



# Sustainable Public Procurement

## Introduction

**Sustainable public procurement (SPP) ensures organisations meet their need for goods, services, works and utilities in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life cycle basis. Benefiting the organisation, society and the economy, whilst significantly reducing negative impacts on the environment.**

Crown Agents partners with governments and organisations globally to achieve sustainable practices that meet economic, social, and environmental objectives, working with clients to weave sustainable principles into their procurement policies and practices. We recognise the pivotal role of the private sector to achieve success, of sustainable procurement and we work with our clients to engage and build capacity in the market. Crown Agents plays a crucial role in ensuring that our clients' sustainable objectives are addressed by sustainable solutions.

There are three pillars to sustainable public procurement: Economic, Social and Environmental Development. Some objectives may cross-cut across two or more pillars, for example purchasing sustainable energy efficient equipment from a company that promotes gender equality.

Another example could be the packaging of a product: By obtaining information from a supplier about the possibility of minimising packaging (pharmaceuticals could be packed in blister packs, in a box, then packaged in an outer box) and working with the manufacturer accordingly, the procurement of the product would not only realise environmental benefits, cut the costs of the finished product meeting both economic and environmental objectives.



## Our Projects

Working with policy makers, legislators, buying and academic institutions, we are supporting the acceleration of sustainable procurement in their practices. Under the SIDA funded **Sustainable Public Procurement Capacity Building Programme**, in collaboration with FCG Sweden, we are providing support in 9 countries. **We are supporting** the increased use of sustainable procurement practices globally and ensure their purchasing decisions reflect broader goals linked to resource efficiency, climate change, social responsibility and economic resilience.

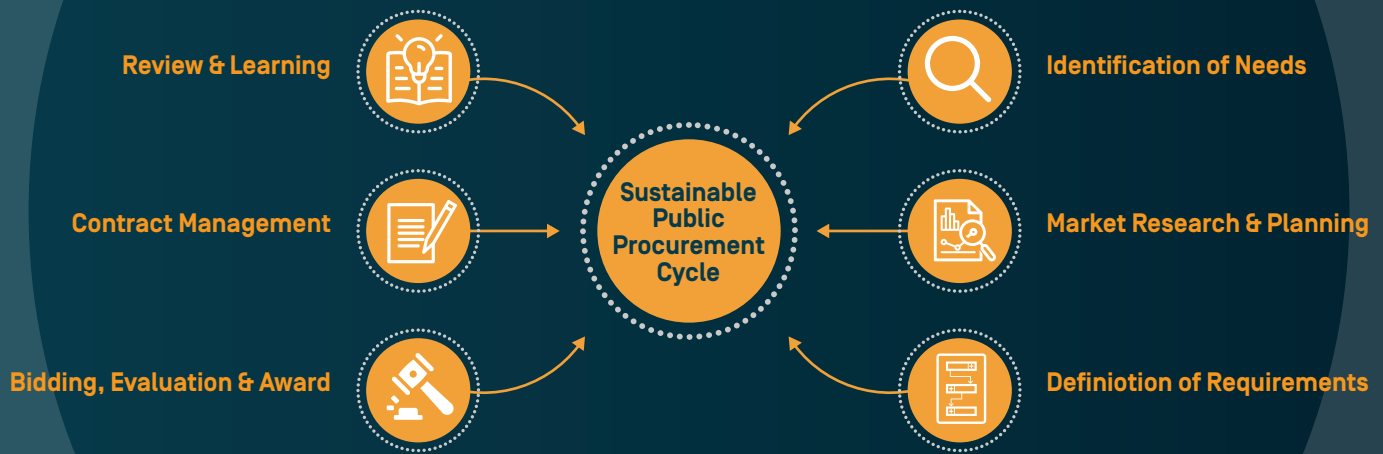
Working for the **Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States [OECS]**, we developed an emergency procurement framework to assist with disaster preparedness. By applying a **'build back better' approach** we recommended the use of materials that would provide greater resilience to withstand future disasters.

In collaboration **with Barbados Ports Inc. [BPI]**, we are working to put in place a new waste-to-energy facility with the aim to lead to a **reduction in pollution**. It is estimated to annually produce **2 MWh of electricity** depending on the amount of waste processed.



## Our Services

We recognise that more effort in planning and identification is needed at the outset of the procurement cycle and again at the end, through effective contract management, review, monitoring and evaluation to ensure that sustainability requirements are delivered. We do this by:



### Identification of Needs

We define the outcome, rather than the product. We focus on what is really needed and our clients' desired goals by undertaking an assessment of the sustainability risks, outcomes and priorities. We see this as the key at the outset of a project.

### Market Research and Planning

We understand what is available or possible on the market. This can help to design the tender to include sustainability requirements that will inform technical specifications.

### Definition of Requirements

We carefully determine which requirements are mandatory and which are optional and whether different solutions are acceptable. This decreases the risk of a failed tender. We integrate sustainable aspects in the technical criteria, consider qualification requirements and use ecolabels and voluntary standards where appropriate.

### Bidding, Evaluation and Award

We support pre-bid conferences to inform bidders on what we are looking for and where the evaluation or technical requirements are unique.

By using the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) over cost only, we support the addition of SPP within the tender process.

### Contract Management

We include sustainability requirements in contract conditions and clearly state them in the tender documents. By doing so, we ensure bidders are aware of their contractual responsibilities and can monitor and evaluate compliance throughout the execution of a contract.

### Review and Learning

We monitor and manage contracts on a continuous basis. We assess performance, share learning and review whether sustainability objectives were met. We do so by evaluating impact, and reflect on lessons learned. This way we ensure consistent improvement in future requirements.

## About Crown Agents

Crown Agents is the not-for-profit international development company that works in partnership with its clients to design and implement practical solutions to their needs. Offering a round-the-clock presence in any time zone, through delivery offices in 19 countries and subsidiary offices in the United States and Japan, we support our clients to tackle the complex challenges they face, whether that's seeking to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), improving the quality of life and opportunities for their citizens, or responding to the needs of a global pandemic.

## CONTACT US

Get in touch for more information.

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