



# **UNEP and Sustainable Procurement**

**By**

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# United Nations Environment Programme

Three roles:

- ❖ to monitor state of the world environment
- ❖ to identify solutions
- ❖ to help implement necessary projects



# UNEP DTIE

- Division of Technology, Industry and Economics
- Mission: to encourage decision-makers in government, local authorities, industry to adopt policies, strategies, practices that:
  - are cleaner and safer
  - use natural resources more efficiently
  - reduce pollution risks to humans and environment
  - enable implementation of conventions

# UNEP DTIE International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC)

UNEP DTIE IETC is located in Japan and the mandate is currently under review and we can introduce four(4)-pillar approach of responsibilities of IETC (as of September 2004 and subject to changes in future).

1. Implementation of the Iraqi Marshlands Project
2. Production and Consumption, putting emphasis on Waste / Lifecycle Economy, and Green Procurement
3. Disaster Prevention and Management
4. Cleaner Cities Programme (Urban Programme)



# Procurement figures

Procurement in **Europe**  
Over 14% EU GDP  
Over 1000 Billion Euro/year

1998 **US** state and local  
government spending:  
US\$ 1 trillion.

2000 **UN** procurement of goods  
and professional services:  
US\$3 billion dollars for almost  
all types of goods and  
services.

The estimated value of  
business opportunities linked  
to **UN** direct and indirect  
spending: US\$ 30 billion/year.



**we are accountable.**

UNEP DTIE International  
Environmental Technology Centre



# UNEP's Sustainable Procurement vision

## Sustainable Procurement – powerful tool for change

- Recognition of need for sustainable policies across the all policy areas as a way to achieve sustainable development.
- Consumers are expressing their will through ethical/ environmentally conscious purchasing – how their taxes are spent for the needs to reflect the change.
- Vital for putting corporate and social responsibility in place.



# UNEP's Sustainable Procurement vision

## Sustainable Procurement – powerful tool for change

- Act on three pillars might look more difficult but it is where UNEP thinks the future goes.
- Sustainable (ethics/CSR + environment) purchasing by consumers and investors is increasing.
- Public bodies whether national, international or local should have the strength to show leadership and promote/stimulate debate on what is sustainable purchasing.



# More than green

## Signs...

- European network of fair trade cities: UK, France, Germany, Spain all give signs of local authorities including environmental and social criteria in purchasing.
- UK Environment agency's sustainable procurement strategy.
- World Bank is working with ILO and FIDIC on sustainable procurement in construction projects.
- European's NGOs coalition for environmentally and socially responsible procurement (oxfam, WWF, solidar, etc.).
- South Africa uses procurement to foster woman and disadvantages people's enterprises / Sao Paulo works on adoption of proper socially and environmentally practices with Green seal, etc.



# UNEP's Sustainable Procurement vision

Choosing suppliers in relation to their corporate responsibility behaviour is **not** impossible:

- **Environmental performance** of processes and products
- **Social performance**: workers conditions, information and transparency, training and pay policy; and **and "civic" performance** : existence and quality of relations/ dialogue with civil society and its representatives: public institutions, associations, NGOs etc.
- **Economy performance**: commercial relations with clients and suppliers, economic performance, prices/quality etc.;

**We can start little by little, but make a start - It is important, however, to focus on the major risks/impacts and spending chapters.**



# UNEP's Sustainable Procurement vision

- 1) SP has to assure a balance among the **three** pillars of sustainable development.
- 2) SP has to be implemented by **all actors in partnership**.
- 3) SP has to be integrated at the **policy and operational** level.
- 4) SP has to incorporate the concept of **Life Cycle** Economy.
- 5) SP has to be **accompanied by capacity** building especially for SMEs.
- 6) SP has to be "**measurable**" and encourage **transparency**.
- 7) SP has to be **adapted** to the various local realities and needs.



# UNEP's Sustainable Procurement work

1. UNEP IAPSO database on product selection criteria, 2002.
2. A [www.sustainableprocurement.net](http://www.sustainableprocurement.net) (UNEP text of web-site + IAPSO design and maintenance) 2002.
3. UNEP / UNDP/IAPSO /World Bank Sustainable Procurement Training Modules. ; final draft tested in Ghana in June 2004. Two more testing sessions foreseen and then final publication in 2005.

**To go ahead we need conceptual + financial support.**



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# UNEP UNDP/IAPSO WB SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT MODULES

- An awareness raising and training tool applicable to national/local public authorities, UN agencies, development agencies, etc.
- The modules do not go into legal details but provide information on the needs, international legal framework, advantages and basic steps to implement sustainable procurement.
- Aspirations of the modules: tackle **the lack of awareness of sustainable development among procurement officers!!!**



# UNEP UNDP/IAPSO WB SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT MODULES

- Started as a training tool for UN agencies and but developed in something flexible enough to be used widely with little adaptation (mainly the procurement rules section).
- Modules consist of a series of slides + a support guide with information for trainers and trainees + links to further information sources.



# UNEP/IAPSO Procurement Database

- Contains over 200 sites providing information on environmentally responsible procurement and in particular on product selection criteria.
- International, regional and local information sources.
- Section on eco-labels contains 106 entries.
- More research is needed to enrich database with more information from various countries we need financial resources for this.
- Hosted by [www.uneptie.org/sustain](http://www.uneptie.org/sustain).
- Maintenance with UNEP.

**THANKS FOR PROVIDING SITES!**



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**Contact us!**

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