

Promoting Green and Sustainable Procurement in Kenya

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Promoting Green and Sustainable Procurement in Kenya

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Abstract

This paper critically discusses the concepts of green and sustainable procurement in Kenya. It argues that green and sustainable procurement is vital in the Sustainable Development agenda in Kenya due to its ability to foster sustainable production and consumption and mitigate the environmental impacts arising from the supply of goods and services. The paper examines the progress made towards realizing green and sustainable procurement in Kenya. It also explores challenges facing the attainment of green and sustainable procurement in Kenya. The paper further suggests recommendations towards promoting green and sustainable procurement in Kenya.

1.0 Introduction

Procurement has been defined as a careful, usually documented process resulting in delivery of goods or services within a set time period¹. Procurement has also been defined as the process encompassing all activities associated with acquiring and managing the organisation's supply inputs². According to the World Trade Organization (WTO), procurement relates to the process by which a state agency or an organization acquires a product or service for its own use³. Further, the *Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act*⁴ of Kenya defines procurement as the acquisition by purchase, rental, lease, hire purchase, license, tenancy, franchise, or by any other contractual means of any type

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¹ Mak. J., 'What is Procurement?' Available at http://www.rfpsolutions.ca/articles/Jon_Mak_IPPC6_What_is_Procurement_3Mar2014.pdf (Accessed on 19/12/2023)

² National Library of Medicine., 'Theories about Procurement and Supply Chain Management.' Available at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK286086/> (Accessed on 19/12/2023)

³ World Trade Organization., 'Government Procurement.' Available at https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/edmmisc232add27_en.pdf (Accessed on 19/12/2023)

⁴ Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act, No. 33 of 2015, Laws of Kenya Government Printer, Nairobi

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of works, assets, services or goods including livestock or any combination and includes advisory, planning and processing in the supply chain system⁵. Procurement therefore essentially refers to the process of sourcing, acquiring, and paying for goods and services⁶.

Procurement can be categorized in various forms including direct procurement, indirect procurement, goods procurement and services procurement⁷. It has been pointed out that procurement plays a significant role in finance because it ensures that state entities and organizations expenditures on goods and services align with their financial goals and objectives⁸. It also plays a critical role in controlling costs and minimizing financial risks⁹. In addition, it has also been observed that procurement helps businesses save money, maintain quality, manage risks, enhance supplier relationships, and improve overall efficiency¹⁰. Procurement is therefore an important process in the development agenda of any nation.

It has been asserted that public procurement represents approximately 14 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in developed countries and nearly 30 per cent of GDP in developing countries¹¹. Given the magnitude of such spending, in combination with the pressing need for sustainable production and consumption, it has been pointed out that Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) has become imperative¹². Further, in light of

⁵Ibid, S 2

⁶ Reich. A., 'What Is Procurement? Types, Processes and Tech.' Available at <https://www.order.co/blog/procurement/define-procurement/> (Accessed on 19/12/2023)

⁷ Georgiev. N., 'What is Procurement?: 4 Types of Procurement and Technology.' Available at <https://www.bluecart.com/blog/what-is-procurement> (Accessed on 19/12/2023)

⁸ Emeritus., 'Is Procurement Important? What are its Different Types? A Complete Guide.' Available at <https://emeritus.org/blog/finance-what-is-procurement/#:~:text=Procurement%20plays%20a%20significant%20role, costs%20and%20minimizing%20financial%20risks.> (Accessed on 19/12/2023)

⁹ Ibid

¹⁰ Aggarwal. S., 'Why Is Procurement Important in Business?.' Available at <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/why-procurement-important-business-sanjeev-aggarwal/> (Accessed on 19/12/2023)

¹¹ United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards., 'Scaling up Voluntary Sustainability Standards through Sustainable Public Procurement and Trade Policy.' Available at https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/unfss_4th_2020_en.pdf (Accessed on 19/12/2023)

¹² Ibid

environmental challenges such as climate change, pollution, and loss of biodiversity which can be caused or worsened by the supply of goods and services, ecologically responsible business practices including green procurement has become a clarion call in both public and private sectors¹³.

This paper critically discusses the concepts of green and sustainable procurement in Kenya. It argues that green and sustainable procurement is vital in the Sustainable Development agenda in Kenya due to its ability to foster sustainable production and consumption and mitigate the environmental impacts arising from the supply of goods and services. The paper examines the progress made towards realizing green and sustainable procurement in Kenya. It also explores challenges facing the attainment of green and sustainable procurement in Kenya. The paper further suggests recommendations towards promoting green and sustainable procurement in Kenya.

2.0 Delimiting Green and Sustainable Procurement

Green or environmental procurement has been defined as the integration of environmental considerations into purchasing policies, programmes, and actions¹⁴. It has also been described as the involvement of the purchasing function in supply chain management activities such as Life-Cycle Analysis (LCA) and environment design that facilitates recycling, reuse and resource reduction¹⁵. Green procurement can also mean the acquisition of products and services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services that serve the same purpose¹⁶. Green procurement therefore considers raw materials

¹³ Ibid

¹⁴ Large, R., Thomsen, C., 'Drivers of Green Supply Management Performance: Evidence from Germany.' *Journal of Purchasing and Supply Management.*, Volume 17, Issue 3, (2011)

¹⁵ Appolloni, A., 'Green Procurement in the Private Sector: A State of the Art Review Between 1996 and 2013.' *Journal of Cleaner Production.*, (2014) 1-12

¹⁶ Green Purchasing and the Supply Chain., Available at <https://louisville.edu/purchasing/sustainability/greenpurchasingsupplychain> (Accessed on 20/12/2023)

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acquisition, production, manufacturing, packaging, distribution, reuse, operation, maintenance or disposal of the product or service¹⁷. Green procurement can therefore be understood as a process whereby organisations or public authorities meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life basis in terms of generating benefits not only to the organization or the public authority, but also to society and the economy, while minimising or mitigating damage to the environment¹⁸. It has been observed that green purchasing/green procurement is increasingly being recognised as an effective means of addressing and reducing negative environmental impacts related to product production and consumption around the world¹⁹.

Sustainable procurement on the other hand has been described as the pursuit of Sustainable Development objectives through the purchasing and supply process, and involves balancing environmental, social and economic objectives²⁰. It has also been defined as procurement that is consistent with the principles of Sustainable Development, such as ensuring a strong, healthy and just society, living within environmental limits, and promoting good governance²¹. Further, sustainable procurement can also refer to a conscious process where organisations meet their needs in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life basis by generating benefits to the spending organisations, society and economy, whilst minimising damage to the

¹⁷ Ibid

¹⁸ Anggraen. K., & Melgar. M., 'Green Public Procurement for Sustainable Horticulture: A Policy Brief.' Available at https://www.cscp.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/GOALAN_GPP_Policy_Brief.pdf (Accessed on 20/12/2023)

¹⁹ Ho. L., Dickinson. N., & Chan. G., 'Green Procurement in the Asian Public Sector and the Hong Kong Private Sector.' Available at <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1477-8947.2010.01274.x> (Accessed on 20/12/2023)

²⁰ Walker. H., & Philips. W., 'Sustainable Procurement: Emerging Issues.' Available at https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Helen-Walker-5/publication/254959498_Sustainable_procurement_Emerging_issues/links/54d9e9a80cf2970e4e7d191f/Sustainable-procurement-Emerging-issues.pdf (Accessed on 20/12/2023)

²¹ Walker. H., & Brammer. S., 'Sustainable Procurement in the United Kingdom Public Sector.' Available at https://web.archive.org/web/20190428091155id_/https://purehost.bath.ac.uk/ws/files/415713/2007-15.pdf (Accessed on 20/12/2023)

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environment²². Sustainable procurement can also be described as the process of integrating Environmental, Social, and Governance considerations (ESG) into purchasing decisions and supply chain management²³. It goes beyond the normal focus on cost and quality of products and services and takes into account the broader impacts of procurement activities on human lives, the planet, and prosperity²⁴.

Sustainable procurement aims to balance economic goals with social responsibility and environmental stewardship, in order to foster long-term sustainability throughout the supply chain²⁵. It has been asserted that sustainable procurement primarily involves balancing three essential concepts being environment/eco-friendly concerns, including energy performance, waste reduction, product lifespan, protection of resources; social concerns including respect for human rights, good working conditions, inclusivity, diversity; and economic issues including cost, product and service quality, and delivery timeframes²⁶.

From the foregoing, certain differences emerge between green and sustainable procurement. It has been asserted that sustainable procurement takes a broader approach, considering social, environmental, and economic factors in the procurement process, while green procurement primarily focuses on the environmental aspects²⁷. In addition, it has been pointed out that sustainable procurement places significant

²² Maina. J., 'State Should Set Good Example by Promoting Sustainable Procurement.' Available at <https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/amp/opinion/article/2001450226/state-should-set-good-example-by-promoting-sustainable-procurement> (Accessed on 20/12/2023)

²³ 'Difference between Green Procurement and Sustainable Procurement'., Available at <https://cloudopex.com/blog/green-procurement-and-sustainable-procurement/#:~:text=Sustainable%20procurement%20and%20green%20procurement%20are%20two%20related%20but%20distinct,focuses%20on%20reducing%20environmental%20impacts> (Accessed on 20/12/2023)

²⁴ Ibid

²⁵ Ibid

²⁶ Sustainable Procurement: Definition, State of Play and Advantages., Available at <https://www.manutan.com/blog/en/glossary/sustainable-procurement-what-it-means-the-state-of-play-and-the-advantages-it-offers#:~:text=Sustainable%20procurement%20refers%20to%20procurement,sustainable%20development%20and%20social%20responsibility.> (Accessed on 20/12/2023)

²⁷ 'Difference between Green Procurement and Sustainable Procurement.' Op Cit

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emphasis on social responsibility, including fair labor practices, respect for human rights, and diversity, whereas green procurement primarily concentrates on environmental impacts²⁸. Sustainable procurement also seeks to foster economic viability and long-term value creation in the procurement process while green procurement focuses on fostering environmental viability in the procurement process²⁹.

Despite their differences, both green procurement and sustainable procurement are at the heart of the Sustainable Development agenda. It has been asserted that transforming public procurement practices by embracing green and sustainable procurement can play a key role in achieving a greener and more sustainable future in multiples ways by evaluating the total cost of ownership over the product's life cycle, including energy use, maintenance, and disposal costs rather than prioritizing the lowest price, which can lead to the selection of products and services that are not environmentally-friendly; and incorporating environmental and social sustainability criteria into procurement processes, including energy efficiency, carbon footprint, fair labor practices, and local sourcing³⁰. According to the World Bank, given the central position that procurement occupies in public spending, procurement can be a lever to implement a whole-of-economy approach to climate change, by aligning purchasing decisions with sustainability and climate goals, engaging with suppliers to drive positive change, and promoting innovation and transparency throughout the supply chain³¹. By embedding green and sustainable considerations into procurement processes, governments and organizations can drive innovation, promote responsible consumption, and pave the way for a more sustainable future³².

²⁸ Ibid

²⁹ Ibid

³⁰ Jabbour. J et al., 'How can Green Public Procurement Contribute to a More Sustainable Future.' Available at <https://blogs.worldbank.org/governance/how-can-green-public-procurement-contribute-more-sustainable-future> (Accessed on 20/12/2023)

³¹ Ibid

³² Ibid

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It has further been asserted that emerging economies can leverage their large purchasing power in promoting a more sustainable and inclusive growth through the adoption of green and sustainable public procurement policies³³. Given their substantial purchasing power, governments in both developed and developing countries have enormous leverage to stimulate and drive markets for sustainable production and consumption when they make a determined effort to purchase 'green' and 'sustainable' products and services³⁴. It has been argued that adopting green and sustainable procurement not only improves the efficiency of public procurement but also uses the public market power to bring about significant environmental and socioeconomic benefits in any given country³⁵. It is therefore important for all countries to promote green and sustainable procurement in order to foster sustainability.

3.0 Green and Sustainable Procurement in Kenya

Green and sustainable procurement is at the heart of the *United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*³⁶. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12 seeks to foster sustainable consumption and production patterns in all countries³⁷. One of the targets under SDG 12 is to promote public procurement practices which are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities³⁸. It has been argued that green and sustainable public procurement can influence the attainment of nearly all the SDGs³⁹. It

³³ SDG 12 Hub., 'Roundtable on Sustainable Public Procurement as a Tool for Paris Agreement at COP 28.' Available at <https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/news-and-events/news/roundtable-sustainable-public-procurement-tool-paris-agreement-cop28> (Accessed on 20/12/2023)

³⁴ Poliautre. D., 'Green Procurement: A Guide for Local Government.' *Sustainable Energy for Environment & Development Programme.*, Volume 2, No. 10 (2012)

³⁵ Ibid

³⁶ United Nations General Assembly., 'Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.' 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1., Available at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf> (Accessed 21/12/2023)

³⁷ Ibid, SDG 12

³⁸ Ibid, SDG 12.7

³⁹ Nordic Council of Ministers., 'Sustainable Public Procurement and the Sustainable Development Goals.' Available at <https://norden.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1554600/FULLTEXT01.pdf> (Accessed on 21/12/2023)

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can enhance the acquisition of green and sustainable products and services that are crucial in realizing the SDGs in areas such as food security, health, education, energy, clean water and sanitation, and infrastructure⁴⁰. Green and sustainable public procurement can also positively influence SDG 13 (taking urgent action to combat climate change) by ensuring that environmental considerations such as energy and water efficiency are included in tenders for products or services⁴¹.

According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), leveraging the enormous purchasing power wielded by public procurement, which is estimated to be 12% of GDP in developed countries and up to 30 % of GDP in developing countries, by promoting public procurement practices that are green and sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities, plays a key role in achieving Sustainable Consumption and Production (SDG 12) and in addressing the three pillars of Sustainable Development⁴². From an environmental perspective; sustainable procurement allows governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve resource efficiency and support recycling; from a social dimension, the positive social results of green and sustainable procurement include poverty reduction, improved equity and respect for core labour standards; from an economic perspective, green and sustainable procurement can generate income, reduce costs, support the transfer of skills and technology and promote innovation by domestic producers⁴³. UNEP further asserts that shifting public spending towards more green and sustainable goods and services can help drive markets in the direction of innovation and sustainability, thereby enabling the transition to a green economy and achievement of the Sustainable Development agenda⁴⁴. Green and

⁴⁰ Ibid

⁴¹ Ibid

⁴² United Nations Environment Programme., 'Sustainable Public Procurement.' Available at <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/resource-efficiency/what-we-do/sustainable-public-procurement#:~:text=SPP%20Implementation%20Guidelines%3A%20UNEP%20has,of%20Sustainable%20Public%20Procurement%20criteria>. (Accessed on 21/12/2023)

⁴³ Ibid

⁴⁴ Ibid

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sustainable public procurement is therefore integral in the sustainable development agenda.

At the continental level, the *Africa Union's Agenda 2063*⁴⁵ also embraces the role of green and sustainable procurement in the realization of the vision of an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena⁴⁶. One of the key aspirations of Agenda 2063 is fostering environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities in Africa⁴⁷. Agenda 2063 identifies the need for sustainable consumption and production patterns in the realization of this aspiration and urges all African countries to develop and implement policies and standards including environmental laws and regulations and *green procurement* for sustainable production and consumption practices (Emphasis added)⁴⁸. Promoting green and sustainable procurement is vital in the realization the vision of Agenda 2063.

At the national level, the Constitution of Kenya enshrines Sustainable Development as one of the national values and principles of governance which binds all state organs, state officers, public officers and all persons⁴⁹. The Constitution therefore envisions the procurement process in Kenya to be guided by the principles of Sustainable Development. The Constitution further requires the procurement of public goods and services to be done in accordance with a system that is fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost-effective⁵⁰.

The *Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act*⁵¹ was enacted to give effect to Article 227 of the Constitution on procurement of public goods and services; to provide procedures for

⁴⁵ Africa Union., 'Agenda 2063: The Africa we Want.' Available at https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/33126-doc-framework_document_book.pdf (Accessed on 21/12/2023)

⁴⁶ Ibid

⁴⁷ Ibid

⁴⁸ Ibid

⁴⁹ Constitution of Kenya, 2010., Article 10 (2) (d)

⁵⁰ Ibid, Article 227 (1)

⁵¹ Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act., No. 33 of 2015, Laws of Kenya, Preamble

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efficient public procurement and for assets disposal by public entities; and for connected purposes. The Act requires public procurement and asset disposal by state organs and public entities in Kenya to be guided by certain values and principles including the national values and principles provided for under Article 10 of the Constitution; maximisation of value for money; and promotion of local industry, Sustainable Development and protection of the environment⁵². The Act therefore embraces the ideas of green and sustainable procurement by requiring environment and Sustainable Development considerations to guide the procurement process in Kenya. In particular, the Act requires the procurement of public goods and services in Kenya to comply with specific requirements aimed at promoting green and sustainable procurement⁵³. It provides that an accounting officer of a procuring entity shall prepare specific requirements relating to the goods, works or services being procured that are clear, that give a correct and complete description of what is to be procured and that allow for fair and open competition among those who may wish to participate in the procurement proceedings.⁵⁴ Such requirements include the need to factor in the socio-economic impact of the goods, works and services; the need for goods, works and services to be environment-friendly; and cost effectiveness of goods, works and services⁵⁵.

In addition, the *Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Regulations*⁵⁶ also seek to promote green and sustainable procurement in Kenya. The Regulations require user departments in procurement entities while submitting requisitions to the head of the procurement function for processing, to ensure that the requisitions are accompanied by, inter alia, as applicable: environmental and social impact assessment reports⁵⁷. The Regulations further provide that the documents, procedures and approvals required for waste disposal management shall be obtained from the relevant public agencies allowing a

⁵² Ibid, S 3

⁵³ Ibid, S 60

⁵⁴ Ibid, S 60 (1)

⁵⁵ Ibid, S 60 (3)

⁵⁶ Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Regulations, 2020, Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 53 (Legislative Supplement No. 37), Legal Notice No. 69, Laws of Kenya

⁵⁷ Ibid, Regulation 71(2) (c).

procuring entity to dispose those items that are harmful and unfriendly to the environment⁵⁸. It has correctly been pointed out that there is need for all public entities in Kenya to uphold the provisions of the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act and the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Regulations and work towards ensuring that both the processes of procurement of goods and disposal of waste are not only environmentally friendly but are also cost effective and contribute towards the realization of the Sustainable Development agenda in Kenya⁵⁹.

Despite the appropriateness of green and sustainable procurement, it has been observed that the concept is yet to be fully embraced in developing countries like Kenya in both the private and public sectors⁶⁰. It has been noted that the adoption of green and sustainable procurement in Kenya has been slow resulting in lower diffusion rate in Kenya⁶¹. In addition, it has been argued that in as much as the government and other stakeholders may want to promote green and sustainable procurement in Kenya as demonstrated by the enactment of laws such as the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act, some organizations may be reluctant given that they see an opportunity in non-conformance⁶². Organizations may shun away from green and sustainable procurement due to factors such as perceived added costs involved, poor management practices, poor policy communication, limited established environmental and sustainability criteria for products and services, lack of practical tools and information, and lack of clear interpretation of the concept of green and sustainable procurement⁶³.

⁵⁸ Ibid, Regulation 193 (2)

⁵⁹ Muigua. K., 'Promoting Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns in Kenya for Development.' Available at <https://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Promoting-Sustainable-Consumption-and-Production-Patterns-in-Kenya-for-Development-Kariuki-Muigua-Ph.D.pdf> (Accessed on 21/12/2023)

⁶⁰ Nderitu. M., & Ngugi... K., 'Effects of Green Procurement Practices on an Organization Performance in Manufacturing Industry: Case Study of East African Breweries Limited.' Available at https://business.ku.ac.ke/images/stories/research/dr_ngugi/EFFECTS_OF_GREEN_%20PROCUREMENT_PRACTICES.pdf (Accessed on 21/12/2023)

⁶¹ Muraguri. E., Waweru. E., & Musyimi. P., 'Application and Practice of Sustainable Procurement in Kenya.' *International Journal of Innovative Science, Engineering & Technology*, Vol. 2, Issue 12, December 2015

⁶² Ibid

⁶³ Ibid

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There is need to promote green and sustainable procurement in Kenya in order to foster Sustainable Development. Green and sustainable public procurement also offers numerous benefits for both the public and private sector including enhanced economic performance, competitive advantage through innovation, improved public image, lower waste management costs, energy and resources conservation, and risk reduction among others⁶⁴.

4.0 Way Forward

In order to foster green and sustainable procurement in Kenya, there is need to integrate environmental, economic and social dimensions in the procurement processes in both public and private sectors. It has been argued that sustainability can be achieved in the procurement process by incorporating the elements of Sustainable Development which are environmental protection, economic development and social progress⁶⁵. It is therefore imperative to ensure that all procurement decisions embrace and contribute to the realization of the broader environmental, economic and social policy goals in countries⁶⁶. Procurement processes and decisions at all levels should therefore consider environment/eco-friendly concerns, including energy performance, waste reduction, product lifespan, protection of resources; social concerns including respect for human rights, good working conditions, inclusivity, diversity; and economic issues including cost, product and service quality, and delivery timeframes⁶⁷. It has further been asserted that public entities and private organizations can identify green products and services by considering factors such as raw materials acquisition, manufacturing, packaging, distribution, re-use and disposal in order embrace such products and services⁶⁸.

⁶⁴ Ibid

⁶⁵ Fitzmaurice. M., 'The Principle of Sustainable Development in International Development Law.' *International Sustainable Development Law.*, Vol 1

⁶⁶ United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards., 'Scaling up Voluntary Sustainability Standards through Sustainable Public Procurement and Trade Policy.' Op Cit

⁶⁷ Sustainable Procurement: Definition, State of Play and Advantages., Op Cit

⁶⁸ Poliautre. D., 'Green Procurement: A Guide for Local Government.' Op Cit

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It is also vital to foster education, training and awareness, and capacity building on green and sustainable procurement in order to encourage public entities, organizations, employers and employees to embrace these ideas⁶⁹. It has been asserted that education and training can enhance knowledge level and skills in handling green procurement tools and systems, information management and resource allocation in green and sustainable procurement⁷⁰. Education, training and capacity building can also enhance the uptake of Information, and Communications Technology (ICT) software that supports green and sustainable procurement practices such as the use of e-procurement⁷¹. Education, training and capacity building is therefore important in promoting green and sustainable procurement in Kenya.

Finally, it is necessary to enforce laws, regulations, policies and standards aimed at promoting green and sustainable procurement in Kenya including the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act and the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Regulations. It has been argued that in order to realize green and sustainable procurement in Kenya, enforcement mechanism shall be necessary, including managing suppliers' relationships, monitoring and evaluation, product content restrictions, eco-labelling, disclosure requirements, quality assurance certifications, compliance audits, awards and sanctions⁷². According to UNCTAD, enforcement procedures, such as monitoring, conformity assessment, complaints handling and sanctions are necessary in order to achieve green and sustainable procurement especially in the public sector⁷³. It is therefore necessary to ensure enforcement and compliance with measures aimed at fostering green and sustainable procurement in Kenya.

⁶⁹ Muraguri. E., Waweru. E., & Musyimi. P., 'Application and Practice of Sustainable Procurement in Kenya.' Op Cit

⁷⁰ Nderitu. M., & Ngugi... K., 'Effects of Green Procurement Practices on an Organization Performance in Manufacturing Industry: Case Study of East African Breweries Limited.' Op Cit

⁷¹ Ibid

⁷² Maina. J., 'State Should Set Good Example by Promoting Sustainable Procurement.' Op Cit

⁷³ United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards., 'Scaling up Voluntary Sustainability Standards through Sustainable Public Procurement and Trade Policy.' Op Cit

Through the foregoing initiatives, green and sustainable procurement will be promoted in Kenya.

5.0 Conclusion

Green procurement and sustainable procurement is at the heart of the Sustainable Development agenda. SDG 12.7 seeks to promote public procurement practices which are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities⁷⁴. Shifting public spending towards more green and sustainable goods and services can help drive markets in the direction of innovation and sustainability, thereby enabling the transition to a green economy and achievement of the Sustainable Development agenda⁷⁵. The Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act and the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Regulations of Kenya envisage the idea of green and sustainable procurement. However, the achievement of green and sustainable procurement in Kenya is hindered by factors such as perceived added costs involved, poor management practices, poor policy communication, limited established environmental and sustainability criteria for products and services, lack of practical tools and information, and lack of clear interpretation of the concept of green and sustainable procurement⁷⁶. It is imperative to address these challenges in order to promote green and sustainable procurement in Kenya. Green and sustainable procurement in Kenya can be realized through integrating environmental, economic and social dimensions in the procurement processes in both

⁷⁴ United Nations General Assembly., 'Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.' 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1., SDG 12.7

⁷⁵ United Nations Environment Programme., 'Sustainable Public Procurement.' Op Cit

⁷⁶ Muraguri. E., Waweru. E., & Musyimi. P., 'Application and Practice of Sustainable Procurement in Kenya.' Op Cit

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public and private sectors, foster education, training, awareness and capacity building on green and sustainable procurement, and enforcement of laws, regulations, policies and standards aimed at promoting green and sustainable procurement⁷⁷. Promoting green and sustainable procurement in Kenya is necessary for the realization of the Sustainable Development agenda.

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⁷⁷ Ibid; Poliautre. D., 'Green Procurement: A Guide for Local Government.' Op Cit; United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards., 'Scaling up Voluntary Sustainability Standards through Sustainable Public Procurement and Trade Policy.' Op Cit

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