



JIGAWA STATE DUE PROCESS & PROJECT MONITORING BUREAU

COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT A TWO-DAY TRAINING/SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP ON EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT UNDER COVID-19 FOR SMEs IN JIGAWA STATE

Venue: Manpower Development Institute (MDI), Dutse, Jigawa State, Nigeria.

Date: 21-22 September 2020

Preamble

The Jigawa State's Due Process and Project Monitoring organized a two-day training/sensitization workshop on emergency procurement in Jigawa State. The aim of the workshop is to inform the Jigawa State's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) about the Jigawa State's policy response measures for COVID-19 emergency procurement. The objective of the workshop is to help the SMEs to easily secure contracts in Jigawa State in the time of COVID-19 pandemic. Hence the Due Process and Project Monitoring Bureau, Dutse, Jigawa State, invited certain Ministries and Agencies such as the Ministries of Health; Commerce, Industry, Cooperatives and Tourism; and Finance and Economic Planning as resource Ministries. Directorate of Economic Empowerment and Jigawa State's Emergency Management Agency were also invited by the Due Process and Project Monitoring Bureau to participate in delivering papers on various topics that had to do with the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on SMEs businesses in Jigawa State. The Due Process Bureau also invited all the SMEs from the three (3) Senatorial Districts of Jigawa State as participants.

In view of this therefore, we the 235 participants from Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs); SMEs representatives; Business

Member Organizations(BMOs); and all the invited guests met in the training/sensitization workshop organized by Due Process and Project Monitoring Bureau (DP&PMB) learnt and brainstormed on emergency procurement under COVID-19 for SMEs in Jigawa State.

Observations

Participants at the workshop observed that:

1. The workshop is part of DP&PMB's strategic sensitization programme on how to access procurement contracts under COVID-19 by SMEs in Jigawa State.
2. The delivery format of the workshop included ten (10) lead presentations followed by exhaustive discussion by the participants. The following lead presentations were made:
 - **"COVID-19 Pandemic for 2020 Procurement"**.
 - **"COVID-19 packages/ interventions available in the Ministry for SMEs and how to access the facilities"**.
 - **"Sources of loans available for SMEs and how they will secure them"**.
 - **"COVID-19 Pandemic for 2020 Procurement Season and Beyond"**.
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 - **"Position paper for Board of Internal Revenue as it affects SMEs during COVID-19"**.
 - **"Procurement Process"**.
 - **"Public procurement activities under COVID-19 pandemic/ future emergency situations and challenges that SMEs face in participating and winning contracts awarded by Jigawa State government"**.
 - **"COVID-19/ Emergency Procurement for SMEs in Jigawa State: Role for ICT for the Development of SMEs"**.
 - **"Jigawa State SME COVID-19 Procurement Season"**.

Resolutions

Following the discussion and interaction, therefore, we the participants at the plenary adopt the following resolutions:

1. That the DP&PMB shall notify all MDAs to make use of the SMEs associations by informing prospective SMEs contractors about MDAs tender notices so that interested SMEs could bid in good time.
2. The attention of the Jigawa State Government be drawn through the relevant MDAs to assist SMEs and ensure that they fully benefit from the Survival Fund programme of the Federal Government.
3. That the role of Banks in the development of SMEs in Jigawa State cannot be over-emphasized. Hence there is the need for active collaboration.
4. That the members of State and Federal House of Assemblies are kindly requested to emulate the Member, Bulangu Constituency in establishing internet and ICT centres in their constituencies to ease the issues of e-registrations in Jigawa State.
5. That all SMEs and other businesses related associations shall be verified with their office addresses and other relevant particulars to curve out fraudulent practices.
6. That the Jigawa State Government through the Directorate of Economic Empowerment shall reduce their loan requirement to ease access to their SMEs loan facilities.
7. That the Jigawa State Government shall put systems and strategies in place to ensure that our our taxes are reduced to the barest minimum, and that it shall be used on executing works for people of Jigawa State, especially the poor. This will act as an incentive against tax-evasion and avoidance.
8. That we seek tax reforms that could promote an ICT database driven system; fair representation; transparency; and accountable policies and practices on tax laws and remittances. This will go a long way in addressing poverty and inequality.

9. Finally, we are grateful to the training workshop organizers and presenters and the staff and management of the DP&PMB for their wonderful hospitality.



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and medium enterprises



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