



# **COLLABORATIVE PROCUREMENT WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM**

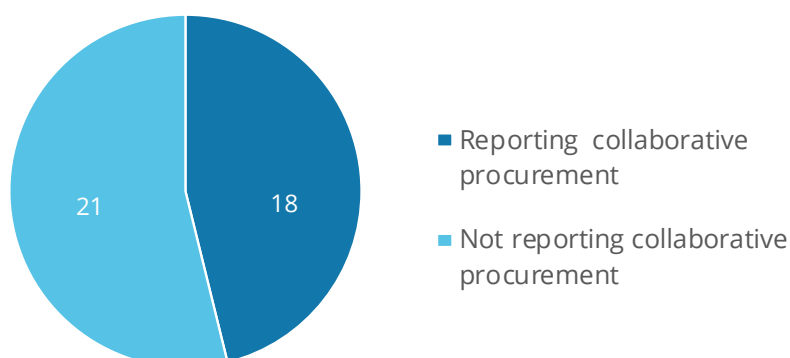
## Introduction to collaborative procurement

The Annual Statistical Report on UN Procurement reports for the first time on collaborative procurement within the UN system in the 2016 report. This section is developed in response to the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR) resolution (A/RES/71/243) adopted by the General Assembly on the 21 December 2016. The resolution calls upon UN organizations to further their synergies and inter-agency efforts, and requests that UN system entities explore further opportunities for collaborative procurement at the global, regional and country levels. The General Assembly also requests that the organizations record details of the efficiencies achieved through collaborative procurement and report them in a consolidated format to the Annual Statistical Report on United Nations Procurement. The year 2016 will be used as a baseline for reporting on collaborative procurement, aiming to improve the analysis year-on-year based on the availability of data in this area.

## Reported collaborative procurement

In 2016, 18 organizations reported collaborative procurement, while 21 organizations were unable to provide information (Figure 32). Collaborative procurement encompasses the following set of activities <sup>74</sup>: (a) Using existing long-term agreements (LTAs) or contracts of other UN organizations; (b) Establishing and using joint LTAs through a 'lead agency' approach; (c) using the procurement services of other UN organizations; (d) Other formal collaborations with UN partners through: (i) joint procurement unit, or (ii) sharing specifications or developing common specifications.

**Figure 32.** Reported Collaborative Procurement by number of UN organizations 2016 (in number of organizations)



The total volume of collaborative procurement reported in 2016 was 2.7 billion, representing 15.0 per cent of the total UN procurement volume. The organization that reported the highest volume of collaborative procurement was UNICEF <sup>75</sup>, who was responsible for 83.4 per cent of the reported collaborative volume for the UN in 2016 (Table 22). The agency with the second largest reported volume of collaborative procurement was UNOPS with 8.2 per cent of total reported volume, and the third largest collaborative procurement volume was reported by WHO, with 1.9 per cent of the total.

<sup>74</sup> As defined by the High-Level Committee on Management Procurement Network in the following guidelines: [https://www.ungm.org/Areas/Public/Downloads/15\\_06%20HarmonizingUNProcurement\\_GUIDELINES\\_final.pdf](https://www.ungm.org/Areas/Public/Downloads/15_06%20HarmonizingUNProcurement_GUIDELINES_final.pdf).

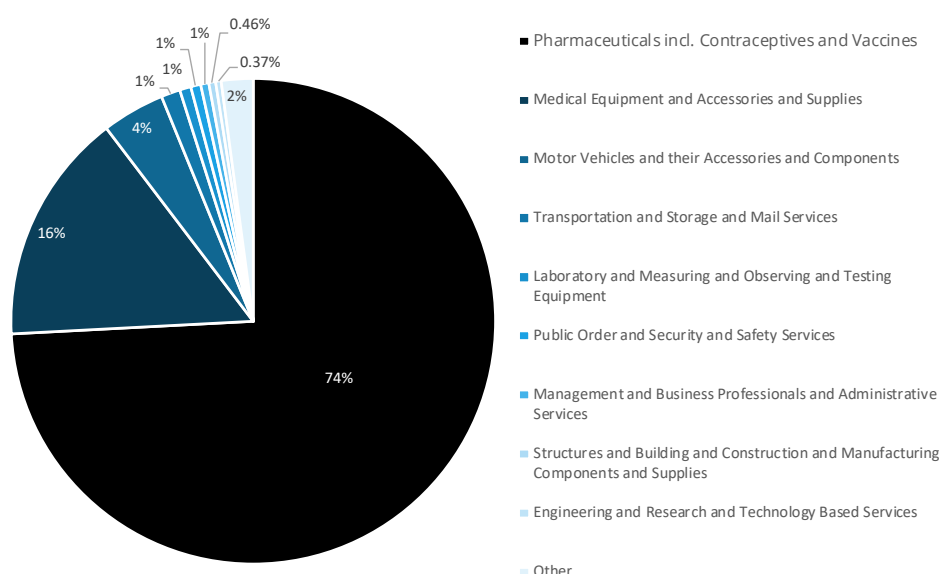
<sup>75</sup> UNICEF only reported collaborative activities for their goods procurement in 2016. As their procurement of services is more decentralized, any collaborative activities are difficult to identify in their ERP system.

**Table 22.** Top five UN organizations reporting collaborative procurement, 2016  
(in millions of USD and percentage)

UN organizations Top 5	Reported procurement volume from UN supplier	% of total
UNICEF	2220.43	83.36%
UNOPS	217.06	8.15%
WHO	50.35	1.89%
UNHCR	46.92	1.76%
OPCW	30.77	1.16%
Others	98.01	3.68%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,663.53</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>17,712.53</b>	

The reported collaborative procurement is distributed over 46 UNSPSC® segments, with the top ten categories representing 97.9 per cent of the total reported collaborative volume. The largest category reported as collaborative is pharmaceuticals, where almost all of it consist of UNICEF's vaccines procurement, accounting for 98 per cent of that volume. The second category is medical equipment and supplies, again predominantly procured by UNICEF (93.9 per cent), including clinical nutrition with 39 per cent of that segment. The third largest category reported as collaborative is motor vehicles and their accessories, and the main organization reporting collaborative spend in this category is UNOPS with 66.2 per cent of the total.

**Figure 33.** Top ten categories of reported collaborative procurement by UNSPSC® segment, 2016 (in percentage)



## Opportunities for collaboration

Table 23 shows the categories of goods and services, by UNSPSC® family level, with the highest number of procuring UN organizations. The table also indicate the total UN spend, the reported collaborative procurement volume, and the number of available LTAs for each of the categories. Twenty-two categories are procured by thirty or more UN organizations, with the top categories being computer services and insurance and retirement services, both procured by thirty-eight out of thirty-nine participating organizations. For computer services, there are 63 LTAs available on the United Nations Global Marketplace (UNGM), while there is only one LTA available on UNGM for insurance and retirement services. The table also shows four categories where no LTAs are currently shared on UNGM: real estate services, utilities, specialized trade construction services, and cleaning and janitorial services.

**Table 23.** Top categories in number of procuring organizations, 2016 (in number of procuring organizations and LTAs, millions of USD and percentage)

Category by UNSPSC® family	Procurement volume	Buying organizations	Reported collaborative procurement	Reported collaborative share of family total	# of available LTAs
Computer services	339.76	38	6.10	1.80%	63
Insurance and retirement services	62.50	38	0.84	1.35%	1
Software	64.15	37	1.04	1.62%	42
Mail and cargo transport	1,009.71	37	11.89	1.18%	12
Computer equipment	196.12	36	5.44	2.77%	9
Building maintenance and repair services	328.45	36	2.14	0.65%	13
Writing and translations	98.83	35	0.82	0.83%	3
Management advisory services	288.62	34	5.58	1.93%	26
Business administration services	551.35	34	2.27	0.41%	10
Real estate services	342.78	33	4.46	1.30%	0
Utilities	88.05	33	1.09	1.24%	0
Hotels, lodging, meeting facilities	132.49	33	1.46	1.10%	29
Telecommunications media services	73.28	32	1.65	2.25%	4
Multimedia network equipment and accessories	101.42	32	0.98	0.97%	3
Printed media	28.97	32	0.21	0.73%	9
Office supplies	33.87	32	0.23	0.67%	9
Security and personal safety	356.30	32	1.52	0.43%	6
IT Service delivery	145.14	32	0.40	0.28%	32
Specialized trade construction services	133.44	32	0.29	0.22%	0
Office machines and their supplies	84.15	32	0.18	0.21%	9
Cleaning and janitorial services	80.84	30	0.74	0.92%	0
Transportation maintenance services	34.84	30	0.17	0.49%	1

## UN to UN procurement

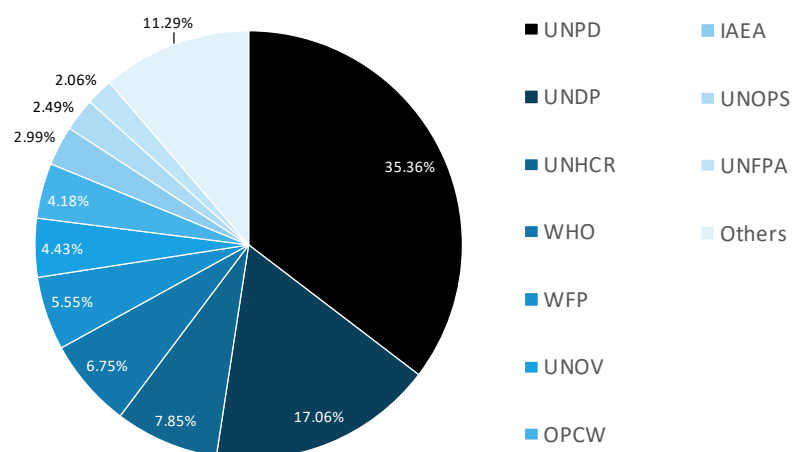
This section looks at all procurement where a UN organization has been identified as the supplying organization. Since this section looks at the full dataset reported to the ASR, it will give a more complete picture of the collaborations done as procurement from another UN organization. Thirty-five out of the thirty-nine organizations submitting procurement data to the ASR have taken part in UN-to-UN procurement, as can be seen in Table 24. The table also shows the top eight organizations identified as supplying procurement to other UN organizations, and how much each of the procuring organizations have procured from each of them.

**Table 24.** Interagency procurement identified, by UN procuring organization and supplying UN organization in 2016. (in thousands of US dollars)

	Supplying UN Organizations									Total
	UNOPS	UNDP	UNICEF	WFP	ICC	WHO	UNIDO	UNOG	Others	
UNPD	221,815.80	34,732.64	27.42	263.75	-	18.99	-	-	2,333.25	259,191.85
UNDP	9,969.51	-	85,108.68	12,277.48	36.78	6,050.57	-	59.56	11,556.88	125,059.47
UNHCR	386.10	12,144.95	196.89	10,494.55	-	4,450.09	-	11,046.72	18,801.77	57,521.05
WHO	6,965.85	11,450.15	21,710.59	3,082.12	1,825.00	-	-	-	4,432.77	49,466.48
WFP	424.15	18,436.01	2,279.79	-	-	94.32	-	171.20	19,290.36	40,695.83
UNOV	4,887.31	21,171.19	16.46	7.31	-	-	5,991.39	-	433.37	32,507.04
OPCW	30,436.50	-	-	-	98.77	-	-	12.81	54.96	30,603.04
IAEA	4.02	4,539.25	-	-	1,317.00	-	7,890.71	52.36	8,077.23	21,880.57
UNOPS	-	6,692.30	1,880.61	806.86	-	54.35	2.71	-	8,806.97	18,243.80
UNFPA	5,425.79	2,217.48	3,287.69	1,476.55	-	37.89	-	5.00	2,619.64	15,070.05
WIPO	-	622.31	-	-	12,769.95	-	-	166.24	589.43	14,147.92
IFAD	135.60	1,631.21	-	1,546.89	3,533.71	-	-	23.10	4,351.72	11,222.23
IOM	293.02	473.19	406.82	496.99	36.12	0.13	-	112.04	7,209.75	9,028.06
FAO	1,645.94	2,007.33	600.94	654.67	-	364.13	-	85.63	1,465.85	6,824.49
ILO	3,025.52	1,288.07	9.59	87.53	154.49	18.45	-	332.90	1,896.42	6,812.96
UN Women	672.88	1,098.86	152.45	462.90	-	1,386.19	-	-	1,238.71	5,011.98
UNICEF	8.07	1,887.37	-	1,728.31	-	-	-	-	761.22	4,384.97
UNIDO	138.31	1,419.37	71.67	65.30	-	459.40	-	42.26	2,092.33	4,288.65
UNOG	-	913.11	180.08	2,810.05	-	95.48	-	-	-	3,998.72
UNESCO	93.49	1,737.43	103.83	172.69	-	31.12	80.87	85.22	1,174.85	3,479.52
UNAIDS	5.00	2,411.20	152.69	308.28	-	-	-	17.49	355.68	3,250.34
UNON	25.35	2,389.87	-	392.43	-	29.69	-	-	195.47	3,032.81
ITU	5.95	98.24	-	-	-	1,889.49	-	-	718.15	2,711.83
UNRWA	45.00	62.83	8.55	243.08	-	-	-	-	654.86	1,014.32
ESCAP	-	118.11	659.92	202.19	-	-	-	-	17.54	997.75
ITC	5.00	665.97	-	-	-	-	-	-	45.24	716.20
UN-ICTY/MICT	-	95.37	-	-	-	-	-	-	424.80	520.17
IMO	-	2.76	-	-	-	111.78	-	5.91	188.11	308.55
UPU	114.35	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.72	154.50	274.56
WMO	-	90.86	-	-	-	-	-	88.71	68.33	247.90
UNECA	54.51	180.21	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	234.72
ESCWA	-	206.56	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.50	211.06
UNAKRT	26.12	3.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	29.12
ECLAC	-	4.08	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	4.08
UNFCCC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.95	2.95
Total	286,609.16	130,791.27	116,854.67	37,579.93	19,771.82	15,092.07	13,965.68	12,312.86	100,017.59	732,995.04

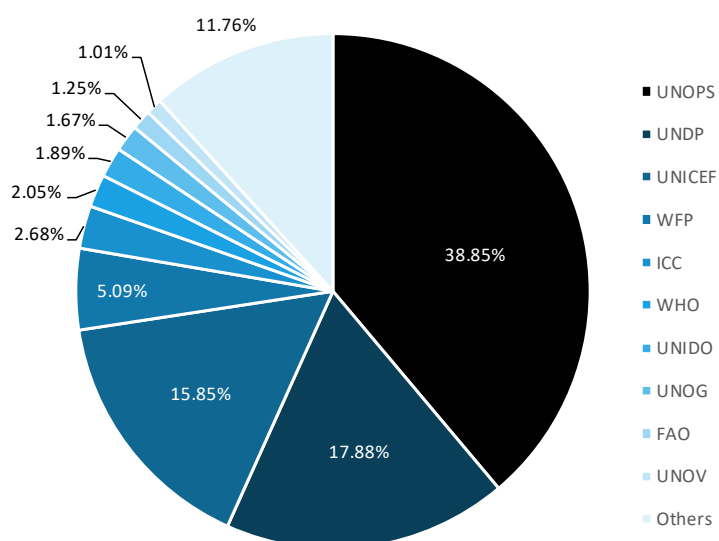
Procurement from UN organization to UN organization totals \$733.0 million (Table 24) and represents 4.1 per cent of the total 2016 UN procurement volume. The organization with the highest volume procured from another UN organization is UNPD, with a volume of \$259.2 million (Table 24) and 35.4 per cent (Figure 34) of total UN-to-UN procurement. The second largest organization in procurement from UN suppliers is UNDP with 17.1 per cent, followed by UNHCR with 7.9 per cent of total. Together the top ten procuring organizations are responsible for 88.7 per cent of all UN-to-UN procurement.

**Figure 34.** Top ten organizations procuring from UN Organizations, 2016. (in percentage of total UN to UN procurement volume)



The largest organization supplying other UN organizations is UNOPS, with a volume of \$286.6 million (Table 24) and 38.85 per cent (Figure 35) of total UN supply. UNDP is the second largest UN organization with 17.9 per cent, followed by UNICEF with 15.9 per cent. Together, the top ten UN organizations are responsible for 88.2 per cent of total UN-to-UN supplies.

**Figure 35.** Top ten UN organizations supplying UN organizations in 2016. (in percentage of total UN to UN supplier volume)



UN-to-UN collaboration can also be measured by the number of UN organizations engaging in such transactions. Table 25 shows the top ten organizations collaborating with the largest number of other UN entities, both as a supplier and procurer. UNDP is at the top, with 31 organizations procuring from them, as well as supplying to 31 organizations. WFP supplies to 20 different UN organizations and procures from 29. UNOPS supplies to 25 other UN organizations and procures from 21. The information in this section highlights that UN organizations are currently engaging in a multitude of collaborative procurement transactions widely spread within the UN system.

**Table 25.** Top collaborating organizations, by number of organizations buying from and selling to the organization in 2016. (in number of organizations)

UN organizations	Supplying to organizations	Procuring from organizations
UNDP	31	31
WFP	20	29
UNOPS	25	21
ILO	14	30
WHO	16	27
UNESCO	10	29
UNHCR	12	22
UNFPA	14	19
FAO	14	18
IOM	12	19