

Public procurement directives – evaluation

It is clear that the current public procurement directive is not fit to scale business respect for human rights and the environment. As such, we support the review of public procurement directives as there is a pressing need for a transition to sustainable business models. Public demand through procurements could and should take a leading role in this by creating and growing the market for future solutions and thus supporting the European companies that are developing such solutions.

Recommendations regarding social requirements:

- It should be mandatory to require human rights and environmental due diligence from tenderers and contractors. It should also be mandatory for contractors to disclose detailed information on their full supply chains to public procurers.
- It should be possible to use geographical exclusion criteria for produce coming from areas where there is for example a risk of state imposed forced labour or where the production is taking place in conditions that violate Geneva Conventions.

Recommendations regarding environmental requirements:

- It should be mandatory to take into account the life cycle environmental impacts (e.g. carbon footprint) of procured products. These requirements should be aligned with existing frameworks such as PEF methodology and Ecodesign Regulation.
- To support informed procurement decisions the EU should add pace to the use of PEF (Product Environmental Footprint) method and the development of PEFCRs (Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules) as it is the most promising way of providing comprehensive information on the environmental impacts of products.