

Sustainable Procurement

Edition 55, March 2013

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to send you the quarterly 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 enjoy publishing priority!

If this newsletter does not display properly, please click here to view it online: <http://update.sustainable-procurement.org/index.php?id=8693>

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1. Direct assistance on offer for various sustainable procurement actions

Do you need advice on how to make procurement more sustainable? For instance, in greening your upcoming tender? Or advice for preparing a policy?

A number of initiatives are currently underway which offer



direct assistance to local governments and other contracting authorities for actions related to sustainable public procurement (SPP). More specifically, the following are available:



- **Vehicles:** Support with tendering, modular training, opportunities for information exchange and specific advice to those organisations who must comply with the EU's [Clean Vehicles Directive](#) through the [Clean Fleets](#) project
- **Timber products:** Direct technical and legal assistance on implementing sustainable timber procurement, particularly on if this also includes social and fair trade aspects through the [Sustainable Timber Action](#) project
- **Energy consuming products:** Support for public authorities preparing tender documents incorporating [Topten's](#) procurement criteria

Visit the above links if you are interested in finding out more about the opportunities available. Alternatively, please contact Vera Buttman on procurement@iclei.org.

2. Project news

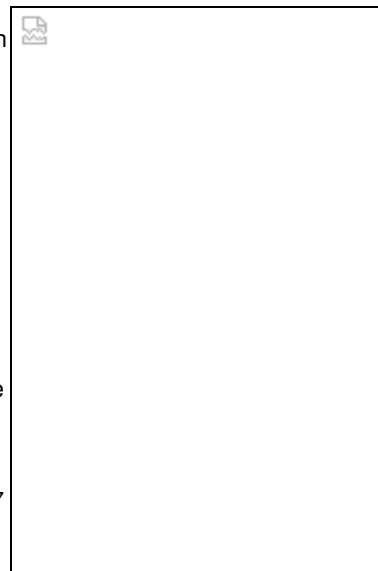
Upcoming training workshops on purchasing sustainable timber

The [Sustainable Timber Action project](#) (STA) has already carried out a number of successful training sessions for public procurers and SMEs on the procurement of sustainable timber. Due to the positive feedback and the growing interest in the topic the STA project teamed up with [Sustainable Trading Initiative](#) (IDH) and the agency for [German Development Cooperation](#) (Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ) to offer further training in Europe.

The training sessions will provide an overview of the impact of deforestation, sustainable forest management practices, verification of certified timber products and how these can be integrated into tenders and procurement strategies.

Upcoming training sessions taking place this year as follows (click on the links for more information also):

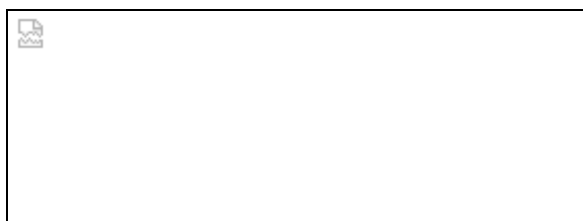
- **Spain:** 19 March in Madrid, 21 March in Lugo - [more information](#)
- **Italy:** 12 March in Padua, 4 April in Venice, 16 May in Taranto, 17 May in Bari - [more information](#)
- **Germany:** 2 May in Feldafing - [more information](#)
- **Hungary:** May/June 2013, venue and location tbc



For information about the STA project please visit www.sustainable-timber-action.org or contact marlene.grauer@iclei.org.

Setting landmarks – experiences in anchoring GPP into professional training programmes in Germany

Environmental aspects in public tendering have been taken into account for a long time in Germany. Yet the topic of green public procurement (GPP) is not included in the programmes for public sector professional training run by specific institutions. The [Öko-Institut](#) and ICLEI teamed up in 2012 to develop a tailor-made training concept for training academies and carried out eight train-the-trainer workshops. The project was supported by Germany's [Federal Environment Agency](#) (UBA) and the [Ministry for Environment](#) (BMU).



“Setting landmarks” introduced concepts and methods for implementing GPP and including GPP in public sector training curricula. Trainers from the Public Authority School in Bremen and the Competence Centre for Sustainable Procurement, which forms part of the national Interior Ministry, received training through the



project. Some of the topics covered were use of the pre-procurement phase to work with the market on greener products and services, and how to make use of environmental criteria within the tendering process.

An online tool for the assessing the life-cycle costs and related emissions - such as CO₂, nitrogen dioxides and particulate matters – of products for procurement purposes was also developed. It is available at www.lcc-tool.eu.

More information about the results of the project are available [here](#) (in German). Alternatively, please contact philipp.tepper@iclei.org.

Determining needs for buying clean public vehicles

The Clean Fleets project, supported by [Intelligent Energy Europe](#), aims to assist public authorities and fleet operators with the implementation of the [Clean Vehicles Directive \(CVD\)](#) and with buying or leasing clean, energy-efficient vehicles. A call for interest, user needs assessment and a series of interviews were conducted with relevant stakeholders across Europe, in order to help guide the scope and direction of the project. Nearly 200 people responded to the call for interest, with almost all requesting project related news and over 60 expressing interest in direct procurement support. Outcomes from the user needs assessment demonstrate the importance of the project as a whole as only half of all respondents were aware of the requirements of the CVD and the vast majority had never accessed guidance on its implementation.

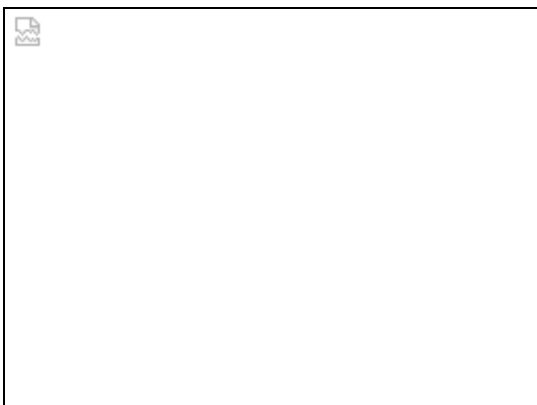
The Clean Fleets website is also now available at www.clean-fleets.eu and includes related news and information on training sessions, workshops and procurement advice available to public authorities and fleet operators.

For more information on Clean Fleets, please contact simon.clement@iclei.org.



Intelligent Energy Europe call focuses attention on GPP

The 2013 [Intelligent Energy Europe](#) call for proposals places an emphasis on GPP as a means to support the implementation of actions in local sustainable energy plans. The specific inclusion of GPP within the call reinforces the value of GPP in achieving broader policy objectives in a range of fields.



In terms of GPP, this year's call is encouraging actions which link local sustainable energy action plans (SEAPs) with sustainable procurement activities. The call also seeks to further develop energy performance contracting (EPC), a contractual agreement for a specified level of energy efficiency improvements in the refurbishment of buildings, which is referred to as yet to be "developed to its full potential" within Europe.

€65 million are available for funding under the 2013 call. The IEE programme aims to foster energy efficiency and the rational use of energy resources; support energy diversification; and promote energy efficiency and renewable energy sources in transport.

The call closes for most actions on 8 May 2013.

If you are submitting a proposal and are looking for a partnering organisation, please contact procurement@iclei.org.

For more information on the call, click [here](#).

3. Procura+ Campaign news

City of Oslo to replace vehicle fleet with zero-emission alternatives

Pursuing its objective of having a zero emission vehicle fleet by 2015, the City of Oslo (Norway) has concluded a framework agreement to replace a thousand cars and trucks with environmentally-friendly options in the years to come. The move feeds into the city's "zero emission technology" policy, established in 2010.

Most vehicles, especially small and medium sized cars, will be replaced with an electric alternative. Under the new framework agreement the city will add another 800 electric charging stations to the 500 currently available for public use, and an additional 800 purely for the services vehicles. The new framework agreement also covers fleet management, and allows users to access the status of each car through a web tool in order to plan their activities.

"The framework agreement is an example of how Oslo is in the forefront when it comes to adopting smart and environmentally-friendly technology, and that the municipality uses its purchasing power to promote good environmental solutions", said Oslo Finance Commissioner Kristin Vinje.

For more information, click [here](#). The City of Oslo is a participant of the Procura+ Campaign. For more information on their SPP activities, please visit www.procuraplus.org/en/participants/norway-oslo/

4. Upcoming events

To keep you informed about events, workshops and seminars taking place across Europe related to SPP, we have a calendar of events available online to help you plan your attendance and contribute to the debate.

Visit our events calendar on sustainable procurement by clicking [here](#).

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

Webinar - Sustainable construction and procurement, 23 April 2013

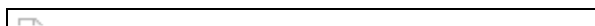


A webinar on procuring sustainable construction projects will be held on April 23 as part of the [EU Helpdesk on GPP](#). The Webinar will provide good practice examples of innovative and sustainable construction and give an update on the development process for EU green public procurement (GPP) criteria for office buildings.

Participation is open to all. Further information will be presented on the [European Commission's website](#) nearer the time. Save the date and register now by writing to gpp-helpdesk@iclei.org.

7th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns, 17-19 April 2013, Geneva, Switzerland

Hosted by the City of Geneva and jointly organised by ICLEI and the European Cities and Towns Preparatory Committee, the 7th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns (17- 19 April) will focus on governance and finance for sustainable development. The conference will look at future scenarios regarding growth/de-growth for Europe and address the potential of an economy that bridges environmental, social and financial problems. Governance structures as well as sustainable financing options will be addressed by high-level political representatives and other experts. The conference will see high-level plenary sessions as well as breakout sessions on around 30 specific topics.



Sustainable procurement will be featured in several **break-out sessions** throughout the conference, specifically the following:

- Sustainable procurement in practice (A2)
- Multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral approaches in sustainable consumption (B2)
- How public-private partnerships can help to implement sustainable actions (B11)
- Industrial ecology, from the concept to practices (B12)



An information stand will be available to showcase information on ICLEI's current projects on the topic including **LANDMARK**, which focuses on verifying socially responsible public procurement and **Clean Fleets**, which aims to help purchase clean and energy efficient public vehicles.

For more information visit www.sustainablegeneva2013.org.

Opportunities and challenges of purchasing sustainable timber, 22 March 2013, Brussels

The 13th Breakfast at Sustainability's (B@S) will be held at the **European Forestry House**. A light breakfast will be followed by short contributions from experts in the field of sustainable timber procurement and a facilitated panel discussion. Some of the experts which will be on stage at this meeting:



- Kriton Arsenis, Member of the European Parliament and Rapporteur on the EU Timber Regulation
- Maria Angeles Benitez Salas, European Commission (DG Agriculture and Rural Development and Industry)
- Marieke Abcouwer, Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH)

B@S are small informal meetings hosted by the European Union representation offices of regional and local governments, and organised by **ICLEI's office in Brussels**.

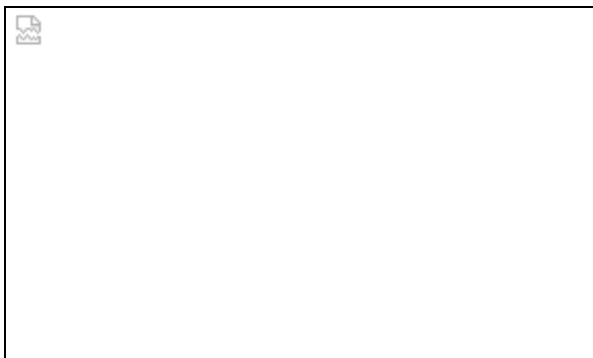
Please click [here](#) for more information. Alternatively, please contact Giulia Tamanini from ICLEI's Brussels Office on brussels-office@iclei.org.

5. Recent events

LANDMARK – SRPP events in Germany, Portugal and Spain

The year 2013 has already seen a series of workshops, seminars and training sessions taking place in Germany, Portugal and Spain to promote socially responsible public procurement (SRPP).

Earlier this month in Bremen (Germany), a seminar was held for buyers and representatives from schools and sports clubs, which focused on socially and environmentally responsible purchasing of sports balls. This was preceded by an awareness raising event and workshop carried out to promote "fair flowers", held in the City's botanical gardens. Other recent German events include a training session for the Southwest Finance Directorate in Freiburg and a workshop for federal state procurement experts in



Düsseldorf.



In Portugal, two training sessions took place in February for procurers at Loures Municipality. Awareness raising events and training sessions were also organised for various municipalities in Catalonia this year including Sant Boi, Barcelona, Vilanova and Sant Quirze, each of which have hosted LANDMARK's multimedia exhibition.

For more information visit www.landmark-project.eu or contact natalie.evans@iclei.org.

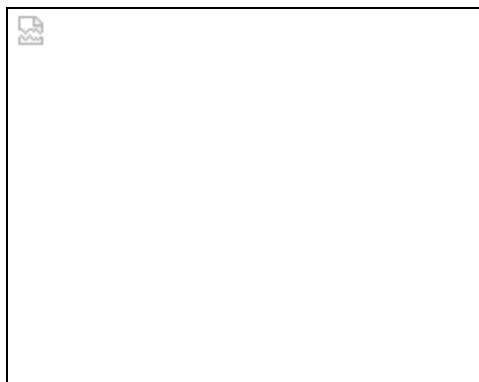
6. Other News

New resources available on sustainable procurement

The [Sustainable Procurement Resource Centre](#) has over 400 different kinds of resources available online through an easy to use system. Publications on the results of studies; good practice cases; tools and guidance material; online information (e.g. useful websites); and criteria for public procurers are some of the many resources available on the topic of SPP.

The Resource Centre contains resources of interest to procurers, policy makers, researchers and other stakeholders.

Some of the resources recently added include the following:



- 'Public Procurement for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth - Enabling reform through evidence and peer reviews', published by the OECD (2013)
- Good practice case on 'Reykjavík, Iceland: Green cleaning in the City of Reykjavík', published by ICLEI (2012)
- 'If not now, when? Socially responsible procurement in Baden-Württemberg' (available in German), published by Dachverband Entwicklungspolitik Baden-Württemberg (DEAB), dem forum für internationale entwicklung + planung (finep) und der Werkstatt Ökonomie (2013)

All resources can be accessed by clicking on Resources on the Sustainable Procurement Resource Centre at www.sustainable-procurement.org/resources/.

If you have a resource you think would be interesting to publish, please let us know at procurement@iclei.org.

New Project Assistant joins ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement team

We would like to welcome Vera Buttmann as the newest member of ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement team. Vera holds a degree in Urban and Regional Planning (B.Sc.). She wrote her thesis about Sustainable Food Procurement in Public Canteens and will continue working on this topic with the INNOCAT Project. She will also be supporting the Clean Fleets, Sustainable Timber Action and LANDMARK projects and will also be involved in the upcoming GPP 2020 project.

You can contact Vera at vera.buttman@iclei.org

Subscribe? Feedback? Questions? Please let us know!

If you would like to subscribe to the Sustainable Procurement Update, please send an email stating so to procurement@iclei.org including in it your contact details.

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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www.iclei-europe.org/procurement

