

Sustainability has been at the core of UNICEF procurement since 2004. Starting with the establishment of social audits based on the UN 10 Global Compacts Principles, to becoming FSC certified, and most recently moving in the bio-compostable plastics direction. While the shift has not been an expeditious one, it is an approach that is evidence based as well as emergency driven due to legislation in many African countries. The presentation will address the main challenges faced with the introduction of bio-compostable plastic alternatives, the hurdles overcome, and finally the impact it has had for the last 4 years since its introduction, and what the future may look like for UNICEF sustainable approaches to other bio-based materials.