

Infrastructures.cat favors environmental and social criteria in the adjudication of public initiatives.

- **It will introduce new auditable criteria in specifications to raise awareness of the need to deal with climate change and adopt measures of equality and labor insertion in the execution of those installations.**
- **This initiative is part of the Green Public Procurement Plan for Catalonia 2022-2025 which aims to increase the volume of contracts with environmental clauses by up to 50% in 2025.**

The Board of Directors of Infraestructures.cat, the public entity of the Generalitat, responsible for the execution of Government initiatives and the maintenance of its public facilities, has agreed to introduce new environmental and social criteria in its tender documents for the projects it manages. The purpose is to include equality measures and objectives, as well as labor insertion, and environmental objectives, so that they can be audited in the execution phase of the initiatives, and help to make the sector aware of the need to confront climate change.

This decision is part of [Catalonia's Green Public Procurement Action Plan for 2022-2025](#), approved by the Government last March with the aim of increasing, improving and advancing in the application of environmental criteria to public contracts, so that the economic volume of the tenders that include these clauses increase by up to 50% in 2025.

The criteria to be incorporated in the first phase are the following:

Environmental criteria:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂ equivalent) in transport of work materials.
- Evaluate the supply of materials with an environmental product declaration (DAP).
- Evaluate specific certificates related to sustainable exploitation in the origin of wood and the absence of volatile products in paints.

Social criteria:

- Evaluate activities subcontracted to special work centers or companies with social and labor insertion, registered in the records of the corresponding department competent in that matter, and/or with non-profit entities for the integration of people at risk of exclusion.

The Catalonia's Infrastructure Administration Council has agreed that, although there may be adaptations to each specification where these criteria are applied, it is sought that they be relevant enough to have an impact on the awards. One aspect, will be the assessment of the greenhouse gas emission reduction criterion, while considering parameters such as:

- For each construction tender, some significant material(s) will be selected by transportation need (with relevant total weight to be transported).
- Each bidder must indicate the distance from the origin or manufacturing plant of each material to the construction site, according to the type of transport (D1 by truck, D2 in train and D3/D4/D5 in different types of ship), and provide some characteristics of the road transport (type of fuel used and Maximum Authorized Mass of the truck).

The highest score will be obtained by the bidder that justifies the lowest emissions, for the combination between a shorter transport distance and/or the use of more efficient means of transport. The emissions corresponding to each material will be weighted according to the weight in transport.

Sustainable Hiring

The Green Public Procurement Action Plan 2022-2025 is part of [Catalonia's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), especially in objective 12 of sustainable development that bets on the responsible consumption and production to mitigate climate change and make the transition to a circular economy, neutral in CO₂ emissions.

The text approved by the Government on March 22 established different strategies such as promoting sustainable environmental hiring, incorporating a circular economy in public purchase, and the awareness and training of public purchasers or hiring entities. In terms of contracting, in the 2018-2020 period, on average, the awards that included environmental clauses accounted for 40.6% of the amount total awarded. The objective is to increase the economic volume of the tenders that include these clauses up to 50% in the year 2025.