

Terms of Reference

Social Procurement Community of Practice

Context

This Community of Practice has been created for social procurement intermediaries, policymakers, commissioners and procurement officers from the public and commercial sectors. The Community of Practice is a private area to encourage sharing, collaboration, peer support and open dialogue among the social procurement community. Through the COP, everyone involved will be advancing the understanding and implementation of social procurement. All participating organisations in this collaboration share common objectives of supporting the growth of social enterprise procurement in their respective countries and/or sectors.

Aims

- Create social and environmental impact by growing social procurement activity with social enterprises around the world.
- Increase interest in and implementation of social procurement systems globally.
- Respond to the needs of individuals and organisations in the SEWF network working to advance procurement in their national and/or sectoral contexts.

Objectives

- Build a community that fosters collaboration through a private online community.
- Connect and support social procurement intermediaries, commissioners and procurement officers from the commercial and public sectors engaged in social procurement.
- Develop and curate tools and resources through the shared Resource Library that support adoption and implementation of social procurement policies, systems and processes.
- Showcase best practice, relevant experiences and innovation in social procurement through the COP's private blog.
- Identify and undertake collaborative projects and actions that will address gaps in knowledge, understanding or interpretation of social procurement policies and strategies.

Engagement Principles

- Inclusion - All users are welcome to comment and contribute within the COP Forums. These responses will remain respectful.
- Reciprocity – If you avail of materials, resources, advice or guidance, you will consider how you can also contribute to the community by supporting its members or functions.
- Respect of intellectual property – Some materials and resources are not in the public domain. Users will consult with SEWF or the resource owner before adapting for their own use and the source of the IP will be acknowledged.
- No sales - This is a community of practice and sales of products or services is not allowed. If users breach this rule by advertising products or services for sale within the COP, their posts will be removed, and their accounts suspended.
- Tolerance of terminology - SEWF acknowledges and respects that many countries have different structures and models of social enterprise. The [features and characteristics of social enterprise](#) identified by SEWF reflect the views and approach of the majority of SEWF partners and members. Users will keep discussion and enquiry about definition to threads on certification, accreditation, etc.
- Search before you ask - The site moderators will be happy to support any reasonable enquiry, but users should explore the site and use the “search” feature before asking the community for assistance.