

***GSA Acquisition Policy
Federal Advisory Committee -
GAP FAC
Public Meeting***

December 5, 2023

Federal Advisory Committees

The Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA)

- Balanced membership of experts from multiple sectors
- Objectivity, transparency & independence

A long-standing American Tradition



Member Roll Call

GSA Leadership Remarks

Krystal Brumfield, GSA Associate Administrator,
Office of Government-wide Policy

Jeff Koses, GSA Senior Procurement Executive

Committee Leadership Remarks

Troy Cribb, Chair

Cassius Butts, Co-Chair

Agenda



- Guest Speaker and Discussion - Julia Comeau and Kelsey Kober, Hewlett Packard
- Guest Speaker and Discussion - Elena Hoffnagle, Kailey Burger Ayogu, and Neha Gupta, Harvard Kennedy School
- Acquisition Workforce Subcommittee Recommendations
- Vote on Recommendations
- Industry Partnerships Subcommittee Recommendations
- Vote on Recommendations

Agenda (Cont.)



- Policy and Practice Subcommittee Recommendations
- Vote on Recommendations
- Public Comment
- Closing Remarks

Overview of Recommendations

- **Acquisition Workforce Subcommittee**
 - Third Party Training Selection
 - Emphasize Experiential Learning
 - Data Standardization, Collection, and Training
 - Artificial Intelligence Task Force
- **Industry Partnerships Subcommittee**
 - Identify, engage and onboard innovative new entrants leveraging Challenge.gov
 - Implement a GSA task force to explore partnerships and next steps for advancing maturity model
 - Lighthouse - A network of networks

Overview of Recommendations (Cont.)



- **Policy and Practice Subcommittee**
 - Reduction of PFAS in Federal Procurement
 - Reducing Human Health Risks Associated with Federal Procurement
 - Sustainable Procurement Center of Excellence

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Acquisition Workforce Subcommittee Recommendations

Acquisition Workforce Subcommittee

Members



| | | |
|---|---|------------|
| Nicole Darnall Chair, Arizona State University | Anne Rung Chair, Varis | Co- |
| C. Gail Bassette, Bowie State University | Darryl Daniels, Jacobsen Daniels Assoc. | |
| Mark Hayden, State of New Mexico | David Malone, AquireIQ | |
| Steve Schooner, George Washington University | Kirstin Seaver, General Dynamics Information Technology | |
| Clyde Thompson, GovStrive LLC | | |

Subcommittee Mission & Priorities

MISSION

To **empower and equip** the Federal Acquisition Workforce to **prioritize environmental outcomes and promote sustainability** throughout the acquisition lifecycle.

PRIORITIES

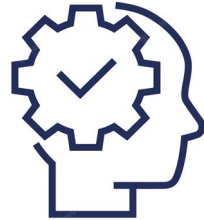
1. Identify the **essential pathways** needed to make sustainability considerations a **core competency** in Federal acquisitions. 
1. Identify the **critical levers** needed to **empower the acquisition workforce** to prioritize sustainability with the **least amount of effort**. 

Recommendations



1.

Third party training selection:
Issue a request for information



2.

Emphasize **experiential learning**



3.

Establish **federal data standards and protocols**



4.

Convene an **artificial intelligence task force**

Who We Engaged



GSA Tech Tools + Data (end purchasers)

- Michael Bloom, GSA
- Brennan Conaway, GSA
- Michael Cooper, GSA
- Stephen Baker, GSA
- Kehinde Odebbo, GSA

GSA Category Management

- Bowen Fong
- Denise Elsbernd, Deputy Category Manager for the Facilities and Construction Category
- Warren Blankenship, PM for the IT Category, GSA
- Kelly Seacrist, Member of IT Category team, GSA

Environmental Protection Agency

- Holly Elwood, Senior Advisor, Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program
- Jenni Romer, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Pollution Prevention

Who We Engaged



DOE and DOI PRISM Users

- Deshonjla Peterson, DOE, Chair, Federal PRISM Users Group
- Ron Blake – DOE, Director of IT procurement system of acquisitions management
- Jenny Beale – DOE, FPDS, PRISM user
- Terri Diehl – DOE, PRISM User
- Rebecca Reilly – DOI, Management analyst, PRISM user

IRS – Artificial Intelligence in Federal Purchasing

- David Gill, IRS Procurement Data Scientist

Vendor Perspectives

- Steve Noyes, Senior VP, Global Accounts and Public Sector Sales, Clover Imaging
- Savannah Kernc, Chief Operating Officer, Document Imaging Dimensions

Artificial Intelligence in Contract Management

- Otto Hanson, Founder & CEO, Termscout

1. Third Party Training Selection: Issue an RFI



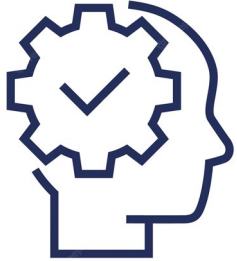
As GSA embeds sustainability considerations across the Federal acquisition lifecycle all acquisition workers will need basic climate change training. Many third party trainers exist.

*Recommend that GSA **issue a request for information** to learn more about third-party training opportunities*

Five selection criteria for third party trainers:

1. Reputation and independence
2. Adaptability and quality
3. Track record and affordability
4. Accessibility and continuous learning
5. Scaling and networking

2. Emphasize Experiential Learning



As GSA considers its training options, we **recommend that all training** (including training offered by third-party providers) **emphasizes experiential learning** to foster a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

Recommend **four key elements** to create a dynamic learning environment that combines theory and practice:

1. Hands on learning
2. Practical application
3. Integration and relevance
4. Creativity and problem solving

3. Establish Federal Data Standards and Protocols



GSA should **develop and lead a cross-agency effort that establishes a federal data standard and protocols** for ecolabel certifications and utilization.

Important stakeholders to involve:

- GSA's Chief Sustainability Officer
- GSA's Chief Data Officer

Suggested areas for GSA to explore:

1. Review ecolabel standards under product families
2. Work with suppliers on correct categorization of ecolabel standards
3. Provide the acquisition workforce with additional ecolabel data
4. Standardize data across federal agencies
5. Develop training and design feedbacks on existing tools

4. Convene an Artificial Intelligence Task Force



Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be an important tool to empower the acquisition workforce to embed sustainability into federal acquisition.

- ***Convene a task force to assess AI's potential***
 - Ensure alignment with GSA's goals, privacy and security requirements, and the public's best interests
- ***Recommended representation:*** GSA's Office of Government-wide Policy, GSA's Artificial Intelligence Center of Excellence

Use cases:
IRS,
Treasury

Opportunities to embed sustainability into federal acquisition:

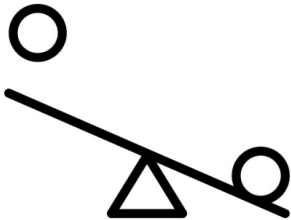
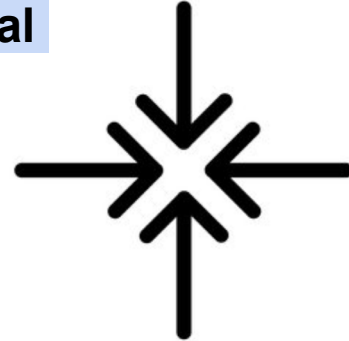
1. Improved Market Research
2. Regulatory Conformance
3. Improved Decision-Making
4. Risk Management

Next Steps

Structural Alignment

The GAP FAC's May 2023 recommendations discuss several **structural alignments need further elaboration:**

- Job descriptions that include sustainability expectations
- Incentive alignments
- Performance plans/reviews
- Leverage alignments to attract new talent



Automation

Explore new and emerging technologies as a means to empower the acquisition workforce to prioritize sustainability.

Questions & Answers

| | |
|---|---|
| Nicole Darnall Chair, Arizona State University | Anne Rung Co-Chair, Varis |
| C. Gail Bassette, Bowie State University | Darryl Daniels, Jacobsen Daniels Assoc. |
| Mark Hayden, State of New Mexico | David Malone, AquireIQ |
| Steve Schooner, George Washington University | Kirstin Seaver, General Dynamics Information Technology |
| Clyde Thompson, GovStrive LLC | |

Thank you to the many individuals who generously gave their time to meet with us and answer our questions.

Vote on Recommendations

Yes(Y), No(N), or Abstain(A)

Full Committee Voting



- **Acquisition Workforce Subcommittee**
 1. Third Party Training Selection
 2. Emphasize Experiential Learning
 3. Data Standardization, Collection, and Training
 4. Artificial Intelligence Task Force

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Industry Partnerships Subcommittee Recommendations

Industry Partnerships Subcommittee

Members

| | |
|---|---|
| Kristin Seaver, Chair, General Dynamics Information Technology | Farad Ali, Co-Chair, Asociar LLC |
| Denise Bailey, Philadelphia International Airport | C.Gail Bassette, Bowie State University |
| Susan Lorenz-Fisher, AmerisourceBergen Corp. | Mamie Mallory, Mallory & Associates, LLC. |
| Deryl McKissack, McKissack & McKissack | Stacy Smedley, Building Transparency |
| Nigel Stephens, U.S. Black Chambers of Commerce | Keith Tillage, Tillage Construction, LLC |
| Dr. David Waggoner, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries | Dr. Kimberly Wise White, American Chemistry Council |

Subcommittee Mission



To provide the full GAP FAC, and in turn GSA, with recommendations on how best to

identify, engage and equip a broader and more diverse supplier base

to achieve the government's goals of

sustainability, environmental justice, economic equity, and a resilient domestic supply chain

With a specific focus towards

Small, mid sized, underutilized, underrepresented businesses as well as new entrants.

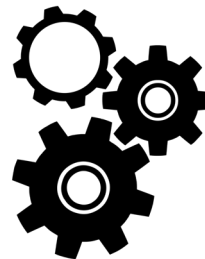
Subcommittee Priorities

Impactful engagements that address the target market and broaden the pool of viable suppliers



Target market

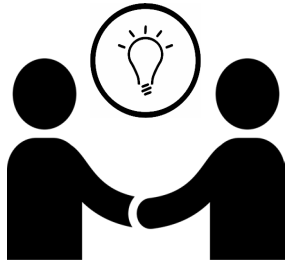
small, midsize, underutilized, and underrepresented businesses, as well as innovative and new entrants



Metrics, motivations and methods that can be developed and deployed to *validate meaningful progress, inspire action beyond mere compliance, and share lessons learned and best practices* across the federal supplier base

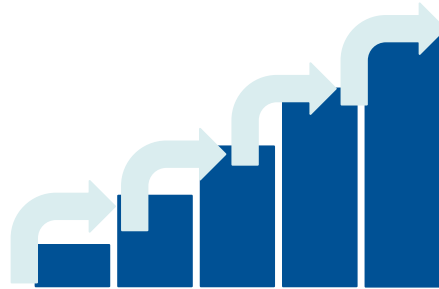
Recommendations

Challenge.Gov



Recommendation #1:
Identify, engage and onboard innovative new entrants leveraging Challenge.gov

Maturity Model



Recommendation #2:
Implement a GSA task force to explore partnerships and next steps for advancing maturity model

Lighthouse



Recommendation #3:
A powerful network broadcasting signals far and wide across an existing and potential supplier landscape.



Introduction - Recommendation #1

Leverage **CHALLENGE.GOV**, “*where innovators are inspired to meet challenges big and small*”

- Industry Partnership Subcommittee offers a refined recommendation focusing on an existing mechanism to expand GSA’s search aperture.
- Leverage [Challenge.gov](https://www.challenge.gov) to create or sponsor a series of challenges to target new and innovative entrants and invite them to help solve sustainability and climate challenges.
- GSA will send a strong demand signal that there is an important place in the federal supply pool for these new entrants as well as signal to the emerging companies, new industry micro segments, and investors what is most important to GSA.



Description - Recommendation #1

Hosting challenges also allows GSA to engage with micro market segments that often are not reached by traditional procurement measures.

The process is built on 5 critical steps:

- Agency identifies pressing problem sets in a special area of sustainability and/or climate risk mitigation in acquisitions (could be product, services or acquisition process)
- Agency formulates a challenge strategy around the problem set and desired outcomes.
- Agency announces a prize competition and invites the public to solve it.
- Participants create and submit solutions to the problem.
- Agency evaluates solutions and awards prizes to the best ones.



Pathway to Progress

The committee recommends that GSA proceed intentionally across four key facets to execute a successful Challenge.gov

Problem Set

- Solicit across Agency
- Novel solutions
- Alignment to GSA priorities
- Scope clarity
- Desired outcome clearly articulated

Evaluation

- Transparent evaluation criteria and process
- Diverse participation on evaluation panel
- Effective communications throughout with solver teams

Marketing

- Promotion strategy to maximize reach
- Multi channel communications (traditional and non)
- Predetermine avenues to connect winners with opportunities

Prize

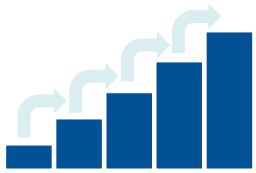
- Solicit input on most effective prizes for target community
- Design to attract a larger solver community
- Leverage the entire process as learning opportunity for all involved



Considerations - Recommendation #1

Given that Challenge.Gov is an established and supported channel, It is recommended that GSA apply a design thinking approach to proceeding.

1. Start small but with the purpose to learn, grow and increase competency in matching innovative solutions to emerging problem sets.
2. Solicit feedback and select 2 to 3 pilot challenges that are significant to GSA. This could be the result of an agency wide discovery effort to identify and select candidate challenge opportunities.
3. Establish a task group to lead the challenge definition and management process in coordination with the Challenge.gov team.
4. Conduct challenges, one at a time, and apply lessons learned after each cycle to continuously improve the process.
5. Learn from and throughout the entire process.
6. Based on learnings refine communication and marketing approach to drive more problem sets channeled through Challenge.gov to search for and find innovative new entrants.

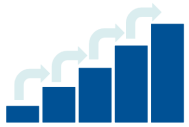


Introduction - Recommendation #2

GSA sponsor sustainability and climate risk maturity model

The faster more suppliers can better understand how to drive delivery of sustainable services and understand why and how to mitigate climate risk in their own businesses, the sooner GSA can meet its goals of maximizing sustainable acquisitions in the shortest period possible, while strengthening the resilience of the government's supply chain.

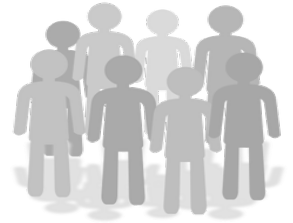
- Based on feedback from GSA and subsequent discovery, the Industry Partnership Subcommittee offers a refined recommendation focusing on potential first steps GSA can consider in exploring this recommendation further.
- GSA, through the lens and power of federal acquisitions, has the opportunity to pull a common thread and lead a collaborative effort to pursue this recommendation further, by creating a task force to identify the best partners to participate in the sponsorship of the maturity model.

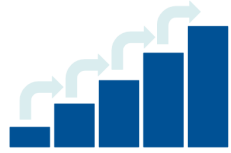


Description - Recommendation #2

Maturity Model Task Force - Consider three first steps for proceeding.

1. Create a cross agency task force to pursue interest.
 - FAS - Category Management Office
 - GSA Office of Governmentwide Policy
 - EPA Center for Corporate Climate Leadership
 - Council on Environmental Quality, Office of the White House
1. Use the RFI process to solicit third party support to assist GSA in the coordination and development activities.
1. Develop specific recommendations for how GSA can build and enhance partnership and networking with affinity groups, such as ACT-IAC to participate in the sponsorship, creation, and communication of the model.





Conclusion - Recommendation #2

Maturity Model Task Force - Consider the benefits

- Implementing an industry-facing maturity model for climate and sustainability is not merely a strategic choice but an essential step toward a resilient and responsible Federal supplier base.
- By embracing this model/framework, industry partners could confidently progress towards sustainability goals, stay ahead of regulatory requirements, and most importantly, demonstrate a commitment to a sustainable future.
- The benefits are not just theoretical; they are the tangible markers of a smart business strategy and GSA's dedication to responsible practices and long-term success in sustainable acquisition practices.



Introduction - Recommendation #3

Lighthouse- A network of networks

- Critical need to *identify, recruit, and retain innovative, emerging, small and underrepresented businesses* related to sustainability, renewable energy, and other top government priorities.
- *Declining numbers of small and underrepresented businesses* within the federal market supply chain driving the need to *create systems, structures, and processes that will increase the number of businesses* within the supply chain.
- The number of small business prime federal contractors has fallen from 121,181 in FY 2009 to 62,670 in FY 2022 *a decline approaching 50%* over the past 13 years.



Description - Recommendation #3

Lighthouse- A transformative recommendation

- The creation of a networking exchange or community poised to ***function as a powerful lighthouse, broadcasting signals far and wide across*** an existing and potential supplier landscape.
- An ***opportunity to illuminate a diverse spectrum of possibilities*** for addressing any urgent federal procurement challenges.
- Strengthen ties within our existing federal ecosystem and also ***extend an invitation to new entrants seeking impactful business engagements.***
- Call to action, recommending GSA to construct ***a lighthouse that guides and attracts partners*** towards a future of ***collaboration and success.***



First Step - Recommendation #3

Lighthouse First Step - Establish Lighthouse Council

Goal/Mission

- To assist with the planning, creation and launch of the GSA Lighthouse initiative
- To facilitate and enhance collaboration, making it easier for innovative, emerging, small and underrepresented businesses to participate in federal opportunities
- To foster innovation and drive expansion of the federal supplier base by providing a seamless bridge between GSA and entrepreneurial talents

Target Participation

- Start-ups, small, and innovative businesses looking to expand into government
- Procuring authorities seeking to engage with diverse businesses
- Incubators, accelerators, chambers of commerce, and industry associations
- Policy Makers: Those shaping government procurement policies and regulations



Forward Focus- Recommendation #3

Lighthouse- A network of networks

Move forward in a phased approach

- Phase 1: Planning groundwork, laying the foundation of community's infrastructure.
- Phase 2: Engaging early adopter and key stakeholders, building collaborative spirit.
- Phase 3: Expand community by welcoming a broader supplier base.
- Phase 4: Continue to optimize and evolve based on feedback

The creation of such a vibrant community will serve not only as a beacon for diverse opportunities but also as a testament to GSA's commitment to fostering meaningful connections.

Other Topics In-Progress

Recommendations for Future Consideration

Accelerate capacity building by creating a **digital marketplace of best practices**

Leverage the power of the large suppliers to drive expansion and capacity by creating incentives for them to partner with small businesses and new entrants.

Provide a **higher level of data access, fidelity and transparency** on climate progress

Develop **collaboration/performance metrics** for measuring effectiveness of engagement

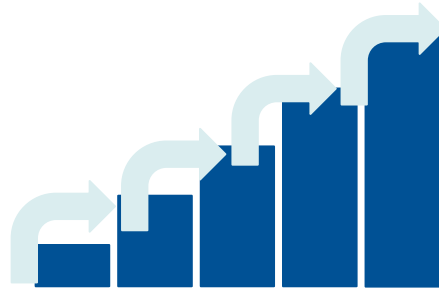
Questions & Answers

Challenge.Gov



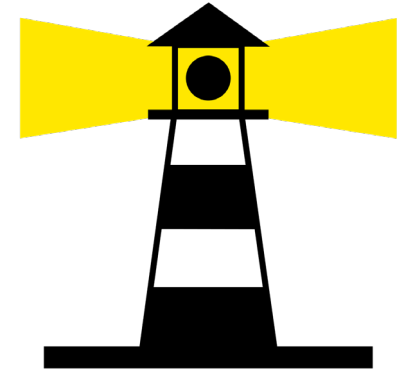
Recommendation #1:
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Maturity Model



Recommendation #2:
Implement a GSA task force to explore partnerships and next steps for advancing maturity model

Lighthouse



Recommendation #3:
A powerful network broadcasting signals far and wide across an existing and potential supplier landscape.

Vote on Recommendations

Yes(Y), No(N), or Abstain(A)

Full Committee Voting



- **Industry Partnerships Subcommittee**

1. Identify, engage and onboard innovative new entrants leveraging Challenge.gov
2. Implement a GSA task force to explore partnerships and next steps for advancing maturity model
3. Lighthouse - A network of networks



Policy & Practice Subcommittee Recommendations

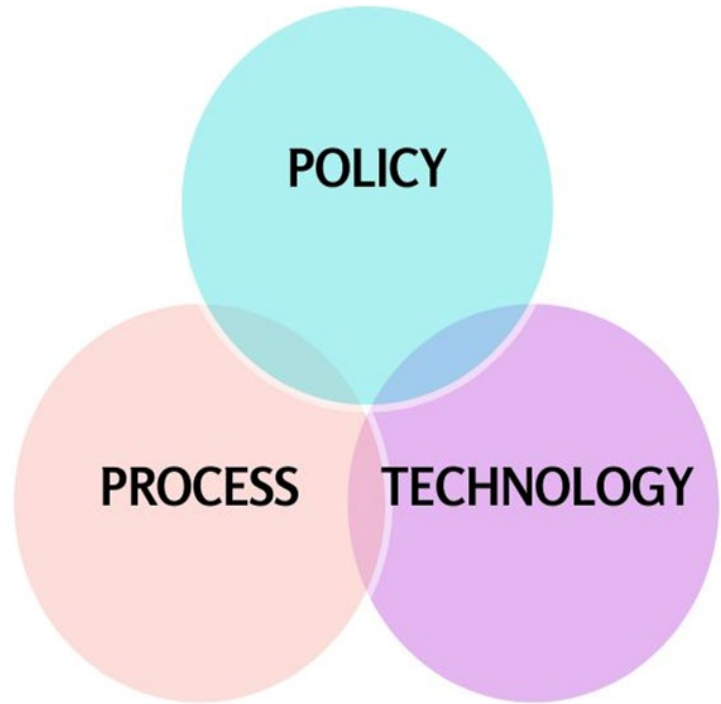
Policy & Practice Subcommittee

Members

| | |
|--|--|
| Luke Bassis, Chair, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey | Dr. David Wagger, Co-Chair, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries |
| Richard Beutel, Cyrrus Analytics LLC | Leslie Cordes, Ceres |
| Nicole Darnall, Arizona State University | Antonio Doss, Small Business Administration |
| Mark Hayden, State of New Mexico | Dr. Amlan Mukherjee, WAP Sustainability Consulting |
| Jennie Romer, Environmental Protection Agency | Steven Schooner, George Washington University |
| Stacy Smedley, Building Transparency | Nigel Stephens, U.S. Black Chambers of Commerce |
| Anish Tilak, Rocky Mountain Institute | Dr. Kimberly Wise White, American Chemistry Council |

Mission and Priority Areas

The Policy and Practice Subcommittee's *mission* is to recommend **actionable changes** to GSA procurement policies and practices that **encourage innovation and streamline** the acquisition process to **accelerate the demand and utilization** of goods and services from a diverse supplier base to achieve measurable progress on climate and sustainability goals.



Informed by Broad Expertise & Diverse Perspectives

- Michael Bloom, Office of Federal High-Performance Green Buildings, Office of Government-wide Policy
- Scott Cassel, MCP, Chief Executive Officer and Founder, Product Stewardship Institute
- Alicia Culver, Responsible Purchasing Network
- Patricia Dillon, Vice President, Criteria & Category Development, Global Electronics Council
- Sarah Doll, National Director, Safer States
- Marcus Grubbs, Enterprise Sustainability Planner, Officer of Enterprise Sustainability
- Elena Hoffnagle, Director of Procurement Research and Development, Harvard Government Performance Lab
- Yonn Huemer, Associate Partner, McKinsey & Company
- Tom Johnson, Government Relations Director, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Lena Kofas, Environmental Protection Specialist, PBS Office of Facilities Management
- Jeanette M. Moy, Commissioner, New York State Office of General Services
- Amanda Nicholson, MBA, Chief Operating Officer, Product Stewardship Institute
- John Reeder, Vice President, Federal Affairs, Environmental Working Group
- Anna Shpigel, Deputy Assistant Secretary and Chief Climate Officer, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Operational Services Division
- Rachel Simon, Senior Manager, Technology Assessment & Resource Development, Global Electronics Council
- Robert Simon, American Chemistry Council
- Adina Torberntsson, Procurement Analyst General Services Acquisition Policy Division Office of Government-wide Policy
- Jay West, American Chemistry Council

Engaging Member Expertise and Passions

01

PFAS Task Group

- Foundation: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are known to be problematic for human health and the environment and present in materials and products procured by the Federal government.
- Approach: Identification of materials and products likely to contain PFAS and creation of processes and procedures to reduce acquisition of such products and materials.

02

Reducing Human Health Risks Task Group

- Foundation: It is important for Federal procurement to ensure the safety of procured materials and products and to address the potential risks from possible exposures to chemicals.
- Approach: Science-based, pilot projects, data, hierarchies

03

State Best Practices Task Group

- Foundation: State and Local Municipalities were implementing sustainable procurement in innovative and diverse ways, achieving sustainable outcomes that could inform the work of the GAP FAC
- Approach: Research best practices, speak to local procurement leaders, determine what works, assess whether applicable to the GSA

Reducing PFAS in Federal Procurement

GSA should begin processes to identify products that may contain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and to reduce acquisition of products that may contain PFAS in future federal procurement.

These initial recommendations are consistent with our mandate to recommend actionable changes that encourage innovation and accelerate the demand and utilization of goods and services to achieve measurable progress on climate and sustainability goals.

Background

- As the largest purchaser in the world (\$700 billion annually), the U.S. government has a tremendous opportunity through federal procurement to reduce demand for PFAS and acquisition of PFAS into federal facilities and operations.
- The U.S. government has recognized PFAS as a human health and environmental issue.
- Activities to reduce federal procurement of PFAS are currently underway and may be required to some degree in the near future via federal legislation.
- These policy and legislative initiatives, while essential steps, must be codified and reinforced with the formulation of specific procurement and acquisition practices that advance the eventual goal of a PFAS-free supply chain.

Considerations



- The federal acquisition workforce is historically and currently understaffed and burdened with innumerable (often competing) legislative and regulatory policy mandates, including many social and economic considerations, and therefore clear and unequivocal guidance is essential.
- Avoid unintended consequences, such as regrettable substitutions or other important environmental and human health issues.
- Exemptions should be considered for other key priorities, such as national defense, disaster recovery, disability accommodations, medical use, and personal protective equipment.

Building on Existing Initiatives



- Federal purchasers are directed to procure sustainable products and services per Executive Order 14057, OMB Memo 22-06 and the Federal Sustainability Plan.
- The Federal Sustainability Plan and OMB Memo 22-06 directs federal purchasers to prioritize the procurement of products that do not contain PFAS.
- Any acquisition policy addressing PFAS must be clear, unambiguous and easy to administer for the acquisition workforce.

Initial Recommendations



The GSA Should:

- Consider product categories that have already been identified by other state and federal programs.
- Ascertain which PFAS to address more generally, which may include a phased approach.
- Continue to utilize ecolabels as a method for identifying products that do not contain PFAS.
- Address PFAS through updating contract language (e.g., government-wide Class Deviation, on prioritized products).

Initial Recommendations (cont.)

The GSA Should:

- Incorporate efforts into GSA Tools for ease of use (e.g., GSA Advantage, Sustainable Facilities (SF) Tool Product Search etc.).
- Conduct supplier outreach by asking GSA suppliers whether certain products or product categories contain PFAS.
- Provide supply chain incentives (e.g., Challenge Prize competitions).
- Develop in-house sustainability expertise (e.g., Sustainable Procurement Center of Excellence).

Conclusions



- The U.S. government has recognized PFAS as a human health and environmental issue.
- GSA has a tremendous opportunity through federal procurement to reduce demand for PFAS and acquisition of products containing PFAS .
- GSA can build on existing efforts to reduce federal procurement of PFAS in products and be ready to implement expected future PFAS-related requirements.
- GSA should adopt these recommendations to leverage the power of federal procurement spending to reduce PFAS in procurement as part of its overall efforts on sustainable acquisition.

Reducing Human Health Risks in Federal Procurement

GSA should adopt the recommendations below to develop improved procurement processes to reduce human health risks associated with federal procurement through science-based review and evaluation, ingredient and chemical disclosure, use of exposure and hazard information, and establishment of preference hierarchies.

Background

- Ensuring the safety of federally procured products and addressing their potential risks due to possible exposure to chemicals are important objectives to incorporate into the federal process for sustainable acquisition.
- Beyond assessment and mitigation of exposure to chemicals for users of procured materials and products, there is a notable gap in chemical ingredient disclosure by suppliers. Improving ingredient disclosure will support more informed decision-making on selection and purchasing of materials and products.
- These recommendations offer guidance on how GSA can take meaningful next steps to develop improved procurement processes for reducing human health risks associated with procured materials and products.

Approaches



- Apply science-based approaches in review and evaluation of materials and products to support the procurement of sustainable products that advance climate and human health goals.
- Improve and pilot procurement processes that establish protocols for suppliers to disclose ingredients and their chemical composition.
- Incorporate, where feasible, exposure and toxicity data to inform the selection of materials and products.
- Work towards setting a hierarchy of preferences that encourage the procurement and use of materials and products that present a lower risk to human health and the environment based on a consideration of their hazard and exposure profiles.

Recommendations

The GSA Should:

- Identify a subset of procurement categories (e.g., building materials, cleaning supplies) to pilot the inclusion of preferred procurement criteria for materials and products that include chemical ingredient disclosure.
- Develop with relevant federal agencies (e.g. EPA) a list of chemistries that are currently being evaluated as high priorities and the product categories that are being evaluated and considered by those federal agencies.
- Work with relevant federal agencies to share and incorporate available alternative assessments that have been developed or are being developed by other agencies (e.g., EPA's Safer Choice Program).
- Move toward implementation and institutional capacity building through pilot projects, after above recommendations commenced.

Conclusions



- Ensuring the safety of federally procured products and addressing their potential risks due to possible exposure to chemicals are important objectives to incorporate into the federal process for sustainable acquisition.
- Development of improved procurement processes for reducing human health risks associated with procured materials and products can be realized through multiple approaches including science-based review and evaluation, ingredient and chemical disclosure, use of exposure and hazard information, and establishment of preference hierarchies.
- GSA should adopt these recommendations for reducing human health risks associated with federal procurement as part of its overall efforts on sustainable acquisition.

Sustainable Procurement Center of Excellence



The GSA should establish a Sustainable Procurement Center of Excellence to educate, accelerate innovation, share information, establish best practices and serve as a resource to all federal agencies, states and local municipalities looking to advance sustainability in acquisitions.

Background

- State and local governments face the same challenges as the GSA in implementing sustainability into their procurement policies
- 34 states have some procurement policy that advance sustainability
- The diverse approach to incorporating sustainability into state and local acquisitions has led to unique approaches, experimentation and innovation
- The GSA is uniquely situated to serve as the center for this age of innovation

Evolution of a Concept

- Analysis of state executive orders, laws and policies
- Meetings with state procurement officials + industry representatives to understand best practices
- Discussions led to ideas that warranted more study:

| | |
|--|--|
| Contract Stewardship Model | Capacity Building/Technical Assistance |
| Centralization of Asset Reduce/Reuse/Recycling Programs | Establishing a Framework for Vendor Evaluations |
| Mandatory/Minimum Specification | Public Reporting That Reinforces Stewardship and Helps Decision Makers |
| Vendor Affirmation as to Past Practices | Create an Office of Enterprise Sustainability |

The Center of Excellence Model

Procurement leaders create centers of excellence (COEs) to drive strategic performance by concentrating and enhancing expertise.

- [Gartner Research, Launching Procurement Centers of Excellence](#)

A key way Procurement leaders implement strategy is by “Creating purposeful/thoughtful teams focused on efficiently and effectively executing common tasks in shared services or centers of excellence (CoEs) (e.g., business engagement, sourcing, contracting, risk management, and analytics) and composed of specialists (internal and external)” - [Deloitte CPO Survey](#)

2023

Center of Excellence

“a group of people with specialized skills and expertise whose job is to provide leadership and purposely disseminate that knowledge within your organization.” - [Project Management Institute](#)

Procurement Center of Excellence

“a specialized team that provides leadership, training, and support to improve procurement best practices across an organization.” - [Fairmarkit](#)

Sustainable Procurement Center of Excellence

A cross-jurisdictional team of procurement experts that improves coordination amongst public bodies and provides leadership, training, guidance and assistance to develop and disseminate best practices to help embed sustainable procurement into public procurement policies, practices and procedures.

Considerations

- The structure of a Center Excellence is a function of its mission
- Stakeholder involvement and engagement will be dependent upon the mission
- The Center of Excellence should be resourced like other COE's, and pull from state and local procurement officials to serve in leadership and advisory capacities



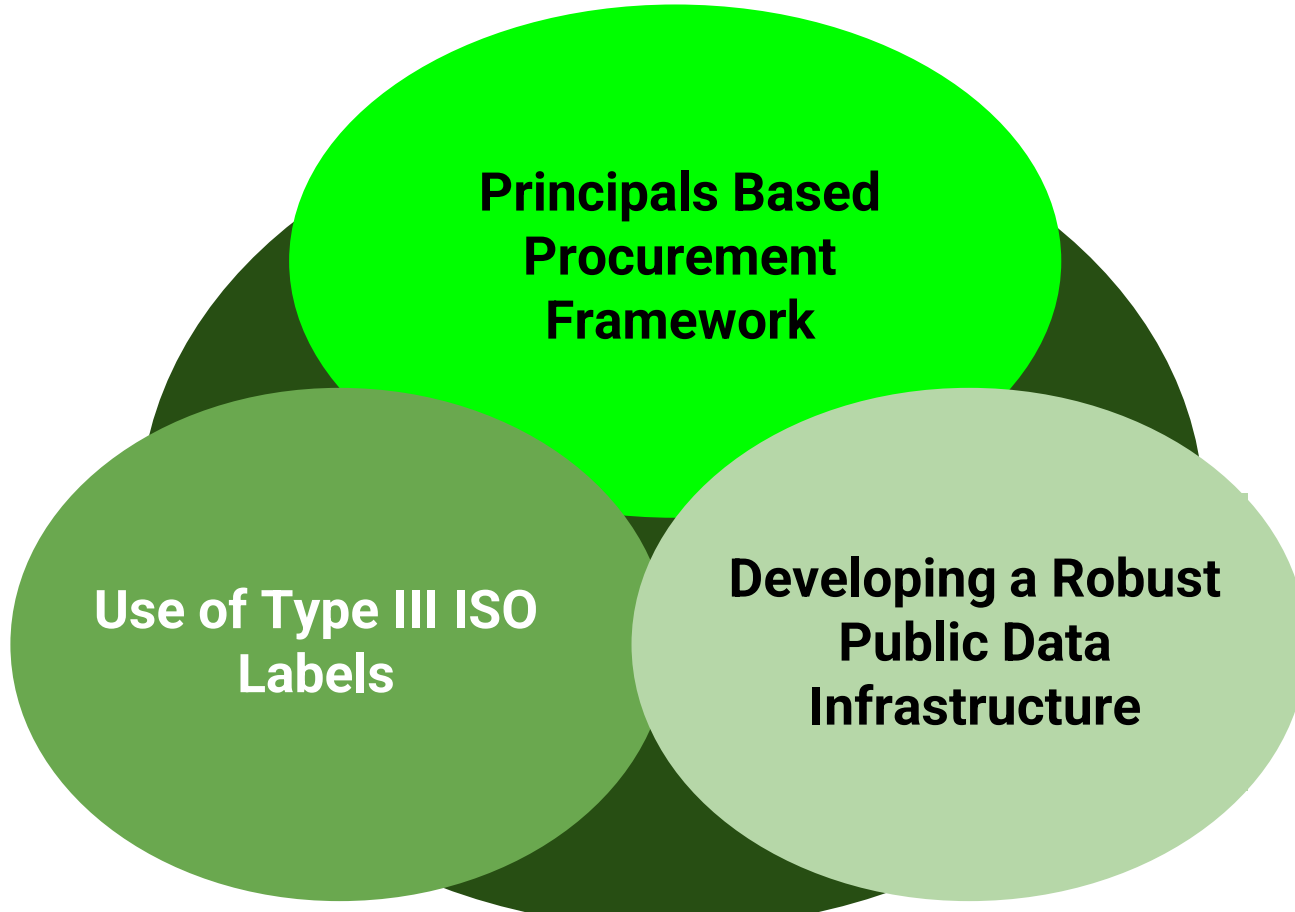
Conclusions



GSA should immediately move forward with taking the required steps to create a Sustainable Procurement Center of Excellence

- Inaction will result in avoidable, regrettable failures and inconsistent outcomes
- The opportunity to maximize and amplify innovation in affected industries is now
- State and local government procurement officials NEED resources, tools and an avenue to ideate solutions and obtain guidance on best practices and policies
- Government contractors benefit from uniformity in order to prepare, plan and respond accordingly
- As more states adopt climate goals, the need for credible resources will grow exponentially

Other Topics In-Progress



Questions & Answers



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Vote on Recommendations

Full Committee Voting



- **Policy and Practice Subcommittee**

1. Reduction of PFAS in Federal Procurement
2. Reducing Human Health Risks Associated with Federal Procurement
3. Sustainable Procurement Center of Excellence



Public Comment

Overview of Recommendations

- **Acquisition Workforce Subcommittee**
 - Third Party Training Selection
 - Emphasize Experiential Learning
 - Data Standardization, Collection, and Training
 - Artificial Intelligence Task Force
- **Industry Partnerships Subcommittee**
 - Identify, engage and onboard innovative new entrants leveraging Challenge.gov
 - Implement a GSA task force to explore partnerships and next steps for advancing maturity model
 - Lighthouse - A network of networks

Overview of Recommendations (Cont.)



- **Policy and Practice Subcommittee**
 - Reduction of PFAS in Federal Procurement
 - Reducing Human Health Risks Associated with Federal Procurement
 - Sustainable Procurement Center of Excellence

The image features a background of a blue geometric pattern composed of various sized triangles and polygons, creating a low-poly or crystalline effect. The colors range from a light, medium blue on the left to a very dark, almost black blue on the right. Centered over this pattern is the text "Closing Remarks" in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

Closing Remarks



Thank You!

For more information about the committee visit the GAP FAC Website:

<https://www.gsa.gov/policy-regulations/policy/acquisition-policy/gsa-acquisition-policy-federal-advisory-committee>

Written comments can be submitted via email to:

gapfac@gsa.gov



GAP FAC Member Biographies

Chair and Co-Chair Biographies



Troy Cribb, Chair

Director of Policy at Partnership for Public Service. She works to improve government management and strengthen the United States civil service through development of policies to help modernize government management



Cassius Butts, Co-Chair

Chief Strategy Officer and Managing Partner at Global Leader Group. Currently leads start up corporation focused on helping organizations achieve excellence through the expert areas via practitioner consulting, learning, and development.

Member Biographies



Farad Ali

President and Chief Executive Officer of Asociar Limited Liability Company. For 20 years, he has worked to strengthen the asset base of diverse populations through policy, education and economic opportunities for women and minority business enterprises.



Denise Bailey

Deputy Director of Aviation for Business Diversity and Accessibility, Philadelphia International Airport. She has years of experience managing and growing small, minority and women-owned businesses. She is a subject matter expert in a variety of areas in government contracting and transportation arenas.



C. Gail Bassette

Executive Director for Economic Development and Strategic Engagement at Bowie State University. Vast knowledge and experience as a federal government contractor and business advisor working with state and federal government lawmakers.

Member Biographies



Luke Bassis

Procurement Director for Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. A proven innovator and leader with accomplishments in strategic procurement transformation and implementing innovative solutions in complex institutions to meet diverse business goals.



Richard Beutel

Principal Researcher at George Mason University. He believes that modernizing government infrastructure is essential to bringing a modern customer experience to underrepresented communities.



Leslie Cordes

Vice President for Programs at Cetes. She has extensive background in clean energy and energy efficiency program development, domestic and international energy policy, strategic planning, nonprofit operations, and budget development.

Member Biographies



Darryl Daniels

Principal and Chief Executive Officer of Jacobsen Daniels Associates. Background and experience as a professional architect, planner, and aviation thought leader that provides the unique combination of lived and professional knowledge relevant for the work of the committee.



Nicole Darnall

Foundation Professor at Arizona State University's School of Sustainability and Founding Director of ASU's Sustainable Purchasing Research Initiative. Her research uses theories of change to assess organizational approaches to improve global sustainability, especially related to sustainable procurement.



Antonio Doss

Deputy Associate Administrator for Office of Government Contracting and Business Development for United States Small Business Administration. He is passionate about growing local economies and supporting the development needs of all entrepreneurs.

Member Biographies



Mark Hayden

Division Director for State Purchasing Division at New Mexico General Services Department. Recognized leadership in state government strategy including legislative drafting and promulgating procurement code rules.



Susan Lorenz-Fisher

Senior Vice President of Corporate Responsibility & Sustainability at AmerisourceBergen Corporation. Leading sustainability developer responsible for environmental, social, and governance practices in the healthcare industry.



Mamie Mallory

President and Chief Executive Officer of Mallory and Associates, LLC. Her career includes many years of experience as a project manager and management/executive experience in Federal service.

Member Biographies



David Malone

David is the founder and president of AcquireIQ, LLC, a supply chain consulting and training company focused on helping organizations expand their procurement and supply chain value proposition through the optimization of people, process, and technology.



Deryl McKissack

Founder, Chairwoman and Chief Executive Officer for McKissack & McKissack. As the founder and CEO of one of the nation's largest and oldest minority- and women-owned architecture, engineering and construction firms, she brings decades of experience.



Amlan Mukherjee

Director of Sustainability at WAP Sustainability Consulting. His professional work has direct implications to sustainable procurement methods using Life Cycle Assessment based instruments.

Member Biographies



Jennie Romer

Deputy Associate Administrator for Pollution Prevention at the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. She has more than a decade of experience as an attorney and sustainability consultant.



Anne Rung

Senior Vice President for the Public Sector at Varis LLC. Served as U.S. Chief Acquisition Officer, she was responsible for implementing acquisition policies on behalf of the White House covering more than \$440 billion in annual federal contract spending.



Steven Schooner

Nash and Cibinic Professor of Government Procurement Law at George Washington University Law School. He has decades of experience in acquisition policy and sustainability, with a strong background in acquisition; U.S. public procurement law and Federal Acquisition Regulations.

Member Biographies



Kristin Seaver

Vice President of Strategic Client Engagement for the Federal Civilian Division at General Dynamics Information Technology. As Chief Information Officer at the Postal Service, she was highly engaged with industry, building partnerships and technology roadmaps and facilitating agile, impactful procurements.



Stacy Smedley

Executive Director for Building Transparency in Seattle Washington. Sustainability leader for the building and construction industry, prioritizing the development of sustainable built spaces to improve the occupant experience and create positive impacts on the humans.



Nigel Stephens

Principal at Phoenix Strategies, Inc. He has been working on political campaigns to drive initiatives around innovation and Information Technology modernization, small business and entrepreneurship, minority business development, modernizing government, and economic development.

Member Biographies



Clyde Thompson

Senior Vice President for GovStrive LLC. While at the United States Department of Agriculture, he set management agendas, executed multi-billion dollar annually appropriated budgets, and safeguarded portfolios valued in excess of \$125 billion.



Anish Tilak

Manager with the Rocky Mountain Institute's Carbon-Free Buildings program. He comes from a strong building science background, and is developing technical research to provide subject matter expertise to support public agencies in advancing decarbonization programs and policies.



Keith Tillage

Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Tillage Construction, LLC. He participates directly as the Principal-in-Charge on all projects: oversees all projects: and ensures they are executed and completed on time and below budget.

Member Biographies



Dr. David Waggoner

Chief Scientist and Director of Environmental Management for Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries. Skilled at analyzing complex environmental situations, distilling them down to their basic principles, and communicating them to a broad variety of audiences.



Dr. Kimberly Wise White

Vice President for Regulatory and Scientific Affairs at American Chemistry Council. She has the scientific training, technical and policy expertise, and industry perspective needed to provide the views of an industry sector that touches virtually every product or material used.