





Sustainable Public Procurement for Practitioners

Essential elements of SPP?

UNEP has a long history of supporting green public procurement and leading on sustainable public procurement under SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and production). UNEP has produced various guidelines, policy briefs, assessments, and training manuals over the last two decades. Based on the comprehensive experiences collected through support for SPP by UNEP, following elements are considered as essential to establish and operationalise SPP.

- 1. Policy framework based on the assessment of current policies and learning from others
- 2. Institutionalisation of SPP in various sectors and at various levels of governance
- 3. Guidelines to elaborate the details of SPP for specific sectors, products and services
- 4. Incentive mechanisms to create level playing field for operationalisation of SPP
- 5. Establishing or accrediting certification processes and eco-labelling
- 6. Support market readiness for green production, green goods, and green services
- 7. Capacity building of bidders (various departments) and suppliers on the bidding
- 8. Setting up monitoring and evaluation unit to address the challenges promptly

Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) generates socioeconomic and environmental benefits provided it is designed and implemented with the right tools and processes.

Scale of SPP in Asia Pacific



Source: World Bank, 2016

Important areas for Practitioners

UNEP Regional Office for Asia Pacific (ROAP) is providing active support in the region on assessment of current status of sustainable public procurement in respective countries, capacity building on leapfrogging in designing and implementing green public procurement, support at national level for overall and sector specific green public procurement. Following are the main areas for practitioners' capacity building:

- 1. Identification of gaps and opportunities for SPP including projecting the benefits based on experiences from other countries
- 2. Identification of priority areas and sectors to meet global and national commitments such as SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals), NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) for climate change and so on.
- 3. Establishing the basis for SPP based on life-cycle thinking and life-cycle costing at national level and across various departments and at different levels of government including at city level

Practitioners' Forums

UNEP ROAP is working closely with regional and global forums involved in promotion and capacity building on sustainable public procurement. Some of these forums are:

One Planet Network

https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/

Green Purchasing Network, Japan

https://www.gpn.jp/english/

CEC (China Environmental United Certification Center) http://en.mepcec.com/

Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute (KEITI) http://www.keiti.re.kr/site/eng/main.do

GEN (Global Ecolabelling Network)

https://globalecolabelling.net/about/gen-structure/ IGPN (International Green Purchasing Network) Secretariat http://www.igpn.org/about/network.html#council_members.



- 4. Developing the guidelines to elaborate the changes in the processes for public procurement
- 5. Identifying incentive mechanisms in motivating the shift to sustainable public procurement with fair level playing field in line with the objectives
- 6. Formulating certification systems and eco-labeling or accrediting the existing ones
- 7. Stakeholder consultations to raise awareness, understanding the challenges, and finding the solutions
- 8. Developing mechanisms for creating market readiness for the production processes, products and services to be eligible under SPP
- 9. Preparing comprehensive package for bidders and suppliers
- 10. Delivering the capacity building programmes for bidders and suppliers
- 11. Supporting the ministries/department and different levels of government including city governments to establish SPP

Upcoming UNEP Training Manual

To advance sustainable public procurement in the region, Korea Environmental Industry & Technology Institute (KEITI) and United Nations Environment Programme initiated a project. KEITI was one of the lead agencies for Sustainable Public Procurement under 10 Year Framework Programme (10YFP) / One Planet Network to promote Sustainable Consumption and Production. As a part of overall efforts and also as a part of EU's SWITCH-Asia Programme, to raise awareness and building capacity in Asia, a comprehensive project was started with initially a multi-country workshop which was organized during September 2017. Based on the initial survey and demand assessment in Asia, Thailand and Viet Nam were selected for pilot support through KEITI experts. The capacity building in pilot countries and the lessons learned were translated into a training manual that will be launched in later part of 2020. The training materials are available on request.

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