

## Country case: 'Welcome to the Open Dialogue' in the United States

### Description

To identify potential improvements, the Chief Acquisition Officers Council (CAOC), in coordination with the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council, the Chief Information Officers Council, and the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP), created an online platform in 2014 to allow stakeholders to engage with one another about burdens and barriers associated with the federal acquisition process and potential changes to address them.

Public Procurement  
Principle: **Participation**

Procurement Stage:

**All phases**

Audience: **Policy Maker,  
Procuring Entity, Private  
Sector, Civil Society**

This dialogue was part of an effort to improve the economy and efficiency of the federal acquisition system by identifying impactful steps to make it easier for agencies to do business with the best companies and enter into contracts that allow these companies to provide their best solutions for the taxpayer. The dialogue sought to identify specific rules and requirements, tools, procedures, and practices that impact the efficiency and effectiveness of the federal procurement and ways to improve them. This dialogue focused on three areas:

- Reporting and compliance requirements – e.g. opportunities where collection processes and systems can be reengineered or automated, duplicative reporting can be eliminated, the frequency of reporting can be reduced, and outdated compliance thresholds can be changed.
- Procurement practices – e.g. opportunities where acquisition strategies can be modernized (to support more efficient and effective acquisition of IT, in particular), where best commercial practices can be utilized, as well as efforts to promote greater consideration of innovative solutions and contracting practices.
- Participation by small and minority businesses, new entrants, and non-traditional government contractors – e.g. opportunities for improving existing technical or strategic assistance programmes, making buying platforms for finding business opportunities and bidding more user friendly, and lowering the cost of doing business.

Using the online platform, interested parties submitted ideas, responded to questions posed by moderators, and commented on other ideas.

Source: OECD (2016), "[Corruption in Public Procurement](#)".