



## **Winter 2022 Greening Government Meeting Summary (Virtual)**

January 19, 2022, 9-11am EST

Representatives from 44 countries from every region of the globe attended an event on January 19, 2022 about how national governments can strategically use the power of green procurement to achieve sustainability and climate goals while stimulating growth within their economies. Titled “Green Procurement: A Powerful Pathway to affect Change,” it was the second official meeting of the Greening Government Initiative (GGI)—a first of its kind forum for greening government operations—and was co-hosted by Federal Chief Sustainability Officer (FCSO) Andrew Mayock from the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and Executive Director for the Centre for Greening Government at the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, Nick Xenos. Nick Xenos opened the meeting with updates on GGI since the fall meeting.

The meeting featured three speakers, all of whom are championing greening procurement initiatives in their respective countries. Karin Hiller, Deputy Head of Austria’s Department for Integrated Product Policy, Environmental Protection, outlined Austria’s approach, which among other elements, requires federal ministries to consider sixteen criteria related to environmental compatibility as part of the awards procedures. Vanessa Toré, Director of Foreign Economic Cooperation at Curaçao’s Ministry of Economic Development, outlined Curaçao’s ongoing efforts to engage the private sector and civil society to integrate common criteria into greening initiatives and launch the first green public procurement this February. Gareth Rhys Williams, the United Kingdom’s Government Chief Commercial Officer, described the country’s recent policy to require suppliers bidding for major public contracts to commit to Net Zero by 2050 and disclose their GHG emissions or face deselection from the procurement process. This acts as a transparent and powerful way of improving private sector commitments and action on climate change through public procurement.

A robust Q&A session followed the presentations, reflecting the reality that governments globally face common challenges, considerations and opportunities in standing up green public procurement policies and practices, and that the GGI is a valuable source of insight and support.

To date, 41 countries have formally joined the initiative. GGI plans to hold its third meeting in April 2022.

For more information about the Greening Government Initiative visit [www.sustainability.gov/GGI](http://www.sustainability.gov/GGI)

Questions and feedback should be directed to [GGI@ceq.eop.gov](mailto:GGI@ceq.eop.gov).