



# **SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT**

## **SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT**

*Duration: 01 WEEK*

*26-30 March 2007*

*Venue: THE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE OF THE ILO  
TURIN (ITALY)*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Public procurement is increasingly in focus as an instrument of public policy in addition to its traditional role as a cornerstone of good governance. Current policy harmonization efforts at the level of donors and international organizations, in the pursuit of sustainable development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, has also highlighted the urgency for a more definitive framework for the implementation of sustainable public procurement at the national level.

Sustainable procurement is a key indicator of governments' commitment to sustainable development. Achieving sustainable development in practice requires that economic growth supports social progress as well as respect for the environment, that economic performance reinforces social equity, and that environmental policy is cost-effective without compromising the livelihood of future generations. Governments should consider how to make better use of procurement to reach sustainability objectives, through balancing the social, economic and environmental outcomes of public procurement practices and decisions. In other words, they need to engage in "Sustainable Procurement".

Whilst these issues have, to some extent, been addressed by private sector organizations with an interest in 'corporate social and environmental responsibility' as well as by some public sector organizations, yet the knowledge and expertise within the wider national purchasing and supply communities remain relatively limited. Therefore, by incorporating sustainable procurement considerations, governments can raise the bar and act as a "role model" for the private sector to replicate.

This one week workshop designed by the International Training Centre of the ILO in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) aims to fill this knowledge gap by presenting a comprehensive international comparative survey of sustainable procurement policies and best practices. It also explores the key concepts for Sustainable Procurement (SP) and explains how these can be applied in order to impart competence to the participants in using the potential of procurement for the achievement of sustainable development objectives.

### **OBJECTIVES AND CONTENTS**

The objective of this Workshop is to contribute to improved capacity in the conceptualisation and implementation of environmental and social considerations in procurement, in line with internationally accepted principles and practices.

The following topics are addressed:

- Definition and key concepts for SP
- The potential of SP for promoting sustainable development and realizing its benefits
- Sustainability concepts in public consumption
- International Regulatory Framework for SP, including:
  - Treaties, Conventions, EU Directives and Guidelines
  - International Environmental and Social Standards
  - International Trade Agreements and their implication for SP
- The integration of sustainability considerations in the procurement cycle:
  - Procurement planning, requirement definitions, sourcing, SBDs, evaluation and award and compliance monitoring
- Action plans for the implementation of SP in national/organisational regulatory frameworks
- The role of the civil society and the private sector

- Main barriers and opportunities for SP

## **PARTICIPANTS**

This course targets participants who are directly involved in procurement management and oversight, as well as those involved at a more strategic/policy level within procurement organisations of international development institutions and national government entities.

Candidates are expected to be currently engaged in the procurement policy formulation and procurement management. Previous knowledge or work experience in procurement management in the public or private sector is an asset.

## **COURSE LANGUAGE**

The course is delivered in English and the participants should demonstrate adequate level of proficiency in the English language.

## **COURSE METHODOLOGY**

The course is delivered by senior procurement specialists, labour standards and environmental specialists and consultants from ILO/TURIN, UNEP and other internationally recognised institutions. The course is conducted using a highly participative training delivery methodology through a combination of interactive presentations by subject-matter specialists followed by group discussions and exercises. Ample opportunity is provided to explore and discuss benefits and constraints related to the introduction of SP considerations in the entire procurement process. Case studies at national and international level will demonstrate examples of best practices in this field and provide a practical orientation for the participants as to the application of sustainable procurement principles.

Each participant is encouraged to bring along a copy of the procurement act/manual of its organisation/country for reference throughout the course.

## **COST OF PARTICIPATION**

The cost of participation in this one-week programme is US \$ 2,665 payable in advance by the participant's sponsoring organisation. This covers:

- tuition fee, which includes the use of the Centre's training facilities and associated support services, books and training materials;
- participant fee, which covers:
  - accommodation and full-board at the Centre, plus a standard daily allowance of € 12 to cover incidental expenses;
  - study visits;
  - routine medical care and insurance.

Main travel between the participant's home country and Turin is not included.

Fellowships for training programmes conducted by the ILO Turin Centre generally become available through development projects financed by International Financial Institutions or by United Nations agencies, bilateral technical co-operation agencies, governments or private enterprises. Candidates are encouraged to contact these organisations and agencies in their countries to enquire about the availability of funds for fellowship training programmes.

## **REGISTRATION**

Nominations to attend this workshop are processed by writing directly to the Recruitment Officer of ILO/TURIN.

For further **information concerning nominations**, please contact

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