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# Concept of Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP)

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# What is a Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP)?

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## SPP – UNEP definition I

- a process whereby organisations meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities **in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life basis in terms of procurement generating benefits not only to the organisation, but also to society and the economy, whilst minimising damage to the environment**
- SPP seeks to achieve the appropriate balance between the three pillars of sustainable development - **economic, social and environmental**

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## SPP – UNEP definition II

- **Economic factors** include the costs of goods and services over their entire life cycle, such as: acquisition, maintenance, operations and end-of-life management costs (including waste disposal) in line with good financial management
- **Social factors** include social justice and equity; safety and security; human rights and employment conditions
- **Environmental factors** include emissions to air, land and water, climate change, biodiversity, natural resource use and water scarcity over the whole product life cycle

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## Key points

- It is challenging – and, perhaps, not necessary – to have a very precise and detailed SPP definition
- SPP tends to react to existing challenges, which can be different across jurisdictions. Hence the understanding of the concept may differ as well
- In international practice, SPP is mainly carried out according to methodologies tailored to particular subject matters of the contract

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## SPP – strategic and policy context

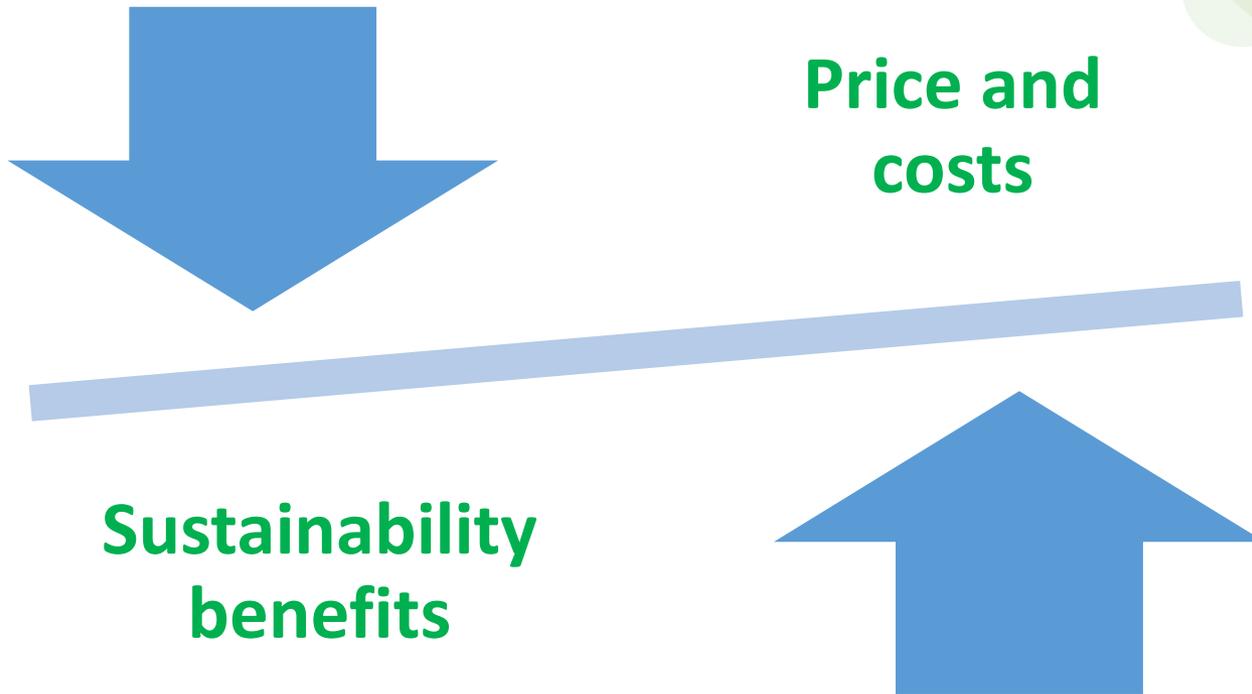
- European Green Deal – making Europe climate neutral by 2050. Some of activities:
  - Decarbonization of energy
  - Renovation of buildings
  - Changes of industry
  - Changes in mobility patterns
- Circular economy considerations

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# SPP- a false dichotomy?



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# SPP: from straight forward to debatable



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# Sensible approach for SPP introduction

- Start with market access and prioritization
- Keep local market involved

- Introduce SPP gradually, but consistently
- Expand item categories over time

- Keep procurement community informed
- Provide support tools

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