



Australia: the “Workplace Gender Equality” – Procurement Principles and User Guide



Public Procurement Principle: **Balance, Capacity**



Procurement Stage: **Pre-tendering, Tendering**



Audience: **Procuring entity, Policy makers,**

Description

The Workplace Gender Equality Procurement Principles describes the Australian Government procurement policy associated with the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012 Cth (WGE Act). The Principles have been developed as part of the Government’s commitment to fairer and more consistent measures for ensuring the Government only deals with organisations who comply with the WGE Act. Where the Principles apply, non-public sector employers with 100 or more employees in Australia must supply a letter of compliance with their tender submission or prior to contracting with the Australian Government. “Letters of compliance” are issued by the Workplace Gender Equality Agency.

These Principles are part of the Australian Government’s financial management framework, which creates an overarching requirement to manage an agency’s affairs efficiently, effectively, economically and ethically and in accordance with the policies of the Government.

The Principles have been developed to assist:

- Potential suppliers/tenderers and relevant employers – to understand the Australian Government’s expectations and requirements for making submissions and/or being awarded Australian Government contracts
- Officials – to perform their procurement related duties in accordance with Australian Government policies
- Australian Government agencies – to ensure the effective and consistent application of this procurement policy.

The accompanying User Guide describes the roles and responsibilities of those organisations that are required to apply the Principles. It also sets out the model clauses

for use by Australian Government agencies. (While meeting the WGEA is mandatory, use of the model clauses is optional.)

The Guide includes further practical information, such as a simplified flowchart of the procurement process for potential suppliers and tenderers under the Principles, a simplified flowchart outlining the key steps to be taken by Australian Government agencies and officials, and a section on Frequently Asked Questions by suppliers and by procuring agencies.

Source: OECD (2021) Promoting gender equality through public procurement: Challenges and good practices
<https://doi.org/10.1787/5d8f6f76-en>

