



Product Sheet

Sustainable Procurement Guidelines for Cleaning Products

Advanced sustainability criteria and verification instructions

Advanced sustainability criteria: are intended for use by procurers who seek to purchase the most advanced environmentally-friendly and socially-responsible products available on the market, and may require additional administrative effort or result in a price increase, as compared to other products fulfilling the same function.

Regions covered: **Region 2 (Rest of the World)**

This product sheet is divided into four sections:

[Section 1: Sustainability and verification criteria](#)

[Section 2: Information sources](#)

[Annex 1: Check-list](#)

For further information on any of the issues addressed in this Product Sheet, please consult the **Sustainable Procurement Guidelines for Cleaning Products – Background Report**.

Section 1: Sustainability criteria for cleaning products Advanced Requirements

SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA	VERIFICATION
A - Procurement planning: subject matter	
Provision of sustainable cleaning products	
B - Requirement definition: specifications (compulsory requirements that product must fulfil)	
<p>Restricted cleaning products</p> <p>The portfolio of cleaning products may not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chlorine-based sanitary cleaners and strongly acidic toilet and bathroom cleaners with inorganic acids Chemical air fresheners Chemical drain cleaner Disposable wipes Sprays containing propellants. 	<p>A list of products within the cleaning product portfolio must be provided. This list should include the brand name, product name and intended use of the product.</p> <p>A list of all ingredients constituting greater than 0.1% of the product for each of the cleaning products must be supplied.</p>
<p>Harmful/hazardous categories of chemicals</p> <p>All offered cleaning products must not be formulated or manufactured with any chemicals that are listed on the “Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale Have Been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or not Approved by Governments” annually updated and edited by the United Nations.</p>	<p>A list of all ingredients constituting greater than 0.1% of the product for each of the cleaning products must be supplied, together with a declaration stating that they do not contain these restricted chemicals.</p>
<p>Heavy metals</p> <p>All offered cleaning products must not contain the following heavy metals in concentrations greater than those listed below;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arsenic must not exceed 0.5 mg/l. Lead must not exceed 0.5 mg/l. Cadmium must not exceed 0.1 mg/l. 	<p>Products carrying the Ecologo, Green Seal or Thai Ecolabel will be deemed to comply.</p> <p>Any other appropriate means of proof demonstrating that the criteria are met will also be accepted, such as a technical dossier from the manufacturer, a test report from a recognised body showing compliance, or a declaration from the manufacturer. 'Recognised</p>

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SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA	VERIFICATION
<p>Chromium must not exceed 0.5 mg/l. Mercury must not exceed 0.02 mg/l.¹</p>	<p>bodies' are test and calibration laboratories and certification and inspection bodies which comply with applicable regional, national and/or international standards.</p>
<p>Other restricted substances</p> <p>All offered cleaning products must not contain the following ingredients:</p> <p>Ethylene-diamine-tetra-acetate (EDTA) and its salts</p> <p>Nitrilo-tri-acetate (NTA)</p> <p>Alkyl phenol ethoxylates (APEO) or derivatives thereof</p>	<p>A list of all ingredients constituting greater than 0.1% of the product for each of the cleaning products must be supplied, together with a declaration stating that they do not contain these restricted chemicals.</p> <p>Products carrying the Ecologo, European Ecolabel or Nordic Swan will be automatically deemed to comply.</p>
<p>Biodegradability</p> <p>All offered cleaning products must only contain surfactants and organic ingredients that are aerobically readily biodegradable. Ready biodegradability is defined under OECD Guidelines for Testing of Chemicals (301 – A-F), ISO test methods - ISO 9439, ISO 10708, ISO 10707, or ISO 7828 or Thai Standard for Detergent, TISI 578.</p>	<p>A list of all surfactants and organic ingredients included in each product must be supplied.</p> <p>Ingredients listed as readily biodegradable on the Detergent Ingredient Database (DID list) of the European Union will also be deemed to comply.</p> <p>Products carrying the Ecologo, Green Seal, European Ecolabel, Nordic Swan or Thai Ecolabel will be deemed to comply.</p> <p>Any other appropriate means of proof demonstrating that the criteria are met will also be accepted, such as a technical dossier from the manufacturer, a test report from a recognised body showing compliance, or a declaration from the manufacturer. 'Recognised bodies' are test and calibration laboratories and certification and inspection bodies which comply with applicable regional, national and/or international standards.</p>
<p>Phosphorous</p> <p>All offered cleaning products may not contain more than 1% by weight of phosphorus.</p>	<p>Products carrying the Ecologo, Green Seal, European Ecolabel, Nordic Swan or Thai Ecolabel will be deemed to comply.</p> <p>Any other appropriate means of proof demonstrating that the criteria are met will also be accepted, such as a technical dossier from the manufacturer, a test report from a recognised body showing compliance, or a declaration from the manufacturer. 'Recognised bodies' are test and calibration laboratories and certification and</p>

¹ Source: Thai Ecolabel

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SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA	VERIFICATION
	inspection bodies which comply with applicable regional, national and/or international standards.
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's) All offered cleaning products may not contain more than 25% by weight of Volatile Organic Compounds. ²	Products carrying the Ecologo, Green Seal, European Ecolabel or Thai Ecolabel will be deemed to comply. Any other appropriate means of proof demonstrating that the criteria are met will also be accepted, such as a technical dossier from the manufacturer, a test report from a recognised body showing compliance, or a declaration from the manufacturer. 'Recognised bodies' are test and calibration laboratories and certification and inspection bodies which comply with applicable regional, national and/or international standards.

²

Source: Thai Ecolabel

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SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA	VERIFICATION
<p>Harmful/hazardous categories of chemicals</p> <p><i>Please note: only one of the following criteria sets needs to be used.</i></p> <p>Option a) Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)</p> <p>Any ingredient in the offered products that constitutes over 0.1% of the product must not be classified under the following categories under the GHS.</p> <p>Acute Toxicity Oral Categories 1,2,3</p> <p>Acute Toxicity Dermal Categories 1,2,3</p> <p>Acute Toxicity Inhalation – Aerosols and Particulates Dusts and Mists Categories 1,2,3</p> <p>Acute Toxicity Inhalation – Gases and Vapours Categories 1,2</p> <p>Carcinogenic Substances – Categories 1,2</p> <p>Mutagenic Substances – Categories 1,2</p> <p>Respiratory Sensitisation – Category 1</p> <p>Skin Sensitisation – Category 1</p> <p>Substances Toxic for Reproduction – Categories 1,2</p> <p>Specific Target Organ Systemic Toxicity – Single Exposure - Categories 1,2</p> <p>Specific Target Organ Systemic Toxicity – Repeated Exposure – Category 1</p> <p>Aquatic Environment - Acute Toxicity Categories Acute: I, II, III</p> <p>Aquatic Environment - Chronic toxicity Chronic: I, II,III, IV</p> <p>Effects on or via lactation</p> <p><i>or</i></p>	<p>A list of all ingredients constituting greater than 0.1% of the product for each of the cleaning products supplied along with material safety data sheets for each product shall be provided.</p> <p>Products carrying the European Ecolabel (for options a and b) or Ecologo (option c) will be deemed to comply.</p> <p>Any other appropriate means of proof demonstrating that the criteria are met will also be accepted, such as a technical dossier from the manufacturer, a test report from a recognised body showing compliance, or a declaration from the manufacturer. 'Recognised bodies' are test and calibration laboratories and certification and inspection bodies which comply with applicable regional, national and/or international standards.</p>

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SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA	VERIFICATION
<p>Option b) European Union categories</p> <p>Any ingredient in the product that constitutes over 0.1% of the product must not be classified with the following hazard symbols or R phrases according to European Council Directive 67/548/EEC and its amendments or Directive 1999/45/EC on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances³</p> <p>Toxic - T or Very Toxic – T+</p> <p>R31 (contact with acid liberates gas)</p> <p>R40 (limited evidence of carcinogenic effect)</p> <p>R42 (may cause sensitisation by inhalation)</p> <p>R43 (may cause sensitisation by skin contact)</p> <p>R45 (may cause cancer)</p> <p>R46 (may cause heritable genetic damage)</p> <p>R49 (may cause cancer by inhalation)</p> <p>R68 (possible risks of irreversible effects)</p> <p>R50-53 (very toxic to aquatic organism and may cause long term adverse effects in the aquatic environment)</p> <p>R51-53 (toxic to aquatic organism and may cause long term adverse effects in the aquatic environment)</p> <p>R59 (dangerous to the ozone layer)</p> <p>R60 (may impair fertility)</p> <p>R61 (may cause harm to the unborn child)</p> <p>R62 (possible risk of impaired fertility)</p> <p>R63 (possible risk of harm to the unborn child)</p> <p>R64 (may cause harm to breastfed babies)</p> <p>or</p> <p>³</p>	

³ This criteria is taken from the European Ecolabel for all-purpose cleaners and cleaners for sanitary facilities except for the Toxic classifications. These are not included in the European Ecolabel because they are banned from use in commercial products in the European Union. They have been included here because countries outside the European Union may not have this ban in place.

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SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA	VERIFICATION
<p>Option c) United States classifications</p> <p>Cleaners must not be formulated or manufactured with any chemicals that;</p> <p>In an undiluted state are toxic to humans. A product is considered toxic if any of the following criteria apply according to OECD Test Methods Acute Oral Toxicity Test (TG401, Acute Inhalation Toxicity Test (TG403) and Acute Dermal Toxicity Test (TG 402).</p> <p>Oral lethal dose 50 (LD₅₀) ≤ 2,000mg/kg</p> <p>Inhalation lethal concentration (LC₅₀) <20mg/L, tested at its saturation concentration</p> <p>Are included in the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) lists for proven (Group 1), probable (Group 2A), or possible (Group 2B) carcinogens.</p> <p>Are known to cause reproductive toxicity as defined by those listed by the State of California under the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (California Code of Regulations , Title 22, Division 2, Subdivision 1, Chapter 3, Sections 1200, et seq.).</p> <p>Are identified as a priority for research by the European Union as endocrine disruptors.</p> <p>Require labelling as harmful or an irritant under the US Federal Hazardous Substances Act (16 CFR Part 1500) and/or in Canada, Part 1 and Part 2 of the Consumer Chemicals and Containers Regulations of the Hazardous Products Act.</p> <p>Are considered hazardous under the US Federal Hazardous Substances Act (16 CFR Part 1500) and/or in Canada Class D (Division 1 Subdivision A and Division 2 Subdivision A) or Class E of the Controlled Products Regulations (SOR/88-66) of the Hazardous Products Act.</p> <p>Are toxic to aquatic life. A compound is considered not toxic to aquatic life if it meets one or more of the following criteria according to ISO 7346.2 - Acute LC₅₀ for algae, daphnia of fish ≥ 100mg/L.</p>	
<p>Fragrances</p> <p>Any ingredient added as a fragrance must follow the International Fragrance Association code of practice.</p>	<p>Products carrying a European Ecolabel, Ecologo or Nordic Swan will be deemed to comply.</p> <p>Any other appropriate means of proof demonstrating that the criteria are met will also be accepted, such as a technical dossier from the manufacturer, a test report from a recognised body showing compliance, or a declaration from the manufacturer. 'Recognised bodies' are test and calibration laboratories and certification and inspection bodies which comply with applicable regional, national and/or international standards.</p>

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SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA	VERIFICATION
<p>Bioaccumulation</p> <p>Biocides that are classified with R50-53 or R51-53 may not be bioaccumulating. Bioaccumulating is defined as having a log Pow equal to or greater than 3 (unless the BCF is less than 100). Biocides are also only allowed as preservatives.⁴</p>	<p>Products carrying the Ecologo, Nordic Swan or European Ecolabel will be deemed to comply.</p> <p>Any other appropriate means of proof demonstrating that the criteria are met will also be accepted, such as a technical dossier from the manufacturer, a test report from a recognised body showing compliance, or a declaration from the manufacturer. 'Recognised bodies' are test and calibration laboratories and certification and inspection bodies which comply with applicable regional, national and/or international standards.</p>
<p>Packaging - concentrated form and clear dosing instructions</p> <p>All products must be delivered with clear dosing instructions.</p> <p>The product must be delivered in bulk or in a concentrated form.</p>	<p>Data on the packaging or a sample of the packaging materials if appropriate shall be provided, together with a declaration of compliance with these criteria. Any other appropriate means of proof will also be accepted.</p>
<p>Environmentally-friendly packaging</p> <p>Points shall be awarded for products for which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The packaging for the paper/paper consumables does not contain PVC or other chlorinated plastics. • The packaging materials are able to be separated into mono-material parts, and at least 80 percent of the packaging by weight consists of materials that are readily recyclable (with locally available recycling systems) or can be composted. • The cardboard packaging consists of 80% recycled material. 	<p>Bidders must provide a list of the different packaging materials used for the product, their weight and a declaration by the packaging producer/s where the percentage of recycled content for cardboard in their packaging is specified.</p>

⁴ Source: European Ecolabel for all purpose cleaners and cleaners for sanitary facilities

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SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA	VERIFICATION
<p>C - Sourcing Suppliers (use in pre-qualification)</p>	
<p>Compliance with environmental legislation (see Implementation Note)</p> <p>Bidders shall not be permitted to take part in a contract if they:</p> <p>Have been found guilty of grave professional misconduct, including non-compliance with environmental legislation, proven by any means which the contracting authorities can demonstrate; or have not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which he/she is established or with those of the country of the contracting authority.</p>	<p>Bidders must provide a declaration that they meet this criterion. Upon request, they may be asked to provide documentary proof to support this declaration.</p>
<p>Production of the product according to international labour standards (self-declaration)</p> <p>The bidder shall provide proof that they and the manufacturers of the cleaning products comply with the international working standards (ILO Core Conventions) listed below throughout the whole supply chain. The supply chain includes producers and manufacturers of all cleaning products that are the subject of this contract. Furthermore it includes contracted labour (contract manufacturers) that may market, manufacture and/or provide goods and services that are used to manufacture and supply the final product.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise (No. 87) • Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining (No. 98) • Forced Labour (No. 29) • Abolition of Forced Labour (No. 105) • Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) (No. 111) • Equal Remuneration (No. 100) • Minimum Age (No. 138) • Worst Forms of Child Labour (No. 182) 	<p>The bidder is required to submit appropriate proof that these requirements have been met, such as a written self-commitment/declaration (such as a current industry code of conduct declaration) that the requirements are met, together with documented support of the implementation and monitoring of measures</p>
<p>Written corporate environmental policy</p> <p>The bidder and the manufacturer of the final product(s) are required to demonstrate the existence and public availability of a written corporate environmental policy, consistent with ISO 14001 (International Organisation for Standardisation), or equivalent.</p>	<p>Proof of compliance is the written corporate environmental policy, consistent with ISO 14001 (International Organisation for Standardisation), or equivalent. Any other appropriate means of proof will also be accepted.</p>

Implementation notes

B - Requirement definition – Specifications – References to labels in Verification

Other relevant ecolabels may also exist in your region which may also be used to verify compliance. Please check if they are a Type I ecolabel, according to ISO 14024, and ensure they demonstrate compliance with the criteria presented here. For more information on ecolabels and environmental labels and their use in the UN procurement process, please consult: “A Guide to Environmental Labels for United Nations Procurers” published by UNOPS and UNEP (as part of the SUN initiative) (May 2009). For more information regarding ecolabels available globally, please consult the website of the Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN): <http://www.globalecolabelling.net>

C - Sourcing suppliers – Compliance with environmental legislation

Where appropriate, the contracting authorities should ask bidders to supply relevant documents and, where they have doubts concerning the personal situation of a bidder, they may seek the co-operation of the competent authorities in the particular country.

The exclusion of such economic operators should take place as soon as the contracting authority has knowledge of a judgement concerning such offences. If national law contains provisions to this effect, non-compliance with environmental legislation or legislation on unlawful agreements in public contracts which has been the subject of a final judgement or a decision having equivalent effect may be considered an offence concerning the professional conduct of the economic operator concerned or grave misconduct.

Exclusion of suppliers on the basis of non-compliance with environmental legislation may prove impractical in situations where a strong legal framework and enforcement is not in place. The procurer will need to assess their own situation.

Section 2: Information sources

- Austrian Ecolabel (Umweltzeichen). All purpose and sanitary cleaners, hand dishwashing detergents: <http://www.umweltzeichen.at/filemanager/list/15672>
- Bra Miljöval/Good Environmental Choice. Cleaning products: <http://www2.snf.se/bmv/english.cfm>
- European Ecolabel. All Purpose cleaners and household cleaners: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/product/index_en.htm
- European Commission GPP Training Toolkit: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/toolkit_en.htm
- Green Seal Environmental Standard for industrial and institutional cleaners, cleaning services: <http://www.greenseal.org>
- Kenya United Nations Office at Nairobi, Sustainable Procurement Policy (unpublished)
- Kenya United Nations Office at Nairobi, Guaranteed Fair Employment Package (unpublished)
- Nordic Swan. Cleaning products, microfibre cloths and mops: <http://www.svanen.nu>
- Terrachoice Environmental Marketing Ecologo, general purpose cleaners, bathrooms cleaners, degreasers, hand dishwashing products, industrial cleaners, window and glass cleaners: <http://www.ecologo.org>
- Thai Green Label. Detergents, dishwashing detergents and surface cleaners: <http://www.tei.or.th/greenlabel>
- European Commission (2007) "Detergent Ingredient Database (DID list)", available at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/product/pg_did_list_en.htm
- International Fragrance Association (2006) "The International Fragrance Association Code of Practice". Geneva, available at <http://www.ifraorg.org/Home/Code,%20Standards%20Compliance/Code-of-Practice/page.aspx/88>
- International Labour Office (2001) "Guidelines on occupational safety and health management systems, OSH – 2001" Geneva, available at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/safework/cops/english/download/e000013.pdf>
- United Nations (2004) "Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale Have Been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or not Approved by Governments" United Nations Publications
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (2007) "Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) second revised edition", United Nations, New York and Geneva, available at http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/ghs_rev02/02files_e.html
- UN High Level Committee on Management Procurement Network (HLCM-PN), Sustainable Procurement Statement, Revised 15th January 2009
- Council of the European Communities, Council Directive 76/769/EEC of 27 July 1976 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations, available at http://eur-lex.europa.eu/smartapi/cgi/sga_doc?smartapi!celexapi!prod!CELEXnumdoc&lg=EN&numdoc=31976L0769&model=guichett



Annex 1: Check-list for selection of Sustainable Cleaning Products & Services (advanced requirements for region 2)

The following check-list is designed to:

- Provide an quick overview of the criteria presented above
- Be used by UN procurers/requisitioners in assessing different offers

The Check-list only includes general headings does not include the criteria themselves. The criteria are presented in the document above.

For specifications (or terms of reference for services) and sourcing criteria, the procurer should insert “yes” or “no” in the final column depending on whether the product or service meets the criteria presented above.

For each award/evaluation criteria, the procurer should assess the performance of the product or service being evaluated and decide how many points should be awarded.

Check-list - Cleaning Products	
B - Requirement definition: specifications (compulsory requirements that the product must fulfil)	Yes/No
Restricted cleaning products	
Harmful/hazardous categories of chemicals	
Heavy metals	
Other restricted substances	
Biodegradability	
Phosphorous	
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's)	
Harmful/hazardous categories of chemicals	
Fragrances	
Bioaccumulation	
Packaging - concentrated form and clear dosing instructions	
Environmentally-friendly packaging	
C - Sourcing suppliers (use in pre-qualification)	Yes/No
Compliance with environmental legislation	
Production of the product according to international labour standards (self-declaration)	
Written corporate environmental policy	