



Supply of hygiene products

Metropolitan City of Rome Capital

- Adoption of Minimum Environmental Criteria developed by the Ministry of Environment for the award of cleaning services and for the supply of hygiene products
- CO₂ and energy savings through purchase of 100% eco-labeled tissue paper



Benchmark

Tissue paper made from virgin fibres

- 7.9 t CO₂e
- 1.8 toe

GPP 2020 tender:

Recycled tissue paper

- 5.6 t CO₂e
- 1.3 toe

Results

- 2.3 t less CO₂e emissions
- 0.5 toe energy savings

Contract tendered

- the purchase has been realized through the “Electronic Market of the Public Administration” – MEPA - the digital market where public administrations can buy, for values below the EU threshold, the goods and services offered by registered suppliers;
- the acquisition was made by publishing a "purchase request" on the MEPA and by inviting qualified suppliers to submit tenders: 29 suppliers including those registered in the electronic market of the public administrations have been invited to tender;
- 10 companies presented their offers within the deadline;
- award criterion: lowest price;
- Total expenditure: approx. € 13,500

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Procurement Approach

The tendering process followed the restricted procedure, and it has been processed in a single lot:

Technical specifications	Award Criteria
<p>Total chlorine-free (TCF) production</p> <p>The raw fiber from the paper may be recycled or virgin. However, 50% of the virgin fiber must come from sustainably managed forests</p> <p>During the production process, the sulfur and CO₂ air emissions and water pollution must be limited to the parameters specified in the commission decision 2009/568/EC “Establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the Community Eco-label for tissue paper”</p>	<p>Lowest price</p> <p>The bidders must prove in the statements that accompany their offer that they fulfill with all the technical specifications</p>
<p>VERIFICATION: EU Ecolabel (or equivalent) certification will serve as means of proof</p>	

Criteria development

The technical specifications contained in the tender are compliant with the Minimum Environmental Criteria drawn up by the Italian Ministry for Environment, for “the supply of cleaning and hygiene products”.

Results

Due to the fact, that there is no reliable data available for the environmental impact of eco-labelled tissue paper, we compared the environmental impact of tissue paper made from virgin fibres (benchmark) with the environmental impact of tissue paper made from recycled paper (low carbon solution). The results of this comparison are shown in the table below.

	Emissions of CO ₂ e	Energy
Low carbon solution (recycled tissue paper)	5.6 tons CO ₂ e	1.3 toe
Benchmark (tissue made of virgin fibres)	7.9 tons CO ₂ e	1.8 toe
Savings	2.3 tons CO ₂ e	0.5 toe

Calculation basis

Within the tender 5.1 t of tissue paper were purchased.

We used the following emission factors (source: Kwan Chong Tan: “Stimulating Carbon Efficient Supply Chains: Carbon Labels and Voluntary Public Private Partnerships”, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2009, page 77 (<https://dspace.mit.edu/handle/1721.1/52752>)).

The emission factors for tissue paper mentioned in this thesis refer to the results of a study by climatop commissioned by the Swiss trading company Migros. We updated the emission factor for recycled tissue paper given in the thesis of Kwan Chong Tan with the value offered on the Migros-Website: (<https://prodotti.migros.ch/soft-recycling-carta-igienica>):

- Tissue paper made from virgin fibres: 1.55 kg CO₂e/kg paper (benchmark)
- Recycled tissue paper: 1.09 kg CO₂e/kg paper (low-carbon-solution)

Based on these figures, we calculated the energy consumption. We assumed that 100 % of the Greenhouse gas emissions derived from the consumption of electricity in the process of tissue paper production. For the electricity, we used the emission factor of the EU electricity mix: 0.386 kg CO₂e/kWh:

- Tissue paper made from virgin fibres: 4.02 kWh/kg paper (benchmark)
- Recycled tissue paper: 2.82 kWh/kg paper (low carbon solution)

Lessons learned

Number of offers received (10), shows how is it possible to switch to 100% high environmental performance tissue paper, as the market can promptly answer the demand. The experience should be extended to purchases of other departments.

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About GPP 2020

GPP 2020 aims to mainstream low-carbon procurement across Europe in support of the EU's goals to achieve a 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, a 20% increase in the share of renewable energy and a 20% increase in energy efficiency by 2020.

To this end, GPP 2020 will implement more than 100 low-carbon tenders, which will directly result in substantial CO₂ savings. Moreover, GPP 2020 is running a capacity building programme that includes trainings and exchange. – www.gpp2020.eu

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About PRIMES



Across six countries in Europe; Denmark, Sweden, Latvia, Croatia, France and Italy, PRIMES project seeks to help municipalities overcome barriers in GPP processes, many of which lack capacity and knowledge.

PRIMES aims to develop basic skills and provide hands-on support for public purchasing organisations in order to overcome barriers and implement Green Public Purchasing. This will consequently result in energy savings and CO₂ reductions. – www.primes-eu.net



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