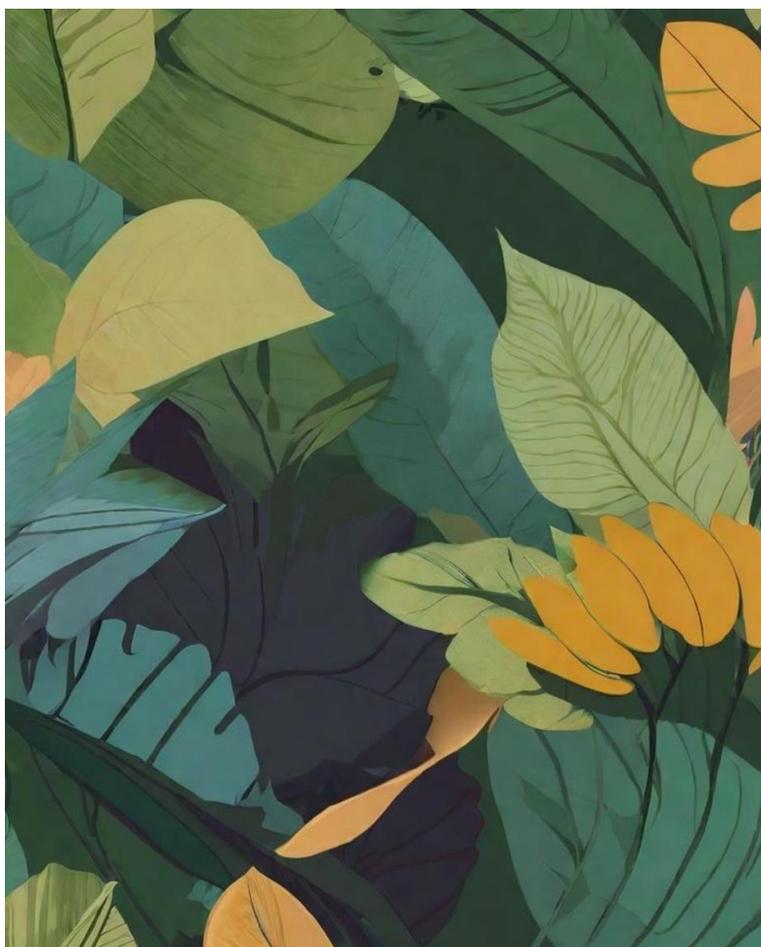




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IGPN promotes green purchasing around the globe by coordinating those who take the initiative in implementing green purchasing towards sustainable consumption and production

Edition 18, 2024

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Thematic conference held to enable the green and high-quality development in textiles industry

Thematic conference of inspection and certification enabling green, environmental protection and high-quality development textiles industry was held with the aim to promote the green and high-quality development of textile industry, hosted by Jiangsu Provincial Department of Industry and Information Technology, Wuxi Municipal Bureau of Industry and Information Technology, China Environmental United Certification Center (CEC), and Nanjing Customs Textile Industry Product Testing Center, more than 200 participants from government institute, associations, universities, and companies attended the meeting.

During the meeting, a total of 8 companies was taken a signing ceremony of ecological products - textile products, which marked the official launch of the ecological product certification program. This meeting helped companies to better understand the mechanism and policy on how green products promoted and adopted by relevant stakeholder from government, business and consumers as well, which will advocate the textile industry to actively explore green and low-carbon development models.



Opened "find pack," a database of food products in environmentally friendly containers and packaging!

In Japan, the Law for Promotion of Recycling of Plastic Resources was enacted in 2022 to reduce marine plastic waste, promote recycling of plastic resources, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Although companies had been developing environmentally friendly products before the law was enacted, the enactment of the law has prompted industry associations to establish design guidelines for plastic products and local governments to consider the separate collection of waste from plastic products.

In 2009, GPN established the "Food (Processed Food) Purchasing Guidelines" and has been providing environmental information on processed foods through "Eco Products Net." In addition to these efforts, in order to promote awareness and understanding among businesses and consumers who purchase environmentally friendly food products, GPN opened a database "Find Pack" in March 2024, which compiles information on food products with environmentally friendly containers and packaging, using a subsidy from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and held a webinar to raise awareness. The "Find-Pack" database is a database that compiles information on food products in environmentally friendly containers and packaging.

The "Find-Pack" database allows users to select products from the perspective of environmental considerations, such as the use of lighter and thinner containers and packaging, recycled design, and recycled materials, and to search by business name or product category. Currently, about 100 products are listed on the "Find-Pack" website, including products with lighter containers and packaging, products using biomass plastic, recycled plastic, or forest certified paper as part of the material, and products with labels that are easy to peel off (listing fee: free of charge). We will continue to promote the use of environmentally friendly food containers and packaging by enhancing the database and providing information.

Screen shot of [the "Find-Pack" website](#).



Thailand supports Bhutan and Lao PDR to develop Type I ecolabel certification scheme

Bhutanese and Laos delegates engaged in a comprehensive coaching program, gaining valuable skills and competencies crucial for the advancement of their certification agencies.

In January and February 2024, representatives from the Kingdom of Bhutan and the Lao People’s Democratic Republic (PDR) actively participated in the coaching programme for Green Label Certification Bodies implemented by Thailand Environment Institute (TEI). This was facilitated through a collaboration of the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) and GIZ’s SCP Outreach in Asia – The Next Five project. This trilateral cooperation represented significant progress in enhancing the certification capacities of the project’s partner countries.

The core objective of the initiative is to facilitate the establishment of Type I ecolabel certification processes within existing certification bodies in Bhutan and Lao PDR, fostering their transition towards sustainable practices and environmental stewardship. Through this programme, the delegates received direct mentorship from TEI’s skilled experts in the development of product criteria and verification procedures over 2 weeks. They actively participated in these processes; gaining first-hand experience and essential insights during attended the technical committee and verification committee meeting and the site assessment.

Learn more at: https://www.tei.or.th/th/activities_us_detail.php?eid=2603;

https://www.tei.or.th/th/activities_us_detail.php?eid=2697



Reinforces a leading organization in the environment through the campaign “Ma-Rak-Kan (Let's conserve) for Sustainable Production and Consumption with Green Label”

Sustainability is an issue that the private sector is more aware of and paying more attention to. However, at the same time, conducting business for sustainability through the criteria of Green label is still limited for many reasons, such as creating awareness is not yet widespread. Raising awareness of the importance of environmental labels is still not enough. Including offers or incentives to support the use of environmental labels is not as favorable to the private sector as it should be. Therefore, the Thailand Environment Institute (TEI) reinforcing being a leading environmental organization that can be trusted and dependable, ready to drive proactive environmental management policies into practice in collaboration with the public, private and civil society sectors with the principles of good governance.



Reinforces a leading organization in the environment through the campaign “Ma-Rak-Kan (Let's conserve) for Sustainable Production and Consumption with Green Label”

Therefore proceeded to open a forum on the topic “Ma-Rak-Kan (Let's conserve) for Sustainable Production and Consumption with Green Label”. The representatives from leading public and private sectors such as the Pollution Control Department, the Comptroller General's Department, the Department of Climate Change and Environment, the Provincial Electricity Authority. Including the entrepreneur for the product line of construction materials, homes and living, office supplies and paper products, and automotive products to discuss and exchange opinions on the issue of Green label and businesses promotion in the direction of sustainable production and sustainable consumption both in terms of policy and practice. In order to develop green production or services practices by conserving natural resources in a balanced way leading to sustain environment for future.

However, the expectation is that changes will occur, especially in reducing climate change. Eventhough It may take time. We just need to continuously and constantly communicate with everyone because the environment is not only a person's matter but of all people.

Learn more at:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/5FVeQiHer8P7fati/?mibextid=qi2Omg>



International Expert Workshop of the One Planet Network Flagship Initiative: Mainstreaming Circularity in the Construction Sector Leveraging the Power of Public Procurement

The Green Council has been invited by the United Nations to support in implementing the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production (10YFP), as well as its Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production



Ms Linda WP HO, The Chief Executive Officer and, Ms Daphne CHAN, Project Officer of the Green Council were invited to attend the International Advisory Group Workshop held under the One Planet Network Flagship Initiative

The Green Council has been given the honor of participating in a United Nations event to support the establishment of a commitment framework by offering their expertise, resources, and outreach efforts. This collaboration will take place on the 5th and 6th of March 2024, with a focus on the development of sustainable cities.

The workshop was organised by the One Planet Network Flagship Initiative, aimed to mainstream circularity in the construction sector through public procurement. Strategies discussed included setting emission-based targets, aligning whole-life carbon standards, and promoting transparent materials circularity, forming the basis for a sustainable procurement process. As a result of our discussion, we agreed that a successful implementation of sustainable public procurement (SPP) requires strong leadership. Governments can leverage their purchasing power to enforce compliance with existing legislation and use these initiatives as public policy tools to support national sustainable development goals. Meanwhile, we can develop an assessment frameworks and guidance to establish measurable and comparable assessment systems for governments and institutions. These frameworks identify indicators for reducing raw frameworks and guidance to establish measurable and [comparable assessment systems](#) for governments and institutions.

Reviewing the engagement of government with stakeholders in Asia, it is clearly lacking a strong bonding between both parties. The Green Council hopes to create a lead more initiatives that advocates strong and continuous collaboration between governments and other stakeholders in Asia.

Global Forum on Buildings and Climate 7-8 March 2024 in Paris

The Green Council was invited by both the Government of France and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to participate as one of the international organisations.



The Global Engagement Planetary Sessions during the Buildings and Climate Global Forum

The Buildings and Climate Global Forum was co-organized by France and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), with the support of the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction. The event brought together speakers, ministers, and high-level delegates worldwide, aiming to foster a renewed commitment to international collaboration. Its objective was to advance decarbonization and enhance resilience in the building sector, building upon the outcomes of the 28th

Conference of the Parties (COP28). Concluded with representatives from 70 countries to adopt the Declaration de Chaillot.

With ministries from different jurisdictions being involved in the value chain, they pledge to strengthen frameworks, mobilizing financial resources, and exchanging global solutions to effectively execute the Paris Agreement. This endeavor is crucial for addressing the sector responsible for 21% of greenhouse gas emissions and representing 55% of the world's wealth. [It marks a momentous occasion for diplomatic efforts and climate action.](#)

To better understand conversations held in the [forum](#), the highlights of the forum are below.

- Highlight the environmental impact of the buildings and construction sector and emphasise its crucial role in achieving climate goals
- Emphasise the significance of multi-level international collaboration in effectively addressing carbon emissions
- Promote cooperation and partnerships among international actors and organisations to accelerate the transition towards near-zero emission and resilient buildings
- Explore sustainable design practices, technological innovations, and solutions that can be implemented in the buildings and construction sector
- Inspire policymakers to establish and implement policies that prioritize energy efficiency and resilience in buildings
- Showcase the Buildings Breakthrough as a complementary initiative that drives international collaboration for the decarbonization and resilience of buildings worldwide

The Green Council was showcased an innovative technology that employs minerals at construction site to create bricks to build. It does not only contribute to decarbonization but also a solution to build better but less. We are excited to explore project ideas and collaborate with other organisations.



Report Generator empowers organizations to track and target critical IT sustainability issues

Using [TCO Certified](#) just became more valuable. The new [Report Generator](#) allows organizations to create customized sustainability reports on their IT product portfolios - based on independently verified data and claims covered by the stringent social and environmental criteria of [TCO Certified](#).

With a number of new regulations on the horizon, organizations are under growing pressure to be transparent about their sustainability claims. TCO Certified, the world-leading sustainability certification for IT products, already helps organizations take action toward a sustainable life cycle for IT products, targeting critical issues such as climate impact, hazardous substances, circularity, e-waste and supply chain responsibility.

With the launch of Report Generator, organizations can now also create customized IT product sustainability reports for certified products. Report Generator delivers verified data and claims that can confidently be used to assess the impacts of an IT product portfolio. The reports can also be used to support sustainability reporting and communications.





Report Generator empowers organizations to track and target critical IT sustainability issues

Report Generator helps organizations show commitment and transparency in sustainability, meet internal sustainability goals, and live up to increasingly higher external requirements on sustainability reporting. It also provides organizations with insights on how using products longer can be one of the most effective ways to reduce the carbon footprint of IT products. says Sören Enholm, CEO at TCO Development, the organization behind TCO Certified.

The tool offers insights into impact areas such as carbon emissions (scope 2 and 3), product carbon footprint, hazardous substances and safer substitutions, material footprint, extended product life and e-waste reduction potential, and social and environmental responsibility in the supply chain.

About TCO Certified



The organization behind the sustainability certification TCO Certified is TCO Development. Our vision is that all IT products should have an environmentally and socially sustainable life cycle. Science-based criteria and independent verification of compliance help us track and accelerate progress over time.



Public buyers take concrete steps toward sustainable & circular transformations at Procura+ Conference 2024

The Procura+ Conference 2024 convened over 220 government officials, industry leaders and procurement practitioners in Lisbon (Portugal) for its 11th edition. The conference theme *“Step Changes for Big Impact”* demonstrated how public buyers across Europe are taking steps to leverage public procurement as a driver of sustainable and circular transformations. The Norwegian Central Procurement Body, the city of Malmö, and the city of Lisbon were also revealed as the [winners](#) of the Procura+ Awards during the conference.

Key highlights from the conference, [hosted](#) by the City of Lisbon in collaboration with ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, included sessions, with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Circular Flanders, Rijkswaterstaat, TCO Development and the Institute of Brilliant Failures, on professionalising public procurement and learning through experience. The conference also offered case studies such as the City of Lisbon’s Sustainable Procurement Management System and the CO2 Performance Ladder and among others. Meanwhile, interactive workshops focused on urban development, innovation, circular economy, just transitions and the transformation of the food system. As, Paul Iske, Chief Failures Officer at the Institute for Brilliant Failures noted *“Sustainable procurement is the way to create a sustainable society. Change doesn’t happen in a straightforward way. There are many holes, mountains and interesting experiences. Enjoy the ride, even when you don’t succeed at first.”*





Public buyers take concrete steps toward sustainable & circular transformations at Procura+ Conference 2024

The Conference highlighted some key procurement successes with reveal of the 2024 Procura+ Award winners. The Awards were given in three categories: The winner for **Sustainable Procurement of the Year was the Norwegian Central Procurement Body** for developing a framework agreement on the reuse and recycling of used ICT equipment, that also included social requirements for work-life inclusion. In the category **Innovation Procurement of the Year the Award went to the City of Malmö** for developing procurement criteria for several tenders based on universal design principles to make physical infrastructure, goods and services accessible to people of all ages, sizes and abilities. Finally, the **City of Lisbon won the category Procurement Initiative of the Year**, for Developing a Sustainable Procurement Management System, to establish a systematic framework ensuring that all public procurement processes within the Municipality are developed within responsible, transparent, fair, and ecological principles.

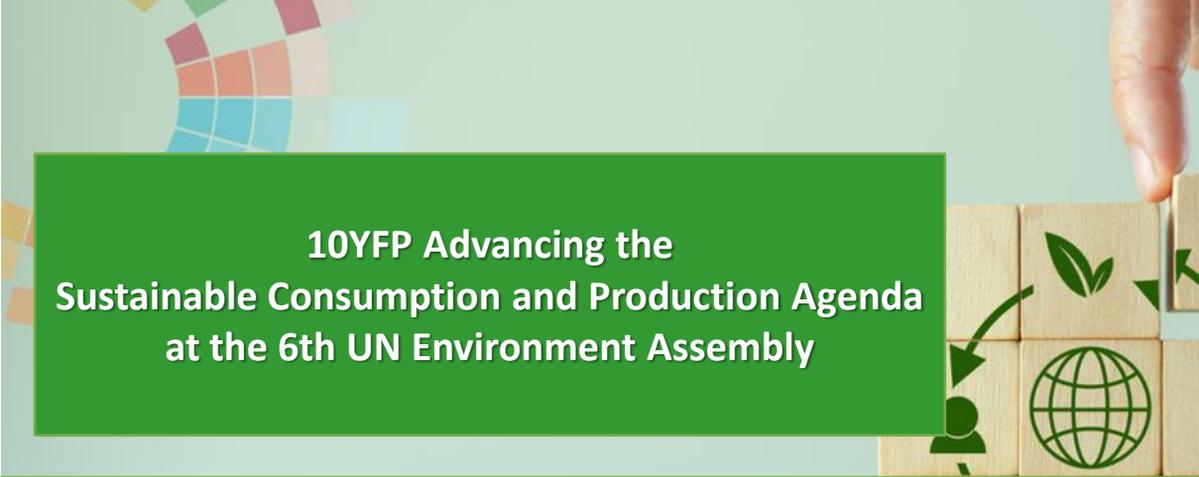


The Procura+ Awards highlight sustainable, circular and innovation procurements and tender procedures and give visibility to the most dynamic, forward-looking and innovative public authorities and their initiatives. The procured solutions will have a strong potential for replication and scaling up and will be an excellent showcase in using sustainable, circular and innovation procurement instruments to purchase cutting edge solutions.

Lisbon were fantastic hosts for an extraordinary gathering of procurers from across the world. The Procura+ 2024 Conference was about renewing inspiration, strengthening networks, and a shared commitment to catalyzing step changes for big impact in procurement practices. The momentum generated during the conference sets the stage for continued collaboration in the transition to a more sustainable, just and resilient way forward.”



Mark Hidson, Global Director of ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement Centre closed the Conference



10YFP Advancing the Sustainable Consumption and Production Agenda at the 6th UN Environment Assembly

As the world gathered at UNEP HQ in Nairobi for [the 6th UN Environment Assembly](#) (taking place from 26 February to 1 March 2024), 10YFP and One Planet Network took the opportunity to [bring together partners with our Board](#) to advance the Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) agenda with dialogue, exchange, and inspiring engagement.

The day began with [the 10YFP Board meeting](#), which discussed global efforts towards advancing sustainability goals and efforts to fostering strategic partnerships for equitable development.

Afterwards, we convened a day of engaging topical [thematic sessions](#) which welcomed experts and leaders in SCP to share powerful insights and ideas. Engaging our in-person attendees taking part in UNEA6 as well as an active online global audience, our sessions offered inspiring and pointed conclusions which encourage furthering the SCP agenda during UNEA6 and beyond.

International expert workshop of the One Planet Network Flagship Initiative: Mainstreaming Circularity in the Construction Sector Leveraging the Power of Public Procurement

[The workshop brought together](#) the leadership of One Planet Network Flagship Initiative “Mainstreaming Circularity in the Construction Sector Leveraging the Power of Public Procurement”, which supports the implementation of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production (10YFP) and its Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023-2030 (A/RES/77/162), and the members of its International Advisory

Group. This event was organized in coordination with the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GlobalABC) and is contributing to the global efforts of the Buildings Breakthrough.



EPA Proposes Criteria to Improve Carbon Emissions Reporting of Construction Materials Under New Label Program

On March 24th, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released draft criteria for Product Category Rules (PCRs) in support of a new label for more climate-friendly construction materials and products as part of the \$100 [million Label Program for Low Embodied Carbon Construction Materials](#) created under the Inflation Reduction Act. PCRs are guidelines for developing Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), which communicate climate and other environmental impacts of products, and will be used to determine a product's eligibility for the new label. The draft criteria will improve PCRs by establishing consistent requirements for data quality and transparency in EPDs. Currently, the manufacturing of construction products and materials, such as concrete, asphalt, steel, and glass, accounts for approximately 11% of annual global greenhouse gas emissions.

The draft criteria were developed with input from stakeholders, including in response to a [Request for Information](#) that was issued last year, and the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration, the General Services Administration and other federal agencies.

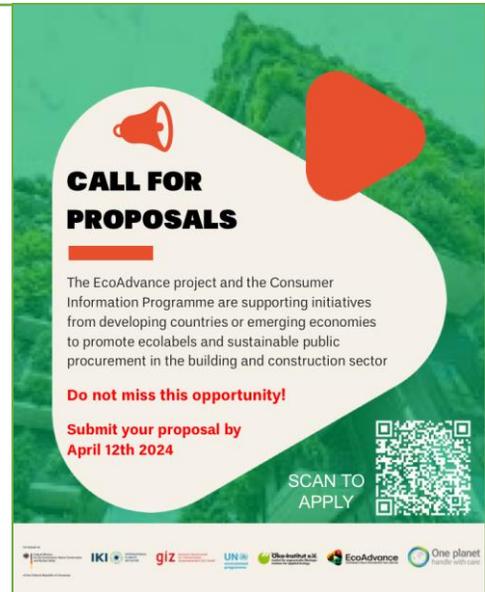
The announcement follows the [release](#) on February 15, 2024, of the draft approach for the implementation of the broader Label Program for Low Embodied Carbon Construction Materials that EPA is currently seeking input on. The draft approach proposes how the label program would define what constitutes low embodied carbon construction materials in support of the Biden-Harris Administration's landmark Federal Buy Clean Initiative, which leverages the Federal Government's power as the world's largest purchaser to spur demand for low embodied carbon materials made in America.

the new label program, EPA plans to award \$100 million in grants, made possible by President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act, to support businesses that manufacture construction materials and products to develop and verify EPDs, and to states, Indian Tribes, and nonprofit organizations that will purchase these materials from such businesses. The EPDs generated through this grant program will make it easier for interested purchasers to ensure the construction projects they fund are using lower embodied carbon construction materials. The PCR Criteria released today will support both grantees and the broader marketplace in developing more robust product EPDs.



Call For Proposals : Promoting Ecolabels and Sustainable Public Procurement In the Building and Construction Sector

The Consumer Information Programme of the One Planet network (OPN) and the EcoAdvance project, in partnership with the Sustainable Public Procurement Programme of the One Planet network are launching a call for proposals. Its main objective is to increase the use of ecolabels (ISO 14024) and promote sustainable public procurement (SPP) as tools to improve climate mitigation, biodiversity, and resource protection in the building and construction sector.



Through this call for proposals, the Consumer Information Programme and the EcoAdvance project, in partnership with the Sustainable public procurement programme, will support initiatives from developing countries or emerging economies (except the five target countries in Latin America) working in the building and construction sector to:

- apply good practices related to the use of Ecolabels in SPP,
- develop ambitious ecolabels criteria (linked to climate change, biodiversity protection, and resource conservation),
- improve policy and legal frameworks,
- enhance knowledge management and increase engagement of stakeholders.

This initiative is receiving financial support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) through the International Climate Initiative (IKI) and has been launched at the Buildings and Climate Global Forum thanks to the support of the French Government.

Deadline for submission of proposals: **12 April 2024**

Notification of selection: **May 2024**

Start of activities: **July/August 2024**

Access the [UNEP One Planet Network](#) a document with [additional information](#) and [the application form](#).

IGPN Initiative Update

Pilot Testing of Green Purchasing Network Measurement Methodology Development

[The IGPN initiative of Green Purchasing Network \(GPN\) measurement methodology development](#) was launched at [IGPN 2023 Knowledge Sharing webinar](#), intends to formulate a kind of measurement methodology by summarize the GPN model, and fulfill the IGPN mission implementation by promoting GPN practice through this measurable, reportable, and replicated methodology. This initiative is initially funded and implemented by China Environmental United Certification Center (CEC)-IGPN Secretariat. The duration of this initiative is 2 years from 2023 to 2024.

The [pilot testing of measurement methodology for Green Purchasing Networks](#) was launched at the [2023 Annual Meeting](#), in order to verify the applicability and feasibility when measuring the implementation level by using the GPN measurement methodology.

The pilot testing scope will be:

- Any interest participant organization which belongs to the concept of Green Purchasing Network
- Green Purchasing Network members of the International Green Purchasing Network.

The Pilot testing timeline:

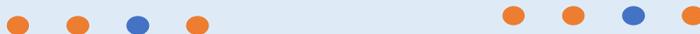
- From December 13, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

So far, **3** IGPN members including **GPN Japan, GPN Malaysia (GPN BERHAD), Green Council** have taken the lead and conducted the pilot according the *<Measurement methodology for Green Purchasing Networks (Version 3.0)>* .

Now the Pilot Testing of Measurement methodology for Green Purchasing Networks is under going!

Want to learn more or interest on the pilot on GPN Measurement Methodology?

Please contact the IGPN Secretariat via igpn.secretariat@igpn.org for the *<Measurement methodology for Green Purchasing Networks (Version 3.0)>* and *<GPN Measurement Methodology Pilot Testing Questionnaire>* on the pilot testing.





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Photoes used were provided by the IGPN members

Compiled by the IGPN Secretariat- China Environmental United Certification Center