### Kingdom of Kush Government Vendor Program Procurement Policy Manual

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Approved by: The Royal Council of the Kingdom of Kush

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this **Procurement Policy Manual** is to provide clear guidelines for the procurement of goods and services by the **Kingdom of Kush Government**. This manual establishes a **transparent**, **fair**, **and efficient** procurement system that ensures accountability, compliance, and value for public funds while fostering a competitive and inclusive vendor environment. It serves as a guiding document for vendors, procurement officers, and government officials to navigate procurement processes effectively.

### 2. Scope

This manual applies to all **government ministries**, **departments**, **and agencies** engaging in procurement activities within the Kingdom of Kush. It governs all aspects of **vendor selection**, **contract management**, **compliance monitoring**, **and procurement ethics**. This policy is also applicable to international vendors engaging with the Kingdom of Kush government.

### 3. Core Procurement Principles

The Kingdom of Kush adheres to the following principles in its procurement processes:

- **Transparency:** All procurement activities must be **open and accessible** to ensure fairness and prevent corruption.
- Competition: Encourage fair and open competition to achieve the best value and promote innovation.
- Integrity & Ethics: Uphold ethical business conduct, ensuring all vendors adhere to high ethical standards.

- Value for Money: Optimize public funds through cost-effective and high-quality procurement decisions.
- **Sustainability & Inclusion:** Support environmentally friendly and **socially inclusive** procurement, encouraging small and minority-owned businesses.
- **Accountability:** Ensure responsible procurement through continuous monitoring, reporting, and evaluation.

### 4. Procurement Process Overview

### 4.1 Identifying Procurement Needs

Each government agency must **assess and document** procurement needs, ensuring alignment with **budget allocations and strategic priorities**. A procurement plan must be submitted annually to the Ministry of Finance and Procurement for approval.

#### **4.2 Procurement Methods**

The following methods shall be used based on contract value and complexity:

- **Micro-Purchases:** For contracts below \$5,000, **direct purchases** are allowed with minimal documentation to promote efficiency.
- **Simplified Bidding:** For procurements between \$5,000 \$50,000, agencies must obtain **at least three quotations** to ensure cost competitiveness.
- Competitive Bidding (RFP & RFQ): Required for contracts above \$50,000, utilizing a
  Request for Proposal (RFP) or Request for Quotation (RFQ). Vendors must meet all
  eligibility criteria before submitting a bid.
- Sole Source Procurement: Used only in exceptional cases where a single vendor is uniquely qualified, and written justification is required.

### 4.3 Request for Proposal (RFP) & Request for Quotation (RFQ)

- Government agencies must issue public notices for open bidding through the Kingdom of Kush Vendor Portal.
- The procurement documents must clearly define:

- Scope of Work (SOW) and deliverables.
- Evaluation criteria and bid selection process.
- Deadline for submissions.
- Terms and conditions, including payment structure and penalties.
- Conflict of interest disclosures.

# 5. Vendor Eligibility & Registration

### 5.1 Who Can Apply?

To be eligible for government contracts, vendors must: Be a **legally registered business** within the Kingdom of Kush or an internationally recognized business registered under applicable regulations.

- Obtain a Vendor ID from the Kingdom of Kush Vendor Management System (VMS).
- Maintain compliance with tax, legal, and regulatory obligations.
- Have a **demonstrated track record** of financial stability, service delivery, and industry expertise.

### **5.2 Vendor Registration Process**

Vendors must:

- 1. Complete an Online Application on the Kingdom of Kush Vendor Portal.
- 2. Submit Required Documents:
  - Business Registration Certificate
  - Tax Clearance Certificate
  - Financial Statements (last 2 years)
  - References from previous contracts
  - Proof of previous government contract execution (if applicable)
- 3. Undergo Conflict of Interest Screening.
- 4. Receive an official **Vendor ID** upon approval.

### 6. Procurement Compliance & Ethics

#### **6.1 Anti-Corruption & Ethics Compliance**

- All vendors must sign the Ethics and Compliance Agreement.
- Vendors must disclose any **prior legal violations** or conflicts of interest.
- Bribery, fraud, or bid collusion will result in immediate disqualification.
- Vendors must provide quarterly compliance reports if awarded a contract.

### 6.2 Cybersecurity & Data Protection

- Vendors handling sensitive government data must comply with strict cybersecurity policies.
- Secure data handling, encryption, and storage must be maintained.
- Vendors may undergo **cyber audits** to ensure compliance.
- Any data breaches must be reported within 24 hours to avoid penalties.

### 7. Contract Awarding & Management

#### 7.1 Contract Selection Criteria

Government contracts shall be awarded based on:

- Competitive pricing and cost-effectiveness.
- **Technical expertise** and relevant experience.
- Compliance with legal and security regulations.
- Commitment to sustainability and ethical sourcing.
- Past performance evaluations from other contracts.

### 7.2 Contract Monitoring & Performance Evaluation

- Vendors must submit monthly progress reports.
- Government agencies conduct performance evaluations at key milestones.

- Failure to meet standards may result in penalties or contract termination.
- Contracts may include performance-based incentives.

# 8. Dispute Resolution & Contract Termination

#### 8.1 Vendor Appeals & Reconsideration

- Vendors may request a debriefing session if their bid is rejected.
- Vendors may submit a formal appeal within 10 business days of rejection.
- A **review panel** shall be established to address vendor complaints and appeals.

#### 8.2 Emergency & Expedited Procurement

- A fast-track process shall be available for urgent procurements, subject to post-approval review.
- Emergency procurements must be documented and approved by the Procurement Oversight Committee.

### 8.3 Payment Terms & Late Payments

- Standard government payment terms are Net 30 or Net 45.
- Late payments will incur penalty fees or interest of 2% per month.
- Vendors may file a claim for unpaid invoices after 60 days.

#### **8.4 Contract Termination**

A vendor's contract may be terminated if:

- X They fail to meet contractual obligations.
- X They engage in fraudulent or unethical practices.
- X They become financially insolvent.
- They fail compliance audits or breach data protection policies.

## 9. Small & Minority-Owned Business Inclusion

- The government shall set a 20% participation goal for small and minority-owned businesses.
- Preference may be given to minority- and women-owned businesses.
- A mentorship program shall be established for new vendors to improve success rates.

## 10. Confidentiality & Intellectual Property Rights

- Vendors must sign Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDA) for sensitive contracts.
- Clearly define intellectual property (IP) rights for vendor-created work.