

The Competence Centre for Sustainable Procurement (KNB) at the Procurement Office of the Federal Ministry of the Interior is the 2013 Flagship Project of the National Sustainability Strategy. The Committee of State Secretaries on Sustainable Development awards this title to government projects that put into practice the goals and methods of sustainability.



This title recognizes above all the KNB's exemplary efforts to work with all levels of government – federal, state and local – a first in the Federal Republic.



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Beschaffungsamt
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***Sustainability?
We make it simple!***



KOMPETENZSTELLE
für nachhaltige Beschaffung

Our mission

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. Each year, the Federal Ministry of the Interior Procurement Office alone buys goods and services worth more than €1 billion. 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.

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.

Our offer / Our audience

What we offer

- ▶ *web-based information platform*
- ▶ *contacts / network*
- ▶ *guides, information about groups of products and more*
- ▶ *telephone hotline / e-mail hotline (see other side)*
- ▶ *seminars / consultation*
- ▶ *house calls / on-site advising*

Our target audience

Procurement offices of

- ▶ *federal*
- ▶ *state and*
- ▶ *local government agencies,*

as well as

- ▶ *non-governmental organizations and*
- ▶ *industry associations.*

Staff involved in every phase of procurement, from planning to decision-making to purchasing, can benefit from our services.

Our website

There are currently about 30,000 public procurement offices in Germany. That's why a web-based information platform is at the heart of the KNB.

What's special about our platform: It is available to procurement offices at every level of government, who all contribute to it. The various offices can post material and share it with everyone.

In this way, all buyers at federal, state and local level can find general information, specific guides and examples of best practices for sustainable public procurement. By sharing information and with the help of a discussion forum currently being implemented, the platform also helps add to the topic of sustainability.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the website 'www.nachhaltige-beschaffung.info'. The header includes the logo of the 'Kompetenzzentrale für nachhaltige Beschaffung des Bundesministeriums des Innern', a search bar, and navigation links for Kontakt, Impressum, Newsletter, and Suchbegriff. The main content features a red banner stating 'Das zentrale Portal für nachhaltige Beschaffung öffentlicher Auftraggeber'. Below this is a section titled 'Informieren Sie sich über Gesetze, Regelungen, Leitfäden, Beispiele aus Bund & Ländern' with a grid of circular icons representing different regions. To the right is a map of Germany with state boundaries. The footer contains several sections: 'Haben Sie Fragen oder Anregungen?' with an email icon and contact number; 'Info-Box' with text about the project; 'Wichtige Links' with links to various government agencies; and a 'Weitere Links' section. A small navigation bar at the bottom right shows page navigation.