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The Competence Centre for Sustainable Procurement (KNB) works not only with government agencies, but also with non-governmental organizations, associations and industry representatives. Here are some of our partners:





www.dstgb.de







www.weed-online.org





www.stromeffizienz.de

www.fnr.de











KOMPETENZSTELLE für nachhaltige Beschaffung

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The good news: Sustainability has become a key policy aim. The bad news: At the moment, it is often difficult for public procurement to meet sustainability criteria in practice. In many cases, it isn't yet possible to reconcile economic, environmental and social welfare aims, even though the government is a major consumer of goods: Government procurement accounts for an estimated 13% of gross domestic product. We need to take advantage of this market influence!

With this in mind, the Competence Centre for Sustainable Procurement (KNB) was set up at the Procurement Office of the Federal Ministry of the Interior. The KNB primary task is to inform federal, state and local procurement offices about sustainable public procurement, for example by offering expert advice via its telephone hotline or e-mail, or by providing tailored in-house seminars.

The KNB experts also serve on numerous committees devoted to sustainability issues. For example, the KNB is the chair of the Alliance for Sustainable Procurement expert group on electric mobility.

The KNB target audience includes everyone at federal, state and local level involved in procurement, from planning to decision-making and the actual call for tender. In addition to procurement offices and government agencies, the KNB also works with experts from industry, non-governmental organizations and the research community. It hopes to bring all these actors together in order to develop joint solutions of sustainable procurement.

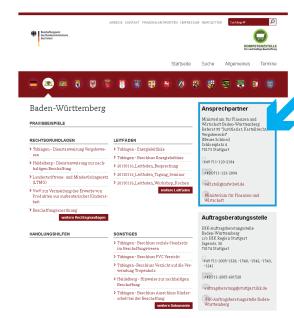
The idea: There are currently about 30,000 public procurement offices in Germany. How can they all be connected? Via the Internet! That's why a web-based information platform is at the heart of the KNB.

The plan: To develop the web-based platform in partnership with its users, because if each one shares just a little, in the end everyone benefits. Procurement officers can post material here so it will be available to all. In this way, the platform is always a practical tool for procurement.

What we offer: At www.nachhaltige-beschaffung.info, you can find background information, such as relevant legislation, guidelines and information about specific groups of products. You will also find detailed guides and examples of best practices. We are also setting up a discussion forum.



Want to share? Great! Procurement officers all over Germany would be grateful for your best practice, standard text from your latest call for tender or your local council's resolution on sustainable public procurement. The platform doesn't provide legal guarantees, but it does offer the experience of other procurement specialists. It's simple:



- 1) Contact the KNB or the point of contact in your federal state. Just click on your state's symbol the contact information will appear on the right.
- 2) The point of contact collects, checks and posts the information you provide on the platform; your name and/or that of your agency can be anonymized if you prefer.

Do you have a calendar item or news about sustainable procurement? That can also help other buyers! Please contact the KNB directly using the information on the back.