

Sustainable Procurement

Edition 57, November 2013

Dear Reader,

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

You can also read more about Procura⁺ Campaign developments by visiting the Campaign website www.procuraplus.org. You can find more information about ICLEI's projects on Sustainable Procurement at www.sustainable-procurement.org/

ICLEI welcomes your contributions! Just send your news to procurement@iclei.org. News from Procura⁺ Campaign Participants and ICLEI members enjoys publishing priority!

If this newsletter does not display properly, please click here to view it online: <http://www.sustainable-procurement.org/newsroom/sp-update/issue-57-november-2013/>

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1. PPI Platform offers exciting new resource for procurers

With Europe's economy facing serious challenges, there is a need to find innovative and sustainable solutions to stimulate the market. Experts suggest that dedicating just 1-2% of public spend on such products and services could have a significant effect on the market penetration of innovative firms. In recognition of these issues, the Procurement of Innovation (PPI) Platform has been developed - an online hub assisting public authorities, procurers, policy makers, and other stakeholders become familiar with PPI and pre-commercial procurement (PCP). The platform has been developed by ICLEI in partnership with the [Dutch Public Procurement Expertise Centre \(PIANO\)](#), the [Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern](#)

Europe (REC) and the [Flemish Agency for Innovation by Science and Technology \(IWT\)](#), and with support from the European Commission. It was publically launched at a [high-level event in Brussels](#) (Belgium) on 29 October 2013.



"Public procurement of sustainable and innovative goods and services is one of the essential tools for stimulating new technological or service solutions while helping to create jobs and boosting the competitiveness of the European industry and SMEs. It also encourages more efficient public services." said Antonio Tajani, Vice-President of the EC and European Commissioner for Industry and Entrepreneurship. Custom-made to meet user's needs, the PPI Platform is comprised of three elements: Website, Procurement Forum, and Resource Centre. The **website** contains the latest news on PPI and PCP developments and events, as well as policy support, and background

information on the European legal framework. The **Procurement Forum** is a professional networking space for procurers and stakeholders from around Europe. The **Resource Centre** provides a database for PPI guidance, making useful documents accessible in one place.

Visit www.innovation-procurement.org or contact info@innovation-procurement.org.

2. Project news

Call for buyers of eco-innovative catering solutions

If your organisation's catering contract is up for review and you are looking for new ways to reduce its environmental impact, you may like to consider becoming an active follower of the INNOCAT procurement activities. INNOCAT - Procurement of Eco-innovative Catering is a European collaboration between public and private buyers who wish to procure eco-innovative catering solutions over the next two and a half years.

The core buyers group consists of the City of Turin (Italy), Réseau des acheteurs hospitaliers d'Ile-de-France (Resah-idf), Johnson Matthey Fuel Cells (UK), and Environment Park Torino (Italy).

The precise products or services to be procured by the group is still being determined, however these will likely include:

- school catering services
- energy efficient vending machines
- innovative packaging and waste disposal solutions
- health and welfare catering services

We are looking to identify further public authorities and companies who are interested in following the activities of the project, and potentially participating directly in procurement activities.

To find out more about how you can get involved in INNOCAT, visit www.sustainable-catering.eu or contact Amalia Ochoa on innocat@iclei.org.



Launch of the HAPPI Platform

Healthy Ageing Public Procurement of Innovations (HAPPI), a project supported by the European Commission, aims at linking European health public procurers to work cooperatively to detect and purchase innovative and sustainable solutions for prolonging quality of life.



The newly developed internet platform allows suppliers and procurers to upload details of their solutions so that knowledge of new technologies and products is spread, and the contributing factors to better quality of life are improved. With a focus on innovation in healthcare, the platform is a place where demand and supply sides



are brought together as well as a tool to facilitate market research and need assessment.

As European populations are increasingly living longer, more attention must be paid to making sure that the rights and needs of elderly people with regard to autonomy, dignity, mobility, and health and well-being. Part of the HAPPI project's work will be to consult with medical and technical experts to identify the innovation requirements of hospitals and residential care homes need in order to fulfil its ultimate goals.

For more information, visit www.happi-project.eu/happi-platform

Discuss and connect with peers on sustainable construction

Although the [SCI-Network](#) (Sustainable Construction and Innovation through Procurement) project ended several months ago, the online forum group on sustainable construction remains active. Since September, the online forum group on sustainable construction is being guided by the work done through the European [iNSPIRE](#) project. iNSPIRE tackles the problem of high-energy consumption by producing systemic renovation packages that can be applied to residential and tertiary buildings.

The Sustainable Construction Interest Group provides a forum for professionals working in the field of construction and public procurement in the public sector to

- exchange experiences,
- share expertise,
- offer support, and
- develop partnerships.

The Interest Group allows members to share experiences, ask questions and collaborate on work related to sustainable construction and procurement. The Group targets public authority professionals working directly on construction and organisations working with the public sector.

The Group is hosted on the [Procurement Forum](#). To join, please send an email to [Marlene Grauer](#) from ICLEI. You will then receive an invitation via email to join the group. Membership is only possible upon invitation and the contents of the group will only be visible to group members.

Second edition of *Buying Sustainable Timber* published

Following considerable interest and feedback on the first edition of *Buying Sustainable Timber*, the Sustainable Timber Action (STA) guide for public procurers on sustainable timber procurement (a new edition) was published in October 2013.

This edition expands on the information contained in the first publication, and aims to align the definition of sustainable forestry with those used by different EU Member States. It includes guidance on recent legal changes, completely revised technical specifications and up to date information about other European timber initiatives. Ways that public authorities can support smaller businesses are also touched upon.



Additionally, the guide outlines replicable information on supporting fair trade in timber procurement, and looks at methods to combine sustainable timber procurement with other policy goals, such as awareness raising activities. The guide will soon also be available in German, Italian, Estonian, Romanian, Spanish and Hungarian. Printed copies of the English guide can be requested from procurement@iclei.org.

To download the second edition, click [here](#) [pdf-file, 9.5 MB]

3. Procura+ Campaign news

Rotterdam reinforces its commitment to SPP by joining Procura+

The City with the second largest port in the world has now joined the Procura+ Sustainable Procurement Campaign. Rotterdam has an ambitious commitment to reduce 50% of CO₂ emissions by 2025 (compared to 1990 levels) as part of the [Rotterdam Climate Initiative](#). The City has already worked extensively in the field of sustainable public procurement (SPP), so will have much to share with existing Participants. Procurement procedures and initiatives used by Rotterdam to promote sustainability include sustainable construction, energy performance contracting and sustainable zero carbon transport systems (25% of its fleet will be electric/hybrid vehicles in 2014).



Last year the City was awarded the title of Fair Trade Municipality, recognising the City's efforts over the past years in promoting fair trade. Principles of fair trade, social return and green public procurement are embedded in the City's procurement policy. It is engaged in progressively implementing concepts of Life Cycle Analysis and Total Cost of Ownership while using functional and performance criteria where possible.

Rotterdam's latest achievement in mobilising its procurement power to accelerate progress towards sustainability and innovation is the new *Rijnhaven* development, a former commercial harbour in the centre of Rotterdam. The project differs from the traditional client-supplier model by fostering long-term cooperation between private parties, citizens and institutions. The organisation which is awarded the contract will receive a 30-year public-private concession to develop an area where water can be enjoyed and where there is space for the realisation of innovative ideas, such as floating buildings. The City's role will be primarily geared towards framework definition and facilitation.

For more information, visit www.procuraplus.org/en/participants/the-netherlands-rotterdam

Read more about Réseau Grand Ouest's sustainable procurement activities



The French municipal network on sustainable development and public procurement Réseau Grand Ouest (RGO) became a member of the Procura+ Campaign in May this year.

In September, RGO's President, Gilles Mahé, was interviewed about how RGO's strong networking activities help to advance action on sustainable procurement by its members. [Read the interview](#) published in the European Commission's News-Alert on GPP.

4. Upcoming events

To keep you informed about events, workshops and seminars taking place across Europe related to SPP, visit our [events calendar](#) on sustainable procurement.

Would you like us to promote your event on SPP? Tell us about it by sending an email to procurement@iclei.org.

GPP Webinar on 26 November – register now!



A webinar on *organising GPP internally* will be held on November 26 2013 as part of the [EU GPP Helpdesk](#). The webinar will look at how policies on the topic can be translated into effective initiatives and processes. It will also provide examples of procedures which aid the implementation of GPP within an organisation on a day-to-day basis.



This is the second of two GPP Webinars taking place during 2013, as part of the service provided through the European Commission's Helpdesk on GPP. The first focused on sustainable

construction. The Webinars aim to showcase a range of successful examples from which to draw from and provide a forum for discussion.

Participation is open to all. Find out more and register now by clicking [here](#).

Workshop on *clean* bus procurement, Bremen, 11-12 December

As part of the European Clean Fleets project, a series of four [European workshops](#) are being organised to demonstrate how procurement of clean and energy-efficient vehicles is done in practice.

The first of these workshops will focus on *clean* bus procurement and will take place in Bremen (Germany) from 11-12 December 2013. The workshop will present experiences from different cities and discuss topics such as:

- Clean bus procurement – objectives of operators and authorities
- What are clean buses? – comparison of technology options. For example, diesel Euro V and VI, CNG, LNG, hydrogen, fuel-cell and hybrids
- Towards more electrification – how is this reflected in the EU's Clean Vehicles Directive and life-cycle costing approach?



The workshop is open to public authorities and fleet operators in Europe, and other relevant stakeholders. Participation is free of charge.

A half-day study visit is also being organised to enable participants to see Bremen's concept of sustainable mobility in practice.

For more information and to register, visit www.clean-fleets.eu/training-and-events/workshop-bremen/

Training seminar on procuring innovation effectively, The Hague, 28 November

A number of one-day training seminars on public procurement of innovation (PPI) will be organised by the [PPI Platform](#) team. These will take place across Europe, from North and South to Central and Eastern Europe. The first training will take place on 28 November 2013 in The Hague (the Netherlands).

The seminars aim to provide participants with both a theoretical framework and more practical advice on implementing PPI. The training package which will be used is specifically tailored to meet different needs, and is suitable for both beginners and those more advanced. The latest PPI support tools will be introduced and discussed, and specific aspects of innovation and procurement, such as criteria setting or pre-procurement aspects, will be explored. Specially developed materials will also be provided and experts will be on hand to give advice.

The seminars are free of charge. On a case-by-case basis, travel and accommodation for participants may be covered.

For more information, visit www.innovation-procurement.org/training/ or contact Floris den Boer from PIANo on info@innovation-procurement.eu.

EcoProcura 2014 on 24-26 September: Save the date

ICLEI and the City of Ghent (Belgium) are pleased to announce that the EcoProcura 2014 conference will take place from 24 to 26 September 2014 in Ghent. Under the title *Sustainability, Innovation and Cost- efficiency: Taking Procurement Forward*, the key themes of the conference will include:

- Cost-efficient use of public money through procurement
- Developing integrated sustainable public procurement strategies across the organisation
- Implementing the new European Public Procurement Directives
- Using public procurement to stimulate product and service



innovation

EcoProcura 2014 is the ninth conference of this series and will facilitate engagement between procurers from all levels of government, policy-makers, suppliers, multipliers and representatives from the European Commission and European Parliament.

For more information, please contact events.europe@iclei.org or visit the conference website www.ecoprocura.eu/ghent2014 for the latest updates. Registration will open in early 2014.

5. Other News

Check out some of the latest resources on sustainable procurement

The [Sustainable Procurement Resource Centre](#) has close to 550 resources available online through an easy to use system. These include publications on the results of studies; good practice cases; tools and guidance material; online information; and SPP criteria use in preparing public tenders.

A few of the resources recently added:

- Annual Report on the State of Municipal Sustainable Procurement in Canada - Trends & Best Practices (2013)
- Project on Sustainable Consumption and Production for Low Carbon Economy: GPP and Eco-Labeling (Thailand)
- Electronics Watch – an international initiative monitoring labour rights in the global electronics industry through social responsible public procurement
- Practical Guide to Innovate Public Procurement, published by the French Economic and Finance Ministry (2013)



These, along with all the resources available on SPP, can be accessed by visiting www.sustainable-procurement.org/resources

If you have a resource which you would like to see published through the Sustainable Procurement Resource Centre, please let us know by sending an email to procurement@iclei.org.

Subscribe? Feedback? Questions? Please let us know!

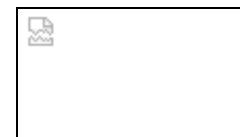
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If you have any further questions, would like to give feedback on ICLEI's work in Sustainable Procurement, or would like unsubscribe, please also contact us at procurement@iclei.org

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

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 1,200 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+ Sustainable Procurement Campaign.



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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