

GOVERNMENT OF ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CENTRAL SUPPLIES TENDERS BOARD – 2018

In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the Central Government procurement authority which provides oversight and performs regulatory functions over public procurement is the Central Supplies Tenders Board (CSTB). All contracts for supplies, services and works in excess of \$20,000 must be approved by the CSTB. In addition, the CSTB issues guidelines to govern the general conduct of procurement activities undertaken by all ministries and departments of the Central Government. The work of the CSTB is guided by the Purchases and Tenders Procedures, which came into effect in 1967.¹

The Cabinet appoints the members of the CSTB annually. The current composition of the Board is as follows:

Mr. Edmond Jackson - Director General/Finance and Economic Planning (Chairman)
Ms. Debbie Antoine - Accountant General
Mr. Hudson Nedd - Permanent Secretary/Ministry of Transport, Works, etc.
Mrs. Sandy Peters - Permanent Secretary/Ministry of Foreign Trade, etc.
Mr. Leroy Rose (Jr.) - Member
Mr. Joel Woodley - Member
Mr. Ashelle Morgan - Member

The Board is supported by a Secretary who carries out administrative and other duties. The CSTB meets monthly to:

1. Award contracts for procurements;
2. Approve bid/tender documents;
3. Approve lists for selective tendering;
4. Approve contract variations;
5. Approve procurement methods;

A total of ten (10) meetings were held for the year 2018.

¹ The Public Procurement Act 34/2018 was passed in the House of Assembly in December 2018.

Unless approved by the CSTB, the standard procurement method is open competitive tendering. Except with the specific or general approval of the Tenders Board, the procurement of all supplies, services or works required by the Government shall be governed by St. Vincent and the Grenadines Purchases and Tenders and Procedures.

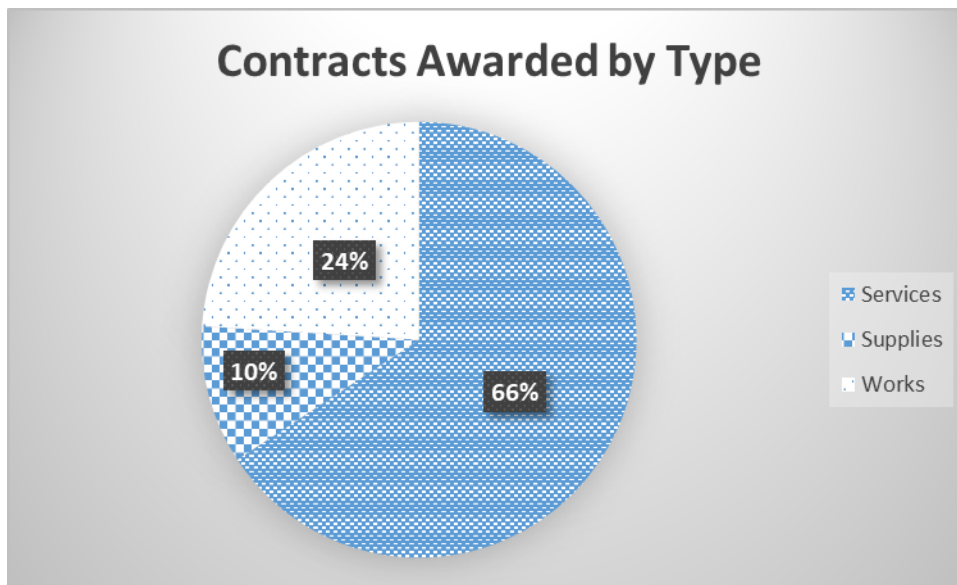
For the year ended December, 2018 the Central Supplies Tenders Board awarded contracts totaling \$144,085,065 which was 130.3% higher than the total contracts awarded in 2017. A total of 226 contracts were awarded by the CSTB in 2018 compared with 178 in the 2017 fiscal year.

Table 1 Contracts awarded 2018 by Type

PROCUREMENT TYPE	AMOUNT EC\$ 2018	AMOUNT EC\$ 2017	% OF TOTAL	
			2018	2017
Services	94,689,107	15,703,405	66	25
Supplies	14,788,867	11,470,361	10	18
Works	34,580,091	35,389,576	24	57
Total	144,058,065	62,563,342	100	100

Of the contracts awarded in 2018, services accounted for the majority of procurement transactions by the Government. They accounted for around EC\$94.7 million or 65.7% of the total contracts awarded, followed by works EC\$34.6 or 24.0% and supplies EC\$14.8 million or 10.3%.

The significant increase in services was mainly due to a contract entered into between the Government of SVG and Digicel OECS and Digicel SVG for the provision, maintenance and operation of a Government WAN and IP PBX; and for the provision, maintenance and operation of an undersea cable system in the Grenadines.



The following table shows a breakdown of the various types of contract awarding from 2014 – 2018:

Table 2

PROCUREMENT TYPE	AMOUNT EC\$ 2018	AMOUNT EC\$ 2017	AMOUNT EC\$ 2016	AMOUNT EC\$ 2015	AMOUNT EC\$ 2014
Services	94,689,107	15,703,405	17,348,230	15,910,675	25,752,120
Supplies	14,788,867	11,470,361	6,614,780	17,417,441	21,320,364
Works	34,580,091	35,389,576	49,522,334	6,659,461	61,580,749
Total	144,058,065	62,563,342	73,485,344	39,987,577	108,653,233

Over the last five (5) years, the value of contracts awarded as a percentage of GDP averaged 4.1%. In 2018, this value increased to just over 6.6% of GDP with services accounting for the majority at 4.3% of GDP.

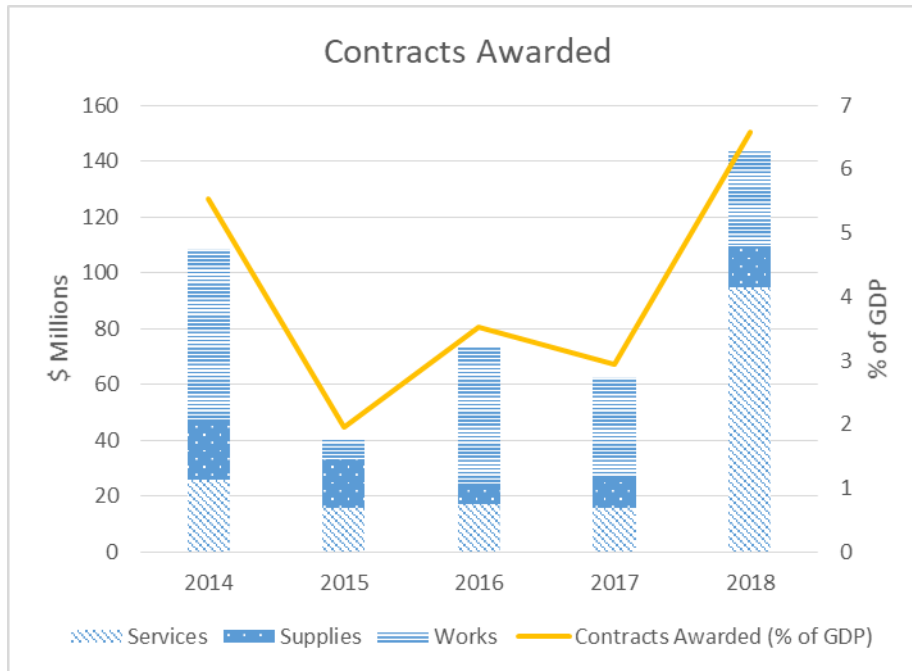


Table 3 Contracts awarded in 2018 by Origin

ORIGIN	2018 EC\$	2017 EC\$
Local	118,758,125	45,312,821
International	25,299,940	17,250,521
Total	144,058,065	62,563,342

The following table shows the calendar distribution of approvals.

Table 4 Monthly Contracts awarded in 2018

MONTH	2018 EC\$m	2017 EC\$m	Change EC\$m
January	0	0	0
February	6.6	0.2	6.4
March	8.2	10.7	-2.5
April	1.3	9.5	-8.2
May	6.3	3.7	2.6
June	63.0	5.4	57.6
July	0.5	0.5	-0.1
August	15.9	7.4	8.5
September	17.7	18.3	-0.6
October	4.0	0	4.0
November	11.5	2.3	9.2
December	9.2	4.5	4.7
Total	144.1	62.5	81.58

For the year ending December 31, 2018, Competitive Tendering was the main method used. This represented 46% of the total procurement by the CSTB and tends to be the procurement standard widely adopted by the Board. Competitive Tendering is also the most transparent and effective among all methods in getting best value for money.

Table 5 Method of Contracts awarded in 2018

TENDERING METHOD	TOTAL NO.	2018 EC\$	2017 EC\$	%
Competitive	103	124,740,690	54,354,253	46
Selective	34	5,001,789	1,704,431	15
Sole	10	1,908,671	1,231,990	4
Others	79	12,406,915	5,272,668	35
Total	226	144,058,065	62,563,342	100

Definition of Terms

Competitive Tendering

This is a process through which contracts are awarded on the basis of competitive bidding by a number of contractors/suppliers according to a clearly specified procurement based on cost, quantity, quality and flexibility.

Competitive Tendering can be:-

- ***Open:*** Where an invitation to tender is publicly advertised, inviting contractors to submit bids for a particular procurement. All bids received by the specified deadline are evaluated according to pre-established criteria.
- ***Selective:*** Where an invitation is issued to a predetermined or restricted number of contractors due to the nature of the procurement. The Tenderers selected for invitation are approved by the CSTB based on the proven capability of the tenderers to satisfactorily carry out the procurement. The Tenderers chosen are invited to tender for the procurement and tender documents are issued to them.

Sole Source

When it is determined that there is only one source for the supply of goods, services or construction, the Ministry would inform the Secretary of the reasons for holding this view and seek the approval of the Board. The Board may approve/award a contract for the procurement of the goods, services or construction, as the case may be.

Request for Proposals

When the procurement cannot be specified in full detail given the nature of work to be carried out a request for proposals may be utilized. Request for Proposals may be open or selective.