

UNEP Guidance on Sustainable Public Procurement



1. Overview of Organization

Name of Organization: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Website: <http://www.unep.org/>

Email: unepinfo@unep.org

Funding Sources: UNEP is almost entirely funded by direct, voluntary contributions – largely from Member States
<http://www.unep.org/about/funding/AboutOurFunding/Overview/tabid/131421/Default.aspx>

Organization Type: International

Partners:

<http://www.unep.org/about/funding/DonorsandPartners/UniversalMembership/tabid/131376/Default.aspx>

Location: Global

Mission: "UNEP's mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations." ⁱ

2. Sustainable Purchasing Activities and Resources

1. Study on the Impacts of Sustainable Public Procurement on Sustainable Development: Eight Illustrative Case Studies

<http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Portals/24147/scp/procurement/docsres/ProjectInfo/StudyonImpactsofSPP.pdf>

2. Sustainable Public Procurement: A Global Review

[http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Portals/24147/SPP_Full_Report_Dec2013_v2%20NEW%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Portals/24147/SPP_Full_Report_Dec2013_v2%20NEW%20(2).pdf)

3. Global Sustainable Production and Consumption Clearinghouse

<http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Consumption/SustainableProcurement/Publications/tabid/101249/Default.aspx>

4. Capacity Building for SPP in Developing Countries

<http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Consumption/SustainableProcurement/CapacityBuildingforSPPinDevelopingCountries/tabid/101246/Default.aspx>

5. Sustainable Public Procurement Initiative

<http://sppinitiative.org/>

6. Sustainable Public Procurement and Ecolabelling

<http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Consumption/SustainableProcurement/SustainablePublicProcurementandEcolabelling/tabid/130240/Default.aspx>

3. Sustainable Purchasing Guidance Materials

1. Sustainable Public Procurement Implementation Guidelines; Introducing UNEP's Approach

<http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Portals/24147/scp/procurement/docsres/ProjectInfo/UNEPImplementationGuidelines.pdf>

"These Guidelines aim to give direction to governments on designing and implementing sustainable public procurement (SPP) policies and action plans. The aim is to provide countries a common vision, language and framework for SPP and to guide stakeholders on how to effectively pave the way towards SPP implementation." ⁱⁱ

Year Guidance was Published: 2012

Access: Full public access

Types of Purchasers: Government agencies- policy makers and practitioners

Regional Focus: International

Languages: English, Spanish, Russian, and French

Topics covered:

√√√ environmental sustainability √√√ social sustainability √√√ economic sustainability

Steps:

√√√ Apply and agree to implement the SPP Approach; √√√ Organise a start-up mission / conduct an initial scoping study; √√√ Establish National Focal Organisation; √√√ Establishes Steering Committee; √√√ Initial training/ workshop; √√√ Conduct Status Assessment; √√√ Legal Review; √√√ Conduct Prioritisation Exercise; √√√ Conduct Market Readiness Analysis (MRA); √√√ Create and finalize SPP Policy and Action Plan; √√√ Conduct trainings; √√√ Implement program

2. UNEP's SPP Training Toolkit

<http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Consumption/SustainableProcurement/Publications/tabid/101249/Default.aspx>

"The UNEP SPP Training Toolkit is a series of PowerPoint presentations produced by UNEP with the support of Ecoinstitut. The Toolkit is designed to be used in training sessions that introduce the concept of SPP and how to implement it, with an emphasis on the UNEP Approach. It draws upon information from the Marrakech Task Force on SPP, Ecoinstitut, IHOB and UNEP's Implementation Guidelines, as well as other material." ⁱⁱⁱ

Year Guidance was Published: 2009-2011

Access: In order to be able to use the Toolkit, an interested party must contact the SPP team via farid.yaker@unep.org with a completed and signed Statement of Commitment

Types of Purchasers: Government agencies

Regional Focus: International

Languages: English, Spanish, and French

4. Observations

The UNEP Guidelines from 2012 provide guidance for sustainable procurement by national governments, but could also be used for state and local government and potentially for other types of organizations. The steps follow similar guidance documents on SPP, with a greater emphasis placed on reviewing and meeting legal requirements, market analysis and prioritization in preparation phases, and on training in implementation phases. The guidelines and steps are intended to be flexible to accommodate different levels of maturity in SPP implementation; however it's likely to be of most use to those at an earlier stage. It is unknown as to the uptake of the Guidelines produced beyond those actively participating in related UNEP SPP programs and training sessions.

ⁱ UNEP. *About UNEP*. Accessed from: <http://www.unep.org/newyork/AboutUNEP/tabid/52259/Default.aspx>

ⁱⁱ UNEP. (2012). *Sustainable Public Procurement Implementation Guidelines; Introducing UNEP's Approach*. Accessed from: <http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Portals/24147/scp/procurement/docsres/ProjectInfo/UNEPImplementationGuidelines.pdf>

ⁱⁱⁱ UNEP. *UNEP's SPP Training Toolkit Terms of Use*. Accessed from:
http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Portals/24147/scp/Terms%20of%20Use_UNEP%E2%80%99s%20SPP%20Training%20Toolkit.pdf