



NAKHCHIVAN STATE UNIVERSITY




SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT POLICY



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Issued in: 23/01/2024

REV: 01

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION ABOUT THE CURRENT SITUATION

1.1. INTRODUCTION

Nakhchivan State University (NSU) acknowledges the pivotal role of sustainable procurement practices in addressing environmental, social, and economic concerns across its supply chain. This policy serves as a testament to NSU's unwavering dedication to sustainability and responsible procurement practices. The traditional concept of supply chains, primarily focusing on economic and financial performance, has evolved over time to embrace sustainable supply chain management. This paradigm shift emphasizes the integration of economic, environmental, and social objectives within supply chain operations. Adherence to environmental and social criteria has become imperative for suppliers to remain competitive and sustain their positions within supply chains, especially as international companies increasingly demand compliance with social and environmental standards. In response to these global trends, NSU has adopted procurement practices that prioritize the procurement of environmentally and socially compatible products. By fostering supplier relationships that promote awareness of sustainable procurement practices, NSU aims to minimize negative environmental impacts and optimize resource efficiency throughout its supply chain.

Aligned with the legal framework established by the Republic of Azerbaijan's Law No. 833-IIIQ "On Education," NSU emphasizes mechanisms that ensure sustainability throughout its supply chain. Drawing inspiration from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and national laws and regulations, NSU integrates globally standardized quality management systems to ensure sustainable procurement practices.

This policy extends to all of NSU's suppliers, who are expected to adhere to NSU's procurement policy and communicate it to their employees and supply chain partners. The Finance department's Procurement Unit oversees continuous procurement activities, ensuring compliance with the legal basis of this policy.

In summary, this policy serves as a comprehensive guide to raising awareness of sustainable procurement practices within NSU. It aims to inform stakeholders about available sustainable options and empower university staff to embrace sustainable actions in their respective departments.

1.2. CURRENT SITUATION

The imperative shift towards sustainable supply chain management within the global context has prompted Nakhchivan State University (NSU) to undertake proactive measures aligning with international standards. NSU's procurement practices reflect a deep-seated commitment to integrating economic, environmental, and social objectives across various product categories within its supply chain.

1.2.1 Electronic Products:

In line with its sustainability goals, NSU prioritizes the procurement of electronic products characterized by energy-saving features, certified standards, recycled content, and repairable components. By favoring such products, NSU aims to minimize energy consumption, reduce electronic waste, and promote resource efficiency throughout the product lifecycle.

1.2.2 Stationery:

NSU demonstrates its commitment to sustainability in the procurement of stationery items by preferring plant-based and water-based products with reusable, refillable, and recycled ingredients. Furthermore, NSU actively encourages the utilization of existing stationery items before purchasing new ones, thereby minimizing waste and promoting resource conservation.



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1.2.3 Laboratory Materials and Equipment:

NSU places a premium on certified recycled products when procuring laboratory materials and equipment. By prioritizing recycled options, NSU contributes to the circular economy while reducing the environmental footprint associated with laboratory operations.

1.2.4 Furniture and Building Materials:

In the realm of furniture and building materials procurement, NSU emphasizes the preference for recycled or refurbished items, sustainably sourced materials, locally produced goods, and environmentally certified products. By opting for such items, NSU not only reduces its environmental impact but also supports local economies and promotes sustainable construction practices.

1.2.5 Food:

NSU's commitment to sustainable procurement extends to the realm of food, where it favors products produced using techniques that prioritize human health while ensuring sustainable impacts on ecological, economic, and social systems. By embracing efficiency and healthy production practices, NSU contributes to global efforts aimed at preserving the environment and securing a sustainable future for all.

1.2.6 Tools:

NSU advocates for the purchase of vehicles with minimal environmental impact, thereby contributing to sustainable transport solutions. By prioritizing eco-friendly transportation options, NSU aligns its procurement practices with its broader sustainability objectives, promoting environmental stewardship and reducing carbon emissions.

Implementation and Monitoring

To ensure the effective implementation of its sustainable procurement policy, NSU regularly reviews procurement processes and actively seeks opportunities for improvement. Additionally, NSU conducts training programs for employees and suppliers, fostering awareness and understanding of sustainable purchasing practices. Through these measures, NSU remains committed to upholding its sustainability goals and driving positive change within its supply chain and beyond.

1.3. LEGAL BASE

Nakhchivan State University (NSU) operates within the legal framework established by the Republic of Azerbaijan's education laws. This framework guides NSU's procurement practices to ensure compliance with national regulations while also aligning with international standards, such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

By adhering to these legal and regulatory requirements, NSU ensures that its procurement practices are not only compliant but also reflective of its commitment to sustainability and responsible resource management. The integration of SDGs into NSU's procurement processes underscores the university's dedication to addressing pressing global challenges such as environmental degradation, social inequality, and economic



instability. In summary, NSU's legal base serves as a cornerstone for its procurement operations, guiding the university in its pursuit of sustainable development and ethical procurement practices.

SECTION 2: MISSION, OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE POLICY

2.1. MISSION

NSU's mission stands at the intersection of sustainability and procurement, aiming to spearhead practices that not only minimize negative environmental impacts but also enhance social responsibility while ensuring the economic viability of operations throughout the university's supply chain.

2.2. OBJECTIVES

In pursuit of this mission, NSU sets forth the following objectives:

- Promoting the procurement of environmentally and socially compatible products, thereby reducing the ecological footprint across its supply chain.
- Raising supplier awareness of sustainable procurement practices to foster a culture of responsibility and accountability.
- Ensuring strict adherence to global standards and national regulations governing sustainable procurement, thereby contributing to broader sustainability initiatives.

2.3. SCOPE OF THE POLICY

This policy casts a wide net, encompassing all suppliers engaged with NSU. Suppliers are expected to adhere diligently to sustainable procurement guidelines and actively disseminate these principles within their respective supply chains, thereby extending the ripple effects of sustainability across the broader community.

SECTION 3: PLANNED ACTIVITIES, MONITORING AND REPORTING

3.1. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM PERIOD

NSU is committed to implementing a range of activities over both short-term and long-term horizons to advance its sustainable procurement objectives:

- Short-term Focus: Implementing continuous procurement practices aimed at immediate efficiency gains and cost reduction measures. This involves streamlining procurement processes and identifying opportunities for optimization.
- Long-term Vision: NSU will focus on fostering enduring supplier relationships grounded in sustainability principles. By nurturing partnerships with suppliers that prioritize environmental and social responsibility, NSU aims to mitigate risks and enhance resilience in its supply chain. Additionally, NSU will advocate for the adoption of product lifecycle considerations, including prioritizing products with recyclable and renewable attributes. These efforts will contribute to a circular economy ethos, minimizing waste and maximizing resource efficiency.



3.2. MONITORING AND REPORTING

NSU recognizes the importance of ongoing monitoring and robust reporting mechanisms to track progress and ensure accountability in its sustainable procurement initiatives. To this end, NSU will establish comprehensive monitoring protocols to regularly assess procurement processes and supplier compliance with sustainable practices. Additionally, NSU will implement detailed reporting mechanisms to transparently communicate its sustainability performance to stakeholders.

By leveraging data-driven insights, NSU will identify areas for improvement and drive continuous enhancement in its sustainable procurement endeavors.

SECTION 4: RESOURCE ALLOCATION

4.1. RESOURCE ALLOCATION

At NSU, resource allocation is a strategic endeavor aimed at bolstering sustainable procurement initiatives and fostering a culture of environmental and social responsibility. The university recognizes the critical importance of allocating resources effectively to support the implementation of sustainable practices across its procurement processes. NSU invests in various resources to facilitate the advancement of sustainable procurement objectives. These resources encompass financial investments, technological tools, human capital, and educational programs tailored to promote sustainable procurement practices. Financial allocations are earmarked to incentivize the procurement of environmentally and socially compatible products, thereby driving market demand for sustainable alternatives. The procurement unit, housed within the finance department, serves as the cornerstone of NSU's resource allocation efforts. Tasked with overseeing policy compliance and effectiveness, the procurement unit plays a pivotal role in ensuring that allocated resources are utilized judiciously to achieve desired sustainability outcomes. Through rigorous monitoring and strategic decision-making, the procurement unit strives to optimize resource allocation, maximize impact, and drive continuous improvement in sustainable procurement practices. In summary, NSU's resource allocation strategy reflects its steadfast commitment to embedding sustainability principles into every facet of its procurement processes. By allocating resources strategically and investing in the necessary infrastructure and expertise, NSU aims to pave the way for a more sustainable future, both within the university and beyond.