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/get-involved/.

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://www.sustainable-procurement.org/index.php?id=186

In this issue:

1| EcoProcura 2017: Call for Hosts

2| Project News:
   ● Five EU cities gather to look for innovative energy solutions
   ● INNOCAT invites views on school catering report
   ● Two PINs launched within PROBIS project
   ● Water PIPP – new Call for Interest launched
   ● GPP 2020 seminar presentations outline good practice in low-carbon procurement
   ● Online training course now available to help with clean vehicle procurement

3| Procura* Campaign News:
   ● Brazilian Procura* Manual published
   ● Catalan Waste Agency: promoting SPP internally and externally
   ● Diputación de Barcelona and Ihobe lead by example
   ● Spotlight on: Barcelona

3| Upcoming Events
   ● EcoProcura China 2015, 28 June 2015
   ● Procura* Seminar, 11-12 November 2015

5| Other News:
   ● Check out some of the latest resources on sustainable procurement

6| Up for discussion:
   ● Review of the Clean Vehicles Directive
   ● Circular Economy - Reloaded

1. Call for submission of bids: EcoProcura Conference 2017
Following the success of EcoProcura 2014 in Ghent (Belgium), organisations are invited to consider hosting the tenth EcoProcura Conference in 2017.

EcoProcura is the only conference to provide a platform for exchange and dialogue amongst purchasers from all levels of governments, suppliers and policy-makers on strategies and latest practical solutions for implementing Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) and Innovation Procurement (IP).

Hosting EcoProcura 2017 provides the host with an opportunity to present itself at the forefront of SPP and IP and inspire others at national, European and international level.

For further details, please consult the call for submission of bids. To obtain the bidding package, please do not hesitate to contact us at: mark.hidson@iclei.org or ruud.schuthof@iclei.org.

For more information please visit www.ecoprocura.eu or www.iclei-europe.org.

2. Project news

Five EU cities gather to look for innovative energy solutions

Birmingham (UK), Budapest (Hungary), Castellón (Spain), Valencia (Spain) and Wrocław (Poland) have joined efforts to look for more sustainable energy solutions through a pro-innovation procurement approach. Under the umbrella of the EU-funded CEPPI (Coordinated energy-related PPIs actions for cities) project, these five cities will demonstrate that by selectively intervening in scheduled public tenders, energy consumption can be reduced and, consequently, greenhouse gas emissions decreased. The goal of this three-year project is to save at least 33GWh/year and to boost market transformation towards more sustainable energy products, building and services.

Several actions will be taken to achieve these objectives:

- procurement officers will be trained,
- public procurement of innovation tenders with energy efficiency specifications will be launched,
- and suppliers will be invited to engage in dialogue with public authorities to analyse which innovative solutions can be applied.

For more information, contact meritxell.diaz@iclei.org.

Image copyright: White LED Street Lamp (photo on Flickr) by Dominic Alves, licensed under CC BY 2.0

INNOCAT invites views on school catering report

Procurement of school catering services is an issue that affects families across Europe and has significant environmental and social impacts. The INNOCAT project has prepared a report looking at the difficulties faced by European schools and local authorities as they try to procure healthy, sustainable and low-carbon school meals.

The report is structured around a brief overview of the key problem areas which local authorities looking to procure more sustainable catering services find themselves faced with. It draws together inspirational examples of local authorities using innovative approaches and engaging with suppliers to embed sustainability at the heart of school catering.
Two PINs launched within PROBIS project

The City of Torino and ALER Bergamo Lecco Sondrio have launched Prior Information Notices (PINs) in relation to two procurement procedures of innovative solutions in the sustainable construction sector. Both PINs relate to contracts for the use of innovative solutions in maintenance of public buildings.

The PROBIS project aims stimulus the construction market by leveraging to develop or improve new integrated approaches and solutions, focused on the building refurbishment process. In total, four PPI procedures will be launched over the course of the project.

For more information on Turin's PIN, ALER's PIN and other developments within the PROBIS project, visit the project website.

Water PIPP – New Call for Interest launched

A call for interest has been issued by the Water PiPP project, offering assistance to public authorities, water utilities and procurement agencies interested in procuring innovative solutions in the field of water services or technologies. The call is targeted at public procurers who intend to prepare or launch such an innovation procurement initiative between September 2015 and December 2016.

Water PiPP will offer the selected applicants support with relevant procurement procedures such as: innovation needs identification, prioritisation and description; market scans; open market consultation and early engagement; assessment of procurement concept viability; resource planning and innovation procurement design; and joint procurement initiatives. The deadline for applications is 31 August 2015.

For more information, please visit the WaterPiPP website.

GPP 2020 seminar presentations outline good practice in low-carbon procurement

Presentations from the GPP 2020 workshop held in Riga (Latvia) on 21 May 2015 are now available online. The workshop looked at practical implementation of low-carbon procurement processes and how environmental targets can be used to boost economic growth, as well as results from the EU-funded PRIMES and GPP 2020 projects.

Ways in which public procurement can be used as a tool to lower carbon emissions, currently available energy and emissions calculation tools, and support structures for procurers were all touched on by presenters. Maris Klismets of the Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development presented an overview of GPP regulations in Latvia, while Francesc Vidal of the Catalan Institute for Energy looked at driving energy performance contracting through procurement schemes.

Best practices from Italy, Croatia, the Netherlands and France were also presented. The event was organised by the Latvian Environmental Investment Fund and the GPP 2020 and PRIMES projects, and was moderated by ICLEI's Philipp Tepper.

To view the presentations, visit the GPP 2020 website.
Online training course now available to help with clean vehicle procurement

Following a very successful series of workshops and training sessions, the Clean Fleets project has now made its training package available online in a series of videos. The training is designed to provide guidance on the implementation of the Clean Vehicles Directive, covering topics such as life cycle costing, the legislative context and approaching clean vehicle procurement within public administrations.

Powerpoints of all the training modules are available for download in English, French, Dutch, German, Romanian and Croatian.

The workshops can be accessed via the ICLEI Europe YouTube channel.

Image copyright: Clean Fleets project

GreenXpo produces an abundance of case studies relating to eco-innovation

The GreenXpo project recently came to an end, after a very productive two year period. The InnovationSeeds website now hosts over 190 short and 12 detailed case studies relating to eco-innovation. All case studies were prepared by the GreenXpo project partners over the course of the project and focus on the key areas of: financing, support policies, and networks relevant to eco-innovation.

Three of the more detailed case studies relate directly to sustainable procurement and describe, for example, how the City of Venlo in the Netherlands is following the cradle to cradle model to create a circular economy, and how as part of its ‘Eco-Challenge 2016 Programme’, the City of Stockholm has been using green pre-commercial procurement to successfully procure innovative, green products and services for the city. A further case study describes how the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, Rijkswaterstaat, has used a number of tools and policies to reach its target of 100% sustainable procurement by 2015 and to work towards establishing a circular economy.

The final GreenXpo project event took place in Jyväskylä, Finland in April 2015. For further information on this event, including the presentations, please visit here.

Image copyright: courtesy of the GreenXpo project

3. Procura+ Campaign news

Procura+ Seminar 2015

The 2015 Procura+ Seminar will take place in Barcelona on November 11 and 12. Planning is underway for the themes and format of the seminar. In the meantime, save the date in your diary and then read more here.

Brazilian Procura+ Manual published

The latest edition of the Brazilian Procura+ Manual on cost effective, innovative and sustainable public procurement has been published. It includes many good practice examples from Brazil and is available for download here.

Catalan Waste Agency: promoting SPP internally and externally

The Catalan Waste Agency (Agència de Residus de Catalunya) promotes SPP and helps to stimulate the market for sustainable products at two levels: the internal, in its own procurement operations and activities; and the external, through the Buy Recycled Network (Xarxa Compra Reciclat).
Diputació de Barcelona and Ihobe lead by example

Diputació de Barcelona and Ihobe have both been successful in implementing SPP internally, whilst at the same time providing SPP guidance, training, tools and monitoring to external working groups in their respective regions.

The new updates to the Diputació de Barcelona and Ihobe Procura+ web pages detail their impressive achievements.

Spotlight on: Barcelona

Find out how Barcelona City Council has improved its sustainable procurement in the updated Ajuntament de Barcelona Procura+ webpage.

It is a great story of how the city continues to increase the scope of its sustainable procurement strategy and actions.

Image copyrights:
Waste collection by Gautier Willaume on Fotolia.com
Barcelona - La Rambla by Nikada on iStockphoto.com

4. Upcoming events

EcoProcura China 2015
28 June 2015, Guiyang (China)

Procura+ Seminar
11-12 November 2015, Barcelona (Spain)

5. Other News

Check out some of the latest resources on sustainable procurement

The Sustainable Procurement Resource Centre has more than 700 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:

- Green Public Procurement in China: Quantifying the benefits (2015)
- Public procurement for Smart Cities (2015)
- Responsible Food Purchasing: Four steps towards sustainability for the hospitality sector (2015)

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.

6. Up for discussion
The online hub of all things related to public procurement, the Procurement Forum is the place for public authorities, procurers, policy makers, researchers and other stakeholders working in the field of sustainable and innovation procurement to exchange, connect and collaborate.

Register to get involved in current discussions, including:

1. Review of the Clean Vehicles Directive
   - Should there be a common definition of a ‘clean vehicle’ at EU level?
   - Is the current methodology for calculating the ‘cost’ of emissions too complex?
   - Are centres of excellence needed to help local authorities in their procurement activities?

2. Circular Economy - Reloaded
   - Can public procurement be an effective tool to move business models away from selling products towards selling performance?
   - How can European landfill levels be reduced sustainability. Is incineration a necessary step in reducing waste levels?

Head over to the Procurement Forum and join the debate!

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. Editors: Caroline Chandler & Marlene Grauer (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 1,200 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.

Copyright © 2015 ICLEI European Secretariat GmbH, Freiburg, Germany. All rights reserved.