

Mainstreaming circularity in the construction sector through sustainable public procurement

13 December 2023



One planet
handle with care

Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production (2023-2030)



Pillar II of the Global Strategy

Enable changes through circularity, transformative multistakeholder, and public-private partnerships, tools and solutions across high-impact systems and sectors



SPP for SCP & Circularity

The Global Strategy for SCP, acknowledged by the UN General Assembly, recognizes the strategic role public procurement can play to promote and accelerate sustainability and circularity, particularly in high impact systems and sectors and along their value chains.



High-impact System/Sectors

- Construction
 - Food
- Electronics/ICT
- e-Commerce



SDG 12

The inclusion of target 12.7 under SDG 12 highlights the importance of sustainable public procurement in global efforts to achieve sustainable consumption and its direct linkages with sustainable development.

Mainstreaming Circularity in the Construction Sector through Sustainable Public Procurement



AMBITION

Secure, by 2024, **commitments** from 50 partners, including governments (national & local) and key market players, to **adopt and/or implement SPP** principles, including **circularity/material efficiency** criteria, in the **construction** sector.



Public Procurement as a strategic instrument

With most countries spending more than 50% of their public procurement expenditure, which itself can represent up to 30% of GDP, on buildings and infrastructure, national and local governments play a key role in steering the transformation of the construction sector.



Demands & Needs in the construction sector

The construction sector:

- represents **11%-13%** of the global GDP
- consumes almost **50%** of the global total material footprint

50% of the buildings that will exist in **2050** have not been built yet



Building on synergies

There is a great opportunity to design the flagship initiative by leveraging and in alignment with existing relevant initiatives such as the “Buildings Breakthrough”.



Catalyzing science-based policy action on sustainable consumption and production: The value chain approach and its application to food, construction and textiles (OPN/IRP, 2021)

Applying a whole lifecycle approach focused not only on “how” we build (materials) but also “what is built and where,” and “how much is built and why”.

The majority of natural resource use and environmental impacts along the construction value chain take place at the **material production stage, the construction stage and the operation stage**.

Systems analysis demonstrates that the **most influential actors along the construction value chain are governments, international organisations, financial institutions and major market players**, who are primarily acting at the **financing stage and the planning and design stage** of the construction value chain.

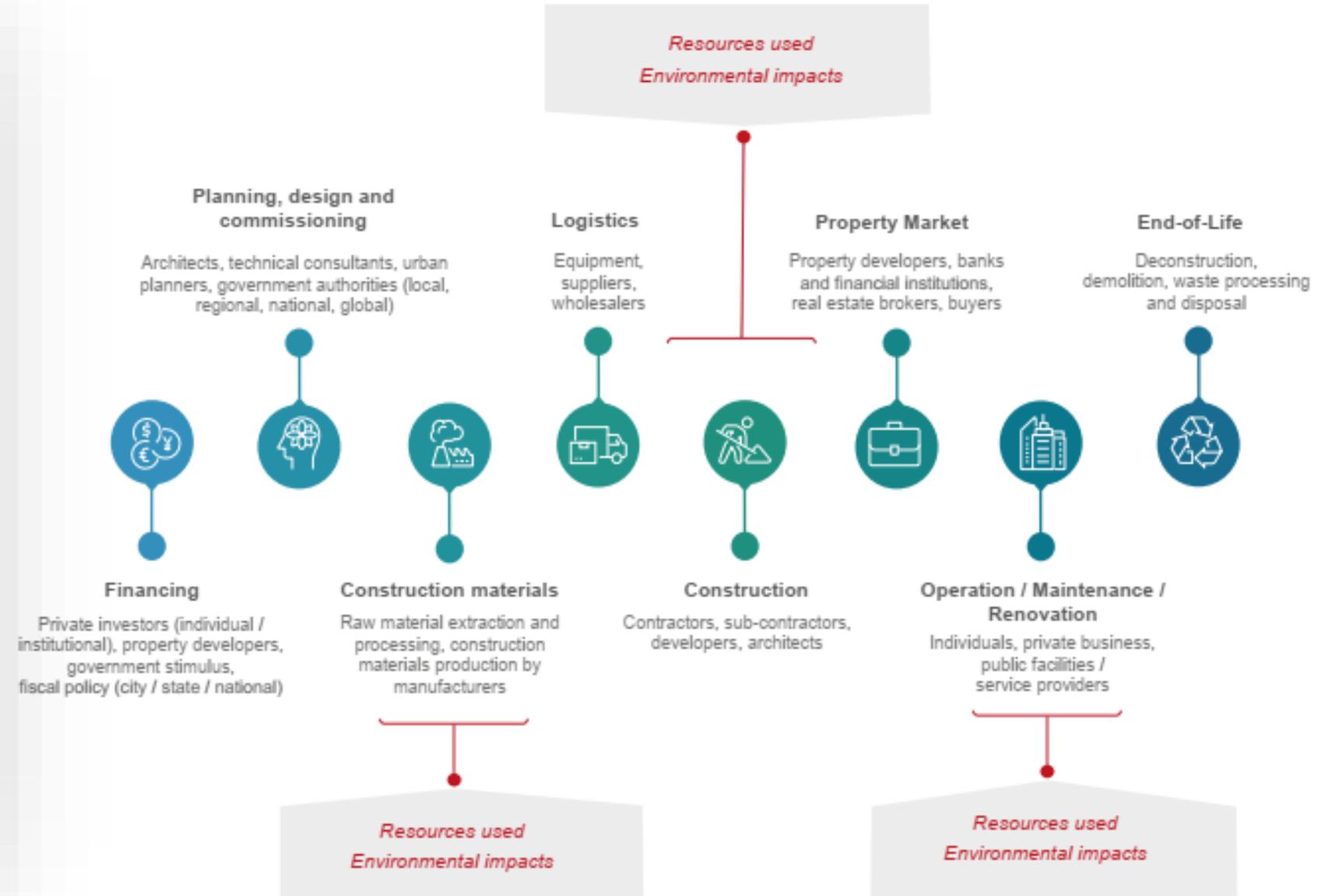


Figure 8: Stages of the construction value chain in which most natural resource use and environmental impacts occur

Milestones

Planned and upcoming milestones of the Flagship Initiative



Critical pathways and recommendations

A **stocktaking exercise (stakeholder mapping and baseline study)** conducted with **UNOPS** and multi-stakeholder consultations - including a series of webinars - will identify critical pathways and opportunities to accelerate the mainstreaming of circularity in construction through SPP.



Co-designing of the flagship initiative

Based on the critical pathways and opportunities identified through the baseline study, **engaging key partners and organizations, front-runners at national and local levels as well as market leaders from the construction sector building on/expanding the OPN and GlobalABC communities** to co-design the initiative: 1) development of a **results-oriented strategy and resource mobilization plan**; stakeholders to be mobilized and engaged through **strategic intervention groups to support the implementation of the initiative.**



Promoting the initiative and securing commitments

Promote the initiative in the context of **relevant international processes, events and partnerships: Global Forum on Climate and Buildings, WCEF 2024, OPN Global Forum, COP29**, with a view to secure commitments from governments (national and local) and private sector organizations to mainstream circularity in the construction sector.

Leadership and Stakeholder Engagement

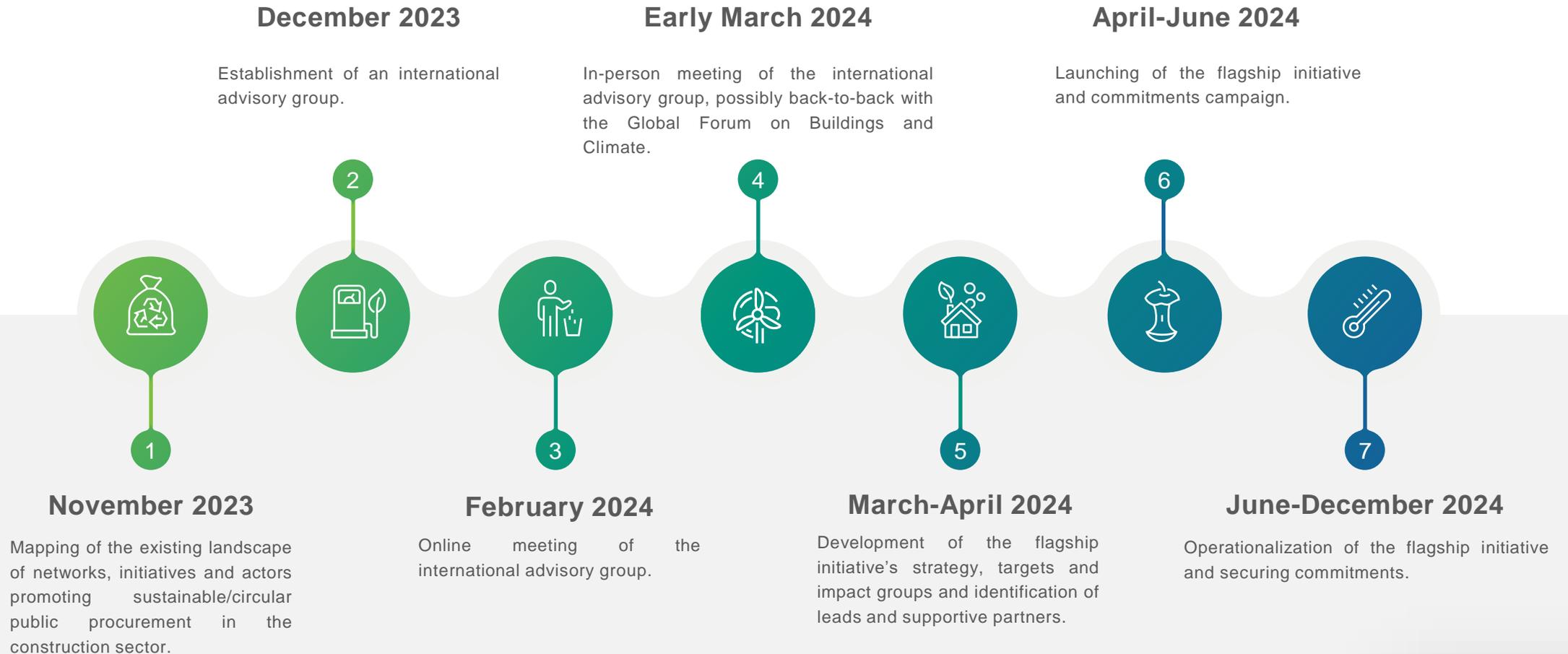
Strategic Group



International Advisory Group

- **Champion countries:** Model countries who are at the forefront of circularity practices in the construction sector, leveraging SPP.
- **Expert international organizations and networks:** These organizations & networks will help anchor the commitment framework by providing expert inputs, resources and outreach.
- **Private sector:** For a balanced approach to shifting public demand towards circularity in the construction sector and enabling market innovation and readiness along the value chain.
- **Financial institutions:** Mobilization of resources and recognition through financial means is essential in advancing and operationalizing the commitment framework.

Roadmap of the Flagship Initiative





Inputs from IGPN members

Collaboration and building on synergies is a core element of the flagship initiative, its commitment framework and cooperation platform.

1. Are there any key/important organizations, networks, initiatives, resources/references that you think would be crucial for the flagship initiative to engage and would like to recommend the 10YFP/OPN Secretariat?
2. In what ways can IGPN and its members partner up and contribute to the development of the flagship initiative? Are there specific areas of interest, e.g. ecolabels, certifications, criteria guidelines?
3. Given your experience in green purchasing/SPP/SCP/developing similar initiatives, what would you like share/recommend regarding what is most needed to accelerate the uptake of circularity criteria in the public procurement of construction?