

Public Procurement and Sustainable Development

Level: Master's Degree, Year 2 (M2)

Track: Regions and Transitions

Semester: 1

Teaching hours: 15 hours of lectures

Teaching language: French (english if needed)

Teacher: Jean-Baptiste Calvi

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Course's objectives:

This course aims to provide students with an understanding of the potential of public procurement as a tool for local development and to introduce them to practical methods for achieving public policy objectives through purchasing strategies.

Public procurement, defined as the set of contracts awarded by public authorities to meet their needs, amounted to approximately €170 billion in France in 2023, representing around 6% of the national GDP. These purchases cover nearly all areas of public action and include consultancy services, construction works, service contracts, and supplies.

Given the significant financial resources involved, public procurement has a direct impact on both local territories and economic actors. This course presents public procurement as a strategic instrument that can support territorial development and sustainability goals. It demonstrates how contracting authorities can maximize the benefits of their procurement processes while complying with a complex regulatory framework that, despite its constraints, offers numerous opportunities for innovation and sustainable development.

Lesson plan:

- ☐ The economics of public procurement
- ☐ Public procurement as a tool for territorial projects and public policy implementation
- ☐ Fundamental principles of public procurement
- ☐ Procurement contracts whose subject matter is inherently sustainable
- ☐ Types of contracts, procurement procedures, and procurement documents
- ☐ Introduction to sustainable public procurement: methodology and practical approaches

Skills developed:

Students will learn how to anticipate procurement needs and align purchasing strategies with broader public policy objectives, including:

- Improving access to public contracts for SMEs and micro-enterprises
- Environmental leadership and sustainability
- Social inclusion and employment integration
- Entrepreneurship development
- Design and innovation
- Eco-design approaches
- Promotion of local supply chains and economic ecosystems

The course will also enable students to select the most appropriate procurement procedures and to draft the most strategic sections of tender documents in a goal-oriented manner. Through this process, they will discover that public procurement regulations provide a wide range of opportunities for professionals who invest time in developing a coherent purchasing strategy.



Grading system: *None*

Prerequisites:

None

Bibliography / references:

None