Use SDG-Based Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) to Partner with the Private Sector on the SDGs

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Sustainable Procurement is a management process used to acquire goods and services ("products") in a way that:

1. integrates sustainability considerations into *product* selection so that impacts on society and the environment are minimized throughout the full life cycle of the product, and

2. gives preference to *suppliers* that generate positive outcomes for the environment, their workers and society (e.g. contribute to the SDGs).

“Sustainable Procurement” includes:

- “Social Procurement / Purchasing”
- “Circular Procurement / Purchasing”
- “Green Procurement / Purchasing”
- “Responsible Procurement / Purchasing”
- “Ethical Procurement / Purchasing”
SDGs Map to Core Sustainability Issues

Environmental Goals

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13 CLIMATE ACTION
14 LIFE BELOW WATER
15 LIFE ON LAND

Social Goals

Worker / Employee Goals

1 NO POVERTY
2 ZERO HUNGER
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
4 QUALITY EDUCATION
5 GENDER EQUALITY
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Community Goals

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Proposal

**Implement SDG-based sustainable public procurement**

Require all companies to disclose their contributions to *all* the SDGs in order to pre-qualify as a government supplier.

- Energize government procurement as a market force
- Applies to national, state/provincial and local governments
- Enabled by free SME-friendly, online, self-assessment tools

**Implement a Registry of Suppliers database and online supplier notification system**

- Notify all pre-qualified suppliers when a tender is issued that matches their products and services
- Include an online bid submission capability
SDG-Based Self-Assessment Tools

SME-friendly supplier self-assessment tool on contributions to all the SDGs by the company

- e.g. B Impact Assessment, SDG Action Manager, (SDG Ambition), Enhanced, online 3-in-1 Sustainability Assessment Assessment Toolkit
- Consistent core questions; assesses contributions to all SDGs
- Leads to comparisons, and sharing / celebrating best practices

Online local / municipal self-assessment tool on progress on all the SDGs within its jurisdiction

- e.g. Enhanced IISD Tracking Progress Tool
- Helps municipalities walk the talk on contributing to the SDGs
- Consistent suite of questions; assesses local progress on all SDGs
- Enables comparisons of local / municipal / city / community progress, sharing of best practices, and celebration of leaders.
Partner For Progress On The SDGS

Government
SDG-based Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP)

Supplier / company
SDG-based self-assessment tool

Municipal / Local

Provincial / State

Country / National

Government SDG-based self-assessment tools
Benefits

✓ **Government** = Regulator  **Customer / “market force”**

✓ *It is voluntary*: Only companies that aspire to being suppliers to the government need to disclose.

✓ **Ease of administration**: Disclosure is a pre-qualifier; can optionally use supplier scores on SDGs as weighted criteria in bid appraisals.

✓ **Frees up funds**: Funding for programs that would otherwise be required to engage companies in contributing to the SDGs can be freed up to help SMEs improve their contributions to the SDGs.

✓ **Bottom-up build of a resilient new economy**: Companies position themselves to thrive in the new low-carbon, circular, just economy.

✓ **Attainment of 2030 Agenda**: Governments partner with like-minded suppliers to accelerate attainment of the global goals.

✓ ** Makes the SDGs matter to companies … because the SDGs matter to their customers.**
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