Specification sheet
for food products (fruits and vegetables)

Field of application

This specification sheet is regulating the procurement of food products and includes specifications/requirements for contracting organic fruits and vegetables.

Impact on the environment:

- The toxic impact on human health and environment (plants and animals) due to residues, fertilizers and pesticides present in water, air, soil and food products;
- The negative impact on occupational health of farmers due to the wrongful manipulation and use of certain pesticides and fertilizers;
- Soil erosion, deforestation and loss of biodiversity, caused by inappropriate agricultural practices;
- Packaging waste.

Tackling green public procurement:

- Procurement of organic food products;
- Procurement of seasonal products;
- Procurement in packages with a high level of recycled content;

Criteria for green public procurement regarding food products

For purchasing organic food products, the contracting authority shall use the criteria listed below (the list is not exhaustive) regarding the environmental protection, protection, maintenance and increase of soil fertility, conservation of natural resources, decrease to minimum in the use and consumption of chemical substances, increase of the flow of products and of the number of producers in the field of organic agriculture.
Specifications:

1. Procurement of organic food products, such as „fruits and vegetables” in accordance with the Regulations and standards in force regarding organic products;
2. Procurement of food products „fruits and vegetables” when a certain percentage of products comes from organic production [the contracting authority can identify a group of products, a list of certain products or a percentage of the value of purchased food products, which cannot be less than 15% from the total amount of products].

Verification: products bearing the national ecolabel “Agricultura Ecologică – Republica Moldova” (“Organic Agriculture – Republic of Moldova”), shall be considered verified. Apart from that, the existence of other national or foreign ecolabels, which certify that products are organic, shall be accepted only under the principle of “mutual recognition”.

The national trademark „Agricultura Ecologică – Republica Moldova” (“Organic agriculture – Republic of Moldova”)

*Note: The contracting authority shall additionally specify in the tender documentation the technical description of the good/product in accordance with the needs of the institution, taking into account the generic technical requirements, included as annex to the Guide of Good Practices in the field of Public Procurement.

Mandatory requirements:
1. **Packaging and labelling of organic products**

The supplier shall observe the provisions related to products’ packaging and labelling, so that they arrive undamaged at the final destination.

Products shall be delivered in packages created mostly from renewable raw materials. The packaging of organic products must be made of biodegradable materials, which do not contaminate the products and the environment.

Organic products must be labelled and/or accompanied by a document on which is written the name of the product, name and address of the producer (person or company), the name of the body who conducted the inspection, production or processing methods and the specification “organically certified products”. It is allowed to use derivatives and diminutives, such as “bio”, used independently or in combinations.

2. **Transport**

The transport is provided by the supplier to the beneficiary. Suppliers should use vehicles appropriate for organic products.

- Vehicles for the transportation of food products must be sanitarily authorized, kept clean and operational for protecting the food from contamination;
- Vehicles must be cleaned up with substances and materials admitted for organic products;
- Vehicles that are to be used for transporting food products must meet at least the EURO 4 requirements for emissions (the supplier must submit a list of vehicles that are to be used for the delivery of products and the specification sheets comprising the emission levels).

**Applicable award criteria:**

1. The lowest price and the observance of minimum requirements;
2. “The most economically advantageous tender” in accordance with the provisions of the standard documentation regarding the procurement
procedure of works and services. The contracting authority shall confer additional points for “higher performance comparing to the minimum requirements”. Points shall be conferred proportionally to the improvement of performances (the contracting authority shall specify in the tender documentation the points conferred for each assessment sub-criteria). Performance/impact criteria on the environment shall constitute at least 15% from the total conferred score.

*Note: “the most economically advantageous tender” criterion is consistent both in the case of procurement of only organic products, of a certain percent of organic products and in case of submitting joint organic and non-organic tenders. In such a case, the contracting authority shall specify in the tender documentation the sub-criterion regarding the “organic products/additional weight of organic products” and the appropriate score.