Last weeks for applying to the Procura+ Awards 2019

Until the 31st March public authorities can submit their candidacies to the 2019 edition of the Procura+ Awards, a major and prestigious recognition of procurements and related initiatives with remarkable economic, environmental and social impacts, or innovation elements.

Read the full article on the SP Platform.

NGOs as co-drivers for GPP up-take across Europe

The 2nd Annual Network meeting of the European NGO Network on GPP took place in Lisbon, 13th February 2019, hosted by Quercus – National Association of
Nature Conservatory. Seventeen NGOs from across Europe gathered to exchange on the topic of GPP.

Read the full article on the SP Platform..

GPP at the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference

The European Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference was organised and hosted by the European Commission and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) on the 6 – 7 March 2019.

In the 2019 edition ACR+ with EEB and several other partners organized a session entitled "Circular Public Procurement", focusing on the how the Green Deal has supported GPP in France, Portugal, Scotland and the Netherlands..

Find out more on the Conference website

Win €10,000 to fund your next innovative and sustainable procurement actions

Innovative and sustainable procurement actions working towards socio-economic, socio-cultural or technological transformation, especially those which showcase the use of public procurement as an instrument to accelerate the market introduction of innovative and sustainable technologies, are invited to apply for the 2019 Transformative Action Award..

Read the full article on the SP Platform..

Toward a European Common Food Policy

The International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems has published a report calling for a common food policy for the European Union. The report,
authored by experts in sustainable agri-food systems, presents alternatives to Europe’s current unsustainable food and farming system.

Read the full article on the SP Platform.

NGO IN THE SPOTLIGHT

**Patrimonio Natural de Castilla y León**

*Patrimonio Natural de Castilla y León*’s mission is to promote sustainable development and circular economy in the region of Castilla y Léon. The entity is also promoting GPP and Circular Procurement between the regional government and local authorities (training, best practices, tender templates). The entity is also integrating GPP in his own EU funded projects.

What have we been up to lately?

Among our last GPP activities we provided GPP support to some departments of our regional government as well as some local entities in specific tenders and we organized a training course addressed to public employees of the regional government and local authorities of Castilla y León. Overall we work to highlight the role of GPP in the Circular Economy Strategy of Castilla y León.
What has our NGO planned for the future?

Our efforts will be in mainstreaming the GPP opportunities by consolidating the region public officials GPP informal network; providing them regular information and identifying and disseminating local GPP Best Practices from both local authorities and private sector. Moreover, we will keep promoting circular economy training for the Spanish beneficiaries of the EU LIFE projects and finally, we will negotiate with the regional government to create a section for GPP at their environment website.

View the NGO website for more info

The OEW is a non-profit organisation based in Brixen. For almost 30 years it has been pleading for an open society, conscious consumption and international cooperation in South Tyrol. By means of workshops, exhibitions and campaigns the oew tries to create awareness for global correlations in schools and in the public and to show local possibilities for action. For almost five years now the oew has also been publishing the monthly street newspaper zebra. which currently allows 60 salespeople a dignified occupation and small income. In the oew's in-house specialist library, around 12,000 media on the core topics of integration, fair trade and development cooperation - with a focus on children's and youth literature - are available for loan. Ten full-time employees and numerous volunteers are currently working at the oew. They are convinced of being able to make a difference locally and globally, aiming for a world in which ecological and social sustainability is paramount. planet.

What have we been up to lately?
In 2015 the oew was co-founder of the South Tyrolean citizens' movement “MahlZeit”, which was founded on the occasion of the Expo the same year in Milan with a local food security programme. This initiative takes up 10 different areas, including community catering, agriculture, urban gardening and biodiversity, and presents local options for action. In this way, we want to find ways to achieve local and global food sovereignty. In 2017 the first South Tyrolean Nutrition Council was founded. It currently has 16 active members from the fields of education, research, gastronomy, agriculture, marketing, cooperatives, nutrition consultancy, communication and NGOs. Together with many local actors and ICLEI Brussels, a public conference on GPP was successfully held on 1st March 2019.

**What has our NGO planned for the future?**

On the agenda of the South Tyrolean Nutrition Council for the year 2019 are the two topics of “communal catering” and “health, enjoyment and food culture”. At the end of 2018, working groups had already been formed on both topics, which are planning activities for this year. Further future topics of the Nutrition Council are Regional Cycles, Global Market and Biodiversity, as well as the focus on the connection between production and consumption and the promotion of commercial and community gardens (school gardens) and urban gardening, as well as the concept of the “Edible City”. The next goal is to bring local politics to take responsibility and to bring producers and buyers to the same table.

[View the NGO website for more info](#)

**GPP Advisory Group - Update on Member State Activities**

NGOs can contribute to the development of [GPP criteria](#) for some product groups selected by the European Commissions services (lead by DG ENV and the Joint Research Center). The European Environmental Bureau (EEB) follows the development of the EU GPP criteria. Although a voluntary measure, these criteria covering more than 20 product groups provide a useful tool to support public authorities to develop selection criteria for green procurement.
Recently published GPP Criteria

The European Commission has recently published two new GPP criteria. Along with the other criteria, these are available free of charge on the Commission’s GPP website, and will eventually be translated in all official EU languages.

**Eu GPP Criteria for Road Transport** were published in January 2019, these cover the following products and services:

- mobility services,
- the purchase or lease of buses, and the purchase of bus services,
- the purchase or lease of waste collection trucks, and the purchase of bus services
- the purchase of post, courier and moving service

**EU GPP criteria for Road Lighting and Traffic Signals** were published in December 2018, and cover the purchase of lighting equipment and/or contracting of installation works for road lighting and the purchase of traffic signals.

GPP Criteria under development

The European Commission with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) will develop the following GPP criteria over the next year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Imaging equipment</th>
<th>Computers</th>
<th>Transport (non-road)</th>
<th>Office buildings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Start</strong></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>January 2019</td>
<td>June 2019</td>
<td>June 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st meeting</strong></td>
<td>December 2018</td>
<td>June 2019</td>
<td>December 2019</td>
<td>November 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2nd consultation stage</strong></td>
<td>March 2019</td>
<td>End 2019</td>
<td>Tbc.</td>
<td>Tbc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Contribution by Jean-Pierre Schweizer, EEB*

**OUR NGO ACTIVITIES**

Here below the list of all the initiatives that our NGO members put in place with the support of the network
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NGO</th>
<th>Activity Type</th>
<th>GPP Topic</th>
<th>When &amp; Where</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLEF</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>Energy transition</td>
<td>28 September Montréal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSDECS</td>
<td>Roundtable</td>
<td>Mobility</td>
<td>10 October Russe Varna</td>
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<tr>
<td>EcoDesign</td>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>6 November Riga</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mondo &amp; Baltic Environment Forum Estonia</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>Food Procurement</td>
<td>22 November Tallinn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEF</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>Challenges for the local level</td>
<td>4 December Vilnius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buying Green - Lithuanian</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FPNCL</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>Construction &amp; Maintenance</td>
<td>12 December Valladolid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legambiente</td>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>Food &amp; Catering in Schools</td>
<td>14 December Milan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quercus</td>
<td>Roundtable</td>
<td>Challenges for the local level</td>
<td>18 December Lisbon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buying Green - Portuguese</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECODES</td>
<td>Survey</td>
<td>Criteria in Hospitals</td>
<td>Sept-Dec 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUH Buses</td>
<td>Expert Talk, Survey</td>
<td>Retrofitting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUH Garden Tools</td>
<td>Roundtables</td>
<td>Criteria development</td>
<td>Jul 2018 - Feb 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEP</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>Winter pavement maintenance</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terra Mileniul III</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>Waste management</td>
<td>31 January Bucarest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buying Green - Romanian</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEA</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>Capacity Building</td>
<td>19-20 February Nicosia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sendzimir Foundation</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>Environmental Protection</td>
<td>2/25/2019 Warsaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OEW</td>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>Capacity Building</td>
<td>3/1/2018 Bolzano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAMEE + BEPF</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>Legal support &amp; Joint procurement</td>
<td>28 February - 1 March</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TENDER OPPORTUNITIES

We have identified a few tender opportunities which may be relevant for you and your public authority. You can find a few individual examples below.

Download the full list of tenders

Green maintenance
Country: Poland
12.03.2019

Food & Catering
Country: Spain
14.03.2019

Cleaning
Country: Bulgaria
21.02.2019

Transports
Country: Latvia
04.02.2019

FEATURED RESOURCES

Cities and Circular Economy for Food

This report offers a vision for a healthy food system fit for the 21st century and beyond, underpinned by the circular economy principles of designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use, and regenerating natural systems.
It is designed to initiate a deeper exploration of the role that cities, and the businesses and governments in them, can have in the creation of a circular economy for food.

The full report is available here.

**Procuring Resource Efficient Construction Projects**

This guide aims to help public and private clients and contractors to enhance high quality re-use, recycling of construction material and this way avoid waste to landfill. It introduces circular economy concepts for the construction industry and how procurement can support them. For this, it clearly defines relevant procurement requirements and to expect the supply chain to respond.

The full report is available here.

**EVENTS**

**19 March - 16:00-17:00 CET**

**Webinar - Circular IT in practice**

Today’s short lifespan of IT products leads to an overuse of finite natural resources and alarming amounts of e-waste. Two organizations that have taken up the challenge of a more circular approach are Closing the Loop and Circular Computing. In this webinar, the first in a two-part series, the organizations will outline their solutions to the challenge.

**4 April - Bucharest, 8:30 - 16:00**

**Seizing Opportunities in the Public Procurement of Tomorrow**

The European Commission – The Directorate General of Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs is inviting interested stakeholders to the high level conference “Seizing opportunities in...
mini-series, we will discuss how they are helping purchasing organizations extend product life, prevent e-waste and take a more responsible circular approach.

Host: Clare Hobby, Director Purchaser Engagement, Global. TCO Development

Speakers: Joost de Kluijver, Director, Closing the Loop; Steve Haskew, Strategic Commercial Manager, Circular Computing.

Register to the event here.

The conference is an occasion to take stock of the main work strands developed in the field of public procurement over the past five years since the adoption of the 2014 Public Procurement Directives.

Register to the event here.

We are officially at the end of this project (8th April 2019). It has been a pleasure to work with all of you NGO members and partners. We are currently working on the final report where we will show thanks to your GPP activities that supporting NGOs as drivers for GPP in Europe makes a lot of sense.
The European NGO Network on GPP website will continue to exist and the 35 Network partners can continue to use the logo of the Network. We will explore all opportunities to work together with you in the near future.

THE EU NGO Network on GPP Webpage

Use #NGOs4GPP to Tweet about the Network & don’t forget to follow us on Twitter for the latest updates on SPP and GPP!