# The 2015 UN procurement supplement: future-proofing supply chains

Report year: 2015

Independent historical commentary. This is not the former publisher's PDF or a recovered translation.

A note on the UN system's 2015 procurement reporting year, the "Future Proofing Procurement" supplement and the report's publication in June 2016.

## Reporting year and publication date

The Annual Statistical Report on United Nations Procurement is identified with reporting year 2015, while the UN Chief Executives Board's bibliographic record dates its publication to June 2016. The distinction matters: 2015 describes the period named by the report, not its publication date. The official record identifies it as the 32nd edition, compiled by UNOPS. The CEB record supplies the publication date, and the report itself is the primary source for its contents.

## The named supplement

The report's introduction identifies its thematic supplement as "Future Proofing Procurement", concerned with preparing procurement functions and supply chains for future demands. The main statistical report describes purchasing by category and country, cooperation among UN organizations and sustainability indicators. These are different kinds of information: purchase totals describe activity, while process indicators describe institutional practices.

Our analysis: The supplement's framing places procurement capacity and supply-chain readiness in the same discussion. That is relevant to business and human-rights work because purchasing systems shape how public institutions engage suppliers. The report's stated themes, however, do not by themselves establish what any supplier did or whether a particular human-rights standard was satisfied.

## Procurement reporting is not adjudication

The ASR is a statistical and thematic account of UN procurement. It is not a legal judgment about individual suppliers, and its sustainability indicators are not proof that all procurement met human-rights standards. Readers can use the report to understand the system's reporting categories and stated areas of attention, while keeping those limits visible. The 2015 ASR provides the actual introduction and report; the official publication entry confirms its bibliographic context.

## Why the distinction matters

For legal accountability, procurement data and adjudicative findings answer different questions. A report may describe procurement activity or institutional preparedness; a judgment determines issues presented in a particular dispute under applicable law. Conflating the two would turn a reporting document into evidence of conclusions it does not claim to make.

Our analysis: The "Future Proofing Procurement" label is useful as a signal of the report's subject, not as a result about supplier conduct. This new document note summarizes the verified introduction and publication record without attributing unverified detail to the supplement.

## Original sources and reporting

UN Chief Executives Board: 2015 procurement report, published June 2016
https://unsceb.org/reports/un-system-procurement-statistics-report-2015/

UNOPS: 2015 Annual Statistical Report on UN procurement
https://content.unops.org/publications/ASR/ASR-2015_EN.pdf

HTML note: https://bhrinlaw.org/articles/un-procurement-supplement-2015/