

GREEN PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING PROGRAMME OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY 2030



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Edition:

November 2021

Published by:

Department of Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment
Department of Economy and Treasury

Basque Government

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Arantxa Tapia

**Department for Economic Development,
Sustainability and Environment**

Basque Government

The Basque Government is a pioneering European administration in the implementation of Green Public Procurement and Contracting, which is a cross-cutting instrument for transforming the production and consumption sectors in competitive, innovative, and environmentally sustainable models.

The green public procurement strategy started 20 years ago when it was included in the Basque Country Sustainable Development Environmental Strategy and work with the Basque business sector to coordinate offer and demand for products and services with exemplary environmental credentials. The Basque Government's commitment was strengthened with the Agreement of the Governing Council in 2008.

In recent years, much work has been done by Basque administrations on their commitment to Green Public Procurement. These efforts have been recognised with the most prestigious award received by the Basque Country in the "2020 Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Awards" granted by US organisation the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC).

The success of the Green Public Procurement implementation strategy is the result of collaborations between the Basque Administration and the private sector, establishing environmental requirements in public contracts in up to 28 categories of

products and services. This, in turn, has stimulated our market, encouraging Basque countries to offer products and services with environmental benefits in their markets.

This document presents the third 2030 Basque Green Public Procurement and Contracting Programme. This new programme is aligned with the strategic priorities of European environmental policies and the new growth strategy: the European Green Deal. It also contributes to the priorities of the Basque environmental policies established in the *Basque Green Deal*, which are circular economy, climate change, energy transition, natural media, and biodiversity.

One core element of the new Programme is the greater role of the Basque business sector in the environmental improvement and eco-innovation strategy, encouraging production of eco-designed products and services to enhance the competitiveness of Basque companies in their markets. The principles of the circular economy, energy efficiency and nature-based solutions that have been introduced are designed to reduce consumption of natural resources and improve the environmental quality of products, while addressing climate change and improving our natural environment.

Joint public-private action leads to benefits beyond administration, with a positive impact on economic competitiveness and well-being in society.



Pedro Azpiazu

Director of Finance and Taxation
Basque Government

In recent years, public procurement has acquired a pivotal role as a rigorous and efficient management policy.

On the surface, public procurement, which accounts for 14% of GDP of the European Union, is for the sole purpose of acquiring products and services efficiently and effectively. However, European directives on public procurement in 2015 and its transposition through Law 9/2017 on Public Sector Contracts acknowledge the strategic role of public procurement and contract awarding as an instrument to support the implementation of social, environmental, innovation and promotion of SMEs.

The Basque Government has been working along this line for some time, helping the Basque public sector as a whole to create legal security by enacting, for example, Recommendation 2/2018 of 21 June of the Basque Government Public Procurement Advisory Board, which addresses environmental clauses in public procurement.

The Department of the Economy and Public Finance plays an active role in the definition of Green Public Procurement and Contract Awarding in the Basque Country, and is committed to the implementation of actions

that facilitate its extension to all Basque administrations. We draw your attention to the linking of the Kontratazio Publikoa Euskadin-Public Procurement Platform in the Basque Country with the measurement of green public procurement, which has made it possible to simplify and improve the monitoring and evaluation of the achievements.

In the same vein, it is worth highlighting the contribution of public procurement to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The United Nations 2030 Agenda includes a specific target for sustainable public procurement: SDG 12.7. *“Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities”*. In 2020, the Basque Government participated in the first calculation exercise of the indicator associated with this objective and will continue to be an active participant in European and international activities to promote sustainable public procurement.

In this 2030 Basque Green Public Procurement Programme, we tackle the challenges of positioning green procurement in a solid legal framework and improving monitoring visualisation systems of the impacts and benefits of green procurement in the Basque Country.



01. THE STRATEGIC ROLE OF PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACT AWARDING

More than 20 years ago, nations around the world realised that unsustainable¹ production and consumptions patterns were among the main reasons for environmental damage and social injustice¹.

Aware of the role of governments in consumption (14% of the European Union's GDP)² and their considerable influence in the market and on public opinion, in 2002 the countries committed to "*Promoting public contract awarding policies that encourage the creation and dissemination of goods and services that do not harm the environment*"³ to help uncouple economic growth from environmental damage and accelerate the transition toward sustainable production and consumption patterns.

To support this process, that same year the OCDE adopted its members' recommendations to improve the environmental aspects of public procurement⁴ and, likewise, in 2003, the European Commission, in its Communication on Integrated Product Policy, "...encourages

Member States to develop and make publicly available action plans for greening their public procurement."⁵

These commitments have **gradually extended the use of public procurement** beyond its primary function — the procurement of goods and services to perform the functions of public authorities in a timely, economic, and efficient manner — **to a strategic function** as an instrument for achieving complementary policy objectives such as the fight against climate change, efficiency in the use of natural resources, the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, eco-innovation, among others.

The European Union has championed this process with 1) progressive introduction of public procurement as an instrument for achieving the Union's development objectives in a multitude of Communications and Directives; 2) the development of resources and tools for implementation; and especially with 3) the reform of the procurement legal

¹ [Agenda 21 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development](#), 1992.

² [European Semester Thematic Factsheet: Public Procurement](#), European Commission, 2017.

³ [Johannesburg Plan of Implementation](#), 2002.

⁴ [Recommendation of the Council on Improving the Environmental Performance of Public Procurement](#), OECD/LEGAL/0311. OECD, 2002.

⁵ [Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament-Integrated Product Policy-Building on Environmental Life-Cycle Thinking.](#) COM (2003) 302 final. European Commission, 2003.

framework itself “in order to increase the efficiency of public spending, in particular by facilitating the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in public procurement, and to enable procurers to make better use of public procurement in support of common social objectives”⁶.

However, despite these advances, current public procurement and contract awarding is still not taking full advantage of the strategic role as expected. Because of this, in the most recent international commitment to sustainable development, the **2030 Agenda** of the General Assembly of the United Nations⁷, a specific Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) has been set for sustainable public purchases. **SDG 12.7**. “Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities”. And the European Union, in its new growth strategy, **The European Green Deal**⁸, also requires exemplary use of public procurement to help steer the economy of the Union towards a more sustainable path.

Procurement is a cross-cutting instrument that, due to its importance and by taking into account environmental, social, and economic aspects throughout the life cycle of products, works and services, **contributes directly and indirectly to economic transformation and the achievement of several SDGs**.

Public entities are not the only bodies with significant purchasing and market power. The business sector also has tremendous potential to transform the economy both directly and through the value chain. This is recognised in the European Green Deal whose purpose is to steer industry towards a clean, circular economy. It seeks to reduce the environmental impacts of economic activity and to speed up the development of sustainable technologies, products, and services to keep the European Union’s economic fabric competitive and sustainable. Responsible supply processes are indispensable in this transformation.

All this requires coordination to maximise the impact of strategic public and private procurement.

IMAGE 1.
Potential contribution of sustainable procurement to the SDG⁹.



⁶ Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement and repealing Directive 2004/18/EC.

⁷ Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development . General Assembly the United Nations 2015.

⁸ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions “The European Green Pact” COM (2019) 640 final, European Commission, 2019.

⁹ Ecoinstitut, from the online seminar *Sustainable Development Goals and Public Procurement* [slides], 13/12/2016, 10YFP SPP Programme.

02.

THE TRAJECTORY AND FUTURE OF GREEN PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY



The Basque Country has always been a European territories at **the forefront of the transition towards sustainable economic and social development**, with the region embracing both international and European Union commitments. One example is the **early recognition of the importance of procurement as an instrument for transforming production and consumption patterns** in competitive, innovative, and environmentally sustainable models.

Aware of the purchasing power of the public sector and the importance of exemplary action, the commitment to integrate environmental criteria in public procurement has gradually been included at all levels of strategic planning in the Basque Country:

FROM 2002 TO 2007, LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

One of the goals of the Basque Environmental Strategy for Sustainable Development (2002-2020) was **“to promote a public procurement policy that introduces ecological criteria”**.¹⁰

To this end, Ihobe, the Basque Government’s public environmental management company, started **developing resources and establishing exchange groups** to streamline the introduction of the environmental perspective in public procurement by Basque administrations, as well as working with the business sector **to improve the environmental quality of the products and services offered**.

This **early coordination between supply and demand** —especially in the development of

¹⁰ [Basque Environmental Strategy for Sustainable Development 2002–2020 – Environmental Framework Programme 2002-2006](#). Basque Government, 2002.

environmental criteria for public procurement and contracting— is a differentiating element of the strategy deployed in the Basque Country, a pioneer in Europe.

FROM 2008 TO 2014, THE BASQUE GOVERNMENT'S STRENGTHENS ITS COMMITMENT

The inclusion of green public procurement and contracting as a **line of action in the successive Basque Environmental Framework Programmes** strengthens and ratifies the strategic role of public procurement in achieving the Basque Country's sustainability objectives. This materialised in the approval **of the 2008 Governing Council Agreement** on the inclusion of social, environmental, and other public policy criteria in Regional Government and public sector procurement; and the subsequent approval of the first **Green Public Procurement Programme 2011-2014**, which succeeded in making "green procurement" a part of the political discourse and setting clear objectives for greening Basque Government procurement.

Local and regional authorities were not far behind and were also introducing sustainability criteria in their tenders through their Agendas 21 and environmental management systems.

During this period, green purchasing criteria were still defined in coordination with the market, **giving more training on the subject. A personalised support service** was also established for public bodies.

The Basque private sector —mainly through the Basque Ecodesign Centre— also mobilised to increase the environmental traction of the entire business value chain, going beyond mere compliance with environmental regulations to promote environmental improvements in the green management of companies, their corporate purchases and services, business practices.

GREEN PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING WAS STRENGTHENED THROUGHOUT THE BASQUE PUBLIC SECTOR IN THE 2015-2020 PERIOD

This final period saw a **qualitative leap in the strategic** use of public procurement and contracting.

On the one hand, the European Public Procurement Directives of 2014¹¹ — and their transposition into national legislation in Law 9/2017 on Public Sector Contracts — created a legislative framework that encouraged the strategic use of public procurement. Indeed, the preamble to Law 9/2017 states that:

"The legal public procurement system set out in this Law [...] seeks to ensure that public procurement is used as an instrument to implement European and national policies on social, environmental, innovation and development, promotion of SMEs, and competition law. All these issues constitute the real objectives of Law [...]"

On the other, in the same way as in the EU, political commitment to green public procurement and contracting is strengthened by including it as an **instrument to support the vast majority of the Basque Country's** sustainable development policies and strategies, and by establishing regulations that make the green procurement of certain products, works and services compulsory.

And in 2016, the second **Basque Country Green Public Procurement Programme 2020** was approved, extending its scope from the General Administration of the Basque Country **throughout the Basque Country's public sector**, setting a green procurement target of 50% (in number of tenders and their economic volume) for 20 categories of priority products, works and services.

¹¹ [Directive 2014/23/EU](#), [Directive 2014/24/EU](#) y [Directiva 2014/25/EU](#).

This resulted in the formation of a group of public entities committed to using procurement to achieve their sustainability objectives by formally signing up to the Programme. A total of 38 entities of all levels, types and sizes had done so by the end of 2020 which has led to the faster use of environmental criteria in Basque tenders procedures.

The actions carried out by the **Department of Economy and Finance** have also been particularly effective for promoting green procurement in recent years. As well as drafting Recommendation 2/2018, of 21 June, of the Basque Government’s Public Procurement Advisory Board on environmental clauses in public procurement, the collaboration helped connection with the Kontratazio Publikoa Euskadin-Public Procurement Platform in the Basque Country and green public procurement measurement, thus streamlining the monitoring and evaluation progress.

However, despite the actions implemented, the percentage of greening achieved in 2020 for the categories prioritised is 37% and 35%¹² in terms of number and economic volume, respectively, and the goal has not been achieved.

IN THIS NEXT STAGE UNTIL 2030, THE AIM IS TO INCREASE POLICY COHERENCE AND STRENGTHEN THE SYSTEMATIC IMPLEMENTATION OF GREEN PURCHASING AND PROCUREMENT

Considering the trajectory to date, the current political and economic context, and the challenges to overcome to achieve a dynamic, efficient, resilient, and sustainable society and economy, the work carried out in this next stage will focus on:

- ensuring coherence with Basque economic and environmental policy,
- boosting the systematic implementation of green procurement in Basque public entities, and
- mobilising the Basque business sector to use procurement to offer sustainable solutions and combine enhanced environmental performance with enhanced competitiveness.

In terms of policy coherence, procurement will be geared towards **contributing to the three priority areas** of Basque environmental policy for the next decade, while steering the economic development of the Basque Country:

CIRCULAR ECONOMY	Selecting resource-efficient material solutions with long useful lives, composed of secondary and recycled materials, and ensuring selective collection and recycling of those materials.
CLIMATE CHANGE	Promoting self-sufficiency, energy saving and efficiency, the use of alternative and renewable energies and the application of adaptation measures to achieve resilient environments and mitigate our impact on the climate.
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND BIODIVERSITY	Promoting organic farming, sustainable fisheries, efficient use of water resources, green infrastructure, and nature-based solutions.

¹² Green public procurement in the Basque Country. Activity Report for Financial Year 2020. Basque Government, 2021

GREEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROGRAMME OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY 2020

LEVEL OF GREEN PROCUREMENT IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY IN THE 2020 PERIOD

According to data obtained by the Basque Contract Registry¹³, the level of green public procurement achieved in the Basque Country at the end of the Green Public Procurement Programme of the Basque Country 2020 was as follows:

	Tender procedures with environmental criteria	Level of green procurement	Target set for the Programme
Number of tenders	443	37 %	50 %
Financial amount (EUR)	163,817,885	35 %	50 %

These percentages encompass the **20 priority categories** established in the Green Public Procurement Programme of the Basque Country 2020, categories for which the programme itself set quantitative targets.

READINESS OF THE BASQUE BUSINESS SECTOR FOR GREEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

The analysis of the impact of green public procurement on Basque companies in 2020 shows that 70% **of all contracts** were awarded in tenders with environmental criteria, showing that Basque companies are ready to respond to tenders with environmental criteria.

	Companies awarded contracts in the Basque Country	Percentage of Basque companies
No. of environmental criteria	825	70 %
Volume of economic tenders with environmental criteria	326,735,094	62 %

The impact of the health situation should be considered when interpreting data from this year.

Annex 1 contains a summary of the results of the Basque Green Public Procurement Programme 2020.

¹³ Data obtained from the Basque Contract Registry available from Plataforma Kontratazio Publikoa Euskadin-Public Contracting in the Basque Country (<http://www.contratacion.euskadi.eus>). Period from 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020 and included in the Green public procurement and contracting in the Basque Country report. Activity report. 2020 Ihobe, 2021.

These three priorities of Basque environmental policy are established in the following specific

strategies, plans and regulations.

MAIN BASQUE STRATEGIES, PLANS AND REGULATIONS TO SUPPORT THROUGH PROCUREMENT:

Strategies and programmes

- Environmental Framework Programme 2030 of the Basque Country (in preparation).
- Strategic Plan for the Energy Transition and Climate Change (in preparation).
- Strategic Circular Economy and Bioeconomy Plan 2030 (in preparation).
- Biodiversity Strategy of the Basque Autonomous Community 2030.
- Basque Energy Strategy 2030.
- Urban Strategy for the Basque Country 2050.

Plans

- Basque Waste Prevention and Management Plan 2030
- Basque Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan 2030

Laws

- Basque Environmental Administration law (in the pipeline).
- Law 4/2019 on Energy Sustainability of the Basque Community.
- Law on Conservation of the Natural Heritage of the Basque Country (in the pipeline).
- Law for the Energy Transition and Climate Change (in the pipeline).

With regard to green public procurement, efforts will focus on ensuring that **all Basque public entities use their procurement intelligently** to ensure efficient use of public resources that will maximise the environmental benefits per euro invested.

Finally, this programme will also mobilise the **business sector** to offer environmentally sustainable solutions to improve their environmental performance and competitiveness through environmental improvement strategies, eco-design, and responsible sourcing.

Just over 70% of the Basque companies surveyed say that an active approach to eco-innovation issues will become increasingly important to lead markets and 59% consider that eco-innovation and offering greener products and services helps or is crucial to have influence in the markets they serve¹⁴.

This joint public-private initiative will make it possible to have a more significant impact on the Basque Country's sustainable development objectives to benefit our economy, environment, and society.

¹⁴ [Business opportunities offered by eco-design to companies in the Basque Country](#). Basque Government, 2017

DRAWING UP THE PROGRAMME

The drafting of this Programme has been promoted by the Basque Government’s Department of Economic Development, Sustainability and the Environment and the Department of Economy and Finance. The aim is to give continuity to work that started more than a decade ago in this area, however, it will also represent a qualitative leap, covering not only the public but also the private sector in the Basque Country.

The development process has benefited from the **invaluable involvement and participation** of different departments and public companies of the Basque Government, provincial councils and local entities which are active in green procurement, as well as Basque companies.

They have all **shared their points of view and realities** which have been combined with technical groundwork to shape the Programme to define the strategic vision to 2030 and the specific actions for the first Action Plan to 2025 together.

OUTLINE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BASQUE GREEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROGRAMME 2030

STATE OF THE ART AND CHALLENGES	STRATEGIC VISION	LINES OF ACTION	ACTIONS AND MONITORING
<p>What progress are we seeing at the European and international level?</p> <p>Where are we now, and what challenges do we need to overcome to advance?</p>	<p>What are the Basque Country’s ambitions in this transition?</p> <p>What kind of strategic vision are we proposing for 2030?</p>	<p>What actions must be launched to achieve the objectives and overcome the challenges identified?</p>	<p>What are the specific actions to implement?</p> <p>How do we measure progress and the results obtained?</p>
<p>Identifying the most promising international initiatives, assessment of the work done to date and identifying new challenges to address.</p>	<p>Definition of the Vision, Principles and Objectives to achieve in the medium and long term.</p>	<p>Definition of the lines of action for overcoming the challenges identified and achieving the goals defined.</p>	<p>Development of Action Plans that specify the deployment of the lines of action and definition of the Programme’s monitoring system..</p>

TIMELINE OF THE PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6
May-June 2020	June-July 2020	July 2020 March 2021	March-June 2021	June-September 2021	November 2021
State-of-the-Art (strategic elements)	1 st participatory phase. Preliminary consultation with the main agents of the Basque Administration	Drawing up the programme	2 nd participatory phase. Socialisation to the rest of the actors involved	Drafting the final programme and other documents for processing	Final approval and processing
State of the art (actions)					

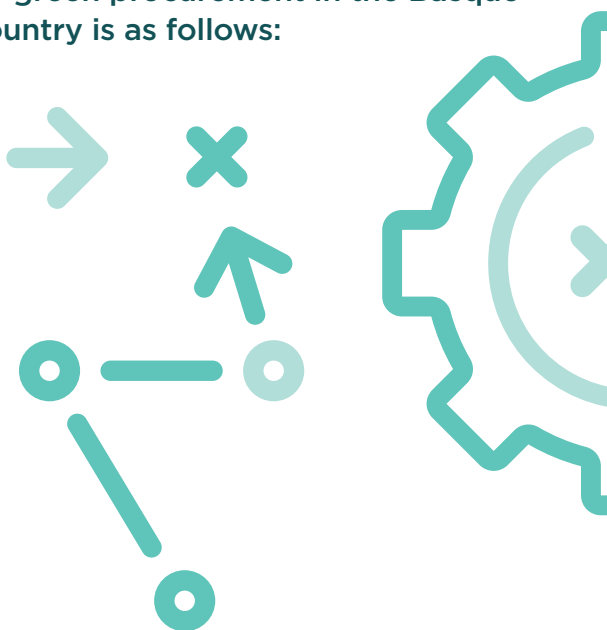
Annex II sets out the process of drafting the Basque Country Green Public Procurement

Programme 2030 in more detail.

03. STRATEGIC VISION

The Basque Country Green Public Procurement Programme 2030 is a component part of the Basque Country's commitment to progress towards economic, social, and environmental sustainability in the region.

Considering the road travelled and the current context, the strategic vision for green procurement in the Basque Country is as follows:



3.1. VISION

To make excellent use the purchasing power of the Basque public and private sector in coordination with the market for a sustainable social and economic development, while prioritising protection of the environment, business competitiveness and the welfare of the people in the Basque Country.

To achieve the international and European sustainable development goals included in this programme, and to achieve an efficient and resilient economic recovery, production and consumption patterns must change more quickly.

Supplies purchased by public and private entities as consumers have an enormous influence on the market due to their significant economic weight. That's why the Programme sets out transform the procurement practices

of Basque organisations so that they can be used strategically and, through optimal public-private collaboration, contribute to the transition towards competitive and sustainable development that protects the environment and generates benefits for Basque society and the Basque business fabric.

3.2. PRINCIPLES

The principles guiding the deployment of the programme are:

- **Coherence.** Procurement aligns with the environmental policy priorities established in Europe and the Basque Country to support and contribute to the achievement of their goals.
- **Transparency.** Both the technical work to promote green procurement and the results achieved are managed in a public and transparent manner for all parties.
- **Joint responsibility.** Organisations commit and take responsibility for integrating environmental sustainability into their programmes, operations, and procurement procedures to achieve the established objectives.
- **Cooperation.** The programme is built on shared and coordinated work by all parties to ensure optimal exchange of knowledge and information in order to move forward together and achieve greater benefits.
- **Efficiency and innovation.** To make efficient use of resources, the actions are designed to achieve maximum effectiveness and

practicality. They also support the deployment of innovation both in the market solutions themselves and in the way of proceeding.

- **Awareness raising and professionalisation.** The programme aims to ensure that all parties involved, from management to service promoters, know the importance of green procurement and have the knowledge to use procurement strategically.

3.3. CHALLENGES

To achieve the vision, the programme must overcome a number of challenges with an integrative perspective with the intention of reinforcing its strategic role. These challenges-identified with different entities in the consultation meetings are:

- Anchoring green procurement in a solid legal framework and ensuring support for the Basque Country's priority environmental and economic policies and objectives.
- Consolidating green public procurement throughout the Basque public sector, making it a structural and innovative element in organisations.
- Implementing green procurement in the Basque private sector due to its potential to drive the market through its value chains.
- Develop the green market with a high-quality, competitive, and ready Basque offer, paying special attention to SMEs.
- Improve systems for monitoring and visualising impacts and benefits of green procurement in the Basque Country.

3.4. OBJECTIVES

Based on the strategic vision established, the challenges identified and the current situation of green public procurement in the Basque

Country, **four medium and long-term objectives** have been established:

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	OBJECTIVE 2025	OBJECTIVE 2030
Number of public entities signed up to the Programme	75	150
Number of private entities signed up to the Programme (purchasing entities)	20	50
Sustainable Development Goal: indicator 12.7.1 (on 4.6 on environmental procurement) ¹⁵	4,0	4,2
Percentage of Green Public Procurement in the categories prioritised in the Programme (and in overall procurement) ¹⁶	55 % (40 %)	75 % (60 %)

Achieving the targets set, is expected to lead to the following results:

EXPECTED RESULTS		
Percentage reduction in carbon emissions associated with the purchase and use of green products, works and services ¹⁷	16 %	26 %
Percentage of electricity supply from renewable sources in the participating public entities	70 %	100 %
Percentage of recyclable or reusable packaging included in a relevant way in the tenders of member public entities	50 %	100 %
Percentage of waste (Tn) from construction sites destined for revaluation	80 %	95 %

¹⁵ Calculated according to the methodology defined by the United Nations Environment Programme (<https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/resource/spp-index-methodology-sdg-indicator-1271>). The maximum score that can be obtained in this indicator is 5, being 4.6 if only the environmental variable is incorporated in public procurement.

¹⁶ The percentage stated refers to the level of green public procurement, both in number and financial amount, with respect to the categories prioritised in this same programme. The percentage stated in brackets refers to the same aspect, but with respect to all public procurement. Measurement of green public procurement in terms of both number of tenders and economic importance is in line with the measurement of the level of green public procurement established by the European Union.

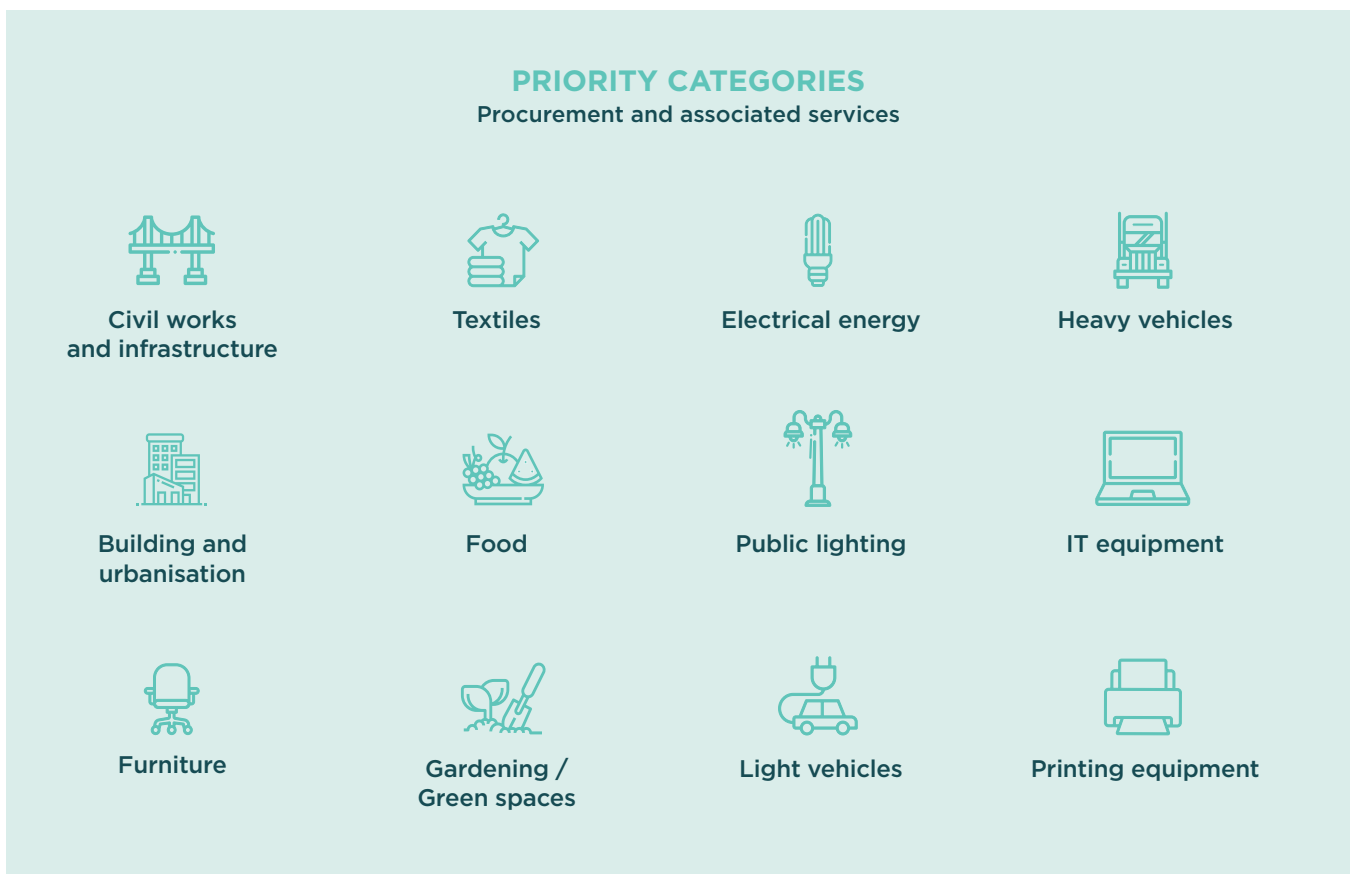
¹⁷ Percentage of reduction established in coherence with the Basque Country Circular Economy Strategy 2030.

The product, work and service categories prioritised in this programme are listed in the table below. They have been selected considering different criteria.

- On the one hand, they are categories which, due to their **major impact**, have been identified as relevant in the **Basque Country's main environmental policies** (promoting the circular economy, combating, and adapting to climate change and caring for the natural environment and biodiversity).
- On the other, because of the **specific commitments** in these policies that the Basque Country Green Procurement Programme 2030 should support.

- Lastly, as these are categories that where **the entire public sector carries out procurement**, the joint action envisaged in this programme can have a positive impact in terms of market traction, particularly in certain sectors.

As well as the specific environmental performance targets, the actions deployed will be aligned to contribute to the environmental and green procurement targets defined in other current and future Basque sector policies and regulations. Annex 3 lists the main objectives currently in place.

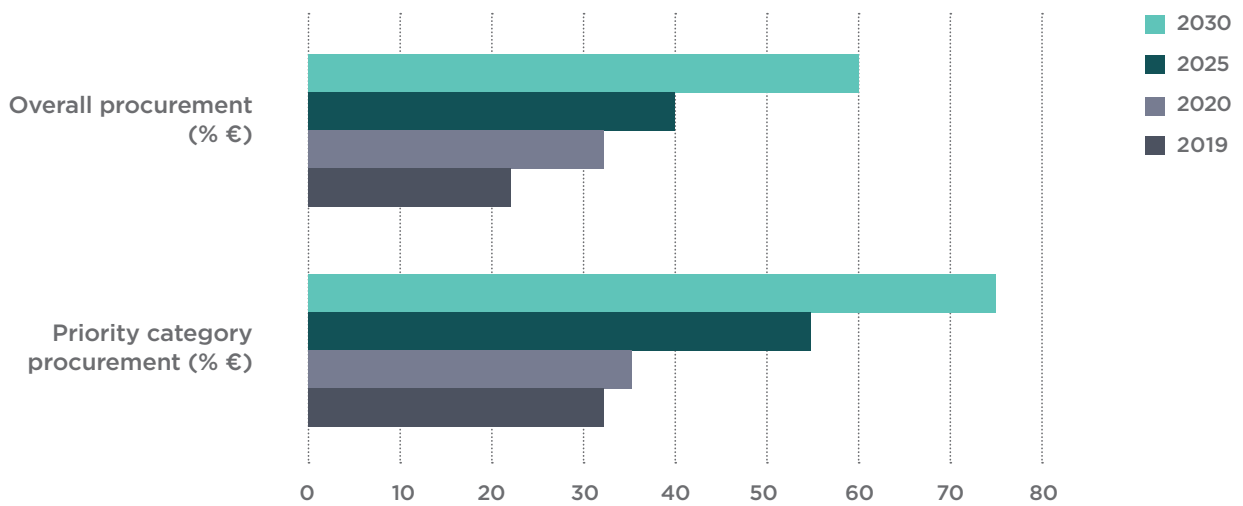


Achieving the objectives set out in this programme will enable progressive and realistic progress in green public procurement and will be a turning point.

In 2020, Basque companies were awarded 70% of all tenders with environmental criteria, which meant 1,853 associated jobs.

It is estimated that by 2030, once the ratio of 60% of tenders with environmental criteria have been reached with respect to total purchases, both in terms of number of tenders and economic value, 3,987 jobs will have been associated with green public procurement in the Basque Country.

GREEN PROCUREMENT PERCENTAGES FORECAST (€)





04. DEPLOYMENT OF THE PROGRAMME: AREAS AND LINES OF ACTION

Based on the strategic vision, and considering the challenges identified in the Basque Country, **five fields of action** have been designed with **ten lines of action** to structure and articulate the Basque Country Green Procurement Programme 2030.

Two five-year Action Plans (2021-2025 and 2026-2030) will be defined for each of these lines through which the programme will be deployed in the medium to long term. This document sets out the 2025 Action Plan and, when this is complete, the second of the 2030 Action Plans (2026-2030) will be drawn up.

VISION 2030



5 AREAS OF ACTION 2030

1. Consolidating green procurement as an essential tool for the deployment of Basque policies.
2. Secure greater commitment from the public and private sector.
3. Convert green purchasing and procurement into a structural and innovative element in organisations.
4. Foster the formation of a suitable market, of high quality and prepared.
5. Give visibility to the advances, achievements, and benefits of green procurement.



10 LINES OF ACTION 2030



21 ACTIONS in the ACTION PLAN 2025

Area 1

Consolidate green procurement and contracting as an essential tool for the deployment of green policies in the Basque Country

The Basque administration must make efficient use of public funds, offering quality services that, at the same time, promote economic activity, sustainable development, and quality of life in the Basque Country. Public procurement is an essential tool to use this money efficiently, sustainably, and strategically¹⁸, as many public services require the purchase of goods and hiring external services for their execution.

To this end, it is essential to recognise the role it plays in achieving the objectives of sustainable development and sustainable economic recovery in the Basque Country in both laws and policies. This recognition must be given at all levels of the public sector – from the Basque Government to the regional and local authorities – in order to ensure alignment and guarantee the desired results. This also facilitates the subsequent deployment of green procurement measures internally that reach all promoting and procurement bodies.

In the Basque Country, in line with European initiatives, this political support is already underway and an increasing number of economic and environmental strategies that include public procurement and contracting as an operational instrument to achieve the sustainability objectives. This is further supported by Law 9/2017 of 8 November on Public Sector Contracts, which transposes into Spanish law the European Parliament and Council Directives 2014/23/EU and 2014/24/EU of 26 February 2014, which advocates the strategic use of public procurement to achieve sustainable development objectives, and by specific regulations, such as Law 4/2019 on Energy Sustainability of the Basque Autonomous Community, which requires the green procurement of certain groups of products and services.

To achieve the desired impact, green procurement must continue to be introduced into relevant strategies, plans, programmes, and legislation at all levels of the Basque public sector. This guarantees that the derived actions are structured, coordinated, and support the achievement of the priority environmental objectives of the Basque Country in 2030: the transition to a competitive and circular economy, the mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and the protection of ecosystems.

LINES OF ACTION_SCOPE 1.

- L1. **Strengthen the role of green procurement** as an operational tool in the political and legal framework of the entire Basque public sector.
 - L2. **Ensure that green purchasing is aligned with environmental and economic priorities in the Basque Country.**
-

¹⁸ [Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on Making public procurement work in Europe and for Europe COM \(2017\) 572 final.](#) European Commission, 2017.

Area 2

Make progress in the commitment of the public and private sector

To achieve sustainable production and consumption patterns that will add value to the public sector, the private sector, and society in general, it is essential that the consumption of entities — expressed through their purchasing and contracting decisions— is mobilised towards environmentally sustainable and eco-innovative solutions that contribute to Basque economic competitiveness. This is especially relevant in certain sectors where, due to their weight, they can exert an important driving power.

To date, the main environmentally sustainable purchasing and contracting policies have focused on the public sector. However, if the desired impact is to be achieved, it is necessary to establish a shared and coordinated strategy together with Basque companies.

According to data from 2020, the level of green procurement of entities voluntarily signing up to the previous Basque Country Green Public Procurement Programme 2020 was 36% and 34%, higher than the rest of the public sector¹⁹. Having a clear mandate facilitates the internal deployment of green procurement, reaching the different promoting and procurement bodies. Hence, the Programme will work to achieve the formal commitment of the rest of the public and private sector entities.

In the public sector, mobilisation actions will be aimed at both Basque Government departments and the rest of the public sector, establishing meeting points for entities with similar needs. Therefore, the aim is to move forward from the different realities in the most practical way possible. In the case of large organisations, such as the Basque Government, the Provincial Councils, and large municipalities, if they act together, they will be able to send a clear, single message to suppliers. And in the case of smaller local entities, even if they have less purchasing power, it can mean sharing and optimising available resources and can have a significant effect on their communities.

In the business sector, the Programme will define a specific strategy to mobilise Basque companies, regardless of their size. This Programme will be based on previous work by the Basque Ecodesign Centre and the pilot projects for green private procurement developed between 2020 and 2021.

LINES OF ACTION_SCOPE 2.

L3. Achieve the participation of the entire Basque public sector.

L4. Raise awareness and mobilise Basque companies.

¹⁹ Green Public Procurement in the Basque Country Activity Report: 2020. Basque Government, 2021

Area 3

Convert green purchasing and procurement into a structural and innovative element in organisations

As stated in the European Commission’s public procurement strategy, one of the priorities for improving procurement in the European Union is to increase the strategic use of public procurement. This requires not only a firm commitment at political and management level, but also the right skills to drive change and ensure the introduction of strategic criteria in a systematic way²⁰.

Law 9/2017 on Public Sector Contracts itself promotes this practice, establishing in Article 1 that: *“In all public procurement, social and environmental criteria shall be incorporated in a cross-cutting and mandatory manner whenever they are related to the purpose of the contract, in the conviction that their inclusion provides better value for money in the contractual service, as well as greater and better efficiency in the use of public funds.”*

Recommendation 2/2018, of 21 June, of the Basque Government’s Public Procurement Advisory Board, which deals with environmental clauses in public procurement, was also a step forward but requires actions that are more binding in this respect.

Despite the progress made, there is still some way to go, as the systematic implementation of environmentally responsible sourcing is still a challenge.

To turn green procurement into a structural element of management and innovation in organisations, it is necessary, on the one hand, to change attitudes towards the role of procurement in organisations so that it allows for greater innovation and environmental benefits. Procurement must be proactive, not reactive, and must address problems from an overall perspective by focusing on needs and how to meet them in the most efficient way. On the other hand, it requires professionalisation and capacity building of all staff involved, not only procurement officers but also management teams, technical staff, secretariats, etc. Furthermore, it is also necessary to deploy procedures and structures that allow for systematic implementation at all stages of the procurement process — from planning to monitoring and control — integrating it into procurement and environmental improvement systems and procedures.

LINES OF ACTION_SCOPE 3.

L5. Provide resources for a systematic and strategic implementation.

L6. Professionalise procurement in all staff involved

²⁰ Comunicación de la Comisión al Parlamento Europeo, al Consejo, al Comité Económico y Social Europeo y al Comité de las Regiones «Conseguir que la contratación pública funcione en Europa y para Europa» COM (2017) 572 final. Comisión Europea, 2017.

Area 4

Have a suitable, high-quality, ready market

Basque companies are aware of the added value of integrating environmental sustainability into their management and business strategies, not only to ensure compliance with all environmental regulations but also for their competitiveness and market position. In fact, Basque companies consider that, in the future, being active in eco-innovation and having a range of greener products and services will be even more important than at present in order to lead the markets and be competitive²¹.

To contribute to sustainable growth, boost the competitiveness of Basque companies in the Autonomous Region and abroad and ensure that the green offer satisfies the demand, actions to coordinate supply and demand are needed.

The Basque Country has been a pioneering region in this area, having initially set itself the goal **“that companies that bid for the Basque Administrations are able to meet these requirements and obtain a competitive advantage from this**, growing towards a position of environmental leadership and the development of new markets for products and services”²².

This work has borne fruit, since Basque companies were awarded 70% of the tenders with environmental criteria published in the Basque Country in 2020²³.

Despite this, there is still more work to be done with businesses —especially SMEs— to ensure that they meet requirements set by the administration, giving them ways to show their compliance. In addition, the increasing level of environmental excellence and the need to find more innovative and sustainable ways to meet the needs of entities means that efforts in this area —especially in priority sectors— must be maintained. This requires finding moments of dialogue to communicate needs, align priorities and share solutions —including new business models— that strengthen the competencies of companies contracting with the public and private sector.

LINES OF ACTION_SCOPE 4.

L7. Encourage dialogue and collaboration with the market to find more innovative, sustainable, and competitive solutions.

L8. Train suppliers, particularly SME, to meet the procurers' environmental demands.

²¹ *Business opportunities offered by eco-design to companies in the Basque Country*. Basque Government, 2017.

²² Basque Country Green Public Procurement Programme 2011-2014. Basque Government, 2011.

²³ Green Public Procurement in the Basque Country Activity Report: 2020. Basque Government, 2021.

Area 5

Give visibility to the advances, achievements, and benefits of green procurement

As progress is made in extending the usefulness of procurement beyond its primary function – that of acquiring goods and services in a timely and efficient manner – to the achievement of secondary strategic objectives – of green growth, competitiveness, etc. – it becomes necessary to measure and communicate the progress, achievements and benefits obtained.

This will show society that public money is being used efficiently for the welfare and sustainability of the Basque Country.

Measurement is also essential in the private sector to justify investment in this area of business management, not only in terms of environmental benefits but also in terms of efficiency, competitiveness, and reputation.

Measuring progress shows the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 12.7. “Promote sustainable public procurement practices in line with national policies and priorities” and its indicator 12.7.1 “Number of countries implementing sustainable public procurement”, defined in 2020²⁴.

The estimation of benefits makes it possible to visualise the contribution of purchasing and contracting to the achievement of the strategic objectives set in each entity and for the Basque Country, in addition to responding to the OECD recommendation on public procurement to “Employ an appropriate impact assessment methodology to quantify the effectiveness of the public procurement system in achieving secondary policy objectives”²⁵.

In addition to showing general progress, it is also important to show and share the specific actions implemented by the entities, as the difficulties, successes and lessons learned by each one help and inspire other public and private entities, both in the Basque Country and at European and international level.

In the Basque Country, progress has been made in both aspects, but there is still room for further progress, both in measuring the actual implementation of green procurement and contracting and, above all, in quantifying the benefits that this generates in the Basque economy and in the environmental priorities of the Basque Country.

Because of this, the Programme will work to improve the methodologies for measuring implementation and estimating the benefits of environmentally sustainable procurement and to disseminate and communicate exemplary actions both inside and outside the Basque Country.

LINES OF ACTION_SCOPE 5.

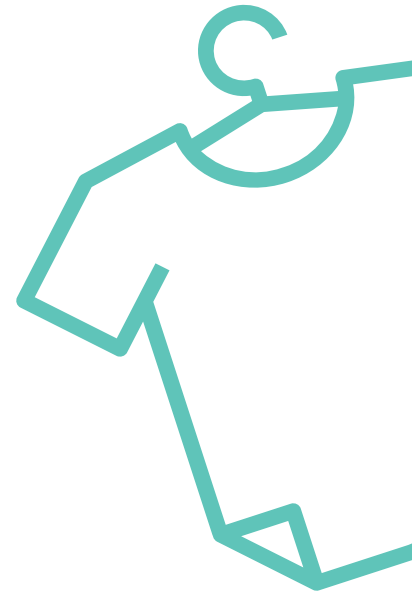
L9. Measure implementation and estimate the benefits of environmentally sustainable procurement.

L10 Communicate and promote Basque progress and achievements internally, in Europe and internationally.

²⁴ [SPP Index methodology: SDG Indicator 12.7.1](#). United Nations Environment Programme, 2020

²⁵ [Recommendation of the Council on Public Procurement OECD/LEGAL/0411](#). OCDE, 2015.

05. ACTION PLAN 2025



The vision and lines of action detailed in this Programme define the priority areas for achieving the objectives set for 2030.

To achieve them, medium –to long– term actions are required to move in this direction and that can be updated according to the results obtained and the contextual changes that may occur in terms of regulations, technological advances, changes in the market, new risks, or environmental priorities, etc.

That is why the Programme is deployed through two five-year Action Plans that include the actions to be carried out in **the medium to long term** in order to achieve the objectives of the Basque Country Green Procurement and Contracting Programme 2030.

The following is a list of the actions that make up the **2025 Action Plan** and Annex 4 contains the agents and indicators associated with each action.

The Programme is deployed through two five - year Action Plans that include the actions to be carried out in the medium to long term in order to achieve the objectives of the Basque Country Green Procurement and Contracting Programme 2030.

Area 1

Consolidate green procurement and contracting as an essential tool for the deployment of green policies in the Basque Country

LINE OF ACTION 1:

STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF GREEN PROCUREMENT AS AN OPERATIONAL TOOL IN THE POLITICAL AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF THE ENTIRE BASQUE PUBLIC SECTOR

1. Draw up an Instruction for the incorporation of environmental clauses in contracts with the Administration of the Autonomous Region and its public sector.
2. Include green purchasing in major new regulations and policies in the Basque Region.

LINE OF ACTION 2:

ENSURE THAT GREEN PURCHASING IS ALIGNED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC PRIORITIES IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY

3. Review green purchasing criteria and update them every three years to align them with Basque priorities.
 4. Ensure that green purchasing resources strengthen the priorities of sustainable development in the Basque Country.
-

Area 2

Make progress in the commitment of the public and private sector

LINE OF ACTION 3:

ACHIEVE THE PARTICIPATION OF THE ENTIRE BASQUE PUBLIC SECTOR

5. Create work groups according to the profile of the administrations, to speed up the incorporation of environmental criteria in tender processes using the main Udalsarea2030 network.
6. Create a work group to ensure the incorporation of secondary material in works, according to the uses and qualities defined in the 2030 Basque Waste Prevention and Management Plan.

LINE OF ACTION 4:

RAISE AWARENESS AND MOBILISE BASQUE COMPANIES

7. Define a specific strategy/programme for green purchasing and procurement in the Basque business sector, encouraging the inclusion of environmental criteria in purchases made by Basque companies.
-

Area 3

Convert green purchasing and procurement into a structural and innovative element in organisations

LINE OF ACTION 5:

PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR A SYSTEMATIC AND STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION

8. Strengthen the personalised support or advice service for greening of tender processes.
9. Create and/or adapt tools and technical resources for green purchasing and procurement.
10. Launch pilot initiatives in weak green purchasing areas that focus on priority areas, such as, for example, life cycle costs and purchases of innovation.

LINE OF ACTION 6:

PROFESSIONALISE PROCUREMENT IN ALL STAFF INVOLVED

11. Establish a stable line of training in green public procurement for the Basque public sector through the IVAP, among others.
 12. Develop materials for onboarding manuals for recruits involved in the strategic role and obligation to consider environmental criteria in their actions.
-

Area 4

Have a suitable, high-quality, ready market

LINE OF ACTION 7:

ENCOURAGE DIALOGUE AND COLLABORATION WITH THE MARKET TO FIND MORE INNOVATIVE, SUSTAINABLE AND COMPETITIVE SOLUTIONS

13. Establish channels of dialogue between procuring entities (public and private) and supplier entities, focusing on priority product groups and areas to present needs, publicise existing solutions and maximise results, including through preliminary market consultations and partnerships for innovation.
14. Ensure participation by suppliers in the development of new tools and resources.

LINE OF ACTION 8:

TRAIN SUPPLIERS, PARTICULARLY SME, TO MEET THE PROCURERS' ENVIRONMENTAL DEMANDS

15. Integrating green procurement in the SME Circular programme.
 16. Hold training sessions for suppliers on how to include environmental variable in their goods and services and bid preparation.
-

Area 5

**Give visibility to the advances, achievements
and benefits of green procurement**

LINE OF ACTION 9:

**MEASURE IMPLEMENTATION AND ESTIMATE THE BENEFITS OF ENVIRONMENTALLY
SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT**

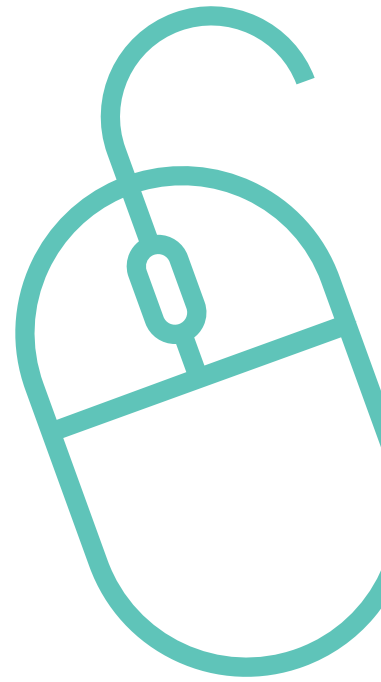
17. Define the system for measuring the benefits/results to be able to identify the advantages of green public procurement.
18. Integrate aspects that make it possible to calculate the environmental benefits into the available green procurement criteria.

LINE OF ACTION 10:

**COMMUNICATE AND PROMOTE BASQUE PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS INTERNALLY,
IN EUROPE AND INTERNATIONALLY**

19. Disseminate good practices and examples of green purchasing specifications among the Basque public sector through biannual newsletters and news on the subject.
 20. Achieve more participation in the United Nations' "Programme on Sustainable Public Procurement" Programmes and Iclei "Procura+" in the Basque Country.
 21. Celebrate an annual forum on public procurement to acknowledge and share experiences and accelerate the incorporation of environmental criteria in procurement.
-

06. MANAGEMENT MODEL



6.1. GOVERNANCE

The Basque Country 2030 Green Procurement and Contracting Programme is managed, in the first instance, by the Basque Government's Department of Economic Development, Sustainability and the Environment and the Department of Economy and Finance.

However, the entire Basque public sector carries out these functions. In order to ensure the active participation and involvement of all the

agents involved and the effective achievement of the Programme's objectives, the following transversal and participative governance model has been established:

TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

The main functions of the Programme's secretariat are to mobilise Programme governance groups (defined below) and supervise the implementation of the specific actions defined by the Inter-institutional Monitoring Committee.

TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT	Mobilise governance groups and supervision of the practical implementation of the Programme.
INTER-INSTITUTIONAL MONITORING COMMITTEE	Deployment and monitoring of the degree of implementation of the Programme and identification of improvement measures to achieve the established objectives.
GROUPS OF ENTITIES IN ACTION	Strategic use of procurement and contracting and systematic implementation.

This secretariat reports to the Department of Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment, through the public environmental management company Ihobe.

INTER-INSTITUTIONAL MONITORING COMMITTEE

The Inter-institutional Monitoring Committee is responsible for: defining the Action Plans and the annual work programmes for their deployment, monitoring the degree of implementation of the Programme and the progress achieved, and defining improvement measures to ensure that the established objectives are achieved.

This Commission will be chaired by the Department of Economic Development, Sustainability, and the Environment and by the Department of Economy and Finance —through the Directorate of Assets and Contracting— and will include all levels of Basque administration, Basque Government departments, provincial councils, and town councils, as commitments to the Programme materialise.

The Commission will meet at least once a year in order to carry out its functions effectively and may include the participation of other entities that may be relevant to the deployment of the Programme.

GROUPS OF ENTITIES IN ACTION

These groups of entities in action are made up of all those entities that are committed to the Basque Country Green Procurement and Contracting Programme 2030 and to the objectives defined therein.

These working groups are to be the space for sharing and exchanging experiences, building solutions, and supporting the Inter-institutional Monitoring Committee in defining priorities and activities to be deployed.

The commitment to the Programme will be articulated by means of formal adherence, through which the entities undertake to:

- Establish green procurement and green contracting objectives.
- Define an annual green procurement plan to achieve these objectives.
- Report on the results achieved.
- Participate in work and exchange sessions.

This adherence will be formalised by signing the adhesion document included in Annex 5 of this Programme.

Due to the different realities of the entities, these groups will be formed by 1. Basque Government Departments and 2. the rest of the Basque public sector adhered to the Programme. The



exchange between member entities will take place through working groups that will meet periodically, at least once a year.

The intention of these groups is to make the most of the synergies between all the participating agents and involve a greater number of managers, thus generating greater participation and dynamism in the entities.

6.2. DEPLOYMENT

As mentioned above, the Basque Country Green Procurement and Contracting Programme 2030 is deployed through **two five-year Action Plans that include** the actions to be carried out in the medium to long term in order to achieve the Programme's objectives.

The first Action Plan covers the period from the approval of the Programme until 2025. Upon its completion, the degree of implementation and achievement of the established objectives will be assessed and, on that basis, the next Action Plan will be designed for the 2026-2030 period. This will make it possible to update the actions and adapt them to contextual changes within the time horizon of the Programme and to the results obtained in the framework of a continuous improvement process.

6.3. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The budgetary needs of the Basque Country Green Procurement and Contracting Programme 2030 are in line with the current economic context without jeopardising the achievement of the planned objectives, as well as allowing the continuity of the actions that have been carried out and which must continue to be implemented.

The budgetary resources required for the development of the planned actions are based on the 2021 budget framework associated with the Vice-Ministry of Environmental Sustainability of the Department of Economic Development, Sustainability, and the Environment. The items earmarked for personnel and structural costs are not expressly included in the draft budget, which is limited to the operating budget. Based on the expert criteria of the technical staff of the Basque Government —Vice-Ministry of Environmental Sustainability and Ihobe— the budget broken down into areas and lines of action would be as follows:

The amount allocated for the first year of this Programme is barely 0.56% of the expenditure allocated in 2021 under the heading of "Environmental Protection", including solely operational expenditure.

For the first Action Plan 2021-2025, a budgetary requirement of 57% of the total is foreseen, evenly distributed between all the years of the first action plan, except in 2021, where a greater effort is required in order to give continuity to the actions already being carried out under the previous Programme and to give a decisive boost to the start-up of this new and more ambitious green purchasing programme.

For the second action plan of the Programme, which will start in 2026, a reduction in budgetary needs is foreseen, accounting for 43.4% of the total budget. In any case, the entire estimated budget is included in the annual general budgets of the Public Environmental Management Company Ihobe, which belongs to the Basque Government's Department of Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment.

The planned budgetary effort should be understood as a long-term investment, which will allow for a reduction in the budgetary burden as the green purchasing and contracting instrument continues to become established.

BUDGET PER AREA OF ACTION

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	TOTAL	%
Green procurement for policy deployment	L1: Strengthen the essential role of green public procurement										19,900	1.26 %
	6,000	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,500	1,400	1,300	1,200	1,500		
	L2: Ensure alignment with development priorities in the Basque Country										143,750	9.04 %
	10,000	12,250	17,500	17,500	17,500	15,000	14,000	13,000	12,000	15,000		
Secure the commitment of Basque and private sector	L3: Secure the participation of the entire Basque public sector										80,950	5.09 %
	20,000	17,500	8,750	8,750	5,250	4,500	4,200	3,900	3,600	4,500		
	L4: Raise awareness and mobilise adherence by Basque companies										238,500	15 %
	30,000	26,250	26,250	26,250	26,250	22,500	21,000	19,500	18,000	22,500		
Convert green procurement into a structural, innovative element	L5: Contribute resources for systematic and strategic implementation										232,300	14.6 %
	30,000	26,250	26,250	26,250	26,250	19,500	25,200	20,800	16,800	15,000		
	L6: Professionalise procurement in all staff involved										154,950	9.75 %
	14,000	12,250	26,250	26,250	21,000	12,000	11,200	10,400	9,600	12,000		
Have an adequate, high quality, well-prepared market	L7: Foster dialogue and cooperation with the market										159,000	10 %
	20,000	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,500	15,000	14,000	13,000	12,000	15,000		
	L8: Prepare suppliers										254,250	16 %
	20,000	17,500	26,250	26,250	26,250	30,000	28,000	26,000	24,000	30,000		
Give visibility to progress, achievements and the benefits of green procurement	L9: Measure implementation and estimate the benefits										191,000	12 %
	30,000	26,250	17,500	17,500	26,250	15,000	14,000	13,000	12,000	19,500		
	L10: Communicate and promote the progress and achievements made in the Basque Country										115,400	7.26 %
	20,000	17,500	7,000	7,000	7,000	15,000	7,000	9,100	10,800	15,000		
TOTAL	200,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	150,000	140,000	130,000	120,000	150,000	1,590,000	
%	12.58 %	11.01 %	11.01 %	11.01 %	11.01 %	9.43 %	8.80 %	8.18 %	7.54 %	9.43 %		

6.4. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

In order to assess the degree of progress of the Programme and the achievement of its objectives, and to be able to propose corrective measures if necessary, it is essential to establish a regular monitoring system for the Programme. To this end, the following monitoring and evaluation actions are established:

- **Annual monitoring report:** this will be drafted the beginning of each year and will include the degree of progress of the actions foreseen in the five—year Action Plan, the progress in achieving the key strategic objectives and recommendations for the work plan for the year.
- **Action Plan evaluation report:** this report will be drafted last year of the 2025 Action Plan and, together with the annual monitoring

reports, will form the basis for the next Action Plan. This report will be drawn up an external body in accordance with the criteria of transparency, participation and partnership and shall include the evolution of the scorecard indicators.

To ensure transparency, a report summarising the progress of the main indicators of the Programme will be published every year. The report will be available for consultation through the Irekia website (<https://www.irekia.euskadi.eus>), the Kontratazio Publikoa Euskadin-Public Procurement Platform in the Basque Country (<http://www.contratacion.euskadi.eus>) and the website of Ihobe, a public company attached to the Basque Government's Department of Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment: <https://www.ihobe.eus>.

The objectives and indicators for measuring the degree of compliance with the Basque Country Green Procurement Programme 2030 are set out below.

INTEGRAL SCORECARD

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	OBJECTIVE 2025	OBJECTIVE 2030
Number of public entities signed up to the Programme	75	150
Number of private entities signed up to the Programme (purchasing entities)	20	50
Sustainable Development Objective Indicator 12.7.1 (on 4.6 on environmental procurement) ²⁶	4,0	4,2
Percentage of Green Public Procurement in the categories prioritised in the Programme (and in overall procurement) ²⁷	(55 %)	(75 %)

²⁶ Calculated according to the methodology defined by the United Nations Environment Programme (<https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/resource/spp-index-methodology-sdg-indicator-1271>). The maximum score that can be obtained in this indicator is 5, being 4.6 if only the environmental variable is incorporated in public procurement.

²⁷ The percentage established makes reference to the level of green public procurement, both in number and price, respecting the categories prioritised in this programme and the percentage established in brackets refers to the same aspect, but with respect to public procurement overall. Measurement of green public procurement in terms of both number of tenders and economic importance is in line with the measurement of the level of green public procurement established by the European Union.

EXPECTED RESULTS	OBJECTIVE 2025	OBJECTIVE 2030
Percentage reduction in carbon emissions associated with the purchase and use of green products, works and services ²⁸	16 %	26 %
Percentage of electricity supplied from renewable sources in member public entities.	70 %	100 %
Percentage of recyclable and reusable packaging included in a significant way in tender processes in adhered public entities.	50 %	100 %
Percentage of waste (Tn) from construction sites destined for revaluation.	80 %	95 %

IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	PURPOSE
Level of execution of the actions of the Action Plans	100 %
Number of mobilisation/stimulation actions	3/year
Number of training actions/resources	4/year
Number of visualisation actions	4/year

MANAGEMENT INDICATORS	PURPOSE
Action Plan monitoring reports produced	Annual
Publication of results and progress summaries	Annual
Action Plan evaluation reports produced	2025, 2030

²⁸ Percentage of reduction established in coherence with the Basque Country Circular Economy Strategy 2030.



ANNEXES





ANNEX 1. SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS OF THE GREEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROGRAMME OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY 2020

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE BASQUE GOVERNMENT'S 2020 PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

Data obtained from the Basque Contract Registry available from Kontratazio Publikoa Euskadin-Public Platform in Basque (<http://www.contratacion.euskadi.eus>) for the 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020 period:

The **levels of green purchasing** for the categories prioritised in the Programme were:

- **37 %** in number of tender processes
- **35 %** in economic volume showing **progress in green procurement with respect to the previous year**, despite the exceptional circumstances in 2020.

	TENDER PROCEDURES WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA	LEVEL OF GREEN PROCUREMENT	TARGET SET FOR THE PROGRAMME
Number of tenders	443	37 %	50 %
Financial amount (EUR)	163,817,885	35 %	50 %

The Basque Country programme for 2020 sets the objective of achieving 50% of green procurement in 20 priority groups of products, works and services. According to data from the Basque Contract Registry and classifying the tender processes according to the contract purposes, it can be observed that:

The results vary considerably between groups. While the objective of 50% has been achieved

for some groups or is close, in others there is still a long way to go. This will vary from year to year according to the specific contracts and the entities that they engage in different years.

However, progress has been observed with respect to the previous year, when the green procurement level of 20 groups stood at 30% in number of tenders and 32% in economic volume.

PRODUCT GROUP PRIORITISED IN THE BASQUE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME 2020	% OF GREEN PROCUREMENT (IN N°)	% OF GREEN PROCUREMENT (IN EURO)
Paper (and office supplies)	60 %	56 %
Building cleaning	45 %	54 %
Bus transport	38 %	1 %
Gardening	48 %	83 %
Vehicles	46 %	60 %
Food	47 %	48 %
Furniture	53 %	30 %
Publications and printing	14 %	15 %
Events	11 %	4 %
Works (includes building, development, civil works, and others)	32 %	32 %
Work clothing	91 %	88 %
Printing equipment	40 %	46 %
Road cleaning and/or waste collection	43 %	46 %
Electricity	32 %	42 %
Travel	38 %	83 %
Computers	25 %	27 %
Couriers	21 %	5 %
Other textiles	0 %	0 %
TOTAL	37 %	35 %

OVERALL LEVEL OF GREENING

According to data extracted from the Basque Contract Registry for 2020:

The overall green procurement level was:

- **26 %** in number of tender processes
- **32 %** in economic volume

showing progress in green procurement with respect to the previous year, despite the exceptional circumstances in 2020.

	TOTAL TENDER PROCESSES	WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA	LEVEL OF GREEN PROCUREMENT (%)
Number of tenders	4,481	1,172	26
Financial amount (EUR)	1,638,479,616.1	526,117,789.5	32

LEVEL OF GREENING BY TYPE OF PUBLIC BODY

If we analyse the data by type of public body, in 2020 we see that the bodies with the highest overall percentage of greening are local and regional authorities and those classified as “Other”, with greening of around one third (in terms of number of tenders).

On the other hand, if we analyse the degree of greening of the entities adhering to the Basque 2020 Programme compared to the rest of the public sector, we can see that adhering entities continue to have higher levels of greening than the rest of the public sector. This is a sign of the commitment and dynamism of the adhering entities in the inclusion of environmental considerations in their procurement and that this adhesion also motivates and supports the introduction of environmental criteria in their tenders.

TYPE OF PUBLIC ENTITY	% OF GREEN PROCUREMENT (IN N°)	% OF GREEN PROCUREMENT (IN EURO)
Regional entities and their public sector	30 %	49 %
Others	32 %	43 %
Local entities and their public sector	33 %	36 %
Basque Government and its public sector	17 %	23 %

In 2020, **adhering entities** still tend to have a **higher level of greening than the rest** of the public sector.

Therefore, the new Basque Country Green Procurement Programme 2030 currently under development focuses on encouraging more entities to join the new programme and on working with the Basque Government to make progress with the implementation of green procurement in the autonomous region.

TYPE OF PUBLIC ENTITY	% OF GREEN PROCUREMENT (IN N°)	% OF GREEN PROCUREMENT (IN EURO)
Adhering entities	36 %	34 %
Rest of the public sector	24 %	32 %

ORIGIN OF THE COMPANIES WINNING CONTRACTS

Finally, the origin of the companies awarded tenders in 2020 has been analysed to ascertain the extent to which public procurement has an impact on companies in the Basque Country and how environmental clauses do or do not affect this process.

In 2020, it can be seen that companies located in one of the three historical territories of the Basque Country (Araba, Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa) have been awarded more than half of the tenders; results that increase for tenders with environmental criteria.

Basque companies are ready to deal with tenders with environmental criteria, as they are the successful bidders in 70% of the green tenders, and in the remaining:

70% of environmental tenders, which represent **62%** of the economic volume of green tenders.

These results are similar to those of the previous year, except in economic volume of tenders with environmental criteria awarded to Basque companies. So, in number of tender processes, Basque companies are at a level of around 70% of general contracts awarded and tenders with environmental criteria. While in economic terms, tenders with environmental criteria won by Basque companies represent 62% compared with 80% the previous year, which is still well above half of the contracts.

ORIGIN OF THE COMPANIES AWARDED TENDERS	FROM THE THE BASQUE COUNTRY	OTHER LOCATIONS	PERCENTAGE OF BASQUE COMPANIES
Total no. tender processes	3,005	1,476	67 %
Economic volume of all the tender processes	910,074,232.4	728,405,383.8	56 %
No. of environmental criteria	825	347	70 %
Volume of economic tenders with environmental criteria	326,735,093.96	199,382,695.57	62 %

ANNEX 2. DRAWING UP OF THE PROGRAMME



The drafting of this Programme has been promoted by the Basque Government's Department of Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment, through its public environmental management company Ihobe, to continue with the work that started more than a decade ago in this area, while taking a further qualitative leap by including not only the public sector but also the Basque business sector.

The development process has benefited from the **invaluable involvement and participation** of different departments and public companies

of Government, provincial councils and local entities which are active in green procurement, as well as different Basque companies.

All of them have contributed **different points of view and realities** which, combined with technical groundwork, have allowed the Programme to take shape and jointly define the strategic vision to 2030 and the specific actions for the first Action Plan to 2025.

The elements considered and actions carried out to draft the Basque Country Green Procurement Programme 2030 are as follows:

STATE OF THE ART AND CHALLENGES	STRATEGIC VISION	LINES OF ACTION	ACTIONS AND MONITORING
<p>What progress do we find at the European and international level? Where are we now, and what challenges do we need to overcome to advance?</p>	<p>What is the Basque Country's ambition in this transition? What kind of strategic vision are we proposing for 2030?</p>	<p>What actions must be put in motion to achieve the objectives and overcome the challenges identified?</p>	<p>What are the specific actions to implement? How do we measure progress and the results obtained?</p>
<p>Identifying the most interesting international initiatives, assessment of the work done to date and identifying new challenges to address.</p>	<p>Definition of the Vision, Principles and Objectives to achieve in the medium and long term.</p>	<p>Definition of the lines of action for overcoming the challenges identified and achieving the goals defined.</p>	<p>Development of the Action Plans that specify the deployment of the lines of action and definition of the Programme's monitoring system.</p>

STATE-OF-THE-ART

The contents and focus of the sustainable procurement plans and strategies have evolved during the last 15 years as the subject has progressed and matured.

To identify trends in the initiatives and policies of other entities and governments at European and international level, and to take into account the changes in the approaches proposed, as a result of the lessons learned, an analysis of the state of the art of the most interesting and innovative experiences has been performed. It analyses the strategic elements (priorities, scopes, governance models, participation of the different parties...); as well as the new actions and approaches that are being implemented (highlighting their pros and cons and the actors involved).

The analysis included the study of:

- International agreements, initiatives, and instruments (UN Agenda 2030, One Planet Sustainable Procurement Programme, Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council, Procura+ Network, ISO 20400, etc.).
- State, regional, and local government plans in the European Union (Netherlands, Denmark, Finland, Austria, Slovenia, Spain, Flanders, RESCO, Oslo, Vienna, Barcelona).

In addition, interviews have been conducted with experts from relevant initiatives and countries to obtain up to date information and to identify modifications, lessons, and success factors of their initiatives.

ORIENTATION AND CHALLENGE

In this phase, all the knowledge and learning generated in the course of environmentally sustainable procurement in the Basque Country —particularly from the Green Public Procurement Programme 2020— has been used to define the strategic rules and challenges to be faced.

This is achieved by:

- Analysing the Basque Country's environmental policies and strategies (Agenda Euskadi 2030, Environmental Framework Programme 2020, Circular Economy Strategy 2030, KLIMA 2050 Strategy, Biodiversity Strategy 2030, etc.).
- Reviewing the annual reports and minutes of meetings of the steering group and the group of entities adhered to the Public Procurement Programme of the Basque Country 2020.
- Consultation with small group of key people from the Basque Government, Ihobe and the member entities to jointly define the fundamentals of the new Programme, particularly the strategic vision and challenges, based on their expert knowledge.

VISION AND ACTION

A proposal is defined for the Programme's strategic vision (vision, principles, and objectives) based on the results of the previous steps, together with the lines of action and specific medium —to long— term actions to be deployed to overcome the challenges identified.

CONSULTATION AND IMPROVEMENT

The content of the draft programme is presented to the main agents involved to ensure that different points of view, knowledge, situations, and experience are included. This consultation involves:

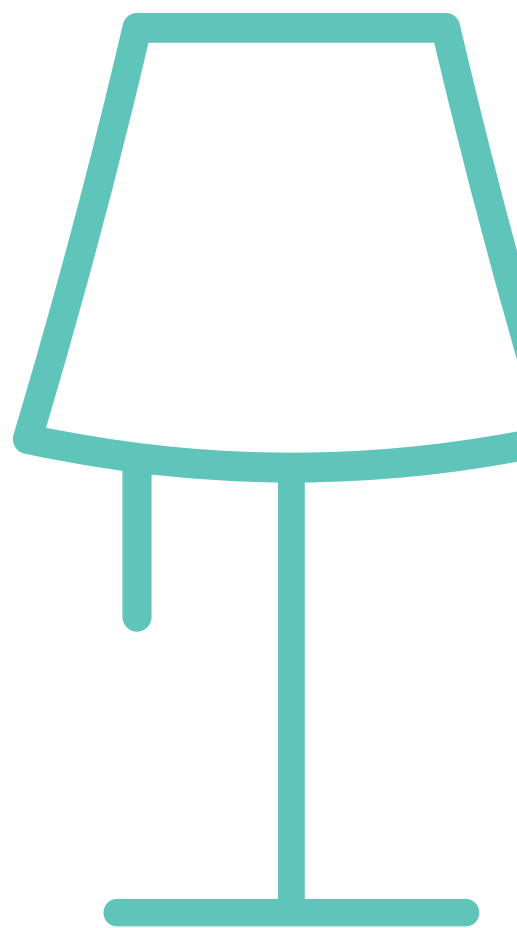
- Representatives of different Basque Government departments
- Entities adhered to the previous programme
- Rest of the Basque public sector
- Ihobe’s technical teams and their external assistance in green procurement
- Business sector
- Community (Irekia Platform)

COMPARATIVE ACTIONS PERFORMED	RESULTS
Interviews with experts	7 interviews 7 experts interviewed
Consultation sessions with stakeholders	7 meetings organised 334 participating individuals 218 participating entities
Participation open to other stakeholders-Irekia	0 contributions made 0 participating individuals

TIMELINE OF THE PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6
May-June 2020	June-July 2020	July 2020 March 2021	March-June 2021	June-September 2021	November 2021
State-of-the-Art (strategic elements)	1st participatory phase. Preliminary consultation with the main agents of the Basque Administration	Drawing up the programme	2nd participatory phase. Socialisation to the rest of the actors involved	Drafting the final programme and other documents for processing	Final approval and processing
State-of-the-art (actions)					

ANNEX 3.
ENVIRONMENTAL
AND GREEN
PROCUREMENT
OBJECTIVES
ESTABLISHED IN
OTHER POLICIES
AND BASQUE SECTOR
REGULATIONS
TO WHICH THIS
PROGRAMME
WILL CONTRIBUTE



ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES TO 2030 TO WHICH GREEN PROCUREMENT SHOULD CONTRIBUTE

Circular economy strategy 2030

- Increase material productivity by 30%.
- Increase the circular material use rate by 30%.
- Reduce the waste generation rate by 30%.
- Reduce generation of food waste by one half.
- Require that 100% of plastic containers are recyclable.
- Reduce carbon emissions associated with consumption by 26%.

2050 KLIMA Strategy

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40%.
- Achieve a 20% share of renewable energy in final energy consumption.
- Ensure the resilience of the Basque territory to climate change.

2030 Energy Strategy

- Achieve a 17% saving in primary energy.
- Achieve a 20% share of renewable energy in final energy consumption.
- Reduce final oil use by 26%.
- Contribute to mitigating climate change.

2030 Biodiversity Strategy

- Increase the area allocated to agri-environment, forest-environment, and sustainable forest management measures.
-

MAIN OBJECTIVES OF GREEN PROCUREMENT ESTABLISHED IN OTHER PLANS AND LAWS

2050 KLIMA Strategy

- Ensure that 100% of the Basque Government’s purchase of electricity is from renewable energy sources.
- Drive energy efficiency and renewable energies to improve the energy rating of Basque Government.
- Work towards 40% of vehicles in the Basque Country using alternative energy sources.
- Encourage measures to mitigate climate change in the local area.

2030 Energy Strategy

- Promote an exemplary commitment by the Basque public administration to reduce energy consumption in its facilities by 25% in ten years, by implementing renewable energy installations in 25% of its buildings and incorporating alternative vehicles in its vehicle fleet and public service fleets.

Energy sustainability law

- Reduce public sector energy consumption in the Basque Country by 35%.
- Supply 32% of consumption through renewable energy installations installed in its buildings.
- Require that 40% of buildings with an energy rating lower than B achieve this rating or higher.
- One hundred per cent of vehicles must use alternative fuels.

Waste prevention and management plan of the Basque Country 2030

- Prevention: by 2030, reduce total waste generated per unit of GDP by 30% compared to 2016, and absolute waste generation by 15%. (Strategic objective)
- Selective waste collection: by 2030, 85% of waste will be separated at origin. (Strategic objective)
- Valuation: By 2030, to achieve 85% of waste reconverted into secondary resources, while limiting energy recovery to less than 15%. (Strategic objective)
- Reduce disposal: reduce waste management through disposal operations to less than 15% of waste generated by 2030. (Strategic objective)
- Encourage 100% of compost from the selective collection of bio-waste in the Basque Region be consumed by Basque administrations. (Specific objective)
- Promote voluntary CE marking of secondary materials and products from secondary materials, with the aim of facilitating their entry into the market, so that 75% of secondary aggregates originating in the Basque Region have CE marking. (Specific objective)

Environmental management law

- Use of 40% of by products, secondary raw materials, recycled materials, and materials from processes of preparation for re-use in works and supply contracts, unless for justified technical reasons this percentage has to be reduced.

ANNEX 4.
ACTIONS,
INDICATORS,
AND RESPONSIBLE
AGENTS
ASSOCIATED
WITH THE 2025
ACTION PLAN



SCOPE OF APPLICATION	LINE OF ACTION	ACTION	ASSOCIATED INDICATORS	MAIN STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBLE	
Area 1: Consolidate green procurement and contracting as an essential tool for the deployment of green policies in the Basque Country	L1: Strengthen the role of green procurement as an operational tool in the political and legal framework of the entire Basque public sector	1	Draw up an Instruction for the incorporation of environmental clauses in contracts with the Administration of the Autonomous Region and its public sector	Achieved/ Not achieved	Department of the Economy and Public Finance - Directorate for Assets and Procurement
		2	Include green purchasing in major new regulations and policies in the Basque Region.	Nº of actions carried out	
	L2: Ensure that green purchasing is aligned with environmental and economic priorities in the Basque Country	3	Review green purchasing criteria and update them every three years, to align them with Basque priorities	Nº of categories developed or updated (contribution to the training actions/resources indicator)	Department for Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment - Ithobe
		4	Ensure that green purchasing resources strengthen the priorities of sustainable development in the Basque Country	Nº of actions carried out	
Area 2: Make progress in the commitment of the public and private sector	L3: Achieve the participation of the entire Basque public sector	5	Create work groups according to the profile of the administrations, to speed up the incorporation of environmental criteria in tender processes using the main Udalsarea2030 network.	Nº of groups created/ Nº. of participating organisations (contribution to the mobilisation-stimulation indicator)	Department for Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment - Ithobe
		6	Create a work group to ensure the incorporation of secondary material in works, according to the uses and qualities defined in the 2030 Basque Waste Prevention and Management Plan.	Achieved/ Not achieved Nº of groups created/ No. of participating organisations (contribution to the mobilisation-stimulation indicator)	
	L4: Raise awareness and mobilise the adhesion of Basque companies	7	Define a specific strategy/ programme for green purchasing and procurement in the Basque business sector, encouraging the inclusion of environmental criteria in purchases made by Basque companies.	Achieved/ Not achieved Nº of companies involved	Department for Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment - Ithobe
Area 3: Convert green purchasing and procurement into a structural and innovative element in organisations	L5: Provide resources for a systematic and strategic implementation	8	Strengthen the personalised support or advice service for greening tender processes	Achieved/Not achieved (contribution to the training actions/resources indicator)	Department for Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment - Ithobe
		9	Create and/or adapt tools and technical resources for green purchasing and procurement.	Nº of tools and resources worked on (contribution to the training actions/resources indicator)	
		10	Launch pilot initiatives in green purchasing areas with insufficient development and focused on priority areas, such as, for example, life cycle costs and purchases of innovation.	Nº of actions carried out (contribution to the mobilisation-stimulation indicator)	

[.../...]

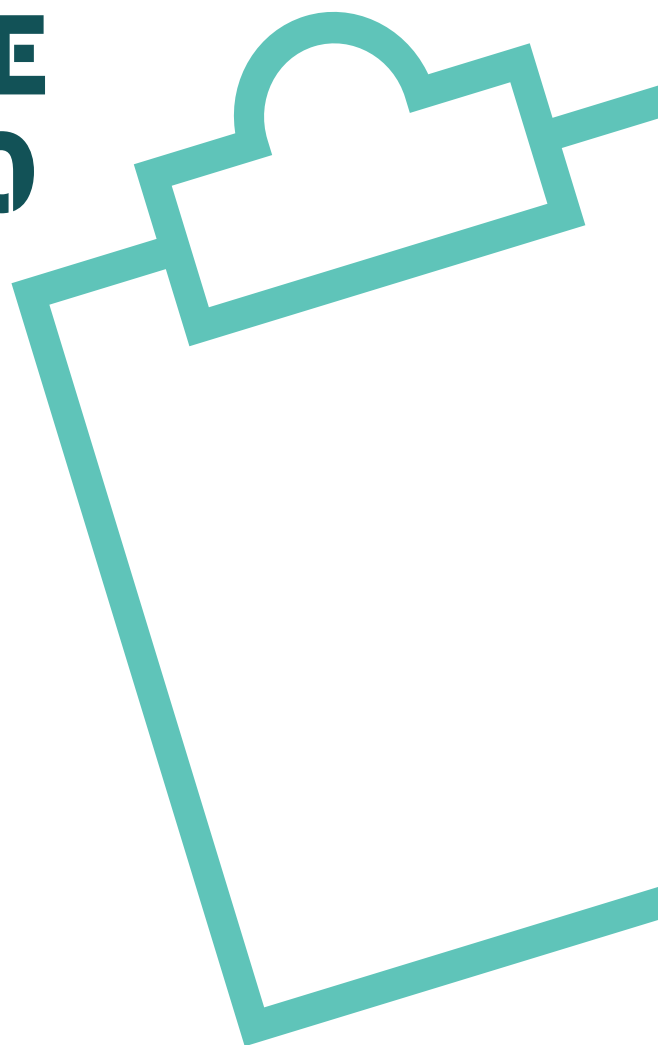
SCOPE OF APPLICATION	LINE OF ACTION	ACTION	ASSOCIATED INDICATORS	MAIN STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBLE
<p>Area 3: Convert green purchasing and procurement into a structural and innovative element in organisations</p>	<p>L6: Professionalise procurement in all staff involved</p>	<p>11 Establish a stable line of training in green public procurement for the Basque public sector, inter alia, through the IVAP.</p>	<p>Achieved/Not achieved Nº of workshops/ seminars held (contribution to the training actions/ resources indicator)</p>	<p>Department of the Economy and Public Finance- Directorate for Assets and Procurement</p>
		<p>12 Develop materials for onboarding manuals for recruits involved in the strategic role and obligation to consider environmental criteria in their actions.</p>	<p>Nº of actions carried out (contribution to the training actions/ resources indicator)</p>	
<p>Area 4: Have a suitable, high-quality, ready market</p>	<p>L7: Encourage dialogue and collaboration with the market to find more innovative, sustainable and competitive solutions.</p>	<p>13 Establish channels of dialogue between procuring entities (public and private) and supplier entities, focusing on priority product groups and areas to present needs, publicise existing solutions and maximise results, including through preliminary market consultations and partnerships for innovation.</p>	<p>Nº of actions carried out (contribution to the mobilisation-stimulation indicator) Nº of participating entities</p>	<p>Department for Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment - Ithobe</p>
		<p>14 Ensure participation by suppliers in the development of new tools and resources</p>	<p>Nº of actions carried out (contribution to the mobilisation-stimulation indicator) Nº of participating entities</p>	
	<p>L8: Train suppliers, particularly SME, to meet the procurers' environmental demands</p>	<p>15 Integrating green procurement in the SME Circular programme</p>	<p>Nº of actions carried out (contribution to the mobilisation-stimulation indicator)</p>	<p>Department for Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment - Ithobe</p>
		<p>16 Hold training sessions for suppliers on the inclusion of the environmental variable in their goods and services and bid preparation</p>	<p>Nº of sessions out (contribution to the training actions/resources indicator) Nº of participating entities</p>	

[.../...]

[.../...]

SCOPE OF APPLICATION	LINE OF ACTION	ACTION	ASSOCIATED INDICATORS	MAIN STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBLE
<p>Area 5: Give visibility to the advances, achievements, and benefits of green procurement</p>	<p>L9: Measure implementation and estimate the benefits</p>	<p>17 Define the system for measuring the benefits/results to be able to identify the advantages of green public procurement.</p>	<p>Achieved/Not achieved (contribution to the views indicator)</p>	<p>Department for Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment - Ithobe</p>
		<p>18 Integrate aspects that make it possible to calculate the environmental benefits into the available green procurement criteria.</p>	<p>Nº of categories covered (contribution to the views indicator)</p>	
	<p>L10: Communicate and promote Basque progress and achievements internally, in Europe and internationally.</p>	<p>19 Disseminate good practices and examples of green purchasing specifications among the Basque public sector through biannual newsletters and news on the subject.</p>	<p>Nº of good practices covered (contribution to the views indicator)</p>	<p>Department for Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment - Ithobe</p>
			<p>Nº of technical bid specifications published (contribution to the of views indicator)</p>	
			<p>Nº of newsletters published (contribution to the views indicator)</p>	
		<p>20 Achieve more participation in the United Nations' "Programme on Sustainable Public Procurement" Programmes and Iclei "Procura+" in the Basque Country.</p>	<p>Nº of participations carried out (contribution to the views indicator)</p>	
		<p>21 Celebrate an annual forum on public procurement to acknowledge and share experiences and accelerate the incorporation of environmental criteria in procurement.</p>	<p>Achieved/Not achieved (contribution to the views indicator) Nº of participating organisations (contribution to the views indicator)</p>	

ANNEX 5.
DOCUMENT
OF ADHERENCE
TO THE GREEN
PROCUREMENT
AND CONTRACTING
PROGRAMME
OF THE BASQUE
COUNTRY 2030

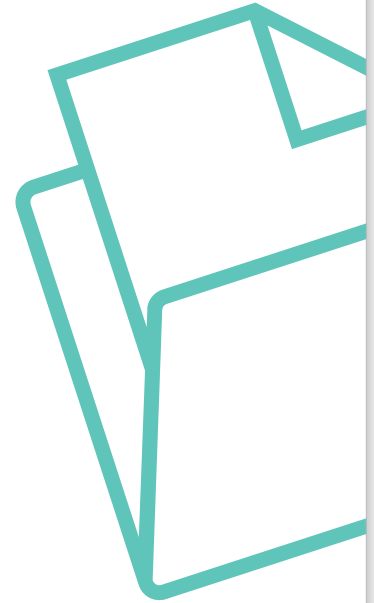


PROGRAMME ADHERENCE DOCUMENT

GREEN PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING PROGRAMME OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY 2030



01. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The 2030 Basque Green Public Procurement Programme, approved by joint order of the Department for Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment and Department of Finance and Taxation on 24 November 2021, establishes the framework for action that enables the Basque administrations to absorb and assume environmental criteria in their procurement processes.

The 2030 Basque Green Public Procurement Programme covers the following **challenges** with in its mission and principles:

- Securing green procurement in a policies solid legal framework and ensuring support for the Basque Country’s priority environmental and economic policies and objectives.
- Consolidating green public procurement throughout the Basque administration, making it a structural and innovative element in organisations.
- Implementing green procurement in the Basque private sector due to its potential to drive the market through its value chains.
- Developing the green market with a high-quality, competitive, and ready Basque offer, paying special attention to SMEs.
- Improving systems for monitoring and visualising impacts and benefits of green procurement in the Basque Country.

VISION	PRINCIPLES
To use the purchasing potential of the Basque public and private sector in an excellent way and in coordination with the market for a sustainable social and economic development, while optimising the protection of the environment, business competitiveness and the welfare of the people in the Basque Country.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Coherence– Transparency– Joint responsibility– Cooperation– Efficiency and innovation– Awareness raising and professionalisation

GREEN PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING PROGRAMME OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY 2030 3

The 2030 Basque Green Public Procurement Programme establishes the following **quantitative objectives and expected results**:

INTEGRAL SCORECARD		
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	OBJECTIVE 2025	OBJECTIVE 2030
Number of public entities adhered to the Programme	75	150
Number of private entities adhered to the Programme (purchasing bodies)	20	50
Sustainable Development Objective Indicator 12.7.1 (on 4.6 on environmental procurement) ¹	4,0	4,2
Percentage of green public procurement in the categories prioritised in the Programme (in overall procurement) ²	55 % (40 %)	75 % (60 %)
EXPECTED RESULTS	OBJECTIVE 2025	OBJECTIVE 2030
Percentage reduction in carbon emissions associated with the purchase and use of green products, works and services ³	16 %	26 %
Percentage of electricity supplied from renewable sources in member public entities.	70 %	100 %
Percentage of recyclable and reusable packaging included in a significant way in tender processes in adhered public entities.	50 %	100 %
Percentage of waste (tonnes) from works to be reused.	80 %	95 %

¹ Calculated according to the methodology defined by the United Nations Environment Programme (<https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/resource/spp-index-methodology-sdg-indicator-1271>). The maximum score that can be obtained in this indicator is 5, being 4.6 if only the environmental variable is incorporated in public procurement.

² The percentage stated refers to the level of green public procurement, both in number and financial amount, with respect to the categories prioritised in this same programme. The percentage stated in brackets refers to the same aspect, but with respect to all public procurement. The measurement of green public procurement in terms of both number of tenders and economic importance is in line with the measurement of the level of green public procurement established by the European Union.

³ Percentage of reduction established in coherence with the Basque Country Circular Economy Strategy 2030.

4 ADHERENCE DOCUMENT

And to achieve the greatest environmental benefits, prioritise the following categories of goods, services and works:



Finally, the deployment of the Basque Green Procurement Programme is articulated through the following **10 lines of action**, which are subsequently broken down into 21 specific actions:

SCOPE OF APPLICATION	LINE OF ACTION
<p>Area 1: Consolidate green purchasing and procurement as an essential tool for the deployment of policies in the Basque Country</p>	<p>L1: Strengthen the role of green purchasing as an operative tool in the political and legal framework of the Basque public sector.</p> <p>L2: Ensure that green purchasing is aligned with environmental and economic priorities in the Basque Country.</p>
<p>Area 2: Make progress in the commitment of the public and private sector</p>	<p>L3: Achieve the participation of the entire Basque public sector.</p> <p>L4: Raise awareness and mobilise Basque companies.</p>
<p>Area 3: Convert green purchasing and procurement into a structural and innovative element in organisations</p>	<p>L5: Provide resources for a systematic and strategic implementation.</p> <p>L6: Professionalise the purchasing function and contracting in all staff involved.</p>
<p>Area 4: Have a suitable market, of high quality and prepared</p>	<p>L7: Encourage dialogue and collaboration with the market to find more innovative, sustainable, and competitive solutions.</p> <p>L8: Train suppliers, particularly SME, to meet the procurers' environmental demands.</p>
<p>Area 5: Give visibility to the advances, achievements, and benefits of green procurement</p>	<p>L9: Measure implementation and estimate the benefits of environmentally sustainable procurement.</p> <p>L10: Communicate and promote Basque progress and achievements internally, in Europe and internationally.</p>

02. ADHERENCE TO THE PROGRAMME: REQUIREMENTS AND COMMITMENTS

The Programme has an open participatory nature and promotes the voluntary adhesion of the entire Basque public sector that wishes to commit to green procurement and contracting.

This commitment not only reduces environmental impact but increases transparency and efficiency in the management of public resources; it also means setting an example by promoting market innovation in products and services that are more competitive and respectful of the environment; and, in short, it contributes to improving the quality of life of citizens.

2.1. ADHERENCE REQUIREMENTS

The following are the requirements to adhere to and participate in the programme:

- Be a member entity of the Basque public sector.
- The adherence agreement must be signed by the entity.
- Assign a supervisor to lead and coordinate green public procurement in the entity.

2.2. COMMITMENTS OF THE ADHERED ENTITIES

Adherence to this programme requires the following undertakings on the part of the Basque administrations:

- To establish an annual work plan in the areas prioritised in the programme and in at least one other area of special interest to the organisation.
- Analyse and integrate green public procurement in the existing procedures and tools of the administration.
- Train and qualify the staff involved in the entity's procurement processes.
- Progressively greening procurement of prioritised groups of products and services, until at least the targets set in the Programme for the years 2025 and 2030 are reached.
- Ensure correct completion of the data in the Basque Public Procurement Platform (Plataforma Kontratazio Publikoa Euskadin) regarding the incorporation of environmental criteria. In cases in which the entity does not manage its tenders through this platform, it will send the annual monitoring data directly to the Technical Secretariat on an individual basis⁴.
- Share good practices and experiences with other Basque Country administrations.

2.3. COMMITMENTS OF THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

Ihobe S.A., the public Environmental Management Company, as Technical Secretariat of the Euskadi 2030 Green Procurement Programme, undertakes to:

- Offer support and technical resources to fulfil the commitments acquired by participating administrations.
- Provide training and capacity building for staff involved in procurement in the Basque Administration.
- Organise working groups to share experiences, lessons learned, achievements and challenges that will enable the different entities to progress towards the achievement of the commitments and objectives set.
- Disseminate good practices, experiences, and results in green public procurement of the Basque Administration, both in the Basque Country and abroad.
- Carry out annual monitoring and dissemination of the development and results of the Programme, based on the data provided by the participating member entities.

⁴ La Secretaría Técnica podrá hacer uso de los datos facilitados de forma individual de manera agregada. Para poder utilizar datos a nivel individual la Secretaría Técnica solicitará la autorización expresa a la entidad correspondiente.

FORM OF ADHERENCE

Mr/Ms.
with ID card, as (position),
of the entity, with registered address in,
telephone and contact email

DECLARES THAT:

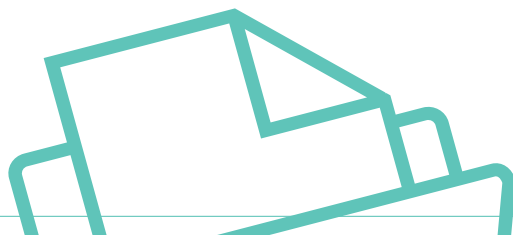
1. They adhere to 2030 Basque Green Public Procurement and Contracting Programme.
2. They are aware of, accept and will comply with the Programme membership requirements detailed in this document.
3. They agree to the commitments set out in the adhesion document.
4. They appoint, with
and email as the person responsible for managing and coordinating green public procurement in all matters related to the implementation of the Programme in this entity.

Authorised for this purpose by Agreement of

Date

Date and Place:

Signature:



Once **the membership form has been completed**, it should be sent to:

IHOBE, Sociedad Pública de Gestión Ambiental
Technical Secretariat of the Basque Country Green
Procurement and Contracting Programme 2030

E-mail address: compra.verde@ihobe.eus
Postal address: Alameda Urquijo N°36 - 6ª planta,
48011 - BILBAO

For more information: Technical Secretariat Ihobe, S.A.
Tel.: 94-423 07 43
Mail: compra.verde@ihobe.eus
Website: www.ihobe.eus

Basic data protection information:

The personal data included in the adhesion application will be processed and incorporated to the processing activity of the Circular Economy Department.

Data Controller: Sociedad Pública de gestión Ambiental, Ihobe, S.A.

• **Purpose:** Management of the applications for adhesion to the Euskadi 2030 green procurement Programme and communication of the actions within the programme.

• **Legal basis:** Consent of the applicant.

• **Target group:** The data will be shared with the Basque Government departments promoting the programme, as well as the rest of the agents adhered to the programme in order to share actions and experiences that enrich the promotion of green procurement in the Basque Country.

• **Rights:** You are entitled to access, rectification and erasure of data and other rights as explained in the additional information.

• **Additional information:** Additional and detailed information on data protection can be found on our website: <http://www.udalsarea21.net/Paginas/Ficha.aspx?Id-Menu=09e40489-90d3-4162-8e77-7e322eae4bb4&Idioma=es-ES>

Regulations:

[General Data Protection Regulation](#)

[Organic Law 3/2018, of 5 December on Personal Data Protection and guaranteed digital rights](#)