Add value.
Inspire trust.

Sustainable Procurement Validation

Embedding Sustainability in Sourcing & Procurement

Your Challenges

An increasing number of stakeholders (customers, investors, employees, citizens and regulators) are demanding to know the origin of products in terms of their content and environmental, social and governance (ESG) impacts.

The procurement team should therefore create an efficient and reliable sustainable purchasing process that encourages responsible purchasing behaviour. This should include optimising ESG performance and prioritising sustainable suppliers, while minimising overproduction and waste by implementing efficient supply and demand management.

Although pursuing a sustainable procurement policy is essential, a potential obstacle to achieving it is a lack of detailed, practical knowledge that can translate into effective procurement policies and processes. Organisations must therefore focus on globally recognised guidelines that ensure credibility to non-identical stakeholders. As investors and financial markets demand externally reviewed data to evaluate ESG performance or allocate sustainability ratings/scores, the organisation must also analyse trustworthy environmental and social performance data across its entire supply chain.

What is sustainable procurement?

Sustainable procurement is the integration of ESG standards into procurement strategy and policies, which establishes an organisation's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategies into the buyer-supplier relationship.

ISO 20400:2017 - Sustainable procurement - Guidance helps organisations align their current business practices with international standards to improve procurement practices and deliver on sustainability objectives and targets. The key focus areas are life cycle thinking, due diligence, risk management, complicity, and ethical and social aspects of procurement.

Why is sustainable procurement validation important to your business?

Business leaders strongly believe that sustainable procurement is a powerful tool to mitigate climate change. The procurement process has the potential to be the most significant contributor to reducing an organisation's carbon footprint, as even the smallest purchasing decision can impact society, the environment, and the economy. An independent third-party sustainable procurement validation will therefore enhance your sustainability performance by reducing your carbon footprint and addressing social topics across the value chain.

How can we help you?

TÜV SÜD's global team of experts offer independent, third-party support tailored to your organisation. By working with specialists that have the most appropriate skills, you can be assured their validation will be flexible enough to suit your organisation's specific needs. In addition to the sustainable procurement validation, our service portfolio includes public training (which follows the recommended guidelines defined by ISO 20400), as well as sustainable procurement awareness training across every level of the organisation.

Your business benefits

- **Minimise risk** – Manage financial, environmental, reputational risks and ensures supply chain security (i.e. product recall or supplier failure)
- **Gain a competitive advantage** – reduce your carbon footprint while proactively addressing human rights and labour practices in the supply chain for goods and services you purchase.
- **Increase key stakeholder trust** – ensure the transparent disclosure of your sustainable procurement's status-quo amongst suppliers, local communities, consumers and NGOs.
- **Enhance efficiency, productivity and innovation** – minimise resource waste throughout the supply chain and comply with statutory and regulatory requirements.
- **Lead by example** – follow sustainability procurement principles (ISO 20400) and make a positive ESG contribution by making sustainable purchasing decisions that inspire suppliers and other stakeholders to follow your example.

Why Choose TÜV SÜD?

As TÜV SÜD is vendor agnostic, our third-party assessments are both impartial and independent, which delivers your organisation valuable insights from an unbiased expert. Our global team of experts

have broad industry know-how so they can evaluate your organisation's sustainable purchasing status-quo, allowing you to concentrate on your core competencies within the business.

Add value. Inspire trust.

TÜV SÜD is a trusted partner of choice for safety, security and sustainability solutions. It specialises in testing, certification and auditing services. Since 1866, the company has remained committed to its purpose of enabling progress by protecting people, the environment and assets from technology-related risks. Today, TÜV SÜD is present in over 1,000 locations worldwide with its headquarters in Munich, Germany. Through expert teams represented by more than 25,000 employees, it adds value to customers and partners by enabling market access and managing risks. By anticipating technological developments and facilitating change, TÜV SÜD inspires trust in a physical and digital world to create a safer and more sustainable future.

Related services

TÜV SÜD provides the following related services:

- Supplier audits
- ISO 26000 - Social Responsibility
- Public training course on Sustainable Procurement and ISO 20400
- Sustainability Reporting Verification

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