



US efforts to innovate procurement



Public Procurement Principle: **Access, Balance**



Procurement Stage: **All stages**



Audience: **Policy makers, Procuring entity**

Description

Acquisition Innovation Labs

In 2016, the White House issued a government-wide policy instructing each federal government Chief Financial Officer to ensure it had in place an acquisition innovation lab to help agencies achieve better procurement results for taxpayers. The policy also encourages agencies to participate in pilot programmes to develop digital procurement abilities through hands-on coaching of multi-disciplinary teams.

Procurement Innovation Lab

The Procurement Innovation Lab (PIL) experiments with innovative acquisition techniques across the entire Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The Lab provides a safe space to test new ideas, share lessons learned and promote best practices. It fosters cultural changes that promote innovation and managed risk-taking through a continuous feedback cycle. It answers directly to the Chief Procurement Officer of the DHS.

Through its efforts, the Lab seeks to:

- Lower the barriers to entry for small innovative, non-traditional contractors seeking to compete for DHS business opportunities
Shorten the time to award contracts
- Increase the likelihood of successful outcomes by focusing on evaluation techniques that help obtain the most qualified vendors.

To ensure a systems-wide perspective, the Lab includes an innovation advocate from each division of the DHS.

The Lab also maintains a website with case studies, webinars, handbooks and an innovation resource library to help spread innovation throughout the DHS, as well as a dashboard presenting current PIL innovation projects.

Source: OECD (2020), [System Change in Slovenia: Making Public Procurement More Effective](#), OECD Publishing, Paris

