

Barrier Analysis on Implementation of SPP in Mauritius

The Procurement Policy Office

(under the aegis of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development)

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1 Introduction to SPP in Mauritius

The Government of Mauritius has initiated the Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) program under the aegis of Ministry of Finance and Economic Development with Procurement Policy Office (PPO) as the focal point.

Under the SPP program, various activities have been undertaken such as status assessment, legal review, market readiness and SPP Policy Plan.

A set of goods have been taken up in the pilot phase viz. paper for general office use, office furniture, cleaning materials, passenger cars, personal computers/ laptops and printers; and cleaning services. For these goods sustainability criteria have been developed, standard bidding documents have been modified and a contract management manual has been prepared.

The SPP process can be adopted either at the market end or at the user's end. SPP adoption is highly dependent on the market readiness to deliver products which meet the sustainability criteria adopted in Mauritius. Besides the market readiness to deliver products, the preparedness of the market to address the criteria impacting the life cycle of the products is important. On the other hand the decision-makers as well as the procurement officials need to be prepared to address procurement under the SPP process. In order to facilitate the SPP adoption, it is important to identify the possible barriers and to develop measures that can enable the adoption of SPP.

This report presents the barrier analysis carried out based on the interactions with various stakeholders.

2 Approach to Barrier Analysis

For the organization of the barrier analysis process, a participatory approach was adopted. As an initial step in the process of barrier analysis a desk study of policies, past studies and other pertinent documents was conducted in order to identify the primary reasons which could affect the adoption of SPP. This included the review of the following reports:

- Study on Market Readiness on SPP; May 2010
- National Action Plan on SPP in Mauritius (2011-2015); July 2011

Based on the desk research, key questions were formulated addressing the various stakeholder groups. These key questions formed the basis for stakeholder consultation for identification of barriers to SPP.

Besides the stakeholder consultations, interactions were held with the PPO officials to understand their views and aspirations on SPP. Also, focused interactions was carried out with the officials of the various government organizations and institutions to discuss the various Mechanisms including Plans and Projects, existing and proposed, which can facilitate SPP in Mauritius. These interactions also were used to draw out the perceived barriers. The organizations interacted with are as follows:

- Commission on Maurice Ile Durable
- Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
- Mauritius Standards Bureau
- National Computer Board
- Solid waste management Division, Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands

The inputs received from all the above mentioned sources have been considered while conducting the barriers analysis studies.

3 Stakeholder Consultation with Procurement Officials

In order to understand the barriers envisaged by the procurers, a structured interaction was conducted with the Procurement Officials. Prior to the survey, a five-day (half-day sessions) training workshop was conducted for the procurement officials (in September 2013). The officials were trained on various aspects of SPP viz. sustainability related concepts, sustainability criteria for the prioritized areas, bidding document, bid evaluation and contract management for SPP. On the fifth day the procurement officials were posed with a series of questions to identify the barriers they perceived in implementation of SPP in Mauritius. This approach ensured that the Procurement Officials were aware of the SPP approach proposed to be implemented and based on their experience on procurement they could visualize the possible barriers to the SPP process.

3.1 Methodology for consultation with procurement officials

A structured survey was conducted with a set of questions pre-designed with the objective of strengthening the SPP implementation in Mauritius. The questions were flashed on the screen for two minutes each and the participants were asked to individually note their response on a blank sheet of paper. On completion of all the questions, the participants were divided into four groups and asked to consolidate their responses to each of the questions. At the end of the session, the responses were discussed collectively.

3.2 Responses from procurement officials

During the interactions it was noted that while SPP process has not yet been implemented, for some of the procurement contracts criteria similar to sustainability criteria has been used by a few government organizations for the procurement of goods and services. Some of these examples are presented in **Box 1**.

Box 1: Use of Sustainability Criteria on Public Procurement in Mauritius

- In the ICT product category especially PCs and laptops, public procurement has started including criteria such as Energy Star, EPEAT, extension of warranty, service level agreement, confirmation of the availability of spare parts and maintenance period of five years.
- The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development has used criteria related to recycled fibers; bleached, chlorine free etc.in the past for printing publications.
- In the purchase of vehicles public procurement has started including low emission vehicles as a criterion especially for buses and police vehicles. For state functions, the Police Department procures vehicles compliant with EURO 4 standard even though this is not mandated in Mauritius.
- The Police Department has also included criterion of maintenance contract of vehicles for the first 2 years.
- Other criteria have been included in the procurement of vehicles, such as extension of warranty periods from 3 to 5 years, availability of spare parts and maintenance-free batteries.
- Regarding cleaning services, the policy of including at least 3% disabled people is being used as criterion.
- At the Central Electricity Board, energy efficiency and flora/fauna protection were included as criterion in the procurement of contractors for the building of the desalination plant.
- The Central Water Authority has embarked upon procuring energy-efficient pumps and ISO 9001 certified water meters for durability.

During the interactions it is noted that the PPA 2006 is considered adequate to support the implementation of SPP in Mauritius. It is noted that the present evaluation process adopted under the PPA 2006 has features which reflect elements of Life Cycle Costing (LCC) as well as preference for indigenous producers. Costs which will be incurred during the lifetime of the product or service are equally important as the procurement price and should be taken into consideration while determining “Life cycle costing” as per the PPA 2006. It was noted that the existing provisions under the PPA provides for evaluation of bid taking into account, in addition to the Bid Price quoted, other factors which are conducive to implementing LCC. These factors can be adapted with certain modifications to reflect LCC to achieve the best value for money.

However, the procurement officials had apprehensions with regards to the commitment from the decision makers if SPP had to be introduced considering all the proposed sustainability criteria stated for each of the goods and services. The main reason for apprehension arises from the fact that the decision makers may not be aware of the benefits of SPP, particularly the life cycle benefit and thus may consider an initial higher cost as a deterrent to SPP.

The procurers also had concerns about the market readiness to deliver sustainable goods and services. Since there is very little visible demand for sustainable goods and services in

Mauritius, the general perception was that the availability of such goods is limited and is generally available at a premium price due to the small volumes. While it was agreed that with SPP the market volumes should increase and thus bring down the prices, the need for initial thrust through government mechanisms like subsidy were discussed as requirements to promote SPP.

The lack of preparedness related to evaluation of the sustainability aspects of the goods and services was considered as a key barrier by the group. For some of the criteria proposed under the sustainability criteria the non-availability of testing facilities in Mauritius will make the procurement process dependent on the testing certificates originating in other countries. It was therefore felt that establishing the credibility of the certificates could prove to be a barrier for procuring goods under SPP.

An excerpt of the response received for the questions posed to the procurement officials is provided in Annexure 1.

4 Stakeholder Consultation with Suppliers

In order to understand the market readiness as well as to understand the barriers to SPP perceived by the Suppliers a structured approach was taken. Separate Awareness workshops were conducted in September 2013 with suppliers of the five prioritized goods viz. paper, furniture, cleaning chemicals and materials, cars and ICT (Information and communications technology) equipment.

The suppliers for each of the five goods and services were introduced to the concept of SPP, following which the sustainability criteria for the goods and the approach followed in their development was explained in detail. The modification carried out in the Standard Bidding Documents and evaluation process was also discussed. Post the discussions on SPP a survey on perceived barriers was conducted with each of the groups of product suppliers.

4.1 Methodology consultation with suppliers

A structured survey was conducted with a set of questions pre-designed with the objective of strengthening the SPP implementation in Mauritius. The questions were flashed on the screen and the suppliers' responses were noted during the discussions.

4.2 Responses from suppliers

It is noted that for some of the goods to be procured under the SPP route, the suppliers were ready with their offerings. Almost all the Paper suppliers have papers which are elemental chlorine-free. Additionally they can supply papers which are FSC/ PEFC certified and recycled paper with Nordic Swan, Blaue Engel eco label. Similarly the cleaning service providers indicated that they are already delivering services in the private sector where cleaning materials that are biodegradable and certified by eco labels are supplied. Amongst the ICT product suppliers, it was noted that use of energy efficient PCs, laptops and printers is a feature being asked for by many public and private sector procurers.

The price of the goods was perceived to be the key deterrent to SPP. Generally the prices of sustainable goods are higher than the regularly available goods in the market. For example, for providing cleaning services with sustainable cleaning chemicals, cost escalation to the tune of 30 – 45% has been noted in the delivery of services in the private sector. The volume of goods to be procured under the SPP was determined to be a key element for the success of SPP as well as making procurement competitive in terms of pricing. The suppliers were of the opinion that the procurement of goods meeting sustainability criteria, if procured centrally (meeting consumption requirements of various public bodies) would be more feasible to supply.

Non-availability of Mauritian standards on sustainable goods was considered as another key barrier. It was widely felt that Mauritian eco labels or standards for the designated goods will help in expanding the market for sustainable goods.

Criteria like take-back at the end of life were considered as a deterrent in the absence of regulated recyclers in Mauritius. However the suppliers agreed that such take-back criteria

can be implemented with logistics support for recycling needs to be facilitated by the Government.

While all the suppliers of designated goods and services were positive on the adoption of SPP in Mauritius, the suppliers of furniture were of the opinion that SPP would create barriers in supply of furniture to public bodies. They opined that since most of the furniture suppliers in Mauritius are small, local enterprises they would not be able to comply with the sustainability criteria. Also, the documentation requirements would be difficult to comply with for the local enterprises.

They suggested that standards should be developed by the Mauritian Standards Board through discussion with the suppliers and local enterprises.

Excerpts of the responses received for the questions posed to the Suppliers of Paper, Cleaning Services and Materials, Passenger Cars and PCs/ Laptops & Printer are provided in Annexure 2 to 5 respectively.

5 Identification of Barriers and Proposed Enabling measures

Based on the aforementioned process and interactions the key barriers identified can be categorized in to following groups:

- Attitudinal Barriers
- Policy / regulatory barriers
- Systemic barriers
- Market barriers
- Infrastructure barriers

The following sections discuss each of these barriers and the proposed measures to overcome the barriers

5.1 Attitudinal barriers and enabling measures

At the Organizational level often the benefits of SPP are not understood and therefore there are inherent apprehensions towards the adoption of SPP. Attitudinal barriers can be classified as follows:

- Indifference towards environmental and social benefits
- Resistance to change

5.1.1 Indifference towards environmental and social benefits

Indifference towards environmental and social benefits arises due to lack of information. The top management / decision-makers of the organizations need to be aware of the benefits of procuring sustainable goods. There could be instances where the cost of procurement of goods and services under the SPP route would be higher than the products procured under the regular public procurement. However, it needs to be understood that such goods will cost less if the life cycle cost is considered while delivering the environmental and social gains.

5.1.2 Resistance to change

Officials resist change out of fear of failure or the unknown. Since the decision makers may not be aware of the concept of SPP and its benefits they may resist experimentation, fearing that any deviation from standard procurement of products may lead to dissatisfaction amongst the users of the product, thus leading to reduced efficiency or productivity. Also as products under SPP may cost more than the regular products being procured, SPP is often resisted. Such reluctance to try out new products is the breeding ground for the “Not me

first” (NMF) syndrome, wherein people are only willing to try out products if they have been already successfully used elsewhere. Lack of support from decision makers arising out of the resistance to change can be a major barrier to SPP implementation in the Organization.

5.1.3 Enabling measures for attitudinal barriers

For both these barriers, it is important that the top management and the concerned officials are made aware of the benefits of SPP including the concepts like life cycle costing. It is important to communicate that such procurements will benefit across the use phase of the product. Besides creation of awareness, demonstration of the SPP process may also be carried out. These demonstrations could be carried out on certain products initially and gradually be extended on the basis of lessons learned and experience gained. The results of these demonstrations should be monitored and documented. The success stories on SPP should be publicized. The emphasis should be on both the financial and the environmental benefits of early SPP successes in order to create awareness among the officials and to sustain commitment and involvement from key decision-makers.

5.2 Policy / regulatory barriers and enabling measures

While the Public Procurement Act 2006 in its present form is understood to be adequate to address SPP in Mauritius, lack of supporting mechanism in the country is a key barrier. Following are the barriers classified under the category Policy / regulatory barrier:

- Lack of linkages with other policies and legislations
- Non-regulated entry of sustainable products
- Non-availability of product standards and eco-labels

5.2.1 Lack of linkages with other policies and legislations

The linkages with various other existing (and proposed) policies and legislations which can have an impact on SPP such as Maurice Ile Durable (MID), National Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production, sustainable public procurement (SPP), e-waste policy, Dangerous Chemicals Act, employment and social regulations, etc. have not been established. While each of these policies and legislations directly or indirectly promote SPP, lack of linkage may lead to duplication of effort or could lead to contradictions. In such a situation there could be disappointment amongst the SPP thus leading to lack of motivation to promote SPP.

5.2.2 Non-regulated entry of sustainable products

Since Mauritius is an import-dominated economy, the entry of sustainable products into the Mauritian market needs to be regulated. Regulations to promote sustainable goods entry into the Mauritian market needs to be promulgated. Such regulations could include measures to prevent the illegal trade of non-environmentally sensitive goods being traded as environmental goods.

5.2.3 Non-availability of product standards and eco-labels

Sustainable goods are evaluated based on various sustainability criteria. Most of these criteria also form part of the eco-labels available across the world. Eco-labels are labels that indicate that a product is environment-friendly or socially acceptable. Eco-labels are used to authenticate the claims of goods to be sustainable during the evaluation process. Non-availability of product standards and eco-labels in Mauritius is a key barrier to adoption of SPP. While eco-labels are an important tool in adoption of SPP worldwide, in Mauritius its absence creates a gap in identification of sustainable goods.

5.2.4 Enabling measures for policy / regulatory barriers

It is advisable to look into the synergies between the policies and legislations which promote SPP. Elements of the policies and legislations which have implications on SPP should be communicated to the procurers as well as the suppliers.

In order to build capacities for managing entry of sustainable products, capacity building of customs and other relevant enforcement personnel to monitor and facilitate legal trade of environmentally sensitive goods will need to be carried out. Besides increasing knowledge about environmental issues, enhanced skill requirement to enforce national environmental commitments should also be included in the capacity building exercise.

While efforts are underway for the development of a National Eco-labelling framework in Mauritius, it will be useful to link the products to be covered under the Eco-Labelling framework includes the products identified under the SPP program and are in line with the SPP criteria developed. This will encourage suppliers to apply for the Mauritian eco-label for their products and it will facilitate the SPP process with reduced efforts on verification.

5.3 Systemic barriers and enabling measures

Public Procurement is driven by the PPA 2006. Over the years, the procurement processes have been established in line with this act. When new elements, particularly those related to environmental and social performance of goods and services, which have never been part of the classical procurement process are introduced there are inherent barriers.

The Procurement officials are generally conversant with the public procurement process laid down as per the PPA 2006. However the aspects of sustainability like the prequalification, criteria, verification, compliance monitoring, etc. are new elements being dealt with by the officials. This lack of understanding will be a major barrier in the adoption and development of SPP. Lack of awareness on Life Cycle Costing mechanism is also a significant barrier.

Single year budgeting and limited ability to carry over funds from one financial year to the next to retain efficiency savings can be an impediment to SPP. The former focuses on short-term outcomes and leads to discrimination against goods with lower life cycle costs but higher upfront costs; the latter limits the incentives to investigate trade-offs among resource inputs and make investment decision accordingly.

Similarly the Suppliers have been dealing with public procurement and over the years have developed considerable understanding of the procurement process. However, they too lack

the understanding of the various aspects of sustainability. This will be a major barrier particularly in terms of market readiness to deliver sustainable products.

5.3.1 Enabling measures for systemic barriers

Information campaigns and capacity-building activities on the advantages of SPP as well as covering the sustainability elements of SPP must be organized in order to increase capacity and awareness level of the officials as well as suppliers. Guidelines and training on how to incorporate sustainability criteria throughout the procurement process, from bidding documents to monitoring & evaluation and contract management should be provided to the procurement officials. The officials who are part of committees involved in the preparation of specifications for the tender documents also need to be made aware of SPP.

Various methods of communication can be adopted for this. While training programmes to communicate the sustainability requirements and verification method are a key requirement, continuous communication through publication of booklets on the overall approach, success stories, etc. is another method which could be incorporated.

Communications on SPP should also be made available on the PPO website.

5.4 Market barriers and enabling measures

The success of SPP is dependent on the supplier's ability and capacity to supply sustainable goods and services. Mauritius being an import-dominated economy is much dependent on the international market. Thus the market itself can prove to be a major barrier to development of SPP in Mauritius.

Typical of any small economy with a domestic market insufficiently large to support economies of large-scale production, Mauritius is inevitably dependent on imports from other countries to supply a large part of domestic consumption. Since SPP is in the initial phase and the country has no specific policy on encouraging Sustainable goods, the demand for sustainable goods in Mauritius is expected to be low in the initial years. With lower volumes, the cost of sustainable goods is expected to be higher than the regular products. Thus the small market size can be a major barrier to SPP.

5.4.1 Enabling measures for market barriers

In order to overcome the barrier arising due to the small market, it is important that the sustainable goods are competitively priced. Subsidy mechanisms could be developed to promote sustainable products so that the products are available in the Mauritian market at competitive prices.

5.5 Infrastructure barriers and enabling measures

For SPP to develop in Mauritius there are some infrastructural requirements which need to be in place. Facilities like testing infrastructure, operation and maintenance support, etc. are essential requirements for the management of sustainable goods. The lack of such facilities can lead to failure of the goods and in turn create mistrust on the SPP program leading to its failure. Infrastructure discrepancies can therefore be a key barrier to SPP.

Following are the key barriers classified under the category Technology barrier:

- Lack of analytical and testing facilities
- Lack of maintenance facilities
- Lack of end-of-life disposal facilities

5.5.1 Lack of analytical and testing facilities

In order to assess the goods to be procured under SPP, various analytical and testing facilities will be needed to evaluate compliance with the sustainability criteria established. For many of the criteria specified for the goods, availability of such testing facilities needs to be established in Mauritius. Lack of these can be a major barrier in implementation of SPP in Mauritius as the dependence on certificates and labels issued in other countries will increase, giving little possibility for the procurers to verify these. In the absence of robust verification process there will be the possibility of products not meeting the sustainability criteria being inducted. Such non-conforming products can bring disrepute to the whole SPP program.

5.5.2 Lack of maintenance facilities

Under SPP, wherever possible, the life cycle approach is adopted. This requires that the suppliers provide for the maintenance of the goods supplied and ensure availability of parts and consumables for the goods. The suppliers, therefore, need to be established facilities with adequately trained manpower and have adequate supply of parts and consumables. Non-availability of such facilities could be a barrier as the service life of the goods is dependent on these. With a shortened service life the goods would exceed the life cycle cost expected, thus resulting in failure of the SPP process.

5.5.3 Lack of end-of-life disposal facilities

Some of the products require end-of-life management of the products. These include collection, treatment and disposal systems. Non-availability of such facilities can be considered as major barrier in SPP particularly when life cycle is a key attribute for sustainable goods. This is particularly applicable to the ICT equipment - personal computers/laptops and printers. With the increasing use of ICT equipment and the readiness of the suppliers, this segment can be expected to have a major share of procurement under the SPP program. Thus the quantum of e-waste generated from the goods procured under SPP would emerge as a major challenge in the near future. Hence, lack of such facility can be attributed as another barrier to SPP program.

5.5.4 Enabling measures for infrastructure barriers

It will be important for the success of the SPP program that product testing facilities are developed in Mauritius. However, these testing facilities cannot be developed by the procuring organizations or the PPO. Organizations like Mauritius Standards Bureau should undertake the task of establishing these facilities.

In order to achieve the expected service life, the suppliers should be informed about the required preparedness, well in advance, by the procurement authorities so that the suppliers can establish facilities for providing maintenance and parts and consumables for the goods.

End-of-life management of e-waste includes reuse of functional electronics, refurbishment and repair of electronics, recovery of electronic components, recycling e-waste, and disposal. Facilities providing such functions need to be established in Mauritius. Identification and authorization processes for formal recycling enterprises in the country need to be done. These initiatives need to be spearheaded by Ministry of Local Government and Outer Island with support and coordination from Ministry of Environment & Sustainable Development.

Annexure 1: Response from Procurement Officials during Barrier Analysis Exercise

Focus Areas	Response
<p>1. Is the Public Procurement Act 2006 adequate to support implementation of SPP? If not where do you see gaps?</p>	<p>The response in general was affirmative. However, there was also apprehension in terms of the commitment of decision makers at the level of individual public bodies and suppliers and process of change management.</p> <p>The officials also opined the need for more rigorous stakeholder engagement with decision makers and suppliers and also allowing adequate time for market readiness.</p>
<p>2. Is there a need to have an additional legal mechanism to implement SPP in Mauritius? If yes, why?</p>	<p>The officials proposed the need for some additional mechanisms for successful implementation of SPP.</p> <p>They were of the opinion that some control mechanisms are required at the level of Customs to debar faked green products, which could lead to the failure of the project.</p> <p>It was felt that there is a need to explain the linkage between the different enabling policies and regulations – Maurice Ile Durable, Dangerous Chemicals Act, employment and social regulations – and SPP.</p> <p>There was also a perception that SPP will lengthen the procurement process and requiring more efforts.</p>
<p>3. Do you need for any supporting mechanisms which should be brought in by the Government (ministries or agencies other than PPO)?</p>	<p>The officials were of the view that availability of sustainable product standards / guidelines / eco labels would be required to support the project.</p> <p>In addition, subsidies may be required for certain green products to boost the market for such goods and also to support import/production of sustainable products without the threat of price rise.</p> <p>Recycling and disposal facilities would be required to handle end-of-life of products.</p> <p>Awareness campaigns would need to be conducted with support from higher authorities for their development and implementation.</p>
<p>4. Can the Prequalification Sustainability criteria be implemented in near future?</p>	<p>The response was affirmative in general.</p> <p>Some officers were of the opinion that a margin of preference could be used instead of pre-qualification criteria to encourage suppliers to procure sustainable goods and thus boost the market.</p>
<p>5. Are the Sustainability</p>	<p>The officials collectively opined that the criteria are easy to</p>

<p>Requirement Criteria:</p> <p>a. easy to understand?</p> <p>b. easy to implement?</p>	<p>understand as well as implement.</p> <p>However, for successful implementation the following actions would need to be undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • proper sensitization and communication campaigns • understanding of market readiness for various sustainable goods • training of personnel involved in development of specifications and bid evaluation committees <p>The sustainability criteria would need to be implemented in a phased approach.</p>
<p>6. Can the bidders / suppliers provide the verification documents needed to assess Sustainability of products?</p>	<p>The modes of verification of certificates may have to be improved at the procurement level wherein emphasis is laid on certificates from accredited bodies.</p>
<p>7. What other barriers do you see in implementing SPP?</p>	<p>The barriers perceived by the officials were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate commitment from higher authorities • Lack of culture change towards procurement • Exceeding allocated budget for procurement of the specific goods • Lack of knowledge on availability of sustainable goods • Lack or improper communication by suppliers to their manufacturers' for obtaining verification documents • Availability of limited set of suppliers
<p>8. Do you see a need for Mauritian Eco label for promotion of SPP?</p>	<p>The response was affirmative.</p>
<p>9. Are you aware about the availability of any of the five products in the Mauritian market that partly/wholly meet the sustainability criteria?</p>	<p>The officials responded that the following goods from the prioritized set, partly meeting sustainability criteria are available in the market:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passenger cars – lower CO₂ emissions and smoke, hybrid, energy efficient • ICT – energy star, upgradability, automatic duplex

	printing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cleaning products – less toxic chemicals, biodegradability
10. What measures do you recommend for communication of SPP to internal and external stakeholders for successful implementation?	<p>The procurement officials explained that pre-bid meetings could be organized to enable supplier better understand the sustainability criteria and other requirements.</p> <p>Also regular awareness sessions with suppliers on SPP would ease the implementation.</p> <p>Training programs should be conducted for bid evaluators as well.</p> <p>The sustainability criteria, modified standard bidding documents and contract management manual should be made available on PPO website.</p>

Annexure 2: Response from Suppliers of Paper during Barrier Analysis Exercise

Focus Areas	Response from Suppliers of Paper
1. Do you offer sustainable products in Mauritius? If yes, please provide short description of the product(s)	The suppliers responded in affirmation. The papers they supply are mostly elemental chlorine free. Additionally they can supply papers which are FSC/ PEFC certified and recycled paper with Nordic Swan, Blaue Engel eco label.
2. Are there significant differences in costs between your standard and green/sustainable product? Please indicate relative costs.	For paper that is elemental chlorine free, there is no additional cost. However recycled paper is more expensive than ordinary paper. To illustrate, for 1000 rims of recycled paper, the cost is 100% more than ordinary paper. Similarly for paper certified by PEFC the cost escalation is about 65%. The cost reduces if the volume of paper procured is higher.
3. Does your company have any experience with green/sustainable procurement in Mauritius, either with the public or private sector?	All the suppliers had experience in supplying paper which wholly or partly met the sustainability criteria to private sector.
4. Can the Sustainability Prequalification criteria be implemented in the near future?	The suppliers responded in affirmation.
5. Are the Sustainability Requirement Criteria: a. easy to understand? b. easy to implement?	The suppliers responded in affirmation.
6. Can the bidders / suppliers provide the verification documents needed to assess Sustainability of products?	The suppliers responded in affirmation.
7. What other barriers do you see in implementing SPP?	The suppliers were of the opinion that the procurement for paper meeting sustainability criteria, if procured centrally (meeting consumption requirements of various public bodies) would be more feasible to supply.
8. Do you see a need for Mauritian Eco label for promotion of SPP?	The suppliers responded in affirmation.
9. What measures do you recommend for communication of	The suppliers submitted that the sustainability criteria for paper should be made available on PPO website.

Focus Areas	Response from Suppliers of Paper
SPP to external stakeholders for successful implementation? What would be the time required for it?	These could then be communicated by suppliers to their manufacturers. The suppliers would need a preparation time of at least 3 months to make paper meeting sustainability criteria available as well as obtain supporting documentation from their manufacturers.

Annexure 3: Response from Suppliers of Cleaning Services and Cleaning Materials during Barrier Analysis Exercise

Focus Areas	Response from Suppliers of <u>Cleaning Services and Materials</u>
1. Do you offer sustainable products in Mauritius? If yes, please provide short description of the product(s)	The suppliers responded in affirmation. Cleaning materials that are biodegradable and certified by eco labels are supplied. Also cleaning materials with their MSDS; and appropriate labelling with dilution method specified are procured by the private sector.
2. Are there significant differences in costs between your standard and green/sustainable product? Please indicate relative costs.	The cost escalation is about 30-45% for providing cleaning services that meet the sustainability criteria.
3. Does your company have any experience with green/sustainable procurement in Mauritius, either with the public or private sector?	Sustainable cleaning materials are procured for use in industrial kitchens by the private sector. Also cleaning services with similar criteria have been procured for the airport and corporate sector.
4. Can the Sustainability Prequalification criteria be implemented in the near future?	The suppliers responded in affirmation.
5. Are the Sustainability Requirement Criteria: a. easy to understand? b. easy to implement?	The suppliers responded in affirmation.
6. Can the bidders / suppliers provide the verification documents needed to assess Sustainability of products?	The suppliers responded in affirmation.
7. What other barriers do you see in implementing SPP?	The suppliers were of the opinion that training schools would be required to provide them with staff that are trained in safe and sustainable cleaning practices.
8. Do you see a need for Mauritian Eco label for promotion of SPP?	A Mauritian eco label/ standard for cleaning materials would assist in supplying goods meeting sustainability criteria.
9. What measures do you recommend for communication of SPP to external stakeholders for successful implementation? What	The suppliers expressed that they would need about 3-6 months to prepare for providing services and materials meeting the sustainability criteria. Also the sustainability criteria should be made

Focus Areas	Response from Suppliers of <u>Cleaning Services and Materials</u>
would be the time required for it?	available on the PPO website for onward communication.

Annexure 4: Response from Suppliers of Passenger Cars during Barrier Analysis Exercise

Focus Areas	Response from Suppliers of <u>Cars</u>
1. Do you offer sustainable products in Mauritius? If yes, please provide short description of the product(s)	The suppliers responded in affirmation. Cars less than 1600cc generally have CO2 emission ranging from 140-170 g Also 5-10% of biofuels use capacity is available in most cars. Cars with EURO III emission standards are compatible with Mauritian Traffic regulations.
2. Are there significant differences in costs between your standard and green/sustainable product? Please indicate relative costs.	The suppliers responded in negative. Since most cars procured comply with EURO III emission standards.
3. Does your company have any experience with green/sustainable procurement in Mauritius, either with the public or private sector?	The suppliers responded in affirmation. Cars with sustainability specifications are supplied to the private sector. Also the Police Department procures vehicles with EURO IV standards that are used for State functions.
4. Can the Sustainability Prequalification criteria be implemented in the near future?	The suppliers responded in affirmation.
5. Are the Sustainability Requirement Criteria: a. easy to understand? b. easy to implement?	The suppliers responded in affirmation.
6. Can the bidders / suppliers provide the verification documents needed to assess Sustainability of products?	The suppliers expressed that obtaining documents from the manufacturer's would be difficult as the Mauritian market is very small as compared to the global market. Further procurement by public bodies in Mauritius is an even smaller market.
7. What other barriers do you see in implementing SPP?	Since cars in Mauritius are imported from different countries, following different standards. For example Japanese and European test conditions are different. In such situations there is a need to establish equivalence between different standards which are acceptable to Mauritius under the SPP program.
8. Do you see a need for Mauritian Eco label for promotion of SPP?	There is a need to establish equivalence between different standards which are acceptable to Mauritius under the SPP program.
9. What measures do you	The suppliers expressed that they would need about 6 months to check with their manufacturers

Focus Areas	Response from Suppliers of <u>Cars</u>
recommend for communication of SPP to external stakeholders for successful implementation? What would be the time required for it?	regarding supply of verification documents. Also the sustainability criteria should be made available on the PPO website for onward communication.

Annexure 5: Response from Suppliers of PCs/ Laptops and Printer Suppliers during Barrier Analysis Exercise

Focus Areas	Response from Suppliers of <u>ICT</u>
1. Do you offer sustainable products in Mauritius? If yes, please provide short description of the product(s)	The suppliers responded in affirmation. Use of energy efficient PCs, laptops and printers is a regular feature.
2. Are there significant differences in costs between your standard and green/sustainable product? Please indicate relative costs.	The suppliers collectively responded that ICT equipment are generally available with one year warranty. However additional warranty upto 5 years is available at a cost. Similarly insurance on spare parts is an additional cost item.
3. Does your company have any experience with green/sustainable procurement in Mauritius, either with the public or private sector?	The suppliers responded that they provide ICT equipment to the private as well as the public sector which partly comply with the sustainability criteria. For example warranty for five years, energy efficient equipment and maintenance support.
4. Can the Sustainability Prequalification criteria be implemented in the near future?	The suppliers responded in affirmation.
5. Are the Sustainability Requirement Criteria: c. easy to understand? d. easy to implement?	The suppliers responded in affirmation. The take back of ICT equipment or safe disposal of e-waste at the end-of-life is difficult to implement due to limited e-waste management facilities in Mauritius.
6. Can the bidders / suppliers provide the verification documents needed to assess Sustainability of products?	The suppliers responded in affirmation.
7. What other barriers do you see in implementing SPP?	No other specific barriers were highlighted.
8. Do you see a need for Mauritian Eco label for promotion of SPP?	The suppliers expressed that it would be helpful if a Mauritian eco label or standard was available.
9. What measures do you recommend for communication of SPP to external stakeholders for successful implementation? What would be the time required for it?	The suppliers suggested that the sustainability criteria should be made available on the PPO website for onward communication. A time period of three to six months was indicated by the suppliers for communication to their manufacturers.

