

Template: Declaration of conflicts of interest

2021



Declaration of conflicts of interest

INTRODUCTION

The Methodology for Assessing Procurement Systems (MAPS) is structured to provide an independent, impartial and objective evaluation of the procurement system in any given country. At the same time, assessors with a a very high level of expertise and experience from working internationally with public procurement is required in conducting a MAPS assessment. Such extensive experience is found in a relatively few number of individuals globally. As such there is a risk that conflicts of interest may arise. In general, any MAPS assessment team should be free of conflicts of interest. However, under certain circumstances minor and compartmentalised conflicts can be accepted if remedial actions are taken.

PURPOSE

This template provides a simple structure for members of a MAPS assessment team to disclose any conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest, and to explain what remedial steps have been taken in dealing with the issue.



JURISDICTION ASSESSED:
NAME OF THE ASSESSOR:
DATE OF DECLARATION:

As a general hard rule, an assessor participating in a MAPS assessment cannot be subject to conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest. Situations that may result in conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to:

- An assessor has been involved, directly or indirectly, in drafting regulations or managing organisations that are evaluated in the assessment.
- An assessor has close ties, personal or professional, to officials in the assessed jurisdiction who are involved, directly or indirectly, in the assessment.
- An assessor is affected, financially, professionally or personally, by the outcome of the assessment.

However, a MAPS assessment is a comprehensive exercise with an extensive scope, and as such there may be instances where a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest can be sufficiently managed through remedial actions to be acceptable. This would be a situation where an assessor has conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest in relation to a specific, minor and limited aspect of the assessment from which they can recuse themselves completely.

In such cases, following the twin principles of **disclosure** and **recusal**, the following form should be filled out and presented to the Assessment's Steering Committee, the lead institution, the MAPS Secretariat and the Assessment Technical Advisory Group alongside the assessment concept note and terms of reference. It should be clear that both these institutions have approved the proposed remedial actions. Finally, the conflict of interest, the remedial actions and the approval should be explicitly mentioned in the final assessment report.

DISCLOSE	
Describe the circumstances that lead to, or may lead to, conflicts of interest. Specify the persons covered by the circumstances.	[Enter your answer here and delete the example below] Example: In 2015-2016, assessor Jane Doe, a local consultant, was on the panel of experts who advised the government of the assessed jurisdiction on the legislation that set up the independent audit institution that, amongst other things, covers procurement and contracting by public entities.
RECUSE	
Describe the steps taken to ensure that involved persons can recuse themselves completely from any activities related the disclosed circumstances.	[Enter your answer here and delete the example below] Example: Jane Doe has recused herself from assessing indicator 12, relating to procurement auditing. The assessment team has been organized so that, in addition to the lead consultant, there remains one other local consultant who will be able to participate in the full assessment.

