

SOL Group Procurement Policy

The SOL Procurement Policy defines the framework within which the organization's procurement activities must take place. It ensures that all purchases are consistent, ethical, and aligned with the organization's values and strategic objectives. More specific procurement guidelines are provided in company-specific procurement instructions. This procurement policy applies to all group companies in all countries of operation.

In addition, SOL's Supplier Code of Conduct is binding for all suppliers.

1. Legal and Ethical Requirements

- **Applicable Legislation:** All procurement activities must comply with national and international legislation.
- **Ethical principles:** Procurement activities must comply with SOL's Code of Conduct and be transparent, fair, and free from corruption. Conflicts of interest must be identified and avoided.
- **Responsibility and sustainability:** The organisation is committed to considering both social aspects and environmental aspects as part of procurement decisions.

2. Financial and Strategic Boundary Conditions

- **Budget and Financial Planning:** Procurements may only be made within the limits of the approved budget.
- **Cost Efficiency:** The goal is to achieve the best possible price-quality ratio. Decision-making should primarily be based on lifecycle costs, not just purchase price.
- **Strategic Alignment:** Procurements must support the organization's values and overall strategic objectives, such as profitable growth, strengthening market position, or digital transformation.
- **Risk Management:** Procurements must minimise supply chain risks, such as delivery disruptions, quality issues, or reputational damage.

3. Operational and Process-Related Boundary conditions

- **Competitive Tendering:** As a general principle, procurements should be subject to competitive tendering.
- **Documentation and Traceability:** Each competitive tender must be properly documented to ensure audits and transparency.
- **Supplier Management:** Wherever possible, only approved or pre-evaluated suppliers should be used. SOL regularly assesses suppliers' operations.

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