

BIG BUYERS

FOR CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

What is Big Buyers?

Big Buyers is a European Commission Initiative for promoting **collaboration between big public buyers** in implementing strategic procurement for sustainable solutions. The objective is to aggregate demand of public procurers to drive the market for sustainable and innovative solutions.

Established as the **Big Buyers Initiative** in 2018 by the Commission's DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), we are already collaborating with over 60 public procurement bodies from across the EU. For the last two years, we have been running working groups on the procurement of zero-emission construction sites, heavy-duty electric vehicles, and circular construction materials. See what we've done so far: <https://bit.ly/3IEFIQK>

Building on this, DG Grow has now launched a new edition, the **Big Buyers for Climate & Environment**, which will run for the next 2 years.

What do we do?

We establish working groups, which focus on a specific **unmet public procurement need**. The groups meet regularly, both online and in person, and consist of a small number of public purchasing organisations, such as local and regional governments, central purchasing bodies, and other public agencies.

Joint working group activities may include:

- Joint market dialogue
- Exchange of experience, knowledge and best practice
- Development of joint procurement criteria and strategies
- Technical site visits

"As a buyer from a government, we must give the right signal. We must stimulate the market. With the Big Buyers group, we give attention, we motivate each other. We have to make big steps, but if we do it together, it's easier".

Richard Brabers, city of Rotterdam, member of the heavy-duty electric vehicles group.

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Get involved

Four new working groups will be established in early 2021. We are now carrying out a needs assessment to identify the most relevant procurement sectors and unmet needs to address.

To get involved:

- Fill out the needs assessment survey online: <https://bit.ly/3pAzMFr>
- Or, send us an email: info@bigbuyers.eu
- Visit the website for more information: www.bigbuyers.eu

One of the working groups will specifically focus on unmet needs in the **healthcare sector**.

Why get involved?

Organisations taking part in the Big Buyers working groups can benefit in a number of ways:

- Exchange of best practice with peers from across the EU
- Carry out joint market engagement and share market intelligence
- Find out about the latest guidance and technical developments
- Full reimbursement of travel costs for all physical meetings and technical visits

Conditions of participation

Public organisations from any EU/EEA country are welcome to participate in the working groups.

- Active participation in meetings and engagement throughout the 2 years of collaboration is expected. Entities aiming to procure in the field of the group focus in the near future are preferred.
- People taking part should be directly involved in the purchasing of solutions in the working group topic area for their organisation (e.g. Procurement Officer).



European
Commission



Big Buyers for Climate and Environment is an initiative of the European Commission.
It is currently managed by ICLEI and Eurocities.