

SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING/PROCUREMENT POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University (MAKU) is aware of the critical role of sustainable procurement and supply practices in promoting environmental protection, social responsibility, and ensuring economic efficiency. Committed to excellence and sustainability, MAKU aims to integrate sustainability principles into all aspects of its activities, including procurement. This Sustainable Purchasing/Procurement Policy serves as a guiding framework to facilitate environmentally sensitive, socially responsible, and economically feasible procurement practices university wide.

2. OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of this policy are as follows:

- a. Environmental Sustainability:** Prioritize the procurement of products and services that minimize environmental impact throughout their lifecycle, from sourcing to disposal.
- b. Social Responsibility:** Support human rights, labor rights, and fair-trade practices within the supply chain, promote ethical standards, and contribute to community welfare.
- c. Economic Efficiency:** Optimize procurement decisions considering environmental and social costs to obtain the best value for money, thereby enhancing cost-effectiveness and sustainability.
- d. Supplier Engagement and Collaboration:** Interact with suppliers to promote sustainability, innovation, and continuous improvement in sustainable procurement practices.
- e. Compliance and Reporting:** Ensure compliance with relevant laws, regulations, and internal policies concerning sustainable procurement and transparently report procurement activities related to sustainability.

3. POLICY STATEMENTS

a. Environmental Sustainability:

- MAKU prioritizes the procurement of products and services with minimal adverse environmental impacts, including low energy consumption, water efficiency, and reduced carbon footprint.
- Products made from renewable or recycled materials and with minimal packaging to reduce waste generation are preferred.

- MAKU encourages suppliers to offer products with recognized environmental certifications and labels to ensure compliance with environmental performance criteria.

b. Social Responsibility:

- MAKU is committed to supporting human rights, labor rights, and fair-trade practices in procurement activities.
- Suppliers are required to adhere to internationally recognized labor standards, including fair wages, safe working conditions, and the prohibition of child labor and forced labor.

c. Economic Efficiency:

- MAKU seeks to optimize procurement decisions considering total cost of ownership, including procurement costs, operating costs, and environmental and social costs.
- Where possible, the university maximizes value for money by consolidating purchases, negotiating bulk discounts, and exploring cost-saving opportunities through sustainable procurement practices.
- Long-term contracts with suppliers offering competitive prices and demonstrating commitment to sustainability are prioritized to ensure long-term economic sustainability.

d. Supplier Engagement and Collaboration:

- MAKU actively collaborates with suppliers to promote sustainability throughout the supply chain and encourages partnerships based on mutual respect, transparency, and accountability.
- Suppliers are encouraged to produce and develop sustainable products and solutions that meet MAKU's needs while minimizing environmental and social impacts.

e. Compliance and Reporting:

- MAKU ensures compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and ethical sourcing standards related to sustainable procurement.
- Regular audits and performance evaluations are conducted to assess supplier compliance and track progress toward sustainability goals, ensuring accountability and transparency.
- MAKU publishes annual reports on sustainable procurement activities, including achievements, challenges, and future initiatives, to communicate progress to stakeholders and solicit feedback for improvement.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

Education and Awareness:

MAKU provides comprehensive training and educational programs on sustainable procurement principles and practices to personnel involved in procurement to increase awareness. Guides, resources, and tools related to sustainable procurement will be provided to support informed decision-making and integration of sustainability criteria into procurement processes.

Integration with Procurement Processes:

Sustainable criteria are integrated into procurement policies, procedures, and specifications, ensuring the systematic application of sustainability considerations throughout the procurement lifecycle. In this regard, our university declares that it will comply with the following laws in all investment-related activities: Law No. 2886 on Public Procurement, Law No. 4734 on Public Procurement, Law No. 4735 on Public Procurement Contracts, and Law No. 5018 on Public Financial Management and Control.

Evaluation criteria for supplier selection include sustainability considerations alongside traditional factors such as quality, price, delivery, and reliability, ensuring that sustainability becomes a significant determinant in supplier selection decisions.

Continuous Improvement:

MAKU establishes mechanisms for continuous monitoring, evaluation, and improvement of sustainable procurement practices, promoting a culture of innovation and continuous learning. Feedback is actively sought and considered from all stakeholders, including staff, suppliers, and students, in the continuous improvement of the policy and implementation of sustainable procurement initiatives.

Review and Revision:

This policy will be subject to periodic review at least every two years to ensure its continued alignment, effectiveness, and compliance with the sustainability objectives and targets of MAKU. Changes and revisions may be made as necessary with the approval of appropriate authorities to reflect evolving best practices and emerging sustainability challenges.

MAKU reaffirms its commitment to sustainability, social responsibility, and economic efficiency through the adoption and implementation of this Sustainable Purchasing/Procurement Policy.