

IDIS Viitorul shared its experience in monitoring public procurement at the Civil Society Organizations Forum in Africa

On Tuesday, September 19, 2023, the Institute for Development and Social Initiatives (IDIS) Viitorul participated in Partnership for Transparency's (PTF) Africa Committee's quarterly Civil Society Organization Forum event in Africa on monitoring public procurement, where it disseminated the experience of the organization and its experts. The event was organized by the US-based PTF, which has partnerships with various civil society organizations, including IDIS Viitorul in the Republic of Moldova.

The Forum was attended by civil society representatives from Ghana, Malawi, Senegal, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, the United States, and the Republic of Moldova. The event was organized to give partner organizations the opportunity to share their experiences, challenges, successes and opportunities.

During the event, Carolina Ungureanu, deputy director of IDIS Viitorul and coordinator of the project Increasing the Integrity of Public Procurement in Moldova reported on the results of the IDIS Viitorul team's work with PTF, among which included: capacity building through the training program for civil society representatives on public procurement, monitoring of procurement at national, local or municipal level through the sub-grantee program, the public procurement monitoring coalition, and the elaboration of reports, analyses, and policy recommendations. The most common challenges encountered by the CSO monitors involved in the first round of sub-granting including: the lack of transparency and cooperation on the part of contracting authorities, the lack of professionalism on the part of contracting authorities when drawing up specifications, the limited or faulty functionality of the MTender system.

During the event, Max Levites, Global Integrity Program Manager, provided information on Global Integrity's [Building Bridges for Stronger Systems](#) project and Jeff Kabondo, Governance Programs Coordinator of the African Institute for Corporate Citizenship in Malawi presented PTF's [Strengthening the Capacity of CSOs to Promote Transparency and Accountability in Public Infrastructure Projects in Malawi](#) project.

Participants also expressed interest in the following issues: the importance of constructive engagement with all stakeholders involved in public procurement, the effectiveness of multi-stakeholder groups and coalitions for monitoring public procurement, building the capacity of CSOs to engage in public procurement monitoring, and what were the biggest challenges and lessons learned.