

THE TIME IS NOW TO ACCELERATE
WOMEN'S PUBLIC PROCUREMENT



Snapshot: Kenya

THE INFLUENTIAL TRIO

Kenya targets 30 percent of public procurement to women, youth, and those with disabilities.



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The Kenya snapshot was developed utilizing the ITC [Procurement Map](#) and content adapted from the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) website.

The legal requirement for women, youth and persons with disabilities to access 30 percent of government procurement opportunities was officially launched by President Uhuru Kenyatta on October 16, 2013 in Nairobi County. It has been implemented by the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) program, which was founded on the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 Article 227 on the fair equitable, transparent and cost-effective public procurement of goods and services; the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 Article 55 on affirmative action; and the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act, 2015. AGPO's aim is to facilitate the enterprises owned by women, youth and persons with disabilities to be able to participate in government procurement opportunities.¹

1. *Public Procurement and Disposal (Preference and Reservations) Regulations, 2011 and Amendment Regulations, 2013* - now updated at <https://agpo.go.ke/pages/about-agpo>.

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Preference and reservation schemes may be applied by the procuring entity, within the boundaries provided in the Public Procurement and Disposal Regulations, to benefit “disadvantaged groups,” amongst which are enterprises owned by women. Registration with the National Treasury or the respective county treasury is compulsory. Women must have at least 70 percent membership of the business. Women are set to benefit from the Government directive of awarding 30 percent of procurement opportunities to youth, women and persons with disability.²

Gloria Ndekei, Trustee and In Charge of Women Programmes for the Kenya Private Sector Alliance said at a World Trade Organization forum on Trade and Women’s Economic Empowerment (Buenos Aires, June 25, 2018) that 51 percent of these special tenders were awarded to women, for a value of \$302 million since the program began in 2013. The important aspects for more inclusive trade in government procurement are:

- » the implementation of affirmative action
- » prompt payment
- » the creation of linkages between women-owned Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and large enterprises
- » capacity building programs
- » access to finance
- » transparency
- » information
- » supporting women-owned enterprises in the formalization of their business

Ms. Ndekei also noted that

“this scheme means that younger women today are emulating the role models that have benefited from the program, and even more women are participating.”³

2. Condensed from the International Trade Centre’s Procurement Map on Kenya at <https://procurementmap.intracen.org>

3. Republic of Moldova, World Trade Organization, International Trade Centre, and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, “Detailed Summary Of The Workshop, Buenos Aires Declaration on Trade and Women’s Economic Empowerment, Enhancing the Participation of Women Entrepreneurs and Traders in Government Procurement,” June 25, 2018, https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/womenandtrade_e/badeclarationgpworkshop.pdf

The TIME IS NOW for Women’s Public Procurement. Read how the stage is set for action!

51%

Of special tenders were awarded to women

30%

Of procurement opportunities that the Government has to award to youth, women and persons with disability.

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