

Development of a Sustainable Procurement Model for the Construction Industry

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The need for construction projects to be effectively procure in a sustainable manner is of great importance. The aim of the proposed study is to develop a sustainable procurement model that will enable effective project delivery with focus on the triple bottom line of sustainability. The study will investigate how the three major goals of sustainability (environmental, social and economic) can be adequately addressed during procurement of construction projects. Furthermore, the study will examine the suitability of the various procurement system in achieving projects that will be sustainable. Some of the questions that will guide the study are: Suitability of the various procurement systems in enhancing effective sustainable practice; how the current practices in the construction industry promotes the adoption of sustainability; the level of involvement of stakeholders in promoting the adoption of sustainability; what will be the effect of adopting sustainability procurement to the supply chain. Intensive literature review shall be carried out in conducting the study on issues of sustainability, sustainable construction globally and in the Irish context, sustainable procurement and other countries experiences in delivering sustainable projects. The methodical approach will be to establish an understanding of sustainable approaches to procurement. Collection of Data will be through possible interviews, questionnaires and case studies of the construction industry innovative sustainable projects in Ireland and other parts of the world. This research will develop a framework that can provide a guide to all construction stakeholders. The research will report and disseminate finding/knowledge gained in academic Journals, Conferences and workshops. It will also provide guide to stakeholders in attaining to achieve sustainability goals in procurement. Also new grounds in research will be open because achieving sustainability in a project is not the beginning to an end but an end to the beginning.

Keywords: Sustainable procurement, Sustainability, Construction Industry