

Public Procurement for a Circular Economy

Good Practice and Guidance Brochure

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Circular Procurement Brochure

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Collection of practical tips
with good practice case
studies

Available in:

- English
- French
- German
- Italian
- Polish
- Spanish



[Access at:](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/pubs_en.htm)

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How to **be** more circular

- Thinking strategically and identifying best points to introduce circular approaches:
 - Rethinking need to purchase
 - Reducing resources used
 - Encouraging reuse
 - Recycling where reduction and reuse not possible
 - Recovery (in specific circumstances)



How to **do** more circular

- Introductory guidance on conducting a circular procurement procedure
 - Market engagement
 - Using technical specifications and award criteria
 - Evaluation of tenders
 - Improving in-use phase and contract management



Short, accessible, tips for getting started...

Reuse

Increasingly products are being designed for reuse. When designing a procurement procedure, this is something that can be considered for the end-of-life of the product. Including supplier take-back systems in contracts are one way of ensuring that reuse

will happen. This is becoming common in contracts for ICT equipment, where desktop computers and laptops can be reused by other organisations after the public authority has upgraded.

Closed loop town hall construction in a Dutch city

The City of Brummen (in the Netherlands) had outgrown its existing town hall, and knew it required more room for the next 20 years, at least. However, its capacity needs beyond this time were uncertain. As such, instead of taking a traditional approach to building works procurement, the city decided to adopt a more flexible, circular approach which would see them 'lease' a new building under a 20-year service contract. The building was designed in a way which allowed it to be disassembled and components returned to suppliers, including structural beams, cladding, and partitions and so on.¹⁴

Extending the lifespan of work wear in Herning, Denmark

In 2013, Herning Municipality sought to procure new uniforms for its technical operations department, with the aim of extending their lifespan and more efficient use. To do so, it developed technical specifications and contract performance clauses related to maintenance, repair and recycling. By leasing uniforms through a service model, and including reuse and recycling contract provisions, it was possible to extend the lifespan of the uniforms, saving an estimated €6,700 and 1,011 tonnes of CO₂ emissions over four years.¹⁵

Additional Resources

- **EU GPP Criteria (esp. Textiles and Furniture):**
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/eu_gpp_criteria_en.htm
- **Sustainable Procurement Platform Resource Centre:**
<http://www.sustainable-procurement.org/resource-centre>
- **EcoProcura Conference - 3-5 October 2018:**
<http://www.ecoprocura.eu/>

