

Highway Procurement : Performance-based Contractor Selection

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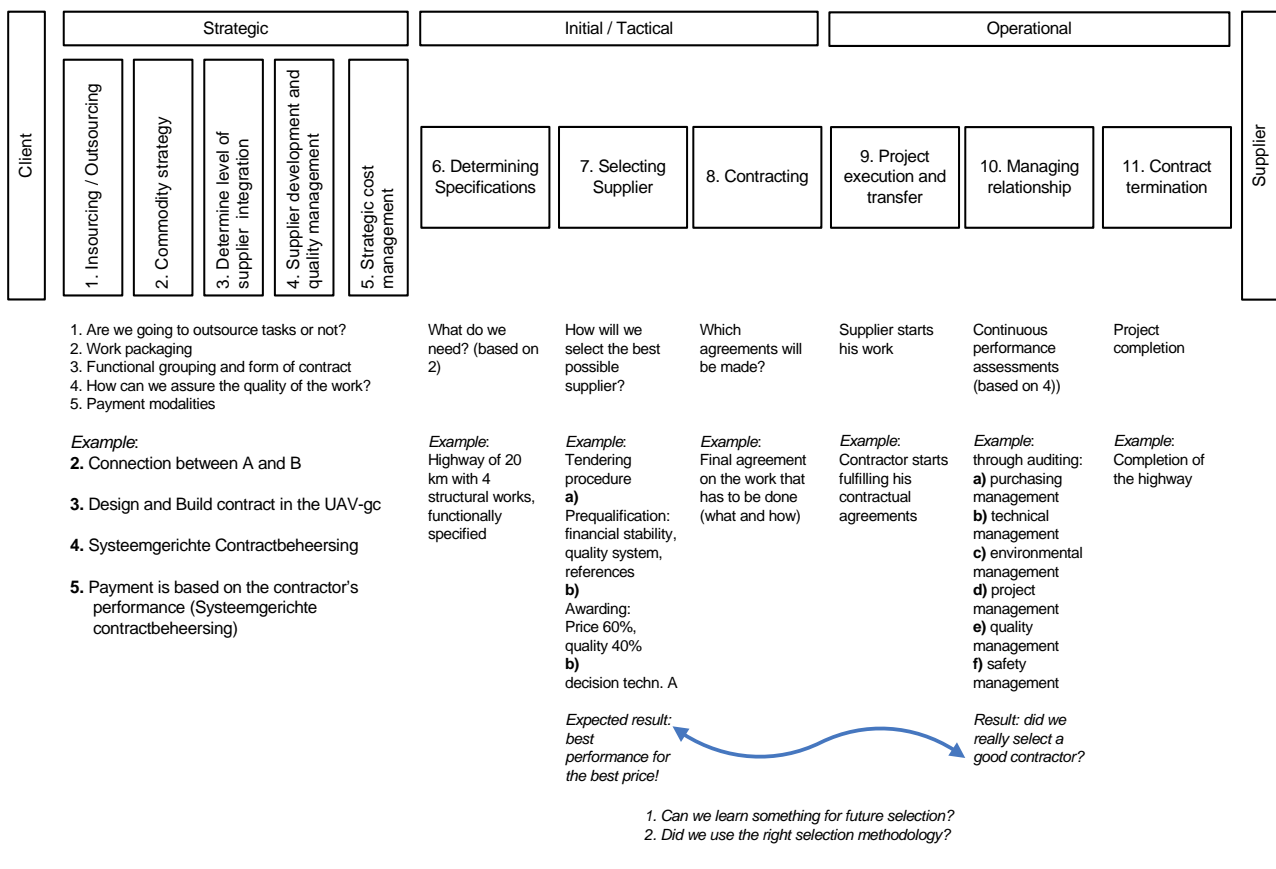
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Contractor selection is one of the steps of the procurement function (see below on this poster). A lot of different procedures, criteria and awarding techniques can be used and combined. But which one is the best? In other words: which way of selecting a contractor leads to high performing projects?

The goal of this research is to determine the contractor characteristics that affect the project performance.

The Expected Result of this research is a list of contractor characteristics that affect the project performance. This list can in the future be used for contractor selection.



Performance-based contractor selection for Design-Build highway projects

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Subject

The performance of a project in terms of cost, time, quality and client satisfaction is discussed a lot in literature. The main factors affecting the performance are project characteristics, client characteristics and contractor characteristics. Ling (2004) found that contractor characteristics play a big part in the performance of a Residential and Non-residential construction project.

Contractor selection is part of the total procurement process of a construction project. After determining the specifications, the client will start to look for the contractor that can offer the best value. This selection process can be done in several ways, according to European regulations. Also, different criteria can be set, as long as they comply with the basic principles: equality, transparency and proportionality.

Design and Build (D&B) contracts are part of the integrated contract forms. This means that a contractor in a D&B contract is not only responsible for the construction work, but also for the design of the construction.

Goals

Ling's (2004) conclusions were for the construction of buildings. The construction of a highway projects differs from that. Still, the contractor characteristics seem to play a big part in the project performance. The main goal of this research is to gain insight in the key contractor characteristics determining the performance of contractors in Dutch highway projects.

Strategy

The data that will be used in this research will come from project databases. From this data constructs will be formed that can give information about the link between the performance of the project and the contractor characteristics determining this performance

Expected Results

A list will be made with contractor characteristics affecting the project performance. This list can be used for selecting contractors for future projects.

Preferred Partners Applications / Sponsors

Rijkswaterstaat (Ministry of Transportation, The Netherlands) and DHV.

Prime Publication / Prototyping

- Favie, R., Abdalla, G. and Maas, G.J., (2007), The best criteria for the selection of contractors in the Dutch construction industry! In: Hughes, W. (Ed.) *Proceedings of the CME25: Construction Management and Economics: Past, Present and Future*, Reading, UK
- Favie, R. and Maas, G. J. (2008), Ranking Construction Project Characteristics. In: *CIB Joint International Symposium 2008, Transformation Through Construction*, Dubai, UAE
- Vrieling, L., Favie, R., Kranendonk, P. and Maas, G. J. (2008), Partner Selection Criteria for Participation-based Cooperation. In: *CIB Joint International Symposium 2008, Transformation Through Construction*, Dubai, UAE

Research Period

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