

From the Desk of **Chief Editor**



Dear Readers,

It gives me great pleasure to present the July–August 2026 issue of ICMA's Chartered Management Accountant Journal, our flagship publication. This edition focuses on the theme of Smart Procurement and the Digital Economy, bringing together diverse perspectives on digital transformation, governance, transparency, artificial intelligence, and industrial competitiveness.

The pace of technological change is reshaping how organisations operate, make decisions, and create value. For management accountants, this transformation expands our role beyond financial reporting to providing strategic insight, strengthening controls, managing risks, and supporting evidence based decision making. The focus on digital and smart procurement is therefore highly relevant, as effective procurement directly impacts efficiency, cost management, accountability, and value for money.

This issue features three exclusive interviews with leaders at the forefront of reform and innovation. First, Mr. Hasnat Ahmed Qureshi, Managing Director, Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA), shares insights on EPADS 2.0, open contracting standards, grievance redressal, and the vision for a unified digital procurement system. Second, Mr. Nawed Tanwir Abbasi, Chairman, Oil Companies Advisory Council (OCAC), discusses procurement challenges in Pakistan's energy sector, highlighting resilience, smarter systems, and digital integration. Third, Mr. Faisal Sharif, Director, South Asia Region, GAC Group, explores opportunities in electric mobility, battery technology, localisation, and Pakistan's potential role in regional EV value chains.

The Focus Section of this edition contains 16 articles, including a contribution from our Research & Publications Department, covering topics such as e-procurement, blockchain, AI driven transparency, ESG integration, and digital supply chains. These contributions reflect the growing expertise of ICMA members and the profession's commitment to advancing procurement and digital economy leadership.

Complementing this, the Articles Section presents analyses on organisational performance, reclassification, and evolving structures in financial management, alongside a comprehensive guide to Expected Credit Loss. The Top Technology Trend section examines GenAI's transformative potential in procurement analytics, while the Sector Brief provides a focused overview of Pakistan's digital economy outlook and its implications for procurement practices.

We trust that the research, interviews, and expert contribution presented here will serve as both a reference and a catalyst for informed action. Looking ahead, I am pleased to announce that the theme for our September–October 2026 issue will be "From the Fiscal Burden to Economic Value: The Future of State Owned Enterprises." We warmly invite members and external experts to contribute articles that will shape this forward looking dialogue.

Thank you for your continued readership and engagement.

Muhammad Yasin, FCMA
Vice President, ICMA &
Chairman, Research and Publications Committee