



Environment and Spatial Planning
*Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and
the Environment*

Criteria for the Sustainable Public Procurement of
**Earthworks,
Preparation of Building Sites and
Remediation/Soil Decontamination**

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These criteria for Sustainable Public Procurement were developed by NL Agency at the request of the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM). The programme for sustainable operational management for public authorities (DBO) is a joint initiative of the Dutch Government, the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG), the Association of Provincial Authorities (IPO) and the Association of Water Boards (UvW).

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1 Introduction

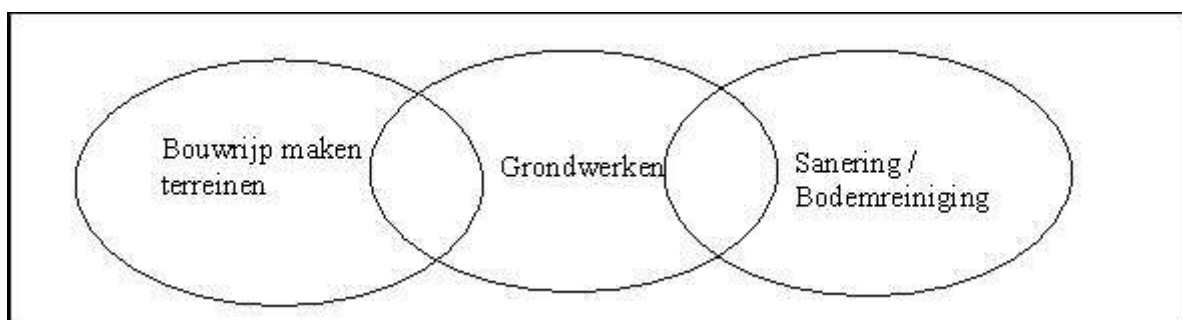
The Dutch government wants to take concrete steps towards a sustainable society, and to set a good example. Each year, government organisations spend more than EUR 50 billion on the purchase of Supplies, Services and Public works. By purchasing sustainably, the government can significantly boost the market for sustainable products. Governmental authorities have set clear objectives to achieve this: the central government is aiming for 100% sustainable procurement in 2010, while the municipalities aspire towards 75% in 2010 and 100% in 2015. Provincial governments and water boards have set themselves the target of at least 50% in 2010. 100% sustainable procurement is understood to mean that that all purchases meet the minimum requirements that have been set for the relevant product groups at the time of purchase. More information on this topic is available from the website Sustainable Procurement (www.agentschapnl.nl/sustainableprocurement).

NL Agency supports government authorities in various ways to help reach these objectives. These include developing criteria for Supplies, Services and Public works procured by these authorities. This document focuses on the criteria for the Earthworks, Preparation of Building Sites and Remediation/Soil Decontamination product group, the elaboration of the criteria in specification texts and a more detailed assessment of the criteria, as well as a number of points for attention in the pre- and post-procurement stages. Additional background information and considerations regarding the content of the criteria can be found in the criteria document on the website Sustainable Procurement www.agentschapnl.nl/duurzaaminkopen/criteria, available in Dutch only.

Government is a major principal for Earthworks, Preparation of Building Sites and Remediation/Soil Decontamination. Attention to sustainability in this, for example the re-use where possible of soil streams, can reduce the removal and processing of soil and can save costs, energy and the emission of damaging substances due to transportation.

1.1 Definition of the product group

All three product groups, Preparation of Building Sites, Earthworks and Remediation/Soil Decontamination, concern interventions in the soil, in which the displacement of soil or spoil takes place to a greater or lesser extent. The product groups have much overlap.



Bouwrijp maken terreinen = Preparation of Building Sites

Grondwerken = Earthworks

Sanering/ Bodemreiniging = Remediation/Soil Decontamination

Traditional soil decontamination is an earthwork, but an earthwork may involve more than soil decontamination. The Soil Protection Act determines, based on the quality of the soil, whether

you are decontaminating the soil or whether it is an 'ordinary' excavation. Another form of soil decontamination is cleaning up the soil on location (in situ), where no earthmoving takes place, other than installing facilities and the like. Further, water bed decontamination is included in the product group Hydraulic Engineering constructions.

The preparation of building sites is opted to be a separate product group, because this is a frequently-occurring task for municipalities. Site preparation is the technology of making the soil and hydrology ready for the building of houses, infrastructure, commercial buildings, etc. Specific attention is paid to foundations, creation of embankments, stabilisation of raised sites, draining, drainage, sewerage, the growth environment, cables and pipework, etc. In site preparation, earthwork is an important aspect in every case. Within site preparation are included aspects which may be seen in other product groups including drainage of rainwater and sewerage (in the product group Sewerage systems). After rounding off all product groups in 2009 it will be verified that no subjects overlap or have been forgotten.

The transport of soil has been considered as an important sustainability aspect. Criteria for this are not included in this document. You will find these with the product groups Heavy-Duty Motor Vehicles, Mobile Equipment and Transport Services.

To make it easier for the contracting authority, you will find below a number of CPV codes that might be of relevance to this product group. The selection is by no means exhaustive or complete. The contracting authority will remain responsible for compiling the correct set of CPV codes to match the relevant tender.

Product group	CPV code	CPV description
Building site preparation	45100000-8	Site preparation work.
	45220000-5	Engineering works and construction works.
Earthworks		
Design and consultancy		
Construct	45112000-5	Excavating and earthmoving work.
	45221210-7	Covered or partially covered excavations.
Remediation/soil decontamination		
Design and consultancy	71351500-8	Ground investigation services.
Construct	45112340-0	Soil decontamination work.
	90522000-2	Services relating to contaminated soil.
	90523000-9	Toxic waste disposal services except radioactive waste and contaminated soil

2 Sustainability in the procurement process

The criteria in this document have been classified in the various steps of the public procurement process. More information about these steps and how to combine them with sustainability can be found in the Sustainable Public Procurement Manual. This manual can be downloaded from the website Sustainable Procurement www.agentschapnl.nl/sustainableprocurement.

2.1 Preparatory stage (points for consideration)

Every purchase or call for tender starts with drawing up the inventory of the needs of the internal or external customer. Sustainability can be incorporated into this stage by considering whether the purchase is truly necessary and whether a more sustainable alternative might be available. No specific points for consideration have been developed for the procurement of the product groups Earthworks, Preparation of Building Sites and Remediation/Soil Decontamination.

2.2 Specification stage (criteria)

During the specification stage, the needs of the internal or external customer are translated into a tender document. This stage entails the formulation of:

- Criteria for supplier qualification. These could include grounds for exclusion, suitability requirements, i.e. requirements with regard to suppliers, and, in the case of restricted procedures, any selection criteria, i.e. wishes with regard to suppliers.
- A description of the minimum requirements pertaining to supply, service or task (the Schedule of Requirements).
- Award criteria, i.e. wishes regarding Supplies, Services and Public works. These are only applicable when the tendering process is based on the principle of the Most Economically Advantageous Offer ('Economisch Meest Voordelige Inschrijving' or EMVI).
- The contract stipulating the contract provisions.

More information on the various types of criteria and the various tender options can be found in the Sustainable Public Procurement Manual. Innovation is also included in the award criteria, where relevant. Innovation is oriented towards the development and introduction of new ideas and products.

The criteria in this document have been formulated to support the purchaser in the Sustainable Public Procurement of Earthworks, Building Site Preparation and Remediation/Soil Decontamination. The criteria have been subjected to legal review. However, every procurement and tender process is unique. For that reason, the drafting of a tender document remains the responsibility of the purchaser.

2.2.1 Supplier qualifications

No criteria have been formulated for this specific product group with regard to supplier qualification. More information on the possibilities of incorporating sustainability at this stage of the process can be found in the Sustainable Public Procurement Manual.

2.2.2 Schedule of requirements

For these specific product groups, specifications are applicable as formulated in the product groups:

- Heavy Duty Motor Vehicles
- Mobile Equipment
- Hiring in of Road Transport

You will find criteria for the product groups listed above at <http://www.agentschapnl.nl/duurzaaminkopen/criteria>.

2.2.3 Award criteria

Award criteria (desires w.r.t. supply/service/work)

Only applicable to the product groups Building Site Preparation and Earthworks.

Award criterion no.1	Soil balance The less the transport of soil, which is suitable as a secondary building material, occurs over the boundaries of a work, the higher the tender will be evaluated. This criterion will be evaluated as follows: The larger the proportion of soil released from the work (possibly in exchange with neighbouring works) which is used within the work (in volume percentage/m ³ or mass percentage/ton) the higher the tender will be evaluated. <u>Means of proof:</u> 1. A description of the tenderer's soil stream plan.
Notes for purchaser	In the award, a tender with a completely closed soil balance (released soil which is suitable as secondary building material is completely re-used) may for example be evaluated higher than a tender which does not have a completely closed soil balance. The purchaser will determine the unit to be used (m ³ or tons) depending on the nature of the work. The purchaser must determine in advance with which neighbouring works exchange can take place.

	<p><u>Verification of means of proof:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. No further verification.
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2.2.4 Contract

No contract provisions have been formulated for these product groups.

2.3 Utilisation stage (points for consideration)

Once the procurement stage has been concluded and a product or service has been purchased, there are opportunities for using the product in a sustainable manner. No specific points for consideration have been formulated for the product groups Earthworks, Preparation of Building Sites and Remediation/Soil Decontamination.