

GOOD PRACTICE OF PRODUCT OR SERVICE DESIGN

Background

The project ‘**Mainstreaming coherent and effective sustainable consumption and production policies, including through circular economy models: Best practices and recommendations**’ supports the implementation of the first resolution (UNEP/EA.4/Res.1) adopted at the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in March 2019, on Innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production and its operative paragraph 15, which requests “*the Executive Director to submit a report providing an overview of best practices, including their impact on the design of products and services, minimizing harmful environmental impacts, and coherent product policies to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation through sustainable consumption and production, and providing recommendations for consideration by the Environment Assembly at its fifth session*”.

Scope

Purpose: The purpose of this template is to document good practices of sustainable design of products and/or services, which minimize harmful environmental impacts.

The objective is to disseminate compelling stories on the potential of rethinking design practices of products and services to minimize their harmful impacts along the entire product lifecycle. Case studies may also be instrumental in highlighting the challenges encountered in adopting sustainable design practices – such as the lack of a conducive legal framework, access to finance, access to technology etc.

Note that design of services may also be documented using this template.

Entities considered: Primarily businesses, including SMES. However innovative design practices can also emerge from the experience of public entities at local, national and/or regional levels, civil society, academia.

Sectoral scope: The collection of design practices will cover specifically resource-intensive sectors, such as plastics, textiles, buildings & construction and food. However, case studies related to other sectors may be included, if relevant – such as extractive/mining, chemicals, metallurgy sectors.

To the best extent possible, this template should document design good practices with measured impact.

Guidance

To ensure clarity and readability, we encourage authors **not to exceed three pages** when completing the following template.

Note: By filling out the template below, you agree that the information provided can be used in UNEP publications and communications materials. These case studies will be available as .pdf downloads and other formats suitable for printing and inclusion in publications, as well as web pages and for presentations.

* indicates mandatory questions.

Snapshot overview

How would you describe your sustainable design practice in one sentence to someone that knew nothing about it before? *

What issue did your new design practice aim to solve? What was the problem? *

How did your work start? Briefly outline the issue faced before the implementation of the new design practice. What change was intended? (e.g. energy savings, costs reduction, resources efficiency, reputation, etc.)

What was the objective of implementing this sustainable design practice?

Key message: We would like to offer you the opportunity to share with SCP practitioners, designers and policy makers one lesson learned or a key benefit of embedding sustainability concerns when designing products and services – or any other issue you would like to raise their attention towards.

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Context overview	
<p>Briefly describe in which environment the organization that implemented the new design practice operates: geographical constraints, description of the market conditions, legal framework, and/or any other information you deem relevant. *</p> <p>This section shall not exceed 100 words. It aims at providing useful insights to best understand the design practice.</p>	
Quick facts	
Organisation name and number of staff *	
Country/region * Indicate in which country/region the design good practice was implemented	
Sector Indicate whether the design practice is relevant to a specific sector (plastics, textiles, buildings & construction, food, electronics, tourism, etc.)	
Nature of business* Indicate the nature of your organisation: business, academia, civil society, public entity, etc.	
Year* Indicate here the year of implementation of the design good practice	
Upfront investment – in USD, if available	

If possible, indicate the amount of the initial investment required to implement the sustainable design practice.

Design practice overview

Describe the key characteristics of the sustainable design practice the organisation adopted. *

Describe who was involved in materializing the new design practice within the organisation and outside the organisation. *
(operations, designers, sustainability teams, customers, suppliers, etc.)

What have you learned in this process? What were the most important success factors? *

Have you faced challenges in implementing this new design practice? What are/were they and how did you overcome them? *

You may include details on the identified risks and possible mitigation solutions. You can also comment on the effectiveness on the described design good practice.

Impacts	
At which stage(s) of the product lifecycle the design practice has impact on*:	€ Extraction/use of natural resources € Production, € Distribution € Consumption € End of use / disposal € cross-cutting
Describe the environmental, economic and/or social impacts of the newly adopted sustainable design practice, and provide supporting figures if available	
RESOURCE EFFICIENCY	
<input type="checkbox"/> Material use efficiency	<i>Examples: XX% of materials are recycled or remanufactured or the average material savings reached XX% of the related material input, or eco-efficient product design enabled a XX% reduction in resource consumption during product use.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Raw materials extraction	<i>Example: XX% reduction in raw materials extraction.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Waste reduction	<i>Example: Recycling rate of XX%, equal to XX tons of material recovered for recycling.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Water use efficiency	<i>Example: XX% reduction in water use, equivalent to XX cubic metres (m3) annually.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Energy use efficiency	<i>Examples: XX% of energy savings, this represents XX Megajoules (MJ) annually; or XX % of the total energy consumption comes from renewable sources, this represents XX Megajoules (MJ) annually.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	

<input type="checkbox"/> GHG emissions reduction	<i>Example: XX% reduction in GHG emissions, this amounts to XX tonnes of CO2 equivalents.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of air, soil and water pollutants including chemicals	<i>Example: XX% decrease in SLCP/fine particulate matter emissions from XX amount.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity conservation and sustainable land-use	<i>Examples: XX% of area under protection/certification schemes; or XX% of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
HUMAN WELL-BEING	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gender	<i>Examples: Female to male labour force participation rate distribution; or % of women employed in green jobs.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Decent work & job creation	<i>Examples: XX% increase in the average monthly earnings of female and male employees from XX amount; or XX% decrease in the unemployment rate from XX amount</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Health	<i>Examples: Increased coverage of essential health services from XX amount; or Decrease in mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution from XX amount; or Decrease in mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, chemicals use, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene from XX amount</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
Is there an achievement or contribution that you are most proud of?	

Could the sustainable design practice be replicated or scaled up in other industries/settings? If so, how?

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Pictures

Do you have any pictures you would like to share?

If so, please attach them to the email with this form

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For further information

Weblink (to relevant webpage, videos, articles)

Contact person *

Contact email *
