

Climate Neutral UN

- Overview of SUN
- Travel & official missions
- Buildings & facilities
- **Sustainable procurement**
- Organizational culture & management systems
- How to get started with SUN
- Q & A

Climate Neutral UN Workshop
New York, 9 September 2008

Outline SUN

1. What is Sustainable Procurement (SP)?
2. Current status of Sustainable Procurement at UN
3. Overview of existing mechanisms for mainstreaming SP (EMG / HLCCM)
4. What has been done so far



What is SP ?



Procurement basing its choice of goods and services on:

- ✓ **Economic considerations:** best value for money, price, quality, availability, functionality.
- ✓ **Environmental aspects,** i.e. green procurement: the impacts on the environment that the product and/or service has over its whole life-cycle; and
- ✓ **Social aspects:** labour conditions, human rights, health considerations, and preference for SMEs, and local vendors, etc.

Sources: UNEP (2002) and French Sustainable Public Procurement National Action Plan (March 2007)

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Why SP?



- The annual “Statistical Report on UN purchasing”^[1] indicates that “the overall procurement volume of UN Agencies during 2007 reached **US \$10.08 billion**”.
- The procurement function does not only provide the UN with means to work but **gives a signal of what is important for the organisation**

[1] Report by UNOPS. ‘The Annual Statistical Report’ 2007 provides data on procurement of goods and services from 33 UN organizations and UNDP’s country offices.

SP & climate change



UN as a purchaser of products and services

Climate neutral UN: Incorporate this aspiration in the way it operates and acts as a sustainable consumer in the market.

Procurement choices have a significant influence on UN Climate Neutrality :

- ✓ Purchase of renewable energy and energy efficient equipments, locally produced products have lesser embodied carbon footprint
- ✓ Facilities management choices such as the installation of solar panel on roof building go through a procurement procedure
- ✓ Offsetting CO2 emissions through a broker / project is also an act of procurement as it requires ultimately the identification of a service, the selection of a supplier and a contract.

Current status of SP in UN



2006 EMG survey on status of SP in the UN (15 biggest procurers & interagency working group on procurement):

- Sustainable development is present as a concept in UN procurement but under different names. Some initial steps are being taken to have environmental or social considerations in purchasing.
- No co-ordination or guidelines exist at system level. Agencies act mainly on their own under inspiration of some motivated procurement officials.
- Procurers are open to include sustainability in their work, but they need a **legal mandate** (high-level strong political signals), **well-targeted specific information** (database or clear guidelines per product category), and **training**

What the procurers say...



1. Lack of high level endorsement
2. Lack of capacity to address these issues (SD is not part of the required knowledge of procurers) and to implement them *"SP is not difficult to draft it is difficult to implement"*
3. Lack of tools: guidelines, product specs, incentives, IT solutions, case studies; monitoring and verification systems
4. Lack of training tools (especially associated to staff on field and to high turn over of staff)
5. Exclusion of procurement in project development process (importance of the role of **requisitioners** /project officers); need to work in teams

EMG activities



By 2009, facilitate the implementation of SP :

1. Draft "model" documents to facilitate the adoption of SP: standard SP policy, examples of ToRs etc.
2. Provide training opportunities on SP
3. Design 10 SP products guidelines
4. Proposal for a UN wide awareness raising initiative for staff (CD ROM)
5. Advice on the inclusion of SP in legal and guidance documents (UN contract conditions, UN procurement manual, etc.)
6. Facilitate info sharing and best practices

Work with HLCM
Procurement Network

What has been achieved so far



- Joint HLCCM procurement network and EMG: first draft SP Policy presented in Rome on 3 September 2008: "Statement for SP practices" to the HLCCM
- Sustainable procurement on www.ungm.org
- ICT Product guidelines finalised
- Guidelines for office furniture, cleaning products, stationary and paper, vehicles (March 2009) + five more by end of 2009 + ten more to be identified and developed by HLCCM
- Training sessions (Nairobi, Brindisi, Rome, one large awareness raising session scheduled in October in NY)

10 product categories



- Develop 10 product categories for UN buildings and offices
- Selection criteria:
 - ✓ High expenditure (within scope)
 - ✓ Environmental (GHG)/health impact
 - ✓ Visibility in the office and in the field

10 product categories



1. **ICT (computers, printers, beamers, (May 2008)**
2. **Vehicles (date tbd)**
3. **Office furniture (March 2009)**
4. **Cleaning services (March 2009)**
5. **Office supplies / stationary and paper (March 2009)**
6. Carpets/paints/lighting (*tbd*)
7. Energy (energy service providers, green certificates, generators) (*tbd*)
8. Food/catering (including water for drinking) (*tbd*)
9. *Leasing or rental of buildings?*
10. *Transport? Travel?*

*** UNEP is also working on a Green Meetings Guide (December 2008)**

SP on the UNGM

www.ungm.org



The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the United Nations Global Marketplace website. The page title is "What is sustainable procurement?". The main content area explains that sustainable procurement is when an organization uses its buying power to signal a preference for sustainability. It lists three key aspects: economic (best value for money, price, quality, availability, functionality), environmental (impacts on the environment throughout the product's life-cycle), and social (effects on poverty eradication and equity). A graphic of four interlocking puzzle pieces labeled "natural resources", "social", "economy", and "environment" is shown. The page also includes a "Login" form, "Notices", and "Links" sections. The browser's address bar shows the URL "http://www.ungm.org/SustainableProcurement/".



Questions?

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