Public Procurement's Role in Achieving the SDGs

13.20 - 14.45 (Bangkok Time, GMT+7), 27 October 2021

SESSION OUTLINE

Session 1: Public Procurement’s Role in Achieving the SDGs
13:20-14:45 Bangkok time | 27 October 2021

Background

Regional Dialogue

The regional dialogue is organized by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through its FairBiz – Promoting Fair Business environment in ASEAN, in partnership with UN Women, Open Government Partnership, Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (COST) and Open Contracting Partnership. The FairBiz project is supported by the UK Government, ASEAN Economic Reform Programme.

The regional dialogue will bring together government representatives from the region along with private sector leaders and civil society representatives interested in learning more about and/or implementing the sustainable public procurement agenda via the SDGs, integrity and value-for-money lenses.

This regional dialogue will contribute to:

- Promoting sustainable public procurement as a strategic tool in achieving progress on the SDGs
- Introducing new resources advocating for a collective action approach and multi-actor collaboration to improve the procurement ecosystem.
- Building community of practice and learning for procurement practitioners and reformers in Asia
- Understanding and managing integrity risks in public procurement vis-à-vis SDG attainments.
- Inspiring the community of practitioners and reformers in the region to adopt innovative solutions
- Facilitating knowledge exchange by showcasing relevant use cases and case studies
- Sharing emerging technology trends in public procurement
The Session: **Public procurement role in achieving the SDGs** is organized by UNDP Promoting a Fair Business Environment in ASEAN (FairBiz), a regional project operating in six ASEAN countries: Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar*, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.

Good governance underpins trade and investment and enables all businesses to flourish, fairly and with integrity. Without it, companies are unlikely to be able to meet either their commercial targets or their Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

From the point of view of benefits for the key stakeholders, the project contributes to:

- **Business** – encourage and enable investment and trade, bring prosperity to FairBiz countries.
- **Governments** – deliver efficient and cost-effective public service and create a sustainable and attractive environment for investments.
- **Civil society** - monitor and influence public and private sector integrity
- **Multilateral** - support development especially amongst marginalised groups such as women and young people

The project operates under the following platforms/workstreams:

- **Global Supply Chain**
- **Procurement**
- **Impact/ESG Investing**
- **Youth and Entrepreneurship**
- **Diversity and Inclusion**
- **Integrity in Government Institutions**

**Session Description**

Leveraging public procurement for inclusive and sustainable growth is vital to achieving the SDGs. By considering more than just the primary goal of specific service delivery, governments can create economic opportunities for various players, stimulate job creation, encourage innovation, and incentivize ethical and sustainable production and practices. Effective and transparent public procurement is the cornerstone of a well-functioning government. Public procurement can provide a level playing field for private sector businesses, leading to more effective and efficient service delivery.

The session will explore how procurement can play an important role in achieving the SDGs through sustainable public procurement, provide an overview of the methodology for assessing procurement systems (MAPS) and public procurement linkages to all of the SDGs goals.
Session Objectives

The key objectives of this session are to:

- Understand the importance of sustainable public procurement in achieving the SDGs
- Provide examples and cases to strengthen procurement systems, increase transparency and accountability
- Learn from examples on how to advance sustainable public procurement

Format

Each panelist will have about 20 minutes for present followed by the Q&A

Speakers and Panellists

Moderator: Akiko Yamamoto, Regional Team Leader – Asia & Pacific Nature, Climate and Energy Team, Bangkok Regional Hub, United Nations Development Programme

Speakers

- **Introducing the Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) Agenda**
  Mushtaq Memon, Regional Coordinator, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

- **Methodology for Assessing Procurement Systems (MAPS)**
  Nicolas Penagos, Head of the MAPS Secretariat, OECD

- **Public procurement’s linkages to all the SDGs**
  Darko Pavlovic, Project Manager, UNDP FairBiz

Detail Agenda

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<td>Moderator to open the session by introducing the speakers (5 min)</td>
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<td>• <strong>Introducing the Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) Agenda</strong></td>
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Speaker Profiles

Akiko Yamamoto, Regional Team Leader, Asia and the Pacific, for the Nature, Climate and Energy (NCE) team of UNDP.

As an engineer and a governance expert, Akiko has been working on natural resources governance in the context of sustainable development in the past two decades. Her academic and professional interests have been analyzing how choices and policy decisions are made, what influences them, and how the policies and institutions can be better designed to influence the options we have. She is passionate about safeguarding the nature and the vulnerable while supporting developing countries to advance on their development agenda.

With her current role as the Regional Team Lead, Akiko leads the team of 40+ technical specialist and advisors, coordinates UNDP’s strategic and technical advisory and programming support in the field of Nature, Climate and Energy in Asia and the Pacific region. UNDP NCE team addresses development challenges that are linked to natural resources management, climate change, and energy to improve people’s livelihood while protecting the Planet. Prior to the current post, she supported the governments and regional organizations in Africa to strengthen their national or transboundary water and ocean governance and to realize the sustainable blue economy from UNDP Regional Service Center for Africa.

Akiko holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Management and Policy and a Master’s degree in Environmental Engineering from the Johns Hopkins University in USA.

Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon, Regional Coordinator for Resource Efficiency and SWITCH-Asia RPAC Project Manager, United Nations Environment Programme, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Dr. Memon is working with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as a Regional Coordinator for Resource Efficiency in Asia Pacific Office located in Bangkok. He is supporting resource efficiency, sustainable consumption and production, green economy, green financing, sustainable public procurement, sustainable tourism, sustainable industries and various areas for Asia and the Pacific. Dr. Memon is also Project Manager for the Regional Policy Advocacy Component of the EU-funded SWITCH-Asia Programme to promote sustainable consumption and production and uptake of SDG 12 in Asia.

Dr. Memon has a Doctorate degree in environmental and resource economics from Hiroshima University in Japan, a Master’s degree in national development and project planning from University of
Bradford in UK, a postgraduate diploma in Transport from Karachi University and Chartered Institute of Transport, Bachelors in civil engineering from Mehran University of Engineering and Technology Jamshoro and schooling at Cadet College Petaro in Pakistan. He has also published various papers in international journals and has delivered various training programmes.

Darko Pavlovic is UNDP Project Manager for Promoting Fair Business Environment in ASEAN. Darko has 18 years of professional experience on governance issues, specifically focusing on transparency and accountability. He has worked with UNDP in Afghanistan, Serbia, Oslo Governance Centre, and New York managing anti-corruption projects and project evaluations. He has earned Master’s Degrees from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs and LLM from Golden Gate University in San Francisco.

Nicolás Penagos is the Head of the MAPS Secretariat housed at the OECD, where he is responsible for maintaining the methodology and carrying out the quality assurance process of MAPS assessments. Before joining the MAPS Secretariat, he was the Head of Latin America at the Open Contracting Partnership. Prior to that, he was the Deputy Director at Colombia’s National Procurement Agency. Nicolás holds a double major in industrial engineering and mathematics; and a masters in sustainable development from the University of Paris - Dauphine.