The Executive Summary of the 2017 Global Review of SPP Now Available in all Official UN languages

The 2017 Global Review of Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) was released in June 2017 in English. Thanks to the support of the United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNV), the foreword and executive summary have been translated into French, Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish and are now available in the SCP Clearinghouse.

The 2017 Global Review examines the state of SPP policies and practices undertaken by national governments worldwide in the last five years. Building on the findings of the first edition of the Global Review published in 2013 and on research conducted between 2015 and 2016 among 41 national governments and more than 200 SPP stakeholders, this report aims to track the progress made and deepen the collective understanding of the current barriers, needs, opportunities and innovations in SPP.

In September 2017 UN Environment also published the Factsheets on Sustainable Public Procurement in National Governments. This publication is a supplement to the 2017 Global Review of SPP. It features 40 country factsheets that illustrate the current state of SPP policies, activities, programmes, and monitoring and evaluation systems in national governments around the world.

For more information, please contact Ms. Claire Thiebault, UN Environment, at claire.thiebault@un.org

1A-Implementing SPP on the Ground

The working group 1A (WG1A), led by ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, has successfully selected 4 local governments in China and 1 in the Republic of Korea to support their procurement of eco-innovative products and services. In addition to practical support for procurement, WG1A aims to build on and strengthen an existing network of local authorities on Green Public Procurement (GPP) in East Asia, and work with local governments to monitor the impact of GPP.

In November 2017, Guiyang City, the first city in China to initiate and implement local regulations on circular economy and ecological civilization, signed political endorsement letter to show its strong commitment in joining WG1A project as a project pilot along with 3 other Chinese jurisdictions (Binhai New District, Guangming New District, Urumqi Economic and Technological Development Zone) and 1 Korean city (Suwon City) to scale up GPP uptake at local level. ICLEI has assisted the Public Procurement Center of Binhai New District in identifying office furniture as the product area to focus for the next steps. Specifically, the district is interested in incorporating green supply chain management requirements into the upcoming tender in summer 2018.

In 2017, Suwon City has made tangible achievements in the uptake of GPP. To date, the procurement of green products,
4B.2-Supporting SPP Implementation through the Use of Ecolabelling and Sustainability Standards

The summary report and presentations of the working group’s annual meeting are now available on the SCP Clearinghouse. The in-person meeting held on the 27th of June 2017 brought together a diverse range of stakeholders to share their work, including: European Commission DG Environment, German Development Agency (GIZ), Engagement Global, Pussh Switzerland, the City of Zurich, the Green Electronics Council, and Good Environmental Choice Australia. For further information, please contact Mr. David D’Hollander, ISEAL Alliance at davidh@isealalliance.org.

From 2018 onwards, the running activities of the WG (the regular newsletters and webinars) will be halted as the ISEAL Alliance steps down as the coordinator of the working group. ISEAL remains a committed member of the 10YFP programme, and will continue to pursue the working group’s goal to foster collaborations between policy-makers, eco-labels and sustainability standards, with the aim to scale up sustainable consumption and production. ISEAL will continue to share resources, guidance and information with the 10YFP SPP members and the broader 10YFP network.

Should you be interested in taking up the role of Working Group 4B.2, please contact Ms Claire Thiebault, UN Environment at claire.thiebault@un.org

4C-Promoting Resource-efficient Business Models and Circular Economy

The Rijkswaterstaat led Working Group 4C (WG4C) has successfully completed its activities along with delivering further complementary capacity building activities. WG4C formally closed in the 4th Quarter of 2017. In total, the working group’s activities have reached 540 delegates, including 320 delegates trained. It has also participated at World Circular Economy Forum, Helsinki, in June 2017 and most recently supported the joint organisation and delivery of the 2nd Circular Procurement Congress in Tallinn in October 2017. Having completed the working group’s objectives, Rijkswaterstaat has now opened discussions around continuing a network through ICLEI. This is seen as a next step in ensuring a legacy that links SPP with the delivery of circular economy along with partnering in the Baltic Sea Regions EU Interreg funded project on Circular Procurement in cities. Future ambitions include extending circular procurement more widely to cities and regions outside of Europe. Anyone interested in participating in circular procurement should contact Cuno van Geet. For more information, please contact Mr. Cuno Van Geet, Rijkswaterstaat, cuno.van.geet@rws.nl or Dr. Mervyn Jones, Sustainable Global Resources at mervyn@sustainableglobalresources.co.uk

Suwon City Official presenting at COP23 © ICLEI East Asia

services etc. accounts over 50% of the overall public procurement in the city, which is the highest level of GPP in the city’s history. The Environment and Policy Division of Suwon municipal government has organized training workshops on GPP information and guidelines to build the capacity of public officers. The city has been active in exchanging its experiences and knowledge on GPP with domestic and international counterparts at events like “Seoul Mayors Forum on Climate Change 2017” on 20 October and “UNFCCC COP23 Side Event: Nexus between Green Public Procurement and Climate Change Mitigation” on 16 November. At the beginning of 2018, ICLEI in cooperation with KEITI will measure and quantify the energy savings and GHGs reduction of GPP in Suwon City. For more information, please contact Mr. Philipp Tepper, ICLEI, philipp.tepper@iclei.org
Cities Set New Targets at Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement during COP23

Mayors, Deputy Mayors and other political representatives from the cities of Auckland (New Zealand), Budapest (Hungary), Cape Town (South Africa), Denver (USA), Ghent (Belgium), Oslo (Norway), Seoul (South Korea) and Tshwane (South Africa) came together at the 3rd annual High Level Assembly of the Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement (GLCN on SP) on 11 November 2017 at COP23 in Bonn (Germany). The cities presented their sustainable procurement commitments and achievements, and shared their knowledge and experience. In leading by example, participants of the Network aim to accelerate the implementation of sustainable purchasing worldwide.

Raymond Johansen, Governing Mayor of Oslo, explained how the capital of Norway is addressing climate change through the city’s new procurement strategy. He said: “By launching our new Procurement Strategy, the City of Oslo wants to ensure that our spending contributes to more sustainable economies and societies. As part of the Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement, we want to influence other cities in doing the same.”

The City of Budapest has set ambitious targets which will see 100% of its procurement processes integrating sustainability and green aspects by 2020. These include having 70% of new vehicle purchases being ‘clean’, 21% CO₂ reduction - all by 2020. Budapest will also implement yearly training programmes in sustainable procurement and will introduce 1100 electric vehicle chargers to the city by 2018.

Park Won Soon, Mayor of Seoul Metropolitan Government and chair of the GLCN on SP said: “Leaders of cities around the world convened in Seoul in April 2015 and agreed to launch a network of cities committed to 100 percent sustainable procurement. Much progress has been made since then and our interactions today will be the foundation on which we strive for a better, brighter, and more sustainable future.”

The Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement is a group of 14 cities committed to drive a transition to sustainable consumption and production by implementing sustainable and innovation procurement. All participating cities are acting as ambassadors of sustainable procurement to lead to a resource efficient, low carbon and socially responsible society. For more information, visit the GLCN on SP website.
UN Environment has been assisting governments with the implementation of SPP policies worldwide. Important progress has been achieved in Latin America and the Caribbean region (LAC). To mention some:

- **Costa Rica** issued the first SPP policy in the region and endorsed its sustainable public procurement committee by Decree in January 2016.

- **Brazil** has created the Inter-ministerial Commission of public procurement, composed by the Government, private sector and other key actors. This Commission is responsible for life-cycle assessment in the SPP process in the country.

- **Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, and Mexico** have made progress in the development and implementation of National Action Plans or Strategies for SPP.

- A number of countries have continued to develop tools to facilitate the implementation of SPP at the practical level, including: a technical normative for SPP (Costa Rica), online training materials (Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Argentina), product sheets with sustainability criteria (Brazil, Colombia), guides or manuals for SPP (Colombia, Argentina) and methodologies for involving the private sector in SPP (Paraguay, Uruguay, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador).
• In several countries, such as Brazil, Paraguay, Colombia, Argentina, Chile, El Salvador and the Dominican Republic, sustainability criteria have been incorporated into price framework agreements or public procurement processes successfully.

• **Caribbean countries** like Guyana, Barbados, Jamaica and Saint Lucia have recognized the importance of SPP as a tool for an inclusive green growth and are beginning to progress towards their implementation.

• **UN Environment and the Organization of American States (OAS),** as the Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Network on Government Procurement (INGP) in a collaborative project, are establishing an online Platform (called “compraSOStenibles.org”) aimed at facilitating the implementation of SPP in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region. “CompraSOStenibles.org” will be a one-stop web resource, interactive and user-friendly that will address the needs of the identified users in the region on SPP and ecolabelling (when applicable to SPP). Government institutions from the region already sent a first set of resources to be uploaded in Platform during the second semester of 2017. The Platform is currently under development.

SPP has reached a turning point as its relevance as a strategic tool to drive sustainability and transform markets is no longer questioned. We now need to ensure that it is better integrated in broader sustainable consumption and production policies of the LAC region so that, together, they deliver on their promises for a sustainable development.

For additional references and resources from the region kindly visit the SPP Knowledge Hub at the SCP Clearinghouse. The SCP Clearinghouse will also host the future Platform CompraSOStenibles.org in upcoming months. For further information, please contact Ms. Monica Borrero, UN Environment at monica.borrero.affiliate@pnuma.org, or Adriana Zacarias at adriana.zacarias@pnuma.org

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**Circular Procurement Congress Hosted as Part of Estonian Presidency of the EU**

A total of 134 expert delegates met to discuss the development and mainstreaming of circular procurement at the second Circular Procurement Congress, held in Tallinn (Estonia) on 18 and 19 October 2017. The Congress was co-organised by the European Commission’s Directorate General for the Environment, the Estonian Presidency of the EU, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, and the Netherlands’ Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment.

In addition to updates on policy developments from the European Commission and the presentation of best practice examples on circular procurement from Denmark and the Netherlands, the Congress hosted six thematic workshops and a “market lounge” session. The market lounge session included twenty contributors addressing questions such as how circular procurement can stimulate the supply of innovative circular solutions. A keynote speech by Mervyn Jones, Sustainable Global Resources, gave a global perspective on the importance of delivering the circular economy through procurement.

Ado Lõhmus, Deputy Secretary General of Estonian Ministry of the Environment, said “We have chosen eco-innovation as one of our priorities during the Estonian Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Eco-innovation is helping us to achieve circular economy - and public procurement is important part of it.” For the full report, please visit the Circular Procurement Congress website.
Egyptian Government Launched New SPP Manual

An SPP Manual has been launched at a training workshop held in Cairo for government officials in Egypt on Sustainable Public Procurement. The training workshop, which took place on 25-26 September and was held in conjunction with the Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE) and the Egyptian Ministry of the Environment, was designed to introduce sustainable measures into national government procurement in line with Egypt’s Tenders and Auctions Law.

The workshop was attended by both public sector and industrial representatives and saw a number of national initiatives highlighted, including the conversion of the government’s vehicle fleet towards natural gas and e-vehicles and mainstreaming LED lighting in government construction contracts. ICLEI’s Dr John Watt addressed the workshop on the activities of the Procura+ European Sustainable Procurement Network, including the SPP methodology contained in its flagship publication, the Procura+ Manual.

Countries Participate in Workshops on the Revision of UN Environment’s SPP Implementation Guidelines

Government representatives and experts from Asia, Western Europe, Northern Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean worked on updating UN Environment’s SPP approach during two workshops held in Paris (France) on 11 and 12 October and in Bogotá (Colombia), on 24 and 25 October. The objective was to collect the feedback of public procurement professionals on the use of the UN Environment SPP Implementation Guidelines.

During the two workshops, participants exchanged experiences on the national implementation of the SPP component of the three UN Environment-led projects “Stimulating the supply and demand of sustainable products through Sustainable Public Procurement and Ecolabelling (SPPEL), “EaP GREEN” and UN PAGE. Representatives and national experts from Vietnam, Morocco, India, Mongolia, Ukraine, Moldova, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Colombia gathered either in Paris or Bogotá to share success stories and challenges encountered when implementing SPP policies. UN Environment widely recognized the considerable progress of the participating countries on SPP implementation, and reiterated its commitment to continue supporting the countries in its application at the national, regional and global level through strengthened cooperation and new initiatives.

The outcomes of the workshops will inform the development of a revised set of SPP Implementation Guidelines. These guidelines aim to guide decision-makers and public procurement practitioners on how to effectively pave the way for a successful implementation of SPP at the national level.

UN Environment looks forward to sharing the revised implementation guidelines with the 10YFP network and the wider SPP community at the beginning of 2018. For more information, please contact Ms. Claire Thiebault, UN Environment, at claire.thiebault@un.org
Indian Railways Institute for Logistics and Materials Management Hosted SPP Workshop in New Delhi

A Workshop on Sustainable Public Procurement was organised in New Delhi on 28th August, 2017 with the aim to introduce sustainable procurement concept, equip the participants with solid understanding of sustainable procurement and expose them to various nuances of sustainable procurement. It was hosted by Indian Railways Institute for Logistics and Materials Management (IRILMM) and attended by high level officials and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), among others.

In May 2017, Government of India issued a new Manual for Procurement of Goods with enabling provisions on sustainable procurement. UNDP has also firmed up its plan to take into consideration sustainability in procurement decisions in health sector projects funded by them in the region. In this respect, the workshop was very timely to discuss the various enabling provisions of the Manual.

The workshop touched on various topics such as ‘Procurement of Energy Efficient Products’, ‘Sustainability Standards in India’, and ‘Life Cycle Assessment Platform for Sustainable Procurement in India’. In the last session, participants joined in a group exercise on ‘SWOT Analysis for Implementing Sustainable Procurement in India’. The results of the SWOT analysis were appreciated by all participants and will be used by policy makers to address challenges in implementation of Sustainable Procurement in their organisations.

Procurement Message from Industrial Cities Delivered to COP23

Seven messages developed at a city-region climate conference held in Essen (Germany) have been delivered to the UN Climate Change Secretariat and at a COP23 event on cities with industrial legacies transitioning towards sustainability. The TWINS Conference Ruhr – Cities in Climate Change met from 6-8 November to discuss urban transitions towards sustainability allow industrial legacy cities to create vibrant, green economies and healthy local environments.

Among the environmental topics discussed in ‘world café’ style workshops on 7 November was how sustainable procurement and finance models could underpin cities’ transitions to sustainability. This workshop, facilitated by Philip Tepper from ICLEI’s Sustainable Economy and Procurement team, explored the public procurement challenges and opportunities for industrial cities. One of the TWINS Conference’s seven main messages delivered to COP23 on 9 November was that “Public authorities should
Procura+ Awards 2017 Winners Announced

Projects involving recycled textiles, eco-labelled school buildings and remanufactured furniture emerged as Europe's most sustainable and innovative public procurements at the 2017 Procura+ Awards held on 17 October in Tallinn (Estonia) as part of the eafip Conference on Innovation Procurement. The conference is held in the context of Estonia's Presidency of the EU. For more information about the finalists and winners, visit the Procura+ website.

News and Publications on SPP & 10YFP

The seven key messages were presented to Dhirendra Kumar of the UN Climate Change Secretariat by Karola Geiß-Netthöfel of the Ruhr Regional Association and Monika Zimmerman, Deputy Secretary General of ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability. ICLEI's Secretary General Gino van Begin also presented the messages to an official side-event of COP23, Cities in Transition – industrial legacy for a low carbon future. For more information, visit the TWINS conference website.

The Winning Public Procurers

**Municipality of Hyvinkää**
Finland
Sustainable Procurement of the Year was awarded to the first Nordic Swan eco-labelled pre-school in Finland, which was constructed after a market dialogue process and included sustainability measures on energy use, chemical products, building products and health factors.

**Ministry of Defence**
the Netherlands
Innovation Procurement of the Year was awarded for two contracts supplying towels, cloths and overalls to Dutch military personnel. This produced estimated savings of 233 million litres of water and 69,000 kg of CO₂, based on a technical requirement of textiles containing at least 10% recycled post-consumer textile fibres.

**Public Health Wales**
National Health Service, UK
Tender Procedure of the Year was awarded for the use of a supplier open day and contracting social enterprises, Public Health Wales was supplied with over 2,500 furniture items of which only 6% were new purchases. This diverted 41 tonnes of waste from landfill with a CO₂ saving of 134 tonnes, creating full time jobs for seven disabled and long term unemployed people.
Public procurement can accelerate transitions to a more circular economy by creating new demand for resource efficiency. Interactions during pre-procurement consultations influence the impact of such purchasing by helping define tender specifications. Intermediation throughout these processes can facilitate interactions between participants, assisting in sourcing, generating, and translating knowledge.

However, roles for intermediaries and dynamics of intermediation are not fully understood. The new research paper: *Stimulating a more Circular Economy through Public Procurement: Roles and dynamics of intermediation* intends to address how intermediation can promote a more circular economy. It examines a pilot project led by the Dutch Ministry of Defense to incorporate post-consumer recycled content in textiles through extensive consultation activities. Eighteen in-depth interviews were conducted with those directly involved in the pilot, and analyzed using constant comparative analysis. Intermediaries were found to play a critical role in the process by 1) coordinating government and industry through aligning project goals, 2) facilitating cooperation of industry players to stimulate new business relationships, and 3) collaborating with the buyer to push for higher post-consumer recycled material in the final tender. With respect to public demand articulation, greater insight is needed to discover how to best combine buyers’ motivations for cost savings, sellers’ motivations of increased returns, and the sustainability requirements often imposed by third parties. These dynamics may mark transitions toward circularity as further projects arise, offering a more permanent role for intermediation. The pilot project was awarded the Procura+ Awards 2017 for Innovation Procurement of the Year.

In an initiative aimed at helping designers build more sustainable buildings, the global testing and certification leader TÜV Rheinland has joined forces with the international standards organization, GIGA (Global Innovations Green Algorithms).

Under the new partnership, some contents of TÜV Rheinland’s global Certipedia certificate database will be fed into GIGA’s online material data hub, Origin, which includes certified, environment-friendly building materials and products. This will empower designers to easily find and source green, healthy and sustainable building products, thereby speeding up the process of creating efficient, healthy and sustainable buildings.
The European Commission has proposed new emissions targets in a Clean Mobility Package, comprising various measures including a Clean Vehicles Directive which promotes the uptake of sustainable transport solutions in public procurement. The Package is intended to contribute to the EU’s commitments under the Paris Agreement, under which it must achieve a 40% reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2030.

In addition to the Clean Vehicles Directive, the Package proposes new CO₂ standards for car manufacturers, an action plan for alternative fuels infrastructure, revised approaches to freight and passenger coach services and an initiative on batteries. The Clean Vehicles Directive includes targets for Member States, regions and cities aimed at using public procurement to stimulate an EU-wide market for low-emissions vehicles.

The announcement of the Clean Mobility Package coincides with the COP23 international climate conference in Bonn (Germany), and the Package will go through the EU’s co-decision process in the coming months.

For more information on the Clean Mobility Package, including details of the proposed measures, visit the European Commission’s DG Mobility and Transport website.

The Nordic Council of Ministers’ project Green Growth through Public Procurement has produced a guideline on opportunities to use Environmental Management Systems (EMS) and ecolabels in a tender. The project aims to create a common Nordic understanding of the possibilities for taking environmental considerations in public procurement according to the EU Public Procurement Directives (2014). The guideline presents the results of the project and provides both a general introduction to the possibilities of using EMS and ecolabels and specific suggestions for how minimum requirements, award criterion and contract terms can be formulated.
Video

**SPP Regions Project Releases “how to” Procurement Videos**

The [SPP Regions project](#) has released a series of five ‘how-to’ videos for public procurers. The videos have been produced by SPP Regions project partners Bristol City Council and the University of the West of England (UK) and feature Christine Storry, Project Manager of the PIPEN project.

The series of 8-12 minute videos cover Circular Procurement, Sustainable Procurement, Life Cycle Costing, the use of labels in SPP and Market Engagement. Each video sets out what is meant by the concept and explores how public procurers can integrate it into their tender processes, specifications and broader purchasing policy.

SPP Regions, a Horizon 2020 project coordinated by ICLEI, involves the creation and expansion of 7 European regional networks of municipalities working together on sustainable public procurement (SPP) and public procurement of innovation (PPI). The project will run tender processes in energy use in public buildings, vehicles and transport and food and catering services, towards achieving 54.3 GWh/year primary energy savings and trigger 45 GWh/year renewable energy. For more information and to view the videos, visit the [SPP Regions website](#).

Case Study

**Cleaning Catalonia’s Air through Clean Vehicle Procurement**

The Catalan Government has multi-pronged approach to encouraging SPP of vehicles, including: provision of Green Vehicle Procurement Guide, development of specific government agreements to encourage procurement of low emission vehicles, supporting the Catalan Ecolabel, and promoting sustainable mobility.

Download the Case Study

Upcoming Webinar & Events on SPP & 10YFP

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About the 10YFP SPP Partners

The 10YFP SPP Programme is implemented through an extensive network of 121 partners in over 40 countries including governments, international organizations, NGOs, and SPP experts. As a collaborative platform to enhance SPP implementation, the SPP programme is open to all organizations and individual experts that are interested in joining. Partners are provided with access to a global network which fosters SPP implementation, knowledge and experience sharing, advice and technical support on SPP implementation, and the opportunity to apply for financial support for SPP activities in developing countries through the 10YFP Trust Fund, which issues calls for proposals on a periodic basis.

Partner in the Spotlight: Global Ecolabelling Network

The Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN) is a non-profit association of leading ecolabelling organisations worldwide.

GEN was founded in 1994 to help protect the environment by improving, promoting, and developing the ecolabelling of green products and sustainable services. It fosters co-operation, information exchange and standards harmonisation among members, associates, and other ecolabelling programmes.

Full GEN members have programmes that have attained the status of “Type 1” specified in ISO 14024:1999 Environmental labels and declarations — Type 1 environmental labelling — Principles and procedures.

GEN annual member meetings and board meetings are held around the world in the 60 countries covered by the members’ ecolabelling schemes. The recent 2017 Annual General Meeting (AGM) was co-hosted by the three ecolabels active in Sweden and the annual conference was sponsored by the Nordic Council of Ministers.

Chair Bjorn-Erik Lonn summarises the aims and ethos of GEN as follows:

“As the world increasingly sees sustainable trade through environmental eyes, especially relating to climate change, it is gratifying to see the huge efforts and progress being catalysed by GEN members. Their eagerness to help each other in our global forum is uplifting and appropriate in the spirit of our three pillars of trust, proof and understanding. As an organisation it is how we grow, serve and lead.”

For more information on the programme, please visit the 10YFP SPP Programme website.

For more information on the lead and co-leads of the programme, please visit

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To learn how to get involved in the 10YFP SPP Programme, and to share your activities related to SPP please contact Mr. Farid Yaker, Programme Officer, UN Environment Economy Division, farid.yaker@unep.org