



Country case: Australia's Commonwealth Procurement Rules



Public Procurement Principle: **Access, Balance**



Procurement Stage: **Tendering**



Audience: **Policy Maker, Procuring entity, Private sector**

Description

Objective of supporting SMEs in legal public procurement frameworks:

To ensure that SMEs can engage in fair competition for Australian Government business, officials should apply procurement practices that do not unfairly discriminate against SMEs and provide appropriate opportunities for SMEs to compete. Officials should consider, in the context of value for money:

- a) the benefits of doing business with competitive SMEs when specifying requirements and evaluating value for money
- b) barriers to entry, such as costly preparation of submissions, that may prevent SMEs from competing
- c) SMEs' capabilities and their commitment to local or regional markets; and
- d) the potential benefits of having a larger, more competitive supplier base.

The Australian Government is committed to non-corporate Commonwealth entities sourcing at least 10% of procurement by value from SMEs

Source: OECD (2018), SMEs in Public Procurement: Practices and Strategies for Shared Benefits, OECD Public <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264307476-en>

