

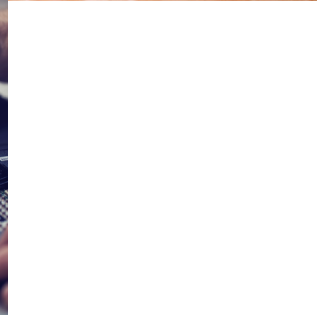
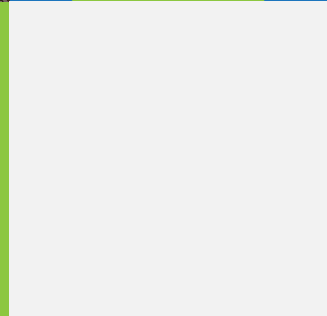
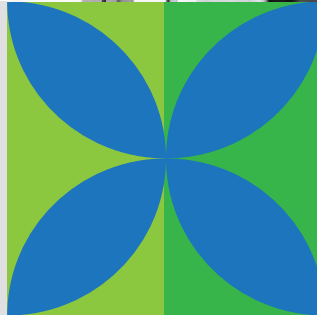
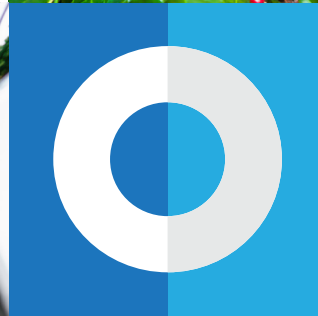
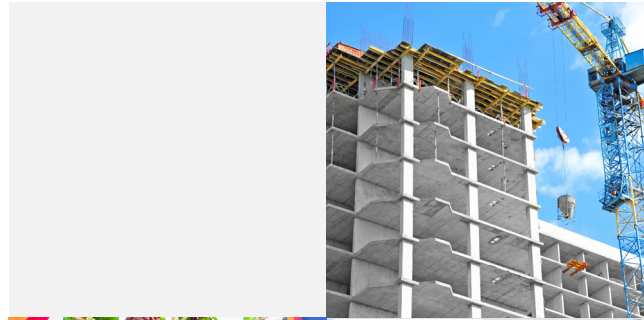
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Asian Experiences in Sustainable/Green Public Procurement

China, Lao PDR, Malaysia,
Thailand, Vietnam



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Table of Contents

1. Introduction	7
2. China	8
3. Lao PDR.....	17
4. Malaysia	21
5. Thailand.....	25
6. Vietnam	31
7. Conclusion.....	36

Tables

Table 1 China’s laws and regulations relating to GPP	10
Table 2 Key features of the two procurement lists, the Environment Labelling Product Public Purchasing List and the Environmental Labelling Product Procurement List.....	14
Table 3 Summary of accepted ecolabels for the Thai GPP list	29

Figures

Figure 1 Institutional framework of GPP in China	11
Figure 2 Institutional framework related to SDGs and GPP in Lao PDR	19
Figure 3 Current Institutional framework of GPP in Malaysia	23
Figure 4 Institutional framework of GPP in Thailand	27
Figure 5 Government agencies and their responsibilities in the implementation of GPP in Vietnam.....	33

Abbreviations and acronyms

10YFP	10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns
ACT	Organic Agriculture Certification of Thailand
CO₂e	Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO ₂ e) is the unit of measurement for the warming effect of greenhouse gases.
CEC	China Environmental United Certification Centre
CGD	Controller General's Department
CP	Centralised Purchasing Catalogue
CPS	Central Procurement Services
CQC	China Quality Certification Centre
DCCE	Department of Climate Change and Environment
DIP	Department of Industrial Production
DIW	Department of Industrial Work
e-GP	e-Government Procurement system
ECL	Energy Conservation Product Procurement List
ECPs	Energy Conservation Products
EDC	Environmental Development Centre
ELP	Environmental Labelling Product
EU	European Union
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
GAPP	General Administration of Press and Publication
GGNSC	Green Growth National Steering Committee
GGP	Green Government Procurement (see also SPP)
GHG	greenhouse gas
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
GoL	Government of Lao PDr
GPL	Government Procurement Law 2003
GPP	Green Public Procurement
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies

IFOAM	International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements
IGPN	International Green Purchasing Network
IISD	International Institute for Sustainable Development
KEITI	Korea Environmental Industry and Technology
KeTTHA	Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (Malaysia)
Kg CO₂e	Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO ₂ e) is the unit of measurement for the warming effect of greenhouse gases
KPIs	Key performance indicators
Lao PDR	Lao People's Democratic Republic (also referred to as Laos)
MEM	Ministry of Energy and Mines
MEP	Ministry of Environment Protection
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MGTC	Malaysian Green Technology Corporation
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOFCOM	Ministry of Commerce
MOI	Ministry of Industry
MOIC	Ministry of Industry and Commerce
MOIT	Ministry of Industry & Trade
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MPI	Ministry of Planning and Investment
MPWT	Ministry of Public Works and Transport
MyHIJAU	the Malaysian overarching procurement programme, under the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA)
NDRC	National Development and Reform Commission
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NPC	National People's Congress
NSEDP	National Socio-Economic Development Plan
PCD	Pollution Control Department
PCD	Pollution Control Department
PDCM	Department of Pollution Control and Monitoring

PEFC	Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification
PPA	Public Procurement Agency
PPCs	Public Procurement Centres
PSC	[EU SWITCH-Asia] Policy Support Component
SBD	State Budget Department
SCP	sustainable consumption and production (a component of SWITCH-Asia Programme)
SDG	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
SMEs	small and medium-sized enterprises
SOE	State-owned enterprise
SPP, S/ GPP	Sustainable Public Procurement, Sustainable Green Public Procurement (see also GPP)
SuPP-Urb	Sustainable Public Procurement in Urban Administrations in China
TBL	Tendering and Bidding Law 1999
TCO	'TCO Certified' is the world-leading sustainability certification for IT products developed by the Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees
TEI	Thailand Environmental Institute
TGL	Thai Green Label
TISI	Thai Industrial Standards Institute
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

1. Introduction

Green Public Procurement (GPP) is a powerful tool for countries aiming to achieve sustainable development and address environmental concerns. Policy development is a crucial aspect as it establishes the foundation for GPP implementation. A well-crafted policy provides a clear roadmap, outlining the government's commitment to sustainability, setting targets, and defining the scope of green procurement. A robust legal and regulatory framework is equally vital to ensure compliance and accountability. Laws and regulations should align with international standards, fostering consistency and coherence in GPP practices. This not only mitigates legal risks but also sends a strong signal to the market, encouraging businesses to adopt sustainable practices.

The institutional setup is pivotal for effective GPP implementation, as it designates responsibilities and ensures coordination among relevant authorities. Guidelines and GPP criteria further streamline the procurement process, offering practical insights and benchmarks for sustainable purchasing decisions. Capacity building and training programmes are essential to equip procurement professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate green procurement complexities. Awareness campaigns play a pivotal role in engaging stakeholders, fostering a collective understanding of the benefits of GPP. Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are indispensable for tracking progress, identifying areas for improvement, and demonstrating the impact of GPP initiatives. Collaboration and partnerships amplify the reach and effectiveness of GPP, because engaging with various stakeholders – including businesses, NGOs, and academia – creates a synergistic approach towards sustainable procurement. Lastly, both documenting and sharing lessons learned contribute to continuous improvement, helping countries refine their strategies and adapt to evolving sustainability challenges.

This report is a product of the EU SWITCH-Asia Policy Support Component – Technical Advisory Project on Sustainable/Green Public Procurement. The objective of this report is to offer a review of GPP experiences across five Asian countries: China, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam. We hope that the report could be a resource for policymakers, stakeholders, and practitioners, for reviewing the diverse pathways these nations have undertaken in aligning their procurement practices with sustainable and green principles.

2. China



POLICY

Green Public Procurement (GPP) initiatives in China began in 2002 with the enactment of the Government Procurement Law and the Clean Production Promotion Law of the People's Republic of China.



KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

The regulatory framework established by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Finance offers clear guidance for procuring green products listed in the Energy Conservation and Environmental Labeling Products categories.



AMBITION

Broaden the scope of government procurement product lists to include products and services with a more significant impact.



FOCUS

Construction materials, ICT products, wood based products, water saving gadgets, e-vehicles, office stationery.

2.1. Introduction

China's Green Public Procurement (GPP) evolution, spanning from the 1990s to the present, showcases a commitment to sustainable procurement practices. This review explores the collaborative efforts of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the Ministry of Finance (MOF), and the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) in shaping the legal framework for Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP)¹. The institutional setup involves inter-ministerial coordination, with the NDRC leading, the MOF providing crucial support, and the MEP managing Environmental Labelling Products (ELP) procurement. At the local level, Public Procurement Centres (PPCs) play a pivotal role in implementing green procurement. This intricate framework reflects China's dedication to integrating sustainability into procurement, emphasising collaboration and comprehensive strategies for GPP.

2.2. Policy Development

China's public procurement system started in the 1990s. The development process of green public procurement policy in China can be divided into three phases as follows:²

Embryonic Stage (1993–2003): This stage saw the drafting of the first procurement legislation in 1993, followed by pilot programmes in Shanghai and Shenzhen. The establishment of the bidding system for public procurement, local government procurement organisations, and the enactment of the *Government*

1 Green public procurement (GPP) and sustainable public procurement (SPP) are two terms that are often used interchangeably. The term 'GPP' was introduced and used prior to the term 'SPP'. GPP criteria are mainly focused on environmental aspects of the procured products, while SPP criteria are more comprehensive and include environmental, social, and economic indicators. However, both GPP and SPP aim to promote responsible purchasing practices.

2 Qiao and Wang (2011). China Green Public Procurement Programme: Issues and Challenges in its Implementation. Available at <https://www.ippa.org/IPPC4/Proceedings/07GreenProcurement/Paper7-6.pdf> Accessed on 25.11.2023

Procurement Law and the *Clean Production Promotion Law* of the People's Republic of China in 2002 were significant achievements during this stage.

Second Stage (2004–2007): During this stage, several legislations promoting green public procurement were enacted to respond to the emergence of the scientific development concept emphasising 'people-oriented' and 'comprehensive, coordinated, and sustainable development'. The series of laws include *Notification on Resource-saving Activities by the State Council Office*, *Opinions of Implementing Government Procurement of Energy-saving Products*, *Decision on Carrying Out Scientific Development Concepts by Strengthening Environment Protection of 2005*, *Opinions on Implementation of Government Procurement for Environmental Labelling Products of 2006*.

Comprehensive Development Stage (2007– present): This stage was marked by China's efforts to meet the requirements of the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Government Procurement. Various laws were passed to further promote green public procurement, including the *National Environmental Protection Law*, *Circular Economy Promotion Law*, *Notice on Forcefully Establishing Government Procurement System for Energy Saving Products*, and *Notification on Public Purchasing List of Adjusting Environmental Labelling Products*.

These stages reflect the gradual evolution and strengthening of green public procurement policies in China, demonstrating the government's commitment to environmental protection and sustainable development through procurement practices.

2.3. Legal and regulatory framework

In China, the legal framework for Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) is shaped by a collaborative effort led by the **National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC)**, the **Ministry of Finance (MOF)**, and the **Ministry of Environment Protection (MEP)**. **Public Procurement Centres (PPCs)** play a crucial role in interpreting and implementing the procurement guidelines issued by the centre, managing the actual procurement process for various administrative units.

The legal foundation for public procurement and SPP includes the **Tendering & Bidding Law (TBL) 1999**, the **Promotion of Cleaner Production Law 2002**, and the **Government Procurement Law (GPL) 2003**. The GPL, revised in 2015, focuses on regulating purchases by central government agencies. It encourages the use of public procurement to promote environmentally friendly products and services. Similarly, the Clean Production Law of 2002 emphasises giving preference in procurement to environmentally friendly and resource-efficient products.

China's **Circular Economy Promotion Law 2009** reinforces the commitment to procure products advantageous to a recycled economy, energy efficiency, water conservation, and environmental friendliness. Implementation guidelines and public procurement lists for energy-saving and environmentally labelled products were introduced to guide public agencies.

China's laws and regulations relevant to GPP are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1 China's laws and regulations relating to GPP.³

Year	Legislation/Regulation	Issuing Authority	Relevance
1999	Bidding/Tendering Law	Procurement regulation for State Owned Enterprises (SOEs)	Established bidding system for public procurement
2002	Promotion of Cleaner Production Law	Issued by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC)	16th Article stipulates that Governments at all levels shall give priority to purchase products conducive to energy and water conservation, waste reuse, environmental protection and resource conservation
2003	Government Procurement Law (GPL)	Initiated by the Ministry of Finance (MOF) and implemented by NPC	9th Article requires government procurement to be used for environmental protection. Government procurement should be used to promote environmentally friendly products and to acquire the goods that meet the environmental protection standards.
2004	Ministerial Regulation for Implementation of Government Procurement for Energy Conservation Products (ECPs)	Issued by MOF and National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC)	Higher preference for Energy Conservation Products in government procurement
2006	Ministerial Regulation of Government Procurement for Environmentally Labelled Products (ELPs)	Issued by MOF and Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP)	Higher preference for Environmental Labelling Products in government procurement
2007	Regulation on Compulsory Government Procurement for Energy Conservation Products	Regulation by State Council	Mandatory for government agencies to procure Energy Conservation products such as air conditioners, fluorescent lamps, televisions, electric heaters, computers, printers, monitors, urinals and water faucets
2007	Revision of Energy Conservation Law	Law by State Council	Public institutes are required to give preferential treatment in their procurement to products and equipment that are on the government procurement list of ECPs and equipment
2009	Circular Economy Promotion Law	Law by State Council	Preference procurement status is granted to products that are energy/water saving, environmentally friendly, and to renewable products
2011	Regulations for the Implementation of the Tendering and Bidding Law	Law by State Council	Grants greater oversight to MOF regarding budgetary control and overall policy in the government and procurement of construction

3 UNEP (2017). Comparative Analysis of Green Public Procurement and Ecolabelling Programmes in China, Japan, Thailand and the Republic of Korea: Lessons Learned and Common Success Factors.

2.4. Institutional Setup

The institutional set-up for green public procurement in China involves multiple agencies and ministries. Several agencies and ministries are involved in the management of green procurement, including the Ministry of Environment Protection (MEP), the Ministry of Finance (MOF), the National Development and Reform Committee (NDRC), as well as various procurement centres at provincial and local levels.

At the national level, NDRC and MEP are leading and governing SPP practice, with the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) and MOF providing support in market coordinating and financing. Thus, these agencies are also responsible for formulating legal directives, laws, and guidelines for strategic development of SPP in China. The following sections detail the roles of the main actors and institutions. The institutional setup for GPP in China is also shown in Figure 1.

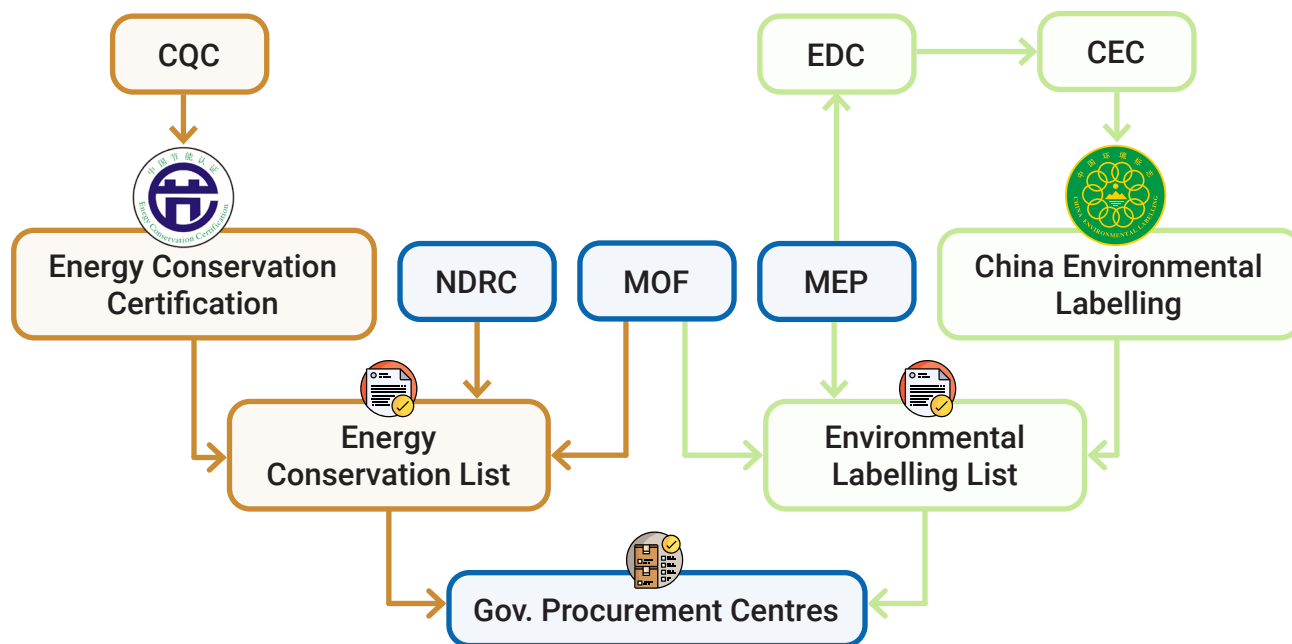


Figure 1 Institutional framework of GPP in China

2.5. National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC)

Since 2005, NDRC has been the leading body in an inter-ministerial coordination created by the State Council. The inter-ministerial coordination mechanism for tendering proceedings is responsible for the following duties:

- Evaluating the current tendering rules and exploring solutions to regulate bidding activities that involve multiple government departments
- Managing conflicts among various government departments related to overseeing the tendering processes
- Exchange of information
- Coordinating the promulgation of tendering regulations by different departments
- Communicating the enforcement of tendering rules
- Joint surveying and research
- Supervises the bidding activities of all government and state-owned enterprises (SOEs) that fall under the Bidding Law
- Manages and publishes the Energy Conservation Products (ECP) list together with MOF.

2.5.1. Ministry of Finance (MOF)

- Plays mostly supporting roles in many levels of the GPP process in China.
- Prepares the Centralised Purchasing (CP) Catalogue for the GPP programme.
- Jointly manages the **Energy Conservation Product List (ECL)** and the **Environmental Labelling Product List (ELP)** lists with NDRC and MEP.
- Set up central procurement centres in coordination with the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM).
- Provides support in market coordination and financing for the GPP programme.
- Centralises government procurement by defining the CP Catalogue, approved by the State Council and provincial governments.
- Supervises and supports other government departments in establishing their central procurement centres.
- Allocates procurement business among various procurement centres.
- Works with the financial departments of local governments to handle supplier complaints.
- Acts as the supervisory authority with a complete vision of overall public procurement procedures and chain of command.
- Serves as China's negotiator for accession to the World Trade Organization's Agreement on the Government Procurement trade agreement.
- Plays a major role in Chinese sustainable consumption policy by regularly publishing notices and rules of implementation for specific products since 2010.

2.5.2. Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP)

- MEP initiated the procurement of China ELPs. It manages and publishes the EPL list together with MOF.

2.5.3. Public Procurement Centres (PPCs)

In terms of institutional structure, SPP in China is organised centrally at the local level. Local Public Procurement Centres (PPCs) hold exclusive responsibility for all procurement activities, encompassing the provision of procurement information, facilitation of tender evaluations, and contract awarding. Consequently, PPCs, along with other government entities and public institutions, serve as the primary users engaged in procurement processes across China.⁴

Responsibilities of PPCs can be summarised as follows:

- Implementing procurement under central and local purchasing catalogues
- Coordinating and implementing the green procurement for Energy Conservation Products and Environmental Labelling Products as per the latest procurement list
- Checking whether the offered product models are listed in the compulsory categories. The bidding evaluation experts are required to check for the designated product models and manage the transfer of general policy guidelines into practical operation by PPCs.
- Managing the procurement process for public service units, including municipal administrations, public institutions, universities, hospitals, and State-owned Enterprises (SOEs)
- Operating at various government levels, with a significant focus on the county level
- Being subordinate to superior administration bureaus in charge of public procurement
- Developing procedures for internal management and communication with users and suppliers
- Functioning as procuring intermediaries without receiving GPP budgets directly from local financial departments.

4 Zhang et al. (2022). Managing Sustainable Public Procurement: A Nationwide Survey in China. Sustainability 14, 11955 <https://doi.org/10.3390/su141911955>

2.5.4. China Quality Certification Centre (CQC)

CQC oversees the execution of the Energy Conservation Scheme and collaborates with the NDCR in formulating the ECL.

2.5.5. China Environmental United Certification Centre (CEC)

CEC, the exclusive certification organisation for China Environmental Labelling, collaborates with the MEP in developing certification schemes and the Environmental Labelling Product List, holding an important role in environmental standards.

2.5.6. Environmental Development Centre (EDC)

EDC, under the Ministry of Environmental Protection, is a key research institution responsible for developing China's Environmental Labelling standards. It serves as the supervising body for the China Environmental Labelling logo, ensuring compliance and adherence to environmental standards nationwide.



2.6. Guidelines and Criteria

In China, the interplay between green public procurement (GPP) and ecolabels is the key for advancing environmentally conscious procurement practices. The GPP encompasses two integral components: the Environmental Labelling Product List (ELP) and the Energy Conservation Product List (ECL). These lists define the scope of government green procurement, detailing environmentally friendly and energy-saving products, and establish robust procedures, methods, and timelines. The government has enhanced these lists to broaden the GPP scope, emphasising the synergy between GPP and ecolabels. The relationship is underscored by the utilisation of specific criteria in these lists to inform procurement decisions based on environmental and energy-saving considerations.

On October 24, 2006, the Ministry of Finance (MOF) and the former State Environmental Protection Administration issued recommendations that marked the inception of Chinese Governmental Green Procurement (GGP). These documents define the procurement processes, categories, and regulations that support the acquisition of Environment Labelling Products. The 'Environmental Labelling Product List' is published through specific channels, in particular the Ministry of Finance (MOF) at www.mof.gov.cn, the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) at www.mep.gov.cn, the Centre of China Government Procurement at www.ccgp.gov.cn, and the China Green Procurement Net at www.cgpn.org. Lists can be downloaded by the public and any purchasing entity.⁵ Key features of the two procurement lists are summarised in Table 2.

⁵ Available at <https://www.oecd.org/governance/procurement/toolbox/search/china-best-practices-green-public-procurement-gpp-environmental-standards.pdf>, Accessed on 01.11.2023

Table 2 Key features of the two procurement lists, the Environment Labelling Product Public Purchasing List and the Environmental Labelling Product Procurement List.

Name	Energy Conservation Product List (ECL)	Environmental Labelling Product List (ELP)
Certification scheme	 Energy Conservation Certification	 China Environmental Labelling
Certification authority	China Quality Certification (CQC)	China Environmental United Certification Center (CEC)
Supporting ministries	MOF, NDRC, the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ)	MOF, MEP
Compulsory or preferential	Some products are compulsory	All products are voluntary
Beginning date	2004	2006
List of updating frequency	Twice yearly	Twice yearly
No. of product categories in the catalogue (as of 2019)⁶	18	50

2.7. Capacity Building, Training and Awareness Programme

The Ministry of Finance regularly conducts training in local government procurement agencies. Local provincial procurement centres also organise training workshops as necessary.

The Environmental Development Center (EDC) affiliated with the Ministry of Environmental Protection has initiated various conferences and established the Chinese Green Purchasing Network (CGPN) for promotion of GPP and sustainable consumption.

Concerning 'Green Printing', the MEP and the General Administration of Press and Publication (GAPP) have signed a cooperation agreement on Environmental Labelling of Green Printing. Green Printing handled all the textbooks used in primary and middle schools by the end of 2013. As of now, it covers more than 993 participating printing companies, while 500 million volumes of textbooks have been awarded the certification of 'China Environmental Labelling' (UNEP, 2017).

From 2009–2011, the SuPP-Urb (Sustainable Public Procurement in Urban Administrations in China) project introduced public procurement practices in the cities of Lanzhou, Qinhuangdao, and Tianjin with support from the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme. Impact assessments demonstrated the direct impact of the project in terms of reduced energy and water use, CO₂ emissions reduction, and oil and water savings. The changes in procurement practices of the three Public Procurement Centres (PPCs) led to CO₂ reductions of 105,749 tons, reduced waste of 34,418 tons, and oil and water savings amounting to 14,008 tons and 39,269 m³, respectively, over the entire period of implementation of the project (UNEP, 2017).

6 Available at <https://certrip.org/china-adjusted-its-government-green-procurement-policy/>, Accessed on 13.11.2023

2.8. Monitoring and Evaluation

China does not have a full-fledged monitoring system(OECD, 2014).⁷ Referring to the report 'Unlock G20's GPP Potential (2023)', the GPP monitoring framework of China is under development. Evaluation on GPP is found mostly in research papers and statistical reports from the Ministry of Finance.⁸

A study by Gao et al. (2022)⁹ analysing 42,369 public procurement documents from 2015–2020 in China revealed over 82% implementation of SPP, showcasing an upward trend. In particular, small and medium-sized enterprise-oriented procurement dominates, surpassing environmentally friendly options. The study highlights relationships between SPP levels and award methods, tender prices, and contract types. China's SPP is noticeably shifting towards an emphasis on social aspects, prompting discussions on policy implications and future research directions.

According to the data released by the Ministry of Finance of China in 2021(CEC, 2022)¹⁰, in 2020 China spent 81.35 billion yuan on environmentally labelled products, making up 85.5% of their purchases. Monitoring results from the China Environmental Certification Centre (CEC) for green public procurement in 2022 revealed positive results:

- Laptops and computers reduced CO₂ emissions by 1.7 million tons, equal to a forest's annual carbon absorption of 191 thousand hectares.
- Office furniture decreased VOCs (volatile organic compounds) by 149,000 tons, constituting 5% of China's petrochemical industry's annual VOC emissions.
- Paper contributed to significant reductions in Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD), Total Phosphorous (TP), and Ammonia Nitrogen (NH₃-N).

2.9. Collaboration and Partnerships

The China Environmental United Certification Centre (CEC) has carried out many cooperation projects with international organisations focusing on government procurement of environmental labelling products:

- The 'Sustainable Public Procurement 10 Year Framework Plan (SPP 10 YFP)', within the broader initiative of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), involves 100 global organisations. Launched in 2014 with MEP approval, the Environmental Development Center and CEC actively participate by contributing expertise, case studies, and feedback. This initiative successfully promotes global sustainable procurement practices and consumption.
- The Study on the Performances of China in Government Green Procurement in cooperation with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) has published its report to the international community.
- The component on public procurement in the 'Study on the Feasibility of Sustainable Measurement Reporting System in China' is a cooperation project with The Sustainability Consortium.
- In 2005, the [International Green Purchasing Network \(IGPN\)](#) came into existence with the mission of fostering global Green Purchasing practices. It serves as a collaborative platform for a diverse array of stakeholders, including international organisations, businesses, governmental bodies, local authorities, and NGOs, all of which play proactive roles in the implementation of Green Purchasing. Since 2018, the China Environmental United Certification Centre (CEC) has assumed the responsibility of hosting the IGPN Secretariat. This move underscores China's commitment to advancing GPP and actively participating in the exchange of knowledge and experiences on an international scale.

7 Available at <https://www.oecd.org/governance/procurement/toolbox/search/china-best-practices-green-public-procurement-gpp-environmental-standards.pdf>, Accessed on 14.11.2023.

8 Available at <https://t20ind.org/research/unlocking-the-g20s-green-public-procurement-potential/>, Accessed on 15.11.2023.

9 Gao et al. (2022). Implementation of sustainable public procurement in China: An assessment using quantitative text analysis in large-scale tender documents. *Front. Environ. Sci.* 10:947962. doi: 10.3389/fenvs.2022.947962

10 Available at https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/40135/GPPM_China.pdf?sequence=1, Accessed on 14.11.2023.

- Launched in 2021, China's Sustainable Procurement programme, in collaboration with UNDP, Qingpu District Government, and the China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchanges, aims to address environmental challenges and promote green practices. It focuses on supporting smaller Chinese firms, providing resources, and enabling participation in global public procurement, fostering international collaboration.¹¹

2.10. Notes

- The regulatory framework established by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Finance offers clear guidance for procuring green products listed in the Energy Conservation and Environmental Labelling Products categories.
- The Environmental Labelling Programme (ELP) is regularly updated, reducing the burden of establishing green performance standards for individual purchasing agencies.
- The Energy Conservation and China Environmental Labelling certifications provide strong incentives for manufacturers to design and produce environmentally friendly products, successfully driving the transformation of the marketplace.

¹¹ Available at <https://procurementmag.com/sustainable-sourcing/china-launches-un-backed-sustainable-procurement-programme>, Accessed on 20.11.2023.

3. Lao PDR



POLICY

Lao PDR launched the GPP Roadmap and Action Plan for Lao PDR in 2023



KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

- Political commitment: GPP is one of the priority activities in the Sustainable Consumption and Production Roadmap of Lao PDR 2022-2025, and Vision 2030.
- Institutional setup: The Ministry of Finance leads the effort, with coordination from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.



AMBITION

Lao PDR aims to establish its Green Label and operationalize GPP.



FOCUS

Electronics, electric, organic agricultural products (possibly through existing labelling)

3.1. Introduction

In line with the 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan and the National Green Growth Strategy of LAO People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), the government is committed to a sustainable transformation. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) endorsed a Sustainable Consumption and Production Roadmap, prioritising Green Public Procurement (GPP) led by the Ministry of Finance (MOF). The *GPP Roadmap and Action Plan for Lao PDR* launched in 2023, supported by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), reflects significant progress. Legal foundations like the *Prime Minister’s Decree No. 03/PM* and the *Public Procurement Law* support GPP. While monitoring frameworks are pending, collaborations with Team Europe and GIZ support Laos in its green economic pursuits. The country hopes to establish a Green Label, learning from global experiences and fostering international partnerships, as well as showcasing a holistic sustainability approach.

3.2. Policy Development

The 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2021–2025) and the National Green Growth Strategy to 2030 highlight the commitment to transform Lao PDR’s development platform into one that is green and sustainable. This transformation involves sectoral planning, particularly in the Natural Resources and Environment sector. The waste management framework is a key component of the sustainable consumption and production platform, aligning with environment target 3 of the 5-year work plan (2021–2025) for Green and Sustainable Development in the Natural Resources and Environment sector.

In May 2022, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) endorsed the **Sustainable Consumption and Production Roadmap of Lao PDR 2022–2025, the Vision 2030**. The development was supported by EU SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Advocacy Component. Green Public Procurement is one of the priority activities of the roadmap. The objective of public green procurement is to have government agencies as the primary procurers of environmentally friendly products and services, aligning with the United

Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 12.7 on promoting sustainable procurement. The initiatives will engage stakeholders at various levels, from central to local, to evaluate procurement scenarios, formulate action plans for green procurement, institute policies, and distribute guidelines. The Ministry of Finance (MOF) is leading the effort, with coordination from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and other pertinent institutions.

The Lao Government has made major progress regarding GPP policy framework development. In 2023, with support from GIZ, the Lao Government launched the **GPP Roadmap and Action Plan for Lao PDR** and a **Communication Strategy for Promoting Green Product/Services**.

3.3. Legal and Regulatory Framework

The Prime Minister's Decree No. 03/PM (2004) outlines rules for government procurement, ensuring efficiency, transparency, and equality among economic sectors. The *Law on Public Procurement No. 30/NA (2017, 2019)* provides detailed guidelines for procurement planning, thresholds, timelines, procedures, and more. *Article 4* of the Public Procurement Law stipulates that the government promotes public procurement by protecting consumer rights and preserving the environment for green sustainability. The decree and the public procurement law provide the basis for initiating Green Public Procurement (GPP).¹² With assistance from GIZ the country is currently in the process of drafting a Guidance Note to support the implementation of GPP.

While Green Public Procurement has not been implemented in Lao PDR, supporting initiatives like *National Assembly no.10/PO (1999)* and the *SME Development Plan 2016–2020* encourage green production. The Law on the Processing Industry No. 01-99/NA focuses on expanding processing industries, linking them with agro-forestry, and improving living standards while considering environmental impact.

3.4. Institutional Setup

The Government of Laos has strategically established committees and bodies to drive sustainable development initiatives. The overall institutional setup for SDGs and GPP-related is presented in Figure 2.

The National Steering Committee for SDG Implementation, chaired by the Prime Minister, consists of 26 members from relevant ministries and organisations. This committee is responsible for overseeing the coordination and implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP) and sectoral development plans of various ministries. Its mandate includes monitoring and evaluating the results of SDG implementation, with a focus on achieving goals by the year 2030.

The National SDG Secretariat, appointed by the National Steering Committee for SDG Implementation, operates within the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI). It collaborates with line ministries to monitor SDG progress, fostering partnerships with UN agencies and development partners to accelerate the 2030 Agenda objectives.

The Government of Laos has also established the **Green Growth National Steering Committee (GGNSC)** mandated with overseeing green growth planning; implementation of programmes, policies, and projects; and monitoring. The GGNSC is chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister/Minister of Finance, operationalised by MPI. Members of GGNSC include representatives from MONRE, MFA, Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM), Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC), and Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT).

As outlined in the National SCP Action Plan, the **Ministry of Finance (MOF)** assumes a key role in leading GPP within the country. Functioning as the authoritative body, MOF holds right and power over the public procurement policy development. To operationalise these policies, MOF appointed the **State Budget Department (SBD)** to implement policies, strategies, laws, and legislation pertaining to state budget operations and procurement with state funds. Additionally, SBD engages in ongoing research, formulation, and enhancement of subordinate legislation, while diligently monitoring the implementation of procurement activities in alignment with established laws and regulations.

12 GIZ (2021). Analysis Study – National Green Public Procurement and Environmental Labels in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam, and Bhutan (https://www.thai-german-cooperation.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021_Analysis-Study-GPPEL-in-five-countries_SCP-Outreach_Final.pdf).

The **Department of Pollution Control and Monitoring (PDCM)** under **MONRE** leads collaboration among central and local sectors to conduct research, classify policies, and implement regulations for controlling pollutants. Additionally, PDCM works with relevant sectors to enhance business responsibility for pollutant emissions, pollution load control, and it also conducts training to support effective enforcement.

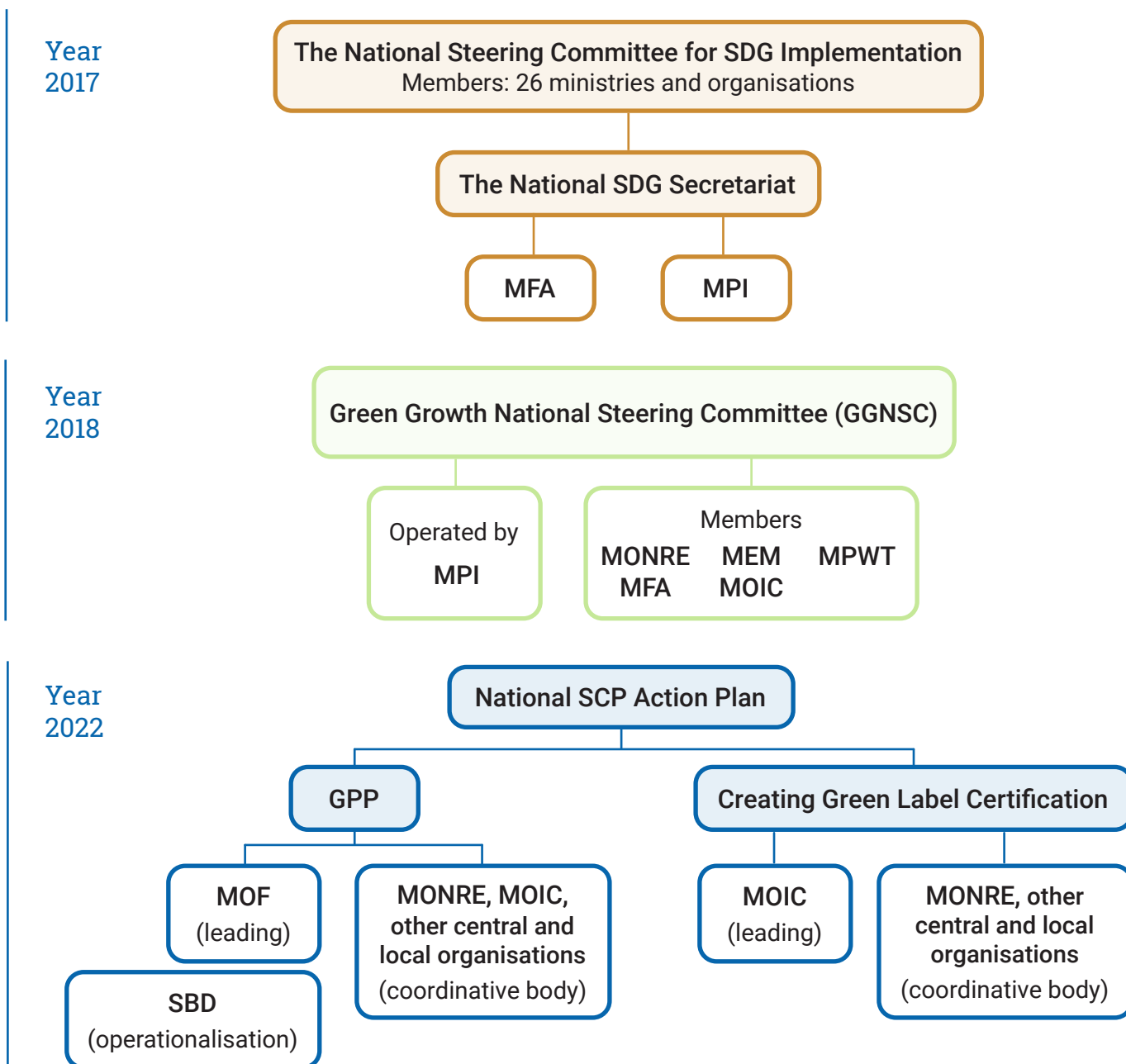


Figure 2 Institutional framework related to SDGs and GPP in Lao PDR

3.5. Guidelines and Criteria

Laos has established the **National Standards on Energy Efficiency and Labelling Programme**, which were adopted from the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) standards. These standards are being used with 50 electrical and electronics products. The **National Organic Standards** of Laos is the other national standard aiming to foster Clean Agriculture in the agriculture and forestry sectors, aligning with the Agriculture Law in Lao PDR. The standards are derived from the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) Basic Standards and the organic standards of the Organic Agriculture Certification of Thailand (ACT) (GIZ, 2021).¹³

13 GIZ (2021). Analysis Study – National Green Public Procurement and Environmental Labels in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam, and Bhutan (https://www.thai-german-cooperation.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021_Analysis-Study-GPPEL-in-five-countries_SCP-Outreach_Final.pdf).

The market of Laos features ecolabels taken primarily from international certification bodies like the **Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)** and **Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)**, focusing on forest management. Additionally, the **TCO Certified** label is prevalent in IT products (GIZ, 2021).¹³

Laos currently does not have its own national ecolabelling programme. As per the Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Roadmap, the country aims to establish its own Green Label. With support from GIZ providing essential knowledge and capacity-building to empower the government to establish and manage ecolabelling initiatives independently and sustainably, the Government of Laos (GoL) is in the process of learning from other countries such as Thailand, Japan, and Germany.

3.6. Capacity building, training programme, awareness campaigns

Training workshops and capacity-building sessions on GPP have been provided to GoL through support from international development partners such as GIZ and the World Bank.

3.7. Monitoring and evaluation

As of now, there is no established monitoring and evaluation framework for GPP.

3.8. Collaboration and partnerships

Laos has been financially and technically supported by many international development partners in developing their policies, such as the National Green Growth Strategy, developed with assistance of the World Bank in 2019, for example. As part of the 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan of Lao PDR, the European Union, along with Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Luxembourg, and Switzerland (Team Europe), pledged EUR 550 million for a green and inclusive economy, human capital development, and good governance. Their strategy for 2021–2025 focuses on six sectors, including agriculture, education, and health. The National SCP Action Plan was developed with technical assistance of the EU SWITCH-Asia programme during 2020–2021.¹⁴

Regarding GPP, the Government of Laos collaborates with the GIZ regional project ‘Proliferation of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in Asia – [the Next 5](#) (SCP Outreach)’ to launch GPP and ecolabelling initiatives. This involves technical assistance, capacity-building, and knowledge sharing. The endorsed GPP Roadmap and Action Plan in 2023 are currently being operationalised through ongoing activities.

3.9. Notes

- Laos demonstrates commitment to transforming its development platform into one that is green and sustainable, as outlined in the 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan and the National Green Growth Strategy to 2030.
- The collaborative effort between the Government of Laos and international development partners has resulted in rapid progress in the implementation of GPP. This joint effort signifies a commitment to sustainable practices, aligning with global environmental goals. The support from international partners, such as GIZ and the European Union, has played a pivotal role in shaping and advancing the GPP agenda within the country, reflecting a collaborative approach to fostering green and inclusive economic development.

¹⁴ Available at <https://dicf.unepgrid.ch/lao-peoples-democratic-republic/green-economy>, Accessed on 22.11.2023.

4. Malaysia



POLICY

Malaysia started Green Government Procurement (GGP) in 2013.



KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

- Robust inter-ministerial coordination mechanism for GGP implementation, bringing together the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology, and Water.
- Financial mechanisms: The Ministry of Finance receives the estimated value of green procurement for aggregation and budget allocation; fiscal incentive programs incentivize industries for research, design, and development of green technology.



AMBITION

Implement Malaysia's long-term Action Plan for GGP in the construction sector with a detailed work plan.



FOCUS

Construction materials, ICT equipment, air-conditioning systems, cleaning services, office stationery.

4.1. Introduction

Malaysia has been one of the foremost countries in the Asia-Pacific region to leverage power of procurement to transform its market, leading to sustainable consumption and production. In 2013, Malaysia launched Green Government Procurement (GGP), which is defined as

*the acquisition of products, services and work in the public sector that takes into account environmental criteria and standards to conserve the natural environment and resources, which minimises and reduces the negative impacts of human activities.*¹⁵

Though it appears from the definition that Malaysia prioritises economic and environment pillars of sustainable development while using public procurement, its GGP policy also promotes Bumiputra entrepreneurs (affirmative action to support the Malay and indigenous people) to achieve broader national objectives and equitable growth. Its commitment to promote green technology and eco-products is reflected in its policies, strategies and institutions that converge to promote green procurement.

4.2. Policy Development

Malaysia does not have an overarching legislation for the governance of public procurement; the national public procurement system is characterised by a series of circulars and regulations based on fundamental principle of transparency, competition, and efficiency. The 10th Malaysia plan put emphasis on adopting appropriate pricing, regulatory and strategic policies to safeguard natural resources for ensuring the sustainability of growth. The plan highlighted the role of government procurement in promoting the growth of local industries through the maximum use of local materials and resources for achieving socio-economic and development objectives. It also encouraged participation of Bumiputra entrepreneurs to achieve equitable growth.

¹⁵ Available at <https://www.myhijau.my/green-procurement/>, Accessed on 23.11.2023.

However, it was only after integration of the Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) concept in the 11th Malaysia Plan 2016–2020 to promote resource efficiency, protect the natural environment and achieve green growth, that GGP became one of the 10 distinct pathways to achieve the visions enshrined in the National SCP Blueprint 2016–2030. Thus it can be seen that Malaysia's GGP programme is fully embedded in its national SCP Blueprint for achieving long-term national policy objectives.

4.3. Legal and Regulatory Framework

In 2014, the Ministry of Finance issued a circular on GGP with the aim of raising awareness of GGP among the participating ministries and running a pilot on GGP in these ministries. The 11th Malaysia Plan 2016–2020 made GGP mandatory for some ministries and their agencies, and set the target of 20% in government procurement to be green procurement by the year 2020 for selected groups of products and services for which a Malaysia ecolabel existed.¹⁶ It was aimed to create demand for greener products and services, encouraging industries to raise the standard and quality of products to meet the green criteria specified in the ecolabel. In 2016, the Ministry of Finance issued the GGP Long-Term Action Plan 2016–2030 and extended the coverage of GGP to 12 ministries and their agencies, and later to all 25 ministries and their agencies in 2017. Various GGP initiatives related to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), labelling, a green products and services directory and procurement are integrated into one overarching programme: *MyHIJAU*, under the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA).

At present, only the federal government and its agencies come under the scope of circulars issued by the Ministry of Finance on GGP. State and local governments are not mandated to implement GGP.

Malaysia has also developed a long-term Action Plan for GGP in the construction sector with a detailed work plan.

4.4. Institutional Setup

A crucial aspect of Malaysia's success in green procurement implementation is its well-defined institutional setup (see Figure 3, below). Malaysia has established a robust inter-ministerial coordination mechanism for GGP implementation. At the top level, the GGP Steering Committee is jointly chaired by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water, who are jointly responsible for reviewing, monitoring and evaluating GGP implementation and providing strategic directions. A GGP Working Group supports the GGP Steering Committee in discharging its responsibility, identifying additional product groups for GGP implementation, and creating capacity-building programmes to enhance the efficiency of GGP implementation. Besides, there is a GGP Core Team comprised of members from all relevant ministries to develop action plans to be proposed to the GGP Working Group for approval. Members of the GGP Core Team have different responsibilities. For example, the Ministry of Finance (MOF) is responsible for formulating policy for GGP implementation. The Malaysian Green Technology Corporation (MGTC) under the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water is responsible for identifying green products and services, organising training and awareness raising, and providing technical support to ministries and their agencies for GGP implementation. SIRIM QAS International is responsible for developing ecolabel criteria to support GGP implementation.

A GGP Committee has been established at each ministry and agency level to coordinate within the ministry in formulating the Green Procurement Plan, a sub-task of the annual procurement plan. Apart from other details, this committee also has information on the estimated value of green procurement which is submitted to Ministry of Finance for aggregation and budget allocation. This ensures that sufficient budget is allocated to the various ministries for purchasing products and services as per criteria.

Malaysia also has two fiscal incentive programmes, namely the Green Technology Incentive and the Green Technology Financing Schemes to incentivise industries for research, design and the development of green technology to promote sustainable investment and GGP.

The above arrangements show that there are clear channels of communication as well as reporting structures to facilitate efficient coordination among stakeholders, fostering a collaborative environment for the effective implementation of GGP.

¹⁶ Available at <https://www.mgtc.gov.my/what-we-do/my-hijau/government-green-procurement/> Accessed on 27.11.2023

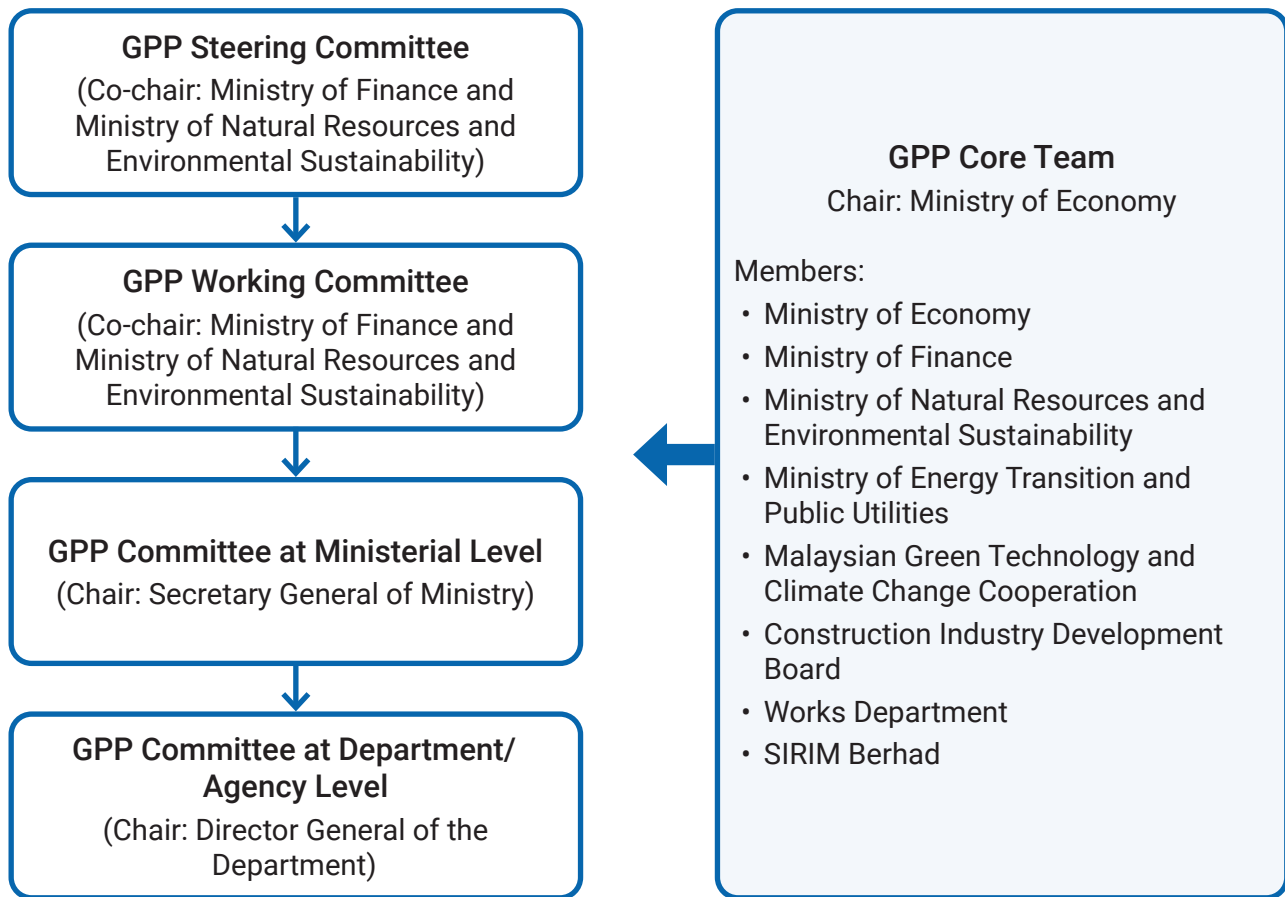


Figure 3 Current Institutional framework of GPP in Malaysia

4.5. Guidelines and Criteria

As noted above, the GPP Working Committee was set up to formulate GPP related policy and strategies, to draft GPP action plans, as well as to coordinate and evaluate GPP implementation at the various ministries and agencies. The Guidelines for Government Procurers, published in 2014, provides useful information on how to integrate environmental criteria at each stage of the procurement process. In 2020, the third edition of the GPP Guidelines was published covering updated GPP criteria for 40 green products and services, such as information and communication technology (ICT) equipment, air-conditioning systems, and cleaning services.¹⁷ A tool has also been developed for calculating life-cycle cost.

There is a step-by-step process for selecting prioritised products and services for GPP implementation, which has been approved by the GPP Steering Committee. When selecting criteria for greener products and services, the GPP Steering Committee pays attention to economic relevance, expected impact, existence of eco-labels and standards, and market readiness. GPP Criteria are well aligned with various Type 1 Eco-Labeling Schemes, both nationally and internationally. Regular updates ensure that the criteria remain aligned with evolving environmental standards and market practices, enabling procurement officers to make informed and sustainable choices.

4.6. Capacity Building, Training and Awareness Programme

Recognising the need for trained, knowledgeable procurers, Malaysia has implemented a comprehensive capacity-building and awareness programme.

The MGTC under the MyHIJAU Procurement Programme organised several workshops, published a booklet on GPP to create awareness among procurers, and conducted the Training of Trainers programme. Such capacity-building and learning opportunities are held on an annual basis in all ministries. MGTC also conducts

¹⁷ Available at <https://www.myhijau.my/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/GPP-Guidelines-3.0.pdf> Accessed on 23.11.2023

GPP clinics for the private sector to inform them of GPP requirements and to enhance their understanding of the GPP process. It also has a Green Academy dedicated to training people in green technology.¹⁸

All these initiatives demonstrate that Malaysia has an extensive awareness programme targeting both internal and external stakeholders, creating a shared understanding of the benefits of green procurement and fostering a collective commitment to sustainability.

4.7. Monitoring and Evaluation

A robust monitoring and evaluation framework is in place to gauge the impact and effectiveness of the GPP implementation in Malaysia. The Ministry of Finance has stipulated a mandatory format for reporting on GPP implementation by all ministries on the 40 products and services groups. All ministries are required to report the progress of GPP implementation to MGTC bi-annually. MGTC compiles and analyses the data from various ministries and presents the results to the GPP Steering Committee.

The Ministry of Finance has integrated an e-Government Procurement system to track progress on GPP implementation. This system measures GPP procurement value and GPP procurement as a percentage of total procurement for selected product groups. According to the 12th Malaysia Plan document, the progress of GPP implementation in Malaysia at the end of 2020 was 20.7% against the target of 20.0%.¹⁹ Potential CO₂ emissions reductions as a result of buying greener products are also measured.

4.8. Collaboration and Partnership

Malaysia's green procurement journey is characterised by active collaboration and partnerships with various stakeholders, including non-profit organisations (NGOs). Green Procurement Network (GPN) Malaysia has played a very active role in bringing together the government and industries on a common platform for creating awareness among industries and scaling up GPP implementation in the country.

4.9. Notes

Despite several challenges in GPP implementation, Malaysia has emerged as one of the pioneering countries in the region in terms of advances in green procurement. Some of the key learnings from the Malaysia GPP implementation experiences are:

- The GPP programme is part of the Malaysia Development Plans as stated in the 11th Malaysia Plan
- A mandatory GPP programme has been key to Malaysia's success in green procurement implementation
- A strong institutional mechanism is needed to ensure inter-ministerial coordination on green procurement implementation
- Development of the Guidelines for Government Procurers and its regular revisions has played a crucial role in implementing GPP policy at ground level
- Capacity-building initiatives aimed at empowering procurers with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the complexities of sustainable procurement is essential
- A fiscal incentive programme to support the greening of industries helps in addressing supply-side constraints with regard to greener products and services.

18 Available at <https://www.mgtc.gov.my/what-we-do/green-academy-old/green-academy/> Accessed on 23.11.2023

19 12th Malaysia Plan 2021–2025, Available at <https://pulse.icdm.com.my/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Twelfth-Plan-Documents-compressed-1.pdf>, Accessed on 27.11.2023

5. Thailand



POLICY

The Thai government started the first GPP Promotion Plan



KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

- Thailand's GPP engaged diverse stakeholders in policy development and criteria formulation, fostering a collaborative effort for strengthened sustainable procurement practices.
- The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment leads GPP implementation, seeking collaboration with the Ministry of Finance to expedite the lengthy process of revising regulations.



AMBITION

Push forward for the mandatory implementation of GPP, as well as monitoring and reporting of the GPP implementation.



FOCUS

Building and construction materials, hotels, ICT products, vehicles, cleaning services, office stationery.

5.1. Introduction

Thailand's commitment to Green Public Procurement (GPP) dates back to 2005, when the Pollution Control Department (PCD) initiated GPP within the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MONRE). This commitment has been consistently reinforced through various national plans, and the recent approval of the 4th GPP Promotion Plan (2022–2027) further demonstrates the country's dedication to expanding GPP. While the legal framework for GPP is under development, the government has issued regulations promoting environmentally friendly procurement. Key agencies, including the PCD, the Ministry of Finance (MOF), and the Ministry of Industry (Mol), are collaborating to drive GPP, utilising ecolabels and fostering international partnerships to advance sustainable consumption and production (SCP). The comprehensive GPP framework in Thailand, guided by evolving plans and collaborations, showcases a proactive approach to integrating green practices into public procurement.

5.2. Policy Development

Since 2005, the Government of Thailand has actively promoted Green Public Procurement. The Pollution Control Department (PCD) took the lead in developing Green Public Procurement and initiated pilot activities within the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MONRE).

In 2007, green public procurement became part of the 10th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2007–2011) and the Environmental Quality Management Plan (2007–2011) in response to increasing awareness of green public procurement policy. The 10th plan emphasised the role of the Government sector as a leader in Green Procurement to foster appropriate markets for environmental products and services. GPP has consistently been included in the 11th, 12th, and the 13th National Economic and Social Development Plans (2023–2027).

On January 22, 2008, the cabinet resolution approved the **1st Green Public Procurement Promotion Plan (2008–2011)** for the Central Government. The plan aimed to foster and kickstart the implementation of green public procurement within the Government sector, supported by efficient tools.

In 2012, the draft for the **2nd Green Public Procurement Promotion Plan (2013–2016)** was formulated to extend the scope of green public procurement from the central to local authorities, the private sector, and the general public. Although awaiting Cabinet resolution after approval by the National Environment Board, the PCD had already initiated GPP activities under the plan. The primary objectives of the 2nd Plan were to encourage governmental agencies to implement GPP, support the private sector in green production, and boost the presence of green products in the market to promote sustainable consumption.

In 2016, the Thai government formulated the National SCP Roadmap (2017–2037), obtaining approval from the National Committee on Sustainable Development in 2017. This roadmap serves as a guideline to enhance capacity in resource efficiency, inclusive growth, and greenhouse gas emission reduction, with Green Public Procurement (GPP) identified as one of the prioritised sectors under the roadmap.

From 2017 to 2021, GPP implementation continued without the official approval of the 3rd GPP Promotion Plan due to some changes in approval protocols of the Thai government. However, on May 11, 2022, the National Environment Board approved **the 4th GPP Promotion Plan (2022–2027)**, supported by the EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility. The plan aims to increase the number of participating agencies, encompassing central and local government agencies, state enterprises, public institutions, and government educational institutions. The targets include boosting the proportion of green procurement in both monetary terms and the number of procured products and services.

5.3. Legal and Regulatory Framework

While Thailand lacks specific regulations on Green Public Procurement (GPP), the policy framework's development, particularly the GPP Promotion policy, had consequences. In 2020, the Ministry of Finance responded by issuing the *Ministerial Regulation: Prescribing Procurement and Contracting Methods for Goods and Services to be Promoted or Supported by the State (Version 2) B.E. 2563*. This regulation provides guidelines and procedures for the procurement and contracting of goods and services intended to be promoted or supported by the Thai government. Article 7/2 of this regulation specifies that environmentally friendly products listed by the Pollution Control Department are those the state aims to promote or support.

5.4. Institutional Setup

Green Public Procurement (GPP) is initiated by the **Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MONRE)**, with the **Pollution Control Department (PCD)** leading the implementation of the GPP Promotion Plan. Four committees oversee GPP (Figure 4), including the **Pollution Control Board, GPP Promotion Sub-committee, GPP Technical Subcommittee, and Subcommittee for Green Product and Service Registration**. The Pollution Control Board approves GPP Plans and criteria, while the GPP Promotion Sub-committee approves additional product categories and criteria. The GPP Technical Subcommittee develops criteria, proposes them to the Pollution Control Board, coordinates testing methodologies, and oversees the GPP implementation in collaboration with the GPP Promotion Subcommittee.

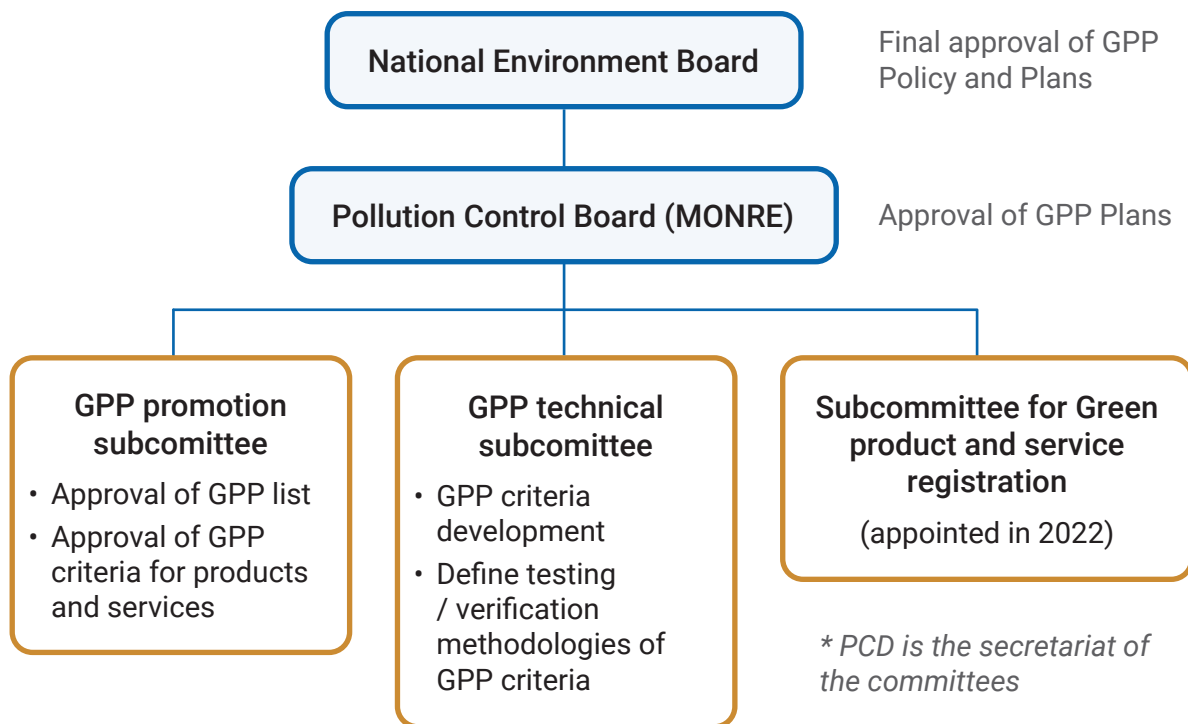


Figure 4 Institutional framework of GPP in Thailand²⁰

Pollution Control Department (PCD), operating under the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MONRE), initiates Thailand’s pilot GPP programme. PCD takes charge of product selection and the formulation of GPP products and services criteria. PCD plays a key role in the GPP implementation, monitoring and reporting, overseeing evaluation, adjustments, and the potential expansion of the programme to other government agencies. PCD is also the secretariat of GPP Promotion Subcommittee and GPP Technical Subcommittee.

Ministry of Finance (MOF): The **Controller General’s Department (CGD)** is the main agency involved in green public procurement. Responsible for establishing procurement rules and regulations, CGD allocates budgets to government agencies and oversees budget expenditures. Since 2008, following the approval of the GPP Promotion Plans, the Controller General’s Department (CGD) has consistently issued letters to all government agencies. Aligned with the Regulations of the office of the Prime Minister on Procurement, these letters encourage the procurement of environmentally friendly products and services, aiming to enhance support for the GPP Promotion Plan. In 2020, the Ministry of Finance (MOF) introduced a regulation titled *Prescribing Procurement and Contracting Methods for Goods and Services to be Promoted or Supported by the State (Version 2) B.E. 2563*. This regulation provides guidelines and procedures for the procurement and contracting of environmentally friendly goods and services that are intended to be promoted or supported by the Thai government.

Ministry of Industry (MOI): The **Department of Industrial Work (DIW)** is instrumental in advancing sustainable production at the industry level. The MOI extends support to manufacturers, aiding them in enhancing processes and products to meet the criteria for GPP.

Department of Industrial Promotion (DIP) is tasked with promoting and nurturing the industrial sector in Thailand. The DIP actively supports GPP by encouraging manufacturers with green production facilities and the production of green products to meet the qualifications for GPP.

Department of Climate Change and Environment (DCCE) significantly contributes to promoting awareness of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) among the general public, municipalities, and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) through various initiatives. These include capacity-building programmes, project implementation, and public relations campaigns.

20 Modified from PCD (2023). Meeting document – GPP Promotion Subcommittee Meeting 1/2566.

Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI) is the national standards body of Thailand. The TISI, in co-operation with the Thailand Environment Institution (TEI), manages the Thai Green Label Scheme.

Thailand Environmental Institute (TEI) is an NGO which plays many key roles for climate protection, emissions reduction, and sustainable consumption and production such as research, project implementation, consultation and organisation of trainings on environmental topics. The TEI is the secretariat for the Thai Green Label.

5.5. Guidelines and Criteria

The Pollution Control Department holds the responsibility for the development and updating of the GPP guidelines.

Ecolabels play a crucial role in Thailand's GPP by serving as tools that enable procurement officers to easily identify green products. In Thailand, similarly to many countries, ecolabels were established before the initiation of green public procurement, acting as reference sources for GPP criteria for products and services. Notably, the Thai Green Label (TGL) is Thailand's first environmental labelling programme, established in 1993. It follows Type-1 Environmental Labelling standards according to ISO 14024.

During the initial phase of GPP implementation, the **Thai Green Label (TGL)** product criteria served as a reference for developing GPP criteria (Green Cart). **Green Leaf** Certification criteria were used as reference for GPP criteria for accommodation services (hotels). However, variations arose due to differences in the strictness of environmental criteria, given the limited number of TGL-certified products for the GPP market. TGL-certified products and Green Leaf certified hotels are considered as aligned with GPP criteria and can be registered in the GPP catalogue. Products without one of those two certifications must submit documents and test reports according to GPP criteria for PCD verification and approval before being listed in the GPP catalogue. Over time, the number of TGL-certified products and Green Leaf certified hotels in the market has increased following the implementation of the GPP Promotion Plans.

The first GPP list of Thailand in 2008 included 14 products and 3 services for which the criteria were developed by the Pollution Control Department. Most of them relate to government office activities such as stationery, passenger cars, cleaning services, etc. Then, in the second phase of the GPP Promotion Plan, the Technical Subcommittee was appointed and tasked to be responsible for GPP criteria development. The Technical Subcommittee consists of representatives from government agencies, laboratories, NGOs, the private sector, experts from environmental institutions and related agencies for selected products and services.







In response to the growing demand for and trend towards green consumption, the government aims to broaden the GPP list to encompass more products and to accelerate the development of GPP criteria, along with the registration of green products in the GPP catalogue. Additional ecolabel certifications, such as **G-Mark** for Green Hotel, **Cool Mode** for clothes and fabric, and **Carbon Footprint Reduction Label**, have been integrated into the GPP list. Table 3 provides a summary of the accepted ecolabels for the Thai GPP list.

In order to facilitate the registration of green products into the GPP Catalogue, PCD and TEI signed a Memorandum of Understanding in March 2022, allowing certified Thai Green Label products to be included in the GPP Catalogue of the PCD. The TGL criteria will be used as a requirement for registering environmentally friendly products and services with the Department of Pollution Control.

As of March 2023, the GPP catalogue comprised a list of 44 product categories, covering approximately 1700 registered products.²¹ The GPP Catalogue is available online through the website <http://gp.pcd.go.th/> (available in Thai language only).

21 Pollution Control Department 2023. Report - GPP Promotion Subcommittee Meeting 1/2566 (in Thai).

Table 3 Summary of accepted ecolabels for the Thai GPP list

Ecolabel/ Certification	Logo	Description	Scheme owner
Type I Ecolabel and certifications		Thai Green Label (Products and services)	Thailand Environment Institute (TEI)
		Green Leaf (Hotels)	Green Leaf Foundation
		G-Mark (Hotels)	Department of Climate Change and Environment (DCCE)
		Environmental Management System (some services)	
Green Cart		Cool Mode (Clothes and fabric)	Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (TGO)
		Products and services verified by PCD according to GPP criteria	Pollution Control Department (PCD)
Alternative ecolabel		Carbon Footprint Reduction Label	Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (TGO)

5.6. Capacity building, training programme, awareness campaigns

The Pollution Control Department consistently conducts GPP training for government procurement officers, offering information on the GPP Handbook, life-cycle costing, environmental costing tools, and providing a reporting platform. Since 2009, outstanding agencies have received the Green Public Procurement 'Recognition Award' based on submitted results. Additionally, a Reward Scheme has been implemented, recognising offices with commendable GPP performance and manufacturers/service providers who consistently deliver green products/services.

Social media and online applications are now extensively used to disseminate knowledge and facilitate communication about GPP activities. The Pollution Control Department offers real-time support to procurement officers, addressing any queries they may have about GPP. This digital approach enhances accessibility and ensures timely assistance in navigating GPP processes.

5.7. Monitoring and evaluation

The PCD is in charge of collecting data on GPP performance and reporting to the Pollution Control Board annually. The **GPP reporting platform** for the procurement officers is available online at <http://gp.pcd.go.th/>. The latest GPP implementation report for the fiscal year 2022 (October 2021–September 2022, Pollution Control Department, 2023) can be summarised as follows:

- Number of participating agencies:
 - 82% of the central government agencies, state enterprises, public companies, and universities participate in the GPP programme. This is above the 2022 target, which was set at 80%.
 - 13% of local government agencies participate in the GPP programme. This is below the 2022 target, which was set at 60%.

- According to data from the department's website (<http://gp.pcd.go.th/>), there were a total of 3471 environmentally friendly procurement and purchasing activities in various categories, with a total value of 217.8 million Baht, or 49% of the total value of all procurement and purchasing activities carried out by participating agencies. The estimated reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from these activities is 1,908,818 kgCO₂e, which is equivalent to reducing emissions from 1908 cars per year.

It is important to note that the data submitted to PCD represents only 13% of participating agencies, thus potentially not fully capturing the actual progress. This underscores the need for GPP Thailand to enhance monitoring, reporting, and impact measurement processes for more comprehensive insights and for a more accurate representation of advancements.

5.8. Collaboration and partnerships

The Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment (MONRE), spearheading Sustainable Consumption and Production under SDG12, collaborates extensively with international organisations on SCP initiatives and GPP. Notable collaborations include:

- **German Government (GIZ Thailand):** Since 2010, GIZ Thailand has supported Thailand's GPP and ecolabelling implementation
- **EU SWITCH-Asia:** In 2016, EU SWITCH-Asia assisted in developing Thailand's SCP Roadmap, providing an overarching framework for GPP implementation
- **Asia Pacific Green Public Procurement Partnership Project:** In 2017–2018, funded by Korea Environmental Industry and Technology (KEITI) and UNEP under the 10YFP22 on SCP, this project supported GPP in Thailand, focusing on criteria for construction materials, incentive mechanisms, and awareness-raising
- **EU SWITCH-Asia (2020–2022):** Collaborating with MONRE departments, Federation of Thai Industry (FTI), and EU SWITCH-Asia developed the 4th GPP Promotion Plan (2022–2027) and integrated a vendor-registration system into the Thai Green Directory platform
- **Collaboration between PCD and Thailand Environment Institute (TEI)** in 2022 on incorporating Thai Green Label certified products and services into the GPP list managed by the PCD. This collaboration aims to seamlessly integrate green products into the GPP initiative, aligning efforts to promote SCP practices.

5.9. Notes

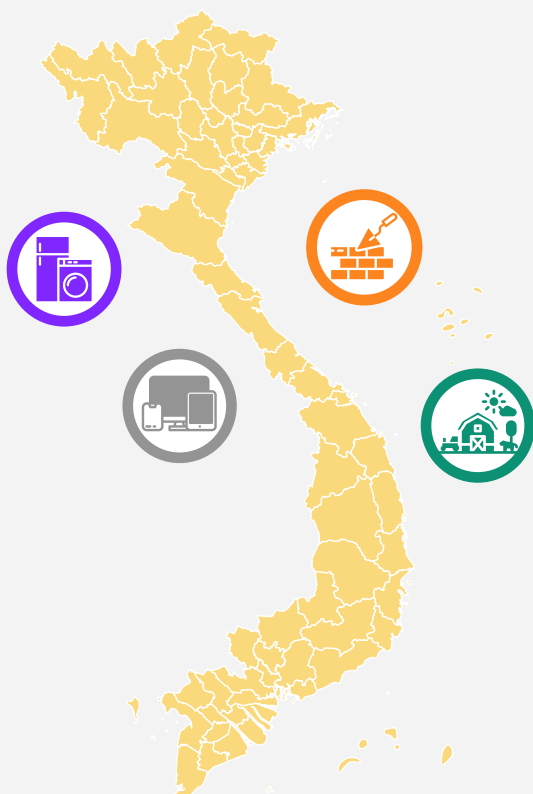
Thailand's GPP implementation excels in stakeholder engagement, fostering active participation from diverse stakeholders throughout policy development and GPP criteria formulation. This inclusive approach ensures a collaborative effort, strengthening sustainable procurement practices in the country.

The voluntary nature of GPP implementation in Thailand has resulted in less than 15% of agencies submitting procurement reports to the Pollution Control Department, raising concerns about limited participation and hindering sustainability goals. The current GPP Promotion Plan aims to make GPP mandatory, recognising the need for substantial efforts to establish the required infrastructure for successful implementation, acknowledging the gradual nature of transitioning to mandatory GPP.

The reporting of Green Public Procurement (GPP) in Thailand operates on a separate platform from the ordinary procurement-reporting platform of the Ministry of Finance. The GPP catalogue includes green-certified products with expiry dates, requiring frequent updates. This dual-reporting process may discourage procurement officers from participating in GPP, as it involves submitting reports twice.

In Thailand, Green Public Procurement (GPP) is overseen by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) for environmental aspects, while the Ministry of Finance holds enforcement power. GPP progress is progressing slowly, as MONRE endeavours to communicate and convince the Ministry of Finance to revise laws, highlighting a challenge in aligning policies and implementation between environmental expertise and procurement enforcement.

6. Vietnam



POLICY

Vietnam enacted the Bidding law 2023 in line with the National Green Growth Strategy (2021-2030).



KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

- Political Commitment: GPP is identified as a key tool to achieve green growth in the National Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production (2021-2030) and the National Green Growth Strategy (2021-2030).
- Institutional Setup: Clear roles and responsibilities are defined among ministries in the National Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production.



AMBITION

Issue sub-decrees and circulars in line with the new Bidding Law 2023 to achieve the GPP target of 35% and 50% of total public procurement by 2030 and 2050, respectively.



FOCUS

Building materials, ICT products, agriculture products, electrical appliances.

6.1. Introduction

Vietnam is one of the fastest growing countries in the Southeast Asia region and has striven for an equitable and sustainable growth of its economy. The Resolution Document of the 13th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam has placed 'building a green and circular economy that is friendly to the environment' at the centre of country's development pathway for the period 2021–2030. The government has taken several measures and harmonised its existing policies to achieve this objective over the short, medium and long term. In a recently adopted Law on Bidding 22/2023/QH15 (June 2023), the government has recommended giving preference to bidders and investors with sustainability credentials in public tenders in line with the law on environmental protection. This shows that the government has the strong intention of leveraging its procurement spending to achieve broader sustainability objectives and build a green, resilient and circular economy.

Vietnam is one of the few countries in the region which has signed bilateral and multilateral trade agreements with the aim of inviting investments and also of taking advantage of trade routes for making their products competitive in the export market. The EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA) allows for similar treatment of EU and Vietnamese bidders in public procurement. The agreement applies to bidding packages under the framework of the EVFTA, above a specified threshold, for a specified list of public bodies and with the exclusion of some products and services, as detailed in the EVFTA – Chapter 9, Public Procurement. It calls for handling labour and environmental matters of relevance in an integrated manner in the context of trade relations between the EU and Vietnam.

6.2. Policy Development

Public procurement in Vietnam is regulated by Law No. **43/2013/QH13** on Bidding with effect from 1 July 2014, as amended and supplemented by Law No. **03/2016/QH14** in the amendment and supplement to Article 6 and Annex 4 on the list of conditional business lines stipulated in the Law on Investment, with effect from 1 January 2017. The Law is supplemented by implementing guidelines such as government decrees, ministry-level circulars, administrative directives/decisions, and Standard Bidding Documents. The government has continuously built, strengthened, and reformed its public procurement system to make it fit for delivering sustainable development and helping the country achieve the goals set in its 2035 Vision. Further, the Government has promoted the use of the e-Government Procurement system (e-GP) since 2009 and now made mandatory to use Vietnam National Electronic Procurement System (VNEPS).

The Government has recently passed a new Law on Bidding 22/2023/QH15²³ (June 2023) which came into effect from 1st January 2024. This Law has various promising provisions related to integrating sustainability concerns in purchasing decisions, such as procurement of environment friendly products and services; provisions for incorporation of preferential treatment for domestic firms, for social objectives, and for support to micro- and small enterprises; purchasing preference for contractors employing a workforce of 25% or more women, a workforce of 25% or more disabled individuals, a workforce of 25% or more ethnic minorities; use of life-cycle costing as an evaluation criterion; etc. Currently, the Government is in process of drafting a sub-decree to elaborate various provisions contained in the Law.

6.3. Legal and Regulatory Framework

Although consideration of environmental aspects in public procurement has recently been introduced through the new Bidding Law 2023, Vietnam already had several strategic documents that advocated integrating sustainability into public buying to achieve broader national socio-economic objectives and a long-term vision to make Vietnam a green, resilient and circular economy. For example, the National Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production (2021–2030) envisages the use of green public procurement as a tool to achieve broader and greener growth.²⁴ The National Green Growth Strategy (2021–2030) has also set the target for green public procurement as 35% and 50% of total public procurement by 2030 and 2050, respectively.²⁵ This policy background has pushed the government to expedite setting up GPP policy and an institutional framework to achieve greener growth. Further, the Law on Environmental Protection No. 72/2020/QH14 dated 17/11/2020, stipulates: 'Prioritise green procurement for state budget-funded projects and tasks as prescribed by the Government.' This provision has been subsequently elaborated in Decree No. 08/2022/ND-CP dated 10/1/2022,²⁶ requiring the government to prioritise the use of environmentally friendly products certified with the Vietnam Eco-label certification. At the same time, integrating other connected elements that promote sustainability (economic, social, environmental factors) into regulations governing procurement activities aims to make the integration of sustainability a routine in all expenditure activity. The National Climate Change strategy also entails assigning certain quotas on GHG emissions for the public sector so as to meet the goal of net zero by 2050, making various measures mandatory, including green public procurement, to remain within the allocated quota of GHG emissions. Vietnam is a member of International Labour Organisation (ILO) and has ratified 7 of the 8 fundamental conventions (excluding freedom of association).²⁷

Thus, it is noted that the provisions made in the new Bidding Law 2023 related to sustainability considerations in public procurement are well aligned with broader strategic documents. This kind of harmonisation of various policies bodes well for the implementation of sustainable public procurement in Vietnam. However, these objectives will be achieved only when sustainability is made an explicit goal in the public procurement

23 Available at [https://english.luatvietnam.vn/dau-thau/bidding-law-no-22-2023-gh15-259737-d1.html#:~:text=This%20Law%20prescribes%20the%20state,to%20implement%20business%20investment%20projects.](https://english.luatvietnam.vn/dau-thau/bidding-law-no-22-2023-gh15-259737-d1.html#:~:text=This%20Law%20prescribes%20the%20state,to%20implement%20business%20investment%20projects.,), Accessed on 21.11.2023

24 Available at <https://www.switch-asia.eu/resource/vietnam-national-action-plan-on-scp-2021-2030/#:~:text=The%20National%20Action%20Plan%20on,lives%20towards%20a%20circular%20economy.> Accessed on 21.11.2023

25 Available at <https://en.baohinhphu.vn/national-green-growth-strategy-for-2021-2030-vision-towards-2050-11142515.htm> Accessed on 21.11.2023

26 Available at <https://lawnet.vn/en/vb/Circular-02-2022-TT-BTNMT-Detailing-articles-of-law-on-environmental-protection-7BF03.html>, Accessed on 20.11.2023

27 Available at https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:11200:0::NO::p11200_country_id:103004 Accessed on 28.11.2023

law, and the obligation to integrate sustainability considerations at various stages of the procurement process is clearly spelled out in decrees and circulars for the benefit of procurement professionals.

6.4. Institutional Setup

The Ministry of Planning & Investment (MPI) is the national focal point for green growth, and is responsible for developing legal frameworks, institutions, policies and regulations on public procurement, including sustainable/green procurement. MPI, through the Public Procurement Agency (PPA), monitors and reports on public procurement and is also responsible for drafting a Decree to supplement the Bidding Law. The Central Procurement Services within the PPA is the bureau responsible for providing training to procurement officials at the national and sub-national levels.

The Ministry of Finance (MOF) is responsible for issuing regulations on public procurement, promulgating standards and norms for the use of machinery and equipment, and issuing regulations on public procurement, in which procurement spending that uses state budget resources prioritises eco-labelled goods and recyclable goods.

The Ministry of Industry & Trade (MOIT) develops and reviews national standards on energy efficiency; promulgates national technical regulations and national standards in the areas of economics and the efficient use of energy, responses to climate change, green growth and sustainable development; and develops and deploys solutions to support the implementation of energy labelling schematics. This Ministry also administers the Vietnam Energy Efficiency Label.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) develops and promulgates the inspection and implementation of Vietnam Ecolabel criteria and climate change policies, and is moreover the lead on circular economy policy.

In nutshell, MPI, MOF, MONRE, and MOIT constitute four important pillars for sustainable/green procurement implementation in Vietnam, along with other ministries such as labour, social welfare, and so on. See Figure 5.

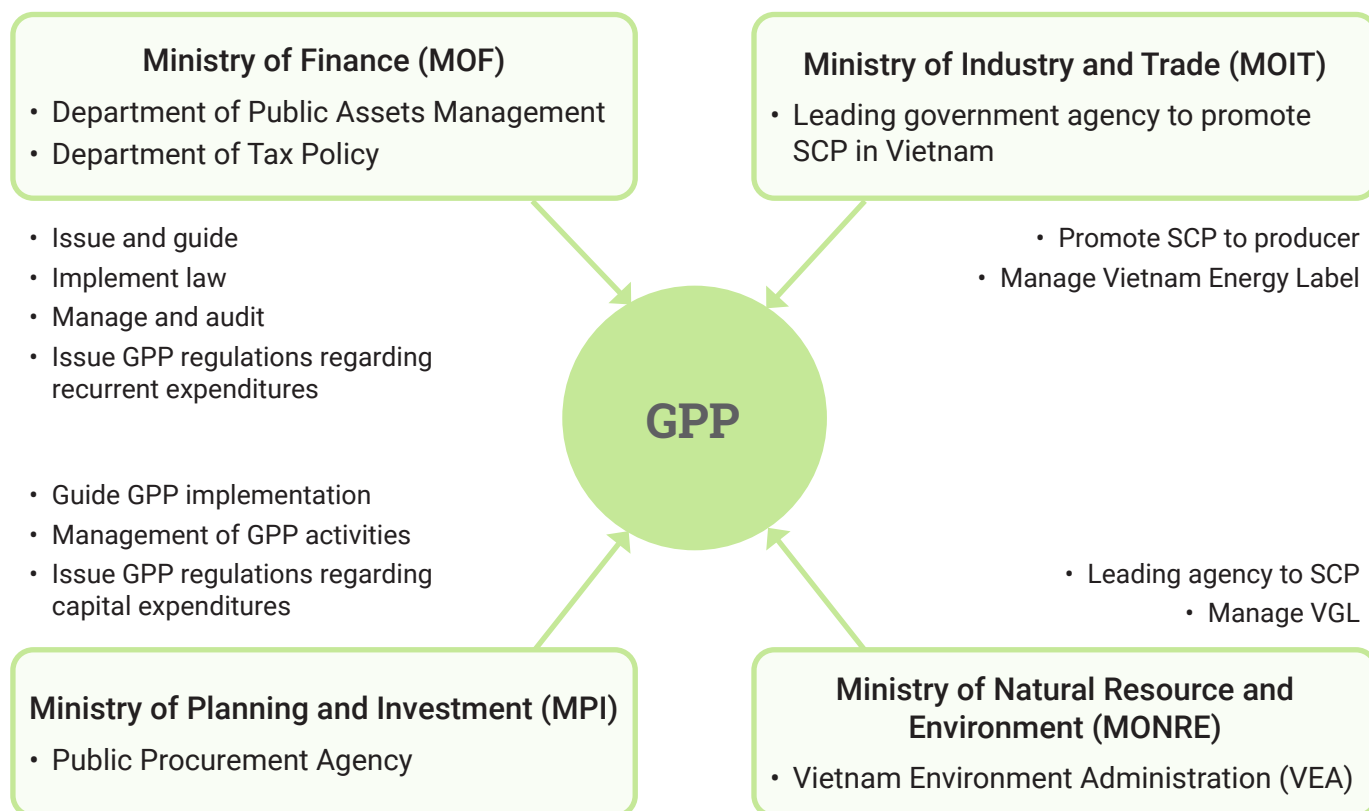


Figure 5 Government agencies and their responsibilities in the implementation of GPP in Vietnam²⁸

28 GiZ (2021). National Green Public Procurement and Environmental Labels in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam, and Bhutan.

6.5. Guidelines and Criteria

As described in the section above and illustrated in Figure 5, currently the MPI is engaged in drafting Decrees to supplement the Bidding Law 2023. Given that the new bidding laws were intended to take effect from 1st January 2024, it was anticipated that the Decree corresponding to the law could be in place by 31st December 2024. It is further expected that the Decree will elaborate the provisions made in the bidding law regarding integration of sustainability in procurement decisions to send clear signals to the market and communicate the government's long-term visions to use public procurement as a strategic instrument to achieve value for money and simultaneously achieve broader national developmental goals.

Based on the provisions in the Decree, the government is likely to publish Circulars clarifying the provisions in the Decree and revisions of Standard Bidding Documents (SBDs) for procurement of goods, works and services.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) has established the National Ecolabelling Programme and manages a Type-1 ecolabelling scheme²⁹ named Vietnam Green Label, which complies with the green label criteria released by MONRE. They have developed green label criteria for 17 product groups, and 53 companies in Vietnam have obtained certification to use the Vietnam Green Label on their products.³⁰ Vietnam has recently announced criteria for environmentally friendly plastic packaging.³¹

Vietnam also has an Energy Efficiency Standards & Labelling programme to promote energy efficiency in household appliances. The Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) is the central agency for the management of the endorsement label known as 'Viet Energy Star' for high-efficiency lighting products and comparable labels for household and office appliances. Energy labelling activities in Vietnam have been implemented voluntarily since 2008 and have been mandatory (for some vehicles and equipment) since July 1, 2013. To date, the Energy Labelling Programme has achieved a number of significant achievements. Specifically, each year, there are about 10,000 new product codes belonging to 26 types of equipment with energy labels from 1 to 5 stars.

The existence of ecolabels and energy efficiency labels in Vietnam bodes well for linking these programmes with the government's commitment to integrate sustainability concerns in purchasing decisions in the new bidding law. The proposed Decree to supplement the bidding law may make voluntary/mandatory use of these labels when the buyers are public agencies, so as to reduce the negative environmental impact of public buying.

6.6. Capacity Building, Training and Awareness Programme

The Central Procurement Services (CPS) under PPA is mandated to provide capacity-building training on public procurement. Their dedicated team of in-house trainers have already trained more than 6000 procurement professionals from different ministries and public entities. With the new Bidding Law 2023 in effect from 1st January 2024, they would need to revise training modules as per the new law, including provisions related to sustainable procurement.

29 A Type-1 Ecolabelling Scheme involves independent third-party verification and certification. Its implementation adheres to the guidelines outlined in ISO 14024 (Environmental labels and declarations – Type I environmental labelling – Principles and procedures) which outlines the requirements for developing 'Type I environmental labelling programmes', more commonly known as ecolabelling schemes. These schemes award a mark or logo to products or services upon fulfilling a set of criteria. ISO 14024 features the principles and procedures for selecting product categories, product-environmental criteria, product-function characteristics and for assessing and demonstrating compliance. It also establishes the certification procedures for awarding the label.

30 United Nations Environment Programme (2016). Project 'Stimulating the Demand and Supply of Sustainable Products through Sustainable Public Procurement and Ecolabelling' (SPPEL): SWOT Analysis of Vietnam Green Label Programme Report. <https://wedocs.unep.org/20.500.11822/37481>.

31 Available at <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/vietnam-ecolabel-criteria-for-environmentally-friendly-plastic-issued/271540.vnp> Accessed on 28.11.2023

6.7. Monitoring and Evaluation

The Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) is responsible for reviewing and monitoring procurement activities as per the existing procedures. Currently, they use the e-GP system to gather data for analysis and monitoring of key performance indicators (KPIs) related to procurement. Since public agencies are not currently mandated to procure products or services with sustainability criteria, they are not monitored at the government level.

6.8. Collaboration and Partnership

The government sometimes engages with the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI), Vietnam Fatherland Front (VFF), Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Associations (VUSTA), People Councils, and others on procurement-related issues. Such practices of engaging with industry associations can be utilised for sounding market of government's intention to implement sustainable procurement.

6.9. Notes

Vietnam currently does not have a comprehensive sustainable procurement policy, but by making conducive provisions in the new Bidding Law 2023 for integrating sustainability concerns into public buying, the Government appears to have sent a signal to the market for transforming the production system in line with low-carbon, resource-efficient and circular economy principles.

- The existence of an ecolabelling scheme for environment friendly and energy efficient products has the potential to accelerate the purchase of those products by public agencies.
- Provisions related to sustainability concerns in the Bidding Law need to be translated into Decrees and Circulars to meet the intended objectives of the law.
- Trade agreements can possibly enhance the export competitiveness of domestic industries, provided the market adopts sustainable production practices that are in turn linked to S/GPP implementation.

7. Conclusion

It is important to underline a few key points after reviewing these Asian experiences.

Sustainable Green Public Procurement (S/GPP) policy is embedded in national development objectives. It is a channel for mobilising green public finance through public budgets and private/blended funding. S/GPP has become an ideal modality for governments to implement their sustainability policies and to give signals to markets for sustainable products to eventually become the norm.

Implementing green public procurement is not only a procurement policy issue: it requires a multidisciplinary approach and collaboration across multiple stakeholders operating at different levels of government (central, local, municipal, etc.). Countries that have mastered a multidisciplinary and inter-institutional approach have obtained faster or more effective results in rolling-out S/GPP.

GPP requires a customised sectoral/product approach adapted to each country's economic context and investment priorities. Regional benchmarks, such as the ones presented in this report, are key – but individual country adaptation is always required.

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