

Dear Mr. Bell,

Indonesia National Public Procurement Agency (NPPA) is a new organization carries out the provision of policy and strategy, monitoring-evaluation and e-procurement systems, human resource development, and legal handling & dispute resolution in procurement field. It already has some rules, manuals and one main regulation on procurement. But as a new organization, we need to learn more about good practices from any other countries whenever possible.

We searched information on countries and donor agencies who already have established procurement regulations. We found that there are best practices in USA, and Virginia, is the one whose e-procurement and trainings might be useful for us to learn. We see that Virginia e-procurement, eVA, is one of the best in USA, because it received Award of Innovation in Government. Besides, Division of Purchases and Supply of DGS ranked in the top 10 percent of any state receiving the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award in 2005 to 2008. Information on these awards has led NPPA to know more about DPS, DGS, the VIP and the eVA. Moreover, the VIP training homepage (and its connection to VDGS and eVA) is an interesting website to see, and was proven to respond promptly when someone makes requests. The result of our scanning ended up to our visit to your office on the beginning of June 2009.

Although our discussion only lasted in about 2 hours, we learned a lot and concluded that the systems in Virginia are very useful and can be very precious to become the source of knowledge for us to develop our systems.

Currently, the NPPA is developing the e-procurement system, but it is in the very beginning or basic level. Your system seems to be the one we want to learn, since eVA, as you explained, covers some functionalities such as Push Technology, Electronic Ordering, Buying Tools, Message Broker, Data Warehousing, Electronic Store Front, and more.

In the area of HRD, NPPA provides only one basic level certification. We are planning to enhance the ranks and the training needs content after the recognition of the result of the ongoing competency study. In this area, we are interested in to learn, how Virginia Government classified the certification and its training needs for the Contracting Associate, Contracting Officer, and future Contracting Master Program. We intended to know further about how Virginia State organizing these excellent procurement realm.

We sincerely appreciate your respond to our requests on explanation and information about Virginia procurement systems, and look forward to seeing you and your progress in the future.

Sincerely,
Dharma Nursani
Director for Competency Based Training
National Public Procurement Agency (NPPA), Republic of Indonesia