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**Statement by the UNOPS Executive Director**

**Annual statistical report on United Nations procurement, 2024**

***Summary***

The Executive Director of UNOPS submits the present report on procurement by organizations of the United Nations system to the Executive Board pursuant to its decision 2007/38. The complete annual statistical report, 2024, on United Nations procurement may be obtained in the language of submission from the Executive Board secretariat and at the United Nations Global Marketplace website (<http://www.ungm.org/ASR>).

The 32 organizations that submitted data for inclusion in the report procured goods and services worth \$25.7 billion in 2024, representing an increase of 2.9 per cent, or \$733 million, compared to 2023. Procurement from least developed countries reached \$5.0 billion, or 19.4 per cent of total United Nations procurement.

The annual statistical report, 2024, contains:

- (a) a trend analysis of United Nations procurement by organization, goods and services, sector and category of goods and services, countries, and regions of supply;
- (b) analysis of United Nations procurement from suppliers in least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States;
- (c) analysis of collaborative procurement among United Nations organizations;
- (d) analysis of sustainable procurement practices in the United Nations system.

The [annual statistical report](#) website contains interactive dashboards allowing users to access data on procurement by United Nations organization, country of supply, and procurement category, as well as details of the procurement of major goods and services (over \$30,000).

***Elements of a decision***

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the present report and welcome the data and analysis it contains.



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## Notes

- (i) Comprehensive notes on the methodology for data collection and presentation are available at <https://www.ungm.org/ASR>.
- (ii) Where this report refers to procurement by the United Nations, the United Nations system, or United Nations organizations, it refers to the procurement activities of the 32 organizations that submitted procurement data for the annual statistical report, 2024.
- (iii) Procurement is defined as the acquisition, through purchase or lease, of real property, goods or other products (including intellectual property), works, or services. While United Nations organizations may have different systems and methodologies for recording and reporting on procurement data individually, for the annual statistical report a common definition of procurement<sup>1</sup> is used, and data is collected in a standardized format. Some organizations may publish procurement statistics that differ from those published in the annual statistical report, and some may have limitations on the level of detail they are able to provide.
- (iv) Purchase orders and contracts for services are reported by contract amount, not by expenditures incurred.
- (v) For categorization of goods and services, the report uses the United Nations Standard Products and Services Code<sup>2</sup> standard, a publicly available multi-sector standard classifying goods and services at the most detailed level possible. Some code names have been shortened or modified.
- (vi) Throughout the report, the terms ‘country’ and ‘countries’ refer to countries and territories. Unless otherwise stated, they refer to supplier countries reported by the submitting organization. Country names, as well as their designation by geographic region, follow the standard country or area codes, for statistical use referred to as the ‘M49 standard’<sup>3</sup> (prepared by the Statistics Division of the United Nations Secretariat). For analytical purposes, the annual statistical report uses the country categorizations ‘least developed countries’ (‘LDCs’), ‘landlocked developing countries’ (‘LLDCs’), and ‘small island developing States’ (‘SIDS’), following the M49 standard as current at the end of the reporting period. The designations employed do not reflect any opinion on the part of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city, area, or its authorities, or the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The assignment of countries or areas to particular groupings is for statistical convenience and does not imply any assumption regarding political or other affiliation of countries or territories by the United Nations.

<sup>1</sup> Consistent with the United Nations Procurement Practitioner’s Handbook, available from <https://www.ungm.org/Shared/KnowledgeCenter/Pages/PPH2>.

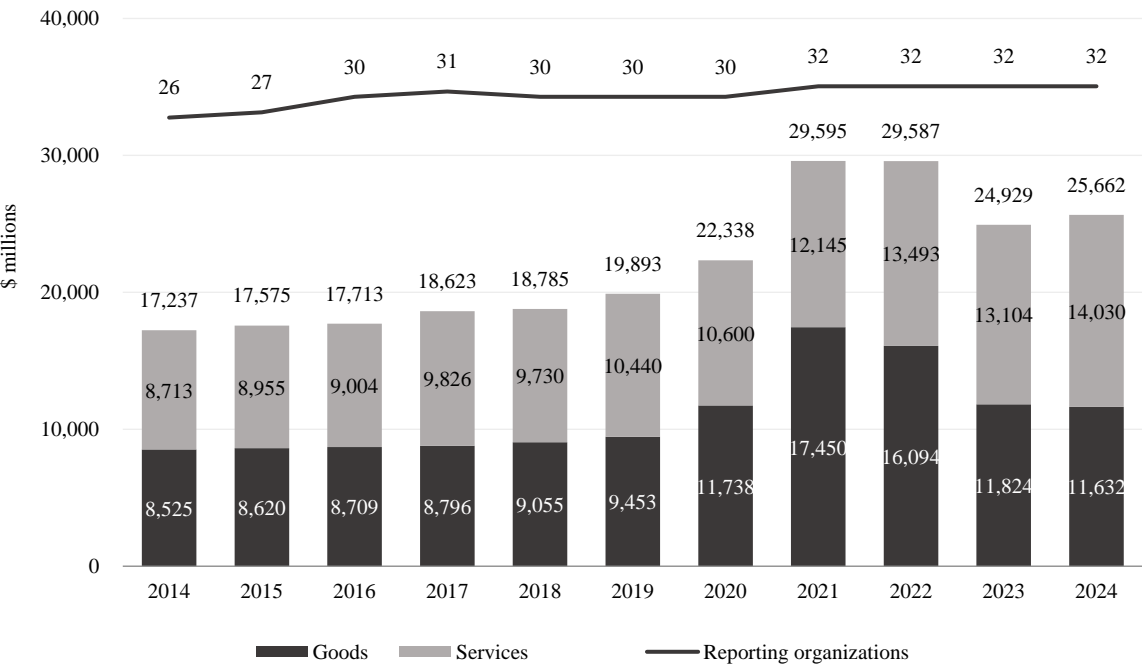
<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.unspsc.org>.

<sup>3</sup> See <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49>.

I. Total United Nations procurement in 2024

- 1. United Nations procurement in 2024 reached \$25.7 billion, representing the third highest annual procurement volume on record and a \$733 million, or 2.9 per cent, increase from 2023 levels.
- 2. Collaborative procurement accounted for a growing share of United Nations procurement in 2024, with reported volumes rising to \$1.4 billion – up from \$1.1 billion in 2023 and representing 5.8 per cent of total procurement. This included both UN-to-UN procurement, wherein one United Nations organization procures goods or services from another, and broader joint activities designed to improve coordination and efficiency through shared purchasing mechanisms.

Figure 1. Total procurement of goods and services, and number of reporting organizations, 2014-2024



## II. Procurement by sector

3. In 2024, United Nations procurement remained concentrated in five key sectors, which together accounted for 65.6 per cent of the total procurement volume. Sectoral distribution was broadly consistent with previous years, although humanitarian aid, peace, security and safety recorded the largest relative growth, reflecting an intensified response to humanitarian and security emergencies.

4. Health remained the largest sector of United Nations procurement in 2024, reaching \$5.3 billion – an increase of \$494 million, or 10.2 per cent, compared to 2023. This growth was driven primarily by increased procurement of *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines*, alongside *healthcare services*. Procurement activities in this sector supported both ongoing public health programmes and targeted emergency responses, including vaccination campaigns and initiatives to strengthen health systems.

5. The sector accounted for a fifth of total United Nations procurement, with the majority of expenses directed towards *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines* and *medical equipment and supplies*. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) continued as the leading procurer in the sector, with expenditures totalling \$3.2 billion, followed by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), with \$832 million, and UNFPA, with \$315 million.

6. Construction, engineering and science retained its position as the second-largest sector, growing by \$110 million, or 3.1 per cent, to \$3.6 billion in 2024. UNDP, UNICEF and UNOPS again led procurement in the sector, with a combined procurement of \$1.9 billion – over half of the sector's total. The World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Secretariat (United Nations Secretariat) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) also maintained significant activity in the sector, each procuring over \$300 million.

7. Administration and operations reached a record high of \$2.9 billion (up by 7.3 per cent, or \$201 million), moving to third place by procurement volume. This sector's consistent growth highlights expanding operational needs across United Nations organizations, particularly in response to growing field activities and programmatic scale-up. *Management and administrative services* remained by far the largest segment within the sector, with a total of \$2.4 billion – an increase of \$306 million, or 14.3 per cent, from 2023.

### **IOM. Vendor managed inventories to streamline emergency relief supply chains**

Established as part of a broader IOM initiative to enhance global emergency response, vendor managed inventories (VMIs) aim to increase prepositioned stocks worldwide. Production of key relief items began in late 2023 across multiple global factories to ensure faster crisis response.

Procurement was central to the establishment of VMIs, involving a thorough assessment of long-term agreement holders' capacity and willingness to accommodate large-scale stockpiling. Each supplier's inventory management capabilities and reliability were carefully reviewed to meet demand. Manufacturing of emergency shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and non-food items commenced in China, India, Kenya, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. These items undergo quality control at the factories before being ready for dispatch. In under a year, this procurement-driven system supported 15 IOM missions worldwide, including responses in Bangladesh, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gaza and Ukraine. In 2024, there were 66 IOM deliveries from VMI stocks, with 26,646 cubic metres of goods. The most commonly delivered items were: self-standing geodesic family tents, tarpaulins, kitchen sets, mosquito nets, blankets and sleeping mats.

The use of VMIs has significantly improved operational efficiency. Bulk procurement through VMIs has demonstrably ensured economies of scale, optimizing resource utilization. A crucial achievement is the substantial reduction in lead time, estimated at approximately 50 per cent, achieved by completing manufacturing and quality control processes in advance. This acceleration of supply chain processes directly translates to a faster and more effective response to emergencies on the ground. Furthermore, cost efficiencies are realized through established IOM/United Nations global long-term agreements, while the

standardization of global technical specifications across the VMI network ensures consistent quality and interoperability of relief items. The successful application of VMIs underscores the potential for private sector best practices to enhance humanitarian operations at scale.

In 2024, the VMIs project was nominated for the United Nations Procurement Awards in the Procurement and Supply Chain Innovation category.

**Table 1. Procurement by sector, 2024**

Category (annual statistical report sector level)	Total 2024 (\$ millions)	Total 2023 (\$ millions)	Total change 2023-2024 (\$ millions)	Total change 2023-2024 (%)
Health	5,318.1	4,823.9	494.2	10.2%
Construction, engineering and science	3,630.6	3,520.5	110.0	3.1%
Administration and operations	2,932.2	2,731.6	200.6	7.3%
Transportation and storage	2,593.5	2,562.7	30.8	1.2%
Food and farming	2,362.1	2,744.8	-382.7	-13.9%
Media, information technology and communications	1,943.0	2,045.9	-102.9	-5.0%
Travel, accommodation and catering services	1,823.2	1,594.0	229.2	14.4%
Finance, insurance and real estate	1,241.3	1,196.3	45.0	3.8%
Utilities	1,138.8	1,218.3	-79.4	-6.5%
Humanitarian aid, peace, security and safety	915.2	749.7	165.5	22.1%
Other goods and services	704.2	602.3	101.9	16.9%
Motor vehicles, industrial machinery and heavy equipment	629.8	682.8	-52.9	-7.8%
Education, training and recreation	429.7	455.7	-26.0	-5.7%
<b>United Nations total</b>	<b>25,661.8</b>	<b>24,928.5</b>	<b>733.3</b>	<b>2.9%</b>

### III. Procurement by category of goods and services

8. The annual statistical report uses the United Nations Standard Products and Services Code ('UNSPSC') to categorize and report on products and services procured by the United Nations system. The UNSPSC categorization is based on the hierarchy of product segments, families, classes and commodities. Table 2 shows the 10 largest categories, at the segment level, by procurement volume in 2024.

9. *Pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines* remained the largest procurement segment in 2024, reaching \$4.0 billion. This represents an increase of \$484 million, or 13.8 per cent, compared to 2023, signalling a recovery after the post-pandemic decrease observed in 2023. UNICEF maintained its position as the leading procurer in this segment, recording a procurement volume of \$2.6 billion and accounting for 66.3 per cent of total United Nations spending in the segment. Of that total, \$2.5 billion was for procurement of immunomodulating drugs. PAHO followed with expenditures totalling \$786 million – \$121 million higher than

in 2023, largely attributable to increased vaccine procurement. UNFPA remained the third largest procurer in the segment, recording a marginal increase of \$6.1 million, or 2.9 per cent, compared to 2023.

**Table 2. Top 10 categories of procurement by volume, UNSPSC segment level, 2024**

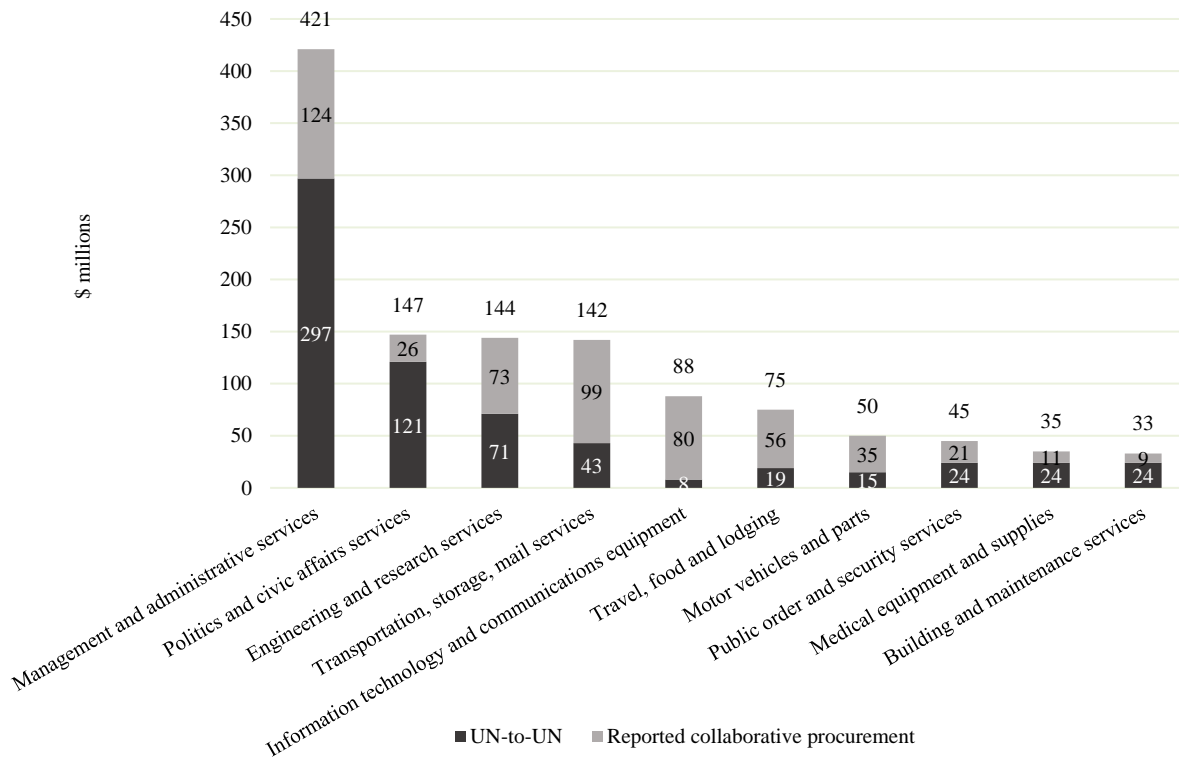
Category (UNSPSC segment level)	Total 2024 (\$ millions)	Total change 2023-2024 (%)	Share of procurement from least developed countries 2024 (%)	Share of collaborative procurement 2024 (%)
Pharmaceuticals, contraceptives, vaccines	3,987.7	13.8%	0.5%	0.6%
Transportation, storage, mail services	3,449.5	10.8%	28.5%	4.1%
Management and administrative services	3,059.3	14.2%	17.1%	13.8%
Engineering and research services	1,864.0	11.2%	11.8%	7.7%
Building and maintenance services	1,838.0	1.9%	31.3%	1.8%
Food and beverage products	1,740.9	-14.8%	18.8%	0.0%
Medical equipment and supplies	1,116.7	0.0%	6.4%	3.2%
Travel, food and lodging	795.9	-8.0%	22.2%	9.3%
Financial and insurance services	598.0	-7.2%	46.5%	5.0%
Fuels and lubricants, etc.	582.0	-9.0%	32.1%	3.5%
<b>Top 10 total</b>	<b>19,031.9</b>			
<b>United Nations total</b>	<b>25,661.8</b>			

10. *Transportation, storage and mail services* was the second largest segment, with \$3.4 billion, marking a 10.8 per cent increase from 2023. United Nations organizations attributed this growth largely to expanded field operations in crisis-affected regions and rising global freight costs. The World Food Programme (WFP) led procurement activity in the segment, representing 39.6 per cent of its total procurement. The United Nations Secretariat was next, with \$563 million, followed by IOM, with \$455 million. IOM recorded a significant increase of \$353 million, largely due to the inclusion – for the first time – of migrant air tickets purchased to provide direct movement assistance. Growth of procurement in the segment was particularly strong in Ukraine (up by \$54 million, or 31.1 per cent), the State of Palestine (up by \$45 million, or 140 per cent) and Sudan (up by \$32 million, or 49.3 per cent), aligning with operational needs in these regions.

11. Collaboration among United Nations organizations for procurement within the *transportation, storage and mail services* segment also grew in 2024. The collaborative procurement volume rose by \$60 million, reaching \$142 million. Much of this collaboration involved United Nations organizations leveraging shared long-term agreements for vehicles, freight services and logistics operations.

12. *Management and administrative services* reached an all-time high of \$3.1 billion in 2024, growing by 14.2 per cent compared to 2023. This sustained upward trend – following a 7.2 per cent increase in 2023 – reflects the United Nations system’s expanding operational and administrative support requirements worldwide. UNDP and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) were the primary contributors to this growth, recording procurement increases of \$109 million and \$103 million, respectively, particularly in business administration and human resources services.

13. The segment also remained a key area of collaboration among United Nations organizations. Collaborative procurement in *management and administrative services* totalled \$421 million in 2024, including \$297 million through UN-to-UN procurement – the highest collaborative procurement volume recorded among all categories.

**Figure 2. Collaborative procurement reported by category (top 10 UNSPSC segments procured)**

14. *Engineering and research services* entered the top five segments for the first time, reaching a record \$1.9 billion in procurement. The segment grew by \$187 million, or 11.2 per cent, compared to 2023, reflecting greater investment in technical and engineering support across the United Nations system. UNDP was particularly active in this segment, recording a total of \$480 million (up by \$145 million), primarily for *professional engineering services*. UNICEF, the United Nations Secretariat and WHO also recorded significant procurement volumes in the segment, each exceeding \$200 million. Collaborative procurement in this segment rose to \$143 million, with nearly half of the total recorded as UN-to-UN procurement.

15. *Building and maintenance services* stood at \$1.8 billion in 2024, marking a marginal increase of \$35 million compared to 2023. UNICEF remained the largest procurer in the segment, with a spend of \$363 million, despite a \$45 million decrease compared to 2023. The United Nations Secretariat followed with \$260 million, closely followed by IOM (\$251 million) and UNOPS (\$248 million). Procurement activities in this segment continued to focus heavily on infrastructure rehabilitation and reconstruction, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

16. *Food and beverage products* recorded \$1.7 billion worth of procurement in 2024. Procurement in the segment continued to decline (down by \$301 million, or 14.8 per cent), yet at a slower pace compared to the 44.1 per cent decrease in 2023, suggesting stabilization in food aid requirements. WFP remained by far the largest procurer in this segment, accounting for 73.4 per cent of the total procurement volume.

17. Beyond the top 10 segments, *politics and civic affairs services* recorded an additional \$97 million in procurement, reaching \$441 million. This growth was largely driven by increased UNOPS procurement in support of a development project in Afghanistan. One third of procurement in this segment was collaborative,



making it the second largest segment for United Nations collaborative procurement after *management and administrative services*.

#### IV. Procurement by region of supplier

18. In 2024, the regional distribution of United Nations procurement remained relatively stable, reflecting the continued global spread of United Nations operational activities. While there were modest fluctuations in procurement volumes recorded across regions, no major shifts in overall shares were observed compared to previous years.

19. Asia maintained its position as the largest source meeting United Nations procurement needs at \$8.2 billion, representing almost one third of total United Nations procurement. Procurement of goods and services from suppliers in the region saw an increase of \$383 million, or 4.9 per cent, compared to 2023. Notably, three supplier countries recorded increases exceeding \$100 million: Singapore (up by \$174 million), the State of Palestine (up by \$132 million) and China (up by \$108 million). The region remained a major hub for *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines*, with procurement volumes in this category exceeding \$1 billion for the fourth consecutive year since 2021.

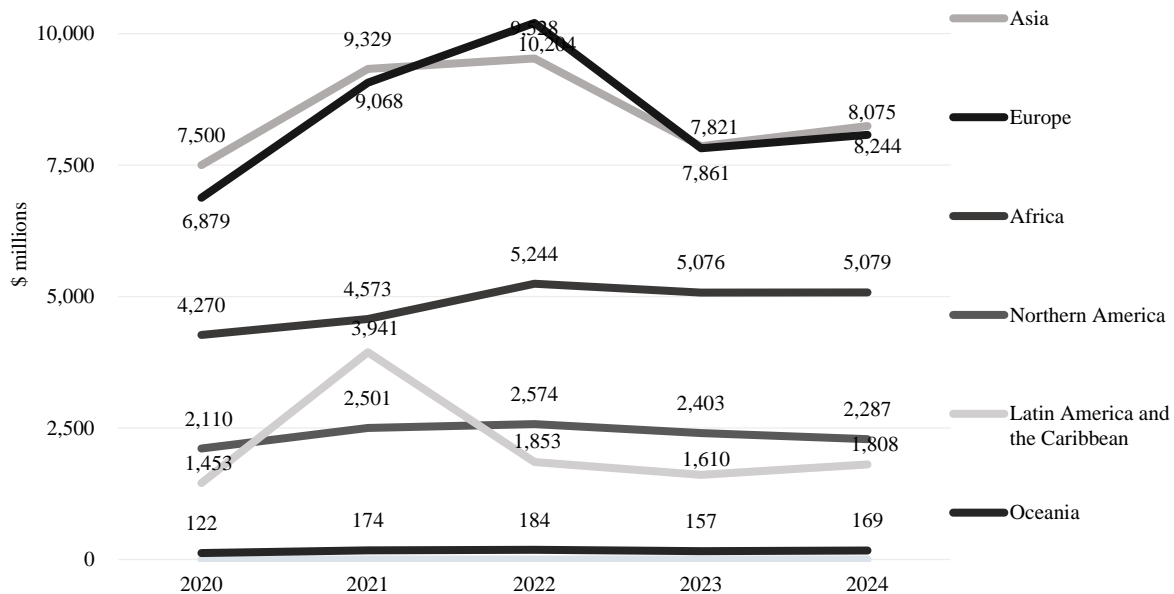
20. Europe followed closely, with procurement reaching \$8.1 billion in 2024. Procurement volumes from suppliers in Europe rose by \$254 million, or 3.2 per cent, compared to 2023. Growth was driven primarily by increased procurement from Switzerland (up by \$253 million), mainly in *transportation, storage and mail services*, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (up by \$159 million), particularly in the *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines* segment.

21. Africa remained the third largest supplier region, with procurement volumes totalling \$5.1 billion in 2024. The region recorded a marginal increase of \$2.8 million compared to 2023. Africa's share of global United Nations procurement remained stable at around a fifth of the total.

22. Procurement from suppliers in Northern America totalled \$2.3 billion, representing a decrease of \$116 million compared to 2023. This decline was largely attributable to reduced procurement from suppliers in the United States of America (down by \$94 million), primarily in *information technology and communications equipment*. Despite the overall decrease, procurement of *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines* from suppliers in the region increased by \$99 million.

23. Procurement in Latin America and the Caribbean grew significantly, increasing by \$198 million to reach \$1.8 billion. Suppliers in Colombia and Guatemala recorded increases exceeding \$50 million each. Colombia reached a record high procurement volume of \$234 million, becoming the largest supplier country in the region, primarily due to increases in the *travel, food and lodging* and *management and administrative services* segments. Procurement from Ecuador also rose sharply, reaching \$68 million, an increase of over 150 per cent compared to 2023.

24. In Oceania, procurement increased modestly by \$11 million, reaching a total of \$169 million. Procurement from suppliers in the Marshall Islands increased by \$7.4 million, or 35.5 per cent, reaching \$28 million, while procurement from Australian suppliers rose by \$5.5 million, reaching \$48 million.

**Figure 3. Total procurement by region, 2020-2024**

## V. Major countries of supply

25. In 2024, the United Nations sourced goods and services from 222 countries and territories, demonstrating the global nature of its procurement operations. The top 10 supplier countries accounted for \$9.6 billion, representing 37.6 per cent of the global total.

26. The United States of America remained the largest supplier country at \$2.1 billion, despite a 4.2 per cent decrease from 2023. A significant portion of procurement from American suppliers was attributed to UNICEF (\$771 million), which primarily sourced *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines*. Procurement carried out by UNICEF from the United States of America increased by \$58 million, or 8.1 per cent, in 2024, reflecting the continued importance of American suppliers in the health sector. The United Nations Secretariat and PAHO also recorded substantial procurement volumes from American suppliers, each exceeding \$300 million. However, procurement by the United Nations Secretariat declined by \$126 million compared to 2023, with decreases distributed across three key segments: *information technology and communications equipment, transportation, storage and mail services*, and *engineering and research services* – each segment declining by approximately \$30 million.

27. Despite the overall decrease in supplies procured from the country, American suppliers retained a leading role in the *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines* segment, accounting for nearly a quarter of total United Nations procurement in this area, and remained significant providers of *engineering and research services*.

28. Switzerland became the second largest supplier country at \$1.2 billion, marking a 27.8 per cent increase from 2023 levels. This growth was largely driven by IOM, which significantly increased its procurement from Swiss suppliers by \$163 million, primarily in the segment of *passenger air transportation services*, in part resulting from improved reporting of data in this category. Substantial procurement by IOM made it the largest procuring organization sourcing from Switzerland. The United Nations Secretariat also increased its

procurement from Switzerland by \$32 million, largely concentrated in *engineering and research services*. WHO was the third largest organization procuring from the country, with a procurement value of \$162 million, an increase of \$17 million compared to 2023, primarily allocated to *building and maintenance services*.

29. The United Arab Emirates remained the third largest supplier country, with procurement reaching \$1.0 billion, marking a \$73 million increase compared to 2023 figures. Despite an \$11 million decrease in 2024, the United Nations Secretariat led procurement activity in the country, accounting for nearly half of the total, mostly in *fuel and lubricants* and *food and beverage products*. WFP and UNICEF followed, with procurement volumes of \$143 million and \$93 million, respectively. Procurement by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) from suppliers in the country rose sharply, increasing nearly fivefold from \$13 million in 2023 to \$61 million in 2024. This substantial increase was largely reflected in the procurement of *food and beverage products*, which rose by \$44 million, directly related to the organization's ongoing humanitarian support efforts in Gaza. The United Arab Emirates became the main supplier of *food and beverage products* to the United Nations system in 2024, supplying \$260 million worth of goods.

30. Denmark moved to fourth place, with procurement reaching \$954 million, an 8.4 per cent decline compared to 2023. The decrease was primarily due to reduced procurement of *information technology and communications equipment* (down by \$81 million), mainly by UNDP and UNOPS. This was partially offset by an increase in the procurement of *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines* (up by \$11 million). UNICEF continued to be the largest procuring organization from Danish suppliers, with a procurement value of \$246 million, despite a \$25 million decrease compared to 2023. UNHCR and UNDP followed, with procurement values of \$158 million and \$156 million, respectively.

31. Denmark also continued to be a key hub for collaborative procurement activities within the United Nations system. Of the country's total, \$283 million was recorded as collaboratively procured. This included \$176 million in UN-to-UN procurement, involving the procurement of goods or services between United Nations organizations, and \$110 million in collaborative procurement outside direct UN-to-UN transactions. The largest volumes of goods and services supplied to other United Nations organizations were sourced through UNOPS (\$141 million) and UNICEF (\$23 million), reflecting the presence of procurement hubs established by both organizations in Denmark. Other countries with high volumes of UN-to-UN procurement were Switzerland, with a total of \$125 million, and the United States of America, with \$98 million. The main procurement categories supplied by United Nations organizations to each other from these three hub countries were *management and administrative services* (\$174 million), *engineering and research services* (\$64 million) and *politics and civic affairs services* (\$47 million).

32. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland moved from seventh place in 2023 to fifth place in 2024, reaching \$852 million. Procurement from British suppliers increased by \$159 million, or 23.0 per cent. This increase was primarily seen in *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines* (up by \$236 million), largely procured by UNICEF, making 2024 the year British suppliers saw the second highest procurement volume in this segment. The United Nations Secretariat also contributed to this growth, primarily in *transportation, storage and mail services* (up by \$36 million).

33. India remained in sixth place among supplier countries, recording a total procurement value of \$780 million. Approximately half of the supply from Indian suppliers was concentrated in the *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines* segment, making India the third-largest supplier in this category. UNDP increased its procurement in India by \$68 million, or 79.8 per cent, compared to 2023, primarily focusing on health-related goods and services.

34. France recorded procurement of \$755 million, an increase of \$86 million compared to 2023. It remained an important supplier of *laboratory and testing equipment*, with French suppliers accounting for a quarter of total procurement in this category. UNICEF and PAHO remained the largest procuring organizations in France, each recording procurement increases exceeding \$50 million in 2024.

35. Ukraine retained its position within the top 10 supplier countries, with a procurement value of \$699 million, largely focused on reconstruction efforts and humanitarian logistics. The United Nations Secretariat was the leading organization procuring from Ukraine, with \$179 million, followed by WFP, with \$112 million.

36. Belgium recorded \$688 million in procurement, continuing a gradual decline post pandemic, particularly in vaccine-related procurement. Afghanistan's procurement value remained relatively stable at \$621 million, reflecting the ongoing procurement activities in support of humanitarian operations in the country.

**Table 3. Top 10 supplier countries by procurement volume, 2024**

Supplier country	Goods 2024 (\$ millions)	Services 2024 (\$ millions)	Total 2024 (\$ millions)	Share of United Nations total 2024 (%)	Total change 2023-2024 (%)
United States of America	1,178.1	952.9	2,131.0	8.3%	-4.2%
Switzerland	168.5	992.0	1,160.4	4.5%	27.8%
United Arab Emirates	652.3	348.1	1,000.4	3.9%	7.9%
Denmark	349.3	604.3	953.6	3.7%	-8.4%
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	462.6	389.0	851.6	3.3%	23.0%
India	546.9	233.1	780.0	3.0%	-10.4%
France	549.1	205.6	754.7	2.9%	12.8%
Ukraine	221.4	477.6	698.9	2.7%	2.1%
Belgium	620.0	68.3	688.4	2.7%	-21.0%
Afghanistan	183.5	437.2	620.7	2.4%	-0.1%
<b>Top 10 total</b>	<b>4,931.6</b>	<b>4,708.1</b>	<b>9,639.7</b>	<b>37.6%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>United Nations total</b>	<b>11,631.9</b>	<b>14,030.0</b>	<b>25,661.8</b>		<b>2.9%</b>

#### **UNDP: Coastal adaptation in Tuvalu – strengthening resilience through sustainable procurement**

Tuvalu, a Pacific island nation of low-lying atolls, faces an existential threat from rising sea levels and intensifying storms due to climate change. The capital, Funafuti – home to over half of Tuvalu's 11,000 residents – is especially vulnerable. Projections estimate that by 2100, up to 90 per cent of Funafuti could experience routine flooding. In response, the Tuvalu Coastal Adaptation Project (TCAP), funded by the Green Climate Fund and implemented by UNDP in partnership with the Government, focuses on improving coastal protection in key locations across the islands of Funafuti, Nanumea and Nanumaga. Procurement has been a critical facilitator of TCAP objectives. Managed by UNDP, procurement activities ensured the delivery of marine construction works, meeting high standards of quality in climate resilience, sustainability and technical excellence. Key outcomes included the creation of 7.4 hectares of reclaimed land in Funafuti – designed to remain flood-free beyond 2100 – and the construction of berm top barriers on outer islands. Supplier selection processes prioritized environmental sustainability and long-term infrastructure resilience, supporting the project's strategic goals.

TCAP has strengthened Tuvalu's physical resilience to climate change, ensuring safer land and reducing vulnerability to coastal hazards. The project contributes directly to Sustainable Development Goals 9 (Industry,

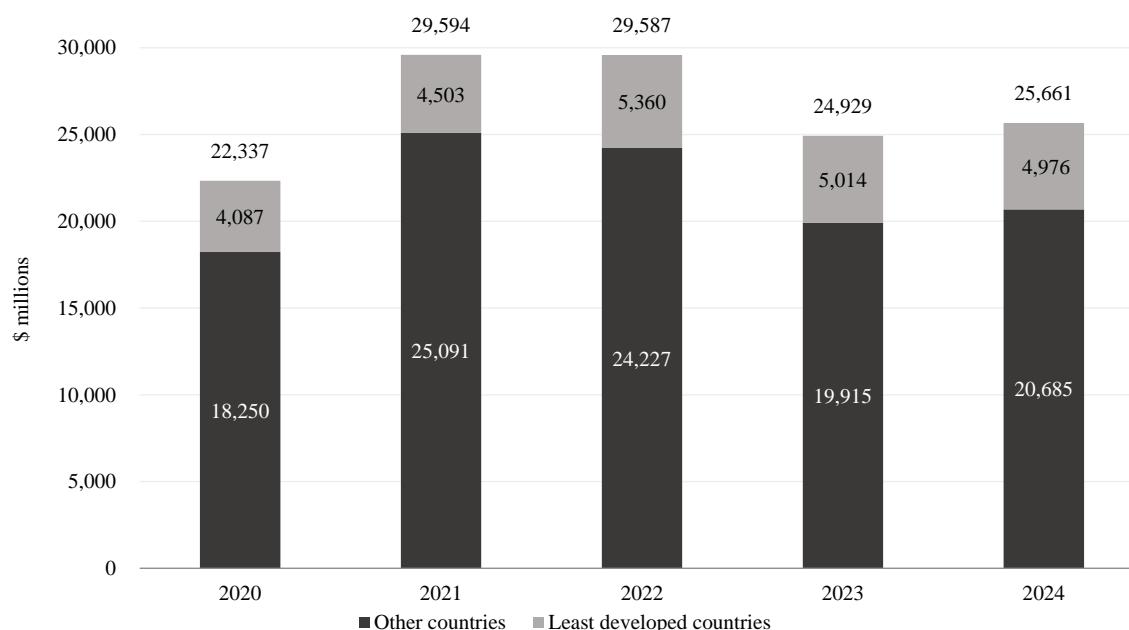
Innovation and Infrastructure) and 13 (Climate Action), serving as a model for adaptation in low-lying island states.

In 2024, TCAP was recognized by the United Nations Procurement Awards, receiving the award in the Sustainable Procurement and Supply category.

## VI. Procurement from least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states

37. The United Nations introduced the category of least developed countries (LDCs) in 1971 to recognize nations requiring additional international support due to their unique development challenges. By the end of 2024, the number of countries in this category stood at 44.

**Figure 4. Procurement from least developed countries, 2020-2024**



38. In 2024, United Nations procurement from suppliers based in LDCs totalled \$5.0 billion, maintaining a similar level to that recorded in 2023. The overall volume decreased slightly by about \$37 million, representing a 0.7 per cent decline compared to the previous year. Despite this marginal decrease, the share of United Nations procurement from LDCs, which stood at 15.7 per cent of the total in 2022 and has been increasing since, was 19.4 per cent of the total procurement volume in 2024, underscoring sustained efforts by the United Nations to engage suppliers in these countries and support local economies through procurement activities.

39. Afghanistan emerged as the largest supplier among LDCs in 2024, recording \$621 million in procurement. United Nations operations in Afghanistan continued to prioritize humanitarian relief, resilience building and essential service delivery. *Live plant and animal material* and *building and maintenance services* remained among the key categories, reaching \$92 million and \$87 million, respectively, despite marginal decreases from 2023. A notable increase was recorded in *politics and civic affairs services*, which grew more than fivefold,

from \$11 million in 2023 to \$62 million in 2024. The growth was driven by a UNOPS-led project supporting local infrastructure rehabilitation and providing livelihood opportunities through cash-for-work initiatives.

**Table 4. Top 20 countries by procurement volume – least developed countries, 2024**

Supplier country	Goods 2024 (\$ millions)	Services 2024 (\$ millions)	Total 2024 (\$ millions)	Total change 2023-2024 (%)
Afghanistan	183.5	437.2	620.7	-0.1%
Yemen	111.5	483.9	595.3	-7.8%
Ethiopia	53.5	337.9	391.4	-3.7%
South Sudan	93.8	258.4	352.2	4.3%
Sudan	157.8	179.3	337.1	47.2%
Democratic Republic of the Congo	106.3	189.4	295.6	-13.2%
Bangladesh	79.3	114.9	194.2	2.2%
Somalia	35.9	155.6	191.5	-13.5%
Chad	65.6	118.1	183.7	16.6%
Mozambique	50.0	132.7	182.7	9.2%
Uganda	59.4	114.5	173.9	-12.9%
United Republic of Tanzania	78.0	81.2	159.2	67.8%
Niger	59.4	60.4	119.8	7.8%
Burkina Faso	52.6	59.9	112.5	-4.1%
Mali	23.0	77.9	100.9	-8.4%
Haiti	27.7	62.5	90.2	-10.6%
Central African Republic	21.3	52.3	73.7	-13.8%
Myanmar	32.8	40.4	73.1	-28.6%
Madagascar	24.6	46.2	70.8	-7.6%
Benin	35.8	17.0	52.8	33.9%
<b>Top 20 total</b>	<b>1,351.8</b>	<b>3,019.5</b>	<b>4,371.3</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
<b>LDCs total</b>	<b>1,507.1</b>	<b>3,469.3</b>	<b>4,976.4</b>	<b>-0.7%</b>
<b>United Nations total</b>	<b>11,631.9</b>	<b>14,030.0</b>	<b>25,661.8</b>	<b>2.9%</b>

40. Yemen followed closely, with \$595 million, reflecting a decrease of \$50 million, or 7.8 per cent, from 2023. *Financial and insurance services* remained the largest category of United Nations procurement in the country, with \$197 million, reflecting a 35.3 per cent increase, primarily driven by UNICEF. While procurement in the second largest category, *building and maintenance services*, declined by \$46 million following the finalization of several major reconstruction projects, procurement of *farming, fishing and forestry services* and *food and beverage products* surged, increasing by \$15 million and \$12 million, respectively, driven largely by UNOPS and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

41. Procurement from Ethiopia also decreased by \$15 million, reaching \$391 million. Ethiopia continued to benefit from United Nations engagement focused on recovery in conflict-affected areas and resilience programming. *Building and maintenance services* recorded a significant increase, growing from \$15 million in 2023 to \$48 million in 2024, driven primarily by increased procurement by UNICEF and UNOPS. Although

procurement in *transportation, storage and mail services* rose by \$23 million, reductions in certain food and beverage and health supply lines contributed to the overall slight decline.

42. Sudan demonstrated the strongest growth among LDC suppliers in 2024, with procurement reaching \$337 million, an increase of \$108 million, or 47.2 per cent. Significant increases were recorded in *food and beverage products* and *transportation, storage and mail services*, reflecting intensified logistics operations for the distribution of food, shelter and medical supplies. Increased procurement was primarily linked to WFP-led projects in the country.

43. The United Republic of Tanzania recorded the largest relative growth among LDC suppliers, with procurement increasing from \$95 million to \$159 million. Procurement rose primarily in the categories of *food and beverage products* and *transportation, storage and mail services*, reflecting the scaling up of logistics operations to support regional humanitarian supply chains and food distribution networks, driven largely by WFP.

44. Among United Nations organizations, UNDP, UNICEF and WFP continued to be the largest procurers from LDCs. In absolute terms, IOM recorded notable increases (up by \$107 million) in procurement from LDC suppliers, reflecting expanded project implementation activities in several countries, largely in logistics and movement assistance.

45. Recognizing the structural challenges faced by landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) – particularly regarding market access and high transportation costs – the United Nations continues to emphasize procurement from suppliers in these countries. In 2024, the group of LLDCs encompassed 32 countries globally.

46. United Nations procurement from suppliers based in LLDCs totalled \$3.0 billion in 2024, representing a slight increase of 0.7 per cent compared to 2023. Procurement from LLDCs accounted for 11.5 per cent of total United Nations procurement.

47. Afghanistan remained the largest LLDC supplier in 2024, followed by Ethiopia and South Sudan. Other notable LLDC suppliers included Chad and Uganda, each recording significant procurement volumes of over \$170 million. Procurement from Chad grew by 16.6 per cent, driven mainly by increased procurement of *transportation, storage and mail services* and *building and maintenance services*.

48. Mongolia recorded the largest relative increase among LLDCs, with procurement rising by 220 per cent to a total of \$51 million, largely due to increased procurement of *transportation, storage and mail services*, primarily by WFP.

49. In terms of procurement categories, *transportation, storage and mail services, building and maintenance services* and *food and beverage products* continued to dominate procurement from LLDCs. The landlocked nature of these countries amplifies the importance of transportation-related procurement, often tied to humanitarian logistics and development projects.

50. Similar to procurement from suppliers in LDCs, WFP remained the largest procurer from LLDC suppliers, despite a \$155 million decrease from 2023 levels. UNDP, UNICEF and the United Nations Secretariat also played key roles, collectively recording slightly over \$1 billion worth of goods and services from LLDC suppliers.

51. Small island developing states (SIDS) face unique development challenges due to their remoteness and heightened vulnerability to climate change and natural disasters. As of 2024, 53 countries and territories were recognized under the SIDS grouping.

**Table 5. Top 10 categories of procurement from LLDCs and SIDS by volume, UNSPSC segment level, 2024**

Category (UNSPSC segment level)	Total from LLDCs and SIDS 2024 (\$ millions)	Total from LLDCs 2024 (\$ millions)	Total from SIDS 2024 (\$ millions)
Transportation, storage, mail services	666.9	95.5	762.4
Management and administrative services	330.8	75.2	406.0
Building and maintenance services	332.9	47.1	380.0
Pharmaceuticals, contraceptives, vaccines	5.9	299.9	305.8
Food and beverage products	217.4	37.9	255.3
Engineering and research services	136.4	43.8	180.2
Live plant and animal material	129.6	34.3	163.9
Travel, food and lodging	130.9	31.6	162.5
Politics and civic affairs services	104.9	3.8	108.7
Public order and security services	101.1	7.2	108.4
<b>Top 10 total</b>	<b>2,156.8</b>	<b>676.4</b>	<b>2,833.2</b>
<b>United Nations total</b>	<b>2,956.4</b>	<b>799.0</b>	<b>3,755.4</b>

52. Procurement from suppliers in SIDS reached a record high of \$799 million in 2024, representing a strong increase of 27.4 per cent compared to 2023.

53. Singapore remained by far the largest SIDS supplier, accounting for over half of the total procurement from this group, with a volume of \$406 million – a 75.0 per cent increase compared to 2023. This growth was largely driven by increased procurement of *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines* (up by \$165 million), primarily by UNICEF.

54. Other key supplier countries included Haiti (\$90 million), Papua New Guinea (\$32 million), Mauritius (\$30 million) and the Dominican Republic (\$29 million).

55. Suppliers in Comoros and Trinidad and Tobago each recorded over a 50 per cent increase in procurement compared to 2023, reaching \$18 million and \$16 million, respectively.



## VII. Procurement by organizations of the United Nations system

56. In 2024, United Nations organizations maintained high levels of procurement activity, reflecting a continued shift from pandemic-driven emergency response to longer-term development, humanitarian support and resilience building initiatives. Procurement volumes continued to exceed pre-pandemic levels, demonstrating the United Nations system's ongoing response to complex global needs.

57. UNICEF maintained its position as the largest procuring organization, with procurement reaching \$5.6 billion in 2024 – an increase of \$366 million, or 7.0 per cent, compared to 2023. Growth was primarily driven by increased procurement of *pharmaceuticals, contraceptives and vaccines* (up by \$284 million), *engineering and research services* (up by \$58 million) and *management and administrative services* (up by \$47 million). While the United States of America remained the largest supplier for UNICEF, accounting for \$771 million in procurement, suppliers from Singapore and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland recorded significant increases, each seeing growth of over \$160 million compared to 2023, largely driven by the increased procurement of health supplies.

58. WFP remained the second largest procuring organization, with procurement totalling \$3.9 billion in 2024 – a decrease of \$570 million, or 12.7 per cent, compared to 2023. The decline was predominantly driven by reduced procurement of *food and beverage products* (down by \$387 million), as food distribution operations scaled back following surges during peak global emergencies. Despite this decline, WFP retained its position as the largest procurer in the *transportation, storage and mail services* segment, with procurement in this category totalling \$1.4 billion in 2024. Türkiye and Kenya remained among the largest sourcing countries for WFP, with \$211 million and \$190 million, respectively, although both recorded notable decreases compared to 2023. In contrast, procurement from Sudanese suppliers increased sharply by \$78 million to a total of \$180 million, reflecting intensified humanitarian response by WFP to conflict and displacement in the region.

59. WFP also reported \$100 million in collaborative procurement, of which \$92 million was through UN-to-UN procurement, largely for *politics and civic affairs services* (\$65 million).

60. UNDP recorded procurement of \$2.9 billion in 2024, a 13.5 per cent increase compared to 2023, moving from the fourth largest to the third largest procuring organization. This represented the organization's highest annual procurement volume on record, exceeding its previous peak in 2022 by \$50 million. Growth was most prominent in *management and administrative services* and *engineering and research services* – each recorded increases of over \$100 million in 2024. Geographically, UNDP expanded its procurement from several key supplier countries. Procurement from suppliers in Lebanon grew by \$96 million, making UNDP the largest United Nations organization procuring from Lebanese suppliers, particularly in the areas of *financial and insurance services* and *engineering and research services*. Procurement from India also rose significantly, increasing by \$68 million, mostly due to health sector goods and services. Additionally, procurement from Ukrainian suppliers increased from \$49 million in 2023 to \$76 million in 2024, supporting the expansion of UNDP recovery and reconstruction initiatives in the country.

61. UNDP recorded the highest level of collaborative procurement among United Nations organizations, totalling approximately \$310 million. Of this, \$103 million consisted of UN-to-UN procurement, mainly in *engineering and research services* and *management and administrative services*.

62. The United Nations Secretariat recorded procurement of \$2.8 billion in 2024, reflecting a modest decrease of \$154 million, or 5.2 per cent, compared to 2023. While overall procurement declined, the United Nations Secretariat recorded an increase in the procurement of *fuel and lubricants* (up by 23 million), remaining the largest procurer in the category. By contrast, procurement volumes decreased notably in categories such as *information technology and communications equipment* (down by \$36 million) and *travel, food and lodging*.

services (down by \$31 million). Nevertheless, these two categories remained the largest collaborative procurement categories for the United Nations Secretariat, with a combined volume of \$46 million, representing almost half of its total collaborative procurement.

**Table 6. Procurement by United Nations organization, 2024**

Organization	Total 2024 (\$ millions)	Total change 2023-2024 (%)	Share of procurement from LDCs/LLDCs/SIDS 2024 (%)	Share of collaborative procurement 2024 (%)
UNICEF	5,610.3	7.0%	22.7%	0.3%
WFP	3,912.9	-12.7%	42.6%	2.6%
UNDP	2,890.0	13.5%	24.7%	10.7%
United Nations Secretariat	2,785.0	-5.2%	15.5%	4.2%
UNOPS	1,678.7	4.6%	25.0%	7.8%
IOM	1,668.0	39.8%	26.6%	1.3%
WHO	1,391.2	-8.4%	19.6%	11.6%
UNHCR	1,314.5	-0.4%	20.9%	19.9%
PAHO	1,096.1	11.7%	1.7%	0.1%
FAO	721.6	-4.1%	55.8%	3.8%
UNFPA	516.0	-4.3%	14.6%	11.3%
UNRWA	460.3	86.7%	0.1%	3.5%
ILO	323.3	-1.0%	17.8%	4.0%
IAEA	184.4	-4.6%	0.9%	1.8%
UN-Women	184.0	4.3%	25.2%	19.5%
WIPO	180.1	6.3%	1.2%	29.4%
UNESCO	163.3	4.2%	21.0%	17.6%
UNIDO	159.8	15.7%	10.4%	3.3%
ICAO	95.0	3.2%	0.3%	7.6%
IFAD	66.8	10.8%	9.0%	23.2%
UNFCCC	35.3	45.3%	4.6%	36.5%
UNAIDS	33.7	-11.2%	29.4%	14.1%
ITC	31.8	15.4%	28.9%	29.1%
WTO	29.9	16.5%	0.0%	20.5%
ITU	27.9	20.4%	3.6%	19.8%
WMO	21.9	12.9%	2.2%	49.2%
UPU	20.7	6.2%	7.2%	8.5%
OPCW	20.4	-9.0%	0.6%	1.2%
IMO	14.4	-18.9%	0.1%	4.7%
UNU	11.5	-29.0%	1.5%	15.1%
UNV	9.1	-2.0%	0.5%	78.4%
United Nations Tourism	3.7		0.8%	0.6%
<b>United Nations total</b>	<b>25,661.8</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>24.1%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

*Note:* Calculation of share of procurement from LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS excludes data where the supplier country is unknown.

63. UNOPS ranked fifth in 2024, recording procurement of \$1.7 billion – a 4.6 per cent increase compared to 2023. This marked its second highest procurement volume on record, after 2021. UNOPS maintained strong procurement levels in *building and maintenance services*, supporting infrastructure projects across multiple regions, with total procurement in the category reaching \$248 million. Afghanistan, Argentina and Yemen were the largest supplier countries for UNOPS in this category, each recording procurement volumes over \$30 million. *Motor vehicles and parts* was the second largest procurement category for UNOPS, totalling \$218 million, an increase of \$40 million compared to 2023. This included deliveries to the State of Palestine to facilitate the movement of humanitarian aid supplies, as well as the procurement of electric trolley buses on behalf of the government of Ecuador. Procurement of *politics and civic affairs services* also grew significantly, rising by \$63 million to a total of \$78 million, primarily supporting the Community Resilience and Livelihoods Project in Afghanistan. Notably, almost a quarter of procurement in this category was sourced through UN-to-UN procurement.

64. IOM recorded the largest relative growth among United Nations organizations in 2024, with procurement increasing by \$475 million, or 39.8 per cent, to reach \$1.7 billion – its highest procurement volume on record. Procurement by IOM was only \$11 million lower than UNOPS. Growth was primarily driven by increased procurement of *transportation, storage and mail services*, which rose by \$353 million. This was largely due to increased procurement in *passenger air transportation*, reflecting the inclusion of migrant tickets purchased by IOM to provide direct movement assistance to migrants.

65. Procurement by WHO totalled \$1.4 billion, representing an 8.4 per cent decrease compared to 2023, primarily due to the normalization of health supply operations following previous emergency surges. UNHCR reported procurement of \$1.3 billion, reflecting a marginal decline of 0.4 per cent. FAO recorded procurement of \$722 million, down by 4.1 per cent from 2023. In contrast, procurement by PAHO rose by \$115 million to reach \$1.1 billion, largely driven by increased vaccine-related procurement.

66. Beyond the top 10 organizations, UNRWA recorded the largest increase both in absolute and percentage terms, its total procurement volume rising by \$214 million to \$460 million – an 86.7 per cent increase – and reflecting intensified humanitarian response activities, particularly in the Near East. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) increased its procurement by \$22 million to \$160 million, supported by growth in environmental project activities. In percentage terms, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) recorded the second largest growth across the United Nations system, increasing its procurement by 45.3 per cent to \$35 million.

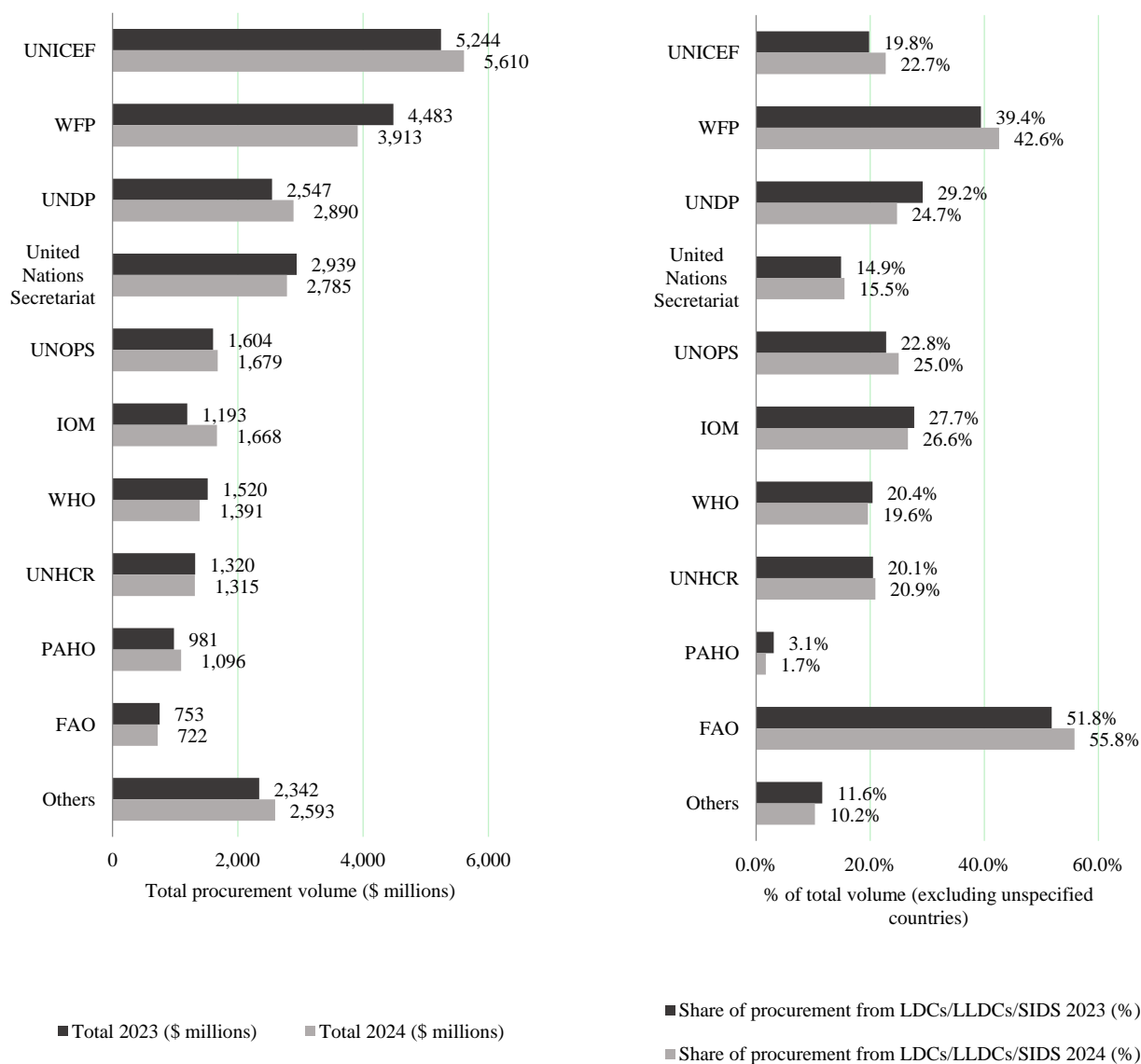
67. As collaborative procurement grew in 2024, many United Nations organizations not only engaged in procuring collaboratively but also served as suppliers to other organizations, leveraging their specialized capabilities and procurement platforms.

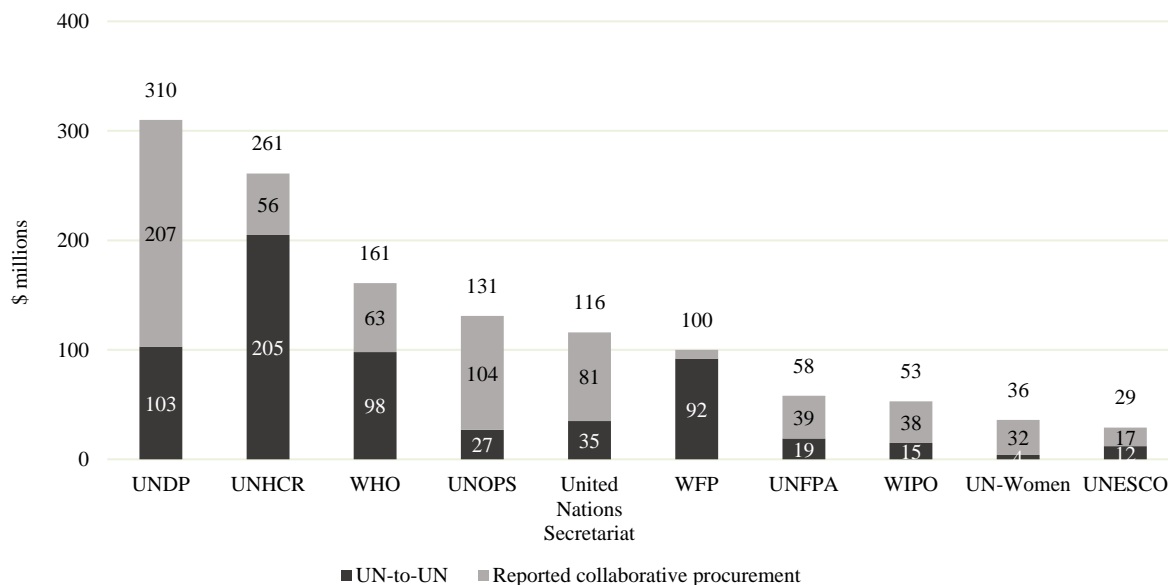
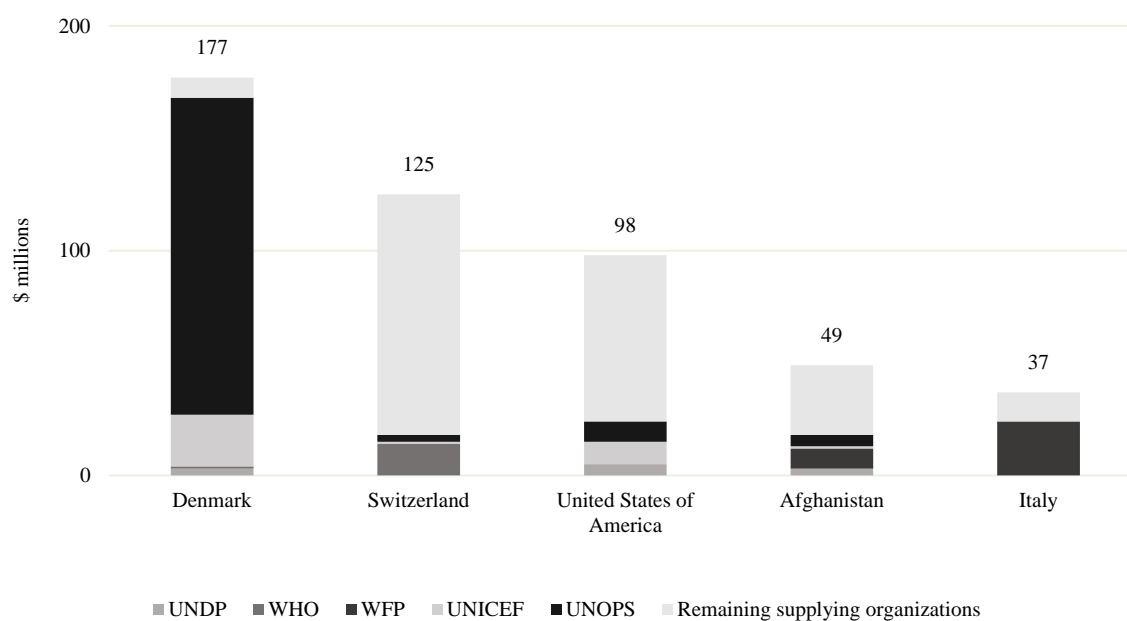
68. UNOPS remained the largest supplying organization for UN-to-UN procurement, providing \$189 million in goods and services to other United Nations organizations – an increase from \$157 million in 2023. A significant share of this – \$160 million – was delivered under *management and administrative services*, primarily to UNHCR.

69. UNDP was the second largest supplier among United Nations organizations, recording \$114 million in procurement provided to other United Nations organizations (up by \$25 million). Its main contributions were in *politics and civic affairs services* (\$37 million) and *management and administrative services* (\$23 million). The main procurers from UNDP were WFP and the United Nations Secretariat, both recording procurement volumes of over \$30 million.

70. WFP followed with \$79 million worth of goods and services supplied to other United Nations organizations, including \$22 million in *transportation, storage and mail services* and \$24 million in *management and administrative services*.

**Figure 5. Procurement by United Nations organizations from LDCs/LLDCs/SIDS, 2023-2024  
(top 10 organizations by total procurement volume)**



**Figure 6. Collaborative procurement reported by organizations (top 10 procuring organizations)****Figure 7. UN-to-UN procurement by supplier country and supplying United Nations organization**

**ILO. Integrating disability-inclusive practices into procurement**

Since 2020, the International Labour Organization (ILO) has advanced socially sustainable procurement practices by promoting disability-inclusive procurement of goods and services. As part of its efforts, ILO contributed technical expertise on procurement and disability inclusion for the development of the United Nations Guidelines on the Implementation of Indicator 8 on Procurement under the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) through the dedicated Task Team of the High-level Committee on Management (HLCM) Procurement Network.

In 2024, aligning with the United Nations Guidelines and based on a risk assessment, ILO launched a sourcing exercise for facilitation and coaching services. The exercise incorporated preferred evaluation criteria focused on disability-inclusive facilitation and coaching practices. The evaluation panel included members with expertise in facilitation, coaching and disability inclusion. Bidders were assessed through a targeted questionnaire and interviews, requiring them to demonstrate their approaches to inclusive methodologies. Following the award, ILO plans to offer optional resources to contracted suppliers to strengthen their understanding of the organization's non-discrimination mandate.

The long-term agreements resulting from the exercise are being utilized by multiple United Nations organizations, supporting broader access to disability-inclusive facilitation and coaching services across the United Nations system. This initiative reflects continued commitment by ILO to embed social sustainability principles within United Nations procurement practices.

**IX. Sustainable procurement**

71. The annual statistical report provides insight into the progress made in the integration of sustainability considerations into procurement practices across the United Nations system based on voluntary reporting by United Nations organizations. In 2024, 31 of 32 United Nations organizations contributed information about their sustainable procurement efforts, which reveals a growing recognition that sustainable procurement is not merely a trend but a fundamental driver in shaping a more sustainable future.

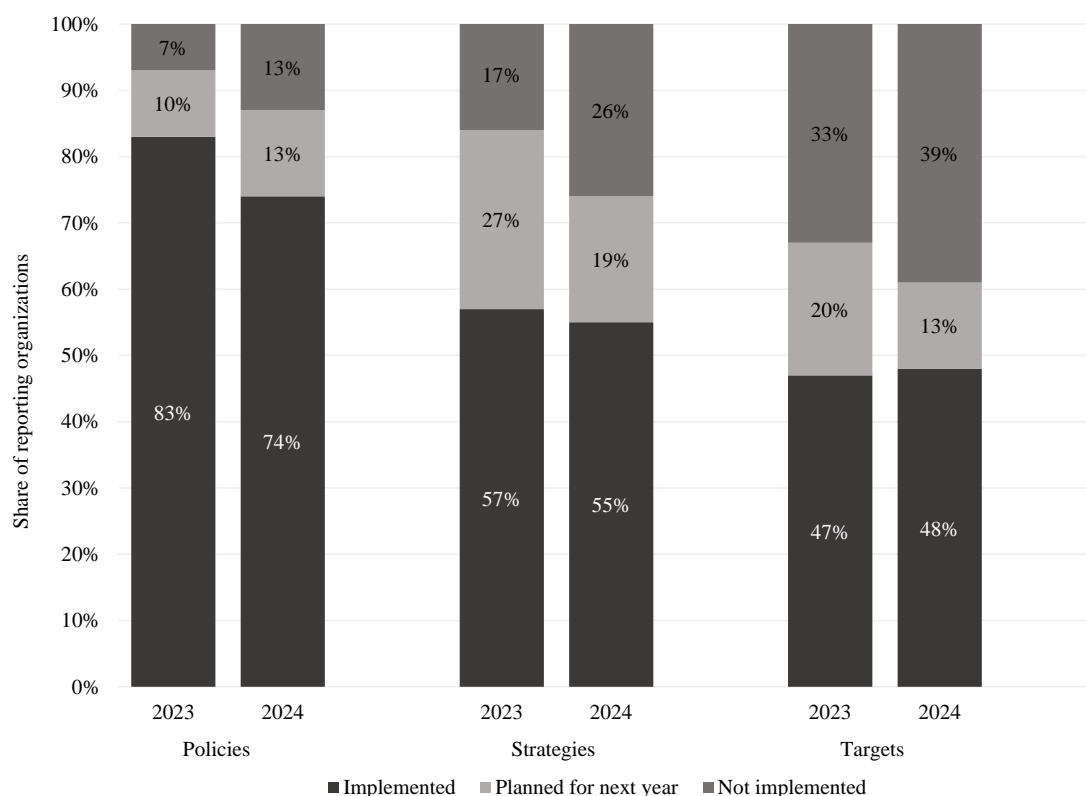
72. In 2024, key highlights included increased adoption and mainstreaming of environmental, social and economic criteria in United Nations organizations' procurement processes, with several organizations emphasizing increased tender notices using the [United Nations Global Marketplace \(UNGM\) sustainable procurement indicators](#). Collaboration among organizations through the HLCM Procurement Network task forces was reported with the development of the [Gender-Responsive Procurement \(GRP\) Model Policy Framework](#) by the GRP Task Force, chaired by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), alongside bilateral efforts such as the [UNOPS and ILO pilot of the Delivering Responsibility in Vendor Engagement \(DRiVE\) supplier sustainability programme](#). Furthermore, the enhancement of procurement systems and tools (reported by IOM, UNOPS, the United Nations Secretariat and WFP) is enabling better tracking, reduced paper usage, and integration of sustainability requirements in contracts and supplier management.

73. Increasingly, United Nations organizations are focusing on the key thematic areas of climate action and environmental protection. This includes elements such as the transition to renewable energy solutions as reported by IOM and the United Nations Secretariat, the reduction and monitoring of carbon emissions (with several organizations such as UNHCR and UNOPS reporting new strategies, targets, and action plans, and UNICEF and PAHO establishing scope 3 baselines), the development of monitoring tools (WFP), and the use of greener specifications, among other initiatives.

74. A growing focus on social sustainability characterized United Nations organizations' efforts, encompassing several key areas. Focusing on human rights and labour standards in United Nations supply chains, ILO piloted Human Rights Due Diligence Guidance for digital technology, while UNICEF developed resources for safeguarding and risk management in contracts in the area of prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.

United Nations Women and ILO reported promoting and integrating gender-responsive procurement into their procurement processes. Disability-inclusive procurement was supported by new training and guidelines (United Nations Volunteers, ILO) and dedicated staff (UNRWA). Finally, a growing emphasis on local economy and community benefits was evident in the significant local and regional procurement reported by WFP and the United Nations Secretariat's focus on local capacity building.

**Figure 8. Progress in the adoption of sustainable procurement policy, strategy and targets, 2023-2024**

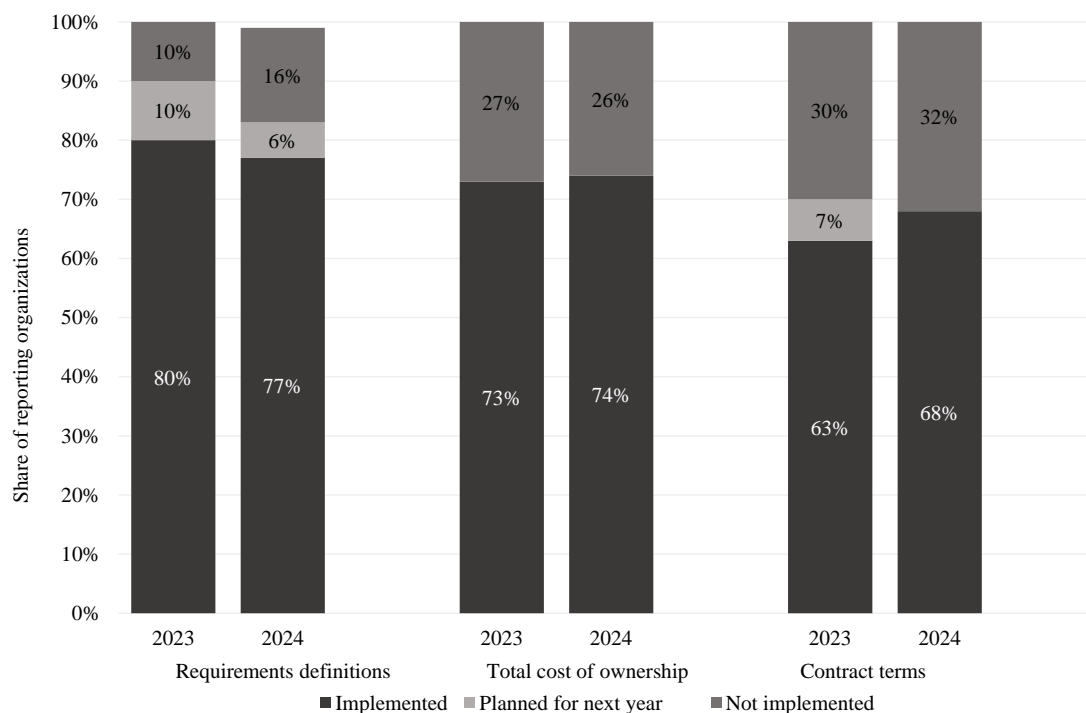


75. While the number of United Nations organizations with formal sustainable procurement policies decreased slightly from the previous year, a significant majority (23 out of 31 organizations, or over 70 per cent) still reported having such policies integrating sustainability. Seventeen organizations have dedicated sustainable procurement strategies, which is consistent with last year's results. There has been a positive trend in the number of organizations adopting measurable sustainability targets, with 15 organizations doing so by 2024. These targets included increasing the share of tenders with sustainable procurement indicators published on UNGM; implementing the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (indicator 8); setting specific targets for supplier engagement; and including climate considerations in the procurement of goods and services, among others.

76. Recognizing the need for robust implementation, organizations highlighted the importance of internal capacity building. This commitment is demonstrated by the increased proportion of United Nations organizations reporting the training of their procurers in sustainable procurement practices within the past three years, exceeding 60 per cent in 2024. These organizations utilized various methods such as in-person sessions, self-paced e-learning courses, webinars and virtual training, sometimes with inter-agency support. Furthermore, a growing number of organizations are making further investments to strengthen their internal sustainable procurement capacity, with over 50 per cent (17 out of 31) reporting such initiatives in 2024. These investments

included the development of scope 3 emission tracking tools, use of procurement dashboards incorporating sustainability metrics, and recruitment of sustainable procurement and capacity-building personnel across regional and headquarters levels, alongside upgrades to enterprise resource planning and e-procurement systems.

**Figure 9. Progress on the integration of sustainable procurement into the procurement process, 2023-2024**



77. The integration of sustainability criteria into requirement definitions is key for sustainable procurement. This ensures that procured goods, services and works promote social responsibility, reduce environmental impact, create value for beneficiaries and lead to long-term cost savings. In 2024, 24 organizations incorporated these criteria into their requirement definitions, consistent with the previous year.

78. The integration of all three sustainability dimensions (environmental, social and economic) into procurement processes has been consistently increasing. In 2024, over 87 per cent of organizations (27 out of 31) achieved this, with two more incorporating at least two dimensions. Notably, social considerations were integrated by all organizations in 2024, while the inclusion of economic and environmental aspects also demonstrated positive progress compared to the previous year.

79. Demonstrating a consistent focus on economic considerations in procurement, over 70 per cent (23 of 31) of reporting organizations continued to employ the total cost of ownership method for financial evaluations in 2024, assessing factors beyond the initial price like spare parts, maintenance, training, shipping and disposal to achieve best value and economic sustainability.

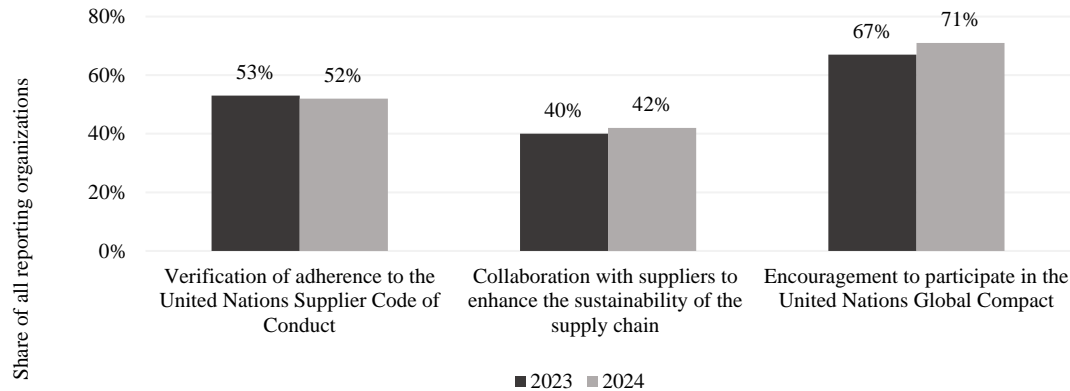
80. In addition to the United Nations Supplier Code of Conduct and standard contract terms, reporting organizations are increasingly using sustainability clauses in their contracts as a key mechanism to ensure suppliers meet their commitments to sustainability goals and criteria. This practice grew in 2024, with 21 out of 31 organizations reporting its current implementation.



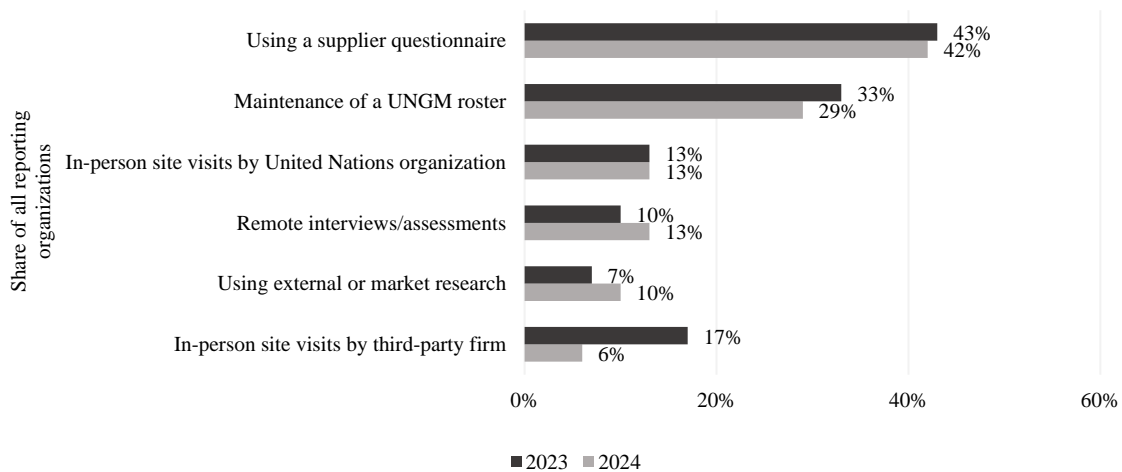
Table 7. Status of the inclusion of the sustainability considerations in procurement, 2024

Organization	Integration of sustainability considerations in procurement			Integration of sustainability criteria (i.e. environmental, social or economic) in requirements definition	Estimated share of procurement that included sustainability criteria in requirements definitions	
	Environmental	Social	Economic		Procurement for administrative areas (%)	Procurement for technical areas (%)
FAO	✓	✓	✓	Yes	-	-
ICAO	✓	✓	✓	Yes	11% - 20%	11% - 20%
IFAD	✓	✓	✓	Yes	-	-
ILO	✓	✓	✓	Yes	21% - 50%	21% - 50%
IMO	✓	✓	✓	Planned for next year	-	-
IOM	✓	✓	✓	Planned for next year	-	-
ITC	✓	✓	✓	Yes	11% - 20%	11% - 20%
ITU	✓	✓	✓	No	-	-
OPCW	✓	✓	✓	No	51% - 75%	51% - 75%
PAHO	✓	✓	✓	Yes	-	-
United Nations Secretariat	✓	✓	✓	Yes	21% - 50%	76% - 100%
United Nations Tourism		✓		No	6% - 10%	6% - 10%
UN-Women	✓	✓	✓	Yes	21% - 50%	21% - 50%
UNAIDS	✓	✓		Yes	76% - 100%	76% - 100%
UNDP	✓	✓	✓	Yes	6% - 10%	6% - 10%
UNESCO	✓	✓	✓	Yes	-	-
UNFCCC	✓	✓	✓	Yes	76% - 100%	76% - 100%
UNFPA	✓	✓		Yes	-	-
UNHCR	✓	✓	✓	Yes	51% - 75%	51% - 75%
UNICEF	✓	✓	✓	Yes	-	-
UNIDO	✓	✓	✓	Yes	6% - 10%	11% - 20%
UNOPS	✓	✓	✓	Yes	-	-
UNRWA	✓	✓	✓	Yes	6% - 10%	6% - 10%
UNU	✓	✓	✓	Yes	-	-
UNV	✓	✓	✓	Yes	-	-
UPU	✓	✓	✓	No	11% - 20%	-
WFP	✓	✓	✓	Yes	21% - 50%	11% - 20%
WHO	✓	✓	✓	Yes	76% - 100%	76% - 100%
WIPO	✓	✓	✓	Yes	0% - 5%	0% - 5%
WMO	✓	✓	✓	Yes	0% - 5%	0% - 5%
WTO		✓		No	-	-

81. Recognizing the critical role of supplier engagement in driving sustainability in procurement through enhanced supplier maturity, risk mitigation and innovation, 40.0 per cent (13 out of 31) of organizations collaborated with their suppliers on supply chain sustainability in 2024, with two additional organizations planning to initiate such engagement. Moreover, a noteworthy and steady increase was observed in the number of organizations actively promoting the United Nations Global Compact among their suppliers, reaching 22 out of 31 in 2024.

**Figure 10. Status of supplier engagement, 2023-2024**

82. Verifying adherence to the United Nations Supplier Code of Conduct remains a key aspect of interaction with suppliers. While this practice had seen a negative trend in prior years, over half of reporting organizations still engaged in such verifications in 2024, primarily through supplier questionnaires, maintenance of the UNGM roster, and on-site or remote assessments.

**Figure 11. Methods of verifying adherence to the United Nations Supplier Code of Conduct, 2023-2024**

83. Looking ahead, United Nations organizations are committed to using procurement to support the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They plan to achieve this by aligning procurement processes with SDG objectives, promoting more sustainable supply chains, enhancing supplier engagement on sustainability issues, integrating environmental, social and economic considerations into procurement decisions, building internal and external capacity in sustainable procurement, and developing specific strategies and tools to track and improve their performance in sustainable procurement.

**WFP. Upcycling nutrition packaging into building materials**

Pakistan faces persistent challenges related to maternal and child malnutrition, with nearly 10 million children affected by stunting. In response, the Government launched the Benazir Nashonuma Programme to focus on stunting prevention during the critical first 1,000 days of life. The programme distributes lipid-based nutrient supplements to mothers and children; however, managing the resulting packaging waste presented environmental challenges requiring a sustainable solution.

WFP in Pakistan developed an innovative circular economy initiative, collaborating with a local recycler to upcycle lipid-based nutrient supplement plastic sachets into building materials. This approach replaces traditional incineration, which emits 2.2 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e per kg of plastic, with a recycling method that significantly reduces emissions. WFP collects sachet waste and delivers it to a local recycler in Karachi, where it is processed into EcoGrete aggregate and used to produce pavers, tiles and blocks. WFP then procures these recycled materials for use in the construction and maintenance of its warehouses and for the improvement of health facilities where nutritious foods are distributed.

This recycling and procurement initiative prevents approximately 67 metric tonnes of plastic waste from reaching landfills and water bodies or being burned annually. It also reduces carbon emissions by an estimated 80 to 90 per cent compared to incineration. By fostering local green businesses and promoting the use of low-carbon construction materials, the initiative strengthens WFP commitment to responsible procurement, sustainability and localization within supply chains.

## Annex. Participants

Thirty-two United Nations organizations participated in the annual statistical report for 2024. Where this report refers to procurement by the United Nations system or by United Nations organizations, it refers to the procurement activities of those 32 organizations. Thirty-one organizations submitted sustainable procurement information. The participating organizations in this reporting year are:

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ITC	International Trade Centre
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
OPCW	Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UN Secretariat	United Nations Secretariat
UN Tourism	United Nations Tourism
UNU	United Nations University
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UN-Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UPU	Universal Postal Union
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization