



**ZIMBABWE EZEKIEL GUTI UNIVERSITY**  
**FACULTY OF BUSINESS, ECONOMICS AND ACCOUNTING**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS SCIENCES**

**EXAMINATION PAPER**

**COURSE CODE** : CPS 406

**COURSE TITLE** : E-PURCHASING

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS** : NO SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

**DURATION** : 3 Hours

**LEVEL** : 4.2

**DATE** : 08 FEB 2022

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:**

1. No cell phones are allowed in the examination venue.
2. Answer any **FOUR (4)** questions.
3. Begin each question on a new page.
4. The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ]

## Case Study: Software Selection and Implementation Considerations

E-procurement software is usually modular and somewhat customizable, it is important to understand that an e-GP platform is seldom made up of a single product. There are common components to any framework, including supplier registration, search capabilities, e-tendering functionality, and catalog management, and order and payment systems. But many of these modules will cross boundaries and interact not only with other modules, but also with other external systems—for example, a supplier's catalog management program, enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems, supply chain management systems, or payment platforms. They will almost certainly be linked—either feeding or receiving data—directly to third-party providers, including independent tendering search engines, bank and payment systems, and credit and business certification agencies. In many places now, and certainly in the future, e-GP systems will talk to other e-GP systems; not only the systems of other agencies within the same national government, but to other systems in other agencies in other national governments. Elements of the e-GP software platform may be owned and managed by government, by an individual agency, or by a third party, or may even simply be part of the growing set of applications that can be accessed through the “cloud.” Whatever the system's configuration and wherever it physically and managerially resides, there is a core functionality that most agencies will want in order to ensure that their system provides a seamless, end-to-end procurement process that extends from the publication of requirements, through the selection of vendors or products, to delivery and payment. The strategic approaches most commonly used by central and local governments and their agencies when implementing their e-GP platforms involve some variation of ownership and management control—government-owned and operated, a public-private partnership, or even independent third-party ownership with arms-length government supervision.

Deciding which of these options is right for the particular needs of the government will depend on many things: the capability of the technology group, usage and availability expectations, cost considerations, functionality, and ease of use for buyers and suppliers (particularly SMEs). The system management and fiduciary arrangements that a government chooses will be crucial to the success of the program, and will depend on decisions made during the planning phase of implementation. Although it is fair to say that e-GP should never be considered as just a

technology issue, the success of an e-GP program—or from the supplier’s point of view, the benefits and effectiveness of their participation in that program—can very much depend on the type, functionality, and availability of the e-procurement software that is chosen. Fortunately, e-procurement has been around for nearly 2 decades, and many software groups have created modules and features that cater specifically to the needs of governments. By 2013, the functionality and availability of e-procurement software, and the support services that have grown around it, could provide both governments and suppliers with a wide variety of options for participation.

**Source:** [www.adb.org//egovernment](http://www.adb.org//egovernment) handbook

- a) Assess the use of the term catalog management as used in the Case study. (10 Marks)
- b) Examine the main aspects that are relevant to e-procurement on the website from the case study. (10 Marks)
- c) Critique the website of Procurement Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (PRAZ). (5 Marks)

### **Question 2**

Discuss the process of e-tendering with specific reference to public sector procurement.

(25 Marks)

### **Question 3**

Analyze the term e-auction as used in e-procurement citing relevant examples.

(25 Marks)

### **Question 4**

Examine the key aspects of e-payments which distinguish it from other online payments systems, citing relevant examples.

(25 Marks)

### **Question 5**

Explain the following terms as used in e-procurement:

a) Ship Notice

(5 Marks)

b) E-invoicing

(5 Marks)

c) G2C

(5 Marks)

d) Indent management

(5 Marks)

e) e-reverse auctions

(5 Marks)

END