

Digital Innovation in the Public Sector and the Implementation of the Guidelines for Nigerian Content Development in ICT

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Outline

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Background

- Circular No. **SGF.6/S.12/C.2/II/788** issued on **17th July, 2012** by the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF) titled;
“Guidelines for the Purchase of Locally Assembled Computers”

Presidential Executive Order 003, May 2017

Support for Local Content in Public Procurements by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of the Federal Government of Nigeria

- ❑ Preference to indigenous goods and services in government procurements.
- ❑ Solicitation documents must indicate preference for indigenous companies.
- ❑ Provision of verifiable statements on local content of goods and services by indigenous companies.
- ❑ Local sourcing of at least 40% of ICT procurement spend in all MDAs.

Presidential Executive Order 005, February 2018

For Planning and Execution of Projects, Promotion of Nigerian Content in Contracts and Science, Engineering and Technology

- ❑ National Economic Development through patronage of Made-in-Nigeria goods and services.
- ❑ Promotes partnerships to develop indigenous capacities where expertise is lacking.
- ❑ Adoption of local technologies that meet set standards to replace foreign technologies.
- ❑ Joint venture consultancy services related to ICT to be led by Nigerian firms.
- ❑ All procuring entities to comply with PPA 2007 in preference to Nigerian companies and firms

Guidelines for Nigerian Content Development in ICT

- ❑ First issued in 2013 in line with section 6(b) of NITDA Act 2007.
- ❑ Updated in August 2019 to align with the Presidential Executive Orders 003 & 005.
- ❑ Consolidates Government's efforts to drive development of Nigerian content capacity in ICT.
- ❑ Mandates patronage of identified indigenous capacities by the Federal Public Service within given frameworks.
- ❑ Currently administered by the Office for Nigerian Digital Innovation (ONDI)

Objectives of the Guidelines

- ❑ Enable meaningful contribution of the local ICT industry to achievement of National development plans, initiatives and targets.
- ❑ Stimulate and increase the development, production, sales and consumption of high quality ICT products and services developed by indigenous companies.
- ❑ Provide framework for compliance with Presidential EOs 003 and 005.
- ❑ Expedite capacity building efforts and equip Nigerians to actively participate in the local ICT industry.
- ❑ Recommendations on local content framework for the regulation and legislation on creation, distribution and use of ICT in Nigeria.
- ❑ Provide and enable opportunities for indigenous ICT companies to improve capacities in providing relevant products and services.

Guidelines for Development of Indigenous ICT Devices

- ❑ Procure 40% computer hardware and associated devices only from NITDA approved ODMs or OEMs.
- ❑ Procured devices to have soft and hard keyboards supporting Nigerian languages and the Naira sign (₦).
- ❑ Preference to companies with existing support facilities and functional service stations.
- ❑ Support and maintenance costs must be included in Bill of Quantities (BoQ)/Bill of Materials (BOM) for all ICT deployments by MDAs.
- ❑ All IT projects must be turnkey deployments where practicable, and not mere components supply.
- ❑ Solicitation documents to categorically state that preference is to be granted to indigenous NITDA certified ODMs or OEMs.

Guidelines for Indigenous Software Development & Software Enabled Products and Services

- ❑ Locally source all software and software enabled products and services with indigenous capacity to design, develop, compile, test, troubleshoot, launch, maintain and improve.
- ❑ Software procurement only from indigenous software development companies; Nigerian companies to provide installation and support where local capacities are unavailable.
- ❑ Time allowances for debugging and maturation of procured local software as part of the SDLC
- ❑ Urgency for deployment of software or requirement of complexity invalid reasons for non-purchase of indigenous software.
- ❑ All software solution projects must be considered as turnkey and not mere supply of software licenses.
- ❑ Risk-based due diligence to identify and prevent actual and potential adverse impacts from software usage, including risks from technical dependencies on foreign developed software.

Guidelines for Indigenous Software Development & Software Enabled Products and Services – Cont'd

- ❑ Compel software development firms or indigenous companies to design, develop and deploy software in line with the Standards for Data Interoperability issued by NITDA.
- ❑ No indigenous firm must be disqualified from contract award on the basis of determination of demonstrable lack of year of incorporation; but on qualification, competence and experience of the company and its management in the execution of similar contract.
- ❑ Ensure all software development projects valued at five billion Naira (₦5b) or below are;
 - procured solely from indigenous software development companies or;
 - where capacity is lacking as verified by NITDA, such projects may be executed in joint venture with non-indigenous firm, with participation of local firm and use of local resources in the project and shall lead the project.
 - Indigenous partners in joint venture shall be entitled to not less than 40% of total value of project.

Guidelines for Indigenous Software Development & Software Enabled Products and Services – Cont'd

- for procured foreign software, support, implementation, capacity development and training must be conducted with local partners in Nigeria that must be indigenous companies and entitled to at least 40% of the gross charges for the services.
- Software procurements in excess of five billion Naira (₦5b) requires express approval of NITDA with justification and proof of inability to secure local capacity or alternative products.
- ❑ Detailed functional and non-functional specification for software requirements must be provided
- ❑ Procurement of bespoke enterprise software from non-indigenous developers is prohibited for;
 - Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP);
 - Human Resource Management (HRM);
 - Enterprise Internet/Intranet/Extranet Portals;
 - Education Content School Management Systems
 - Learning Management and/or Learning Content Management Systems
 - Training Systems
 - e-Commerce Systems

Guidelines for Indigenous Software Development & Software Enabled Products and Services – Cont'd

- Payment systems;
- Invoicing and Accounting Systems.
- ❑ Solicitation documents to categorically state that preference is to be granted to indigenous software development firms.

Guidelines for Networking Services

- ❑ Local hosting of government websites and under a registered .gov.ng domain.
- ❑ Network and Internet services to be sourced from licensed indigenous service providers.
- ❑ All routes of network traffic between communication points must be known and monitored routinely.
- ❑ Maintain security and audit protocols for all services being rendered to citizens, corporations and Government.

Guidelines for Data and Information Management

- ❑ Promote as mandatory the presence of system logs and other computer data logging technologies to aid in the effective troubleshooting and forensic investigation of events in Government systems.
- ❑ Be responsible for ensuring that reasonable care is taken to adequately secure the sovereign data that is created, transferred and stored in digital formats.
- ❑ Ensure that all sovereign data is hosted locally on servers within Nigeria.

Conclusion

- ❑ Strict compliance with all government regulations and policies on local content procurement by MDAs.
- ❑ Collaboration and partnerships with the industry to drive innovation in the public sector.