

Sustainable Procurement: Beyond Green Policies to Real Impact

Enabling Sustainable and resilient Supply Chains
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Agenda

1. What do we do at UNOPS?
2. Brief history of SP @ UNOPS
3. SP @ UNOPS in action
4. Real impact beyond green policies
5. UNOPS Corporate Programmes
 - Climate action Programme
 - DRiVE Programme
 - Possibilities Programme

 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



1. What do we do at UNOPS?

What we do at UNOPS?



**Sustainable &
Resilient
Infrastructure**



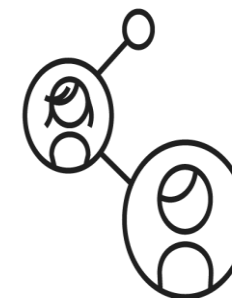
**Public
Procurement**



**Project
management**



**Financial
management**



**Human
resources**

In 2024, UNOPS delivered around \$3.0 billion worth of projects through about 1,100 projects in more than 80 countries.



2. Brief history of SP @ UNOPS

Brief history of SP @ UNOPS

UNOPS journey with Sustainable Procurement over the last 16 years has not only led to procurement transformation - it has established our value proposition as a global leader in providing **Sustainable Public Procurement solutions**.

SP is included in the Procurement Manual



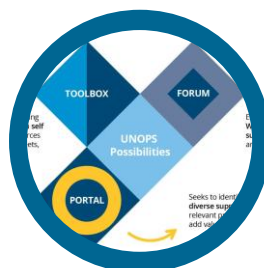
2008-10

First UN Guide for SP is developed



2011-14

The first UN Supplier Diversity programme - UNOPS Possibilities



2015-17

The first UN Supplier Sustainability programme (DRiVE)



2018

The first UN SP Framework is Launched



2019-20

The SP Framework is revised and made publicly available



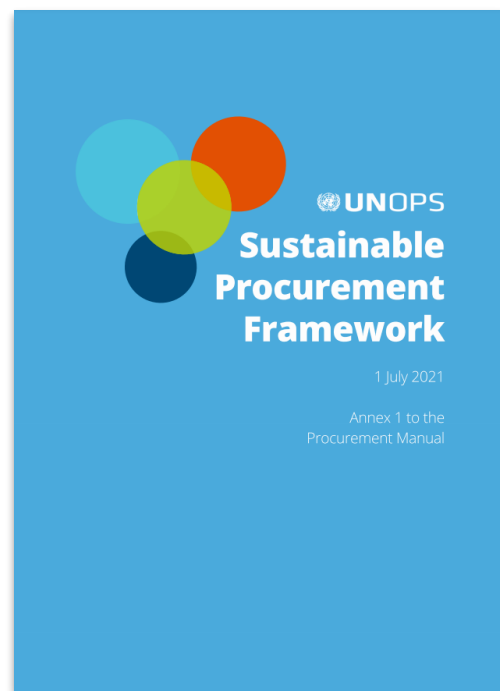
2021-22

SP is transformed into Sustainable Supply Chains



2023-

UNOPS Leadership in SP



x5

3. SP @ UNOPS in action

Sustainability in tenders

SP Guidance and Resource tool is an interactive tool that provides procurement and project teams with tailored guidance and sustainability criteria examples to support decision-making around SP and facilitate effective and comfortable implementation of the requirements of the **SP Framework** in procurement processes.

SP Mandatory Requirements and Criteria List

The Sustainable Procurement (SP) Framework Guidance Tool (SP Guidance Tool) is an interactive tool that provides you with the guidance and sustainability criteria examples to ensure that you can effectively and comfortably implement the requirements of the SP Framework in your tenders. With the help of this tool, you can ensure that your procurement process is in favour of the protection of the environment, of social progress and in support of economic development.

STEP 1: Select items relevant to your tender (Q1-Q4 mandatory)
and you will receive guidance on the mandatory requirements of the Sustainable Procurement Framework.

Q1. Type of Requirement	Q2. Solicitation Type	Q3. Check Part 2 category or Not Applicable/None	Q4. Check the box or request for a DISCOUNT
Goods or Services	ES	Q3. Type to search	*Do not key in Part 2 category: Q1. Single use plastic (with the exception of medical consumables) Q2. Incandescent light bulbs Q3. Tobacco products Q4. Diesel generators - [] Do not procure Part 3
Works	ES/ESRP	N/A or None of the below (scroll down 1)	
CTA & IT/ERP above USD 1 M	PQ	Part 2: Cleaning products	
PQ	RFQ	Part 2: Cleaning services	

STEP 2: Use table filters below to choose relevant sustainability criteria from the table
Note that the table is already pre-filtered based on the Part 2 category (STEP 1) requested.

Table Filters	Criteria Name	Criteria Text	Required Documentation	Contract clause and SPs
Carbon footprint reduction efforts	The bidder shall provide documentation which outlines their approach, strategy, and/or current efforts to reduce the carbon footprint of their organization.	Q1. Scope: A document with the carbon footprint assessment of the organization. Q2. Scope: Material (Life Cycle Assessment) and/or other data for carbon footprint assessment with measurable targets. Q3. Scope: Material (Life Cycle Assessment) and/or other data for carbon footprint assessment with measurable targets.	For the duration of the contract period, the bidder shall provide and report on the carbon footprint assessment of the organization.	
Greenhouse gas emissions	The bidder shall provide documentation which outlines their approach, strategy, and/or current efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	Q1. Scope: A document with the greenhouse gas emissions assessment of the organization. Q2. Scope: Material (Life Cycle Assessment) and/or other data for greenhouse gas emissions assessment with measurable targets. Q3. Scope: Material (Life Cycle Assessment) and/or other data for greenhouse gas emissions assessment with measurable targets.	For the duration of the contract period, the bidder shall provide and report on the greenhouse gas emissions assessment of the organization.	

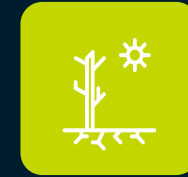
Sustainability themes covered



Environmental sustainability



Gender equality and social inclusion



Climate change impact



Labour standards



Disability inclusion



Health and safety



Environment, social and governance mgmt systems

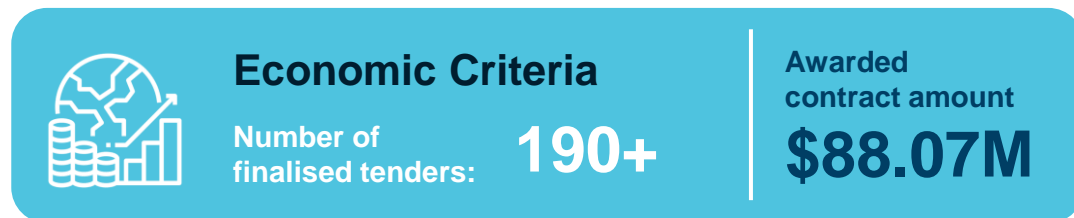
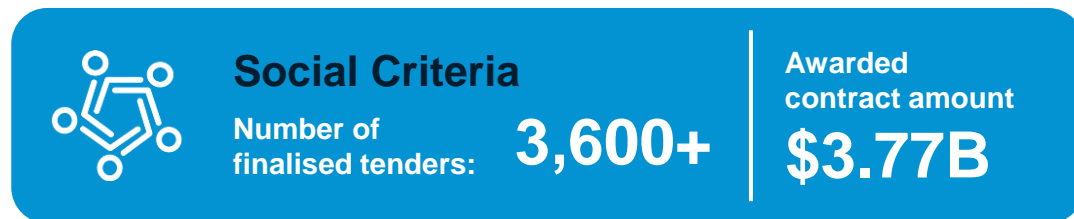
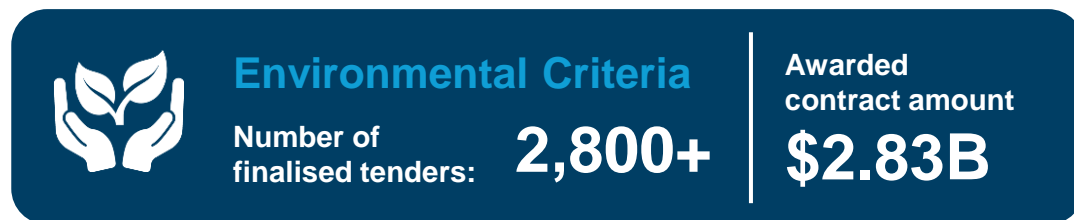


Resource efficiency

Key features

- **SP Criteria List page**
 - Sustainability Criteria Text for tenders
 - Guidance for verification
 - Options based on market maturity
 - Sustainability Contractual Clauses
 - Mapped to key donor priorities
- **DRiVE market sustainability analysis**
- **SP in practice**
 - Exemplary tenders and Case studies library

SP - In action - 2020 - 2025



Gender and Social Inclusion criteria are the most widely used SP criteria

SP Indicator	Number of finalised tenders	Tender contract award amount (USD)
1. Gender issues	2.9K	\$2.95B
2. Human and labour rights	852	\$2.36B
3. Biodiversity protection	525	\$2.1B
4. Other considerations	1.3K	\$928.98M
5. Sustainable resource use	1.6K	\$526.79M
6. Social health and well-being	228	\$484.94M
7. Prevention of pollution	915	\$387.02M
8. Local communities and SMEs	413	\$196.88M
9. Climate change	394	\$179.36M
10. Supply chain sustainability	120	\$75.42M
11. UN Global Compact	409	\$72.95M
12. Whole life cycle costing	57	\$12.03M
13. Disability inclusion	8	\$4.35M
14. Limited competition i.e. MSME/WOB/YOB/DIB	19	\$621.61K

Environmental Social Governance Other

SP - In action - 2020 - 2025



Tenders and Contracts with Gender Criteria		Awards to Women-Owned Businesses	
\$514.38M	1,058	\$51.20M	203
contract awards with gender criteria	tenders with gender criteria	amount awarded to women-owned businesses (WOBs)	women-owned businesses (WOBs) awarded



Tenders with Human Rights and Labor Standards Criteria		Awards to Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)	
\$318.04M	821	\$770.82M	1,657
awards with human rights and labor standards criteria	tenders with human rights and labor standards criteria	awards to Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)	Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) awarded



Tenders with Disability-inclusive Criteria		Awards to disability-inclusive suppliers (DIS)	
\$5.70M	19	\$114.65M	204
awards included disability-inclusive criteria	tenders included disability-inclusive criteria	awards to disability-inclusive suppliers (DIS)	Disability-inclusive suppliers (DIS) awarded



Tenders with Climate Criteria		Tenders for Generators Procurement	
\$133.64M	287	\$44.56M	67
of awards included Climate criteria	tenders included Climate criteria	awards in tenders for Solar generators	tenders for Solar generators



around

\$1.7 billion

worth of goods & services procured for partners



In total, around

\$3 billion

delivered in projects

4. Real impact beyond Green policies - In action @ UNOPS

4.1 Environmental Sustainability

Sustainable Packaging Criteria in Argentina



Tender Title:

ITB for the supply of 40.000 educational notebooks

Award amount: \$10,698,066

Partner:

Plan Sarmiento, Ministry of Education of City of Buenos Aires

Project Country: Argentina



SDGs addressed in this tender:



UNOPS



Criteria text included in the tender:

Bidders must submit a plan outlining: **Packaging reductions** ensuring safe delivery of the products



Was this tender successful?

- 04 Bids received with SP compliance
- The awarded bidder submitted a detailed plan to reduce packaging waste, which included reusing original packaging, bulk packing netbooks, and utilizing locally produced packaging.
- 8,000 kg of packaging waste and associated transport emissions.
- The unit cost for the netbooks was 3 USD less than the price from the previous year, leading to a total savings of 120,000 USD.

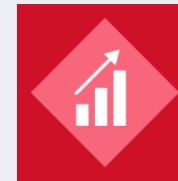


What were the lessons learned?

Incorporating sustainability criteria in procurement processes offer opportunities for improvement and increased benefits without necessarily incurring higher costs or risks.



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4.2 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

WOB Initiative in Yemen



Project:

2021, Yemen Integrated Urban Services Emergency Project (YIUSEP)

Women's economic empowerment

USD 01 million targeted procurement towards WOBs

Full 100% women ownership

Valid commercial registration with commercial activities of SMEs

Valid Tax identification

Donor: World Bank

Results

- US\$ 1 million worth goods and services delivered by WOBs in Yemen
- 10 Tenders reserved for WOBs
- 19 Lots in total

Lessons learned:

- Assess outcomes from completed contracts and carry out corrective actions
- Transiting WOBs to participate in general tenders
- Reach out campaign to identify WOBs in different cities within the country



Gender mainstreaming in Liberia

Tender title:

Consultancy Services to Develop a Legal framework and policy to Operate Microfinance Loan Facility for Community Based Enterprises (CBEs) in Liberia



Project country:

Liberia

Partner:

EC European Commission (other)

Award amount:

\$65,375



SDGs addressed in this tender:



UNOPS



Criteria text included in the tender:

Bidders should provide a plan that outlines: what percentage of opportunities will be reserved (as defined by the % of total headcount at all levels)? Cities Alliance program **gender action plan** which required the inclusion of gender criteria in all tenders.



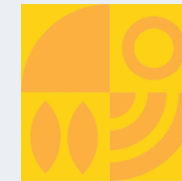
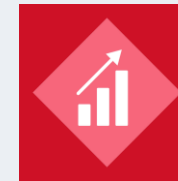
Was this tender successful?

- 04 submitted bids
- Award to women-owned business.
- This local women-owned business with over 50% female employees in its workforce



What were the lessons learned?

- Market research and experience sharing are key.
- Knowledge sharing between colleagues



4.3 Climate Change Impact

UNOPS laptops procurement in 2024

1. In 2024, UNOPS procured laptops for internal corporate use of which
 - a. 94% were TCO certified, and
 - b. 98% had EPEAT Gold label.
2. Procurement of laptops for projects implemented on behalf of the donors
 - a. 38% (4.7M USD) of procured laptops were TCO certified, and
 - b. 40% (4.9M USD) of laptops had EPEAT label.



Case Study: re-thinking procurement of works in UNOPS Afghanistan



Challenge

- Frequent flooding of the village of Jabraeel, Afghanistan

Solution

- Construction of a retaining wall to limit flooding

Sustainability

- Women were trained to build gabion baskets (cages weaved from wire) to hold the stones, and men filled the baskets with stones.
- Full community participation
- Gender mainstreaming
- Training in marketable skills



4.4 Disability Inclusion

Inclusion of Disability Criteria in Tenders in Bangladesh

Tender title:
Venue, Meal and Accommodation Services for NRP project National Resilience Programme (NRP)

Award amount: \$49,614.29
Partner:
SIDA Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

Project country: Bangladesh



SDGs addressed in this tender:



Criteria text included in the tender:

The bidder shall ensure that venues/Infrastructure is designed to be accessible for persons living with disabilities (for example ramps, railings, handrails, lifts, larger restrooms and appropriate fixtures, a venue at ground level, visible signage, and assistive technology)



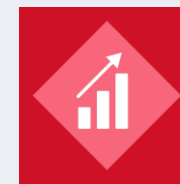
Was this tender successful?

- 05 bidders submitted their quotations
- 03 bidders complied with this sustainability criterion.



What were the lessons learned?

This criterion should be accurately specified to ensure that the awarded supplier will provide all the requested items and not partial requirements.



4.5 Health and Safety

Guatemala: Fighting corruption through Health Procurement

- 2015, Corruption cases reported in Guatemala's Social Security Institute (GISS)
- UNOPS improved transparency in procurement by strengthening capacities and transparency in pricing
- **US\$400 million** procured from 2016 - 2022 - medicals supplies



[Read More Here](#)
"Purchase for Impact 2023"



4.6 Environment, resource efficiency

Rural Renewable Energy Project (RREP) in Sierra Leone



Project Title:
Rural Renewable Energy Project

Project Country:
Sierra Leone

Project Budget:
\$49 million

Project Timeframe:
2016 - 2022

Project Donor:
United Kingdom Foreign,
Commonwealth and
Development Office (FCDO)



SDGs addressed in this project:



PROJECT-WIDE SUSTAINABILITY

The project especially focused on local capacity building and community involvement and inclusive distribution of project benefits. Local capacity to maintain the mini-grids past project completion is key to sustained function and project benefits.



Capacity building:

- Training local technicians for continued mini-grid community care & maintenance.



Local employment:

- 50 local engineers hired for assembly and installation.
- **Gender inclusion:** 30% of hired engineers were women.



Environmental and Social Minimum Requirements:

- Required EMS certificate and compliance with labour and human rights from suppliers.

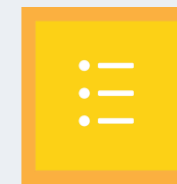
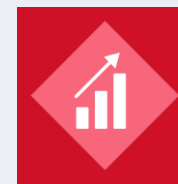
DRiVE Supplier Sustainability Self-assessment:



- 41 suppliers from 17 countries in competition for 6 tenders
- 3 suppliers for 2 tenders for questions under management systems (quality, environment, and health & safety). Verified suppliers **advanced maturity**

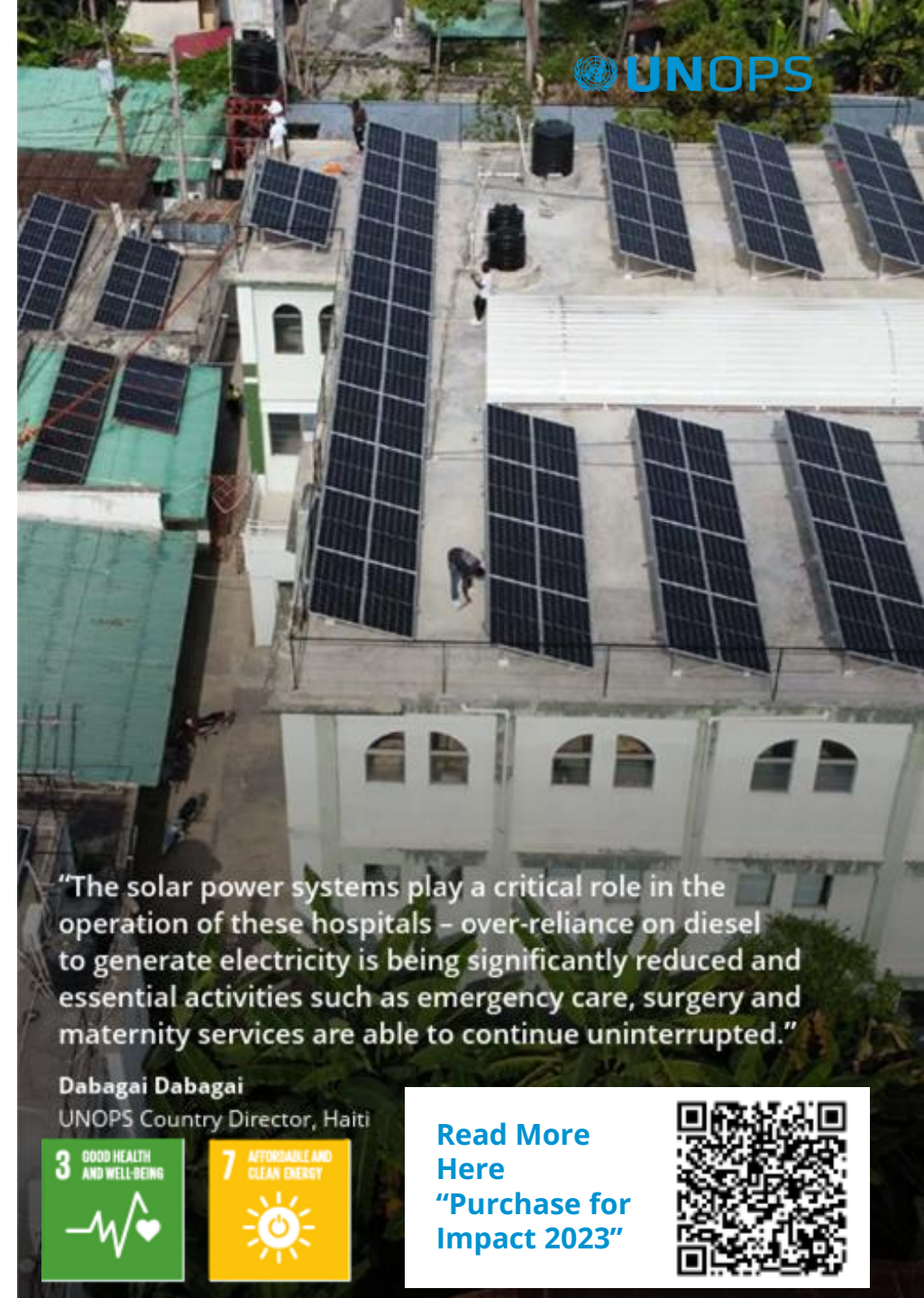


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Haiti: Powering hospitals with solar energy

- UNOPS to provide **Hybrid solar power systems for 05 hospitals**
- **500,000** Haitian people benefited from reliable source of energy
- World Bank: **US\$3.5 million**
- Local communities - employment
- Solar Systems for hospitals (health related SDG)
- Solar powered water pumps providing safe drinking water



"The solar power systems play a critical role in the operation of these hospitals – over-reliance on diesel to generate electricity is being significantly reduced and essential activities such as emergency care, surgery and maternity services are able to continue uninterrupted."

Dabagai Dabagai
UNOPS Country Director, Haiti



[Read More Here](#)
"Purchase for Impact 2023"



5. UNOPS Corporate Programmes - Sustainability

5.1 UNOPS Climate commitment

Climate Action Programme

UNOPS Climate commitment at COP28

Climate Action Programme

45%	Reduce absolute emissions by 45% from our operations by 2030
Net-zero	Reach net-zero before 2050
Scope 3	Account for emissions in our value chains
Climate Resilience	Integrating climate-resilient practices in our project

13 CLIMATE ACTION



UNOPS



5.2 DRiVE - Delivering Responsibility in Vendor Engagement

What is **DRiVE** ?

Delivering Responsibility in Vendor Engagement



Enhanced risk management



Improved customer relations



Capacity building for suppliers



Supply chains transparency



Data-Driven approach



Leverage for sustainability

DRiVE

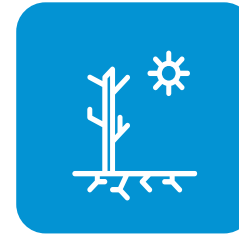
DRiVE is the UNOPS Supplier Sustainability programme. It focuses on understanding how our suppliers manage sustainability issues and risks within their organisations. Our goal is to **help them build and promote more sustainable and responsible business practices.**



Environmental management



Equal Opportunity



Climate change impact



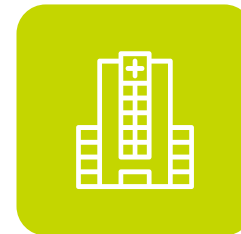
Human rights



Supply chain management



Labour standards



Health and safety management



Organization, System and Policies



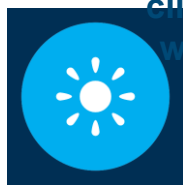
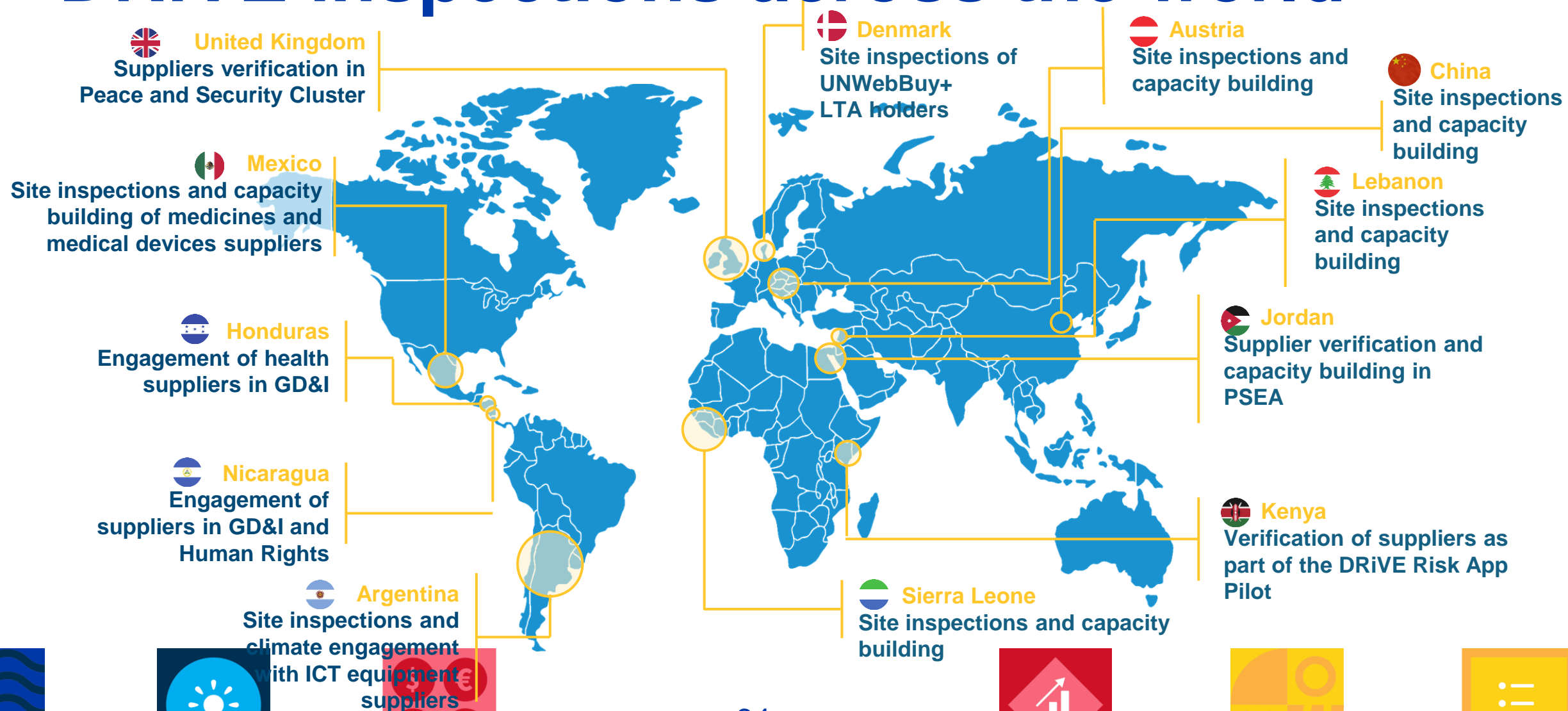
Quality management



Ethical conduct



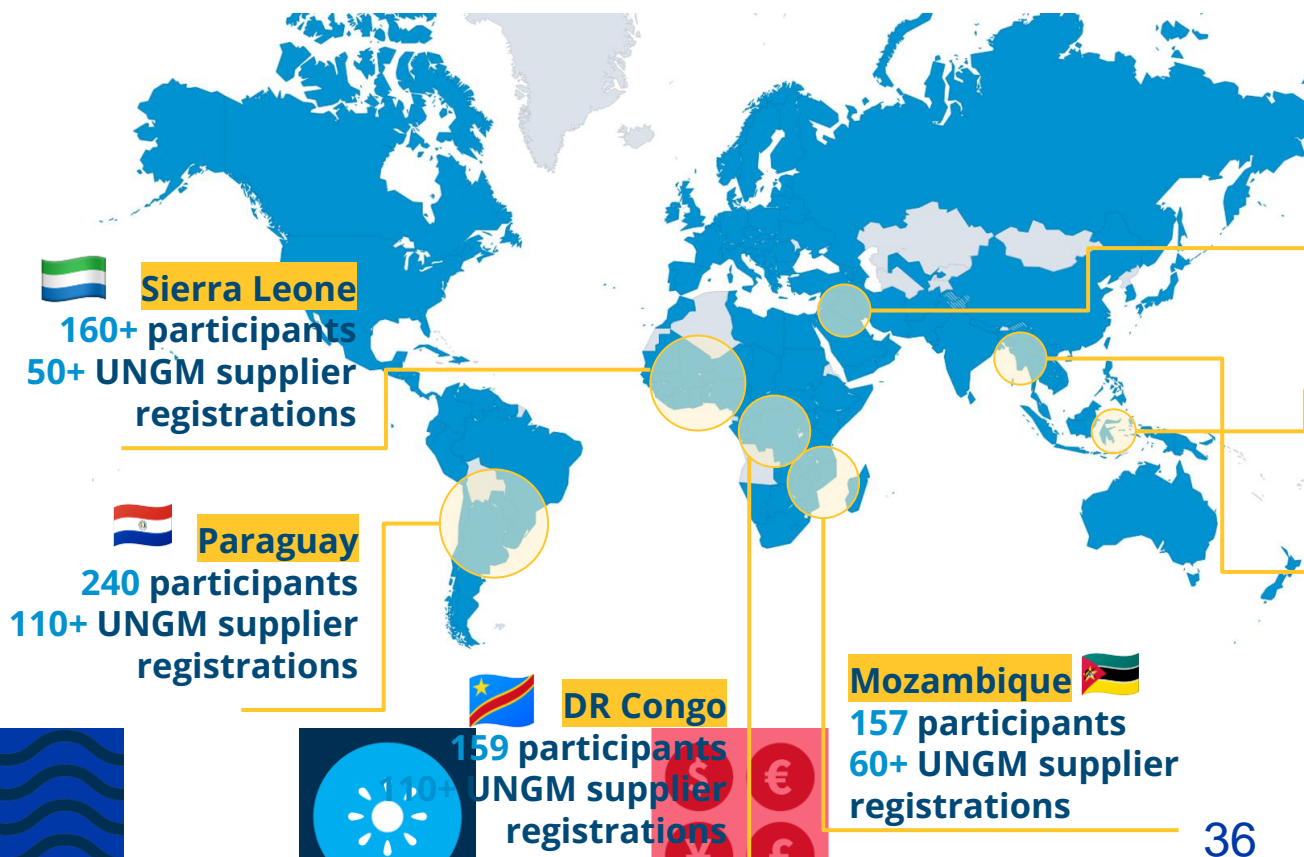
DRiVE inspections across the world



5.3 Possibilities - Supplier Development and Diversity

UNOPS Possibilities Forums 2016-2024

23 UP FORUMS	2,140+ PARTICIPANTS	1,160+ UNGM REGISTERED SUPPLIERS	\$210.22M PROCURED FROM DIVERSE PARTICIPATING SUPPLIERS	230+ PARTICIPATING SUPPLIERS AWARDED	42 OF THOSE SUPPLIERS, WERE NEW TO UNOPS
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Jordan
50+ participants
10 UNGM supplier registrations



Supplier Testimonial - Philippines



A photograph of two women sitting in a field of young green plants. The woman on the left is wearing a light blue plaid shirt and a green patterned skirt, and is smiling. The woman on the right is wearing a light blue button-down shirt and a purple patterned skirt, and is also smiling. They are both looking towards the camera. The background shows more plants and a wooden fence.

Sustainable Supply Chains

Please feel free to ask
your questions:

sustainable.procurement@unops.org

Discover our
report “**Purchase**
for impact 2023”



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