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ICBPP Newsletter

Issue Eight

ICBPP Background

The Public Procurement Policy Division (PPPD) supported by the Ministry of Finance (MoF) are the implementation Agency

The Royal Institute of Management (RIM), Royal University of Bhutan (RUB) and Royal Civil Service Commission (RCSC) are counterpart institutions and beneficiaries of the project

The Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply (CIPS) have been selected to assist in the implementation of this project. CIPS are providing a full time in country Project Director supported by short term inputs from CIPS UK.

A Project Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (PMEC) consisting of PPPD, RCSC, RIM, RUB and CIPS will be responsible for Monitoring the Project deliverables

In addition to building capacity in public procurement the project aims to introduce a sustainable internationally recognized qualification if procurement to be delivered by RIM and other Institutes

The World Bank (WB) are providing the funding for the ICBPP through a WB Investment Project (Grant)

The 3 main objectives of ICBPP are to:

- Establish and embed procurement benchmarks and standards which are based on international best practice
- Establish and professionalize a procurement community through a national people development strategy
- Strengthen and support the wider roll out of procurement practices, in order to create

ICBPP commenced on 15 June 2009 for a period of approximately 2 years.

Five Students progress to Level Five CIPS Study

The Five students who are being fast tracked through the CIPS qualifications have so far performed exceptionally well. Of the 25 examinations taken to date they have passed 22 between them with only 3 students needing to take one re-sit each in Thimpu in July 2010 at RIM.

So these students, having completed level 4 (Foundation Diploma) of the CIPS qualification are now proceeding to study for Level Five in preparation for 5 further examinations in November 2010.



The 5 Bhutanese students with their Tutor, Bill Tipping, CIPS Senior Assessor during a level 5 study break in Thimpu on 31st May 2010

The exam passes to date represent an excellent achievement as many of the subjects covered are completely new to Bhutan.

Two of the five students are full time staff members at RIM which bodes well for the future as RIM will be responsible, as a CIPS Examination Centre and Tuition Provider, for providing tuition for the CIPS qualifications in Bhutan.

As part of RIMs long term strategy the delivery of CIPS will help them to attract students from outside the Kingdom.

Within the ICBPP life span the five are tasked with achieving the full CIPS diploma (leading to full membership of the Institute—MCIPS) by passing level 5 examinations in November 2010 and level 6 examinations in May 2011.

CIPS will be providing the team with in country tuition in the period prior to the examination.

It also planned that a group of approximately 30 RGoB Procurement officers in the professional and management grades of P5 upwards will study for the CIPS level 4 examinations in November 2010.

Forthcoming events and activities under ICBPP

The Certificate in Procurement Compliance (CPC) that will be eventually delivered by RIM has been further refined in readiness for its launch in June.

In order to accommodate a larger group of RGoB Personnel, in a shorter period of time, the course has been reduced to 5 days plus a 2 hour exam on the 6th Day.

2-3 of these courses will be delivered at RIM during June 2010 for staff from the East of the Country followed by the group of 30 x 'P' grades for whom CIPS level 4 study is planned during a 5 week period during October and November 2010 leading to examinations mid November 2010.

Further CPC courses are planned in July, September and December and with the average course group expected be 30 it is anticipated that at least 180 RGoB officers through the CPC by the end of 2010.

The CPC will be a stand alone award issued by RIM but for those wishing to study for the CIPS qualification the CPC, including passing the examination, will be a pre requisite as part of a context first approach for Bhutan.

The certification approach should help deliver more than just training and develop the body of procurement knowledge. This in turn should help improve the procurement outcomes as one of the main objectives of the ICBPP