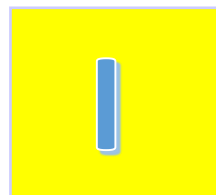




IGPN promotes green purchasing around the globe by coordinating those who take the initiative in implementing green purchasing towards sustainable consumption and production

NEWSLETTER



Edition 21, 2024



GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

GLOBAL TRENDS AND UPDATES

- UNEP: Driving SCP through Sustainable Public Procurement
- UNEP: Good Practices in the use of Ecolabelling and Sustainable Public Procurement

MEMBER UPDATES

- GPN Japan: FY2024 activity and further challenge
- GPN Berhad Malaysia: Report of activities 2024
- GPN India: Green purchasing related activities
- GPN Thailand: Update of 2024
- GPN Singapore: Recap of 2024 and Priorities for 2025
- GPN China: Performance of China Environmental Labelling
- Green Council: Challenges of achieving sustainable procurement in Hong Kong

IGPN FOCUS

- IGPN Secretariat: A brief introduction of annual work
- IGPN Release: Green Purchasing Network Measurement Methodology and Pilot Testing Report

Next Step

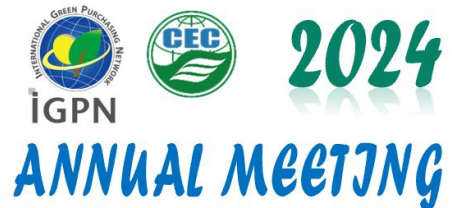
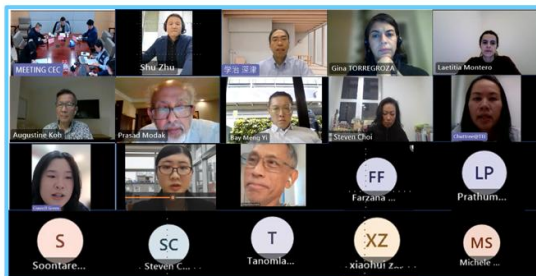


IGPN 2024 Annual Meeting



The IGPN community meet annually to recap progresses and share members' insights in green purchasing practices

2024 annual meeting of the International Green Purchasing Network-IGPN was held visually on December 18th. Participants from national Green Purchasing Networks (GPN), IGPN Council and IGPN Advisory Board, invited guests from UNEP, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility office attended this meeting. The meeting was hosted by the IGPN Secretariat, China Environmental United Certification Center–CEC.



More details from: http://www.igpn.org/igpn_events/2024_1/index.html

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

“

Strengthening public demand for sustainable consumption and production, including circular economy approaches, is crucial, and this can be integrated with national and local procurement networks to increase the scale of green procurement practices. In 2024, the IGPN focused on the pilot testing and finalizing the GPN measurement methodology, activated the cooperation among members, hope that members actively support the methodology application, integrate the IGPN featured green purchasing network model into global sustainable public procurement projects and activities.

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



“

Sustainable public procurement is an important means to achieve climate goals and sustainable development goals, and is a key component of Eco City -- a local sustainability association that helps its members achieve net-zero, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular pathways ICLEI will work closely with Global Lead City Network, One Planet Network, and IGPN to promote sustainable, responsible and innovative procurement development of countries and cities.

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



Driving SCP through Sustainable Public Procurement



The One Planet Network SPP program is a global multi-stakeholder partnership to promote and accelerate the implementation of public procurement policies and processes that incorporate SCP and circular economy principles, leading to a more efficient use of public resources to meet societal needs while minimizing environmental impacts. There are 3 initiatives, focused on high-impact sectors of construction, food, and ICT. The SPP program approach to driving global multi-stakeholder action is Identify (Get the Evidence), Co-design (Broad consultation), Mobilize (Developing common principle), Operationalize (Establish actionable pathways), Shift action (Support implementation), Scale.

Global Framework for Action

Harnessing sustainable and circular public procurement to drive demand for near-zero emissions and resilient buildings
[Common Principles]

- ❑ A demand-based approach to drive market transformation;
- ❑ A demand-based approach to drive market transformation;
- ❑ Buildings Breakthrough BBT/B2 – Demand Creation “Governments are encouraged to jointly create procurement and policy commitments for NZERBs, for both new and existing buildings”



Good Practices in the use of Ecolabelling and Sustainable Public Procurement



The project [EcoAdvance](#): Ecolabels and Sustainable Public Procurement (Eco-Advance project) funded by the German International Climate Initiative (IKI), aims to increase the use

of sustainable public procurement (SPP) and Type-1 Ecolabels as tools to improve climate mitigation, biodiversity, and resource protection, through ambitious ecolabels, improved policy and legal frameworks, increased engagement of the private sector, as well as regional and global exchange.

Good practices

Public policy on ecolabels and SPP

- [Sustainable public procurement policies that use ecolabels and environmental certifications](#)
- [Ecolabels and certifications criteria for construction materials and their use on sustainable public procurement](#)
- [Government strategies to educate the public procurement ecosystem about sustainable practices](#)

Raising awareness

- [Measuring the environmental impact of ecolabels](#)
- [Ecolabels and certifications strategies to educate consumers and companies about sustainability](#)

Supporting tools

- [Grouping of sustainable certifications under a recognition scheme or pre-approved list](#)
- [Implementation of an e-marketplace of sustainable products and services \(available in Chinese\)](#)
- [Implementation of an e-catalogue with sustainable products and services](#)

Biodiversity

- [The adoption of biodiversity conservation criteria by ecolabels and certification schemes](#)
- [Integrating ecolabels, certifications and sustainable public procurement in NBSAP, National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans](#)



FY2024 activity and further challenge

The Green Purchasing Network (GPN) is a nation wide network of purchasers and others contributing to the realization of Carbon Zero, SDGs, and the Circular Economy through the promotion of sustainable procurement (consumption and production). The 2024 activities mostly focus on Revision of **GPN green purchasing guidelines**, **enhancement of product information dissemination**, and **recognition of outstanding initiatives**.

GPNグリーン購入ガイドライン一覧

05.1 印刷・情報用紙	05.2 コピー機・プリンタ・FAX	05.3 トイレ紙・ペーパー
05.4 ディスチューパー	05.5 ペーパータオル	05.6 パソコン・タブレット
05.7 洗剤	05.8 文具・事務用品	05.9 洗濯機
05.10 照明	05.11 自動車	05.12 エアコン
05.13 家具	05.14 テレビ	05.15 衣類・履物
05.16 印刷サービス	05.17 ホテル・旅館	05.18 温水洗浄便座
05.19 犬・小動物、水柱金魚	05.20 食品（加工食品）	05.21 グリーン電力証書
05.22 郵便送（貨物自動車）	05.23 電力	05.24 石けん・洗剤

Revision of GPN Green Purchasing Guidelines

- Lighting
- Non-Containment of Chemical Substances
- Electric Power and Green Power Certificates Guidelines
- CFP and Carbon Offsetting

Clear Sky Navi allows to search for atmospheric environmentally friendly products, as well as Eco-Products Database.

GPN and Bureau of Environment of Tokyo Metropolitan Government manage the database.



Recognize initiatives that contribute to the expansion of green markets and the achievement of SDGs goals through “sustainable procurement”



脱炭素社会の実現、SDGs への貢献を表彰
第25回グリーン購入大賞



Development of a Certification System based on Tracking and Traceability within a Blockchain Environment

GPN Berhad Malaysia in partnership with industry players (tracking system developer and recycling company), a certification body and relevant experts met regularly to develop a Certification Scheme based on the system of tracking and traceability in a Blockchain environment.



OUTPUT

1

Certification of material traceability along the supply chains through evidence based tracking system and public access to material records within the blockchain eco-system

OUTPUT

2

Provide Proof of Evidence based on GPNB 10 point standards that materials are sourced responsibly and sustainability, ensuring transparency, accountability, and trust amongst stakeholders

OUTPUT

3

Determining incentives to communities that participate in the program. Example - Ocean Bound Plastic (OBP) and Post-Consumer Recyclables (PCR)

OUTPUT

4

PILOT PROJECTS TO TEST STANDARDS AND SYSTEM



Presented by Mr. Augustine Koh, Director, GPN BERHAD, GPN Malaysia



Green purchasing related activities at:

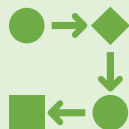
Environmental Management Centre Pvt Ltd GPN India

Introduced the rising trend of Green Public Procurement (GPP) in India, shared the two relevant GPP projects assigned by the World Bank, presented activities on helping private sector/start ups on communicating product sustainability and certifications.



Rising trend

Task force on Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) at Ministry of Finance (@EMC is a member); Development of SPP Policy and Operations Framework for Indian Railways (EMC implemented this project along with adelphi under support of Switch Asia; More than 60 Procurement Officers at Indian Railways were trained by EMC



2 Assignments

Introducing GPP in India’s Highway Sector (report submitted)
Introducing GPP in the procurement of Green Hydrogen (report under finalization)

Comparative assessment on the sustainability performance of new products using Life Cycle Assessment. This helps companies for winning in the green market and positioned them better in the GPP; Computation of Product Carbon Footprints, especially for the start ups.; Sustainable Packaging Alternatives Assessment.



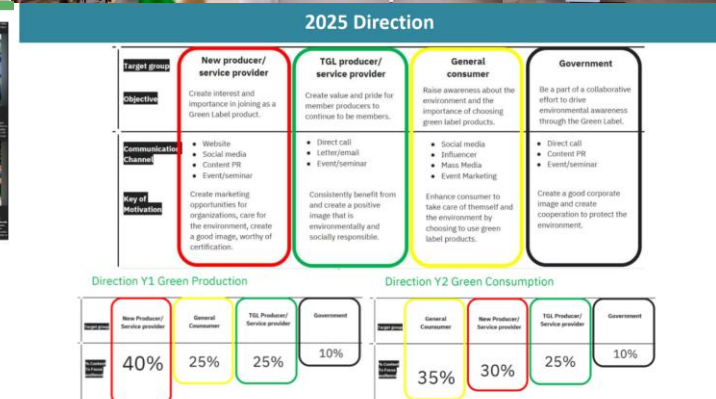
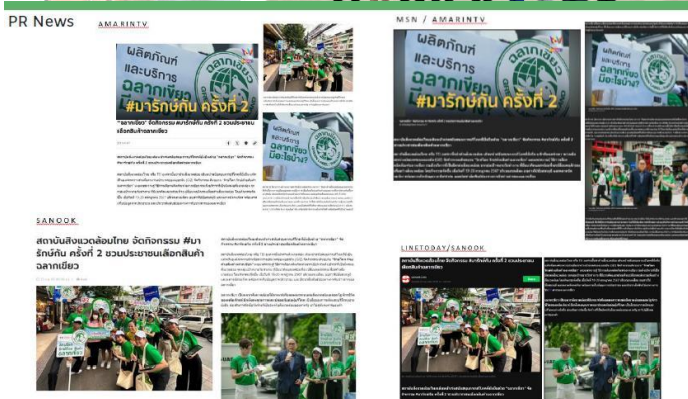
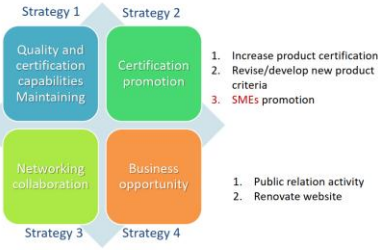
Activities

3 Team members certified on GPP at the World Bank;
2 Team members certified for ISO 14064;
10 Team members certified to use SimaPro software for Life Cycle Assessment



Certifications

Thailand Green Label



OUR VISION AND MISSION



Established 1995

NGO and approved charity, offering tax exemption to donors

VISION

Our vision is to be a recognised and trusted leader in Singapore and internationally that enables environmental sustainability with passion.

MISSION

To foster lasting environmental and societal values that encourage and achieve environmental sustainability by:

- Collaborating with people, industries and governments
- Setting sustainability standards for green consumerism
- Educating and empowering communities to lead green lifestyles
- Promoting biodiversity in the urban environment
- Recognising environmental excellence by individuals and organisations

SEC's Mission ALIGNING WITH THE UNSDGS

Driving Awareness of Sustainability Issues

Educating and empowering communities to lead green lifestyles through our Training & Education initiatives

Empowering Business and Consumer Action

Setting sustainability standards for green consumerism through the Singapore Green Label and Eco-Certifications

Fostering Strategic 3P Collaborations

Collaborating with people, industries and governments through our Campaigns and Outreach initiatives



Type 1 Ecolabel
(ISO 17065 and ISO 14024)



Recap of 2024

- Strengthen and updated criteria of both SGLS and eco-certifications
- Initiated discussions with Singapore government on expanding the green public procurement
- Signed several Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) with other ecolabels eg JEA and GECA
- Organized two major sustainability events in Singapore– Singapore Env Achievement Awards and School Green Awards
- Extended SEC international influence– UNEA6, GEN AGM, ASEAN Conferences on (Marine Pollution / SCP) and COP29.

Priorities for 2025

- Strengthen and updated criteria of both SGLS (eg packaging and steel) and eco certifications (eg. for mixed developments)
- Continue expanding the reach of SGLS through Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) – China, India, Korea, Malaysia
- New certification programs, eg carbon labelling, verification of green claims and SME certification
- Continue to extend SEC's international influence, focusing on ASEAN region



Performance of China Environmental Labelling



- ❖ Promote the industry green transition: In view of more toxic and harmful chemicals used in traditional printing and the prominent pollution characteristics of volatile organic compounds, China Environmental Labeling products used as an approach by the former Ministry of Environmental Protection and the former General Administration of Press and Publication, of which criteria include VOCs index requirements, achieved 1.3 billion green printing of primary and secondary school textbooks in printing industry; play a supporting role in the industry environmental governance system;
- ❖ Pollution reduction and carbon reduction: carry out the certification of China Environmental Label low-carbon products, give full play to the important role of the market in resource allocation, pollution reduction and carbon reduction;
- ❖ Protecting human health: CEL standards help protect human health by providing strict limits for harmful substances for key products in the home decoration, printing, electronics and other industries to reduce pollutant emissions;
- ❖ Promote green trade: CEL signed cooperation agreements with environmental label organizations in Germany, Northern Europe, Japan, South Korea, Australia and other countries and regions to achieve international mutual recognition of environmental labels.



Challenges of achieving sustainable procurement in Hong Kong

Observation of the Challenges

- ✂ Lack of Sustainability Talents-Some may find it difficult to identify ways to enhance sustainability within their procurement processes
 - **Green Council's Approach**-Stakeholder Engagement Provide different of levels trainings and seminars
- ✂ Suppliers: Challenges in Data Collection-Suppliers cannot provide sufficient data for corporates to evaluate their sustainable performance
 - **Green Council's Approach**-Understanding the Data Assist company to understand the criteria of specific requirements for them to communicate with their suppliers on defining data

Sustainable Procurement Charter

- ✂ The Sustainable Procurement Charter was established by the Green Council in 2017 to promote the implementation of sustainable procurement to all organizations in Hong Kong
- ✂ Recognized by the United Nations One Planet network as one of the initiatives to support the Sustainable Development Goal 12 "Responsible Consumption and Production"

SDG Actions Hong Kong Programme Phase



1st Phase Enablement "Know and Grow"



2nd Phase Engagement "Share and Care"

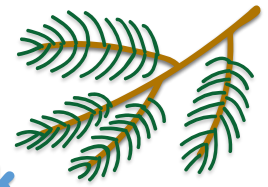
3rd Phase Enhancement "Inspire and Aspire"

Green Council | SDG Actions Hong Kong 2024

Presented by Ms. Daphne Chan, Project Officer, Green Council, GPN China Hong Kong

IGPN Secretariat

A Brief Introduction of Annual Work



[IGPN 2024 Knowledge Sharing Webinar to Strengthen Collaborations](#)



Support members

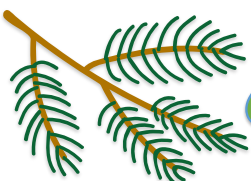
- Endorse the 2024 Procura+ conference for ICLEI
- Participate in the One Planet Network flagship initiative of leverage SPP mainstream circularity in construction
- Participate in the World Bank East Asia and Pacific Public Procurement
- the Hong Kong Green Awards 2024



The IGPN Secretariat continuously focus as the Bridge with GPN members and partners together; Accelerator for strengthening collaborations; Vehicle to facilitate the IGPN mission which is promoting environmentally friendly products/services and green purchasing activities, knowledge and practices.

The 2024 activities mostly focused on Pilot testing and finalization of Green Purchasing Networks measurement methodology, on the basis of the platform and network operation which become daily routine.

The 2025 priority will focus on the methodology implementation, joint project application and research, meanwhile use this opportunity to integrate the methodology into the ongoing global SPP initiatives and project as well.



Coming through seasons



Green Purchasing Network Measurement Methodology and Pilot Testing Report

December 18, 2024, the International Green Purchasing Network(IGPN) officially released the <Green Purchasing Network Measurement Methodology> (hereafter Methodology) and <Pilot testing report: measurement methodology for Green Purchasing Networks> (hereafter Pilot Testing Report), aimed to formulate a measurable, reportable, and replicated IGPN-Green Purchasing Network measurement methodology, through which scientifically monitors and evaluates the impact and potential for each Green Purchasing Network toward achieving Sustainable Development Goal, therefore accelerate the sustainable consumption and production transition by leveraging its characteristic GPN model.

The Methodology provides terms and definition, basic principle, monitoring methodology and technical content of performance evaluation for Green Purchasing Network, of which intend to measure the implement performance level and monitor its sustainable performance in various scale and types. The Pilot Testing Report collects facts of the Methodology applied in Green Purchasing Network Japan, Thailand, Malaysia, China and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, verifies the applicability and feasibility of the Methodology, summarizes steps for scale up the Green Purchasing Network model, lays an importance reference for environmentally friendly products and green purchasing to advocate sustainable and consumption transition. Findings of the Pilot Report showed the Green Purchasing Network model can be effectively extended or replicated to new region or area or location to expand its influence, serving to maintain the sustainability, relevance and value of the IGPN with its members and stakeholders, result in positive economic, environmental and social benefits accordingly.

<Green Purchasing Network Measurement Methodology> and <Pilot testing report: measurement methodology for Green Purchasing Networks> was drafted and developed by China Environmental United Certification Center (CEC), which hosted International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN) Secretariat since 2018. The International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN) is a global multi-stakeholder partnership, launched by Japan Green Purchasing Network in 2005 with the mission: 1) promote globally the development of environmentally friendly products and services and green purchasing activities; 2) share information and know-how on green purchasing and environmentally friendly products and services internationally; and 3) harmonize the efforts of green purchasing and the development of environmentally friendly products and services from a global viewpoint.

Learn more at [the IGPN website](#)!



Since CEC holds the IGPN Secretariat in 2018, it consistently works on the IGPN operational and members' collaboration activities.

"IGPN Secretariat will highlight the current theme on "low carbon, waste free and recycling", focus on the "Methodology" implementation through joint projects, expand the application scale of environmentally friendly products/services. On this basis, form into a fixed mechanism of "Green Purchasing Network Monitoring report, to achieve the mission of IGPN which is promoting green purchasing and environmentally friendly products and services."

——Summarized by Mr. LIU Zunwen, General Manager, China Environmental United Certification Center, GPN China



Editor: WANG Jing
igpn.secretariat@igpn.org
Photos used were provided by the IGPN members
Compiled by the IGPN Secretariat- China Environmental United Certification Center