

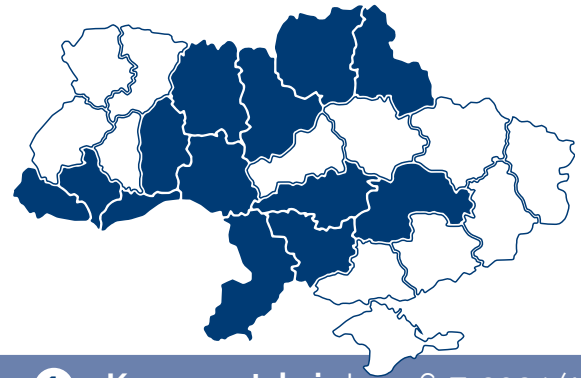
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND EU4PFM SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDE REGIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

From June to December 2024, five regional capacity development workshops were successfully conducted as part of Component 2 "Public Procurement" of the EU Public Finance Management Support Programme for Ukraine (EU4PFM). These workshops, focused on public procurement reform and its role in Ukraine's reconstruction, brought together key stakeholders from various sectors.

WHO PARTICIPATED?



The workshops targeted a diverse audience, including:



- 1 ▶ Heads and staff of Contracting Authorities (CAs)
- 2 ▶ Regional body representatives
- 3 ▶ Public procurement officers and authorised persons
- 4 ▶ Business representatives and NGO activists
- 5 ▶ Judges of regional administrative and commercial jurisdictions

- 1 ▶ **Kropyvnytskyi:** June 6-7, 2024 (119 participants)
- 2 ▶ **Vinnytsya:** June 20-21, 2024 (68 participants)
- 3 ▶ **Ivano-Frankivsk:** August 1-2, 2024 (69 participants)
- 4 ▶ **Pryluky:** October 31, 2024 (71 participants)
- 5 ▶ **Zhytomyr:** December 6, 2024 (41 participants)

Total participants:

368

REGIONS REPRESENTED:

13 regions, including Kirovohrad, Dnipropetrovsk, Mykolaiv, Vinnytsya, Zhytomyr, Khmelnytskyi, Odesa, Chernivtsi, Transcarpathian, Chernihiv, Sumy, Ivano-Frankivsk and Kyiv.

WHAT WERE THE OBJECTIVES?



The workshops aimed to:

- Inform public procurement experts about the opportunities, benefits, and challenges, as well as of the role of the public procurement in Ukraine's reconstruction.
- Communicate the core policies of the Ministry of Economy's Public Procurement Department (PPD), including EU integration-related updates.
- Foster public consultation on key procurement issues and policy options, raise awareness of procurement review and appeal mechanisms.
- Enhance collaboration among stakeholders to advance public procurement policies.



KEY DISCUSSION TOPICS



The workshops covered a wide range of crucial topics:

- Necessity and prerequisites for the adoption of a new Law of Ukraine "On Public Procurement". EU recommendations
- Improving procurement practices under the new law and Prozorro system updates.
- Procurement specifics during wartime and the procurement system development strategy until 2026.
- Professionalisation of public procurement: importance, directions, and changes.
- Measuring procurement performance with KPI management tools.
- Dispute resolution mechanisms (AMCU and SASU) and court practices.



TAKEAWAYS & RECOMMENDATIONS



The workshops provided valuable insights, including:

- Further promote public procurement expertise with a focus on salary increase and professional recognition.
- Analyse and review CPB criteria, promoting procurement through them.
- Encourage systematic pre-tender communication with suppliers, providing feedback even to unsuccessful bidders.
- Enhance Prozorro's request processing, electronic catalogues, and automate authorised person decision protocols for better procurement processing.
- Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CCI) recommended introducing templates for calculating a possible price change necessary for procurement agreements.
- Introduce educational activities for public procurement participants on the basis of CCI (including regional branches) and professional organizations, such as the Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs.
- Develop free, local educational programmes based on identified regional needs for buyers and suppliers, with on-the-job support and mentoring, potentially through CCIs and professional organisations like the Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs.
- Establish a network of public and private sector procurement experts for continued capacity building and experience exchange.
- Re-establish the practice of expert groups of professionals to support the Ministry of Economy on the development of projects of key regulatory acts and providing consultations in the field.



The Project team expresses gratitude to all involved in the successful regional capacity development workshops, including the Department of Public Procurement, Competitive Policy of the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, regional administrations, and regional branches of the Chamber of Commerce.

The knowledge and experience shared during these workshops will pave the way for better consultative policy-making and foster partnerships between contracting authorities and stakeholders in the public procurement landscape.

Building on the success of 2024, EU4PFM plans to continue this training initiative to further support public procurement professionals in their roles.

