

United Nations Environment Programme and  
Green Growth Knowledge Platform

**2nd Pan-European Regional Workshop on Sustainable Public Procurement**

2 December 2021

on-line event, 9:00-11:30 Paris time

Language: English and Russian

**Background**

Public spending has tremendous purchasing power - accounting for an average of 12% of GDP in OECD countries and up to 30% in other countries. [Sustainable Public Procurement](#) (SPP) is defined as a “process whereby public organizations meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life cycle basis in terms of generating benefits not only to the organization, but also to society and the economy, whilst significantly reducing negative impacts on the environment”<sup>1</sup>. Shifting public spending towards more sustainable goods and services not only reduces the environmental footprint of procuring entities, but also stimulates businesses to innovate, promote circularity and improve the social and environmental performance of their products and services. SPP is thus a key policy instrument to support a transition towards sustainable development and an inclusive green economy.

Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) is one of six [programmes](#) of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production implemented by the One Planet Network - a global initiative adopted at the Rio+20 summit. The Programme builds synergies between diverse partners to achieve the SDG target on SPP (target 12.7). The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) led the One Planet SPP programme from 2014 to 2018 together with the Korean Environmental Industry & Technology Institute (KEITI), and the Local Governments for Sustainability Network (ICLEI). UNEP also developed a [methodology](#) for SPP policy development and implementation. This approach has been introduced in Eastern Europe and the Caucuses, as part of the EU-funded EaP-GREEN project,<sup>2</sup> since 2013 and as part of the EU4Environment programme<sup>3</sup> since 2019.

Responding to the requests from countries in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia, UNEP and its partners have been supporting these countries in implementing SPP as part of the United Nations Development Account funded project “**Enhancing sustainable public procurement for the regional transition to inclusive green economy in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia**” (UNDA SPP project). The UNDA SPP project is implemented by UNEP jointly with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE and Green Growth Knowledge Platform (GGKP). The UNDA SPP project aims to strengthen the capacity of selected countries in the region on sustainable public procurement and strengthen the capacity of businesses to respond to public tenders with sustainability criteria<sup>4</sup>. Since 2019 SPP and eco-labeling (as one of SPP criteria and tool) related

<sup>1</sup> Multistakeholder Advisory Committee of the 10YFP SPP Programme, <http://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/sites/default/files/10yfp-spp-principles.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Project “Greening Economies in the European Union’s Eastern Neighbourhood” (EaP GREEN project), funded by European Union, implemented by OECD, UNEP, UNECE and UNIDO between 2013 and 2018, <http://www.green-economies-eap.org>

<sup>3</sup> The “European Union for Environment” (EU4Environment) Action: <https://www.eu4environment.org/>

<sup>4</sup> The United Nations Development Account funded project “Enhancing sustainable public procurement for the regional transition to inclusive green economy in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia” (UNDA SPP project): <https://www.greengrowthknowledge.org/initiatives/united-nations-development-account-project-sustainable-public-procurement-0>

national activities were implemented in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, in addition to regional knowledge sharing and exchanges

### **Objectives of the Workshop**

The 1st Pan-European Regional workshop was organized on 19-20 March 2019, back-to-back with the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, in Geneva, Switzerland, to facilitate the exchange of good practices and lessons learned in developing and implementing SPP policies and practices in the Pan-European region.

The 2nd Pan-European Regional Workshop aims to review the progress in the field of SPP and eco-labelling in Central Asia and Eastern European countries (namely, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan). Countries will present and exchange their experience in development of SPP and eco-labelling policies, capacity of public sector and enterprises to respond to SPP tenders and awareness. Examples of good practices and success stories from pan-European region will be presented and discussed.

More specifically, the event aims to:

1. Present key results and achievement of UNDA SPP project on SPP and eco-labelling policies and practices;
2. Share success stories and challenges among countries in Europe and Central Asia;
3. Present and discuss the readiness of enterprises/business in the Central Asia countries to respond to the public tenders with inclusive sustainability criteria;
4. Share perspectives among stakeholders (including ministries, public procurement agencies and the private sector) in further implementing SPP.

The workshop is funded by the UNDA-SPP project and organized by UNEP and the Information Centre “Green Dossier”.

### **Participants**

This workshop will bring together national policy-makers, procurement practitioners, businesses and civil society from across the Pan-European region. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the workshop is organized on-line. Representatives from Eastern Europe and Caucasus will share their experience of the development and implementation of SPP and eco-labelling activities under the EU-funded EU4Environment project. Representatives from Western and Central Europe will participate to share their positive experiences and challenges in the field.

*You are welcome to register for the 2nd Pan-European Regional Workshop on Sustainable Public Procurement at: [shorturl.at/dzOT](https://shorturl.at/dzOT)*

**Meeting Agenda (Paris time, UTC+1)**

2 December 2021	
9:00-9:15	<p><b>Session 1: Welcoming remarks by the Chair</b> Ms. Sylvie Motard, Deputy Director, UNEP Europe Office</p>
9:15-9:35	<p><b>Session 2: Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP): a key policy instrument to support sustainable development and the shift to an inclusive Green Economy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Data collection exercise for SDG 12.7.1: key findings, challenges and trends in Pan-European region (<i>Mr. Farid Yaker, UNEP</i>)</li> <li>• Progress on SPP and eco-labelling in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (<i>Ms. Lesya Nikolayeva, International Expert of the UNDA SPP project</i>)</li> </ul>
9:35-10:20	<p><b>Session 3: SPP and eco-labelling policies and practices in Central Asia countries: progress, prospects and key challenges</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kyrgyzstan (<i>Mr. Baialy Dosaliev, Director of Public Procurement Department, Ministry of Finance; Mr. Kubat Kanimetov, Director of the Promotion and Development Centre</i>)</li> <li>• Kazakhstan (<i>Ministry of Finance; Mr. Kuanysh Baltabaev, Director of OJL "Ecojer"</i>)</li> <li>• Uzbekistan (<i>Mr. Jakhongir Talipov, Head of International Cooperation and Projects Department, State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection</i>)</li> </ul>
10:20-10:50	<p><b>Session 4: Readiness of SMEs in Eastern Europe and Central Asia countries to respond to SPP tenders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modern tools for SMEs to review their sustainability performances, including energy- and resource efficiency, sustainability etc (<i>Mr. Hannes McNulty, GGKP</i>)</li> <li>• Advisory services to SMEs in Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan (<i>Mr. Andrii Vorfolomeiev, Director, Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production Centre</i>)</li> <li>• Opportunities and challenges of SMEs: lessons learnt (<i>Mr. Johannes Fresner, Expert of the Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production Centre</i>)</li> </ul>
10:50-11:30	<p><b>Session 5: Success stories, challenges and lessons learned on SPP and eco-labelling from Western Europe, Eastern Europe and the Caucasus</b></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Dr. Kakha Demetrashvili, Deputy Chairperson, State Procurement Agency, Georgia</li> <li>• Mr. Ruslan Malai, Head of the State Procurement Agency, Moldova</li> <li>• Ms. Tatiana Echim, EcoContact, Moldova</li> <li>• Ms. Olena Maslyukivska, Expert, Ukraine</li> <li>• Mr. Eriks Mezalis, Expert, Latvia</li> <li>• Mr. Walter Rabitsch, Brevillier Urban &amp; Sachs GmbH &amp; Co KG, Austria</li> </ul>
11:30	<p><b>Closing remarks</b> Ms. Rie Tsutsumi, UNEP</p>