

PPDA NOW TO PROSECUTE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT OFFENSES



The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions appointed nine PPDA staff from the Authority's Legal Chambers as public prosecutors to prosecute offences under the PPDA Act Cap 205.

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PPDA NOW TO PROSECUTE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT OFFENCES



Capacity building in prosecution facilitated by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions at the PPDA Head Office in Nakasero.

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) appointed 9 PPDA staff from the Authority's Legal Chambers, empowering them to prosecute offences under the PPDA Act Cap 205. This development strengthens enforcement measures of the sanctions in a bid to enhance accountability of various key players procurement system.

Under Article 120 of the Constitution, the ODPP is mandated to prosecute offenses and guide criminal investigations. The ODPP has delegated the prosecution of procurement-related offences to staff of PPDA under her supervision.

PPDA now joins other government agencies, such as National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC), and Uganda Wildlife Authority in handling sector-specific prosecutions while the ODPP retains oversight.

The ODPP held three-day capacity building engagement for the newly

designated public prosecutors. The training equipped them with essential skills to handle procurement-related offences, court procedures, trial advocacy, financial investigations, and legal obligations. This marks a major step in enforcing procurement laws and ensuring offenders face justice.

Dr. Aloysius M. Byaruhanga, Director of Performance Monitoring – Central Government, underscored the importance of the initiative, particularly in light of the amended PPDA Regulations 2023 and PPDA Guidelines 2024.



Dr. Aloysius M. Byaruhanga (L) – Director Performance Monitoring - Central Government, and Uthman Segawa (R) – Director Legal and Board Affairs attending the training.

"These amendments introduce key reforms in bid evaluation, contract management, and sanctions for violations. They are designed to enhance transparency and accountability while adding complexities that require prosecutors to have a deeper understanding of the law and its application,"

Dr. Byaruhanga explained.

He further highlighted the need for continuous capacity-building to ensure prosecutors, investigators, auditors, and other stakeholders can effectively detect procurement fraud, handle evidence, and navigate legal proceedings.

Ms. Irene Nakimbugwe, the Deputy Public Relations Officer and Chief State Attorney at ODPP, noted that the training provided PPDA prosecutors with vital expertise. "We are optimistic that they will use their prosecutorial licenses effectively to hold offenders accountable. The ODPP remains committed to supporting them throughout this journey," she said.



Irene Nakimbugwe – Deputy Public Relations Officer and Chief State Attorney at the ODPP.

PPDA's Director Legal and Board Affairs, Mr. Uthman Segawa, reaffirmed the Authority's commitment to enforcing procurement laws. "Public procurement involves taxpayers' money, and we must ensure these funds are used transparently and responsibly. Moving forward, it will not be business as usual for those who breach the PPDA Act. In addition to administrative actions, we are now prepared to prosecute offenders and bring them to justice," he stated.



Uthman Segawa, Director of Legal & Board Affairs at PPDA, speaks during the training of PPDA legal officers conducted by the Office of the DPP.

He further revealed that PPDA has already identified cases of procurement violations and will begin the process of opening general files of inquiry for police investigations. Once sanctioned by the ODPP, prosecutions will commence.

PPDA's commitment to enforcing procurement laws aligns with broader efforts to promote good governance and safeguard public resources. Strengthening the legal framework for procurement oversight ensures improved service delivery and efficient use of taxpayer funds.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS INAUGURATED, OUTGOING MEMBERS CELEBRATED

OUT GOING BOARD MEMBERS



Mr. David Kiyingi



Dr. Levi Kabagambe

The Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Authority welcomed two members to the Board of Directors i.e. Dr. Charles Ndandiko and Dr. Isaac Kyaligonza. The two replaced Dr. Levi Kabagambe and David Kiyingi, whose tenure had expired.

The new Board members bring extensive expertise in procurement and supply chain management and governance. Their joining the Board shall enhance the general direction and supervision of the Authority.

Dr. Charles Ndandiko, a globally recognized expert in PPPs and procurement, has over 15 years of experience working in countries like Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Malawi, and Uganda. He has influenced procurement policy reforms and consulted for international organizations, including the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the World Bank, and the African Development Bank (AfDB). His expertise in sustainable procurement and regulatory frameworks will be instrumental to PPDA's mission.

He is currently based at the Kyambogo University School of Management, Charles has also lectured at post graduate level (PhD and MBA) in other Ugandan universities including Makerere University, Uganda Martyrs University, Uganda Christian University and Uganda Management Institute.

Dr. Isaac Kyaligonza, has over 25 years' experience in procurement and supply chain management. He

INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS



Dr. Charles Ndandiko

"I am excited to join the PPDA Board and look forward to contributing my knowledge to enhance the integrity and efficiency of Uganda's procurement system,"
Dr. Ndandiko stated.



Dr. Isaac Kyaligonza

"It is an honor to serve on the PPDA Board. I am committed to advancing Uganda's procurement reforms and strengthening the framework for accountability and transparency,"
said Dr. Kyaligonza.



PPDA Board Members shake hands to bid farewell to outgoing board member, Dr. Levi Kabagambe (L). (L-R): Eng. George Bwanga, Board Chairman Julius K. Ishungisa, David Sserebe Bunnya, and Dr. Charles Ndandiko.

has held key government roles, including Heading Procurement at the Ministries of Finance, Defence & Energy. His experience in managing large procurement functions and international partnerships will help shape policies that promote transparency, efficiency, and value for money in public procurement.

The Board Chairman, Julius K. Ishungisa, extended appreciation to the outgoing Board members, Dr. Levi Kabagambe and David Kiyangi, for their exceptional service.

"Their leadership has played a critical role in advancing procurement reforms and achieving key milestones for the Authority," he noted.

The Executive Director, Benson Turamye, also commended them saying, "Dr. Kabagambe and Mr. Kiyangi have been instrumental in steering PPDA through transformative periods. Their dedication has laid a strong foundation that will be recognized for generations to come."

The appointment of Dr. Ndandiko and Dr. Kyaligonza aligns with PPDA's strategic goals of strengthening procurement regulation, enhancing stakeholder engagement, and

leveraging technology for efficiency.

Turamye emphasized continuity in the Authority's reform agenda: "This transition is an exciting opportunity to build on the work of our outgoing members while incorporating fresh perspectives. We remain committed to ensuring transparency, accountability, and value for money in public procurement."

PPDA envisions a more robust procurement sector under the guidance of its new Board. As the Authority continues to pursue reforms and embrace innovation, the leadership of Dr. Ndandiko, Dr. Kyaligonza, and their colleagues will be crucial in realizing Uganda's development goals.



Members of the PPDA Board, Executive Committee and some Staff, pause with the family of former board member, Dr. Levi Kabagambe (Front row, 5th from Left) during his fairwell dinner in Kampala.



PPDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS AT MARCH 2025



MR. JULIUS K. ISHUNGISA
Chairman



**MR. BENSON
TURAMYE**
Executive Director



**MR. DAVID
SSEREBE BBUNYA**
Member



ENG. GEORGE BWANGA
Member



**MS. RITA
NAMAKIIKA NANGONO**
Member



ARCH. DOROTHY ABOLA
Member



DR. KYALIGONZA ISAAC
Member



DR. CHARLES NDANDIKO
Member



MR. UTHMAN SEGAWA
Secretary

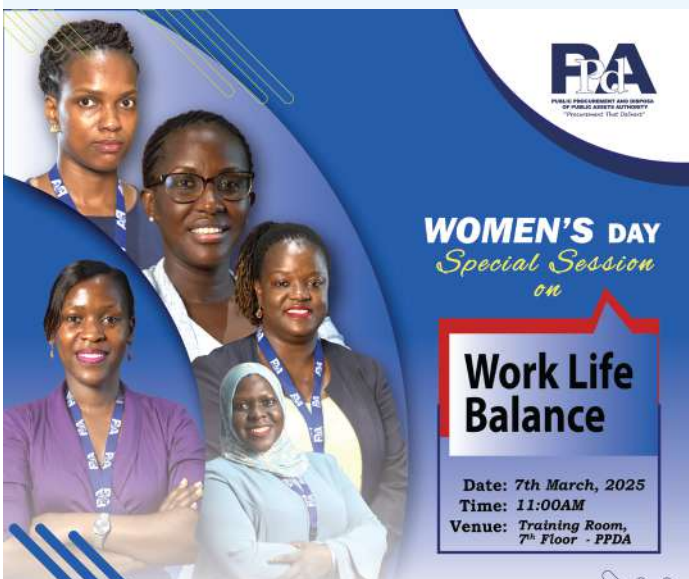
BEYOND THE DESK: PPDA CHAMPIONS WORK-LIFE BALANCE ON WOMEN'S DAY



Sophia N. Masagazi, Chairperson of the Gender, Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) Committee of PPDA, seated with Amanda Chrispa Lulu, Senior Officer Legal Affairs, during the special session held in commemoration of International Women's Day (IWD) 2025.

To mark the International Women's Day 2025, PPDA hosted a special session on work-life balance. The event featured insights from Michael Ssegwaya, Executive Director & CFO of Absa Bank Uganda, and Mrs. Sarah Byamukama, a counselor and teacher.

PPDA recognizes that a supportive and inclusive workplace is key to both personal and professional success. This session served as a timely reminder that achieving balance is essential for overall well-being, productivity, and fulfillment.



Sarah Byamukama emphasized self-awareness as the foundation for managing stress and maintaining balance. Quoting psychiatrist James Mallory, she noted, "A person can never understand their behavior or its impact until they understand who they are."

She encouraged staff to go beyond daily routines, tap into their inner intuition, and make intentional choices that prioritize what truly matters—family, health, and career.

Balancing professional and personal life is particularly challenging in today's fast-paced world. Many employees dedicate extensive time and energy to their jobs, often forgetting that financial success should also translate into meaningful personal connections. Byamukama highlighted the risk of neglecting relationships, stressing that without proper time management, the people we care about can become distant. She urged staff to be intentional about setting aside time for family, ensuring relationships remain strong even amidst professional demands.

Adding to the discussion, Micheal Ssegwaya shared practical strategies for realigning priorities. He



Sarah Byamukama, a counsellor and teacher, talks to PPDA staff about work-life balance during the Women's Day special session.

emphasized that work-life balance starts with defining your ideal day and making deliberate decisions about how to spend time. "If you don't set your priorities, someone else will," he cautioned.

He encouraged employees to nurture both their professional and personal lives, investing in meaningful relationships rather than just material success.

Mr. Ssegwaya introduced the concept of vertical and horizontal relationships, explaining that while work-places and communities (horizontal) are important, family (vertical) should be the core foundation. "Let's invest in the 'software'—our children, loved ones, and personal growth—rather than just the 'hardware' that depreciates over time," he advised. He reminded employees that true fulfillment comes from managing pressures without losing sight of what truly matters.



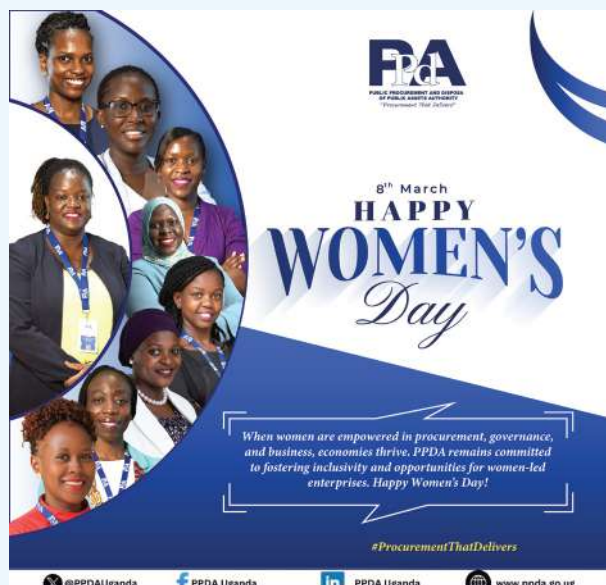
Michael Ssegwaya, Managing Director ABSA Bank, shares his experience navigating the work-life balance puzzle.

Speaking on behalf of PPDA's Executive Director, Mr. Uthman Ssegawa, Director Legal and Board Affairs, reaffirmed the Authority's commitment to fostering a healthy and inclusive work environment. He highlighted that the 2025 International Women's Day theme, "Accelerating Action," aligns with PPDA's ongoing efforts to promote gender equality and staff well-being.

For the first time, the PPDA Women's Day engagement was inclusive of both men and women, sparking valuable conversations on work-life balance from diverse perspectives. This approach reinforced PPDA's commitment to fostering an environment where all employees thrive.



Uthman Segawa, Director Legal and Board Affairs, delivering closing remarks on behalf of the Executive Director.



MANAGING GRIEVANCES IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT, AND WHY TIME IS OF ESSENCE



By Cris Magoba

The process by which government acquires goods and services, also known as public procurement, is an important undertaking in any country's development agenda. Governments and agencies like the World Bank and the UN endeavour to undertake public procurement with efficiency for quality service delivery.

Public procurement is considered effective and efficient if contracts are awarded in accordance with the laws, notably the PPDA Act, Cap 205. When there is deviation from the law, there is a complaints' handling mechanism. This mechanism is referred to as the administrative review.

The Act, under Section 106, explains how "a bidder who is aggrieved by a decision of a procuring and disposing entity may make a complaint to the Accounting Officer". To jog our memory, the Accounting Officer (AO) is that person appointed by the Permanent Secretary/ Secretary to the Treasury to manage public funds in a particular government entity. The most widely known AOs are Permanent Secretaries for ministries, Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) for Districts and Town Clerks for Cities and Municipalities.

Prior to July 2021, the complaints process was three-tiered. The dissatisfied bidder would complain to the AO, then PPDA and ultimately the PPDA Appeals Tribunal. To dispose of the bidders' complaints, the AO had 15 working days, PPDA had 21 working days and the Tribunal had 10 working days. However, owing to delays occasioned by these tiers, the 2021 amendments of the Act provided for a two-tiered procedure, to wit; the AO and the PPDA Appeals tribunal.

It should be noted that even when these two tiers are exhausted, the law still allows further appeal to the High Court in line with Section, 118 of the PPDA Act. However, the appeal to the High Court is strictly on the question of law. Parties can only appeal to the High Court where the Tribunal got the relevant law wrong or applied it wrongly in arriving at its decision. And if the appeal is upheld, the petitioner will be compensated. In other words, the decision of the PPDA Appeals Tribunal determines the fate of the procurement process. The Tribunal decisions may include allowing the procurement process to proceed, cancellation of the procurement process, orders for revaluation of the bids or making an order to costs against any party. Furthermore, the decision or order of the High Court on public procurement is conclusive and cannot be subjected to appeal of any other court.

Thus, there is a clear procedure to address procurement grievances. However, the framers of the law, were mindful of the possibility of interminable complaints. Thus, the law provides for timelines so that service delivery is not mired in endlessly complaints.

According to the law, an aggrieved bidder, must within ten working days, file a complaint to the AO. The AO also has ten days to make and communicate a decision to the complainant. For appeals to the Tribunal, the complainant has ten working days from the date of receipt of the decision of the AO. And the Tribunal has a period of not more than fifteen working days to make a decision on an

appeal filed before it. And thus, the period for the complaints handling was reduced from 46 to 25 working days. These timelines are meant to hedge against time wasting.

When action is taken outside the timelines specified in the law, there are two scenarios. The complaint will outrightly be dismissed without giving any consideration of its merits. Secondly if an AO or Tribunal make a decision outside the prescribed period, that decision will be null and void.

A mistake some bidders make is to wait for the AO to deliver a decision before appealing to the Tribunal. When the AO defaults on adherence to the timelines, the law provides for the aggrieved bidder to petition the Tribunal irrespective of what the decision of the AO will ultimately be.

A recent High Court ruling by Justice Esta Mbayo is an interesting read about this subject. The case involved a complaint, Eclipse Edisoil JVC Limited, (EEJL), a bidder for the construction of seed secondary schools in Abim and Napak Districts.

EEJL was dissatisfied with the procurement process and filed a complaint to the AO on November 15, 2023. The AO delivered the decision after 16 days on December 7, 2023, clearly outside the timeline provided by law. EEJL disagreed with the decision of the AO and on December 12, 2023, filed an appeal with the PPDA Appeals Tribunal. The Tribunal dismissed the appeal on grounds that it was time barred.

EEJL appealed to the High court asserting that the Tribunal erred by not giving consideration to the merits of the complaint.

Court dismissed the appeal and concurred with the Tribunal because the bidder waited for the decision of the AO, (which decision came outside the timelines), before filing the appeal to the Tribunal.

The writer is the Manager, Corporate and Public Affairs at PPDA.

This article was originally run in the Daily Monitor news paper on 7th April 2025.



MPS CALL FOR MORE SUPPORT TO PPDA TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT MONITORING.



**PPDA
NEEDS MORE:
FUNDS &
STAFF**

The Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Authority (PPDA) is calling for increased funding and staffing to enhance its oversight and compliance capacity in Uganda's public procurement system. While engaging with Parliament's Committee on Finance, Planning, and Economic Development, PPDA highlighted the urgent need to boost contract monitoring from the current 40% to at least 80%, increase its workforce from 138 to 207, and strengthen capacity in key areas such as e-Government Procurement (e-GP) and contract management.

The discussion also focused on legal and regulatory reforms, capacity-building initiatives, and measures to enhance efficiency, transparency, and inclusivity in procurement processes. PPDA pointed out that while the PPDA (Amendment) Act, 2021, set the foundation for reforms, additional resources are required to fully implement and enforce the recently

issued PPDA Regulations 2023 and Guidelines 2024. These regulations aim to streamline procurement processes, reduce lead times, and promote socio-economic empowerment through initiatives like the Reservation Schemes, which allocate 15% of public procurement budgets to women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

PPDA Board Chairman, Mr. Julius K. Ishungisa, highlighted the importance of strengthening oversight mechanisms, stating, "We need to be more impactful. We need to sharpen our auditors. A good auditor should not have the normal senses," he remarked, stressing the need for specialized training and capacity building."

Expanding PPDA's regional presence and increasing staffing were also emphasized as key to improving audits and contract management functions.



PPDA Board Chairperson, Julius K. Ishungisa, makes remarks during the visit by members of the Parliamentary Committee on Finance, Planning and Economic Development to PPDA.

The shift toward electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) was recognized as a major modernization effort. However, challenges such as low adoption rates, capacity gaps, and resistance to change persist. PPDA outlined plans to intensify training and support for government entities to ensure successful nationwide implementation.

"Digital transformation in procurement is no longer an option but a necessity," Turamye reiterated, emphasizing the need for structured training and continuous stakeholder engagement.

PPDA also reaffirmed its commitment to enforcing procurement laws, addressing non-compliance, and ensuring that procurement is leveraged as a tool for economic transformation. In the Financial Year 2023/24, audits revealed that 34% of Procuring and Disposing Entities (PDEs) were rated satisfactory, 58% were moderately satisfactory, and 8% were unsatisfactory. These findings underscored the necessity of increased monitoring to curb irregularities and improve service delivery.

With Parliament's support, the Authority aims to strengthen accountability, optimize resource utilization, and drive sustainable development.

"We remain committed to ensuring that the Authority executes its mandate effectively. We have always supported PPDA and will continue to do so," Akankunda stated.

The engagement underscored the shared responsibility between PPDA and Parliament in ensuring that Uganda's public procurement system serves the public interest effectively. By addressing systemic challenges and aligning policies with national development goals, the government can enhance service delivery and foster economic growth.



Members of Parliament's Committee on Finance, Planning and Economic Development are joined by representatives of PPDA staff, management, and the Board. Seated 4th from left (front row) is the Chairperson of the Finance Committee, Hon. Amos Akankunda. Next to him is PPDA Board Chairperson, Julius K. Ishungisa, and 3rd from right is the Executive Director of PPDA, Benson Turamye.

BUILDING A STRONGER PROCUREMENT FUTURE: PPDA & MOFPED TRAIN 213 MINISTRIES, DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES.



Public procurement practitioners and stakeholders from selected Central Government agencies pose for a group photo with leaders and facilitators from PPDA and the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development on the opening day of the 10-day training session. Seated (L-R): Rev. Gillian Amongin, Principal Procurement Officer (MoFPED); Mercy Kyoshabire, Manager Procurement Capacity Building (PPDA); Fred Lutimba, representing the Accountant General (MoFPED); Benson Turamye, Executive Director – PPDA; and David Kiyingi, Head of the Sustainable Procurement Unit, MoFPED.

The Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Authority (PPDA), in partnership with the Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development (MoFPED), has successfully completed Phase 2 of its comprehensive training on the PPDA 2023 Regulations and 2024 Guidelines. Held over two weeks in February 2025, the initiative brought together representatives from 213 Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), reinforcing the government's commitment to advancing public procurement practices throughout Uganda.

This training played a pivotal role in preparing government institutions to effectively implement the new regulations, which came into force on 5th February 2024. PPDA Executive Director, Benson Turamye, expressed his appreciation for the active participation of the attendees, acknowledging their crucial role in driving the country's procurement reform agenda. "We sincerely thank the over 213 MDAs who attended and engaged in this important training. Their commitment is a testament to their desire for greater efficiency and progress in our procurement processes," said Turamye.

The success of the training was made possible through the collaboration with MoFPED's Procurement Policy and Management Department, underscoring Uganda's collective effort to enhance transparency, competitiveness, and value for money in public procurement. This initiative ensures that taxpayer funds are used responsibly and efficiently.

Turamye further praised the ongoing partnership between PPDA and MoFPED, emphasizing their shared vision for a modernized procurement system. "This training is part of a broader strategy to harmonize procurement regulations across both central and local government entities. By empowering key government officials with the knowledge needed to implement these reforms, we are laying the foundation for a more streamlined and effective procurement system," he added.

Aligning with Uganda's push toward digital transformation, Rev. Gillian Amongin, Principal Procurement Officer at MoFPED, speaking on behalf of the Accountant General, highlighted the

continued progress of the Electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) system. "This training has not only addressed the revised regulations but has also enabled MDAs to embrace digital procurement solutions. The ongoing development of the e-GP system will significantly enhance the efficiency and accountability of government procurement processes," Rev. Amongin stated.

She also noted that MoFPED's financial management reforms, including the re-implementation of the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS) and updates to the Chart of Accounts, align with Uganda's broader commitment to the United Nations' 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Rev. Gillian Amongin, Principal Procurement Officer (MoFPED), during one of the training sessions.

Phase 2 of the sensitization covered essential aspects such as bid validity flexibility, direct sourcing for equipment, and streamlining the procurement process for consultancy services. These discussions were designed to equip government officials with the tools needed to navigate the new regulations and integrate best practices into their daily operations.

The training sessions were highly interactive, ensuring that participants not only gained a thorough understanding of the legal and procedural changes but also learned how to implement them effectively. The active engagement of attendees throughout the sessions further underscored their commitment to driving meaningful reform in Uganda's procurement system.



Mariam Baluka, Senior Officer Procurement Capacity Building, during one of the training sessions.

PPDA's ongoing efforts to strengthen Uganda's procurement framework are supported by dedicated procurement professionals whose contributions are vital in fostering a transparent, accountable, and efficient procurement system. Through their participation in this training, government officials have demonstrated a collective responsibility to ensure that public procurement delivers the best value for money, ultimately supporting the country's broader development goals.

As PPDA and MoFPED continue to collaborate on these reforms, they are laying the groundwork for a procurement system that will benefit all Ugandans, ensuring that public resources are utilized efficiently and transparently for the nation's sustainable development.



Participants from selected Central Government agencies attended the training sessions.

SHAPING FUTURE CAREERS: PPDA'S EMPOWERING GUIDANCE SESSION FOR GRADUATE TRAINEES AND INTERNS



Beneficiaries of the PPDA Graduate Trainee Programme pose for a group photo after the career guidance session. Seated: Eva Nazziwa Lubowa, Director Human Resources, Benson Turamye, Executive Director, Shamim Walusimbi, Global Recruitment Consultant and Human Resources Specialist, and Richard Turyatunga, Manager Human Resources at PPDA.

"Your career is not a destination, but a journey-take the wheel and drive it with purpose," is what Shamim Walusimbi, Global Recruitment Consultant and Human Resources Specialist, told PPDA's graduate trainees and interns during an energizing career guidance session on 13th March 2025. Her words, charged with wisdom, set the stage for an inspiring and insightful event at the Authority's 7th Floor Training Room. The session was aimed at equipping young professionals with the tools and knowledge they need to navigate their future careers.

As trainees gathered from both headquarters and regional offices (online), and the day kicked off with a warm welcome from PPDA's Director of Human Resources and Administration, Eva L. Nazziwa. She encouraged everyone to view the session as a vital opportunity to invest in their personal and professional growth, reminding them that applying the knowledge gained is key to unlocking future success.

The Executive Director PPDA emphasized that while academic qualifications are important, the real key to standing out in the professional world lies in continuously building knowledge and experience. "Years after

school can give you experience, but what truly sets you apart is the knowledge you acquire along the way," he explained, urging trainees to embrace lifelong learning, discipline, and a positive attitude in their career journeys.



Benson Turamye, Executive Director – delivering opening remarks Graduate Trainee career guidance session.

Shamim Walusimbi guided the group through a reflective self-discovery exercise. Each participant described themselves using three words. The activity

sparked a deeper sense of self-awareness, prompting the trainees to reflect on their values and career aspirations. "What good is a dream without a blueprint?" she asked, encouraging the group to create a clear and actionable vision for their careers.

The session was not only about motivation but also about providing practical tools to excel in the competitive job market. Walusimbi shared valuable insights on making an impact, particularly through platforms like LinkedIn. "LinkedIn isn't just a resume—it's a stage where your skills and strengths take center stage," she noted, advising the trainees to use the right keywords to enhance their online visibility and increase professional opportunities.

As the session wraps up, the attendees walked away with renewed energy, clarity, and strategies for taking their careers to the next level. PPDA continues to invest in its young professionals, ensuring that they are equipped with the mindset, skills, and confidence to tackle the challenges ahead.

Through initiatives like this, PPDA reaffirms its commitment to shaping the leaders of tomorrow and empowering young professionals to succeed in the ever-evolving job market.



Shamim Walusimbi, Global Recruitment Consultant and Human Resources Specialist, facilitated the career guidance session.



Shamim Walusimbi speaks to an attentive audience during the career guidance session.

PPDA MEETS STAKEHOLDERS ON CONTRACT MONITORING



PPDA Staff and members of the community in a discussion after a monitoring exercise in Western Uganda.

By Dalia Hassam

In 2022, the Government, through the Public Procurement & Disposal of Public Assets Authority (PPDA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Civil Society Organizations to enhance the implementation of the Contract Monitoring System (CMS).

The PPDA-Contract Monitoring System (PPDA-CMS) is a web-based application and, with it, a monitor, using a smart phone, is able to relay in real time any identified contract issues to the PPDA for further management. The information can be relayed in all formats; pictures, videos and text.

It dates back to 2019, when GIZ, the German development agency supported a Collaborative Framework between PPDA, Procuring and Disposing Entities and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to enhance public procurement outcomes and service delivery. PPDA later, signed memoranda with 28 regional CSOs who have been using the System for contract monitoring for close to three years now.



The Authority together with development partner GIZ Uganda awarded partner CSOs for supporting contracting management efforts in their areas through CMS

As part of this initiative, the Authority's Mbarara Regional Office recently conducted a joint monitoring activity and engagement meeting with the Rwenzori Anti-Corruption Coalition, a CSO based in the areas surrounding Mount Rwenzori in the South Western region of Uganda.

The meeting, held in Kasese District, underscored the significance of involving carefully vetted citizens,



Senior Officer Procurement Performance Monitoring (L), Dalia Hassam at an ongoing construction site in Kasese District.

through CSOs, in the monitoring of public procurement projects and infrastructure. This approach not only fosters a sense of ownership but also strengthens public support for administration, ultimately ensuring the protection of public assets upon completion. The integration of CMS technology allows the Authority to expand its reach while optimizing the monitoring process.

Innovative technologies like CMS are key in transforming procurement practices, helping overcome limitations that previously hindered efficiency.

Appreciation to Mrs. Ssenabulya Angella Bwangwa, Executive Director of RAC, for her continued efforts in the fight against corruption in the region, and to GIZ Uganda for their valuable support in this initiative.

ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT SYSTEM (EGP): PPDA ENGAGES GOVERNMENT ENTITIES ON SYSTEM PERFORMANCE AND REPORTING.

eGP
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Logos: PPDA, Ministry of ICT & National Guidance, NITA, eGP Uganda, e-GP Uganda, electronicgvtprocurement, 0765226541

The Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Authority (PPDA) hosted a high-level engagement with representatives from 36 government entities onboarded on the Electronic Government Procurement (eGP) system. Held at the PPDA-URF Towers in Nakasero on 25th March 2025, the meeting focused on assessing the system's performance, addressing challenges, and discussing upcoming enhancements to improve procurement data reporting and communication.

PPDA Executive Director, Benson Turamye, opened the meeting by emphasizing the importance of procurement reporting in driving transparency and efficiency. He highlighted that accurate and timely data submission is critical for assessing performance, identifying inefficiencies, and making informed policy decisions. He encouraged all



PHOTO COLLAGE: PPDA Executive Director Benson Turamye (top left) addresses stakeholders from the 36 entities currently onboarded unto the eGP System

entities to embrace digital transformation, stating that “Digital transformation in procurement is no longer an option but a necessity.”

He further called on PDEs to comply with reporting requirements, ensuring that procurement data remains comprehensive and accessible as the system undergoes upgrades.

Following the Executive Director’s remarks, the engagement featured an interactive Question and Answer session chaired by Dr. Aloysius Byaruhanga, the Director Performance Monitoring (Central Government). Accounting Officers and Heads of Procurement and Disposal Units (PDUs) present raised critical concerns about system functionality. They highlighted the issue of double submission of procurement data, calling for better alignment between the two systems, Electronic Government Procurement System (eGP) and the Government Procurement Portal (GPP), to avoid redundancy and confusion.

Participants asked PPDA to accelerate the development of critical modules that would enhance the system’s efficiency. Others inquired about the timeframe for implementing the system upgrades and whether the current measures were short-term or part of a long-term strategy.

Responding to these concerns, Dr. Byaruhanga explained that while PPDA is actively working to improve the system, it does not have sole control over the upgrade timelines. He reassured PDEs that efforts are ongoing in collaboration with key stakeholders to ensure a smooth transition. He further emphasized that PPDA had proactively engaged with system users and stakeholders to identify and address potential challenges, reinforcing the commitment to ensuring a seamless procurement process.

Dr. Byaruhanga urged PDEs to comply with the interim measure of submitting procurement data through the Government Procurement Portal (GPP) while improvements to the eGP system are underway. He assured participants that official communication would be sent to all entities regarding data submission requirements.

The engagement concluded with PPDA reaffirming its commitment to continuous system improvement, training, and stakeholder collaboration. PDEs were encouraged to remain engaged in the process, provide feedback on system functionality, and comply with interim reporting measures to maintain transparency and accountability in public procurement.

COFFEE BREAK

I don't need a friend who changes when I change and who nods when I nod; my shadow does that much better. *Plutarch, Greek philosopher, historian, biographer, essayist, and priest*

Few men think, yet all have opinions. *George Berkeley, (1685-1753), Anglo-Irish philosopher*

When the character of a man is not clear to you, look at his friends. *Japanese proverb*

What Paul says about Peter says more about Paul than about Peter. *Baruch Spinoza, (1632 -1677) Portuguese-Jewish philosopher, born in Amsterdam.*




The only way to deal with an unfree world is to become so absolutely free that your very existence is an act of rebellion. *Albert Camus, (1913 –1960), Algerian born French philosopher, author, dramatist, journalist and political activist*

In a day, when you don't come across any problems – you can be sure that you are travelling in a wrong path. *Swami Vivekananda, (1863 -1902), Indian Hindu monk, philosopher, author, religious teacher.*







This is no Laughing Matter

-  If you don't succeed at first, hide all evidence that you tried.
-  If you know more than five (5) stingy people, it means you beg a lot
-  I don't understand why Banks get upset when I can't repay a Loan. They already knew that I had no Money when I came to borrow!

- Teacher: How old is your father?
- John: 6 years old
- Teacher: How can that be?
- John: I am the first born. He became a father when I was born

-  A teacher will ask you to write a composition about the "The day I will never forget", and then award you 10% as if he was there on that day you're writing about!
-  What's the difference between an outlaw and an in-law?
Outlaws are wanted.

Wife to husband:

I wish I were a newspaper, so I would be in your arms always.

Husband:

I also wish you were so; I would have a new one every day.



**PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AND DISPOSAL
OF PUBLIC ASSETS AUTHORITY**

"Procurement That Delivers"

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