



# Certified in Planning and Inventory Management

Sustainability Strategy  
and Standards





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# Sustainability Strategy and Standards

## 1. Triple Bottom Line (TBL) Framework

The Triple Bottom Line evaluates organizational performance based on **people, planet, and profit**. For CPIM, understanding TBL ensures supply chain decisions balance financial outcomes with environmental and social responsibility. TBL encourages companies to design processes that minimize waste, improve worker well-being, and maintain long-term viability. In strategy development, TBL helps leaders justify sustainability investments and align them with business objectives. TBL also serves as a communication tool for reporting progress to stakeholders. Mastery of this framework is critical for developing sustainable operations and making decisions that meet both regulatory and market expectations.

## 2. Corporate Sustainability Strategy Development

A sustainability strategy outlines long-term commitments to environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and ethical operations. It integrates goals, KPIs, policies, and initiatives across the supply chain. Strategic planning includes assessing material issues, engaging stakeholders, and identifying areas such as carbon reduction, waste minimization, and ethical sourcing. The strategy must align with overall corporate objectives and be supported by leadership. In CPIM, understanding how sustainability is embedded into planning, sourcing, production, and logistics ensures coherent execution. It acts as a roadmap for achieving compliance, improving brand value, and supporting competitive advantage.

### **3. Environmental Management Systems (EMS)**

An EMS is a structured framework—often based on ISO 14001—that helps organizations manage environmental impacts. It includes policy development, planning, implementation, training, auditing, and continuous improvement. EMS enables a company to systematically identify environmental risks, set objectives, and track targets such as emissions, energy consumption, waste, and water usage. Certification increases credibility and helps meet regulatory requirements. For CPIM professionals, EMS knowledge supports sustainable production planning, responsible procurement, and effective resource management. It ensures sustainability goals are integrated into daily operations and monitored through standardized procedures.

### **4. ISO 14001 Environmental Standard**

ISO 14001 provides internationally recognized guidelines for implementing an Environmental Management System. It focuses on compliance obligations, performance improvement, environmental risk assessment, and life-cycle considerations. Companies seeking ISO 14001 certification must document processes, conduct audits, and demonstrate measurable environmental performance improvements. Understanding ISO 14001 is vital for CPIM because it influences supplier requirements, process controls, waste management practices, and customer expectations. Knowledge of the standard ensures that operational planning supports sustainability targets and regulatory compliance. It also prepares professionals to manage audits and collaborate with cross-functional teams to maintain certification.

## 5. ISO 50001 Energy Management Standard

ISO 50001 provides a framework for improving energy performance through effective management practices. It supports organizations in reducing energy use, costs, and greenhouse gas emissions. The standard emphasizes energy reviews, performance indicators, monitoring systems, and continuous improvement. For CPIM, ISO 50001 is important because energy efficiency directly affects production planning, cost control, and sustainability reporting. Facilities that adopt ISO 50001 can better manage consumption patterns and integrate renewable energy sources. Knowledge of this standard enables supply chain professionals to design energy-efficient operations and support long-term sustainability objectives.

## 6. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol

The GHG Protocol is the global standard for measuring and managing greenhouse gas emissions. It classifies emissions into **Scope 1 (direct)**, **Scope 2 (indirect from energy)**, and **Scope 3 (supply chain and customer use)**. Understanding this structure is essential for sustainability strategies, especially for reporting and compliance. CPIM professionals use GHG data to calculate carbon footprints, evaluate supplier performance, and develop reduction plans. The protocol also guides carbon accounting and helps organizations meet stakeholder expectations for transparency. Mastery improves the ability to design low-carbon processes and support climate-related initiatives.

## **7. Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)**

Life Cycle Assessment evaluates environmental impacts across a product's entire life—from raw material extraction to disposal. LCA identifies hotspots in energy use, waste generation, and emissions, enabling organizations to make better design and sourcing decisions. For CPIM, LCA helps determine sustainable material choices, production methods, and transportation options. It also supports circular economy initiatives such as remanufacturing and recycling. Companies use LCA results to guide product redesign, reduce total cost of ownership, and meet sustainability targets. Understanding LCA strengthens operational planning and strategic environmental decision-making.

## **8. Circular Economy Principles**

Circular economy strategies focus on keeping materials in use through reuse, repair, remanufacturing, and recycling. It replaces the traditional “take-make-dispose” model with regenerative processes that minimize waste. CPIM professionals must understand how circular principles impact product design, reverse logistics, and inventory management. Implementing circular models reduces environmental footprint and supports long-term resource availability. Companies adopting circular practices improve cost efficiency and meet regulatory and consumer expectations for sustainability. Mastery of these principles helps design supply chains that support closed-loop systems and enable new business models such as product-as-a-service.

## **9. Sustainable Procurement and Sourcing Standards**

Sustainable procurement ensures suppliers follow environmental, ethical, and social responsibility practices. Procurement strategies use supplier codes of conduct, auditing standards, certifications, and sustainability scorecards. CPIM professionals need to understand compliance requirements such as conflict-free materials, labor standards, waste management, and carbon reporting. Sustainable sourcing strengthens supply chain resilience by reducing risk and improving supplier reliability. It also enhances brand reputation. Knowledge of frameworks such as ISO 20400 (Sustainable Procurement) helps create criteria for supplier selection and performance evaluation. This ensures that sustainability goals extend throughout the supply chain.

## **10. Social Sustainability and Ethical Standards**

Social sustainability focuses on fair labor practices, worker health and safety, community impact, and human rights. Organizations adopt standards such as SA8000, UN Global Compact principles, and industry-specific codes of conduct. CPIM professionals must understand how social responsibility affects sourcing, production planning, facility operations, and audits. Social sustainability is critical for compliance, risk mitigation, and maintaining consumer trust. It also ensures supply chain partners meet legal and ethical expectations. Mastering this area helps professionals design operations that prioritize employee well-being and community benefits while avoiding reputational and legal risks.

## 11. Environmental Regulations and Compliance

Environmental regulations govern emissions, waste disposal, chemical handling, and resource use. Examples include REACH, RoHS, Clean Air Act, and local environmental policies. Compliance ensures companies avoid legal penalties and operational disruptions. CPIM professionals must understand how regulations affect sourcing decisions, materials selection, facility planning, and production processes. Environmental regulations also drive innovation by encouraging the adoption of cleaner technologies and sustainable practices. Knowledge of compliance frameworks helps integrate these requirements into planning, documentation, and performance monitoring, ensuring operations meet environmental expectations and support long-term sustainability goals.

## 12. Sustainable Facility and Operations Standards

Sustainable facilities focus on energy efficiency, waste reduction, renewable energy, water management, and green building design. Standards like **LEED**, **BREEAM**, and **WELL** guide sustainable construction and operation. CPIM professionals must understand how facility design influences process flow, inventory storage, resource use, and productivity. Sustainable operations reduce costs and enhance workplace conditions. Green facilities also support regulatory compliance and reduce environmental footprint. Understanding these standards allows professionals to evaluate facilities' sustainability performance and identify opportunities for improvement, such as equipment upgrades, layout changes, and building retrofits.



### **13. Reporting Frameworks and Sustainability Disclosure Standards**

Organizations follow standardized reporting frameworks such as **GRI**, **SASB**, **CDP**, and **TCFD** to communicate sustainability performance. These frameworks define metrics for emissions, energy use, waste, water, and social impact. CPIM professionals must understand reporting requirements because they influence data collection, measurement systems, and performance tracking across the supply chain. Transparency strengthens investor confidence and supports regulatory compliance. Reporting frameworks also guide strategic decision-making by highlighting areas needing improvement. Mastery ensures supply chain plans align with disclosure expectations and that sustainability performance is accurately communicated to stakeholders.

### **14. Materiality Assessment**

A materiality assessment identifies the environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues most important to stakeholders and the business. It ensures sustainability strategies focus on high-impact areas such as emissions, waste, labor practices, or supply chain ethics. CPIM professionals benefit from understanding how materiality assessments guide priority-setting and resource allocation. The assessment process involves surveys, interviews, risk analysis, and benchmarking. Materiality results shape sustainability goals, KPIs, and reporting disclosures. Understanding this tool ensures strategic initiatives are aligned with stakeholder expectations and contribute to long-term operational improvement.

## **15. Sustainability KPIs and Scorecards**

Sustainability KPIs measure progress toward environmental, social, and governance objectives. Common indicators include carbon intensity, energy efficiency, waste reduction rates, water usage, safety incidents, and supplier compliance. Scorecards help evaluate internal performance and compare suppliers. For CPIM professionals, integrating KPIs into planning processes supports continuous improvement and objective decision-making. Sustainability KPIs also enable organizations to track progress against regulatory requirements and corporate goals. Mastery helps design performance monitoring systems and ensures reporting accuracy. Understanding KPIs enhances alignment between operational activities and strategic sustainability objectives.

## **16. Green Logistics and Transportation Standards**

Green logistics focuses on reducing environmental impact through optimized routing, fuel-efficient transportation, packaging improvements, and modal shifts. Standards and certifications, such as SmartWay, promote cleaner transportation practices. CPIM professionals must understand how transportation choices influence emissions, costs, and service levels. Green logistics strategies include load consolidation, route optimization, engine technologies, and electric vehicle adoption. Mastery of these concepts supports sustainability goals and operational efficiency. It also helps balance customer expectations with environmental responsibility, ensuring supply chain decisions reflect both performance and ecological considerations.

## **17. Sustainable Product Design Standards**

Sustainable design standards guide companies in creating products that minimize environmental impact throughout their life cycle. This includes using recyclable materials, reducing hazardous substances, improving durability, and designing for repairability. Standards such as eco-labels and energy-efficiency certifications provide frameworks for product assessment. CPIM professionals must understand how sustainable design affects production planning, sourcing decisions, and supply chain operations. Sustainable design supports circular economy initiatives and reduces long-term costs. Knowledge of these standards helps organizations meet regulatory requirements, enhance brand reputation, and create products aligned with sustainability expectations.

## **18. Sustainable Packaging Standards**

Sustainable packaging focuses on minimizing material use, improving recyclability, reducing carbon footprint, and avoiding hazardous substances. Standards such as FSC certification, recyclable content requirements, and biodegradable material guidelines influence packaging decisions. CPIM professionals must understand how packaging affects transportation efficiency, waste management, and product protection. Sustainable packaging strategies may involve lightweighting, design modifications, and supplier collaboration. Mastery enables organizations to meet customer expectations, reduce environmental impact, and align with regulatory requirements. It also supports circular supply chain initiatives and helps reduce total cost of ownership.

## **19. Sustainable Supply Chain Risk Management Standards**

Sustainability-related risks include climate risks, regulatory changes, resource scarcity, and social compliance issues. Standards such as TCFD and ISO 31000 help organizations assess and manage these risks. CPIM professionals must understand how sustainability risks affect capacity planning, supplier selection, logistics, and production continuity. Effective risk management ensures the supply chain remains resilient and adaptable. It also strengthens relationships with stakeholders and improves long-term business stability. Mastery of sustainability risk frameworks supports decision-making that balances cost, performance, and environmental responsibility.

## **20. Stakeholder Engagement Standards**

Stakeholder engagement ensures that sustainability strategies reflect the expectations of customers, regulators, employees, investors, and communities. Standards and guidelines help organizations conduct structured engagement through surveys, collaborative workshops, supplier dialogues, and community partnerships. CPIM professionals must understand how engagement impacts policy development, goal setting, and performance improvement. Effective communication enhances transparency, builds trust, and supports compliance. Mastering stakeholder engagement standards ensures sustainability initiatives are practical, inclusive, and aligned with long-term business objectives.

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# Micro-Learning Programs in Supply Chain Management



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2. Supply Chain Planning and Optimization
3. Demand Forecasting Techniques
4. Inventory Control and Management
5. Distribution and Logistics Strategy
6. Warehouse Layout and Operations Efficiency
7. Supply Chain Risk Management
8. Supply Chain Performance Metrics (KPIs)
9. Lean Supply Chain Practices
10. Agile and Responsive Supply Chains
11. Sales and Operations Planning (S&OP)
12. Supply Chain Network Design
13. Supply Chain Digital Transformation
14. AI and Data Analytics in Supply Chain
15. Supply Chain Sustainability and Green Logistics
16. Reverse Logistics and Returns Management
17. Supply Chain Collaboration and Integration
18. Supplier Relationship Management in SCM
19. Global Supply Chain Strategy
20. Transportation Management Systems (TMS)
21. Inventory Optimization Models
22. Demand-Driven MRP (DDMRP) Concepts
23. Blockchain Applications in Supply Chain
24. Supply Chain Cost Reduction Techniques
25. SCOR Model and Process Improvement

# Micro-Learning Programs in Supply Chain Management ...



26. Capacity Planning and Resource Allocation
27. Managing Supply Chain Disruptions
28. End-to-End Supply Chain Visibility
29. Cold Chain Logistics Management
30. Supply Chain Compliance and Ethics
31. Import–Export Procedures and Documentation
32. Managing Third-Party Logistics (3PL) Providers
33. Supply Chain Collaboration Technologies
34. Production Planning and Scheduling
35. Strategic Supply Chain Design Using Case Studies
36. Circular Economy in Supply Chain
37. Vendor-Managed Inventory (VMI)
38. Transportation Optimization Techniques
39. E-Commerce Supply Chain Models
40. Omni-Channel Fulfillment Strategies
41. Warehouse Automation and Robotics
42. SCOR DS Roadmap for Supply Chain Excellence
43. Customer-Centric Supply Chain Strategies
44. Supply Chain Finance and Working Capital Management
45. Supply Chain Data Visualization Using Power BI
46. Strategic Sourcing in Supply Chain Context
47. Supply Chain Benchmarking and Best Practices
48. Integrated Business Planning (IBP)
49. Supply Chain in Crisis Management and Recovery
50. Future Trends and Technologies in Supply Chain

# Micro-Learning Programs in Procurement



1. Fundamentals of Procurement Management
2. Strategic Sourcing and Category Management
3. Supplier Selection and Evaluation
4. Contract Management Essentials
5. Cost and Price Analysis in Procurement
6. Negotiation Strategies for Procurement Professionals
7. E-Procurement and Digital Tools
8. Procurement Planning and Budgeting
9. Risk Management in Procurement
10. Supplier Relationship and Performance Management
11. Sustainable and Ethical Procurement
12. Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) Analysis
13. Make-or-Buy Decision Frameworks
14. Procurement Policies and Governance
15. Procurement in Public vs. Private Sectors
16. Procurement Audit and Compliance
17. Procurement Data Analytics and Reporting
18. Procurement Scorecards and KPIs
19. Strategic Supplier Partnerships
20. Category Strategy Development
21. Managing Global and Offshore Procurement
22. Negotiation Simulation Workshop
23. Contract Law for Procurement Managers
24. Cost Reduction Strategies in Procurement
25. Supplier Risk Assessment Models



# Micro-Learning Programs in Procurement ...



26. Procurement Process Mapping and Improvement
27. Procurement Automation and AI Applications
28. Managing Procurement Teams Effectively
29. Procurement Ethics and Transparency
30. Procurement in the Digital Supply Chain
31. Vendor Consolidation Strategies
32. Spend Analysis and Optimization
33. Demand Forecasting for Procurement
34. E-Auction and Reverse Bidding Techniques
35. Inventory and Procurement Alignment
36. Procurement in Project-Based Organizations
37. Supplier Onboarding and Development
38. Procurement Market Intelligence
39. Measuring Supplier Innovation
40. Procurement in Times of Supply Disruption
41. Cross-Functional Collaboration in Procurement
42. Writing Effective RFPs, RFQs, and RFIs
43. Contract Negotiation Best Practices
44. Green Procurement and Circular Economy
45. Legal Aspects of Procurement Contracts
46. Performance-Based Contracting
47. Procurement Leadership and Strategic Influence
48. Cost Avoidance and Value Creation in Procurement
49. Managing Procurement with Power BI Dashboards
50. Future Skills and Trends in Procurement



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ASCM Referral Code  
**XEFGHYZ88**

[Certifications@Fhyzics.net](mailto:Certifications@Fhyzics.net)  
**+91-900-304-9000**

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