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IMPLEMENTATION FORUM

IMPLEMENTATION LAB - Building the Market: How Governments Are Using Their Public Spending to Decarbonize Construction Materials and Heavy Industries

Date: *Wednesday, 9 September* | Time: *15:30-17:00* | Room: *Room A2, Baku Convention Center*

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Background, Objectives and Outcomes

Public procurement is one of the strongest tools governments have to shape markets. Every year, governments buy large volumes of some of the heaviest-emitting industrial materials – cement, concrete, steel and other construction materials – necessary for building and maintaining critical public infrastructure. This spending can help create demand for low-carbon industrial products and support the transition to cleaner, more competitive heavy industries.

This Implementation Lab puts a spotlight on scaling demand for green industrialization, a key priority of the COP31 presidency as it prepares to launch the Global Green Industrialization Agenda (GGIA). The conversation focuses on the "Market Creation" thematic area and primarily connects Plans to Accelerate Solutions across two different Axes of the Climate Action Agenda launched at COP30 and showcases evidence of implementation ahead of COP31:

- Under Axis 6, AG22: *Climate-integrated Public Procurement* and the PAS: Harnessing Public Procurement in High-Impact Sectors to Drive Climate Action and a Just Transition; anchored by the *Belém Declaration on Sustainable Public Procurement*
- Under Axis 1, AG2: *Accelerating zero and low emission technologies in hard-to-abate sectors* and the following PAS: Green Industry Support for EMDE's; Green Industrial Hubs/Corridors; Cement and Concrete; and Steel; anchored by the *Belém Declaration on Global Green Industrialization*

The Lab addresses key interconnection required for implementation between these two workplans: governments want to buy low-carbon cement, concrete, and steel for public infrastructure, and producers are beginning to supply them – but the market signal between buyer and seller remains weak, fragmented, and poorly financed to achieve the scale required. The Lab will bring together government procurement authorities, producers, industry associations, multilateral development banks, standards bodies and technical partners to review the bottlenecks preventing implementation and identify solutions that are already being deployed. The conversation welcomes participation from non-Party stakeholders who can bring the capacity building tools, technologies and partners that can support governments and industry.

The aim is to match practical barriers with solutions being implemented that enable low-carbon public procurement to move from policy to implementation. The Lab will also highlight solutions already being used by governments, standards bodies and industry partners, and build alignment on tracking impact metrics for GPP so all stakeholders can account for progress in implementation. The Lab will close with a concise, validated list of the top implementation bottlenecks, actionable steps and indicators which will directly inform the formalization of the Thematic Areas and Work Programme for the GGIA and preparations towards COP31.

Agenda

Time	Segment
15:30-15:50 (20 min)	**1. Context-Setting** Introductory remarks from the COP30 Climate High-Level Champion and co-leads of AG2 and AG22 outlining the role of public procurement as one of the strongest tools governments have to shape markets for low-carbon cement, concrete, steel and other construction materials for public infrastructure. Framed within the five thematic areas of the GGIA, speakers will demonstrate the opportunity to move from policy to implementation and show how government spending can help create demand for low-carbon industrial products and support the funding and build-out of green industrialization.
15:50-16:45 (55 min)	**2. Problem-Solution Exchange** Update from the conveners of the GGIA on the five thematic areas for green industrialization, focusing this conversation on furthering dialogue and identifying solutions to drive implementation on the "Market Creation" theme, in alignment with the cross-cutting themes of Finance, Policy Development, Technology & Innovation, Skills & Just Transition. Facilitation of a structured problem-solution exchange: a facilitator names a real implementation barrier that is common to many governments, and invites governments and stakeholders to share concrete implementation solutions addressing that concern from their own experience. Multiple governments and other stakeholders will be invited to present potential solutions to the same common challenge to begin to identify common themes and approaches. Each government is invited to end their remarks with the next challenge they are facing as they expand implementation, thus creating a cascading problem-solution exchange. Common bottlenecks to be addressed include: A. Green Public Procurement Policy Development B. Industrial Capacity and Market Readiness C. Standards & Definitions Convergence D. Enabling Data Infrastructure E. Multi-Level Government Coordination
16:45-17:00 (15 min)	**3. Summary of pathways to implementation** A facilitated collaborative brainstorm to highlight examples shared and lessons learned in scaling and implementing green public procurement policies to drive demand for low-carbon cement, concrete and steel for public infrastructure. Organizers will compile inputs into a concise, validated list of the top implementation bottlenecks, actionable steps and impact indicators to inform the development of the GGIA's work programme for COP31.