

# Sustainable Procurement

Edition 43 | July 2009

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to send you the quarterly Update on Procura<sup>+</sup>, the European Sustainable Procurement Campaign, and ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement activities in Europe.

You can also read more about Procura<sup>+</sup> Campaign developments by visiting the Campaign website [www.procuraplus.org](http://www.procuraplus.org). You can find more information about ICLEI's projects on Sustainable Procurement at [www.iclei-europe.org/procurement](http://www.iclei-europe.org/procurement)

ICLEI welcomes your contributions. Just send your news to [procurement@iclei.org](mailto:procurement@iclei.org). News from Procura<sup>+</sup> Campaign Participants and ICLEI members enjoys publishing priority!

If this newsletter does not display properly, please click here to view it online:  
[www.iclei-europe.org/index.php?id=7349](http://www.iclei-europe.org/index.php?id=7349)

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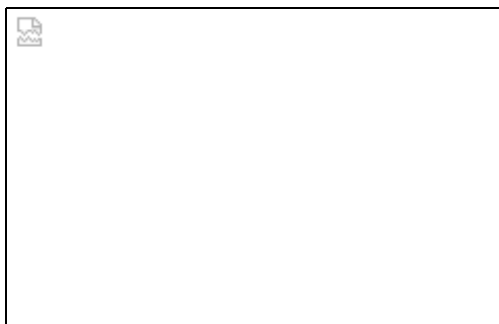
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## 1. Register now: Procura<sup>+</sup> Seminar 2009 on Tackling Climate Change through Sustainable Procurement

The City of Zürich, Switzerland, and ICLEI are pleased to announce the Procura+ Seminar 2009 on *Tackling Climate Change through Sustainable Procurement*. The Seminar will be held in Zürich from the 22 – 23 October.



The programme will feature a mix of interactive plenary and break-out sessions to present some of the successful strategies and practical tools for public administrations to achieve the most out of their purchasing practices and, at the same time, make a positive contribution to their climate protection goals. The Seminar will bring together a variety of experts on sustainable procurement for a peer-to-peer exchange. It will also provide a forum for exchange on the opportunities for closer cooperation between public authority procurers and suppliers.

The Procura+ Seminar will build on the conclusions of the EcoProcura 2009 conference, held in Reykjavik this March. It will focus on some of the key conclusions from the conference in Reykjavik, and how these can be taken further, including:

- Harmonisation of sustainability criteria, including energy efficiency standards
- Embedding life-cycle costing and assessing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in procurement processes
- Learning about the market availability of highly energy efficient products
- Promoting low-emission new buildings and renovation

In addition to the Seminar, a Procura+ Participants Meeting will be held in the morning of the second day, to update participants on the latest Campaign news, and discuss future initiatives. Both Procura+ participants and non-participants are invited to participate in the Meeting and the Seminar. Participation in the Seminar is free of charge, however, prior registration is necessary as places are limited.



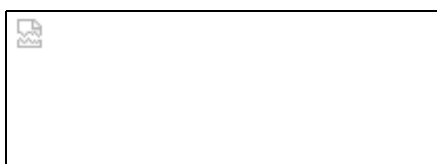
*To register for the event or to see the updated programme, please visit [www.procuraplus.org/zurich](http://www.procuraplus.org/zurich). Or contact the organisers on [procurement@iclei.org](mailto:procurement@iclei.org)*

## 2. Project News

### Innovation through sustainable procurement: update on SMART SPP project activities

#### Updated news now online

Regularly updated information on sustainable innovation, public procurement and SMART SPP project activities are now available in the online newsroom. News on the latest developments on emerging technologies, such as light emitting diodes (LED) lighting, renewable energy heating and cooling, and electric vehicles, can be found in the newsroom on a weekly basis. The project website also offers an events calendar to help public authorities keep up-to-date about the many events, workshops and seminars taking place across Europe on the topics.



#### Become a participating supplier

Suppliers of environmentally innovative products to the public sector can still register their interest in participating in the market engagement stage of the project. Companies are invited to respond to the SMART SPP Prior Information Notice (PIN). The PIN serves to inform companies about the purchasing needs of the five public authority purchasers in the project. A PIN is a published statement from a public authority that it will tender for a certain product or service at a certain date in the future. To find out more, please visit [www.smart-spp.eu](http://www.smart-spp.eu)

#### Torres Vedras and the Greater London Authority join as Associate Partners

The last few months have shown there to be considerable interest in the approaches developed through the SMART SPP project, both by public buyers and suppliers. Public authorities from Finland, Austria, the UK and Portugal have shown a strong interest in, for now, commitments from the Greater London Authority (GLA) and the Municipality of Torres Vedras in Portugal. The GLA and Torres Vedras have formally

committed to pilot the *Integrated Common Approach* (developed through the project) and tender for sustainable innovative technologies and solutions using pre-procurement approaches. The GLA will tender for eco-friendly vehicles, as part of the UK government's scheme to promote more sustainable transport, while Torres Vedras will tender for LED street lighting and energy efficient electric vehicles.

*To read the latest news on SMART SPP, please visit [www.smart-spp.eu](http://www.smart-spp.eu)  
For more information on getting involved in the project, please contact [philipp.tepper@iclei.org](mailto:philipp.tepper@iclei.org)*

### Roll out the green carpet for your participants! Green Meeting Guide 2009



In co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), ICLEI has published the Green Meeting Guide 2009. The Guide is designed to assist the organisers of small - to medium - sized meetings (10 – 200 participants) to set up their event in a way that minimises negative environmental impacts and leaves a positive legacy for the host community.

The Guide is divided into two main sections:

- *Green meetings: what to know*, contains an introduction to the concept, some key advice on management and communication, and an overview of the main environmental impacts and how they can be minimised
- *Green meetings: what to do*, contains a detailed check-list of measures which can be taken to green your meeting

*The Guide can be downloaded from [www.iclei.org/itc/greening](http://www.iclei.org/itc/greening)  
For more information please write to [simon.clement@iclei.org](mailto:simon.clement@iclei.org)*

### Sustainable procurement guidelines for the United Nations

ICLEI has developed new sustainable procurement guidelines for UNEP on:

- Office stationery (covering paper, paper consumables, toner cartridges and ink, and writing implements)
- Office furniture
- Cleaning products and services

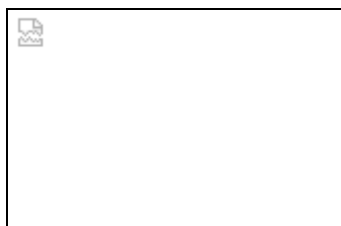
The new guidelines follow on from those produced by ICLEI in 2008 for office IT equipment, and are designed for use by UN staff in their procurement activities. The guidelines form part of the SUN (Sustainable UN) initiative led by UNEP, which aims to support the UN and other organisations to achieve climate neutrality.



UNEP is a participant of the Sustainable Procurement Campaign, Procura+ which supports public authorities and other organisations in implementing sustainable procurement and promotes their achievements.

*For further information or to obtain a copy of the guidelines please write to [simon.clement@iclei.org](mailto:simon.clement@iclei.org).*

### Training on green procurement in Germany



Approaches used to calculate the whole life costs of products (or life-cycle costing – LCC) in green public procurement (GPP) will be one of the central themes of the interactive tailor-made Training Seminar that will be delivered for staff of the City of Norderstedt (in May 2010). The seminar is one in a series of training sessions on GPP currently being organised in Germany by ICLEI and the Ökoinstitut.

The training sessions on GPP, to be held in five urban areas right across Germany. The events will be geared towards public authorities in Germany, with a focus on procurers working in local and regional government administrations. The goal of the training sessions is to equip public authorities with knowledge and approaches to practically implement green procurement strategies and promote the approach in their own administration.

*If you are interested in participating in the seminars, please send an email to: [procurement@iclei.org](mailto:procurement@iclei.org)*

### 3. Procura+ Campaign News

#### Nantes and Cremona reinforce their commitment to sustainable procurement by joining Procura+

The last few months have seen two new additions to the Procura+ Campaign - the City of Cremona, Italy, and the City of Nantes, France - a growing international movement of public authorities taking action on market sustainability through sustainable procurement.



##### City of Cremona

Cremona is situated in the Po Valley in the Region of Lombardia, in far northern Italy. Both the City and Provincial administrations of Cremona have long standing involvement in urban sustainability activities. Following on from the exemplary work on GPP by the Province of Cremona, the City of Cremona joined the Campaign at the end of March this year. The City's sustainable procurement actions include introducing the sale of organic food in school canteens, and the use of eco-friendly cleaning products and detergents in offices and schools.

##### City of Nantes

Nantes, the sixth largest city in France, joined the Procura+ Campaign last June, to reinforce the City's long-standing commitment to sustainability and sustainable procurement. In 2005, the City enacted a regulation for inserting clauses in public procurement contracts that support employment promotion, which has been reflected in the City's procurement actions for works (construction and renovation of buildings) and services (e.g. cleaning services). The inclusion of ethical criteria for purchasing workwear and uniforms for public employees has also been another area where Nantes has been increasingly active.



*For more information on the activities of Campaign participants, and on the benefits of joining Procura+, please visit [www.procuraplus.org](http://www.procuraplus.org)*

### 4. Upcoming Events

#### SMART SPP Training Seminar, 28 September, Barcelona, Spain



The SMART SPP consortium invites public purchasers across Europe to join the one-day training seminar on how to drive sustainable innovations through early market engagement and pre-procurement. The seminar will take place on 28 September in Barcelona. Experts from the SMART SPP consortium will guide you through a *Common Integrated Approach* that includes how to best use life-cycle costing (LCC) and CO<sub>2</sub>-eq assessment tool in pre-procurement developed through the project.

The training will be based on guidance and tools currently being developed in the project. These include a step-by-step guide on how to encourage eco-innovation through procurement, and an excel tool for calculating both LCC and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions within pre-procurement procedures and public tendering.

Participation is free of charge. Participants are expected to cover their own expenses and organise their own travel and stay in Barcelona.

*Interested in attending?*

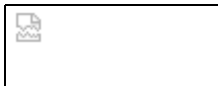
*Please contact [philipp.tepper@iclei.org](mailto:philipp.tepper@iclei.org) for further information and to reserve your place*

#### 3rd International Conference on Green Purchasing, 21-23 October, Suwon, Korea



Following on from the successful conferences in Sendai, Japan, and Barcelona, Spain, the third International Conference on Green Purchasing will be hosted this October by the City of Suwon, in South Korea.

The conference will focus on addressing climate change issues with green purchasing and aims to bring together representatives from the business community, public



authorities and consumer groups. A varied programme will introduce experiences from all parts of the globe.

ICLEI is co-organising part of the event together with the International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN) and the organising committee comprising a number of key Korean organisations.

International participants are encouraged to attend.

Further information can be found by visiting the conference website at: [www.icgpsuwon.org](http://www.icgpsuwon.org), or by writing to [simon.clement@iclei.org](mailto:simon.clement@iclei.org)

## Procura+ Seminar 2009, 22-23 October, Zürich, Switzerland

To register for the event and see the latest updated programme, please visit [www.procuraplus.org/zurich](http://www.procuraplus.org/zurich). Or contact the organisers on [procurement@iclei.org](mailto:procurement@iclei.org)

## 5. Recent Events

### Sparkling discussion at ICLEI's Breakfast at Sustainability's



Scintillating conversation was on the menu when ICLEI's liaison office in Brussels kicked-off its Breakfast at Sustainability's series on 18 June. The initiative is a series of informal discussion rounds focusing on specific sustainability issues.

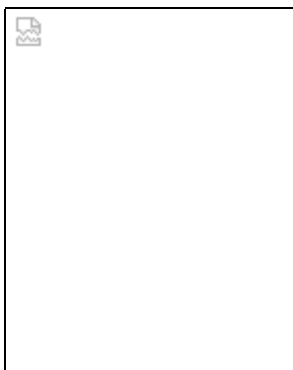
A mixed audience made up of representatives from cities, the European Commission (EC) and the private sector attended the first breakfast in the Liason Office of South Tirol (Italy). The theme was, *the Big Bucks - Cost-effective Sustainable Public Procurement* and there was plenty to discuss over breakfast.

After a cup of coffee the business side of affairs began. Representatives from the EC and the European Parliament (EP) presented the state of play and future perspectives of GPP, in terms of EU legislation. Practical experiences completed the picture with good practice examples presented by the Vienna House (Ökokauf Wien) and ICLEI. Questions centred on proposals at the EC level and the status of legislation at the Parliament, as well as on the upcoming guidance on social issues in public procurement. The next Breakfast will be held in mid September and will focus on the Local Government Climate Roadmap.

For further information, please contact [peter.defrancheschi@iclei.org](mailto:peter.defrancheschi@iclei.org)

## 6. Other News

### Latest European findings on GPP



Following on from a study carried out in 2005/2006, a study was carried out by PricewaterhouseCoopers in 2008, on behalf of the European Commission, to determine the current level of GPP implementation in the so-called *Green 7* countries (Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, The Netherlands, Sweden and the UK). The *Green 7* were determined in the previous study to be those most advanced in terms of GPP.

The study involved developing a standard methodology for measuring quantitative levels of GPP (value and number of *green* contracts as compared to value and number of non *green* contracts), which will be used for future assessments of GPP implementation – in particular, to monitor progress towards the Commission's target of 50% GPP across the EU by 2010.

The report indicates that in terms of the overall value of procurement 45% can be considered *green* across the *Green 7*, and 55% of the total number of contracts.

The study also included developing and implementing a methodology for measuring the CO<sub>2</sub> and financial impact of GPP. Although the results can at best be regarded as estimates, the results indicate that GPP contributed to an average reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 25% in 2006/2007 when purchasing *green* for the ten product groups subject to this study. The study also suggests that GPP actually led to a 1% reduction in financial costs.

The results of the study can be found on the Commission's website at: [ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/studies\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/studies_en.htm)

Subscribe? Feedback? Questions? Please let us know!

If you would like to Subscribe to the Sustainable Procurement Update, have any further questions, would like to give feedback on ICLEI's work in Sustainable Procurement or would like to be taken off this mailing list, please contact us at: [procurement@iclei.org](mailto:procurement@iclei.org)

The Sustainable Procurement Update is produced by the European Secretariat of ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability. Editors: Amalia Ochoa (responsible).

ICLEI is an international association of local governments and national and regional local government organisations that have made a commitment to sustainable development.

More than 1,000 cities, towns, counties, and their associations worldwide comprise ICLEI's growing membership. ICLEI works with these and hundreds of other local governments through international performance-based, results-oriented campaigns such as the Procura+ Campaign and programmes.



The Procura+ Sustainable Procurement Campaign is an initiative designed to help support public authorities across Europe in implementing Sustainable Procurement and help promote their achievements. The Campaign was established in 2004 to help drive the mainstreaming of sustainable public procurement throughout Europe. Through participating in the Campaign, public authorities can contribute to a growing international movement and help bring about real change on the market.

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