

TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT GUIDELINE FOR THE WATER SUPPLY SECTOR IN SRI LANKA

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Abstract: The National Water Supply and Development Board (NWSDB) is responsible for supplying pipe borne drinking water to nation of Sri Lanka. NWSDB uses National Procurement Agency guideline at water supply sector procurements. Thus, this practice is identified with perceived fundamental problems in implementing projects effectively and efficiently. This research discusses necessities of modifications for a specific procurement guideline for the water supply sector with key indices to address from the new procurement guideline. Objectives were achieved in the light of qualitative approach, done with a comprehensive literature review and followed by ten semi-structured interviews with the subject experts in the national water supply sector. The collected data were analyzed using the content analysis. This study has been initiated with a literature review in which (19) number of uniqueness variables of the water supply projects identified with eight (08) new variables national and international procurement guideline, addressed for improvements over proposed specific guideline. Twenty-one (21) numbers of problems & challenges in tender practice with Fifteen (15) new problem variables were identified. Twenty (20) numbers of problems were identified in existing procurement guideline with fourteen (14) new problem variables, attained at experts' interviews. Later theses uniqueness, problems & challenges in tender practice and problems in existing procurement guideline addressed for improvements for proposed specific guideline. Thus, findings have precisely pointed out the need of a specific procurement guideline for the water supply sector of Sri Lanka. Strategies listed out as indices, that to be addressed at a specific procurement guideline development.

Keywords: Procurement Guideline, Procurement, Water Supply.