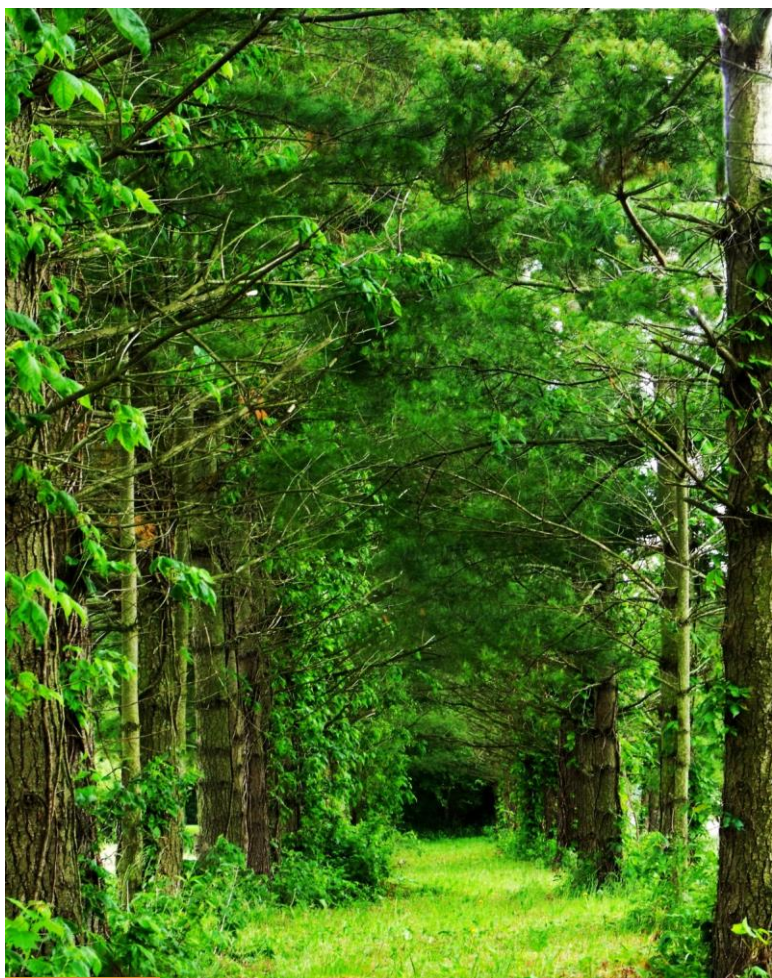




# IGPN NEWSLETTER



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

*Edition 19, 2024*

# CONTENT

## IGPN FOCUS

- IGPN 2024 Knowledge Sharing Webinar

## MEMBER UPDATES

- Green Purchasing Network Japan: “Eco-Products Database” has been updated along with the Guidelines in June
- Green Purchasing Network Singapore: Singapore Environment Council and Japan Environment Association Partner for Mutual Certification of Imaging Equipment
- Green Purchasing Network Thailand: bringing out the great challenge of developing criteria to bring to the attention of entrepreneurs in the public hearing seminar
- Green Purchasing Network Thailand: joins in pushing digital innovation towards the transformation SMEs to low-carbon business models
- Green Purchasing Network Thailand: supports Sustainable procurement Training for the Port Authority of Thailand
- GPN Berhad Malaysia: Groundbreaking Plastic Waste Management Project Launching in Saudi Arabia
- Green Purchasing Network the Philippines: Updates in this quarter
- TCO Development: Products from four additional IT brands meet the criteria in TCO Certified
- ICLEI: Public procurement can stimulate demand for NZEB construction skills
- ICLEI: Oslo uses public procurement to become zero emission city

## GLOBAL UPDATES ON SPP

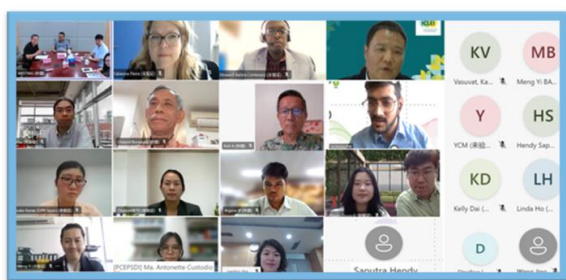
- Declaration de Chaillot at the first Buildings and Climate Global Forum
- Good practices on ecolabelling and sustainable public procurement
- New project: Regional Pathways on Sustainable Public Procurement for Sustainable Food Systems



# IGPN 2024 Knowledge Sharing Webinar

*the IGPN met to share latest progresses in sustainable procurement to bridge sustainable public procurement practices in Asian Region*

**2024 knowledge sharing webinar of** the International Green Purchasing Network-IGPN was held visually on June 13th. Participants from national Green Purchasing Networks (GPN), IGPN Council and IGPN Advisory Board, invited guests from UNEP, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, World Bank, TCO Development, GIZ Thailand office attended this meeting. The meeting was hosted by the IGPN Secretariat, China Environmental United Certification Center–CEC.



**2024**  
Knowledge sharing webinar



More details from: [http://www.igpn.org/igpn\\_events/2024/index.html](http://www.igpn.org/igpn_events/2024/index.html)

## SPEECHES FROM THE CHAIR

“



IGPN has been continuously supported global sustainable procurement development in terms of capacity building, awareness raising, tools and approach development, Since the development of GPN measurement methodology initiated and pilot test conducted, pilot questionnaires were received from GPN Japan, Malaysia, Thailand and Hong Kong SAR to develop a scientific measurement methodology to evaluate the effectiveness which will help to achieve the long-term goal of promoting sustainable purchasing practice for all organizations

——Mr. CHEN Yanping, Chair, the Internantional Green Purchasing Network

“

pointed the recommendations on IGPN development including advocating and mainstreaming GPP awareness, seeking synergies with core international conventions, building sustainable funding scheme steadily, incorporating middle Asian countries and cities for green development and transition under the BRI of China, and exploring possibilities of developing best practices on cities, industrial zones, and specific industries like building and textile.

——Mr. ZHU Shu, Vice Chair of the IGPN, regional director of ICLEI East Asia, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability





## INVITED SPEAKERS

**Ms. Fabienne Pierre**, Programmes & Flagship Initiatives Lead of UNEP One Planet Network Secretariat;

**Mr. Howard Bariira Centenary**, Lead Procurement Specialist of East Asia and Pacific Region Governance Global Practice from World Bank;

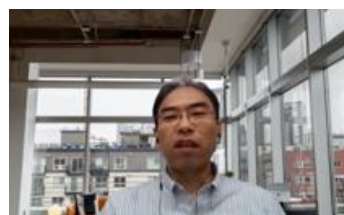
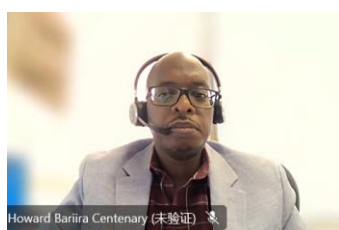
**Mr. SHAN Mingwei**, Senior Engineer, China Environmental United Certification Center;

**Mr. Gakuji FUKATSU**, secretariat general of Japan Green Purchasing Network;

**Mr. Pranav Bhardwaj**, assistant vice president of India Green Purchasing Network;

**Mr. Augustine Koh**, Director of GPN BERHAD, IGPN Council member;

**Dr. Chaiyod Bunyagidj**, Adviser GPN BERHAD, IGPN Advisory member.



## NEXT STEP

Since CEC holds the IGPN Secretariat in 2018, it consistently works on the IGPN operational and members' collaboration activities. Stated by **Mr. LIU Zunwen, CEC general manager**, in the summary speech, "Next, IGPN Secretariat will revise the methodology, release the methodology and report as scheduled; Furthermore, the Secretariat will work closely with ICLEI, enrich projects and activities, bridge the IGPN and One Planet Network for a platform for SPP practical practices in the Asia Pacific region."

# Eco-Products Database

## has been updated along with the Guidelines in June

**GPN Japan** operates “Eco-Products Database,” which is one of the largest environmental information databases in Japan, providing information on the environmental aspects of products and services as well as environmental and social initiatives of businesses in accordance with the GPN Green Purchasing Guidelines and the Basic Principle on Promoting Green Purchasing.

Listings are updated four times a year, and as of March 31, 2024, the total number of listings was approximately 13,200. According to the survey conducted by the Ministry of the Environment in FY2023, 88.1% of prefectures and ordinance-designated cities, and more than 400 local governments nationwide refer to “Eco-Products Database” and other information for their procurement.

In June 2024, we updated product information along with the revision of the lighting purchasing guidelines and add items related to non-containment of chemical substances. Japan has set a goal of reducing GHG emissions to zero by 2050, and it is necessary to minimize the amount of electricity used for lighting. The Green Purchase Guidelines now cover only LED lighting fixtures and LED lamps, and fluorescent lighting fixtures and fluorescent lamps, which were previously covered by the Guidelines, are no longer included. Therefore, only LED lighting fixtures and LED lamps are listed in lighting category of “Eco- Products Database.”

In addition, the Guideline item had previously covered the six substances covered by the RoHS Directive as being contained as little as possible, but it was revised in 2019 and the scope was expanded to 10 substances. We revised the Guideline to expand the number of substances covered to 10 substances. To link this update, we added the RoHS Directive compliance status to the items listed for some products in “Eco- Products Database” to provide more detailed information to users.



URL: <https://www.gpn.jp/econet/>  
Screen shot of “Eco-Products Database”



## Singapore Environment Council and Japan Environment Association Partner for Mutual Certification of Imaging Equipment



**On 18 June 2024**—The Singapore Environment Council (SEC) is pleased to announce a new partnership with the Japan Environment Association (JEA), a public interest incorporated foundation based in Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, responsible for the Eco Mark certification program. This collaboration marks the mutual certification of imaging equipment including copiers and printers, under the Singapore Green Labelling Scheme (SGLS).

This agreement facilitates products certified with the Eco Mark in Japan to be recognised by the SGLS. This streamlines the certification process, reducing time and effort for manufacturers.

Imaging equipment is the most commonly used category in mutual certification, with over 1,300 models eligible across several countries. This is the second mutual certification agreement between SEC and JEA, following a similar agreement for projectors last December. Discussions are ongoing to expand mutual certification to more product categories, such as tile carpets and vinyl flooring.

This collaboration highlights SEC's commitment to international cooperation in environmental standards, promoting eco-friendly products in Singapore. This is also part of a broader effort by JEA, which has similar agreements with organisations in countries including Germany, South Korea and Thailand.



### About Singapore Environment Council

Established in 1995, the Singapore Environment Council (SEC) enables businesses in their sustainability journeys through its globally recognised environmental certification programme under the Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN). In line with the national targets outlined in the SG Green Plan 2030, SEC focuses on raising public awareness on sustainability issues and fosters capability and capacity building through Public Private People (3Ps) partnership. As a not-for-profit, nongovernmental organisation (NGO), SEC is approved under the Institution of Public Character (IPC) which extends tax exemption to donors. For details, please visit <https://www.sec.org.sg>

## Bringing out the great challenge of developing criteria to bring to the attention of entrepreneurs in the public hearing seminar to consider the draft Green label criteria of steel, cement, and electric vehicle products



On 30 May 2024, TEI researchers presented the drafted of Green Label criteria to support the construction industry in order to perform construction of environmentally friendly practice. Sustainable construction is a key trend worldwide. The construction industry is responsible for 39% of global CO2 emission. This is the good chance to increase the Green label certification for various building materials to proof that those materials have been designed to reduce GHG emissions and increase its positive impact on people and environment. To comply with the Green building construction, it is essential to achieve a high level of efficiency by reducing energy, water, and resources consumption, while minimizing pollution from its life cycle. This determines whether a building deserves to be considered sustainable. These draft of construction materials criteria plan to be published at the end of this year.

Learn more at: [https://www.tei.or.th/en/activities\\_us\\_detail.php?eid=2872](https://www.tei.or.th/en/activities_us_detail.php?eid=2872)





## TEI joins in pushing digital innovation towards the transformation SMEs to low-carbon business models

On 12-13 June 2024, @NTUH International Convention Center, Taipei City. The workshop is under the framework of APEC Digital Innovation to Implement SMEs' Low-Carbon Transformation. The objective of this workshop is to push SMEs to respond to important changes and international trends. The workshop focused on the importance of transforming low-carbon by applying digital innovations into sustainable supply chains as well as the application of digital carbon reduction strategies and tools for SMEs. There are also lecturers from Manufacturers from various countries Digital carbon reduction practitioners' Non-profit organization and startup companies providing digital solutions. It has presented insights from various perspectives, such as the GHG Inventory platform. Thailand Environmental Institute (TEI) by Ms. Kanjana Boonmak, researcher and Ms. Soontaree Vattanawase, senior project officer attended this workshop, shared experiences, and participated in practical activities. In addition, the meeting included a visit to HUASAN Auto part Company, which has implemented strategies and success in using digital tools for carbon reduction into the work process.

The workshop is expected to stimulate participants' ideas and actions in digital innovation to continue apply and drive the transformation of low-carbon digital innovations into sustainable supply chains of SMEs in the next region.



## Thailand Environment Institute (TEI) supports Sustainable procurement Training for the Port Authority of Thailand (PAT)

On 21 June 2024, the research team of Green Label and Environmental Label Program, Thailand Environment Institute (TEI) has organized a training session titled "SPP: Procure for Sustainability" for the Port Authority of Thailand (PAT) officials. The content including transitioning to net zero emissions through sustainable procurement practices. It addressed current environmental challenges and emphasized operational measures in Thailand towards achieving Net Zero. Additionally, the session featured insights from leading government and private organizations that have been implementing sustainable procurement practices and their success stories for inspiring the audiences. Furthermore, the training aimed to raise awareness about environmental issues and strategies to achieve Net Zero Emission goals for their organization. It enhanced understanding of environmentally friendly procurement and service contracting, aligning with PAT's vision to become a global leader in port standards and logistics excellence, fostering sustainable growth.

Learn more at: [https://www.tei.or.th/en/activities\\_us\\_detail.php?eid=2914](https://www.tei.or.th/en/activities_us_detail.php?eid=2914)



## Groundbreaking Plastic Waste Management Project Launching in Saudi Arabia

MVW Lechtenberg Projektentwicklungs- und Beteiligungsgesellschaft GmbH, in collaboration with Empower, announces a transformative plastic waste management project in Saudi Arabia, supporting the Vision 2030 environmental goals.

### Addressing Waste Management Challenges

Saudi Arabia generates around 17 million tons of municipal solid waste (MSW) annually, with 20% being plastic. This project aims to improve waste collection, recycling, and convert non-recyclable waste into Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF).

### Strategic Partnerships

MVW Lechtenberg & Partner Middle East, SIRC, and Green Solutions for Environmental Services have formed a joint venture for this project. SIRC, a subsidiary of the Public Investment Fund (PIF), and Green Solutions, a subsidiary of City Cement Company, bring expertise in sustainable waste management.

### Project Goals

The project will process 3 million tonnes of MSW per year, producing RDF in six governorates for six cement factories. By converting 35% of waste to RDF and recycling 9%, it will significantly reduce landfill waste and lower CO2 emissions by approximately 1,791,300 tonnes annually.

### Technology and Solutions

Empower's blockchain technology will ensure transparent tracking and management of plastic waste, enhancing efficiency and building trust. The platform will also handle the financial aspects of plastic credit incentives, supporting the project's financial sustainability.

### Key Components

- **Enhanced Collection and Recycling:** Engaging communities and waste collectors with fair compensation and traceability.
- **RDF Production:** Converting non-recyclable plastics into sustainable fuel alternatives.
- **Real-Time Monitoring and Data Transparency:** Empower's platform ensures transparent transactions and efficient funding.

## Groundbreaking Plastic Waste Management Project Launching in Saudi Arabia

### Plastic Credits and Economic Impact

Plastic Credits incentivize responsible waste disposal, providing financial rewards for verified waste collection and recycling. These credits will bridge the financial gap, ensuring the long-term viability of the waste management initiative.

Verification of these credits will be based on the GPx traceability standard developed by GPN Berhad (Corporation), a member of the International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN), ensuring high levels of transparency, traceability, and accountability.

### About MVW Lechtenberg GmbH

MVW Lechtenberg GmbH specializes in sustainable use of alternative fuels, promoting innovative waste management solutions.

### About Empower

Empower specializes in supply chain traceability solutions, focusing on sustainability.

Feel free to reach out via email, and we will gladly provide you with more information:

Dirk Lechtenberg, [dirk.lechtenberg@lechtenberg-partner.de](mailto:dirk.lechtenberg@lechtenberg-partner.de)

Knut Landsverk, [knut@empower.eco](mailto:knut@empower.eco)

More details at <https://www.empower.eco/>; <https://lechtenberg-partner.de/>



MVW  
LECHTENBERG & PARTNER



empower.eco







## Green Purchasing Alliance Movement

### Updates in this quarter

The Philippine Center for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development, Inc. (PCEPSDI) continued delivering its commitments under the Scaling Sustainable Consumption and Production (Scaling SCP) Project, implemented by the GIZ. Two major activities related to GPP were held, the first of which was the 2-day Module Update and Development Workshop, undertaken with the support of the Government Procurement Policy Board - Technical Support Office (GPPB-TSO). Here, accredited trainers of the said agency benefitted from an awareness session on Green Public Procurement, followed by a series of activities wherein they reviewed the agency's current GPP training modules to keep abreast with policy developments and growing environmental challenges.

Next, to further solidify the market readiness assessments on the proposed additional green specifications for common-use supplies and equipment, PCEPSDI, along with the Procurement Service of the Department of Budget and Management (PS-DBM) conducted focus group discussions (FGDs) for each product category. The FGDs brought together suppliers, manufacturers, industry associations, and testing centers, to gauge the capacity of the local market to adapt to the proposed green specifications and formulate recommendatory steps in treading towards GPP. For product categories where FGDs had to be called off, alternative methodologies, specifically phone interviews and online surveys, were deployed. At this point, it is expected that the final recommended green specifications will be submitted by July for the agencies' approval. PCEPSDI looks forward to the successful completion of its GPP-related programs in the next half of the year.



## Products from four additional IT brands meet the criteria in TCO Certified

In the last six months, four new IT brands — Logitech, Microsoft, Sharp, and Voxicon— have been added to the list of brands with products certified according to TCO Certified. The growing number of certified products helps purchasers make more sustainable choices..

The demand for more sustainable IT products remains high. [TCO Certified](#) is the world's leading sustainability certification for IT products, and a tool that helps purchasers and purchasing organizations get sustainability right. Since December 2023, four more brands — Logitech, Microsoft, Sharp, and Voxicon — have been added to the extensive list of well-known brands with products certified according to TCO Certified. All certified products are listed in [Product Finder](#).

“Having more brands on board creates a great opportunity to expand the range of certified products. A wider selection is good news for purchasers wanting to make more sustainable choices, drive change and meet both internal and external sustainability goals,” says Sören Enholm, CEO at TCO Development, the organization behind TCO Certified.

On 31 May 2024, the following brands had certified products listed in Product Finder: Acer, AOC, ASUS, BenQ, DELL, EIZO, FAIRPHONE, FUJITSU, HP, iiyama, INSYS, Jabra, Lenovo, LG, Logitech, Microsoft, NEC, NTT Systems S.A., Philips, Samsung, SHARP, Soundcore, SteelSeries, V7, ViewSonic and Voxicon.

Any organization citing TCO Certified when purchasing IT products can also use [Report Generator](#) to assess the impact of purchasing and using certified products. 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.

### 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 procurement can stimulate demand for NZEB construction skills

The EU-funded [nZEB Ready](#) project has produced a step-by-step guide highlighting how public procurement can stimulate demand for nearly zero energy building (nZEB) construction skills. The guide, highlighted in the latest [GPP newsletter](#), shows which requirements can be implemented throughout the procurement process, and provides examples from pilot projects and additional resources. The guide is further complemented by a [collection of 15 case studies](#) that illustrate how public authorities from across Europe have procured the renovation and construction of nZEB buildings and the impact these projects had on the uptake of skills and know-how.

A more energy-efficient building stock would help curb GHG emissions and energy consumption and support climate targets. Since 2021, all new buildings in the EU should reach the target nearly-zero energy building (or nZEB) standard, as defined by national governments. To reach these goals construction workforce needs to have the skills and know-how to design, construct, renovate and maintain energy-efficient building.

As owners of large buildings and employers, public authorities can support the upskilling of the construction workforce. By embedding criteria in tenders for nZEB building standards, certifications, qualifications, as well as on-site training clauses public buyers can encourage the market to develop (n)ZEB skills. The guide, developed by [ICLEI Europe](#) in the context of the nZEB Ready project, aims to support public buyers in achieving this.

The guide can be downloaded [here](#).



## How to procure nZEB skills? A guide for public procurers





## Oslo uses public procurement to become zero emission city



**Norway's capital Oslo** is pushing forward to become an emission-free city, with the goal to use only zero emission technologies by 2030. Public procurement is one of the tools the city is using to achieve that goal, as explained by Geir Rossebø (Team Leder Climate & Environment) during the first annual event of [the Big Buyers Working Together](#) project, held in Brussels on 24 April.

Big Buyers Working Together, coordinated by [Eurocities](#), [ICLEI Europe](#) and [BME](#), on behalf of the European Commission, aims to bring public buyers together to pool their resources and help them gain more power to influence the market to become more socially and environmentally friendly. Sometimes that is difficult due to a lack of political commitment to continue successful sustainability initiatives after their success. Oslo has managed to overcome this by integrating the notion that public procurement can be used to create a zero emission city both in its procurement strategy and its climate strategy. It also agreed upon a framework on how to achieve this.

In addition, Oslo also has a strong focus on human rights in its supply chains and has since 2013 had social contract clauses in its procurements of goods. In 2023 the so-called Oslomodel was revised, and due diligence requirements are now included in all tenders, both goods and services, where there is a high risk of violations of human rights and labour rights, and/or where there is a risk for corruption and/or negative impact on the environment. These contract clauses refer to and build upon the OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises, which is important to align with international frameworks and guidelines for responsible business conduct.

The CoP on HDEV is one of the four CoP's coordinated by ICLEI Europe. Eurocities also coordinates four, while BME coordinates two. The other communities of practice focus on Zero-Emission Construction Sites; Circular Construction; Sustainable Solar Panels; Mobility; Digital; Social; New European Bauhaus; Healthcare Efficiency; Healthcare Sustainability.

More details at [ICLEI sustainable procurement webpage](#).



## Declaration de Chaillot at the first Buildings and Climate Global Forum



[The Buildings and Climate Global Forum](#) brought together ministers, government officials and high-level representatives of key organizations in the buildings and construction sector to discuss the pathways to decarbonization (net-zero emission) and resilience, and followed up on the progress made during the latest [United Nations Climate Change Conference \(COP28\)](#) as well as the launch of the [Buildings Breakthrough](#), which includes 28 signatory countries. The Forum was co-organized by France and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) with support of the [Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction](#) and took place in Paris during the 7th and 8th of March, 2024.

[The Chaillot Declaration](#)—now supported by over 70 countries—seeks to create momentum for global action towards decarbonizing buildings and strengthening climate resilience strategies and sets an important step for the implementation of the Paris Agreement. It underscores the importance of international cooperation and urges commitments from governments, as well as state and non-state actors in the building and construction sectors, providing a solid base for future discussions.

In this context, the [One Planet Network's flagship initiative, "Mainstreaming Circularity in the Construction Sector Leveraging the Power of Public Procurement"](#), aligns with the objectives and commitments of the Chaillot Declaration, and in support of the [Buildings Breakthrough Agenda](#) Recommendation 2 on Demand Creation: *"Governments should jointly create and strengthen procurement commitments for near-zero emission and resilient buildings, as well as joining existing (low-carbon material) procurement alliances. Countries should work to establish new joint commitments on deploying clean and efficient heating and cooling technologies."*

## Good practices on ecolabelling and sustainable public procurement

### Grouping of sustainable certifications under a recognition scheme or pre-approved list Cases from Malaysia and the United States of America

GOOD PRACTICES IN THE USE OF ECOLABELLING  
AND SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

This series of 20 good practices reflects experiences on ecolabelling, sustainable public procurement, or the joint use of ecolabelling and sustainable public procurement that have demonstrated positive impacts on fostering sustainable consumption and production — for this reason, they are called "good practices." These good practices aim to promote global exchange by providing information and examples of various approaches that entities from different countries and contexts can apply to strengthen the use of ecolabels and sustainable public procurement. They were developed as an outcome of the Working Group on Ecolabelling from the [Consumer Information Programme](#), under the One Planet network, and the [EcoAdvance project](#), jointly implemented by the German Cooperation for Development (GIZ), the United Nations for Environmental Protection (UNEP), and the Oeko Institute, funded by the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, nuclear safety and consumer protection (BMUV), and the International Climate Initiative (IKI).

### [Grouping of sustainable certifications under a recognition scheme or pre-approved list](#)

This good practice explores the benefits of grouping ecolabels (ISO 14024) and sustainable certifications under a recognition scheme or pre-approved list to streamline sustainable public procurement. This approach helps public procurers easily identify and trust products and services with credible sustainability performance, mitigating the challenge of assessing diverse and often unreliable environmental claims. The MyHIJAU Mark in Malaysia and the EPA's Framework in the USA serve as examples of successful implementation.

### [Implementation of an e-marketplace of sustainable products and services](#)

This good practice explores the benefits of using e-marketplaces to help public procurers easily identify and trust products and services with ecolabels (defined by ISO 14024) and sustainable certification schemes, mitigating the challenge of assessing diverse and often unreliable environmental claims. The MyHIJAU Mark in Malaysia and the Thai Green Cart in Thailand are examples of successful implementation.

## New project: Regional Pathways on Sustainable Public Procurement for Sustainable Food Systems

With a substantial demand for food from the public sector, sustainable public food procurement (PFP) initiatives possess the potential to significantly influence both food consumption and production patterns, delivering numerous social, economic, and environmental benefits to positively transform food systems and contribute to sustainable and healthy diets. Depending on policy and regulatory frameworks, PFP initiatives play a crucial role in determining the type of food purchased (food security and nutrition), the source of procurement (livelihoods, decent jobs, income), and the production methods employed (environmental sustainability). Notably, school feeding programs, serving as one of the largest and most widespread social safety nets globally with 418 million children benefiting.

This is why a new project led by FAO and UNEP has been launched to bolster the efforts of the One Planet Sustainable Public Procurement and Sustainable Food Systems Programmes. The project will involve crafting a regional pathway on Sustainable Public Procurement for Sustainable Food Systems, paving the way for in-country technical support for the implementation of recommended actions. The project aims to identify prioritized principles for adopting sustainable public procurement practices that integrate social and environmental considerations holistically into public food procurement objectives, processes, and assessments.

The project will connect the expertise, networks, and resources of existing initiatives. It will build on the activities of the [established Sustainable Public Food Procurement Interest Group](#) within the Sustainable Public Procurement Programme and [the Working Group dedicated to supporting the Implementation of Food Systems National Pathways](#) in the Sustainable Food Systems Programme.

More details at [One Planet Network website](#).





Editor:WANG Jing

[igpn.secretariat@igpn.org](mailto:igpn.secretariat@igpn.org)

Photoes used were provided by the IGPN members

Compiled by the IGPN Secretariat- China Environmental United Certification Center