What the FIDIC-World Bank contracts agreement means for members

FIDIC Briefing Note
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Foreword
There is a growing need for countries to invest in both social and economic infrastructure at a sustainable level. A recent study has revealed that global infrastructure investment needs to be $94 trillion between 2016 and 2040, which is 19% higher than the current trend.

FIDIC has undertaken and succeeded with its proactive advocacy initiative programme that engaged with multilateral development banks, financiers, investors, insurers and private and public clients to ensure that FIDIC standard procurement contracts to secure delivery of infrastructure efficient and effective.

This standard contract document forms part of a suite of documents and a wider campaign to improve conditions for members firm and clients in the delivery of infrastructure projects.

The FIDIC community
FIDIC has secured a major agreement with The World Bank (WB) and Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) that will see the regional funding organisation adopt the use of FIDIC standard contracts for the next five years.

The licencing agreement signed with multi-lateral banks is a major win, a landmark achievements and good evidence of the value proposition for FIDIC member association, member firms and stakeholders associated with FIDIC.

Under the terms of this agreement, FIDIC has granted both WB and IDB, the leading source for development financing in the World, Latin America and the Caribbean, a non-exclusive licence to refer to FIDIC contracts for projects they finance, and the documents will be used as part of these multilateral bank’s standard procurement bidding documents.

Member associations
The endorsement and adoption of the FIDIC standard contracts with multilateral development banks hails a significant step forward in FIDIC’s policy and advocacy activities for its world-wide member associations. Such agreements not only promote the use of FIDIC contracts, which are globally recognised and make procurement processes more efficient, but they also aid in the promotion and development best practice in risk allocation, effective contract management, dispute avoidance and resolution within the global consultancy, engineering and construction sector.

As a result, FIDIC and its member associations enable the consultancy and engineering sector and continue to engage at a strategic level, while also ensuring the use of practical and efficient practices to ensure the efficient delivery of infrastructure.

FIDIC and the consultancy and engineering sector have worked for decades to establish the integrity and reputation of the sector, and it is vital that this work continues going forward. The establishment and signing of such agreements with multilateral development banks continues this important process. It continues to add value to the sector for every player and person within it. Our member associations have access to FIDIC’s network and expertise, which allows
engagement in strategic conversations to shape and influence the sector going forward.

**Member association firms**

When licencing the use of its contracts, FIDIC considers a number of factors, one of which is the benefit to its member associations member firms. It is these firms that design, plan and deliver the infrastructure that will last for generations. It is crucial to the consultancy and engineering sector that, national associations and FIDIC work together and engage to ensure the efficient delivery of infrastructure with the integrity that leaves a legacy we can all be proud of.

The use of FIDIC contracts helps to manage risk, reduces costs for clients and companies, and provides a common base for procurement processes. The benefits of FIDIC contracts and the signing of licensing agreements with these multilateral development banks are felt across the entire supply chain.

FIDIC, its member associations and their member consultancy and engineering firms are proud to engage in such agreements as they form a vital part of meeting the scope of infrastructure delivery required to meet global challenges such as access to effective transportation system, clean and sustainable energy provision, safe drinking water, access to the internet, and mitigating the effects of climate change.

This report provides an important resource for member associations and their members as it sets out:

- Who is the WB and what is its mission?
- An outline of the WB’s project portal, historical projects and project pipeline
- How to access the WB’s project information
- An outline of the types of products and services offered
- How to access procurement information and get involved with the WB

Over the months and years ahead, FIDIC will progress with the implementation of its advocacy programme to secure similar undertaken and endorsement from other multilateral banks, strategic sovereign government, financiers and private equity investors. Further endorsement and conversion with these strategic stakeholders will be incorporated into the future issued version of this report.

Finally, FIDIC will welcome feedback from member associations, member firms and stakeholders on how best to improve future edition of this report to meet the needs of the consultancy and engineering business sector.
Background

The international engineering federation FIDIC (the International Federation of Consulting Engineers) has secured a major agreement with the World Bank that will see the international funding organisation adopt the use of six FIDIC standard contracts for the next five years.

Under the terms of the agreement, FIDIC has granted the World Bank a non-exclusive licence to refer to the six major FIDIC contracts for projects they finance, and the documents will be used as part of the bank’s standard bidding documents.

The contracts mainly include the 2017 Second edition FIDIC contracts, which cover a wide range of international construction and infrastructure work, and the World Bank’s move represents a major endorsement for the contracts from a major international funding organisation. FIDIC also expects to announce a similar agreement with other multilateral development banks soon.

This briefing note has been written to assist both FIDIC member associations and their members in understanding the significance and opportunities available as a result of the partnership between the World Bank and FIDIC.

This briefing note outlines below some of the World Bank’s activities, its interactions with FIDIC and how this is one of many steps in supporting member associations and their members in achieving the target of increasing investment to long-term efficient, sustainable and socially beneficial levels.
Who is the World Bank and what is its mission?

Established in 1944, the World Bank Group is headquartered in Washington DC and employs more than 10,000 individuals across more than 120 offices worldwide.

The World Bank is a vital source of financial and technical assistance to developing countries around the world. It is not a bank in the ordinary sense but a unique partnership to reduce poverty and support development.

The World Bank Group has set two goals for the world to achieve by 2030:

- End extreme poverty by decreasing the percentage of people living on less than $1.90 a day to no more than 3%
- Promote shared prosperity by fostering the income growth of the bottom 40% for every country

Importantly, in achieving these goals the World Bank is a significant player in the delivery of vital infrastructure and projects to aid countries in achieving these targets.

The World Bank therefore provides a number of services which include providing low-interest loans, zero to low-interest credits, and grants to developing countries. These support a wide array of investments in such areas as education, health, public administration, infrastructure, financial and private sector development, agriculture, and environmental and natural resource management.

Some of its projects are co-financed with governments, other multilateral institutions, commercial banks, export credit agencies, and private sector investors.

Understanding more about the World Bank’s projects

The World Bank has tools on its website to help companies understand the types of projects they engage with, one of these is their Global Reach projects and operations tool as shown in figure 5.

Figure: 5 – Global Reach – projects portal
**Source: The World Bank**

The new version of this tool provides a simple user interface for website visitors to interpret and analyse their latest project data. Currently on the new version of this tool the listed projects range from a total project value that is nil due to carbon offsetting or amounts in the low millions to larger projects with amounts estimated at $3.75bn.\(^iv\)

The data in this newer version of their tool currently runs from the 2000 fiscal year to the current 2019 fiscal year\(^v\) with project close dates extending out until April 2035. The data below is for the regions and sectors as at the end of financial year 2018.

Below we have provided a short summary for members on the value of the projects listed within the World Bank’s ‘Reach’ project and operations tool as well as some figures demonstrating the extent of the coverage of countries and coverage of industries.

As can be seen from the figure 6 below the number of mapped projects (on the World Bank mapping tool) since 2000 across their global regions/areas varied from 4 in the other category (although could be considered an outlier as the next significant value is the Middle East and North America – 74 projects) to 534 projects in the African region.

Such breadth of projects provides a significant opportunity to FIDIC, its member associations and their member firms on a global scale.

**Figure: 6 - Number of projects mapped and countries covered by the World Bank by global regions/areas**

![Chart showing number of projects mapped and countries covered by the World Bank by global regions/areas]

**Source: The World Bank**

It is, however, not only important to look at project numbers and geographical spread but also the value of projects and how this is distributed.

As can be seen from figure 7 the World Bank since 2000 in their online toll reports to have projects totalling an approximate amount of $230bn. Where the greatest amounts are currently in the Africa ($70.7bn) and the South Asia ($52.3bn) regions. These areas are not therefore only potential areas of growth from a private prospective but are also clearly of interest to major institutions and international development banks such as the World Bank.
Figure: 7 - Value of projects according to global regions/areas ($bn)

Source: The World Bank

Looking more closely at the spread of projects across sectors in Figure 8 the top fine areas across sectors in terms of the value of projects are:

- Transport ($45.2bn)
- Energy and extractives ($35.0bn)
- Water, sanitation and waste management ($32.5bn)

Such areas of interest are aligned to member associations and their members activities and as such FIDIC felt it was important to engage at a global level with institutions such as the World Bank for its member associations.

Figure: 8 - Cumulative value of projects according to industry type ($bn)
Individual projects and the information available
As part of developing this briefing note as well as providing an overview of the breadth and scale of the projects we also believe it is important to outline the granular nature into which project information can be obtained via the World Bank’s operations and projects tool.

Figures 9 and 10 below show two schemes one with a total project cost of $50m (Agricultural Productivity Programme for Southern Africa - Angola & Lesotho) and the second $1.5bn (PMGSY Rural Roads Project) to demonstrate the detail available in each project.

Figure: 9 - Agricultural Productivity Programme for Southern Africa - Angola & Lesotho

Source: The World Bank

Figure: 10 - PMGSY Rural Roads Project

Source: The World Bank
As the figures above show, whilst the individual projects in the previous format for the projects and operations tool all projects in both versions have link to detailed specifics for individual project. This information includes but is not limited to:

- An overview of the project including its project ID, country, region status, approval date, closing date total cost, the committed amount and the team leaders involved.
- Details of the specific sectors and schemes in which the project falls under the World Banks categorisations. This includes details of the borrower and the implementing agencies for the project.
- Details of the financials for the project including total project costs committed amounts and payments over time.
- Procurement information including notices, contracts and plans.
- A rating as to the current progress and overall risk of the project.
- The results of the project to date against their plan including details of developments against objectives.
- A map of the project and its various locations.
- A summary of all documents produced as part of the project which can be downloaded in excel.
- News and media coverage from the project.
The World Bank accessing project information

Institutions such as multilateral development banks are increasingly ensuring that projects which received backing increasingly adhere to outlined procurement principles and provide transparent information through either their own, trans-national or national government procurement portals.

This is done to ensure as far as possible that the process is well understood and delivered in a manner which helps deliver best value for money for their investment.

This section will outline and provide links to resources for the World Bank projects. As we have seen in the previous chapter there are a significant number and wide variety of projects that range from the small to very large in terms of their investment requirement.

As mentioned previously the World Bank has launched its new projects and operations portal where high-level information can be browser by:

- Country
- Sector
- Theme

With the addition of the following filters in the Recent Notices area:

- Notice type
- Procurement method
- Procurement group

And the following additional filters for the Approved Projects area:

- Date range
- Financing type
- Status
- Region

These resources and the World Bank portal can be accessed on the following links:

- Main portal (click here)
- Recently approved projects (click here)
- Recently published notices (click here)

Each of these results can be downloaded into an excel spreadsheet using the download to excel function at the top right of the results that are generated.
The World Bank and how it interacts with countries and projects

As part of its engagement with countries to utilise the various products and services offered by the World Bank they utilise what is known as their country partnership framework (CPF) this they state is designed to make our country-driven model more systematic, evidence-based, selective, and focused on the Bank’s twin goals of ending extreme poverty and increasing shared prosperity in a sustainable manner.

Broadly speaking the World Bank website outlines the four steps to the CPF process:

- Step 1: What are the biggest constraints to reducing poverty and increasing shared prosperity in a sustainable way?
- Step 2: What are the most important contributions the World Bank Group can make?
- Step 3: How are we doing?
- Step 4: What did we learn?

Used in conjunction with the CPFs, the World Bank carry out in co-operation with countries on a country by country systematic country diagnostics (SCDs) these aim to help all parties involved establish a dialogue to focus their efforts around goals and activities that have high impact and are aligned with the global goals of the World Bank.

The pages that contain further information about these schemes and the individual country SCDs can be found below:

- Country Partnership Frameworks (click here)
- Systematic Country Diagnostics (click here)

The World Bank - products and services

As part of these products and services the world bank offers a number of financing instruments for projects that wish to gain support.

On their website they outline the content in Figure 11 below which briefly summaries briefly what each of these financial instruments are for and they provide useful links to policy documents for interested parties.
As well as offering financial services, the World Bank also offers a number of services to aid countries in assessing and meeting their goals. Figure 11 provides a condensed summary of these services below with links to the full pages of information.

**Investment Project Financing** provides IBRD loan, IDA credit/grant and guarantee financing to governments for activities that create the physical/social infrastructure necessary to reduce poverty and create sustainable development.

**Development Policy Financing** provides IBRD loan, IDA credit/grant and guarantee budget support to governments or a political subdivision for a program of policy and institutional actions to help achieve sustainable, shared growth and poverty reduction.

**Program-for-Results** links disbursement of funds directly to the delivery of defined results, helping countries improve the design and implementation of their own development programs and achieve lasting results by strengthening institutions and building capacity.

**Trust funds and grants** allow scaling up of activities, notably in fragile and crisis-affected situations; enable the Bank Group to provide support when our ability to lend is limited; provide immediate assistance in response to natural disasters and other emergencies; and pilot innovations that are later mainstreamed into our operations.

**Private sector options** for financing, direct investment and guarantees are provided by MIGA and IFC. Guarantees can also be provided through World Bank (IBRD/IDA) for private sector projects.

**Customized options and risk management**

**Multiphase Programmatic Approach** allows countries to structure a long, large, or complex engagement as a set of smaller linked operations (or phases), under one program. It can be applied to Investment Project Financing and Program-for-Results and is not a stand-alone instrument.

Source: The World Bank
Figure: 12 - Word Bank services

**Technical Assistance** - The World Bank Group can provide professional technical advice that supports legal, policy, management, governance and other reforms needed for a country’s development goals.

**Reimbursable Advisory Services (RAS)** - Through RAS, the Bank can provide clients access to customized technical assistance on a reimbursable basis, either as a stand-alone or to complement an existing program.

**Research** - In collaboration with country clients and development partners, Bank country staff gather and evaluate information (data, policies and statistics) about the existing economy, government institutions or social services systems.

**Business advice** – provides a link to the International Finance Corporation (IFC) which provides a number of advisory services on how to attract private finance into projects.

**Donor Aid Coordination** - The World Bank Group acts on occasion as a coordinator for organized regular interaction among donors (governments, aid agencies, humanitarian groups, foundations, development banks). Activities range from simple information sharing and brainstorming, to co-financing a particular project, to joint strategic programming in a country or region.

*Source: The World Bank*
World Bank – procurement of projects

The World Bank as with many multilateral development banks is keen to ensure that procurement processes occur in a way that meet its goals but also are transparent and fair.

There are a number of procurement documents for organisations such as the World Bank these you could categorise into two broad categories.

1. Documents meant for those seeking funding and running the procurement exercise
2. Documents which help those tendering for projects
3. Finding business opportunities and winning contracts financed by the World Bank

To provide a complete picture of the procurement process in this report we will broadly outline the resources that are available and their purpose. In this regard it is useful to start with the broad overview of what the World Bank considers as its procurement process.

In the World Bank’s key stages in procurement summary they outline five broad stages which are shown in figure 13.

**Figure: 13 – the procurement process**

1. **Operational considerations** – what do countries and project owners have to consider as part of the procurement process and how does this affect how they will procure a project
2. **Market research + planning** – this involves the development of a procurement strategy and the type of procurement that is best suited for the delivery of the project
3. **Process design considerations** – What are the criteria for the project, how will value for money be determined, what systems will be utilised, will it be done electronically etc
4. **Sourcing process** – do you utilise mechanisms such as most advantageous bid/proposal, are there stand still periods, advertising to the market etc

**Source: The World Bank**

5. **Contract implementation** – setting up a contract management plan, ensuring KPIs are sufficient and correct and that value engineering is achieved as part of the delivery
6. **Review** – monitoring and evaluation metrics to obtain value for money

As can be seen from the above, the steps outlined are part of most procurement processes and so will not be new to companies. The process helps countries take a consistent approach to procuring World Bank projects in a similar way that the agreement signed with FIDIC will ensure that a consistent set of contracts and terms are utilised.

Documents that are meant for countries developing projects

There are a number of documents published by the World Bank that are intended to help those developing projects shape their procurement exercise. Whilst we do not go into these in detail in
this paper a short summary of a number of the key documents is provided below as they give a useful insight into what companies can expect to see as part of a project’s procurement exercise.

There are a number of overriding documents that the World Bank operate which are umbrella documents and summarise the process. These are as follows:

Key overriding World Bank documents

- **Bank Procurement Policy** - The procurement policy sets out a vision, the key principles, and policy requirements governing the procurement of goods, works, non-consulting services, and consulting services financed by the Bank through IPF operations.
- **Bank Procurement Directive** - The procurement procedure and procurement directive set out management’s instructions and rules to bank staff related to procurement under investment project financing and other operational procurement matters.
- **Bank Procedure** - This procedure sets out the instructions related to various financial instruments operated by the World Bank.
- **Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers** - which contain the World Bank’s rules and requirements for all those carrying out procurement under IPF including among others, borrowers, bank staff and bidders.

There are also various documents of which we have listed the most useful that provide guidance to procuring bodies and so are important to member associations and members as they provide details of the kind of items they expect to see in responses:

Documents of interest that are available for procuring entities

- **A Beginner’s Guide for Borrowers - Procurement under World Bank IPF** - this document provides an introduction to the World Bank’s procurement rules and processes. It summarizes the information users need when undertaking procurements funded through World Bank investment project financing. It focuses on the financing element and how this should be considered as part of the bid and procurement process.
- **Contract Management, General Principles** - this document provides an introduction for borrowers on the general principles of contract management, its links to program management, and the connection to broader supplier relationship management (SRM).
- **Contract Management, Practice** – this document focuses on the contract management activities undertaken during the period from the award of contract to contract completion.
- **Competitive Dialogue: How to undertake a Competitive Dialogue Procurement Process** - this document is designed to provide the project borrowers with a practical toolkit to support designing and undertaking a competitive dialogue procurement process. In doing so this document helps procuring entities to go through a process to identify the “needs” carefully so they are designed and customized to fit the project, to maximize the effectiveness of this procurement process.
- **Environmental, Social, Health & Safety in Procurement** - This document is intended to help both the project owners and bank staff integrate the environmental, social, health and safety requirements for civil works into the procurement process. It advises how to undertake assessments of national procurement documents and how to prepare procurement documents based on the bank’s standard procurement documents.
- **Guidance on Framework Agreements** - this document explains the key concepts and outlines good practice and general principals in the establishment of framework agreements.
- **Evaluation Criteria** - This document describes the different types of evaluation criteria that may be used to select contractors for goods, works and non-consulting services. As such
it provides a good basis on which to understand the broader criteria that may be used across various procurement options.

- **Procurement-Related Complaints** - This document outlines the World Bank’s complaints review mechanism and the key concepts and process for filing and reviewing complaints.

- **Sustainable procurement** – This document provides procurers with a practical how-to guide to good sustainable procurement practice and helps them to build these into their procurement processes.

- **Negotiations and Best and Final Offer (BAFO)** - This document provides practical advice on using negotiation and BAFO after bid/proposal submission, to obtain greater value for money (VfM).

- **Value for Money** – This document provides and outline to the concept of achieving value for money (VfM) throughout the procurement process of World Bank projects.

There are also a number of documents that are available for companies bidding into the procurement process, whilst FIDIC understands and has negotiated the standardisation of contracts the procurement process of the various multilateral development banks including the World Bank remain in place.

As such we have below provided a resource that explains and links to information provided on the World Bank’s process.

**Documents specifically for companies on the procurement process**

- **Standard Procurement Documents - An Overview** – This document provides a high-level overview of the standard procurement documents (SPDs) published by the World Bank. Whilst it is not directly aimed at those applying for projects it contains lots of useful information on what is expected. This includes:
  - What are standard bidding documents
  - Request for bids and how they should operate
  - What a two-stage process should look like
  - What a streamlined process should look like
  - What a competitive dialogue process should look like
  - How the rating criteria is applied
  - The qualifying criteria and the monetary criteria
  - How the selection process works
  - References to other material

- **Thresholds for Procurement Approaches and Methods by Country** – Whilst this is aimed at procuring bodies it is useful for companies to understand the thresholds that apply for consultancy services across the various countries as this gives a sense of the minimum scale of projects across the various procurement methods. Whilst a short seven-page document, this presents very quickly the thresholds that apply.

- **Decision logic** – Whilst the example given (Figure 14) is not for consultancy services this document provides a good summary of how the process is envisaged to work by the Work Bank. As such we have included the Figure 14 logic diagram in this document. This is a useful reference point for companies that are intending to bid and go through the process.
Figure: 14 – example of decision logic

Source: The World Bank
Consultancy services - Request for Proposals – This final document is the most comprehensive guide to what consultancy firms can expect from the World Bank in terms of procurement. This is the template for procuring bodies to complete for a procurement exercise. As such this is the format and type of information that will be expected from companies if they are to bid for projects. This document includes the format for the following areas:
  o Section 1. Request for Proposal Letter
  o Section 2. Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet
    ▪ A. General Provisions
    ▪ B. Preparation of Proposals
    ▪ C. Submission, Opening and Evaluation
    ▪ D. Negotiations and Award
    ▪ E. Data Sheet
  o Section 3. Technical Proposal – Standard Forms
  o Section 4. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms
  o Section 5. Eligible Countries
  o Section 6. Fraud and Corruption
  o Section 7. Terms of Reference
  o Section 8. Conditions of Contract and Contract Forms
    ▪ A. General Provisions
    ▪ B. Commencement, Completion, Modification and Termination of Contract
    ▪ C. Obligations of the Consultant
    ▪ D. Consultant’s Experts and Sub-Consultants
    ▪ E. Obligations of the Client
    ▪ F. Payments to the Consultant
    ▪ G. Fairness and Good Faith
    ▪ H. Settlement of Disputes
  o Appendices
    ▪ Appendix A – Terms of Reference
    ▪ Appendix B - Key Experts
    ▪ Appendix C – Remuneration Cost Estimates
    ▪ Appendix D – Reimbursable Expenses Cost Estimates
    ▪ Appendix E - Form of Advance Payments Guarantee
FIDIC contracts within the World Bank Agreement


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Endnotes

i The six FIDIC contract documents covered by the FIDIC/World Bank agreement are as follows:
  • Conditions of Contract for Plant & Design-Build for Electrical & Mechanical Plant & for Building & Engineering Works Designed by the Contractor (“Yellow book”), Second edition 2017;
  • Conditions of Contract for Design, Build and Operate Projects (“Gold book”) First Edition 2008; and
  

iii The World Bank, Global Reach, Project and Operations tool, accessed 23/4/2019 (click here)


v The World Banks previous project and operations tool is still available and has a greater degree of historical data. This tool reports to show 4,058 going back to the early 1950s. We have chosen to use the newer version of the tool and its data as it is more likely to provide active projects and reflect the more recent focus on projects which will be important for member firms. The previous tool can be found here (which tool?)


vii World Bank, PMGSY Rural Roads Project, accessed 24/9/19 (click here)


ix World Bank, Finance Instruments, accessed 24/4/2019 (click here)

x World Bank, Finding business opportunities and winning contracts financed by the world bank, April 2018 (click here)

xi World Bank, Key Stages in procurement, accessed 25/4/19 (click here)

xii World Bank, Procurement in IPF and other operational procurement matters, July 2016, accessed 25/4/2019 (click here)


xv World Bank, Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July 2016 (click here)


xxi World Bank, Guidance on framework agreements, June 2018 (click here)
xxiii World Bank, Procurement-Related Complaints, Jan 2017, accessed 25/4/2019 (click here)
xxv World Bank, Negotiations and Best and Final Offer (BAFO), Feb 2018, accessed 25/4/2019 (click here)
xxix World Bank, An example of decision logic, accessed 25/4/2019 (click here)