

PURCHASING POLICY

Aalborg Kongres & Kultur Center (AKKC) is certified according to the ISO 20121 standard, as the first congress and culture centre in Denmark. Using the certification as management system, all decision-making processes and purchasing throughout the organisation must take a balanced approach to sustainability principles concerning people, environment, and economy, as well as UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals into account.

At AKKC, we always consider the purpose of a purchase before making it. We assess if we need the product/service, and how it aligns with our sustainability efforts.

At AKKC, we require all suppliers to operate in compliance with applicable legislation and adhere to ethical and human rights standards.

At AKKC, we follow a sustainable purchasing hierarchy based on the ISO 20121 standard: "Rethink, avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle, and disposal."

At AKKC, we use our purchasing processes to act on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Specifically, but not exclusively, we focus on the following goals:



With a focus on Sustainable Development Goal 8, AKKC prioritises suppliers who respect human rights, workers' rights, provide decent working conditions, and are in accordance with collective agreements. We also favour companies that take on social and economic responsibilities. Additionally, we support the decoupling of economic growth from environmental degradation by focusing on sustainable consumption. Through these actions, we support targets 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, and 8.8.

With a focus on Sustainable Development Goal 12, AKKC request sustainable products and services that can reduce resource consumption, minimise waste generation, and increase recycling and reuse. We also focus on selecting products and suppliers with certifications, thereby supporting the sustainable management and use of natural resources. Through these actions, we support targets 12.2 and 12.5.

With a focus on Sustainable Development Goal 13, AKKC is mindful of making purchases that can help raise awareness about the importance of environmental protection, and we focus on making choices that help us adapt to and mitigate climate change. Through these actions, we support targets 13.1 and 13.3.

At AKKC, we particularly focus on, but are not limited to, these elements in our purchasing processes:

- Wages and Working Conditions: At AKKC, we focus on fair wages and working conditions, which is why we seek suppliers who have a similar focus on wages and working conditions in their own operations. We prioritise suppliers with collective agreements in place. We also prioritise that our suppliers use subcontractors who maintain proper wages and working conditions.
- Local Products and Suppliers: We focus on selecting local products and suppliers to support, strengthen, and maintain our connection with the local community. This also reduces transport and its associated carbon footprint.
- Responsible Consumption and Operations: At AKKC, we focus on responsible consumption and operations, and to contribute to a circular society. When making purchases, we must consider the sustainability of materials, product manufacturing, service use, and disposal of materials and packaging for recycling and reuse. We prioritise suppliers, products, and services that follow these principles.
- Circular Products and Services: At AKKC, we work to reduce waste and promote a circular economy by selecting products that can be reused, recycled, composted, or contain recycled materials. To reduce our consumption, we prefer reusable products or leasing/rental services over purchasing new items. We also prioritise suppliers who offer take-back schemes.
- Durability and Quality: At AKKC, durability, quality, and long product lifespan are prioritised when selecting products. We also consider the total cost to ensure economically sustainable choices.
- Energy Efficiency: We focus on energy optimisation and prioritise the purchase of energy-efficient products. We prioritize to obtain documentation from suppliers regarding energy savings.
- Certified and Documented Products: We prioritise suppliers and products that hold recognised certifications and documentation over those without certification.
- Social Economic Considerations: We prioritise suppliers who take social economic responsibility, such as hiring individuals who would otherwise be on the margins of the labour market.

To improve our purchasing processes, we continually review our purchases and suppliers to identify areas where improvements can be made.