

Sustainable Procurement Policy

1. Introduction

The University of Lucknow is committed to promoting sustainable development and minimizing the environmental, social, and economic impacts associated with its procurement activities. This Sustainable Procurement Policy aims to guide all procurement and purchasing processes within the institution, fostering responsible consumption, reducing waste, and supporting ethical suppliers.

2. Objectives

The key objectives of the Sustainable Procurement Policy are as follows:

- a. **Environmental Responsibility:** To prioritize environmentally friendly products and services, reducing the carbon footprint and overall ecological impact of procurement activities.
- b. **Social Welfare:** To promote fair labor practices, human rights, and inclusivity through procurement decisions, avoiding suppliers engaged in unethical practices.
- c. **Economic Growth:** To support local businesses, particularly those with sustainable practices, and encourage economic development in the region.
- d. **Resource Efficiency:** To optimize resource utilization and minimize waste generation through smart procurement choices.

3. Policy Guidelines

- a. **Product and Supplier Evaluation:** When making procurement decisions, the University of Lucknow will evaluate products and suppliers based on their sustainability practices. This includes environmental certifications, fair labor standards, social responsibility, and adherence to relevant laws and regulations.
- b. **Preference for Sustainable Products:** Preference will be given to products that are energy-efficient, eco-friendly, and have a reduced impact on natural resources. Recycled and biodegradable materials will be favored whenever feasible.
- c. **Local Sourcing:** The university will prioritize local suppliers to support the regional economy, reduce transportation-related emissions, and strengthen community ties.
- d. **Long-Term Value:** Procurement decisions will consider the entire lifecycle cost of products and services rather than just the initial purchase price. This includes maintenance, energy consumption, and disposal costs.
- e. **Supplier Code of Conduct:** Suppliers will be encouraged to adhere to a code of conduct that aligns with the university's sustainability goals, ensuring fair labor practices, environmental responsibility, and ethical business conduct.
- f. **Waste Reduction:** The university will strive to reduce waste generation by avoiding unnecessary packaging, promoting recycling, and encouraging suppliers to adopt minimal packaging practices.
- g. **Technology and Innovation:** The University of Lucknow will explore innovative and sustainable technologies and solutions to improve procurement practices continually.

4. Implementation and Reporting

- a. **Responsibility:** The procurement department will be responsible for implementing this policy and ensuring compliance across all university departments.
- b. **Awareness and Training:** Training programs and awareness initiatives will be conducted to educate staff and stakeholders about sustainable procurement practices.
- c. **Monitoring and Reporting:** Regular progress reports will be prepared to track the implementation of the policy's objectives and identify areas for improvement.
- d. **Continuous Improvement:** The Sustainable Procurement Policy will be subject to periodic review and update to incorporate new sustainable practices and adapt to changing circumstances.

5. Collaboration and Engagement

The University of Lucknow will collaborate with other educational institutions, government bodies, and sustainability organizations to exchange best practices and collectively contribute to the broader goal of sustainability.

6. Conclusion

By adopting this Sustainable Procurement Policy, the University of Lucknow reaffirms its commitment to sustainability, responsible consumption, and ethical business practices. Through conscious and well-informed procurement decisions, the university aims to create a positive impact on the environment, society, and economy while setting an example for the academic community and society at large.