

Products & technologies

TRF has supported this essential function, in the pre- and post- devolution period, through policy guidance, system design, and assistance on regulatory issues.

Standards and tools

Standard specifications for goods and supplies

TRF supported the development of standard specifications for the national MNCH programme, and the development of standard specifications of medicines, medical equipment, hospital supplies and general goods listed in the approved lists of provincial and special area health departments.

- MNCH Programmes are using the specifications developed, ensuring timely procurement and the quality of goods to be purchased.

Monitoring mechanism and tools for procurement

TRF provided assistance to develop and implement a sustainable monitoring mechanism and tools to strengthen the procurement system at all levels. The tools were implemented after development of a software and training across all provincial departments and programmes.

- Continuous and effective monitoring through systematic tools across the procurement cycle ensures sustainability, accuracy, transparency and accountability in all procurements.

Procurement capacity

Procurement capacity of provincial health departments and programmes

TRF has supported provincial health departments and programmes in procurement related matters in order to build their institutional capacity. This was preceded by assessments of current capacity, preparedness and gaps.

TRF support covered the capacity to procure and manage both technical expertise and goods and equipment. After intensive on-the-job support in early years, TRF has progressively transferred responsibility for these activities to health departments.

- Government counterparts are now confident in taking the lead in procurement matters, including TA procurement.
- Procurement cells have been established in KP and Punjab health departments
- Procurement is in accordance with the rules, ensuring transparency, accountability, quality and timely completion.
- Documents developed in the course of this TA are used in all procurements.

Specific areas covered by TRF support included:

- Defining needs, developing TORs, hiring and managing technical consultants and developing TA procurement guidelines
- Implementation of procurement rules and procedures through each step of the cycle
- Development and adaptation of procurement documents i.e. procurement plans, tenders, request for proposals, standard bidding documents and prequalification documents, standard operating procedures for procurement of goods and services.
- Implementation of procurement monitoring mechanisms and tools.
- Development of Strategic plan for improving the procurement systems of AJK and GB
- Design of the procurement cell of Punjab Health Department

- Specialized (e.g. bio-medical equipment, nutrition) procurement activities at federal and provincial levels

Logistics & supply chain

TRF assessed the provincial and Special Areas logistics and supply chain management systems of Sindh and Balochistan and developed a plan to strengthen these systems.

Contracting out service delivery

TRF supported the review and development of guidelines and tools for contracting out the delivery of the essential package of health services, and provided related capacity building support to manage contracting mechanisms to the health departments of Sindh and Balochistan.

Inventory management of health sector goods

TRF assisted the Health Department of KP in the development of health logistics databases for bio-medical equipment assets and pharmaceutical inventories.

Contract lifecycle management

TRF is helping to strengthen business processes in procurement by the Health Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. International best practices have been introduced and procurement monitoring tools developed. These are the precursors to an IT-based Contract Lifecycle Management (CLM) solution for managing the acquisition of all the health sector goods for the Province.

This TA will help to improve the efficiency of the existing procurement and contract management procedures and systems. The customised IT solution will help create prescribed templates posted on Procurement Cell's web-portal, and ensure health-care acquisitions that are leaner, more responsive, accountable, transparent and time-efficient, as well as cost and time reductions.