Sustainable Procurement and Vendor Compliance Training Course



21 - 25 Dec 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #SUS2719_284304

Course Introduction / Overview:

This course provides a comprehensive framework for integrating sustainability into procurement and supply chain operations. In an era where corporate social responsibility is paramount, green procurement is no longer a niche practice but a core business strategy for resilient and reputable organizations. This program moves beyond theoretical concepts to offer practical tools for developing and implementing effective sustainable procurement strategies and ensuring robust vendor compliance. We will explore the principles articulated by sustainability pioneers like John Elkington, focusing on the "Triple Bottom Line" of people, planet, and profit. Participants will learn to navigate the complexities of ethical sourcing, environmental impact assessment, and social responsibility within their supply chains. Drawing on insights from seminal works such as "The Sustainable Procurement Guide", this training offered by BIG BEN Training Center equips professionals to build transparent, ethical, and environmentally sound procurement functions. This course is designed to empower you to lead sustainability initiatives, mitigate supply chain risks, and drive long-term value for your organization through responsible purchasing decisions.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Procurement Managers and Officers.
- Supply Chain and Logistics Directors.
- Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Managers.
- Vendor and Supplier Relationship Managers.
- Compliance and Risk Management Professionals.
- Operations Managers.
- Contract Managers.
- Finance and Auditing Professionals involved in purchasing decisions.
- Project Managers.
- Public Sector Procurement Officials.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Manufacturing and Industrial Production.
- Retail and Consumer Goods.
- Construction and Real Estate Development.
- Information Technology and Electronics.
- Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.
- Food and Beverage Industry.
- Energy and Utilities.
- Government Agencies and Public Sector Organizations.
- Logistics and Transportation.
- Financial Services and Banking.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Procurement and Purchasing Department.
- Supply Chain Management Department.
- Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Office.
- Legal and Compliance Department.
- Operations Management.
- Finance and Accounts Department.
- Quality Assurance and Control.
- Risk Management Department.
- Internal Audit Department.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive sustainable procurement policy aligned with organizational goals.
- Integrate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria into the supplier selection process.
- Conduct thorough supplier sustainability assessments and audits.
- Master techniques for engaging suppliers to improve their sustainability performance.
- Draft green contract clauses to ensure vendor compliance with sustainability standards.
- Apply life cycle costing principles to procurement decisions for long-term value.
- Identify and mitigate sustainability-related risks within the supply chain.
- Align procurement practices with international standards like ISO 20400.
- Implement circular economy principles to reduce waste and optimize resource use.
- Communicate and report on sustainable procurement performance to stakeholders effectively.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be highly interactive, practical, and engaging, ensuring that participants can immediately apply their learning in the workplace. We move beyond traditional lectures to foster a collaborative learning environment. The course heavily utilizes real-world case studies from various industries, allowing participants to analyze successful sustainable procurement strategies and learn from the challenges others have faced. Group discussions and workshops encourage peer-to-peer learning and the exchange of diverse perspectives. Practical exercises, such as developing a supplier scorecard or drafting green contract clauses, provide hands-on experience. Role-playing scenarios, including supplier negotiations and stakeholder engagement meetings, will build confidence and practical skills. Our expert instructors facilitate sessions that are rich with interactive Q&A, ensuring all concepts are clearly understood. Continuous feedback is provided throughout the course to support individual learning and development, creating a dynamic and impactful training experience.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Sustainable and Green Procurement

- Introduction to sustainable procurement concepts and terminology.
- The business case for green procurement and corporate social responsibility.
- Understanding the Triple Bottom Line: People, Planet, and Profit.
- Key drivers for sustainable procurement including regulations and consumer demand.
- Overview of international standards and frameworks like ISO 20400.
- The role of procurement in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Distinguishing between green, sustainable, and ethical procurement.

Unit Two: Developing a Sustainable Procurement Strategy

- Conducting a baseline assessment of current procurement practices.
- Engaging internal and external stakeholders for strategy development.
- Defining a sustainable procurement policy and vision statement.
- Setting clear objectives, targets, and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).
- Integrating sustainability into the overall corporate strategy.
- Developing a roadmap for phased implementation.
- Securing senior management buy-in and allocating resources.

Unit Three: Sustainable Sourcing and Supplier Management

- Identifying and segmenting suppliers based on sustainability risk and opportunity.
- Developing sustainable criteria for supplier pre-qualification and selection.
- Utilizing supplier questionnaires and self-assessment tools.
- Techniques for effective supplier engagement and capacity building.
- Implementing life cycle assessment (LCA) and total cost of ownership (TCO) analysis.
- Promoting innovation and collaboration with suppliers for sustainable solutions.
- Managing supplier diversity and promoting local sourcing.

Unit Four: Ensuring Vendor Compliance and Managing Risk

- Conducting on-site supplier audits and social compliance assessments.
- Developing and integrating sustainability clauses into contracts.
- Establishing a code of conduct for suppliers.
- Monitoring supplier performance against sustainability targets.
- Strategies for managing non-compliance and implementing corrective action plans.
- Enhancing supply chain transparency and traceability.
- Mitigating risks related to human rights, labor practices, and environmental regulations.

Unit Five: Advanced Topics and Future Trends in Sustainable Procurement

- Implementing circular economy principles in procurement.
- Measuring and reducing the carbon footprint of the supply chain.
- The role of technology, AI, and blockchain in enhancing supply chain sustainability.
- Best practices in sustainability reporting and communication (e.g., GRI standards).
- Building a culture of sustainability within the procurement team and the wider organization.
- Navigating future regulations and evolving stakeholder expectations.
- Developing a personal action plan for leading sustainable procurement initiatives.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

How can organizations effectively balance the immediate financial costs of implementing sustainable procurement with the long-term, often intangible, benefits of enhanced brand reputation and supply chain resilience?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course distinguishes itself by moving beyond theoretical frameworks to provide a deeply practical and actionable guide to implementing sustainable procurement. While many programs focus solely on environmental "green" aspects, our curriculum adopts a holistic view, integrating social, ethical, and economic dimensions to address the complete ESG spectrum. We emphasize the critical link between strategy and execution, dedicating significant time to the practicalities of vendor compliance, risk management, and contract management. Participants will not just learn what to do, but how to do it through hands-on exercises, such as drafting enforceable contract clauses and developing supplier audit checklists. Furthermore, the course is forward-looking, equipping professionals with knowledge of emerging trends like the circular economy and the application of technology for supply chain transparency. The focus is on building resilient, ethical, and future-proof procurement functions that create tangible value, mitigate risk, and enhance corporate reputation in a rapidly evolving global landscape.