

TEN PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS FOR CZECH PUBLIC BUYERS AND SUPPLIERS IN RELATION TO SUSTAINABILITY

PROPOSED REGULATION ON PUBLIC CONTRACTS AND CONCESSIONS (Public Procurement Act)

Analysis of COM(2026) 590 final and Annexes 1 to 8 • Proposal as of 9 September 2026

Ten practical implications for Czech public buyers



- 01** Revise internal methodologies to distinguish minimum legal compliance from genuine green public procurement (GPP) and socially responsible public procurement (SRPP) beyond that minimum.
- 02** Introduce a compliance map by product category: Annex VII, Article 54 and subsequent delegated acts.
- 03** For buildings, link acquisition and rental to the current EU Taxonomy technical screening criteria for activity 7.7 and document any derogation.
- 04** Prepare templates for BPQR (best price-quality ratio) evaluation: minimum quality weightings of 30% / 50% and justification of alternative quality assurance.
- 05** Extend specifications and public contract terms to include measurable performance indicators for waste, recycled content, energy, working conditions, OHS (occupational health and safety) and human rights due diligence.
- 06** Prepare processes for verifying environmental claims: the EU Ecolabel, equivalent labels, DPPs (digital product passports) and other evidence.
- 07** Develop tools for managing high-risk supply chains: subcontractor identification, ongoing checks, remedial measures and a mechanism for replacing subcontractors.
- 08** For social and health services, incorporate specific requirements: establish quality, continuity, availability and user participation as mandatory core elements of the procurement requirements.
- 09** Ensure data collection for the national data space and sustainability evaluation: environmental and social outcomes, as well as procedural compliance.
- 10** Build professional capacity for LCC (life-cycle costing), monetisation of externalities and performance management: without it, the new opportunities may remain purely formal.

Ten practical implications for Czech suppliers



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1. Integrate sustainability directly into the tender strategy

Environmental and social characteristics or considerations relating to performance should be presented as part of tender quality, rather than merely as a general corporate policy. Public buyers increasingly assess climate impacts, circularity, working conditions, accessibility and protection of human rights.

2. Demonstrate the link between sustainability and the contract's subject-matter

Every criterion or claim must relate specifically to the product, service or works supplied, or to a stage of their life cycle. Working conditions, the product's emissions footprint, responsible sourcing of raw materials and supply-chain transparency may also be relevant.

3. Prepare verifiable environmental performance data

Suppliers should have measurable information on emissions and emissions footprints, energy and resource consumption, recycled content, reparability, durability, waste generation and opportunities for reuse or recycling. General marketing claims are demonstrably weaker than verified data.

4. Prepare for digital product passports and electronic evidence

The proposal allows DPPs (digital product passports) to be used to demonstrate compliance with specifications, award criteria and contractual requirements. Suppliers should therefore connect product data with enterprise resource planning (ERP), product lifecycle management (PLM) and supply chain management (SCM) systems.

5. Check products against Annex VII and related sectoral legislation

Construction products, products subject to the ESPR (Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation), batteries, packaging, net-zero technologies, vehicles and tyres require particular attention. Suppliers must track the Public Procurement Regulation itself and the European Commission's delegated Regulations (acts), which may establish mandatory environmental parameters.

6. Develop circular economy-based offers

Reparable, upgradable, reusable, refurbished, remanufactured or recyclable products may offer a competitive advantage. Product-as-a-service, leasing, rental, sharing, take-back and guaranteed recovery at the end of the product's life are also relevant.

7. Offer quality value beyond the lowest tender price

The proposal normally sets a minimum weighting of 30% for quality criteria and at least 50% for labour-intensive contracts. Suppliers should systematically prepare value propositions, key performance indicators and evidence of quality, sustainability, innovation, accessibility and resilience of supply.

8. Quantify life-cycle costs and benefits

In addition to the purchase price, tenders should include operating costs, energy and resource consumption, maintenance, repairs, service life, residual value and end-of-life costs. An ability to demonstrate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and other environmental externalities is an advantage.

9. Strengthen social and labour law compliance throughout the chain

Suppliers should check remuneration, working conditions, OHS (occupational health and safety), equal treatment, the prohibition of forced and child labour, collective bargaining and human rights due diligence. Breaches of environmental, social or labour law obligations may lead to exclusion and a requirement to replace a subcontractor.

10. Prepare a system for contract monitoring and ongoing reporting

Sustainability is also checked during contract performance. Suppliers should determine responsibilities, data sources, methods for calculating key performance indicators, reporting frequency, audit trails, remedial measures and procedures for dealing with subcontractors in advance. Failure to meet parameters promised in a tender may have contractual, reputational and eligibility consequences.

Businesses that start early to build a high-quality data base, allocate responsibilities and cooperate with suppliers gain better preparedness for new legal requirements and a significant competitive advantage in demonstrating the quality and sustainability of their tenders.