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Green Procurement in the Government of Canada

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Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity



Public Works and
Government Services
Canada

Travaux publics et
Services gouvernementaux
Canada

Canada

Outline

- Policy on Green Procurement
- Government-wide Policy Implementation
- Green Procurement Into Practice
- Lessons Learned
- Additional Resources



Policy on Green Procurement

Objective:

To advance the protection of the environment and support sustainable development by integrating environmental performance considerations into the procurement decision-making process

Why:

- Reduce the environmental impacts of government operations
- Promote environmental stewardship
- Create a market for environmentally sound goods and services
- Promote innovation in the area of environmental technologies

Context:

- Value for Money
- Life Cycle Approach Management

Upholds the values of Government procurement principles of fair, open, and transparent competition for suppliers



Government-wide Policy Implementation

Principles:

- Integration into existing processes
- Governance
- Engagement

Implementation within current reference levels with no additional costs to the Canadian public

Activities:

- Centralized purchasing strategies, plans and instruments
- Target setting through Reports on Plans and Priorities:
 - Management framework (training, performance evaluations, processes and controls)
 - Good and service based
- Monitoring and use of industry standards and eco-labels
- Development and sharing of information and tools
- Integration into the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy



Green Procurement In Practice: a 4-step Process

Planning	Reduce your consumption and consider alternatives to purchasing. Define the need; ask suppliers for solutions. Plan your purchase using the centralized tools and/or resources. Identify environmentally preferable options. Apply green office practices to services
Acquisition	Purchase using the appropriate method of supply. Reduce packaging, paper use and unnecessary transportation/travel.
Use	Use and maintain to minimize environmental impact. e.g. warranties, repair
Disposal	Dispose of goods in an environmentally preferable manner. e.g. reuse within government, donate, recycle



Lessons Learned

Challenges:

- Maintaining competitive procurement while advancing greening
- Balancing environmental and other procurement objectives
- Volume and variety of purchasing and people involved
- Horizontal collaboration and strong engagement at all levels

Success Factors:

- Centre of expertise (Public Works and Government Services Canada)
 - Foundation of training and governance
 - Detailed guidance and operational tools
 - Systemic integration in centralized procurement
- Partner organizations (Office of Greening Government Operations and Acquisitions Branch) with separate roles and responsibilities
- Leveraging of Federal Sustainable Development Strategy targets
- Phased and principles based approach



Additional Resources

- [Office of Greening Government Operations Website](#)
 - *Policy on Green Procurement*
 - Questions and Answers
 - Toolkit (foundational information and guidelines)
- Buyandsell.gc.ca/green
 - Step-by-Step Guides
 - Green Scorecards
 - Green Standing Offers, Supply Arrangements or Master Contracts
- [Training](#) (*accessible to federal government employees only*)
- [GCpedia – Green Procurement](#) (*accessible to federal government employees only*)



Contacts

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