

Limitations of Decentralised Procurement in The South African Public Service

Pandelani Harry Munzhedzi
University of Venda

Abstract

The pre-democratic South Africa was characterised by the centralisation of the procurement system through the *State Tender Board Act 86 of 1968*. The legislation had its challenges, including the exclusion of majority in the government procurement system. To this end, the *Public Finance Management Act 1 of 1999* (As amended) was introduced in the first phase of the democratic era, post 1994; seeking to decentralise the public procurement system in the South Africa public service, amongst many other objectives. However, many limitations associated with this introduction exists. This is not to conclude that there are no benefits of decentralisation, as far as public procurement is concerned. This qualitative conceptual paper points out the limitations and further propose recommendations to address the identified limitations. This was done by reviewing existing literature on the South African public procurement system. Some of the pinpointed limitations in the government institutions include the following aspects: Minimal capacity, lack of consequences to those who contravene policies and severe corruption. For recommendations, accountability mechanisms to detect corruption and maladministration should be implemented, enhancing capacity through training and awareness as well as introduction of consequence management.

Key words: *capacity, corruption, decentralisation, limitations, public procurement.*

Full Text: [PDF](#)



This work is licensed under [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License](#).

European Journal of Economics, Law and Social Sciences ISSN 2519-1284 (print) ISSN
2510-0429 (online)

Copyright © IIPCCL-International Institute for Private, Commercial and Competition law