

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

IGPN NEWSLETTER

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In July, We, GPN, provided information on factory tours for children to help them with their summer vacation learning activities. In Japan, children are often assigned homework during summer vacation to research areas of interest to them. They finally write some reports or make crafts to show what they learnt from their activities. <https://www.gpn.jp/info/gpn/d6472cd3-e2a8-43c5-97fc-5acaf1d86240>

To find interested events for children easily, we collected information on factory tours and activities from our member companies that provided children with opportunities to learn about how the companies produce the products or provide services with environmental considerations, and also offered learning materials on environment. We posted it on our website as a collection of links. <https://www.gpn.jp/assets/pdf/gpn/kojyokenngaku2024.pdf>

In this page, we introduced events and their outlines that our member companies held this summer, such as tours of the process, which were stationery and food products which are familiar to children. In addition, we also presented the events where children can actually see the recycling process in action at a factory. These events included online events, so children were able to learn if they live apart from the company. Participating member companies ranged from food manufacturing companies, logistics companies, and automobile manufacturing companies.

This event information was also provided to members of Junior Eco-Club, in cooperation with Junior Eco-Club of Japan Environment Association. In addition, information was also provided to people concerned through local governments and member educational institutions that were implementing “SDG learning” in their educational settings. With our member companies, we also contribute to environmental education activities for children.

——From [Green Purchasing Network Japan](#)





Campaign march titled #Ma Rak Kan (Let's Conserve) by Green Label

July 19-20, 2024, Increasing and expanding awareness of how to choose environmentally friendly products, which are certified Green Label. The event took place on Silom Road, Victory Monument, and Chatuchak Market.

The campaign march was led by Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, Director of Thailand Environment Institute (TEI), who inaugurated the event alongside Ms. Jarukan Rassiri, Director of the Natural Resources, Energy, and Transport Group at the German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ) in Thailand, as a co-organizer. Other notable attendees included Mr. Ongart Rattanauaphap, Head of the Environment and Sanitation Division of the Bang Rak District Office, Ms. Chatphaitoon Masrinual, Deputy Director of the Ratchathewi District Office, and Mr. Sutthana Suwanphanon, Director of Chatuchak Market.

Beside increasing awareness, the campaign aimed to educate the public about what green label is and its benefits. With the slogan ***"Choose for Us, Care for the World #Choose Green Label Products"***, campaign hoped to demonstrate that everyone can start, act, and take responsibility for the environmental conservation which results in a shift towards sustainable consumption practice.



Empowering the Future of Green Procurement in ASEAN



August 6, 2024, @C ASEAN Forum- Pioneering the Future of ASEAN Green Procurement was inaugurated by Mr. Suwit Mangkala, Deputy Director-General of the Department of ASEAN, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It was organized by the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDSD), C ASEAN, and Thailand Supply Chain Network.

Thailand Environment Institute (TEI), led by Dr. Chuttree Phurat, Director of the Green Label and Environmental Label Program, participated as a speaker in the session titled “Greening Thailand's Public Procurement: Ecolabelling Integration”.

The forum brought together key stakeholders including government officials, industry leaders, SMEs, and international experts to discuss and promote environmentally friendly procurement practices in the ASEAN region. With an estimated market value of \$11 trillion, green procurement is a crucial tool for leveraging market changes through strategic purchasing power, driving demand for sustainable products, and promoting the Circular Economy (CE).

The event featured experience sharing from speakers across ASEAN member countries such as Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and EU SWITCH-ASIA. These contributions were instrumental in inspiring practical strategies for implementing Green Public Procurement (GPP) across the ASEAN region and served as a significant tool for fostering cooperation to overcome challenges and realize the transformative potential of environmentally friendly procurement.

The Green Label and Type I Environmental Label of Thailand insist on adopting environmentally friendly procurement practices helping businesses reduce their environmental impact by selecting suppliers that adhere to environmental standards and promoting the use of eco-friendly materials. Business commitment to sustainability enhances brand reputation, attracts environmentally conscious consumers, and creates a competitive advantage in the market. It also aids businesses in complying with environmental regulations, reducing legal risks, and increasing overall regulatory compliance. Investing in sustainable practices can lead to long-term cost savings through improved resource efficiency, waste reduction, and energy savings.



Green Purchasing Alliance Movement

Updates in this quarter

The Philippine Center for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development Inc. (PCEPSDI) in partnership with GIZ Philippines continued its initiative and advocacy on Green Public Procurement (GPP) and Ecolabelling through its projects, Scaling SCP and the Criteria Development for Refrigeration and Cool Contributions Fighting Climate Change (C4II) project.

From July to August, two major events have been conducted under the Scaling SCP including Module roll-out and finalization of GPP technical specifications. Dating August 5-16, through the regular training program of the Government Public Procurement Board-Technical Specifications Office (GPPB-TSO) dubbed as “Mastering Mastery: Amplifying PRO² (Procurement Professionals)”, a 2-week training seminar was conducted for accredited trainers from different regions in the Philippines - Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. This event is part of the Scaling SCP Project and the GPP modules that have been developed were rolled out to their fellow trainers through technical sessions. SCP, GPP, and Ecolabelling practices in the Philippines were introduced in a session led by Ms. Maureen Grace Lebria of PCEPSDI. The event also became an avenue to open the discussion about Sustainable Public Procurement in the New Government Procurement Act of the Philippines.

On August 29, the technical specifications incorporating green parameters on the four (4) product categories such as electronics, cleaning supplies, adhesive, and paper products were finalized with the Procurement Service - Department of Budget Management.



Presentation on Adopting Green Public Procurement (Resource Speaker: Ms. Maureen Grace Lebria, Programmes and Project Director of Philippine Center for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development Inc.)



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Green Purchasing Alliance Movement

Updates in this quarter



2nd Technical Committee Meeting on National Ecolabelling Program - Green Choice Philippines (NELP-GCP) Criteria for Refrigerators and Freezers



3rd Technical Committee (TC) Meeting on National Ecolabelling Program - Green Choice Philippines (NELP-GCP) Criteria for Room Air Conditioners

Under the C4II project, the National Ecolabelling Programme-Green Choice Philippines (NELP-GCP) is developing certification criteria for refrigerators, freezers, and room air conditioners. NELP-GCP conducted the 3rd Technical Committee (TC) meeting for Room Air Conditioners on September 23 attended by technical experts from government agencies, industry associations, testing laboratories, and research institutions to assess the capability of the local market to adapt to environmental requirements. In addition, NELP-GCP is also aiming to conduct a stakeholder consultation focused on the refrigeration industry to gather comments and inputs on the draft ecolabelling criteria for refrigerators and freezers this coming October 2024.



Technical Committee (TC) Members on National Ecolabelling Program-Green Choice Philippines (NELP-GCP) Criteria for Refrigerators, Freezers, and Room Air Conditioners.



Presentation of Market Readiness Analysis and Green Public Procurement Technical Specifications with Procurement Service - Department of Budget and Management



Implementing circular IT practices can help reduce environmental risk and save money. Knowing where to start can be a key challenge. TCO Development's new guide offers practical advice on procuring IT products that support a circular economy, helping organizations thrive in a sustainable future.

Step 1: Partner with sustainability-driven suppliers

Engage in open dialogs, meetings, and requests for information (RFI) to gather information. Clearly communicate your organization's sustainability and circularity ambitions and needs. Specify the sustainability data you require access to ensure transparency and accountability.

Step 2: Include circular criteria in procurement policies and processes

To enable circular IT management, products must be designed for longevity. Materials and components should be easily accessible and available.

Step 3: Prioritize durable, high-capacity products

Adopt a long-term perspective when purchasing IT products. Choose high-performance products with enough capacity to meet the organization's needs for several years. Consider replacing traditional software with cloud-based solutions to reduce performance demands and extend product lifespan.

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.



Step 4: Embrace the Second-Hand Market

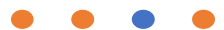
Maximizing product life is critical for a circular economy. When a product no longer meets the initial user's needs, it should be redistributed or sold to a second user. Second-hand purchases offer both cost savings and a reduced sustainability impact.

Step 5: Establish Clear KPIs

Identifying the right KPIs helps your organization meet legal requirements on sustainability reporting and take steps toward meeting internal or external circularity goals. For IT, the negative sustainability impacts are embedded in the products you use. Indirect climate impact (scope 3 emissions) stems from the manufacturing phase. Extending product lifespan directly reduces annual Scope 3 emissions.

Download the full guide here: <https://tcocertified.com/how-to-procure-it-products-for-the-circular-economy/>

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Nordic Cities Seek Sustainable Transformation of Municipal Fleet

Gothenburg (Sweden) will have new electric trucks by Spring 2025; Oslo (Norway) is developing a new fleet management system for the entire municipality; Helsinki (Finland) will not allow anymore combustion engine vehicles. During the last meeting of the [Community of Practice \(CoP\) on Heavy Duty Electric Vehicles](#) in the context of [the Big Buyers Working Together](#) project, the cities **discussed their plans to make their municipal fleet more sustainable and how they can support and learn from each other.**

Helsinki already didn't allow the procurement of combustion engine cars. Now, this policy will also apply to trucks and truck-based multipurpose vehicles. In addition to its awaited electric trucks, Gothenburg will also test hydrogen trucks. As discussed in a [previous meeting](#) of the CoP, **many cities are sceptical about the use of hydrogen as an alternative sustainable fuel.**

Oslo's new fleet management system will provide an overview of all the vehicles and machines the city has at its disposal. The city expects that the practical application of the system will take time, but in the end it will allow it to see what and how vehicles can be shared. In addition, **Oslo is also planning to implement a dynamic purchasing system for electric (small and medium size) tractors.**





New Position Paper on Buying Social and Green from Social Enterprises

The [RREUSE](#) network representing social enterprises active in re-use, repair and recycling, has published the position paper "[Buying Social and Green from Social Enterprises](#)" on the [EU 2014 Public Procurement Directive](#). The publication **highlights policy recommendations to improve access to public procurement opportunities for social enterprises active in the circular economy**, five best case studies of socially responsible and green public procurement processes involving social enterprises and current rules under the 2014 Directive that can facilitate access to procurement opportunities for social economy enterprises.

RREUSE has published the paper as it finds the existing voluntary approach to foster social and environmental considerations in public purchases insufficient to encourage using public procurement to achieve key policy objectives. **Where relevant, social and green criteria should be mandatory and used jointly in those sectors that have the potential to promote an inclusive green transition**, as is the case in the circular waste management activities of re-use and repair social enterprises.

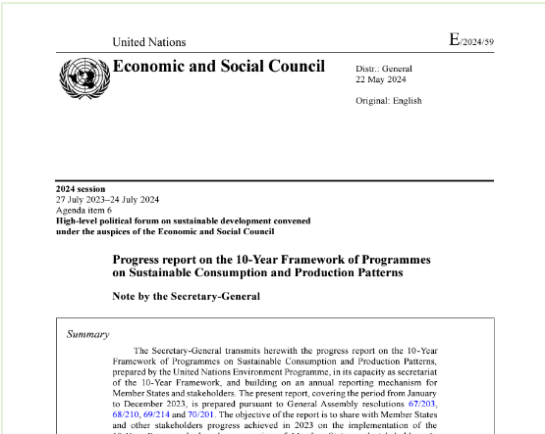
Accounting for 14% of the EU GDP, public authorities' purchasing power represents an immense potential to ensure inclusive labour markets within the circular economy and the successful implementation of social and green policy objectives. Supporting the social economy sector, including via public procurement, can facilitate the transition of the economy towards a more socially and environmentally sustainable model. However, access to public procurement opportunities by social enterprises and other social economy actors is often hindered.

For more information, and to download the paper, click the [ICLEI website](#).



The objective of [the present report](#) is to inform Member States and stakeholders about progress on the implementation of the 10-Year Framework on The environmental, social and economic imperative of transitioning towards sustainable consumption and production patterns including through resource efficiency and circularity, is critical to our planet's future.

The 10YFP through its programs and initiatives, offers solutions to help governments and stakeholders move towards more sustainable consumption and production patterns.



Economic transformation and shifting to sustainable consumption and production patterns requires addressing inequalities. The Current economic models are based on overconsumption and exploitation of natural resources, with soon-to-be irreversible consequences for our environment and capacity to thrive as societies and individuals. On a global level, humanity is overconsuming and overexploiting finite resources, such as fossil fuels and minerals, as well as renewable resources that ecosystems cannot replenish at the rate they are being consumed. Ecosystems are unable to cope with excessive resource extraction rates, resulting in biodiversity loss and the deterioration of the natural environment and ecosystem services. The long term effect of overconsumption is ecological overshoot and a reduction in the planet's carrying capacity. In this regard, the One Planet Network Forum 2024 will offer an opportunity to the international community and key partners of the 10-Year Framework to showcase concrete solutions and make commitments that bring together the sustainable consumption and production and social development agendas.



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM 2024

10YFP Progress Report Key Messages for the Consideration of HLPF

Circular economy approaches in the context of sustainable consumption and production present opportunities for economic diversification, value creation and skills development, and to address the triple planetary crisis, but challenges remain. Evidence

of the co-benefits of circular economy approaches need to be further elucidated and elevated into decision-making and policy processes. While the evidence base is growing, the circular economy is far from being the norm, and the challenge remains to move from piloting to scale. While there is no one-size fits-all approach, policies for a circular economy transition need to ensure an inclusive upskilling of the national workforce, including informal workers, while maintaining and creating dignified and green jobs and livelihoods. Economic policies and incentives need to reflect the true costs of resources and redirect finance towards sustainable resource use. There is still a tendency to focus on waste management (downstream interventions), whereas the aim of a circular economy should be to keep materials at their highest value for as long as possible along the value chain and encourage the regeneration of natural systems to reap the greatest benefits overall.³⁴ Scaling up circularity in policies and practices also requires increased data availability, technical capacities, finance and alignment on indicators for monitoring and reporting in both public and private sectors.

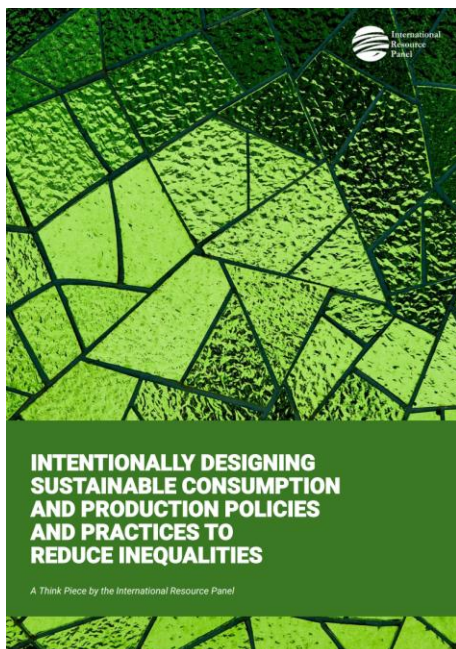
Member States are called upon to establish a multilateral and multistakeholder dialogue on sustainable consumption and production, as set out in the Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023–2030. This dialogue could take place

under the aegis of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and inform the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the General Assembly. The global dialogue, convened and moderated by the 10-Year Framework secretariat in coordination with relevant United Nations entities, could provide a platform for securing and monitoring concrete commitments for action across sectors and stakeholder groups, and promote sustainable consumption and production actions through awareness-raising, experience-sharing and communities of practice. To inform the global dialogue, future cooperation and decisions, all countries should be encouraged and supported in their efforts to report on their national sustainable consumption and production policies and related impacts in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals.



[The OPN Forum](#) was held under the overarching theme of ‘Reducing inequalities and achieving just transitions for all through sustainable consumption and production, including circular economy’.

This two-day event promises to be an immersive experience on concrete solutions for reducing inequalities and fostering just transitions for all through sustainable consumption and production, with a spotlight on the transformative power of the circular economy.



[Intentionally Designing Sustainable Consumption and Production Policies and Practices to Reduce Inequalities](#) Presented to the One Planet Forum 2024 and developed the by the International Resource Panel at the request of the 10YFP Secretariat, this paper advocates for sustainable consumption and production systems to be intentionally designed to reduce inequalities and promote equitable, just outcomes. It urges the One Planet Network and its partners to integrate equality, equity, and justice into global, national, and local SCP initiatives and policies.

Good practices on ecolabelling and sustainable public procurement

Integrating ecolabels, certifications and sustainable public procurement in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

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).



This specific good practice, [Integrating ecolabels, certifications and sustainable public procurement in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans](#) - Cases from France and Japan, explores the benefits of incorporating ecolabels, certifications, and sustainable public procurement into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) as instruments to promote biodiversity-friendly production and consumption. It also helps align national procurement practices with international biodiversity targets, which further promotes individual country's conservation efforts. France and Japan's NBSAPs serve as examples of successful implementation.



EPA Releases Proposed Updates to Recommendations to Help Buyers Find Sustainable Products

Sept. 10, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released a proposed update to the agency's [Recommendations of Specifications, Standards and Ecolabels for Federal Purchasing](#) (Recommendations), which help federal government purchasers and other buyers utilize private sector standards and ecolabels to buy products that are more sustainable and climate-friendly and contain safer chemical ingredients. This is the first time in nearly 10 years that EPA has comprehensively evaluated standards and ecolabels to determine whether to add them to the Recommendations.

The Recommendations help to identify thousands of products and services across 35 categories that conserve energy or water, include more recycled content, or reduce the use of PFAS and single-use plastics. By helping federal purchasers identify and procure environmentally preferable products and services, the Recommendations can save taxpayers money, reduce climate impacts, and prevent pollution.

The Biden-Harris Administration's [Executive Order on Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs Through Federal Sustainability](#) direct federal agencies to maximize the procurement of sustainable products and services and to prioritize products and services that meet EPA's Recommendations.

The update proposes adding 14 standards and ecolabels to the Recommendations across three new product categories, covering healthcare, laboratories, and clothing and uniforms, and expanding the existing food service ware sub-category.

If finalized, the updates to the Recommendations would give federal purchasers and other buyers new guidance and options for purchasing sustainable products and services in four categories, which EPA proposes to divide into nine sub-categories, including by expanding the existing sub-category for food service ware. The Recommendations currently include only one recommended ecolabel in the food service ware sub-category, which covers compostable products. If finalized, the updated Recommendations would include three additional standards and ecolabels for food service ware, covering products that are reusable, certified compostable, and certified recyclable. EPA is also providing a [new resource](#) that outlines current best practices for the procurement of food service ware sub-categories, which is available on EPA's website.

EPA assessed the environmental sustainability of the third-party standards and ecolabels under the [Framework for the Assessment of Environmental Performance Standards and Ecolabels](#), and also assessed for a third-party certification program to verify product conformance.

[Learn more about the Recommendations.](#)

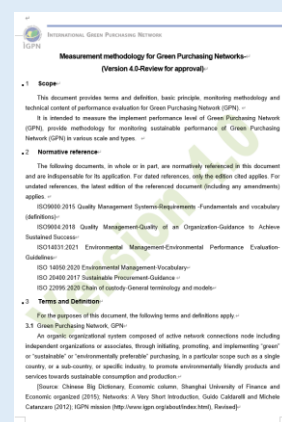
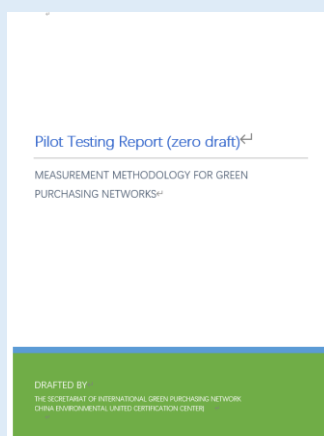
IGPN Initiative Update

Pilot Testing Report and Green Purchasing Network Measurement Methodology Available for Review

The IGPN initiative of Green Purchasing Network (GPN) measurement methodology development was launched and intended 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.

After [pilot testing of measurement methodology for Green Purchasing Networks](#) from **GPN Japan, GPN Malaysia (GPN BERHAD), GPN China, GPN Thailand and Green Council**, which in order to verify the applicability and feasibility when measuring the implementation level by using the GPN measurement methodology

Now the <Pilot testing report-measurement methodology for green purchasing networks (Zero draft)> and <final version of measurement methodology (4.0 version)> are available for member's review!



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 4.0)> and zero draft pilot testing report.



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Photoes used were provided by the IGPN members

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