



UN SUPPLY CHAIN AWARDS 2026

1. What are the UN Supply Chain Awards?

The UN Supply Chain Award is an initiative endorsed by the High-Level Committee on Management's Supply Chain Network (HLCM SCN)¹ to celebrate and recognize excellence in the areas of procurement and supply chain management across the United Nations and related organizations. The initiative is coordinated by a cross-agency Project Team within the HLCM SCN's Professional Development working group with representation from the IMF, UNDP, UNOPS, and CTBTO².

In 2026 the following 4 Categories will be awarded for projects initiated and/or completed in 2025:

- Sustainable Procurement & Supply
- Collaborative Procurement & Supply
- Procurement & Supply Chain Innovation
- Capacity Development in Procurement & Supply

The UN Supply Chain Award initiative has the following main objectives:

1. Raise the profile of the UN procurement and supply chain profession;
2. Enhance the motivation of UN procurement and supply chain personnel;
3. Showcase procurement and supply chain success stories by celebrating success; and
4. Promote the work of the HLCM SCN across the entire UN System.



Members of the HLCM Supply Chain Network – Budapest, October 2025

The UN Supply Chain Award have steadily expanded between 2022 and 2025, reflecting the growing strategic role of procurement across the UN system and an increasing focus on sustainability, collaboration, innovation, and capacity development.

In 2022, the Procurement Network launched the award with a single category, Sustainable Procurement and Supply, recognizing initiatives that deliver value while supporting environmental protection, social progress, and economic development. Five projects were shortlisted, and UNOPS won for its *Procurement of Medicines and Medical Supplies in Mexico*.

In 2023, the HLCM Procurement Network's Professional Development Working Group introduced a second category, Collaborative Procurement, to recognize joint efforts across organizations. That year, UNOPS received the sustainability award for its *Women-Owned Business Initiative in Yemen*, while collaborative procurement award went to UNICEF, UNFPA, and UNHCR for jointly developing technical specifications for menstrual health products, and to UNICEF and UNFPA for joint tendering on reusable menstrual cups.

¹ <https://unsceb.org/pn>

² The Project Team consists of Working Group Chair Torben Soll (UNDP), Beatriz Castillo (UNOPS), Adam Khalil (UNDP), Selma Bukvic (CTBTO), and Ann-Marie Schafer (IMF)

In 2024, a third category, Procurement and Supply Chain Innovation, was added. UNDP won both the sustainability award for its work on Tuvalu’s Coastal Adaptation Project and the innovation award for its Digital Governance, Innovation and Transformation (DGIT) initiative. The UN Secretariat was recognized in the collaborative procurement category for the provision of Adobe licenses under the Modern Workplace for the UN project.

By 2025, the awards had grown to four categories with the addition of Procurement Capacity Development. UNICEF won the sustainability award for advancing sustainability in the SIE market and the innovation award for its Oxygen-as-a-Service model in Uganda. The UN Secretariat received the collaborative procurement award for lodge card travel services, while WHO won the new capacity development category for its Green Light initiative.

Overall, the awards have evolved from a single sustainability-focused recognition in 2022 into a comprehensive framework celebrating excellence across multiple dimensions of procurement impact.

UN Procurement Award 2025 – Shortlisted and Winning Projects

Category	Shortlisted Projects	Winning Projects
Sustainable Procurement and Supply	<p>ILO: Human rights due diligence in IT procurement</p> <p>UNDP: The Path to Water Through Life: Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region in Uzbekistan</p> <p>UNICEF: Leveraging procurement to achieve sustainability in the SIE market</p> <p>UNOPS: 24195-001 - Movilidad Sostenible: Modernización del Sistema de Transporte Público Metropolitano de Pasajeros de Quito a través de la dotación de trolebuses: ITB/2024/50608 - “Adquisición de trolebuses articulados cien por ciento eléctricos”</p>	<p>UNICEF: Leveraging procurement to achieve sustainability in the SIE market</p>
Collaborative Procurement & Supply	<p>UNDP: UNGM LTA Sharing Enhancements Project</p> <p>UNICEF: Sustainable Third-party logistics – Freight Forwarding Services</p> <p>UNOPS: UNOPS/UN Women UP Forum for Women-Owned Businesses in Sierra Leone</p> <p>UN Secretariat: Provision of lodge card for travel services</p>	<p>UNDP: UNGM LTA Sharing Enhancements Project</p> <p>UNICEF: Sustainable Third-party logistics – Freight Forwarding Services</p> <p>UN Secretariat: Provision of lodge card for travel services</p>
Procurement and Supply Chain Innovation	<p>UNDP: Supply & Installation of an innovative and automatic radiosonde system in Rwanda</p> <p>UNICEF: Oxygen-as-a-Service: A Scalable, Sustainable Procurement Modality for Medical Oxygen Reliability and Access in Uganda</p> <p>UNOPS: Support to the Ministry of Health in Tunisia under the World Bank’s ‘Second Additional Financing of the COVID-19 Response Project’</p> <p>WFP: SmartSourcing – Digitally Transforming Procurement at Scale</p> <p>WHO: Decision-Support Simulator for Pandemic and Epidemic Interventions</p>	<p>UNICEF: Oxygen-as-a-Service: A Scalable, Sustainable Procurement Modality for Medical Oxygen Reliability and Access in Uganda</p>
Procurement & Supply Chain Capacity Development	<p>ILO: Disability inclusive facilitation and coaching services</p> <p>UNDP: Digital Disaster Risk Register</p> <p>UNICEF: Last Mile Supply Monitoring for RUTF in Somalia</p> <p>UNOPS: Support to Public Procurement in Albania through Capacity Development for Centralised Purchasing Operator (CPO)</p> <p>WHO: Green Light</p>	<p>WHO: Green Light</p>

UN Procurement Awards 2025 Winning Teams

Sustainable Procurement and Supply



UNICEF: Leveraging procurement to achieve sustainability in the SIE market

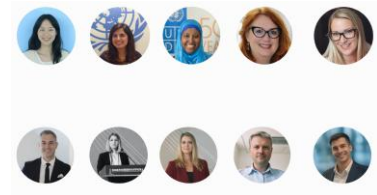
Collaborative Procurement and Supply



UN Secretariat: Provision of lodge card for travel services

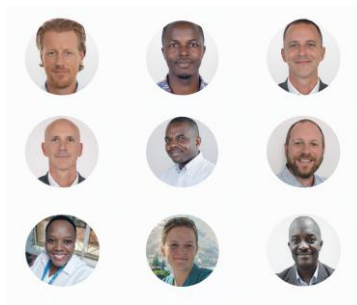


UNICEF: Sustainable Third-party logistics – Freight Forwarding Services



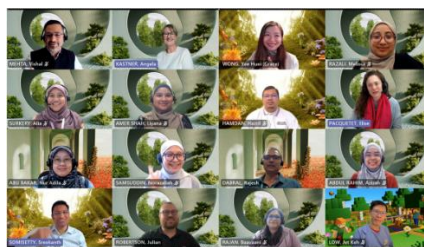
UNDP: UNGM LTA Sharing Enhancements Project

Procurement and Supply Chain Innovation



UNICEF: Oxygen-as-a-Service: A Scalable, Sustainable Procurement Modality for Medical Oxygen Reliability and Access in Uganda

Procurement & Supply Chain Capacity Development



WHO: Green Light

2. 2026 Supply Chain Award categories

The UN Supply Chain Award 2026 seek nominations in the following four categories:

Category name	Category description
Sustainable Procurement and Supply	This category rewards procurement and supply chain initiatives that are compatible and in favor of the protection of the environment, of social progress and in support of economic development. It recognizes successful and value-adding Sustainable Procurement and Supply projects.
Collaborative Procurement and Supply	This category rewards UN organizations that combine their efforts to undertake procurement in cooperation or share the outcome of a procurement process, achieving better service through economies of scale and reducing inefficiency and duplication across the UN organizations.
Procurement and Supply Chain Innovation	This category rewards the implementation of innovation in procurement and supply chain. This category is open to any type of innovation, including: technology innovation, process innovation, product innovation, etc.
Capacity Development in Procurement and Supply	This category rewards initiatives aimed at enhancing procurement and supply chain capabilities. These initiatives might focus on the development of stronger capacities within the UN organization's own personnel, its implementing partners (such as government entities and NGOs, etc.), and/or the supplier community.

3. Awarding process

3.1 Award submissions

- i. The submission or award entry period for the UN Supply Chain Award opens on 9 March until 29 May 2026. Submissions sent after the deadline shall not be considered.
- ii. The start of the submission period will be widely communicated through the following channels:
 - Email through the HLCM SCN;
 - Internal distribution within each organization by SCN members;
 - Dedicated publicly visible section within UNGM; and
 - Posts in relevant social media sites, e.g. LinkedIn.
- iii. Eligibility: submissions may only be made by teams from organizations that are members of the Supply Chain Network (see Annex 1). Projects that are the result of an initiative led by the HCLM SCN itself or any of its working groups are not eligible for submission to team categories.
- iv. Submissions shall be based on work, projects or initiatives completed during 2025.
- v. Submissions shall be made using the official submission form template (see Annex 2) and must adhere to the size and format limitations specified therein.
- vi. All submissions must be quality assured and endorsed by the Procurement Director/Head of the corresponding organization.
- vii. Only one submission is allowed per Organization¹. If different procurement teams of a given organization would like to submit to the same category, it is the responsibility of the Procurement Director/Head of that organization to select the one to be officially submitted.
- viii. All submissions must be in the English language.
- ix. Submissions shall be uploaded by a HLCM SCN member as per the Implementation Guide document.
- x. Any clarifications during the submission process must be addressed to the Project Team.

3.2 Evaluation process

- i. The evaluation process is expected to take place between 1 June and 31 August 2026.
- ii. Submissions will be evaluated by a panel of subject matter experts. Evaluation panel members will be appointed by the Project Team based on recommendations of the HLCM SCN members.
- iii. The Evaluation panel will consist of a maximum of 11 members. An organization can only have one representative.
- iv. An evaluation member cannot be appointed to the Evaluation Panel if he/she is part of their organization's submission.
- v. Non-UN personnel with relevant subject matter expertise (e.g. representatives from procurement and supply chain organizations, academia, donor community, private sector) may act as evaluation panel members if so, appointed by the Project Team at the recommendation of a HLCM SCN member.
- vi. In forming the evaluation panel, the Project Team will consider the following aspects: technical subject matter expertise, type of panel member (from a SCN member organization or external), gender and diversity aspects.
- vii. Evaluation panel members, including non-UN personnel (if applicable) will not be paid for their time dedication; however, their effort will be acknowledged at the award ceremony.
- viii. All evaluation panel members will be required to sign a confidentiality and no conflict-of-interest affidavit.
- ix. The Project Team will give access to panel members to submissions and will provide evaluation templates.
- x. Evaluation panel members will score submissions based on the evaluation and award criteria included in Annex 3.
- xi. Should an evaluation panel member require any clarification or additional information from a given submission, such clarification request will be sought by the Project Team from the focal point of that submission. Additionally, evaluation panel members may request a clarification meeting of up to 30 minutes with the UN Agencies' representatives to address any questions regarding their submission.
- xii. Evaluation panel members will score independently and will share such results confidently with the Project Team (i.e. without discussing the results with other evaluation members). The evaluation panel may request an interview (up to 1 hour) with UN Agencies that submitted their projects.
- xiii. The Project Team will consolidate and average the results received by all evaluation members. As a result of such consolidation, the Project Team will identify a shortlist (formed by the top five ranked submissions) as well as the winner (the top ranked submission).
- xiv. The Project Team and the SCN Secretariat will publicly announce the shortlisted teams through appropriate channels prior to the award ceremony which will take place at the 2026 HLCM SCN autumn meeting.
- xv. The shortlisted teams will be asked to provide a team picture and a 2-page PowerPoint presentation for the award ceremony.
- xvi. The winning team will be asked to make a remote presentation over Teams at the award ceremony.

4. Award ceremony

The award ceremony will take place at the autumn meeting of the HLCM Supply Chain Network in 2026. The ceremony is expected to last 30-45 minutes and will be broadcasted live (through a webinar facility) so that procurement practitioners across the world can participate.

- i. Awards will be officially announced by the HLCM SCN's Management Board and the Project Team. The award will be given to the winning teams - if physically present at the SCN meeting -, or to the Director/Head of that organization in case of absence from the ceremony.
- ii. The winning team may do a presentation of the project/achievement that led to their award at the following day of the SCN meeting, if feasible.

5. Prizes

- i. The UN Supply Chain Award does not contemplate any monetary prize, and is awarded in the spirit of raising awareness, promoting best practices and continued improvement of the procurement and supply chain profession at the UN.
- ii. The winning team and shortlisted teams will receive a diploma signed by the Chairpersons of the Procurement Network and of the Professional Development working group.

6. Key dates: UN Supply Chain Award 2026

Date	Responsible	Description
12 March 2026	SCN Secretariat, Project Team	Launch of submission process through relevant channels
12 March - 29 May 2026	UN Agencies	Prepare and submit award submission
Feb – May 2026	Project Team	Selection and appointment of evaluation panel
Jun – Aug 2026	Project Team, Evaluation Panel	Evaluation of submissions
Sep 2026	SCN Secretariat, Project Team	Announcement of shortlisted teams
Oct 2026	HLCM SCN, Project Team	Award ceremony “UN Supply Chain Award 2026” at HLCM SCN Autumn meeting
Oct 2026 – Feb 2027	HLCM SCN, Project Team	Assessment of UN Supply Chain Award 2026. Incorporation of lessons learned. Launch of UN Supply Chain Award 2027, if endorsed by HLCM SCN

Annex 1: List of member organizations of the HLCM Supply Chain Network

HLCM Organisations

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
International Labour Organization (ILO)
International Monetary Fund (IMF)
International Maritime Organization (IMO)
International Organization for Migration (IOM)
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)
United Nations Secretariat (UN)
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
World Bank (WB)
World Food Programme (WFP)
World Health Organization (WHO)
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
World Trade Organisation (WTO)

Non HLCM Organisations

African Development Bank (AfDB)
Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)
International Criminal Court (ICC)
International Development Law Organization (IDLO)
International Trade Centre (ITC)
International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITCILO)
Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
World Maritime University (WMU)

HLCM SCN Associate Member Organisations

European Stability Mechanism (ESM)
International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICPMD)

Annex 2: Submission Form

You can obtain the Submission Form template in Word format at the following link (document titled "[UN Procurement Awards SubmissionForms](#)")

Annex 3: Evaluation criteria of the UN Supply Chain Award 2026

Criteria	Percentage	Evaluation Criteria
PROGRAMME/PROJECT BACKGROUND	15%	How significant and impactful is the programme/project? Programme/Project objectives are linked to SDGs and organizational objectives (to what extent are they SMART).
PROCUREMENT AS ENABLER	35%	How relevant is the described procurement component for the award category (e.g. sustainable procurement and supply, collaborative procurement, etc.)? Did the procurement component play a significant role for the success of the programme/project and the achievement of objectives? Were possible challenges and adopted solutions highlighted? To what extent is the procurement approach different / innovative in comparison to a traditional one?
IMPLEMENTATION, BENEFITS AND RESULTS ACHIEVED	25%	Effectiveness and timeliness of the procurement for the programme/project. The qualitative and quantitative indicators of results achieved are clear and supported. Overall impact and benefits achieved are demonstrated.
BEST PRACTICES, LESSONS LEARNED AND FINAL SELF-ASSESSMENT	20%	Best practices and lessons learned have been adequately described. Best practices and lessons learned have been implemented or promoted within the organization e.g. through incorporation in policies /procedures and future steps, if any were highlighted. What other UN organizations / institutions / HLCM-SCN community can learn is outlined? Overall self-assessment of the project and why it is considered as an award-winning submission
CLARITY AND PRESENTATION	5%	Effort in presentation is visible in terms of wording and formatting. Size limits and formatting of the official Submission Form respected. Relevance of additional information/supporting materials presented. <i>Fewer clarification questions - higher score.</i>

Scoring guideline

Points	Description
1 - 2	Incomplete, leaving too many elements open. Most or all the key aspects of the criterion were not addressed.
3 - 4	Partially complete, barely acceptable. Some of the aspects of the criterion were not addressed.
5 - 6	Complete, all aspects of the criterion have been addressed.
7 - 8	More than complete, good/very good submission.
9 - 10	Excellent/outstanding submission. All aspects of the criterion have been fully addressed in an exceptional manner.