

“Strengthening the capacities and improving the knowledge on green public procurement and ecolabelling in the ASEAN+3 region”

A project supported by Korea Environmental Industry & Technology Institute & the Ministry of Environment of the People's Republic of China



Implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)



A review of Green Public Procurement Practices in Thailand

Contact:

Mr. Janejob Suksod, Director, Environmental Quality and Laboratory Division, Pollution Control Department of the Ministry of Natural resources and Environment. Tel.: +6622982082, email: janejob.s@hotmail.com

Ms. Jarinporn Tippamongkol, Environmental officer, Environmental Quality and Laboratory Division, Pollution Control Department of the Ministry of Natural resources and Environment. Tel.: + 66 2 298 2089 e-mail: jarinpcd@gmail.com

Introduction

Thailand has adopted the principle of Sufficient Economy of His Majesty the King as the core of the National Economic and Social Development Plan. To achieve Sustainable development, the 11th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2012-2016) has set up 6 goals, including reinforcing good governance and harmony in all sectors and at all levels, restructuring the economy based on Thai's innovative knowledge and identity and managing sustainably natural resources and environment. This sufficient Economy is deeply corresponded with the sustainable consumption and production (SCP) that was adopted in Rio+20.

Pollution control Department, Ministry of Natural resources and Environment has initiated to implement Green Public Procurement as a part of agency regular procurement as a model of sustainable consumption in Thailand.

1. Regulatory and Policy Framework

The promotion of Green Public Procurement in the Government of Thailand was started in 2005, the Pollution Control Department of the Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment started to develop Green Public procurement criteria of 14 products and 3 service of high common usages among government agency and pilot actions within the Ministry. As a part of important mitigation followed the king sustainable economy concept, the 10th and 11th National Economic and Social Development Plan and the Environmental Quality Management Plan that state that: "The Government sector should be leaders in green procurement. In order to create proper market of products and services that are environmental friendly."

The Government further endorsed this commitment by the approval of the Cabinet Resolution on 22 January 2008 of the 1st Green Public Procurement Promotion Plan 2008-2011 for the Central Government. In 2012 the 2nd Green Public Procurement Promotion Plan 2013-2016 has been drafted to further promote GPP, from central to local authority and Public organisation. The 2nd Plan has been approved by the National Environment Board and is waiting for Cabinet resolution, however PCD has already started its implementation.

In order to support the promotional activity of the inter-agency committee the Green Public Procurement Promotional subcommittee and technical subcommittees (to develop criteria) are established to support GPP implementation. PCD is assigned as secretariat of all subcommittee and responsible to submit all related issue to the higher policy level.

2. Scope and Product Categories

GPP program is currently implemented on a voluntary basis. In 2014, there are Green Public Procure criteria for 17 products and 5 services available. These criteria and product list are disseminated to the Implementing and interested agencies in the form of a booklet and website. More products and services criteria's are reviewed from time to time. Current Green Public Procurement category are:

Product (office consumables):	Product (durable goods and others):	Service:
1. Printing paper 2. Toilet tissue roll 3. Envelop 4. Whiteboard marker 5. Photocopier machine 6. Document box 7. Printer toner 8. Correction Fluid 9. Printer 10. Document file	11. Fluorescent lamp 12. Primary battery 13. Building paints 14. Steel furniture Transportation 15. Passenger Car 16. Gasoline 17. Lubricants	1. Photocopier rental service 2. Office Cleaning service 3. Accommodation service (hotel) 4. Automobile repair service (Oil change) 5. Gas station

3. Implementation Status

Green public Procurement criteria is developed by the Technical Subcommittee based on performance standard and Life cycle assessment. Criteria correspond to other ecological schemes available in Thailand such as Thailand Green label, Green leaf (for hotel) and Green hotel (by ONEP). The manufacturer and service provider can choice to get certified by related schemes, or submit documents for declaration to PCD. All verified product models will be listed on the GPP website deployed by PCD.

4. Monitoring and Reporting

Thailand national government regularly tracks procurement spending with a specific online system called the GFMIS. On the fact that GPP implementation is on voluntary basis, GPP result is collected twice a year by self-reporting from the implementing agencies to PCD either in the form of hard copy or online. The Annual summary report is submitted to the cabinet, then posted on the GPP website. This voluntary reporting basis cause under-estimation of environmental benefits of GPP Implementation. At the end of the 1st GPP phase only 40 % of implementing agencies had submitted the procurement report.