



E-Bulletin



P u b l i c P r o c u r e m e n t A u t h o r i t y

A CASE FOR SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN GHANA

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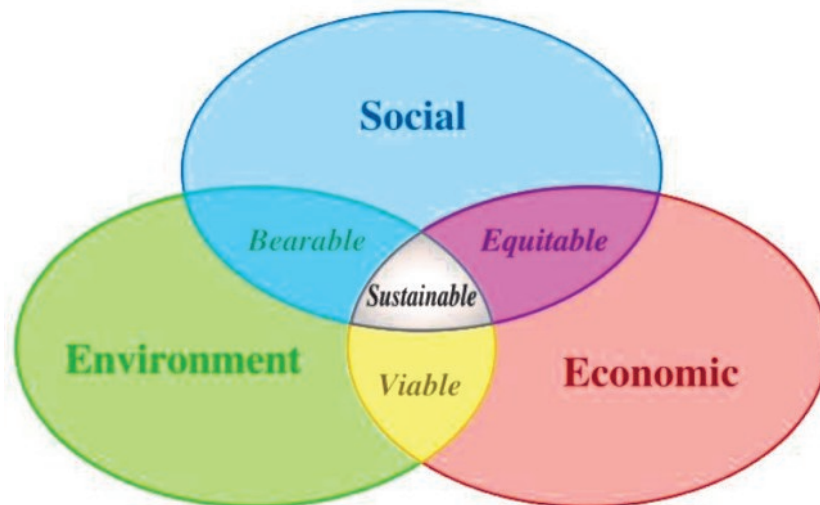
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The three dimensions of Sustainability

Ghana, has since the 1970's shown commitment to the global call for sustainable development and environmental issues by being a signatory to many international conventions. At the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002, all governments were called upon to shift from unsustainable patterns of consumption and production to Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP). In order to accelerate this shift, governments were called upon to promote the development of a 10-year framework programmes (10-YFP) on SCP-A programme that gave birth to the Marrakech Process.

The Marrakech Process established seven task forces with a focus on specific SCP issues, as part of the strategy to implement the 10-YFP. One of these task forces was

the Marrakech Task Force on Sustainable Public Procurement (MTF-SPP) of which Ghana was a member. Others established were: Cooperation with Africa, Sustainable Products, Sustainable Lifestyles, Sustainable Tourism, Sustainable Buildings & Construction, and Education for Sustainable Consumption. The MTF on SPP completed its mandate of developing the SPP Toolkit and propagating its functions to the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) in 2010.

Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) is about spending public funds on products/services/projects that achieve value for money on a whole life basis. It seeks to generate benefits not only for an organization but also to SOCIETY and the ECONOMY, while minimizing damage to the ENVIRONMENT to ensure sustainable development. It seeks to address the environmental, social and

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Online Activities

List of entities that have submitted their 2014 Procurement Plans Online As At August 30, 2014

1. Accra Academy Senior High School
2. Accra Polytechnic
3. Aduman Senior High School
4. Agona West Municipal Assembly
5. Ahantaman Senior High School
6. Ajumako-Enyan-Essiam dist. Hospital
7. Akontombra Senior High School
8. Akuse Government Hospital
9. Akwapim North District Assembly
10. Akwapim South Municipal Assembly
11. Amenfi West (Wassa Amenfi)
12. Amenfiman Senior High School
13. Aowin Suaman District Assembly
14. Apam Senior High School
15. Atua Government Hospital
16. Bank of Ghana
17. Berekum College of Education
18. Bibiani / Anhwiaso / Bekwai District Assembly
19. Birim Central Municipal Assembly
20. Bolgatanga Municipal Assembly
21. Bolgatanga Polytechnic
22. Central Tongu District Assembly
23. Centre for Scientific Research Into Plant Medicine
24. Cocoa Marketing Company (Ghana) Limited
25. College of Health Sciences
26. Community Health Training School - Tanoso Sunyani
27. Controller And Accountant General Dept
28. Copyright Administration
29. Council for Law Reporting
30. Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
31. Council of State
32. Daboase Senior High Technical School
33. Dental School
34. Department Of Urban Roads
35. District Assembly Common fund
36. Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority
37. Dunkwa District Hospital
38. Dunkwa Nursing Training College
39. Dwamena Akenten Senior High School
40. E. P. College of Education Amedzofe
41. East Akim Municipal Assembly
42. Economic and Organised Crime Office
43. Effa Nkwanta Regional Hospital
44. Effutu Municipal Assembly
45. Electoral Commission
46. Ellebelle District Assembly
47. Encyclopaedia Africa Project
48. Energy Commission
49. Environmental Protection Agency
50. Export Development and Investment Fund
51. Financial and Intelligence Centre
52. Foods and Drugs Board
53. Forestry Commission
54. Ga East Municipal Assembly
55. Ga South Municipal Assembly
56. Ga West (Ga) Municipal Assembly
57. Ghana Academy of Arts And Sciences
58. Ghana Aids Commission
59. Ghana Airports Company Limited
60. Ghana Atomic Energy Commission
61. Ghana Audit Service
62. Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
63. Ghana Civil Aviation Authority
64. Ghana Cocoa Board
65. Ghana Cocoa Board - Quality Control Division
66. Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons
67. Ghana Education Service
68. Ghana Free Zones Board
69. Ghana Grid Company Ltd.
70. Ghana Highway Authority
71. Ghana Institute of Journalism
72. Ghana Institute of Management And Public Administration
73. Ghana Investment Fund For Electronic Communications
74. Ghana Library Board
75. Ghana National Fire Service
76. Ghana National Gas Company
77. Ghana National Petroleum Corporation
78. Ghana National Senior High School
79. Ghana News Agency
80. Ghana Police Service
81. Ghana Ports And Harbours Authority
82. Ghana Prisons Service
83. Ghana Railway Development Authority
84. Ghana Railways Company Limited
85. Ghana Reinsurance Company Ltd
86. Ghana Revenue Authority
87. Ghana School of Law
88. Ghana Standards Authority
89. Ghana Statistical Service
90. Ghana Tourist Board
91. Ghana Water Company Limited
92. Ghana-India Kofi Annan Center of Excellence
93. Goaso Municipal Hospital
94. Gomoa Senior High Technical School
95. Grains And Legumes Development Board
96. Half Assini Senior High School
97. Health Assistant Training School - Lawra
98. Ho Polytechnic
99. Holy Child College of Education
100. Internal Audit Agency
101. Jasikan District Assembly
102. Judicial Service
103. Jukwa Senior High School.
104. Keta Business Senior High School
105. Keta Municipal Assembly
106. Keta Senior High School
107. Ketu District District Hospital
108. Ketu North District Assembly
109. Kibi Presbyterian College of Education
110. Kikam Technical School
111. Koforidua General Hospital
112. Komenda/ Edina/ Eguafu /Abirem
113. Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital
114. Korle bu Teaching Hospital
115. Krachi West District Hospital
116. Kumasi Academy
117. Kumasi Polytechnic
118. Kumasi south Hospital
119. Kwabre District Assembly
120. Kwaebiirem District Assembly
121. Kwahu West District Assembly
122. La Polyclinic
123. Labour Department
124. Lands Commission



Online Activities

125. Lawra district Hospital
126. Lawra Senior High School
127. Ledzokuku-Krowor Municipal Assembly
128. Legal Aid Board
129. Maamobi Polyclinic
130. Mamprobi Polyclinic
131. Management Development And Productivity Institute
132. Mankesim Senior High Technical School
133. Margaret Mary High School
134. UG Medical School
135. Mfantisiman Girls Senior High School
136. Minerals Commission
137. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
138. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
139. Ministry of Energy and Petroleum
140. Ministry of Environment Science and Technology
141. MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING
142. Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
143. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND REGIONAL INTEGERATION
144. MINISTRY OF HEALTH
145. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL
146. MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
147. MINISTRY OF ROADS AND HIGHWAYS
148. MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
149. Ministry of Tourism Culture and Creative Arts
150. Ministry of Transport
151. Ministry of Youth and Sports
152. Mpohor District Assemby
153. Mpohor Wassa East
154. Namong Senior High School
155. Nandom District Hospital
156. Narcotics Control Board
157. National Accreditation Board
158. National Board for Professional And Technical Examinations
159. National Cardiothoracic Centre
160. National Commission For Civic Education
161. National Communication Authority
162. National Council for Tertiary Education
163. National Development Planning Commission
164. National Disaster Management Organization
165. National Film and Television Institute
166. National Health Insurance Authority
167. National Insurance Commission
168. National Lottery Authority
169. National Peace Council
170. National Petroleum Authority
171. National Population Council
172. National Road Safety Commission
173. National Service Secretariat
174. National Theatre of Ghana
175. National Vocational Training Institute
176. New Juaben Municipal
177. New Tafo Hospital
178. Non Formal Education Division
179. North Tongu District Assembly
180. Nursing and Midwifery Council of Ghana
181. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Ashanti Region
182. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Brong Ahafo Region
183. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Central Region
184. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Eastern Region
185. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Greater Accra Region
186. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Northern Region
187. Office of the Regional Health Directorate – Upper West Region
188. Offinso College of Education
189. Opoku Ware Senior High School
190. Parliament
191. Peki Senior High Technical School
192. Peki Training College
193. Pharmacy Council
194. Potsin T.I. Ahd. Senior High School
195. Precious Minerals Marketing Corporation
196. Prempeh College
197. Presby College of Education - Akropong
198. Psychiatric Nursing Trg. Sch
199. Public Procurement Authority
200. Public Service Commission
201. Public Utilities Regulatory Commission
202. Registrar Generals Department
203. S.D.A. College of Education Asokore
204. Savannah Accelerated Development Authority
205. School of Allied Health Sciences
206. School of Nursing - Legon
207. School of Public Health
208. Sekondi Senior High School.
209. Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly
210. Shama District Assembly
211. SIC Life Company Limited
212. Social Security and National Insurance Trust (SSNIT)
213. Sogakope District Hospital
214. St. Augustine's College
215. St. Joseph's College of Education
216. St. Monica Training College
217. St. Therasas Hospital - Nandom
218. Students Loan Trust Fund
219. Suhum Government Hospital
220. Suhum Municipal Assembly
221. Sunyani General Hospital
222. Sunyani Polytechnic
223. Swedru Senior High School.
224. T.I. Ahmadiyya SHS-Fomena
225. Tain District Assembly
226. Takoradi Polytechnic
227. Tamale Polytechnic
228. Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipal Assembly
229. Tema Development Corporation
230. Tema Metropolitan Assembly
231. Tetteh Quarshie Memorial Hospital
232. University Ghana School of Pharmacy
233. University Of Cape Coast (UCC)
234. University of Energy and Natural Resource
235. University Of Ghana (UG)
236. University of Ghana Business School(UGBS)
237. University of Health and Allied Sciences
238. University of Mines -Tarkwa
239. University of Professional Studies Accra
240. University Of Science And Technology (KNUST)
241. University Prac. Senior High School
242. Upper Denkyira East Municipal Assembly
243. Volta Regional Hospital
244. Volta River Authority
245. Wa General Hospital
246. Wa Polytechnic
247. Water Resources Commission
248. Wenchi East District Assembly
249. Wenchi Methodist Hospital
250. Wesley College
251. Wesley Girls High Sch.
252. West Mamprusi District Assembly
253. Yaa Asantewa
254. Yendi District Hospital



economic consequences of procurement actions from design, through manufacturing, to use, and final disposal of products and services.

This concept has become necessary because countries such as Ghana and other African countries are faced with worsening climatic conditions, poverty, deforestation and other environmental degradations which are mainly the result of inappropriate production and consumption practices. Thus, it behoves on governments to demonstrate their commitment to considering and minimizing the environmental consequences of their procurement activities and uphold high standards of environmental stewardship.

Furthermore, available data indicates that up to 60% of a manufacturing company's carbon footprint and about 80% of retailers' are found along their supply chains and therefore hold the greatest potential to make a difference.

In response to these alarming statistics, Ghana has a great deal of responsibility to begin to entrench the principles of SPP in its procurement activities. This is because, on the average, public procurement expenditure represents about 17% of the GDP and therefore has a high stake in promoting this new approach.

SPP posits that buyers are not mere consumers but have a lot of control over what is manufactured, and how it is manufactured, and therefore it will be prudent on the part of procuring entities in the country to be conscious of this. Institutional buyers should note that each time they procure from companies, they are “electing” or “voting” for such companies to continue operating the way they are. So if such companies do not adhere to good and sustainable practices such as paying fair wages, maintaining clean environment and reducing green house emissions through their operations, procuring from them would mean that they are being encouraged to continue operating in this manner. The benefits of SPP include a reduction of negative environmental impacts, improved social responsibility, more efficient use of resources and funds, among others. SPP can drive social and economic policies, and reduce corruption (through ethical behaviour).

Given these advantages of SPP, Ghana must use its purchasing power to support companies that produce

sustainable products eg.: recycled paper, renewable energy products etc. as they promote the sustainability agenda. Some of the areas through which this agenda can be sustained may include:

- The enactment of an SPP Policy document backed by legal instruments enforceable at the national or municipal levels;
- Exercising strong political will and leadership to drive the implementation process;
- Encouraging institutional buyers to redirect their focus from mainly upfront costs and profit maximization to include consideration of sustainability issues to enhance social equity, economic advancement and environmental safeguards;
- Training of Compliance Inspectors for certification of sustainable products/processes; and
- Companies must be encouraged to evaluate the impact of their operations on the environment by measuring their carbon footprints—the amount of greenhouse gas emissions generated.

To date, Ghana through the PPA has championed the cause of SPP as one of its major policy initiatives designed to consolidate the gains of the country's public procurement reforms. Various awareness and advocacy programmes have been embarked upon to inform civil society, the private sector and government entities of this new concept.

Expectations are that all stakeholders will warm-up to this new wave and cooperate with government to roll-out its implementation in the near future.

To this end, the Public Procurement Authority is launching an intensive nation-wide training programme from August to November, 2014 for both the private and public sectors

For further information, please contact the PPA via email: info@ppaghana.org

PPA-“Improving Efficiency and Transparency in Public Procurement”

Mrs. Rhoda Appiah

PPAO—PPA



GHANA ENERGY POLICY TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT



Energy is arguably now regarded as the fifth factor of production after land, labour, capital and entrepreneurship because of the strong influence it has on socio-economic development. Access to and per capita consumption of modern forms of energy has actually differentiated developed nations from developing ones. Energy drives businesses and industry by promoting economic development and employment generation which in turn accelerates improvement in standards of living and social well-being.

Despite the importance of energy use to socio-economic development, its supply chain and use pose some serious deleterious effect on the environment that calls for urgent attention. The extraction of primary energy, e.g. crude oil and coal, the harnessing of hydro power by way of construction of dams, etc. the combustion of fossil fuels in thermal power plants and automobiles and consumption or utilization of wood energy have adverse environmental consequences depending on the availability or otherwise of mitigating measures.

Some of the environmental consequences of high levels of combustion of fossil fuels and discharge of greenhouse gases (GHGs) into the atmosphere have been linked to climate change with attendant problems such as intense draught, flooding, sea level rise, warming-up of the oceans; pest resistance could actually accentuate poverty in farming and fishing com-

munities. The importance of energy use to socio-economic development therefore requires the deployment of efficient and environmentally sustainable strategies for energy production, procurement and delivery, transportation, distribution and end use. This requires policies and regulations that are underpinned by an integrated approach to energy sector planning using analytical tools.

In the wake of climate change menace arising out of human activities, the whole world is seeking ways and means of developing their economies without undue adverse effects on the environment; i.e. Sustainable development. Sustainable development has therefore been defined as “meeting the needs of the current generation without compromising the needs of the future generation”. Sustainable Public Procurement, which is an integral part of sustainable development strategy, focuses on value for money. It hinges on three pillars; i.e. (i) the procurement of goods and services that are environmentally friendly; (ii) the enhancement of societal welfare; and (iii) contribution to economic development. Ghana has joined the world community in ensuring that growth in socio-economic development does not impose unnecessary threat to the environment.

Ghana has developed policies and is enforcing regulations to ensure the realization of sustainable develop-

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Flourishing used appliance market

ment goals. The tariffs of electricity utilities have been tied to their quality and customer service performance levels through legislation. The standards, for thermal plants for instance, put the approved heat rate for the GE frame 9E thermal generating equipment at 10,200 mmbtu/kWh, and electricity transmission and distribution losses have been pegged at a maximum of 3% and 18% respectively.

Another area of high energy losses is in our homes due to poor house-keeping and the use of inefficient end use appliances e.g. refrigerators. In 2013, households and industry accounted for about 47.6% and 34.4% of total electricity consumption in the country respectively. Households in the country contribute to the evening peak, which occurs between 6pm and 11pm during which period all plants are deployed, imposing high cost on the generation system.

It therefore comes as no surprise to see a lot of energy conservation and efficiency activities geared towards households to reduce their consumption especially during the peak period. It is instructive to know that the country has transversed the era of cheap hydro power. In 2000, hydropower generation accounted for 91.5% of total generation compared to 64.0% in 2013 including Bui Hydropower plant. The total unexploited hydropower potential in the country is about 230 MW with a total output of about 930 GWh. Hence, all future generation capacity will have to be thermal based on fossil fuels e.g. light crude oil, imported and domestic natural gas and coal, which are expensive and environmentally unfriendly.

Energy consumption by households and commercial sectors are mainly for lighting, cooking, refrigeration, and space cooling. In order to reduce energy consump-

tion, the government of Ghana, through the Energy Commission has put pragmatic energy saving measures in place to arrest the ever-growing demand in energy in order to achieve the policy target of 10% reduction in energy demand by 2015. The measures include the introduction of robust standards and an appliance labelling programme which are mandatory by law. The Parliament of Ghana has passed laws to regulate the importation and manufacture of some selected electrical appliances into Ghana. These laws are;

- Energy Efficiency Standards and Labelling (Non-Ducted Air-conditioners and Self-Ballasted Fluorescent Lamps) Regulations, 2005 (LI 1815)
- Energy Efficiency Standards and Labelling (Household Refrigerating Appliances) Regulations, 2009(LI 1958) and LI 1970
- Energy Efficiency (Prohibition of Manufacture, Sale or Importation of Incandescent Filament Lamp, Used Refrigerator, Used Refrigerator-Freezer, Used Freezer and Used Air-conditioner) Regulations, 2008 (LI 1932)

The Energy Efficiency Standards and Labelling (Non-Ducted Air-conditioners and Self-Ballasted Fluorescent Lamps) Regulations, 2005 (LI1815) sets the minimum standards for all compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and room air conditioners that can be imported or manufactured in the country. The law stipulates a minimum energy efficiency standard of 33 lumens per watt for CFLs. The simple interpretation of 33lumens per watt is *“the amount of illumination that 33 lighted candle can provide by standing a foot away from it”*. A twenty-watt CFL can replace an eighty-watt incandescent lamp and the energy savings is about eighty percent. The minimum energy efficiency ratio (EER) for air conditioners is 2.8. Labelling is a requirement and that the law make it an offence to import or put up for sale without the appropriate label affixed conspicuously on the appliance.

The Energy Efficiency Standards and Labelling (Household Refrigerating Appliances) Regulations, 2009 (LI 1958) as amended in LI 1970 set out minimum energy efficiency standards for household or domestic refrigerating appliances and makes labelling a mandatory requirement. The average annual consumption of a refrigerator should not exceed 600kWh.

The labels have yellow background and black stars ranging from one to five and the more the stars, the more efficient the appliance. With regards to refrigerators, the



refrigerant (gas) put in the compressor and the climate class of the appliance are part of the information that by law should appear on the label. Gases that are chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) are harmful to the environment as they deplete the ozone layer and are subsequently banned in Ghana upon signing the Montreal Protocol. The world, for the purposes refrigerator usage, is divided into four basic climatic zones; frigid, temperate, sub-tropical and tropical zones. On the name-plate of every refrigerator pasted at the back of the appliance or on the yellow label, one can find “climate class” with the following markings; SN, N, ST, and T respectively representing the climate class which the appliance was designed to be used in. These are subnormal (SN), normal (N), subtropical (ST) and tropical (T) climate classes. Appliances that are marked SN or N, even if they are new would not be efficient in Ghana which has a tropical climate. At worse, one can go in for a subtropical (ST) refrigerating appliance. Refrigerating appliances that are marked normal (N) or subnormal (SN) are not designed to be used in tropical climate like Ghana where temperatures are high. They are therefore banned in Ghana by LI 1958 and LI 1970 because they are high energy consuming, even if they are new.

The Legislative Instrument 1932 gives vitality and meaning to the energy efficiency drive. It proceeds to ban the importation of used energy consuming appliances; refrigerating appliances and used air-conditioners. It further bans the importation or manufacturing of incandescent filament bulbs, which are high energy consuming.

The rationale for the passage of these laws was without malice to any trader but to ensure that our market sells only energy efficient appliances. Refrigerating appliances and air-conditioners are two major energy consuming household/commercial appliances. Their consumption worsens when they are old. These old and inefficient appliances that have outlived their technical usefulness in Europe, America and elsewhere, suddenly find their way into Ghana and begin a new life. They serve as a drain on the system; used refrigerators, for instance, consume 1,200 kWh per annum on the average, compared to 150 kWh annually in jurisdictions where there are robust standards. The high energy consumption is as result of the fact that they are not meant to be used in the tropics and also

certain vital components like the compressor, thermostat and the seals are weak and as a result malfunction.

The linkage between energy policy and sustainable procurement is established in the fact that the sustainable procurement laws take into consideration the procurement of energy efficient appliances. It is estimated that 50% of government revenue goes into the procurement of goods and services which includes appliances such as air-conditions, refrigerators, lamps etc. The procurement policy therefore makes it mandatory that public funded procurement should be the most efficient appliances. This then changes the dynamics of public procurement and especially the common perception that price is the ultimate decider of who wins a procurement contract because of the element of sustainability introduced. In sustainable procurement therefore, factors that are considered are; operating cost, low carbon footprints and end of life cost and not the initial cost.

The reasons for the laws

Economic reasons

The initial investment cost of old appliances could be low but running cost could be very high in terms of bills and maintenance cost. The country spent US\$ 745.34 million to import crude oil for the thermal power plants in 2013 compared to US\$ 259.11 million in 2011. In the case individuals who undertake energy savings, monies that would have gone into payment of energy bills remain in the pockets as savings. In 2007/2008, the lighting retrofit through the National CFL exchange programme alone saved the country 124MW which at that time would have cost USD 105.0 million to build a power plant of equal output. Studies into income levels in some 26 selected districts after the lighting retrofit exercise revealed that household incomes had gone up by GHS30 on the average. It is quite refreshing to state that two CFL assembly plants were established in Ghana after the standards were introduced.

Environmental reasons

Apart from the cost of inefficient appliance use to the individual and the state, the environmental cost can also be alarming. Most of the old appliances





Korle lagoon, a hub of e-waste

have short lifespan and after a short period of use, they are discarded. The discarded appliances litter our street corners and those containing environmentally harmful gases like chlorofluorocarbons refrigerators and air-conditioners are released unto the atmosphere.

Technological advancement and growth reasons

Standards and labelling help countries to benefit from stimulating technological improvement among manufacturers and stimulate economic growth with little or limited investments in more electricity production infrastructure. For the first time in many years the imports of new refrigerating appliances have exceeded that of used appliances by 51,125 units. The importation of used refrigerators dropped from 420,000 units in 2012 to 152,000 in 2013. The reduction in importation of used refrigerators translates into 160.8 MW savings in electricity demand. This is enough to power 50,000 middle income homes for a year without additional capacity. With the introduction of standards and the laws banning used refrigerating appliance imports, a company is on the throes of starting assembling of refrigerating appliances in the Free Zone enclave.

Anti dumping reasons

The laws are in place to prevent Ghana from becoming a dumping ground for obsolete and inefficient appliances from Europe and elsewhere. Disposal of electronic waste is expensive in the advanced countries. They therefore

find where they can dump so easily and in the absence of stringent policies and laws that insulate a country, it automatically becomes a dumping site. In the wake of the ban on the importation of used refrigerating appliances into Ghana, a British waste management company, Environcom, shipped over forty 40-footer containers of used refrigerators into the country. But for the laws on the ban of those appliances, the Energy Commission would have found it extremely difficult to confiscate and destroy the items. The environmental and economic implications of dumping to the affected country cannot be underestimated.

The Appeal

With the construction of the Bui Dam, Ghana has hit its wits end as far as cheap hydro power potential is concerned. All future generation expansion would come from thermal which could be expensive, economically and environmentally.

To differentiate an energy efficient appliance from an energy inefficient one is by the label. Look out for the yellow label with black stars. Remember that if the appliance is not labelled, it is probably not good. The axiom is “No label, No good”

Kofi A. Agyarko

Head of Energy Efficiency & Climate Change Division

Energy Commission



SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA IN THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS

SPP seeks to ensure that development targets are achieved through the sustainable acquisition of goods, works and services. It guarantees economic, social and environmental sustainability, by helping to:

- ◆ achieve value for money
- ◆ sustain economic development
- ◆ improve ethical behaviour of suppliers / contractors especially, and the general public at large
- ◆ reduce harmful emissions and waste generation
- ◆ improve air and water quality
- ◆ Improve management of our forests
- ◆ make local industries applying SPP become internationally competitive
- ◆ increase the wealth and health of the society (hence improve living standards)
- ◆ improve working conditions - health and safety, labour standards
- ◆ improve condition of disadvantaged groups in the country
- ◆ help accelerate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and
- ◆ create a better society, among other things.

Currently, Ghana's Public Procurement Act, Act 663, addresses only a few sustainability issues, essentially Socio-Economic.

However, there are social issues in the Labour Law which can be applied in the procurement process.

Environmental aspects, though not captured in the law, has stand-alone laws and regulations on issues such as:

- ◆ Pesticides Control and Management
- ◆ Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
- ◆ Forest & Wildlife management
- ◆ Refrigerants and Others.

On the **Social** side, Ghana's labour Law, Act 651 of 2003 addresses issues such as:

- ◆ Equal Opportunity for Employment
- ◆ Occupational Health & Safety
- ◆ TUC-Employers dialogue
- ◆ Child labour, among others

The Disability Law, Act 715, includes access to be made in government buildings for the physically challenged.

Service Providers should comply with Ghana's laws and Policies on:

- ◆ Labour – including labour rights; health & safety
- ◆ Gender – women competing for public service contracts
- ◆ Timber Procurement
- ◆ Power Saving Equipment
- ◆ Gas for Refrigerants
- ◆ Physically Challenged and
- ◆ Other Environmental Laws/Policies relevant to the subject matter of the Procurement

Way Forward

Probable Sectors and what to target:

Forestry : Procure only Legal and /or sustainable timber products

Labour: Service Providers to satisfy basic requirements of the Labour Act

Energy: Renewable energy source; energy-saving lighting, Low power consuming electrical equipment, etc.

Solid and liquid Waste: minimize waste, re-cycle, use bio-technologies

Building construction: Green buildings

Motor Vehicles: low fuel consuming, low carbon emissions

Transportation: bulk transport; trains

Stationery: re-cycled paper; duplex printing equipment, etc.



SMEs: incentives

Women vendors: incentives

Conclusion

SPP will promote implementation of policies and regulations that have bearing on sustainability. It will thus accelerate Ghana's sustainable development progress.

Policy makers are called upon to develop sustainability policies in their sectors to ensure effectiveness of Ghana's sustainable development agenda.

Ghana will be rated even higher than it is now, and attract more FDI if Government starts demanding sustainable goods and services.

Culled from presentation by Barbara Morton on Sustainable Public Procurement, on SPP Awareness Seminar in Ghana – May, 2014.

Barbara Morton

Sustainable Procurement Ltd

+44 (0)7766 023560

barbara@sustainableprocurement.eu.com

MAKING PUBLIC PROCUREMENT SUSTAINABLE THROUGH THE INTRODUCTION OF DELIBERATE POLICY INTERVENTIONS



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 pro-

jects 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-forestation. 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.

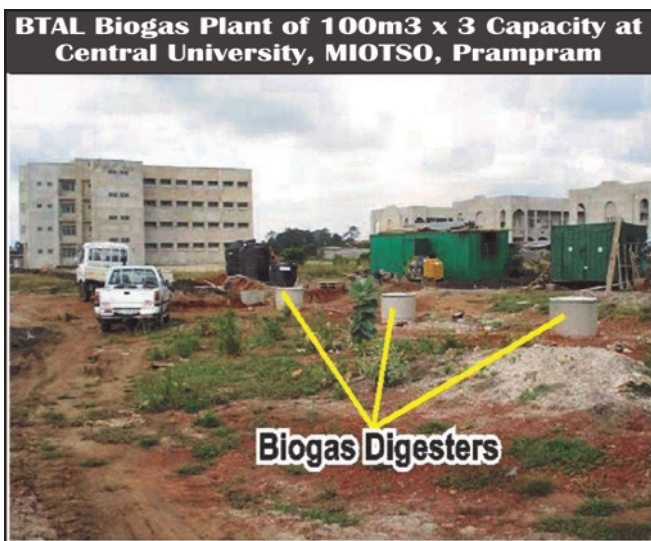
JOHN AFARI IDAN

Biogas Technologies Africa Ltd.

info@biogasonline.com

www.biogasonline.com

0244-461959



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Editorial Team

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Thomas K. Bondzi—Principal IT Specialist

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Phone: 0302 - 765641-2
Fax : 0302—765643

