Working with supply chains to drive sustainability

Effective supply chain engagement can really drive sustainability and innovation through project delivery. Ineffective engagement can lead to capacity issues and clients not getting the best solutions, but effective engagement can reap rewards.

Don’t overlook smaller organisations
They can be more flexible, collaborative and willing to change and adapt to client needs. This means looking beyond traditional Tier 1s, consultants and advisors to seek out new ideas, innovation and really good practice.

Everyone need to actively own project outcomes
There is often a discrepancy between what gets presented at bid stage and the reality of what is delivered. Effective contract management and managing tender commitments is essential to ensure good project outcomes.

Collaboration drives innovation
Working in a collaborative way e.g. through alliances can help drive new ideas. Finding innovative ways to engage the Tier 2, specialists and manufacturers can facilitate better solutions and outcomes.

Behaviours are key
Seek out supply chain partners that are adaptable and willing to work with you to deliver sustainable outcomes. This is not always clear at tender stage.

Enforcement
There are ‘red card’ systems for health and safety. Perhaps the same is needed for sustainability.

Get involved
The Constructing Excellence Sustainable Infrastructure Forum was set up in partnership with CEEQUAL and ICE to delve deep into the issues impacting the delivery of Sustainable Infrastructure and is a forum to share best practice and lessons learnt. This content represents the views of participants of the Sustainable Infrastructure Forum.

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