

## SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT POLICY

### 1. INTRODUCTION

RA International recognises the importance of sustainability in all aspects of our operations, including procurement. This policy outlines our commitment to sustainable procurement practices that prioritise environmental, social, and economic considerations throughout the procurement process.

### 2. OBJECTIVES

**Reduce environmental impact:** We aim to minimise resource consumption, waste generation, and emissions associated with procurement activities.

**Support social responsibility:** We strive to promote fair labour practices, diversity, inclusion, and actively combat any form of modern slavery within our supply chain.

**Ensure economic viability:** We look to optimize costs while supporting local economies and fostering innovation among suppliers.

**Enhance transparency and accountability:** We maintain clear documentation and reporting mechanisms to track progress and compliance from our suppliers.

### 3. SCOPE

This policy applies to all procurement activities undertaken by our organisation, including but not limited to goods, services, and construction projects.

### 4. PRINCIPLES

Our sustainable procurement practices are guided by the following principles:

**Environmental sustainability:** Prioritize products and services with lower environmental impacts, promote energy efficiency, and reduce carbon footprint.

**Social responsibility:** Ensure suppliers adhere to ethical labour standards, including fair wages, safe working conditions, and reasonable working hours; respect human rights, and support diversity and inclusion.

**Economic viability:** Optimize value for money by considering total cost of ownership, life cycle assessments, and long-term benefits.

**Collaboration and innovation:** Foster partnerships with suppliers to promote sustainable practices, innovation, and continuous improvement.

Compliance and transparency: Adhere to relevant laws, regulations, and industry standards while maintaining transparency in procurement processes.

## 5. RESPONSIBILITIES

**Board:** The Board is responsible for overseeing the strategic direction of sustainable procurement, ensuring it is aligned with the organization's overall goals, and reinforcing our commitment to sustainability at the highest level.

**Management:** The management team is responsible for setting the overall direction and objectives of sustainable procurement, providing necessary resources, and monitoring performance.

**Procurement staff:** Procurement personnel are responsible for implementing sustainable procurement practices, conducting supplier evaluations, and promoting sustainability criteria in procurement decisions with the support of our Head of Sustainability and our Group Compliance Officer.

**Suppliers:** Suppliers are expected to comply with our sustainability requirements, provide accurate information, and actively participate in sustainability initiatives.

## 6. PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Our procurement process integrates sustainability considerations at various stages:

**Needs assessment:** Identify sustainability requirements and preferences early in the procurement planning phase.

**Supplier selection:** Evaluate suppliers based on sustainability criteria such as environmental certifications, social responsibility policies, and ethical practices. See Third Party Diligence Policy [CPL-0015-POL] for further details.

**Contract negotiations:** Include sustainability clauses and reporting requirements in contracts to monitor compliance.

## 7. TRAINING AND AWARENESS

We provide training and awareness programs to employees involved in procurement to ensure they understand and implement sustainable procurement practices effectively.



**8. CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**

We are committed to improving our sustainable procurement practices through regular reviews, stakeholder engagement, and performance monitoring. Nevertheless, our ability to maintain this sustainable approach can be impacted by client specifications. To fully honour our commitment to sustainable procurement, it is crucial for clients to align with our values and objectives. We encourage clients to incorporate sustainable procurement principles into their project requirements and product specifications wherever possible.

**9. REVIEW AND UPDATES**

This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure its effectiveness, relevance, and alignment with organisational goals and external requirements. Updates will be made as necessary to reflect changing circumstances and advancements in sustainable procurement practices.

By adhering to this Sustainable Procurement Policy, we demonstrate our commitment to environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic sustainability while contributing to a more sustainable future for our organisation and society at large.

Soraya Narfeldt  
CEO

Policy Implementation/ Review Date	Next Policy Review Date
26 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	27 <sup>st</sup> June 2026