

## UN Environment: 10 years of action to accelerate the shift to Sustainable public procurement at national, regional and global levels

The involvement of UN Environment in the Sustainable public procurement (SPP) area dates back from 2005 when our organization joined, from its inception, [the Swiss-led Marrakech Task Force on SPP](#)<sup>1</sup>; one of the 7 task forces established in the framework of the Marrakech Process on sustainable consumption and production (2003-2012). The [Marrakech process](#), initiated in Marrakech in 2013, prepared and gave way to the 10-year Framework Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP), adopted at the Rio+20 2012 summit.

### Marrakech Task Force on Sustainable Public Procurement (MTF on SPP)



The objective of the MTF on SPP is that **14 countries** distributed in **all regions** will have tested the SPP approach **by 2010/11**



Task Force led by Switzerland

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Co-Chaired by: Sheila Encabo, Philippines

Members: China, Argentina, Mexico, **Ghana**, Philippines, UK, Norway, Czech Republic, USA, State of São Paulo, Switzerland, UNEP, UNDESA, ILO, European Commission Services, ICLEI, IISD

One of the achievements of the Marrakech Task Force was the development of an SPP implementation methodology, entitled “the MTF Approach to SPP”. It followed a series of steps, ideally starting from a *status assessment* (at the top of the below triangle), and ending with the *implementation* of SPP in day-to-day procurement.



Diagram detailing the steps of the MTF Approach to SPP

<sup>1</sup> See also [http://www.unep.fr/scp/procurement/docsres/projectinfo/mtf\\_flyer\\_a4\\_ansicht.pdf](http://www.unep.fr/scp/procurement/docsres/projectinfo/mtf_flyer_a4_ansicht.pdf)

The approach package developed by the Task Force contained a set of SPP principles, a short description of the implementation stages, a prioritization module and training materials.

The goal of the Task Force was that 14 countries would have developed and implemented SPP policy plans by 2011.

### **Our first project: Capacity building for Sustainable Public Procurement (2009-2012)**

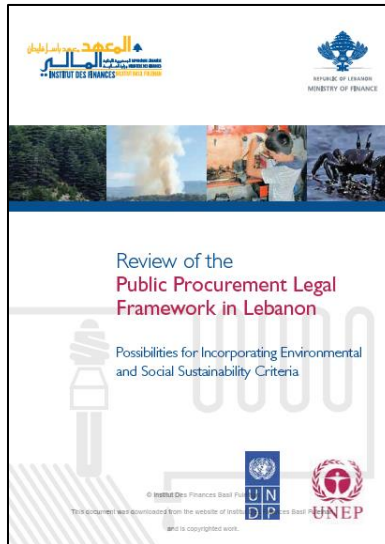
In 2008, the Task Force asked UNEP to roll out the MTF Approach in emerging and developing countries. A project document was developed and the EU offered to provide funding. Seven countries were targeted: Chile, Colombia, Uruguay, Costa Rica, Lebanon, Tunisia and Mauritius.



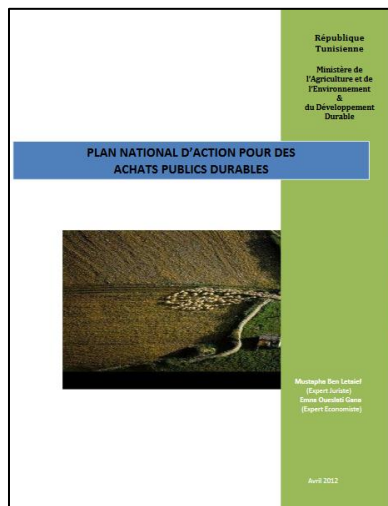
The [project](#) entitled 'Capacity building for Sustainable Public Procurement' achieved the following results:

- The MTF Approach to SPP was tested and beefed up during the testing phase: terms of references were developed for the various steps and studies; a detailed implementation plan was drafted and initial steps added (e.g. project governance scheme).
- 7 countries successfully developed SPP action plans and all the studies included in the methodology. List of outputs can be found [here](#).
- Over 120 public procurement practitioners from 48 countries were trained on SPP during 5 training sessions held in Asia, Europe, South America and Africa.
- A network of SPP experts and trainers was established
- A set of [policy conclusions and recommendations](#), were presented at the 19th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in New York in May 2011. These policy conclusions were incorporated in the final report of the MTF on SPP.

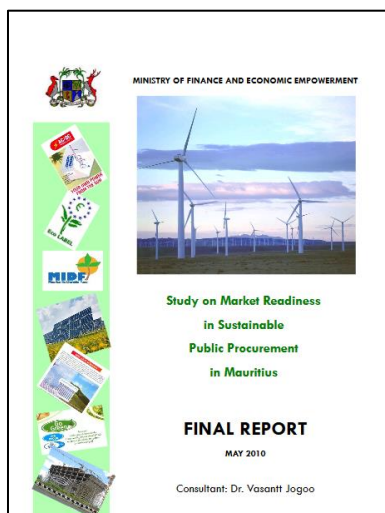
○ Lebanon, [Legal Review](#)



○ Tunisia, [National Action Plan](#)



○ Mauritius, [Market Readiness Analysis](#)



## 2012: a pivotal year

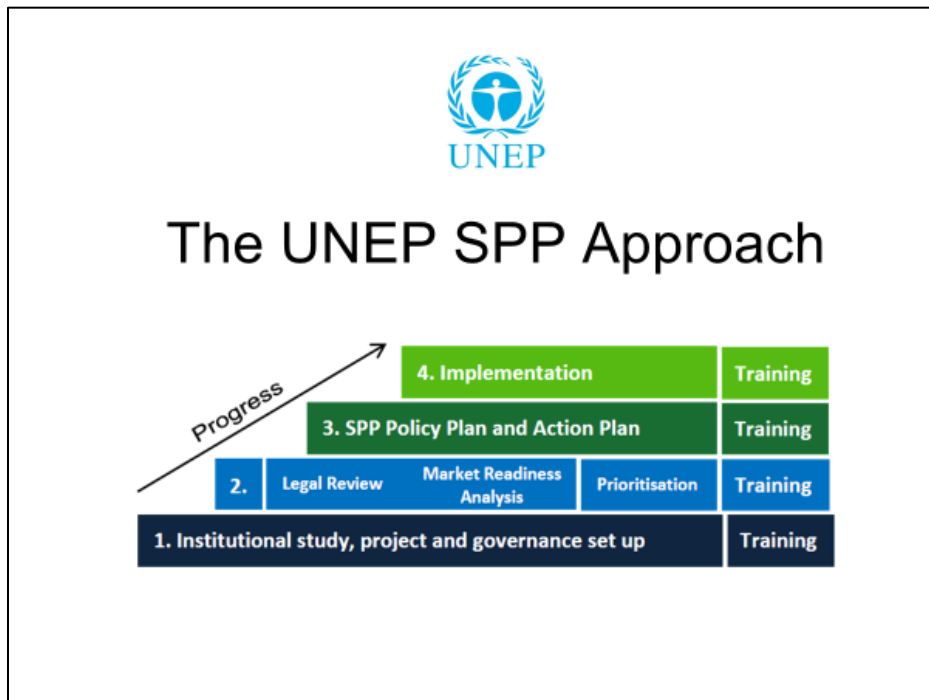
In 2012, the MTF Approach was revised based on the lessons learned and on the new components developed during the testing phase. The revised methodology became the [UNEP SPP Implementation Guidelines](#).



### SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES: INTRODUCING UNEP'S APPROACH

The Guidelines of UNEP's SPP Approach incorporate the lessons drawn from the testing of the MTF Approach to SPP that UNEP rolled out in 7 pilot countries from 2009 to 2012.



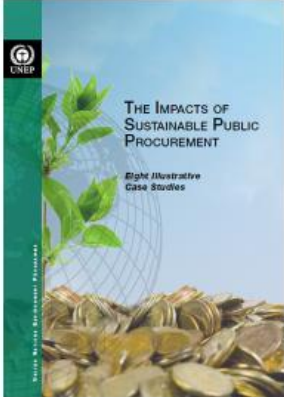


In 2012, UNEP also released two other important publications on SPP:

- [The impacts of SPP](#)- Eight illustrative case studies, financed by the Swiss government

## Study on the Impacts of Sustainable Public Procurement on Sustainable Development

The study outlines the sustainable development and market transformation impacts of SPP practices through 8 case studies. The study provides concrete guidance to assess sustainable development impacts and/or market changes.




The cover of the report features a green plant growing from a pile of gold coins, symbolizing the intersection of sustainability and economics. The UNEP logo is in the top left corner, and the title and subtitle are centered on the right side.

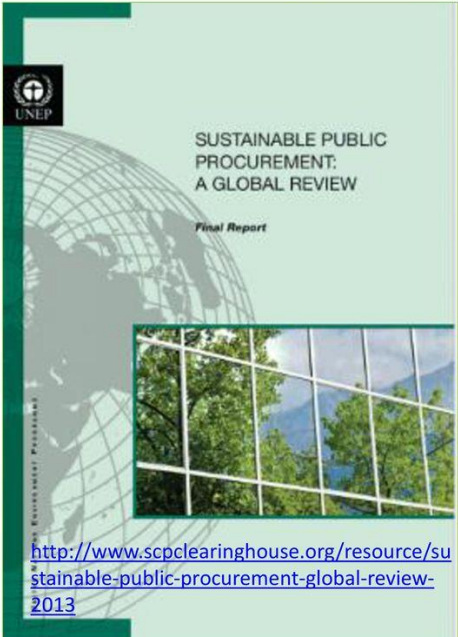
- [The 2013 Global Review of SPP<sup>2</sup>](#)

## 2013 Global SPP Review

A global report periodically reviewing the implementation of SPP



<http://www.scpclearinghouse.org/resource/sustainable-public-procurement-global-review-2013>



The cover of the report features a globe in the background and a window view of green trees in the foreground. The UNEP logo is in the top left corner, and the title and subtitle are centered on the right side.

<sup>2</sup> The report was authored by: Dr. Anastasia O'Rourke (Big Room Inc.), Dr. Charlotte Leire (Lund University, Sweden) and Trevor Bowden (Big Room Inc.) under the supervision of Farid Yaker (UNEP) and Carlos Andrés Enmanuel (UNEP).

With governments responsible for significant portions of national spending, the promise of including sustainability considerations into that spending can enable policy makers to lead by example with sustainable public procurement (SPP). The report examines the state of sustainable public procurement policies and practices being undertaken by national governments worldwide in the last five years. The research included a comprehensive literature and desktop review, 19 interviews, six country case studies and a survey of 273 SPP experts worldwide. The objective was to create a baseline analysis that examines the evolving field of SPP and the drivers, barriers, needs and opportunities in SPP.

- A 4 modules training toolkit for decision-makers, suppliers and procurers incorporating the lessons from the training sessions and of the pilot implementation of the SPP Approach was also developed

## Sustainable Public Procurement Training Toolkit

UNEP's SPP training toolkit builds on the material developed by the MTF Approach to SPP. It incorporates the lessons drawn from the 5 training sessions conducted in 2009-2011 and from the pilot implementation of the SPP Approach. The toolkit targets decision makers, suppliers and procurers and is adaptable to national contexts.



### The International SPP Initiative

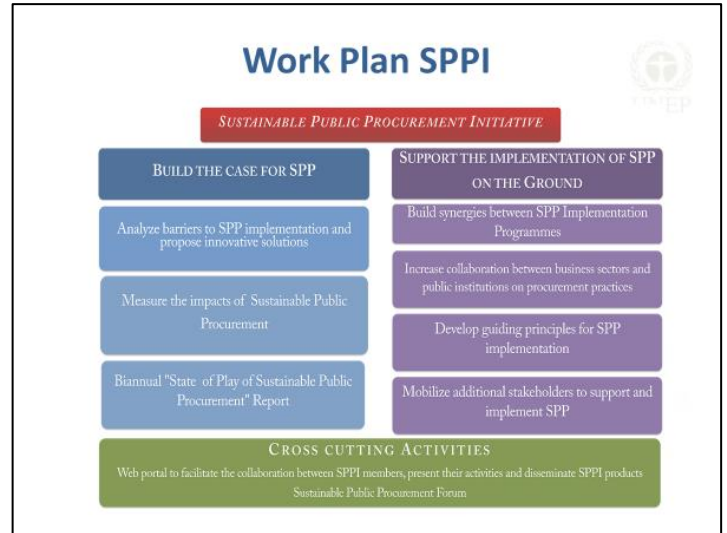
UNEP also took the lead in establishing an international network on SPP, the International [SPP Initiative](#) which was officially launched at Rio+20 in June 2012 with 30 governments and leading organizations hoping to collectively promote the supply and demand of sustainable products through SPP. The specific objectives of the SPPI were defined as follows: (i) Build the case for SPP: improve the knowledge on SPP and its effectiveness as a tool to promote sustainable consumption and production, support greener economies and sustainable development; (ii) Support the implementation of SPP on the ground through increased collaboration and better access to capacity building tools.



Launch of the SPP Initiative, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2012, UNEP Pavilion, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

### First members SPPI

Public Institutions	Networks and NGO's	Private Sector	International Organizations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Min. de Ambiente (Costa Rica)</li> <li>•Min. de Medio Ambiente (Colombia)</li> <li>•Min. do Meio Ambiente (Brazil)</li> <li>•Danish Environmental Protection Agency</li> <li>•Min. of Economic Development (New Zealand)</li> <li>•Institut des Finances Basil Fuleihan (Lebanon)</li> <li>•ChileCompra (Chile)</li> <li>•DEFRA (United Kingdom)</li> <li>•Environmental Development Center (China)</li> <li>•Procurement Policy Office (Mauritius)</li> <li>•INCOPI (Ecuador)</li> <li>•Federal Office for the Environment (Switzerland)</li> <li>•Swedish Environmental Management Council – SEMCo</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•ICLEI</li> <li>•EcoInstituit</li> <li>•Forest Stewardship Council – FSC</li> <li>•Green Purchasing Network Indonesia (GPNI)</li> <li>•Green Purchasing Network of India – GPNI</li> <li>•Green Purchasing Network of Malaysia – GPNM</li> <li>•International Green Purchasing Network – IIGN</li> <li>•International Institute for Sustainable Development – IISD</li> <li>•Korea Environmental Industry &amp; Technology Institute – KEITI</li> <li>•Green Council (Hong Kong)</li> <li>•Groupe Vers des Achats responsables à Rio+40 - VARIORIO40 / Association CESA - Achats &amp; Supply Chain</li> <li>•ISEAL Alliance</li> <li>•OBSAR (France)</li> <li>•Service Cantonal du Développement Durable (SCDD)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Sustainable Consumption Consortium</li> <li>•Big Room</li> <li>•Corvers Procurement Services BV (Netherlands)</li> <li>•Procurement Analysis (United Kingdom)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization – ITC-ILO</li> <li>•Organization of American States – OAS</li> <li>•United Nations Environment Programme – UNEP</li> <li>•United Nations Development Programme/Procurement Capacity Development Centre – UNDP/PCDC</li> <li>•United Nations Office for Project Services – UNOPS</li> <li>•Economic and Monetary Union of West Africa – UEMOA</li> <li>•Institut de l'Energie et de l'Environnement De la Francophonie – EEPF</li> <li>•African Development Bank – AfDB (OBSERVER)</li> </ul>



## 2014: from the SPPI to the 10YFP SPP programme

The Sustainable Public Procurement Initiative (SPPI) officially became the 10YFP SPP Programme on April 1st at an event in New York, at the margins of the 10th Session of the Open Working Groups on Sustainable Development Goals. As such, the 10YFP SPP Programme officially adopted the Goals, Work Plan, Structure, MAC, and Modus Operandi of the SPPI.

### What is the 10YFP?

*The 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns (10YFP) is a global framework of action to enhance international cooperation to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production (SCP) in both developed and developing countries.*

At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in 2012, Heads of State adopted the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns (10YFP), a global framework for action to accelerate the shift towards SCP in both developed and developing countries. The 10YFP generates collective impact through multi-stakeholder programmes and partnerships, which develop, replicate and scale up SCP policies and initiatives at all levels. The 10YFP also fosters knowledge and experience sharing, and facilitates access to technical and financial resources for developing countries. UNEP serves as the 10YFP Secretariat.

The important transversal role of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has been clearly affirmed with the inclusion of a standalone goal (Goal 12) on SCP among the 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted in September 2015 at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit. The central role of the 10YFP in achieving this shift is affirmed in a standalone target (12.1) calling for its implementation.

Interested actors from all countries can be involved in the implementation of the 10YFP activities: governments, private sector, civil society, researchers, UN agencies, financial institutions, and other major groups.

10YFP partners are regrouped in the One Planet Network.





## The six programmes under the 10YFP



1. Consumer information
2. Sustainable lifestyles and education
3. **Sustainable public procurement**
4. Sustainable buildings and construction
5. Sustainable tourism, including ecotourism
6. Sustainable food systems

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Official Launch of the 10YFP SPP Programme in New York on 1, April 2014



## Our second major project: the SPP and ecolabelling project (2013-2017)

In 2012, discussions started with the European Commission for a new phase of the SPP Project. A project document was developed together with the Ecolabelling work stream. The project entitled “[Sustainable public procurement and ecolabelling](#)” (SPPEL) started in May 2013.

The project aimed at providing capacity development and technical assistance to different stakeholders (policy-makers, procurers, businesses) on the development of SPP policies and the use of internationally recognized ecolabelling systems.

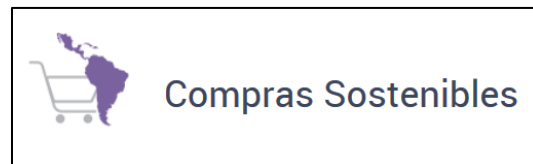
In order to reach the above-mentioned objectives, the project was implemented at the national, regional and global levels.

Through its national component, the project provided capacity building and advisory services for the combined implementation of SPP and ecolabelling in 12 countries: Brazil, Colombia, Vietnam, Argentina, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Mongolia, Morocco, Mauritius, Togo.

Project implementation in Latin America was supported by our regional office located in Panama. The SPP team of the Economy division took care of project implementation in Asia and Africa.

At the **regional level**, the SPPEL project encouraged South-South cooperation, regional collaboration on ecolabelling, voluntary standards, and the sharing of experiences related to SPP implementation in two sub-regions, the Southern Cone (Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay) and South East Asia (ASEAN countries).

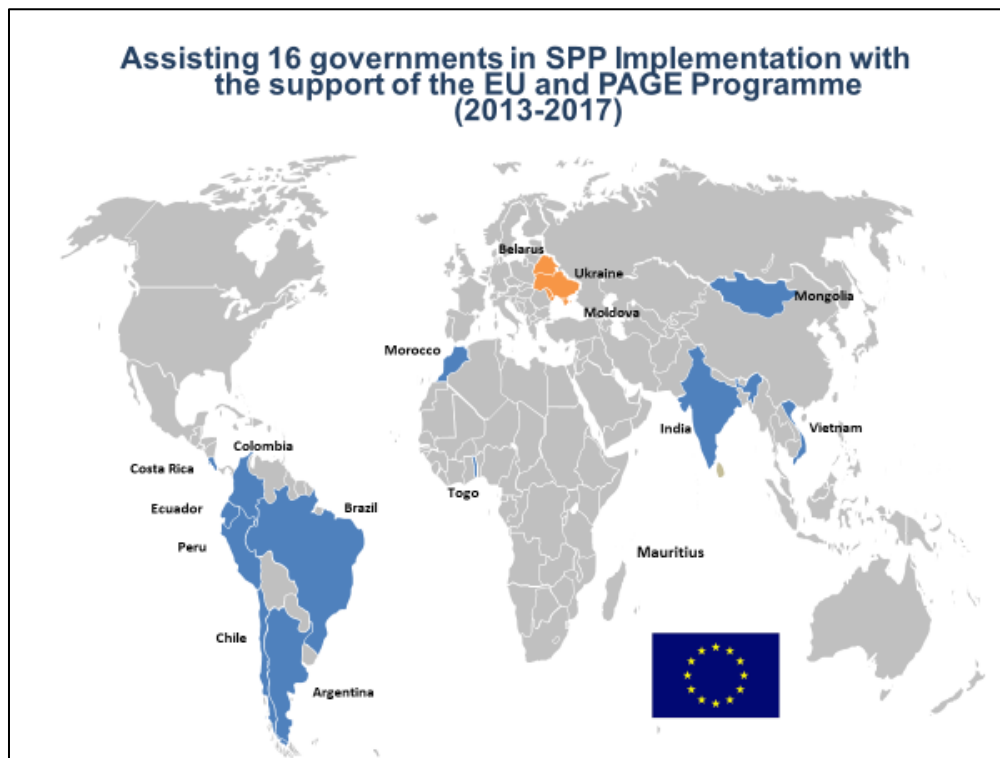
The project also included a knowledge management, outreach and communication component which focused on the dissemination of tools and lessons learnt regionally and globally, and facilitated linkages and synergies with key international stakeholders and related initiatives. The knowledge management component relied on an existing online platform, the SPP Community of the Global SCP Clearinghouse, and directly supported the 10YFP SPP Programme. An online platform for the Latin American region on SPP is being established as part of this component and integrated in the SCP Clearinghouse.



**A place to network and learn more about sustainable public procurement in Latin America and the Caribbean is on progress**

Two other projects were implemented during the 2013-2017 period:

- The EU funded Eastern Partnership Green project (EaP Green project): through this project, the UNEP SPP Approach was successfully rolled out in Ukraine and Moldova: SPP plans were quickly developed and were starting to be implemented over the last two years.
- China and Republic of Korea funded ASEAN+3 GPP and ecolabelling project: the aim of the project was to establish an Asia Pacific network of GPP and EL experts, identify and disseminate best practices, benchmark policies and develop regional cooperation on these subjects with a particular focus on knowledge transfer from more advanced to less advanced countries.



### Key achievements of the ground projects

The key achievements of the SPP projects at the national and regional levels over the 2013-2017 period were the following:

- The UNEP methodology to implement sustainable public procurement was further tested and strengthened building on the lessons learned during project implementation. A revised version of the UNEP SPP Implementation Guidelines is in preparation.
- Collaboration and partnerships with ministries involved in SPP implementation in over 15 countries were developed/strengthened
- The UNEP network of national SPP experts was greatly expanded;
- Regional/languages based networks were created in Asia Pacific, Latin America, Francophonie and Russian speaking countries to connect SPP experts and encourage exchange of information and know-how;
- Over 900 public procurement practitioners were trained through the project; and
- A large number of SPP tools and information products were developed in the project countries and at regional level<sup>3</sup>: manuals and procurement guidelines, legal and market readiness studies, pilot tenders, best practices, benchmarking studies, training materials, SPP websites, etc.

<sup>3</sup> Outputs will be progressively uploaded in 2018 here : <http://drustage.unep.org/resourceefficiency/what-we-do/sustainable-lifestyles/sustainable-procurement/project-countries>

## Some examples

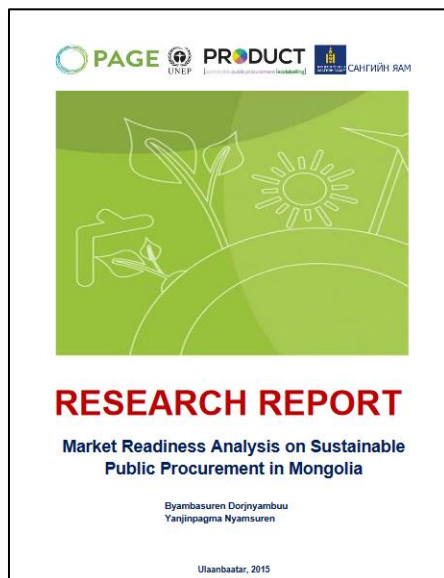
- Costa Rica [Technical Normative for the application of sustainability criteria in public procurement and guidelines for implementation](#)



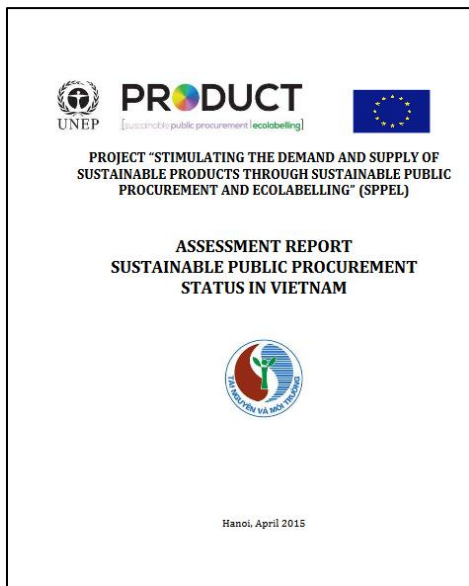
- Colombia SPP National Action Plan and SPP Guidelines with sustainability criteria for goods and services



- Mongolia, [Market Analysis](#)



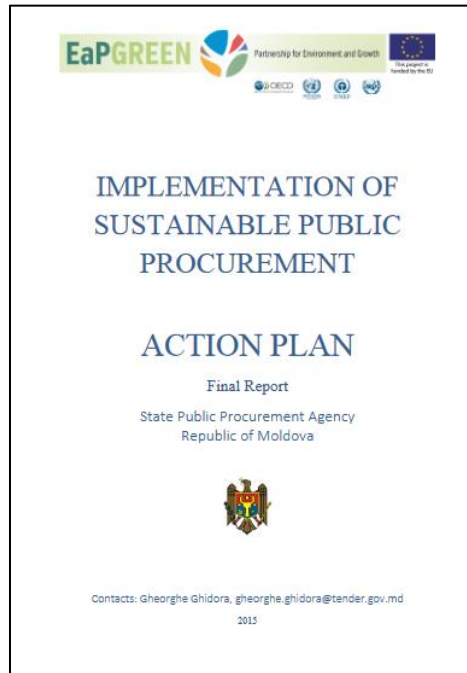
- Vietnam, [SPP Assessment Report](#)



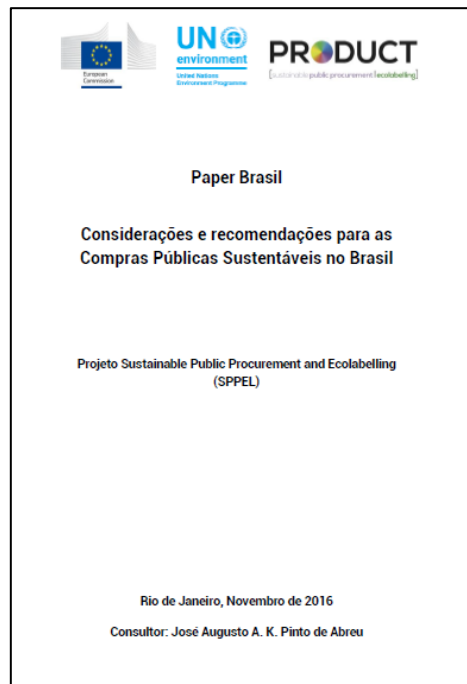
- Ukraine, [Legal Review](#)



- Moldova, [National Action Plan](#)



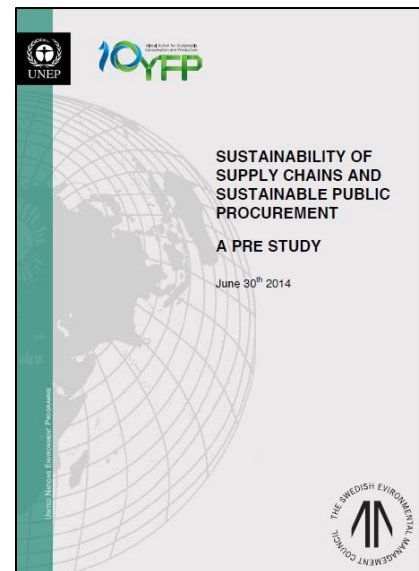
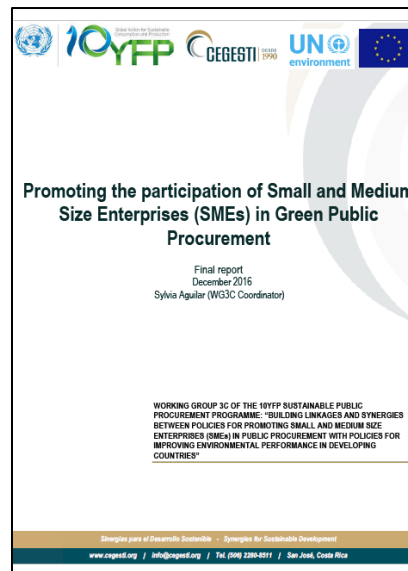
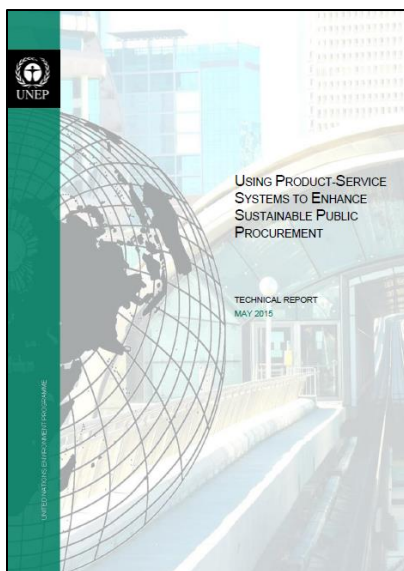
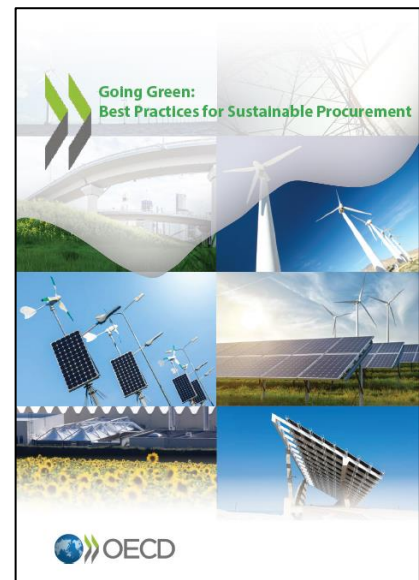
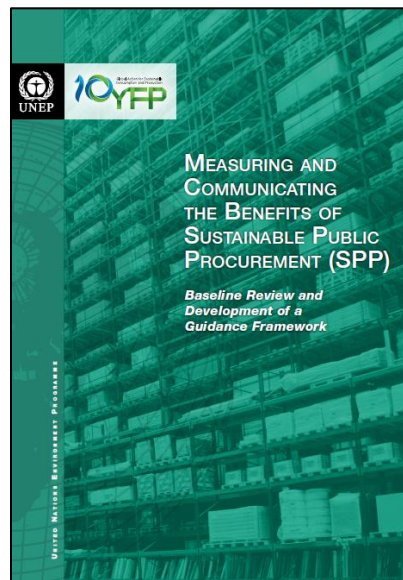
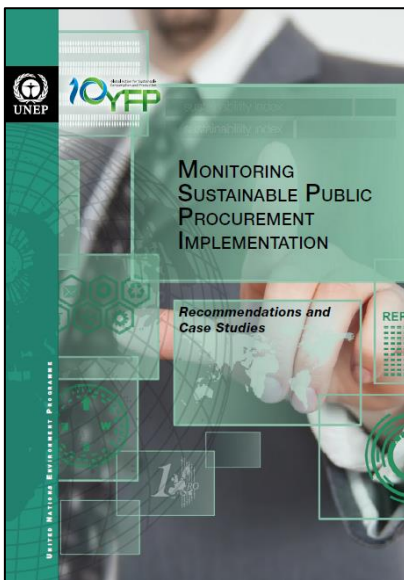
- [Paper Brazil](#)



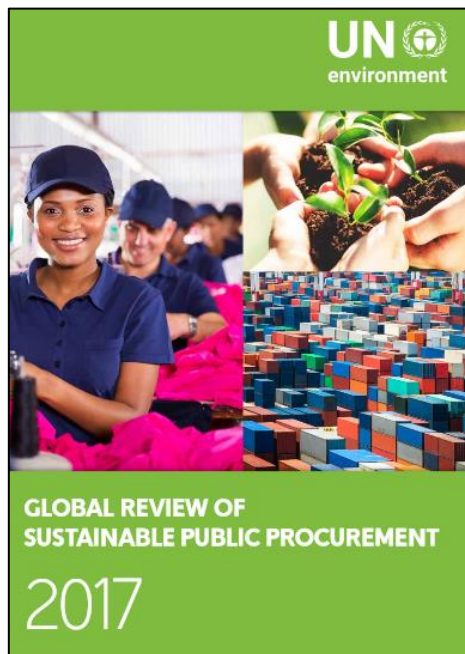
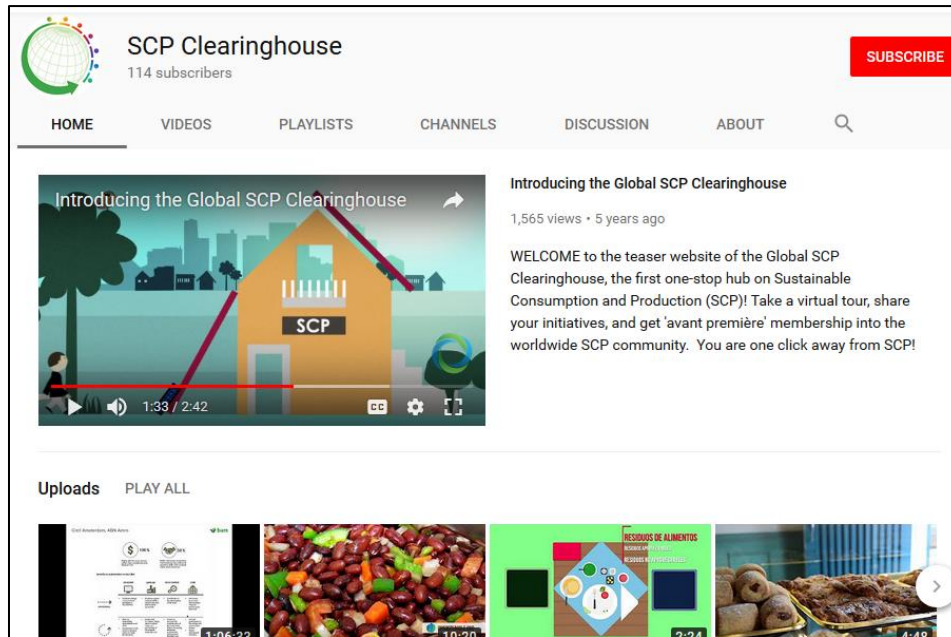
## Achievements of the 10YFP SPP Programme

- The number of partners rose to 124 at the end of 2017
- 8 publications were produced by the programme's working groups on various subjects:
  - [Monitoring Sustainable Public Procurement. Implementation. Recommendations and case studies](#) (2016)
  - [Measuring and Communicating the Benefits of Sustainable Public Procurement](#) (2016)
  - [Compendium of best Green Public Procurement practices](#) (2015)
  - [Using Product-Service Systems to Enhance Sustainable Public Procurement](#) (2015)
  - [Promoting the participation of Small and Medium Size Enterprises in Green Public Procurement](#) (2016)
  - [Sustainability of Supply Chains and Sustainable Public Procurement. A Pre Study](#) (2014)
  - [Procurement of pharmaceuticals in an environmental context and its inclusion into the CSR Compass](#) (2016)

## Some of the 10YFP SPP publications



- The 2017 Global review was published with a separate annex including 41 national fact sheets  
24 SPP related webinars were organized (<https://www.youtube.com/user/SCPClearinghouse>)





## SCP Clearinghouse:

- A comprehensive database of methodologies, tools, reports, and experiences on sustainable public procurement was established in [the 10YFP Global SCP Clearinghouse](#) which provides a unique point of reference to the global community.



The Global SCP Clearinghouse is first and foremost a place for making connections- between organizations and individuals who want to scale up their work across regions and sectors - towards the shift to more sustainable modes of consumption and production

## Conclusion

In 10 years, from 2008 to 2017, UN Environment made a decisive contribution to Sustainable public procurement by developing and rolling out a methodology to support countries in SPP implementation. The UN Environment SPP Approach has now become the standard methodology for national SPP policy development and implementation and is continuously revised based on lessons learned. 18 countries have been supported by UN Environment through the SPP Approach, they have developed SPP action plans and are progressively embarking on SPP implementation.

The organization also played a major role in establishing regional and language-based networks (French, Russian) which are promoting the exchange of information and peer-to-peer learning on SPP.

UN Environment was instrumental in setting up the International SPP Initiative which quickly evolved into the 10YFP SPP Programme. Under the leadership of UN Environment, this collaborative platform has produced a number of useful tools to improve the performance of SPP: reports on the monitoring of SPP, measurement of impacts, compendiums of case studies, greening of supply chains, product service systems, etc. It has also fostered information exchange on SPP through periodical webinars and has overseen the progressive population of the SPP Community of the SCP Clearinghouse, which has become a major source of information and tools for SPP practitioners.

Another major contribution of UN Environment to the promotion of SPP was the publication of the two Global Reviews on SPP implementation in 2013 and 2017, which offer a unique perspective on the progress of SPP at world level and the challenges faced by all the countries and organizations on the path to SPP implementation. The 2017 edition and its 41 country fact sheets will certainly facilitate the upcoming efforts towards the measurement of SDG target 12.7 on SPP implementation which are also led by UN Environment.

All the work and achievements of UN Environment, would not have been possible without the mobilization and contribution of all its financial and operational partners at national, regional and global levels.

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