The term “sustainability” originates from the Latin word *sustinere* which depicts the notion of *maintain, support, endure* etc. However since the 1980’s, institutions such as the Brundtland Commission of the UN has adopted it to connote human sustainability on the planet Earth. In 2002, there was a global call for a shift from unsustainable patterns of consumption and production to more Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) patterns. To accelerate this shift, several governments including Ghana through the adaptation of the 10 year framework of programmes (10-YFP) on SCP have began the implementation of the ideals of Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) through the “Marrakech Process”.

Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) has been said to be the process of spending public funds on products/services/projects that achieve value for money on a whole product lifecycle basis in terms of generating benefits not only for an organisation but also for Social Equity, Economic demands while minimizing damage to the Environment (popularly known as the 3 Es). This is in furtherance to the 2005 World Summit, where it was indicated that the concept of SCP can only be achieved through sustainable lifestyles. The effective integration of the 3 Es also depicts as the overlapping ellipses which are not mutually exclusive but can be mutually reinforcing.

SPP is not another type of procurement; but rather a new concept that seeks to extend procurement considerations to cover contemporary concerns in order to enhance long-term development goals of governments. After all, with the government being the largest single buyer it is imperative that what and how it buys and acquires goods, services and works contributes significantly, both to its ability to deliver sustainable development and gain credibility with its development partners. It is therefore in the light of this, that we have devoted this edition of the Procurement Bulletin to discuss how best Ghana can pursue this SPP Agenda through deliberate policy interventions in order to reap the numerous benefits thereof which includes improved environmental performance, good governance, wealth creation and stimulate ‘appropriate’ competition and drive innovative and sustainable solutions in our dear nation.

*Rhoda Appiah*  
Principal Public Affairs  
*PPA*
**List of entities that have submitted their 2012 Procurement Plans online As At 30th June, 2012**

1. Accra Academy Sec. Sch.
2. Accra Polytechnic
3. Ada Tr. College
4. Adenta Municipal Assembly
5. Aflao District Hospital
6. Agogo State Secondary School
7. Ahafoman Sec./Tech
8. Ahantaman Sec. School
9. Aowin Suaman
10. Archbishop Porter Girls.
11. Ashaiman Municipal Assembly
12. Atebubu Tr. College
13. Bank of Ghana
14. Birim North
15. Bolgatanga Polytechnic
16. Bompeh Day Sec./Tech
17. Bulk Oil Storage and Transportation
18. Bureau of National Investigations (BNI)
19. Centre for Scientific Research Into Plant Medicine
20. Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice
21. Controller And Accountant General Dept
22. Copyright Administration
23. Council for Law Reporting
24. Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
25. Daboase Sec./Tech
26. Dangme West District Assembly
27. Department of Children
28. Department Of Feeder Roads
29. Department Of Urban Roads
30. Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority
31. E. P. Tr. College Amedzofe
32. East Akim Municipal Assebly
33. Effa Nkwanta Regional Hospital
34. Effutu Municipal
35. Electoral Commission
36. Energy Commission
37. Environmental Protection Agency
38. Export Development and Investment Fund
39. Fiaseman Sec. Sch
40. Foods and Drugs Board
41. Forestry Commission
42. Ga East
43. Ga West (Ga)
44. Ghana Academy of Arts And Sciences
45. Ghana Aids Commission
46. Ghana Airports Company Limited
47. Ghana Atomic Energy Commission
48. Ghana Audit Service
49. Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
50. Ghana Civil Aviation Authority
51. Ghana Cocoa Board
52. Ghana Education Service
53. Ghana Free Zones Board
54. Ghana Grid Company Ltd.
55. Ghana Highway Authority
56. Ghana Immigration Service
57. Ghana Institute of Journalism
58. Ghana Institute of Management And Public Administration
59. Ghana Integrated Financial Management Information System
60. Ghana Investment Fund For Electronic Communications
61. Ghana Investment Promotion Council
62. Ghana Library Board
63. Ghana National Fire Service
64. Ghana National Gas Company
65. Ghana National Petroleum Corporation
66. Ghana National Sec.Sch.
67. Ghana News Agency
68. Ghana Police Service
69. Ghana Ports And Harbours Authority
70. Ghana Prisons Service
71. Ghana Revenue Authority
72. Ghana School of Law
73. Ghana Secondary/Tech.
74. Ghana Shippers Authority
75. Ghana Standards Authority
76. Ghana Water Company Limited
77. Ghana Water Company Limited - Operations
78. Ghana-India Kofi Annan Center of Excellence
79. Grains And Legumes Development Board
80. Ho Polytechnic
81. Holy Child Tr. College
82. Hwidiem Sec. Sch
83. Institute Of Professional Studies
84. Islamic Sc. Senior Sec.
85. Jema Sec. Sch
86. Juabesob district Hospital
87. Judicial Service
88. Kintampo North (Kintampo)
89. Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital
90. Konongo Odumase Sec. Sch.
91. Korle bu Teaching Hospital
92. Kumasi High Sch
93. Kumasi Polytechnic
94. La Polyclinic
95. La Presby. Sen. Sec.Sch.
96. Labone Sec. Sch.
97. Land Administration Project
98. Land Valuation Board
99. Lands Commission
100. Lands Title Registry
101. Ledzokuku-Krowor
102. Management Services Division
103. Mankessim Sec/Tech
104. Margaret Mary High School
105. Maternal and Child Health Hospital
106. Medical School
107. Minerals Commission
108. MINISTRY OF CULTURE And CHIEFTAINCY
109. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
110. Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tendering and contract Information for periods indicated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tendering Opportunities for Jul - Aug 2012</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contracts Awarded for Jan - Aug 2012</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restricted Tender Awards Jan- Aug 2012</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expression of Interest Requests Jul -Aug 2012</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The links above will take you directly to the PPA Website Reports for the months of period indicated.
The Government of Ghana and the Swiss Confederation signed an Agreement on 30th August 2010 to pursue a Support Programme for SPP in Ghana. The Programme is modeled in accordance with the Marrakech Taskforce Approach to SPP.

On the 1st of December, 2012, a Ghana Taskforce on the SPP Project was inaugurated to among others:
- Provide technical guidance to project stakeholders on issues related to SPP;
- Review and approve the SPP initiatives;
- Identify SPP Priority Areas;
- Provide advice on technical issues related to SPP; and
- Provide input on enhancing laws and regulations on sustainability issues;

Membership includes individuals representing the Private Sector, Civil Society Organisations, Governmental Bodies and other Professional Institutions.

The GTF, since its inauguration on 1st December 2010 has undertaken the following activities:
- Introduction meeting of GTF - 14th December 2010;
- Legal Review - 14th April 2011;
- Study Tour to Switzerland - 2nd-7th May 2010 (Project Coordinator & GTF Chairperson)
- Identification of Priority areas for the Project - 16th June 2011;
- Lecture on SPP to the Institution of Engineers - 25th July 2011 (GTF Coordinator)
- Workshop on SPP Policy Plan
- Prioritization and Legal Review - 27th-28th October 2011
- Participation in a Conference on Road Construction Innovations - 22nd-25th November 2011 (GTF Chairperson)
- Review of Priority Areas - 15th February 2012
- Visit to Biogas Technologies - 29th May 2012

Other Awareness Seminars organized include:

GTF-SPP Awareness Programme - 3rd March 2012 where the project methodology, overview of the SPP Policy Plan and the Mauritius’ SPP Experience were discussed;

Ghana’s SPP Status Assessment Exercise - 7th April, 2011. At the end of the programme, Five (5) Sub-Committees were formed to perform specific assignments namely the Legal Review Committees; and

High-Level Seminar on SPP for Policy Makers – 21st April, 2012 where participants where introduced to the SPP Concept and their input taken for the formulation of the SPP Policy Plan.

The various activities of the GTF is superintended by SPP Steering Committee which is chaired by the...
PPA Chief Executive.

Conclusion & Way Forward
In conclusion, it is worthwhile to note that the SPP Project has been designed to drive national development through a three pillar approach to public procurement which applies Environmental, Social and Economic considerations to the procurement of all goods, works and services to realize government objectives.

Keynote Address by Hon. Sherry Ayittey
Minister of Environment, Science and Technology on the Occasion of the Awareness Seminar on Sustainable Public Procurement for Policy Makers Held at Volta Hotel, 21st April, 2012

Mr. Chairman, Colleague Ministers, Officials from the Swiss Embassy, SECP, Task Force on Sustainable Procurement, Board Members, Distinguished Invited Guests, Member of the Press, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I feel very honored to be here today with you and to deliver the keynote address at this workshop on this sensitive and very important issue of Sustainable Public Procurement Policy for Ghana.

I am told that the overall objective of today’s programme is to embed the principles of transparency, accountability and sustainability in public procurement and this will be done through deliberate actions to promote the production and consumption of sustainable goods and services through government and also the strengthening of Public Authority’s Monitoring and Evaluation System.

I am sure that the attention of world leaders is now more than focused on issues to do with climate change, the ever increasing gap between wealthy nations and developing countries and environmental degradation. There have been many world summits on such sustainability issues, like Rio and Johannesburg, as a result of which world leaders are expected to promote sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns, of course with the developed countries taking the lead. Mr. Chairman, Ghana has not been left out of this all important task, being a member of the community of nations, and a signatory to most of the United Nations conventions, especially those on human rights and environmental sustainability.

We need an approach that starts with individual dignity, that is centred on human growth and provides convincing answers to the complex social, economic
manufacturing of the product through to its use and final disposal. The product is expected to be environmentally friendly in that its manufacture, use of disposal does not negatively impact on the environment.

The objective of high premium of environment concerns through sustainable public procurement is borne out of the 21st Century consensus that humanity is placing excessive demand on available resources through unsustainable but well-established consumption patterns.

On the Social Pillar, Purchasing actions have social implications and public procurement can be used to drive social improvements e.g. working conditions, granting physically challenged special access into public tenders, child labour issues etc.

The social aspect effects of purchasing decisions on issues such as poverty eradication, national and international equity in the distribution of resources, labour conditions, human rights is therefore widely acknowledge.

It is important to look at local content when importing goods and services. The Government Policy of 40% Local content must not be swept under the table but taken very seriously.

Today a lot of local companies or agencies are com-
peting with cheaply made goods from abroad.

The common economic wisdom is that Ghana cannot compete with the Far East when it comes to producing cheap goods and services. But, again consumers would be prepared to pay a little extra, safe in the knowledge that the goods are produced ethically and that they are helping to create much needed jobs and boost domestic manufacturing.

Again it must be emphasized to suppliers that skilled environmental practitioners are good for business. So it is vital that you have people with environmental skills in your supply chains, with management systems in place to meet your environmental expectations and risks.

Once you have identified environmental risks and opportunities, consider what you want to do about them. You might look at putting environmental criteria into procurement/suppliers contracts. For example, you may consider a contract, securing better energy supply incentives for fuel efficiency. You may also change the way you purchase things, buy the right amount to minimize waste.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Therefore, Procurement must meet the needs for Goods, Services, Utilities and Works not on a private cost-benefit analysis but with a view to maximizing net-benefits for themselves and wider world on the macro-economic level, the economic benefits in the form of efficiency gain from incorporating whole-life costing into decision making based on the following considerations:

The disposal cost of an item should not be high compared to the item;

Items procured should consider the society benefit as well as the individual profit-margin;

The product should meet the purpose for which it was intended – (value for money).

My Ministry is championing Ghana’s efforts in the area of sustainable production and consumption. We have drawn out a comprehensive programme on SCP and Sustainable Development Action Plans (SDAP) are being developed in the following priority areas:

- Agriculture
- Energy
- Transport
- Tourism
- Waste management
- Chemicals and hazardous substances, and
- Human settlement
- Housing and construction
- Water and sanitation
- Manufacturing industry
- Mining
- Consumer behavior
- Economic instruments

Working groups drawn from MDAs and MMDAs have been set up to address each priority areas.

We are therefore delighted at this move by the Public Procurement Authority to introduce sustainable issues into government procurement. I would urge them to start with these same priority areas, SPP is also based on the same pillars as SCP - Economic, Social and Environment. It is in fact an SCP tool.

With these considerations, SPP will help to:

- Achieve value for money
- Sustain economic development
- Improve ethical behavior of suppliers/contractors especially, and the public at large
- Reduce harmful emissions and waste generation;
- Improve air and water quality;
- Improve the management of our forests;
- Make local industries applying SPP internationally competitive;
- Increase the wealth and health of society (hence improved living standards) among others.

We will collaborate with PPA in this, more so because these are also the benefits of the Ministry’s SCP programmes.

The ministry only recently launched Ghana’s Cleaner Production Centre, which aims at effectively reducing industry’s impact on the environment. The centre will advise on ways to lower production cost, minimize waste including recycling, enhance competitiveness and on environmental safeguards, among other. Cleaner technologies will also be promoted among industries.

We therefore call on all businesses to embrace the
Cleaner Production Centre as they will find it very beneficial.

Mr. Chairman

I wish at the juncture to emphasize that, it is pertinent to note that the theme for this workshop falls in line with one of the seven (7) key thematic priority areas in Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda of the government, namely Transparent and Accountable Governance.

It is on the basis of the government’s commitment to transparent and accountable governance that measures have been put in place by the government to ensure the effective implementation of the Public Procurement Act, 2003 (Act 663) and also initiate the necessary actions to address any deficiencies that may have been identified in the course of the implementation of the Act.

Ladies and Gentlemen, your presence at this workshop therefore is ample testimony to the commitment of government to ensure sustainable public procurement practices in the country.

Finally, let me take this opportunity to thank the Government of the Swiss Confederation for their development assistance to the government of Ghana under the auspices of the Public Procurement Authority to introduce the concept of sustainability into the practice of public procurement into the country and also build the necessary capacities to ensure its effective implementation.

Thank you for your kind attention and May God bless you all.

HON. SHERRY AYITTEY, MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Sustainable Public Procurement can be translated as making sure that, whatever the government procure in the name of the people, should be used continuously without causing harm to the society. It must respond to value for money and must be both environmentally and ecologically compactable.

This therefore means that, as the Government is mandated to procure for the people, conscious efforts must be made to deliberately introduce policy interventions that will be seen and practiced to enhance the welfare of the populace sustainably.

Policy Interventions such as the recent Presidential Ascent to the Renewable Law of Ghana championed by the Energy Commission is a step in the right direction. It is also worthy to note that, the private sector players have also accepted the challenge and have made several in-roads to contribute its quota to Ghana’s Energy Mix.

One of such companies is the Biogas Technologies Africa Ltd. which has already made a mark on the Ghanaian and Africa terrain with waste-to-energy projects. In Ghana some of the company’s laudable projects are located in the Central University College, Flag Staff House, Trassaco Valley, Nestle Ghana Ltd., All Nations University, Ashesi University, Tema International, Takoradi Ghana Cocoa Board warehouse, Realish Food Factory at Tema Industrial Area etc., whilst across Africa the company has projects in Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Mali and Togo.

All of these work together in closing the loop to address issues pertaining to sanitation, sustainable land use, environmental impacts, economical and social benefits,
water preservation, and ecological benefits that would addresses issues pertaining to Climate Change and also creates opportunities for jobs and wealth creation, but not poverty reduction.

Other policy interventions should also look at re-afforestation. The policy intervention approach can only be sustainable when long-term programmes are in place, instead of short term or Adhoc programmes.

This also means that, the policies must be designed to promote continuity, no matter which political colours are given the mandate to govern. After all, the well being of the populace supersedes the few chosen to represent the populace.

It must be noted that when the Governments in pursuing their mandate, must ultimately translate their service to the people by effectively , procuring sustainable infrastructure, goods and services to enhance the living standards of the populace. In all these activities, there is a direct linkage to the policy interventions I have listed. I will urge the Private sector and civil society groups to partner with government to provide sustainable solutions by way of goods, works and services as an approach to meet the objectives of SPP.

I would expatiate on the various proposed policy interventions on my next paper.

Thanks

JOHN AFARI IDAN
Biogas Technologies Africa Ltd.
info@biogasonline.com
www.biogasonline.com