



Guidelines and manuals on strategic procurement in Costa Rica



Public Procurement Principle: **Balance, Capacity**



Procurement Stage: **Pre-tendering, Tendering**



Audience: **Procuring entity, Policy makers**

Description

In Costa Rica, the General Directorate of Asset Management and Public Procurement (Dirección General de Administración de Bienes y Contratación Administrativa, DGABCA) of the Ministry of Finance (Ministerio de Hacienda) developed user-friendly guidelines and manuals to promote the strategic use of procurement and align with the National Policy of Sustainable Public Procurement.

In 2015, DGABCA issued the Technical Guidelines for the Application of Sustainable Criteria in Public Procurement and Guidelines for its Implementation with the support of the European Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). These technical guidelines cover dimensions of strategic procurement such as green public procurement, SMEs development, innovation and social responsibility.

In order to ensure the effective implementation of this technical guidelines, DGABCA also developed the following manuals:

- **Practical Guide for Sustainable Procurement in the Public Sector:** This guide explains how to incorporate environmental considerations into each step of the procurement cycle and provides specific examples for each product and service category of green public procurement.
- **Guide on Social Criteria in Public Procurement Processes in Costa Rica:** This guide explains how to integrate social considerations into each step of the procurement cycle and provides the templates of the actual clauses to be incorporated in tender / contract documents.

Source: OECD (2021), *Public Procurement in the State of Mexico: Enhancing Efficiency and Competition*, OECD Public Governance Reviews, OECD Publishing, Paris <https://doi.org/10.1787/cc1da607-en>

