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COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ACT 2007 METHODOLOGIES IN PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN NIGERIA'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: EVIDENCE FROM MISAU COUNCIL, BAUCHI STATE

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ABSTRACT

Prior to the enactment of the 2007 Public Procurement Act 'PPA, 2007' the public procurement system in Nigeria was reported to be severely abused, resulting in enormous losses and construction projects were said to be marked by time and cost overruns, intrinsically low quality, project abandonment, among others. Despite the enactment of the Act, its full implementation is yet to be achieved, and there is paucity of research focusing on how Nigerian Local Government Areas (LGAs) are adhering with PPA, 2007 methodologies. Therefore, this current study looked at how much public construction projects in Nigeria's LGA have been complying with these methodologies. The research utilizes a mixed-methods case study research approach with semi-structured interviews as the instrument for data collection. Due to the small target population in the case study area, only eight procurement professionals involved in public construction in Misau Council were interviewed for this study. Findings are presented thematically with illustrative quotes. Content analysis of the responses revealed that participants generally claimed a good understanding of the methodologies as stated in the PPA, 2007. Further findings revealed that, the most commonly followed methodologies during the award and execution of public construction projects in the case study ranked in order of compliance

include: bidders receive receipts indicating the date and time of submission; to choose and identify the winning tender, bids are evaluated; bid documents are reviewed for requirements, mistakes, and compliance; the contractor receives a negotiated mobilization charge, not exceeding 15% of the contract value, in order to start work on the site; all procurement procedures' records are stored securely; in some instances, due consideration is given to domestic registered contractors. This study is timely, considering the recent July 11th 2024 judgement of the Supreme Court of Nigeria which restored the financial autonomy of Nigeria's 774 LGA's. Therefore, it has added to the existing body of knowledge on public procurement in the Nigerian construction sector in general.

Keywords: *Compliance, Public Procurement Act 2007, Public Construction Projects, Local Government Areas, Methodologies*

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Public Procurement Act of 2007 'PPA, 2007' was enacted in Nigeria, with objectives primarily focused on improving the country's sustainable public budgeting system, ensuring fair competition in tendering procedures, and promoting adherence to international best practices, ethics, and ideals (Bayero, 2012; Sa'ad et al., 2019). Prior to the enactment of the PPA, 2007, the public procurement system in Nigeria was reportedly subject to blatant abuse (Shehu, 2025). For instance, the construction sector experienced projects characterized by intentional delays, time and cost overruns, subpar quality, outright abandonment, poor return on investment and value for money, as well as numerous claims, counterclaims, disputes, and litigations.

Onyema (2017) contended that even with the implementation of the Public Procurement Act of 2007, fraudulent practices continued to exist, making public procurement processes in Nigeria less transparent. Nigeria's local government system has experienced a decline in fulfilling its duties in rural communities due to institutional and constitutional difficulties, particularly since the inception of the Fourth Republic in 1999 (Shehu, 2025). For instance, while the Nigerian constitution allocates funds for Local Governments from three main sources; the Federation Account, state governments' 10% monthly internal revenue, and internally generated revenues; regrettably, according to Fadare (2023), Local Governments still face obstacles in their efforts to develop grassroots communities. Over the past decades, Local Government administrations have been crippled almost throughout Nigeria, with governors seizing their federal allocations and releasing funds on a piecemeal basis, a practice that barely sustained them (Cyriacus et al., 2024). However, on July 11, 2024, the Supreme Court of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as the nation's apex court, issued a unanimous judgment in the suit 'AG

Federation v AG Abia State and others' (Umoh et al., 2024). This judgment, brought by the Federal Government of Nigeria, affirmed the financial autonomy and independence of all constitutionally recognized Local Government Areas (LGAs) in the country. According to Nigeria's Ministry of Defence (2024), the Minister for State Defence stated that the verdict will empower Local Governments to make independent decisions and actions without requiring State government approval. This means Local Governments can now manage their finances, collect revenues, and allocate resources free from State government interference. The Supreme Court's judgment was timely, given the long-standing deficits in basic public infrastructure that have characterized the third-tier level of government in Nigeria for decades.

Nonetheless, there appears to be a general lack of literature on the extent of compliance with the PPA, 2007 methodologies in Nigeria's LGAs. Attah (2019) highlights that since the Public Procurement Act was passed into law on June 4, 2007, under the administration of the late President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, it has not been fully implemented as required by law. Therefore, this study is one of several anticipated works examining the expected accelerated development in grassroots communities following the implementation of the July 11, 2024, Supreme Court of Nigeria judgment by stakeholders. The study's scope was restricted to Bauchi State, Nigeria, specifically focusing on Misau Council as a case study.

1.1 The Research Questions

i. How will you describe your level of familiarity with the provisions of Public Procurement Act, 2007?
ii. What is the likely level of compliance with Public Procurement Act, 2007 methodologies provisions during the processes of awarding and executing public construction projects contract in the study area?

1.2 The Study Objectives

i. Assess the level of familiarity with PPA, 2007 by construction procurement stakeholders in the study area.
ii. Assess the level of compliance with PPA, 2007 methodologies in public construction projects in the study area.

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 The Concept of Public Procurement

At the Local Government level, procurement typically encompasses all processes involved in developing and implementing strategies to manage public expenditure. This aims to contribute to overall goals by maximizing value for money and minimizing the total cost of ownership (Shehu, 2025). The principal hallmarks of a proficient public procurement system include economy, efficiency, fairness, reliability, transparency, accountability, and ethical standards (Bureau of Public Procurement [BPP], 2007). The fundamental concerns governing procurement policies are:

1) Ensuring that goods and services needed are procured with due attention to economy and efficiency.
2) Ensuring that public funds are used to buy only those goods and services needed for national development.
3) Ensuring that all qualified bidders an equal opportunity to compete for contracts.
4) Encouraging development of local contractors and manufacturers.
5) Ensuring that the procurement process is transparent.

Aduda (2007) reported that International Competitive Bidding (ICB) outlines eight clearly articulated stages in public procurement, which include:

1. The choice of items to request.
2. The tender design, including the technical tender specifications and criteria of evaluation.
3. Pre-qualification/qualification/short-listing.
4. The tender.
5. Evaluation/contract award.
6. Negotiations/final agreement.
7. Execution/delivery.
8. Evaluation/controls.

2.2 The Nigerian Public Procurement Act, 2007

According to Arab (2007), the Public Procurement Act of 2007 established the National Council on Public Procurement and the Bureau of Public Procurement as the regulatory bodies in charge of overseeing and monitoring public procurement. These bodies also set standards, regulate, and develop the legal framework and professional capacity for public procurement in Nigeria, thereby harmonizing

government policies and practices. The 36 States of the Federation and the 774 LGAs in modern Nigeria have all established public procurement laws to regulate the purchase of products, works, and services in their respective domains, following the PPA's enactment in 2007. For instance, in Bauchi State, the 2008 public procurement law was repealed by the current law, known as the "Bauchi State Budget Monitoring, Price Intelligence and Public Procurement Agency Law," which was passed into law on October 24, 2017, by the State Legislature (Ja'afar, 2017). An examination of the content of the Bauchi State public procurement law showed that, despite certain semantic and nomenclature variations brought about by regional quirks, it was essentially a mirror image of the Federal Government of Nigeria's PPA, 2007.

Primarily, the PPA, 2007 aims, among other things, to ensure that due process is strictly followed when allocating public funds, and to prevent the waste and leakage of public funds resulting from public contracts (Sa'ad et al., 2019). Also, the PPA, 2007 aimed was to certify that the fundamental procurement principles of accountability, transparency, equality, economy, and value for money are met without any obstacles when it comes to public procurement in Nigerian public organizations. There are thirteen sections in the Public Procurement Act of 2007. However, Table 1 lists the salient characteristics of the PPA, 2007 Act sections 4-8 that covered the methodologies relevant to the Nigerian construction sector of the economy.

Table 1: Sections of PPA, 2007 relevant to construction procurement

SECTIONS	CONTENTS
PART IV	*Part IV - FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES FOR PROCUREMENTS* 1. Fundamental Principles for Procurement.
PART V	*Part V - ORGANISATION OF PROCUREMENTS* 2. Approving authority. 3. Procurement planning. 4. Procurement implementation. 5. Accounting officer. 6. Procurement planning committee. 7. Tenders board. 8. Pre-qualification of bidders. 9. Open competitive bidding.
	Part VI - PROCUREMENT METHODS (GOODS AND SERVICES)

PART VI	10. Invitations to bid. 11. Bid security. 12. Submission of bids. 13. Rejection of bids. 14. Validity period of bids, modification and withdrawal of tenders. 15. Bid opening. 16. Examination of bids. 17. Evaluation of bids. 18. Acceptance of bids. 19. Domestic preferences. 20. Mobilization fees. 21. Contract performance guarantee. 22. Interest on delayed payments. 23. Record of procurement proceedings.
PART VII	*Part VII - SPECIAL AND RESTRICTED METHODS OF PROCUREMENT* 24. Two stage tendering. 25. Restricted tendering. 26. Request for quotations. 27. Direct procurement. 28. Emergency procurements.
PART VIII	*Part VIII - PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTANT (SERVICES)* 29. Expressions of interest to provide services for ascertained needs. 30. Request for proposals to provide services for unascertained needs. 31. Content of the requests for proposals. 32. Clarification and modification of requests for proposals. 33. Submission of proposals. 34. Criteria for evaluation of proposals. 35. General selection procedure (services). 36. Procedure for selection of proposal where price is a factor. 37. Procedure for selection of proposal where price is not a factor.

Source: Arab (2007)

According to Attah (2019), there have been multiple attempts by successive federal executive governments and the National Legislative Assembly to amend the PPA, 2007 since its enactment in Nigeria. Although change is unavoidable, the primary challenge with the PPA, 2007 in Nigeria may stem from individuals' inherent tendencies towards corruption, making them reluctant to fully adhere to its provisions. The Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) has produced a Standard Bidding Document (SBD) to ensure and promote accountability, transparency, and fair competition in public procurement. According to FGN (2011), the SBD was created by the Bureau of Public Procurement for use in International Competitive Bidding (ICB). It also assists Procuring Entities in selecting the lowest-evaluated tender during National Competitive Tendering (NCT) for the procurement of Works and Related Services funded by the national budget.

2.4 Challenges of Local Government Administration in Nigeria

Odusote (2024) notes that, ideally, all levels of government rely on the Federation Account to fund development projects. Section 165 of the 1999 Constitution and the Allocation of Revenue Act of 1982 mandate that revenues generated by the central government be deposited into the Federation Account and allocated monthly to the three tiers of government. Despite this constitutional provision, there has been little progress in the development of LGAs nationwide. Some state governors were alleged to be misusing Local Government allocations and are known to suspend elected Local Government officials, replacing them with caretaker committees that essentially act as their agents.

Local Government Areas in Nigeria have not been able to fulfil their core functions as the third-tier of government because the 1999 Constitution grants state governments excessive fiscal and political control over them, hindering local development (Cyriacus et al., 2024). However, a significant change occurred on July 11th, 2024, when the Nigerian Supreme Court, in a case brought by the central government of Nigeria, unanimously upheld the financial autonomy of the country's 774 LGAs (Shehu, 2025; Odusote, 2024). These decisions aim to reinforce their independence within the country's governance structure. Additionally, the Supreme Court made several other landmark rulings to overhaul Local Government administration in Nigeria (Odusote, 2024), which include:

a) The declaration of the appointment of caretaker committees to replace elected Local Government executives as unconstitutional.
b) A declaration that a democratic governance at the Local Government level in all the 36 States of the federation must be put in place to enhance governance.
c) A declaration that monthly disbursement of federal allocations to the Local Governments directly to them by the Federation Account, and
d) A declaration restraining the state governors from collecting funds belonging to any LGA when no democratically elected Local Government officials are constituted.

Umoh et al. (2024) emphasized that, based on the responsibilities of LGAs as outlined in the Fourth Schedule of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended), it is clear that LGAs were intended to be responsive, accountable, and act as drivers of economic growth and social development in rural communities. Therefore, the specific functions of LGAs are outlined as follows:

a) Consideration and making of recommendations to state commission on economic planning or similar body.
b) Collection of rates, radio and television licenses.

c) Establishment and maintenance of cemeteries, burial grounds, and homes for the destitute or infirm.
d) Licensing of bicycles, trucks (other than mechanically propelled trucks), canoes, wheel barrows, and carts.
e) Establishment, maintenance, and regulation of slaughterhouses, slaughter slabs, markets, motor parks, and public conveniences.
f) Construction and maintenance of roads, streets, and public highways.
g) Naming of roads and streets and numbering of houses.
h) Provision and maintenance of public conveniences, sewage, and refuse disposal.
i) Registration of births, deaths, and marriages.
j) Assessment and levying of rates on privately owned houses or tenements.
k) Regulatory and control functions of LGA.
l) Provision and maintenance of primary, adult and vocational education.
m) Development of agriculture and natural resources, other than the exploitation of minerals.
n) Provision and maintenance of health services.

2.5 Public Construction Projects in Local Government Areas in Nigeria

Shehu (2024) highlighted that public building construction projects in Nigeria are characterized by projects that are conceptualized and mostly funded by the federal, state, and LGA governments throughout the nation. Moreover, donor groups and corporations occasionally participate in the implementation of public construction projects as part of their corporate and social responsibilities. Shehu (2025) posited that primary healthcare facilities, dispensaries, primary schools, public restrooms, drainage systems, and community access roads are among the public works projects that are legally under the control and jurisdiction of LGA administrations based on Nigeria's Constitution.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

This study deployed a mixed-methods case study research approach with semi-structured interviews as the main instrument for data collection. This technique was used by scholars, including Shehu (2025), in their studies. In contrast to filling out a survey questionnaire, respondents feel more at ease with the researcher during an interview, according to Andipakula (2017) and Umar et al. (2025). An interviewing technique involves conducting intensive individual interviews with a small number of respondents to explore their perspective on a particular experience, situation, or case study (Shehu,

2025; Andipakula, 2017; Boyce & Neale, 2006). To comprehend the study's numerous research factors, a literature review was also conducted. According to Kothari (2004), a case study is a highly common type of qualitative research that entails a thorough and meticulous examination of a social unit. The research methodology flow chart used for this study is shown in Figure 1.

The study participants were asked to provide a detailed account of their personal professional experiences using a combination of closed and open-ended semi-structured interview questions. This method of data collection has been used by scholars, including Umar et al. (2025). A total of seven questions were developed for the study: Section A contained five questions covering the demographics of the participants, while Section B contained two primary research interview questions. The study participants were asked to describe their - "level of familiarity" and "level of compliance" - restricted to level 1 to 6, where 1 represented the lowest level and 6 the highest. This is a common approach in mixed-methods research which has been employed by scholars including Andipakula (2017). Due to the small target population in the case study area, only eight procurement professionals involved in public construction in Misau Council were interviewed for this study. The researchers believe that an in-depth interview was the ideal method for data collection given that the total population size was not substantial enough to support a questionnaire survey-based research approach. The National Bureau of Statistics (2011) projected that there are around 299,493 people living in Misau Council, while the National Population Commission [NPC] (2010) reported that the LGA has a land mass area of 1,275.19 km². For this study, the participants included procurement administrators and construction professionals with diverse specializations. A semi-structured interview question sheet, developed by the researchers, was used to take notes during the interview proceedings while maintaining utmost confidentiality.

Table 2: Descriptions on Levels of Familiarity/Compliance

Grading	Level of familiarity	Level of compliance
< 1	Negligible	Negligible
1-1.49	Very low	Very low
1.50-2.49	Low	Low
2.50-3.49	Moderate	Moderate
3.50-4.49	High	High
≥ 4.50	Very familiar	Very high

Adapted: Shehu and Shehu (2023a), Shehu (2024)

Following a thorough inspection, data analysis was performed to identify any missing information. After reviewing the interview transcripts, content analysis was carried out, and the generated themes were analyzed and findings are presented thematically with illustrative quotes. One fundamental benefit of using content analysis in qualitative research is that it provides an opportunity for the display of results using simple descriptive statistics (Shehu, 2021; Umar et al., 2025). The descriptions on the levels of familiarity and compliance are displayed in Table 2.

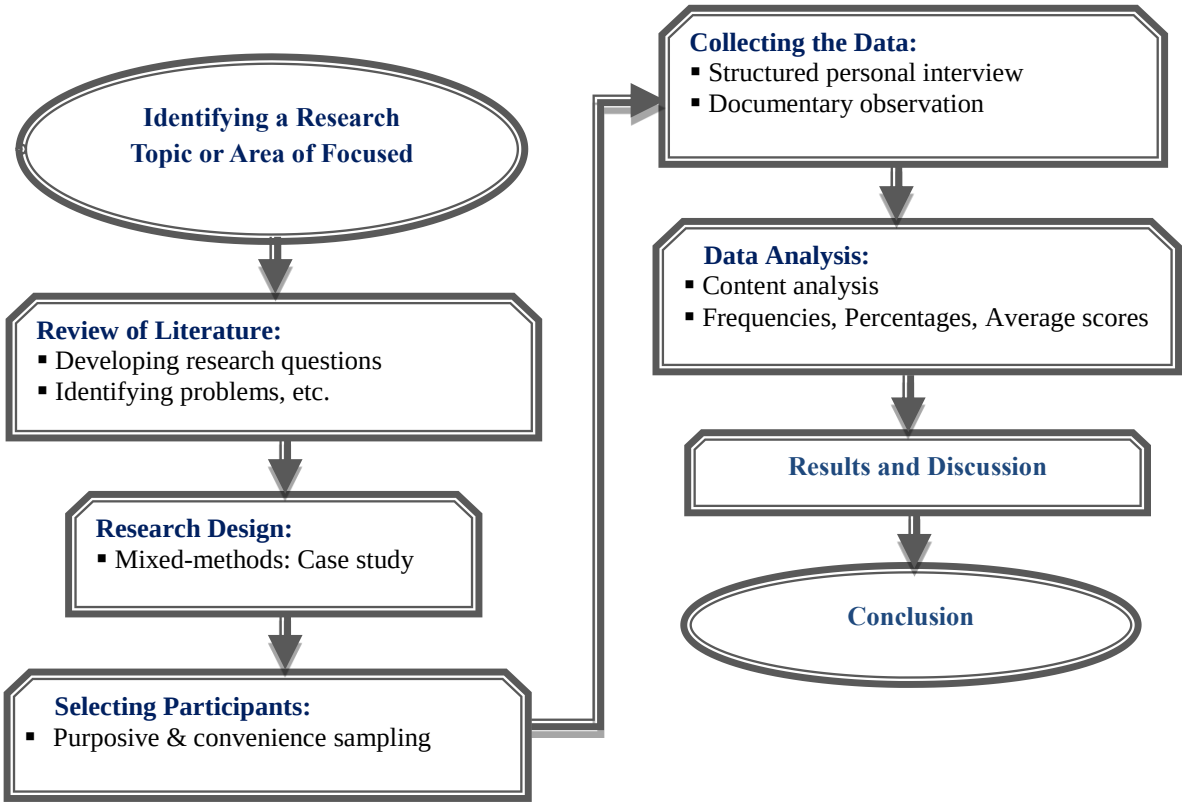


Figure 1: Research Methodology flow Chart
Source: Adapted from; Shehu et al. (2025)

4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Analysis of Participants Demographics

The results of the study participants' demographic characteristics are displayed in Table 3. The majority of the participants, according to the content analysis, held First Degree or Higher National Diploma academic qualification certificates, and of the professionals who took part in the interview, two each

identified as practicing engineering, quantity surveying, and building technology, and one each are practicing architecture and business management respectively. Majority '62.5%' of the study interviewed participants has six to ten years of working expertise in procuring building projects LGA. Regarding the management hierarchy, every participant indicated that they belonged to either the "middle or top" level when it came to making decisions in their individual companies and or organizations respectively. Almost equal numbers of participants were chosen from the contractor, client, and consultant groups in order to prevent bias.

Table 3: Demographic of Participants

Interviewees	Area of Specialization	Academic Qualification	Years of Working Experience	Level of Management	Procurement Organization
Interviewee A	Engineering	HND/Degree	6-10	Top	Client
Interviewee B	Building Technology	HND/Degree	6-10	Middle	Contractors
Interviewee C	Engineering	PGD/Master's	1-5	Middle	Consultants
Interviewee D	Business Management	HND/Degree	11-15	Top	Client
Interviewee E	Building Technology	HND/Degree	11-15	Middle	Client
Interviewee F	Quantity Surveying	HND/Degree	6-10	Top	Contractors
Interviewee G	Architecture	HND/Degree	6-10	Middle	Consultants
Interviewee H	Quantity Surveying	PGD/Master's	6-10	Middle	Consultants

4.2 Main Research Questions

Questions One: *How will you describe your level of familiarity with the provisions of Public Procurement Act, 2007? Please describe on a level of 1 to 6, with 1 being the least 'Negligible' level and 6 being the highest 'Very familiar' level.*

Table 4: Levels of Familiarity with PPA, 2007

Participants	Int. A	Int. B	Int. C	Int. D	Int. E	Int. F	Int. G	Int. H	Average
Levels of Familiarity	6	6	5	6	5	5	4	4	**5.1**

Table 4, presents the results expressed by the participants on their level of familiarity with PPA, 2007 in Nigeria. Content analysis revealed that, Interviewee's (Int.) A, B, and D claimed to be 'very familiar' with the provision of PPA, 2007; Interviewee's C, E and F claimed to be 'familiar' while Interviewee's G and H, also claimed to be 'moderately familiar' with the PPA, 2007 provisions respectively. Further findings, revealed that, the participants scored 5.1 point overall average on the level of familiarity with the provisions of PPA, 2007.

Questions Two: *Based on your experience, what is the likely level of compliance with the following Public Procurement Act, 2007 methodologies provisions during the processes of awarding and executing public construction projects contract in Misau council? Please assess using level 1 to 6, with 1 being the least level and 6 being the highest level.*

Table 5: Levels of Compliance with PPA, 2007 Methodologies

Methodologies	Int. A	Int. B	Int. C	Int. D	Int. E	Int. F	Int. G	Int. H	Avera	Themes
• Receipt are issued to bidders showing date and time of submission.	5	6	6	6	6	4	5	6	**5.5**	'Very High'
• Evaluation of bids is undertaken to determine and select the bid winner.	6	4	6	6	5	4	5	6	**5.3**	'Very High'
• Bids document are examined for compliance, requirement and errors.	6	6	6	5	5	3	6	5	**5.3**	'Very High'
• A negotiated mobilization fee of not more than 15% of the contract value is given to the contractor to commence work on site.	5	6	5	6	6	5	6	3	**5.3**	'Very High'
• Records of all procurement proceedings are safely kept.	5	6	6	6	5	4	5	4	**5.1**	'Very High'
• In some instances, due consideration is given to domestic registered contractors.	5	6	5	5	4	4	5	6	**5.0**	'Very High'
• All bids shall be submitted in writing secured in a tamper-proof sealed bid box.	5	5	5	4	6	4	5	5	**4.9**	'Very High'

• During the tendering process, all bids are opened publicly in the presence of all bidders.	5	5	5	6	4	5	4	5	**4.9**	'Very High'
• A contract performance guarantee fee of not less than 10% of the contract value is requested to be paid by the contractor.	4	6	4	5	6	5	5	4	**4.9**	'Very High'
• Any bid received after the deadline for submission are rejected.	4	6	4	6	5	5	5	4	**4.9**	'Very High'
• Bidders are allowed to modified or withdraw bids before the submission deadline.	4	5	6	5	4	3	4	6	**4.6**	'Very High'
• In some specialized circumstances two or restricted number of bidders are invited.	4	6	6	4	5	3	3	6	**4.6**	'Very High'
• Bid security fee of at least 2% of bid price are paid by the bidders.	5	5	4	5	4	5	4	3	**4.4**	'High'
• The winning bid is the lowest tender fee with regard to work specification and standard.	5	3	4	5	5	4	3	5	**4.3**	'High'
• Notice of acceptance of tender is given immediately to the successful bidder.	4	6	3	5	4	3	4	3	**4.0**	'High'
• Some bids are also rejected due to overriding public interest.	4	4	5	3	5	2	2	6	**3.9**	'High'
• Use of open competitive bidding in awarding contract.	2	3	5	4	2	4	4	3	**3.4**	'Moderate'
• Invitation is done through advertisement in national newspaper, notice board.	2	4	3	4	4	3	2	2	**3.0**	'Moderate'
• All Payment are made to contractors from the day of notice not exceeding 6 days.	4	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	**2.8**	'Moderate'
• Delayed payments to contractors after 6 days' notice are made with an additional interest fee.	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	**2.4**	'Low'

The results of the interviews regarding the participants' extent of compliance with the PPA, 2007 methodologies are displayed in Table 5. According to content analysis, the PPA, 2007 methodologies that have been mostly complied with, showing average scores ranging from 4.9 to 5.5 points, include: bidders receive receipts indicating the date and time of submission; to choose and identify the winning bid, bids are evaluated; bid documents are reviewed for requirements, mistakes, and compliance; the

contractor receives a negotiated mobilization charge, not to exceed 15% of the contract value, to start work on the site; all procurement procedures' records are stored securely; in some instances, due consideration is given to domestic registered contractors; all bids must be made in writing and placed inside a sealed, tamper-proof bid box; all bids are publicly opened in front of all bidders during the procurement process; contractors are required to pay a contract performance guarantee fee equal to at least 10% of the contract value; bids received beyond the deadline for submission are declined.

Additional findings showed that "2" is the lowest recorded score in this study for the following methodologies: All contractors receive payment from the day of notice, up to a maximum of six days, as stated by Interviewee H; contractors who receive payment after six days charged an extra interest fee, as stated by Interviewee F and H; and some bids are rejected because of the overwhelming interest of the public, as stated by Interviewee F. Participants B, C, and D had the greatest overall average compliance scores based on content analysis, with scores ranging from 5.0 to 5.3 points, while participant F had the lowest, scoring of 4.0 points respectively.

4.3 Discussion of Findings

In this case study, participants claimed a substantial level of familiarity with the sections of the PPA, 2007. This high level of awareness of the PPA, 2007 could be attributed to their average academic qualification, years of working experience, as well as the possibility of its familiarity being a necessary requirement stipulated by their various organizations. The findings of this study on the level of familiarity with the PPA, 2007 align with Sa'ad et al. (2019), where they buttressed that familiarity with public procurement guidelines by procurement stakeholders can determine the success or failure of compliance with the provisions of the public procurement law and its implementation.

In this study, while overall compliance appears substantial which align with findings by scholars including Umar et al. (2025), Shehu (2025), and Sa'ad et al. (2019) highlighting that Nigerian public institutions generally show a strong intent to adhere to the provisions of the PPA, 2007. Our findings also reveal specific areas, such as 'Use of open competitive bidding in awarding contract; Invitation is done through advertisement in national newspaper, notice board; All payments are made to contractors from the day of notice not exceeding 6 days; and Delayed payments to contractors after 6 days' notice are made with an additional interest fee' where compliance is moderate or low. These lower compliance level, as indicated by average scores below 3.5 points in Table 5, can be attributed to factors such as deeply rooted unethical practices, inadequate infrastructure, lack of proper professional oversight, and political interference among others. The implication is that, when these

factors intertwined, then the sections of the PPA, 2007 may experience poor level of compliance. Furthermore, Sa'ad et al. (2019) also identified key PPA, 2007 methodologies that are most consistently followed in public tertiary institutions in Bauchi State, including tender evaluation, notification of bid winners, announcement of tender opening times. As such, it is consistent with the findings in this present case study. In addition, the study aligns with a survey by the Chartered Institute of Building in Europe, which highlighted that public sector procurement should prioritize standardization, cost reduction, sustainability, and public accountability (Chartered Institute of Building, 2010; Shehu & Shehu, 2023b). The implication of the major findings of this study is that they highlight the level of accountability and transparency in construction project delivery in the study area, as claimed by the participants.

5.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study was designed to contribute to the existing body of knowledge on public procurement, particularly focusing on the level of compliance with the Public Procurement Act 2007 methodologies by LGAs in Nigeria during construction project delivery. The participants in this mixed-method case study reported a high level of awareness and compliance with the Public Procurement Act 2007. Therefore, the key PPA, 2007 methodologies widely followed during the awarding and execution phases of public construction projects in a Nigerian LGAs include: bidders receive receipts indicating the date and time of submission; to choose and identify the winning bid, bids are evaluated; bid documents are reviewed for requirements, mistakes, and compliance; the contractor receives a negotiated mobilization charge, not to exceed 15% of the contract value, to start work on the site; all procurement procedures' records are stored securely; in some instances, due consideration is given to domestic registered contractors; all bids must be made in writing and placed inside a sealed, tamper-proof bid box; all bids are publicly opened in front of all bidders during the procurement process; contractors are required to pay a contract performance guarantee fee equal to at least 10% of the contract value; bids received beyond the deadline for submission are declined. Meanwhile, methodologies ‘invitation is done through advertisement in national newspaper, notice board; all payments are made to contractors from the day of notice not exceeding 6 days; and delayed payments to contractors after 6 days’ notice are made with an additional interest fee’ are sections where compliance is moderate or low which are influenced by factors like deeply rooted unethical practices, inadequate infrastructure, lack of proper professional oversight, and political interference. The implication is that, when these factors intertwined, then the sections of the PPA, 2007 may experience

poor level of compliance which will impede the full realization of good governance, effective management and adherence to laws for sustainable development in LGAs in Nigeria.

This study suggests that its findings could provide policy makers and practitioners with direction and insights for future infrastructure development, as well as inform them about the current state of PPA, 2007 compliance in the procurement of public construction projects in LGAs in Nigeria. Given the recent Supreme Court judgment granting financial autonomy to LGAs, our findings underscore the critical role of robust PPA 2007 compliance in ensuring accountable governance and efficient resource allocation, which are fundamental for achieving sustainable development goals at the grassroots level.

5.1 Limitations of Study and Suggestions for Future Studies

Firstly, the researchers focused on only one council as a case study. Secondly, another limitation was the small target of eight respondents interviewed, which could also hinder the generalization of its findings on compliance with Public Procurement Act 2007 methodologies in public construction projects across Nigerian LGAs. Therefore, the researchers recommend that future studies should focus more on other Nigerian Local Government Areas with a considerably larger sample size of participants in order to attain a broader perspective.

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