking step in the modernization of procurement legislation.

### Refurbishment of Office Facility

PPCC has commenced the refurbishment of its office facilities to support the operational needs brought about by the e-GP System. The updated facility will feature:

- ✓ **State-of-the-Art eProcurement Workstation:** This area is designed to facilitate the processing of e-GP transactions effectively.

- ✓ Training Hall with 100-Person Capacity: Aimed at reducing rental costs and addressing the need for training space, this hall will serve as a venue for workshops and trainings essential for a seamless transition to digital procurement.

## Website Upgrade

In 2024, the PPCC website received a major overhaul to enhance functionality and user experience. The updated website now provides:

- Improved Structure and Aesthetic: The professional redesign has improved the usability and visual appeal of the website.
- Centralized Information Repository: It serves as a one-stop location for accessing information on contract awards, expressions of interest (EOIs), and other government procurement activities.
- Public Access to Procurement Data: Users can conveniently view procurement data and updates, promoting transparency and public engagement.

## E-GP Awareness and Engagement Initiatives

To support the rollout of the e-GP system, PPCC launched an extensive public awareness campaign across multiple media channels. The campaign components included:

- a) Radio Appearances and Social Media Outreach: PPCC representatives engaged with the public via radio and social media platforms to explain the benefits and functionalities of the e-GP system.
- b) Billboards and Community Messaging: Billboards in key areas raised awareness, encouraging vendor participation in public procurement.
- c) Stakeholder Engagements and Vendor Training: Workshops and sessions were held to help vendors understand and navigate the new platform, reducing resistance to the transition.

This comprehensive campaign was instrumental in easing the shift from paper-based to digital procurement, with a focus on inclusivity and accessibility.

## E-GP & Orientation Training and Logistical Support

Throughout the year, PPCC has provided training and logistical support to build technical capacity for e-GP implementation. Key achievements include:

- (1) Stakeholder Training Sessions: Six technical support training sessions were conducted for procurement committees, IT, and procurement units' officials and staff within the pilot Ministries, Agencies, and Commissions (MACs).
- (2) Vendor Training: Over 300 vendors were trained to use the e-GP platform, empowering suppliers to take part in the new digital procurement environment.

Two Training and orientation sessions/workshops were each conducted during the year under review. These sessions catered to appointed and elected officials of government at both the National level ( Ministers, Director Generals, Commissioner Generals, All Deputies) and the

County-level (Superintendents, Health Practitioners and academic institutions officials), public procurement practitioners as well as the public and private sectors.

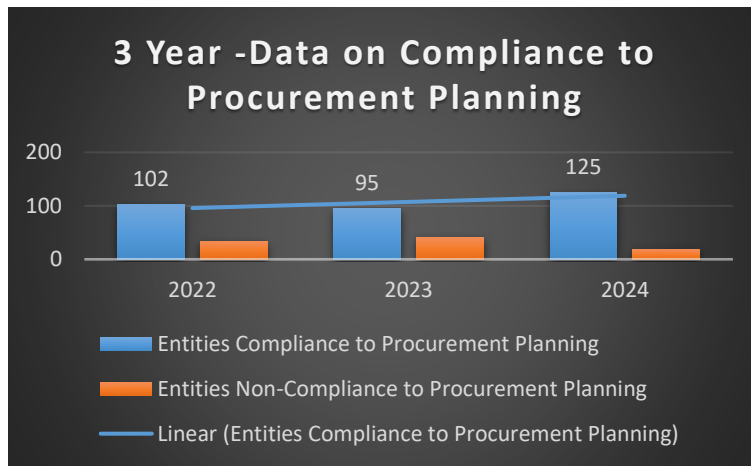
### Provision of Equipment

With funding from the World Bank, the six pilot public institutions (MOH, LRA, MPW, MFDP, MOE, and PPCC) received logistical support that included; three computers and one combined printer/scanner/photocopier, to ensure that they are well equipped to operate using the e-GP system.

### Compliance Procurement and Reporting

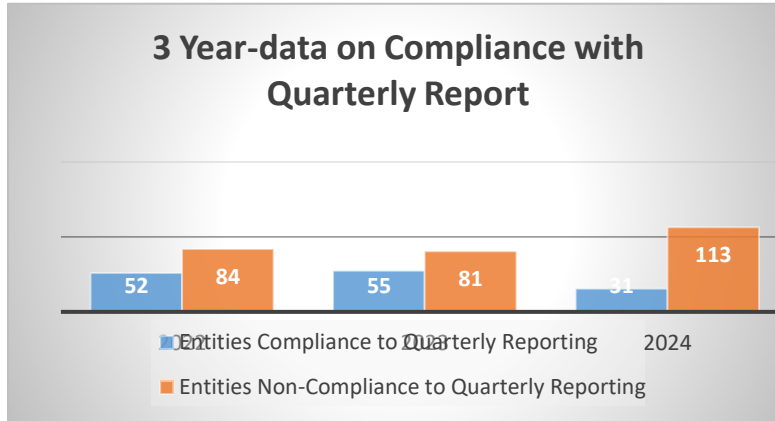
During 2024, of the 144 public and subsidized institutions written to initiate procurement planning, 125 or (86.8%) complied with said compliance requirement; while 19 or (13.2%) were non-compliant. This rise from the 2023 from seventy percent (70%) to 86.8% has seen a jump of 16.8%. 2025 is expected to be much better as more practitioners receive additional trainings and become more efficient in their functional areas.

**Table 1:**



Additionally, of the 144 subsidized institutions, ministries, agency and commissions participating in public procurement in 2024, twenty-nine (31) or (27%) complied with the requirement for the submission of quarterly reports. That being said, the majority (115 or 73%) were non-compliant. This failure to comply represent a drop of 11.2% in comparison to 2023 where 52 or 38.2% of entities complied with such requirement. This showed a failure to achieve the 2024 target of 50% compliance.

**Table 2:**



Finally, as we move from the pilot phase of the e-GP migration to the inclusion of 50 additional MACs, compliance to procurement planning and reporting is expected to improve as it would become mandatory for all procuring entities to conduct all of their activities on the new online platform prior to the end of December 31, 2026 except in prior approved cases with logical justification.

### Summary Financial Report

During the reporting period, the Commission received an appropriation of US\$1, 519,421.24. Budgeted compensation to employees stood at US\$1,019,421.24 while amount budgeted for Goods & Services in 2024 was US\$500,000.00

However, during fiscal Year 2024, the Commission thus far received US\$992,083.60. Personnel cost has total US\$742,916.93 or 75% as of October ending, while goods and services amounted to US\$249,166.67 or 25%. Total variance of budget to actual for the period January to October 2024 showed a positive variance of US\$27,082.53 or represents spending in estimated personnel cost as well as goods and services during the period under review.

The total received for Goods and Services has been US\$249,166.67 for the period under review while the balance in appropriation is US\$250,833.33 currently being processed at MFDP.

Despite the numerous challenges in fiscal Year 2024, the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission remains committed to achieve its core mandate as a regulator of public procurement and concessions s in Liberia.

### Challenges

The Commission faced numerous challenges during the course of 2024, namely:

- a) Insufficient Assessment to 3rd Party Systems Proposed for Integration to the newly rolled out e-GP System.
- b) Limited Internal Capacity amongst potential e-GP users
- c) Timely Access to Financial Resources to Address Identified Needs
- d) Inadequate Infrastructure to Support Seamless Implementation of the e-GP
- e) Rotation of Trained public procurement Workforce without Consultation with the PPCC

- f) Resistance to Change amongst some public stakeholders
- g) Insufficient IT Capacity of current and future System Users, and
- h) Slow Migration of the Business Community to the e-GP System

## Recommendations

The Commission recommends that:

1. Implement pilot testing for all integrations (IFMIS, NASSCORP, and Liberia Business Registry) before full deployment to ensure smooth interoperability. This will allow the identification of potential issues early and minimize disruptions during implementation.
2. Support mentorship and knowledge transfer programs from external consultants to internal staff to build long-term capacity within the organization.
3. Engage with development partners (World Bank) to ensure adequate funding for the other e-GP phases of the project. Presenting a clear case for the critical need for enhanced infrastructure and capacity-building efforts to support the project's sustainability.
4. Support policies for the prevention of the arbitrary replacement and rotation of procurement personnel without consultation with PPCC.
5. Provide adequate training budget so that encase rotation occurs, new staff can be quickly brought up to speed through standardized training modules.
6. Engage top government officials and procurement leadership to champion the e-GP project, emphasizing its importance and demonstrating their commitment to its success.
7. Hire needed staff as well as augment current technical staff monthly salary as an incentive to retain them, and
8. Launch widespread sensitization campaigns targeting the business community to educate them on the e-GP system's advantages and the procedures for registering and participating in procurement processes

## Conclusion

The PPCC's initiatives in 2024 mark a transformative period in public procurement, paving the way for enhanced transparency, efficiency, and stakeholder engagement. By investing in the development of the e-GP system, revising the PPC Act, improving office infrastructure, upgrading digital resources, and launching educational campaigns, PPCC has reinforced its commitment to modernizing procurement and promoting good governance. The Commission looks forward to continued success in driving Liberia's procurement practices into a new era of digital innovation.